

AP Photo/John Bazemore

An honor guard from the South Carolina Highway patrol removes the Confederate battle flag from the Capitol grounds in Columbia, S.C., ending its 54year presence there today.

After 54 years, Confederate flag comes down

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The Confederate flag was lowered from the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse today, ending its 54-year presence there and marking a stunning political reversal in a state where many thought the rebel banner would fly indefinitely.

The turnabout seemed unthinkable before the June 17 massacre of nine black parishioners — including a state senator — at a Charleston church during a Bible study. Dylann Roof, a white man who was photographed with the Confederate flag, is charged in the shooting deaths, and authorities have called the killings a hate

The massacre reignited calls to remove Confederate flags and symbols across the South and around the nation.

The crowd of thousands chanted "USA" and "Hey, hey, hey, goodbye" as the flag was lowered by an honor guard of South Carolina troopers. Gov. Nikki Haley stood on the Statehouse steps and did not speak, though she nodded in the direction of the crowd after someone shouted: "Thank you governor"

Two troopers rolled the flag and tied it up with a string and handed it to a black trooper who brought it to the Statehouse steps and handed it to a state archivist. The governor clapped when it was handed to the archivist.

A van was to take the flag to the nearby Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum. There, it eventually will be housed in a multimillion-dollar shrine lawmakers promised to build as part of a deal to get a bill passed removing the flag.

The flag was raised over the South Carolina Capitol dome in 1961 to protest integration. It was moved in 2000 to the 30-foot flagpole in front of the Statehouse. Many thought it would stay there.

Now, even that flagpole will be torn down, but no timetable is set on that.

People who supported removing the flag chanted "take it down" before the ceremony and vastly outnumbered those who were upset about the move.

"It feels so good to be out here and be happy about it," said Ronald D. Barton, 52, a pastor who also was at the ceremony in 2000.

Haley did not answer questions about the upcoming ceremony, but earlier Friday on NBC's "Today" show, she said: "No one should ever drive by the Statehouse and feel pain. No one should ever drive by the Statehouse and feel like they don't belong."

South Carolina's leaders first flew the battle flag over the Statehouse dome in 1961 to mark the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. It remained there to represent official opposition to the civil rights movement.

Decades later, mass protests against the flag by those who said it was a symbol of racism and white supremacy led to a compromise in 2000 with lawmakers who insisted that it symbolized Southern heritage and states' rights. The two sides came to an agreement to move the flag from the dome to a 30-foot pole next to a Confederate monument in front of the Statehouse.

The flag came down 23 days after the massacre of state Sen. Clementa Pinckney and eight others inside Charleston's Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Haley signed the bill with 13 pens. Nine of them went to the families of the victims.

Authorities say they believe the killings were racially motivated. By posing with the Confederate flag before the shootings, Roof, who has not yet entered a plea to nine counts of murder, convinced some that the flag's reputation for white supremacy and racial oppression had trumped its symbolism of Southern heritage and ancestral pride.

On Friday, artist Ernest Lee came to the Statehouse with a framed portrait of all nine victims. He said he's been invited to the Charleston church on Sunday to present his artwork. He said he wished more people would turn to art for inspiration.

they did, there wouldn't be so much hate and violence," he said.



AP Photo/John Bazemore

A woman waves a sign as she waits for the Confederate battle flag to be removed from in front of the South Carolina Statehouse today in Columbia, S.C. South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill into law Thursday requiring the flag to be removed.

Cabin: Future plans to include visitors center

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The company pulled up stakes in 1933, only 10 years after the company built the cabin. Of course, most of the citizenry left as well although a few remained until the 1940s for the little logging that remained.

Eighty years later, the log cabin looks less like company offices and more like a cowboy's line shack, which it was until a few years ago.

The old town site of Maxville is now owned by Hancock Timber, which has determined that the cabin is no longer fit for human habitation and must be moved or destroyed. This is where Gwendolyn Trice — and Clatsop Community College comes in.

Trice is the director of the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center, a nonprofit entity dedicated to preserving the memory of Maxville.

Many of Trice's relatives, including her grandfather, father and cousins, lived in Maxville while working for Bowman-Hicks long before Trice was born. Trice didn't learn of their residence in the town until a decade ago.

Trice and the center's board spent several years trying to establish a permanent location for the heritage center, and recently set up house at 403 N. Main St. in Joseph. In the meantime, Trice and the center worked on getting grants not only to finance the center, but to help with the cabin acquisition as well. "We've gotten nearly every major grant available in the state," Trice said.

