

South Carolina played a significant role in the American Revolution when the British shifted their focus to the southern colonies in 1778. After the fall of Charleston in May 1780, Patriot and Loyalist militias formed in western South Carolina. Among them was the Spartan Regiment for which the city and county of Spartanburg are named. The Upcountry of South Carolina saw numerous battles and ultimately affected the outcome of the war.

### *Did You Know?*

There were more Revolutionary War battles and skirmishes fought in South Carolina than in any other colony except New Jersey. ([www.nps.gov/cowp](http://www.nps.gov/cowp))

### **Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail**

Stretching 330 miles through 4 states, the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail traces the route used by patriot militia during the pivotal Kings Mountain campaign of 1780.

### PROUD TO PARTNER WITH



# Spartanburg REVOLUTIONARY WAR TRAIL

*Explore the Revolutionary heritage of the Spartanburg, SC area with this self-guided tour.*

[RevWarTour.com](http://RevWarTour.com)

### ABOUT SPARTANBURG:

Located in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, Spartanburg, South Carolina, is known for its Revolutionary War battles as well as a rich textile and agricultural history. Spartanburg is bisected by two major interstates, and its nickname "Hub City" refers to the many railroad lines and transportation routes that connected Spartanburg with cities throughout the region. Spartanburg also is a hub of activity, including rich cultural offerings, extensive educational opportunities, musical heritage and an abundance of stunning landscapes. It continues to be the crossroads of all that is dynamic about the modern South.

*Stuff like this only happens in a place that's truly Revolutionary. Come see for yourself.*

### ABOUT THIS TRAIL:

This driving trail gives a flavor of the area's Revolutionary history and is a project of the Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau in conjunction with the Spartanburg County Historical Association. Some short hikes are involved, so dress in comfortable shoes and clothes to enjoy every location on the tour.

Produced by



**SPARTANBURG**  
REVOLUTIONARY

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[www.visitspartanburg.com](http://www.visitspartanburg.com)



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## 1. DANIEL MORGAN MONUMENT

Morgan Square, downtown Spartanburg  
(Corner of Main & Magnolia Streets near  
148 W. Main Street, Spartanburg 29301)  
Statue GPS: 34.949377, -81.933086



As one of the original 13 colonies, South Carolina played a pivotal role during the American Revolution. After the surrender of Charles Towne in May 1780, western South Carolina became a hotbed of activity as Patriot militia from throughout the south gathered in the region to oppose the British and their Loyalist allies. The area that became known after the Revolution as Spartanburg saw numerous battles during this time including some of the most significant battles in the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution.

## 2. WALNUT GROVE PLANTATION

1200 Otts Shoals Road, Roebuck 29376  
Near I-26 Exit 28 (Hwy 221, SE of Spartanburg)  
Sign GPS: 34.840117, -81.968733 (near Hwy 221 &  
Stillhouse Rd)



Walnut Grove Plantation, the home of Charles Moore, was also the childhood home of Kate Moore Barry who aided Gen. Daniel Morgan prior to the Battle of Cowpens and of her younger brother, Thomas Moore, who fought there. Walnut Grove Plantation also served as a mustering site for local militia.

Operated by the Spartanburg County Historical Association. The home and grounds are open to the public seasonally and staff are available for tours; includes a picnic shelter, restrooms, office and gift shop. [spartanburghistory.org](http://spartanburghistory.org)

## 3. THE BATTLE OF MUSGROVE'S MILL

398 State Park Road, Clinton 29325  
Sign GPS: 34.593000, -81.849383 (on the right in the  
pull off just across the Enoree River Bridge on Hwy 56)



In August 1780, 200 Patriot militia left their camp on the Broad River and rode under the cover of darkness to surprise an equal number of Loyalist militia camped at Musgrove's Mill on the south bank of the Enoree River. The Patriots lured the British into an ambush resulting in a significant Patriot victory and setting the stage for the Battle of Kings Mountain in October.

A state park with interpretive trails, a visitor center, restrooms and a full-time staff.

