

THE ROEBUCK FAMILY IN AMERICA:

A Preliminary Report

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

English ancestor unknown

<u>Richard Robooke</u> b _____ d 1722/3, North'd No known issue No other Richards (IA-1) <u>ROBERT of Wicco.</u> b approx. 1680/90 d 1750/51, North'd m Elizabeth _____		<u>ROBERT (IA)</u> b _____ d 1708/9, North'd m _____ <u>perhaps others?</u> <u>Robert (IZ)</u> b 1704 ? d after 1787 witnessed will of Robt. of Wicco.	
(IA-1-2)(IA-1-3) <u>John Raleigh</u> Dau. b _____ b ca. 1720/30 b _____ d _____ d _____ d _____ m _____ m Hannah Harcum m Wm. Harvey Ch: Onesiphorus, Thomas, Judith, and Elizabeth.		(IA-1-1) <u>William</u> b _____ d 1762/3 North'd m _____	
(IA-1-1-1) <u>William</u> b North'd d 1789 North'd m 1787 Nancy Kelly. No known issue.		(IA-1-1-2) <u>Robert</u> b North'd d 1783/4 m Elizabeth Flower Ch: Lucy m Connelly	
(IZ-1) <u>George(Sr.)</u> b ca.1730,Va. d 1781, S.C. m Mary _____		(IZ-3) <u>Robert</u> b _____ d 1793 Culp. m _____	
		(IZ-2) <u>William</u> b _____ d 1781 Culp. m Mary Vernon <u>Culpeper Co., Va.</u> <u>Culpeper Co., Va.</u>	
<u>Moved to South Carolina</u>			
(IA-1-3-1) <u>William</u> b ca.1760 North'd d _____ m _____ ?		(IA-1-3-2) <u>Raleigh</u> b 1753/5 North'd d _____ m _____ <u>North Carolina</u>	
		(IA-1-3-3) <u>George (Jr.)</u> b 1757 North'd d 1838,N.C. m _____ <u>North Carolina</u>	
<u>May be Ohio line, but unproven.</u>			
<u>The name is used in all branches. See Edgefield Co., S. C.</u>			

CHAPTER V

SOUTH CAROLINA

In contrast to the Ohio and North Carolina Roebucks, the South Carolina line has many interested descendants all through the South. Relationships have become somewhat confused, due mainly to misinformation; for many years some members of the southern line have believed their ancestor was a Benjamin Roebuck, father of the Revolutionary War hero, Colonel Benjamin Roebuck, long acknowledged by historians as a hero of the Battle of King's Mountain. Incorrect information from recollections of relatives, (some 90 years after the Revolution), at best, extremely risky, or of acquaintances seems to have been the source of serious misinformation. Unfortunately, the data seems never to have been checked for accuracy; consequently it has been in print for over 80 years as an authoritative source, and has been used by other authors and from time to time crops up in historical newspaper items. All sources commit the same error in giving the father of Col. Benjamin Roebuck as Benjamin Roebuck, Senior.

The incorrect "authorities" are quoted in an attempt to set the record straight. (Underlining has been added for emphasis and brackets for corrections or comments.)

1. From Section 7: *Heroes of American Revolution*, J. D. Bailey.

Captain Benjamin [incorrect] Roebuck born Orange County, Virginia moved to Spartanburg District, South Carolina and lived near Burnt Factory on Tyger River, 1777. He and his son Benjamin, Jr. were captured by Tarleton in 1780, after the Battle of Blackstock [disagrees with other sources] and sent to Camden Jail where Benjamin [incorrect] died of smallpox in 1781. Benjamin, Jr. escaped from jail. [others say he was exchanged.]

2. *King's Mountain and Its Heroes*, Lyman C. Draper, L.L.D. 1881, p. 470.

Benjamin Roebuck was born in Orange Co., Virginia about 1755. His father, Benjamin Roebuck, Sr. [incorrect] settled in Spartanburg Co.,

South Carolina in 1777; and the next year the younger Roebuck served as a Lieutenant in Georgia and was at Stono and Savannah. In 1780 he joined Sumter and was at Hanging Rock and subsequently at Musgrove's Mill, commanding a company at King's Mountain, and distinguished himself at Cowpens, where he had a horse shot under him. About this time he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; and in a fight at Mud Lick with the Tories, March 2, 1781, he was badly wounded, the ball penetrating under the shoulder blade, could not be extracted. He was then made prisoner, and conveyed to Ninety-Six where he was incarcerated during the siege. He was subsequently taken to Charleston and placed on board a prison ship. In August following, he was exchanged and returned home. He died unmarried in 1788 [incorrect] from the effects of his wound. Honorable Simpson Bobo, of Spartanburg, S. C. is his nephew.

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F. B. Heitman, in *The Historical Register of Officers-War of the Revolution*, 1914, p 472, lists a Lt. Col. James Roebuck of the South Carolina Militia with the same exploits and death date as given by Mr. Draper for Col. Benjamin, although not in such detail. Mr. Heitman's confusion is unexplainable.

