

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DEC 19 1994

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 48). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Camp Saxton Site
other names/site number 38BU163

2. Location

street & number [redacted] not for publication
city or town Port Royal vicinity
state South Carolina code SC county Beaufort code 013
zip code 29935

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant X nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 12/14/94
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

M. J. M. W. 2/2/95

for Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)			buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>		structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: LANDSCAPE Sub: Unoccupied Land
DEFENSE Military Camp

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: LANDSCAPE Sub: Unoccupied Land

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>N/A</u>	foundation <u>N/A</u>
_____	roof <u>N/A</u>
_____	walls <u>N/A</u>
_____	other <u>N/A</u>

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ETHNIC HERITAGE/BLACK

Significant Dates

1862

1863

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Period of Significance

1862-63

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property [REDACTED]

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	_____	_____
2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	_____	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Tracy Power, Staff Historian/NR Specialist, South Carolina SHPO, with the assistance of Dr. Charles M. Wright, President, Penn Center of the Sea Islands, Michigan Support Group, Southfield, MI

organization S.C. Department of Archives & History date 1 November 1994

street & number P.O. Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8610

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Camp Saxton Site is nationally significant as an intact portion of the camp occupied from early November 1862 to late January 1863 by the 1st South Carolina Volunteers, the first black regiment mustered into regular service in the United States Army during the Civil War, and as the site of the elaborate ceremonies held here on New Year's Day 1863 which formally announced and celebrated the enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves in areas then "in rebellion" against the United States.

The vast majority of the blacks along the South Carolina and Georgia coasts, were, of course, slaves when the white evacuation and subsequent Federal occupation of the sea islands occurred in November 1861. After that time the United States government considered these people "contraband of war" with the same status as any other abandoned or confiscated property in the South. While the blacks on the sea islands were no longer truly slaves, neither were they yet truly free. In May 1862 Major General David Hunter, commanding the Department of the South, United States Army, confused matters further when he issued a proclamation announcing that all slaves in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida were free, then proceeded to organize a regiment of black soldiers--most of them drafted against their will--to serve in the United States Army. Hunter's unauthorized proclamation and organization of a black regiment were soon revoked, however, by President Abraham Lincoln, who was not yet willing to make the Civil War a war to abolish slavery and to enlist blacks to take up arms against whites.¹

Brigadier General Rufus Saxton was assigned to duty in the department under Hunter's immediate supervision and was appointed the military governor of the abandoned plantations in the Department of the South in June 1862. Saxton's instructions gave him responsibility for "occupying, cultivating, and taking care of the [former] plantations under your command, and protecting, employing, and instructing the [black] inhabitants who have not hitherto been accustomed to self-protection."² By the end of the year most blacks in the vicinity were farming and working under the supervision of the United States Army and officials of the United States Department of the Treasury, and were being educated by missionaries and teachers representing various organizations such as the Port Royal Relief

¹The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, 128 vols., (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), Series I, 14:341 (hereafter referred to as O.R., with all references to Series I unless otherwise noted); O.R., Series III, 2:42-43. See also Willie Lee Rose, Rehearsal for Reconstruction: The Port Royal Experiment (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1964), pp. 144-151. Rose's study is the best secondary account of the experiences of the freedmen on the occupied South Carolina Sea Islands and their transition from slavery to freedom.

²O.R., Series III, 2:152.

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Association, the American Missionary Association, or the Pennsylvania Freedmen's Aid Society.³

Throughout the summer of 1862 Lincoln carefully considered the inclusion of blacks in the Union war effort, both in terms of the effect their emancipation could have on the Confederacy and in terms of the work they could perform as laborers and even soldiers in the United States Army. By August he was ready to implement a policy permitting his generals to use all the means at their disposal, including readily available black manpower, to help preserve the Union. On August 22nd Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton authorized Rufus Saxton to "arm, equip, and receive into the service of the United States such volunteers of African descent as you may deem expedient, not exceeding 5,000."⁴

