

HISTORICAL MARKER CHECKLIST

1. Title of marker BATTLE OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE
2. Name of sponsoring agency FAIRFIELD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
3. Site of marker selected. (location) 5-20-18 NORTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH ~~56~~ 215
ON HIGHWAY 215 IN FEASTERVILLE COMMUNITY
1 1/2 MILES WEST OF MEETING HOUSE WHICH STOOD ON BANKS OF LITTLE RIVER
4. Site approved by Highway Department. ✓
5. Size and style of marker chosen:
Country size ✓ or city size _____
Same inscription ✓ or different inscription _____ on each side
Inscription on one side with special mounting on wall or stone _____
6. Trial inscription and research materials submitted to Department of Archives and History. (date) 1966 OR 1967
7. Trial inscription written according to space requirements outlined in instruction sheet and research accomplished supporting every statement in the inscription. yes ✓ no _____
8. Trial inscription returned to applicant with suggestion for changes or further research. (date) _____
9. Final inscription sent to applicant, (date) 30 APRIL 1969
10. Approved inscription sent to all concerned (date) 13 MAY 1969
11. Order placed with Sewah Studios, Marietta, Ohio, check enclosed and delivery instructions given (date) _____
12. Proof of marker received for checking (date) _____
13. Proof sent to applicant for return to Sewah (date) 9 JULY 1969
14. Marker delivered (date) _____
15. Marker erected (date) ✓

LINE OR LINES

1-4

MARKER TITLE BATTLE OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE

QUOTE FROM PROPOSED INSCRIPTION

ON MAY 26, 1780, ONE OF THE FIRST VICTORIES FOR THE COLONISTS
AFTER THE FALL OF CHARLESTON TOOK PLACE 1 1/2 MILES EAST
ON LITTLE RIVER.

SOURCES USED:

LOCATION OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE GIVEN BY MILL'S ATLAS

DATE GIVEN BY MCCRADY AND BY ACCOUNT OF JAMES CRAIG, VETERAN OF THE REVOLUTION,
WRITING IN 1839. (SEE NOTES IN FILE)

VALIDITY OF THE SOURCE:

ACCEPTABLE

LINE OR LINES

5-7

MARKER TITLE

BATTLE OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE

QUOTE FROM PROPOSED INSCRIPTION

A BODY OF TORIES GATHERING AT GIBSON'S MEETING HOUSE
IN MOBLEY'S SETTLEMENT.

SOURCES USED:

RICHARD WINN'S ACCOUNT REFERS TO THE LOCATION IN THIS MANNER, AND
SOME HISTORIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS INDICATE THAT THIS WAS THE ORIGINAL
NAME OF THE MEETING HOUSE. (SEE NOTES IN FILE).

VALIDITY OF THE SOURCE:

ACCEPTABLE

LINE OR LINES

MARKER TITLE BATTLE OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE

QUOTE FROM PROPOSED INSCRIPTION:

7-10

WERE ATTACKED AND DISPERSED BY A BAND OF WHIGS UNDER
COL. WM. BRATTON, MAJ. RICHARD WINN, AND CAPT. JOHN McCLURE

SOURCES USED:

ACCOUNTS OF THE BATTLE AND MENTION OF BRATTON, WINN, AND McCLURE
ARE GIVEN BY McCRADY, JAMES H. CARLISLE, WINN'S NOTES, AND OTHER
SOURCES (SEE NOTES IN FILE).

VALIDITY OF THE SOURCE:

ACCEPTABLE

THE BATTLE OF MOBLEY MEETING HOUSE.

"Before Tarleton had overtaken Buford, the Tories in this section had begun to gather and organize. As early as May 26, 1780, that is, 3 days before the Massacre in the Waxhaws, a party of them collected at Mobley's Meeting House, about 6 miles west of Winnsboro, in the present county of Fairfield. To meet this, Col. Wm. Bratton, of York, and Capt. Jno. McClure, of Chester, gathered the Whigs, and defeated and dispersed them. There is no account of the casualties on either side."

- McCrady's History South Carolina in the Revolution, page 567.

