

A Story of South Carolina Told in 100 Buildings

HOW THE
PALMETTO STATE
HAPPENED



CRUDEN BAY BOOKS

INTRODUCTION

Imagine a group of settlers arriving in an undeveloped location. First come shelters in which to live and then structures in which to work and shop. There are buildings for worship and education. As the community grows government buildings are required. With prosperity comes places in which to spend leisure time. And each step along the way builds a story only South Carolina can call its own.

That story is all around you in the work of those who came before you. In these pages you'll learn the explanations behind the quirks, the traditions and the secrets that make South Carolina uniquely South Carolina. Why did state farmers say "Blood Will Tell"? Solved. What building ruined Charleston's skyline? A mystery no more. The one-time longest railroad in the world? Identified. The oldest bridge in South Carolina? Revealed.

Revolutionary souvenirs...college sports...Robert Mills...coasters...kissing bridges...octagon houses...roadside architecture...beloved carbonated beverages...Sea Island cotton...the CCC...pedigreed seed...historic stages...Frank Lloyd Wright...auto racing...tabby...diners...the golden age of motoring...Rosenwald schools...thoroughbreds...minor league baseball...Carnegie libraries...five and dimes...early aviation...bucket list golf...peaches...the modern American resort...This book will have you telling stories like a native in no time.

Almost all of the selections within are open to the public, or at least visible from public spaces. So, if you haven't seen these landmarks in person, fire up your GPS and get out and see the story of the Palmetto State standing in plain sight on South Carolina streets!

**A STORY OF SOUTH CAROLINA TOLD IN 100 BUILDINGS...
HOW THE PALMETTO STATE HAPPENED**

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Sewee Shell Ring

Awendaw
prehistoric



Shell mounds are found in only a few countries and a few states in the Southeast. The most - about two dozen - have been discovered in South Carolina's Sea Islands. The shells have been carbon-dated to 4,000 years ago but the purpose of their construction is a mystery. The piles of oyster shells have been crafted into stadium-like rings and crescents that suggest the boundaries of a recreational or ceremonial space. Archeological excavations have not uncovered prestige artifacts in the shell rings to suggest any sacred or spiritual purpose to the structures.

Magnolia Plantation

Charleston
1680



For Thomas Drayton and his son, Thomas, Jr., in 1675 it was Barbados or bust. They boarded the ship *Willing Wind* and left England only to arrive in what had become the most densely populated colony in the British empire. With all the choice land for a sugar plantation already snapped up the Draytons turned their attention to the new Carolina Colony. Soon after arriving on the Ashley River young Drayton married Ann Fox and inherited a rice plantation in 1680. The couple immediately got busy planting a garden, parts of which remain in cultivation today - the oldest unrestored gardens in America. In 1870 Magnolia Gardens, known for its gracious live oaks and azalea cultivars, began welcoming visitors, making this one of the country's oldest public gardens.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Charleston

1706



This is South Carolina's oldest church building - it was preceded by an earlier, 56-year old sanctuary until it was destroyed by fire. The congregation formed after the Church Act of 1706, serving as an administrative base for the British colonial government. The building shape in the form of a Latin cross is typical of early rural church buildings, the use of wrought iron detailing inside is not. Today, Old St. Andrews is the only remaining cruciform church still extant from the days of British rule.

William Rhett House

Charleston

1712



Colonel William Rhett built this house in 1712 and no house in Charleston has been lived in longer. Rhett was a prominent merchant but best known around town as the leader of a small militia fleet that turned back a French and Spanish incursion in 1706. Rhett burnished his reputation further in 1718 by leading a three-sloop expeditionary force to capture the Barbadian pirate Stede Bonnet. The original brick house, two stories and stuccoed, was sited on 28 acres just outside the city limit known as Rhettisbury. Wade Hampton III, Governor of South Carolina in the 1870s and later a two-term United States Senator, was born in the house in 1818.

Powder Magazine

Charleston

1713



The Powder Magazine was authorized by the Commons House of Assembly in 1703 and completed by 1713. It is the only surviving public building from the Lords Proprietors' period, which ended in 1719. It is a low square building with a steep hip roof and gables on all sides. The brick walls are 32 inches thick with the vaulted roof partly supported by a substantial brick pier. The roof - where sand was stored to help smother fires - is covered with pantiles. In 1770 the building was condemned as being of no further use but it was pressed back into duty during the American Revolution. When a shell burst within 3 feet of the building, however, the powder inside was moved elsewhere.

