

# Fort Sumter National Monument



# The Assault on Battery Wagner

## A Military Loss but Moral Victory

After several failed attempts to take Charleston, the Union determined that Morris Island was their gateway to the city. On July 18, 1863, the African American unit—54th Massachusetts—led the assault on strategic Battery Wagner. Although the attack failed, the 54th's courage in combat led to increased enlistments of black men in the US Army.

To learn more, visit: [www.nps.gov/fosu](http://www.nps.gov/fosu)

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