

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICES OF THE KIRKPATRICK BROTHERS OF CHESTER AND YORK COUNTIES, SOUTH CAROLINA

Prepared by Michael C. Scoggins, Historian

Version 1.2

August 2016

1. FRANCIS KIRKPATRICK

25 September 1775, District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, SC: Francis Kirkpatrick enlisted as a private in Captain William Gaston's "volunteer company of horse-men" in the upper portion of the District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers [area corresponding to modern-day Chester County] adjoining the New Acquisition.¹ This company is referred to as "Captain Francis Kirkpatrick's company" in the preamble, indicating that Francis Kirkpatrick likely commanded the company during the period immediately prior to the beginning of the Revolution. Militia officers were elected by the men they commanded, and it appears that William Gaston was elected captain to command what had formerly been Kirkpatrick's company. The "volunteer companies of horse" organized in the backcountry in the summer and fall of 1775 were authorized by the SC Provincial Congress and regulated by the SC Council of Safety, which was appointed by the Provincial Congress.

Source: A. S. Salley Jr., "Rebel Rolls of 1775," *Charleston (SC) Sunday News*, 19 March 1899; A. S. Salley Jr., "Papers of the First Council of Safety of the Revolutionary Party in South Carolina, June-November 1775," *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. III, No. 3 (July 1902), 130-131.

Francis Kirkpatrick served 31 days as a private in the mounted militia @ 20 shillings currency (£1) per day (£20 total); dates not specified. He also provided sundries for militia use in the amount of £8 sterling; date not specified.²

Francis Kirkpatrick lost a mare valued at £25 currency (£3/11/5 sterling) while returning from a campaign in July 1781; appraised by Robert Kirkpatrick and Ezekiel Gillham, and verified by Frame Woods, JP³, 7 May 1783.

Claim sworn before William Tate, JP, 7 May 1783.

Granted power of attorney to Robert Kirkpatrick to receive payment on above account.

¹ In 1775 the South Carolina Provincial Congress organized electoral districts within the pre-existing colonial legal districts of Ninety Six, Camden and Cheraw in the SC upcountry. The New Acquisition Electoral District (part of the Camden Legal District) corresponded to modern day York County along with portions of modern Cherokee and Lancaster counties. The (Electoral) District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, also part of the Camden Legal District, corresponded to modern Chester, Fairfield and Richland Counties.

² All monetary amounts are in British pounds (£), either sterling (stg.) or currency.

³ JP=Justice of the Peace.

Robert Kirkpatrick received payment in full on behalf of Francis Kirkpatrick on 13 June 1785; acknowledged 15 November 1785 before J. Brown, JP.

Source: SC Audited Account for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service, No. 4332; SC Indent R515.

Note: Beginning in 1783, South Carolina issued indents or receipts to Revolutionary War veterans and their heirs for military services (back pay);, for supplies (sundries) provided for the militia and Continental army; and for compensation for material losses (horses, weapons, clothing, etc.). Veterans were required to provide receipts or vouchers signed by their commanding officers or other responsible authorities. Most of these claims were paid by the state with interest in the five years following the end of the war. These indents were numbered and organized into books (much like modern ledger-sized check books with stubs) and the books were denoted by letters of the alphabet, A-Z. The state kept the indent stubs as permanent records of the claims, along with all of the supporting documentation (receipts, certificates, appraisals, service records, etc.). These records are filed in the SC Archives as "Accounts audited for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service."

2. JOHN KIRKPATRICK

8 February to 16 March 1779 (inclusive): waggon team in public service 47 days @ £4 per day (£188 total).

July & August 1780: 40 days service as a private in the mounted militia under General [Thomas] Sumter @ 20 shillings (£1) per day (£40 total).

September & October 1780: 30 days service as a private in the mounted militia under Capt. [John] Moffet @ 20 shillings (£1) per day (£30 total).

11 April to 9 May 1781: 20 days service as a captain of mounted militia under General [Thomas] Sumter @ £5 per day (£95/5 shillings total).

February 1779: 4 bushels of salt delivered to Colonel [Thomas] Neel's regiment for public use @£6/10 shillings per bushel (£26 total).

14 February 1779: 7 bushels of corn for public use @ 15 shillings per bushel (total £5/5 shillings total).

Claim sworn before J. Brown, JP, 14 January 1784.

Certified by Colonel John Moffett.

Joseph Feemster received full satisfaction for the above account in Indent No. 533 Book W on administration to J. Kirkpatrick on 26 March 1784.

This are to certify that I have impowered Ja^s. Love to Receive my indent & an indent belonging to my brother Tho^s. Kirkpatrick Deceased of whose estate I am exe[cu]tor from the publick treasurer of the state of South Carolina. ...given from under my hand this 13 day of August 1785.

John Kirkpatrick
 Signed and acknowledged
 In present of
 W Bratton JP⁴

Source: SC Audited Account for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service, No. 4333; SC Indent W533.

