

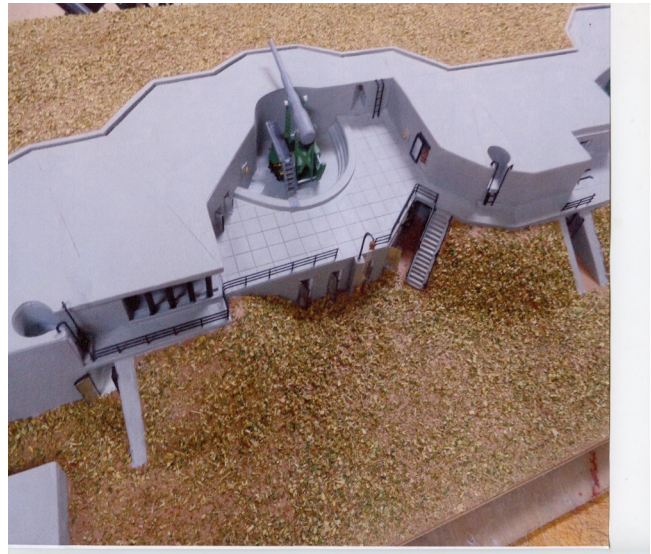
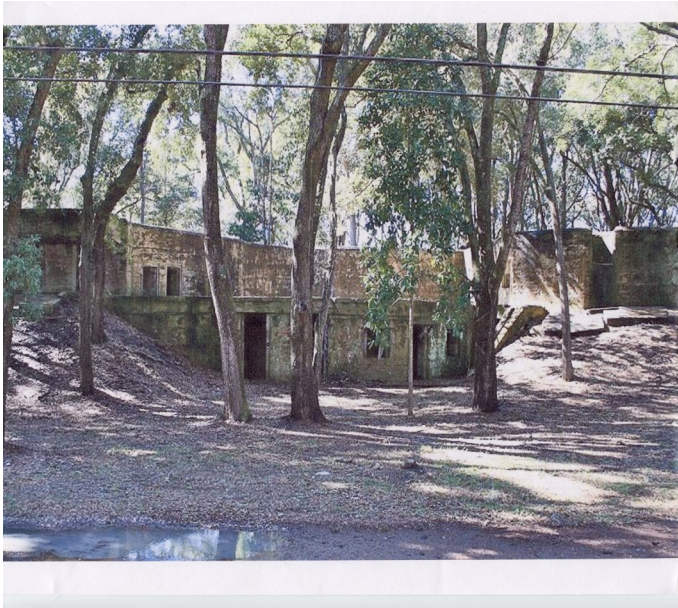


# FRIENDS OF FORT FREMONT

PRESERVING THE PAST  
INSPIRING THE FUTURE

Fourth Edition 2023 Newsletter

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The Gun emplacements were started in 1898 and completed in 1899. In one Document the price list for one Gun emplacement was for a total of \$50,000. This was for the cement structure, ladders, brass tubes for communication and the fill. An item on the list was for sand fill at .25 cents a cubic yard delivered. Today construction sand is \$36.70 a cubic yard. The one gun emplacement required 6000 cubic yards of sand.

The above is a picture of one gun emplacement as seen in the History Center diorama. It is an exact replica in dimensions and internal rooms. There is a separate model with a cut away of all the rooms along with identifying tags. The Model required over 200 hours of research and development. However we can recognize the sources of the material: Lowes, Michaels, Grayco, and Home Depot. Total cost of material was \$500 for the 3 gun emplacements. The modeler, Dennis Cannady constructed the model pro bono.

**Some interesting statistics.** More than 800 visitors from 26 states toured Fort Fremont in Jan. and Feb. FFF gave group tours to the Dataw and Oldfield communities, and put on a special program for 60 students and teachers from the Lowcounty Montessorri School. Many of the visitors see FF on the Internet and sites like TripAdvisor.

**TripAdvisors** Review for Feb., 2023. "A beautiful new visitor's center opened in Nov. 2022 explaining the History of this significant site. It houses excellent models of the late-19th century fort, as well as a film and several exhibits. Volunteer docents are available and may be able to take you on a guided tour of the site. Together they bring to life this Spanish-American-era fort. ...."



At the Annual Meeting of the Friends of Fort Fremont, members listen to remarks at the unveiling of the new Interpretive Panels



Cecile Dorr told the Montessori Student visitors stories about the Baseball secret..



Dataw Resident Group tour at Diorama with Dennis Cannady explaining the layout.



