Charleston, South Carolina, was the Confederacy’s most important port for supplies and ammunition during the American Civil War. On April 8th and 7th, 1863 the first of some 12,000 Union soldiers landed on Folly Island, South Carolina, to begin work that would eventually become the longest siege of the war. Confederate soldiers held Charleston and James Island until February, 1865, when Union General Sherman’s army threatened the city from the rear. The Union army made several attempts to seize James Island, the most costly being the battle of Secessionville on June 16, 1862. There, some 693 Union and 204 Confederate soldiers were killed or wounded.

An integral part of the Confederate defense of Charleston were the “New Lines” constructed during the late summer and fall of 1863. These lines were designed by Colonel Charles H. Simonton, of the 25th South Carolina Regiment, and built by some 4,000 African American slaves. As originally constructed they formed a continuous defense from Battery Pringle along the Stono River to Battery Lamar at Secessionville, some 2.5 miles across James Island. Today, Battery Pringle, Battery Leroy on The Charleston Museum property (west), the lines located on this property, and Battery Lamar under the care of the South Carolina Heritage Trust (east), are the only remaining portions of this once extensive fortification. In November 1863, Confederate President Jefferson Davis inspected the lines.

**Crenelated Lines (along the Path)**
The earthworks were constructed in a zig-zag fashion to allow the defender’s fire to intersect beyond the lines for maximum destruction of an attacking enemy.

**MAGAZINE**
This low area was probably the magazine for Battery No. 1. A magazine was used to store gunpowder and ammunition for the guns at the battery. It was heavily fortified or bombproofed with logs and dirt to protect it from being destroyed by enemy fire and to protect the men from premature explosions.

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**BATTERY No. 1**
This massive earthen battery once held a 12 pound Smooth Bore Siege Gun on each end and between them two 24 pound Smooth Bore Siege Guns and one 12 pound Rifled Siege Gun. These guns could fire a 12 or 24 pound projectile as far as one and a quarter mile, their effective range was around 1,000 yards or over half a mile. The guns at this battery and along this portion of the New Lines were serviced by Company G of the 2nd South Carolina Artillery, under the command of Captain G.W. Stallings. The command consisted of Captain Stallings, three lieutenants, five sergeants, four corporals, and 134 enlisted men. They were from Barnwell County, South Carolina.

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**UNNAMED BATTERY**
This battery is not recorded in any of the historical documents that can be found. Historians refer to it as the ‘unnamed battery’. No other information is known about this battery but was probably also manned by members of Company G, 2nd South Carolina Artillery.

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE: 38CH195**
Steven D. Smith, Consulting Archaeologist
South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
August 2000
William J. Judd, Historical Consultant

**INTERPRETIVE TRAIL MAP**
1863 JAMES ISLAND NEW LINE (DILL TRACT)
CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

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