

Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park



Sir Peter Parker

Admiral Sir Peter Parker led a British fleet of nine warships intending to capture Charleston on June 28, 1776. The Battle of Sullivan's Island erupted as his fleet opened fire on the palmetto log fort guarding the entrance to the harbor.

Three warships ran aground, one so badly that it was burned rather than left to fall into enemy hands. The rest of the fleet took heavy damage, while doing little harm to the patriots' fort.

One shot landed on his ship's deck spreading shrapnel throughout, wounding him in the knee and leg, and ripping off his pants.