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REPORT TO: Cooksey Research Group

SUBJECT: **William Cooksey of Georgia's Continental Line: Finding Clues to Origin & Service**

BACKGROUND: William Cooksey aka Cucksey, Cuksey, Cooksie, and Coxsy (ca. 1745–1829) was attached to the Eighth Rifle Company, First Georgia Battalion, Continental Troops. His earliest known record of any type is his appearance on a payroll drafted 1 June 1779. His birth family and origins are unknown. His wife has not been identified; Client has disproved popular assertions about her identity. Postwar, Cooksey lived in Washington, Montgomery, Tattnall, and Laurens Counties, Georgia, before removing to Covington County, Mississippi.

ASSIGNMENT: Examination and analysis of Revolutionary War military histories, along with service records, bounty land files, and pension applications created by comrades.

GOALS: Identification of (a) the activities of his unit; (b) clues to when and where he might have enlisted; and (c) clues to origin and family connections.

LIMITATIONS: The project—both analysis and research—will be limited to 40 hours.

ANALYSIS OF KNOWN DATA

Just months before his death, William Cooksey filed an application for a pension as a Revolutionary soldier. His terse affidavit states that he “enlisted in the continental line of the army of the Revolution for and during the war and continued in its Service until its termination, at which period [he] was a private in Shadrack Wright’s Company in the first Regiment of the Georgia line.” While Cooksey implied that he served for some years, he gave no description of his activities in that war and said nothing about where or when he enlisted. He cited no birthplace, and named no kin.¹ His Compiled Service Record (CSR) credits him with far less service. From it, descendants have concluded that he enlisted on 1 April 1779, under Wright, and served until July, that he fell ill or was wounded, and that he was released on furlough, at which

¹ William Cuksey/Cucksey (Pvt., Shadrack Wright’s Co., 1st Regt., Ga. Cont’l. Line), pension applications 1278; digital images, *Footnote.com* (<http://www.footnote.com> : downloaded 30 August 2008), image 2; imaged from *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files*, microfilm publication M804, roll number not cited but should be 707. Provided by client, 23 October 2010. Cooksey’s pension application is erroneously combined with R20354, the application file of a widow of a different William Cooksey.

point his service ended.² Nothing else was known about his military experience, the activities of his battalion, or the men with whom he served. Client hopes that the details in these two records can be developed into a fuller understanding of Cooksey's wartime activities, that his origins can be found—or at least clues thereto—and needs directions in which to pursue further research.

A significant problem exists with the prevailing interpretation of this meager evidence. Cooksey's CSR is not an original document; rather, it consists of tidbits of data extracted from surviving payrolls. Those original rolls (see appended photocopies) provide the following details for Cooksey:

“A Pay Roll of the Field Commissions Staff & Non Commissiond Officers and Privates belonging to the first Georgia Battalion of Continental Troops Commanded by Col^o Robert Rae from the *first day of April to the first day of June 1779.*”

William Cooksie

Time frame:

“Casualties”:

“Receipts”:

Private

1st April–1 June, 2 months @ \$6 ²/₃ per month,
total \$13 ¹/₃

“Augusta”

No signature for pay

NOTE:

Cooksey and Andrew Forster, “waggoner at Silver Bluff,” were the only 2 who did not acknowledge receipt of pay via their signature or mark.³

[Untitled roll, dated “*June to July*” 1779:

William Cooksie

Time frame:

“Casualties”:

“Receipts”:

Private

Same data as above

On Furlough”

No signature for pay

NOTE:

Again, Cooksey and Andrew Foster, “wag^r at Silver Bluff,” were the only 2 men who did not acknowledge receipt of pay.⁴

The CSR reports the exact data above, except for the commentaries added here about the lack of an acknowledgement by Cooksey and Andrew Foster.

If one considers only Cooksey's data, it is easy to draw the conclusion descendants reached—that he enlisted on 1 April 1779, was wounded at Augusta before or about 1 June, and was sent home on furlough before 1 July. However, a significantly different conclusion emerges from a contextual analysis of his data against (a) the composition of the payroll; (b) details those records provide for others; and (c) auxiliary service data for his compatriots.

² “William Cooksie” (Pvt., 1 Geo. Batt., Revolutionary War); digital images in “Revolutionary War Service Records,” database, *Footnote.com* (<http://www.footnote.com> : accessed 30 August 2010), images 17080038, 17080042, 17080046; imaged from *Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the American Revolution*, National Archives microfilm publication M881 [roll number not cited; likely roll 396]. Provided by client, 23 October 2010.

³ “1 Georgia Battn. Col. Robert Rae, Maj. John Habersham, 1779–1780; 4 Pay rolls—April 1, 1779 to Feb. 1, 1780,” image copies in “Revolutionary War Service Records,” database, *Footnote.com* (www.footnote.com : accessed 10 September 2010), images 7661708, 7661709, 7661612, 7661716, 7661733, 7661738; imaged from *Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775–1783*, National Archives microfilm publication M246 [roll not stated].

⁴ *Ibid.*

CORRECTION NO. 1:

April 1, 1779 was not William's enlistment date. His enlistment could have been months or years before that date. A study of all available records for all of the men named with him on the rolls reveals that—when their actual enlistment dates or time frame could be determined—those dates were *all well before* the start date of the 1 April–1 June payroll.

Surviving payrolls are rare for Revolutionary Georgia. They were also created irregularly, as money actually became available to pay the men. When a new roll was compiled, its “start date” was the date of the last payroll. The earliest payroll surviving for William's company is the 1 April–1 June 1779 roll. All that can be determined from it, insofar as his enlistment, is that William joined the company at some unknown time, before that date, and at some unknown place.

CORRECTION NO. 2:

Cooksey does not state that he *enlisted* under Wright; rather, his statement implies only that Wright was his lieutenant at the time he *ended* his service. This distinction has significant bearings on when and where he may have enlisted. Addressing that issue requires a study of Wright's unit and how its forces were assembled. As shown below under “Findings” and “Summary,” the evidence introduces two radically different possibilities for Cooksey's origin.

CORRECTION NO. 3:

William was not a casualty. Despite the assertion in his Compiled Service Record, there is no evidence that he was ever wounded. The original rolls drawn in both June and July carry an entry in that “casualty” column for *every* individual in his company. That column was actually used to record *status information* about each man.

The 1 June roll, for example, notes the following statuses under the “Casualties” column

“In Augusta”	[Col. Robert Rae, the brigade commander]
“Absent”	[1 man, Francis Henry Harris, listed immediately under Rae]
“Present”	[15 men]
“Augusta”	[4 men: Pvt. Cooksie, Lt. Thos. Glascock, Capt. Jesse Walton, and 2d Maj. Jesse Walton]
“Silver Bluff”	[5 men]
“Augusta Hosp.”	[2 men: David Peters & Reuben Windham, listed consecutively]
“Waggr at Silver Bluff”	[1 man, Andrew Foster]

The 1 July roll, the “Casualties” column was again used for the same purpose and provides the following *status information* about the various men:

“Absent”	[2 men, Col. Rae and Francis Henry Harris]
“Present”	[17 men]
“At Silver Bluff”	[5 men]
“Waggr at Silver Bluff”	[1 man, Andrew Foster, who again was not paid]
“Pres. after War Parole”	[1 man]
“Genl. Hospital”	[1 man; Hugh Bell]
“Augusta Hosp.”	[2 men; Peters & Windham, again]
“On furlough”	[2 men; Cooksie and John King]
“Pris. of war released”	[1 man]

“Omitted...prisoners” [3 men]
 [unreadable] [3 men]

Nothing on the 1 June roll suggests why William did not collect pay for those two months of service, while the other four men with him at Augusta did receive pay. What is clear is that William did not return from his furlough, as scheduled. When the next roll was created for his company, a muster roll dated 2 August 1779, his commanding officer assumed that he had deserted:

“A Muster Roll of the 1st Georgia Battallion of Continental Troops Commanded by Col. Robert Rae, August, *August the 2nd 1779.*”

“Privates (all enlisted for the war): **“William Coucksie, deserted”**⁵

An SAR analysis of this last muster roll spotlights the dire conditions of the North Georgia Patriot forces:

“1779 2 August—Muster rolls for 1st GA, 3d GA, 4th GA indicate combined strength of 73 privates, 41 non-commissioned officers, drummers and fifers, and 44 commissioned officers, *inclusive of deserters, sick, and captured*—the actual effective strength was 9 officers, 11 non-commissioned officers, 2 drummers, 1 fifer, and 18 privates.”⁶

SIGNIFICANT NEW POINT

When William’s data from the 2 June roll is correlated with all other data on the roll, a very significant point emerges. The units covered by that roll were encamped somewhere in North Georgia, but *not at Augusta*. A hospital existed at Augusta, but William was not a patient in that hospital. Instead, *Pvt. William Cooksey had accompanied four officers to Augusta for some unspecified mission*. Those officers represented every level of his chain of command: a Lieutenant, a Captain, a Second Major, and the brigade commander.

This fact raises two essential questions:

- Why did these four officers choose one lone private to accompany them?
- Might the “special trust” placed here in Cooksey point to a common origin for him and one or more of these officers?

That “special trust”—or a special need for Cooksey’s services—is presumed, but likely. An opposing interpretation—that they might have taken him to Augusta for disciplinary action—seems improbable. If the purpose of his dispatch to Augusta was punitive, he would have been taken by lower-ranking guards. The presence of four officers, representing a complete chain of command, would not have been called for.

All four of these officers—Robert Rae, Thomas Glasscock, and the two Jesse Waltons—should be considered in subsequent research until Cooksey’s origin and kinship are known. Rae was a Georgian of prominent family who had participated in the Virginia recruitment while with the Third Brigade.⁷ *As subsequently shown in this report, all three of the other officers were themselves Virginians.*

⁵ “Georgia Militia and Continental Regiments of Infantry,” *Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://www.lafayettesar.org/gamilitia.htm> : accessed 4 September 2010), for “A Muster Roll of the 1st Georgia Battallion of Continental Troops Commanded by Col. Robert Rae, August, August the 2nd 1779”; no image copy has been located for this record.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Joseph Gaston Caillie Bulloch, *A History and Genealogy of the Habersham Family* (Atlanta: R. L. Bryan Co., 1901), 20.

