

Kirtley Land in Madison County, Virginia

by
Steve Kirtley
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Francis Kirtley Sr. arrived in Virginia in 1710 and for a time was a (tobacco?) merchant in Falmouth, Virginia. His first recorded ownership of land in 1722 was probably a wedding gift from his father in-law. This land was east of what is now Culpeper, Virginia, between Mountain Run and State Route 3. This highway roughly follows the route that was originally known as Kirtley Road, Kertley Trail, the German Road, etc. In the years to come Francis acquired many additional tracts of land in that local area as well as further west, including tracts on both sides of the Blue ridge. In 1744 Francis Kirtley moved further west to the vicinity of what is now known as Kirtley Mountain, in Madison County. He may have moved to be near his children and grandchildren in his old age, as well as to oversee land he owned in the area.

The following information by no means includes all of the land owned by Francis Kirtley Sr. and his children, but it is invaluable because it documents the exact location of many tracts. Tracts of land are designated by 2 letter codes, and are plotted on the map, which follows. Tract KC is the location of the "Kirtley House" found by Timothy Robinson in 1999. The description of KC (204 acres, bought from George Hume) exactly matches one of the tracts willed by Francis Sr. to his son James. However, this is not "the tract of land whereon I live" mentioned by Francis Kirtley Sr. in his will, which appears to be tract KE, either the N.E. or the S.W. part. I conclude that the "Kirtley House" in tract KC was the home of James Kirtley, but not his father Francis Kirtley Sr.

The following map and tract descriptions are derived from information found in "The Underwood Family of Madison County, Virginia," Ben H Coke, McDowell Publications, 1986.

Tract Descriptions From Courthouse Records

The two-letter codes on the tract descriptions below correspond to the map which follows

GC: Culpeper, Ap121 1750, 200 acres, John Vawter to son-in-law Ephraim Rucker & Margaret Bp451, 1756, Ephraim Rucker & Margaret to William KIRTLEY

GV & southern GC: Madison will 1p72, William KIRTLEY Sr. d. 1795, left this to his wife Sarah; after her death it went to his son William KIRTLEY Jr.

GV & southern parts of GC and GD:
Madison deed 3p218, 1802, 550 acres, William KIRTLEY (son of William) and Ann to Merry Walker

GX & northern GC: Madison will 1p72, William KIRTLEY Sr., d. 1795 left this to his wife Sarah, After her death it went to son Jeremiah KIRTLEY Jr.
Madison deed 2p29, 1800, 449 acres, Jeremiah KIRTLEY & Mary of Boone Co. Kentucky to John Hite of Rockingham Co. Virginia

HB: Madison 4p366, September 1807, 112 acres, John Delany & Sucky to Francis KIRTLEY (not Sr.)

HD & HD & KE: Culpeper Ap46, 1749, 614 acres, William KIRTLEY to Francis KIRTLEY

HD: Culpeper, Ap171, 1750, Francis KIRTLEY to James Rucker, where James Rucker lives
Qp514, 1792, 160 acres, William KIRTLEY Sr. & Sarah to Jeremiah KIRTLEY
Madison 1p156, 1794, 192 acres, Jeremiah KIRTLEY & Mary to Charles Hume

HE: Culpeper, Fp705-6, 1773, 191 acres, Thomas KIRTLEY to son Francis KIRTLEY,
Was devised to Thomas by his father Francis (Sr.)

HF: Culpeper, Dp99, 1762, 344 acres, Thomas Stanton to Thomas KIRTLEY
344 acres, Thomas KIRTLEY (wife Dorothy) died and left HF to his 4 sons: Jonathan (wife Theodocia),
Thomas (wife Judith), James (wife was Sally) Joseph KIRTLEY. By a series of deeds, HF was sold to
Thomas Graves who in 1828 sold it to William Early (Madison deeds 3p492, 389, 4p358, 464, 459; 10p81)

KC: Culpeper Bp338, 1755, 204 acres, Thomas Stanton to George Hume & Jane (daughter of Thomas
Stanton)
Cp295, 1760, 204 acres, George Hume Jr. & Jane to Francis KIRTLEY (Sr.)
Dp429, 1764, 204 acres, James KIRTLEY (who inherited it from his father Francis) & Jemima to Jonathan
Cowherd
Hp439, 1777, Jonathan Cowherd & Sarah to John Blakey
Kp204, 1780, John Blakey & Jeany to Churchill Blakey

