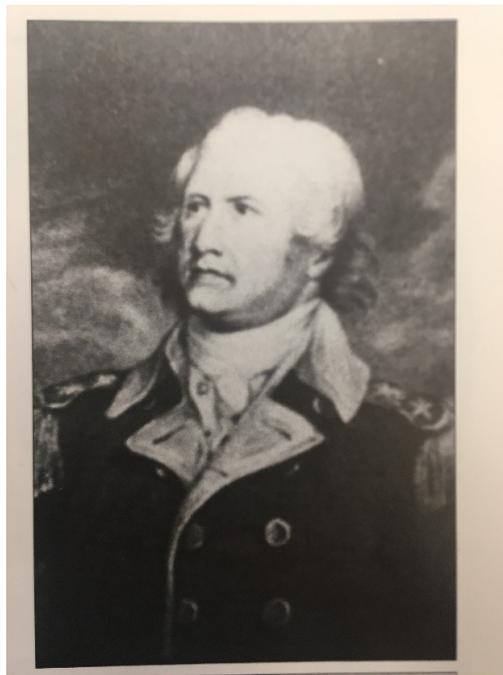


## QUICK FACT FRIDAY



### ***British Occupation of Charleston***

This week's Quick Fact Friday concludes the monthly theme of The British in Mount Pleasant and spotlights the British occupation of Charleston in the year 1780. During the British occupation, some officers were taken prisoner and held captive at Haddrell's Point in what is now the Old Village of Mount Pleasant. One of these officers was General Moultrie (portrait above) who is known as a hero in the Revolutionary War and later as a Governor of South Carolina. Here, the officers were required to report to British headquarters, believed to have been the plantation home of Jacob Motte, now known as the Hibben House. This captivity lasted thirteen months. It is said they were denied the "plainest necessities of life" (McIver, 1994, p. 18).

After thirteen months, the officers were told they would be sent to the West India islands. At this time, Lord Montague wrote to General Moultrie offering him land and command in the British Army if he deserted the Patriot cause and joined the British. While British ships anchored in the harbor, General Moultrie responded to Lord Montague with bravery:

"You say that by quitting this country for a short time I might avoid disagreeable conversations, and might return at my own leisure and take possession of my estates for myself and family; but you have forgot to tell me how I am to get rid of the feelings of my injured, honest heart, and where to hide myself from myself. Could I be guilty of so much baseness, I should hate myself and shun mankind."

The original letters of the correspondence between General Moultrie and Lord Montague are preserved in the South Carolina Historical Society. In December 1782,

due to tireless guerrilla warfare from generals Francis Marion and Thomas Sumter, the British evacuated Charleston.

For more information: [Historical Markers in Mount Pleasant \(#5\) - List and Map](#); *History of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina* by P. R. McIver; and [mountpleasanthistorical.org](http://mountpleasanthistorical.org)

Image Credit: *Mount Pleasant: The Victorian Village* by Mary-Julia Royall



The Town of Mount Pleasant Historical Commission releases *Quick Fact Fridays* about the history of Mount Pleasant and about the Commission, its programs and activities. Historical facts are drawn largely from the *Our History* section of the Town's website and the Commission's own *Mount Pleasant Historical* website and app. Follow their links by clicking on the images below to discover what makes Mount Pleasant such a distinctive historical place! To receive *Quick Fact Friday* messages [click here to register](#). To also receive news from the Culture, Arts and Pride Commission, [click here to register](#).

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