

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Nathaniel Tatum S3769

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court [of Davidson County TN], before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, now sitting, Nathaniel Tatum who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He commenced service being drafted in October 1777 as one of the Militia, in brunswick County Virginia, under the command of Captain Edmonds, who commanded a battallion of Militia – from brunswick County the battallion marched to Surrey [sic: Surry] County, in Virginia, where he was discharged having served about 8 days –

About the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 1780, he commenced another tour, in brunswick County, Virginia, being a substitute in the fourth regiment of Virginia Militia, under the command of Colonel [Ralph] Faulkner, his captain being a man by the name of Jones; the army to which the 4<sup>th</sup> regiment above mentioned belonged was under the command of General [Edward] Stevens, & he marched from brunswick County Va to Hillsboro [sic: Hillsborough] North Carolina, & from thence to Guilford Courthouse, & there remained under the command of the above mentioned officers until November 1780 when his term of service expired, & he was discharged – his third tour he commenced in a battallion of Militia commanded by Colo. Elliot [sic: Richard Elliott], his company being under the command of Capt Clayton in November 1780; he marched under the command of the abovementioned officers, from brunswick County, Virginia to Cabbin Point [sic: Cabin Point on James River in Surry County] where he remained in service until his term of service expired, about 8 days, when he was discharged – About the 1<sup>st</sup> Jany 1781 he commenced, another tour of duty as a substitute in Captain Bynum's Company [see endnote], under the [words apparently missing at end of page] belonging to the regiment commanded by Colonel Downsman [sic: Raleigh Downman], the army being under the command of General [Robert] Lawson, & from brunswick County he marched under the command of the abovementioned officers, in January 1781, through Petersburg Virginia to Stone's mill [near Jamestown], it being at that time the head Quarters of the army, – his company was, with several others, then detached, together forming a battallion under the command of Major [William ] Boyce – which battallion was stationed in Nansemond County [now Suffolk City] Virginia, where he remained under the command of the above mentioned officers until his term of service expired having served about three months, & was then discharged – He was called into service again in June 1781, his company then was commanded by Captain House being Militia, belonging to a battallion of Militia commanded by Major Peeples [probably Joseph Peebles], and before he left brunswick County when he commenced service this tour, Major Holcom [possibly Philip Holcomb], and he marched under his command to the point of fork [at the junction of James and Rivanna rivers], from which place he marched to Hanover County where his battallion joined the army under the command of General Lafayette. From thence he being one of the army, marched by Richmond to New Kent County, & on his arrival there his term of service expired & he was discharged – he further states that he has no documentary evidence, & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his service.

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state – Nathaniel hisXmark Tatum

State of Tennessee } Court of pleas and Quarter sessions for said County. October term 1833  
Davidson County }

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day October 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the court of pleas and quarter sessions now sitting for the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee, Nathaniel Tatum, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement as an amendment of his former declaration for a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

I was born in brunswick County Virginia on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1759. I have no record of my age – I was living in brunswick County Va when called into service – After the Revolutionary war I resided in the aforesaid County and state until the year 1816 sometime in may when I moved to Davidson County in the State of Tennessee where I have resided ever since & now live –

In my first tour – 8 days, I served as a private – This my first tour lasted only 8 days – In my second tour I served two months and fifteen days, during all which I acted as a private (see former declaration)

The third tour I served lasted only 8 days (see former declaration) during which I acted also as a private – My fourth tour lasted 3 months (see former declaration) during all which time I acted as a Sergeant – My fifth tour lasted one month – during three weeks of said time I also acted as Sergeant and one week as a private – The length of the above tours (except the fifth and last) was stated in my former declaration – During my last (fifth tour) after three weeks service, my company, in which I acted as Sergeant, became so much reduced in Numbers, that it was thought adviseable, and they were actually divided and distributed amongst the other companies. Then I became a private – I served, in all, during the Revolutionary, seven months, during which time I acted 3 months and three weeks as a Sergeant, and during the balance of the time I served as a private – for which I claim a pension –

Nathaniel hisXmark Tatum

NOTES:

“Nathl Tatem, Sergt. Major” appears on the 8 April 1781 roll of the company of Capt. Turner Bynum. See transcript B73. Tatum was awarded a pension for seven-months service as a private, evidence that he had been a Sergeant being considered insufficient.

A letter by Tatum’s agent described him as “a respectable but poor man.”