[southcarolinaparks.com/musgrovemill](http://southcarolinaparks.com/musgrovemill)

*Image: The Musgrove House by Genie Marshall Wilder.  
Courtesy Musgrove Mill State Historic Site*

## 4. THE BATTLE OF BLACKSTOCK'S

End of Monument Road, Enoree 29335  
Sign GPS: 34.679300, -81.811050 (in field 1/2 mile  
beyond Palmetto Trail parking area & kiosk)



In November 1780, Gen. Thomas Sumter and several hundred militia under his command stopped on the hills overlooking the Tyger River at Blackstock's Plantation to face Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton as they approached the Tyger. Using their superior numbers, the dominating heights of the hill they occupied, and the protected cover of Blackstock's outbuildings, Sumter defeated Tarleton.

The battlefield is protected public property and is accessible by vehicle. There is an information kiosk, small parking area, battle monument and a spur of the Palmetto Trail along the Tyger River on the site. [southcarolinaparks.com/musgrovemill](http://southcarolinaparks.com/musgrovemill)

*Image: Gen. Thomas Sumter.  
Courtesy New York Public Library*

## 5. THE BATTLE OF KELSEY CREEK

450 Croft State Park Rd, Spartanburg 29302  
Sign GPS: 34.863314, -81.840449 (1/2 mi hike along  
Foster Mill Trail Loop near bridge)



In the spring of 1780, a group of Loyalists advanced on the home of the Thomas family near Kelsey Creek which was storing Patriot gun powder guarded by Capt. John Thomas, Jr. and about two dozen men. Learning of the Loyalists' approach, Thomas removed the powder and left a few family members behind to create a diversion. Their steady fire from the house forced the Loyalists to withdraw without the gun powder.

The Thomas home site is located near the junction of Fairforest Creek and Kelsey Creek inside of Croft State Park. The exact location is not safely accessible.

[southcarolinaparks.com/croft](http://southcarolinaparks.com/croft)

*Photo: Monument erected in honor of Col. John Thomas and his wife, Jane, near where the family home stood and where the battle of Kelsey Creek was fought.*

## 6. THE BATTLE OF CEDAR SPRING

Below Cedar Spring Baptist Church,  
140 Cedar Springs Place, Spartanburg 29302  
Sign GPS: 34.909528, -81.876000



In early July 1780, a small force of Patriot militia under Col. John Thomas, Jr. gathered near Cedar Spring. The British made plans to attack the camp in a night-time raid, but Thomas' mother, Jane, heard of it and alerted her son. Thomas and his men waited in ambush near their camp and opened fire on the British, killing and wounding many and scattering the survivors.

The spring is on land owned by the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind ([scsdb.org](http://scsdb.org)) near the Palmetto Trail ([palmettoconservation.org](http://palmettoconservation.org))

## 7. THE BATTLE OF THE PEACH TREES

Near the intersection of Dogwood Club  
and Old Petrie Roads, Spartanburg 29302  
Sign GPS: 34.924633, -81.862750 (across from 680 Delmar Rd)



Continuing their attempts to control this region, British forces under Maj. Patrick Ferguson were in pursuit of several hundred Patriots under Col. Elijah Clarke and Col. Isaac Shelby. In August 1780, Ferguson detached a small group to attack the Patriots who occupied a peach orchard near Cedar Spring. The British were repulsed after savage, up-close fighting. Clarke and Shelby feared a follow-up attack and retreated north towards Lawson's Fork Creek.

*Image: Col. Elijah Clarke was known as one of the fiercest fighters on the Southern frontier during the American Revolution.  
Courtesy Hargrett Rare Books & Manuscripts Library,  
University of Georgia Libraries*

## 8. THE BATTLE OF WOFFORD'S IRON WORKS

103 Emma Cudd Road, Spartanburg 29302  
Sign GPS: 34.941767, -81.840133



After the Battle of the Peach Trees, Col. Clarke and Col. Shelby retreated north to avoid another confrontation with Maj. Ferguson. He caught them at Wofford's Iron Works on Lawson's Fork Creek, but could not successfully engage because all of the Patriots were mounted. The Patriots continued their retreat and the British returned to their camp at Cedar Spring. This running battle is referred to by several names, including "2nd Cedar Spring," "The Battle of the Peach Trees," and "The Battle of Wofford's Iron Works." The precise sites are not known since Wofford's Iron Works was destroyed by Loyalist "Bloody Bill" Cunningham in 1781.

