



# BRICKYARD PLANTATION

[www.BrickyardPlantation.org](http://www.BrickyardPlantation.org)

## Homeowner Information

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***Our Residents, Amenities, Land and History are the Heart and Soul of our Community***



Brickyard Plantation is a community composed of 10 distinctive neighborhoods, each with its own personality, and each with a shared social and recreation hub at the amenity center. Supporting 825 homes, the lifestyle provides homeowners with an impressive range of recreational activities balanced by the quiet atmosphere of a traditional neighborhood.



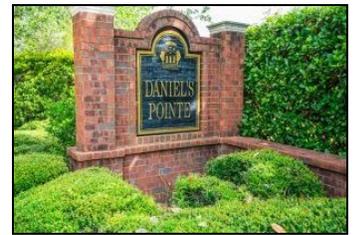
Our community abounds with natural beauty. Our maritime forests include multiple species of oak, pine, palmetto, cedar, holly, and magnolia. Horlbeck Creek, which leads to the Wando River, is a deep-water oasis of wildlife opportunity, featuring some of the most productive trout fishing in the Lowcountry. And the Wando River is classified as one of the most pristine rivers on the Eastern seaboard.



Our magnificent main entrance on Highway 17 provides a glimpse of the natural beauty that lies within our neighborhood. Great effort is taken to maintain the beauty of the our parkway and common areas. The clubhouse is modeled after Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, and is nestled in 13 beautifully landscaped areas.



Located adjacent to Boone Hall Plantation on the side and Horlbeck Creek in the rear, and within the heart of Mount Pleasant, Brickyard residents are approximately 15 minutes from the beach and 25 minutes from downtown Charleston. With a great location, amenities, school system and neighborhood environment, Brickyard Plantation is a great place to live .



## **From A Historical Past To An Inviting Future**

Until recently, Brickyard Plantation was an integral part of Boone Hall Planation, one of the most historically significant sites in the Lowcountry. Almost three hundred and forty years ago, King Charles II of England gave this remarkable piece of property to Major John Boone as part of the 17,000 acre Christ Church Land Grant. Today, Brickyard residents are part of this unique piece of Lowcountry history. We pay homage to the many people who worked on this plantation and we respect and honor them and their efforts.

### **The Story of the Land: How Brickyard Plantation Came to Be**

Brickyard Plantation offers a chain of title dating all the way back to 1681. After receiving the original land grant from King Charles of England, Major John Boone, a member of “The First Fleet Society”, developed the property into one of the most successful plantations in the region. In 1817, Boone Hall Plantation was sold to John and Henry Horlbeck, sons of a highly regarded Charleston builder, John Horlbeck, Sr. Under their management, Brickyard Plantation became the major supplier of bricks to Colonial Charleston and by 1850, was producing 4,000,000 bricks annually. Historic Fort Sumter, Castle Pinckney, St. Michael’s Church and many other churches, houses, buildings and roads in downtown Charleston were constructed from brick manufactured by Brickyard Plantation. The brickworks continued to supply bricks to historic Charleston until the early 1900’s. The old steam boiler chimney still stands on the property and has been preserved as a historic landmark. The site where Brickyard Plantation is located was originally known as Wampancheone Landing. Then, as now, this strategically situated property provided deep-water access for the plantation.



During the 1700’s and 1800’s, these Wando basin waterways were the primary transportation arteries of the docks to old Charleston. The natural setting itself has changed very little in the last three centuries. Brickyard Plantation has taken exceptional steps to preserve and protect this land. Bordered by Boone Hall Plantation and Horlbeck Creek, Brickyard has natural buffer zones. Of our 513 acres, more than 100 are dedicated to a lake, ponds, forests and wetlands. In residential areas, home sites are situated to take full advantage of the land’s beauty and natural diversity. Developed as debt-free and a clean community with the property, infrastructure and amenities owned free and clear without liens, Brickyard Plantation provides property owners with an extra measure of security and our position among Mount Pleasant’s communities is highly respected.



## AMENITIES

Brickyard Plantation has some of the best amenities in the Charleston area. Our comparatively low POA dues that allow for unrestricted access to all our amenities offers and incredible value for our residents. Each of Brickyard's 10 planned neighborhoods has complete access to all of the amenities. Our main amenities include a clubhouse, two swimming pools, five lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, a soccer field, a playground, fitness center, a walking path, numerous ponds that are great for fishing, a boat storage area, and a deep-water private boat launch with dock and boathouse.

### CLUBHOUSE

Brickyard has a beautiful clubhouse that residents can use for special events. The clubhouse has a kitchen, chairs, tables, and restrooms that would make the perfect spot for your events. There is also a fitness center within the clubhouse. More information about clubhouse rentals can be found on our website.



### FITNESS FACILITY

Within the clubhouse, with access from a back door (with pool key/fob), one can enjoy a great fitness facility. This fitness facility has a variety of exercise equipment, including treadmill, stationary bike, Universal gym/weights, and free weights.

### FREE LITTLE LIBRARY

Brickyard Plantation has a free little library for all residents. It is located at the entrance to the main Brickyard pool, located behind the clubhouse. Books are kept in a library kiosk and residents are encouraged to take a book or leave a book.

## **SWIMMING POOLS**

There are two pools in Brickyard Plantation. They are typically open from early May to early October. The main clubhouse has a 25 meter pool and a large pool deck. There is a second pool located in The Colonnade. There are facilities to change, umbrellas and chairs to enjoy, and plenty of deck space to stretch out and enjoy. All pools require access through a key fob (\$25 deposit), which a resident can obtain at the clubhouse during business hours. Two non-resident guests are allowed, as long as they are with a resident of Brickyard. There are no lifeguards on duty, so swim at your own risk. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. You can also rent the pool cabana at either pool for a family function during pool season. More information about our pools can be found on our website.



## **PLAYGROUND**

Next to the main pool at the front of brickyard, you will find a wonderful playground. Our sunshades make it a great place for kids to play, even in the dog days of summer

## **SOCCER FIELD**

Behind the tennis courts there is a large open field that is great for recreation and dog play. If you use this space for your dogs, please make sure you clean up after them so that everyone can have an enjoyable time.



## TENNIS & BASKETBALL COURTS

To the side of the clubhouse and main pool sits five lighted tennis courts for use by residents. They are available on a first come, first serve basis, with the exception of when being used for scheduled tennis lessons and adult league play. Tennis lessons are offered for all ages and skill levels by an independent tennis pro. If you are interested in finding out more about lessons or league play, please refer to our website or newsletter for the current contact information of our tennis pro.

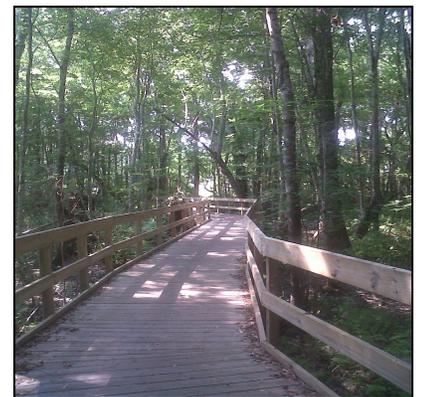
Behind the tennis courts, you will find a full-size basketball court. Like the tennis courts, this amenity is utilized on a first come, first serve basis. Residents are allowed to bring up to two non-resident guests each.



## WALKING PATH

If you were to walk from our gazebo, through the backside of The Landing section, through the Colonnade, up behind the clubhouse, up Brickyard Parkway, and back to the gazebo, you would have walked approximately 2.5 miles. Part of this walk includes a secluded boardwalk through a marsh and beautiful wetlands area. Be sure to stop and listen

to the many sounds of nature. You might even see an owl up in the trees. If you are walking your dog, please make use of our dog waste stations along the walking path to help keep it clean for everyone. If you use these paths or the streets at night, please carry a flashlight or other light and wear light-colored clothing. It gets very dark at times and since we do not have sidewalks in most of the subdivisions, using the street or paths at night can be very dangerous if others cannot see you.