CORE ASSOCIATES TO STUDY

The initial subjects were the officers and privates appearing with Cooksey on those three payrolls:

Officers

Robert Rae, Col.
Francis H. Harris, Lieut. Col.
John Habersham, Major
George Handly, Capt.
Lachlan McIntosh, Capt.
Shadrack Wright, Capt.
Alexander D. Cuthbert, Capt.
John Wilten [Milton], Capt.
William McIntosh, Capt.
Thomas Glascock, Lieut.
Jesse Walton, Lieut.

James Houston, surgeon
John Leduck, Quartermaster Sergt
John Twedle, Sergt. Maj.
Charles Fields, Sergt.
John Evens, Sergt.
John Knight, Sergt.
Thomas Jeffryes, Corp
Ethral Fatrul, Corp.
Thomas Hart [Hill] Corp.
Daniel Mathews,⁸ Corp.
William Lowe,⁹ drum major

Privates

Searcey Askew
William Austin
Hugh Bell
Josiah Bird
James Burns
William Coucksie
David Fellers
Conrod Frigonier
Andrew Fo[r]ster
John Futrel¹¹
William Gibbs
Jordan Jackson

George Jones
John King
John Linn
James Parks
David Peters
John Priar
John Rain/Ryan
Andrew Shields
Rubin Wandrum¹⁰
Samuel Ware
George Williams
Thomas Wilson

All of these men and other comrades identified in this assignment were pursued in Revolutionary War resources, primarily pension applications and service records.

FINDINGS

The current project has identified twenty-seven additional officers and privates, bringing the total known battalion members to seventy-three. Very few filed pensions, provided affidavits for a comrade's application, or otherwise appear in the files. Yet, the sparse details they left behind valuable insight into the battalion's composition and organization. More importantly, they identify men who served in Cooksey's own company.

Those newly identified men are as follows:

Officers

John Berrien, 1st lieutenant & captain

John Green, captain

⁸ This surname also appears as "Mathers."

⁹ This surname also appears as "Love."

¹⁰ This surname also appears as "Windrum."

¹¹ This surname also appears as "Futherald."

Chesley Bostwick, captain
 ___ DeLepaine, captain

John Patton, captain
 John Twedle, sergeant¹²

Privates

Nathan Brownson¹³
 John Crawford
 Thomas Hill¹⁴
 Miles Hunter¹⁶
 John Fluker¹⁷
 John Frame
 William Frazer
 Stephen Fuller
 Jesse Hooper
 Peter Mason

Benjamin Netherland
 William Palmore/Palmer
 Benjamin Petite¹⁵
 John Phipps
 Frederick Rester
 David Sarzedas
 John Stiles
 James Stuart
 William Summons¹⁸
 John Turner

Not all of the First Battalion men were Georgians—and not all of them enlisted directly in that First Battalion. To understand how its ranks were filled and where its men might have come from, it is necessary to reconstruct the formation of the Second and Third Battalions as well.

In late 1775, the Continental Congress created the Georgia Regiment—one infantry battalion composed of eight companies of seventy-eight men each.¹⁹ Organizing began in Savannah in January 1776. Officers were elected and immediately dispatched to fill their quotas; but recruiting proved difficult. Georgia *claimed* a vast territory extending from her Atlantic coastline to the Mississippi River. Yet the population was extremely sparse; most settlers were confined, by the Indians, to the eastern portion of the present state; and the militia (home guard) within each county was competing for the few men who qualified for service.

In February 1776, regimental commander Colonel Lachlan McIntosh wrote to George Washington that very few recruits could be had in Georgia, while South Carolina was “already drained.” He therefore advised pushing into North Carolina, “distant as it is.”²⁰ Two months later, he further reported that fifteen officers were away on recruiting missions but were facing difficulties that even increased bounties could not reduce.

¹² Twedle was issued a bounty-land certificate as a sergeant by Capt. George Handley, 25 February 1785, but his company was not then identified. See Lucian Lamar Knight, *Georgia's Roster of the Revolution* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1967), 174; *Archive.org* (<http://www.archive.org/details/georgiasrosterrev00knigrich> : accessed 26 October 2010).

¹³ Brownson was issued a certificate for bounty land by John Habersham, late Major, 12 April 1784, for land in Washington County. See Knight, *Georgia's Roster*, 29.

¹⁴ “Thomas Hill” (Corp., 1 Geo. Batt., Revolutionary War); image copies in “Revolutionary War Service Records,” database, *Footnote.com* (<http://www.footnote.com> : accessed 24 October 2010), images 17080410, 17080421, 17080426, |17080430, 17080434; imaged from *Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the American Revolution* [roll not stated].

¹⁵ Petite was issued a certificate for bounty land by Maj. John Habersham and Col. Joseph Habersham; he enlisted 22 May 1777 in the 1st Battalion; was a tailor from Pyerdy, France. See Knight, *Georgia's Roster*, 140.

¹⁶ Greta Rassel, *Liberty: The American Revolution* (http://gretarassel.tripod.com/American_Revolution.html : accessed 24 October 2010), no supporting evidence provided.

¹⁷ He may be John Futrel.

¹⁸ Summons is identified as a deserter in Allen D. Candler, *The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia*, volume 2, *Minutes of the Executive Council from January 14, 1778 to January 6, 1785, and Journal of the Land Court from April 6 to April 26, 1785* (Atlanta, Georgia: Franklin-Turner Company, 1908), 8.

¹⁹ “Georgia Militia and Continental Regiments of Infantry,” *Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://www.lafayettesar.org/gamilitia.htm>: accessed 24 October 2010). The terms “regiment” and “battalion” were interchangeable in historic records.

²⁰ Rev. George White, *Historical Collection of Georgia, Containing the Most Interesting Facts, Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, Etc., Relating to its History and Antiquities From its First Settlement to the Present Time* (New York: Pudney & Russell Publishers, 1855), 93. McIntosh also wrote of the difficulties impeding recruitment in other colonies, particularly the differences in money and the lack of Continental currency.

Only 388 privates of the 624-man quota had been raised and no money had arrived to pay or equip them.²¹ Due to expiring terms of the initial recruits, total battalion strength had dwindled to 200 by summer.²²

Georgia's defense clearly demanded more men than she could supply. In July 1776, the Second and Third Georgia Battalions (or Regiments) were created and *authorized to recruit in Virginia and North Carolina. The second battalion actually extended its efforts as far away as Pennsylvania.* The original officers and companies are as follows:

2nd Battalion of Foot²³

Col. Samuel Elbert	
Lt. Col. Stephen Drayton	
Maj. Seth Cuthbert	
Capt. Benjamin Porter	1 st company
Capt. Francis Moore	2 nd company
Capt. Jesse Hughes Walton	3 rd company
Capt. Robert Walton	4 th company
Capt. Thomas Scott Jr.	5 th company
Capt. William Smith	6 th company
Capt. William Lane Jr.	7 th company
Capt. Isham Cook	8 th company
Capt. Samuel Scott	9 th company
Capt. John Baird/Bard	10 th company

Several other officers recruited for the Second Battalion cannot yet be assigned to a specific company:

Virginians:

Captain George Walton
Lt. Robert Ward
Lt. George Hancock
Lt. John Clarke,
Lt. J. Winfrey,
Lt. Thomas Glascock

Georgians:

Ens. Abraham Jons
Ens. John Morrison

(Glascock was one of the two lieutenants who accompanied Cooksey to Augusta)

Lt. John Hawkins²⁴

3rd Georgia Battalion of Foot²⁵

Col. James Screven
Lt. Col. Robert Rea

(later transferred to 1st Battalion, where he served during Cooksey's 1779 service; this is the commanding officer who took Cooksey to Augusta)

Major Daniel Roberts
Capt. Isaac Hicks
Capt. Thomas Scott
Capt. Andrew Jeter

uncertain company
uncertain company
uncertain company

²¹ White, *Historical Collections of Georgia*, 96.

²² Harvey H. Jackson, *Lachlan McIntosh and the Politics of Revolutionary Georgia* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1979), 47.

²³ E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra, *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774–1787* (Westminster, Maryland: Heritage Books, 2007), 83.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 84.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, 85. The Third Battalion did not recruit enough men to fill its ten companies.

No evidence has been found that the First Battalion recruited men in other states. Rather, its non-resident members were attached to it, primarily from the Second Battalion, after they arrived in Georgia. In December 1776, Lachlan McIntosh of the First Battalion wrote to George Walton of Savannah, signer of the Declaration of Independence, in which he discussed these transfers. His “cousins, Robert and George,” he reported, “came to headquarters a few days ago with about 70 recruits from Virginia.”²⁶ He did not name any of the men.

Some of those recruits have been identified in the present study. Several of them described the circumstances under which they were recruited.²⁷ According to Private James Wood, all of the men recruited in **Prince Edward County**, Virginia, had “marched from their [*sic*] through Salisbury North Carolina, Camden South Carolina, Perrysburg [Purrysburg, South Carolina] and to Savannah, Georgia.” The widow of William Palmer, of the Prince Edward recruits, recalled that four companies under “Captains Robert Walton, **Jesse Walton**, Scott and **Glascock**” all rendezvoused at Moore’s Ordinary in that county and marched south together. Benjamin Netherland recalled “a number of my connections & friends had got commissions. I resigned [from the militia] & went with them to the state of Georgia under the promise of an Ensigns com^s by Mr. George Walton. I received money to recruit & enlisted 18 men.” Hall Hudson was recruited in May 1776 but did not rendezvous until the following September, when he was put under Capt. George Walton and “marched directly to Augusta, Georgia; there they were put on keel boats and taken to Savannah,” where they were attached to the 1st Regiment.

