Patriot Robert Laird-P-232320

 Submitted by- Robert Laird Mayo- NSSAR # 173223

Robert Laird (aka Lard) was born in 1742, the son of Lodowick and Elizabeth Laird who owned land and farmed in Lancaster County, PA. About 1757 his family migrated from Lancaster, PA to So. Carolina and land records show that in 1764 Lodowick bought land for farming on Rocky Creek in Craven County, SC. About 1770, Robert married Elizabeth, possibly maiden name Rae, and in 1773 he bought 100 acres on Rocky Creek from his father and later another 100 adjoining acres in Craven Co. (now Chester Co.) for farm land.

The following information is from his sworn pension application S32369 dated Feb. 11, 1833 and other sources regarding his Revolutionary War service:

Robert volunteered as a private in the So. Carolina militia in 1775 and served 8 weeks on an expedition against the Tories. He again served 3 months in the militia in 1778 as a 1st Lt. in the So. Carolina Ninety Six District which mainly fought against the Indians.

In 1779 he was appointed Capt. of a militia company in Col. James Williams’ Regiment and was stationed for six months near the Georgia line to prevent incursions by the Indians. In 1781, he was Capt. of a militia company in Ninety Six that received captured Tories and conveyed them to Gen. Greene’s headquarters. He then commanded a mounted infantry company near the state line until the end of the war in late 1781. According to the So. Carolina Revolutionary War records, he is listed as serving as a Capt. from 1779 to 1783.

Based on known land records, Robert sold their land in Chester Co., SC in 1790. He moved his family to Clarke County, GA and bought farm land and from 1802 -1830 he is listed in the land and tax records and census data. His will is dated 1834 and includes bequeaths for his three daughters, Sarah, Mary and Elizabeth and five sons, Samuel, Archibald M., James, Robert Jr. and William. By then, all but three of his children had moved west from Georgia to places in Mississippi and as far as Texas. It is believed that his wife Elizabeth died about 1805 in GA. Patriot Robert Laird died March 16, 1834 at age 92 and his burial site in Clarke Co. GA is not known.