## **GAZEBO**

A large gazebo located at the end of Brickyard Parkway is a perfect spot to get some shade on a hot day or catch your breath while exercising. Please no skateboarding/rollerblading in the gazebo area. A second, smaller gazebo is located directly behind our main pool and overlooks our main pond and decorative fountain



## **LAKES, PONDS, & FISHING**

Brickyard Plantation has over 20 ponds and a large lake (Butterfly Lake) that are great for fishing and observing nature. Alligators do make their way around the neighborhood ponds, so be sure to use extra caution when around the water. Swimming, watercraft, and docks are not allowed in any of the ponds around the neighborhood. When fishing in a pond, please respect the property of others and fish only from common areas. The POA is responsible for maintaining common area property along the ponds, while homeowners maintain those parts of the ponds that abut their property.



# BOATING

There are three special amenities that make Brickyard unique to Mt. Pleasant and the Lowcountry. We have our own on-site boat storage, a private deep-water boat landing, and a floating dock and boathouse. If you and your family, like so many of our residents, enjoy access and convenience to water activities, you won't find what we have anywhere else. Whether boating, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, or just enjoying a picnic on the creek at sunset, our Lowcountry waterway access gives you more affordable and convenient opportunities than anywhere in Mt. Pleasant.

## BOAT STORAGE

A parcel of land within Brickyard Plantation was set aside by the developer to provide a secured location for residents to store their watercraft. Our boat storage facility is tucked away behind our soccer field and tennis courts near the front of Brickyard. The Boatowners Association, Inc is comprised of a group of Brickyard property owners and boaters who operate and manage the boat storage facility as a separate entity. This well managed amenity provides 186 spaces for boats and watercraft of varying sizes. We limit the overall length of the boat, motor and trailer to the requirements of the specific spaces. Access to the boat storage area is not included in our POA dues. There is a modest annual fee to be a member of the boat storage for those who wish to rent a space. To become a member, the property owner must have the boat registered at their Brickyard address. Visit our website or contact our boat storage operations manager for more information.

## BOAT RAMP, DOCK, & BOATHOUSE

Our boat ramp and trailer parking at our landing on Horlbeck Creek is perhaps one of our most popular amenity. Residents pay a small deposit to receive a key and gain access to the boat ramp. This area allows all residents to take full advantage of our location on Horlbeck Creek. It is only a short cruise down Horlbeck Creek to the Wando River, which is classified as one of the most pristine

rivers on the Eastern seaboard. Continuing down the Wando will take you to Charleston Harbor, the Intracoastal Waterway, and the Atlantic Ocean, all without having to drive or park outside of Brickyard. Our deep-water ramp is available 24/7/365, no matter how low the tide. There is also a large floating dock next to our boat ramp that is great for tethering boats or fishing. The boathouse is also nearby and is great for just relaxing and enjoying the view.



# HOMEOWNER INFORMATION

## NEIGHBORHOOD WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER

Our neighborhood website is [www.brickyardplantation.org](http://www.brickyardplantation.org). It is a valuable source of information, including important neighborhood contacts, documents and forms, and links to a wealth of local information. You can also sign up for our community newsletter at our website. Our newsletter, *Plantation Living*, is distributed via email and published in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD)

The Brickyard Plantation Board of Directors (BOD) are bound under the state community association statute to act within their authority, to exercise due care and to act in good faith, taking into account the association's best interest. Duly elected residents serve as the BOD of the Property Owners Association (POA). The board consists of five members elected to staggered two-year terms.. They establish neighborhood policy and pledge to serve the community by adhering to responsible management principles and sound fiscal policies. They preside over monthly board meetings, community representative meetings, and covenants & restrictions hearings. They also monitor public issues that may affect our community and will defend our interests with the relevant public agencies. A current list of board members can be found on our website.

## ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (ARB)

The Architectural Review Board (ARB) was established to maintain the overall design concept of the neighborhood while allowing each homeowner the ability to make improvements to their property. The ARB works with each homeowner while following the covenants & restrictions and architectural guidelines to ensure the project meets all applicable conditions. An application must be submitted for any change to the exterior of a home or yard. The ARB reviews each application to ensure changes will maintain a "harmonious" appearance in our community. Submitting an application is a simple process. All relevant documents and a list of ARB members is available on our website. If you need help or have questions about your project, please contact any member of the ARB or our property manager for guidance.

## **ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES**

Brickyard Plantation has developed a set of architectural guidelines that must be followed anytime you wish to make a change to the exterior of your house or your landscape. This includes, but is not limited to, building an addition, changing your house or front door color, adding solar panels, and tree removal. Repairing or replacing items without changing from the original color/style is considered maintenance and does not require approval. In order to proceed with your project, you must submit your plans to our Architectural Review Board (ARB) for approval. More information, as well as a copy of our architectural guidelines, [can be found on our website](#) or obtained from the office.

## **COVENANTS & RESTRICTIONS**

Brickyard Plantation is governed by a set of covenants & restrictions (C&R's). This legal document memorializes the rules, regulations, and restrictions that come with purchasing a property in our neighborhood. It is a legally binding document and is attached to each property deed in Brickyard. The purpose of this document is to ensure certain property standards are met by each homeowner, thus promoting neighborhood consistency and aesthetics. Enforcement of the provisions is essential to maintaining property values and legal protections. A copy of our C&R's [can be downloaded from our website](#) or obtained from the office.

## **COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

Each of the 10 subsections in Brickyard Plantation strives to have at least one dedicated community representative. Community reps help keep the board of directors and management company informed of the needs and concerns of each individual subsection. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns about your specific community, please contact your community rep. A current list of community reps can be found on our website.

## **MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

Our property management company is AMCS. They provide an on-site property manager and provide financial management of our income, expenses and financial record keeping. Our property manager's posted office hours are listed here and also posted on the clubhouse door.

**Monday 9:30-12:30 / Tuesday 2:00-5:00 / Wednesday 2:00-5:00 / Thursday 9:30-12:30**

Our property manager's main task is to make sure that the community amenities and common areas are maintained, coordinate work with our vendors, provide assistance to property owners, enforce the covenant and restrictions (C&R's), and provide support to the Architectural Review Board (ARB). The board of directors works with the property manager and management company in the ongoing management of Brickyard Plantation.

## **POA DUES**

A bill for annual property dues is sent to each property owner in late November or early December. Dues are expected to be paid by all property owners by December 31 each year. Any dues not paid by January 31 are considered late. If you are late your account will be charged 1.5% monthly starting from January 1. The late payment penalty is spelled out in our governing documents. Access to all amenities is included in the dues, with the exception of the boat storage area, which requires a small additional annual fee.

## **VEHICLE DECALS**

The property manager provides vehicle decals annually to residents after the annual POA dues have been paid. The decal has the year it was issued and a specific color for that year. Please keep this decal on or in your car at all times. This decal helps our property manager and other residents verify that those who are using our amenities are in fact Brickyard residents. These amenities include, but not limited to, the boat ramp and lot, the parking lot for the basketball courts, swimming pool, and tennis courts. If a vehicle is observed on POA property without a valid Brickyard decal, it is subject to towing. The decal will also expedite your return to the area in the aftermath of a major natural disaster as police and other security personnel can use it to help verify your residency

## **SPEED LIMIT**

The speed limit within Brickyard Plantation is **25 MPH**. This is enforced on a regular basis by Mt Pleasant Police.

## **GOLF CARTS**

Golf carts are not allowed on any walking path within Brickyard. Additionally, you must follow the golf cart laws of South Carolina and Mt. Pleasant. A summary of these laws can be found on our website.