Saxton immediately began recruiting black soldiers and appointing white officers this new regiment--the first officially-authorized black regiment to be regularly mustered into the United States Army--which was soon designated the 1st South Carolina Volunteers (Colored).⁵ He met some initial resistance from many black men in the area, for most of them had no desire to march, drill, be confined to camp, or be under military discipline when they could be working the cotton fields for pay. Some of them, furthermore, had been drafted into the unauthorized regiment formed by General Hunter in the spring and wanted no part of soldier life, while others distrusted the motives of the whites who encouraged them to enlist.⁶ By early November 1862, however, Saxton's tireless efforts to recruit black soldiers were more successful. One of the Northern missionaries superintending abandoned plantations on the South Carolina sea islands commented, describing the first company organized, "the regularity and steadiness of their marching was very creditable. They are a fine body of men. The regiment is filling fast, its friends much encouraged."⁷ The new regiment organized, trained, and drilled at Camp Saxton, which was named for the general and located on the former plantation of John Joyner Smith,

³Rose, *passim*.

⁴O.R., Series I, 14:377-78.

⁵Though four black regiments, most of them made up of free blacks, were organizing or had organized in Louisiana and Kansas about the same time, the 1st South Carolina Volunteers was the first regiment to be officially mustered into United States service.

⁶Elizabeth Ware Pearson, ed., Letters from Port Royal Written at the Time of the Civil War (Boston: W.B. Clarke Company, 1906), pp. 96-98, 100-01, 102-03, 104; Rupert Sargent Holland, ed., Letters and Diary of Laura M. Towne Written from the Sea Islands of South Carolina, 1862-1884 (Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1912), pp. 93-94.

⁷Pearson, ed., pp. 106-07. See also Gerald Schwartz, ed., A Woman Doctor's Civil War: Esther Hill Hawks' Diary (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1984), pp. 37-38.

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an antebellum Beaufort District planter. By mid-month Saxton reported that 550 men had already enlisted in the regiment.⁸

General Saxton, in search of a commander for his new troops, persuaded Thomas Wentworth Higginson, a prominent Boston abolitionist and a captain in the newly-organized 51st Massachusetts Infantry, to accept a commission as its colonel.⁹ Colonel Higginson arrived on November 23rd to take charge of his troops and described his first view of the camp, from on board the steamer which brought him to South Carolina:

we saw on a picturesque point an old plantation, with stately magnolia avenue, decaying house, and tiny church amid the woods . . . behind it stood a neat encampment of white tents, "and there," said my companion, "is your future regiment."¹⁰

Charlotte Forten, one of the teachers sent to nearby St. Helena Island by the Port Royal Relief Association, praised Higginson soon after his arrival, commenting, "He seems to me of all fighting men the one best fitted to command a regiment of colored soldiers."¹¹ Higginson himself later observed that the creation of the 1st South Carolina Volunteers was "a vast experiment of indirect philanthropy, and one on which the result of the war and the destiny of the negro race might rest."¹²

That "vast experiment" was part of a truly new war by this time, for the entire character of the Civil War had changed in September. Lincoln's growing conviction that emancipating the slaves would be another means by which the Union could defeat the Confederacy led him to draft a preliminary emancipation proclamation and to wait for a Union victory for the right time to issue it. On September 17th the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Major General George B. McClellan, repulsed the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Robert E. Lee, and ended the Confederate invasion of Maryland. Though it was not the clearcut Union victory he wanted, Lincoln thought that Antietam gave him his opportunity.

⁸O.R. Series I, 14:190. See also Schwartz, ed., pp. 42-43.

⁹Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Army Life in a Black Regiment (Boston: Fields, Osgood, & Company, 1870), pp. 2-3, 7.

¹⁰Ibid., p. 7.

¹¹Brenda Stevenson, ed., The Journals of Charlotte Forten Grimke, The Schomburg Library of Nineteenth-Century Black Women Writers (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988), p.405.

¹²Ibid., p. 4.