None of these recruits who lived to file pensions made any reference to William Cooksey. However, their accounts suggest the possibility that Virginia—Prince Edward County or one of at least ten other counties in the Old Dominion—could have been the locale where Cooksey enlisted. Two of the four companies enrolled in Prince Edward were headed by Thomas Glascock and the Waltons,²⁸ accounting for three of the four officers with whom Cooksey went to Augusta. The fourth officer, Col. Robert Rea, was the scion of a Irish family that had gained prominence in North Georgia; as previously noted, as commander of the Third Brigade, he absorbed some of the Virginia recruits into his ranks.

The desertion rate among these recruits was particularly high: men absconded after receiving their enlistment bounty, while others failed to rendezvous when called. Most of the Virginia soldiers who faithfully served in Georgia returned home after their tours ended. A number did remain in Georgia, but few of them are represented among the known recruits who lived to file pension applications.

Despite the difficulties in recruiting and the small pool from which to draw, McIntosh’s battalion was, in the words of Major General Charles Lee, “really a very fine one (one of the best I think on the Continent).”²⁹ They endured the full force of war as they struggled to defend Georgia in the earliest years of revolution.

²⁶ Virginia Sanders Mylius, “Descendants of George Walton (Uncle George), *Our Southern Cousins* (<http://oursoutherncousins.com/Descendants%20of%20GEOERGE%20WALTON%20&%20MARTHA%20HUGHES.pdf>); cites a quotation in *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*, (Sept 1954), 256.

²⁷ See the appended abstracts from each individual’s pension application.

²⁸ See particularly the appended abstracts for Samuel Scott and Widow Ann, #W5998; and William Palmer/Palmore, Frances, VA, #W8083. **The Waltons were from Prince Edward County, Virginia. Glascock descendants believe Thomas Glascock was from Fauquier County, Virginia.** Research has not documented the details of Glascock’s enlistment but Francis Heitman dates his commission to July 1777. See Francis Heitman, *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution* (Washington, D. C.: The Rare Book Publishing Company, 1914), 250. Glascock received bounty land by Virginia but the only document in his file reads “B L Wt 877-200 – Lieut[;] Issued from 23 June 1796[.] No papers.” See also E. Polk Johnson, *A History of Kentucky and Kentuckians*, volume 3 (Chicago, Illinois: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1912), 1335.

²⁹ Daniel T. Elliott, *Archaeological Investigations of at Fort Morris State Historic Site, Liberty County, Georgia* (Atlanta, Georgia: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 21; *Georgia Historical Preservation Division* (http://www.gashpo.org/assets/documents/archaeology/FtMorris_Archaeological_Investigation.pdf). Virginian Charles Lee was the first commander of the Southern District.

Their numbers fell dramatically through the fall of Savannah in December 1778 and Sunbury the following January, and worsened by the deadly skirmishes that followed. The effect of these disasters on the First Battalion is evident in the number of their officers and men noted as prisoners on the pay rolls of Spring 1779, taken in the wake of North Georgia's most-intense period of military action.

The Companies:

The First Georgia Battalion, organized in January and February 1776, was launched under the following officers:

Capt. Francis Harris & Lt. John Habersham	1 st company
Capt. Oliver Bowen & Lt. George Handley	2 nd company
Capt. John McIntosh Jr. & Lt. Lachlan McIntosh Jr.	3 rd company
Capt. Arthur Carney & Lt. Benjamin Odingsell	4 th company
Capt. Thomas Chisolm & Lt. Caleb Howard	5 th company
Capt. John Green & Lt. Ignatius Few	6 th company
Capt. Chesley Bostick & Lt. John Martin	7 th company
Capt. Jacob Coulson & Lt. Shadrach Wright	8th company³⁰

The company commands changed as the war unfolded—a consequence of death, imprisonment, resignation, and promotion. *Privates also moved between companies as needed, primarily to compensate for dwindling numbers. Men often did not serve their full terms in the same company. Consequently one cannot assume that Wright's Eighth Company was the only unit in which Cooksey served.* The stress on the three battalions was so great that by the time the British invaded Georgia, only two hundred Georgia Continentals remained. The independent battalions of 1776–77 had been merged into one and designated the Second Georgia Battalion.

Most of the men who served in First Georgia remain unidentified. Those who have been identified in this project were attached to the following companies:³¹

FIRST COMPANY

Francis Harris, Capt.
George Handley, Capt.³²
John Twedle, Sgt.
John Linn
Peter Mason
Burton Pride

SECOND COMPANY

Oliver Bowen, Capt.
John Berrien, 2nd Lieut.

THIRD COMPANY

John McIntosh, Capt.
John Fluker/Flicker
Jonathan Snider

³⁰ Knight, *Georgia's Roster of the Revolution*, 14.

³¹ Officers of the same rank are listed in the order in which they held those ranks.

³² George Handley was commissioned captain of the first company in October 1776. See Bounty Land Warrant file no. 1255-300.

FOURTH COMPANY

Arthur Carney, Capt.
John Habersham, Capt.
John Emon, Ensign
David Sarzedas, Lieut.
James Stuart

FIFTH COMPANY

Thomas Chisolm, Capt.
Alexander David Cuthbert, Lieut & Capt.
Caleb Howard, Lieut.

SIXTH COMPANY

John Green, Capt.
Ignatius Few, Lieut.
John Stiles
John Fluker?

SEVENTH COMPANY

Chesley Bostwick, Capt.
Emmanuel P. DeLaplaine, Capt.³³
John Crawford

EIGHTH COMPANY

Jacob Coulson, Capt.
John Berrien, Capt.³⁴
Shadrach Wright, Lieut. and Capt.
Stephen Fuller
Jesse Hooper
Stephen Shelton

Several men could not be placed within a particular company:

Benjamin Netherland, Lieutenant, from Virginia
John Milton, Ensign, Lieutenant, Captain
Jesse Walton, Captain, from Virginia
Hall Hudson, Private under "Capt. Walton," from Virginia
John Turner, Private, detached to Lieutenant Milton

Cooksey's Eighth Company

In his pension application, William Cooksey implies that he *ended* his service as a private in Capt. Shadrack Wright's company [Eighth Rifle] without identifying its designation or providing service dates. The earliest record documenting his service is the payroll that commenced on 1 April 1779. As noted under "Analysis," however, *that roll does not provide dates of enlistment, only the starting date of service for that particular pay period. All of the men listed on the roll were assigned the same 1 April date—even men known who joined the battalion years earlier.* Therefore, Cooksey's date of enlistment remains unknown, as does the

³³ Emmanuel Peter Deplaine began his military career as an ensign in the 4th company under Arthur Carney. He replaced Chesley Bostwick as captain about May 1777. See Heitman, *Historical Register*, 192, and John Crawford pension application, #R2470, digital images, *Footnote.com* (<http://www.footnote.com> : viewed 1 November 2010), image 13756525.

³⁴ Knight, *Georgia's Roster of the Revolution*, 9. Also, "Major John Berrien (1759–1815)," *The Historical Marker Database* (<http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=5341>).

name of the officer who actually recruited him or commanded him upon enlistment. All these factors directly impact any assessment of where he likely lived when he joined.

Little concrete data has yet been found about the Eighth Rifle Company, and even its chain of command is murky. General McIntosh designated it a rifle corps upon creation and dispatched its first captain, Jacob Colson, on a recruiting mission within the bounds of Georgia. In April, McIntosh reported to Gen. Washington: “Captain Colson is on his way, with his company, nearly complete; and with the other recruiting officers, they make above 70 or 80 men more than the report; and is altogether above half the complement of the battalion.”³⁵ Where Colson found his men is unknown. **If the typical pattern was followed, his first recruits—and a significant portion of the whole—would have come from his home county of Wilkes.**

Colson was replaced by John Berrien in May 1777 and died the next year. Berrien did not command the company long, if at all, as he was almost immediately reassigned to Valley Forge as a Brigade Major of North Carolina troops.³⁶ Meanwhile, Shadrack Wright of Savannah had been serving as first lieutenant. Exactly when Wright assumed command of the company is uncertain, because evidence conflicts. In brief:

- Francis Heitman dates Wright’s promotion to captain sometime in 1778. If accurate, someone else captained the company between Berrien’s reassignment and Wright’s promotion.
- Private Stephen Fuller was discharged from his first tour in Savannah in April 1777. He “then enlisted as a private in a company *commanded part of the time by Shadrach Wright* who was promoted.” Fuller provided no date for his second enlistment and gave no details about the time of Wright’s promotion or the identity of the officer who commanded the other “part of the time.”
- Private Stephen Shelton was discharged at Habersham County, Georgia, in September 1777 after serving twelve months in Wright’s company. However, Colson was still commanding the company when Shelton enlisted in September 1776.

All things considered: Wright, whom Cooksey named as his *last* commanding officer in the Continental Line, apparently assumed command at some point in 1776 and, served at least to early 1780, when he appeared on the payroll covering November 1779–February 1780.

Wright’s absence from the first two extant payrolls, those of 1 June and 1 July 1779, further complicates the question of his service. He does not reappear with his company until the roll covering the four-month period 1 July–1 November 1779. The only captains listed on the pay and muster rolls during his absence are:

George Handley	1 April–1 June 1779	payroll 1
	1 June–1 July 1779	payroll 2
	1 July–1 November 1779	payroll 3
Alexander Daniel Cuthbert	1 July–1 November 1779	payroll 3
John McIntosh	2 August 1779	muster roll

At this time, Handley was captain of the First Company while Cuthbert possibly commanded the Fifth. Cuthbert’s absence from the first two rolls is explained by his documented capture at the Battle of Briar

³⁵ White, *Historical Collections of Georgia*, 95.

³⁶ Jackson, *Lachlan McIntosh and the Politics of Revolutionary Georgia*, 172; Heitman, *Historical Register*, 100.

Creek in March 1779.³⁷ He was released and returned to duty before the 1 July roll. Similarly, the 1 June payroll cites both Handley and Lt. Thomas Glascock as “prisoners of war exchanged.”

