

Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park



Rebecca Motte

Rebecca Motte, an outspoken patriot, was married to Jacob Motte, who fought at the Battle of Sullivan's Island. When the British captured Charleston in 1780, her city home was used as the loyalist headquarters.

A year later, she was driven from her Mount Joseph plantation house, which was converted into a British stronghold. Rebecca conspired with patriot forces and provided them with her bow to set her own home ablaze.

When asked later about the attention she received for her actions, Motte replied, "Too much has been made of a thing that any American woman would have done."