



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Haas & Peale Photograph Collection, 1863 SCHS# VM 0619.00

Description: 41 items (0.5 linear feet)

Biographical/Historical Note: Philip Haas (1808-1871) and Washington Peale (1825-1868) were Northern photographers in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Philip Haas was a German immigrant and accomplished lithographer and daguerreotypist. He enlisted in the 1st New York Engineers in 1861 by lying about his age. By 1862, his regiment was dispatched to South Carolina, where he joined with the Philadelphia-born Washington Peale. The team were detailed to take photographs of General Quincy Gilmore's siege operations on Morris Island.

Scope and Content: Albumen prints mounted on decorative cards; most with attached labels numbering the image and providing a basic description. All images taken by Union Army photographers Haas & Peale on Folly and Morris Islands at the Second Siege of Charleston Harbor (also known as: Battle of Charleston Harbor, Siege of Fort Wagner, or Battle of Morris Island) during the American Civil War, 1863. This series of photographs is believed to be the first in history to capture action combat images. Images include the ruins of the Morris Island lighthouse and Keeper's house, various ordnance, various batteries (Wagner, Weed, Henry, Rosecrans, Hays, Reno, Brown, Stevens, Kirby, and Meade), General Gillmore, and the gunboat Commodore. Finer details within the images include African American soldiers; who were part of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, and soldiers actively watching the shelling take place.

Note: Series is slightly incomplete, with image numbers 5, 15, and 44 missing.

Cite as: Haas & Peale Photograph Collection, 1863. (VM 0619.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Photography.

Haas & Peale.

Haas and Peale.

Photographs.

Albumen prints--1860-1870.

War photography.

Morris Island, Battle of, S.C., 1863 (July 10-September 7)

Gillmore, Quincy Adams, 1825-1888

African American soldiers.

Parrott gun

Contents:

Folders

619-00 : [Unlabeled]

Image of uniformed Union Army officers among to large tents on platforms. Card has handwriting in pencil along bottom border that reads, "Quarters of Lt Col Hall - Prov MGenl. Dept of S on Folly Id. SC 1863-4; Gen Hall & Body Guard Congress, [illegible], Washburne & Stevens." Handwriting in pencil on verso reads, "No. 53 Julin G. Hall."

619-01 : No. 1 Naval Battery; Two 80-pounder Whitworths. Breaching battery against Sumter.

Image of six men sitting between two cannons, surrounded by walls of sandbags. Handwriting in pen along top border reads, "No 1 to 44, (except #. 15 missing.); C Neuierth; Newburyport, Mass."

619-02 : No. 2 - Scene on Folly Island.

Image of horse-pulled, covered cart moving away from the viewer on an unpaved road among tall trees.

619-03 : No. 3 - Naval Battery; Two 8-inch Parrot Rifles. Breaching battery against Sumter.

Wide view of men in Naval uniforms standing and sitting behind tall sandbag walls, two cannons visible in center of image.

619-04 : No. 4 - First Parallel.

Landscape shot taken from a distance showing the earthworks and sandbag defense walls of the First Parallel on Morris Island.

619-05 : No. 6 - Battery Brown; Two 8-inch Parrot Rifles. Bursted gun.

Image of six men in military uniforms; three attending to large cannon.

619-06 : No. 7 - Battery Rosecrans; Bursted gun in Battery Rosecrans.

Image of man sitting on the remnant of large cannon with four men seated behind the cannon.

619-07 : No. 8 - Beacon House.

Image of the ruins of the Beacon House on Morris Island. View looking towards the land. Men visible around the grounds and on the second floor of the structure. [View 1]

619-08 : No. 9 – Bombproof; Bombproof, for Telegraph Operator in Trenches.

Image of large, rounded earthwork with rectangular wood framed entry at base.

619-09 : No. 10 - Battery Hays; Seven 30-pounder Parrot Rifles --- against Wagner.

View of two smaller cannons seated among sandbag walls.

619-10 : No. 11 - Battery Reynolds; Five 10-inch Siege Mortars --- against Wagner.

Wide view of men standing behind sandbag battery seated with small mortar cannons.

Folders (continued)

619-11 : No. 12 - Parrot Rifle; 300-pounder Parrot Rifle --- after bursting of muzzle.

Image of four men; two standing behind and two seated in front of large cannon with broken muzzle.

619-12 : No. 13 - General Gillmore's Headquarters; Folly Island.

View of wooden staircase leading up to canvas-covered, wood framed structure. People visible within structure; one man carrying bayonet standing guard in foreground.

619-13 : No. 14 - Headquarters Field Officer of the Trenches; Second Parallel.

View of sixteen men in military uniform standing behind large sandbag walls.

619-14 : No. 16 - Battery Hays; One 8-inch Parrot Rifle --- dismantled --- breaching battery against Sumter.

View of cannon seated next to small sandbag walls surrounded by water.

619-15 : No. 17 - Full Sap.

