Editor’s Notes

We hope you had a marvelous holiday season. Holidays bring us closer to the 18th century culture in that we take more face time being with one another and there for each other. Thank you for all of your kind letters, offers, donations, and emails. We got many complements on Clarence Mahoney’s poem, “The Battle of Camden”. My “hat’s off” to Clarence! Again we must reiterate that this is not Charles Baxley’s newsletter; it is a shared open forum for all fellow cohorts – rebel or loyalist partisans alike. Your input, criticism, contribution, and assistance are needed and appreciated.

Joanna Craig at Historic Camden, David Reuwer and Charles Baxley are working on a spring mini-symposium (April 8-9-10, 2005) and field trip covering the life and principal battles commanded by South Carolina Patriot Gen. Thomas Sumter. We plan to take those interested to Gen. Sumter’s battlegrounds, from his first resistance in the summer of 1780 at Rocky Mount on the Wateree River, his victories at Hanging Rock, Fish Dam Ford of the Broad River, and Blackstock’s Plantation on the Tyger River to his utter defeats at Fishing Creek (Catawba Ford) of the Catawba River and in his 1781 “Dog Days” of summer campaign to “thunder at the gates of Charles Town” which ended in his defeat at Quinby Bridge/Shubrick’s Plantation. Please send any suggestions for scholarship and other interesting presentations. We have a great program on this patriot’s life and tour of his most important battlefields.

As the British renewed their initiatives to re-conquer their rebellious New World colonies in the Southern Department in December 1778, Southern Campaigns fans will be treated to many 225th anniversary events in the next two years. Reenactments, memorial services, scholarly conclaves, and tours are now being planned and scheduled. We will attempt to keep you informed with a list of events and contacts for which we need your help. Please submit your scheduled events and contact information. Southern campaigns sites at Charleston, SC and Lancaster County, SC for Buford’s Massacre at the Waxhaws (May 2005), Beckhamville, SC and Ramsey’s Mill, NC (June 2005), Camden, SC (August 2005) and Kings Mountain, SC (October 2005) are already planning major 225th Southern Campaign anniversary events.

We received the wonderful news of the satisfaction of the purchase money mortgage on the Battle of Camden site in December with state funds. While there is much more work to be done in property acquisition, planning, research, and interpretation at Camden, the public’s permanent access to this important battleground is now guaranteed. We understand that various non-profit and governmental agencies are now working on obtaining several other important Palmetto State Revolutionary War sites. We hope we can announce several milestone acquisitions here soon. This preservation work and current focus is critical as we have irrevocably lost most of the Revolutionary War battlefield historic context by over-development at Hobkirk Hill, much of Eutaw Springs and Stono Ferry, all of Charleston, Augusta, Charlotte and Savannah, some of Guilfords Courthouse, and most of Ramseur’s Mill and Cowan’s Ford. Re-locating the “lost” Revolutionary War sites, appropriately marking them and widely disseminating the facts of what happened where is the most powerful tool we have to spread the knowledge base to build public awareness and influence to encourage cooperative uses of these sites entrusted to our generation. Please help us pry this information from the dusty archive files, the archaeology departments and knowledge base of local historians, property owners and collectors. We have over 200 Revolutionary War battle and skirmish sites to document in South Carolina alone. We need your help! Even the over-built sites like Charleston, Ramseur’s Mill, Hobkirk’s Hill, Augusta, Granby, Eutaw Springs, Orangeburg, Savannah and Charlotte can be appropriately marked and interpreted.

We plan to be in Charleston, SC the weekend of February 25th to attend the South Carolina Historical Society’s presentations on 18th century South Carolina and the annual convention of the Society for Military History hosted by Professor Jennie Speelman at The Citadel. We hope to see you there.

Your contributions of money and articles, and my “real” job may continue to allow a monthly publication schedule. As there is no subscription fee at this time, we solicit your voluntary contributions in proportion to your evaluation of the product. An email notice and web-based distribution of the SCAR Newsletter has ameliorated some of my printing and mailing costs. We remain glad to print and mail a copy to anybody without access to a high-speed Internet service and a printer; however, electronic publication allows us to use better color graphics and save printing and postage costs. We will email folks on our email list a note when the new edition of SCAR has been posted; you may review or download and copy the current and previous newsletters from our website at www.southerncampaign.org. Let us know your email address and preferred medium. To improve the publication, better maps and graphics are desirable and a volunteer with layout experience would be great.

Please send any names, addresses and email contacts of persons you know who are interested in sharing our study of the Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution and we will add them to our list.
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Charles B. Baxley……..Editor and Publisher

Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution is dedicated to the study of the War for American Independence in the Southern Department from 1760 to 1789. We facilitate the exchange of information on the Southern Campaigns’ Revolutionary War sites, their location, preservation, historic signage, interpretation, artifacts, and archaeology as well as the personalities, military tactics, units, logistics, strategy, and the political leadership of the state. We highlight professionals and amateurs actively engaged in Revolutionary War research, preservation and interpretation to encourage an active exchange of information. All are invited to submit articles, pictures, documents, events and suggestions. We feature battles and skirmishes, documents, maps, artifacts, Internet links, and other stories.

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Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution’s letter and email publication policy: the author must sign all letters and emails and include a telephone number and return address for verification. We reserve the right to select those letters and emails that contribute to the cause, and to edit them for clarity and length. Letters and emails published may not reflect the opinion of your editor. Please contact us at P. O. Box 10, Lugoff, South Carolina 29078-0010 or Hcbbaxter@charter.net or (803) 438-1606 (h) or (803) 438-4200 (w).


Review by Thomas L. Powers

This CD-ROM publication bills itself as “A comprehensive multimedia documentary for historians, collectors and educators.”

It launches with a musical fanfare, then settles in to the main screen, called “The Main Hall.” Clicking on various doors or objects in the room takes the viewer to the major segments of the program: “The South Carolina Historical Society,” “Timeline Theater,” “SCHS Gallery,” “Walking Tour,” and “ Ft. Moultrie.” The first is a history and description of the organization. The last two are “virtual tours,” the former of historical sites in downtown Charleston and the latter, of Ft. Moultrie as it probably was on June 28, 1776, the date of the Battle of Sullivan’s Island.

The two virtual tours work differently. That of downtown Charleston opens with a sketch map of the city, with attractions highlighted. Clicking on the highlighted spot launches a page describing the spot. Embedded in the page is a small window which runs a video clip of historian Kyle Simis of The Citadel, who gives a brief lecture about the attraction. The tour of Ft. Moultrie relies on computer graphics to recreate the Fort as the editors believe it looked just before the battle. Each slide provides a view of a portion of the fort, usually of its interior. Viewers may use the mouse to drag the picture around, almost as though a visitor on the site would turn his or her head. The final slide is an all-around panoramic one, imagining what that hypothetical visitor would have seen by turning around in a complete circle.

The “SCHS Gallery” seems to promise a treasure trove of original documents and maps, but it provides far less. Its contents are “Biographies,” “Maps,” “Letters,” “British Documents,” “Patriot Documents,” “The Grimke Papers,” and “Journal.” What is inside these containers is very good, but it is also very limited. The “Letters” section, for example, contains a selection of letters from only two collections, those of Eliza Wilkinson and Richard Hutson. The “Maps” are few, and only of Charleston and vicinity. There are only a few items in each of the “Documents” sections. In part, this limitation stems from a decision to include here only materials located at the South Carolina Historical Society, a decision which is perfectly defensible, but which conflicts somewhat with the CD’s implicit promise of exploring the American Revolution in South Carolina.

The strongest portion of the CD is the “Timeline Theater.” There are three sections herein: “Interactive Time Line,” “S.C. Battles Chronology”, and “Illustrated Narrative”.

The “Battle Chronology” is, in essence, a slide show. The base image is a map of South Carolina. As each slide advances, a date appears at the top of the screen, along with the name of a battle; a small sunburst appears on the map at the site of a battle; and a brief description of the battle is displayed. Viewers can click “next” or “previous” to navigate the slide show, but there is no index available, so the only way to find, say, the Battle of Camden is to click through the show to the proper slide.

The “Illustrated Narrative” is very well done. It too is a slide show, but with some extra multimedia features thrown in. Each slide describes some episode or facet of the period, leading the viewer slide-by-slide through the story. Each slide is, as the name implies,
illustrated, usually with a portrait or drawing or painting having some relationship to the topic of the slide. Occasionally, slides contain links to websites, or to other documents or maps on the disk. A special feature is the frequent inclusion of “mini-lecture” windows, each showing a picture of Dr. Sinisi or of Dr. Larry Rowland of the University of South Carolina at Beaufort. Clicking on the picture launches a video clip of a brief lecture by the scholar, providing background, consequences, and elaboration of the topic on the slide.

The “Interactive Timeline” is not terribly interactive by today’s standards. A timeline is displayed on the screen. Clicking on one of the bars displays specific events related to the topic. Clicking on one of the events brings up a note briefly describing it. Clicking on the bar also brings up more of the mini-lecture “windows,” though the lectures presented here are the same as those in the “Illustrated Narrative.”

For the most part, the story that this CD tells is unobjectionable, though, of course, every quibbler will find at least one or two particular things over which to quibble. Historians of the topic, both professional and amateur, will find little new here, though there are some interesting documents, portraits, and maps. Educators may find the CD useful as a means of adding depth to what they should already know, and as a source of illustrative anecdotes. Revolutionary War buffs who are not very familiar with South Carolina or the Southern Campaign will be those who probably would get the most from it, for their knowledge base would provide a solid background, while much of the story will be new to them. If students cared to take the time to navigate through the disk, their time would be well rewarded, especially if they began with the “Illustrated Narrative.” On the whole, though, the CD adds little (beyond the computer-generated perspective of Ft. Moultrie) to the knowledge base of those familiar with the subject. Its strength is in the presentation.

But presentation is also the thing that points out the two major problems with the CD: technical issues, and the question of the disk’s identity and purpose. To take the last first, it is unclear just what purpose the CD is supposed to serve. Other than quick access to a few documents, there’s little here that historians and enthusiasts of the period do not already know. At the same time, there is more depth than would be needed, or maybe even wanted, by someone with a casual interest in the period. Secondary school teachers might find it very useful, both as preparation for teaching a course in Revolutionary or South Carolina History, and as a classroom resource. The CD has no clear focus of application. In trying to be at least a few things to all people, it appears to serve none terribly well. The one thing it DOES do well is to showcase the South Carolina Historical Society, its activities, and its holdings. Considering how much that organization has meant to the study of South Carolina History, that is not a negligible thing.

