

SAVE 278 ACRES ^{AT} CAMDEN, S.C.



Since we began our Campaign 1776 initiative, we have saved roughly 677 acres of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefield land. Nearly half—approximately 292 acres—has been at battlefields associated with the Southern Campaign, the series of battles waged in the Carolinas that ultimately won the American war for independence.

Today, you and I have the opportunity to nearly [double the Southern Campaign land](#) we've saved, with an additional [278 acres of hallowed ground](#) from the Revolutionary War.

The British were just beginning their campaign in the Carolinas in the spring and summer of 1780. The British commander, Lord Charles Cornwallis, established an advanced supply base at Camden, South Carolina, using it as a platform for Royal troops looking to suppress rebellious colonists. In August, American General Horatio Gates—a hero of the Battle of Saratoga—hoped to seize Camden and neutralize the British forces in the vicinity.

[As dawn broke on August 16, 1780](#), Gates's hungry, footsore Americans were shuddered alert by the tell-tale crack of a British Brown Bess musket. In front of them, 2,230 British regulars and loyalist militia stood ready to defend the Camden base. Believing he outnumbered the Redcoats two-to-one, Gates rashly chose to attack. In reality, his effective strength of roughly 3,000 weary Continentals was

easily matched by the rested British veterans awaiting him. The Redcoats made quick work of inexperienced troops on Gates's left flank. On the right, veteran Maryland and Delaware troops made a good show of resisting before they too bent under the weight of the Royal onslaught. When the fighting was over, roughly 900 Continentals were dead or wounded and another 1,000 had become prisoners of war—one of the worst military disasters in American history.

With your help, we can [save a significant portion of the Camden battlefield](#)—278 acres over which some of America's first citizen soldiers fought and died in the effort to create the country in which we now live. Thanks to federal and state matching funds, we are able to save this land—valued at approximately \$1 million—for just \$200,000, a \$5-to-\$1 match. [Help us Save Camden.](#)

'Til the Battle is Won,



Jim Lighthizer, President

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More than 48,000 acres saved!
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**All donations for the Camden, SC appeal should be made out to:
"SCSSAR" and forwarded to:**

**SCSSAR – Camden, SC Appeal
C/O Compariot Edd Richburg
23 Buckingham Drive
Charleston, SC 29407-3421**

All fund donations, large or small, are appreciated and will be recognized.