Fort Larned Medicine Artifact Research

Suppose archeologists discovered a bottle among some other items in a trash pit during an excavation at Fort Larned. Through research, they determined the bottle had originally contained Hall's Balsam for the Lungs. The archeologists decided to use this bottle to help date other items in the trash pit. They knew that:

- · Fort Larned was in existence from 1859 to 1878, and
- · Hall's Balsam for the Lungs was patented in 1865. The company stopped making this product in 1894.

When might this bottle have been used and/or placed in the trash pit at Fort Larned?





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_1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	
i	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>				
Hall's Balsam for the Lungs 1865-1894							
	Fort Larned 1859-1878						

The answer is sometime between 1865 and 1878. These are the dates these two items share: the date the medicine was first made and the closing date of the fort. The medicine bottle could only have been added to the Fort Larned trash pit after it began being made and while the fort was open.