

Redcliffe Plantation

State Historic Site

General Park Information

Park Grounds Open Daily 9am - 6pm.

Entry to the park grounds is free.

Entrance into the historic home is on guided tour only. Tours of the fully furnished mansion are given Thursdays - Mondays at **11:00, 1:00, & 3:00**. House tours are \$10 for adults, \$6 for SC Seniors (65+), and \$5 for children ages 6 - 16. For tickets or additional information, please visit the Visitor Center.

-  Park Entrance
-  Parking Lot
-  Visitor Center ~ Gift Shop
-  Restrooms
-  Historic Mansion -Front
-  Historic Mansion -Back
-  Historic Slave Quarters
-  Stable
-  Magnolia Lane
-  Trail Head to 1.75 mile continuous loop trail

The historic grounds of Redcliffe are home to many magnificent trees, a variety of wildlife, and several species of birds.

Enjoy your time at your SC State Park!



“your splendid house, is a Lordly residence, and requires... a park, to harmonize every feature about and around it.”

~ Louis Berckmann, Augusta Landscape Architect & Owner of Fruitland Nursery, to James Henry Hammond April 16, 1859



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Redcliffe, purchased in 1855, was one of four plantations in SC owned by James Henry Hammond, a successful cotton planter and politician. Shortly after acquiring the 400-acre estate, Hammond wrote that he had “named it Redcliffe from the red bluff in front of it”. His goals for Redcliffe were specific: it would be a country estate rather than a working plantation, an architectural and horticultural showcase, and the center of domestic life for the Hammond family.

Today, Redcliffe tells the stories and layers of many different families, both white and black, spanning 144 years. Learn about the lives of over 300 men, women, and children who were held in bondage and forced to cultivate cotton & corn on Hammond’s four plantations from 1831 to 1865. Learn about their descendants who continued to work the same lands after Emancipation as sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and paid employees. Families such as the Henleys and Wigfalls lived at Redcliffe for multiple generations. The mansion at Redcliffe was home to four generations of the Hammond family. John Shaw Billings, final owner of Redcliffe, donated the plantation grounds, buildings, documentation, and artifacts to the South Carolina State Park Service in 1973. The rich documentation (letters, diaries, business papers, and photographs) tell stories that are as varied as the individuals themselves: stories of triumph, failure, love and loss.

Visitors to Redcliffe today see a landscape greatly changed from how it would have appeared in 1859. Gone are numerous outbuildings, rows of grape vines, and orchards. Today, the park provides a setting for exploring the plantation system and the experiences of the enslaved. It reflects the historical experiences and impact of the white and black families who lived and worked at the site. The extant slave quarters, mansion, and landscape serve to highlight the plantation’s rich and varied history.

The Buildings of Redcliffe

Structures still in existence today:

- 1. Slave Quarters, 1857
- 2. Slave Quarters, 1857 (converted into a Garage, 1935)
- 3. Mansion, completed in 1859
- 4. Stable, circa 1908
- 5. Cistern

Approximate locations and functions of

buildings that are no longer standing:

- 6. North Wing of Stable, circa 1903
- 7. Slave Quarters, 1857
- 8. Dovecote
- 9. Kitchen / Wash House
- 10. Wine Cellar