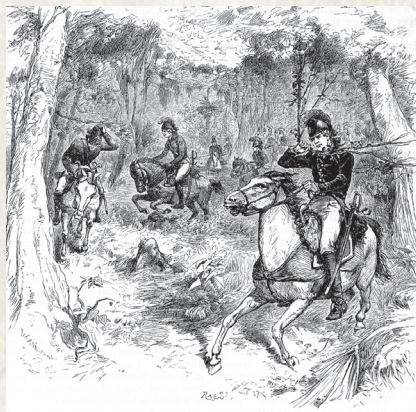


Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time resident, we invite you to learn about the Revolutionary War in eastern South Carolina and to explore the unique cultural and natural heritage of the Pee Dee and Santee basins.

In late 1779 and early 1780, British military planners implemented a new strategy to retake the rebellious North American colonies. But by the fall of 1780, the British realized that their hold on South Carolina was far from secure. Along the Pee Dee and Santee rivers, Francis Marion, a Continental officer who had escaped the fall of Charleston by chance, revived the Patriot militias and began attacking British supply and communications lines. With a band of fighters that reflected the ethnic and religious diversity of the province - including Native Americans, English, Ulster Scots, French Huguenots, free and enslaved Africans, and mixed-race people - Marion pioneered a form of guerilla warfare that took advantage of the heavily forested wetland terrain of the Lowcountry. Vastly outmanned and outgunned, Marion and other Patriot militia leaders constantly harassed the British and Loyalist forces in a series of small engagements. By denying the British total victory in South Carolina, Marion's militia helped turn the tide of the war in favor of independence.

Francis Marion obtained his nickname, the "Swamp Fox," because of his elusiveness, using the farms, forests, streams, and wetlands of the Santee and Pee Dee basins to his advantage when attacking or retreating from his opponents. After more than two centuries, many sites associated with Marion have remained largely undisturbed. We invite you to explore seventeen sites along the Pee Dee Tour, the Berkeley Tour, and the Clarendon Tour - and the striking natural and cultural richness of the South Carolina Lowcountry, a region that has played a disproportionate share in the history of the nation from colonial times to the civil rights movement.



Driving Directions - Lower Bridge to Berkeley County Sites

1. Francis Marion's Grave

Beginning at the historical marker and interpretive sign at Lower Bridge on Hwy. 377, go .5 mile and turn right onto Hwy. 521. Go several miles to the intersection with Hwy. 52 and turn left onto Hwy. 52. Continue on Hwy. 52 for about 10.5 miles over a long causeway over the Santee River and swamp until you come to a sharp left hand curve in Hwy. 52. Exit Hwy. 52 to the right onto Col. Maham Drive toward Pineville. There will also be a marker identifying this road as the way to Marion's Grave. Follow this road

through Pineville and beyond for approximately 7 miles until you come to the marked entrance to Marion's gravesite on the right side of the road (which is now called Hwy. 45). Turn right on the road to Marion's gravesite and travel 1 mile to the gravesite.

2. Wadboo

Francis Marion's Last Headquarters

Retrace your route back to Hwy. 52, turn right and proceed 17.9 miles through St. Stephen to Moncks Corner. Coming into Moncks Corner, at the intersection just before you go over the high bridge over the Tail Race Canal, turn left onto Hwy. 402. After a few hundred yards, take a right turn which will allow you to stay on Hwy. 402. Continue about 1.5 miles until you see a large parking lot and boat landing to your left. Turn into this parking lot and near the boat ramp you will see an interpretive sign for Wadboo.

3. Quinby Bridge/Shubrick's Plantation

The Disastrous Raid of the Dog Days

Make a left turn out of the parking lot at Wadboo, and proceed down Hwy. 402 for about 14.1 miles to Huger, and at the stop sign turn right onto Hwy. 41. After a short distance turn right onto Cainhoy Road. About 200 yards down this road you will see another parking lot and boat ramp on your right before a small bridge. Turn right into the parking lot and you will see an interpretive sign for the fights at Quinby Creek/Shubrick's Plantation near the boat ramp.