8 April 1846, York District, SC: Joseph Kirkpatrick, aged 70 years, only surviving child of John Kirkpatrick deceased and his widow Elizabeth Craig Kirkpatrick, deceased, swore a deposition in order to obtain benefit of a Federal pension authorized for the widows of Revolutionary War veterans. He stated that his father John Kirkpatrick deceased, a resident of Chester District, was a captain in the South Carolina Militia in the regiments commanded by Colonels [William] Bratton and [Benjamin] Roebuck, and that he was commissioned as captain by Governor [John] Rutledge in April 1781 and as such served in the army until the end of the war. John Kirkpatrick died in Chester District in August 1785 and his widow Elizabeth Craig Kirkpatrick died 13 June 1838. John Kirkpatrick's captain's commission signed by Governor Rutledge was included with the pension application. Sworn to and subscribed before Edward Frost, presiding judge, 8 April 1846, and certified by James Kuykendall, clerk of the York District Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas, 15 April 1846.

This pension file includes a statement from the Comptroller General's Office, Columbia, SC, 17 November 1846, regarding indents filed by John Kirkpatrick for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service:

Book W, Indent 533: Issued the 24th August 1785 to John Kirkpatrick for forty nine pounds 1 S. 5 D. for sundries in 1779, 1780 & 1781 per acc^t. from the Commissioners. Principal £49:1:5 D Annual interest £3:8:8 D. [S= shillings, D=pence]

Book W, Account 533: Mr. John Kirkpatrick—His account of Sundries in 1779, 1780, & 1781, & 1782 (viz.), The State of South Carolina to John Kirkpatrick D^f. 8th February until March 16th 1779 both days included to wagon & team in publick service 37

⁴ William Bratton (1741-1815) was commissioned captain in the New Acquisition Militia Regiment in 1775, was promoted to major in March 1779 upon the death of Major Frank Ross, and was promoted to lieutenant colonel in June 1779 upon the death of Colonel Thomas Neel. After the fall of Charleston in May 1780, Bratton became one of the most active partisan militia commanders in the South Carolina upcountry, and as a full colonel he commanded a regiment in Brigadier General Thomas Sumter's militia brigade from June 1780 until at least 1782. After the war ended, he served as one of York County's first justices of the peace (JP), sheriff of Pinckney District, and also served in the South Carolina House of Representatives and South Carolina Senate. The community of Historic Brattonsville in York County preserves his colonial home and the homes of his children and grandchildren.

days @ £4 £148:0:0.⁵ July & August 1780 to 40 days Services under Gen^l. Sumter @ 20 S per day £40:0:0. September & October 1780 to 30 days service under Cap^t. Moffett @ 20 S per day £30:0:0. 11th April until May 9th 1781 to 29 days service as Cap^t. under Gen^l. Sumter @ 65 S per day £94:5:0. February 1777 to 4 bushels of salt delivered Col^o. Neil's Reg^t. for public use @ £6:10 S per bushel £26:0:0 14th February 1782 to 7 bushels corn 15 S per bushel £5:5:0. Totals £383:10:0.

Book X, Indent 3577: Issued 18th August 1786 to John Kirkpatrick sixty three pounds 2 S. 10 ¼ D. duty in [Colonel Benjamin] Roebuck's Reg^t. per account Audited. Principal £63:2:10 ¼ D. Interest £4:8:4 D.

7 September 1848, York District, SC: Joseph Kirkpatrick, aged 73 years, swore an amendment to his former deposition stating that his father John Kirkpatrick entered service during the Snow Campaign of 1775 in Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick's company of Colonel [Thomas] Neel's regiment. John Kirkpatrick "left home a short time after the birth of [the] deponent and was gone in Service...some days over three months." John Kirkpatrick was also "in the Indian Campaign in the latter part of the year 1776 & beginning of 1777" but deponent could not state with certainty "in whose company [he] served or length of said service but has understood that it was for some months." Deponent further stated that his father John Kirkpatrick "was generally in service from the above period untill the Close of the War and although Deponent distantly recollects of seeing his father leave home for Service & return from Service. He cannot say what rank he held in all his towers [tours] of Service but knows that he was always called Capt. and retained his Commission which was surrendered by deponent and sent to Commissioner of pensions for further particulars." Sworn to and subscribed before J. R. Hood, magistrate, 7 September 1848, and certified by James Kuykendall, clerk of York District Court of Sessions and Common Pleas, 10 December 1848.

James R. Williams, a resident of York District, aged 64 years, swore that he was a neighbor of the family of John Kirkpatrick and "has always understood and believes that John Kirkpatrick commenced the Service of his country in the Snow Campaign in 1775 a tour of some 3 months and was generally in Service at his countries call down to the close of the war during which period he was promoted to the rank of Captain....Deponent further sayeth that he has always understood the patriots of South Carolina in the years 1775 and 1776 were paid off at the expiration of their respective terms of Service." Sworn to and subscribed 25 February 1848 before S. C. Youngblood, magistrate.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. W9437.

