



Seaside News

Hotel De' Afrique

Hotel De' Afrique was the first haven for Black people fleeing slavery in North Carolina during the Civil War. Late August 1861, the Union forces captured two Confederate forts (Hatteras and Clark), located at Hatteras Inlet. These forts were built during the summer of 1861 to keep Confederate control of Hatteras Inlet. Confederates fought for the South.

Union soldiers took control of the island. Word of this first Union victory of the Civil War reached enslaved people on Roanoke Island and the coastal mainland. Enslaved people, who worked as watermen on the coastal plantations, began arriving on Hatteras Island with their families. In time, over 40 families had arrived. They believed they could live free on Hatteras Island since the island was under the control of Union troops fighting for the North..

One of the barracks was used as lodging for these families and was named Hotel De' Afrique. A storm damaged this structure. A new campsite for the African Americans was built. During March 1861, some drunk soldiers from the 48th Pennsylvania attacked some of the Black people and killed a man named Old Galloway. None of the soldiers involved in this vicious attack were arrested or disciplined.

In 2014, a marker was placed at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, N.C. One side of the marker honors Hotel De' Afrique and the other side honors the Black gun crew that helped win the battles of Fort Hatteras and Fort Clark. This historic monument is part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Trail.

1. Why was Hotel De Afrique built?
2. Who won the Civil War battles on Hatteras?
3. Who killed Old Galloway?
4. What does the museum marker honor?

1. To house fleeing Black who had been enslaved.
2. The Union
3. Drunken soldiers from the 48th Pennsylvania
4. Hotel De Afrique and a Black gun crew who fought in the Hatteras battles.

Connect the Words

Hotel De Afrique

Soldiers fighting for the South

Union troops

Men who killed Old Galloway

Confederate troops

A monument to honor something

Old Galloway

Soldiers fighting for the North

Drunken Soldiers

Housing for Blacks fleeing slavery

Marker

A Black man killed by Confederate soldiers.

Joke of the Month

Why do ice creams always carry an umbrella?

In case there's a chance of sprinkles!