



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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 16A). 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 Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield
other names/site number 38JA251 (Boyd's Landing Battery), 38JA253 (Boyd's Neck Earthworks),
and 38JA1008 (Honey Hill Earthworks)

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED]
not for publication city or town Ridgeland vicinity
state South Carolina code SC county Jasper code 053 zip code 29936

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 5/19/04
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and 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):

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson Beall

7/3/04

Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield
Name of Property

Jasper County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district			buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object			objects
		<u>10</u>	<u>8</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
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: DEFENSE
DEFENSE
DEFENSE
AGRICULTURE
LANDSCAPE

Subcategory: Battle Site
Camp Site
Earthworks
Agricultural Fields
Forest

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: RECREATION & CULTURE
AGRICULTURE
LANDSCAPE

Subcategory: Hunting Preserve
Agricultural Fields
Forest

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
walls _____
roof _____
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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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 in 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)

Military
Archaeology, Historic - Non-aboriginal

Period of Significance

1864-65

Significant Dates

1864, 1865

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American
African American

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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: _____

Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property [REDACTED]

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
[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 James B. Legg
 organization S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina date 1 Feb 2004
 street & number 1321 Pendleton Street telephone (803) 777-8170
 city or town Columbia state S.C. zip code 29208

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.)

name See continuation sheet
 street & number _____ telephone _____
 city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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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es,

Those portions of the battlefield within the boundary selected are generally very well preserved, and some areas appear virtually unchanged since the Civil War. The uplands on the property include mixed pine and hardwood forest and pine savannah, with scattered bird hunting fields and wildlife fodder fields. Wetland areas exhibit ditches and dikes remaining from antebellum use as rice fields, but are now densely overgrown in hardwood forest. Extensive Civil War earthworks are extant, and the modern road net is nearly the same as that used during the campaign; these factors allow the placement of historic events on the modern landscape with a high degree of confidence.

Contributing Resources

The following properties contribute to the historic character and significance of the Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield:

1. Confederate Earthworks, Honey Hill [redacted]
2. Confederate Earthworks, Partridge Hill [redacted]
3. Federal Earthworks, [redacted]
4. Federal Earthworks (Unfinished Battery), Boyd's Neck [redacted]
5. Boyd's Landing (Salvesbarg Landing) and Boyd House Site [redacted]
6. Boyd's Landing Road [redacted]
7. Euhaw Road [redacted]
8. Grahamville Road [redacted]
9. Wood Road [redacted]
10. Rice Dike Used as a Defensive Position during the Battle of Honey Hill [redacted]

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Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield

Name of Property

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Noncontributing Resources

The following properties do not contribute to the historic character and significance of the Honey Hill / Boyd's Neck Battlefield:

1. Salvesborg Cemetery [redacted]
2. Partridge Hill Cemetery [redacted]
3. [redacted]
4. Good Hope Plantation, Hunting Camp Complex, Dog Kennel [redacted]
5. Good Hope Plantation, Hunting Camp Complex, Picnic Shelter [redacted]
6. Good Hope Plantation, Mid-20th Century House, [redacted]
7. [redacted]
8. Highway borrow bit pond [redacted]

[redacted]

The Boyd house was a Federal headquarters, and was fortified as the innermost, last-ditch defensive position of the Federal enclave left on Boyd's Neck after the Battle of Honey Hill, until January 11, 1865 (Map #'s 7,8). A later house also stood on the site, but has recently been removed. Subsurface archaeological remains of both the original house and the surrounding earthwork fortifications are probably present. Immediately west of the landing is an area including several twentieth century houses, which was excluded from the property. The remainder of Boyd's Neck [redacted]

[redacted] This area was the scene of much camping, skirmishing and other activity throughout the Federal presence. The original Boyd's Landing Road, which figured prominently in the campaign, can still be traced [redacted]

[redacted] A massive earthwork battery is extant [redacted]-this is the only visible remnant of the intermediate line of Federal defensive works that was begun but never completed [redacted]. A more modest intermediate line was erected [redacted], but no remains of these works are apparent. Finally, [redacted] are extensive remains of the outermost line of Federal defenses which was begun on November 30, 1864, [redacted]

[redacted]

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Partridge Hill did not figure in the Battle of Honey Hill, but it was occupied by Confederate forces immediately afterward, resulting in intensive skirmishing along the Federal Euhaw Road lines.