The other major problem is that the CD is beset by some technical difficulties that inhibit its use. On the “Interactive Timeline,” the small windows in which the mini-lecturing scholars appear sometimes are superimposed over the text description of an event, making it impossible to read the latter. Neither can be moved. The letters in the “Letters” section of the “SCHC Gallery” appear in frames, the text in one frame and an index of letters in that section in the other. But moving the mouse off the index entry for a letter removes the letter from the screen. The only way to get it back is to click again on the index entry. In short, it is impossible to read the text for any length of time unless the mouse is held absolutely still. Maps in the “Maps” section appear in a window, which reveals only a small section of the map. It is possible to “drag” the map so that new sections appear, but there is no “zoom” function enabling the viewer to see the entire map at once, nor to focus on a smaller area. Sometimes, when two “mini-lecture” insets occupy a single slide, clicking on both will play both clips at once, leading to the interesting experience in one case of observing Dr. Rowland try to talk over himself! In several cases, there is no place to click on an index and bring up a particular slide. The viewer must page through the entire slide show, page by page, to arrive at the one he or she wants to view. Similarly, in the “S.C. Battles Chronology” there is no way to click on a spot or name on the map and bring up information on the battle or battles that took place there, as there is on the “Walking Tour of Charleston” section. Again, one must page through until arriving at the desired battle.

The mini-lectures are simply headshots of the two scholars as they talk. Occasionally, a speaker’s hands will enter the picture. Dr. Rowland’s hands, in particular, become distracting. Closer to the camera and shown in a very confined window, they loom over the entire image. Further, Dr. Rowland sometimes lowers volume as he lowers pitch, meaning that sometimes the last few words of his sentences become almost inaudible. The sound technician did not compensate for this.

A serious technical problem is the compatibility of the disk with the computer of the viewer. The disk cover warns that “Depending on your computer’s configuration, some users may experience hesitations in the audio and video portions,” and notes that such users need to update their video and audio drivers. It appears a bit much to expect that every user of a CD such as this will even know what video and audio drivers are, much less that he or she will know how to upgrade them. Meanwhile, the performance of the audio and video sections does leave much to be desired. On this reviewer’s computer, sound appeared on some mini-lectures only several words into the presentation. Sometimes the image froze while the sound played on, then tried to “fast forward.” (The “fast-forward” had a particularly interesting effect on the movements of Dr. Rowland’s hands.) Rarely were the movements of the mouth coordinated with the sounds of the spoken words. While all these problems may be in the viewer’s computer rather than with anything in the CD itself, they exist, and presumably will exist in all computers not perfectly configured to conform to the disk. While there is probably little that can be done about this given the present state of technology, it remains an issue, and it does get in the way of the flow of the story.

Other difficulties are less technical than editorial. Many of the notes in the battle chronology and the “Interactive Time Line” bear the phrase “-lumpkin” at the end, presumably indicating that the material therein was taken from Dr. Henry Lumpkin’s work; but there is no bibliography showing what “-lumpkin” really means, and its presence serves only as a distraction. The last slide in the Ft. Moultrie tour calls itself the Final View, but has a “next” button on the side, even though clicking on that button has no effect. The Battle of Hobkirk Hill may have been disastrous for the Continentals, but it was not “disastrous.” And what can the reader make of a sentence describing a truce between Loyalist and Revolutionary forces which lasted until Tory Robert Cunningham was imprisoned, followed by a sentence beginning “When word of Fletchall’s imprisonment …”? There are others.

This reviewer would have appreciated a built-in note-taker of some kind, so that a viewer could take notes on some of the mini-lectures. This would be particularly helpful if teachers or students are using the CD.

All that said, this CD remains a worthy effort. Almost anyone could find at least something new and useful in it, and quite apart from its technical difficulties, its content makes a wonderful introduction in some depth for those whose familiarity with the subject is not deep. The South Carolina Historical Society is to be commended for its efforts in bringing together as much as it did in one CD. Hopefully, most of the glitches, both editorial and technical, can be corrected easily before more disks are released.
Pyle's Defeat: Deception at the Racepath by Carole W. Troxler, Ph.D., Professor Emerita of History, Elon University. This monograph contains 80 pages, paper bound, 8 1/2” x 11” with 15 maps and color illustrations.

Southern Campaigns launched headfirst into the controversial Southern Campaigns “massacres”, first with publication of an article and our research on Buford’s “Massacre” by Lt. Col. Banastre “Bloody Ban” Tarleton at the Battle of the Waxhaws, next we visited Patriot Col. William Washington’s one-sided victory in the Battle at Hammond’s Store, and now we round out this exploration with a short review of Professor Troxler’s field report on Pyle’s Hacking Match. Did the call for “Tarleton’s Quarter” ring out from the Patriot victors over Col. Pyle in Alamance County, North Carolina? Troxler reports that questions and controversies have peppered the lore of this Revolutionary War engagement fought on the outskirts of Burlington, North Carolina in 1781. This action, often called “Pyle’s Massacre”, “Pyle’s Hacking Match” and “Pyle’s Defeat”, occurred on February 23, 1781.

After Patriot Gen. Daniel Morgan’s brilliant victory over Tarleton at Cowpens, Gen. Greene successfully beat Lord Cornwallis in the “Race to the Dan”, where after Greene dispatched his Continental Dragoons under Lt. Col. Henry “Lighthorse Harry” Lee and South Carolina militia under Col. Andrew Pickens back into central North Carolina to probe the British and gather intelligence. The fight occurred while Col. John Pyle’s Loyalists were looking for Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton to escort then into Lord Cornwallis’ camp at Hillsborough. Instead, Pyle’s Loyalist came across Lee and Pickens who were searching for Tarleton and his feared British Legion. The Loyalists Lee and Pickens encountered were from Alamance County and adjoining areas of Chatham, Guilford and Randolph counties in North Carolina. Loyalist Col. John Pyle, a physician and former Regulator leader, lived on Cane Creek, NC. Lee managed to trick Pyle and his recruits and to attack them at close range and after the battle, some loyalist prisoners were evidently “dispatched” to their next life.

In this monograph, Professor Troxler reviews the historical accounts and explains her field techniques and resources to re-locate Pyle’s battlefield. As late as 1850, local residents could point out the location of Pyle’s Defeat and of mass graves of some who were killed. Thereafter, stone markers placed on one of the mass graves in 1880 continued to locate the general area. Even after the markers were removed, periwinkle that had been planted on the grave continued to mark its location and to spread among the surrounding cedars. Troxler traces the 18th century roads and relocates the battlefield and probable graves in modern Alamance County, NC.

I recommend purchase of a copy of this excellent publication to complete your Southern Campaigns library. Copies of Professor Troxler’s monograph, Pyle’s Defeat: Deception at the Racepath are available for $12.00 at the Alamance County Historical Museum and Alamance Battleground State Historic Site or by mail. Send $12.00 by check to: Alamance County Historical Association 7519-C Lindley Mill Road, Graham, N.C. 27253.

http://www.elon.edu/troxlerc/Pyle.html

Archaeological Survey of Fort Motte, SC

Archaeologists Steve Smith and Jim Legg of the University of South Carolina’s Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology have completed fieldwork on the site of Fort Motte, fortified by the British in 1780 and held until captured by the Patriots under Lt. Col. Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee and Gen. Francis Marion in May of 1781. Smith plans to present their initial findings at the Francis Marion Symposium in Manning, SC on March 12, 2005.

Smith reported that his team has located the earthen walls and berm that was constructed around the substantial wood-framed home owned by Patriot Rebecca Motte, inherited from her brother Miles Brewerton. A section of the earthworks was excavated which confirmed the published drawings showing the substantial earthen walls were constructed around the house about 8’ wide and a “dry mote” ditch was about 7’ deep. The fort was located on a high hill overlooking the Congaree River near the modern town of Fort Motte, and is accurately marked by a substantial granite DAR monument, pictured below. Legg reports that the artifact scatter makes good sense for a change (fired rifle balls all around the fort proper, unfired British musket balls inside, fired British balls in all directions at a distance from the fort).

Your editor has had several reports from friends who visited the Fort Motte site in the early 1970s and the small mound, constructed to elevate Marion’s cannon, was being destroyed by a logging operation.

DAR Marker on the site of Fort Motte

Fort Motte is located on private property and is posted against trespassers. The landowners have generously allowed this archaeological exploration and personally lead tours to the monument; however, unfortunately at this time this site is not open to the public.

Located approximately one mile south of Fort Motte, near the old McCords Ferry Road (now Lang Syne Road), was Belleville, the home of Col. William “Danger” Thompson, hero of the defense of Breach Inlet on Sullivans Island in 1776. Col. Thompson’s South Carolina backcountry militia successfully held Lord Cornwallis’ army at bay on Long Island (now called the Isle of Palms), preventing a land attack on Fort Sullivan (Ft. Moultrie) coordinated with the naval bombardment. Belleville, was located within easy eyeshot of Fort Motte, and was similarly reinforced by the British. It was the
Dear Mr. Baxley:

I'm looking for any documentation that Generals Washington and Daniel Morgan had a secret plan to hide out or make a last stand in Fort Valley, Massanutten Mountains, just south of Winchester, during "low point" in war, which likely was when British were was chasing him across New Jersey, fall 1776, or when Cornwallis was invading southern Virginia, spring-summer 1781. Morgan was home on leave, recuperating from Quebec, fall 1776, and George Washington had secretly gotten him promoted to colonel with orders to raise a new rifle regiment. According to Higginbotham, when a British ship brought paroled Quebec invasion survivors to New York, August 1776, Morgan's immediately visited George Washington there. You may have seen Gordon's statement in his revolution history, that George Washington and aide Reid, at Newark HQ, November 1776, discussed where to flee and wage partisan warfare -- west of Susquehanna; Augusta County, Virginia; or into the western Allegheny frontier. The quote is unattributed, but since Gordon was touring the Northeast battlefields then and was guest of George Washington about that time, he personally heard the discussion. In spring 1781, Morgan, though ill and retired after Cowpens victory, was helping to raise militia defenses along Blue Ridge, to counter Cornwallis and Higginbotham believes this likely stopped Tarleton from raiding into the north because Tarleton feared being whipped by Morgan again. The first mention of the Fort Valley legend appears in Kercheval's history of the Shenandoah Valley, written 1830s, in which he attributes story to an old revolutionary soldier he knew but did not name. The story has long been imbedded in local lore, which I heard as a child growing up there, though most historians and military students I've spoken to, including Higginbotham and Hofstra doubt it. They've looked long and hard. A prominent historian offered the only tip worth pursing, that years ago, in one paragraph in one letter in some file at Public Records Office, London, he saw reference to some sort of secret plan that was credited with helping to discourage the British from invading the lower Shenandoah, but he didn't take the citation because it wasn't important to his research. Several military strategists have pointed out that the ridges of Fort Valley are awful long to defend, a slow moving army would have hard time escaping if pressed, and food would have been a problem long term. Fast Tory cavalry just would have to bottle up them up and wait. It would be better to roam free in the wild west, they say, where the patriots would find ample forage and popular support. Just want you to know I am on this quest, in case you know of anything, especially any documented references.

John Pearson
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Merle A. McGee’s Artifact Collection

Merle A. “Mac” McGee of Greenville, SC, retired from the US Air Force with great patriotism and a desire to learn about colonial and Revolutionary history of South Carolina. Over the last twenty-five years he has located many dozens of South Carolina Revolutionary War battlefields and collected artifacts. He is a Revolutionary War scholar and supporter of conservation, preservation and interpretation efforts of these artifacts and battlefields. He assisted with the Backcountry Alliance’s survey of the Battle of Camden site where he collected in the early 1980s and with the current research, archaeology (collector’s survey) and interpretation.

