

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

UPCOMING EVENTS
AT REDCLIFFE

Hunger Takes No
Vacation Food Drive
Now thru Nov 30
Donate at all 47 SC
State Parks

Growing History:
Hives & Honey

Sat, Sep 03 at 10am
\$10/adults, \$7/SC Seniors

For more information on
these programs please
contact the park.

Park Staff

Park Manager
Joy Raintree

Park Interpreter
Elizabeth Laney

Park Technician
Doug Kratz

Asst. Park Ranger
Theresa Hipps



BEE careful -
you never know
what's on page
two of the
Redcliffe South-
ern Times.

Redcliffe Southern Times

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Country Estate vs. Working Plantation

Redcliffe Plantation, South Carolina



Frogmore Plantation, Louisiana



Of the four plantations owned by the Hammond family, three were working plantations and one was a country estate. What's the difference? Although Redcliffe Plantation had vineyards and orchards it was more about the mansion and showcasing wealth and power. Silver Bluff, Cowden and Cathwood Plantations were primarily planted in cotton and corn, had no mansions and were focused entirely on money making through agriculture. The 1860 Agricultural Census reveals the difference between the Hammond's country estate at Redcliffe and their working plantations. Look at the differences between improved and unimproved lands, livestock and even the products of the two types of properties—they show completely different uses.

1860 Agricultural Census for Redcliffe Plantation

Acres of Improved Land: 100
Acres of Unimproved Land: 360
Horses: 3
Milk Cows: 1
Sweet Potatoes (bushels of): 200
Wine (gallons of): 300

1860 Agricultural Census for Silver Bluff, Cowden & Cathwood Plantations

Acres of Improved Land: 9,000
Acres of Unimproved Land: 2,000
Horses: 48
Asses and Mules: 22
Milk Cows: 20
Other Cattle: 123
Swine (Hogs): 595
Indian Corn (bushels): 63,000
Ginned Cotton: 315 bales (400 lbs each)
Peas & Beans (bushels): 5,000
Wine (gallons of): 200
Butter (pounds of): 800
Molasses (gallons of): 3,000 (from sorghum)

SCHEDULE 4.—Productions of Agriculture in _____ in the County of Barnwell in the Post Office Ullendale

NAME OF OWNER, AGENT, OR MANAGER OF THE FARM.	ACRES OF LAND.		Cash value of Farm.	Value of Farming Implements and Machinery.	LIVE STOCK, JUNE 1, 1860										PRODUCE DURING THE YEAR						
	Improved.	Unimproved.			Horses.	Asses and Mules.	Milk Cows.	Working Oxen.	Other Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Value of Live Stock.	Wheat, bushels of.	Rye, bushels of.	Indian Corn, bushels of.	Oats, bushels of.	Wool, lbs. of.	Tobacco, lbs. of.	Ginned Cotton, bales of 400 lbs. each.	Wool, lbs. of.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Madison Boyd	10	90	600	15	1			2			15	120			40						
Isaac Hamilton	100		600	20	1	2	1	2			20	180			250						
John Morgan	250	550	3500	100	2		7	15			60	710			700						
W. Henderson	100	200	1800	150	6		6	10			80	520			600						



Got Honey?

Growing History: Hives & Honey

Saturday, September 3 at 10 am

Honey Tasting!

Special guest speaker—local beekeeper Tom Hall.

Program includes refreshments & grounds tour.

\$10/adults, \$7/SC Seniors and Ages 6-16



The earliest mention of **BEES OR HONEY** on the Hammond plantations is a note from James Henry Hammond's plantation journal for November 3, 1832 when he records that he caught two slaves, John and Ben, out cutting a **bee tree in the swamp** without permission. While molasses and sugar were sometimes available to enslaved families, a convenient honey bee hive in the woods nearby might have seemed worth the risk of punishment to try and rob. Hammond himself may have had an interest in bees and their economic potential to his business.

His catalogue of books in the Redcliffe library from the early 1860's includes **a book on honey bees**.

Unfortunately the book is not a part of the current library collection at Redcliffe but there is a volume from 1904 entitled "**The Life of the Bee,**" by Maurice Maeterlinck. The only mention of actual, maintained bee hives at Redcliffe comes from an oral history interview with Emily Hammond Wilson Walker, formerly of Kathwood Plantation, in 1997. Mrs. Walker remembered seeing **bee hive boxes** on the plantation along the entry road just past the Magnolia Allee when she visited as a child in the early 20th century.



Preservation Note

While its fun to imagine little bees flying around with tiny saws and hammers, the carpenter bee is so-called because it excavates tunnels in wood with its strong jaws. Carpenter bees have been an issue at Redcliffe for years, digging tiny tunnels in the historic wood of the mansion.



Carpenter bees attack dry, exposed wood and can often be seen hovering under the eaves of houses or the undersides of porches such as the underside of the historic porch of Redcliffe Plantation's mansion (left).



Carpenter bees excavate tunnels in untreated wood for their nests. These galleries can be six or seven inches in length. One entrance hole can be the entrance to several galleries.

