

## Hagler's Hill & Branch

Hagler's Hill is on the Anne Springs Close Greenway. Col. Elliott Springs used Hagler's Branch to supply the water to Lake Hagler.

1780—Sumter's forces camped on Hagler's Branch. "Tom Barnett & other of the Mecklenburg men had told him [Joseph F. White] of Sumter's camp on Hagler's Hill—that Sumter's men wrestled, jumped and ran foot races while there. Alex'r Walker said there was where Sumter camped. Hagler's Hill is on the right or east side of the road going to Charlotte, on the "Old Saluda Road,"<sup>1</sup> just south of Haglers. Br. five miles north of the old Nation Ford, & \_\_\_\_\_ miles north of the present village of Fort Mill, on the Columbia & Charlotte railroad. Hagler's Hill, Mr [Joseph F.] White says, was a woodland, & only cleared within his recollection early in this century — an elevated ridge or hill, with a fine convenient spring, from which a little rivulet flows to Hagler's Branch. It was an excellent grazing region on the woods grass. Indians had long been accustomed to burning over the grounds annually not only to promote grazing, but, in early times to prevent lurking places for their Shawnee, Delaware & Cherokee Indian enemies, so they could not so easily slip upon them.

Hagler's Hill may have been a place where Hagler camped sometime, don't know about any small hamlet there. Hagler was killed towards Camden while returning from a visit to Governor Bull, with his presents, by an ambushed party of Shawnees.

Not over seven or eight miles from Hagler's Hill to Clem's Branch where the road crosses it—which is a mile or two above its mouth. Good grazing region.

Never heard about Sumter camping there—is satisfied the North Carolina line is only a short distance above where the road crosses the Branch, a mile or two at most.

(Draper's MSS, VV-11-pp 294-297}

[Continues, pp. 297-298, with Draper's note]

From Mr. Hotchkiss from Fort Mill. Hagler's Hill & Branch--the Hill is just to the right of the road, going North, & just south of the Branch, on a

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<sup>1</sup> Old Saluda Road is the same as Nation Ford Road which forked in front of Springfield with one fork, or prong, going along present Steel Road-Banks Street and joining the other prong which runs along the Greenway to White Street-Brickyard Road before both prongs join not far from the railroad trestle crossing over the Nation Ford.

rising eminence? rising? not very abruptly from the Branch--abt 100 feet high. The Hill is about a quarter of a mile above the mouth of the branch, which has several spring heads, & is less than two miles long altogether. There is a spring in a hollow or depression just south of the Hill from which a small rivulet flows to the Branch.

It is about six to eight miles from Hagler's Hill to Clem's Branch where the road crosses it— & the road crosses the Branch some two miles above its mouth. And not over a quarter of a mile from the road crossing to the North Carolina line. Capt. Belk of Charlotte, corroborates the distance from the road crossing to State line, & says perhaps not that, as the road sometimes crosses the line—or the line the road.

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From Leonidas D. Spratt to Draper (Draper's MSS, VV-11-p. 290):

Hagler's Branch runs into Steel Creek where the old Saluda road crosses it, is sixteen miles south of Charlotte, & five miles north of the Old Nation Ford of Catawba. the stream runs north-east, and thinks, not certain, there was a **small Indian village** just south of the Branch. Hagler's Branch is in York Co, S. C., & about 5 miles south of the North Carolina line. It was a very fine grazing region.