

Col James Steen lived in the Spartanburg District, now Cherokee County SC. His Thicketty Fort residence was between Cowpens and Kings Mountain. Steen was not listed on the 1880 Kings Mountain battlefield monument. He is shown as killed on the 1909 monument.

Of hundreds of patriots testifying about Kings Mountain, only Joseph Kerr (s4469), <http://revwarapps.org/s4469.pdf> mentioned Col. James Steen at Kings Mountain. Kerr did not say that Steen was wounded or killed. Is it probable that a Colonel was in a battle with only a single mention?

In *Kings Mountain and its Heroes*, Lyman C Draper stated that Steen was at Kings Mountain and served at the Battle of Cowpens. Draper stated that Steen was killed in the Revolution, but not at Kings Mountain. Draper, like the SC General Assembly, stated that Steen died in Rowan County in the Summer of 1781 from stab wounds.

Sundry details suggest that Col Steen was with the "South Carolina refugees" under Gen. Sumter and Col. Billy Hill north of Charlotte during the Battle of Kings Mountain.

General Assembly of South Carolina May 24, 2012 **H. 4124**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NAME THE BRIDGE ON EL BETHEL ROAD THAT CROSSES THICKETTY CREEK IN CHEROKEE COUNTY "COLONEL JAMES STEEN MEMORIAL BRIDGE" AND ERECT APPROPRIATE MARKERS OR SIGNS AT THIS BRIDGE THAT CONTAIN THE WORDS "COLONEL JAMES STEEN MEMORIAL BRIDGE".

Whereas, Colonel James Steen was a prominent militia officer in the American Revolution, serving from 1775 to 1781, in the Snow Campaign, Commanding Price's Fort, serving in Georgia, then at Stono, Savannah, Charleston, the Battle of Rocky Mount, the Battle of Hanging Rock, the Battle of Musgrove's Mill, the Battle of King's Mountain, and the Battle of Cowpens; and

Whereas, in the summer of **1781**, while endeavoring to arrest a Tory in Rowan County, North Carolina, he was stabbed, surviving only a week; and

Whereas, Colonel James Steen and his brother John Steen held land grants along Thicketty Creek and had a family plantation and family cemetery near Thicketty Creek on El Bethel Road in Cherokee County; and

Whereas, it would be appropriate to name the bridge on El Bethel Road over Thicketty Creek in his honor. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly request the Department of Transportation name the bridge on El Bethel Road that crosses Thicketty Creek in Cherokee County "Colonel James

Steen Memorial Bridge" and erect appropriate markers or signs at this bridge that contain the words "Colonel James Steen Memorial Bridge".

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

A few errors slipped into *Kings Mountain and its Heroes* between Draper's correct research notes and publication. Some of the mistakes from the book were repeated in bronze on the 1909 obelisk. None were so conspicuously blatant as the error naming Steen as a battle casualty.

The York DAR rushed to help the Corps of Engineers to spend OPM (other people's money) for the 1909 battlefield monument. The casualty plaque was not ready. Its installation was deferred into 1910. It would be interesting to see the DAR order which had the bronze plaque cast and notes from the author (s) of the order.