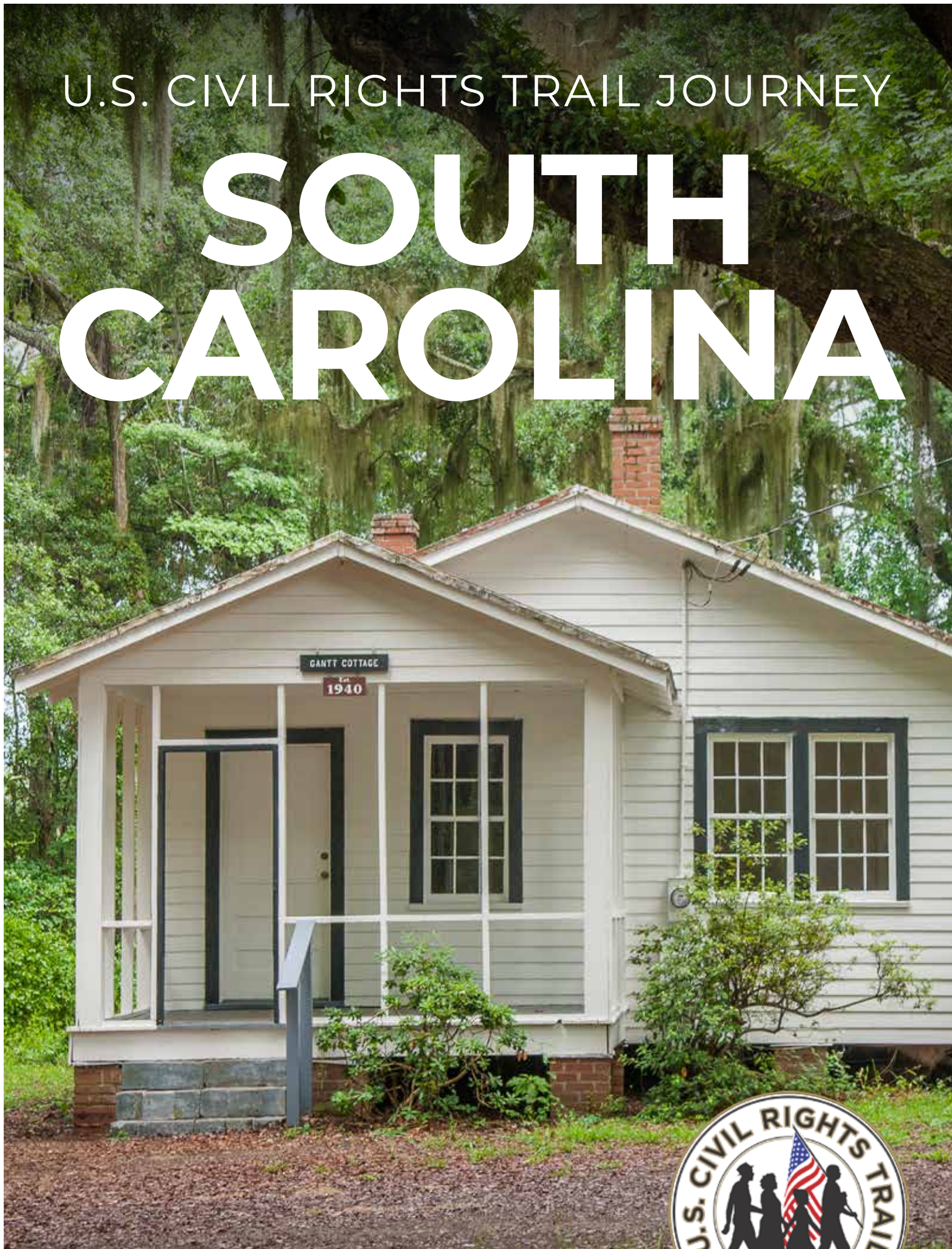


U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL JOURNEY

SOUTH CAROLINA





Greenville - Columbia (1 hr. 32 mins.)

Columbia - Orangeburg (51 mins.)

Orangeburg - Charleston (1 hr. 15 mins.)

The U.S. Civil Rights Trail spans 14 states, features more than 100 sites and highlights the country's civil rights story. Your journey along the trail begins in Greenville, South Carolina.



Penn Center
St. Helena, SC

DAY 1 – GREENVILLE

Springfield Baptist Church

Your journey begins as you travel along Interstate 85 toward Greenville and make your first stop: Springfield Baptist Church.

Springfield Baptist Church

Founded in 1867 by newly freed slaves, Springfield Baptist Church is the oldest historically Black Baptist church in Greenville and is still active in the community. In addition to being a center for spiritual growth, Springfield Baptist Church was headquarters for nonviolent civil rights protests in the 1960s. The church became pivotal in the movement on Jan. 1, 1960, with a peaceful march from the church to the Greenville Downtown Airport. The march was organized after the keynote speaker for a state NAACP convention, Jackie Robinson, the first Black Major League Baseball player, was denied use of the airport's waiting room.