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The proclamation, issued 22 September 1862, announced that the Civil War was now being fought not to preserve the Union as it had been but a new Union as it might be, a Union without slavery. Lincoln, taking advantage of the extraordinary authority given to the President in wartime, declared that all slaves living in states "in rebellion" against the United States-- that is, in all portions of the Confederacy that Union forces did not already occupy and control--would be free as of January 1st, 1863. The gist of the proclamation was that

all persons held as slaves within said designated States and parts of States are, and henceforward shall be, free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities . . . will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons. . .¹³

"Emancipation, then," observes James M. McPherson in Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Revolution, "became a crucial part of Northern military strategy, an important means of winning the war. . . . Emancipation and the enlistment of slaves as soldiers tremendously increased the stakes in this war, for the South as well as the North. . . . The alternatives were reduced starkly to Southern independence on the one hand or unconditional surrender of the South on the other."¹⁴

Some critics pointed out that the Emancipation Proclamation did not really free any slaves except those in areas where the Federal armies and government did not yet have authority. The symbolic impact of the proclamation, however--the acknowledgement that the United States was fighting not just for its own survival but for freedom for a large percentage of its population--overrode such technicalities and eventually changed most minds in the North. One major reason for this change of heart was undoubtedly the performance of those blacks who did enlist, marching, fighting, and dying in a cause which was more their own than most whites could have begun to understand. Joseph T. Glatthaar, a noted Civil War military historian, has commented, "Not only would the Union take slaves, it would arm and train them to fight for the Confederacy's defeat."¹⁵ Though the 1st South Carolina Volunteers had already been organized well before Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, the new policy encouraged the creation of many more such units under the designation of United States Colored Troops.

¹³O.R., Series III, 2:584.

¹⁴James M. McPherson, Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Revolution (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991), 85, 87.

¹⁵Joseph T. Glatthaar, "Black Glory," in Gabor S. Boritt, ed., Why the Confederacy Lost (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992), p. 150.

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General Saxton, meanwhile, planned to mark the enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation on New Year's Day 1863 with ceremonies at Camp Saxton announcing and celebrating the event. He issued a proclamation on Christmas Eve 1862 which announced the celebration scheduled for January 1st and was read to the 1st South Carolina Volunteers. "There was cheering in all the company-streets afterwards," Colonel Higginson remarked in his diary.¹⁶ Massive preparations for the ceremonies, meanwhile, occupied the next week. Saxton's quartermaster requisitioned barrels of molasses and plugs of tobacco for the guests, and supervised men who cooked hundreds of loaves of hard bread and roasted ten or twelve oxen on spits for a crowd estimated at some 5000 well-wishers. A speakers' platform was built in a grove of live oaks between the John Joyner Smith plantation house and the Beaufort River. The band of the 8th Maine Infantry, one of the regiments stationed near Port Royal, volunteered to provide music for the occasion. General Saxton himself attended church services at Brick Church on St. Helena Island--one of the more common public meeting places on the South Carolina sea islands--and urged black men to enlist and fight for their freedom in the United States Army. He also invited everyone, black and white, "to come to the camp near B.[eaufort] on N.[ew] Year's Day, and join in the grand Celebration."¹⁷ This celebration was one of the most significant of the first ceremonies marking the Emancipation Proclamation, for while many of these celebrations were held all over the North, only a few were organized in Union-occupied territory in the South where the provisions of the Proclamation would actually take effect before the end of the war. "Nowhere in all the occupied districts of the South," historian Willie Lee Rose has noted in her Rehearsal for Reconstruction: The Port Royal Experiment, "could the document have had more meaning than in [Saxton's] Department."¹⁸ Anticipation was high among the troops, the missionaries and teachers, and the freedmen as New Year's Day approached. "I count the hours till to-morrow," Charlotte Forten wrote in her diary on December 31st, "the glorious, glorious day of freedom."¹⁹

When that day finally arrived, crowds came to Camp Saxton from the vicinity of Port Royal and from neighboring sea islands such as St. Helena, Ladies, and Hilton Head as well, many of them shuttled across the water by steamers provided by General Saxton. Many blacks, of course--some men but primarily women, dressed with brightly-colored handkerchiefs on their heads--attended, and Colonel Higginson commented that they "filled up all

¹⁶Higginson, p. 34.