Mulberry Plantation

Moncks Corner

1714



When Thomas Broughton constructed his home on the highest point for miles around he called it Mulberry Castle. He was not being immodest. Believed to be a reproduction of his family's ancestral English estate, the grand eclectic manor house was befitting of his status as a high-ranking government official. He concluded his career in 1735 as the 23rd Royal Governor of South Carolina, dying two years later. The brick composition is highlighted by square pavilions on each corner, each crowned by a bell-shaped turret. Broughton decorated the pediment over the entrance with a mulberry sprig, evidence of his dream to make the plantation a leader in the silk industry. Alas, his destiny was to plant rice.

Hopsewee Plantation

Georgetown

1735



Hopsewee stands as a traditional Lowcountry rice plantation house, preserved much as it was when it was constructed of black cypress on a brick foundation. Featuring a squarish profile, the house exhibits a West Indian influence. John Lynch was the builder. He would be elected as a delegate to both the First and Second Continental Congress. When Lynch became too ill to carry on his duties his son, John Lynch, Jr., was also elected so the Lynches became the only father-and-son team to pursue the cause of freedom concurrently in Philadelphia. John Lynch, Jr. became one of the four signers of the Declaration of Independence from South Carolina. Neither saw the cause for freedom through. Lynch the elder died of a stroke in December 1776 and John Jr. perished in 1779 when his ship was lost at sea. At the age of 30, he was the youngest signer to die.

Middleton Place

Summerville

1741



Henry Middleton began developing the estate more as a country home than a plantation when he inherited the property from his father-in-law. Middleton would eventually control one of the largest swathes of the South Carolina colony, over 50,000 acres. He would migrate into public affairs, becoming a member of the Continental Congress. Middleton left Philadelphia before the debate for independence was resolved but his son Arthur, more of a firebrand, would sign the Declaration in 1776. Middleton Place was originally a complex of a main house and two flanking dependencies. Union troops burned all the buildings and only the South Flanker survived the Great Earthquake of 1886 to stand today. Henry Middleton planted the gardens the same time he began building the house and French botanist André Michaux is believed to have introduced camellias to America at Middleton Place.

Drayton Hall

Charleston
1750



John Drayton was a cipher on the public record until he purchased 350 acres of land here in 1738. Even though he was born into one of South Carolina's leading colonial families, even his birthdate is unknown. The best guess is he was in his early 20s when he secured the deed. There is little documentation of his days growing rice and cotton here until his death in 1779. After that Drayton Hall remained in the family for seven generations before opening to the public in 1977. At the time the National Trust for Historic Preservation decided to stabilize the house rather than restore it to a specific period. Today Drayton Hall, considered the finest early American example of Palladian architecture, is the oldest unrestored plantation house accessible to visitors. The building was never outfitted with electric lighting or modern plumbing and is kept unfurnished to keep the focus on its architectural heritage. The hand-carved plaster ceilings are some of the last originals in the nation.

Oconee Station

Walhalla
circa 1760



Rudimentary blockhouses were constructed on the frontier to offer a small measure of protection against Indian attacks and Oconee Station, one of three guardhouses built by Lt. Colonel Archibald Montgomery, marks the furthest point into the South Carolina wilderness that settlers penetrated before the American Revolution. British soldiers are believed to have manned the fieldstone fort at least occasionally to the war's conclusion. After that it was a storage facility for fur trappers, a stagecoach stop and even a residence. This is the oldest building in Oconee County. Next door is a two-story house built in 1805 by William Richards, a Revolutionary War veteran who established a trading business out beyond civilization. His handmade bricks are considered to be the first used for a house in South Carolina's Blue Ridge foothills. The two structures now make up a state historic site.