Wright, who does not appear on either of these rolls was also captured that spring but was held longer or did not return to duty so promptly. According to the muster roll dated 2 August, he was then a “prisoner of war on parole,”³⁸ but no known record states when or where he was captured. Very little evidence concerning his service seems to have survived. He had been at the fall of Savannah at the end of December 1778, where he and Capt. William McIntosh commanded the only companies from the First Georgia Regiment to participate in the defense of that city. Of the 800-man force, 453 Patriots of all ranks were captured, 83 killed, and 11 wounded.³⁹ After the fall of Savannah, several conflicts in North Georgia presented opportunities for his capture, as detailed in the next section, “Military activities.”

The muster roll of 2 August 1779 identifies only twelve of the First Battalion men who were taken prisoner during those actions:

2 August 1779, Muster Roll

John Habersham, Major,	prisoner of war with the enemy
Shadrick Wright, Capt.	prisoner of war on parole
Alexander D. Cuthbert, Capt.	prisoner of war with the enemy
John Wilten [Milton], Capt.	prisoner of war with the enemy
William McIntosh, Capt.	prisoner of war with the enemy
William Low, Lt.	prisoner of war with the enemy
Searcey Askew	prisoner of war, paroled
Conrod Frigonier	prisoner of war, paroled
Josiah Bird	prisoner of war on parole
John Futrel	prisoner of war on parole
Jordan Jackson	prisoner of war on parole
James Parks	prisoner of war on parole

Available resources show that Habersham and Cuthbert were both captured at Brier Creek,⁴⁰ as was Capt. John McIntosh (not listed on the muster).⁴¹ Ten of the twelve officers of the 3rd Battalion, also mustered on 2 August, were likewise released prisoners. Of these, Isaac Hicks and Clement Nash had been captured at Brier Creek.⁴² Considering the decimation suffered by the Georgia Continentals at that battle, odds are good that Capt. Wright fell victim there as well.

Wright’s record, in sum, suggests one of two possibilities for Cooksey:

- Either Cooksey enlisted under Wright earlier than 1 April, which means he likely saw service in one or more of the North Georgia battles of Spring 1779;
- Or, if he enlisted in the Eighth Company too late for those actions (i.e., on or shortly before 1 April), then he did not enlist under Wright.

³⁷ Heitman, *Historical Register*, 183.

³⁸ “Georgia Militia and Continental Regiments of Infantry,” (<http://www.lafayettesar.org/gamilitia.htm>).

³⁹ Patrick O’Kelley, *Nothing But Blood and Slaughter; The Revolutionary War in the Carolinas*, volume 1, 1771–1779 (No Place: Booklocker Inc., 2004), 216–7.

⁴⁰ Rossiter Johnson and John Howard Brown, editors, *The Twentieth Century Biographical Dictionary of Notable Americans*, volume 5, *Habb – Izard* (Boston: The Biographical Society, 1904). Heitman, *Historical Register*, 183.

⁴¹ Heitman, *Historical Register*, 371.

⁴² *Ibid.*, 288, 409.

A possibility might also exist that Cooksey was recruited after Wright's captivity—likely in the region of his home—by a second or third in command of the Eighth Company. The first and second lieutenant who served in the April–July 1779 period have not yet been identified. The only lower-ranking officers appearing on the first payroll were these men:

Lieut. Thomas Glascock, prisoner of war exchanged, at Augusta with Cooksey on 1 June 1779
 Lieut. Jesse Walton, at Augusta with Cooksey on 1 June 1779
 2nd Major Jesse Walton, at Augusta with Cooksey on 1 June 1779
 2nd Maj. John Le Duc, at Silver Bluff
 Sergt. John Twedle, at Silver Bluff
 Sergt. John Knight, at Silver Bluff
 Sergt. John Evens
 Sergt. Charles Fields

Military activities during William's documented service

The meager accounts that exist for Revolutionary activities in North Georgia present no military *conflicts* at Augusta in the period Cooksey was said to be there. However, the possibility of service both before and after Augusta is exceedingly high. The North Georgia conflicts of Spring 1779 were as follows:

10 February 1779	Carr's Fort , Wilkes County Patriot forces were Wilkes County militiamen under Lt. Col. Elijah Clarke and Col. John Dooly. ⁴³
14 February 1779	Kettle Creek , Wilkes County Patriot forces were 140 militiamen again led by Clarke and Dooly. No list of those men is known to exist; 26 have been identified in this project from 13 of the pension applications; and none mention William Cooksey. ⁴⁴
3 March 1779	Brier Creek , Burke County (now Screven) Patriot forces were both militiamen and Continental forces, including units commanded by Col. Robert Rae. ⁴⁵
? March 1779	Newsome's Fort , Wilkes County Patriot forces are again said to be the militia in the regiment of Col. Elijah Clarke. ⁴⁶

⁴³ "American Revolution—Feb 10, 1779: The Battle of Carr's Fort," *This Day in History* (<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/the-battle-of-carrs-fort> : accessed 6 November 2010). The same description of the battle appears, virtually word for word, at the webpage, "The Battle of Carr's Fort, February 10th, 1779," *San Antonio Chapter of the Texas State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://sarsat.org/HistoricalAccounts/17790210TheBattleofCarrsFort.htm> : accessed 6 November 2010). It is not discernible which site silently copied the other.

⁴⁴ The most complete account of the battle is that of Robert Scott Davis, *Georgians in the Revolution: At Kettle Creek (Wilkes Co.) and Burke Co.* (Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1986), particularly 11–44.

⁴⁵ "Georgia Militia and Continental Regiments of Infantry: A Selected Historical Timeline," Sons of the American Revolution, *Marquis de Lafayette Chapter* (<http://www.lafayettesar.org/gamilitia.htm> : accessed 6 November 2010). Heitman, *Historical Register*, 29, identifies the Continental forces as the *Second* Battalion. However, when the Prince William Co., Va., recruit Henry Deshasure applied for a Revolutionary pension as a veteran of Georgia service, he stated that he served in the *Third* Georgia under "Colonel Ray or Rhea and Lt. Col. Elbert at the Battle of Savannah and at Briar Creek."

⁴⁶ This placement of Newsome's Fort is found on page 3 of the 19 August 1850 pension affidavit of Micajah Brooks of Paulding County, Ga.; see Micajah Brooks (Revolutionary War, Ga.) and Widow Margaret T. Brooks, Pension Application W27,694; BLW 51,752-160-55, *Footnote.com* (<http://www.footnote.com> : accessed 6 November 2010), especially image 10999895.

- 21 March `1779 **The Crossroads**, Beech Island, apparently Burke County
A patriot camp is said to have been attacked, with “60 out of 200” Patriots fleeing the scene, while the remainder drove the Loyalists back to the Burke County Jail.⁴⁷
- 22 March 1779 **Rocky Comfort Creek**, apparently Richmond County, near Augusta.
Patriot forces are said to be those of Col. John Dooly (Georgia) and Col. Andrew Pickens (South Carolina). *One* commander of Dooly’s Georgia militia was **Benjamin Few** of Wilkes County, one of the Few clan members named as an adjacent landowner on William Cooksey’s 1793 survey in Washington (later Montgomery) County.⁴⁸

This chronology suggests that the 1 April–1 June period during which William Cooksey was dispatched to Augusta was a period of recuperation and regrouping. It would soon end. The next conflict that involved Col. Rae’s First Battalion suggests that he and the chain of command below him left Augusta soon after their arrival.

- 20 June 1779 **Stono Ferry**, Stono Creek, Charleston, South Carolina.
Patriot forces were principally North Carolina and South Carolina units, but five Georgia units also participated—including a “detachment” from the 1st Georgia regiment led by Col. Robert Rae.⁴⁹

Whether Cooksey deserted before or after this action remains unknown. If he did, as asserted, continue to serve until the end of the war, it would appear that he did so as a militiaman under Col. Elijah Clarke.

Two further records found in this assignment lead to this conclusion and reinforce a possibility that he was from Wilkes County, where the Eighth Company was initially formed. Both records were created after the conflict ended.

(1)

[ca. 1785]

Certificate of service signed by Elijah Clark, to men of “[unstated] Battalion: Peter Bradshaw, Arch. Mickson, Nich. Gunnels, John Wooten, Zach. Henderson, George Runnalds, Andrew McGruen, John Thegott, William Russell, James Hill, Amos Razon, James Anderson, Richard Cawley, John Souther, **William Cucksey**, Wm. Odio (Osier), Jacob Wardman, George Miller, Benjamin Perkins, John Bratcher, Hugh Woods, John Woods, Edward Williams, Bailey Gains, Sabry Dinkins, David Burks, Catlatt Cawley, Anthony Cooper, William Rogers, Philip Steed, Philip Rasberry, John Cawley.”⁵⁰

⁴⁷ “Revolutionary War Raids and Skirmishes in 1779,” *The American Revolutionary War* (<http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1779s.htm> : accessed 6 November 2010).

⁴⁸ “Georgia in the Revolution,” *Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://www.georgiasocietysar.org/rev1779.htm> : accessed 6 November 2010). Georgia Surveyor General, Land Grants, Plat Book CC (1784–1799): 227; Department of Archives and History, Atlanta. Also Plat Book A, Washington Co., Ga., showing extensive holdings near Cooksey by Benjamin, Ignatius, John, Travis, and William Few. Plat records provided by Client.

⁴⁹ “Stono Ferry,” *The American Revolution in South Carolina* (http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html : 4 November, 2010).

⁵⁰ Grace Gillam Davidson, Lelia Thornton Gentry, et al., *Historical Collections of the Georgia Chapters Daughter of the American Revolution* (1929; reprinted Baltimore, MD: Clearfield, 1995), 172.

(2)

Bounty-land warrants issued to Revolutionary Soldiers by the State of Georgia:

“**Cucksey, William, Ga. Minute Man.** 28 Apr. 1785. —”

[Blanks indicate that no acreage was thereafter entered by the claimant.]⁵¹

Col. Clarke, who signed the certificate of service qualifying Cooksey for bounty land, was not only a resident of Wilkes County during the Revolution and for some years thereafter,⁵² but also commander of Georgia’s short-lived “minute man” forces. The standard study of the Revolution in Georgia does not mention these forces specifically.⁵³ However, a chronology of Georgia’s Revolutionary War activities created by the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution brackets the short, *official* life of Georgia’s minutemen force.