⁵ John Kirkpatrick's audited account indicates 47 days service with wagon and team for a total of £188:0:0.

15 October 1832, York District, SC: Jacob Black, aged 75 years, swore a deposition in order to obtain the benefit of a Federal pension for his Revolutionary War service. He stated that he volunteered in January 1779 and served for two weeks against the Tories on Fairforest Creek [Union County, SC] under the command of Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick. He was then drafted and served three months on a campaign to Georgia and was in the Battle of Briar Creek [3 March 1779]. During this campaign he was under Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick and Major [Frank] Ross. About the first of May 1781 he volunteered and served for five weeks at the siege and taking of Congaree Fort or Friday's Fort, commanded by Captain John Kirkpatrick and Colonel William Bratton.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. S9281.

3. ROBERT KIRKPATRICK (1)⁶

25 September 1775, District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, SC: Robert Kirkpatrick enlisted as a private in Captain William Gaston's "volunteer company of horse-men" in the upper portion of the District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers [area corresponding to modern-day Chester County] adjoining the New Acquisition. The "volunteer companies of horse" organized in the backcountry in the summer and fall of 1775 were authorized by the SC Provincial Congress and regulated by the SC Council of Safety, which was appointed by the Provincial Congress.

Source: A. S. Salley Jr., "Rebel Rolls of 1775," *Charleston (SC) Sunday News*, 19 March 1899; A. S. Salley Jr., "Papers of the First Council of Safety of the Revolutionary Party in South Carolina, June-November 1775," *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. III, No. 3 (July 1902), 130-131.

4. ROBERT KIRKPATRICK (2)⁷

Robert Kirkpatrick his acct. of Sun^d. For Militia use Amnt^g. to £31.7.1 ½
Thirty one Pounds Seven Shillings & one Penny half Penny Sterling.
Not certified.

7 May 1783: Robert Dickey and David Dickey swore an oath that Robert Kirkpatrick lost a brown mare in public service valued at £50:0:0. Sworn to before Frame Woods, JP, Camden District.

8 May 1783: State of South Carolina, debtor. Account for Robert Kirkpatrick:

44 hogs for public service

Also for personal service

40 days @ 20 shillings per day [private of mounted militia] £40:0:0

⁶ Kirkpatrick family researchers believe that this Robert Kirkpatrick is the son of the aforementioned Francis Kirkpatrick.

⁷ Kirkpatrick family researchers believe that this Robert Kirkpatrick is the brother of the aforementioned Francis Kirkpatrick.

21 days @ 20 shillings per day	£21:0:0
29 days @ 20 shillings per day	£29:0:0
31 days @ 20 shillings per day	£31:0:0
40 days @ 10 shillings per day [private of foot militia]	£20:0:0
57 days @ 10 shillings per day	£28:10:0

Sworn to 8th May 1783, W^m. Tate, JP.

12 November 1784: Robert Kirkpatrick received from the Commissioners of the Treasury thirty one pounds 7 shillings 1 ½ pence full satisfaction for the within account plus interest

£9:10:0

£24:4:3 ¼ Sterling

*Indent No. 181 Book K.
Robert Kirkpatrick*

5 June 86

Robert Kirkpatrick for 30 days as horseman in Capt. Moffett's Company of Col. Bratton's Regiment @ 20/s per day. Amt^g. To Curr^y. £30 -- -- Sterling £4.5.8 ½.

Four pounds five shillings & eight pence half penny Sterling.
Neither date of Month or Year when the above duty was performed

State of South Carolina D^f. to Robert Kirkpatrick for 30 days personal service as horseman at pr. day 20/s done under Capt. Moffett of Col. Bratton's Regiment
£30 – 0 – 0

/s/ Robert Kirkpatrick

The above sworn to before

W Bratton JP

York County

Camden District

I certify the above to be Just

W Bratton Col^o.

Received full satisfaction for the within Indent No. 1240 Y. Robert Kirkpatrick.

[Although no dates are given in these accounts, service in Captain John Moffett's company of Colonel William Bratton's regiment probably took place between June 1780 and late 1781.—MCS]

Source: SC Audited Account for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service, No. 4334; SC Indents K181, Y1240.

13 November 1832, Jackson County, TN: Robert Kirkpatrick, aged 78 years, swore the following deposition in order to obtain benefit of a pension for his Revolutionary War service:

“He volunteered on a three month tour in Camden District South Carolina where applicant then lived in August 1775 under Capt. William Gaston, Lieut. Thomas Roberts, & Ensign James Kirk,⁸ & was marched to Snow Camp under the command of Gen^l. [Richard] Richardson & joined the main army at Col. [John] Wynn’s, crossed the Congaree river & marched towards the Indian lands & joined Gen^l. Sumpter’s army in that section of country.⁹ On Reedy river while commanded by Gen^l. Sumpter they took one hundred and eighty Tories prisoners among whom was old Col. Fletcher [Thomas Fletchall], all of whom were sent to Charleston, after being delivered to the low country people, they were then marched back towards the Congaree river & went home at the expiration of the tour. He is not certain whether Sumpter at this time ranked as Col. or Gen^l.

