

The Whiteside Families of Rutherford County, NC: Revolutionary War and Post-Revolutionary War Military Service and Civic Duties, Part II

by

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Introduction

This article is the fourth in a series of follow-up articles to the *Russell's Fort* article in The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County's 2022 Fall *Bulletin*. The GSOTC Russell's Fort article¹ required extensive research and **produced evidence confirming Fort/Station Russell was at the mouth of Cove Creek and did not include the structure within the Pumpkin Center**. The article and two others in the Fall *Bulletin* also provided facts about the Russell, Underwood, and Whiteside families.² The Whiteside family is a tale of three families in Rutherford County: the Whiteside family of Golden Valley (Whiteside Settlement on upper First Broad River), the Whiteside family of Upper Main Broad River, and the earlier Whiteside family of Green River.

This article addresses the accomplishments and deeds of the Whiteside men of Whiteside Settlement, also known as Golden Valley, who served during the Revolutionary War. Also included are glimpses of any post-Revolutionary War service and recorded civic duties whether performed in Tyron and Rutherford Counties or in the Territory of Illinois.

Sketches of the Whiteside Settlement Whiteside Family during the Revolutionary War

Historical documentation questions the patriotism of many families in Rutherford County, which was heavily divided concerning loyalties. Today researchers use the internet to obtain transcripts and copies of original files to substantiate claims and the evidence discovered. While researching the Whiteside families of Tryon and later Rutherford County there is no question about the patriotism of the Whiteside Family of Whiteside Settlement. As with part I of this article the facts are provided and if there are questions concerning the evidence will again be pointed out.

The Whiteside Family of Whiteside Settlement Revolutionary War service began with William and Davis Whiteside. On July 26, 1775 the Freeholders (free persons who owned land) in Tryon County met to elect a Committee of Safety for the county. At the meeting, Davis Whiteside was chosen as part of Captain Harden's Company.³ On August 14, 1775 the Committee of Safety met and drafted "An Association," essentially a pledge to "*take up Arms and Risque[sic] our lives and fortunes in maintaining the Freedom of our Country.*"⁴ This pledge became known as the Tryon Resolve and was signed by 49 men, including William Whiteside and Davis Whiteside. Tragically this pledge to risk life to maintain freedom would eventually cost Davis Whiteside his life at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

The Tryon Resolves also highlight the animosity between the Patriots and the Loyalists leading to neighbor fighting neighbor and the confiscation of lands. For example, the last sentence

¹ McClellan, T. M. and Philbeck, M. S. "Russell's Fort," *Bulletin of The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina*, Fall 2022, pp. 114-127.

² Philbeck, M. S. "William Whiteside of Green River" and "William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, North Carolina," *Bulletin of The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina*, Fall 2022, pp. 127-143.

³ Tryon County Committee of Safety, Journal, North Carolina State Archives, SR.12.13.3.001.

⁴ Ibid.

reinforces the concept that you are either with us or against us: “*And we do firmly agree to hold all such persons Inimical to the liberties of America, who shall refuse to subscribe to this Association.*”⁵

In 1758 **William Whiteside Sr.**⁶ served as a private in Captain James Neville's company of the Albemarle Militia in the French and Indian War.⁷ On October 24, 1777 William Whiteside's will identified his sons as Davis, Robert, James, John, William, Thomas, Samuel, Adam, and Francis. Because William Whiteside signed his will with a mark rather than his signature it seems logical that the William Whiteside who signed his name to the Tryon Resolves may have been the son of William Whiteside.^{8 9}

⁵ Tryon County Committee of Safety, Journal, North Carolina State Archives, SR.12.13.3.001.

⁶ There is no evidence that William Whiteside ever used Sr. or was referred to as Sr. The suffix Sr. and Jr. are only used to differentiate between father and son.

⁷ Cannon, Clarence, *The Whiteside Book*, 1957, p. 15.

⁸ Philbeck, Miles, “Tryon County Wills”, part of *Tryon County Documents* by Kathy Gunter Sullivan, 2000, p. 219.

⁹ Philbeck, Miles, “William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, NC”. *Bulletin of The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina*, Fall 2022, p. 131.

Military Service

Regarding military service, documentation and historical records are primarily pensions, pay vouchers, and payrolls, especially during the Revolutionary War. In pension applications many applicants only referred to those they served with or under by rank without mentioning their given names. This is particularly relevant when examining pension applications that discuss members of the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement. For instance, in John Thompson's pension application (R10524), Thompson states "*that in the month of July 1781 he again volunteered under **Captain Whitesides** for a tour of three months and rendezvoused in **Whitesides neighborhood** in said County of Rutherford and joined Colonel Singleton's Regiment and marched and Colonel Singleton's Regiment commanded by **Captain Whitesides Major Whitesides** and Colonel Singleton from said Gilbert town to Charleston in South Carolina on arriving at Charleston the British had left that place and there being no necessity for an Army he states that the Regiment was dismissed in September 1781.*"¹⁰ From this we can ascertain two Whiteside officers serving in the same regiment yet cannot definitively state which Whiteside brothers Thompson served with. Given this challenge and the ambiguities in existing documentation the author will attempt to provide as much evidence as possible to distinguish between the Whiteside brothers of Whiteside Settlement.

Adam Whiteside's participation in the Revolutionary War began in 1776 as part of the Tryon County Regiment and continued until 1781. In 1776 he was a Captain under Col. William Graham. In 1779 he was in the Rutherford County Regiment and from 1780 to 1781 he was a Captain under Col. Andrew Hampton. He was possibly a Major in 1781.¹¹ Adam is not listed in Bobby G. Moss's *The Patriots at Kings Mountain*. However, given his dates of service and the fact that he served under Col. Andrew Hampton and Major Singleton in the Rutherford Militia he likely was at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

In Freeman Jones's pension application (W7900), Jones stated that in "*...1780, he volunteered and served three months under the following officers, to wit, General McDowell of Burke County, N. C., Col. Andrew Hampton before mentioned, Major Richard Singleton of sd County of Rutherford & **Captain Adam Whitesides**, all officers of the North Carolina militia;...*"¹² Jones, in his application later states "*The next morning Major Singleton with something the rise of a hundred men (**Captain Whitesides** & affiant being of that number) commenced the pursuit and going about five or six miles, overtook the tory part of the British army if it may be so called & retook the prisoners & killed some four or five of the Tories,...*"¹³

On September 18th, 1783 Morgan District issued **Adam Whiteside** pay voucher no. 2420 for 30 pounds for a public claim.¹⁴

¹⁰ *US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900*. Publication M804. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