Final proof of Benjamin's father George, Senior (IZ-1), has come only, through the accumulation of a number of documents. The first clue came from the pension records of George Roebuck of South Carolina, and John Roebuck of Alabama, obtained from the National Archives, in which they stated their brother was Col. Benjamin Roebuck and their father had died at Camden, South Carolina, as a prisoner of the British.¹ An abstracted will of a George Roebuck of Ninety-Six District in 1781² and that of a Benjamin Roebuck in 1785³ seemed to point to George (IZ-1) being the father of (Col.) Benjamin (IZ-1-1), (Capt.) John (IZ-1-3) and (Capt.) George (IZ-1-2); however, not until the entire will of George (IZ-1) was studied did he prove to be the George who died at Camden and the father of the Revolutionary officers listed above. No attempt has been made to ascertain if George Roebuck, the father, was a soldier or a civilian. At the defeat of the American force at Camden, S. C., August 16, 1780, General Gates and North Carolina and Virginia Militia fled precipitously, while Baron DeKalb and his Maryland troops fought bravely until overwhelmed. Baron DeKalb was mortally wounded during this encounter and 1,000 American prisoners were taken, George (IZ-1) among them.⁴

In the face of all the evidence George Roebuck has remained an unknown and unsung patriot for far too many years. We can now appreciate and know of his sacrifice for his country.

The following will of George Roebuck (IZ-1) is to be found in the records of Spartanburg Co., S. C., Box 80, Pack 1958.

In the name of God amen.

I George Roebuck [sic] of Ninety-Six District Planter being sound of mind tho at present weak of Body do devise this my last will and testament in a manner following To wit all that Plantation or tract of Land lying on the north side of Tyger River above Blackstocks ford on which I have lived till thrown into goal [meaning gaol or jail] with livestock, Plantation, tools and everything thereto pertaining to Mary Roebuck, my Wife, to have and to hold the same during her natural life, after which to revert to my children to be equally divided amongst them, also Two negroe Wenches Louisa and Beck with whatever else remains of my property either personal or Real, Debts due me, of which a list is hereto subjoined, and everything that can be saved or recovered belonging to me I hereby will and devise to my wife as aforesaid, during her life and after her death to my children as above. And I hereby by these present appoint my two sons Benjamin and George Roebuck Executors of this my last will and Testament at Cambden [sic] on this Sixth day of Feby one thousand seven hundred and eighty one in presence of Col. John Winn Aubrey Noland and James Oliphant.

George Roebuck

John Winn

Aubrey Noland

John Oliphant

List of Debts due to George Roebuck, referred to in the above Will
Two hundred and fifty pounds Virginia money due me by William Saunders, to be paid in Continental money
One hundred and sixty five pounds Proclamation money due me by William Askins
Fifty one and a half continental Dollars due me by John Graves
Eight pounds _____ shillings Virginia money due me by Jonathan Lenyan (?)
These dollars due by

George Roebuck

John Winn

Aubrey Noland

James Oliphant

South Carolina)
Ninety Six District)

By John Thomas Jun, Esq.,
Ordinary of the said District

Personally appeared James Oliphant Esqr. one of the subscribing witnesses to the within will before me and made oath that he saw George Roebuck sign, seal, publish, pronounce and declare the same to be his last will and testament that he was then of sound disposing mind memory and understanding, to the best of the deponents

knowledge & belief, & that John Winn & Aubrey Knowland, together with this deponent sign their names as witnesses thereto, at the request of the Testator, in his presence & in the presence of each other. Given under my hand the 5th of July 1783 At the same time qualified the Inventory.

John Thomas Jun of 96 District

An inventory was made by John Blassingame and Jonathan Lennard (?).

There is more than ample proof of the Revolutionary service of Col. Benjamin Roebuck, but the National Archives in Washington has nothing on him in their files. It is hoped that someone in the Southern branch of the Roebuck family will make some attempt to clarify Benjamin's record and that of his father for a certain national patriotic society, not too accurate about fathers of Revolutionary soldiers.

Documents pertaining to Col. Benjamin (IZ-1-1):

The North Carolina Archives yielded a payroll list, p 42, Folio 3 for March 1777, containing the name of Benjamin "Roebucke".

The South Carolina Archives has a number of accounts, affidavits and the like, which are difficult to read and yielded very little illuminating evidence, only the following:

AA6552 Accounts, Numbers 880X, 159Z, 3691X, 10 items:

Revolutionary Account of Benjamin Roebuck for 357 days duty as Lt. Col. and 105 days duty as Colonel, Militia duty.

(2b) He was a prisoner at Ninety Six and at Charleston.

(7b) He was paid for 2 horses lost in Public Service in 1781.

(4b and others) His brother George, as executor of Benjamin's estate, signed several papers.

The will of Benjamin Roebuck is found in Spartanburg Co., S.C., Box 80,

Pack 1961

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN

Know all Men by these present that I Benjamin Roebuck of Tyger River in state of South Carolina Being sick of Body but in perfect mind and memory thanks be unto God - for his Mercies but calling unto mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that by his Irrevocable Decree that is appointed once for all Mankind to Die, I principally and first of all recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God, who gave it nothing doubting but at the General Ressurrection, I shall receive

the same again. Secondly I recommend my Body to the Dust from whence it came, to be buried in a Christian Decent form at the expence of my Executor & all my worldly goods which it has pleased God, to endow me with, I leave & bequeath in manner and form folling [sic] that is to say I principally & first of all appoint make and ordain my Trusty and well Beloved Brothers George & John Roebuck to be my sole Executor and Administrator of this my last Will & Testament and after paying all my Just Debts I Bequeath the remainder in manner & form following----

Item 1st I leave & Bequeath to my well Beloved Brother George my Rifle Gun Sword & pistols not to be separated but at his Death to be disposed as he pleases the articles mentioned to be Deducted out of his part of all Legaceys----

Item 2nd I leave and Bequeath to my Beloved Brothers George, John & Obediah Roebuck each one share and a half share of all Land Negroes horses Cattle Cash Books Accounts Bonds Notes & publick Accounts----

Item 3d I leave & Bequeath to my well Beloved Mother one whole share of all articles Specified in the Second Legacy during her life and at her Death to be Equally Divided among all my Sisters-

Item 4th I leave & Bequeath to my well Beloved Sisters Frankey Katety Sally Betsy Mary & Roahdy each one whole share of all land Negroes horses Cattle Cash Book Accounts open Act. Bonds Notes & Publick Accounts----

Ratifying & Confirming this & no Other to be my Last Will & Testament and that all others if any there be to be Null Void and without Effect I according to the true Intent and meaning hath hereunto Set my hand and affixed my Seal this 12th Day of February and in the year of our Lord, God, 1785.