1778

February 6 “Two Battalions of minute Men raised in Wilkes County for defense of the State.”

March 7 “Battalion of Minute Men reduced by resolve of the Assembly.”⁵⁴

An archaeological study of the battlefield at Kettle Creek, where Clarke’s *militia* played a critical role in 1779, is more informative. Passages of potential relevance to William are boldfaced in the excerpt below:

PATRIOT MILITIA

“The Patriots in the southern states who had not joined the Continental Army were organized by county. ... The concept of ‘minuteman’ was an American invention that predated the American Revolution. Minutemen were militia soldiers who were ready to serve on a minute’s notice. This term won popular appeal, associated first with Massachusetts militia troops in battles at Lexington and Concord. The concept spread to other states, including Georgia. **Elijah Clarke’s troops were frequently referred to as minutemen, as well as riflemen, mounted horsemen, and militiamen.** Wilkes County was an American frontier before and during the American Revolution. Citizen settlers in this region were accustomed to defending themselves against Indian attack, which came with little or no warning. When the Revolution began, hostile Tories were added to that defensive equation. Numerous veterans stated in their pension applications that their garrison and ranging services, while posted in Wilkes County, were intended mostly to protect the citizenry from Indian and Tory attack.⁵⁵ . . .

“Elijah Clarke served the Patriot cause as a militia officer throughout the American Revolution. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant Colonel in Colonel John Stewart’s 1st Battalion in 1777. Stewart’s Battalion was authorized for two years of service and it participated in the East Florida campaign in May and June, 1778. **The 1st and 2nd Battalions of Georgia minutemen were officially disbanded on March 1, 1778,** prior to participation in the East Florida campaign, where, at the battle of Alligator Creek, Clarke was badly wounded. Clarke recuperated from his wounds at Sunbury, Georgia and later returned to Wilkes County. **Clarke received another**

⁵¹ Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996), 127.

⁵² Lawton B. Evans, *First Lessons in Georgia History* (New York: American Book Co., 1913), 178–79, biography of Elijah Clarke.

⁵³ Kenneth Coleman, *The American Revolution in Georgia, 1763–1789* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1958).

⁵⁴ Untitled chronology, *Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://www.georgiasocietysar.org/rev1778.htm> : accessed 27 December 2010).

⁵⁵ Daniel T. Elliott, *Stirring up a Hornet’s Nest: The Kettle Creek Battlefield Survey*, Lamar Institute Publication Series, Report No. 131 (Savannah: The Lamar Institute, 2009), 37; PDF (http://shapiro.anthro.uga.edu/Lamar/images/PDFs/publication_131.pdf : 15 October 2010).

commission as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Wilkes County militia only a few weeks before the battle of Kettle Creek, on January 26, 1779 (Candler 1908, Volume 2:136-137; 2001). He was second in command of the Georgia militia at Kettle Creek. Clarke is credited with achieving the rout of the Loyalists at Kettle Creek after he pursued them across the creek and to a hill on its western side. That status was confirmed by the present research.”⁵⁶

SUMMARY

1. William Cooksey participated in the Revolution in at least two capacities: (a) as a minuteman or militiaman under Elijah Clarke of Wilkes County, Georgia; and (b) as a Continental Line soldier who ended that service as part of Shadrack Wright’s Eighth (Rifle) Company, First Georgia Battalion.
2. The sequence in which Cooksey served is not known. The minuteman-militiaman service could have occurred before or after the Continental Line service—or it could have intermittently occurred both before and after his stint in the Line.
3. If Cooksey *enlisted* in the Continental Line under Wright, he could have joined at any point between roughly September 1776 and March 1779.
4. The sequence of Wright’s activities suggests that Cooksey served with him in the February and March 1779 battles in Wilkes and Burke Counties.
5. Cooksey was with the Continental Line of North Georgia on 1 June 1779, as the sole private accompanying four officers on some dispatch to Augusta. The purpose of the mission is not stated. (Client’s mention of evidence that Cooksey was a gunsmith by trade might provide an explanation.)
6. From Augusta, Cooksey may have accompanied his Commander, Robert Rae, to the Battle of Stono Ferry. Rae apparently returned to Savannah, from Augusta—a point at which he likely was joined by the paroled, Savannah-based Lt. Shadrach Wright—before embarking upon the Charleston-Stono rout of 20 June 1779.
7. Cooksey was given a furlough before 1 July 1779—suggesting that he had served for at least the minimum enlistment period. When he failed to return by 2 August, he was considered a deserter.
8. No known evidence suggests that Cooksey returned to service in the Continental Line, although he likely served on occasion in a local militia, as noted under Point 1, above.
9. Cooksey did not suffer a casualty during the known period of his service, 1 April–1 June 1779.
10. Cooksey’s citation of service only in the First Georgia Line *suggests*, but does not prove, that this was the unit in which he *enlisted*. If so, that would eliminate the possibility that he was recruited from another state.
11. Cooksey’s attachment to the Eighth Company, which was initially raised in Wilkes County, and his attachment to minutemen/militia forces commanded by Clarke of Wilkes County **both suggest that he was in some way rooted there in Wilkes**. The most common reason would be the presence there of kin.

⁵⁶ Ibid., 50.

12. Alternately, if Cooksey did not enlist directly in the Eighth or the First Georgia, **he may well have been among the Virginia soldiers recruited by officers of the Second and Third Lines**, from whose ranks some recruits were transferred into the First. His 1779 “attachment” to a trio of officers recruited in Virginia adds some weight to the possibility.
13. All findings considered, *the evidence at this point leaves two geographic possibilities for Cooksey’s origin and birth family, neither of which can be assigned a greater probability.*

Recommendations

While the evidence to date points to two different regions of research, one will likely require far more extensive work. Therefore, the following strategy is recommended

1. *Wilkes County, Georgia.*

Targeting Wilkes as the next step will focus the effort on a relatively small area and one with reasonably good records for the time frame. Research there should include

- all surviving records for the Revolutionary Era—extending at least through the 1790s. While Client’s prior work shows that William Cooksey was, by 1790, a resident of Washington County, a basic research principle applies: thorough research frequently yields records created by individuals or their family members *after* the person of interest had moved elsewhere.
- all known associates, military officers, and fellow servicemen now identified for Cooksey. Critical information on Cooksey—or useful clues—could appear in any of the records they created.

2. *Virginia*

If the Wilkes County research does not resolve the issues of Cooksey’s birth family, origin, and wife’s identity, research might reasonably turn to Virginia. However, the Virginia recruits now known to have served in Cooksey’s Georgia units hailed from at least eleven different Virginia counties: Amelia, Amherst, Bedford, Botetourt, Campbell, Charlotte, Fauquier, Halifax, Lunenburg, Pittsylvania, and Prince Edward. The largest number of them cited Prince Edward as their point of origin or enlistment—including three of the four officers who took Cooksey to Augusta. If it becomes necessary to extend research to Virginia, Prince Edward would logically be the area in which to focus first.

The attached research notes, abstracted from the pension applications of those who appear with Cooksey on the 1779 payrolls, can be utilized in multiple ways:

1. They provide contextual details on the activities of the Continental Line unit(s) in which Cooksey served—extremely valuable context, given the dearth of historical studies for the Revolution in North Georgia.
2. The brief synopses for each of Cooksey’s identifiable comrades may help the ongoing effort to identify his origin and kin. Comrades rooted in Georgia, particularly, should be kept in mind as research proceeds—with priority given to *any* of those who also emerge in the records of Wilkes County or the counties of Washington, Montgomery, Tattall, and Laurens where William Cooksey subsequently lived.

Rachal Mills Lennon, CG

Pension Applications and Other Records

First Georgia Battalion 1776–1780

John Berrien, GA (no pension application)

Commissioned 1st lieutenant of the 2nd company under Capt. Bowen in February 1776. Commissioned captain of the 8th company on 27 May 1777 but he relinquished that command and was in Valley Forge a few months later. He received 920 acres of bounty land (“on Reserve”) in Franklin County, Georgia, “touched by middle fork of Oconee river.” Buried in Savannah. [Knight, *Georgia’s Roster of the Revolution*, 9, 302, & 460. Lucius Lamar Knight, *A Standard History of Georgia and Georgians*, volume 6 (Chicago, Illinois: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1917), 3268.]

Arthur Carney, GA (no pension application)

Captured at St. Simons Island in August 1777 and joined the British. Gained a reputation as zealous Tory and thief. He wrote two letters to Lachlan McIntosh in 1776 discussing his difficulties in recruiting. [Charles C. Jones, *The Dead Towns of Georgia* (Savannah, Georgia: Morning News Steam Printing House, 1878), 30. The letters are found in the Parsons Collection, described in Lilla Miles Hawes, *Checklist of Eighteenth Century Manuscripts in the Georgia Historical Society* (Savannah, Georgia: The Society, 1976), 40.]