“Applicant thinks in the summer of 1776 he again volunteered on a two months tour under Captain Thomas Robins & Col. [Thomas] Neal to go to the Cherokee Nation & marched through the nation in various directions destroying their towns & villages, which was their great object to harass & destroy them in that way, in the tour they destroyed as many as ten Indian towns.

“In the spring of 1777 or 8 applicant again volunteered under Capt. W^m. Gaston, Lieut. Th. Roberts & Ensign Ja^s. Kirk who were the officers in his first tour, was marched about 220 miles & rendezvoused at Charleston where they were stationed about 3 months under the command of Gen^l. Richardson, he thinks the soldiers were discharged by Regiments, he got no written discharge, this was a three months tour.

“In 1778 the applicant is not entirely certain as to date he again volunteered under Ensign James Kirk in Gen^l. [Andrew] Williamson’s army & now marched out to Augusta, & to Ninety Six where they were stationed some time, while there, received information of some Indians going to join the British, was sent by Gen^l. Williamson in company of about three hundred men in pursuit of them at Ogeechee river on a creek of said river, killed nine Indians & one white man, took three Indians & one white man prisoners. Major [Frank] Ross was killed in this action,¹⁰ they were commanded by Col. [LeRoy] Hammond, returned back to head quarters to Augusta immediately, and after remaining there about two weeks was discharged this was a three months tour.

“As well as applicant now recollects, in Feb^y. 1779 he again volunteered under Capt. W^m. Gaston, Lieut. Tho^s. Roberts & Ensign James Kirk & marched to Pleurinsburg

⁸ This is probably a transcription error for Thomas Robins (not Roberts) and James Kirkpatrick (not Kirk). The errors were likely made by the clerk taking the deposition, not the veteran himself.

⁹ Thomas Sumter was not a participant in the Snow Campaign of 1775. The SC state troops on that campaign were actually commanded by Colonel William Thomson, and Kirkpatrick evidently has confused the two officers in his statement. Sumter did participate in the Cherokee Campaign of 1776 as lieutenant colonel commandant of the Sixth South Carolina Regiment (Rifles).

¹⁰ Major Frank Ross commanded a detachment of the New Acquisition Regiment that participated in the Battle of Briar Creek, Georgia, on 3 March 1779. Following that engagement, Major Ross was killed when his men engaged a party of Cherokee Indians and Tories at the Battle of Rocky Comfort Creek, Richmond County, GA, on 29 March 1779.

[Purysburg] on the Savanna River where he joined Gen^l. Williamson & was stationed there about a month after serving out a tour of three months went home, remained at home about a month & was recalled to Pleurinsburg, when we got back there Gen^l. Lincoln then had command who had arrived there in the interval, hearing that the British were at Charleston we now marched to about four miles of that place, on the ---- we crossed the Edisto river, & after crossing the river we intercepted a large party of Tories driving negroes towards Savannah, among whom we took a celebrated Tory by the name of Bill Cunningham, from near Charleston returned home, this tour was five months.

“Applicant is not entirely certain as to the dates but he is certain of the number of tours here set forth, has no documents or papers to show his services, & knows of no living witness by whom he can prove it, in all he served one year & 7 months.”

Sworn to and subscribed before Jonas Griffith, John Welch and William Gray, justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 13 November 1832, and witnessed by William Gailbreath, clerk of Jackson County Court.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. S1845.

5. THOMAS KIRKPATRICK

State of South Carolina to Cap^t. Thomas Kirkpatrick Debt^r

February to Sixty Days personal service at 3..10/0 per day £210..0..0
8 Day Stg. £ 30.....
1779

Briar
Creek
Georgia Certified by me John Moffett Col.

Charleston Dist.

Robert Dowell appeared and made Oath that the within account is Just and no payment has been rec^d. Sworn to before me 26 March 1784.

Robert Dowell

P. McCall J.P.

Rec^d. 26 March 1784 Mr. Th^s. Kirkpatrick

Received full Satisfaction for the within Account in Indent N^o. 660 Book U. Rec^d. in Guardian duty appointed by Law to the Children of the within named Thomas Kirkpatrick dec^d.

Ja^s. Feemster

Source: SC Audited Account for claims growing out of Revolutionary War service No. 4335; SC Indent U660.