Dataw Tour at the steam room with Jon Bebbington



Marian Rollings explains Maritime Forest Habitat to a group from Oldfield



FFF members enjoying a snack after the unveiling at the annual meeting

## THE SOLDIERS OF FORT FRÉMONT

### 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. JOHNSON HAGOOD, Commander, Fort Fremont 1998-1901

**Article & Research by Jon Bebbington, February 1, 2023**

Johnson Hagood (pronounced “haig'-wood”), was all of 25 years old and the first commanding officer of Fort Fremont when he arrived there in November, 1899. Hagood was born in Orangeburg, SC, on June 16, 1873 and was an 1891 graduate of the University of South Carolina. In 1896 he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the Artillery.

He is perhaps the most noteworthy of all Fort Frémont’s commanding officers. Hagood was the nephew of Confederate Brigadier General Johnson Hagood who commanded the troops at Fort Wagner during the attack by the all-black 54th Massachusetts Infantry (as depicted in the movie *Glory*) and served as Governor of South Carolina from 1880–1882.

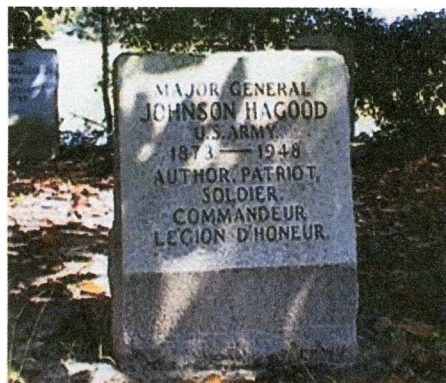
First Lt. Hagood served as commanding officer at Fort Frémont until 1901 after previous garrison service at Fort Trumbull, CT, Rhode Island, Sullivan’s Island, SC and Fort Monroe, VA. At Fort Frémont, Hagood commanded 25 enlisted soldiers comprising Battery “B” and “M” of the 1<sup>st</sup> Artillery and Battery “E” of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Artillery. Now a captain, Hagood then served as an instructor of philosophy at West Point from 1901-04. In 1905, Hagood became assistant to the Chief of Artillery, Washington, DC and then served on the General Staff Corps. Around 1906, Hagood married Jane Gordon Small and they ultimately had 4 children together, including Johnson Hagood, Jr who graduated from the US Military Academy in 1931 and commanded a Regiment of Heavy Artillery with distinction in Africa, Italy and France during World War II.

Johnson Hagood retired in 1936 at the rank of Major General. On December 22, 1948 Hagood died in Chicago at the age of 75 and was interred at the Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston, SC. His wife Jean outlived him by 19 years.



: Johnson Hagood, cadet, United States

*Military Academy, West Point, NY, 1893.*



Major General Johnson Hagood, Magnolias Cemetery, Charleston S.C.

## Meet one of our Volunteers

Edition 4, Page 4

**Cecile H. Dorr** Cecile grew up in tropical Miami, Florida. She attended Florida State University with a degree in Public Administration, City Planning. Her first job was with Metro Miami and that political arena sent her rushing to fill the needed teacher positions in Civics and American History with the Miami-Dade school system. Later she received her advanced degrees in Law Librarianship and information science. Cecile worked with the DOD schools in the US and England.

Cecile's husband Carl (who was an avid history buff on all subjects) found the old Post Hospital of Fort Fremont in 1967 on one of his off-road quests. He and Cecile bought it in a week, and moved from Miami with no regrets. Over the last 50 plus years it has been her family's home.

With a handful of reference sources in the 1960's from GG Dowling, former owner of FF, Carl and Cecile advanced to the National Archives to begin the history quest. The research and preservation of the hospital and the Fort have been a mission of the family and their daughters and now, grandchildren.

Cecile is an active member of the Board. Past President, and as a volunteer she expresses the joy in sharing "The History Mystery" (baseball shoe) with the school groups and visitors at the Fort.

Remembering the words of FFF board member Janelle Proctor,

"If it's not fun, we don't do it"!



### Your Donation will support the 2023-2026 Mission and Goals of FFF.

Fort Fremont has been secured and a History Center has been opened. The FFF have begun the next phase of enhancing the Fort for the Public to enjoy.

Goals for 2023: (1) Focus on Marketing and Public Relations (2) Implement Lecture Series:

Projects for 2023 (1) PHASE 1 of Fort Display Enhancements; (2) Additional interpretive signs

With your donation, you will receive the NEWS LETTER for one year

By email or by US Mail (Circle one)

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Saint Helena Island, SC 29920

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