Springfield Baptist Church,
Greenville, SC



Benjamin E. Mays House Museum
Greenwood, SC

DAY 2 – COLUMBIA

Modjeska Monteith Simkins House > South Carolina State House



*Modjeska Monteith Simkins House
Columbia, SC*

Continue your exploration of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail as you make your way southeast to the capital of South Carolina, Columbia. First stop on today's schedule is the Modjeska Monteith Simkins House.

Modjeska Monteith Simkins House

This modest one-story cottage was home to Modjeska Monteith Simkins, a matriarch of the Civil Rights Movement in South Carolina. She resided here from 1932 until her death in 1992. Her home was used for lodging and as a meeting place for civil rights leaders. The house is available for scheduled group visits and meetings but is not yet open for tours.

South Carolina State House

In March of 1961, several hundred protestors marched onto the grounds of the South Carolina State House to voice their opposition to segregation. The Legislature was in session as the demonstrators, many of whom had participated in Columbia's sit-ins, gathered to protest the unequal treatment of African-Americans. Seven years earlier, Sarah Mae Flemming was removed from a public bus operated by the South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for sitting near the "whites only" section. Her actions were a precursor to Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955.

Today, a monument commemorating the history, contributions and actions of African-Americans in South Carolina, including their struggle for civil rights, stands next to the State House. Among the poignant elements of the monument are rubbing stones from four countries where Africans were captured and enslaved: Ghana, the Republic of Congo, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

Guided tours of the State House and along Main Street where marches and protests took place are available through Columbia SC 63, a historic preservation organization at the University of South Carolina.



*South Carolina State House,
Columbia, SC*

DAY 3 – ORANGEBURG TO CHARLESTON

Orangeburg Massacre Memorial > Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church

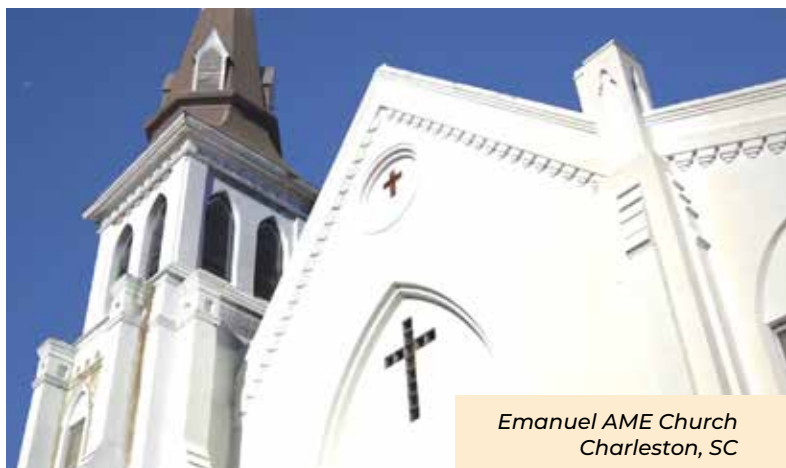
Today, your U.S. Civil Rights Trail expedition continues to Charleston on the coast of South Carolina. On the way, stop in Orangeburg, the center of South Carolina's desegregation movement from 1950 to 1972.

Orangeburg Massacre Memorial

In 1960, students in Orangeburg organized a sit-in at S.H. Kress & Co., a department store with a lunch counter where Black and white patrons were not permitted to dine together. In 1968, tensions continued to rise in Orangeburg, leading to several incidents at the local All-Star Bowling Lane because the owner was not willing to desegregate. This led to the violent clash known as the Orangeburg Massacre on Feb. 8, 1968, wherein the South Carolina Highway Patrol fired guns into a crowd of 200 protestors gathered on South Carolina State University's campus, killing three students and injuring 27 people. A memorial placed on campus chronicles the massacre and memorializes the victims.



*Orangeburg Massacre Memorial
Orangeburg, SC*



*Emanuel AME Church
Charleston, SC*

Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Your final stop along the trail is Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Charleston. Founded in 1816, it is the oldest AME church in the southern U.S. and was part of the first independent Black denomination in the United States. In 1822, white oppressors burned down the church and executed 35 men, including church founder Denmark Vesey, for their involvement in a slave revolt plot. The congregation rebuilt the church following the Civil War, and the current building was constructed in 1891. Over the years, the church has hosted such notable African-American leaders as Booker T. Washington, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Rev. Wyatt T. Walker.

Emanuel AME has witnessed many anguishing events in our nation's civil rights history. But the massacre of nine church members, shot inside the church by a 21-year-old white supremacist, was a more recent tragedy – June 17, 2015. Those killed were Clementa Pinckney, Cynthia Hurd, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Susie Jackson, Myra Thompson, Tywanza Sanders, Ethel Lance and Daniel Simmons.

This concludes your U.S. Civil Rights Trail journey in South Carolina.