1 March 1843, Sangamon County, Illinois: Margaret Dodds, formerly Margaret Kirkpatrick, aged 91 years, swore a deposition in order to obtain of a Federal pension as widow of Thomas Kirkpatrick deceased:

“...That they lived in the County of York in S. Carolina That he went into the Service in November Seventeen hundred and Seventy eight about six months after she was married to him. That she was married to said Thomas Kirkpatrick by Mr. Alexander a Minister of the Presbyterian Church¹¹ in June Seventeen hundred and Seventy eight in York Co. S. Carolina. That said Kirkpatrick was a member of said Church. That she had only one child named Hannah by her said Husband Thomas Kirkpatrick and she was born on the Sixteenth day of January seventeen hundred and eighty and that her said Husband was out in the Service when she was born, and nearly all the time until he was taken prisoner by the British on Briar Creek in S. Carolina in the Summer of Seventeen hundred and eighty one. That he was taken to Sullivans Island a prisoner where he was taken sick and was removed into Charleston So. Carolina where he Soon died as she learned by her friends as well as by a letter she received from the man at whose house he died which letter has long since been lost or destroyed and she does not remember the mans name. That she does not know of any record of their marriage or his death or whether he was an officer or not. That she believes he was a Captain when he first went out and was afterward made a Major or Colonel and that he was called Captain Kirkpatrick when she married him. That she heard he died of a Fever and that after the death of her said Husband T. Kirkpatrick she married again to one Francis Dodds in the fall of Seventeen hundred and Eighty three and that she had seven children by him and that he the said Francis Dodds died in Dec^r. 1797. The days of the months in the foregoing declaration she does not remember distinctly enough to be qualified to. That she is still a widow and has remained a widow since the death of the said Francis Dodds.”

Sworn to and subscribed on 1 March 1843 before James B. Easley, Justice of the Peace.

5 June 1843, Jefferson County, Iowa: John Kirkpatrick, aged seventy three years, swore a deposition in support of the claim of Margaret Dodds:

“...that my Father Thomas Kirkpatrick married the said Margaret Dodds for his second wife in the month of June 1779 in York County, South Carolina at which time I was a boy about nine years old. That my Father Thomas Kirkpatrick lived with the said Margaret as man and wife till he went into the Service of the United States. That he was an officer before he went out. That he the said Thomas Kirkpatrick went into the Service in _____ 1779 and served two years or more in South Carolina and held the rank of Captain when he went out and was promoted to a Major but cannot say how long he was a Major. That my Father Thomas Kirkpatrick while in the Service of the United States was taken prisoner by the British [~~striethrough~~—a statement to the effect that he was taken prisoner at or after the defeat of Col. Tarleton at the Cowpens on 17 January 1781] and taken to Charleston and died in Charleston in South Carolina, in the summer of 1782. That he was in the service of the United States when his daughter was born about the

¹¹ Rev. Joseph Alexander was minister at Bullock’s Creek Presbyterian Church in present York County, SC.

middle of January 1780. That he had but this one daughter (who is now dec^d.) by Mrs. Dodds formerly Mrs. Kirkpatrick. That after my Fathers decease she married Francis Dodds with whom she lived for several years when he died, and she has been a widow ever since. That I believe she married to Mr. Dodds in 1783. That Margaret Dodds now living in Sangamon County Illinois is the Identical person who was married to my Father Thomas Kirkpatrick aforesaid in York County South Carolina in the month of June in the year Seventeen hundred and seventy nine.

“...he cannot recollect the Regiment that he Served in nor his Commander (but thinks the Colonels name was Neal my father was a Captain in the Militia of South Carolina and went out in service several times as much or more than two years as Captain and Major.”

Sworn to and subscribed 5 June 1843 before Smith Ball, justice of the peace.

19 May 1843, Madison County, Illinois: Isaac Gillham “an old Revolutionary pensioner now on the roll of the Illinois Agency,” aged 86 years, swore a deposition in support of the claim by Margaret Dodds:

“That said Deponent formerly lived in York County South Carolina during the time of the Revolutionary War and was personally acquainted with Thomas Kirkpatrick in said York County who was married to one Margaret Watson now Margaret Dodds—that the said Thomas Kirkpatrick was drafted from the Militia and went into the service of the United States and served several different tours of Fifty Days each previous to his being taken prisoner at his own Residence by Capt^s. Houk and Adamson British Officers¹² and sent to Charleston South Carolina on parole where he was put on board a British Vessel and kept there untill he was nearly dead and then was discharged and died in a few days—that the said Thomas Kirkpatrick was a Major in the Army and was so at the time of his death & that he died in the summer of 1780.

“And said Deponent says that he lived only about Four Miles from said Thomas Kirkpatrick and married one of his daughters A.D. 1787 and was personally acquainted with the Family of the said Thomas Kirkpatrick during the War of the Revolution and personally knew the said Thomas Kirkpatrick to be an acting Major in the service of the United States and that Margaret Kirkpatrick the Widow of the said Thomas Kirkpatrick was married to one Francis Dodds A.D 1781 or 1782 and further this Deponent saith not.”