## **YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST**

Our community representatives, from the months of April through October, select a yard of the month for a subdivision that is not their own. They are looking for well-manicured lawns, colorful plantings and well-appointed landscaping. The monthly winner gets the coveted “Yard of The Month” sign to place in their yard for all to see. We love neighbors who care about the look of their home and yard and we want to recognize those who are doing a stellar job.

## **SIGNS ON POA COMMON PROPERTY**

Section 7.21 of our covenants & restrictions delineates the rules that apply to signs on a residential single-family lot. The common areas were excluded from this rule. Therefore, it is up to the board of directors to establish rules for any signage in the common areas. Commercial signs are prohibited on POA Common Property, which includes Brickyard Parkway and the entrances into our developments. For more information, please see the document on our website titled “Commercial Signs on POA Common Property” dated 4-21-2015.

## **BRICKYARD ACTIVITIES**

### **SWIM TEAM**

The Brickyard Barracudas Swim team is a summer team for ages 5-18 and open to Brickyard Plantation residents. The goal of our team is to provide every swimmer with an opportunity to improve swimming skills and achieve success at his or her level of ability. Practices begin in May and meets are held on Wednesday evenings in June and July. We swim in the East Cooper Swim League (ECSL). Some of our local competition includes: Creekside, Hamlin Plantation, Hobcaw Creek Plantation, Rivertowne on the Wando, Park West, Wild Dunes, Mt Pleasant Rec, Rivertowne Country Club and I'on. There are lots of fun activities for the kids and parents before, throughout and at the end of the season. Activities such as: Sno Cones on Fridays, Fun Float Fridays, Time Trials, Brickyard Splash party for all Brickyard residents, Beat your time and get a Mega Cookie, Coach Pie eating contest, Pancake Breakfast, End of year Trophies and Cake and Ice cream, just to name a few. Visit our website, or the team Facebook page (Brickyard Barracudas Swim Team) for more information.



### **Cookies With Santa**

For over 20 years, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus has visited the children in Brickyard. A photographer comes to take pictures of the children while they are telling Santa what they want for Christmas. Cookies are served as a treat for the kids. This is a free event for all Brickyard children and families.



### **Annual Social Party at Clubhouse**

The Holiday Social is a wonderful party hosted by the POA. It is an “adults only” catered event with beer and wine. All adult Brickyard residents are invited to leave their children behind and come together to celebrate the holidays and meet other neighbors.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

These following social media sites are not endorsed by the Brickyard board of directors, but we want you to be aware of them for the safety and security of our homeowners and our neighborhoods. **Any information posted on these social media sites does not represent the official views of the Brickyard Plantation Board of Directors or its members.**

### **NextDoor** ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com))

NextDoor is the private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It is free to use online or through an app for your phone. It is the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and share information about local events, businesses, and safety alerts. The Mt. Pleasant Police also use Nextdoor to keep citizens informed on various topics.

### **Facebook**

While Brickyard Plantation does not have a Facebook page, there are a few out there for both social and yard sale items. These Facebook pages are managed by various homeowners and not by the Brickyard BOD.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Special thanks to the following photographers who gave us permission to use their photographs in this packet:

Mark Hood Photography

Skyview Aerial Solutions

Raheel Gauba: Fia Forever Photography

Amy Templeton

Mount Pleasant Magazine

and all the Brickyard residents that submitted pictures for this information packet

# LIVING IN THE LOWCOUNTRY

“Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina in the Morning” sung by Dean Martin exemplifies life in the Lowcountry. There are endless and wonderful opportunities for all manner of indoor and outdoor living. We are glad that you are here and want you to be safe and able to enjoy life to the fullest.

## Heat & Humidity

The temperature and humidity can reach uncomfortable and even unhealthy levels in the summers. Stay adequately hydrated and do not become over exerted in high temperatures and humidity.

## Hurricanes / Flooding

Our hurricane season is June 1 through November 30. Be sure to keep an updated emergency kit in your house, even when it is not hurricane season. Always make sure you have a good family evacuation plan in place for your family and your pets. The best thing you can do now is prepare and plan.



Flooding is also another common issue in the area. While our neighborhood has remained dry during even the worst flooding events in recent times, it is common to see flooded roads in Mt. Pleasant during super high tides and heavy rains

## Earthquakes

While we have not seen a catastrophic earthquake in the Lowcountry in a long time, we are on a fault line and do feel these tremors on occasion. One of the largest earthquakes in United States history occurred just outside of Charleston (near Ladson/Summerville) in 1886.

## Alligators & Snakes

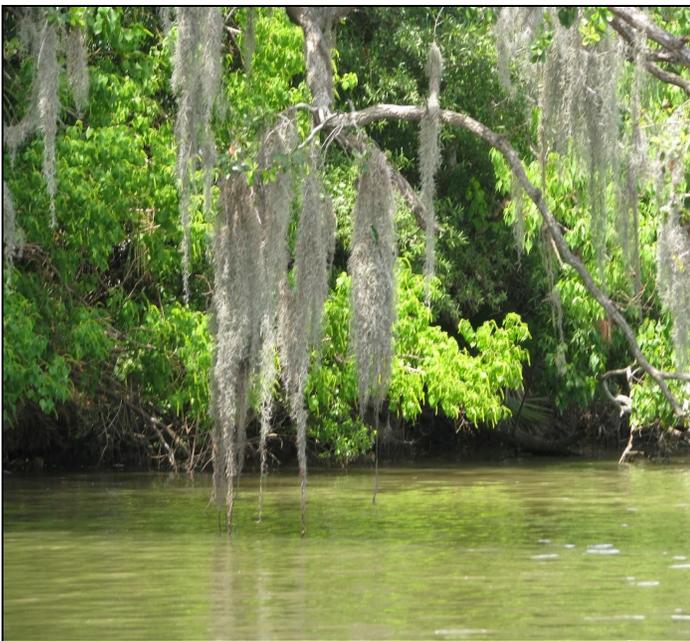
Alligators can occasionally be spotted cruising the ponds around Brickyard. Please do not feed or harass them. If we leave them alone, they will not bother us. Most residents report sightings on social media to help keep everyone safe. Also be aware of your surroundings when walking near a pond. South Carolina is also home to venomous and non-venomous snakes. While snake sightings are rare, copperheads are the most commonly seen venomous snake in Brickyard. However, most of the snakes seen in our yards are non-venomous. All snakes provide valuable pest control and are harmless if simply left alone.

## **Fire Ants**

With mounds of dirt 18-20 inches and 2-4 feet in diameter, fire ants can be a startling sight. They are prevalent throughout the Lowcountry and there are many prevention and treatment (if bitten) options available. You can purchase bait treatments at any hardware store. Do not disturb the ant bed, poke them or step on them. Some people are allergic to ants, so if you have been bitten: add a cold compress, hydrocortisone and monitor the bites. Seek additional emergency help if you feel any unusual symptoms.

## **Mosquitos & No-See-Ums (a.k.a “Flying Teeth”)**

Reduce the numbers of adult mosquitoes around your home. Drain, fill, or eliminate sites that have standing water. Empty or throw away containers that have standing water. Use air conditioning or make sure that you repair and use window/door screens.



The almost invisible, no-see-ums, or Culicoides, appear at dawn and dusk and have a 4-6-week life cycle, but are continuous breeders even during the winter months. The good news is they don't carry disease, but they are a nuisance to all who live in the Lowcountry.