"After the fall of Charleston, the first ray of light in the general gloom which followed (June) 1779, was from a gallant little affair planned in Winnsboro by Bratton, Winn and McClure, and carried out at Mobley's Meeting House, 12 miles west of there, where the Tories had a little garrison. The gallant Sumter alluded to this exploit with pride many years after, in Congress."

- History of Fairfield, by Dr. James H. Carlisle, as published in THE STATE, Columbia, S. C., January 24, 1907. Copy in University Library (Caroliniana), Columbia, SC

...in 1780, British officers and troops were dispatched in parties to punish every Whig ~~with utmost~~ with utmost vigor to call on the loyalists and Tories to aid in the work of rapine, pillage and murder. A body of these mixed troops and vandals assembled at Mobley Meeting House, in Fairfield County, where they were attacked and defeated in June of that year, by a party of Whigs under the command of Colonel Bratton, Major Winn, and Captain McClure." It is said that Capt. McClure surrounded three sides of the house."

- Mrs. ELLETT'S WOMEN OF THE REVOLUTION.

Draper Collection, 5VV150

"The War in York and Chester" in The Chester Standard (Chester, S.C.), March 16, 1854

Written by James Craig who lived in Pickens District in his old age. His account was first published in the Pendleton Messenger in 1839.

Mentions first the Battle of Beckhamville, May 24, 1780, under Capt. John McClure, Lieut. Hugh McClure and John Steele - 27 soldiers and 3 officers. "Under the same officers two days after we had an engagement at Mobley's Meeting House where we had success in defeating the Tories without any loss of men. The number of the enemy not known; our number the same as in the previous engagement."

Draper Collection, 10VV39-42

Pension application of William Kennedy, 1832, Wayne County, Tennessee

After the fall of Charlestown he joined a company commanded by Capt. John Steele - "for the purpose of breaking up a body of Tories, and was at the Battle of Mobley's Meeting House."

Draper Collection, 10VV68

Pension application of George Gill, 1832, Chester District

Was on way to Charlestown when he learned of surrender - "Very soon after he again entered service under Capt. John McClure in the same regiment and was in a skirmish with the Tories at Mobley's Meeting House."

AA 8818 Wylie, Francis

The Petition of Francis Wyley of Chester District, humbly sheweth, That your Petitioner was a true friend to his Country, & a soldier in the Revolutionary War. That he early engaged with Capt. John Nixon, in a volunteer Company of Minute Men, to turn out when ever called on. That he was at the defeat of the Tories & Indians at Lynlies Fort; and in the Snow Campaign against the Tories. And a tour or two to Charleston before it was taken by the British. That he was again amongst the first that turned out with Capt. McClure, & joined Genl. Sumter when the Enemy envaded the Country. Was at the defeat of the Tories at Mobleys Meeting House. Was at Hooks defeat near Col. Brattons.

"General Richard Winn's Notes - 1780" in South Carolina ~~xxx~~ Historical and Genealogical Magazine, XLIII (October 1942) No. 4, 201-212 Ed. by Samuel C. Williams

p. 202

"May 12th 1780. Charleston fell. May 29th '80. Col. Buford cut to pieces.¹ About the middle of June the British took a strong post at Shiroes Ferry, on the east side of Broad River opposite to the Dutch Fork, and the inhabitants summoned to come and take the oath of allegiance to the King and those that ddid not was treated as enemies. Capt. Richard Winn, living in that part of the country and finding that the enemy was fast advancing and that he could not raise one single person to oppose them, set out himself for the New Acquisition to see if he could not raise men by the help of Cols. Lacey, Bratton, and Nelson. In the course of the day they collected 100² militia and immediately marched for Gipson's Meeting House in Moberleys settlement² where we found a large body of Tories strongly posted under the command of Col. Ch. Coleman. As Capt. Winn was well acquainted with the strength and situation of the place, it was left to him to bring on the attack and in a few minuits this body of Tories was drove from a strong house, which answered for a block house, and totally defeated with a small loss of killed and wounded. The Whig party lost nothing. This body of Tories two or three days before their defeat had plundered the Hamptons on the road of about thirty negroes, two or three wagons and teams and thirty valuable horses and a large quantity of household furniture, besides many other things. They also made prisoners of Capt. John and Henry Hampton, whiçh, the day before the action, they sent under a strong guard to Camden, the British headquarters. Their property was recovered by us. This was the first fight after the reduction of Charleston. Gipson's Meeting House is twelve miles above Shiroe's Ferry on the same side of the river the British was posted as first mentioned.

