

Castle Pinckney is the oldest remaining former military fortress in Charleston harbor. Constructed as a state-of-the-art brick fort on the eve of the War of 1812, this horseshoe shaped Castle has played an underappreciated role during a surprising span of American history. Its parapets, casemates, and barracks have been inspected by President James Monroe and Generals Charles Pinckney, Winfield Scott, Robert E. Lee, P.G.T. Beauregard, Stephen Dill Lee, and Roswell Ripley.

During the Nullification Crisis of 1832, and a similar crisis in 1850, Federal artillerymen at the Castle had Charleston well within the range of their large coastal cannons. During the opening days of the Civil War, three companies of Charleston militia under James Johnston Pettigrew scaled the walls and seized Castle Pinckney. It was the first Federal facility captured by Southern forces and an important prelude to the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter.

**Learn More at  
CastlePinckney.org**



After the Battle of First Bull Run, 156 captured officers and enlisted men were sent by Confederate authorities to the island fortress. After its turn as one of the war's first prisoner-of-war camps, the Castle was reconstituted as a military fortress and was part of the third ring of Confederate batteries designed to thwart any effort by Federal ironclads to force their way into the harbor.

During the 1863 struggle for Battery Wagner, captured soldiers from the famed 54th Massachusetts U.S.C.T. were held at the Castle. By 1865, the island fortress had been transformed into a modern and dangerous earthen barbette battery with a rifled Brooke gun and three giant 10" Columbiads. During Reconstruction, the Castle became an "American Bastille" for Southerners accused of crimes against the government as well as unruly Federal soldiers.

The Castle finished its days of active service as the supply depot for all coastal lighthouses from North Carolina to Florida. Today, the site is under the stewardship of the Castle Pinckney Historical Preservation Society, a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

## **Contact Us**

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Preservation Society  
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**SC Nonprofit 501C3**

*Castle Pinckney*  
**Rising from the Ruins**



# HELP US RESTORE CASTLE PINCKNEY

*As progress to preserve and uncover the story of Castle Pinckney continues, the next phase of our efforts consists of three main objectives.*



## Recovery and Preservation of the Civil War Cannons

Several cannons buried inside the fortification have been located, including at least one 10 inch Columbiad.

Cost Estimate: **\$160,000**

## Construction of a Dock for Better Access

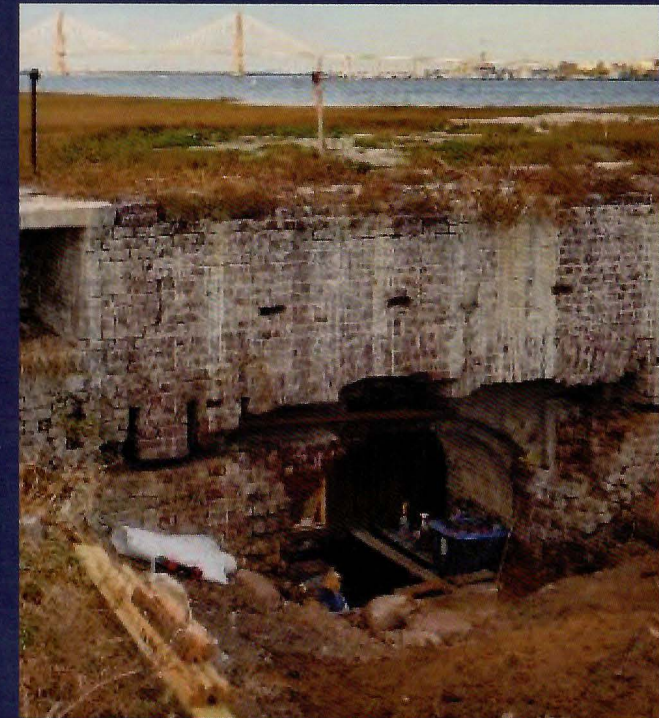
Current access to the castle is limited and requires crossing over hazardous terrain. A dock will facilitate safer access and the delivery of necessary materials.

Cost Estimate: **\$140,000**

## Structural Stabilization and Preservation

The 200-year-old structure has significantly deteriorated in a number of key places, including the Sally-Port, which require specialized masonry services.

Cost Estimate: **\$175,000**



**Total Projected Cost:**  
**\$475,000**

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