KE & HD & HE: Culpeper Ap46, 1749, 614 acres, William KIRTLEY to Francis KIRTLEY
KE (southeast part) Culpeper Dp433, 1764, 115 acres, James KIRTLEY & Jemima to Jonathan Cowherd
Sr. (who later sold to Jonathan Cowherd Jr., who sold to George Ewe, who sold to Robert Davis)
KE (northeast part) Culpeper Gp39, 326 acres, James KIRTLEY & Jemima to William KIRTLEY

LC: Madison 4p312, 1806, 183 acres, William KIRTLEY to Jeremiah Henry
5p279, 1813, 183 acres, Jeremiah Henry to Michael Wallace Jr.

LD: Madison 7p297, 1822, 317 acres, Francis KIRTLEY & George H Allan to Marcus Dennison

LE & LF: Culpeper Dp287, 1763, 461 acres, Executors of Francis KIRTLEY deed to Timothy Acuff

ME: was part of a grant to Francis KIRTLEY, from whom it passed to James Collins d. 1781.
ME probably overlay (interfered with) part of MD.

PA & PB: Culpeper Bp256, 1755, John Powell & Mark to Francis KIRTLEY
Dp279, 1763, 412 acres, William, Thomas, and Francis KIRTLEY to Benjamin Roberts

PP & PR: Culpeper Bp256, 1755, John Powell & Mary to Francis KIRTLEY
Dp290, 1763, 600 acres, Thomas KIRTLEY & Francis KIRTLEY executors of Francis KIRTLEY
deceased, to William KIRTLEY

PP (northeast part) Culpeper Gp149, 1774, 82 acres, William KIRTLEY to Thomas Graves
PP (west part) Madison 1p314, 1795, 410 acres, William, Elijah, Jeremiah KIRTLEY, Simeon Buford,
& Isaac Davis (heirs of William KIRTLEY Sr.) to Francis Harvey

PR: Madison 1p325, 1796, 71 acres, Heirs of William KIRTLEY Sr. to Theophilus Eddins

WB: Orange, 15p304, 1771, 142 acres, executors of Francis KIRTLEY to John Jackson

WD: Orange, 24p88, 1806, 185 acres, administrators of Charles Taylor, deceased, to John Warren
24p103, 1806, 185 acres, John Warren to Jonathan KIRTLEY
24p418, 1808, 185 acres, Jonathan KIRTLEY & Theodosia (nee Anderson) to Isaac Smith.
This is the second tract sold by this deed.

WE: Orange, 18p376, 1785, 269 acres, Charles Thornton to George Anderson d. 1798
Orange 24p418, 1808, 302 acres, Jonathan KIRTLEY & Theodosia (nee Anderson) to Isaac Smith
(the line between WE and WG1, WF1, WF2, had been made crooked, thereby making the tract larger.)

Tract Descriptions from Francis Kirtley Senior's Will

The two-letter codes on the tract descriptions below correspond to the map which follows

Francis Kirtley Senior's will bequeaths the following tracts of land. In some cases the location, size, or deed descriptions make it possible to correlate these with the descriptions on the map below.

To William Kirtley: "the lott of land whereon John Mecarlie Now lives lying below Farrow Run" (**not identified.**)

To James Kirtley: "the Land Whereon John Forester lives" (**possibly KE northeast part, 115 acres, or KE southeast part, 326 acres**), "All the Remainder of the Tract of Land whereon I live (**evidently KE 115 acre northeast part, or KE 326 acre southeast part**) together with **two hundred Acres(KC 204 acres)** of Land that I Bought of George Hume."