View of eighteen men seated in earthen bunker.

619-16 : No. 18 - General Gillmore & Staff.

Group photo of fifteen men in military uniform seated outdoors in front of large tent. General Gillmore is center, seated at a table looking at a large paper document.

619-17 : No. 19 - Beacon House.

Image of the ruins of the Beacon House on Morris Island. View looking towards the ocean. Men visible around the second floor and in windows. [View 2]

619-18 : No. 20 - Section Capt. Ashcroft's Battery; 12-pounder Napoleons, in 2d Parallel.

View of eleven men standing behind sandbag walls, all with backs to the viewer

619-19 : No. 21 - Battery Weed; Five 10-inch Siege Mortars --- against Wagner.

View from distance showing earthwork with sandbag center. Men seated on top of battery looking away from the viewer.

619-20 : No. 22 - Henry's Battery; Two sections Henry's Battery --- 12-pounder Howitzers, in Second Parallel.

Wide view of nineteen men standing behind sandbag battery with four cannons set within. Most looking away from viewer.

619-21 : No. 23 - Battery Meade; Two 100-pounder Parrot Rifles. Breaching battery against Sumter.

View of seventeen men manning two cannons behind sandbag barricade.

Folders (continued)

619-22 : No. 24 - Battery Rosecrans; Three 100-pounder Parrot Rifles. Breaching battery against Sumter.

View of approximately fourteen men manning two large cannons behind high sandbag walls.

619-23 : No. 25 - Battery Hays; Seven 30-pounder Parrot Rifles --- against Wagner.

View of seventeen men manning three cannons behind sandbag barricade.

619-24 : No. 26 - Ruins of Charleston Lighthouse.

Wide view of men (many African American, in military caps) around remains of the framework of the Morris Island Lighthouse. Tents visible on ground to the left.

619-25 : No. 27 - Battery Reno; Two 100-pounders, and one 8-inch Parrot Rifle. Breaching battery against Sumter.

Distant view of large sandbag battery with three cannons set in walls. Men visible on grounds; single figure standing on top of battery looking towards the ocean.

619-26 : No. 28 - Section of Lt. Birchmeyer's Battery; 12-pounder Wiards.

View of thirteen men in military uniform working with two cannons.

619-27 : No. 29 - Battery Stevens; Two 100 pounder Parrot Rifles. Breaching battery against Sumter.

Wide view from the interior of the battery. Men standing around the walls and on top of the structures looking towards the sea. [Facsimile in folder. Original on display in SCHS Museum]

619-28 : No. 30 - Gunboat Commodore McDonough.

View of large Federal gunboat on the water. Five men in a small rowboat in the foreground.

619-29 : No. 31 - Battery Kirby; Two 8-inch Seacoast Mortars --- against Sumter.

Two small mortars in the battery.

619-30 : No. 32 – Splinterproof.

View of small shelter constructed from wood posts and barrels, covered in branches.

619-31 : No. 33 – Bombproof; Fort Wagner.

View showing the large walls formed from sandbags with large opening in center. Fourteen soldiers visible in foreground (several are African American).

619-32 : No. 34 - Fort Putnam; 30-pounder Battery in Fort Putnam.

View of thirteen soldiers manning two large cannons.

Folders (continued)

619-33 : No. 35 - Swamp Angel; Swamp Angel -- after bursting.

View of six soldiers in the remains of the sandbag barricade. One figure standing on top looking away from viewer.

619-34 : No. 36 - Fort Putnam; Fort Putnam --- formerly Rebel Battery Gregg.

Wide view taken from a distance showing the earthwork walls of the fort. Men visible standing on and around fort; spiked anti-cavalry fence (cheval de frise) visible around fort.

619-35 : No. 37 - Battery Hays; Seven 30-pounder Parrot Rifles --- against Wagner.

View of nineteen soldiers standing in and on top of the battery looking towards the ocean.

619-36 : No. 38 - Parrot Rifle; 300-pounder Parrot Rifle.

View of large cannon in front of earthen wall.

619-37 : No. 39 - Battery Brown; Bursted gun, in Battery Brown.

View of large cannon collapsed over sandbag walls of battery. Two men visible sitting on top of battery wall in the far background.

619-38 : No. 40 - Henry's Battery.

Wide shot taken from a distance; large group of men in military uniform on the beach, mounted on horses pulling carts.

619-39 : No. 41 - Henry's Battery; One piece --- Henry's Battery.

View of ten men (two on horseback) manning a small cannon. Multiple tents visible in background.

619-40 : No. 42 - Fort Sumter; Fort Sumter; August 13th, 1863 --- trial shots.

Photo of an illustration of Fort Sumter before any damage. [Facsimile in folder. Original on display in SCHS Museum]

619-41 : No. 43 - Fort Sumter; Fort Sumter, August 23rd, 1863.

Image of exterior depicting post-war damage. [Facsimile in folder. Original is missing. Digital image exists in old SCHS scans]