Mac, a great friend of SCAR, is fighting cancer. He has generously made his South Carolina in the Revolution artifact collection publicly available; it is displayed at Ninety Six National Military Park. Here are pictures of some of Mac’s artifacts.

“Mac” McGee’s Collection of South Carolina Revolutionary War Artifacts. Photographs by Calvin Keys of Anderson, SC.
Revolutionary War Musket Ball Typology -
An Analysis of Lead Artifacts Excavated at Monmouth Battlefield State Park

by Daniel M. Sivilich, President BRAVO

Typology

What is a musket ball? A small lead sphere designed to be fired from a musket or rifle at a specific target with deadly force. Is this definition true? Are musket balls:

• made of lead? Not Always
• spherical? Not Always
• used with a musket or rifle? Not Always

So how does one identify lead artifacts found at early military sites? Let’s start with basic musket balls made of lead that did begin as spheres and were designed for use with a musket or rifle … and then examine variations.

Musket balls are manufactured by pouring molten lead or another alloy into a two-part single or a multiple cavity mold. 18th-century molds were mostly made of iron or brass, but crude molds made of soapstone and brownstone have also been found (Neumann and Kravic 1989: 190-193). After the lead cools, the mold is separated and the musket ball removed. The casting sprue is cut close to the ball and any flashing around the mold seam is removed. Usually the musket ball would be put into a paper cartridge with a pre-measured charge of black powder.

• Mold Seam - a thin line around the circumference of the musket ball. Some molds were crude and the two halves would not match exactly when closed. This resulted in musket balls that have two slightly offset halves.
• Casting Sprue - A small raised cylinder from the lead inlet channel in the mold. This is usually clipped off close to the surface of the musket ball.
• Patina - Lead oxide. Musket balls that have been buried in the ground for some time develop a white lead oxide coating. However, iron or other chemicals in the soil can change the color from white to tan to brown. Pine and oak trees produce high levels of tannic acid that can change the color of the lead oxide patina to a dark reddish-brown.

If you excavate a musket ball that is round, has a mold seam and a casting sprue, then it probably was dropped and not fired. However, not all dropped musket balls have a mold seam or casting sprue. Unfired musket balls have been excavated at British sites that do not have these two features. It is likely that the musket balls and/or the cartridges were made in England, packed tightly in crates or barrels and transported to the colonies in by ship and over land by wagons. The rough modes of transportation would most likely cause the balls or cartridges to bang together many times, causing the mold seams or casting sprues to be erased (Sivilich 1996).

What type of gun was it used with? To determine the weapon it came from we need to know the diameter of the musket ball in inches. This can be measured using a good set of calipers. When the diameter is known, the bore of the gun can be estimated. The diameter of the ball is not the caliber of the gun. The diameter of the bore is the gun caliber. The difference between the two is known as windage. Typically the windage is approximately 0.05 - 0.10” (Neumann 1967:52). As an example a military British Brown Bess musket has a bore of 0.75” or is 75 caliber, but would take a 0.693” diameter musket ball. A 69 caliber French Charleville musket usually took a 0.63” ball. However, during the 17th and 18th centuries, musket balls were categorized not by diameter, but as to how many musket balls would weigh a pound. For example a service British Brown Bess musket took musket balls that were 29 per two pounds (Muller 1977:14).
If found in quantities, these types of round musket balls are usually an indication of either a camp site where musket balls may have been either cast or cartridges were being rolled. If found in a battle area it may indicate the position from which a soldier stood and fired. Sometimes during the heat of battle, a soldier would grab more than one cartridge from his cartridge box and inadvertently drop one. It could also indicate where a soldier fell and a cartridge or cartridges spilled from his cartridge box.

So by knowing a musket ball diameter, one can estimate the bore of the gun it came from. However, what if the musket ball was fired, hit something and is no longer round? The diameter cannot be measured directly. Another method has been devised to estimate the diameter of a nonspherical musket ball.

Lead has a specific gravity of 11.4. This can be used to back-calculate the diameter of a musket ball based on the weight in grams. However, 18th-century lead contained air and impurities. This can be compensated for by using the Sivilich Formula:

\[ \text{Diameter in inches} = 0.223204 \times (\text{Weight in grams})^{\frac{1}{3}} \]

The diameters of 781 musket balls excavated at Monmouth Battlefield State Park and surrounding associated areas were measured and/or calculated. The chart shown in Figure 3 is a histogram of the distribution of the diameters. There are two very distinct peaks - 0.63” and 0.69” diameters. The British were using standardized munitions. The Brown Bess musket took a 0.693” diameter ball. Therefore, musket balls with diameters greater than 0.66” were most likely associated with that type of weapon. The Americans used a number of riflemen at Monmouth. Rifles typically took musket balls with diameters less than 0.60” in diameter. The distribution confirms that the rifles had a wide distribution of calibers rather than being standardized. The center peak is between 0.60” and 0.66” diameter with a peak at 0.63”. This size ball was used with a variety of smooth bore muskets. Two of the most common were the French Charleville, which were being supplied to the Americans prior to Monmouth, and the British fusil.
I recently received a call from a group of concerned citizens who had heard a musket ball was found at a potential historic site. The site was scheduled for development and they were keen on preserving it. A phase I archaeological survey was being conducted as part of the proposed road widening at the site. I contacted the archaeologist running the project and he confirmed that they had found a musket ball. I asked what size it was and he had not formally measured it but estimated it to be just over a quarter of an inch. It had no visible sprue. I informed him and the citizens that this was not a musket ball. Notice that the lowest value on the chart in Figure 3 was 0.39" in diameter for a musket ball. Smaller lead projectiles have been excavated at Monmouth and classified as buckshot. In 1776 George Washington issued a general order that a standard cartridge shall have one musket ball and 3 or 4 buckshot. Figure 4 shows a typical load and the relative size differences between buck and ball. Buck shot has changed little in the past two centuries and standard 00 buck shot today has a diameter of 0.33" and 000 buck has a diameter of 0.36". Shot excavated at Monmouth has ranged from 0.27" - 0.38" in diameter. It is very difficult to tell 18th-century buckshot from modern buckshot that has been in the ground for only a few years and developed a patina. The most significant difference is that 18th-century shot was made in a gang mold and usually has a sprue visible if it is not too flattened from impact.

Musket balls have been excavated at Monmouth with shallow circular depressions as shown in Figure 5. Again based on the personal experiences of the author in firing black powder flintlock muskets, this appears to be ramrod marks. Even though a ball may be sitting loosely in the breach of a musket, you still ram it several times to compact the powder. If the ball is loose, it will rotate slightly with each strike. This ball has three blows from a ramrod.

Impacted musket balls can take many different shapes. One of the most common is a hemisphere as shown in Figure 6a. This usually occurs when the ball strikes a compressible material such as wood or bone as replicated in Figure 6b.
Figure 6 - (a) Left - Hemispherically-shaped, impacted musket ball. (b) Right - Reproduction musket ball fired into tree.

However, sometimes the shape can be used as a diagnostic tool. The musket ball shown in Figure 7 hit a very smooth, uniformly curved object. The depression on this musket ball perfectly matches the outside diameter of a Brown Bess musket barrel. It appears that it hit a Brown Bess musket barrel.

Figure 7 - Musket ball that appears to have hit the barrel of another musket.

If a musket ball travels at a relatively high velocity and hits a solid object such as a tree, a rock, a fence rail, etc. at a shallow angle, it can ricochet or glance off. The force of this action will usually deform the musket ball and create a sweeping tail of metal as seen in Figure 8.

Figure 8 - Ricocheted musket ball.

After repeated firings, muskets begin to foul, building up a residue of unburnt powder in the barrel. Re-enactors refer to this as grease since it has a similar consistency. This fouling can cause a musket ball to jam in a barrel. The back of a ramrod has a steel screw used to drill into a stuck
musket ball to pull it out. Distinctive screw marks are left in the musket balls as shown in Figure 9. These have been excavated at both campsites and on battlefields. These are usually discarded after being pulled and are usually round. Therefore the diameters can be measured.

Occasionally unusual artifacts are excavated that can often invoke one’s imagination. The musket ball shown in Figure 10 is hemispherical and probably hit and imbedded in a tree. It appears that it was then hit by two more musket balls. This suggests the all three shots were being aimed at a specific target such as an officer behind a tree.

There are the grim realities of war. The musket ball in Figure 11 has a front incisor impression in it and is hemispherical in shape. It appears that this musket ball hit a soldier in the front tooth and proceeded through the back of the head.

If you survived a musket ball wound, you may then have to face the very primitive medical practices of the field surgeon. Typically a surgeon would stick his finger in a guns shot wound to feel for the bullet. If he could touch it, he would use forceps to extract the ball. If he could not feel the ball he patched up the wound and eventually the patient would most likely die of infection. The markings on the musket ball in Figure 12
suggest that it was surgically removed from a patient. It is slightly hemispherical indicating it hit something solid like bone. The scrape marks all radiate toward a center point. This suggests that the surgeon made several unsuccessful attempts from different angles to remove the musket ball.

![Figure 12 - Possible surgically extracted musket ball with forceps scrape marks.](image)

After nipping at the ball several times, the surgeon may have finally dug the instrument in deep enough to grab hold of the ball. Squeezing tightly, the extraction tool left its impressions on opposite sides of the ball as shown in Figure 13a.

![Figure 13 - (a) Left - Extracted musket ball “side” view with possible forceps mark and (b) right - reproduction forceps.](image)
Anesthetics were not available during the Revolutionary War. If you were an officer and some rum or wine was available, you might dull the pain of surgery a little by getting drunk. However, the average soldier was simply given a stick or a piece of leather or a musket ball to bear down on to keep from biting his tongue or cracking his teeth from the pain of having a limb removed or having a musket ball extracted. This is where the term “bite the bullet” may have originated. A number of biting bullets have been excavated at Monmouth. Their flattened state is testament to how much pain a soldier was in. These types of musket balls are also a good indication of where wounded soldiers may have fallen or the location of field surgery sites. Note the deep human molar impressions in the musket ball shown in Figure 14.

![Figure 14 - Chewed musket ball with deep human molar impression.](image)

However, other types of chewed musket balls are also found. The musket ball in Figure 15 is a lightly chewed musket ball that has human canine and incisor teeth marks. These teeth are not used as bearing teeth like molars, so these musket balls are not being chewed on to ease pain. These are most likely being chewed on to help promote salivation. The Battle of Monmouth took place on June 28, 1778. It is reported that temperatures reached 96° in the shade. Many soldiers from both sides fell to heat exhaustion. As the Indian would place pebbles under their tongues to induce saliva, soldiers would chew on nice cool lead musket balls.