Joseph H. Rainey House

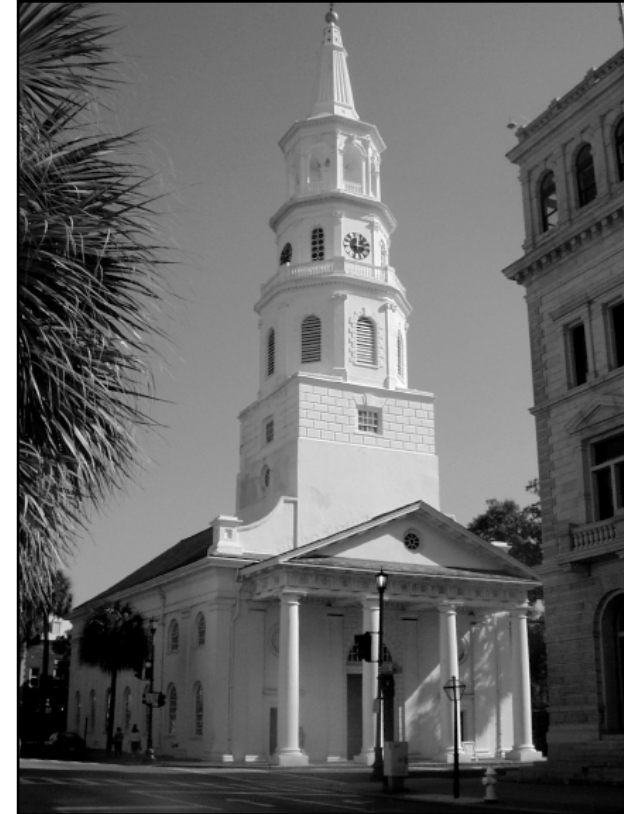
Georgetown
1760



On December 12, 1870, when Joseph Hayne Rainey was sworn in as a member of the 41st Congress of the United States he became the first Black person to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. Rainey was born a slave in Georgetown to Edward L. Rainey and his wife Gracia on June 21, 1832. His father, a barber, purchased the family's freedom, and they moved to Charleston in about 1846. By 1860 Joseph Rainey had become a barber at Charleston's fashionable Mills House hotel. During the Civil War he fled to Bermuda with his wife on a blockade runner. After the war, Rainey settled in this Georgetown single house, where local tradition holds that he was also born, and it was from here that he launched his political career in the state senate in 1867. He would be elected to four terms in the House before returning to Georgetown to look after his business interests, including as head of the Enterprise Railroad, a Black-owned corporation organized in 1870 to transport freight by horse-drawn street railway between the Charleston wharves and the railroad depot.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Charleston
1761



St. Michael's Episcopal Church, a National Historic Landmark, is one of the finest Colonial American churches in the country and the oldest church in Charleston. Although the architect is unknown, the church was built between 1752 and 1761 and resembles 18th-century English pattern book examples widely used throughout the colonies. Prominent and elegant features of the two-story stuccoed brick church are its giant classical portico and a 186-foot high massively proportioned steeple. St. Michael's has amazingly survived several hurricanes, wars, fires, earthquakes and a cyclone with little alteration to its architecture. The interior of the church still retains its traditional 18th-century English design, with a three-sided second story gallery and native cedar box-pews.

Old Kings Highway

Charleston
1735



The oldest road in America was decreed by Charles II of England in 1650, a post road that would link Boston in the North to Charleston in the South, a total of some 1,300 miles. Construction was finally complete after 85 years in 1735. Traveling the King's Highway, barely a glorified trail in some places, took almost as long. In good weather a wagon might cover the journey in two months, averaging 20-25 miles a day. The stretch through the rockless Lowcountry could be especially troublesome, especially after a hard rain or high tide. Cobblestones, carried as ballast in sailing ships, helped alleviate the difficulty somewhat. Charleston is believed to have had over ten miles of cobblestone streets at one time.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen
1767



Only a handful of country parish churches from the 18th century survive in South Carolina and St. Stephen's is certainly a standout among the breed. Immediately noticeable is the high gambrel roof with graceful curvilinear gables. Window and door openings are arched with bricks and fanlights. Members of the family of Revolutionary War Brigadier General Francis Marion, the legendary "Swamp Fox," are credited with construction, replacing a previous wooden structure that had deteriorated. Although regular services were discontinued for over a century after 1808 maintenance never flagged and now that St. Stephen's is once again an active church it is one of only 125 colonial Episcopal churches in use.