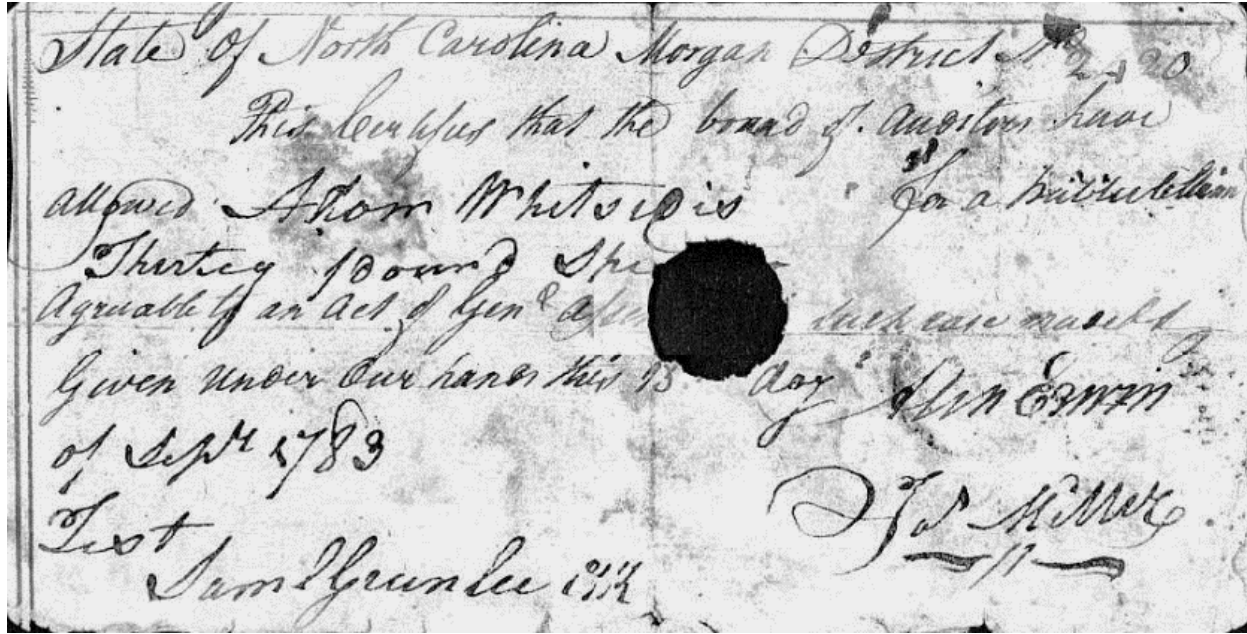
¹¹ Lewis, J. D. *The American Revolution in North Carolina; Captains*.

https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_captains.html; J. D. Lewis does not cite his sources.

¹² *US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900*. Publication M804. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

¹³ *US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900*. Publication M804. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

¹⁴ N. C. Archives, *North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782*.



Davis Whiteside - Clarence W. Griffin, in *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties 1730-1936*, wrote that Davis was wounded at Kings Mountain and died at Hillsboro in October 1780, a few days after the battle.¹⁵ Griffin also notes that Davis was the brother-in-law of Col. Richard Singleton. Bobby G. Moss listed Davis Whiteside as being at the Battle of Kings Mountain; however, the inclusion is on a list of men who Moss thought were possibly on the Kings Mountain campaign or in the battle. The list was created as some sources were not official to substantiate claims discovered in his research.¹⁶ Don Whiteside, a Whiteside family historian, also wrote that Davis Whiteside died in Hillsboro from wounds received at the Battle of Kings Mountain and was buried on the family farm in Golden Valley.¹⁷ Given the distances one could question the accuracy of this statement for which no source was given.

James Whiteside – Bobby G. Moss identified James Whiteside as a possible soldier on the Kings Mountain campaign or in the battle.¹⁸ In his sketch of James Whiteside Griffin states that James Whiteside served in the Rutherford County Militia at Kings Mountain under his brother-in-law Col. Richard Singleton.¹⁹ Salisbury District pay voucher no. 5038 is to James Whiteside for nine pounds and seventeen shillings for his militia service.²⁰

John Whiteside was also identified as a possible soldier in the Kings Mountain campaign or the battle.²¹ In *The Kings Mountain Men* Kathrine Keogh White identified John Whiteside as being at the battle of Kings Mountain²². Harriet Walker's *Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in Illinois* states "John Whiteside was born in Tryon County, North Carolina. He served from that state and

¹⁵ Griffin, Clarence W. *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties 1730-1936*, p. 72.
¹⁶ Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *The Patriots at Kings Mountain*, pp.280-291.
¹⁷ Don Whiteside. *Honor Roll of the Whiteside(s)/Whitsett/Whitsitt family members, world-wide, who died in Service for their country, 1738 – 1990*. "Lest We Forget"; July 4, 1992.
¹⁸ Ibid.
¹⁹ Griffin, Clarence W. *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties 1730-1936*, p. 116.
²⁰ N. C. Archives, *North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782*.
²¹ Ibid.
²² White, Kathrine Keogh, *The Kings Mountain Men*, 1924, p. 233.

was in the battle of Kings Mountain.”²³ Harriet Walker was wrong in saying John was born in Tryon County; John was from Tryon County but is thought to have been born in Virginia.

Pay voucher No. 1468 ²⁴ is from Morgan District dated June 26, 1783. Since Rutherford County was in Morgan District this voucher could apply to any of the three men named John Whiteside residing in Rutherford County during the Revolutionary War. It is impossible to state to which John Whiteside this voucher was made explicitly. Still, given the contributions of the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement during the Revolutionary War one could reasonably conclude the voucher was for John Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement.

John Reynolds, governor of Illinois from 1830-1834, stated that John Whiteside “*was also in the war for Independence, and acted well his part, in that struggle.*”²⁵ John and his brother William moved to Illinois around 1792. The earliest militia service recorded occurred in 1793 against the Indians, gaining the Whiteside family notoriety as fearless soldiers. This confrontation of 1793 occurred after a large band of Kickapoo Indians stole nine horses. John and his brother William, Samuel Judy, Samuel Whiteside, William Harrington, Wm. L. Whiteside, John Porter, and John Dempsey pursued the Indians and overtook them at Shoal Creek. Samuel and William L. Whiteside were sons of John Whiteside. Captain William Whiteside divided the small group and attacked the Indians from both sides of their camp. The Indians, believing the group to be much larger dropped their guns and ran off leaving Chief Old Pecan and his dead son behind. Old Pecan surrendered and tried to recall his men upon discovering the small number of the attacking party.^{26 27} It is also worth noting that John’s son, Samuel Whiteside, attained the rank of Brigadier General in the Illinois militia. Under his command was Captain Abraham Lincoln.²⁸

Robert Whiteside – Bobby G. Moss also identified Robert Whiteside as a possible soldier on the Kings Mountain campaign or in the battle.²⁹ Clarence Cannon stated that Robert was at the battle of Kings Mountain but did not provide a reference to support this claim.³⁰ “Robert, the grandfather of James A. Whiteside, though a farmer, was one of the volunteers who fought with six of his brothers, three brothers-in-law, and many other relatives in that avalanche of intrepid mountaineers that turned the tide of invasion at the memorable battle of Kings Mountain. Mrs. Robert Whiteside was first cousin, and apparently double first cousin, to Col. Ben Cleveland, one of the heroes of Kings Mountain.”³¹

Samuel Whiteside - Bobby G. Moss did not identify Samuel Whiteside as a participant in either the battle of Kings Mountain or the Kings Mountain campaign. Samuel Whiteside received a pay voucher from the State of North Carolina, Morgan District No. 2303, for twelve pounds and two shillings as part of a public claim dated September 17, 1783.³²

²³ Harriet J. Walker. *Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Illinois*. 1917, p. 103.

²⁴ N. C. Archives, *North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782*.

²⁵ Reynolds, John. *Pioneer History of Illinois*, 1852, p. 152.

²⁶ *Ibid*, pp. 186-187.

²⁷ Brink, McDonough & Co, *History of St. Clair County, Illinois* pp. 59-60.

²⁸ Elliot, Isaac H. *Record of the Services of Illinois Soldier in The Black Hawk War, 1831-32, and in the Mexican War, 1846-8*, p. XVI, 100.

²⁹ Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *The Patriots at Kings Mountain*, pp. 280-291.

³⁰ Cannon, Clarence, *The Whiteside Book*, 1957, p. 24.

³¹ Hale, Will T.. *A History of Tennessee and Tennesseans: The Leaders and Representative Men in Commerce, Industry and Modern Activities*.

Chicago: Lewis Pub. Co., 1913, p. 1740.

³² N. C. Archives, *North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782*.