![Figure 15 - Musket ball with human canine and incisor teeth impressions.](image)

One has to be careful in analyzing chewed musket balls. Animals can also chew musket balls. Specifically, pigs will rout up objects and chew on them while in the process of looking for nuts, edible roots and tubers. A number of pig chewed musket balls have been excavated at Monmouth. These musket balls are a good indication of post-battle farming and the possible locations of pigsty or pastures. The impressions on these musket balls are usually long deep scrape marks and lack any molar crowns as shown in Figure 16.
It can therefore be concluded that musket balls can be used as diagnostic tools:

- Diameters suggest the type of musket used.
- Round/dropped or pulled musket balls indicate either a campsite or where soldiers may have stood in battle.
- Impacted musket balls indicate target areas.
- Shapes of impacted musket balls suggest types of landscape (orchards, fences, etc.)
- Extracted musket balls indicate field surgery sites or possible hospital locations.
- Human molar chewed musket balls suggest locations of wounded soldiers and possible field surgery sites.
- Lightly chewed (human canine and incisors) might indicate dry or hot weather.
- Animal chewed musket balls suggest post-battle farm activities such as a pigsty or pasture location.

We have reviewed musket balls made of lead which were originally spherical and used with muskets or rifles. However, returning to the original questions, are musket balls always made of lead? The answer is no. A number of "pewter" musket balls were excavated at Monmouth. Pewter has many different formulae depending on its end use, but it is primarily a tin alloy.

"Tin was generally alloyed with small amounts of lead and sometimes also copper to obtain better casting properties ..."Preservation of historical pewter in church and museum collections", by (Petersen 2002).

Musket balls have been found at Monmouth that have a lower specific gravity than lead and therefore, do not exactly fit the diameter formula. These musket balls are rarely flattened from impact suggesting that they are harder than lead. They have very poor and flaky patina that blisters as shown on the musket ball in Figure 17. The overall color is grayish. Lead was in short supply in the colonies so other materials may have been used to produce musket balls. There is the story of the gilded leadened statue of King George III that was pulled down in Bowling Green Park, New York City in 1776 and cast into 42,088 musket balls (CTSSAR 2002). Since lead is much too soft for a sculpture, most likely it was hardened with tin and this was probably a pewter statue. Since these "pewter" musket balls do not flattened very much, their approximate diameter can be measured with a caliper.

Are all musket balls spherical (before firing)? Again the answer is no. The musket balls shown in Figure 18 were excavated in Zboriv, Ukraine at the site of a 1649 battle between the Cossacks and the Polish nobility. As can be seen, early musket balls were slightly cylindrical and had
a lipped sprue. This sprue was used to secure the musket ball in the paper cartridge by tying the cartridge off with string around the sprue to keep the projectile from accidentally falling out of the paper tube.

Figure 18 - 17th century musket balls from Zboriv, Ukraine
Permission to reproduce obtained from Adrian Mandzy, PhD, Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky.

A variety of cylindrically shaped shot have been excavated at Monmouth. Most of these shot have faceted faces from being hammered.

Figure 19 - Cylinder-shaped shot.

Soldiers altered round musket balls by hammering them into cylinders or “Sluggs” as they were called in the 18th century. They were equivalent to modern, illegal “dum-dum” bullets. This shot would tumble after firing and rip through human targets causing massive, irreparable injury. The use of cylindrical shot is not unique to Monmouth and appears to have a long history. Five specimens were excavated from the pirate ship Whydah that sank off Cape Cod in 1717 and are currently on display in the museum in Provincetown, Rhode Island.

Figure 20 - Cylinder-shaped shot close up.

Musket balls were quartered and halved to fire a spray pattern at the enemy. As shown in Figure 21 by the reproduction on the right, the ball was cut partially through and would fragment after exiting the muzzle. Although not very accurate, one has to wonder if this was done more for psychological purposes. Calver and Bolton in "History Written With Pick and Shovel" reported that they excavated musket balls with nails driven through them. This was a common enough practice that the British General Lord Howe wrote a letter to General Washington in September 1777
complaining about the use of mutilated shot by the Continentals. “My aid-de-camp will present to you a ball cut and fixed to the end of a nail, taken from a number of the same kind, found in the encampment quit by your troops on the 15th inst. I do not make any comment upon such unwarrantable and malicious practices, being well assured that the contrivance has not come to your knowledge.” From his headquarters on Harlem Heights, on September 23, 1776, Washington replied, “Your aid-de-camp delivered to me the ball you mention, which was the first of the kind I ever saw or heard of. You may depend the contrivance is highly abhorred by me and every measure shall be taken to prevent so wicked and infamous a practice being adopted in this Army.” It is interesting that Calver and Bolton then note that the specimens they found were at the British camp at Inwood. A variety of original diameter mutilated musket balls have been excavated at Monmouth suggesting that both sides may have engaged in this practice.

Although we have not found any musket balls with nails in them, a musket ball with a fragment of an iron wire through its axis was found in Burlington County, NJ by a metal detectorist (Figure 22). The purpose of this projectile is not known.

Figure 21 - Intentionally mutilated musket balls.

Figure 22 - Musket ball with imbedded iron wire (a) Left - Top view looking at sprue, (b) Right - Side view showing the wire penetrating the bottom of the musket ball.
Are musket balls always fired from small arms or shoulder arms? NO

Quantities of wedge-shaped and cubic-shaped “musket balls” (as shown in Figure 24) were excavated at Monmouth in one specific location. However, these had multiple concave depressions. Lead will assume the shape of the object it hits upon contact. What would cause concave depressions? This baffled the author for some time.

A pair of fused “musket balls” were also excavated in the same area (Figure 25). This was a fantastic find. The firing must have been so heavy that an American and a British musket ball collided in mid air. Or did they? These fused shot also had the same multiple concave depressions.

**Figure 23 - Artillery re-enactment at the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth**

**Figure 24 - (a) Left - Wedge-shaped and (b) Right - cubic-shaped artillery canister shot.**
Numerous pairs of fused musket balls began turning up. All had multiple facets with mostly concave depressions. It then became obvious that these were not “musket balls” per se, but lead canister shot. Major-General William Alexander, Lord Sterling wrote about firing grape and canister shot at the British. His letter was published in the Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society, Vol. 60, No. 3 (July 1942), pp. 173-175. Canister shot is a tin can filled with lead balls. It is fired at the ground in a glancing angle about 75 yards in front of the enemy. The can skips off the ground and ruptures from the force of impact and the shot rips through the enemy ranks. This is an excellent anti-personnel round. The extreme compression of the can hitting the ground compresses the contents violently. The lead balls get concave depressions from neighboring balls and take wedge and square shapes. Some of the shot compresses to the point of fusing together. How many pieces of canister shot have been misidentified as impacted “musket balls” at other sites?

Finally there are the non-projectile uses of musket balls such as gaming pieces. A few examples are shown in Figure 27.

Musket balls were also used to make gunflint wraps. Clamping a gunflint in the steel jaws of a musket hammer without a soft wrap will either give a poor grip or crack the flint. The flint is wrapped in either leather or lead to hold it in place and act as a dead blow shock absorber as shown in Figure 28. Musket balls can be quickly flattened and used for this purpose.
These are but a few examples of musket balls, artillery shot and other lead artifacts found at Monmouth Battlefield. Next time you excavate a piece of lead at a military site, ask yourself - was this a musket ball?

Acknowledgements:

The author would like to acknowledge the many people responsible for making this paper possible. Foremost is Garry Wheeler Stone, Ph.D. who had the courage to work with volunteer metal detectorists in a time when many archaeologists had a dim view of metal detecting. His wisdom and knowledge has kept the projects on a professional level. Thanks to the many members of the Battlefield Restoration and Archaeological Volunteer Organization (BRAVO) who spent countless hours excavating in the field and cleaning, measuring and cataloguing artifacts in the lab. Henry Miller, Ph.D. of Historic St. Mary’s City in Maryland was kind enough to identify the teeth impressions in a number of “chewed” musket balls as being from pigs. Henry even identified which teeth made the impressions and the approximate ages of the animals. Patricia Robinson, Eric Sivilich, Michael Smith, Dick Weber, and Ray Yaros did outstanding work in photographing the re-enactors and the artifacts for this presentation. Finally thank you to Russ Balliet and Robert Campbell for allowing the author to photograph several artifacts from each of their collections.

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Sivilich, Daniel M.

Daniel M. Sivilich is the Vice President of Operations of Humanicare International, Inc. Dan holds a BS Chemical Engineering degree from New Jersey Institute of Technology with post-graduate courses in Computer Science.

Dan currently serves as President and founder of Battlefield Restoration and Archaeological Volunteer Organization (BRAVO); founder, past President and past Archaeological Committee Co-chairman of Friends of Monmouth Battlefield State Park; Chairman of the New Jersey Living History Advisory Council; member of Mott’s Artillery Revolutionary War re-enactment group; member of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA); and member of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey (ASNJ). He has been involved in avocational archaeology for more than 20 years specializing in the Revolutionary War and more recently prehistoric New Jersey Native American sites and in Revolutionary War re-enacting for many years.

Dan is currently working on a Phase I and II archaeological survey of the Monmouth Battlefield State Park with BRAVO that includes excavations of Revolutionary War skirmish sites, prehistoric Indian sites, and a Civil War training camp (Camp Vredenburg).

Dan consulted on locating a 1649 battlefield in the Ukraine for Dr. Adrian Mandzy of Moorehead State University, Kentucky where he taught Ukrainian and Polish graduate and undergraduates how to use metal detectors in Zboriv, Ukraine and how to identify 17th century military artifacts and calculate the diameters of non spherical musket balls based on their weight. He has done extensive work done in developing the area of electronic archaeology using metal detectors and layered site mapping using computer CAD systems. Also developed a mathematical relationship for approximating musket ball caliber by measuring the weight in a paper published in the Journal of the Society of Historical Archaeology.

Dan was recently featured in “Battlefield Detectives - the Battle of Monmouth”, a television series on archaeology produced by Granada Television of Manchester England for the History Channel. Dan’s group was recently awarded a $9,000 grant from New Jersey Historical Commission for the acquisition of a total station laser transit. He was also featured in “Moments in Time - Valley Forge: The Crucible”, a new series on archaeology by the Discovery Channel.

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Calendar of Upcoming Events
Please submit items to post upcoming Southern Campaigns programs and events that may be of interest to Revolutionary War researchers and history buffs.

January 14, 2005 – South Carolina ETV will premier “Chasing the Swamp Fox” at 7 pm. It will be rebroadcast on January 16, 2005 at 2 pm.

January 15-16, 2005 - Cowpens National Battlefield, SC - The 224th Anniversary Living History weekend will be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 15th & 16th, 2005. Assisting park staff members will be reenactors from the two Carolinas and Georgia, Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution chapters and park volunteers. The Cherokee County Red Cross Chapter will have food and hot drinks for sale. Full program listing may be found at http://www.nps.gov/cowp/events.htm

January 29, 2005 - Hopewell Presbyterian Church on old Beattie's Ford Road in Mecklenburg County, NC. The annual celebration of the Battle at Cowan's Ford starts at 10:00 am and ends at 12:00 noon. Breakfast biscuits, hot chocolate and coffee are provided free of charge. This year's speaker is Rev. Dr. Robert K. Wise of Lincolnton, past Chairman of Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission.