Signed Sealed & acknowledged
in presence of us

Benjamin Roebuck US

Peter Brookes

South Carolina. By John Thomas Jun Ordinary of Ninety six district the District aforesaid

Personally appeared Peter Brookes, the Evidence to the within will before me and made oath that he saw Col. Benj^m. Roebuck sign, seal, publish, Pronounce and declare the same to be his last will and testament. That he was then of sound and perfect mind, memory and understanding, to the best of the deponants knowledge and belief, and the the [sic] deponant did sign his name thereto as evidence in the presence of the Testator, and at his request given under my hand the 25th day of May 1785

(illegible) Thomas Jun

The inventory of Benjamin Roebuck's estate was made July 8, 1785 by Wm. Clayton, Jonathan Sinard and Christopher Casey.⁵

It is stated in the *Memoirs of Major Joseph McJunkin*, concerning Benjamin Roebuck:

Upon the first call for soldiers after the family moved to South Carolina Roebuck turned out and was made first lieutenant in the

company of Captain William Smith. He was with Gen. Lincoln in Georgia and participated in the various campaigns until the fall of Charleston [May 12, 1780]. Shortly after that event he fled with others into North Carolina. During his absence he was appointed Major in the first Spartan regiment of which Col. John Thomas, Jr. was about that time appointed Colonel.⁶

On the 18th day of August, 1780 he was with the "gallant partisan officer, Col. Williams" at the battle fought at Musgrove's Mill on the Enoree River. Colonel Tunis of the South Carolina Royalists was wounded in this battle and his command dispersed. "This was the first real check the British received after the fall of Charleston and it did much to inspire the drooping spirits of the Whigs in that part of the state"⁷

On the 7th of October, 1780, Roebuck with Col. Williams and the forces of Virginia and North Carolina under Campbell, Cleveland, Shelby, and Sevier met Col. Ferguson and his Tory recruits at King's Mountain. The defeat of the Loyalists at King's Mountain destroyed Tory prestige in North Carolina and forced Cornwallis to retreat south across the state line to Winnsborough.⁸

It is not known what command Roebuck had in this battle although Captain Thomas Young in Johnson's *Traditions of the Revolution* states,

When our division came up the northern base of the mountain, we dismounted, and Colonel Roebuck drew us a little to the left and commenced the attack.⁹

The *Memoirs of Major Joseph McJunkin* relate:

He was Lieutenant Colonel in the Battle of the Cowpens. Soon after that event, Thomas received a Colonel's commission in a different department of the service and Roebuck succeeded him in the command of the first Spartan regiment, and Colonel Henry White rose to the rank of Lieut. Colonel.

Dr. Ramsay in his *History of South Carolina* states, "The glory and importance of the battle [Cowpens] resounded from one end of the continent to the other. It reanimated the desponding friends of America, and seemed like a resurrection from the dead, to the Southern States."¹⁰

It was during the battle of Mud Lick (sometimes called Meade Lick) March

21, 1781, that Colonel Benjamin Roebuck was wounded. He was later captured and confined as a prisoner at Charleston. It is said that he contracted a severe cold which weakened him until he eventually contracted tuberculosis, of which he became a victim. He was exchanged and, it is said, he was allowed to return home.¹¹ (although his will was not witnessed by any member of his family but by a Peter Brookes.) It is said that he died at his father's house; yet his father's house was burned by Tarleton and his father died in 1781.

Investigation has shown that until sometime in the 1950's the town of Roebuck, S.C., was known as Becca. A patriotic citizen of Spartanburg, John B. Cleveland, wrote to the Postmaster General of the United States and requested the name be changed because of Benjamin Roebuck's bravery and valor and great service to his country. It was done, and the name ROEBUCK was given to the town.¹²

George Roebuck, (IZ-1-2) the brother of Col. Benjamin Roebuck first made application for a pension Feb. 15, 1819.¹³ He signed his name at that time Roebuck. In the fall of 1775 he enlisted for 6 months as a common soldier in the Army of the Revolution in the 1st Regiment of the North Carolina Continental Line under Col. Nash and Captain Henry Dickson. He reenlisted for twelve months, "which he faithfully served." He was discharged "but his discharge was burnt by the British Col. Tarleton in the house of his father." He was stationed at Wilmington, N.C., Hadrills Point and Fort Moultrie, S.C., "when it was bombarded by the enemy." (bombardment of Charleston June, 1776.) George also claims "that his circumstances require the assistance of his country for support." A note at the bottom of the request states that "The name of George Robuck does not appear on the muster roll. From his declaration it appears he was early in the Southern Army, when muster rolls were not kept."