State of North Carolina Morgan District No. 1654
This Certificate that the Board of Auditors have
allowed Samuel Whiteside for a public
Twelve pounds and three shillings
Agreeable to an Act of Assembly in such case made
Given under our hands this 5th
Sept 1783
Samuel Greenlee Clerk

Like his brothers, **Thomas Whiteside** was also identified as a possible soldier in the Kings Mountain campaign or the battle. State of North Carolina Morgan District pay voucher no. 1654 paid Thomas Whiteside one hundred (punched out, could be forty or fifty) three pounds and sixteen shillings. North Carolina Morgan District pay voucher no. 3156 issued Thomas Whiteside eleven pounds and fourteen shillings.³³

State of N. Carolina Morgan Dist. No. 3156
This Certificate that the Board of Auditors
have allowed Thomas Whiteside in
One Hundred & Three pounds sixteen shillings
Agreeable to an Act of General Assembly in
Such case they witness our hands this 30th day
of July 1783
Sam. Greenlee Clerk
James Miller

³³ Ibid.

State of North Carolina Morgan District 3 25 6.
 This certifies that the Board of Auditors have allowed
 to William Whiteside — for a public claim
 eleven pounds & five shillings & six pence
 out of the assembly in 1782 base made &
 given on the 14th Day of March
1782 J. S. Miller
J. S. Miller
 \$ 11. 12 1/2 c
 0. 4. 6 c
 \$ 11. 13 1/2 c

William Whiteside's service to his country spanned more than 30 years as a soldier. J.D. Lewis documented William's Revolutionary War service from 1780-1782 as a Captain under Col. Andrew Hampton. In 1781 William was at the battle of Cowpens under Maj. William Rutherford. In 1782 William was attached to Col. Joseph McDowell (Burke County Regiment).³⁴ William Whiteside is also on Bobby Moss's list of possible Kings Mountain campaign participants or battle participants.³⁵ In *The Kings Mountain Men* Kathrine Keogh White identified **William Whiteside** as being at the battle of Kings Mountain.³⁶

A State of North Carolina pay voucher no. 531 was issued to **Captain William Whiteside** for "one hundred and thirteen pounds, five shillings, and six pence for services by him and his company of foot of Rutherford Regmt."³⁷ Another Morgan District pay voucher no. 2238 was made out to **Captain William Whiteside** for eleven pounds. These vouchers further prove William Whiteside's service as a Captain in the Rutherford County militia.

³⁴ Lewis, J. D. *The American Revolution in North Carolina; Captains*. Retrieved from https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_captains.html; J. D. Lewis does not cite his sources.

³⁵ Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *The Patriots at Kings Mountain*, pp. 280-291.

³⁶ White, Katherine Keogh, *The Kings Mountain Men*, 1924, p. 233.

³⁷ N. C. Archives, *North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782*.

State of N^o Carolina No 531
 This may Certify that by the upper Board of auditors
 for the District of Salisbury Capt. William
 Whiteside was allowed one Hundred & thirteen
 Pounds & six Shillings of Six pence specie for ser-
 -vice in the 2^d Regiment of Company of foot of
 North Carolina Reg^t. Which he is to receive
 to an act of Gen^l Assembly passed in the year 1760
 Given under our hands Nov^r 13th 1787
 £113. 5. 6
 20. 11. 3
 Subt 133. 16. 9
 Jas. Cannon Clk. J. Brown

State of No Carolina Morgan District No 238
 This certifies that the Board of auditors have
 Allowed Co. William Whiteside for a public claim
 Shown to the Board of auditors
 Agreeable to the Act of Assembly in such case made & given
 under our hands this 7th day of Sep^r 1787
 £11. 0. 0
 8. 8
 11. 8 8
 J. Miller
 J. Cannon

James Owenbey (W3712) stated in his pension application "That he served three months under **Captain William Whiteside** in the regiment commanded by Colonel Charles McDowell as a volunteer private."³⁸

³⁸ NARA M804. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files; James Owenbey's pension application p. 82. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

In the pension application of John Caruthers (S321563), Caruthers states that “*after he had received the foregoing discharge he volunteered to go under **Captain William Whitesides** against the Cherokee Nation of Indians and attached to the regiment of which Mr. Singleton was Major and Joseph McDowell Colonel.*”³⁹

Samuel Moore in his pension application (W2656) stated “*that on his second and last expedition, was attached, as a drafted soldier, to the company commanded by **Captain William Whiteside** of Rutherford County. **Captain Whiteside's** Company met at a little village called then, “Gilbert Town” not far from the courthouse.”⁴⁰ Moore, with regards to the battle of Cowpens, also stated that “*Morgan was expecting a reinforcement of fresh troops, who had not yet arrived, and insisted that **Captain Whiteside** and others, whose time had expired, should not leave him in his exposed condition, to contend with a handful of men, against a powerful and victorious enemy, this appeal, which could not be heard with indifference, was not without its effect, and **Captain Whitesides** and his men remained until after the battle – and the expected supply of troops not yet having arrived, this declarant was not discharged, but sent with the prisoners to Salisbury as above stated.*”⁴¹*

Nancy Whelchel, whose husband Davis Whelchel was a cousin to William Whiteside, stated, “*He served a tour in the company of **William Whitesides** volunteered to go against the Indians served as a Ranger...Her husband moved up to or was driven by the British and Tories to **Captain Whitesides** on the little Broad River in North Carolina, Served as a Ranger under **Captain Whitesides** as a Ranger six months” and goes on to state “*We were at that same year as this declarant verily believes driven by the British & Tories and as she believes after Ferguson's defeat at Kings Mountain, up to **Captain William Whitesides** in North Carolina he being a cousin to my husband the said Davis Whelchel, The British and Tories having overrun the country and the liberty boys having to fly for protection my said husband then joined the company of **Captain William Whitesides** as she believes in the year 1779 as a Ranger under the command of Colonel John Miller”⁴²**

William Williams, in his pension application (R11606), stated that “*He sometime after this served there monthly in a militia company command by **Captain William Whitesides** and ranged through what is now Rutherford Counties and Spartenburgh[sic], South Carolina to keep the Tories and Indians in check – he cannot truly state the precise day or month of this tour of service but it was in the spring and summer before Fergusons defeat in the fall and winter.*”⁴³

Garret Vanzant’s widow Margaret filed for his pension (R 10911) in 1841 and stated “*That her said husband was a Captain, of horsemen for several years during the Revolution, in the state of North Carolina, fighting the Brittish[sic] and the Tories in North and South Carolina She was present and saw him (her said husband) before their marriage, parade his men, together with another company commanded by **Captain William Whiteside**, in Rutherford County North Carolina to go after the Brittish[sic] and Tories, and that her said husband afterwards in the*

³⁹ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; John Caruthers pension application p. 4. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴⁰ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; Samuel Moore pension application p. 12. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁴² NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; Davis Whelchel pension application p. 49. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴³ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; William Williams pension application p. 8-9. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

year 1781.”⁴⁴ She later declared “that she saw her said husband Garrett Vanzant in command of his company in company with **Capt. William Whitesides** Raunting[sic] the Tories the day after Cornwalles[sic] crossed the River Cataba...” Garret and Margaret were married in 1782.⁴⁵

In his pension application (S31575), John Bradley stated, “The next was a three months tour as a private & a volunteer under **Captain William Whitesides** in the year 1779 or 1780; was engaged as a Ranger after the Indians & Tories. He further states that he was in two skirmishes, to wit: one at Edward Hampton's & the other at Camp Creek.”⁴⁶

William Whiteside's military service during the Revolutionary War is unquestionably that of a patriotic leader dedicated to the cause of freedom. Although William Whiteside may have left Rutherford County, he continued his military service into the War of 1812 as the Commanding Officer of the Illinois 2nd Regiment. Apart from battling with the Indians alongside his brother John in 1793, another documented confrontation with Indians solidified the Whiteside family's reputation as heroic figures in Illinois history. The following excerpt is taken from *The History of St. Clair, Illinois*.

