

The Strother Family on Little Cedar Creek and Elsewhere in South Carolina

William Strother, son of William and Mildred Taliaferro Strother, had 50 acres of land surveyed for him at the head of one of the branches of Little Cedar Creek. He had 200 acres of land surveyed for him on Turkey Creek on July 6, 1772. He had 300 acres of land laid out for him on Tom Creek, between the Congaree and Wateree Rivers, by George Strother. The plat was certified on August 14, 1771. John Alston, D.S., surveyed 300 acres of land for William Strother north of the Broad River on December 23, 1771. The land was bound northwest on the land of Christian Kinsler and on vacant land, north east on vacant land, southeast on land of Alexander Teto and vacant land, and southwest on Broad River.

William Strother, son of William and Mildred Taliaferro Strother, was born in Virginia about the year 1730. As previously noted, he died in Richland County in 1783. He served in the Second Provincial Congress, 1775-1776; the First General Assembly, 1776; and the Second General Assembly 1776-1778, all from the District between the Broad and Catawba Rivers. In 1778, he served as commissioner for roads north of the Congaree; in 1776, he was commissioner of elections for the District Between the Broad and Catawba Rivers; and served as sheriff of Orangeburg District 1778-1780.

CATHERINE STROTHER, daughter of William and Catherine Dargan Strother, first married Andrew Lester and by him had the following children: John, Thomas, Rebecca, Andrew, William, Catherine and Frances Lester. Andrew Lester died in 1795. On August 15, 1796, John Chestnut left in trust with

C.P. Vol.21, Pp.177,178.

S.C.H.&G.Mag., Vol.17, P-108. Rev. War Records, S.C.Dept Archives and History

Dir. S.C.House of Representatives, Vol.III, 1775-1790, P-690.

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made a claim for provisions furnished prior to the fall of Charleston. Isaac Kirkland, as an heir and "looter" of Moses Kirkland, asked for the two Negro boys that had been left when Moses Kirkland left the state because of his Loyalist sympathies. Joseph Kirkland claimed 225 pounds, sterling, for the loss of a "high blooded English stallion." Zachariah Kirkland made a claim for 14 pounds, 5 shillings and $\frac{1}{2}$ pence for 100 days service as a private, adjutant and lieutenant.⁷

William Kirkland of Cedar Creek, in contrast to the irascible and avaricious Moses Kirkland, served with honor and integrity in almost every position open to an upcountry planter. He was an active and effective Regulator, and like that great Regulator Barnaby Pope, he married one of Benjamin Mc Kinnie's daughters (Elizabeth). He was a Justice of the Peace, Tax Inquirer, served in the Jacksonborough Legislature of 1782 that dealt with the Tories, served as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1790, and served as County Judge.⁸

William Kirkland, of Cedar Creek, died in December 1806. His children, Mary Honor, John DeBell, and Martha Maria Kirkland were all minors at the time of their father's death. They were to retain the home place on Cedar Creek and all the chattel goods for their use. To his daughter Sarah Taylor, he left \$400. On May 22, 1793, he had given her a plantation of 150 acres, where she was then living, and a Negro girl.

7- Revolutionary War Records, S.C. Dept. Archives and History.

8- Brown, Regulators, multiple listings. Bio. Dir. S.C. House of Representatives, Vol. III, P. 407.

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Zachariah Kirkland was the Justice of the Peace, and the witnesses to this deed were Jesse Kirkland and George Watts. William Kirkland left his son Archy \$300; his daughter Frances Alston, wife of James Alston, \$100; his son William to inherit after the three minor children, but if they should all die, then the property is to be equally divided. His friends Samuel Alston and William Strother, his son-in-law James Alston, and his son Joseph were named his executors. John Broom, William Broom and John Brunt (Brent) witnessed the will.

William Kirkland gave his daughter Elizabeth Sorsby two Negro girls on May 22, 1793. On November 11, 1797, Elizabeth Sorsby bound her five year old son to William Kirkland with the provision that he be given his freedom at the age of 21 years; that he be properly clothed, educated and housed; and that when he is given his freedom, he is to have a Negro girl and a proper suit of Freedom Cloathes".

William Kirkland left his grandson William Lennox Kirkland, son of his son Dr. Joseph Kirkland, of Charleston, and his wife Marianne, a Negro girl now in the possession of his son Dr. Joseph Kirkland. Jesse Kirkland and Henry Cassels witnessed the deed.

Apparently the division of the property of William Kirkland Sr. did not take place until 1821, because on February 3, 1821, William Strother, James Alston and Samuel Alston gave Martha Maria Kirkland

F.W.B., Vol.1, Bk 5, P.65. F.D.B., Bk A, P.190. F.P.C. Apt. 21, file 272.

0- F.D.B. Bk A, P.189, 1793.

1- Ibid, Bk L, P.85, 1797.

2- Ibid, Bk. L, P.181, 1798.

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her divisive share of her father's estate amounting to 467 acres of land on Big Cedar Creek, and along the branches into which Big Cedar Creek divides - Persimmon and Beaver Creeks. The land that will be covered by the flooding when John De Bell rebuilds the dam that was destroyed when the sawmill burned down is to be taken from the 467 acres. Martha Maria Kirkland's land lay above or the east of the place where the road crosses Big Cedar Creek. The saw mill lay between where the old road and the new road crossed the creek. The 467 acres was made up out of 100 acres granted William Kirkland on July 8, 1774; 100 acres granted him on July 20, 1764; 100 acres granted John Miles on December 8, 1772; part of 227 acres granted William Kirkland on July 6, 1801; and part of 198 acres of land¹³ Honor, John and Martha Maria Kirkland on June 1, 1807.

