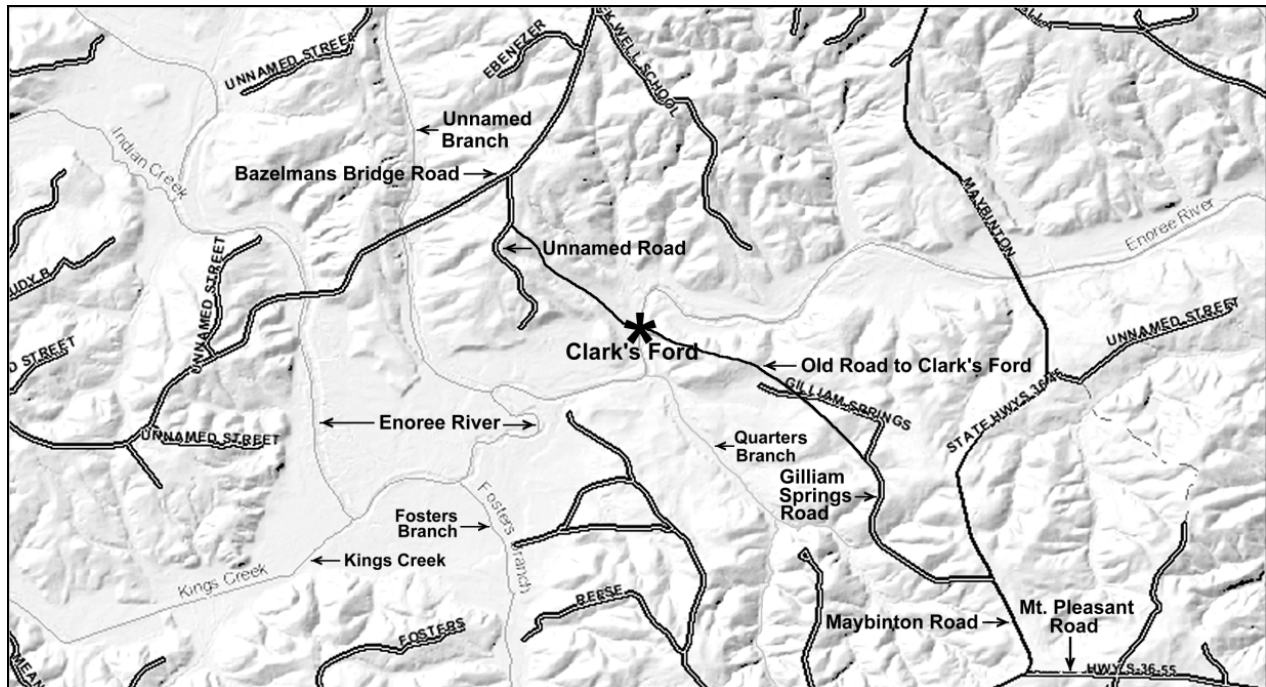


Clark's Ford



Clark's Ford

Spring 1781

GPS: 34.42002°N 81.49438°W

Confidence: 4

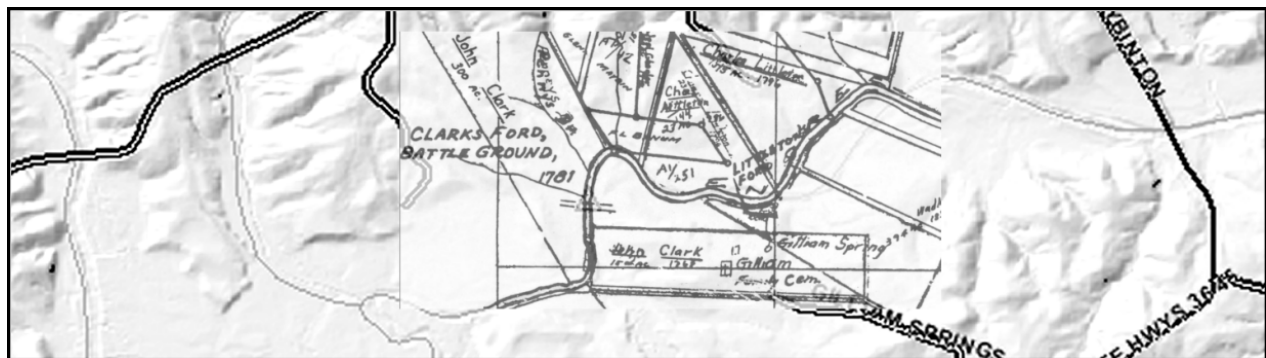
Directions: From the intersection of US Highway 176 and SC Highway 34, go east on SC Highway 34 for about 1.2 miles, then turn left onto Mt. Pleasant Road (S-36-55) and go about 3.75 miles. Turn left onto Maybinton Road (S-36-45), go about .5 mile, then turn left onto Gilliam Springs Road and go to its end. The site is about .6 mile in front of you. This is the closest road access to the site.

Clark's Ford Action: Patriot John Clark was granted two tracts of land adjacent to each other on opposite sides of Enoree River in 1768 and 1770. There was a ford of the Enoree River on his land that became know as Clark's Ford and the road through his property to it was known as Clark's Ford Road.

The Patriots fought a fierce skirmish with the Tories at Clark's Ford on the Enoree River, where Patriot commander Capt. Jones was killed. Clark was shot through the leg, but managed to escape to a bluff about 1 mile from the ford. There his mother applied salve to his wound and dressed it. However, his blood trail led the Tories to him and he was captured, force to ride a skinny horse with a protruding backbone to Ninety Six goal (jail), a distance of more than 40 miles with his legs tied together under the horse. There he contracted small pox, but recovered from his illness. Nine others were not so lucky and died from small pox. Charles Littleton was also captured and taken to Ninety Six goal where he was one of those that died from small pox.

Johnson, brother-in-law of John Clark, was captured during the skirmish and hanged from a tree just north of the ford. William Greer, another staunch Patriot was later shot and killed in his home by a Tory (date and location unknown).

Note: Capt. Jones may have been Capt. Thomas Jones who was killed on 4/3/1781. If this is the correct Capt. Jones, the date for this action is 4/3/1781.



Overlay of John Clark's plat on the modern map. Plat courtesy of Christopher Prince, Whitmire, SC