



Moore's Creek National Battlefield

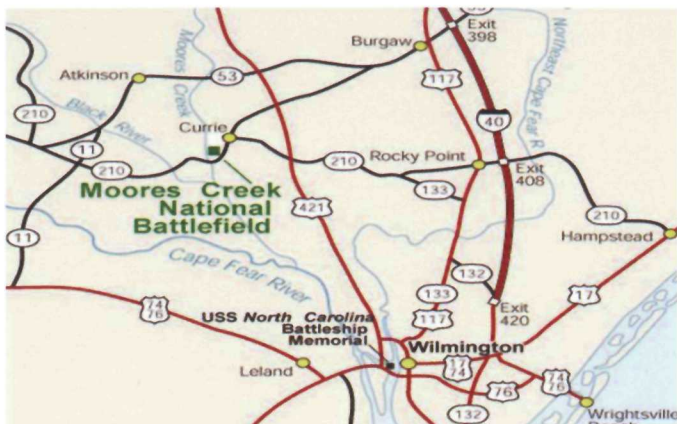
The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, fought between North Carolina Patriot and Loyalist militia forces, demonstrates the bitter internal divisions that marked the American Revolution.



Old Mother Covington and her daughter boomed their disapproval, accompanied by a burst of musket fire.

The Loyalist, mostly Scottish Highlanders wielding broadswords, charged across a partially dismantled Moore's Creek Bridge on February 27, 1776. Just beyond the bridge, nearly a thousand North Carolina Patriots waited quietly with cannons and muskets poised to fire. Expecting to find only a small Patriot force, the Loyalists advanced across the bridge. Shots rang out and 30 to 70 Loyalist lay wounded or dead, including Lt. Col. Donald McLeod, who led the charge. Stunned, outgunned, and leaderless, some of the Loyalist surrendered, while others retreated in confusion.

Moore's Creek is the site of the first Patriot victory in the American Revolution and the site of the last Scottish Highland broadsword charge. The victory ended British authority in the colony and stalled British invasion of the South for four and a half years. It also led North Carolina to be the first colony to instruct its delegates to the 1776 Continental Congress to vote for independence.



Directions to Moores Creek National Battlefield:

Moores Creek National Battlefield is located 20 miles NW of Wilmington, North Carolina.

- From Highway 17, follow US 421 to NC 210, then West on NC 210.
 - From Interstate 40, take exit 408 (NC 210) West at Rocky Point or exit 398 (US HWY 53) West at Burgaw.
 - From Interstate 95 North, take exit 13-A, and Interstate 95 South, take exit 209-B, NC 74 West.
- From Fayetteville, North Carolina, take NC 210 East

What to Do?

Your visit to Moores Creek National Battlefield begins at the Visitor Center which features a 10 minute film, "In The Most Furious Manner." The Visitor Center has exhibits and a time-line of the battle that parallels events that took place during the American Revolution.

Join a Park Ranger for an Interpretive Program along the 1 mile Historic Trail with wayside exhibits that leads through the battlefield and across Moores Creek. The reconstructed historic bridge is located along the trail. Interpretive Programs are available upon request.

Throughout the park, remnants remain of the Negro Head Point Road, a colonial road in which Loyalist and Patriot forces traveled upon prior to the battle. There is also a .3 mile Tar Heel Trail and picnic areas.

The annual anniversary observance, cosponsored with the Moores Creek Battleground Association, is held on the last full weekend in February.

Hours and Location:

The park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exceptions are Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Moores Creek National Battlefield is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

Moores Creek National Battlefield
40 Patriots Hall Drive
Currie, North Carolina 28435

For more information, contact the park at the following address:

(910) 283-5591

www.nps.gov/mocr