

WHITE'S MILL - FISHING CREEK, YORK COUNTY, SC

The downfall of Charleston, South Carolina on May 12, 1780 to the British created hardships all over the colony. Now persons living in the back country (the area above the Columbia) had to make their choice. Were they to fight with or against the mother country. Contrary to popular belief many families really stood firmly with the British. South Carolina became a civil war battle ground.

British outpost were established shortly after the fall of Charleston. One of these was Rocky Mount (near Great Falls in Chester County). Beyond these base camps other sites were used for supply stations. One of these was White's Mill. Up until the mid 1970's many people thought this site was near Lando in Chester County. However, after extensive research by Mr. Elmer O. Parker of Columbia, S.C. the site was proven to be just inside York County. White's Mill has been marked by a S.C. Historical Marker just off Highway 72 on Strait Road.

York County (the New Acquisition) became a central figure in South Carolina's Revolutionary fight and White's Mill played an important part. The mill had been built by Hugh White who had been granted 350 acres on Fishing Creek in 1766. Mr. White's mill became a supply and meeting spot for both British and rebel forces. Captain Christian Huck as well as Colonel Banastre Tarleton used the site. In June of 1780 following the burning of Hill's Ironworks, Capt. Huck rested at the mill for several weeks. During this period he is know to have plundered the Fishing Creek area. He also ground wheat and corn, perhaps sending supplies to the Rocky Mount garrison.

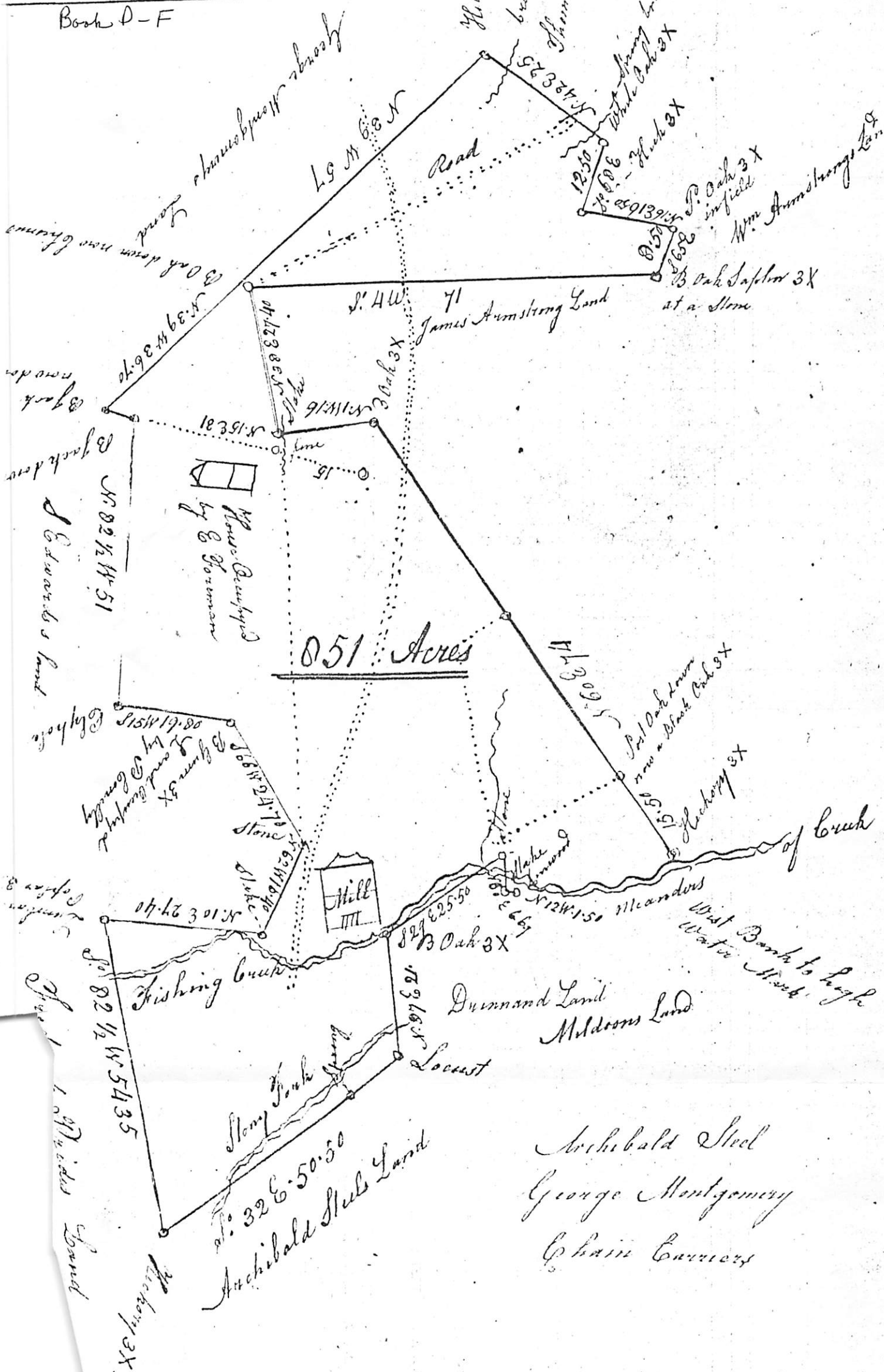
On July 10th or 11th Huck left White's Mill on what would be his last adventure into the New Acquisition. Upon receipt of the order "push the rebels as far as you may deem convenient", he started a route through Chester County routing him to Brattonville. On July 12th Huck was killed at the Battle of Williamson's Plantation (Brattonville).

Lord Cornwallis also visited White's Mill in mid October 1780 during his retreat south from Charlotte, N.C. following the Battle of Kings Mountain. He did not stay long, moving into Winnsboro for the winter.

It was during that winter of 1781 that Colonel Tarleton was defeated at Cowpens. He too had been a visitor at White's Mill several months earlier. While suffering a violent attack of yellow fever he rested there from September 9-23, 1780.

The historic marker erected by the YCHC reads; SITE OF WHITE'S MILL - About 1½ miles south of here on Fishing Creek were a house and mill mentioned on a 1766 Royal landgrant to Hugh White. British Colonel Banastre Tarleton and his Legion were encamped at White's Mill fro several days in Sept. 1780, during which time Tarleton lay "Dangerously ill of a fever".

Gilmore & Co



0.51 Acres

Archibald Steel
George Montgomery
Chain Carriers

