

July 12, 2025 Raising Fort Charlotte's Colors 250th Anniversary Festival

The Revolutionary War's 1st Overt Military Land Action in South Carolina & Perhaps the South

9a.m. to 3 p.m.

Presented by the McCormick County, SC 250 Committee



Main Activities/Events staged at: the South Carolina School For Agriculture At John de la Howe – Main Fort Charlotte Surrender Reenactment(s), Music, Games, Info Tables, Tradecrafts & Much More; **Fort Charlotte Memorial Site** – Upgrades Unveiling, Honorary Surrender Reenactment & More – end of Fort Charlotte Rd. in Hester's Bottoms Campgrounds - fee camp sites available; **Willington History Center Complex** – various activities – MC250 Historic Sites Gateway Map - 1801 Morrah Bridge Rd.

Setup: Refer to accompanying Registration Form:

Fort Charlotte, on the Savannah River, the site, not its remains, now under Lake Thurmond, was the last built colonial era fort, intended to protect backcountry settlers. Possessing significant armaments, after surrender to Patriot troops, some were taken to Ninety-Six, whereupon a November 1775 attack resulted in the first South Carolinian casualties.

Seeking:

- **Colonial/Revolutionary War Era Reenactors, including horse mounted**, for designated roles to be worked out & will readily accommodate other figures/roles. Please also bring period firearms & artillery to fire.
- **Period Trade Crafters**
- **Period Musicians**
- **Native Americans in traditional dress – Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation invited – Activities TBD**
- **Period African-American Living History Raconteurs**
- **(Period) History Authors**

Among Other Guests &/or Participants: Federal, State & Local Dignitaries/Officials, including South Carolina Governor; State & Other County 250 Representatives; Military Band(s); & More

The reenactment of Fort Charlotte's surrender, working from a script with a narrator, will take place on the 13.5 acres Governor's Green oval on the South Carolina School For Agriculture At John de la Howe (JDLH) campus. The first run will be early following speakers. A 2nd act is under consideration. Duration, including pre-scene: 30+ minutes.

Dr. John de la Howe established residence here in 1774 & tended to wounded Patriot soldiers in August 1776. He was "compelled" to join a Loyalist Regiment in 1782 after claiming British imprisonment twice. His dream upon death was for his Lethe Farm to essentially become what it is today, a unique, year-round agricultural based school.

JDLH Enter Through Main Gate: Branch Drive off Hwy. 81. You will be directed from there

Parking (JDLH):

- RV/Camper area & lots for participant's other vehicles
- Horse trailers north side of green's oval drive – under trees

Provided for Reenactors (JDLH):

- Traditional encampment area – bedding straw - firewood – fire pits okay – ice - water
- Cafeteria Breakfast for overnight campers

Provided for Authors (JDLH) – Indoor AC cooled space and/or space under tent(s) as desired

Provided for Food & Beverage Vendors/Trucks (must bring self-contained potable water) – (JDLH)

- Electricity (at/on Governor's Green)

Provided for All Participants (JDLH) - At least one very large tent will be set up &/or perhaps smaller ones

- Participants are also encouraged to bring & set up their own in designated areas as fitting/desired
- "Thank You" Dinner in the cafeteria after events

Provided for Everyone (JDLH) - At least one very large tent – perhaps more smaller

- Indoor cooling areas
- Porta Potties
- JDLH Campus Shuttles to/from John de la Howe/Rebekah Woodin Tomb & Lethe Farm Site
- Shuttles between JDLH, Willington History Center & Fort Charlotte Memorial Site

Willington's historic district, in 1804 grew around the prestigious academy of Dr. Moses Waddle, also the father of the University of Georgia, was once a cotton boom town after the railroad's arrival in 1886.

Further details to come - [Website: mc250.org](http://mc250.org) - [Email: info@mc250.org](mailto:info@mc250.org) - [Phone: 706 669-3702](tel:7066693702)