Exchange and Provost Building

Charleston

1771



As Charleston became the South's largest port, the Exchange and Provost Building was built for the expanding shipping industry, but also served as a public market and meeting place. After a protest against the Tea Act, confiscated tea was stored here in 1774. The Provincial Congress of South Carolina met here the following year. During the Revolutionary War, the British used the building for barracks and the basement as a military prison. The State Legislature convened here in 1788. The symmetrical Georgian style building is two stories with an elevated basement and hipped roof. The central projecting pavilion on the main side of the building and tall Palladian windows are typical classical details of the Georgian period. In 1913, the building was deeded to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to be preserved as a historical monument.

Star Fort

Nienty-Six

1775



Ninety Six, supposedly named because the trading post was 96 miles from the Cherokee town of Keowee in the Blue Ridge foothills, sported a dozen houses, a sturdy jail and a sizable courthouse. Political allegiances ran high and on November 18, 1775 a force of 1,890 Loyalists attacked 532 Patriots who had built a crude fort of fence rails and cowhides and straw bales on John Savage's plantation. After three days the Loyalists under Colonel Joseph Robinson could not capture the fort and its swivel cannon. With the defenders running low on powder and the aggressors fearing impending reinforcements a treaty was signed. Both sides agreed to withdraw and the Patriots demolished the fort. It was the first major land battle of the Revolution in the South. When the British assumed control of the South, Augusta, Georgia and Ninety-Six were made the dominant strongholds in the wilderness. The town was stockaded and flanked by two forts, a stockade to the west and a strong, star-shaped redoubt to the east. No one lived near the old frontier post for more than 100 years and the earthworks were remarkably intact for the National Park Service in the 1970s.

Fort Moultrie

Charleston

1798



In January 1776 Charlestonians began to defend their town with a fort across the Cooper River on Sullivan's Island. Six months later the palmetto log-and-sand fortification showed only two walls facing the harbor and two incomplete walls exposed to Long Island to the rear. Meanwhile, British amphibious forces were massing offshore. The first salvos came on the morning of June 28. The crude palmetto fort won the day as the spongy palmetto wood absorbed the cannon balls without splintering. The sand mortar swallowed what the palmetto couldn't. After nine hours the British fleet and its more than 200 guns retired. It was one of the first decisive Patriot victories of the Revolution and Charleston would remain unmolested for three more years. After the Revolution Fort Moultrie was neglected and by 1791 little of it remained. Under a nationwide system of seacoast fortifications, the fortification was rebuilt in 1798 and remained active until World War II.

Santee Canal

Moncks Corner

1800



There was no faulting the reasoning for digging a canal between the Santee and Cooper rivers in the 1770s - it would make travel faster than slogging overland and an oft-time treacherous sea voyage would be avoided. The Revolutionary War delayed construction until 1793 and it wasn't until 1800 that America's first summit canal - built of brick and stone with two double locks and eight single locks under the direction of state engineer Christian Senf - was open. Tolls for traversing the 22 miles varied from \$10 to \$30 depending on the size of the boat. While basking in plaudits for its engineering the Santee Canal never attracted enough traffic to make money. Financial mismanagement and droughts that kept the water level too low did investors no favors, either. The coming of the railroad siphoned off most of what little business there was until the locks were raised and lowered for the last time in the 1860s. A sliver of the original canal at its southern end is preserved as a state park.

Fort Hill

Clemson

1803



Fort Hill began life modestly as a four-room parsonage for Hopewell-Keowee Church. Floride Bonneau Colhoun, a U.S. Senator's widow, took possession when she bought 600 acres to buttress the family's stable of Upcountry plantations. When her daughter married John C. Calhoun, South Carolina's leading political voice of the early 1800s, she gave them the property. Calhoun lived here for the final 25 years of his life during which time he was Vice-President of the United States under Andrew Jackson, Secretary of State, and U.S. Senator. Calhoun added ten rooms and Greek Revival styling to the house while doubling the size of the plantation. The estate came down to his son-in-law, Thomas Clemson, who willed it to the establishment of a public scientific and agricultural college. Clemson decreed that Fort Hill "shall always be open for the inspection of visitors." And so it has been.

Joseph Manigault House

Charleston

1803



There was no *Forbes 400* list of the wealthiest Americans back in the 1700s but if there was Peter Manigault may have been on top. That family money enabled his eldest son Gabriel to indulge a passion for architecture, which he studied in England. Here he designed one of America's foremost houses based on the works of Robert Adam who was the first architect to scale down classical principles for residential construction. Built for his brother Joseph, there was enough Manigault money to erect a classical gatehouse simply for decoration. In the 1920s the Standard Oil Company owned the property and put the space to use storing spare tires. That affront led to the mobilizing of America's first community-based historic preservation group, the Preservation Society of Charleston, to save the house from demolition.