Burrel B. Cook and his wife Mary Honor Kirkland sold to John DeBell Kirkland 500 acres of land for \$2000. This land was made up out of a part of 3300 acres of land granted to John and Minor Winn on January 3, 1786; part of 198 acres granted John D., Mary Honor, and Martha Maria Kirkland on June 1, 1807; part of a tract of 100 acres granted William Kirkland on June 8, 1774, on Big Cedar Creek. These 500 acres of land represented Mary Honor's share in her father William Kirkland Sr.'s estate. The deed was¹⁴ signed on December 29, 1825.

Another William Kirkland (the Wateree Creek William Kirkland) and his wife Elizabeth conveyed 250 acres of land to Phillip Henson on

13- F.D.B. Bk CC, P.176.

14- Ibid. Bk MM, P.24

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Charles Franklin sold William Kirkland 200 acres of land for 100 pounds on March 13, 1799. The land was part of the 400 acres that had been granted Charles Franklin Sr. on February 27, 1771, and lay on Cedar Creek. George Watts, Samuel Mc Kinney and Zachariah Kirkland witnessed the deed.¹⁸

The children of William Kirkland Sr. of Cedar Creek:

William Kirkland Jr.

Elizabeth Kirkland married a Sorsby.

Sarah Kirkland married a Taylor.

Frances Kirkland married James Alston.

Archy Kirkland.

John DeBell Kirkland.

Mary Honor Kirkland married Burrell B. Cook.

Martha Maria Kirkland not married by 1821.

WILLIAM KIRKLAND JR. was probably the oldest son of William Kirkland Sr. Very little is known of him except that he fought in the Revolutionary War. On January 3, 1790, he gave Samuel Kirkland of Camden his bond for 500 pounds, sterling, to secure an indebtedness of 200 pounds, sterling. He secured his bond with mortgages on several slaves. This document was signed before William Kirkland, Justice of the Peace. William Kirkland had dealings with John and Minor Winn in 1817.¹⁹

¹⁸- F.D.B., Bk N P.496.

¹⁹- Ibid, Bk. E, P.66; Bk Y, P.267.

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FRANCES KIRKLAND and James Alston had the following children:

Elizabeth M. Alston married Dr. George B. Pearson.

William John Alston married (1) Marianne Brown of John's Island, and (2) Susannah Pope of Fairfield

James Alston died on August 16, 1841, in the 68th year of his age. His wife Frances Kirkland Alston died on November 19, 1823, at the age of 46 years, 7 months. Both are buried in the William Kirkland graveyard on Little Cedar Creek.

DR JOSEPH KIRKLAND died on the 12th day of November 1817, in the 48th year of his age. He is buried in the William Kirkland family graveyard on Little Cedar Creek. Dr. Kirkland practiced in Charleston with Dr. Moultrie. In 1797, they offered "electrical treatments". He was listed in the 1802 directory as living at 194 Meeting Street in Charleston. He and his son Dr. William Lennox Kirkland were members of the Medical Society of South Carolina prior to 1826.

In his will, Dr. Joseph Kirkland made provisions for William Lennox Moultrie to go north to Philadelphia to study medicine. Marianne, wife of Dr. Joseph Kirkland, and his son William Lennox Kirkland were made the executrix and executor of his estate, which included the home at 107 N. Church Street, Charleston, and a lot in Columbia.

20- Joseph Ioor Waring, M.D., A History of Medicine in South Carolina,

1670-1825, (Columbia S.C., S.C. Medical Assoc., 1964), Pp. 115, 344, 348.

21- Chas. W. B., Vol. 33 (1807-1818) P. 1335.

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executrixes of his will, and to inherit equally. The will mentions two
 23
 children but does not name them.

Marianne Kirkland, widow of Dr. Joseph Kirkland, made her will on November 20, 1833, and a codicil on July 8, 1836. The will was proven two years later on June 2, 1838. She left the Rector and Vestry of St. Phillip's Church, Charleston, \$300 to be used for the poor widows of that church; \$300 to John DeBell Kirkland; \$300 to Joseph Kirkland Cook; and \$300 to Kirkland Alston, son of William I. Alston. The residue of her estate she left in trust with James Matthews and James Brown for William Lennox Kirkland (Jr.). Her executors were James Mathews (sic) and James Brown. In
 24
 the codicil to her will, she mentions a daughter but does not name her.

Thomas Jefferson Kirkland, son of William Lennox Kirkland (Jr.) and Mary Miller Withers Kirkland, was a prominent lawyer, author and politician of Camden. Born on May 9, 1860, he died October 3, 1936, and is
 25
 buried in the Quaker Cemetery in Camden.

JOHN DEBELL KIRKLAND, son of William Kirkland Sr. and probably his second wife Crissa, was born in March 1802, and died in 1836. He was buried in the William Kirkland graveyard on Cedar Creek. He was survived by his widow Rebecca, and by two daughters, Martha Ann and Mary T. Kirkland. His wife Rebecca was made his executrix and his friends John Harrison, J. Dargan Strother and Burrel B. Cook (brother-in-law) were named his
 26
 executors.

23- Chas. W.B. Vol. 38, P. 489.

24- Ibid, Vol. 41, P. 766.

25- Reynolds and Fant, Bio. Dir. S.C. Senate, P. 252.

26- F.W.B. Vol. 2, Bk 11, P. 19