Sworn to and subscribed 19 May 1843 before John Ives J. P.

“Isaac Gillham...in addition to said Affidavitt deposeth and says that Thomas Kirkpatrick and said Deponent served one Campaign together between the years A.D. 1778 and A.D. 1780 in the service of the United States on Savannah River in the southern part of South Carolina under the command of General Lincoln also that said Thomas

¹² This is a reference to Captain Christian Huck (Houk) of the British Legion and Captain (actually Lieutenant) William Adamson of the New York Volunteers, both of which were British Provincial regiments serving in the South Carolina backcountry in 1780-1781. Huck and Adamson were stationed at Rocky Mount, SC in June and July 1780 and were defeated at the Battle of Huck's Defeat (Williamson's Plantation) near Brattonsville, York County, SC on 12 July 1780. This is consistent with Isaac Gillham's statement that Kirkpatrick was sent to Charleston as a prisoner where he died in the summer of 1780.

Kirkpatrick and Margaret Watson now Margaret Dodds lived together as Man and Wife for some years and untill he was taken prisoner as stated in said foregoing Affidavitt.”

Sworn to and subscribed 12 June 1843 before John Ives J. P. Certified 8 August 1843 by William Tyler Brown, clerk of the county court of Madison County, Illinois.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension, No. R2991.

15 October 1832, York District, SC: Jacob Black of York District, aged 75 years, swore a deposition in order to obtain the benefit of a Federal pension for his Revolutionary War service. He stated that he volunteered in January 1779 and served for two weeks against the Tories on Fairforest Creek [Union County, SC] under the command of Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick. He was then drafted and served three months on a campaign to Georgia and was in the Battle of Briar Creek [3 March 1779]. During this campaign he was under Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick and Major [Frank] Ross. He served four months under General Sumter during the summer and fall of 1780 but missed the Battle of Kings Mountain because he was on detached duty at Smith's Ford on the Broad River. About the first of May 1781 he volunteered and served for five weeks at the siege and taking of Congaree Fort or Friday's Fort, commanded by Captain John Kirkpatrick and Colonel William Bratton.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. S9281.

16 October 1832, York District, SC: James Jamieson of Chester District, aged 77 years, swore a deposition in order to obtain the benefit of a Federal pension for his Revolutionary War service. He stated that he volunteered in June or July 1776 under Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick and Colonel [Thomas] Neal, on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians and served six weeks. He again volunteered under Captain Kirkpatrick in January 177 and served two weeks against the Tories on Fairforest Creek [Union County, SC]. He volunteered again under Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick and Major [Frank] Ross in an expedition to Georgia and was in the Battle of Briar Creek; served in this tour three months. After the Battle of Briar Creek before returning to South Carolina he again volunteered in an expedition under Colonel [LeRoy] Hammond against the Creek Indians; came upon the Indians at the Oconee River, fought and defeated them, served in this campaign two weeks. He stated that he served a two months tour at Wright's Bluff on the Santee River under Colonel William Bratton in 1780, shortly after the fall of Charleston. Under General Sumter in 1780, he was commissioned a captain and was at the battles of Huck's Defeat (Williamson's Plantation), Rocky Mount, Hanging Rock, and Blackstock's Plantation on Tyger River. Immediately after the Battle of Blackstock's, about December 1780, he was taken prisoner by Tories at his own home, was delivered to Lord Cornwallis and was a prisoner about one month. He was then paroled and set at liberty but was not exchanged until after the capture of Cornwallis in October 1781.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. S21839.

20 November 1832, Pickens District, SC: David Hamilton of Pickens District, aged 82 years, swore a deposition in order to obtain the benefit of a Federal pension for his Revolutionary War service. He entered the militia service under Captain [Thomas] Kirkpatrick, Colonel [Thomas] Neal and General [Andrew] Williamson in 1775 and continued with them about twelve months, was in pursuit of the unfriendly Indians at different times, but never engaged in a general battle. He then volunteered under Captain [James] Jamieson and General [Thomas] Sumter and served under Sumter until the close of the war. He was transferred from Captain Jamieson's company to Captain John Kirkpatrick's company. He was engaged in the battles of Rocky Mount, Hanging Rock, and Blackstock's on Tyger River, and many other skirmishes and small party engagements. He was also in the Battle of Shubrick's Plantation where General Sumter and General [Francis] Marion were present.

Source: Federal Revolutionary War pension application, No. S17998.