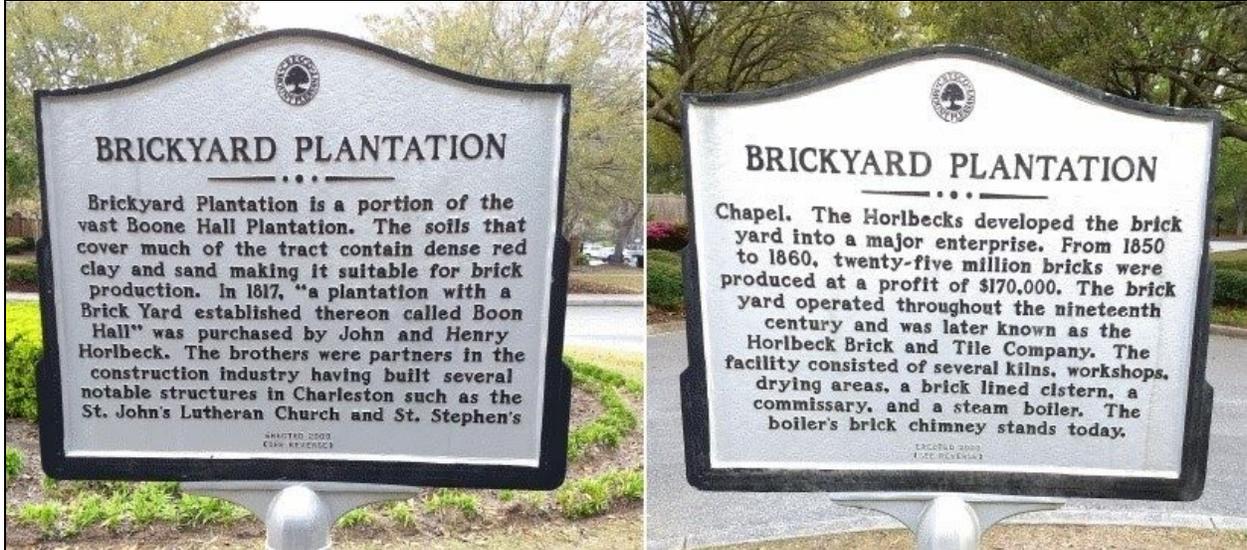
Some residents install bug systems in their yards to combat these insects. You can also have someone come to spray your yard if you have an outdoor event scheduled at your home. Be aware that these spray systems might also have adverse effects on the other insects living in and around your home and your neighbors' homes. Sometimes a good breeze is all we need!

## **Vultures**

You will often see large black vultures (*Coragyps atratus*) congregating around the pond, walking path, and playground at the front of our neighborhood. While the vultures are a nuisance, they are federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which makes shooting them illegal in most circumstances. Our current strategy involves contracting with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) wildlife services division to develop a mitigation plan to keep the vultures away. Part of that plan includes dead vulture decoys that you may see hanging from trees near the front pond. Please do not cut them down.

# HISTORICAL MARKERS OF BRICKYARD

## Brickyard Plantation



### **BRICKYARD PLANTATION**

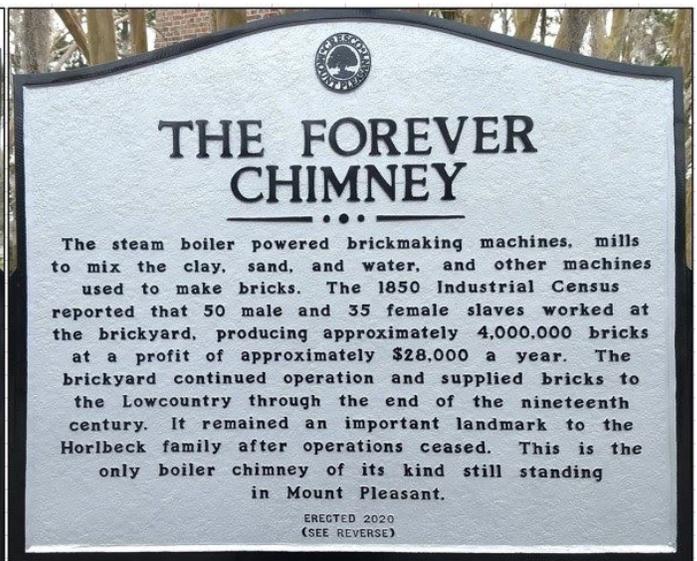
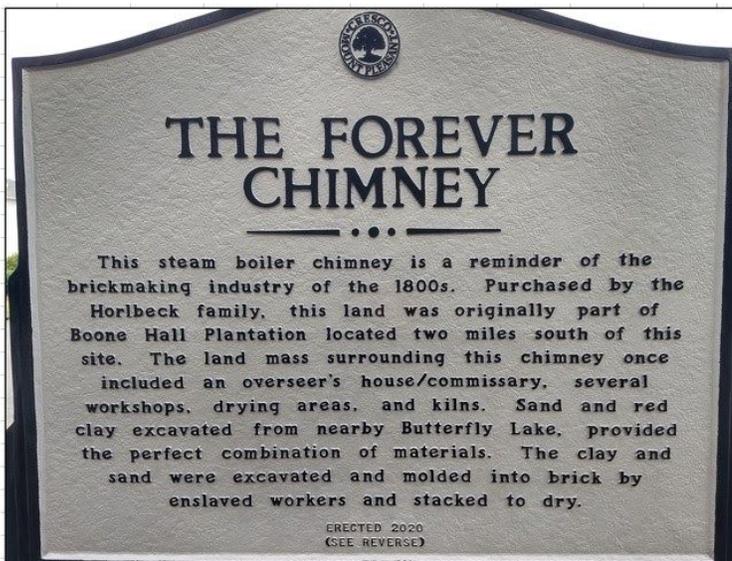
*Brickyard Plantation is a portion of the vast Boone Hall Plantation. The soils that cover much of the tract contain dense red clay and sand making it suitable for brick production. In 1817, "a plantation with a Brick Yard established thereon called Boon Hall" was purchased by John and Henry Horlbeck. The brothers were partners in the construction industry having built several notable structures in Charleston such as the St John's Lutheran Church and St. Stephen's Chapel. The Horlbecks developed the brick yard into a major enterprise. From 1850 to 1860, twenty-five million bricks were produced at a profit of \$170,000. The brick yard operated throughout the nineteenth century and was later known as the Horlbeck Brick and Tile Company. The facility consisted of several kilns, workshops, drying areas, a brick lined cistern, a commissary, and a steam boiler. The boiler's brick chimney stands today. ERECTED 2009*

## The Chimney

Built in 1843, the chimney was designed and built by the Horlbeck brothers, who were well known architects. It was used to vent the gases from the boiler, which was used in the manufacturing of brick. The chimney is considered utilitarian as well as an architect marvel. The beautiful exterior includes a stretch course brick design with a header that is an English Bond design, along with a Queen's Closure brick design. Look toward the corners of the chimney as it reaches into the sky to see the beautiful pattern.

The brick kiln was located 250 feet away from the chimney, toward Horlbeck Creek. An underground brick tunnel carried the gases from the boiler to the chimney for venting. The interior of the chimney has two flues, allowing large volumes of gases to be pulled from the boiler and vented out.

The black iron gate at the chimney entrance was installed in 2016. It was manufactured by the Simmons Foundation and resembles a mid-1800's design. The brick for Ft. Sumter and Castle Pickney, as well as numerous structures in Charleston, were made from this brick manufacturing facility.



