

The Battle of Secessionville Commemoration

Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve

The Confederate Heritage Trust, Inc. will be hosting "The Battle of Secessionville Commemoration" at the Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve on James Island. The Commemoration is held on the second weekend in November, which will be that Saturday at 10:00am. There will be many historical groups attending this event to pay honor and respect to the many soldiers that died during this battle. This site is owned and managed by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The Preserve is located on 14 acres and has been documented as the second most important Civil War site in the state, second to only Fort Sumter. On June 16, 1862, the Confederates, commanded by Brig. Gen. Nathan "Shanks" Evans, were outnumbered by three to one. The Federals, commanded by Brig. Gen. Henry Benham, were defeated in a fierce battle that saved Charleston and set the stage for three more years of fighting in the Civil War. The "Tower Battery" as Fort Lamar was initially called, derived its name from the 75-foot observation platform built behind the fort. The Tower Battery was manned and the fortification completed by Col. Thomas G. Lamar of the 1st South Carolina Artillery. After the completion in 1864, the fort was named "Fort Lamar "in memory of Col. Thomas G. Lamar. The Confederate Heritage Trust, Inc. is honored to commemorate this significant and historical battle. We consider Fort Lamar to be "Holy Ground" because so many lives were lost during this battle. We should have respect for the soldiers and their families and this respect should be our utmost priority when we enter the Fort Lamar Heritage Preserve. We wish to thank Mr. Brian Long, property manager of the South Carolina Heritage Trust, a division of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. We also wish to thank Mr. Bryan Seel, SCDNR, for the great job of maintaining this property. Please visit this historical place and step back in time and watch history come alive.