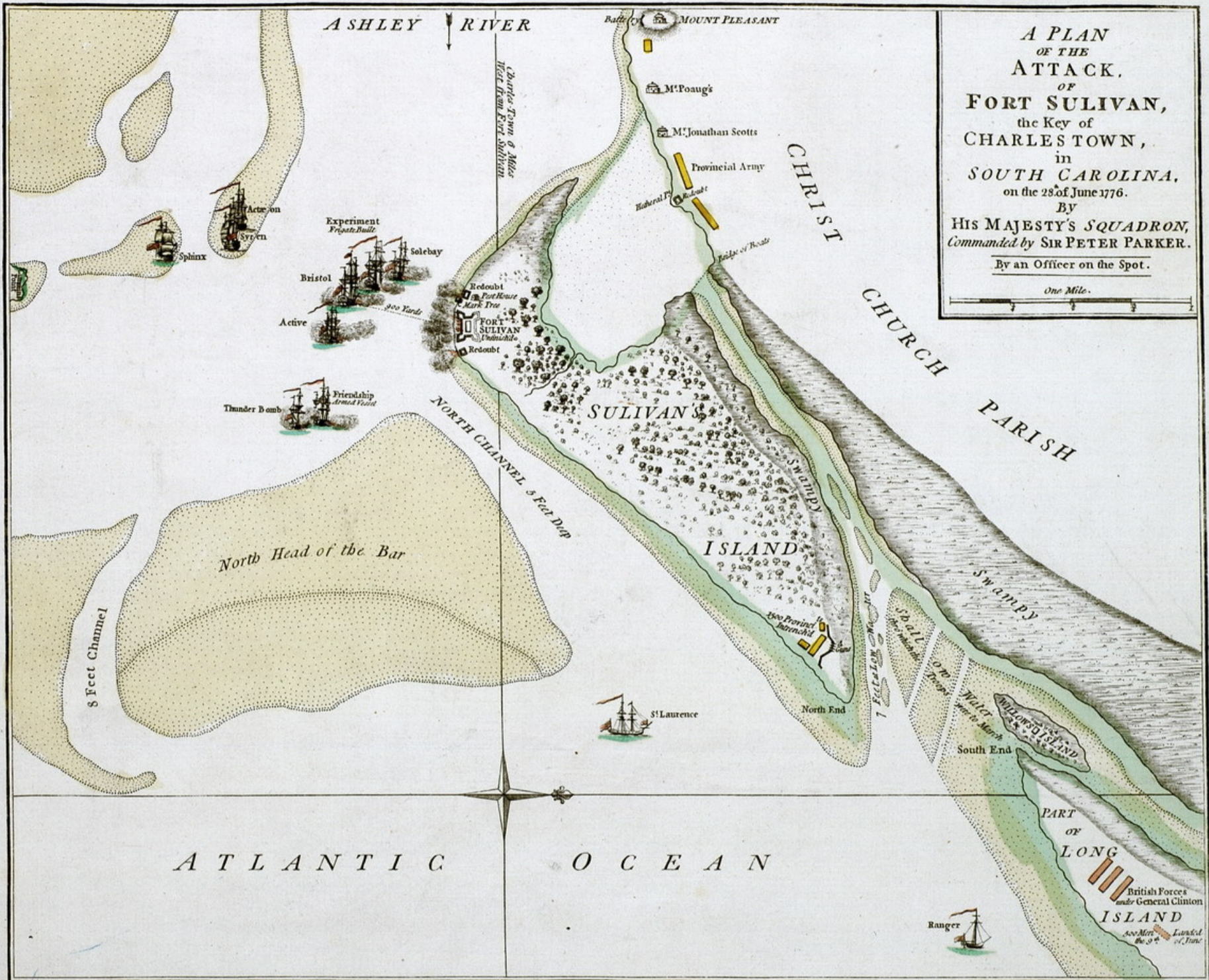


<b>Titel</b>	Plan des Angriffs britischer Truppe unter Sir Peter Parker auf Fort Sullivan, Key of Charleston in South-Carolina, am 28. Juni 1776, mit einer Beschreibung des Angriffs
<b>Urheber</b>	o.V./R. Sayer and J. Bennett
<b>Datum</b>	28.06.1776
<b>Format / Seiten</b>	Format 390x320 mm, Maßstab 1 mile = 7,8 cm [1:19.500]
<b>Bestand/Sign.</b>	HStAM WHK 28/12
<b>URL</b>	Dokument: <a href="http://www.digam.net/?dok=1994">http://www.digam.net/?dok=1994</a> - Ausstellung: <a href="http://www.digam.net/?exp=177">http://www.digam.net/?exp=177</a>



The following Description of the Attack of Fort Sullivan, was received in a Letter from Sir Peter Parker to Mr. Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty.

Within Charles-Town Bar, July 9th, 1776.

IT having been judged advisable to make an attempt upon Charles-Town in South Carolina, the fleet failed from Cape Fear on the 1st of June, and on the 4th anchored off Charles Town Bar. The 5th, founded the Bar, and laid down buoys preparatory to the intended entrance of the harbour. The 7th, all the frigates and most of the transports got over the Bar into five-fathom hole. The 9th, General Clinton landed on Long Island with about four or five hundred men. The 10th, the Bristol got over the Bar with some difficulty. The 13th, gave the Captains of the Squadron my arrangement for the attack of the batteries on Sullivan's Island, and the next day acquainted General Clinton that the ships were ready. The General fixed on the 23d for our joint attack, but the wind proving unfavourable prevented its taking effect. The 25th the Experiment arrived, and next day came over the Bar, when a new arrangement was made for the attack. The 28th, at half an hour after nine in the morning, informed General Clinton by signal that I should go on the attack. At half an hour after ten I made the signal to weigh; and about a quarter after eleven the Bristol, Experiment, Active, and Solebay, brought up against the fort. The Thunder Bomb, covered by the Friendship armed vessel, brought the salient angle of the east bastion to bear N. W. by N. and Colonel James (who has ever since our arrival been very anxious to give the best assistance) threw several shells, a little before and during the engagement, in a very good direction. The Sphinx, Acton, and Syren, were to have been to the westward, to prevent fire-ships or other vessels from annoying the ships engaged, to enfilade the works, and, if the rebels should be driven from them, to cut off their retreat, if possible. This last service was not performed, owing to the ignorance of the Pilot, who ran the three frigates aground. The Sphinx and Syren got off in a few hours, but the Acton remained fast till the next morning, when the Captain and Officers thought proper to scuttle and

