



SOUTH CAROLINA

The Beautiful Palmetto State





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ROBERT J. MOORE

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Dr. Moore has served as president of the South Carolina Historical Association and the South Carolina Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. His civic participation includes several terms on the board of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations and as a national board member of Common Cause, an organization working for more responsible and representative government.

AUTHOR'S ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I want to give special thanks to nearly two dozen friends who have made unique contributions to this book. Each has shared a story that the individual is particularly qualified to tell, either because it is a per-

sonal story or because of special knowledge of the topic. Their names will appear on their "Of Special Interest" contribution, but this is who those wonderful people are:

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I want to give special thanks to my wife, Meribeth, who has been a true partner in researching, writing, and critiquing this book. My longtime colleague, Dr. Selden Smith, was very helpful in making editorial comments on many chapters. I also want to thank the many persons in libraries, museums, historic sites, and government offices who have assisted with facts and advice. A book like this is never the product of one or two people.

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A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR STUDENTS

When I was a young boy, I loved to sit on the steps of a front porch and listen to my father and our friends or relatives tell stories. They told stories about interesting people they had known, about amazing places or events they had seen. They told long serious tales and short funny ones, slowing down only to sip their ice tea. One story was my favorite because it determined the destiny of my family. It was about my grandfather's life being saved by a fellow Confederate soldier at the Battle of Shiloh in 1862. I learned a lot about people and about history from those accounts. I came to understand later that history is the sum total of all our stories.

In this history of our beautiful Palmetto State, I have written many different stories about individual people and groups of people. Selecting the narratives, the people, and the events that will best illustrate what the past of our state was really like is the hardest part of writing a history. Historians try to select accounts from the past that will accurately tell the bigger story that we call the state's history. We try to select those that are pivotal—that demonstrate points at which history could have gone in a very different direction. And we try to select those stories that will connect this state's history with the nation's history—and even the world's. Studying history helps us learn not only about ourselves, but also about how we connect with all other people in one human story that reaches around the world and as far back in time as we can see.

One unique thing about this book is that several of my historian friends and others have written their own stories for you about people or events they know a lot about. They have special stories to tell, and I appreciate their offering them to you. Please read a bit about them in the "Author's Acknowledgments." Besides historians, there is an astronaut, a former judge and state senator, a town mayor, a land conservationist, a photographer, and an adviser to governors. All have stories that are part of the great story that is South Carolina history. Have a great adventure as you learn about South Carolina: The Beautiful Palmetto State!



Above: The flags that fly over Fort Sumter are a history lesson in themselves. **Page i:** Spanish moss tangles with camellias at Middleton Place, in the oldest landscaped gardens in the United States.

Pages ii-iii: The Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge, joining Charleston and Mount Pleasant across the Cooper River, opened in 2005. **Pages vi-x:** The Gervais Street Bridge across the Congaree River is the oldest bridge in Columbia. It was completed in 1928.