John Coleman, Ga, #S39339

7 June 1818, Washington County, Tennessee. Affidavit of John (x) Coleman, age about 66.. He enlisted at Prince Edward County, Virginia, under Capt. Thomas Scott of the 4th Regiment of the Georgia Line, with Lieut. William Scott, for a term of three years. He was marched to the state of Georgia to the said 4th Regiment commanded by Genl. McIntosh. The officers were Cols. James Screven and Elbert, (Major) William Roberts, Abner Nash (adjutant). He continued in that service until discharge by Col. Davis

John Crawford, GA , #R2470

12 March 1834, Monroe County, Georgia. Affidavit of John Crawford, age 74. Enlisted 2 March 1776 and was mustered into service the same day under Capt. Chesley Bostwick of the 1st Regiment of the Georgia Line under Genl. Lachlan McIntosh, Col. Joseph Habersham, Major John Cuthbert. About six months later, Capt. Bostwick was succeeded by Capt. De Lepaine. He lived at the time in St. Paul’s Parish now Columbia County, Georgia. After enlistment, they marched from St. Paul’s Parish through Augusta to Savannah, arriving in March 1776. His company was stationed there until January 1777 when he and detachments from other companies were marched to Fort Barrenton under Lieut. Col. Harris; remained there two months then marched to Sunbury [?] and boarded a public vessel called the “Washington Galley” commanded by Capt. Newgate and with two other vessels sailed to the mouth of St. Mary’s River then up the river six miles and landed and marched to Savannah by land, arriving in June. There he was discharged on the 28th. He next entered service as a 2nd lieutenant in the Georgia militia in October 1777 under Capt. Charles Crawford and Col. Few. He marched under Col. Few from Richmond County to Burke Jail and was in the battle fought at the place against Col. Brown, then returned to Augusta and had to flee to South Carolina “for refuge from Col. Brown . . . who obtained possession of Augusta and the adjacent country.” He remained between two and three months in South Carolina and returned to Augusta when Brown evacuated. He then marched under Col. Leonard Marbury who commanded a company of cavalry down Savannah River about fifty miles. Hearing of the defeat of Genl. Ash by Brown, they returned to Augusta then marched to Savannah under Capt. Crawford who was engaged in an attack upon that place. He was taken prisoner by the British and confined on a prison ship for eight weeks before he was exchanged. He returned home for about two months, then went to Augusta and was at the first siege of that place in 1780; he then

fled to North Carolina for refuge. There he joined Genl. Morgan and was at the Battle of King's Mountain; then joined Sumpter for the battle of Black Stocks Plantation on the Tyger River. Returned to Georgia in March 1781 and entered as a private in Capt. William Lewis's militia company under Col. Elijah Clark; remained at Augusta until it was taken. Marched to Savannah in January 1782 and was discharged there in April. Was born 1759 in Amherst County, Virginia.

Thomas Crawley, VA, #R2476

9 October 1832, White County, Tennessee. Affidavit of Thomas Crawley, age 77. Entered service of the United States as a volunteer in a corps known by the title of Minute men, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, under Captain Abraham Penn, in the Regiment of Colonel Edward Carrington. . . . Enlisted second in Pittsylvania County under Captain Samuel Scott, in the Regiment of Colonel Habersham of General McIntosh's Brigade, intended for and rendered in the State of Georgia; they held their rendezvous on Hico River, marched to Hillsborough, North Carolina, stationed there for a while then to Camden, South Carolina, stationed a while there, then to the Sister Ferry on Savannah River, then to Ebenezer in Georgia, then to Savannah and stationed there two or three months. He was a spectator to the duel fought between Gen. McIntosh and Button Gwinnett. Where here, they were sent out on several scouts where some skirmishes were had; once with the Florida Scouts, and others with Tories. They then marched to Cowpens on Ogeechee River to a treaty, taking ten Creek Indians as hostages. Then marched to Phillips's Fort, then to Long Creek where they were stationed nearly three months. While there, the Indians stole their horses, they pursued the Indians, had an engagement with them in which Captain Dooley fell, with the loss of six others, and three wounded who escaped. He was once sent back to Virginia after some deserters. Discharged and returned home. [Describes other service in Virginia, and Carolinas.]

Note: Captain Dooly should be Thomas Dooly of the 3rd Battalion; he recruited in Virginia in 1776.

Daniel Alexander Cuthbert, GA, #BLW 2142-300

29 February 1836, Savannah, Georgia. Affidavit of Joseph Stiles. He knew Daniel Alexander Cuthbert to have been in the Georgia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War. Daniel Alexander Cuthbert was also called Alexander as frequently as he was called Daniel Cuthbert. Stiles was well acquainted with all the Cuthberts at that time in Georgia (one of the Cuthberts and himself having married sisters).

29 February 1836, Savannah. Affidavit of Sheftall Sheftall. He knew Daniel Alexander Cuthbert to have been in the Georgia Continental Line. He was known as and called by the name of Alexander Cuthbert as frequently as he was by that of Daniel Cuthbert.

Henry Deshasure (Deshazer, Deshazure), GA, #S16362

10 August 1832, Mercer County, Kentucky. Affidavit of Henry (x) Deshasure, age 72. Enlisted in Prince Edward County, Virginia, in May 1779, with Lieutenant John [illegible] in company of Captain Deveraux Garrett [Garnett?] for three years. Marched through North and South Carolina to Savannah, where he was attached to the 3rd Georgia Regiment commanded by Colonel Ray or Rhea and Lt. Col. Elbert. Was in the Battle of Savannah and at Briar Creek where they had retreat when Savannah was taken. They retreated up to Augusta, where they were reinforced and returned in pursuit of the British who had followed them and at Briar Creek, while making a bridge across the creek, the British troops got in their rear and they had to retreat. He had to swim Briar Creek and the Savannah River. They again rendezvoused in South Carolina and retreated to Augusta, where he was discharged. On his way home at Saluda River, was taken prisoner by the Tories and detained as a prisoner about one week before making his escape. In the neighborhood of a Colonel Branham [Thomas Brandon], he volunteered in Captain Hughes's company of Brandon's Regiment of the South Carolina militia who was employed in suppressing the Tories. In the spring 1781, he was again taken by the Tories on Brown's Creek in South Carolina and put in Ninety Six Jail, where he was confined when General Greene's Army besieged it. He was there four months and after Greene's retreat, was taken out for the purpose of being put on board a prison ship, but on the way at Stono, he escaped. . . . [continues with service details]

John Fluker, GA, #S16832

10 June 1832, Campbell County, Georgia. Affidavit of John Fluker, age 80. Enlisted in the army in 1776 under Captain Lachlan McIntosh in the first Battalion of Georgia Troops, in Green County, Georgia, where he resided. Were marched to Savannah, then to Augusta, was at the siege of Augusta. He cannot remember any other. He acted in the capacity of a sergeant for twelve months and was discharged at Savannah on 3 April 1777. Signed Joⁿ *Fliker*. File includes formal discharge signed by Col. Joseph Habersham.

Provided an affidavit for John Stiles. 22 August 1831, Campbell County, Georgia. States Stiles was enlisted by Lieut. Ingatius Few in January 1776, attached to Capt. John Green's company, and served twelve months.

John Frame, VA, #S41526

12 February 1821, Lunenburg County, Virginia. Affidavit of John Frame. He enlisted August 1776 in the company commanded by Robert Walton in the regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Habersham in the line of the state of Georgia and served in the same corps until 1 September 1777; was discharged at Savannah. Returned to Virginia and enlisted in Lunenburg County for a term of eighteen months in August 1780 under Capt. John Overton in the Virginia line. Served until October 1781 and was discharged at the town of Little York. Was at the battles of Stono, Green Springs, and the siege of York. He is a saddler by trade but is too old to work. File includes a list of property; has a wife who is blind in both eyes and four children, not named, one daughter (who cares for his wife) a son who supports himself, and two younger sons.

Stephen Fuller, GA, #S37949

24 March 1824, Pendleton District, South Carolina. Affidavit of Stephen Fuller. Difficult to read. Pension Bureau summary of his service states he enlisted for twelve months in Capt. Coulson's Company under Col. Habersham and was discharged in 1777 in Savannah. He then enlisted in same company commanded part of the time by Shadrack Wright. He enlisted as private but served as an orderly sergeant by the time of his discharge. Was in the Battle at Fort Barrington on the Altamaha River when they were attacked by the Creek Indians. He has no evidence of his service, but offers the affidavits of Abednego Wright and John Fuller;

No place or date. Affidavit of Stephen Fuller, age 75. He enlisted in February 1776 in the Georgia Continental line and served until April, when he was discharged. Was in a battle with Creek Indians at Fort Barrington. He is by trade a saddler and sometimes taught school. Has a wife, four daughters, and two sons.

17 November 1824, Pendleton District. Affidavit of Stephen Fuller. He has lived in Pendleton District since 1787.

Note: Stephen does not state where he was living when he enlisted. However, descendants believe his father was John, who died 1810 in Columbia County, Georgia. A John does appear in the Columbia deeds who could either be Stephen's father or brother. Presumably, the latter was the man referenced in the pension file. See Frank T. Blankenship, "Descendants of Samuel Fuller," *Frank T. Blankenship's Family Tree* (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/b/l/a/Frank-T-Blankenship-VA/GENE9-0004.html#CHILD14>).

George Handley, BLW #1255-300

17 July 1827, Leon County, Florida Territory. Affidavit of Thomas H. Handley, heir at law of Capt. George Handley. George entered service in October 1776 as a captain, for the duration of the war. He commanded the first company of the first regiment under Col. Joseph Habersham.

4 August 1827, Leon County, Florida Territory. Warrant for 300 acres issued to Thomas H. Handley, heir at law of Capt. George Handley.

Obediah Hendrick, GA, #S38017

1 October 1819, Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Affidavit of Obediah Hendrick of Charlotte County, age about 63. He enlisted in 1777 in Charlotte County for a term of three years under Captain Thomas Scott of Prince Edward County of the 3rd Georgia Regiment commanded by Col. Samuel Elbert; served for

“upwards of two years.” Was in the battles of Briars Creek in Georgia, and John’s Island within twenty miles of Charleston. In July 1779, before his term expired, he received a furlough for the balance of his term from Maj. Moore at Bacon’s Bridge in South Carolina.

Same date. Affidavit of Griffith Dickenson. He marched with Obediah Hendrick to Georgia where “he” was commanded by Cols. Elbert, Crittenden, and others.

