

Beaufort County 250 Committee Historic Site Tours

Battle of Port Royal Island AKA Battle of Beaufort of Battle of Grays Hill



Fought on Feb 3, 1779, American Continentals, Militia and Volunteers, about 325 strong, defeated Gardiner's 200 British regulars and stopped Gen Prevost's army from attacking Charleston on their first overland attempt.

Two artillery officers who were signers of the Declaration of Independence, Edward Rutledge and Thomas Heyward, Jr, participated in the Patriot victory, as did Jim Capers, black drummer boy who went on to serve in many major actions of the war including Yorktown.

A company of Jewish merchants from Charleston also fought the British on Grays Hill and were commanded by Abraham Mendes Seixas.
