

James Island Historic Commission
Agenda – April 4, 2017

6:00 PM - Call to Order

Old Business –

Status of Simian Pinckney Historic Marker -

Following our last meeting, it was discussed that we needed to respond to the Dept. of Archives & History question of what story are we trying to tell with the Simeon Pinckney marker. Inez requested that I take a stab at it, so here is what I propose for purposes of discussion based on Inez's research as well as Dr. Foley's response.

Review Ashley's Update of Pinckney Historical Marker:

During the American Civil War, James Island was home to numerous enslaved people, many of who enlisted in the war effort. Simeon B. Pinckney was one such man who served in the 21st United States Colored Troop by way of Manning, SC, and following his assignments on Folly, Morris and Coles Island, he remained on James Island and raised a family until his death in 1921. Unlike many free blacks during the Reconstruction Era, Pinckney was able to purchase land and farmed approximately 20 acres on Fort Johnson Road. Sea Island cotton, indigo, and corn were the crop staples on James Island and hard economic times following the war meant many would seek out other trades such as carpentry, blacksmithing, basket weaving or sharecropping. Pinckney was a laborer and his land was passed down from generation to generation and boasts today a natural landscape with marsh views and majestic trees. The Town of James Island purchased 7 acres of the Pinckney family property in 2015, and at the request of his descendants named Pinckney Park in his honor.

My edit::

Simeon Pinckney, born a slave in the 1840's in the Manning District of South Carolina , he served in the Union Army during the Civil War with the 21st United States Colored Troop in the Low Country's Sea Islands, including Folly, Morris, Coles and James Island. Unlike many of those freed during the War, Pinckney was able to purchase land after the war. He, and his family, farmed approximately 20 acres on Fort Johnson Road. Simeon died in 1921 passing the land onto his heirs.

Sea Island cotton, indigo, and corn were the crop staples on James Island. Hard economic times following the war meant many would seek out other trades such as carpentry, smithing, basket weaving or sharecropping. Pinckney managed to keep his land during these times and the farm was passed down from generation to generation. Today his land boasts a beautiful natural landscape with marsh views and majestic trees.

The Town of James Island purchased 7 acres of the Pinckney family property in 2015, and at the request of his descendants named the parcel Pinckney Park in his honor. .

- Status of Mosquito Beach projects.

- Archive of suggested Historical sites on James Island for inclusion in Tourist brochure; historical markers.

-Collection of oral histories re: African-American Schools on James Island – Inez Brown-Crouch

New Business –

- Grimball Rd Folly to Sea Water Road - Site of skirmish between invading Union troops and Confederate defenders. June 10, 1862 – To further investigate this bloody encounter suggest contacting archaeological resource to conduct a “dig” along the site of the skirmish.

- a) Charleston Museum
- b) College of Charleston
- c) Burlington Associates
- d) Chicora Foundation

Parcel	
Parcel ID	3340000001
Owner1	CHARLESTON MUSEUM THE
Owner2	Null
Tax District	3-4
Class Code	711 - MUSEUM-CULT

N.B. Rumor of steps being undertaken to have Grimball Farm area developed with assistance of Ntl. Park Service, CW Preservation Trust, SC Battleground Trust.

-The City of Folly Beach Tourism Commission has suggested working with the James Island Historical Commission in the production of a Tourism booklet, as discussed at our March meeting.

Notice of Events on James Island in April:

Friends of McLeod Spring Celebration at McLeod Plantation Pavilion, Friday, April 7. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Sol Legare Oyster Roast, a “Shuckin” Good Time – at Sol Legare Lodge,
Saturday, April 22, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**