Jesse (x) Hooper, GA, #S1913

28 July 1832, Davidson County, Tennessee. Affidavit of Jesse Hooper, age 73 last March. He enlisted in the army of the United States in March 1776 with Jacob Coulson in the first battalion or regiment. Served as a private for one year and was discharged. Sometime in February or March during his service, Genl. McIntosh marched a force of about five hundred men from Savannah to the Altamaha River to Fort Barrington; his company constituted a part of that force. After reaching the fort, thirty or forty men were sent across the river to spy on Indians. Six men and their horses, with the ferrymen, went on the first boat. As soon as they reached the shore, the Indians ambushed them. Four of the men were killed on the spot, two jumped in the river but only one escaped. The ferryman, laying close to the bottom of the boat, also survived. The Indians then immediately appeared in full force and a fight was carried on for some time from the opposite bank of the river. Genl. McIntosh received a ball in his heel and Hooper was present. Not long after this engagement, the detachment was relieved by Genl. Sumpter. They were marched back to Savannah and he was discharged. He lived in Wilkes County Georgia when enlisted, on the Broad River, about a mile above the mouth. A few days after returning home, he enlisted in the place of Hezekiah Yancey, a militiaman drafted for three months and served the tour at Fort Charlotte on the South Carolina side of the Savannah River. Not long after returning, he enlisted for one year as a light horseman under Capt. William Wilson and Col. Jno. Coleman to guard the back settlements. Coleman took sick and died so Hooper never received a discharge. Soon after this, the British, aided by the Tories and Indians, became so troublesome and dangerous that the frontier settlements of Georgia “broke up their forts & Settlements, and many of them went to the forts in South Carolina.” He then became a volunteer under Capt. Little and served for a long while in the “petty but dangerous warfare of the day.” He was at Kettle Creek and the first siege of Augusta. He was also at the siege of Savannah but cannot recollect the name of his captain.

James Houston, GA, BLWT1231-450

8 February 1827, Chatham County, Georgia. Affidavit of Andrew Brown of Savannah and wife Hannah T., late Hannah T. Houston, only surviving daughter of the late James Houston. Said James Houston was a surgeon in the Georgia line until the end of the war.

Hall Hudson, VA, #R5331

19 September 1833, Lincoln County, Tennessee. Affidavit of Hall Hudson, age 80. Enlisted sometime in June 1775 [sic] under Capt. Abram Penn for no particular term of service as a private at Pittsylvania Court House, Virginia. Were marched against the Shawnee Indians and was for a short time stationed at Farlers Fort on the Big Canaway [Kanawha] River; from there they were ordered to join Genl. Lewis who marched to what was called the Point at the mouth of the Big Conaway and there had an engagement with the Indians [Battle of Point Pleasant, 10 Oct 1774], where Col. Lewis was killed. Then returned to the Fort where we remained but a short time before we were marched back to Pittsylvania Court House and discharged. Early in May 1776, enlisted at Pittsylvania Court House as a private under a recruiting officer named Capt. Samuel Scott for eighteen months, but their term of service did not begin until the first of the next September, when they were formed into a company at Prince Edward Court House and placed under the command of Capt. George Walton, from which place they were marched directly to Augusta, Georgia; there they were put on keel boats and taken to Savannah and put under the command of Genl. John L. McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh] of the regular troops. His company was attached to the 1st Regt. under Col Habersham; Capt Walton’s company with about 300 troops were ordered to march to Tybee Island and put under the command of Col. Elbert & remained there until about the 1st of March 1777. Then were ordered back to Savannah and from there Genl. McIntosh marched the greater part of his army to Sunbury they

remained but a short period before Capt. Walton's company, with some three or four more, were placed under the command of Col. Moore of the line and set sail for Amelia Island [Florida] which we took after a skirmish with the British & Tories. Remained there but a short time before setting sail for Savannah in small boats. His boat was commanded by a Capt Woodruff and on the way they took a British vessel loaded with arms, clothing, and provisions, which they took to Savannah. From Savannah, they were ordered to join Genl. McIntosh at Darien and from there were marched to Fort McIntosh and from there to St. Mary's, and from there back to Savannah, where he remained until discharged in March 1778. He then returned to Pittsylvania and served from there.

John Linn, Rachel, GA, #R6362

28 August 1827, Lincoln County, North Carolina. Affidavit of John Linn. Was "crippled" and wounded in his right hand, leaving it deformed, while serving in the Georgia militia.

The affidavits of his two children do not mention service in the First Georgia battalion, However, his file contains a written statement in George Hendley's hand, 24 January 1785, stating that Linn was a soldier in his company of the First Georgia Regiment.

Peter Mason, GA, S38172

9 May 1825, Lunenburg County, Virginia. Affidavit of Peter Mason, age 68. He enlisted for a term of twelve months in 1776 under Capt. George Walton in regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Habersham of the Georgia line and served in the same corps until December 1777. Discharged at Savannah.

His discharge is dated 6 September 1777.

John Milton [Wilton], BLW #323-300

29 December 1806, Padanaram? Letter written by John Milton to Honorable John Milledge, reading, in part: "It has not till within five or six months past, come to my knowledge that the United States has appropriated townships or allotments of land in the Western territory for the service or use of the officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary Army. Captain Marbury informed me, about the time above specified, that Capt. Meriwether, through the application of Genl. Meriwether, when member of Congress, had received his grant. It is well known to you that I was in the service of the United States, from the commencement of the war in the Southern States, until the close thereof – I entered the first Georgia battalion as an Ensign, early in Febry, '76, and rose by different grades to Captain in 77, and therefore . . . I am entitled to Brevet rank as Major."

Benjamin Netherland, GA, #

27 September 1827, Jassamine County, Kentucky. Affidavit of Benjamin Netherland, St., age 76. He entered service in the first Virginia Regiment as a cadet became an ensign. . . . "The state of Virginia admitted the state of Georgia to raise 2 regiments[,] the 2nd & 3rd. I found a number of my connections & friends had got commissions. I resigned & went with them to the state of Georgia under the promise of an Ensigns com^s by Mr. George Walton. I ___ money to recruit & enlisted 18 men & when I got to Georgia I did not get my commission, the Capt. had appointed one I then got a 2nd Lieutenant in the first Regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Habersham. I was on several scouting parties against the Indians" and an expedition to Saint Augustine. Details his march to Fort Barentin in 1775 or 1778 [date difficult to read]. At this time, the British invaded Georgia a under Col. Brown. He [Netherland] was in command of a relief company sent to Fort Barentin. On that expedition he was captured by Col. Brown who left Georgia with about 300 men, a company of the 62nd Regiment of British troops with the rest being Indians and Tories. He [Netherland] had 38 men and an ensign under him; lost seventeen dead and nine wounded; the rest, including himself, were carried to Saint Augustine and put in the dungeon under the lighthouse on the island opposite the town where he remained nineteen days before he was moved to the common jail with the rest of his men. Stayed there several months, took sick with the fever. Was then sent to Charles Town then on to Georgia with his men. He received leave to so see about his health, went back to Charles Town and became acquainted with Capt. Smedley who commanded the ship ___ who sailed out of Boston, he

“land me in boston” where he stayed till November 1778. Then went to Philadelphia where he ran out of money; went to see Mr. Langworthy[?], a member of Congress from Georgia, who took him to the Treasury and got him \$50 or \$100, he cannot remember which. In 1780, he got leave from Genl. Saml Elbert to go to Kentucky “as there was not a command for more than 2 thirds of the officers.” He received no pay from the winter of 1777 or 1778 nor any compensation till the end of the war. He was a Captain by rotation so thinks he is entitled to half pay. The Indians took his commission from him when Brown took him prisoner. Was at the Battle of Blue Licks in 1782.

Another document in filed state he received his commission from George Walton in 1776. He married November 1787 in Surry County, North Carolina, to Theodosia Bramlet, daughter of Ambrose. He died October 1838 in Jessamine County.

William Palmer/Palmore, Frances, VA, #W8083

3 July 1839, Charlotte County, Virginia. Affidavit of Frances (x) Lewis, present widow of Benjamin Lewis and before that, the widow of William Palmer, late of Prince Edward County, Virginia. He was a private soldier in the infantry of the Georgia Line and also in the Virginia militia. He enlisted in 1777 in Prince Edward County in the Georgia Continental line under Capt. Robert Walton and marched from Moore’s ordinary to the South. Four companies rendezvoused at the same place and marched to the South at the same time, being the companies of Capt. Robert Walton, Jesse Walton, Scott, and Glascock, all of whom she understands belonged to the same 1st Regiment of the Georgia Line. She does not know for how long he enlisted but he was gone for three years. At the time he marched, they were engaged and she went to Moore’s Ordinary to see him march. When he returned, they married in Lunenburg County, and he was drafted into the militia at Prince Edward under Capt. Michaux. They married 5 June 1781 and he died in 1789.

Other documents in the file identify William’s widow as Frances Westbrook.

1839, Lunenburg County, Virginia. Affidavit of John Fram, age 83. He was well acquainted with William Palmer, they being fellow soldiers in the same company and battalion. They enlisted under Capt. Robert Walton in the early part of 1777 in the Georgia Continental service for twelve months; they marched to the state of Georgia in March of that year and were stationed at different times in Augusta, Savannah, Saint Augustine, and other places; they were honorably discharged. Col. Habersham commanded the 1st Georgia battalion

23 November 1840, Charlotte County, Virginia. Affidavit of Obadiah (x) Hendrick. He enlisted in 1777 for a term of three years under Capt. Thomas Scott, whose company was attached to the 3rd Georgia Battalion of Continental Establishment, commanded by Cols. Rae and Screven. He lived in Palmer’s neighborhood and remembers Palmer enlisting in the Georgian Continental service for a term of twelve or eighteen months under Capt. Robert Walton. Four companies marched together from Moore’s Old Ordinary to Savannah where they were headquartered.

John Phipps, Va & GA, # S14132

8 April 1833, Hopkins County, Kentucky. Affidavit of John Phipps. He enlisted 1776 in Amelia County, Virginia, for three years under Captain Thomas Scott and was appointed Sergeant. He ___ ___ at the service of his Captain in Prince Edward County during the fall and winter of 1776 and in the year 1777, he marched through Hillsboro in North Carolina to Bacon's Bridge across the Ashley River about eighteen miles from Charleston, then to Savannah, where joined the 3rd Georgia Regiment under Colonel Scrivan and Major Robards. He remained with that regiment at Savannah until July 1778 when he was furloughed for three months and went home. On his return, he met a soldier who informed him that his company had in his absence been removed to and was then stationed in Augusta, Georgia, where he rejoined it in October 1778. Shortly afterwards, his company with others, was detached and marched under Colonel Ray or Rhea to Golphin’s Cow pens on the Ogeechee River to guard the Commissioners appointed to treat at that place with the Creek Indians. After the treaty was concluded, he marched back through Augusta to Savannah, arriving on 24 December 1778, and continued there until about the last of April 1779. Then, by leave of his officers, he hired a substitute to serve out the remaining three months of his three year term and returned

home. When he first joined his regiment at Savannah, he was under the command of General McIntosh, and for some time thereafter and the balance of his time he served under the command of General Howe (not Sir William).

