

HISTORIC SITE TOURS

Thursday - Monday
11am, 1pm, & 3pm
\$10 for adults, \$6 for
seniors, \$5 for children
6-16. Children five and
under are free.

For more information on
programs and group tours,
please contact the park.

PARK STAFF

PARK MANAGER
Chelsea Stutz

PARK INTERPRETER
Ashley Rust

CURATOR
Jordan Stenger

ASSISTANT PARK RANGERS
Lauren Jackson
Gregory Jones
Deslaun Scott

PARK UPDATE

Please plan your trip with regard to
the weather forecast. Our structures
do not have climate control, so if it's
warm outside it's warm in our
buildings! If you visit, please dress
for the weather as there is also a
portion of the tour outside.

If you have questions about our tours
or would like to schedule a large
group, please give us a call!

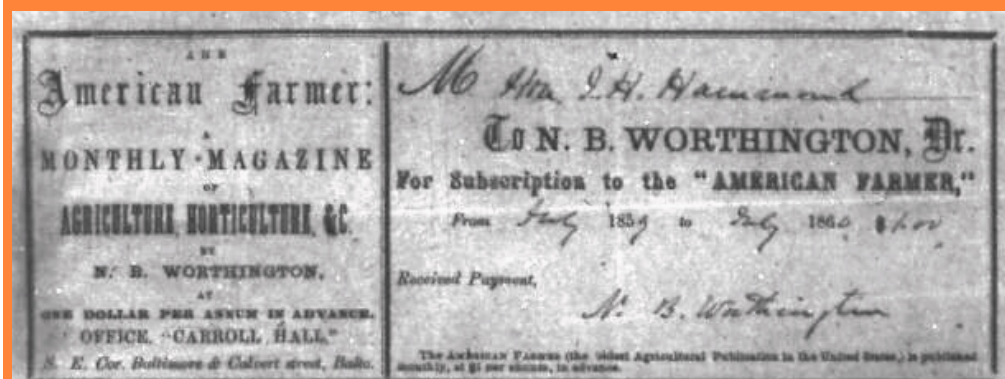
REDCLIFFE PLANTATION
181 REDCLIFFE ROAD
BEECH ISLAND, SC 29842
(803) 827 1473

REDCLIFFE

SOUTHERN TIMES

1800S GARDENING ADVICE

Recently, staff from Redcliffe have been taking research trips to USC's Caroliniana Library. We have been fortunate to have the opportunity to continue to learn more about James Henry Hammond's plantations through the records kept at the Thomas Cooper Library! Which, by the way, is named after one of Hammond's professors when he attended what was then called South Carolina College. Some of these documents are collections of receipts for everything from work done on the home at Redcliffe to buying food and magazine subscriptions. Although these kinds of records can at first glance seem insignificant, they can tell us a lot about a person's day-to-day life and experiences. Sure, big speeches and publications tell us a lot about the outward-facing appearances of people -- what they wanted to be remembered for -- but what about the things they read when they got home that influenced those ideas?



James Henry Hammond's receipt for his subscription to *The American Farmer*. Courtesy of South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.



May 1860 edition cover page of *The American Farmer*. See excerpts and a link to the full issue below!

One of the many publications to which Hammond subscribed was *The American Farmer*. It began in 1819 in Maryland and by the mid-1800s it was widely popular. The Agricultural Society of South Carolina, of which Hammond was a founding member, called the magazine "highly worthy" of a read and subscription.

The American Farmer had articles about things you might read about in *Country Living* or *The Old Farmer's Almanac* today alongside very unfamiliar gardening advice about how "hands," or enslaved people, should be tending to crops for maximum profits. These subjects were certainly the interest of Hammond who not only subscribed to the magazine, but was also a contributor:

On the Culture of Cotton.

BY GOV. HAMMOND, OF S. C.

So many of our Southern subscribers are directly interested in the Cotton culture, and so many especially in the Eastern portion of North Carolina have recently entered upon its cultivation, that we feel called on by several suggestions to that effect to furnish them matter bearing immediately on that important crop. We reproduce, therefore, here, the report made some years back by Gov. Hammond, of South Carolina, to the Barnwell Agricultural Society, *on the culture of Cotton* :

The full article by Hammond can be [read at this link](#) where the 1859-1860 volumes have been digitized.

As with many gardening magazines, there were also notes on when to plant and how to cultivate vegetables, crops, and flowering plants alongside small poems or musings about the passing of seasons. Here is one of the beginning pages of May 1860, which you can [continue to read at this link](#).

Happy planting this spring! Be sure to check out our events on the next page for upcoming programs.

MAY.

"The spirit of the gentle South wind calls
From her blue throne of air,
And where his whispering voice in music falls,
Beauty is budding there;
The bright ones of the valley break
Their slumbers, and awake."

These "bright ones of the valley," how sweetly they speak to us. So lately slumbering in death, now all awake, alive, arisen. The whispering voice of the gentle South wind has called, and they have come forth, all-glorious in the beauty of a new life. So little worth in the eyes of worldly wisdom, yet so cared for; "they toil not, they spin not," yet they stand arrayed in more than royal glory. Rose and lily, cowslip and primrose, pure, sweet, voiceless messengers are they all, telling us of a new life for him that was dead, and new glory for the lowliest and least worthy.

ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH



This portrait of Irish stage actress Elizabeth O'Neill was published by John Bell c. 1820. O'Neill was one of the most popular actresses of the Regency Era in the early nineteenth century. This depiction of her notes her performance at Covent Garden Theatre in London, England. It is possible that James Henry Hammond, on his European tour and visit to England, saw performances at this theatre. Although O'Neill had retired from the stage by Hammond's visit to Europe, her popularity and impact on the performing world continued. It is possible Hammond purchased this commemorative card because of O'Neill's continued fame.



[Covent Garden Theatre in London](#)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

RESISTANCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 18 AT 3PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 AT 11AM

Discover the many ways in which enslaved people took agency in their own lives in direct defiance of an enslaver's claim to their bodies, their lives, and their labor. This special guided tour will present primary source accounts of how men and women enslaved in South Carolina and on the Hammond plantations resisted during slavery and the difficult years following the end of the Civil War.

ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED · \$10 PER PERSON

REDCLIFFE PLANTATION STATE HISTORIC SITE

southcarolinaparks.com/redcliffe/programs-and-events
redcliffe@scprt.com · 803-827-1473

[Click here to register for Resistance!](#)

PRESERVATION WORK

Please pardon our preservation project! The State Park Service's Historic Preservation Team is working hard to repair and replace the steps to the mansion front porch. We appreciate their hard work and hope to have the steps and front porch open again in a few weeks. You will also see work going on for some repairs on the historic stables!