Two of his comrades in arms, Martin Cole and Henry Cole signed an affidavit

in his behalf.¹⁴ George received a pension for one or two years under the Act of 1818, but a second application in 1832, indicates he had been dropped from the pension list. His 1832 application repeats some of the information of the earlier one, but he states then that he was born on the 15th day of March 1757 in Orange Co., Va., and "is now 75 years and 6 months." He mentions an "engagement with the enemy at Mrs. Moor's Bridge on Black River. (Moore's Creek Bridge). He marched from that place to Georgetown to Charleston where he was in the battle at Sullivant's Island." He was wounded in the leg by buckshot. He then walked back to Wilmington and back again to Charleston and was then regularly discharged at "Hadrall's Point" after serving 18 months.

After he was discharged from the Regular service he "removed" to Spartanburgh, S.C., and volunteered in a campaign against the Cherokee Indians under Capt. Prince, Col. Dickson and Major Davidson. He then joined headquarters at Seneca Fort on the Seneca River in the upper part of South Carolina where he remained, "skirmishing with the Indians," for six months. He was discharged but again volunteered, in a campaign against the Creek Indians "under Captain Wm. Smith, Col. Hammond and Gen^l Williamson." headquarters was at White Hall, near Augusta . . .

He then states, "had an engagement with the Indians at Golphin Cowpens under Major Ross who fell in the engagement." He returned to White Hall and was discharged after a tour of 3 months. He again volunteered under Captain Wofford (?) and Major Ford and was stationed at Cambridge at the Siege of Ninety Six under General Greene and was discharged after 3 months.

In 1781 George received his commission of Captain, signed by Col. Thomas, and joined the army at Orangeburgh with Major John Ford and Col. Robuck. He served for about four months, guarding prisoners, and then returned home. He had no documentary evidence of his service, but the Reverend Nathan Langston and William Wilder gave testimony to his character and veracity.

In 1845, when he was 90, George applied for an additional pension to compensate for his service for ten months as a Captain which had not been allowed under his previous application. Under the Act of 1832 he had received a pension of \$146.66 per year. Jonas Brewton, magistrate, provided the character reference and stated it was believed that he had been both a Captain and a private soldier during the Revolution and that "he has always born the title of Captain ever since my recollection which is many years."¹⁵

George Roebuck died in 1848 in Spartanburg, S.C. To avoid confusion he will be called Captain George (IZ-1-2).

Sometime after the deaths of George (IZ-1) and Col. Benjamin (IZ-1-1), the spelling of the name, in some instances, changed to Robuck. Both George and Benjamin in signing their wills spelled the name Roebuck, although George's signature was so weakly done that it is unclear. The change of spelling was probably more accidental than deliberate as the spelling of the time was variable, to say the least.

John Robuck, the brother of Captain George, has been defined on most documents without the "e" and the attempt will be made to spell it in like manner unless the spelling appears otherwise in documents or donated material being cited.

John Robuck (IZ-103) son of George (IZ-1) will be called Captain John. He applied for a pension in 1844 from Marion Co., Alabama, when he was 84 or 85 and "infirm." Unfortunately, he was denied a pension although we, who have the advantage of reading all the evidence contained in the documents of George Roebuck who died at Camden, and his sons Captain George and Captain John, can see that they corroborate one another.

Captain John states that he resided in Spartanburg Co., S.C., and volunteered as a private, when the county first organized, under Captain John Thomas in 1778. He was a private for 6 months and was marched over the country to prevent

depredations: "sometimes in pursuit of the tories and sometimes retreating from them during which period . . . he was in different parts of the State of South Carolina and was in several skirmishes . . . one of which was on Bush River." The company or regiment to which he was attached was commanded by Colonel James Williams, who was afterwards killed at the Battle of King's Mountain. He was also attached part of the time to the "batalion or regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Robuck who was a brother . . ." After his discharge from the company, "sometime in the first part of the year 1779," he attached himself to a volunteer company in Spartanburg Co., commanded by Captain Culbertson, who was succeeded by Captain William Smith. John remained in this company over two years. Part of this time he was attached to the command of Major John Thomas, the same man under whom he had served during the first six months. He states that his company, while commanded by Captain Smith, joined General Sumpter near Granby and remained under him for 3 months except when on occasional scouting parties. He was in an engagement at a place called Black Sock Ford on the Tyger River. "The British and Tories, commanded by Colonel Tarleton, were defeated. Among the wounded was a Captain Thornton who died several days after the battle. General Sumpter was also wounded in the battle."

While under General Sumpter "he was at Orangeburg Court House, Spartanburg, and many other places which he cannot now recollect, he states; he thinks from his best recollection" that the company to which he belonged was commanded by Capt. Smith something over 12 months. After Smith it was commanded by Captain Edwards Michison, then by Captain George Robuck. While with the company company commanded by Captain George he was stationed at Orangeburg 2 months and was sometimes with a detachment under the command of his brother Colonel Benjamin Robuck. He was with the said detachment considerably over two years.

Shortly after he was discharged he was commissioned by Colonel Henry White to take command of a volunteer company, as Captain, for the purpose of defending

the country. He served in this manner for six months when the war "closed," although he continued in his position for 3 more months. His principal headquarters or "rendezvous" was at the plantation of Ebenezer Moss (?) on a creek called Two Mile Creek.

A Mr. Artemus Sims and Thomas I. Glascock signed a statement in Captain John Roebuck's behalf, while he answered some specific questions to the effect that he was born in Culpeper Co., Va., in 1759 or 1760, but was not sure of month or day. He had no record of his age; it had been recorded in his father's Bible but, during the Revolutionary War while he was in service, his father's house in Spartanburg Co. was burned by the British and Tories. He states "and nearly all his [father's] furniture together with his Bible was consumed or carried off by the British or tories; my father was also taken off by them to Camden and was kept there by the British as a prisoner until he died and I have had no record of my age since."