CCC assists

With some of the grant funds, the center works with Hancock Timber, Eastern Oregon University and Clatsop Community College on a feasible plan to preserve the cabin by disassembling it and moving it off Hancock's land with the idea of eventually reassembling the cabin and making it part of the experi-

With the help of a recent grant from the State Historic Preservation Office, classes from both the university and the community college made the trip over Memorial Day weekend to seriously examine and document the cabin's measurements, and ascertain the feasibility of moving the cabin while ensuring the project follows preservation standards as closely as possible.

At least two dozen students scurried over the cabin and site over the long weekend, taking measurements, exploring the structure and learning the intricacies of both log building and stone chimney construction. Armed with a digital movie camera, Trice interviewed students, professors, and log building preservation specialist Dan Rogers.

The cabin, while clearly deteriorating in some places, looks quite robust for its age. It features larch shingles, Douglas Fir and Lodgepole logs and a vertical grain Douglas Fir floor. The floor looked nearly pristine and held up well with the numerous attendees walking back and forth over it.

CCC Historic Preservation Program professor, Lucien Swerdloff, called the weekend an intensive workshop on documentation. "We're teaching students to make measured drawings, plans, not construction documents. The plans show what is here now. You don't go into a building like this and start tearing it apart. We want to know what's original; what's changed; how do things go together. We do that by documenting," Swerdloff

said. The college heard about the cabin from Mary Oberst, wife of former governor Ted Kulongoski. Swerdloff wasn't sure when or if the students were coming back. "We're committed to this project, documenting the cabin," he said. "After that, it's up to Gwen and funding. It would be a great experience for our students."

Recent heritage center employee hires will allow Trice time to scout out more funding for cabin relocation.

Ultimately Trice wants a visitor center in Joseph and for the cabin to serve as a separate interpretive center. "After people see the visitor center, we can tell them we also have an indoor/outdoor interpretive space for a different experience. We want it to serve as a kind of experience, for people to walk through and see it as it used to look with artifacts and make it a living history thing," Trice said.



The Maxville cabin in its current state, surrounded by teachers and students over the Memorial Day weekend.

Fishers: New percentage a 'nail in the coffin'

"The DFW determined the current economic impact in Willapa Bay based upon a statewide study published in 2008 of all gear types, all locations, and all species of salmon," the petition states. That study looks at ex-vessel value for commercial fishermen — the price fishermen receive for fish landed at a dock — and, for sportfishermen, the number of days available for them to fish.

'The state-wide study is not generally accepted as a reliable basis to determine economic impacts on a particular region," the petition continues, "... There is no rational relationship between the economic impacts identified in the state-wide tual economic impacts on Willapa Bay."

The petition also took issue with the allowed impact rate to naturally spawning Chinook salmon — fish that do not return to the staterun hatcheries and spawn on their own in nearby rivers and streams. Under the policy, gillnetters are allowed 20 percent impacts; once they hit a certain number of these natural or wild Chinook, fishing must cease in that area. In coming years, this allowed impact will be stepped down to 14 percent, which would further restrict commercial harvest on Willapa Bay, fishermen say.

Local fishermen have called that percentage a "nail in the coffin," and said there would be little reason

study and the Policy's ac- to continue fishing on Willapa Bay under such an impact rate. In the past, they were allowed anywhere from 30 percent to nearly 40 percent impact, and, the petition says, this impact benefited the natural origin fish by keeping spawning grounds from becoming overrun with hatchery-origin fish.

WDFW, its commission and conservation groups, however, have argued that lowering the impact rate to 20 and then 14 percent is a necessary move to restore wild salmon runs there. Fishermen and processors have countered that there are no true wild runs on the Willapa, only hatchery fish that failed to return to the hatcheries and have instead begun to spawn on their own.

"The facts found by the DFW as recently as 2013 show that a (30) percent impact rate ensured the protection of natural origin adults and removed hatchery adults that might otherwise have a negative influence on natural counterparts," the petition argues, and later states, "there is no conservation benefit to reducing the impact rate from (20) percent and then to (14) percent after the initial transition period outlined in the Policy.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, whose commission passed the new management policy last month as part of a legal settlement with the Twin Harbors Fish and Wildlife Advocacy group last year, has 20 days to respond.



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife photo

Gillnetters (this one is pictured on the Columbia River) are challenging new salmon regulations on Willapa Bay.