### ***THE FOREVER CHIMNEY***

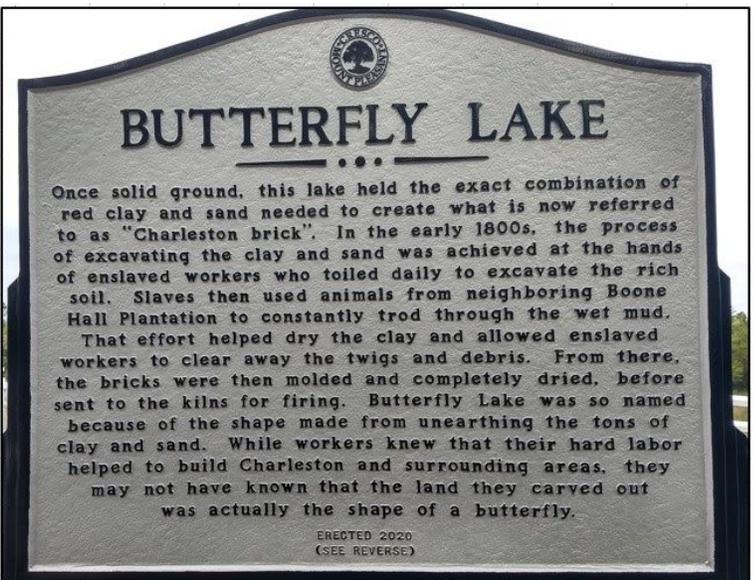
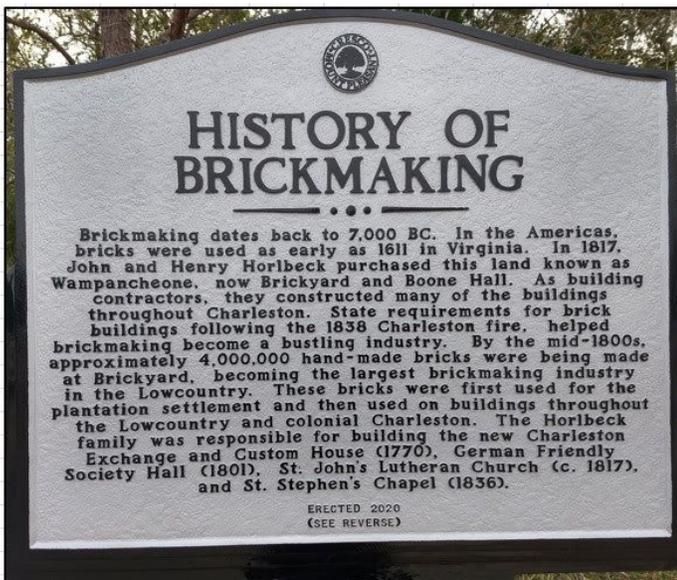
*This steam boiler chimney is a reminder of the brickmaking industry of the 1800s. Purchased by the Horlbeck family, this land was originally part of Boone Hall Plantation located two miles south of this site. The land mass surrounding this chimney once included an overseer's house/commissary, several workshops, drying areas, and kilns. Sand and red clay excavated from nearby Butterfly Lake, provided the perfect combination of materials. The clay and sand were excavated and molded into brick by enslaved workers and stacked to dry.*

*The steam boiler powered brickmaking machines, mills to mix the clay, sand, and water, and other machines used to make bricks. The 1850 Industrial Census reported that 50 male and 35 female slaves worked at the brickyard, producing approximately 4,000,000 bricks at a profit of approximately \$28,000 a year. The brickyard continued operation and supplied bricks to the Lowcountry through the end of the nineteenth century. It remained an important landmark to the Horlbeck family after operations ceased. This is the only boiler chimney of its kind still standing in Mount Pleasant. ERECTED 2020*

### **Butterfly Lake**

Excavations for the clay began in the early 1800's, around the time the Horlbeck brothers acquired Boone Hall/Brickyard and most likely continued into the early 1900's, when ceramic tiles and drain pipe were being fired at Brickyard. The historic name, Butterfly Lake, represents the aerial shape of the lake.





**HISTORY OF BRICKMAKING / BUTTERFLY LAKE**

**History of Brickmaking**

*Brickmaking dates back to 7,000 BC. In the Americas, bricks were used as early as 1611 in Virginia. In 1817, John and Henry Horlbeck purchased this land known as Wampancheone, now Brickyard and Boone Hall. As building contractors, they constructed many of the buildings throughout Charleston. State requirements for brick buildings following the 1838 Charleston fire, helped brickmaking become a bustling industry. By the mid-1800s, approximately 4,000,000 hand-made bricks were being made at Brickyard, becoming the largest brickmaking industry in the Lowcountry. These bricks were first used for the plantation settlement and then used on buildings throughout the Lowcountry and colonial Charleston. The Horlbeck family was responsible for building the new Charleston Exchange and Custom House (1770), German Friendly Society Hall (1801), St. John's Lutheran Church (c. 1817), and St. Stephen's Chapel (1836). Erected 2020*

**Butterfly Lake**

*Once solid ground, this lake held the exact combination of red clay and sand needed to create what is now referred to as "Charleston brick". In the early 1800s, the process of excavating the clay and sand was achieved at the hands of enslaved workers who toiled daily to excavate the rich soil. Slaves then used animals from neighboring Boone Hall Plantation to constantly trod through the wet mud. That effort helped dry the clay and allowed enslaved workers to clear away the twigs and debris. From there, the bricks were then molded and completely dried, before sent to the kilns for firing. Butterfly Lake was so named because of the shape made from unearthing the tons of clay and sand. While workers knew that their hard labor helped to build Charleston and surrounding areas, they may not have known that the land they carved out was actually the shape of a butterfly. ERECTED 2020*

# HISTORY OF MT. PLEASANT, SC

## AMERICAN INDIAN ERA

Shell middens and shell rings are American Indian sites found along the South Carolina coast, including east of the Cooper River, that date back 3,000 to 4,000 years. Shell middens, largely comprised of shell, animal bone, and pottery, are ancient garbage that accumulated as people lived in the area and took advantage of local shellfish resources. Some middens contain post holes, other structural remains, and large pits used for steaming shellfish. Archeologists believe shell rings are structures deliberately constructed for ceremonial purposes or as public monuments.



\*Source: [The Post & Courier, Bo Petersen, January 28, 2012](#)

Around 1,200 years ago, American Indians living along the Wando River made distinctive pottery using limestone and clay from river banks. This type of pottery is found only in the Wando River Basin and is distinguished by the presence of limestone used to temper the clay and make it more pliable. Wando pottery was often decorated with impressed and stamped designs. Moll's 1715 map of Carolina shows the Sampa Indians between the Cooper and Wando Rivers, and the Wando Indians and Sewel [sic] Indian Fort on the east branch of the Wando River, called Wampancheonee Creek. To date, archeologists have not located the fort site. The Sewee Indians occupied this area when the first Europeans arrived. Today, some of the street names in old Mount Pleasant reflect this earlier American Indian heritage.

## COLONIAL ERA

Mount Pleasant's first European settlers arrived on July 6, 1680, under the leadership of Captain Florentina O'Sullivan. He came to Carolina a decade earlier as one of the first English settlers in the colony. O'Sullivan was granted 2,340 acres of land that included not only the island that bears his name, but also the land that was to become the village of Mount Pleasant. On the earliest known map of this area, it was called "Old Woman's Point" and "North Point." In 1696, 51 new settlers called Congregationalists arrived. Each family was allotted several hundred acres of land situated between the Wando River, Awendaw Creek, and the Atlantic Ocean. This area was called Christ Church Parish after England passed the Church Act of 1706. In that same year, the Province of Carolina withstood several attacks by the Spanish and French. At a place called "Abcaw," the Carolinians defeated French invaders. Abcaw, located between Shem Creek and the Wando River, became Hobcaw Plantation and later, Shipyard Plantation. It took that name because a prosperous shipbuilding business arose from the plantation's abundance of good timber and deep-water access. Lands adjacent to Hobcaw Point

were owned by various families at different times. Many of these families operated ferryboat businesses.