Dock Street Theatre

Charleston

1809



The original Dock Street Theatre was constructed in 1736 as the first structure in America raised specifically for the performing arts. It was destroyed four years later in a fire that consumed the city. The current incarnation is Charleston's last surviving hotel from the antebellum period. The main portion of the building was constructed by Alexander Calder and his wife around 1809 as Planter's Hotel. In 1835 the oft-photographed wrought iron balcony was added. The hotel was a favorite of planters from the South Carolina midlands, who came to Charleston for the horse-racing season. Wonderful food and drink was enjoyed by all during this era, and the South's famous Planter's Punch may have originated here. In the 1930s, the building was restored by the City of Charleston as a Works Progress Administration project. During this overhaul a large section was constructed behind the hotel containing a stage and auditorium characteristic of the 18th century. The renovated building took the name of that pioneering 1730s theater which stood on the Queen Street (formerly Dock Street) side of the property.

Georgetown Light

Georgetown

1811



One of the first things the government of the new nation of the United States got busy with was constructing lighthouses. In 1795 \$5,000 was set aside to illuminate the harbor of Georgetown. A 72-foot cypress tower was eventually completed in 1801 but it had a short shelf life, perishing in a storm in 1806. Next up was \$20,000 to raise a new light "in such a manner to secure its future safety." Thomas Walker and James Evans built the new 72-foot brick tower, complete with a set of stone steps inside. The beacon was raised to 87 feet in a reconstruction to repair Civil War damage. The Georgetown Light is South Carolina's oldest lighthouse and when it was automated in 1986, the last to be de-staffed.

Poinsett Bridge

Little Gap Creek

1820



Tucked into the woods of Greenville County stands what is considered to be the oldest bridge in South Carolina and perhaps the entire Southeast. The State Road was designed to wind from Charleston to North Carolina by Joel Poinsett, director of the state Board of Public Works. Adam Blanding supervised the work on the ground. The stone bridge is an impressive bit of engineering as no mortar was used in the construction, even more so since the structure spans a creek only a few feet wide. The Poinsett Bridge may even have an architectural pedigree. There are drawings of an unspecified bridge by Robert Mills - later to design the Washington Monument - that show the Gothic arches and keystone found at Gap Creek. Mills was the State Architect and Engineer around that time.

Mulberry Plantation

Camden

1820



Established by James Chesnut in 1760, Mulberry Plantation grew into one of the most prosperous operations in inland South Carolina. His nephew James plucked 17-year old Mary Boykin Miller from a Charleston boarding school in 1840 and the couple came to live on the plantation. James was elected to the United State Senate in 1858 but resigned to take part in the South Carolina secession convention. It was his order to fire on Fort Sumter and start the Civil War. Back on Mulberry Plantation Mary Boykin Chesnut began keeping a diary on February 18, 1861 and continued until June 26, 1865. In all there were 12 volumes, seven of which survive. Her descriptions of southern society, albeit distilled through the elite lens of a planter's life, have been acclaimed as "the most important piece of Confederate literature."

Borough House

Stateburg
1821



The original house here in the High Hills of Santee was raised in 1758 and during the American Revolution it was commandeered by both sides. British Lord Cornwallis and Continental General Nathanael Greene each took a turn headquartering here. In 1821 the main house and six dependencies were built using an ancient rammed earth technique that involves compacting a damp mixture of soil with correct proportions of clay, sand, and gravel into a temporary frame to cure and harden. The buildings on Borough Plantation make up the largest assemblage of massive rammed earth walls in the United States.

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

Camden
1822



Johann DeKalb was born on an Austrian peasant farm in 1721 and left home at 16 to find adventure fighting in the French Army where he eventually rose to the rank of brigadier general. DeKalb sailed to America with the Marquis de Lafayette in 1777 but it took two years for Congress to assign him a rank in the Continental Army commensurate with the status he earned in France. He was assigned to command the esteemed Maryland and Delaware Continentals in the South and led these troops onto the field at Camden. While the main force of the patriots was routed and commander Horatio Gates was covering 60 miles in retreat in one day, Baron DeKalb fought heroically, his body riddled with ten bleeding wounds. It was not until felled by an eleventh injury that his men dispersed. He died three days later; his remains now lie beneath the granite monument in front of the Bethesda Presbyterian Church. This is the fourth sanctuary for the congregation and is one of the rare church buildings from esteemed South Carolina native Robert Mills still in use.

