



<b>Wambaw Bridge Start</b>	2/24/1782	GPS: 33.20729°N 79.46875°W	Confidence: 5
<b>Wambaw Bridge Finish</b>	2/24/1782	GPS: 33.20818°N 79.46858°W	Confidence: 4
<b>Tidyman's Plantation Action</b>	2/25/1782	GPS: 33.22685°N 79.48109°W	Confidence: 4

**Directions:** This site is accessed from Charleston County on US Highway 17, just south of the Santee River. From the river, go south about 1 mile and turn right onto Rutledge Road. The historical markers for St. James-Santee Episcopal Church and Hampton Plantation are on the right just before the turn. Travel about 4.25 miles to reach the Wambaw Creek Bridge. The start of the battle was at the bridge and the end was about 100 yards past the bridge, putting the site in Berkeley County. Continue on Echaw Road for about 2.6 miles and turn right onto Forest Service Road 204 B to the Tidyman's Plantation skirmish site. The Plantation House was about 375 yards further up the road.

**Wambaw Bridge Action:** Patriot Col. Peter Horry was put in charge of Marion's brigade while Marion was in the General Assembly meeting in Jacksonboro. Horry followed Marion's advice and moved the brigade to Wambaw Creek near the Santee River where forage was available and the brigade would be more secure from harassment by the British. British Lt. Col. Benjamin Thompson set out from Daniel Island with a British expedition consisting of the cavalry and mounted militia to engage Marion's brigade. He was detected early on, but Horry was absent dining across the river at his plantation; however, he gave command to Col. Archibald McDonald. The officers who were warned of the enemy approach did not believe the reports, so the Patriots were taken by surprise when the attack commenced late in the afternoon. The Americans broke and fled as the Loyalist militia charged. The action started at the bridge and finished about 100 yards beyond the bridge in Berkeley County. British accounts stated that Maj. William Benison and 30 or 40 Americans were killed with 35 horses seized.

**Tidyman's Plantation Action:** Gen. Francis Marion returned and proceeded to Mrs. Phillip Tidyman's (also spelled Tiddiman, Tydiman, etc. in other works) plantation, between Echaw and Wambaw Creeks, stopping there for provisions. Leading up to the house was a lane with a high fence on each side, and the cavalry picketed their horses in this lane. In front of the lane was an old field, and a little to the right was a pond of water. Within half an hour, the British appeared in the old field, displaying their columns and pausing. Capt. John Carraway Smith, who commanded Maham's corps, formed his men in solid column. A small body of infantry was posted, to great advantage, along the fence of the lane as Gen. Marion ordered Smith to charge. The cavalry got to the edge of the pond, where a rise to the left had to be negotiated to reach the enemy. In climbing the rise, Capt. Smith's column fell into disorder and the enemy charged with a shout. The action was now a rout; but the British advanced no further than the edge of the woods where Gen. Marion had rallied the troops and checked the pursuit. The loss was small with Lt. Smizer and three men killed. However, Marion's brigade, in two days, lost most of Horry's horses and suffered two defeats. These losses could have been avoided with better training and proper attention being paid to the reports of scouts that the enemy approaching. **Note:** Phillip Tidyman, a silversmith in Charleston, owned Tidyman's Plantation.