When asked where he had lived when called into service and after the war, he replied, "When I entered the service I lived in Spartanburg in the state of South Carolina; after I left the service I continued to reside in Spartanburg for twenty five or six years; I then moved to Warren County in the State of Kentucky and remained there about eight years; I then moved to Illinois and remained there one year; I then moved to Lincoln County, Tennessee and remained there three years; I then removed to Marion County, Alabama and here some years I then moved to Marshall County in the State of Mississippi, remained there about 2 years and then back there to Marion County Alabama, where I now reside." (punctuation added)

When asked about officers under whom he served, Captain John named in addition to those already mentioned, Colonel William Hare, Colonel Hammons, and General Pickens, whom he joined near Ninety Six. He also states that one discharge, given him by his brother Captain George Robuck, was burned in his

house in Kentucky. Judge John T. Sanders declared, "that in his opinion and upon investigation of the matter, the applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and that Artemus Sims was a clergyman, Thomas I. Glascock a creditable person and their statement was entitled to credit."

The copy of Captain John's Pension application which this writer received from the National Archives did not have an attached affidavit. As received by others the affidavit written on the 30th of July, 1855, discloses that John Robuck died on the 20th of September, 1853, and three of his children were William G. Robuck, John Robuck, and Sarah Purvis. The claim to the pension was presented by his heirs.¹⁶ The family of Captain John is given in the Alabama chapter.

The 1790 Census data is charted in order to show more clearly what appears to be two distinct but related Roebuck families living in the South Carolina counties of Spartanburg and Edgefield. Both counties were carved from the original District 96 in 1785.

ROEBUCKS
in the
1790 Census, SOUTH CAROLINA

SPARTANBURG COUNTY

GEORGE (Captain) (d 1848)

1m (himself)
3m und 16
3f (incl wife)

JOHN (Captain) (d 1853)
d Alabama

1m (himself)
1m und 16 (b 1774-1790)
2f (incl wife)

EDGEFIELD COUNTY

JOHN

1m (himself)
1f (wife)
4 slaves

THIS IS AN AREA FOR
SPECULATION. IS THIS
JOHN TOO YOUNG FOR A
FAMILY OR TOO OLD?

ROLLEY

1m (himself)
2m und 16 (b 1774-1790)
4f (incl wife)
1 slave

ROBERT

1m (himself)
1m und 16 (b 1774-1790)
5f (incl wife)

ROBERT - listed with
identical infor-
mation. Entirely
possible there
were two.

EZEKEL

1m (himself)
3m und 16 (b 1774-1790)
3f (incl wife)

All of the above but John of Edgefield Co., and one Robert fought in Roebuck's Regiment, some before the "reduction of Charleston" and others after. It is stated in Captain George Robuck's account that Colonel Benjamin Roebuck commanded, but information on the regiment has not been investigated. Data on each of the Roebucks known to have been in the regiment is given below. These,

too, are in the nature of fragmentary accounts, affidavits, receipts, and treasury orders.

George Robuck AA6532 Account No. 3692-X

He is listed as a Captain, "since the fall" of Charleston. His signature appears on several items and he omits the "e" in Roebuck. In several instances, Burrell Bobo is mentioned and his signature appears. In 1787 George assigned an indent (of land) to Spencer Bobo, which appears to be reassigned by him to John Cook.

John Robuck AA6554, Account Nos. 662-S, 3693X

One item states he was a private in the militia before the reduction of Charleston, while another indicates his service in Roebuck's Regiment since the fall of Charleston. No signature.

Robert Roebuck AA6555, Account No. 663-S

Robert is noted as having been a private and Lieutenant before the reduction of Charleston. In 1784 he made an oath that he had assigned an order (for pay) to John Owens and made only the initial R as his mark.

Rolly Roebuck AA6533, Account No. 664-S

An indented certificate states that he served as a private in the militia before and since the "reduction" of Charleston. He, too, made his mark on an indent assigned to John Owen by "Rowly Rowbuck." In contrast, to the weak and shaky "R" on documents previously mentioned, is the firm, beautifully written signature, "Rolley Robuck," on an item specifying, "Moses Kirkland (Sr?) to Rolley Robuck for one likely young negro slave About twelve or thirteen years of age. £ 200., -th Septembr 1780 personally appeared Rolley Robuck before aquila miles [sic] and being Duly Sworn by the holley avangelist [sic] of almighty God Declared the above accompt [sic] is just and True Sworn this 20th [or 28th] Day of Dec^r 1782 before me aquilamiles [sic] J.P.

Rolley Robuck"

An accompanying document contains a fragment of a letter saying, "as it does not appear how Kirkland came by the negro & by the date, it may have been taken & came under the law as damage under the British domination."

Ezekiel Roebuck AA6553, Account No. 661S

Ezekiel received Sixteen Pounds, Fourteen Shillings & three pence farthings Sterling on June 23, 1785, for militia duty as a private before and since the reduction of Charleston. He, too, assigned a pay indent to John Owen and signed, Ezekiel Roebuck.

Descendants of these Roebucks might do well to research more fully the South Carolina Archives. The following pages will deal with known South Carolina Roebucks and material found on some of them in public records. Speculative additions are made to census material and are a means used, frequently with success, by the author to indicate possible origins of some unplaced Roebucks.