Robert Mills House

Columbia

1823



Charleston native Robert Mills was America's first architect born and trained in the United States. He would be named the nation's first federal architect and design some of the country's most prominent buildings, including the Washington Monument. The Robert Mills House, immediately recognized as a classically-inspired Mills design, was built between 1823 and 1825. Mills, however, did not live here. Neither, really did anyone else. It was intended as a fashionable private home for English merchant Ainsley Hall but he died before it was completed. His wife sold the mansion to the Presbyterian Synod of South Carolina and Georgia; the Presbyterian Theological Seminary began holding classes in 1831. In 1927, the seminary moved and the property gradually fell into disrepair. A major grassroots movement saved the house from demolition in the early 1960s and after extensive restoration, the Robert Mills House opened in 1967 as a historic house museum.

Landsford Canal

Lancaster

1823



The rocky shoals in the quick-stepping Catawba River lowered the water level and made this spot a good choice for fording the river but hindered navigation. The solution was a two-mile canal to bypass the shoals. The Landsford Canal was part of a larger scheme of ambitious canal building that would make all parts of South Carolina, save Greenville, reachable by water. State Architect and Engineer Robert Mills contrived the system of five locks to control the water levels in the canal. The granite canal walls and lock keeper's house were more impressive than the navigation aide's performance. Traffic was sparse and over with by 1840. The lock keeper's house was moved upstream to join three surviving locks into a state park.

Fireproof Building

Charleston

1827



The Fireproof Building, originally called the Charleston District Record Building, was the most fire-protected structure in America at the time of its creation in 1827. It is now believed to be the oldest building of fireproof construction in the United States. Architect Robert Mills employed a simple Greek Doric style with minimal ornamentation to convey a sense of order and serenity. No flammable materials were used and the Fireproof Building was so sturdy it survived the 1886 earthquake unharmed, except for the exterior stairs. It now protects the collections of the South Carolina Historical Society.

Cape Romain Lighthouses

McClellanville

1827



The shoals off Cape Romain are a particularly nasty passage for mariners. In 1827 Winslow Lewis, of Massachusetts stock, got the nod to build a lighthouse on Raccoon Key to aid the navigation offshore. Lewis had developed a lighting system in 1812 that resulted in more complete combustion of the whale oil and candle wick that won him a contract to outfit all American lighthouses with his new lamps. The job took four years and afterwards he branched out into lighthouse construction up and down the East Coast. His 67-foot conical brick tower, however, did not alleviate the shipping woes in the channel. In 1857 builders were back at Cape Romain raising an octagonal tower with a beacon 150 feet high. The light has done the job ever since, albeit with a slight lean that was about two feet in 1873 and over three now.

Mills Building

Richland

1827



The South Carolina Lunatic Asylum was the nation's second public mental hospital, authorized in 1821. Robert Mills provided the classical design for the institution's first building, taking care to account for patient security and fire resistance. In an era when those afflicted with mental health issues were typically confined in prison-like settings Mills planned the rooms with a southern exposure to bring in sunlight and fresh air. His design hid hinges and locks to avoid the appearance of incarceration.

Snee Farm House

Mount Pleasant

1828



Snee Farm was part of a 500-acre royal grant to Richard Butler in 1698. By 1754, when it came under control of the Pinckney family, the grounds comprised over 700 acres. Charles Pinckney was born here three years later. He would sign the United States Constitution in 1788 and went on to be a four-time governor of South Carolina, a U.S. Senator and Ambassador to Spain. He tried to retire in 1818 but was elected to the United States Congress. The Snee Farm had been sold out of the family by this time and new owner William Matthews unceremoniously tore down the Founding Father's house and erected the current structure on its footprint. The property was down to 28 acres when it was resurrected as the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site.