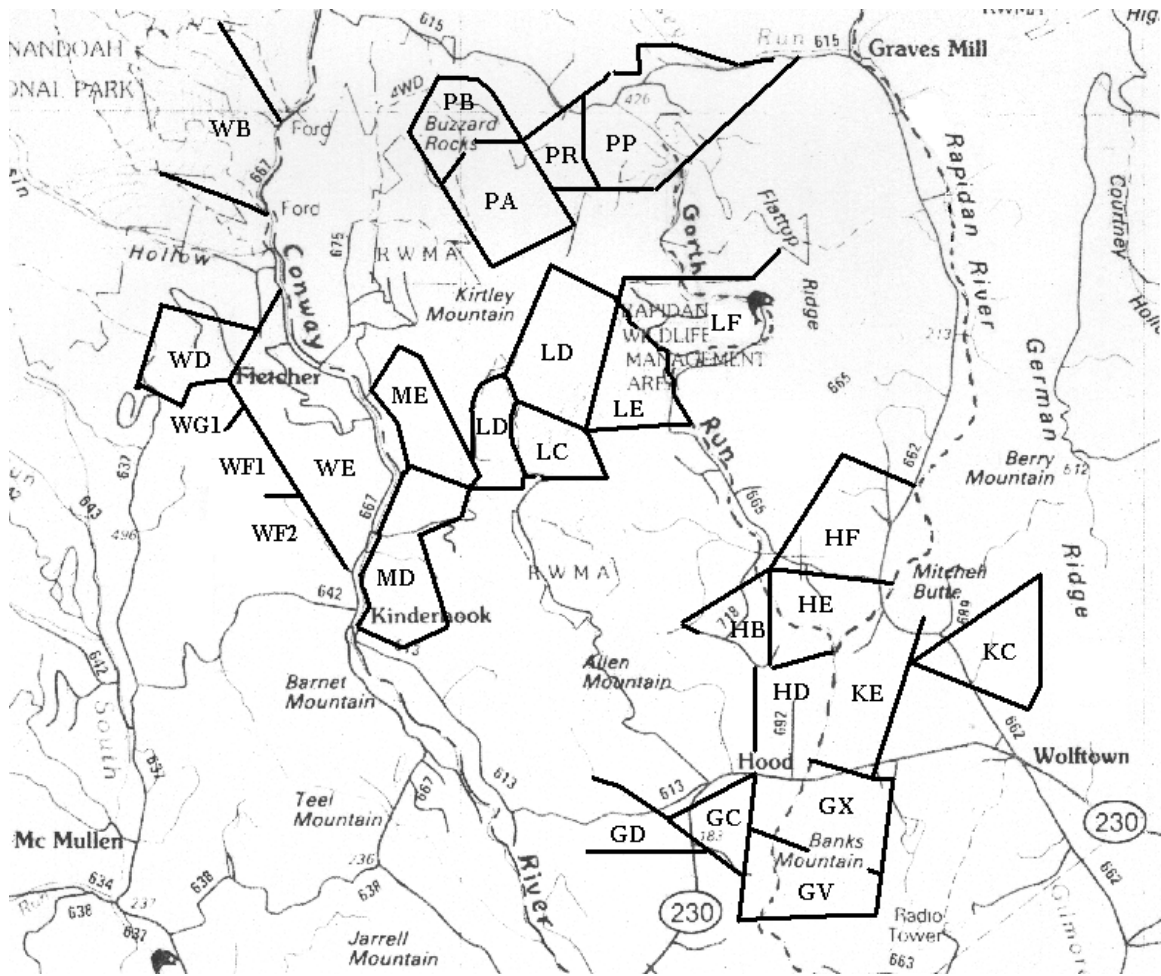
To Thomas Kirtley: "one hundred & Eighty Acres of Land (**HE 191 acres**) joining the Corner of John Delany & Joseph Bosson from thence to the North of Garths Run lying on the South Side of Stanton River Joining Stanton's line."

To Francis Kirtley Jr.: "**one Tract of land lying on the Blue Ridge (not identified)** on the head of the South River in Orange County like wise **twelve Estates of Land in Augusta County (not identified)**"

To daughter Mary Collins: "**three Hundred & Ten Acres(MD/ME 302 acres)** of Land lying on the Branches of Conway Joining Conway's."

To son-in-law Jonathan Cowherd: "**Jonathan Cowherd shall Keep the Plantation & Land (not identified)** whereon he now lives & Quietly Possess the same till the year One Thousand seven hundred & Sixty Eight for the Rent of his Plantation at Swift Run Gap which Rent is to be paid to James Kirtley."

To be sold: "I leave all the **Remainder of my Estate Lands**. . . to be sold to the Highest Bidder . . . and to be Equally divided among my Dear Wife & Children before Named." **Apparently includes (LE & LF, 462 acres) (PA & PB, 412 acres) (PP & PR, 600 acres) (WB, 142 acres)**



Tracts owned by Francis Kirtley Sr. and his children
 The two-letter tract codes on this map correspond to the tract descriptions above.
 This map shows a portion of western Madison County, Virginia
 Highway 230 is the western end of the original route of Kirtley Road