*In the year 1795, a Frenchman at Cahokia, informed **Capt. Whiteside** that a band of Indians were camped at the bluff”, a short distance south of the macadamized road which now runs from Belleville to St Louis, and that they meditated some injury to the settlements in the Bottom. Whiteside organized a company, fourteen in number, among which were Samuel Whiteside, William L. Whiteside, Samuel Judy, Isaac Enochs, and Johnson J. Whiteside, and just before day the Indian camp was surrounded, and all the Indians killed except one. It is said that although this one escaped, the Indians killed him afterward for his cowardly running off. The bones of the Indians killed in this contest were seen on the battleground for many years afterward. In this battle **Capt. Whiteside** was wounded, as he thought mortally, having received a shot in his side. As he fell he exhorted his men to fight bravely, not to yield an inch of ground, nor let the Indians touch his body. Uel Whiteside, his son, who was shot in the arm and disabled from using the rifle, examined the wound, and found that the ball had glanced along the ribs and lodged against the spine. He whipped out his knife, gashed the skin, and extracted the ball. Holding it up he remarked, "Father, you are not dead yet!" The old man instantly jumped to his feet and renewed the fight, exclaiming, "Boys, I can still fight the Indians!"⁴⁷*

John Reynolds, the fourth governor of Illinois, had known the Whiteside family since he was a small child and had high praise for William Whiteside and the Whiteside family. Governor Reynolds claimed in his book *My Own Times*⁴⁸ the following:

***William Whiteside**, a brave and efficient defender of his country from Indian depredations, and a soldier who fought at the battle of King's Mountain, settled this place in the year 1792, and made it what it was "a station," or fort, to defend the inhabitants from the attacks of hostile Indians.*

⁴⁴ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; Margret Vanzant widow's pension application pp. 3 & 6. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴⁵ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; Margret Vanzant widow's pension application pp. 3 & 6. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴⁶ NARA M804. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; John Bradley's pension application p. 4. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁴⁷ Brink, McDonough & Co, *History of St. Clair County*, Illinois p. 60.

⁴⁸ Reynolds, John. *My Own Times*, p. 109.

In his book *The Pioneer History of Illinois* Governor Reynolds continued his praise of the Whiteside family. The following are excerpts from *The Pioneer History of Illinois*.⁴⁹

*In 1793, Illinois received a colony of the most numerous, daring, and enterprising inhabitants that had heretofore settled in it. The **Whitesides** and their extensive connections emigrated from Kentucky and settled in and around the New Design in this year. Not only the numerous names of **Whiteside** was in this colony, but also were their connections: Griffin, Gibbons, Enochs, Chance, Musick, Going, and others. This large connection of citizens, being all patriotic, courageous, and determined to defend the country at the risk of their lives, was a great acquisition to Illinois, which was hailed by all as the harbinger of better times.*

The Whiteside family were of Irish descent and inherited much of the Irish character. They were warm-hearted, impulsive, and patriotic. Their friends were always right and their foes always wrong in their estimation. They were capable of entertaining strong and firm attachments and friendships. If a Whiteside took you by the hand, you had his heart. He would shed his blood freely for his country or for his friend.

***William Whiteside**, soon after he arrived in Illinois, became conspicuous and efficient as a leader in the Indian war. He was the captain of many parties that took signal vengeance on the savage foe for murders they committed on the women and children, as well as on the grown men. One trait of character—bravery—the **Whiteside family** possessed in an eminent degree, and the patriarch of whom I am speaking was as cool, firm, and decided a man as ever lived. Scarcely any of the family ever knew what fear was.*

***Col. Whiteside** was a justice-of-the-peace and judge of the court of common -pleas. These offices he executed to please the people, not himself, as the military was his fort and pleasure. In the war of 1812, **Col. Whiteside** was active and efficient in organizing the militia of St. Clair County and preparing them for active service. He himself was in the service and attended at Camp Russell in carrying out the military operations in the defence of the frontiers. He died at his residence, the old Station, in 1815. He was universally known throughout the country, and his death cast a gloom over the community. He had been a regular member of the Baptist church for many years previous to his death. He was an exemplary and moral man and possessed a strong, uncultivated mind. His education was limited, but his life, being one of extraordinary events, made him intelligent. Reflection and study were forced on him in self-defence. His frontier life, with the Indian war and all its dangers and perils impending over him for many years, developed his mind and made him a grave, reflecting man. His person was stout and active. He, as it was with most of the name, was a stranger to fear. He was calm and meditative in times of peril. He never permitted any rash impulses to influence him in battle. His remains now rest at his old Station, in peace and quiet, from the din and uproar of the battle-field, where his energies and commanding talents have, on many occasions, won the victory for the stars and stripes. He was the leader and pioneer of the Whiteside family and connections in Illinois. They are exceedingly numerous, extending throughout the country. They may look back at him with esteem and respect as the pioneer, Moses, that conducted them thro the wilderness to Illinois, the "promised land."*

⁴⁹ Reynolds, John. *Pioneer History of Illinois*, 1852.

There are several pension applications in which the applicant was from Rutherford County and referenced Captain Whiteside without mentioning his given name. For example, Drury Logan in his pension application (W5464) stated that “...soon after our return I was a volunteer to go to Cross Creek under **Capt Whitesides** Col Robert Porter had the command we was only marched to Catabaw[sic] and from that place we was ordered back to the lines where we was kept until after peace was made...”⁵⁰

Shadrick Alley in his pension application (S6499) stated “after my return home to Virginia in 1779 I removed my family from thence to Rutherford County North Carolina and in the fall of 1780 was drafted for four months but was discharged at the end of three months. was commanded by **Capt. Whitesides** of North Carolina. This company was called out for the protection of the frontier against the Cherokee Indians. We were kept generally in motion.”⁵¹

John Fisher in his pension application (W25580) recalls, “When taken a prisoner, his Ensign Thompson was with him at the least with those who were taken the night after he was and was all so taken and when released by the Americans. Thompson was also sent to the Moravian Town. After they remained at the Moravian Town a few days, **Captain Whitesides** who commanded there sent them to Colonel Hammond's Regiment of Rangers at the Liberty Hills,”⁵²

John Jones (W373) in his application stated: “That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, that is to say, he was drafted and entered the service under **Captain Whitesides** in Burke County, the date not recollected and Major Singleton and General McDowell he was marched under the command of those officers from Rutherford County N. C. to Ned Hampton's in a South Carolina...”⁵³

In the pension application of James McDonald (S18111),⁵⁴ McDonald stated “I afterwards joined the command of General McDow[sic] in the Company (I think) commanded by **Capt. Whitesides**, and served about 3 months...” He later clarifies that “In 1778 I again volunteered under **Capt. Whiteside**, Col. McDowell and was elected an Ensign and served as such at least 3 months and believe more during this tour we were principally on the frontiers from Pacolet to Burke County North Carolina.”

John Whelchel, (W6498), who was at the Battle of Kings Mountain, in his application stated that “We remained on & camped on the battleground that night, and the next day we started with the prisoners and took them to Colonel Walker's place on Cain Creek in Rutherford County North Carolina remained there about a week or 10 days and from thence marched to Bickerstaff's old place where the prisoners were tried as Tories & 39 of whom were found guilty and nine hanged, my Captain having returned home I joined a battalion under the command of Major Singleton and was put under the command of **Captain Whitesides** and often scouting through the country a short time I returned home having served four months and 20 days.”⁵⁵ Moss identifies Major Richard Singleton as being in the Battle of Kings Mountain, and thus one can reasonably conclude that **Captain Whiteside** was also at the battle.

