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South Carolina State Parks

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A Barrel's Not a Barrel Unless It's a Barrel

Today, we commonly refer to any wooden cask, such as this hogshead at Charles Towne Landing, as a barrel. Yet, historically, a barrel represented a specific unit of measurement by volume. It had a capacity of about 32 gallons, or 1/8 of a ton. (A ton was standardized at 252 gallons.) A half-ton cask was known as a pipe, whereas a quarter-ton cask was called a hogshead. Come learn more at Charles Towne Landing: <https://southcarolinaparks.com/charles-towne-landing>