By 1721, there were 400 colonists (107 families) and 637 enslaved people living in Christ Church Parish. Plantation owners were focused on farming and stock husbandry. Most large plantations and settlements were situated along the Wando and Cooper rivers. These riverine locations made transportation of people, resources, and products more expedient. Plantations were largely self-sufficient, connected by a small network of roads, and planters viewed Charleston as their metropolitan base. In 1770, Andrew Hibben bought land on the south side of Shem Creek from Jacob Motte. Hibben obtained a ferry charter and opened Hibben's Ferry—the first ferryboat service to connect Haddrell's Point, the area between Shem Creek and the cove at the end of Pitt Street, to Charleston. Later, Haddrell's Point was called the village of Mount Pleasant, but people often used the old name. Georgetown Road, the area's major roadway, ran to the Ferry House and functioned as part of the main travel-mail route to the North.

Christ Church Parish was a popular retreat for Lowcountry elites and influential Americans such as Charles Pinckney who owned plantations along the Wando River. Prominent local families who lived here included Lynch, Toomer, Horlbeck, Legare, Pinckney, Lucas, Rutledge, and Vanderhorst. Charles Pinckney was a primary framer of the United States Constitution. John Rutledge also signed the constitution, and his younger brother Edward was the youngest person to sign the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Lynch was a member of the Continental Congress, and his son Thomas Lynch Jr. signed the Declaration of Independence on behalf of his ailing father.

At different times during the colonial era, the local economy was based on shipbuilding, naval stores production, indigo, cotton and some rice agriculture, and raising cattle. Early on, planters fenced in agricultural land and emulated the American Indian model of maize and bean agriculture. They allowed cattle and hogs to roam in savannahs and marshes around their plantations. With time, multi-cultural agricultural practices emerged that sustained the local population while also producing surplus for the Atlantic economy (S. Max Edelson, *Plantation Enterprise in Colonial Carolina*, see Bibliographical Summary). In addition, brick making supplemented agricultural output and was a significant Lowcountry industry from 1740 to 1860.

### **REVOLUTIONARY WAR ERA**

Haddrell's Point played a leading role in the first major military battle and victory of the Revolutionary War, and many plantation owners were involved. British forces were determined to take Charleston and hoped to establish a base of operations on Sullivan's Island. A small Patriot army of 453 men under the command of Colonel William Moultrie held off the mighty British Royal Navy, while Colonel William Thomson and his forces stopped 3,000 British troops from crossing Breach Inlet and attacking the fort from the land side. The success of the American forces on this single day, June 28, 1776, was a major boost for the Patriot cause.

On July 23, 1776, Dr. Benjamin Rush, an influential patriot of Philadelphia, wrote to American General Charles Lee: “Dear General, It would take a Volume to tell you how many clever things were said of you and the brave Troops under your command after hearing of your late victory. It has given a wonderful turn to our affairs. The loss of Canada had sunk the spirits of many people who now begin to think our cause is not desperate and that we shall yet triumph over the enemies.” It was announced in the paper, on Aug. 2, 1776, that Fort Sullivan was renamed Fort Moultrie retroactive to the victorious battle. George Washington visited the site 10 years later, on May 5, 1791, and noted in his journal that “scarcely a trace [was] left” of Fort Moultrie.

Today, South Carolina residents celebrate Carolina Day in recognition of the role this naval battle played in energizing the Revolutionary War. With the exception of this battle, Christ Church Parish saw little action, yet the area had been secured. According to the original version of Clinton’s 1780 map titled A Sketch of the Operations before Charleston, the Capital of South Carolina, Remley’s Point had fortifications that connected two inlets north and south. This map shows earthworks at the water’s edge, interior encampments, and trenches guarding the rear. The area included a shipyard, powder magazine, and a prisoner detention center. Clinton’s map also details several small plantations and agricultural fields.

In 1780, Charleston fell to the British. General Cornwallis crossed the Cooper River with 2,500 troops and took possession of Haddrell’s Point. It is believed that the British headquartered at Jacob Motte’s house on Mount Pleasant Plantation, now known as Hibben House. Once the new nation was established, the first United States Census of Population was taken in 1790. At that time, African-Americans comprised over 75 percent of the Christ Church Parish population.

## **ANTEBELLUM ERA**

In the early 1780s, Jonathon Lucas sailed from England. During his travels, Lucas shipwrecked along the Carolina Coast. Settling here, he invented a mechanical mill process to separate the husk and bran layers from the rice kernel. This milling process was far more efficient than the laborious task of hand-threshing rice. As a result, the Charleston area became the center of the profitable rice industry. In 1793, Lucas rebuilt the Old Greenwich Mill on Shem Creek to house a sawmill and rice mill. This mill drew power from the creek tides and traces of the holding pond are still visible at low tide. In 1835, Jonathon Lucas’ son, William, purchased land between the Greenwich Mill and the Ferry Tract that would ultimately become the village of Lucasville. However, Jonathon Scott was the first to develop a village in Christ Church Parish. Scott owned 100 acres adjacent to Jacob Motte’s Mount Pleasant Plantation from which he laid out the village of Greenwich in 1766. He platted 50 acres of English style town lots on the waterfront and the remaining 50 acres served as a common area. Scott named the waterfront roadway Bay Street and the other roads were named after English royalty and the prime minister: King, Queen, and Pitt streets.

The village of Mount Pleasant was laid out by James Hibben, son of Andrew Hibben. James Hibben was a prominent businessman who served as a state senator from 1800 to 1815. He owned the

waterfront property on the opposite side of Motte's estate. In 1803, Hibben purchased Motte's Mount Pleasant Plantation and hired John Diamond to survey the parcel. Diamond platted 35 lots and five streets: Beach, Bennett, Whilden, Boundary, and Venning. Hibben died on Jan. 4, 1835 and is buried beside his wife in Cook's Old Field Cemetery on Rifle Range Road.

Three years later, on Dec. 20, 1837, the village of Greenwich merged with the village of Mount Pleasant and was incorporated by an act of the S. C. General Assembly. In 1858, the town's borders were extended to include Hilliardsville, the adjacent village to the southeast laid out by Charles Jugnot and Oliver Hilliard in 1847. Hilliardsville included a picnic ground containing a stand of live oaks called Hort's Grove, now known as Alhambra Park. In the mid-1800s Mount Pleasant was still a summer resort for Charleston residents and a commercial and residential hub for outlying plantation families.

## **CIVIL WAR ERA**

On Sept. 24, 1860, a public meeting was held in Mount Pleasant at Ronkins Long Room on Ferry Street. Participants produced 11 resolutions. The 10th and 11th resolutions were determinations to leave the United States should Abraham Lincoln be elected president: "Resolved that in the opinion of this meeting, the election of Mr. Lincoln to the office of President of the United States is in itself sufficient cause for war;" and "Resolved that in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election South Carolina should make every effort to meet one or more of the other southern states in convention to determine the best mode of dissolving the connection with the present union." It is believed that Mount Pleasant produced the state's first secession resolution.

The secession convention met two months later in Charleston on Dec. 20, 1860, and seven Southern states formed the Confederate States of America. At the advent of the Civil War, the Mount Pleasant mortar battery and an adjacent floating battery between Mount Pleasant and Sullivan's Island were instrumental in the defense of the harbor and in attacks on the Union's Fort Sumter. As the war progressed, the town was further protected by an additional battery in the village and a line of fortifications from Elliot's Creek at Boone Hall Plantation to Copahoe Sound. This was part of the outer defenses of Charleston. On Aug. 11, 1982, Fort Palmetto was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Fort Palmetto was the easternmost position in the Christ Church Parish line of defense. Commanding Hamlin Sound and Dewee's Creek, it was designed to deny Union naval support of any attack on Charleston from the northeastern side. The Christ Church line was laid out by Robert E. Lee and constructed in late 1861. The importance of Fort Palmetto may be measured by the fact that the position mounted one nine-inch gun and two rifled thirty-two pounders at capture, while the remainder of the line was unarmed. The fort is a three-gun battery approximately 160 feet long and 80 feet deep. Although a simple open battery, Fort Palmetto has unusually high relief with a parapet approximately 15 feet in height and a magazine approximately 25 feet above the surrounding terrain.