Confederate earthworks are extant [REDACTED] guarding against approach from the rear (Photo #9). Additional earthworks are reliably reported to exist in the Partridge Hill vicinity, but they have not yet been confirmed and mapped.

[REDACTED] was the scene of significant activity on November 29-30, 1864. Unfortunately, the area outside of Good Hope Plantation is heavily developed and retains little integrity, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] included in the Honey Hill/Boyd's Neck Battlefield. On November 30, 1864 heavy skirmishing and artillery fire began at the crossing of Euhaw Creek, and continued [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] main battle was joined. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] from the Battlefield.

The Honey Hill battlefield proper is generally well preserved, although certain areas have been degraded by agriculture, forestry, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] where the regiments of the Federal right deployed to the north, and where the Federal artillery was positioned throughout the battle, and was nearly destroyed. [REDACTED] is the earthen rice dike which was used by both Confederates and Federals as a defensive position [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], where the Federal frontal attacks in column met with disaster, and within sight of that location, looking west, are the Confederate lines on Honey Hill.

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Extensive portions of the Confederate earthworks used during the battle are extant, including much of the main battery [REDACTED] and hundreds of yards of infantry works (Map #2; Photo #17). Substantial sections of the historically known earthworks are not apparent, including [REDACTED]. For the most part these missing earthworks have fallen victim to plowing since 1865, but they may well survive as subsurface archaeological features. The works that existed [REDACTED]. There are reliable reports of scattered, expedient rifle pits dug by Federal troops along their right front during the battle, but these have not been located. [REDACTED] that precludes the inclusion of additional acreage in the Confederate rear which would otherwise be considered part of the battlefield landscape.

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Summary

The Honey Hill/ Boyd's Neck Battlefield is significant under Criterion A as the site of an important operation of the Civil War on the southeastern coast, one launched in direct support of Gen. William T. Sherman's epic march from Atlanta to Savannah. The Battle of Honey Hill was one of the three largest Civil War battles fought in South Carolina, and was one of the most notable Civil War engagements involving African American troops. Honey Hill was also one of the last outright victories won by Confederate forces anywhere. The Honey Hill Battlefield itself, and a continuous landscape of associated areas running east to Boyd's Landing, are generally undeveloped and forested, and exhibit a very high degree of integrity. The 1864 road net is substantially intact, and extensive Civil War earthworks are extant and well-preserved on the property.

The property is also significant under Criterion D as an archaeological resource, with potential to yield information concerning the Honey Hill campaign and the material culture of the forces engaged. While the archaeological record has certainly been impacted by relic collecting, a representative sample of data probably remains. In addition, many earthwork fortifications which are no longer visible are probably extant as subsurface archaeological features.

Historical Context

The Battle of Honey Hill was directly related to Gen. William T. Sherman's epic campaign from Atlanta to Savannah, in the Fall of 1864. Three years earlier, the Union seized a coastal enclave including Beaufort and Hilton Head, which eventually became the headquarters of a command called the Department of the South. One of the original goals of the 1861 invasion was to cut the railroad between Charleston and Savannah, which were two of the most important Confederate port cities. That goal was repeatedly frustrated by Confederate resourcefulness and inept Federal command, and the Siege of Charleston eventually commanded most of the resources of the Department of the South. When Sherman began his march on Savannah, however, he recognized the importance of cutting that city's rail connection to Charleston, and he requested a renewed effort by the Department of the South to cut the railroad as his own army neared Savannah. The Honey Hill and Tullifinny campaigns (collectively called the Broad River Campaign) were the result.

