



## **British HM Galley Alligator Capture on The Ashley River**

**Revolutionary War Naval Battle**, the only battle of its kind during this war, was fought within the boundaries of the county and took place in the vicinity of Ashborough on the Ashley River. Capt. Rudolph of Col. "Light Horse Harry" Lee's Virginia legion of cavalry and his 12 men captured a British HM Galley "Alligator". The galley was "high up on the Ashley" mounting two cannons and many swivel guns, when at 10 pm at night a British sailor hailed Capt. Randolph in one boat and Lt. Ballard Smith, Sgt. DuCoin and Pvt. Jacobs in another boat, and ordered to pulled up alongside the British Galley. The officers and their men were disguised as farmers with the others hidden under tarps. Pvt. Jacobs Speaking in the Gullah dialect responding to Galley hail, Capt. Rudolph had his men made their boats fast to the galley as directed to sell their merchandise and farm products. Then, during the early morning hours of March 18, 1782, both groups of Americans opened fire on the British, killing several, capturing the ship, the captain and 28 men. Fearing for their lives, many other British sailors jumped overboard to escape the Americans.

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