

Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park



Black Soldiers

Even though chattel slavery was commonly practiced in the Thirteen Colonies, Black people fought for both the patriot and loyalist causes. Many chose the side they felt would provide them freedom from slavery. For many, this was through loyalty to Britain. Some British officers, such as Sir Henry Clinton, offered limited freedoms to Black people who were loyal to the Crown. Patriot forces also promised freedom for service, but this was not supported by all.

Both armies utilized integrated units consisting of White, Black, and Native American people.