¹⁷Stevenson, ed., p. 427. See also Higginson, pp. 36-38; Pearson, ed., pp. 124-25; and Schwartz, ed., pp. 41-42.

¹⁸Rose, p. 195.

¹⁹Stevenson, ed., p. 428.

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the vacant spaces in the beautiful grove."²⁰ Many whites attended as well, from civilian teachers, missionaries, plantation superintendents, and others, to officers of the other Federal units stationed on the South Carolina sea islands. Colonel Higginson shared the platform with General Saxton and other military and civilian dignitaries, while his regiment marched to the grove and was posted in a place of honor near the platform.

The ceremonies opened with prayer, and after a short ode composed especially for the occasion was sung, the Emancipation Proclamation was read to the audience by Dr. William H. Brisbane, a native South Carolinian and sea island planter who worked for the abolition of slavery and had freed his own slaves years before. Reverend Mansfield French, an army chaplain, then presented Colonel Higginson and the 1st South Carolina Volunteers with two flags--a United States flag and the regimental colors--donated by abolitionists from New York and Connecticut. Just as Reverend French completed his remarks, and before Colonel Higginson could respond, an elderly freedman in the large audience surrounding the platform spontaneously broke into song, and was soon joined by most of the blacks around him, singing,

My Country, 't is of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing!

The stunned colonel and dignitaries sharing the platform listened as the blacks sang, and Higginson commented in his diary that night, "I never saw anything so electric; it made all other words cheap; it seemed the choked voice of a race at last unloosed. . . . Just think of it! -- the first day they had ever had a country, the first flag they had ever seen which promised anything to their people . . . the life of the whole day was in those unknown people's song."²¹ Colonel Higginson responded by saying that any words he might speak would pale in comparison to what had just happened, but he tried to put the occasion into perspective with his speech. He then presented the United States flag to Sergeant Prince Rivers of his regiment, "telling him that his life was chained to it and he must die to defend it," asking Rivers, "Do you understand?" Rivers answered his colonel, "Yes, sir," and then spoke briefly in response. Higginson then presented the regimental colors to Corporal Robert Sutton of his regiment, who responded by saying that "there was not one in that crowd but had sister, brother, or some relation among the rebels still; that all was not done because they were so happily off, [and] that they should not be

²⁰Higginson, p. 40.

²¹Higginson, pp. 40-41. See also the accounts in Stevenson, ed., pp. 429-430; Pearson, ed., pp. 129-132; Holland, ed., p. 98; and Rose, pp. 196-97.

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content till all their people were as well off, [even] if they died in helping them."²²

Though the ceremonies lasted for some three hours in all, with more remarks from General Saxton and other guests, and a few hymns sung, everyone present agreed that the spontaneous song of the freedmen and the presentation of the colors to the 1st South Carolina Volunteers was the highlight of the day. The celebration ended with Colonel Higginson's regiment singing "John Brown's Body Lies A-Mouldering In the Grave" to the by-now familiar tune of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and the crowd was invited to eat the huge dinner which Saxton's quartermaster had prepared for them. Suzie King Taylor, a black laundress for Higginson's regiment, remembered years later, "It was a glorious day for us all, and we enjoyed every minute of it, and as a fitting close and the crowning event of this occasion we had a grand barbecue."²³ After dinner groups of guests were invited to inspect Camp Saxton itself, and then were treated to a dress parade by the proud officers and men of the 1st South Carolina Volunteers. "The Dress Parade--the first I have ever seen--delighted me," Charlotte Forten commented. "It was a brilliant sight--the lone line of men in their brilliant uniforms, with bayonets gleaming in the sunlight. . . . To me it was a grand triumph--that black regiment doing itself honor in the sight of the white officers."²⁴ The colonel himself recorded in his diary at the end of the day, "So ended one of the most enthusiastic and happy gatherings I ever knew. The day was perfect, and there was nothing but success."²⁵