4. Fort Fairlawn and the Colleton Mansion

Fort Fairlawn; An Archeological Treasure & Colleton House; Unmanly Practices or Legitimate Target?

Retrace your steps back up Hwy. 402 until you arrive at Hwy. 52. Turn left and go over a high bridge into Moncks Corner. After approximately 800 yards, at the first intersection, turn left (staying on Highway 52). Proceed for approximately 1 mile to the access road to the Old Santee Canal Park, which is to the left off of Hwy. 52. This left turn, onto Stony Landing Road, is very well marked as the access to the park and museums. Before entering the park .75 mile from the turn is a guard house checkpoint. Tell the person manning the checkpoint that you wish to view the two interpretive signs placed by the Francis Marion Trail Commission for Fort Fairlawn and for the Colleton Mansion. There are a number of other very worthwhile attractions in this park including 3 museums, an extensive boardwalk through a swamp and along the Cooper River, and boat rentals. The two Francis Marion interpretive signs are next to the parking facility at the end of the road and close to a model of the Confederate States submarine "Little David."

Tour Options

This ends our tour. You can choose to see more of the many attractions of historic Berkeley County, proceed to Charleston, or retrace your steps taking Hwy. 52 to its intersection with Hwy. 17 just outside of Georgetown and then taking Hwy. 17 to Georgetown and even on to Myrtle Beach.

If you would like to take the Clarendon tour, go to Highway 52 and travel north until you come to Highway 521 (approximately 32 miles from the Old Canal Park). Turn left and proceed to Manning (follow the "Route 1" directions for the Clarendon tour.



South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Welcome Francis Marion Trail Commission Swamp Fox country



General Thomas Sumter's order to assault the strong British position at Shubrick's Plantation cost dozens of casualties on both sides. Sumter's brashness contrasted with Marion's reputation for conservatism. As James Jenkins of Britton's Neck, then a teenage militiaman, wrote of Marion: "He loved his men, and would not expose them where there was no hope."

Berkeley Tour Berkeley Tour with audio CD of Francis Marion stories and anecdotes his stories

Of the four sites in Berkeley County, three are associated with controversial episodes in Francis Marion's career: Quinby Bridge, where he vowed never again to work with Gen. Thomas Sumter, another Patriot militia leader; and Colleton House and Fort Fairlawn, where Marion's men were accused of violating the rules of war. Also here is Wadboo Barony, site of Marion's last encampment of the war. Along the way, be sure to stop at the Train Depot visitor center and gift shop in historic Moncks Corner; visit the church and gardens of Mepkin Abbey, a Trappist monastery; and check out the many outdoor recreational activities in the Francis Marion National Forest.

Map of the Berkeley Tour

Berkeley Tour

Interpretive Stops on the BERKELEY TOUR

1. Francis Marion's Grave
2. Wadboo: *Francis Marion's Last Headquarters*
3. Quinby Bridge/Shubrick's Plantation:
The Disastrous Raid of the Dog Days
4. Fort Fairlawn/Old Santee Canal Park:
*Fort Fairlawn; An Archeological Treasure & Colleton House;
Unmanly Practices or Legitimate Target?*



The Francis Marion Trail Commission (FMTC) was created by Act 159 of the South Carolina Legislature in 2005. The FMTC is charged with planning and implementing a heritage tourism trail centering on the life and campaigns of General Francis Marion. Its mission is to reveal, preserve, develop, and promote in a sustainable way the authentic sites where Francis Marion lived and fought during the Revolutionary War.

First, the FMTC has coordinated a series of tour options, which allow visitors to blaze the trail of General Francis Marion with written directions and maps to the FMTC sites. Second, the FMTC has well-placed directional signage, clear and safe access and the capacity to cross-promote to other FMTC sites.



The Commission is headquartered at Francis Marion University. The goal of the Commission is to preserve and interpret sites associated with the "Swamp Fox" and the Revolutionary War in northeastern South Carolina. The Commission has developed tours in the Pee Dee and Low Country linking individual sites into a network to tell a cogent story and remain true to history.

