

REDCLIFFE PLANTATION
181 REDCLIFFE RD
BEECH ISLAND, SC 29842
(803) 827-1473

UPCOMING EVENTS AT REDCLIFFE

Spring Evening:
Art & Architecture

May 20, 5:30 - 7:30
\$10/Adults, \$7.50/SC
Seniors & Ages 6-16
Free for ages 5 & under

For more information on this program please contact the park.

Park Staff

Park Manager
Joy Raintree

Park Interpreter
Elizabeth Laney

Park Technician
Doug Kratz

Asst. Park Ranger
Theresa Hips

Think About This!

Here's some architecture trivia for you: Attics in homes like Redcliffe's mansion were designed to collect heat in order to keep the rooms below cooler in the summer months. In 2016, the highest temperature recorded in the Attic was 106° F while the hottest room on the 2nd floor measured only 94°F, a 12° difference!



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BEHIND THE PAINT - FIGURES WITH CANDLES

Many visitors to Redcliffe are intrigued by an unusual painting in the main hallway showing two figures whose faces are illuminated by the light of a candle.

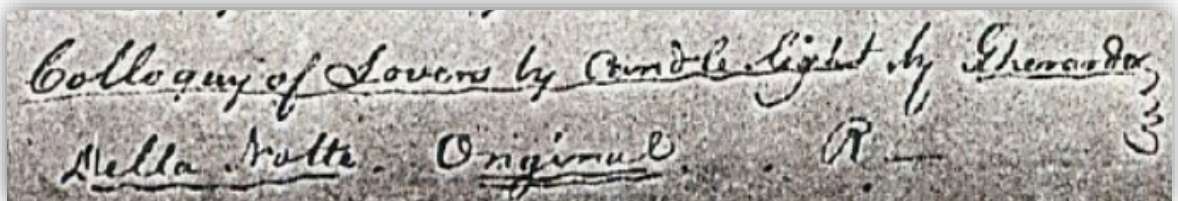
In his 1950's estate inventory, Redcliffe's final owner, John Shaw Billings, noted that the painting was called "Figures with Candle." He had the piece restored by noted art conservator Sheldon Keck of the Brooklyn Museum of Art in 1936. Mr. Keck dated the piece to the 17th century and suggested that it might have been an original painting by George de la Tour, who was noted for his paintings of figures illuminated by fire or candlelight. For many years Redcliffe's staff have shared the title and information on the painting



An inventory of paintings in the home in the 1860's lists the painting as "Colloquy of Lovers by Candlelight" and gives the artist's name as Gherardo Della Notte - a nickname for Dutch artist Gerrit von Honthorst! Like de la Tour, von Honthorst was also known for paintings where the figures were illuminated by candlelight.

As the earlier inventory indicates, "Figures with Candle" was one of 55 paintings originally purchased by James Henry Hammond while traveling through Europe prior to the Civil War. It looks like over the years as documents were buried and stories were told amongst the Hammond family the origin and original title of the painting were lost.

that came from Mr. Billings' notes. After a recent visitor to the plantation took an interest in the painting and sent some research that she had done, the staff took a closer look at the painting and Hammond family notes regarding the piece.



Redcliffe Plantation's Spring Evening: *Art* & ARCHITECTURE

Special ART tour just for younger children (10 & under)!

Saturday, May 20
from 5:30—7:30
\$10/Adults, \$7.50/SC Seniors &
Ages 6-16, 5 & under are free

Evening tours of the mansion with a focus on art & architecture.

Redcliffe
 Mansion, slave cabin
 Obeying, working, learning
 An important piece of our history
 Redcliffe

Alisha C.S., 3rd Grade
 East Aiken School of the Arts



The 3rd graders who worked on this poem and image of the slave quarters (above) visited Redcliffe Plantation for a curriculum-based field trip this year. During calendar year 2016, Redcliffe staff hosted 1,696 school children from 15 Aiken County public schools and 9 private/homeschools. Students are immersed in activities, like making calling cards and marbles, carrying water buckets, analyzing documents and photographs, that give them a sense of what life was like in the past for people who lived and worked at Redcliffe Plantation.

This 2-d model of Redcliffe's slave dwelling was on display in March at the **Aiken County Historical Museum**, a part of an art exhibit that had been created by **East Aiken School of the Arts** students. The exhibit and entries were designed to reflect iconic buildings and people of Aiken County which is celebrating its 146th year.

Document of the Month

PARLOUR

TRANSFIGURATION. Copy. By Temmel. Original by Raffaello. Vatican. (Harry)

HEAD OF EVE. Copy. By Temmel, from the Adam and Eve by Dominechino. Raspiogliosi Palace, Rome. (Bet)

FALLS OF TIVOLI. Original. By Werstappen. Rome. (Bet)

HARBOUR. Copy. Original by Horace Vernet, Sr. (Bet)

GAME PIECE. Original after Snyder's. (Paul)

HUNT OF DIANA. Copy in Water colours. Original by Dominechino. Borghese Palace, Rome. (Harry)

COLISSEUM. Mosaic. By Fioppi. Rome. (Harry)

MADemoiselle MAR. On Porcelain from Pocket. Paris.

LADY AND BIRD. Do. Do.

TITIAN'S BELLE. Copy. By Mad. Nuschi. Original in Sciarra Palace, Rome. (E. S. H. - J. H. H.)

FERRIER. Original. By Collet. London.

FLIGHT INTO EGYPT. Original after Paul Brill. (In Back Room now.)

LANDSCAPE WITH SNOW. Original. By Pidan. Rome. (Bet)

AUROSA. Copy in distemper. Original by Guido. Raspiogliosi. (Harry)

MADONNA DELLA SEGGIOLA. Copy. Original by Raffaello. Pitti, Palace, Rome. (Bet)

DISTRIBUTION & LOCATION INVENTORY OF THE PAINTINGS OF JAMES HENRY HAMMOND

In a previous issue of the Redcliffe Southern Times (March 2012) we introduced *James H. Hammond's Inventory of Paintings* - which listed the paintings, engravings and busts displayed at Redcliffe. Many years after Hammond's death his children created an inventory of the artwork, listed by the room in which the artwork hung, and showing which of five siblings inherited each piece.

In the image to the left we see some of the paintings which were originally located in the parlor. Some paintings given to the eldest, Harry, Redcliffe's third owner, are still hanging in the home today like the "Transfiguration of Christ," "Hunt of Diana," and "Coliseum." The youngest sibling, Elizabeth Hammond Eve "Bet," received several paintings from the parlor including a copy of the "Madonna della Seggiola." Her brother E. Spann Hammond received a copy of "Titian's Belle." Both paintings are still owned by descendants of the Hammond family today.