When Capt; Hampton got his release from Camden, he informed Winn [news of] this action got to Camden as soon as he and his brother did, and when they was taken before the British commander that Winn was grossly abused by him for the damnest ruffin and scoundrel that ever disgraced human boings. . . ."

²This action is usually referred to as occurring at Moberley's Meeting House, but Gen. Winn knew the locality well and is more specific. A map of the battleground is in the Draper Collection, Madison Wis., supplied by Joseph Johnson, of Charleston. The initiative is attributed to Winn. [Note by WW: I did not find a map in the Draper Collection - only a written account by Joseph Johnson.]

p. 204

Fn. 8. At Gipson's Meeting House Winn was a major. In referring to himself in his Notes he jumps his rank from captain to colonel, without mentioning his majority. In a note appended at the close of the Notes he states: 'Shortly after the battle of Gipson's Meeting House, by the British and Tories Capt. Winn had all his houses burnt to the ground, and every negro plundered,~~xxx~~ together with every other property he possessed in the world. His wife was plundered of her clothes and she was drove off with two infant children. When this was made known to me, by answer was, It is no

Edward McCrady, History of South Carolina in the Revolution 1775-1780. New York: Macmillan Co., 1901.

p. 588

Before Tarleton had overtaken Buford the Tories in this section had begun to gather and organize. As early as the 26th of May -- that is, three days before the massacre in the Waxhaws, a party of them had collected at Mobley's Meeting House, about six miles west of Winnsboro in the present county of Fairfield; to meet this Colonel William Bratton of York and Captain John McClure of Chester gathered the Whigs and defeated and dispersed them. A similar uprising at Beckham's Old ~~Rocks~~ Field in the vicinity of Fishing Creek, in what is now Chester County, had been put down with equal ease, the Rev. John Simpson, then the Presbyterian minister of the congregation in that neighborhood, being one of the principal movers in the affair. We have no account of the casualties on either side of these affairs.

Joseph Johnson, Traditions and Reminiscences Chiefly of the American Revolution in the South. Charleston: Walker & James, 1851.

pps. 335-336

Colonel William Bratton, of York District, was the associate, friend and adviser of Major Winn, in all his measures opposed to the British forces in South-Carolina. With Captain McClure, of Chester District, he concerted and conducted the attack on a large body of royalists and marauders, at Mobley's meeting house, in Fairfield District, and defeated and ~~six~~ dispersed them. This occurred in June, 1780, six or seven weeks after the surrender of Charleston, and was the first blow struck at the British power, after they had declared the State re-conquered. A strong detachment of British troops, under Colonel Turnbull, was then stationed at Rocky Mount, in Chester District, for the purpose of overawing all that portion of the State. The news of Colonel Bratton's success drew down on him and his neighbors the vengeance of the British colonel. Among other, he detached Captain Houk, (pronounced Hook) at the head of four hundred British cavalry, and a considerable body of Tories, all well mounted, ~~with the following orders, four~~ [with orders to punish the rebels] ... " This led to Houk's defeat, etc. etc.

Lyman Draper, King's Mountain and Its Heroes. Cincinnati: Peter G. Thomson, 1881
(Marietta, Ga: Continental Book Company, 1954.)

Diary of Lieut. Anthony Allaire, pps. 484-515

p. 504-505

August 1780 [Sunday, 13th at Smith's Mills on Swift's Creek]

Monday, 14th. Got in motion at four o'clock in the morning; Marched to the Quaker fording place; forded Tyger river, continued our march to a Rebel Col. James Lisle's plantation. Lisle is in the Rebel service -- his family at home.