Farmers Hall

Pendleton

1828



This Greek Revival structure has been the centerpiece of Pendleton life for nearly two centuries. It is the oldest Farmers Hall still in continuous use in the United States. The ground floor has always been reserved for commercial trade and on the second floor was the town meeting hall. The village green was the site of the old courthouse; the quartet of plump Doric columns were added in 1848. It was in this hall that Thomas Green Clemson campaigned for a state agricultural college that is Clemson University today. John C. Calhoun, South Carolina's leading antebellum political light, was among the members of the Farmer's Society.

Fort Sumter

Charleston

1829



The fort named for General Thomas Sumter, the "Gamecock of the Revolution," and begun in 1829 was still unfinished in 1860 when South Carolina renounced its participation in the United States of America. The first shots of the Civil War were fired when the steamer *Star of the West*, bringing troops and supplies to Fort Sumter, was shelled on January 9, 1861 by a Confederate battery on Morris Island. Three months later Confederate commander General P.G.T. Beauregard bombarded the fort for 34 hours until Major Robert Anderson surrendered. The Confederates held Fort Sumter until 1865 through many desultory attacks and three more serious long bombardments in 1863-64. An ironclad squadron was repulsed and when the fort was finally deserted on February 17, 1865 there had been 567 days of continuous military operations against Charleston, the longest siege in modern history. The fort was replaced but never built to its original height after the war ended.

Randolph Hall

Charleston

1829



The College of Charleston is the oldest municipal college in the United States. Founded in 1770, and chartered in 1785, the College possesses additional historical significance as the oldest institute of higher learning in South Carolina, and the 13th oldest in the country. The founders of the college include three signers of the Declaration of Independence and three fathers of the United States Constitution. A former Revolutionary War barracks served as a makeshift classroom until the first real academic building arrived. Designed by Philadelphia architect William Strickland, the simple rectangular brick Main Building was completed in 1829. In 1854 prominent local architect Edward Brickell White extensively remodeled the Main Building (now known as Randolph Hall), adding an Ionic portico and wings. Out front in a grove of evergreen live oaks is Cistern Yard where the college's original water supply was stored until it was filled in and sodded.

Clark Mills Studio

Charleston

1830



Clark Mills left his native Syracuse, New York uneducated and found work in his wanderings as a farmhand, lumberjack, teamster, millwright, and carpenter. He arrived in Charleston at the age of 22 in 1837 and was hired as an ornamental plasterer. He progressed to making plaster life-masks in which he cast portrait busts. Everything was self-taught. He carved space out of this tenement house for a studio, eventually graduating to stone carving a bust of South Carolina's leading citizen, John C. Calhoun. In 1848 Mills left for Washington, D.C. where his reputation was made with a rendering of Andrew Jackson on a rearing horse that was placed in Lafayette Square beside the White House. It was the first bronze statue cast in America and the first equestrian statue anywhere to be ingeniously balanced on a horse's hind legs. In 1860 Mills cast the *Statue of Freedom*, the 15,000-pound bronze that crowns the United States Capitol.

Old Marine Hospital

Charleston
1833



Robert Mills gave Charleston its first Gothic-flavored building with this marine hospital and his efforts were not entirely welcome. The Marine Hospital Fund set up by Congress in 1798 was one of the nation's first efforts at public health - the facilities were designed to take care of grounded U.S. sailors in need of care. There were many in South Carolina who were none too happy with the federal government flexing its muscles in their city when this building was planned, especially when Mills replaced the local architect selected for the job. It had been two whole years after all since the favorite Charleston son and former State Architect had left the Palmetto State. He could hardly be considered "local" anymore. There were 30 marine hospitals built around the country before the Civil War, many designed in a similar way by Mills. This is one of only eight to survive.

St. Philip's Church

Charleston
1836



St. Philip's Episcopal Church houses the oldest congregation in South Carolina and was the first Anglican church established south of Virginia. This church is the third building to serve the congregation, designed by architect Joseph Hyde. The steeple, from the drawing board of E.B. White, was added a decade later. St. Philip's, like its ancestors, extends into the center of Church Street, following the contemporary practice of parish churches in England. A unique feature of the church's exterior are three separate Tuscan porticoes, one on each of its Church Street facades. Hyde added Roman columns and entablatures to the interior, as well as high Corinthian arcades and a chancel. That chancel was damaged during the Civil War, when St. Philip's steeple was used for siting Union guns during the bombardment of the city. Bells once encased in the steeple were melted for Confederate cannon. The view of Church Street punctuated by St. Philip's remains one of Charleston's most photographed spots.