Of the children of George (IZ-1) most is known of Captain George and Captain John. It is acknowledged that Elizabeth, born in Va., married Burrell Bobo. Col. Benjamin died unmarried and nothing further is known of Obediah, the son mentioned in George's will. The 1790 census listed no Obediah. It may be that he, too, died in the Revolution but should be researched by members of the southern line.

As an example of the method used in determining ages of the children, who are unnamed in the early censuses, all early census data on George Roebuck is given, then a composite age graph is compiled using known names and possible names of children.

1790 Census, Spartanburg Co., S.C.

Roebuck, George, 1m (himself)
lf (wife)
(1) 1m und 16 _____ (b 1774-1790)
(2) 1m und 16 _____ (b 1774-1790)
(3) 1m und 16 _____ (b 1774-1790)
(4) lf _____
(5) lf _____

1800 Census, Apartanburg Co., S.C.

Rowbuck, George, 1m 45 & over _____ (b 1755 or before)
lf 26-45 (wife) _____ (b 1755-1774)
(6) 1m und 10 _____ (b 1790-1800)
(7) 1m und 10 _____ (b 1790-1800)
(3) 1m und 10 _____ (b 1790-1800)
(1) 1m 10-15 _____ (b 1785-1790)
(2) 1m 10-15 _____ (b 1785-1790)
(8) lf und 10 _____ (b 1790-1800)
(5) lf und 10 _____ (b 1790-1800)
(4) lf 10-15 _____ (b 1785-1790)

1810 Census, Spartanburg Dist., S.C.

Roebuck, George, 1m 45 & up _____ (b 1765 or before)
lf 45 and up _____ (b 1765 or before)
(10) 1m und 10 _____ (b 1800-1810)
(11) 1m und 10 _____ (b 1800-1810)
(7) 1m 10-15 _____ (b 1795-1800)
(2) 1m 15-26 _____ (b 1784-1795)
(3) 1m 15-26 _____ (b 1784-1795)
(6) 1m 15-26 _____ (b 1784-1795)
(12) lf und 10 _____ (b 1800-1810)
(13) lf und 10 _____ (b 1800-1810)
(8) lf 10-15 _____ (b 1795-1800)
(9) lf 10-15 _____ (b 1795-1800)
(4) lf 15-26 _____ (b 1784-1795)
(5) lf 15-26 _____ (b 1784-1795)

Composite of George's family by 1810

- (1) m Benjamin, acc'd to family data, b 1782, married and head of household by late 1800.
(2) m 15-26 _____ b 1784-1795 (ca. 1784)
(3) m 15-26 _____ b 1784-1795 (ca. 1786)
(4) f 15-26 _____ b 1784-1795
(5) f 15-26 _____ b 1784-1795
(6) m 15-26 _____ b 1784-1795 (ca. 1795)
(7) m 10-15 (? George, ca. 1796?) b 1795-1800
(8) f 10-15 _____ b 1795-1800
(9) f 10-15 _____ b 1795-1800
(10) m und 10 (? John, b 1800?) b 1800-1810
(11) m und 10 _____ b 1800-1810
(12) f und 10 Frances* b 1800-1810
(13) f und 10 _____ b 1800-1810

*Frances is placed among the younger children as some, if not all of her children were unmarried in 1853 when her father died.

An informant has stated there are deeds in the Spartanburg Co. Court House indicating that the wife of Captain George was Lovina. Benjamin, the son of Captain George, named a daughter Lovina.

The author wishes to advance the theory that if descendants prove Captain George's wife to have been Lovina, she might also prove to be a Lovina or Lavinia Pinckney. In the will of Captain George, presented next, he lists the children of his daughter Frances; one is John Pinckney Pearson and one is Lovina. On the composite chart of Captain George's children, a speculative George has been placed, as (7), although his connection is unproven. A later generation of his family contains a Pickney, or Pinckney, so in theory this is a logical place for him unless proven otherwise at some later date.

The Spartanburg District, Census of Pensioners of 1840, lists George Robuck, (Captain), age 89, living with Willis Pearson. This account of his age varies greatly from his birthdate of 1757, which he had sworn to on the pension application of 1832, while the 1845 pension application gives his age as 90. The birthdate of March 15, 1757, seems the most acceptable one.

Will of George Robuck

In the name of God Amen. I George Robuck of the State of South Carolina and the District of Spartanburgh, being at this time of Sound memory and understanding praised be God for the Same I do now make my last will and Testament In manner and form as follows,
I give to my grandson John Pinckney Pearson a negro Woman named Lucy but he is not to take her out of the possession of my Daughter Frances Pearson during her life but after the death of my said daughter Frances Pearson he is to take her as his property and should said negro woman have any increase said increase to be equally divided between all the rest of the children of my said Daughter Frances Pearson. I also give to the said John Pickney [sic] Pearson a certain parcel of land containing sixty acres more or less situate in Spartanburg District on Jimeys Creek the waters of the Tyger River bounded by lands owned at this time by James Nesbitt and James Bragg. I give to my Grand Son James Henry Pearson a certain Black mare and a Grey horse the increase of said mare to be equally divided between the sons of my above named daughter Frances Pearson leaving out the said John Pinckney and James Henry Pearson. I give to my Grand Daughters Lovina Pearson, Polly Pearson and Sarah Jane Pearson two feather beds and furniture three Cows and Calves, one Clothes press and Cuppard and

one loom Said property to remain in the care and use of my daughter Frances Pearson to deliver to my said grand daughters each an equal portion as they become grown women and desired the same---- After my death and all the funeral expenses are paid my sole will is for the afore named property to Go as is here stated therefore I do declare this to be my last will and testament here by Revoking all and Every will or wills here to fore by me made and declare in present of Zachariah Landford James Mason and John Devine this again to declare this will the Nineteenth day of November Eighteen hundred and Forty Seven and the Seventy first and part of the Seventy second year of american Independancy of America

Signed Sealed and Delivered in presents of----

Z. Lanford

his

James Mason

George X Robuck

John Devine

Recorded in Will Book D. Page 153

Box 5, Package 27.

