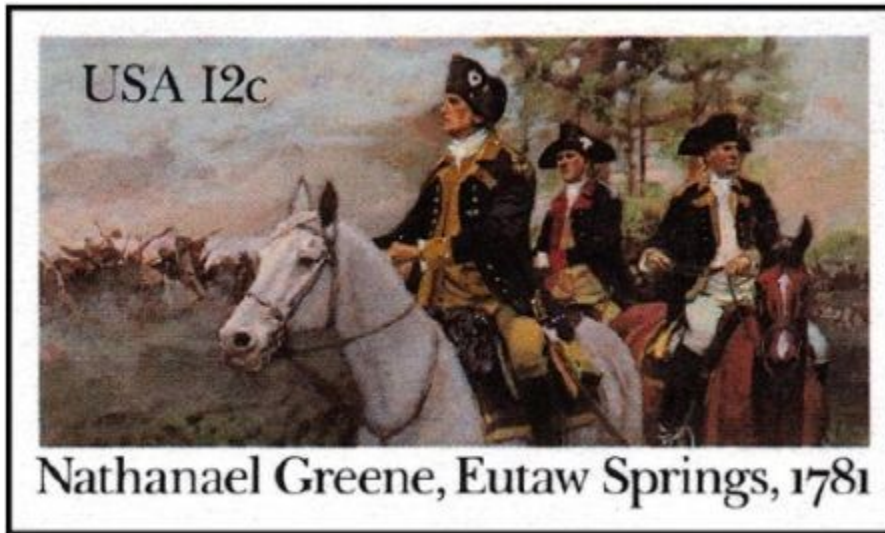


The Battle of Eutaw Springs



Battle of Eutaw Springs

During 1781, Major General Nathaniel Greene of the Continental Army commenced a campaign to remove the British from the South Carolina backcountry.

In May, he set about to capture the village of Ninety Six occupied by the forces of Lord Rawdon was succeeded in repelling re-enforcements being shipped from Charleston on June 18th. Afterwards, Greene retreated towards Charlotte. Rawdon pursued Greene for several days, but the chase exhausted his men and the lack of supplies, caused him to quit. Rather than allow Greene to have Ninety Six, Rawdon burned it and withdrew the garrison to Charleston. But the fate of Lord Rawdon was that he was too ill to continue the fight and left Charleston under the command of Colonel Alexander Stewart.

Thus, Greene immediately turned towards Charleston. He established a camp above the Santee River for his exhausted men. From this vantage, several detachments were dispatched to harass the British as they withdrew from Charleston. Colonel Stewart, the new commandant, led a

force of some 2,000 men from Charleston's British garrison in search of the army of Greene.

The force camped at Eutaw Springs, about 2 miles east of present-day Eutawville, then in Charleston District (but both now in Orangeburg County). Elijah Bass of Halifax County who had enrolled early in the war and was part of the 10th Regiment, fought at the battle of Eutaw Springs on September 8, 1778, where he was killed.

Source: North Carolina Revolutionary War Pensions.