On November 11, 1864 Sherman telegraphed the War Department with a request that the Charleston and Savannah Railroad be cut "about the 1st of December," in support of his campaign against Savannah. U.S. Maj. Gen. J.G. Foster, commander of the Department of the South, directed the assembly in Port Royal Sound of an expeditionary force for the attack on the railroad. Brigadier Gen. John P. Hatch was assigned to command this provisional "Coast Division," which included U.S. forces from Morris Island, Folly Island, Hilton Head, Beaufort, and Florida, as well as sailors and Marines from the Navy's South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. The force totaled about 5500 men in two army brigades and one small naval brigade, and it was supported by a squadron of warships with

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heavy artillery. Of the 12 infantry regiments in the expedition, seven were African American units, including five regiments of U.S. Colored Troops and the 54th and 55th Massachusetts Regiments.

Foster's goal was to cut the railroad just west of Grahamville, S.C. Before dawn on November 29, 1864 the warships and troop transports of the expedition began moving up the Broad River toward their rendezvous and landing point at Boyd's Landing (now Salvesburg Landing, on Good Hope Plantation), in Confederate-held territory. Naval vessels arrived at the landing by about 8:00 am, but troop transports straggled in throughout the day. The Federals achieved total surprise in an area that was very sparsely defended by the over-extended Confederates, and a swift move directly on the railroad probably would have been successful—the railroad was only a seven-mile road march from Boyd's Landing. As it was the slow assembly of the Coast Division at Boyd's Landing and a series of intelligence errors proved disastrous.

The first error involved the Naval Brigade, which made the initial landing at Boyd's and was the first element pressed forward toward the railroad, driving Confederate cavalry pickets before them. Arriving at the intersection [redacted] the sailors and Marines turned right, [redacted] rather than left, which would have taken them toward the intersection [redacted]. The Naval Brigade was followed by the 1st (Army) Brigade for some distance before the error was discovered, and a countermarch ensued. Gen. Hatch then led the 1st Brigade in the correct direction, [redacted] with virtually no Confederates between his powerful force and the railroad. Unfortunately Hatch was misled by a guide regarding the intersection of the [redacted], and the Federal column continued south [redacted] for several miles before the error was discovered. By the time the column had countermarched back [redacted] it was after midnight on November 30, and the Federals were exhausted and disorganized. They went into camp [redacted]

The Confederates, meanwhile, were engaged in a desperate effort to contrive a force capable of defending the railroad. By the night of November 29, a variety of units were on their way to Grahamville, but it was not until late the following morning that sufficient force was in place to oppose a serious Federal attack. The Confederate district commander Col. Charles Colcock rode all night to reach the scene on the morning of the 30th. He directed the small force of cavalry and field artillery already present to occupy and improve the existing earthworks on Honey Hill, which were originally constructed as part of a regional defensive system in 1861. A force of some 2000 Georgia militia under Gen. Gustavas Smith began arriving by rail from Georgia, but their deployment along the Honey Hill position would take time - Confederate cavalry and artillery moved east on the [redacted], to delay the Federal advance as much as possible.

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Gen. Hatch finally got the Coast Division moving west [REDACTED] by about 8:00 am on November 30, 1864, 24 hours after the seizure of Boyd's Landing. The Federals immediately encountered Confederate resistance, including artillery fire. A heavy skirmish ensued that continued all the way to Honey Hill Swamp, where the Federals finally arrived at about 11:00 am. The van of the Coast Division [REDACTED], driving Confederate skirmishers from behind an earthen rice dike (Map #2; Photo #16) and then encountered an entirely unexpected obstacle in the form of heavily-manned Confederate earthworks on Honey Hill.

The ensuing Battle of Honey Hill unfolded with virtually no direction from Gen. Hatch. Federal regiments and companies [REDACTED], arriving piecemeal, and assumed positions along a ragged front that was [REDACTED]. Battery B, 3rd New York Artillery took position at the intersection [REDACTED], where it was virtually destroyed in the course of the battle. Federal units including the 25th Ohio, the 144th New York, the 32nd U.S. Colored Troops, a detachment of Marines, and the 55th Massachusetts deployed to the north, while the 35th U.S. Colored Troops and the 56th, 127th and 157th New York ended [REDACTED]. Companies of the 54th Massachusetts fought on both sides of the road. There was no general, coordinated Federal assault on the Confederate position, nor any effort to maneuver to an approach of better advantage. Most of the Federal units did not actually attack, but rather remained under cover in the swamp and exchanged musketry with the well-protected Confederates on the ridge above them. There were several dramatic exceptions.