Recorded October 27th, 1848.

R. Bowden, O.S.D.

The Spartanburg Court House does not have the original of this will. It may or may not be in the State Archives. The above was taken from a typescript which may have been made by the W.P.A.

It is believed that additional census information will be of most value given at this time, instead of placing it after the lengthy lists of descendants of South Carolina lines.

1800 Census, Spartanburg Co., S.C.

Rowbuck, Benjamin, 1m 15-26 (b 1774-1785)
1f 10-15 (b 1785-1790)

It is apparent that Benjamin was newly married. If his bride was Mary Willis, as suspected, she may have come from the family of Richard Willis, who is listed at a house between George and Benjamin "Rowbuck" on the census list as follows:

Willis, Rich'd, 3m und 10, 2m 15-26, 1m 45 & up (Rich'd),

1f 10-15, 1f over 45 (wife) 2 sl.

Since this was researched, descendants consider this point to be proven.

The 1810 Census proved to be completely illegible in many areas, but sometimes provocatively so, as several counties, other than the acknowledged ones,

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offered glimpses of names that could have been Roebuck, but were so unclear as to be unsafe for speculation. They will be given as a matter of interest and a possible place for descendants to do on the spot search.

Laurens District had what resembled a Wm. Ro-b-- but might have been a misspelling of Robert. There were Bobos, Words, Lenards and Manleys in the same area.

Lexington Co. showed an unreadable John ?k.

Orangeburg Co. definitely had a Robuck but his first name was unreadable:

Robuck, _____ 1m 45 & up (b 1765 or before)

1f 26-45 (b 1765-1784)
1m und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1m und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1m und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1m 10-15 (b 1795-1800)
1f 15-26 (b 1784-1795)
8 slaves

This is possibly Robert or Ezekiel. The 1800 and 1820 censuses should be checked.

Pendleton Co. yielded what looked like a Wm R-b-k (?) He had 6m und 10, 1m 26-45 (himself), 1f und 10, 1f 15-26 (wife).

1810 Spartanburg Co., S.C.

Roebuck, Ben, 1m 26-45 (b 1765-1784)
1f 15-26 (b 1784-1795)
1m und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1m und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1f und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1f und 10 (b 1800-1810)
1f und 10 (b 1800-1810)

Roebuck, _____ (unreadable, perhaps a widow, see * below.)

1m und 10
1m und 10
a possible young female, unclear.
1f 15-26 * (Evidently head of family.)
2 slaves

Another unreadable could have been Roebuck, and was William:

2m und 10, 1m 10-15, 1m 45 & up (William)
2f und 10, 1f 10-15, 1f 15-26, 1f 16-45 (wife)

Also in Spartanburg Co. were a number of families with names that connect with Roebuck lines of various areas: Bishop, Moon, Woolf, Early, Leanard, Waddle, Willis, Sapp, Jones, Vernon and Pobo.

1840 Census, Spartanburg District

Roebuck, Benj.,	lm 50-60 (b 1780-1790)
	lf 50-60 (b 1780-1790)
	lf 15 & und
Roebuck, J.J.,	lm 30-40 (b 1800-1810)
	lf 20-30
	lm und 5
	lm und 5
Roebuck, Rolly,	lm 40-50 (b 1790-1800)
	lf 40-50
	lm und 5
	lm 5-10
	lm 10-15
	lm 10-15
	lm 15-20
	lm 15-20
	lm 15-20
	lf und 5
	lf 15-20
	lf 15-20
	lf 15-20

A check of the 1850 census for Spartanburg Co. would reveal all the names, if the families remained there.

The John Roebuck listed in the 1790 Census of Edgefield Co., S.C., could have been very young and newly married, or very old with no children at home. The ownership is shown of more slaves than other Roebucks in the vicinity and this might indicate a person of means and advanced age.

A John Roebuck was born in Northumberland Co., Va., possibly ca. 1725 - 1730, to Robert Roebuck of Wiccocomoco Parish. The last mention of a John Roebuck in the wills of Northumberland Co. is in the will of Samuel Mahane, which John witnessed in 1751.

The possibility exists that the John of Northumberland (IA-1-2) was the John Roebuck of Edgefield Co., S.C., and the father of the Roebucks listed in that same county. Each of those listed, Rolley, 2 Roberts, and Ezekiel, had

five children in 1790. This could indicate that Rolley, 1 Robert, and Ezekiel may have been born during the approximate years of 1750-1760 and were contemporaries, possibly cousins, of Captain John and Captain George. The second listed Robert may be of the next generation.

From a microfilm entitled, "Index to Wills - Deeds 1787-1869, Edgefield Co., S.C." no wills for Roebucks were found, but the following deeds were mentioned:

Roebuck, John, Grantor to Benjamin Cook, 2-1787-1788, p. 88, Bk. 2.

Roebuck, John, Grantor to George Randall, 5-1791, p. 1, Bk. 5.

Roebuck, Polly, Grantor to Elisha Barrenton, 19-1800-1801, p. 373, Bk. 19.