6. JAMES KIRKPATRICK

25 September 1775, District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, SC: William Gaston was elected captain, Thomas Robins was elected first lieutenant, and James Kirkpatrick was elected second lieutenant of a "volunteer company of horse-men" at the home of Mr. Francis Kirkpatrick in the upper portion of the District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers [area corresponding to modern-day Chester County] adjoining the New Acquisition. This company is referred to as "Captain Francis Kirkpatrick's company" in the preamble, indicating that Francis Kirkpatrick likely commanded the company during the period immediately prior to the beginning of the Revolution. Militia officers were elected by the men they commanded, and it appears that William Gaston was elected captain to command what had formerly been Kirkpatrick's company. The "volunteer companies of horse" organized in the backcountry in the summer and fall of 1775 were authorized by the SC Provincial Congress on 17 June 1775 and regulated by the SC Council of Safety, which was appointed by the Provincial Congress.

Source: A. S. Salley Jr., "Rebel Rolls of 1775," *Charleston (SC) Sunday News*, 19 March 1899; A. S. Salley Jr., "Papers of the First Council of Safety of the Revolutionary Party in South Carolina, June-November 1775," *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. III, No. 3 (July 1902), 130-131.

7. Analysis of the Revolutionary War service of James Kirkpatrick

The above record is the only official documentation so far located regarding the Revolutionary War services of James Kirkpatrick. There is a record of a James Kirkpatrick of Chester District who served in Captain Felix Warley's company of the Third South Carolina Continental Regiment, commanded by Colonel William Thomson, from February 1779 until the regiment surrendered at Charleston in May 1780. This information is contained in the rosters of the Third Regiment and in a Federal pension

application filed by James Kirkpatrick on 23 December 1818. There is also a well-documented family tradition that James Kirkpatrick was murdered by Tories at his home in western York County on or about 1 January 1781. In this case, the James Kirkpatrick who filed for a pension in 1818 must be a different James Kirkpatrick than the man who was killed in 1781.

Any efforts to ascertain James Kirkpatrick's military services after late 1775 (if indeed there were any such services) are problematic. So far I have not found official records or any statements by veterans who indicated that they served with him or under him after late 1775. We can assume with a fair degree of confidence that Lieutenant James Kirkpatrick participated in the early campaigns of the Revolution in South Carolina as part of Captain William Gaston's militia company. The services of Captain Gaston's company during the early phase of the Revolutionary War in South Carolina are fairly well documented. Gaston's company participated in the so-called "Snow Campaign" against a Loyalist uprising in what is now Greenville County, SC, in December 1775, which culminated in the Battle of Great Cane Brake on the Reedy River on 22 December 1775. Gaston's company also took part in the extended "Cherokee Campaign" under Brigadier General Andrew Williamson in northwestern SC and the mountains of western NC during the summer and fall of 1776. During both of these campaigns, Gaston's company was attached to the New Acquisition Militia Regiment from present-day York County, SC, under the command of Colonel Thomas Neel (or Neal), Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Watson, and Major Francis "Frank" Ross.

Gaston's company also accompanied a detachment of the New Acquisition Regiment under the command of Major Ross in the expedition to relieve Augusta, Georgia, in early 1779, and was involved in the disastrous Battle of Briar Creek, Screven County, GA, on 3 March 1779. Ross's command then joined Colonel LeRoy Hammond's regiment in pursuit of a raiding party composed of Tories and Cherokee or Creek Indians. The pursuit culminated in a bloody hand-to-hand battle on Rocky Comfort Creek in present-day Richmond County, GA on 29 March 1779. Major Ross was mortally wounded by a tomahawk, following which Captain William Bratton was promoted to major of the New Acquisition Regiment.

There appears to be a transcription error in the pension application of Robert Kirkpatrick that may relate to the service of James Kirkpatrick. This deposition states that Robert served under Captain William Gaston, "Lieutenant Thomas Roberts," and "Ensign James Kirk" during the Snow Campaign of late 1775 and on a tour of garrison duty at Charleston in the spring of 1777. This is almost certainly a mistake on the part of the county clerk who transcribed Robert Kirkpatrick's deposition, since the roster of Captain Gaston's company of 1775 indicates that the junior officers were First Lieutenant Thomas Robins (not Roberts) and Second Lieutenant James Kirkpatrick (not Kirk). I should point out that in the eighteenth century British and American military command structure, the rank of ensign corresponded to second lieutenant. In my opinion, this statement is more likely an indication that James Kirkpatrick was the second lieutenant or ensign in Captain Gaston's company during these campaigns. Robert Kirkpatrick's pension application does mention that he served under Captain Thomas Robins and Colonel Neel during the Cherokee Campaign of 1776, which reinforces my belief that the "Roberts" and "Kirk" names are errors.

It is likely that James Kirkpatrick was involved in all of the above campaigns and battles. According to several sources including the above referenced pension applications, James Kirkpatrick's brother Thomas Kirkpatrick also commanded a militia company in Colonel Neel's regiment and was involved in a punitive expedition against the Tories on Fairforest Creek in present-day Union County, SC in December 1778 and January 1779. Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick's company was also in Major Ross's battalion during the Georgia Campaign and participated in the battles of Briar Creek and Rocky Comfort Creek. It is certainly within the realm of possibility that James Kirkpatrick served under his brother Thomas, instead of under Captain Gaston, during these two campaigns.

