

Hopkins Place

Hopkin's Place - Major Samuel Otterson's (1754–1837) residence was on the Tyger River in the vicinity of Hamilton's Ford.

Major Samuel Otterson (1754-1837) and eight or ten men were sent to spy on the Loyalists in the western Chester district. When they reached the home of Captain David Hopkins, they found it deserted. Major Otterson noticed a fire on the west side of a ridge, a quarter mile away. He approached the ridge alone and "discovered Tories, double his strength. They must be Tories or they would have been at Hopkins." He returned to his men and ordered them to crawl to the Loyalist camp and to fire on his signal.

Captain Moore, the Loyalist commander "who was advanced in his years," went to build the fire as the Whigs were approaching the camp. "He was on his knees blowing up a blaze" when Otterson gave the signal to fire. The attackers killed several Loyalists in their beds and hit Captain Moore from behind. He fell into the fire. "A few escaped like wild turkeys."

One of the Loyalists grabbed his musket and clubbed one of Otterson's men. He would have smashed his skull, but another Whig "who had just knifed his antagonist, came to the relief of the overpowered man and dispatched the Tory with his knife." **N**

Draper, Lyman. Thomas Sumter Papers, Draper Manuscript Collection, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

O'Kelley, Patrick. Nothing But Blood and Slaughter. Booklocker.com, 2004 vol. 2 p 388