Tuesday, 15th. Got in motion at seven o'clock in the morning. Marched two miles to Lisle's Ford; forded Broad river--proceeded seven miles to a Mr. Coleman's in Mobley's settlement; halted during the heat of the day. Got in motion at seven o'clock in the evening; marched two miles to the camp of the New York Volunteers, where we got intelligence that Gen. Gates lay within three miles of Camden, . . .

Wednesday, 16th. Got in motion at seven o'clock in the morning, and marched two miles to Mobley's meeting house for convenience of ground.

Thursday, 17th. Got in motion at nine o'clock in the morning, and marched six miles to a Rebel Col. Winn's plantation. Winn is at James Island, a prisoner.

Friday, 18th. Lay at Winn's plantation . . .

Saturday, 19th. . . . ~~XX~~ At eight at night, we got in motion; marched all night; forded Broad river at sun-rising.

Sunday, 20th. Proceeded four miles, and took up our ground at Peter's creek, where we lay all day, fatigued with our night's march, being eighteen miles. While we lay at Col. Winn's, a Mr. Smith was executed for joining the Rebels after he had taken protection, and been allowed to embody himself with our militia.

Floyd Mulkey, "Rev. Philip Mulkey, Pioneer Baptist Preacher in Upper South Carolina"
in The Proceedings of The South Carolina Historical Association, 1945, pps. 3-13.

p. 7

[[The Rev. Philip Mulkey's church was on Fairforest Creek. About 1766 he established another at the Congarees.]

"While traveling between Fairforest and Congaree, Mulkey would stop off and preach at convenient places. One stopping place was at the home of Jacob Gibson in present Fairfield County. This preaching resulted in a new church, ~~which~~ established February 26, 1770, by Daniel ~~Mulkey~~ Marshall and Philip Mulkey with Gibson as pastor."

King, History of South Carolina Baptists, p. 87

It was in this region [i.e. Beaver Creek] that Daniel Marshall, upon first coming into South Carolina, settled and established a church.⁷⁵ . . . Three present-day churches of this section claim an ancient origin - Beaver Creek, Mobley's Meeting House, and Rock Creek, all within a radius of a few miles. All may have absorbed remnants of the old Beaver Creek congregation, but the only one showing any possibility of recorded continuity is Rock Creek.⁷⁶

⁷⁵Edwards, Crozer MS, 46.

⁷⁶Bethel Assoc. Minutes, 1790-1803.

[Note: This is only reference to Mobley's Meeting House I found in this book.]

Joe M. King, A History of South Carolina Baptists (incorporating in part works by Leah Townsend and W.J. McGlothlin). Columbia: General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, 1965.

pps. 75-76

Little River of Broad

Several other churches of the back country were either developed from Fairforest or organized out of its influence. Of these, Little River or Broad Church grew up in the section where Philip Mulkey and his followers first settled in South Carolina. Some of ~~his~~ his congregation remained there and united with others in 1768 to build a meeting house twenty-four by twenty feet on land given by Jacob Gibson. This was popularly known as Gibson's Meeting House, located about two and a quarter miles below Kincaid's Bridge, on the west side of Little River just above the mouth of Neckley's Creek. On February 26, 1770, twelve members were constituted a church, of which Gibson became pastor after his ordination in 1771. His connection with the church continued at least through 1790.²³ After Gibson's death in 1793, John Gwin was a candidate for the ministry at Little River and may have served the church for sometime, but no other minister is recorded. This church was a constituent member of Congaree Association. After the dissolution of that body, Gibson held aloof from associations. Although he visited the Georgia Association in 1788, and may have considered union with it, Little River did not again unite with other churches until it entered Bethel Association in 1802.²⁴

²³Edwards, Crozer MS, 43-4; Furman MS, 56.

²⁴Edwards, Crozer MS, 31-2; Mercer, Georgia Association, 22; Bethel Assoc. Minutes, 1802.

BATTLE OF MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE 32

BATTLE OF 9
MOBLEY'S MEETING HOUSE 22

_ miles east 12
In