These elevations provided better visibility over Hamlin Sound in addition to presenting a more formidable appearance.

The town also served as the secret training ground for the nine-man crew of the Confederate submarine CSS Hunley. On Feb. 17, 1864, this small vessel was launched from Breach Inlet with the mission to attack and sink the USS Housatonic, a 12-cannon steam-powered war sloop on Union blockade duty. CSS Hunley sunk USS Housatonic. Shortly thereafter, CSS Hunley and its crew sunk to the bottom of the harbor where the submarine and occupants remained undiscovered for over 100 years. The USS Hunley was raised in Aug. 2000. During the Civil War, Union shelling drove most residents to the relative safety of the Upstate. After the war, Mount Pleasant residents radically redefined life both economically and socially. It was an era of experimentation and new ideas. The area's slave labor plantation system was eradicated. New African American communities were established, and some freedmen took up farming for themselves. Churches forced to close during the bombardment of Charleston Harbor began to reopen. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church re-opened in February 1866, as the only church available for services. People of various faiths met there for public worship.

### **AFTER THE CIVIL WAR**

Established after the Civil War, Scanlonville enjoys a rich heritage spanning over one hundred years. With the end of slavery, many former slaves began to establish their own farms and businesses. The development of Scanlonville was one such enterprise. In 1868, a freedman carpenter Robert Scanlon purchased the 614-acre Remley Plantation that was bordered by Charleston Harbor and the Wando River. Scanlon founded the Charleston Land Company and 100 African-American men paid \$10 per share to purchase large tracts of land. By 1870, former slaves who desired to own land could purchase farm or town lots in Scanlonville. The Town of Mount Pleasant annexed Scanlonville on Dec. 14, 1982.

Just west of Scanlonville was Riverside Beach, the oldest, largest, and most popular of five African-American beaches in Charleston County. By 1930, Riverside Beach had a dance pavilion, athletics field, bathhouse, playground, and a boardwalk. Riverside Pavilion was the only venue where black Charlestonians could see musical legends such as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, B.B. King and Ivory Joe Hunter. Music performances at the pavilion spawned juke joints in Scanlonville and eventually a hotel called White's Paradise – frequented by James Brown. By 1975, Charleston County assumed operation of the Riverside property and eventually sold it to a company that developed a gated community on the land.

### **LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY**

In 1872, Mount Pleasant expanded its borders to include the Shem Creek settlement called Lucasville and Hibben's Ferry Tract. Two years later, the town council carried a motion to assist with railroad construction, but the rail line was never built. The absence of a rail connection limited local industrial development. The area's economy was centered on commercial farming. These large farms employed many African-American laborers who also grew their own produce to supplement incomes. The town

maintained its reputation as a pleasure resort destination. Visitors could enjoy beautiful Alhambra Park and Alhambra Hall, take a trolley over to the Isle of Palms, climb aboard an excursion boat around the harbor, or stay in one of many cottages available for rent throughout the village.

The Town of Mount Pleasant was initially situated in Charleston County but became the Berkeley County seat when Charleston County was divided in 1883. This led to important preparations including the construction of the Berkeley County Courthouse located at the intersection of Pitt and King streets, now known as the Darby Building. The town already had four miles of shell paved roads, nine shops, a brick and tile factory, a sawmill and 783 residents. In 1895, Mount Pleasant was annexed back to Charleston County and both counties refused to pay the overdue bill for bricks used to build the courthouse. Over 100 years later, historian Petrona Royall McIver expressed modern sentiment over the town's shifting locale when she remarked that Mount Pleasant was "shuttled back and forth by the powers that be."

On Aug. 31, 1886, a massive earthquake rattled the Charleston area and Mount Pleasant residents ran out of their houses seeking open places to escape harm. Astonishingly, there was no loss of life in Mount Pleasant during this earthquake. People set up tent camps and makeshift shelters. According to Carl McKinley of the News and Courier, "Immediately after the great shock on Tuesday night, a strong odor, remarkable for the presence of Sulphur [sic] bases, permeated the atmosphere, and was perceptible throughout the night." Unlike the City of Charleston, Mount Pleasant suffered very little property damage. No houses were thrown down, although its residents were equally terrified by the event. One explanation for the difference is that fewer bricks were used in the construction of Mount Pleasant buildings. The town recovered from this natural disaster within a few years.

On Sept. 4, 1889, the News and Courier published an article reporting on the town's state of affairs: "The health of Mount Pleasant has been unprecedentedly fine for the past year. The Town Council expends about \$2,000 on the streets and other necessary improvements, and the money is so judiciously applied that Mount Pleasant, in regard to general appearance, is one of the model towns of the State."

## **EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY**

Mount Pleasant experienced little economic expansion or population growth in the first few decades of the twentieth century. In the early 1900s, Elise Tiencken Farmer lived at 216 Bennett Street in the Old Village. In Betty Lee Johnson's published newspaper series of oral histories, *As I Remember It: An Oral History of the East Cooper Area*, Farmer described early twentieth century village life: "We raised our own food right there in the village. We kept cows and chickens and we had a big vegetable garden.... we had a spring in our yard that fed our well. This was also connected to a large storage tank that furnished water for seven families. The tank has been gone for a long time but the stand it was on is still at the Bennett Street house. In hot weather, we'd cool watermelons in that tank." Local residents raised cotton, peas, beans, rice (in small ponds), sugar cane, hogs, turtles, and chickens for food. In the same publication, Julia Brown Horlback remembered raising beans, okra, corn, potatoes,

and flowers as well as making baskets for sale at the Charleston market that ran from Meeting Street to East Bay Street.

The twentieth century began and ended with hurricanes. One storm landed ashore 11 years after the century's turn and the other hit 11 years before the era closed. In 1911, the severe hurricane destroyed crops, farmland, and fishing facilities. According to the stories recorded by Johnson, the storm raised water to hip level, brought down trees, blew down houses, and destroyed Friendship AME Church. Elise Tiencken Farmer recalled:

I remember the hurricane of 1911. There were many people from the islands and Charleston stranded here and the local people took them into their homes. We had a lot of people staying with us. One of them was Mrs. Condon, of the department store Condons. When she returned to Charleston, she sent me a pretty sewing basket as a thank you gift. My father got stranded in Charleston and my mother was sick with worry about him. He had to spend the night in the Custom House.

Julia Welch Hamlin farmed 800 acres on Snee Farm Plantation with her husband Osgood Darby Hamlin, and she recalled losing their first crop of Sea Island Cotton "to the big storm." The Hamlins were not on the plantation during the hurricane. Hamlin retold her story:

I remember the hurricane of 1911 very well. We were spending the summer at the Hamlin Beach House, which was right by the ferry wharf. No one stayed on the plantations in the summer because of the mosquitoes. People also said the water and country air were bad, so everyone had beach homes where they spent the summer months. We had screens at Snee Farm, so this was the last summer I spent in town. It really was just so much trouble to pack up and move into town every summer. That day there was a large excursion here from Augusta, Georgia. They arrived from the island, all 19 trains of them, just in time to catch the 5pm ferry. The wind started blowing, and it got so rough that the boat was turning around and around as they just couldn't handle it. We watched from the house as they threw out chains and ropes and finally dragged the boat back to the wharf. The top had blown off the boat and the people were scared to death before they got it tied up again, but they had to remain on the boat as a large section of the wharf was gone. There were two men killed that day: The ticket taker, and a man who had been a passenger on the boat and had gone to get his wife's purse.

In 1917, a U.S. Navy rifle range was built on 100 acres along Rifle Range Road occupying the site of a former S.C. National Guard firing range. This facility accommodated 600 men who trained for two-week sessions. Thousands of men were equipped at this facility during the World War I period. Later this site was used by the National Guard, Army Reserves, and Citadel Cadets.