*Image: Col. Isaac Shelby.  
Courtesy Kentucky Historical Society*

## 9. THE BATTLE OF COWPENS

4001 Chesnee Highway, Gaffney 29341  
Sign GPS: 35.131067, -81.797067 (Trailhead Parking: about  
1 mile past Park entrance at Hwy 11 & Hayes Road)



In December 1780, Gen. Daniel Morgan moved a veteran force of American Continentals and militia into the area west of the Broad River in modern-day Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties. To counter this threat, British Commander Lord Cornwallis sent Lt. Col. Tarleton. On the morning of January 17, 1781, Morgan stood against Tarleton at Cowpens. The resulting battle was a complete victory for the Patriots and stands today as one of the most significant events in American History.

Cowpens National Battlefield has a visitor center, interpretive trails, an auto tour and a full-time staff. [nps.gov/cowp](http://nps.gov/cowp)

*Image: The Battle of Cowpens by H. Charles McBarron  
Courtesy Cowpens National Battlefield*

## 10. THE BATTLE OF EARLE'S FORD

Highway 14 East of I-26 Exit 1, Landrum 29356  
Sign GPS: 35.190191, -82.143031 (near Pacolet River Bridge)



In July 1780, a small detachment of Loyalists under Capt. Dunlap left their post at Ft. Prince to attack Patriots lately arrived on the north side of the Pacolet River near Earle's Ford. Arriving in the early morning hours of July 15, Dunlap and his men crossed the lightly guarded ford and surprised the Patriots nearest the river. The remainder of the camp soon formed for battle and Dunlap retreated upon realizing he was badly outnumbered.

*Photo: The Daughters of the American Revolution erected this monument near the location of the Battle of Earle's Ford.*

## 11. WOOD'S FORT

1904 Gap Creek Road (SC 908) and  
Hwy 357 in Greer 29651  
Sign GPS: 34.971467, -82.199800



The American Revolution provided an opportunity for pre-war conflicts and disputes to come to the surface in sometimes brutal ways. One of these incidents occurred in July 1776 when a party of Loyalists and Cherokees raided the Hampton home near the Middle Tyger River, killing several of the family before the survivors fled to Wood's Fort, a pre-Revolutionary War fort in the area. The fort was built to protect colonial families in the area during the warfare in 1775 and 1776 with the Cherokee Nation that allied with the British. It was re-fortified in 1780.

*Image: Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton was a member of the Hampton family whose home was attacked by the Cherokees in 1776.  
Courtesy New York Public Library*

## 12. THE BATTLE OF FT. PRINCE

Site: Located off Ft. Prince Rd (vicinity of 350 block,  
Wellford 29385 - GPS: 34.968940, -82.048913)  
Sign GPS: 34.964185, -82.050390  
(on right just past Ft. Prince Memorial Gardens)



Following the British attack at Earle's Ford, a small group of Patriots under Capt. Edward Hampton pursued Capt. James Dunlap. Hampton caught Dunlap and began driving him and his men toward the British-held post at Ft. Prince. Upon reaching the outskirts of the fort and its 300 British soldiers, Hampton and his men withdrew. Fearing an attack by a larger Patriot force, the British soon abandoned Ft. Prince. The fort was one of several pre-Revolutionary War forts built near the Indian boundary line (Greenville-Spartanburg County line) that were used during the Revolution.

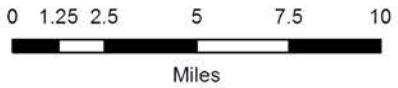
*Image: This monument was placed in a copse of oak trees near the fort's location and is surrounded by private property today.*





1. Daniel Morgan Monument
- SOUTHERN LOOP**
2. Walnut Grove Plantation
3. The Battle of Musgrove's Mill
4. The Battle of Blackstock's
5. The Battle of Kelsey Creek
6. The Battle of Cedar Spring
7. The Battle of the Peach Trees
- NORTHERN LOOP**
8. The Battle of Wofford's Iron Works
9. The Battle of Cowpens
10. The Battle of Earle's Ford
11. Wood's Fort
12. The Battle of Fort Prince

**Spartanburg**  
 REVOLUTIONARY  
 WAR TRAIL



**Legend**

- Revolutionary War Trail Sites
- Revolutionary War Trail
- - - Overmountain Victory Trail

GET TURN BY TURN DIRECTIONS AND MORE INFO ON EACH LOCATION AT

**RevWarTour.com**