The **Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement** in Rutherford County, N.C. was very patriotic. The brothers were united in their quest to gain freedom for our new country and to protect the

⁵⁰ NARA M804. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ NARA M804. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

citizens from the depredations of the Tories and Indians. In some cases, this resulted in death, as happened with Davis Whiteside. Don Whiteside, a noted historian of the Whiteside families, compiled a list of those who ultimately sacrificed their lives for their country. The list was published as *Honor Roll of the Whiteside(s)/Whitsett/Whitsitt family members, world-wide, who died in Service for their country ,1738 – 1990 "Lest We Forget"*. The following list is of those from the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement.⁵⁶

American Revolutionary War (1775-1787)

Davis Whiteside, North Carolina Militia

Birth circa 1741 Meechum's Creek, Albemarle Co. V.A.

Died of Wounds (DOW) Oct. 1780, Hillsboro, Orange Co., N.C. (of wounds received at the Battle of King's Mountain, SC, October 7, 1780)

Buried. Home farm, Golden Valley Twp., Rutherford Co., N.C.
s/o William (c 1710-1777) & Elizabeth (Stockton)

Clarence Griffin, in his sketch of Davis Whiteside, mistakenly states that Davis and Elizabeth only had two children and that Davis Jr. was killed in battle with the Winnebago Indians.⁵⁷ Rutherford County Court letter of the administration of Davis Whiteside's estate does not list a Davis Jr. The court minutes list Ann, Elisabeth, and John as being of proper age and able to choose their guardians, Richard Singleton and Thomas Whiteside. The other children, William, Margret, Sarah, Isaac, and Jacob, were not of proper age, so the court appointed William Whiteside as their guardian.⁵⁸

I would be remiss not to mention **Thomas Whiteside** (shot), son of John Whiteside and the young son (tomahawked) of **William Whiteside**, were killed in 1794 by Indians outside of Whiteside Station.⁵⁹

War of 1812

Davis B. Whiteside, Pvt., Served in **Capt. William B. Whiteside's**
Company of Mounted Rangers (Ill.)

Birth circa 1780, Golden Valley Township, Rutherford Co., N.C.

Killed in Action (KIA) 7/4/1813, Ralls Co. Mo.

Buried St. Ferdinand Township, District of St. Louis, M.

s/o Thomas S. (c 1749-1795) & Isabella Elizabeth (Chitwood)
gs/o William (c1710-1777) & Elizabeth (Stockton)

American Civil War (1861-1865)

Acy Hoxey/ "Asa Haile" Whiteside, Pvt, Confederate State of America

Birth 3/19/1843, Austin, Grimes Co., Tex.

KIA 11/14/1863 in an attempt to escape from federal prison, Fort Delaware (captured at Gettysburg)

⁵⁶ Donald Whiteside. *Honor Roll of the Whiteside(s)/Whitsett/Whitsitt family members, world-wide, who died in Service for their country ,1738 – 1990 "Lest We Forget"* 1992.

⁵⁷ Griffin, Clarence W. *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties 1730-1936*, p. 72.

⁵⁸ Philbeck, Miles, "William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, NC". *Bulletin of The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina*, Fall 2022, p. 132.

⁵⁹ Reynolds, John. *Pioneer History of Illinois*, 1852, p. 188.

Buried ?

s/o John Tilford (1813-1892) & 1) Elizabeth (Bingham)

gs/o James (1771-1848) & Elizabeth (Dick)

Columbus Whiteside, Pvt., unit not known, MO Confederate States of America Family Born 11/4/1844, Whiteside, Lincoln Co., Mo.

KIA 1865

Bur. Middletown Cemetery, Middletown, Montgomery Co., Mo.

s/o Isaac Ellis (1801-1845) & 2) Susan Bealer (Parker)

gs/o Isaac (1775-1822) & 1) Eleanor (Ellis)

Davis Whiteside, Orderly/Lt., Capt. Moses Beck's Co., Mo. Confederate States of America

Born 3/1/1837, Whiteside, Lincoln Co., Mo.

KIA 8/28/1861, Ashley, Mo.

Buried. Family Cemetery near Whiteside, Mo.

s/o William (1804-1894) & 1) Eliza Ann (Robertson)

gs/o Isaac (1775-1822) & 1) Eleanor (Ellis)

Levi "Lee" W. Whiteside, Pvt., Co. B, 61st IL Infantry Union Family

Born 1839, Walkerville, Greene Co., Ill.

DOD 1866 ((infection), Walkerville, Greene Co., Ill.

Buried. Walkerville Cemetery, Greene Co., Ill.

s/o William Joshua (1813-cl869) & 1) Catherine (Suttles)

gs/o James Hiram (1782-1863) & Sarah (Tanzey)

Lorenzo Dow Whiteside, Recr., Co. B, 61st Ill.. Infantry Union

Born 1843, Walkerville, Greene Co., Ill.

DOD 9/15/1863, Walkerville, Greene Co. Ill.

Buried. Highstreet Cemetery, Greene Co. Ill.

s/o William Joshua (1813-cl869) & 1) Catherine (Suttles)

gs/o James Hiram (1782-1863) & Sarah (Tanzey)

William S. Whiteside, Pvt., Co. C, AR Infantry and Co. B,

23 AR Cavalry, Confederate States of America b 1/2/1821, Gallatin Co., Ill.

DOD 5/15/1862, near boundary of Miss. & Tenn.

Bur. ?. Marker in Webber's Camp Ground Cemetery, Saline Co., Ill.

s/o Thomas Jefferson (1797-1835) & Sarah (McCreery)

gs/o Samuel (c 1752-1811) & Elizabeth (Brackett)

ggs/o William (cl710-1777) & Elizabeth (Stockton)

Spanish-American War (1898-1901)

William C. Whiteside, Pvt., Co. E, 1st AR Volunteer Infantry

b. 11/20/1872, Nevada Co. Ark. Family

DOD 9/8/1898, Ozan, Hempstead Co., Ark. (typhoid fever)

Bur. St. Paul Graveyard, Hempstead Co. Ark.

s/o Jacob J. (1817-1886) & Cassandra H. (Cantley)

gs/o Jacob (1776-1859) & Elizabeth (Cox)

ggs of Davis Whiteside (1741-1780) & Elizabeth Johnson (1746-)

World War I (1914-1919)

Moss Tinsley Whitesides, Fireman First Class, US Navy
born 9/13/1882, Lincoln Co. Mo.
MIA 6/14/1918, USN Collier "Cyclops" Lost at sea
Buried in place
s/o Marcellus Sobeski (1836-1918) & 2) Mary Ann (Johns)
gs/o Jacob (1802-1873) & Lydia Vardman (Moss)

World War II (1939-1945)

Armour Davis Whiteside, US Army
Born 1929, Asheville, Buncombe Co., N.C.
KIA
Buried.
s/o Armour Davis (1902-1969) & Myrtle (Chasity)
gs/o Joseph Hosea M. (1854-1931) & Sarah A. (Wiggins)

Davis Tatum Whiteside, US Army
Born 11/ /1922, Aragon, Ga.
Died 12/8/1942, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
Buried.
s/o William Eugene (1902-) & 1) Annie (Turner)
gs/o James Davis (1876-1939) & Sara Ella (Synder)

Dean Edward Whiteside, Pilot/ Officer, Royal Canadian Air Force
Born 7/12/1918, Waterville, Marshall Co., Kans.
Died 7/16/1942, near Dutch Harbor, Alaska (crashed in fog)
Bur. Ft. Richardson Post Cemetery, Alaska
s/o Edward Harrison (1888-) & Mabel Claire (Depew)
gs/o Henry Clayton (1856-1931) & Edith Nancy (Wertenberger)

Joseph "Joby" Abner Whitesides, US Army
Born 6/29/1920, Cherryville, Gaston Co., N.C.
KIA 11/17/1943, Gilbert Islands
Bur.
s/o Joseph Abner (1869-1948) & Celia Lucy (Mauney)
gs/o Samuel Lewis (1823-1887) & 2) Salena (Green)

Philip Crooker Whiteside, 1st Lt.-US Air Force
Born 11/5/1917, Harrisburg, Franklin Co., Ill.
KIA 2/8/1944, Acona, Italy
Buried. Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C.
s/o Philip Crooker (1896-1976) & Minnie E. (LaMaster)
gs/o Thomas William (1855-1943) & 2) Ariella Roxanna (Bond)

Peacetime Deaths

Harley Davis Whiteside, US Air Force
Born 4/11 or 24/1944, McColl, S.C.

