

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY  
NOMINATION FORM

<u>Continuation Sheet</u>		<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>Name</u> Historic Fort Palmetto		<u>Location</u> Vicinity of Hamlin Sound, Christ Church Parish	
Common		<u>Classification</u> Structure	
<u>Owner</u> Mrs. Emilie Hester Mitchell Rt. 1, Box 164 Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464			

Representation in Existing Surveys Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina, 1981

Description Fort Palmetto is located in Christ Church Parish approximately nine and one-half miles northeast of Charleston in a rural agricultural setting. Fort Palmetto is the eastern terminus of a line of defensive works running from Hamlin Sound on the east across Christ Church Parish to Elliott's Creek (Boone Hall Creek) on the west. Fort Palmetto is a three-gun battery approximately 160 feet long and 80 feet deep. Although a simple open battery, Fort Palmetto has unusually high relief with a parapet approximately 15 feet in height and a magazine approximately 25 feet above the surrounding terrain. These elevations provided better visibility over Hamlin Sound in addition to presenting a more formidable appearance. The battery is in excellent condition although it is heavily covered with trees and undergrowth.

Significance Fort Palmetto was the easternmost position in the Christ Church Parish line of defense. Commanding Hamlin Sound and Dewee's Creek, it was designed to deny Union naval support of any attack on Charleston from the northeastern side. The Christ Church line was laid out by Robert E. Lee and constructed in late 1861.<sup>35</sup> The importance of Fort Palmetto may be measured by the fact that the position mounted one nine-inch gun and two rifled thirty-two-pounders at capture, while the remainder of the line was unarmed.<sup>36</sup>

Acreage 1

Verbal Boundary Description The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the red line on the accompanying Charleston County Tax Map #561-0-0, scaled at 1"=400'. This boundary includes all significant surviving structures, while excluding the adjacent marshlands.

UTM Reference Point 17/612560/3632160 (Fort Moultrie quadrangle)

Other Information