February 12, 2005 – Kettle Creek Battlefield near Washington, Ga. – The Georgia Society and the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution and the Kettle Creek Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution host a celebration the 226th anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Kettle Creek.

At 10 am an acclaimed historian from the U. S. Army will show a half hour battle film of the Battle of Kettle Creek at the Mary Willis Library in Washington, and follow that with a guided tour of the battlefield.

The ceremony at the battlefield will begin at 2 pm. and will feature the 434th U.S. Army Signal Corps Band and Honor Guard Ceremonial Detachment from Fort Gordon, Georgia, Greene County High School Air Force JrROTC unit, The Continental Fife and Drum Regiment, and the nationally acclaimed Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard in Revolutionary War uniforms.

Keynote speaker will be Roland Downing, Secretary General of the Sons of the American Revolution and presenting a wreath will be Col. George E. Thurmond of Alpharetta, Georgia, President of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution.

The Washington Historical Museum will have an open house from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M, and will be displaying exhibits in the Kettle Creek room.

The Kettle Creek battlefield site is located eleven miles west of Washington, Georgia in Wilkes County. Maps and directions to the battlefield may be found at www.rootsweb.com/~gawilkes/. General vehicle parking will be on Court Ground road near its intersection with War Hill road that leads to the battlefield. Shuttle
vehicles will offer rides for the remaining eight-tenths of a mile on War Hill road to the battlefield, and return to the parking lot. Vehicles with handicapped tags may be parked at the bottom of War Hill. Parking will not be permitted on the battlefield. Bleachers will be provided, but visitors may wish to bring their own chairs.

The Kettle Creek battle, fought on February 14, 1779, resulted in a victory for Patriot forces that totally defeated a Tory force of 600 intent on helping the British dominate north Georgia.

The public is invited to attend and descendants are encouraged to present their own wreaths, but are asked to notify the Sons of the American Revolution in advance of the ceremony so that they can be recognized on the program. Both fresh flowers and artificial wreaths are acceptable. For information contact Ed Fluker at 478/743-4268 (ofc) or email fluker2@earthlink.net.


http://www.nps.gov/kimo/pphtml/events.html

February 25, 2005 - Charleston, SC - The South Carolina Historical Society presents a day of lectures on 18th century South Carolina at the historic Dock Street Theatre. This program is a part of the Societies Sesquicentennial Celebration. Tickets are free, but register in advance with the South Carolina Historical Society, 100 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401-2299.

February 25 - 27, 2005 – Charleston, SC - The Citadel will host the Society for Military History’s Annual Conference. Brandeis University Professor David Hackett Fischer, author of Washington’s Crossing, Paul Revere’s Ride and Albion’s Seed, will keynote SMH banquet. For program and registration information see:
http://citadel.edu/history_dept/News%20and%20Announcements/Societyformilitaryhistorians/SMHInfoPage.htm

March 5, 2005 – Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC - Women's History Day Re-enactors will demonstrate and discuss the role of women during the Revolution. Presentations will include medicine, cooking, spinning and weaving, clothing, and more.

http://www.nps.gov/kimo/pphtml/events.html


http://www.francismarionsymposium.com


April 8-9-10, 2005 - Camden, SC - "Campaigning with the 'Gamecock'": Life and Campaigns of Brig. Gen. Thomas Sumter - the Kershaw County Historical Society, Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site, Joanna Craig, Charles B. Baxley, and David P. Reuwer co-hosts a symposium featuring South Carolina militia Gen. Thomas Sumter “The Gamecock” with extensive field trips to Gen. Sumter’s battlegrounds. Please reserve your seats early as attendance is limited by bus capacity.

For more information call Joanna Craig at Historic Camden (803) 432-9841 or see the symposium postings on www.southerncampaign.org E-Mail: hiscamden@camden.net.

April 23 and 24th, 2005. Musgrove's Mill State Historic Site, Clinton, SC - 3rd Annual Living History Festival - Living History Camp with both military and civilian re-enactment units. Weapons and tactics demonstrations, grounds tours, and more. 864-938-0100 brobson@scprt.com


April 30-May 1, 2005 – Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC - Hesse-Kassel Jaeger Corps encampment where re-enactors, representing the German troops who fought in the Revolution, will be camped at the park. Soldiers will demonstrate the unique Jaeger rifle, used to combat the American long rifle in the Revolution.

http://www.nps.gov/kimo/pphtml/events.html

May 12, 2005 – Charleston, SC – The Charleston Museum hosts “THE SIEGE OF CHARLESTON, 1780” - LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING AT 6:30 p.m. Join the Museum’s Assistant Director, Carl Borick, for a lecture and signing of his book published by USC Press. A Gallant Defense examines the reasons for the shift in British strategy to the rebellious southern colonies, the efforts of their army and navy to seize Charleston, and the myriad of problems they faced in attempting to do so. The book analyzes the actions and decisions of some of the key figures in the war in South Carolina including Benjamin Lincoln, William Moultrie, Sir Henry Clinton, Lord Cornwallis, and Banastre Tarleton. In addition to covering the military aspects of the campaign around Charleston, the book also delves into the effect that it had on the civilians of the South Carolina Lowcountry, who were often caught up in the conflict by no choice of their own.

http://www.charlestonmuseum.org/event.asp?ID=54


http://www.revwarcharleston.com

May 13, 2005 - Charleston, SC - Grand British Ball at Charleston’s Old Exchange Building, from 7:15pm until midnight. Authentic 1780 Grand British Ball at Charleston's Old Exchange Building to celebrate the fall of Charleston to the British Crown Forces and toast King George III as part of the 225th Anniversary of the Siege & Fall of Charleston. Participants must be in period correct clothing for the 1780 time period in either British military or civilian attire. Continental army uniforms are inappropriate. Music will be provided by the Charleston Chamber Orchestra. Dance caller will be John Millar of Colonial Williamsburg. Hors d'oeuvre, finger foods, and non-alcoholic drinks are included. Ticket cost is $35 per person and all net proceeds going towards educational programs on the American Revolution. Tickets limited to 180 persons. For more information: http://www.charlestonball.org


http://www.nps.gov/kimo/pphtml/events.html
May 27-29, 2005 – Lancaster, SC - 225th Anniversary of Col. Abraham Buford’s defeat at the Battle of the Waxhaws (Buford’s Massacre). Weekend educational and commemorative events planned.

June 4-5, 2005 - Beckhamville (Great Falls), SC - 225th Anniversary of the skirmish at Alexander’s Old Field. http://www.battleofbeckhamville.com/reenactment.html

June, 11-12, 2005 – Lincolnton, NC - Battle of Ramseur’s Mill 225th Anniversary event featuring free Bar-B-Que, and for campers, straw, wood, and water are available as well as choice camp sites. Events are still in planning stages including a real shooting match with the 1st prize being a custom made rifle by Todd Carpenter, gunsmith. Hosted by Lock's Militia and Davie's Partisan Rangers.

June 25-26, 2005 – Salem Crossroads, SC (near Winnsboro, SC) - The Battle of Mobley’s Meetinghouse 225th Anniversary. A small band of Whig militia under Capt. John McClure, Maj. Richard Winn, and Col. William Bratton attacked and dispersed a gathering of local Tory militia in northwest Fairfield County, South Carolina near the Little River in early summer of 1780. The re-enactment will be held on the grounds of the historic Feasterville Female Academy and Boarding House, 7 miles north of Salem Crossroads on SC Highway 215 North. The public is invited to watch morning drills, an encampment, and a small re-enactment will bring this historic event to life. Contact: Fairfield County Museum, 231 South Congress Street, Winnsboro, SC 29180. Contact Pelham Lyles at 803-635-9811 or fairfieldmus@chestertel.com.


June 27, 2005 – Charleston Museum - Battle of Sullivan’s Island 6:30 p.m. The particulars of the Battle of Sullivan’s Island are familiar to South Carolinians. In school, students learned that Gen. William Moultrie bravely commanded the fort, Gen. Charles Lee doubted the fort would hold, and Sergeant William Jasper selflessly jumped upon the parapet to replant the flag. But, what happened to the main characters in the drama that was the Battle of Sullivan’s Island once all the smoke cleared? Carl Borick, assistant museum director, will lecture on the interesting fates of the heroes and villains of the famous battle in commemoration of Carolina Day (June 28).

http://www.charlestonmuseum.org/event.asp?ID=55

July 8, 2005 - McCelvey Center, York, SC and the Museum of York County, Rock Hill, SC: 8:00 AM—5:00 PM. “Huck’s Defeat and the Revolution in the South Carolina Backcountry, May-July 1780,” a symposium at the McCelvey Center, 212 East Jefferson Street, York, SC 29745. Presentations: “The British Strategy in the South in 1779 and 1780” by Dr. Rory Cornish, Associate Professor of History and History Department Chair, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC; “The Partisan Counteroffensive in the Carolina Backcountry in the Summer of 1780” by Dr. Walter Edgar, Claude Henry Neuffer Professor of Southern Studies and the George Washington Distinguished Professor of History, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC; “Loyalist Mobilization in the Carolina Backcountry in the Summer of 1780” by Dr. Carole Troxler, retired Professor of American History at Elon University, North Carolina; “Provincial Soldiers at the Battle of Huck’s Defeat” by Todd Braisted, commander of the Brigade of the American Revolution and creator/editor of The Online Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies; “Rev. John Simpson, Presbyterian Minister and Rebel Leader” by Melissa Massey, research assistant at Kennesaw State University and curatorial assistant at the Root House Museum, Marietta, Ga.; “Whig and Tory Leaders at the Battle of Huck’s Defeat” and “The Battle of Huck’s Defeat” by Michael Scoggins, research historian, Culture & Heritage Museums, York, SC. Followed by a reception at the Museum of York County to highlight the opening of the Liberty or Death exhibition.


August 20, 2005 – Musgrove’s Mill State Historic Site, Clinton, SC - 225th Anniversary celebration of the Patriot victory at the Battle of Musgrove's Mill. Guided tour of the battlefield followed by a memorial service at the battlefield. Space is limited, contact Brian L. Robson, Interpretive Ranger, Musgrove Mill State Historic Site 864-938-0100 brobson@scprt.com
"Campaigning with the 'Gamecock'"
Life and Campaigns of Brig. Gen. Thomas Sumter

Mini-Symposium and Field Trips--April 8-9-10, 2005

Flush from the success of the Banastre Tarleton and Camden Campaign Symposia, Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site announces a mini symposium & field trips pertaining to the life and military campaigns of “The Gamecock”: Patriot Brigadier General Thomas Sumter.

