

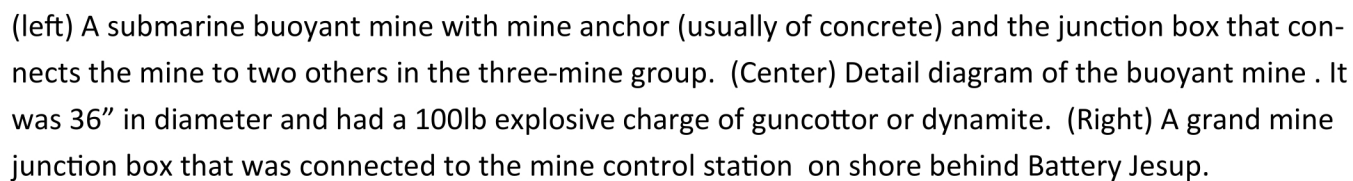


Editors: Marty & Ann Hupka
Send possible publication submissions:
to: Marty.hupka@gmail.com

COMING SOON — Replica Mine at Fort Forance (25% size)

The Controlled Buoyant Mine and the Mine Planting of Mine Fields

The Endicott Plan to modernize the coastal defenses of the United States included mine fields of buoyant controlled mines as a major component of the coastal defense system. When the U.S. Army Artillery Corps was organized, one of the duties of the new Corps was to assume the responsibility for submarine mining from the Army Corps of Engineers.



The Fort Fremont garrison would have had mine qualified members that practiced when a mine planter vessel visited. The mine bodies, anchors, junction boxes, and cables were probably stored at the Fort. The explosive charges would have been brought on the mine planter vessel as there were no mine magazine at the fort. There was a mine cable tank at the fort. The mines were assembled, placed on tram cars, and sent out on the pier to be loaded on the Vessel.

The Project to exhibit a replica mine is to be funded by donations, grants and volunteer labor

The all you can eat Oyster Roast has become a local tradition. Each year there is an increase in tickets sold. This year there were 152 tickets sold. The FFF Volunteers were all over to help to enjoy the Roast. The only question by the visitors was: will there be a next Year. YES it will be March 19, 2027. Hope to see you there



The bucket of oysters kept coming



Music while you eat



The Auction was a success



Volunteer's where there to help



**Auction Donors: CELADON Spa,
Lady's Island Feed and Seed,
Jane & Barney Forsythe, Bill's Liquor,
Randel's Lawnmower; Cyndi Rodgers, ACE Hardware;
Joyce Glover ShelfGenie Storage Solutions**

ATHLETICS AT FORT FREMONT

At the turn of the 20th century, sports, particularly baseball, were all the rage across America. Beginning around 1901 Fort Fremont assembled its own amateur team consisting partly of hospital stewards. Amateur baseball was often played under its own rules, including what was called “roundabout” where outfielders played a different position each inning. While professional leagues had strict, scheduled game counts (154 for MLB in 1905) amateur schedules were flexible and varied wildly (30-40). One of the first games was with Beaufort the afternoon of Thursday July 11, 1901 and ended with Fort Fremont winning 13 to 11. Game reporting was often written in a flowery manner. One notable game read: *“The Fort Screven baseball team travelled up to Fort Fremont and walloped the watch dogs of that section of Uncle Sam’s domain all over the parade ground in a game remarkable for fast fielding on the part of the Fort Screven boys. Though the score made by the Screvens was a large one, the game was unusually fast, the entire nine innings being played in one hour and fifteen minutes, and the score resulting 16 to 1 in favor of the invading forces. The game was witnessed by a tremendous crowd of loyal supporters for the Fort Fremont boys, and the result was hardly satisfactory to them.”* Sunday doubleheaders were popular to boost attendance and to minimize travel.

In September 1904 it was reported that “interest in baseball is now at fever heat” between the 117th Fort Fremont team and the Marines of the Port Royal Naval Station. On Thursday October 13, 1904 soldiers participated in a tournament at Fort McPherson (Atlanta), Georgia with eleven garrisons participating. The 7th Cavalry from Fort Crook, Nebraska scored the most points. Some 700 people attended a baseball game between Fort Fremont and Hampton on Saturday July 7, 1906. The South Carolina towns of Hampton, Brunson, Fort Fremont, and Beaufort formed a baseball circuit with the towns of Varnville and Ridgeland being considered for inclusion. A team had also formed in the towns of Port Royal, Pacific, and Seabrook. In a September 1907 issue of the Beaufort *Gazette*, mention of a 19-year-old baseball catcher named “Quigley” was made in a game between Walterboro and Fort Fremont, where he was described as “a star player and a good batter.” Three years later and just two weeks shy of completing his enlistment, Quigley would perish after being drawn into a drunken row between a group of Fort Fremont soldiers and a Gullah family. A baseball shoe, possibly Quigleys, is on display at the Visitor Center.

. Written by Jon Bebbington

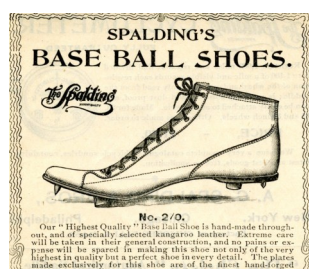
FUTURE PROJECTS TO BE **EVALUATED** AND FUNDED BY DONATIONS

The Base Ball shoe found at the Fort Hospital that needs restoration/preservation. From the 1900-1910 period

Current

1910 AD

Just found /rediscovered. The wheels from the small train cars used at the Fort to move all materials from the Ships to the Fort. Target: To reproduce a train car for preservation/display of the wheels.



Projects and Activities

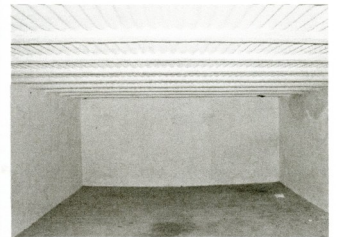
Several members of the Friends of Fort Fremont have submitted a book-length manuscript to the University of South Carolina Press that tells the Fort Fremont story. With no published book on Fort Fremont in circulation, the authors believe it is important to bring the history of this significant Lowcountry artifact to life and to use the fort to paint a broader picture of the Spanish-American War era in Beaufort, Port Royal Sound, and the nation. The book explains the forces that brought the fort into being and describes its construction and technology, the experiences of the people who sustained it through its years of operation, the rationale for its eventual closure and decommissioning, and its ultimate rebirth as a residential community and a tourist attraction on St. Helena Island.

Restoration Plan for Mine Exhibit. The goal of the project is to create a new exhibit room in Battery Fornance's Magazine Room. The Project will be funded by Donations, Grants and Volunteer labor.

Restoration Plan for Exhibit Space at Battery Fornance, Fort Fremont



Current Room



Sample of Completed Restoration

Your Donation will support the 2026-2027 Mission and Goals of FFF.

The History Center Exhibits continue to expand. FFF continue enhancing the Fort for the Public to enjoy.

Goals for 2026: (1) Implement recommendations for year 1 of the 5 year Plan. (2) Secure a room under Battery Fornance as recommended by the Carl Project. (Funding through Donations & Grants)

With your donation, you will receive the NEWS LETTER for one year By email or by US Mail (Circle one)

DONATION INFORMATION

Please print legibly:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please make check payable to

Friends of Fort Fremont

Mail to: P.O Box 982

Saint Helena Island, SC 29920

For secure credit card donations use the QR CODE **THANK You**

We are a 501©(3) tax-exempt organization based in Saint Helena Island, South Carolina.

Your contributions maybe deductible under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code