The first was an effort by the 35th U.S. Colored Troops, who attempted an unsupported charge up [REDACTED] that was broken up by heavy fire. The regiment retreated to a position behind the Federal Artillery. Next, the 55th Massachusetts made two, successive in-column charges up the [REDACTED]. Both 55th attacks were repulsed [REDACTED] by Confederate artillery firing case shot and canister at very short range, directly down the road--the regiment suffered more than 100 casualties in the two charges alone, and the commander, Col. Hartwell, was badly wounded. To the south, the 127th New York advanced through the swamp and threatened to overrun a portion of the Confederate right, but after a severe exchange of fire they retired to cover.

Federal reinforcements arrived during the afternoon, including additional artillery and the 102nd U.S. Colored troops. It was already clear to the Federals on the line, however, that Honey Hill would not be taken, and the battle degenerated into a huge, uninspired skirmish punctuated by artillery fire. The entire Federal right eventually pulled back and took cover behind the rice dike that ran west of the Wood Road, while the Federal left remained under cover in Honey Hill Swamp. Shortly before dusk the Federals began a well-organized withdrawal, including a systematic evacuation of all

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wounded who could be reached, and a leap-frog arrangement of rear guards covering the retreat to [REDACTED]. There a field hospital operated well into the night, and a pile of amputated limbs accumulated in the yard. The Coast Division sustained about 700 casualties (killed, wounded and missing) in the Battle of Honey Hill, while the Confederate defenders were nearly unscathed, with only eight men actually killed.

By the morning of December 1, most of the Coast Division was camped [REDACTED] where they dug extensive field works in a broad, irregular arc facing north, west and south (Map #'s 4,7; Photo #6). There had been skirmishing around the crossroads the previous day, and Confederate forces soon occupied Partridge Hill, west of the Federal position. Over the next several days the Federals probed the Confederate positions in several locations, and there was heavy skirmishing and artillery fire along the Euhaw Road front. On the night of December 5, most of the Coast Division was withdrawn from Boyd's Landing for a second effort against the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, at Tullifinny.

The 55th Massachusetts was left to hold a position at Boyd's Neck, with the support of cavalry and field artillery detachments, and heavy naval firepower from offshore. Federal engineers began a new defensive perimeter much closer to Boyd's Landing, but it proved too ambitious for the small force remaining, and it was shifted even further east on the neck. The immediate vicinity of Boyd's Landing, including the Boyd house and the Federal campsite, was also fortified for last-ditch defense (Map #'s 7,8). The Confederate picket front closed in accordingly. Skirmishing was a daily exercise in the area [REDACTED] involving small arms, field artillery on both sides, and heavy naval artillery fire.

The Confederates might conceivably have captured the small post at Boyd's Landing, but the effort would have been costly. In any case, Boyd's Landing, Honey Hill, and the Charleston and Savannah Railroad soon lost their significance, as Savannah itself fell to Sherman's army on December 22, 1864. The Boyd's Landing position was maintained for a time as a potential supply point for any of Sherman's forces that might move through the vicinity, and supplies were briefly stockpiled there and then removed. Boyd's Landing was abandoned on January 11, 1865, when the 55th Massachusetts embarked for fatigue duty in Savannah.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 04000655

Date Listed: 7/07/04

**Honey Hill-Boyd's Neck Battlefield
Property Name**

**Jasper
County**

**SC
State**

**N/A
Multiple Name**

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for *Jonica K. Martin Seibert*
Signature of the Keeper

7/6/04
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

*The documentation should be amended so that the "not for publication" box is checked. Sensitive locational information should not be made public. A warning sheet should be included with the documentation. This amendment was discussed with Tracy Power of the SC SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**