National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Ninety Six National Historic Site Ninety Six, South Carolina



Ninety Six National Historic Site



Ninety Six National Historic Site is an area of unique historical significance. Several theories exist about its unusual name. One explanation is that English traders in the early 1700's estimated it to be 96 miles to the Cherokee village of Keowee in the upper South Carolina foothills.

In the mid-1700's, European colonists found it a favorable place to settle. During Ninety Six's early days, trouble with local Indians increased. In 1760, Cherokees twice attacked Fort Ninety Six, built for the settlers' protection. By the 1770's, Ninety Six village reached its peak with a growing population, 12 houses and a newly constructed courthouse and jail.

Ninety Six also figured prominently in the southern campaign of the American Revolution. The first land battle south of New England was fought here in 1775. In 1780, the British fortified the strategically important backcountry town. From May 22 - June 18, 1781, General Nathanael Greene with 1,000 patriot troops staged the longest field siege of the Revolutionary War against 550 loyalists defending Ninety Six.

What to Do?

Begin your tour at the visitor center and learn about the historic events which occurred here through museum exhibits and view a 20 minute film, "Ninety Six: Crossroads of a Revolution." A ranger on duty will be able to provide information and assistance.

Along the mile-long paved trail you will see original features of Old Ninety Six including sunken roadbeds, siegeworks and the British-built Star Fort. A partially reconstructed Stockade Fort and a furnished log house will help share the civilian and military life of this backcountry town.

Hours and Location

The park is located on SC Highway 248, two miles south of Ninety Six, SC. Please call the visitor center for current operating hours and closures.



Ninety Six National Historic Site is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

For more information contact the park at the following address:

Ninety Six National Historic Site 1103 Hwy 248 Ninety Six, South Carolina 29666

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