James Kirkpatrick might have served under Captain Thomas Kirkpatrick during the early summer of 1780 when General Sumter was organizing his militia brigade in the South Carolina upcountry. There are a number of contradictory statements in the Federal pension applications regarding Thomas Kirkpatrick's capture and subsequent death as a British prisoner-of-war. Thomas's widow Margaret stated he was captured at Briar Creek "in the summer of 1781" (obviously not the correct date for that battle), and subsequently died in Charleston. Kirkpatrick's son John stated that his father was captured by the British and died in Charleston in the summer of 1782. A statement to the effect that he was captured around the time of the Battle of Cowpens in January 1781 was transcribed and then struck out in John Kirkpatrick's deposition, but it is still legible. The most reliable account appears to be the statement by Isaac Gillham, who served in the militia under Captain (later Major) Thomas Kirkpatrick. Gillham stated that Thomas was taken prisoner at his own home by "Captains Houk and Adamson" of the British Army and sent to Charleston where he was put on board a prison ship, became ill and died in the summer of 1780. This agrees very well with the historical record (see my book *The Day It Rained Militia*) which documents that Captain Christian Huck of the British Legion cavalry and Lieutenant William Adamson of the New York Volunteers mounted infantry made a sweep through the settlements on Turkey and Bullock's Creek in western York County in June 1780. Huck's troops engaged in at least one well-documented skirmish with the Whig militia in this area, killed several men and took several prisoners. It is very likely that Thomas Kirkpatrick was taken prisoner by Huck at this time, and sent to Charleston as a prisoner-of-war where he died later that summer.

James Kirkpatrick could have served in Colonel William Bratton's regiment of Sumter's Brigade during 1780 and 1781, but there is very little evidence to conclusively verify such service. It appears that Francis Kirkpatrick (the younger) was in militia service prior to July 1781 when he lost his horse, and the extensive militia services of John Kirkpatrick under Captain John Moffett and Colonel Bratton after the fall of Charleston are well documented in his audited account. Statements that John Kirkpatrick was a captain in Bratton's regiment and was present at the battles of Rocky Mount (30 July 1780), Hanging Rock (6 August 1780), Blackstock's Plantation (20 November 1780), Friday's Fort (aka Congaree Fort or Fort Granby, 19-21 February 1781) and Shubrick's Plantation (17 July 1781) are specified in the various pension applications supporting the claims of his son Joseph Kirkpatrick. I should also point out that Francis Kirkpatrick's audited account states that he was "on campaign" in July 1781, which is the same time that John Kirkpatrick's company was with Bratton and Sumter at Shubrick's Plantation.

There is a persistent family tradition stating that James Kirkpatrick returned home from militia service about the first of January 1781. The tradition further states that he had vouched for the parole of a Tory named Mayfield and that after returning home a group of Tories surprised him in his home and murdered him. This tradition is consistent with the supposition that Kirkpatrick had been in service with Sumter's militia brigade during late 1780, but it does not allow us to speculate any further as to what battles he might have been involved in. Following the Battle of Kings Mountain in October 1780 and the Battle of Blackstock's Plantation in November 1780 (where General Sumter was badly wounded and had to retire from the field service in order to recover), the Whig militia under Colonel Edward Lacey and Lieutenant Colonel William Hill constructed a fort on Turkey Creek in present-day York County that was known as Fort Lacey or Lacey's Fort. This fort was a base of operations for the Whig militia in the Broad River region. Lacey's Fort allowed the Whigs to patrol the Broad River area, suppress Tory insurgents, and gave them a place to hold Tory prisoners. This fort would have been very close to James Kirkpatrick's home, and he might have aided in its construction and might have been garrisoned there in December 1780. The story about the Tory prisoner Mayfield being paroled to the custody of Kirkpatrick at the end of December 1780 would be consistent with this supposition.

Lastly, the Kirkpatrick brothers also provided "sundries," i.e., supplies and nonmilitary services, to support the militia, particularly after the fall of Charleston. These sundries included corn, salt and hogs, as well as the hire of wagons and teams of horses for the public service. It is certainly possible that James Kirkpatrick also provided sundries for militia services. Unfortunately, neither his widow nor any of his legal heirs ever filed any claims for his militia pay, reimbursement for sundries, or applications for state or federal pensions, and none of his brothers, nephews, sisters-in-law, or fellow soldiers mentioned his services during the war (with the probable exception of the statements in Robert Kirkpatrick's pension application quoted above). Barring the discovery of any previously unknown primary source records, we can only speculate about his Revolutionary War services after late 1775, and all we can say is that he might have served, and probably did serve, but we have no official documentation of such service.

Michael C. Scoggins
Historian