Nothing was found in the "Direct Index to Deeds 1839-1869."

If John was the patriarch of the Edgefield Co. family, it is possible that he may have died in the interval between the 1791 deed and 1800 when Polly Roebuck was a grantor. Polly may or may not have been his wife, but that is for descendants to discover.

It is known that Daniel Hardy, b 1777 in Mecklenburg Co., Va., removed to Edgefield District, S.C., where he married Mary Robuck in 1807. In 1818 they moved to Dallas Co., and then to Lowndes Co., Alabama. A known son was Robert Williams Hardy who married (2) Carrie Chapman in Jasper Co., Mississippi, and had Miles Boardman Hardy, who moved to Harrison Co., Miss., and had Johnnie Mae,* now Johnson, of Long Beach, Miss. Daniel was the son of John Hardy of Mecklenburg Co., Va., and Ann (Williams) Hardy.¹⁹

For further information on Ezekiel and a William Robuck, (see Alabama).

Benjamin Roebuck (IZ-1-2-1), son of Captain George Roebuck, has been clarified by information found in a family Bible: "Benjamin Robuck was born the 3rd day of October 1782. Mary Robuck his wife, was born May 21, 1785. She died October 12 1851." Descendants now feel positive Benjamin married Mary Willis, daughter of Richard Willis and Drucilla Barnett. Information from descendants

living in Spartanburg, S.C., states the Robuck Bible was desecrated by disgruntled step-children of a Robuck. However, it still contains the Robuck-Mason record. It is in the possession of Mary A. (Mason) Floyd of Spartanburg, S.C.

Benjamin Robuck, as spelled by some of his descendants, died August 13, 1874. He is buried in the cemetery of the Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, a few miles north of Calhoun City, Miss., not to be confused with another Hopewell Cemetery near Oxford, Miss. He is buried in the Steele plot.

(Since this is not intended as a complete genealogy, some female lines have been restricted in scope. Some families mentioned here may be referred to in later chapters on Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas.)

Benjamin Robuck, b Oct. 3, 1782, d Aug. 13, 1874, m Mary Willis, 11 ch., 1 given.

Ch:-1. Martha, b May 1, 1801, m William MASON. 9 ch.

Ch:-1. Elvira, b Jan. 3, 1823, d Jan. 24, 1871, m Absolum W. Scott, 5 ch., 1 given.

Ch:-1. Lougenia, b Oct. 12, 1857, d Jan. 25, 1941, Dalton, Ga., m Charles H. Snow. 3 ch., 1 given.

* Ch:-1. Ethel M., b Dec. 19, 1879, m William M. Sapp. 4 ch.

Ch: Ethel, William, Jr., Eugenia, and Dorothy.

-2. Drucilla, b ca. 1805, m Daniel Durham.

-3. Willis, b 1806, d Oct. 16, 1889, m Ruthy (possibly Word or Langford, Lanford?). 3 ch.

Ch:-1. Mary, unkm.

-2. Robert Word, b Jan. 25, 1829, d Apr. 17, 1913, Tyler, Texas, m Margaret J. Barbour. 10 ch.

Ch:-1. Joseph Edwin, b 1855, Ga. (?), m Fanny Walker. 7 ch.

Ch:-1. Robert F., b Apr. 9, 1882.

-2. Josiah E., b Oct. 30, 1883, Rome, Ga. 6 ch.

Ch:-1. Joe E.

-2. Stella.

- (Josiah) -3. Cyril.
 -4. Thurman.
 -5. Anita.
 -6. Bertie Lee.

- (Joseph) -3. Charmarie P., b Mar. 18, 1886, d Nov. 10, 1963.
 -4. Herschell W., b Jan. 25, 1888, d Sept. 1, 1963.
 -5. Henry D., b Nov. 1, 1890.
 -6. Iva C., b Jan. 23, 1893, m Riley Pace.
 -7. Mary Etta, b Aug. 21, 1894, Huntsville, Tex.

- (Robert W.) -2. Mattie Elizabeth, b Oct. 2, 1856, d Nov. 17, 1931, Tyler, Texas, m Patrick Henry CONAWAY. 9 ch.
 Ch: Etta, Elma, Henry, Zephaniah, James M., Robert, Herbert, Georgia and Margaret.
 -5. James M., b May 18, 1882, d Jan. 23, 1955, Hillsboro, Texas, m Sallie Valencia "Linnie" Bryant. 5 ch., 1 given.
 Ch: Bryant W., b Sept. 20, 1903, Chandler, Tex., m Virginia M. Orfield. 5 ch., 1 given.
 +Mrs. Kendrick has listings + * Ch: Alice Ruth Conaway, b May 2, 1921, m of descendants of Mattie, Maurice Kendrick, lvs. Hillsboro, Tex. their spouses and children totaling 209 names.

- 3. Walter, b 1857.
 -4. Robert, b 1861.
 -5. John M. b 1863, d Oct. 20, 1907, Palestine, Texas, m Bertha Leffler.
 Ch:-1. Irene
 -2. Lilly
 -3. Margarete m Bill Alf.
 -4. John M., II, b Aug. 14, 1896, St. Louis, Mo., d Sept. 24, 1966, Kingfisher, Okla.
 Ch:-1. Marjorie m Glenn Slaton, lvs. Stratford, Texas.
 -2. John M., III, b Sept. 9, 1920, Broken Arrow, Okla., m Wanda _____.
 -3. Kenneth O., b Nov. 6, 1922, Kingfisher, Okla., m Belva Scovill.