The symposium will be held at the Kershaw-Cornwallis House at Historic Camden from 1:00-5:00 pm on Friday, April 8th. Lead presenter, Dr. Dan L. Morrill, history professor at UNC-Charlotte and author of *Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution*, will address Thomas Sumter’s life up to 1780 – his early Virginia years, military service in French and Indian War and Continental Army, London trip with three Cherokee Chiefs to meet King George III, financial problems, and move to South Carolina. Dr. Thomas Powers, USC-Sumter history professor, will discuss Gen. Sumter, the gutsy partisan commander of the SC militia during the 1780-81 Southern Campaign and the tactics and battles that earned him the name of the “Gamecock.” The final presentation by Thomas Tisdale, Charleston lawyer and author of *A Lady of the High Hills*, a biography about the general’s daughter-in-law, will review Sumter’s distinguished post-war years in politics and business.

Evening entertainment will include a candlelight reception at the Kershaw House on Friday evening and, on Saturday, an elegant dinner and premier performance of a dramatic monologue on the “Gamecock,” written and presented by noted British thespian and playwright, Howard Burnham of Columbia, SC.

Saturday and Sunday are devoted to field trips. Each day, attendees will travel by bus to some of the Gamecock’s important battle sites, many of which are unmarked and on private property. Bus guides will be Charles B. Baxley and David P. Reuwer, acclaimed battle sites tour guides of the Tarleton and Camden Campaign symposia. An attorney by profession, Baxley is past president of the Kershaw County Historical Society and creator-editor of the in-depth newsletter, *Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution*. An adjunct professor of historic preservation at the College of Charleston for the past five years, attorney Reuwer’s second vocation is the documentation and preservation of Revolutionary War battlefield throughout the South. Reuwer was the lead surveyor of the Eutaw Springs Battlefield.

Each field trip will include opportunities to walk some of the battle sites and hear riveting presentations by on-site guides. Saturday will focus on some of Sumter’s important battles in the upcountry – from his victories at Rocky Mount on the Wateree River, Hanging Rock, Fish Dam Ford of the Broad River, and Blackstock’s Plantation on the Tyger River to his utter defeat at Fishing Creek (Catawba Ford). Sunday’s tour will encompass Sumter’s 1781 “Dog Days” of summer campaign to “thunder at the gates of Charles Town,” which ended in defeat at Quinby Bridge/Shubrick’s Plantation. The field trip will end with a visit to Sumter’s grave and a tour of the Sumter Museum, highlighted by the premier viewing of a newly acquired portrait of Thomas Sumter and a wine & cheese reception.

Registration for this symposium is limited to 45 (bus capacity), so take advantage of the early registration fee of $250.00 per person or $450.00 per couple. Full registration fees are $275.00 per person or $500.00 per couple. Historic Camden or Kershaw County Historical Society member fees are $225 per person and $400 per couple. Friday mini symposium and reception only fee is $55 per person, $95 per couple. Spouse dinner theatre fee is $35 per person. Early Bird Registration deadline: March 1, 2005. Final Registration deadline: March 25, 2005 (non refundable after this date). Payment may be made by cash, MasterCard/Visa (phone or mail), or check made payable to Historic Camden and mailed to P.O. Box 710, Camden, SC 29020.

Fees include: all presentations, Saturday/Sunday Field Trips & lunches, candlelight reception, dinner theater, conference refreshments, and hand-out materials. Transportation to and from Camden, SC and lodging are not included. Host motel: Best Western –Camden West, Hwy 1 South. Lugoff, SC. 29078 (803)-438-9441. For a special daily room rate of $55 plus tax per night w/Continental breakfast, be sure to mention “Gamecock” symposium. For more information call Joanna Craig, director of Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site at (803) 432-9841 or e-mail hiscamden@camden.net. For on-line information or registration form, please go to www.historic-camden.net or www.southerncampaign.org.
Pension Application of Col. Samuel Hammond
S21807, dated October 31st and November 1st, 1832

Transcribed and Annotated by William T. Graves

State of South Carolina
Richland District

On the 31st day of October & 1st day of November
Personally appeared in open Court before me Richard Gant now
sitting Samuel Hammond at present a resident of the State & district
aforesaid now in the seventy sixth year of his age & he being first
jury duly sworn as the law directs, doth on his oath make the following
declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832.

Applicant states that according to his father’s family
Register he was born in Richmond County in the State of Virginia,
was baptized and registered in the Episcopal Church of Farnham
Parish in said county, that about the commencement of the Revolutionary War he was at school in Prince William County Near
Dumfries, that he offered himself as a volunteer in a company of
Infantry raised for the purpose of military improvement commanded
by Mr. Grayson, afterwards Col. Grayson and a member of Genl.
Washington’s family, & in which Wm Leach, afterwards Major
Leach, & P. L. Lea, afterwards Major Lea, were lieutenants the
Company accru’d & equipped themselves & with a part of that
Company applicant marched towards Williamsburg, Va., to aid in
compelling Lord Dunmore, Governor of the Province to restore to
the public Magazine Arms & ammunition which he had taken there
from & removed on board a British armed vessel and about 8 miles
from Williamsburg [page 2] met up Col. Patrick Henry who had
anticipated us & caused a return of the locks of the muskets & other
munitions to be restored to the magazine or arsenal. Next applicant
returned to Richmond County to his Father’s residence & enrolled
himself in a volunteer Company called minute men in Richmond
County Sanctioned by Committee of Safety in 1775. The Company
when filled elected their officers & he was elected a Lieutenant. The
officers however had no Regular commissions their elections were
certified by Col. LeRoy Peachey to others of the Committee. They
armed & equipped themselves as a Company of Infantry. While
applicant was attached to said Company he with a part thereof
performed some services & in December 1775 was with Major
Richard Parker, afterwards Col. R. Parker [interlined in a different
handwriting--"killed in Charleston"] in a battle against a detachment
of British Troops at a place called the Great Bridge in Virginia

1 In mid-1775, Lord Dunmore, royal governor of Virginia, fled the
colonial capital in Williamsburg for the safety of the British fleet. His
unequivocal support of royal interests over patriot ones had made him
an unpopular figure. He later took up headquarters in Norfolk, a town
with a large loyalist population. Dunmore sought to quiet patriot
ardor by destroying farms and plantations belonging to rebels and by
seizing a number of printing presses. He hoped to end patriot
opposition by a well-timed military blow. Dunmore assembled a
small army composed of British regulars, loyalist volunteers and a
number of runaway slaves who had been promised their freedom in
return for their service. The patriot force comprised militia and
volunteers from Virginia and Maryland, including young John
Marshall. Dunmore chose to confront the patriots in a small
fortification located at the south end of a causeway over a swamp
south of Norfolk. The advancing force was met by entrenched patriot
riflemen who inflicted a heavy toll. More than one hundred of
Dunmore’s men were killed or wounded; one rebel soldier was
injured. The thoroughly defeated loyalist army retreated to Norfolk
and Dunmore again sought refuge aboard ship. This dire situation
deteriorated further on January 1, 1776, when Dunmore ordered the
shelling of Norfolk. He was angered by ongoing sniper fire from the
town. The destruction of Norfolk was nearly total. Fires resulted from
the bombardment and other blazes were set by partisans of both sides.
More than 800 buildings were burned, amounting to about two-thirds
of the town. Another 400 structures were destroyed in February as
part of the patriot scorched-earth policy. Following the Battle of
Great Bridge and the bombardment of Norfolk, British control in
Virginia ended. [http://www.us-history.com/pages/h1045.html]
miles below Augusta on the Savannah roads on the 16th (?) of May on which day Genl. Williamson notified the commanding officer there that he had received official notification of the surrender of Genl. Lincoln & garrison at Charleston to the British Commander Sir H. Clinton. Called upon the officers to attend a council at McSeans avenue Augusta, attending there Gov. Howley of Georgia, his counsel and officers of State with many others attending nothing conclusive adopted for defenses. Governor H. retired with counsel & State officers. Williamson discharged Militia & called a council of Officers to attend at White Hall, his residence near Ninety Six. Counsel attended [page 5]. Advised by a majority to send a Flag & purpose to surrender on terms such as was granted to the militia in Service at Charleston, Applicant protested against that course, withdrew from there & with a few real Patriots retired to North Carolina. On his way he had one or two skirmishes with the Tories always successful. Passed to the North & on his entering into North Carolina fell in with & joined Col. E. Clark of Georgia with his little band of Patriots & in a few days was joined by Col. Edward Hampton, Col. James Williams & Col. Thomas Brannon (sic, Brandon) in July date not at present known was with Col. Elijah Clark in a Battle at a place called the Green Springs near Burwick’s Iron Works in Western part of So. Carolina. In August 18 or 19 was with Col. Williams of Carolina, Clark of Georgia & Col. Shelby from over the mountains in the Battle of Musgrove’s Mills on Enoree River 96 District. The Enemy were defeated, Col. Innis commanding officer of British wounded, Major Fraser 2nd in command killed, a number of prisoners taken who were committed to Applicant’s Care & Safety. Conveyed to Hillsborough, N. Carolina. While at that place received the appointment of Major with a Brevet commission as such from Gov. Rutledge with orders to command the militia from Col. L. Roy Hammond’s Regiment of 96. Had conference with Board of War & obtained from Chas. Pen an order on the commissaries & Quartermasters for the So. Western frontiers of North Carolina, for Rations of provisions & forage, for the S. Carolina & Georgia militia, who might assemble for active service. Applicant on his return [page 6] into Roan (sic, Rowan) County established a camp as a rallying rendezvous for the Carolina & Georgia Refugees as they were then called & advertised at public places invitations to join him there. A copy of which being preserved will be found hereunto annexed and marked A. The number assembled there upon that appeal by the last week in September was considerable & made the largest proportion of Col. Williams’ command in the Battle of Kings Mountain 7th of October following. Immediately after the Battle of that day, Applicant was joined by a number of men from the Regiment to which he had been appointed Major, who had joined Col. Clark in his previous attack upon Huger Sta. & came away with him, with this addition to his command he marched to Mecklenburg, joined Genl. Davidson & served some time with Col. Davy (sic, Davie) upon the Enemy lines then on retreat, soon after the Applicant joined Genl. Sumter & was with him in the Battle of Blackstocks after which in consequence of wounds received by the General in that affair the State was deprived of his usefulness at the time & Applicant joined his command toCols. Twiggs, Clark & ? (could be Sevier) was with them in several small engagements which continued until Clark’s affair on Long Creek near 96 was not in that engagement being out on command at the time was left behind on their retreat, followed made good his retreat & on his way fell in with & joined Col. William Washington & Col. McCall to whose command he was attached & joined Genl. Morgan next day. Was in several light skirmishes with the Enemy previous to the Battle of Cowpens & was with General there [page 7] commanded on the left of the front line as Major of McCall’s Regiment. It is here necessary to observe that Col. McCall had been promoted to the command of a Regiment of Cavalry authorized to be enrolled for six months & Applicant appointed to the Majority neither had yet been commissioned & only few armed with swords & pistols. The Refugee militia attached to their respective commands enrolled in the regiment and were promised by the Governor to be provided with clothing & arms as soon as they could be procured --- not a day was lost in recruiting nor was the full number made up before the Battle. The few 25 to 30 that were equipped as Horsemen were placed under Col. McCall and attached to Col. Washington’s command. Those who were not so equipped were armed with Rifles & placed under the Applicant. After the action, the Service was so pressing & the movements of the Army so rapid that no recruiting could be attended to out of Camp & the Applicant was kept constantly on Detachments upon the Enemy Lines, so that he could not recruit in the Army as he had previously done. The evening of the day of the Battle of the 17th he was detached by order of Genl. Morgan to look into Cornwallis’ Camp north of the Broad River & to update his movements & communicate with Genl. Pickens and himself daily until further orders. This service was performed regularly until the British took up Camp at Ramsour’s Mills. Thence proceeded on & joined Genl. Greene & reported to him north of Catawba River. Was with the Genl. on his retreat through North Carolina constantly employed in [page 8] command of small detachments until they arrived at Moore's Plantation on the Guilford road, there Genl. Pickens was ordered to pass round the British, fall in their rear & watch their movements & to communicate them to the Genl. Applicant was kept in advance in rear of the British, took many prisoners on the way to the borders of Virginia. Continuing upon their rear on their retrograde march, until their arrival at Hillsborough. In conjunction with Col. McCall, took a picket guard at Hart's Mills in full view of the Enemy Camp consisting of one Commissioned officer, 2 non-commissioned Os [Officers] & 23 privates with some scattering Grenadiers, on plundering expedition. Prisoners committed to the charge of Applicant, was taken to Genl. Greene & by him ordered to Halifax old Court House Virginia. This duty, irksome as it was, was performed, returned & joined the army in Guilford County prior to the Battle of the 17th of March as memory now serves him --- continued with the Army until the pursuit of Cornwallis was given over. He was there ordered to join Genl. Pickens previously detached to the Western part of North Carolina, to rally the friends of South Carolina & Georgia with those of North Carolina with the view of recovering all the South from the Enemy. Applicant halted on the South fork of Catawba river, several of his men taken with the Small Pox, he had the whole of command inoculated upwards of 100, which detained him sometime, after which, he joined Genl. Pickens & was immediately ordered [page 9] to prepare for the command of a detachment intended to pass into the District of 96 to cause the people friendly to the cause to join & give them aid to expel the Enemy from Carolina and Georgia -- selected for such service & with the assistance of support in Company with Major Jackson of Georgia, an Officer of much popularity & superior military understanding, left Genl. Pickens, date not remembered & not material, passed through District of 96 with one hundred Citizen Soldiers & arrived safe on the margin of the Savannah river near Paces Ferry. Joined there by Capt. Thomas Kee of Col. L. Hammond’s Regiment & Capt. Henry Graybill of the same with a considerable number of Volunteers, detached Capt. Kee to attack a British post on Horn's Creek commanded by a Capt. Clark. The British party were defeated, the Captain killed & the Company taken & paroled. Major Jackson passed over to Georgia, joined Cols. Baker, Stark & Williamson, who had collected a considerable force of the Georgia militia & were near
Augusta, the British outposts were driven in on both sides of the Savannah River & a Siege commenced. The Georgians under Col. Jackson raided a Battery near Fort Greyson (?) & the Applicant simultaneously erected a Battery opposite Fort Cornwallis on the North side of Savannah River, & held the Enemy within, cut off from all communication with the Country [page 10] with the arrival of Genl. Pickens, Col. Clark & Col. Lee.

