

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of John McKinney W588

Hannah

fn76SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/23/09

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original.]

State of Kentucky Woodford County

On this 7th day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of Woodford, now sitting, being a Court of Record, John McKinney a resident of Versailles in the County of Woodford and State of Kentucky aged 75 years, 9 months and 5 days, 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: That in the fall of the year 1774 he volunteered as a private in the district of Camden State of South Carolina under the command of Capt. Robert Patton in Col. Richardson's Regiment of militia, that he served 3 months, during which time a party of Tories under the command of Col. Fletcher [sic, Thomas Fletchall] and were captured: and that in the year 1775 he again volunteered under the command of the same Capt. & served 3 months, that the company at that time were stationed in the forks of the Saluda River at Col. Summer's plantation = That in 1776 he volunteered for 3 months under Capt. McClannahan, that he was marched to Charlestown and was there when the attack was made by Sir Peter Parker = The Town was defended by Lee, Sullivan's Island by Moultrie = That in the year -- 1777 He again Volunteered under Capt. Patton for 3 months, that the Regiment to which we were attached was stationed near the Savannah [River] opposite Augusta in Georgia & that a detachment was sent into the State of Georgia to intercept a party of Tories & Indians under the command of a Major Branham that were on their way to join the British who were encamped at Brier Creek; and that your applicant & General John Adair¹ now a member of Congress were of the detachment in Capt. Nixon's company under the command of Col. Hammons [probably Col. LeRoy Hammond] & that we defeated the Tories & Indians on a Creek called Rocky Comfort: That when his 3 months expired: he became a substitute for his Father, who had been drafted, that the Regiment was ordered to cross the Savannah River & go into Georgia. Lieut. John Walker of the company to which your applicant belonged refused to cross -- Your applicant was appointed Lieut. in his place, for which he held a warrant or Commission from Col. Winn as well as now recollected. That the whole of the service rendered this year amounted to 8 months, 3 of which he served as a private and 5 as a Lieut. = That in the year 1778, your applicant again volunteered, sometimes under one officer, sometimes under another that we had many skirmishes with the Tories who were very numerous in that part of the country where he resided. That the exact amount of time at this late period cannot be stated with certainty, but he is confident that he served at least 3 months during this year. That in the year 1779 your petitioner with 7 others refusing to take protection under the British authorities, went into the Catawba land's, remained there some time, then went on to North Carolina with the intention of putting ourselves under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], whom we understood was coming to the South, were

¹ [John Adair W2895](#)

learning that the crossing of the Yadkin [River] would be impracticable owing to the passes being guarded by the enemy, and being advised that General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] had made a stand in the old Catawba fields we returned to him immediately = That in a short time a considerable force was assembled, among the number General Adair was one = we were formed into 2 regiments one commanded by Col. Lacey, the other by Col. Bratton = all under the command of General Sumter = your applicant was elected Capt. & served as such 4 months in Col. Lacey's Regiment = your applicant was taken sick & was taken on into the State of North Carolina where he was confined for some time, during his sickness General Gates was defeated². That in the year 1781 your applicant emigrated to the now State of Kentucky: That in the spring of 1782, he was drafted for 3 months & placed under the command of Capt. Hugh McGairy & marched to the Falls of the Ohio River and put under the Command of General Clark = That in the summer of the same year he volunteered under the Command of Col. Benjamin Logan in Capt. Barnett's Company to the Blue licks. But was not in the engagement; it having taken place before we could reach there = That in the year 1793 [sic, 1783?] he again volunteered in Capt. William Lewis's company and served in General Wayne's campaign of that year. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John McKinney

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to John McKinney with the answers thereto –

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in the County of Frederick State of Virginia on the 2nd day of April 1757.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans: I have no record of my age, it was registered in my father's Bible, I have seen the record frequently, But do not at present recollect which of my Brothers or Sisters have the Bible or whether it has been preserved or not.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was when called into the service living on Fishing Creek a branch of the Catawba River in Camden District State of South Carolina; I have resided since the Revolutionary War in the State of Kentucky, first settled on the Hanging fork of Dick's River in 1781, now Lincoln County = in 1785 moved to now Jassamine County remained there until 1819, then moved to Woodford County & am now a resident of the Town of Versailles in said last mentioned County.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: This question is answered by the statements embodied in the declaration.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: This question is also answered as fully as this applicant can respond in the Gen. statements contained in the declaration.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: I have no recollection of ever receiving a discharge. If I ever did, I do not recollect

² August 16, 1780.

what has become of it.

Did you ever receive a Commission, and if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of it?

Ans: I received from Col. Winn as well as now recollected a warrant or Commission as Lieut. and from Col. Patton -- warrant or commission as Capt. -- as well as my memory will serve me I do not know at this late date what has become of them as I never expected that they would be of any service to me.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. I would refer to Dr. Benjamin W. Rhoton & John Buford of this neighborhood; also to the Honorable William T. Barry post master General -- the Honorable John Adair member of Congress & to the Honorable H. Clay & G. M. Bibb of the Senate of the United States --

[Benjamin H. Rhoton, a clergyman, and John Buford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 13]

I having examined the Statement of John McKinney a soldier of the A revolutionary War I do hereby certify that I well remember seeing the said John McKinney in the service as he states in the year 1777 and at different times afterwards until he moved to Kentucky in the year 1781 -- that in the year 1786 I came to Kentucky where I again met the Deponent and have been acquainted with him until within a few years -- and that he has ever sustained the character of an honest man and a man of truth, and that his certificate and deposition are entitled to full faith and credit Given under my hand and the city of Washington this 31st day of January 1833.

S/ John Adair him

[facts in file: Soldier married Hannah or Ann Evins [Evans?] in Rockbridge County, Virginia, bond dated August 7, 1781; soldier died August 24, 1837; widow filed on December 14, 1838, at age 78 for her pension; she died December 16, 1845; children referred to by not named in the file.]