

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 16 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Battle of Blackstock's Historic Site

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Blackstock's Plantation

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: West on Route 49 from Cross Anchor for 6.5 miles, turn left on improved road for 3.5 miles, turn right on dirt road

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045 COUNTY: Union CODE: 087

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

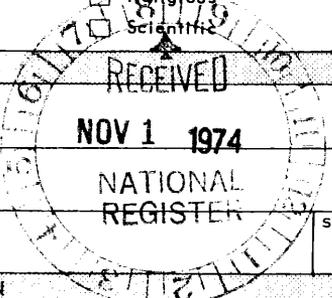
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Canal Wood Corporation

STREET AND NUMBER: Highway 72 Bypass

CITY OR TOWN: Chester

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Union County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Union

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Blackstock's battlefield is located south of the Tyger River, immediately east of the Spartanburg County line, in a hilly, wooded region. The smaller hill on which Blackstock's barn was located is at the end of a dirt road leading from county road S-51. About 1500 feet from the Tyger River, this hill is designated with a marker. The large hill on which most of Sumter's troops were stationed during the battle lies about 2,000 feet west of the historical marker. Two creeks run parallel to the road, one on either side, from the Tyger River.

The creek that the British crossed in attacking Blackstock's is to the south of the road. In the eighteenth century much of the land along the road was cleared, but these fields have since been overgrown with small pines and brush. Originally, the road continued to a narrow bend in the Tyger River, crossed the river at a ford, and continued north. The portion of the road leading away from the ford on the north side of the river is still visible, but on the south side the road has veered to the east leading to the historical marker, and no longer reaches the river.

No above-the-surface evidence remains of Blackstock's barn or house, which were located in the area of the marker, and there are no modern buildings in the area of the battlefield.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

2. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1780**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

At Blackstock's tobacco barn on the Tyger River, British troops under Colonel Banastre Tarleton battled with American militiamen under General Thomas Sumter on November 20, 1780. The superior marksmanship, defenses, and number of the Americans allowed them to drive off the attacking British infantry and cavalry. Although the Americans dispersed and were unable to attack the British post at Ninety-Six as originally planned, they did serious damage to the morale of Tarleton's Legion as well as inflicting heavy casualties, demonstrating that the British did not have as firm a hold in South Carolina as believed.

In November, 1780, General Thomas Sumter was moving southwesterly through upper South Carolina. His forces included a detachment of South Carolina militia which had been joined by troops from Georgia and North Carolina. Sumter's plan was to move towards the British post at Ninety-Six. Sumter, knowing of the Tory fort at Williams' plantation on the Little River, established a temporary camp nearby on the Enoree River.

Lord Cornwallis, commander of British troops in the South, learned of Sumter's movements towards Ninety-Six and dispatched Colonel Tarleton with the British Legion to surprise Sumter and destroy his troops.

Tarleton crossed the Broad River on the 18th of November, picking up part of the 71st Regiment and the 63rd Regiment. Marching the next day and camping on the Enoree River, Tarleton hoped to surprise Sumter; however, a deserter from the 63rd Regiment warned Sumter's men of Tarleton's plans. On the morning of the 20th Sumter moved his men north to a defensive position at Blackstock's on the south of the Tyger River.

Blackstock's was the area of a large log tobacco house and outbuildings a few hundred yards from the Tyger River. The house was located on one of a group of hills extending west from the river.

General Sumter had about 600 men from the Carolinas and Georgia under the command of Colonels Twiggs and Elijah Clarke of Georgia, and Colonels

(continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bass, Robert D. Gamecock. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1961.

Draper, Lyman C., ed. Draper Manuscript Collection in South Carolina Archives. Wisconsin Historical Publications.

Gregorie, Anne King. Thomas Sumter. Columbia, S.C.: The R.L. Bryan Company, 1931.

McCrary, Edward. The History of South Carolina in the Revolution 1775-1780. New York: Russell & Russell, 1901. (revised in 1969).

