

REDCLIFFE PLANTATION
181 REDCLIFFE RD
BEECH ISLAND, SC 29842
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Redcliffe Southern Times

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT REDCLIFFE.

- **Behind the Scenes**
Sat, May 09 @ 5:15
\$15/participant
Reservations required.
- **Redcliffe's 4th of July**
July 04th, 2015
\$15/participant
Reservations required.
FULL. Wait list only.

For more information on
these programs please con-
tact the park.

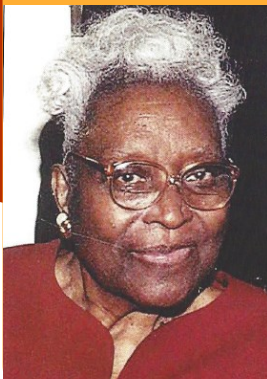
Park Staff

Park Manager
Joy Raintree

Park Interpreter
Elizabeth Laney

Park Technician
Doug Kratz

**Assistant Park
Ranger**
Theresa Hipps



Visiting the Hammond Papers in the Library of Congress



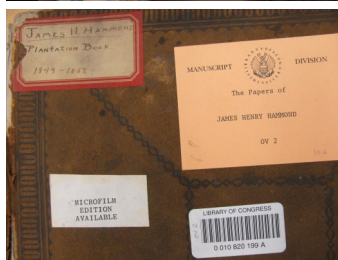
*“for Cotton is King & the African must be a
slave or there’s an end of all things...”*



This key phrase, from a letter written by James Henry Hammond to his good friend William Gilmore Simms, is one of the many things that I got to see during a recent visit to see the James Henry Hammond Papers in the Library of Congress. While the majority of Hammond family papers were donated to the South Caroliniana Library in 1973, the Library of Congress purchased a portion of James Henry Hammond’s papers (about 8,000 items) back in 1912. While today much of this collection is available to view by microfilm, only a few pieces have been digitized.



Barbara Bair, a historian in charge of 19th century US history collections like the James Henry Hammond papers in the Library of Congress, pulled some of the key pieces out for me to view including James Henry Hammond’s iconic Plantation Manual, a scrapbook kept by Hammond of newspaper articles from the 1860’s, and collections of Hammond’s letters. It was quite overwhelming to see some of these incredible documents for the first time!



I was quite interested to see Hammond’s scrapbook, especially since we know that his great-grandson John Shaw Billings kept numerous scrapbooks about his own life and the history of Redcliffe. Hammond’s scrapbook included articles about his own political and agricultural achievements, articles about hot political topics of the day and more. While I wish the collection were a bit closer to Redcliffe, I feel very fortunate to have gotten to see parts of the collection and be able to share it with all of you. ~ Elizabeth Laney, Park Interpreter

PEOPLE OF REDCLIFFE: IN MEMORIAM *Rosa Mae Jones*

Rosa Mae Jones was the daughter of Maryann Henley but was raised by her grandparents Dennis & Beth Henley after her mother’s death. Mrs. Jones grew up at Redcliffe where her grandparents and many of her aunts and uncles worked from the 1930’s through the 1970’s. She was a member of Silver Bluff Baptist Church in Beech Island and was later employed by the State Regional Hospital. She married Frank Jones and together the two raised several daughters.

Mrs. Jones died on April 12th at the age of 91 leaving behind several children, numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren AND great-great grandchildren, as well as her sister Bessie Dunbar. Redcliffe’s staff would like to extend their deepest condolences to Mrs. Jones’ family and friends.



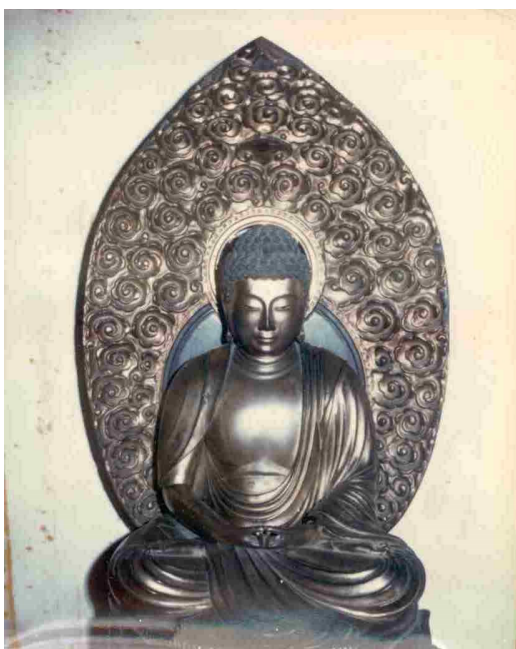
Its been a record spring for **school field trips** at Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site!

On average we see between **700 - 900 public school students** every year. This year we have seen almost **1,000 students** just in March and April alone. More and more local schools are beginning to discover just what an incredible resource they have right in their area. Redcliffe mostly sees students in the third, fourth and fifth grades who are studying South Carolina or United States history.

We love seeing so many students at Redcliffe but it often means cancelling the 11:00 am tour on Thursdays/Fridays in the fall and spring. Make sure to call ahead if you're interested in those tours.



Artifact of the Month: THEN & NOW



Statue of Buddha

Photo taken around 1950.

Note the beautiful gold leaf and the undamaged cobra hood back behind Buddha.



Statue of Buddha

Photo taken around 2005.

Much of the gold leaf is now gone and a large crack from plaster damage appears in the upper left-hand side of the cobra hood back.