Died 11/23/1967, Sacramento, Calif. (accident)
Buried.
s/o Harley Davis (1920-1978) & Lois J. (Oats)
gs/o Alfred Davis (1892-1968) & 3) Bessie (Morrison)

Civic Duties

Revolutionary War era Americans regarded civic virtue as a willingness to sacrifice personal interests for the good of the community and essential to preserving the government they envisioned as a free nation. The Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement significantly contributed to the development and administration of the government of Tryon and Rutherford Counties. In the newly formed government, freemen (land owners) wielded the power of the vote. Under the Constitution of North Carolina of December 18, 1776, the right to vote required land ownership and payment of taxes.⁶⁰ Miles Philbeck detailed land ownership and transactions by the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement in the article *William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, North Carolina*.⁶¹

The Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement was the only Whiteside family with members listed in the 1782 Rutherford County tax list.⁶² In Captain Whiteside's Company were **Adam, Elizabeth, James, John, Samuel, Thomas and William Whiteside**. Although the 1785 tax list of Rutherford County is fragmented, the partial list includes **Elizabeth, James, John, Samuel, Thomas, and William Whiteside**.

In the 1790 census Rutherford County was divided into companies. The Fifth Company in the northeastern part of present-day Rutherford County included Eliza Whiteside (widow of Davis Whiteside), John Whiteside, and Thomas Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement. This reduction in Whiteside households in Whiteside Settlement is likely attributed to death and family members moving west to Kentucky and later to Illinois.

In 1983, Don Whiteside abstracted the Whiteside(s) names from Tryon County and Rutherford County court minutes.⁶³ Tryon County was formed in 1768 and divided into the counties of Rutherford and Lincoln in 1779. This comprehensive list demonstrates the commitment of the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement to their community. Unless otherwise stipulated, the information is derived from Don Whiteside's abstract of the court minutes.

Adam Whiteside – Adam Whiteside first appeared on the court records in 1782 as part of a road jury tasked to lay off a road from “Langford's old Shop, the nighest and best way to the Flint Hill road.” Adam served on several juries between October 1784 and October 1789. In January 1790, Adam took an oath of allegiance to the State of North Carolina and the oath of office as Justice of the Peace. He remained in this position until January 1797, the last time he was listed as a Justice of the Peace in the court records. Adam was appointed to take a list of taxable property in 1786 and 1792 for Capt. Whiteside's Company, for the year 1790 for Wilson's Company, and for the year 1791 for Capt. Lattamores[sic] Company.

Davis Whiteside - Before his death at the Battle of Kings Mountain, Davis Whiteside was a leader in Rutherford County politics. In April 1778 Davis was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace and appointed to administer the Oath of Allegiance in Captain Singleton's District. Davis Whiteside was present when the court met in January and April of 1780.

⁶⁰ *Constitution of North Carolina* dated December 18, 1776, retrieved from https://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/nc07.asp#b3.

⁶¹ Miles S. Philbeck. “William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, North Carolina”. *Bulletin of the Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina* – Fall 2022.

⁶² *Rutherford County, North Carolina 1790 US Census and 1782 Tax Lists*. Transcribed & Indexed by Mrs. Bill (Sue Hill) Koon, Rutherfordton, N.C.

⁶³ Whiteside(s) Names Abstracted from: 1) *Tryon County, North Carolina, Court Minutes, 1772-1779*. 2) *Rutherford County, North Carolina, Court Minutes, 1779-1799*.

Davis Whiteside and William Gilbert were elected Rutherford County's first representatives to the House of Commons of the North Carolina General Assembly. Davis spent 21 days at the April-May 1780 session of the General Assembly and 20 days at the August-September 1780 session. For the April-May session, Davis received £1081, which includes £55 per day for attendance and per diem for 28 days of travel from Rutherford County to New Bern and back. For the August-September session, Davis received £1428.^{64 65}

James Whiteside—James Whiteside first appeared in court records in 1773 as a petit and grand jury member and as an overseer of a road. In April of 1780, James Whiteside was summoned to be part of a grand jury. The court also assigned James Whiteside to take a list of taxable property in Capt. Whiteside's and Capt. Lamkin's Companies for 1791 and for Capt. Whiteside's Company in 1792.

James Whiteside, Esq., was present at the court in April 1781 and identified as one of the Justices of the Peace. James was also listed as a Justice of the Peace in July 1781. According to the Court records, it appears that James Whiteside was a Justice of the Peace for Rutherford County until July 1789.

In the North Carolina General Assembly meeting of April 19, 1784 - June 03, 1784, the General Assembly enacted that "Phelix Walker, James Whitesides, Alexander M'Donald, William Nevel, and William M'Murray, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners for surveying the said county, and invested with full power and authority to purchase fifty acres of land as near the centre of the same as is practicable, for the purpose of building the court house, prison and stocks thereon for the county aforesaid."⁶⁶ The land was purchased, and on December 29, 1785 under the Laws of North Carolina. In 1785 the Commissioners were "authorized and empowered to contract agree with any person or persons for building and finishing the court house, prison and stocks in the aforesaid county, on the fifty acres of land already procured"⁶⁷ James Whiteside along with Felix Walker, William Nevill, James Miller and Thomas Rowland, under an Act by the General Assembly in 1787 were appointed commissioners "to erect and lay off a town in Rutherford county, on the land heretofore procured for erecting thereon the public buildings of said county, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to lay out the aforesaid fifty acres of land into a town of half acre lots with proper streets and alleys, which town when so laid off shall be called and known by the name of Rutherford."⁶⁸ In July 1789 the Rutherford court records show James Whiteside et al., commissioners appointed to lay off and settle the lots in Rutherford Town, were ordered to come into court and acknowledge the plan of the town as it now stands.

James Whiteside was also active in representing Rutherford County in state politics. James represented Rutherford County in the North Carolina Constitutional Convention held in Hillsborough July 21, 1788 - August 04, 1788. The convention was held to ratify the constitution that Congress prepared and to determine the location of a state capitol.⁶⁹ North Carolina did not

⁶⁴ *Joint Papers (April-May, 1780): Estimates of allowances to members, clerks, etc.* 1780. General Assembly State Records, NC Digital Collections.

⁶⁵ *Joint Papers (August-September, 1780): Estimates for members' pay and allowances.* 1780. General Assembly State Records, NC Digital Collections.

⁶⁶ North Carolina General Assembly of 1784. "Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1784 North Carolina". *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 24, p. 645.

⁶⁷ North Carolina General Assembly of 1785. "Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1785 North Carolina". *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 24 p. 771.

⁶⁸ North Carolina General Assembly of 1787. "Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1787 North Carolina". *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 24, pp 934-935.