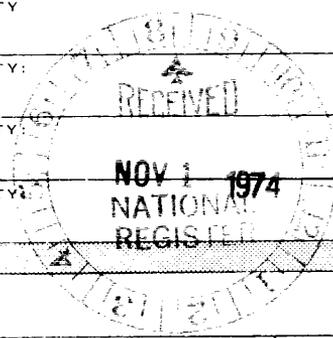
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	34°	41'	13"	81°	49'	48"			
NE	34°	41'	13"	81°	48'	29"			
SE	34°	39'	30"	81°	48'	29"			
SW	34°	39'	30"	81°	49'	48"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **approximately 540 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
John W. Califf, III

ORGANIZATION: **South Carolina Department of Archives and History** DATE: **October 28, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Charles E. Lee
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: October 30, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

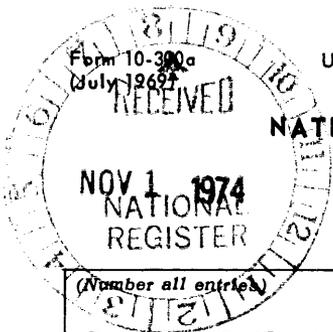
Charles E. Lee
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/16/74

ATTEST:
George Emery
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: Dec. 12, 1974

NW 17/42 970
 SW 17/42 952/30-55260
 11/17/42 910/17-20
 11/17/42 910/17-20

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Form 10-300a
July 1962

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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(Continuation Sheet)

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Battle of Blackstock's Historic Site
8. Significance (continued)

Henry Hampton, William Bratton, Thomas Taylor, William Hill, and James McCall of the Carolinas. Colonel Hampton occupied the tobacco house with his troops, and the Georgians covered the fence and woods south of the house along the edge of the field. Colonels Bratton, Taylor, Hill, and McCall were to occupy the high hill behind the house. Colonel Edward Lacey had a command of an advance force between the big hill and the river.

On the morning of the 20th, Colonel Tarleton received word of Sumter's retreat to Blackstock's and followed the South Carolina partisan leader. After crossing the Enoree River, Tarleton's dragoons came upon a small detachment of Sumter's rearguard, killing or capturing most of them and continuing his forced march until late afternoon. Fearing that Sumter would cross the Tyger River before dark, Tarleton left his unmounted infantry behind and continued with cavalymen and mounted infantry. His plan was to engage the Americans with his advance troops, holding them until the Legion Infantry could arrive. Just before Tarleton's horseman arrived at the outskirts of Sumter's camp, Colonel Thomas Taylor, arrived at Sumter's camp with wagons of supplies.

Tarleton, impressed with Sumter's skillful deployment of his men in the hills, hesitated to attack, but was forced into battle as the advance Americans began to fire from the hills. The British 63rd Regiment Infantry, charging across the field from the creek, came under heavy fire from the soldiers in the log house, and suffered heavy losses.

Meanwhile, Colonel Lacey's mounted infantry came through the woods on the west of the hill, firing into the British cavalry. Tarleton's men advanced towards the ford, seeking to rescue the 63rd Regiment, but were hemmed in by American riflemen. They fell back, charged again, and were repulsed by American reserves. By nightfall, the fighting had ended, and the British had withdrawn.

During the fighting, General Sumter had been badly wounded in the shoulder. Colonel Twiggs, in command, retreated to the high ground across the river. The next morning, Tarleton took possession of the battlefield.

Most of Sumter's men dispersed north of the Tyger River, Sumter himself stopping at Berwick's Iron works with a small company. Colonel Clarke kept his men together, to eventually attack Ninety-Six, and Colonel Lacey kept his mounted riflemen at a headquarters at Liberty Hill, in York County.

Tarleton's soldiers crossed the Tyger the next day, but captured only a few American stragglers. After three days of searching, his soldiers returned to Blackstock's and eventually to the Winnsboro area.

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Battle of Blackstock's Historic Site
8. Significance (continued)

Believing that he had either successfully wounded or killed Sumter, Tarleton claimed a British victory. British losses in the battle were 50-100 killed, with an equal number wounded. Only a few Americans were killed or wounded.



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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

Battle of Blackstock's Historic Site
9. Major Bibliographical References

Tarleton, Lt. Col. Banastre. A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781 in the Southern Provinces of North America. London: 1782.
(reprinted in 1968 by Arno Press, Inc., USA)