This day was not an end, however, but only a beginning. After weeks of drilling and training, after the speeches had been made, the songs had been, sung, and the colors had been presented, the 1st South Carolina Volunteers would now enter the war in earnest. Colonel Higginson's regiment soon left Camp Saxton as part of a Federal expedition into Georgia and Florida which lasted from January to March 1863, which demonstrated the solid performance of black troops on the march and in combat, and which saw the brief occupation of Jacksonville, Florida. The 1st South Carolina was stationed on Port Royal Island for the remainder of 1863 except for short

²²Pearson, ed., pp. 131-32; see also Higginson, p. 41; Stevenson, ed., p. 430; Holland, ed., p. 98; and Rose, pp. 196-97.

²³Suzie King Taylor, Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33d United States Colored Troops Late 1st South Carolina Volunteers (Boston: Published by the Author, 1902), reprinted as Patricia W. Romero and Willie Lee Rose, eds., A Black Woman's Civil War Memoirs (New York: Markus Wiener Publishing, 1988), p. 49. See also Higginson, p. 42; Pearson, ed., pp. 132-33; Stevenson, ed., p. 431-32; Holland, p. 98-99; and Rose, p. 197.

²⁴Stevenson, ed., p. 432.

²⁵Higginson, p. 42.

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expeditions up the Edisto River and to Hilton Head Island. It was redesignated the 33rd United States Colored Troops in early 1864, then was stationed on Folly Island and Cole's Island near Charleston, and fought bravely in the battle of Honey Hill, near Hardeeville, on 30 November 1864. The 33rd United States Colored Troops (more often referred to by its old designation as the 1st South Carolina Volunteers) completed its wartime duty in Charleston and Savannah in early 1865 and was finally mustered out of Federal service in February 1866.²⁶ Colonel Higginson, who received a medical discharge from the service in early 1864 due to wounds received in 1863, wrote a tribute to his men a few years later which concluded, "We had touched the pivot of the war. . . . Till the blacks were armed, there was no guaranty of their freedom. It was their demeanor under arms that shamed the nation into recognizing them as men."²⁷

The Camp Saxton Site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a relatively intact portion of the camp where the 1st South Carolina Volunteers was organized and spent its first few months of existence, and also as the site of the massive Emancipation Day celebration which heralded freedom to thousands of black inhabitants on the South Carolina sea islands.

The archaeological remains of discrete portions of the Camp Saxton site are likely to exist and to contain sufficient integrity to yield valuable information about several significant research questions pertinent to an understanding of the South Carolina sea islands in the antebellum period and during the era of the Civil War and Reconstruction. Potential information may be gained about the operation of a sea island cotton plantation in the early- to mid-nineteenth century; about the everyday life of the 1st South Carolina Volunteers and several other Union units stationed there from late 1862 through the end of the Civil War; or about several other research questions of interest to historians and archaeologists alike. It is very likely that such historic period archaeological sites might contribute further to the significance of the

²⁶Higginson, *passim*; Frederick H. Dyer, A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion (Des Moines: Dyer Publishing Company, 1908; reprint ed., New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1959), Volume III: Regimental Histories, pp. 1636, 1729. See also Dudley Taylor Cornish, The Sable Arm: Negro Troops in the Union Army, 1861-1865 (New York: Longmans, Green, 1956) and Joseph T. Glatthaar, Forged in Battle: The Civil War Alliance of Black Soldiers and White Officers (New York: Free Press, 1990), for overviews of the experience of black troops in the United States Army during the Civil War. Valuable collections of primary sources include Ira Berlin, et al, eds., Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation 1861-1867, Selected from the Holdings of the National Archives of the United States: Series II: The Black Military Experience (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982), and A Grand Army of Black Men: Letters from African-American Soldiers in the Union Army, 1861-1865 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).

²⁷Higginson, p. 267.

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Camp Saxton Site, and the United States Naval Hospital Beaufort has encouraged future archaeological investigations to determine the possible eligibility of the property for the National Register under Criterion D.

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Camp Saxton Site
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