⁶⁹ "Minutes of the North Carolina Constitutional Convention at Hillsborough". *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 22, pp. 1-35.

ratify the United States Constitution at the North Carolina Constitutional Convention, and it was not until November 21, 1789, that North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the United States Constitution. James Whiteside was also the senator from Rutherford County in the North Carolina General Assembly that met November 20, 1786 - January 04, 1787.⁷⁰

James Whiteside moved to Kentucky sometime in 1789, where other members of the Whiteside Settlement had relocated. It may have been that James decided to leave Rutherford County for Kentucky after the death of his wife, Sarah. Although James is not listed on the 1790 Kentucky tax list, John, Samuel, William Sr., and William Jr. were listed on the tax records of Fayette County in Kentucky.⁷¹ James may have already died before the tax list was prepared. In a memorial to Congress (U. S. government's transcription reproduced on the following page), memorialists from Illinois and Mississippi shown below identified James Whiteside as being employed to locate and improve the land for either the memorialists or their fathers. The memorial also states that James Whiteside "made about fifty locations & Improvements & died on his return home to Kentucky."⁷²

In his sketch of James Whiteside, Clarence Griffin mistakenly said James died in Rutherford County between July and October 1790.⁷³ The Rutherford County court records show that probate on the will of James Whiteside began in the October 1790 session. Likewise, in his *Whiteside Book*,⁷⁴ Clarence Cannon appears to have mistaken James Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement with another James Whiteside, based upon Louis Houck listing a James Whiteside as an early settler of Missouri.⁷⁵ It is possible that the James Whiteside listed by Houck could have been a relation to the Whiteside Family of Whiteside Settlement, as Houck listed several Musicks, including David, who in his pension application (S16988) stated he moved from Whiteside Station across the Mississippi River and settled on a farm in St. Louis County.⁷⁶ Based upon the memorial to Congress, which numerous members of the Whiteside family signed, we can, with a high degree of certainty, confirm that James died on his return to Kentucky from Illinois in 1790.

⁷⁰ "Minutes of the North Carolina Senate". *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 18, pp. 1-225.

⁷¹ Heinemann, Charles B. *First Census of Kentucky 1790*, 1956 p. 100.

⁷² Carter, Clarence B. *The Territorial Papers of the United States*, Volume xvii, pp. 268-269.

⁷³ Griffin, Clarence W. *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties 1730-1936*, p. 116.

⁷⁴ Cannon, Clarence, *The Whiteside Book*, 1957, p. 15.

⁷⁵ Houck, Louis. *A History of Missouri: From the Earliest Explorations and Settlements Until the Admission of the State into the Union*. Volume II, p. 69.

⁷⁶ US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900. Publication M804. Retrieved from Fold3.com.

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS BY INHABITANTS OF THE
TERRITORY

[NA:HF, 14 Cong., 1 sess.:DS]

[Referred December 18, 1815]

To the Honorable the Congress of the United States

The Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of the Illinois Territory on the Mississippi Humbly Sheweth that a certain James Whiteside ⁴⁰ was employed by a part of your Memorialists to go to the Illinois Country to Locate & Improve for each of your Memorialists or their fathers respectively, which s^d James Whiteside did by the advice & Instructions of his Excellency Aurthur S^t Clair Gov. of the Territory North West of the river Ohio ⁴¹—

He made about fifty locations & Improvements & died on his return home to Kentucky—& that your Memorialists Moved to the Illinois Country in the Years 1791—2—3—& 4—and made actual cultivation by themselves or agents on their respective Improvements (that was made for them by their agent James Whiteside in the year 90 Sometime in the Months of April of the same year—And your Memorialists have resided in the Illinois Country ever Since we mean all that yet Survives of s^d Ancient Settlers, as many have fallen victims to Savage Barbarity and other casualties Incident to new Countries groaning under the Scourge of Indian Hostilities that the Misery & poverty experienced by us cannot be described—Your Memorialists were frequently Invited by the Spanish Comandants at S^t Louis to become Inhabitants of the then Spanish Colony assuring us at the Same time

we Should have Land for ourselves & families, but being partial to our own Government we chose to live in a land of Freedom and depend on the benevolence of our own Government—But alas we are yet disappointed as our case is peculiarly unfortunate not coming within the provisions of the act of Congress of the 3rd of March 1791 and of course destitute of any benefits arising therfrom, notwithstanding we had Improvements made by our agent in the year 1790 & reImproved by ourselves or agents in April 1791—Your Memorialists flatter themselves that your Honorable Bodies will take our Cause into Consideration and grant us Such relief as you in your wisdom may think fit—as in duty bound we will ever pray—

John Givens	thomas Whiteside desest Junior
Grant Givens dec ^t	W ^m G Whiteside De st
Joel Whiteside	William Whiteside Sen ^r Do
Saml, Whiteside	Obediah Short Do
Robert McMahan	Hubbard Short heir of sd obadiah
Joseph Kinny snr Dec	Short Decast
Winder Kinny— do	Andey Kinney
Samuel Kinny— do	Davis Whiteside
Joseph Kinny Junr—do	Wm Clark
W ^m Kinny	John C Whiteside
George Dement—do	Robert Whiteside
John Whiteside	Uel, Whiteside
William L Whiteside	W ^m B Whiteside
Joseph Chance	John Griffin
Thomas Whiteside dec ^t	George Griffin
John J. Whiteside	John Chance—Deseast
Jacob Whiteside	

[Endorsed] Pre-emption Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of Illinois Dec^r 18. 1815 Ref^d to the Committee on the Public Lands Jany. 18—1816 Bill reported N^o 40⁴² rejected M^r Johnson (of K^y)

⁴⁰ The Whiteside family, originally from North Carolina, is discussed biographically by Philbrick (ed.), LAWS IND. TERR. (IHC, XXI), cclxi–cclxii, cclxxiv. The names of James, John, and William (Jr. and Sr.) Whiteside appear in the Illinois Country as early as 1790 (*Terr. Papers*, N.W., II, 253). See also index, *ibid.*, III and VII (Ind.), under “Whiteside”.

⁴¹ Documentary evidence of the above has not been seen.

John Whiteside – John Whiteside’s first civic duty appears in the Rutherford County court record in October 1781 when he was sworn in to serve as a grand juror, a role he again served in April 1785. In January and July 1786 he was listed as a jury member and identified as a Justice of the Peace for the July court session. John was again listed as a jury member in April, July 1788, and January 1789, which appears to be the last of his civic duties in Rutherford County before moving to Kentucky. Any John Whiteside in the early court records of Rutherford County after 1789 would likely be John Whiteside, Davis Whiteside's son, or upper Main Broad River's John Whiteside.

In April 1782 in what appears to be a road jury list are the names of William Whiteside, Samuel Whiteside, Robert Whiteside, Adam Whiteside, Francis Whiteside, John Whiteside and others. In July 1782, Adam Whiteside, William Whiteside, John Whiteside, and Thomas Whiteside, among others, were summoned to lay off a road from “Langford's old Shop, the highest and best way to the Flint Hill road.” In October 1782 John was appointed to oversee part of a public road and in July 1786 and January 1788 John was again appointed to lay off a public road.

After moving to Illinois, John Whiteside served as the coroner of St. Clair County.⁷⁷ At that time a coroner was appointed to a position primarily responsible for investigating a death. His role as coroner appears to be the only civic duty performed by John in Illinois, but there is a possibility that he was appointed justice of Quarter Session by Governor William Henry Harrison, who later became President.⁷⁸ John appears to have had a keen interest in the politics of the time and like William was a diversionist who favored dividing Illinois over the issue of slavery. As a diversionist, John shows up on various petitions.⁷⁹

Robert Whiteside - Don Whiteside did not list any civic service for Robert Whiteside. In July 1783 Robert was appointed guardian for William Whiteside, son of Davis Whiteside. Initially William Whiteside and Robert Whiteside were appointed guardians for William, son of Davis. When William turned 14, when a child could choose their guardian, he chose Robert.

Thomas Whiteside – Thomas Whiteside, like James Whiteside, was an upstanding citizen who actively participated in Rutherford County government. Thomas was a Commissioner of Rutherford from February 1781 to June 1782. During that time Thomas issued more than 145 Revolutionary War pay vouchers to residents of Rutherford County for provisions, such as beef, pork, mutton and corn, needed to sustain Patriot Troops.⁸⁰

The court records show Thomas served as a Justice of the Peace for Rutherford County in January and October of 1790 and July and October of 1791. Thomas Whiteside was also appointed to serve on numerous juries.