8 February 1832 [*sic*], Hopkins County, Kentucky. Affidavit of William Frazier, age 86. John Phipps was a soldier of the Revolution who enlisted in Amelia County, Virginia, in 1775 or 1776, for three years under Captain Thomas Scott of the 3rd Georgia Regiment. He, Frazier, was a Sergeant in said company and Phipps was also a Sergeant. They were both marched from Prince Edward County, where their Captain resided, to Savannah, where we joined the Regiment under the command of Colonel Screven & Major Robards.

Burton Pride, Elizabeth, GA, #W10930

22 August 1832, Morgan County, Alabama. Affidavit of Burton (x) Price, aged 75–80. Entered about the year 1776 under Genl. McIntosh, Col. Habersham, and Capt. Hendley, and served for twelve months. Upon discharge, he volunteered under the militia under Genl. Rutherford and Col. Locke, but does not remember the name of his captain. He lived in Caswell County, North Carolina.

13 May 1833, Morgan County. Second affidavit of Burton (x) Pride. He enlisted under Capt. Hendley in September 1776 and not in 1775 as previously stated.

Pension Bureau summary states he served eighteen months under Hendley.

David Sarzedas, GA, #S39061

19 May 1818, Charleston, South Carolina. Affidavit of David Sarzedas, Sr., age 57. He was appointed lieutenant in the 4th company of Capt. John Habersham and Col. Joseph Habersham's regiment, being the 1st Regiment or Battalion, composing a part of Genl. Lachlan McIntosh's Brigade, early in 1776 and served until the end of 1777 when he resigned due to poor health. His commission was lost as a consequence of his being shipwrecked on a voyage to the West Indies a few years after the Revolution and only escaped with his life.

Other documents in file states his occupation was "practicing of physic" and a physician.

He provided a more detailed affidavit in the application file of Gershom Cohen . 27 September 1838, age 78. He was in Charleston at the time the French fleet appeared in August or September 1779, bound for Savannah to join with the American under Lincoln for a combined attack on the British then at Savannah. These circumstances excited the Georgians, late residents of Savannah, to unite in volunteering their services in joining the Southern Army. A meeting took place among the old residents of Savannah who had taken refuge in Charleston; many agreed to go to Georgia and if they were successful, to get early possession of the property they were obliged to abandon. On this occasion, a division took place; some went by land, others with whom he joined, went on board the French fleet and continued aboard the Admiral's ship Languedoc of ninety guns until a landing was made at Beaufort in Georgia, when the line was taken up for Savannah, and he and his companions joined in the advance Infantry and soon encamped before Savannah. Upon arrival, he recognized some of his friends and acquaintances from Charleston who had volunteered their services, including his brother-in-law Gershom Cohen, who was engaged in storming the British lines, which attempt failed. They were soon dismissed and returned home together where they remained until Cornwallis took Charleston

Samuel Scott, Ann, GA, VA, #W5998

12 September 1838, Campbell County, Virginia. Deposition of Ann Scott, age 75. Her maiden name was Jones. Her husband, Capt. William Scott, was younger brother of Major William Scott. She was born in Spotsylvania County but knew the brothers since childhood as they lived in adjoining Caroline County. They all went to the same school. She believes the brothers were both commissioned as captains by the state of Virginia. Shortly after the war, Samuel Scott went into the South Campaign; either before going or returning shortly, he raised a company of cavalry from the counties of Prince Edward, Halifax, Bedford, and Botetourt, Virginia, and marched to Georgia, where he remained until the end of the war. Her husband,

William, did not remain long in the service of Virginia but soon followed his brother to the Southern service. About 1779 or 1780, William was made a prisoner of war and falling very sick, he was released on condition that he did not enter the service again; he returned home, accompanied by his brother Samuel. On this visit home, Samuel was wearing the uniform of a Major and was called such. Samuel then returned to Georgia.

14 September 1838, Lynchburg, Virginia. Deposition of Miss Nancy Callaway, age about 80. She was intimately acquainted with Samuel Scott of Caroline County since childhood. He had many relations in Prince Edward County so was frequently there. At the start of war, Samuel immediately went into service as a captain of a troop of cavalry. Most of his service was in Georgia. "He was commissioned as a Captain, either by the state of Georgia or some other power in the army." He recruited a great many soldiers from Prince Edward, Bedford, Halifax, and Botetourt County. His lieutenant was "____ Walton, son of George Walton of Prince Edward County." In 1777, Lieut. Walton recruited a company in Prince Edward, then marched them to Georgia to be placed under the command of Capt. Samuel Scott. Early in 1778, Capt. Samuel Scott came to the house of George Walton in Prince Edward and stayed for two months; he was wounded in the foot. When recovered, he returned to Georgia.

Other documents state he resigned as Captain in January 1779 and entered the Virginia service as a major.

7 July 1777. "Received of Capt Samuel Scott wages in full to the twenty fifth of May from the date enlisted, in the Georgia service: Wm Bartlett, Isham Ward, Wm H. (x) Fulcher, John Draper, David Hally, Larkin Rogers, Martin Mabry, R^d Carnmichael, Moses Wade. Tho^s Crawley, Archelus Silvey, Benjamin (x) Turner, Richard (x) Cormichael, Benjamin (x) Tillison, Elisha (x) Gibson, Jacob Crist, Edmond Hack, George Brock, Benj. Lawless, Daniel Womack, Thos Jones, William Butler, Thos Butler, Jonathan Hunt, William Stewart, Vollentine Brock, Timothy Warren, and George Ballard.

File includes many papers concerning military transactions, including another pay list of thirty six men serving from November or December through May, but no year given; a journal of his trip to Philadelphia on military business; numerous receipts; a letter to his old commander; even a a party invitation and charges of mean, rough, and ungentlemanly behavior.

Stephen Shelton, VA, #W6044

16 February 1839, Lunenburg County, Virginia. Affidavit of Sinah (x) Shelton, age 84. He was a soldier for twelve months in the Georgia Continental line. Later served on the Virginia Continental Line and the Virginia militia. They were married 4 June 1792. [Other documents show her maiden name was Breedlove.]

File includes discharge signed by Col. Joseph Habersham and dated 1 September 1777, for twelve months service under Capt. Shadrach Wright.

Jonathan Snider, Elizabeth, GA, #W2185

8 July 1833, Effingham County, Georgia. Affidavit of Jonathan Snider, age 72. He enlisted in 1781 or early 1782, when General Wayne's army was at Gibbon's Plantation near Savannah, under Major Habersham for two years. Thinks his captain was McIntosh but is not certain. He then lived about nineteen miles from Savannah near the public road leading to Augusta. The adjutant of the battalion was Mr. Berry and Frederick Long was Sergeant Major. Served as a private until 10 December 1783.

9 October 1848, Effingham County. Affidavit of Elizabeth Snider. Her maiden name was Gunn and she married Jonathan 26 August 1794 by Lutheran minister J. E. Bryman.

Note: This may not be the 1st Battalion.

John Stiles, widow Lucy, #W4820 BLW #28662-160-55

20 December 1830, Haywood County, North Carolina. Affidavit of John (x) Stiles. Age 74 "Against the 1st day of February next." Enlisted 4 March 1776 or 1777 in Georgia for a term of one year as a private in Capt. John Green's Company in a regiment commanded by Colonels Joseph Harris and Habersham on the Continental Establishment. Continued in the corps until 4 April 1777 or 1778 and was discharged in

Savannah by Col. Harris. He did not make an earlier application because while he was able to labor and maintain a family, he would not apply for a pension, but he has now become "poor and needy."

27 December 1830. Schedule of property: 100 acres "of common quality much worn & in dispute under suit;" two horses, six head of cattle; a debt of eight dollars in the state of Georgia; a debt to Messrs. Robert Loor and John B. Loor in sum of \$50.

27 January 1819, Haywood County. Bond of John Stiles and Daniel McDowell for marriage of Stiles to Lucy Beasley, a widow. Signed John (x) Stiles and Daniel McDowell.

19 September 1853, Jackson County, North Carolina. Affidavit of Lucy (x) Stiles, age 77. John died 17 October 1834.

12 June 1866, Union County, Georgia. Affidavit of Mrs. Agnes Partin, age 66. She is daughter of Lucy Stiles, deceased, widow of John Stiles, who was a Revolutionary pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum on the roll at the Georgia Agency at Savannah. Lucy died 9 June 1861 in Union County leaving three children Agnes Partin, Sarah Quillian, and William Beasley. Lucy moved to Union County in 1858.

File includes several other affidavits made from North Carolina. No military service details are provided. John was born 1 February 1757, place not given.

22 August 1831, Hemphill County, Georgia. Affidavit of John Fluker. He was personally acquainted with John Stiles in the Revolutionary Army, who enlisted as a soldier for twelve months in the first battalion that was raised in the state of Georgia in 1776, commanded by Col. Lachlan McIntosh. Stiles was enlisted by Lieut. Ignatius Few and attached to Capt. John Green's company.

7 April 1831, Haywood County, Georgia. Affidavit of William Stiles, Esqr., nephew of John Stiles. He remembers the return of his uncle from the Army and that he was wearing a military coat with particular buttons.

James Stuart (Stewart), GA, #S39088

27 November 1818, Charleston, South Carolina. Affidavit of James Stuart. He enlisted in the Spring of 1776, perhaps April, under Col. Joseph Habersham in Capt. John Habersham's Company and served until May 1777.

John Turner (no pension)

Detachment of the first Georgia Battalion, Lieutenant Milton, includes:

- 14. Turner
- 21. John Turner