From the 1890s through the 1920s, a traction trolley service brought jobs to the men of Mount Pleasant. They became trolley motormen and conductors. At that time, the Isle of Palms was considered the "Atlantic City of the South" and people came from North Carolina and Georgia to catch

the Mount Pleasant Ferry docked at Cumberland Street in Charleston. In Mount Pleasant they boarded the trolley to reach the Isle of Palms.

As a child in the 1930s, Dave MacNeal lived on Live Oak Drive in the Old Village. He described the area in Johnson's *As I Remember It*. MacNeal lived right next to the Mount Pleasant Boat Building Company and it was the only thing on Shem Creek in those days. He remembered that the trolley bridge was the only land route between the Isle of Palms and Mount Pleasant. The Cooper River Bridge opened in 1929 providing the first direct roadway between Mount Pleasant and the City of Charleston. Shortly thereafter, the local steam ferries ceased operations. In 1930, Captain C. Magwood was the first fisherman to bring ocean shrimp into Mount Pleasant. The shrimping business grew into an important Charleston Harbor industry centered at Shem Creek.

In 1933, the town-initiated plans to build a public waterworks. The result was a distribution system of wells, mains, storage tanks, fire hydrants, 175 water meters, and a pumping station that provided 160,000 gallons of water per day. On Oct. 17, 1935, a dedication was held at Alhambra Park with a dance at the Mount Pleasant Yacht Club. Four years later waterworks operated at a profit with over 240 customers. A wastewater system was added in 1942, and later, two treatment plants. Mount Pleasant set an example for rural coastal communities by building its waterworks system.

### **MID-LATE TWENTIETH CENTURY**

Dave MacNeal left Mount Pleasant in 1942, to serve in the U. S. Navy. He returned five years later to a town on the move: "When I finally came home to Mount Pleasant in '47, she really started changing. There was a building boom on and the old town was spreading, just like she is today (1987). Until then there had been very little change from the way she was in the '30s. Before I knew it the little town around Pitt St. was all gone."

In the 1940's, industrious African-American women were shucking oysters, drying moss, growing flowers, making baskets, and selling these products to tourists. Multiple generations of women from families that occupied a 10-square mile area made baskets together. These baskets were sold outside town limits at simple roadside stands along a five mile stretch of U.S. Highway 17. At the time, the total population of Christ Church Parish was 5,165 of which 3,540 were African Americans. The majority of residents were truck farmers or laborers on large farms producing agricultural products for market.

World War II increased the military presence in the Charleston area adding residents to the suburbs and bolstering the regional economy. The U.S. Post Office began delivering letters to Mount Pleasant homes on Aug. 18, 1953. With improved services came moderate growth. Then, in 1970, Snee Farm subdivision was annexed thereby expanding the town limits. In that same year, the town's population exploded, and the quaint village atmosphere became a distant memory. According to historian Amy McCandless, "The expansion of the port of Charleston, the growth of Lowcountry tourism, the construction of a second Cooper River bridge, and the advent of new highways contributed to a

tremendous expansion of population” and she continued, “The profile of town residents became increasingly white, professional and conservative.”

## **TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY DAWNS**

The last few decades of the twentieth century proved to be a period of momentous growth and municipal advancement for the Town of Mount Pleasant. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, population was: 6,155 in 1970; 13,838 in 1980; 30,108 in 1990; and 47,900 in 2000. The construction of Interstate 526 decreased the travel time from the East Cooper area to Interstate 26 and North Charleston. This new roadway stimulated major regional development. The town annexed Brickyard Plantation subdivision in 1989, and Charleston National, Dunes West, and Park West subdivisions in 1990. These North end residential developments based on the “live, work, play” concept attracted families from all over the country. More residents meant new schools, health care facilities, fire stations, added police to prevent crime, parks, and a variety of recreational amenities and services. Several shopping centers such as Wando Crossing, Towne Centre, Belle Hall, and Seaside Farms were built.

In mid-Sept. 1989, 150,000 residents evacuated the area before the arrival of Hurricane Hugo to the South Carolina coast. On Sept. 21, 1989, Hugo made landfall at the Isle of Palms as a category 4 hurricane. The destructive storm delivered 135 mph winds, a 5-foot wall of water, a 20-foot storm surge, and 3000 tornadoes (vortices). At that time, it was considered the deadliest hurricane in American history and the damage in South Carolina was estimated at \$4.2 billion. In the Moultrie News commemorative issue published on Sept. 23, 2009, Tamara Zoti shared her memories of this hurricane. Zoti evacuated with her mother to Dorchester County. Upon returning, they found downed lights and poles, collapsed buildings, windows blown out, trees blown over at the roots, and roadways blocked by mud and trees. Her mother’s house lay underneath two neighbors’ homes. This pile of rubble reached the top of a nearby power pole that had a pontoon boat wrapped around it. It was three months before the Zotis could sort through the remains of their house and locate a car and truck left behind.

Mount Pleasant Fire Chief Herb Williams recalled the power of winds during Hurricane Hugo: “When daylight came, the world seemed to have come to an end. Power lines were down everywhere, and it looked like someone had dropped a bomb in the middle of Mount Pleasant.” The town’s debris pile was 20 feet tall, 50 feet wide, and one-half mile long and took several months to burn. Hurricane Hugo upended the way people viewed hurricane-preparedness. This storm placed the region on the map resulting in a fast transformation that forever changed the local way of life. On the South Carolina coast, Hurricane Hugo was the single most transformative event of the twentieth century.

As the century drew to a close, city officials promoted housing for workers, senior citizens, and lower income residents, yet Mount Pleasant became a largely affluent, professional, and urban community. The general political awareness grew as the populace gained more interest in local issues. Staunch conservatism softened in the face of fresh forward-thinking ideas. These new attitudes led to the

development of the I'ON neighborhood, a push for open government, greater recreational opportunities, stricter comprehensive zoning and annexation, a senior center, and public transportation.

As the population increased, service-oriented businesses, banks, restaurants, grocery stores, hotels, small to mid-size retail, high technology, and research industry moved in. Conversely, some of the town's "sleepy era businesses" such as small manufacturing, mom and pop stores, local galleries, and commercial fishing, crabbing, and shrimping began to decline. Area leaders took great strides to preserve and promote the town's historic buildings, shrimp industry, and sweetgrass basket makers. Mount Pleasant implemented a transportation plan incorporating impact fees, stringent traffic analysis, and a residential permit allocation system. As a part of that plan, the town upgraded and widened roadways such as U.S. Highway 17, Johnnie Dodds and Coleman boulevards. In addition, transportation corridors such as the Isle of Palms Connector and Hungryneck Boulevard were built to accommodate changing traffic patterns for a coastal community on the rise. In 2005, the mammoth and picturesque Arthur Ravenel Bridge replaced the two aging bridges that spanned the Cooper River. By 2010, Mount Pleasant had 67,843 residents, became the fourth largest city in South Carolina, and won a national competition to be named an All-America City.

### **CHARLESTON COUNTY LIBRARY**

Dr. Nic Butler, historian for the Charleston County Library has developed The Charleston Time Machine. This consists of regular lectures, generally at the main Charleston Library, plus written articles on the website as well as podcasts. You can access all of this through the Charleston County Library website: [www.ccpl.org](http://www.ccpl.org)

### **CHARLESTON'S COLONIAL FORTIFICATIONS**

The Mayor had requested information on Colonial Charleston's defensive walls that were built to protect the city from various invaders. Dr. Nic Butler has put together articles and pictures of those fortifications including the timeline, placement and specific information, which can be viewed at [www.walledcitytaskforce.org](http://www.walledcitytaskforce.org)