Thomas Whiteside was often appointed to layout and oversee the maintenance of roads in Rutherford County. In April of 1778 Thomas Whiteside was assigned as the overseer of a road from Little Broad River to Kings Mountain. In January 1780 Thomas Whiteside was one of several jurors appointed to lay off a road from Whiteside Settlement to Quinn’s Ferry near First Broad River. In July 1782 the court ordered that a road be laid off from Langford's old Shop to Flint Hill Road and that the Sheriff summon Adam Whiteside, William Whiteside, John

⁷⁷ Philbrick, Francis S. *The Laws of Indiana Territory 1801-1809*. 1930, pp. lix, cclxxiv.

⁷⁸ *Ibid*, pp. lviii, lix.

⁷⁹ *Ibid*, pp. xxxviii, xlvi.

⁸⁰ Philbeck, M. S., “William Whiteside of Whiteside Settlement, Golden Valley, North Carolina,” *Bulletin of The Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, North Carolina*, Fall 2022, p. 137.

Whiteside and Thomas Whiteside, among others, to lay off the said road. In the October 1784 court session, the court appointed Thomas Whiteside as the overseer on the road from Thomas Welch to the road that leads from Esq. Riggs that crosses to Whitty's old place. In July 1786 Thomas Whiteside was again appointed road duties, when appointed overseer of the road from the Flint Hill to the Grassy Branch and appointed Thomas Whiteside, John Whiteside, Thomas Stockton, et al, to lay out a road from Stephen Langford's to the Lincoln County line near Jonathan Hardin's.

In July 1783 a petition by the court ordered that Thomas Whiteside, former County Commissioner, be invested with full power and authority to collect the remaining part of the Specific tax for the years 1780 and 1781. In October 1784, Thomas Whiteside was appointed a public and county tax collector for the present year in Capt. Whiteside's Company. In January 1790 the court appointed Justice Thomas Whiteside to take list of taxable property for the year 1790 for Kuckendall's [sic] Company and in July 1792 Thomas was appointed to take a list of taxables for year 1792 for Capt. Lattamore's [sic] Company.

William Whiteside – As with the other members of the Whiteside family of Whiteside Settlement, William Whiteside actively served the community. In October 1774 and again in April 1775 William Whiteside was listed as a member of a petit jury. While this could be either William Whiteside Sr. or William Whiteside Jr., it was more likely William Whiteside Sr. given there were no records showing that William Whiteside Jr. was a land owner at the time. However, William Whiteside Jr. was summoned to appear as a grand juror in April 1781 and served as juror in January 1782, 1783, and 1785. In January 1783, William Whiteside, Esq. was present at court. Did the Esq. indicate he was a Justice?

In April 1778 William Whiteside was appointed to administer Oath of Allegiance to those in Capt. Singleton's District. At the same court date, his brother Davis was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace and was also appointed to administer Oath of Allegiance to those in Capt. Singleton's District. Does this indicate that William Whiteside was also a Justice of the Peace? The answer would be yes, since under the Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1777 Justices within their respective Districts were “required to administer such Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation, as the Case may be, to all free Male Persons above Sixteen Years of Age.”⁸¹

In October 1782 the Court appointed William Whiteside as a Collector of the Public and County tax for the present year. In January 1784 the Court appointed William Whiteside Collector for the year 1783 for Capt. Whiteside's Company.

In July 1782 William Whiteside, along with John, Adam and others, was ordered to lay off a road from Langford's old Shop, the nighest and best way to the Flint Hill road. In April 1782 William, along with brothers Samuel, Robert, Adam, John and Francis are listed on what appears to Road Jury.

In April 1781 the Court appointed William Whiteside guardian to William, Margaret, Sarah, Isaac and Jacob Whiteside, children of Davis Whiteside, deceased, until they reach the proper age to choose.

After William Whiteside left Rutherford County and moved to Illinois he again appears to have, in addition to his illustrious military career, continued his civic service, serving as a Justice of the

⁸¹ North Carolina General Assembly of 1777. “Acts of the General Assembly November 15, 1777 - December 24, 1777”. *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. Volume 24, p. 88.

Peace,⁸² ⁸³ Judge of St. Clair County,⁸⁴ and at the time of his death, William was County Commissioner of St. Clair County.⁸⁵

Conclusion

The Whiteside family demonstrated patriotism across multiple generations. From William Whiteside Sr., who served in the French and Indian War, to his sons, who fought in the Revolutionary War and took part in the Battle of Kings Mountain, each member displayed heroic qualities. Davis, who represented Rutherford County in the North Carolina General Assembly and ultimately lost his life at the Battle of Kings Mountain, was a true patriot. The Whiteside family played a vital role in developing the frontiers of western North Carolina, defending freedom and liberty, and serving in various civic roles in Rutherford County.

Many members of the Whiteside family from Whiteside Settlement eventually relocated to Illinois, where they once again became a highly influential family. In Illinois, the Whiteside family's men from Whiteside Settlement served honorably, protecting early Illinois settlers from Indians and demonstrating distinguished service in the War of 1812. Numerous Illinois history books highlight the bravery of the Whiteside family and their early exploits on the frontiers with the Indians.

One such exploit by General Samuel Whiteside, son of John, demonstrated the bravery and leadership passed down from generation to generation. Senator John T. Kingston captured this heroism in his book *Early Western Days*. During the Blackhawk War in May 1831 volunteers were temporarily needed in Captain Synder's company. Recognizing the urgent nature of this request, Brigadier General Samuel Whiteside volunteered as a Private. At this time, General Samuel Whiteside was an elderly white-haired soldier; nonetheless, the bravery of the legendary Whiteside family was again revered for posterity.

While out scouting, the company was attacked by a superior force of Indians. Initially, they drove the Indians back, but facing what appeared an unsurmountable enemy, the company began a hasty retreat back to the station. With the Indians in hot pursuit, Samuel Whiteside suddenly hopped off his horse and fired at the party's war chief, killing him. Upon seeing Whiteside's bravery, the fleeing soldiers returned and engaged the enemy, who, seeing their fallen Chief, had lost some of their will to fight and retreated. When the other soldiers asked why he had stopped, facing what seemed like a certain death, Samuel Whiteside replied: "I have never yet run from an Indian, and I never will."⁸⁶ ⁸⁷

The Whiteside family gained great respect and recognition in Illinois with their descendants serving in various military ranks ranging from Privates to Generals. Additionally, family members continued to play active roles in supporting their growing communities taking on positions such as justices, judges, state treasurers, senators, and representatives. Also noteworthy is that Whiteside County was named in honor of General Samuel Whiteside, the son of John Whiteside.

⁸² Munsell Publishing Company. *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of St. Clair County*, Vol I, p. 76.

⁸³ Brink, McDonough & Co, *History of St. Clair County*, Illinois p. 76.

⁸⁴ Reynolds, John. *My Own Times*, p. 66.

⁸⁵ Carter, Clarence B. *The Territorial Papers of the United States*, Volume xvii, p. 651.

⁸⁶ *Wisconsin Historical Collections, Volume VII (1876) p.324*. Courtesy of the Wisconsin Historical Society 1876.

⁸⁷ Illinois War of 1812 Society. *Samuel Whiteside*. Retrieved from: <http://illinois1812warsociety.org/samuel.html>.

The Whiteside family was renowned for their courage and patriotism in North Carolina and Illinois. One historian noted that the Whiteside family “were ever to the front at the call of patriotism and value. They were bred to the toils of pioneer life and the perils of Indian warfare; and, besides the sentiment of patriotism, they had the additional stimulus of a determination to avenge the blood of the kindred.”⁸⁸

⁸⁸ McDonough, J. L. & Co., *Combined History of Randolph, Monroe and Perry Counties, Illinois.*, p. 204.