

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT REDCLIFFE

- **Redcliffe's 4th of July**
July 04th, 2015
\$15/participant
Reservations required.
FULL Wait list only.
- **African-American
Experience:**
Cabins & Communities
Sept 12 at 10:00 AM

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

Asst. Park Ranger
Theresa Hipps

\$53.15

The amount of mon-
ey Julia Hammond
Richards made at
Redcliffe in June
1921 selling milk,
butter, eggs, okra,
squash and peaches.
53.15 = \$700 in 2015

CIVIL WAR: AFTERMATH

"We are in God's hands who alone has brought about this wonderful state of affairs and who only can unravel it." These were the thoughts of Catherine F. Hammond in the tumultuous months following the end of the Civil War. Redcliffe had escaped

the Amnesty Proclamation issued by President Andrew Johnson on May 29, 1865, many of the Southern elite found that they had to apply for a pardon from the president and take an oath of allegiance in order to have their full rights as citizens restored.

war ended Catherine and her daughter Elizabeth "Betty" made a trip to New York to visit another daughter Catherine H. Gregg. Of their travels, Betty Hammond wrote that *"the country in general was terribly torn up by the war... railroads were in such bad condi-*

Now, therefore, be it known, That I, ANDREW JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, divers other good and sufficient reasons me thereunto moving, do hereby grant to the said Mrs. C. E. Hammond a full pardon and amnesty for all offences by her committed, arising from participation, direct or implied, in the said rebellion, conditioned as follows:

physical damage during the war, but the estate's most pressing post-war problem was debt.

Writing to her brother-in-law in September of 1865, Catherine writes *"At present there is none [money] in the estate—but we have had to go into debt for the expenses of the plantation."* The Hammond family not only carried over a large debt from before the Civil War, but the emancipation of their slaves was a loss of approximately two million dollars in today's money.

In addition to debt, the Hammond family also found their citizenship challenged. Under

Catherine Hammond swore the oath of allegiance on June 13th, 1865 in Augusta, GA and received a presidential pardon on October 31, 1865. At least two of her sons, Harry and Spann, also had to issue formal requests for pardons. A part of the oath required individuals to swear to *"faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States"* and to support all laws regarding the emancipation of slaves.

Once political necessities had been taken care of, parts of the Hammond's lives returned to normal. Less than a year after the

tion trains could not run at night. Yankee soldiers had torn them up... Bridges were burnt by Sherman's raiders."

Betty Hammond's brother Spann, living in Amherst, VA following the war, wrote that *"To me it seems as if I had been in two worlds, and two existences, the old and the new, and to those knowing only the latter, the old will appear almost like mythology and romance, so thorough has been the upheaval and obliteration of the methods and surroundings of the past."*



What's Bloomin' in June?

Prickly pear cactus blooms (left) are on their way out, but Redcliffe's gardenias (center left) and magnolias (far left) are in full bloom!

WHICH TRACTOR HAS BIGGER WHEELS?

Having just gotten a new tractor for the park, we decided to use our new acquisition to replicate a picture from the John S. Billings scrapbooks from seventy-six years ago!

On the left we have Jim Henley (son of Redcliffe caretaker Dennis Henley) in 1939 and on the far left we have our very own Doug Kratz, expert Park Technician in 2015.

We think they are both sporting some pretty big wheels!



Document of the Month - Oath of Allegiance

As a condition of their pardon under Andrew Johnson's Amnesty Proclamation of May 29, 1865, elite Southerners like Catherine Hammond and her sons Harry and Spann, were required to swear an oath of allegiance to the United States. Also called "Loyalty Oaths," individuals had to give a description of themselves at the bottom of the document so that they could be identified if they broke the oath. Redcliffe was able to acquire digital copies of the Loyalty Oaths for Catherine, Harry and Spann Hammond through Ancestry.com.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I, *Catherine E. Hammond* of the County of *Edgefield* State of *South Carolina*, do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by, and faithfully support, all Acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed, modified or held void by Congress, or by decision of the Supreme Court; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified and declared void by decision of the Supreme Court—So HELP ME GOD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, at *Augusta* this *13th* day of *June* A. D., 1865.

Catherine E. Hammond
A. J. Hammond and Provost Marshal.

The above named has *dark* complexion *Black* hair, and *hazel* eyes; is *5* feet *4* inches high, aged *57* years: by profession a