Applicant continued with Genl. Pickens aiding in the reduction of the British Garrisons in Augusta until Col. Brown surrendered when he was detached towards Orangeburg Co. & other Troops under Pickens and Lee marched to & joined Genl. Greene at 96. While in front of the British under Lord Rawdon, advancing toward 96, Rec'd by express, ordered to retreat & joined Gent. Pickens west of that place & with him retreated towards the North & rejoined Genl. Greene on the Congaree River below Broad River. Continued actively employed as a partisan until the Battle of Eutaw the 8th September. About [the] part he acted upon that occasion is [a] matter of Historical record.

After that, say 17 September 1781, he was appointed to the command of a Regiment of Cavalry which he was on that day authorized to raise for three years, or during the War, to be recommended by the Governor to be placed on Continental Establishment as may be seen by a certified Copy of the Governor's letter of that date hereunto annexed marked B. A member of his Regiment of State Troops who had been long with him first as volunteer, secondly as recollected in six months service reenlisted with them & a detachment from Col. [page 11] Hammond's Regiment militia he the Applicant, remained in service with Genl. Green (sic), until preliminary articles of Peace were signed & announced, then encamped with Genl. Green's Army near Bacon's Bridge in Carrherd (?) Precinct. Ordered to discontinue recruiting for his new Regiment & in a few days after they with a few of his former Regiment of State Troops & a detachment of Col. Hammond's Regiment were discharged. Previously to this, Two Companies of his Regiment of State Troops were detached under the care of Capts. Jesse Johnson & George Hammond with Genl. Pickens in an expedition to the Cherokee Nation of Indians. Their term of Service was nearly expired but they voluntarily performed the Service --- most of them were engaged for the three years, but discharged before joining. It may now be necessary for a clear development of the Applicant's services that he should state some facts not brought into view in the preceding detail). In the first place then, he states that when he left the State of South Carolina with his few volunteers, they were collected from different Regiments of Carolina militia & a few from Georgia & although he held the commission of Captain, he had no right [page 12] to command them but by their own consent, but that consent was freely given, but as the numbers increased he did not feel satisfied himself to hold them together as a Company with such precarious powers & one or two Patriotic Lieutenants having joined who might rightfully command a part of them, with the advice of Col. Williams, Clark & Shelby, an election was held & he was elected. Yet he felt further solicitous better to secure them & his own usefulness & devise Enrollment for their signature ( a copy of which will be found hereunto annexed marked B. that Enrollment was signed & resigned by the same men, at different times & for different pensions & were always received at the expiration of their terms until he was authorized to raise the Regiment of Ten months service, when nearly all those who had been with him in the various services before noticed enlisted in the Regiment for 10 months, & served again for three years or during the War. From the fall of Charlestown in May ’80 to the formation of the Regiment of State Troops, Applicant never made a payroll nor did any of his Citizen Soldiers require it to be done for them. They furnished themselves as well as they could with their own clothing which was often very scanty & with their own horses & arms. Applicant [page 13] also? the sums & the only payroll ever presented or signed for payment was for the Ten months Service of the 10-month men State Regiment and all of those, except a few who were very young & came in late, had service from the Fall of Charlestown to that time. Some of Genl. Pickens' letters to Applicant on Public Service have been preserved & will be herewith exhibited to the Honbl. Court plus one of Gov. Rutledge's letters accidentally preserved most of these communications being lost, misplaced or with his commission mistreated by the Hand of Time, so as to be largely unintelligible. He also has relinquished every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the Present and Declares that his Name is not placed by himself or any authorized agent on the Pension Rolls of any State.

Sworn to before Me Richard Gantt, P. Judge

S/ S. Hammond

We Harwood Bartly (?), a clergyman residing in the District of Edgefield, and L. S. Brooks Residing in the same, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Samuel Hammond who has subscribed and Sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be Seventy Six years of Age, that he is Respectful and beloved, in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of the revolution and that we Concur in that Opinion. I, L. S. Brooks served under Col. Hammond.

Subscribed the Sworn to the day & year aforesaid.

L. S. Brooks
Harwood Burt (?)

The said court do hereby Declare their opinion after the investigation of the ? and after putting the interrogatories Prescribed by the War department that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states and the Court further certifies that Harwood Burt & ______ [blank appears on the original] who has signed the preceding certification as Clergyman residing in Edgefield District and that L (or Z) S. Brooks—who has also signed thereon is a Resident in the said district—and is a credible person and that their statement is entitled to Credit.

S/ Richard Gantt, P. Judge

I, J. Richardson, Clerk of this Court of Common Pleas do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the Original Proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Samuel Hammonds for a Pension.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, Seal of Office this thirty first day of October A. D. 1832.

S/ J. Richardson, Clerk

South Carolina
Edgefield District

I do hereby certify that I served a short time under Col. Samuel Hammond while he commanded the State Troops in the revolutionary war, and was with him when we killed a few Tories that were following Lord Rawdon when he relieved Col. Cruger at Ninety Six in June 1781 on their way to Charleston & served with him sundry other times when not under his command.

S/ M. Timkins
State of South Carolina
Laurens District

This day personally appeared James Dillard Senior before me Robert Long Esquire, one of the Justices of the Quorum of the district of Laurens aforesaid, and being duly sworn, on his oath saith that he was acquaintance with Samuel Hammond in the Revolutionary War—that in the year 1780, in or about the month of July, after the reduction of Charleston, he saw him with a small company of men (which he appeared to command) in his neighborhood, on his way to join the American Army, that he had stopped there a day or two to give time for Home Whigs to prepare to go on with him, that he (this deponent) saw several meet, and went away with him; that he passed by the title Captain Hammond; that he has good reasons to believe that he was in several Battles especially King’s Mountain, Blackstocks & the Cowpens that is Tarleton’s defeat, as he was in the command about the times of the same, but does not recollect now of Seeing him in them—He also says that he had command either as Major, or Captain at least in the State Troops under General Thomas Sumter; also that he enlisted two men out of the Militia company commanded by this deponent, then a Captain—That when Tarleton was on his march after General Daniel Morgan, he (Samuel Hammond) and John Greer were sent by General Pickens with this deponent to reconnoiter his line of March & to give such notice of the British march as might appear necessary; that he then was called Captain Hammond; that in the last named Service they the three aforesaid Viz: Captain Hammond, John Greer & this deponent, saw a Tory Colonel near Tarleton’s line & took a negro man & two Horses from him and further he does not now recollect.

S/ James Dillard
Sworn to and subscribed the 15th day of May in the year 1833 Before me,
S/ Robert Long, J.Q.

Laurens District:
I Robert Long one of the Judges of the Quorum of the District aforesaid do hereby certify unto all whom it may concern that the above deponent James Dillard Senior is a very old and infirm man generally confined to his house and as such is unable to go before a Judge of the Court. Given under my hand, the day and year above written.

S/ Robt Long, J. Q.
The State of South Carolina
Laurens District

Personally appeared Robert Long before me, Henry S. Neel, Esquire, one of the Justices of the Peace of the Said district and being duly sworn on his oath saith that he was acquainted with Captain Samuel Hammond in the Revolutionary War and more particularly after the reduction of Charleston in the month of July in the year one thousand Seven hundred & eighty, he saw him in the Command of a small company of men on his way to Join the Whig Refugees and northern army, that he stopt two or three days near where this deponent then lived (& does yet) to give time for Some Whigs to prepare to go on with him in which time he (this deponent) piloted four men to his camp, to wit: James Scott and Isaac Greer, the first day; and Captain Josiah Greer and Samuel Ewing the second day, the two first went away with Captain S. Hammond; and the two left with James Dillard followed in a day or two after this immediately before the fight at Musgrove’s Mill—that Some time after this deponent Saw him in the command of a company in General Sumpter’s camp that he must have been in the fight at Blackstocks, as he Saw him in Sumpter’s camp but two days before — but this deponent being Sent out in a detachment of fourteen men under Captain Ewing to reconnoiter the post toward the fort on Colonel J. Williams’ plantation: This, Immediately after Sumpter had returned (with a good number of his command) from taking a view of Tarleton’s camp at Shuler’s Ferry on Broad River — So the day following Tarleton pursued General Sumpter in his turn: So by this unexpected movement he got between Sumpter & the above detachment this is the reason why this deponent did not see him (S. Hammond) there that he saw him in a day or two after this he knows that he was in the Battle of Cowpens (that is Tarleton’s defeat) but rather believes he was then promoted to Major, believes he commanded on the front line left wing and this deponent was in the center line on the right wing in Captain Ewing’s company commanded by Colonel Joseph Hayes, next to Colonel Howard’s Infantry. That he saw him repeatedly afterwards in the American Service under General Pickens both in North and South Carolina till, as this deponent now believes, he was attached to General Sumpter’s State Troops, or Cavalry as a Major, or Captain at lest; and of course must have been in the Battle of Eutaw Spring — That the above Colonel or Major Samuel Hammond is the Same who is now called Colonel Samuel Hammond.

