

## The Tale of Flora Macdonald, Bonny Prince Charles, and then what?



Flora Macdonald (1722-1790)

We have all heard that Flora Macdonald, a sixteen-year-old Scottish woman, hid bonny Prince Charles (Stuart) from the English. After Edward Stuart, known as the Old Pretender to the throne of England, lost his chance to regain the throne, his grandson, Charles Stuart, attempted to claim power. The Macdonald's and other Scottish clans, all sided with the Stuarts. However, resistance was futile. Charles Stuart escaped to France and the English army imprisoned Flora for her role in the Jacobite rebellion.

Thus, in 1771, members of the Macdonald Clan sailed to the North Carolina colony; and while anchored offshore petitioned the governor for some 40,000 acres, which was granted in Moore County.



Five years later, the American Colonies were embroiled in combat and the Scots in Moore County sided with the English. Odd, I always thought, since having recently left Scotland to avoid further persecution from the English troops.

In February of 1776, a very important battle occurred at Moore's Creek.

"At the beginning of the war, James Moore was appointed Colonel of the First Continental Regiment was raised in North Carolina. He, along with Colonels Caswell and Lillington, was responsible for the brilliant victory won on February 22, 1776, over the Highlanders from Scotland under the command of *General McDonald*. This victory settled the complexion of Eastern North Carolina for the remainder of the war. Although James Moore only commanded the regiment for a short time and he was promoted to Brigadier-General, others in the Moore families also fought on the American side: viz; Lieutenant Dempsey Moore, Captain Alfred Moore."

See Part II: Descendants of Flora Macdonald in America: Hugh MacDonald.

---

Sources: Flora McDonald in History, Article by Dorothy Mackay Qwynn, published in Vol. 18 of the North Carolina Historical Review; The Colonial Records of North Carolina, Vol. 16; [Hero Imprints by Jeannette Holland Austin 2021]; ; <a

href="<https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/flora-macdonald-1722-1790/>">Flora Macdonald 1722-1790</a>;

<a href="<https://www.highlanderacademy.com/flora-macdonald>">Highlander Academy</a>

---