set her on fire. I ordered a court martial on the Captain, Officers, and Company, and they have been honourably acquitted. Capt. Hope made his armed ship as useful as he could on the occasion, and he merits every thing that can be said in his favour. During the time of our being a-breach of the fort, which was near ten hours, a brisk fire was kept up by the ships, with intervals, and we had the satisfaction, after being engaged two hours, to oblige the rebels to slacken their fire very much. We drove large parties several times out of the fort, which were replaced by others from the main. About half an hour after three, a considerable reinforcement from Mount Pleasant hung a man on a tree at the back of the fort, and we imagine that the same party ran away about an hour after, for the fort was then totally silenced, and evacuated for near an hour and a half; but the rebels finding that our army could not take possession, about six o'clock a considerable body of people re-entered the fort, and renewed the firing from two or three guns, the rest being, I suppose, dismounted. About nine o'clock, it being very dark, great part of our ammunition expended, the people fatigued, the tide of ebb almost done, no prospect from the eastward, and no possibility of our being of any farther service, I ordered the ships to withdraw to their former moorings. Their Lordships will see plainly by this account, that if the troops could have co-operated on this attack, his Majesty would have been in possession of Sullivan's Island. But I must beg leave here to be fully understood, left it should be imagined that I mean to throw the most distant reflection on our army: I should not discharge my conscience, were I not to acknowledge, that such was my opinion of his Majesty's troops, from the General down to the private Soldier, that after I had been engaged some hours, and perceived that the troops had not got a footing on the north end of Sullivan's Island, I was perfectly satisfied that the landing was impracticable, and that the attempt would have been the destruction of many brave men without the least probability of success; and this, I am certain, will appear to be the case, when General Clinton represents

his situation.—The Bristol had 40 men killed, and 71 wounded; the Experiment 23 killed and 56 wounded, and both of them suffered much in their hulls, masts, and rigging; the Active had Lieutenant Pike killed, and 6 men wounded; and the Solebay 8 men wounded. Not one man who was quartered at the beginning of the action on the Bristol's quarter-deck escaped being killed or wounded. Captain Morris lost his right arm, and received other wounds, and is since dead; the Maister is wounded in his right arm, but will recover the use of it: I received several contusions at different times, but as none of them are on any part where the least danger can be apprehended, they are not worth mentioning. Lieutenants Caulfield, Molloy, and Nugent, were the Lieutenants of the Bristol in the action; they behaved so remarkably well, that it is impossible to say to whom the preference is due; and so indeed I may say of all the petty officers, ship's company, and volunteers. At the head of the latter I must place Lord William Campbell, who was so condescending as to accept of the direction of some guns on the lower gun deck. His Lordship received a contusion on his left side, but I have the happiness to inform their Lordships that it has not proved of much consequence. Captain Scott, of the Experiment, lost his left arm, and is otherwise so much wounded, that I fear he will not recover. I cannot conclude this letter without remarking, that when it was known that we had many men too weak to come to quarters, almost all the seamen belonging to the transports offered their service with a truly British spirit, and a just sense of the cause we are engaged in. I accepted of upwards of fifty to supply the place of our sick. The masters of many of the transports attended with their boats, but particular thanks are due to Mr. Chambers, the Maister of the Mercury.

All the Regiments will be embarked in a few days. The first brigade, consisting of four regiments, will sail in a day or two, under convoy, for New York; and the Bristol and Experiment will, I hope, soon follow with the remainder.

Sir Peter Parker's Squadron consisted of the following ships and vessels:

Ships, &c.	Guns.	Commanders.
Bristol	50	Sir Peter Parker.
Experiment	50	Capt. John Morris.
Active	28	Alexander Scott.
Solebay	28	William Williams.
Acton	28	Thomas Symonds.
Syren	28	Christopher Atkins.
Sphinx	20	Tobias Furneaux.
Friendship armed vessel	22	Anthony Hunt.
Ranger Sloop	8	Charles Hope.
Thunder Bomb	8	Roger Willis.
Saint Laurence Schooner		James Reid.
		Lieut. John Graves.

Whitchall, August 24.

IT appears; by Lieutenant-General Clinton's letter to Lord George Germain, dated July 8, 1776, from the camp on the Long Island, Province of South Carolina, that Sir Peter Parker and the General, having received intelligence that the fortrefs erected by the rebels on Sullivan's Island (the key to Charles Town Harbour) was in an imperfect and unfinished state, resolved to attempt the reduction thereof by a Coup de Main; and that, in order that the army might co-operate with the fleet, the General landed his troops on Long Island, which had been represented to him as communicating with Sullivan's Island by a ford passable at low water; but that he, to his very great mortification, found the channel, which was reported to have been eighteen inches deep in low water, to be seven feet deep; which circumstance rendered it impossible for the army to give that assistance to the fleet in the attack made upon the fortrefs that the general intended, and which he, and the troops, under his command, ardently wished to do.