Sworn to and subscribed the 10th day of May in the year 1833.
S/ Henry S. Neel
S/ Robt. Long

Congaree Sept. 17, 1781

Sir
I should like to have Such a Corps of Light Dragoons as Col. Maham’s under your command & as I am persuaded that your will exert Yourself to raise and equip Such an one which from Your Zeal & activity I flatter myself that you soon will. I do hereby empower You to do so & request that you will with the utmost expedition. The men to be entitled to the Same Rations & pay as Maham’s & enlisting during the war or at least for three years, as State Troops, Subject to Continental Articles, liable to be sooner disbanded by the Legislature or executive authority. If You meet with the Success I expect I will recommend You to be put in Continental Establishment which I think will be done—appoint t Your own officers—You are sensible that very thing depends on the officers therefore get good ones.

I am Sir, Yr Very Hble Serv’t.
S/ J. Rutledge

Lt. Col. Samuel Hammond

Long Cane 8th Feb'y 1782
Dear Sir
I received yours of the 6th Inst. respecting the Enemy—tho it was night before the man from Capt. Towl’s got her, I immediately wrote COLS. CASEY and ROEBUCK. Col. Anderson sets off this Morning with what men he can collect to Norward’s Mill on Saludy—and he will wait there for further intelligence. If you can get intelligence as which way the Enemy is gone, you will do Every thing in your power to come up with them and send to the Col of Militia between Saludy and Broad Rivers—advising them of the movement of the Enemy if in your power. Likewise to Col. Anderson at Norward’s Mill, as I am of opinion they intend for the Cherokee Country—If Cunningham is along and can make their way through—I wait to hear from you as soon as convenient—wishing you success—and am Dr Sir

Your most humble Serv’t
S/ Andrew Pickens

Col. Hammonds
I expect by this you have your men property equipt and of his Regiment on Thursday the 1
Leroy Hammond to meet me at Perkins's Mills on Saludy with part your horses in good order and fit for Service—I have ordered Col.

To Saml. Hammond

P. S.

I wish you to send Capt. Richard Johnson with Twelve good men up here as soon as possible as I want him for a particular purpose.

To Saml. Hammond

[Attachment to Samuel Hammond’s pension application-marked “A”]

A Call to Arms: Beef, Bread & Potatoes

Probably William Grayson Born in Dumfries, Va., in 1736, William was the third son of an Immigrant Scottish merchant. Benjamin, Williams' father, was born in Dumfries, Scotland and then came to settle in Prince William County. In fact, becoming one of the first merchants to settle on Quantico Creek. Williams' mother, Susannah, was the aunt of James Monroe.

As one might suspect, given these backgrounds, the Graysons had social ties to some of the most influential and wealthy families of the day. These ties did much to launch William Grayson into a prominent community leader. Physically, Grayson was over six feet tall and weighed two hundred fifty pounds. He had a large head with a broad and high forehead. He had black hair, black, deep set eyes, a large, curved nose, a well formed mouth which displayed normal white teeth which remained healthy throughout his life, and a fine complexion. He was sociable in his disposition and exceedingly agreeable and impressive in conversation.

He graduated at the College of Philadelphia, and studied law at the temple in London County, Virginia. November 11, 1774, he was chosen as the Captain of the company formed in Prince William County, Virginia during the Revolution. On one occasion in April, 1775, Lord Dunmore was removed of powder from the public Magazine at Williamsburg and of Patrick Henry extorting from him its value in money, a meeting was held at Dumfries, at which Capt. Grayson was the leader, which passed resolutions of thanks to Mr. Henry for his spirited and patriotic conduct. During this time a proposal was sent to Capt. Grayson by the Independent Company of Spotsylvania County, for the Companies to join together, and to proceed to Williamsburg. Captain Grayson uniting with Mr. Lee, an officer and member of the Company, immediately submitted the question to the field officer of the Independent Companies as follows:

April 22, 1775.

Sir

Long Cane 13th August 1781

Dear Sir

I am Directed by the REV. Mr. Spence Grayson, and others of the Young Men, to acquaint you that I shall cheerfully surrender the Command, and Cooperate

Higgins’ Plantation 23rd Sept. 1780

The undersigned has just returned from Hillsborough to this neighborhood. While there he obtained an order on the Companies and Quartermasters upon this frontier for supplies of provisions and forage for such of the patriotic Citizens of South Carolina & Georgia as might be embodied for actual services and being informed that there is a number of you, resting with patriotic friends in the Two adjoining Counties no doubt anxiously looking for an opportunity to embody for the performance of duty, but without the power or means of supporting yourselves or your horses from your own resources I have thought your wishes would be forwarded by the Establishing of a Camp at a rallying rendezvous at a convenient place for your assemagle, and to be ready when occasion might offer to give our aid for the recovery of Our County.

I have with this view formed a Camp at Higgins’ Plantation a few miles from Capt. Brannon’s Tavern, near the road leading westwardly to Torrence’s Crossroads, where we will be supplied with the needful. I am justified in the expectation of the arrival of a powerful support shortly and that we may return toward home with a strong army. Let us be prepared to do our part, our little force will be important if Combined possessing as we do a better knowledge of the County and its resources. Now is the time to show ourselves and I invite you, both Officers & soldiers to obey the call: I here assure you that I shall cheerfully surrender the Command, and Cooperate

We have just received a letter from the officers of the Independent Company of Spotsylvania, which is here with enclosed. We immediately called together this Company, and the vote put whether they would march to Williamsburg for the purpose mentioned in that letter, which was carried unanimously.

We have nothing more to add but that we are well assured you may depend on them for that or any other service which respects the liberties of America. We expect your answer and determination by Mr. Davess.

We have the honor to be
Your obt Sevs.
By order of the Company William Grayson,
to Col. Geo. Washington
Mt. Vernon.

The day after Gen. Washington received from Congress his commission appointing him Commander in Chief of all the forces raised or to be raised in the American Colonies. It was said that Mt. Vernon and Dumfries were close enough for visiting often between Genl. Washington and Rev. Spence Grayson and Col. Wm. Grayson well at their respective houses as at others in the neighborhood. In Genl. Washington's diary Col. Grayson is frequently mentioned as a guest at Mt.Vernon, and as partaking with Genl. Washington in his favorite recreation of hunting. This may account in part for the maner in which Col. Grayson makes his first appearance on the theatre of the Revolution.

Aug. 24, 1776
Headqtrs New York
countersign "London"

The General Washington has appointed William Grayson one of his Aides de Camp. He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The battle of long Island was then impending and was fought three days after the date of this order. Col. Wm. Grayson crossed over to Brooklyn with General Washington while the action was going on and was employed by him with others after it ceased in
After the adoption of the Constitution of the United States Col. Wm. Grayson was elected as one of the two first Senators from Virginia - Richard Henry Lee being the other. In Congress Wm. Grayson had an opportunity to watch the working of things, and recognized the contradictions involved in a union of States so diverse as the Northern and Southern States. When the first tariff Law was passed, he noticed its tendency to advance the interests of the commercial States, and predicted that the South would prove "the milch cow of the Union" - a prediction more than verified by subsequent events. Wm. Grayson did not live long after the close of the session September 29, 1789. He went home in a low state of health and died at Dumfries March 12, 1790, at the age of sixty-four, and was interred in the family vault at "Belle Air." He was regarded as a man of the first order of talent, and was a leader of men.

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~genr/src/Grayson/willian.html

Edward Hand, soldier, born in Clyduff, King's County, Ireland, 31 December, 1744; died in Rockford, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 3 September, 1802. In 1774 he accompanied the 18th Royal Irish regiment to this country as surgeon's mate, but resigned and settled in Pennsylvania in the practice of medicine. At the beginning of the Revolution he joined General William Thompson's brigade as lieutenant-colonel, and served at the siege of Boston. He was promoted colonel in 1776, engaged in the battles of Long Island and Trenton, and was appointed brigadier-general in 1777. He succeeded General John Stark in command at Albany in 1778, and soon afterward served with General John Sullivan in his expedition against the Indians of the Six Nations in central New York. The command of one of the two brigades of the light-infantry corps was assigned him in August, 1780, and near the close of the war he succeeded Alexander Scammell as adjutant-general. He was a member of congress in 1784-'5, a signer of the Pennsylvania constitution of 1790, and occupied many local offices of public trust. In 1798, in anticipation of a war with France, General Washington recommended General Hand's appointment as adjutant-general. He was of fine and manly appearance, and distinguished in the army for his fine horsemanship. Although he was of a daring disposition, he won the affection of his troops by his amiability and gentleness."

http://www.famousamericans.net/edwardhand

Richard Howley, lawyer, born in Liberty County, Georgia, about 1740; died about 1790. He received a liberal education, was admitted to the bar, and attained eminence in his profession, he represented his native county in the legislature, and was elected governor of Georgia, 4 January, 1780. When the state was overrun by the British, a council was held near Augusta, at which Governor Howley, his secretary of state, and several Continental officers were present. After the consideration of various plans, they determined to retreat to North Carolina, and narrowly escaped capture on the way. During Governor Howley's brief term of office the value of paper money became so depreciated that he is said to have dealt it out by the quire for a night's lodging, and, if the fare was better than ordinary, the landlord received two quires, the governor gravely signing a draft, upon the treasurer, made out in due form, for their delivery. In 1780-1 Governor Howley was a delegate from Georgia to the Continental congress. In the latter year, some apprehensions being entertained that it was the design of that body to give up Georgia to Great Britain, the delegation from that state protested against such a step and published their remonstrance (Philadelphia, 1781).

http://www.famousamericans.net/richardhowley

Lord Dunmore, born John Murray, was the last Royal Governor of Virginia. His innovation of freeing slaves to fight for the British played a major role in Revolutionary War strategy and was the initial spark that led to all of the events described by this site. Dunmore was born in 1732 in England, a distant but direct descendant of royalty. Murray inherited the title of Earl of Dunmore, and it was as Lord Dunmore died in 1809.

http://collections.ic.gc.ca/blackloyalists/people/influential/dunmore.htm