

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 25 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Battery Gadsden

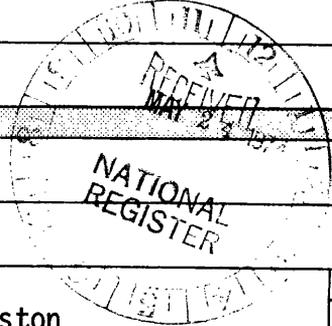
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2017 Ion Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Sullivan's Island

STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045** COUNTY: **Charleston** CODE: **019**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) not in use

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Sullivan's Island Township Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
1610 Middle Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Sullivan's Island** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register of Mesne Conveyance

STREET AND NUMBER:
2 Court House Square

CITY OR TOWN: **Charleston** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

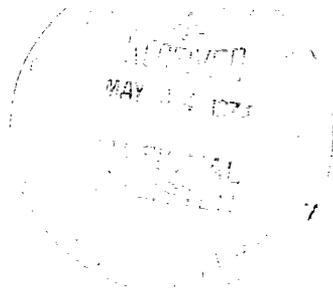
Exterior: This four, six-inch gun, coastal defense battery, constructed 1903-1904, was built to protect Charleston harbor. The battery, approximately 377 feet long and 84 feet wide, consists of two sections: the glacis and the armament complex. The glacis is a relatively smooth, slightly sloping area on the sides and front of the battery which protects the armament complex from bombardment. The armament complex consists of four recessed disappearing gun platforms or foundations, the loading platforms, ammunition hoists (one per gun) and various staircases or ramps for access.

The front or ocean side of the battery is approximately 7 feet high. The front curves to the rear of the structure. The rear consists of four 4 feet high loading ramps separated by 3 truncated pyramids; there is a door in the center allowing access to machinery, ammunitions and powder rooms. The truncated pyramids at each end are surmounted by a flight of concrete stairs on each side.

Interior: Walls and ceiling are of concrete. All guns and machinery were removed in 1917.

Surroundings: Battery Gadsden lies to the immediate north of the play area of the Sullivan's Island school and is one of a series of batteries built in the early 20th Century. To the east is Battery Thomson. A tenth of a mile to the west is the Coast Guard Historic District (National Register).

The town of Sullivan's Island plans to use Battery Gadsden as a civic center, using the rooms under the gun emplacements for office space.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1903-1904; 1917

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Battery Gadsden constructed 1903-1904 by G. P. Howell, is one of a series of batteries stretching from Fort Moultrie on the west to the eastern end of Sullivan's Island. Charleston Harbor, has always had some form of fixed harbor defense beginning with Fort Johnson in 1708 and culminating with the construction of these batteries in the fortification of Sullivan's Island at the mouth of Charleston Harbor.

Military: Battery Gadsden, along with neighboring Battery Thompson, was positioned in order to command the entrance to Charleston Harbor. While this battery was decommissioned and its armament removed in 1917, its four-gun emplacement is unique among batteries of this period on Sullivan's Island as well as being a good example of military fortifications.

Engineering: The 10-inch breech-loading artillery on disappearing platforms at Battery Gadsden were a significant improvement in earlier fixed-position shore guns.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Archives, Washington, D.C. Manuscript Material pertaining to the construction of Battery Gadsden.

South Carolina Statutes. Vol. II, pg. 333-336.

Lewis, Raymond Emanuel. Seacoast Fortifications of the United States. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1970.

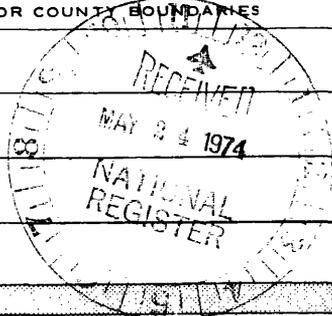
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 45' 36"	79° 50' 23"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elias B. Bull, Historic Preservation Staff, Historic Preservation Division tion Planner

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: May 9, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia, STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Charles E. Lee
 Title State Historic Preservation Officer
 S.C. Dept. Archives and History
 Date May 20, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AA Wosten
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Director

Date 6/25/74

ATTEST:
Charles A. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 6/29/74

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