# Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Adair S1158 f34NC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves last rev'd 5/16/26

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of Kentucky, County of Wayne} SS

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court (it being a Court of Record) before the Justices of the Court of the County of Wayne and State of Kentucky, now sitting, John Adair, a resident of the United States of America in the County of Wayne & State of Kentucky, aged seventy eight years, 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. He was born[1] in Ireland in the County of Antrim in the year 1754. His Father with him & the family came to America and landed at Baltimore, the year he cannot state with certainty, but it was when he was a youth, perhaps not quite 18 years old. His Father lived in Maryland a little upwards of a year. He then moved to Pennsylvania and stayed there something like 12 months. His Father then moved with the family to Sullivan County then in North Carolina but now in Tennessee where he (the applicant) lived when the War of the Revolution commenced. He lived in Sullivan County aforesaid until some time in the year 1791, when he moved from said County to the place now called Knox County State of Tennessee. He lived in Tennessee about 13 or 14 years. Then he moved to Wayne County Kentucky about 27 or 28 years ago, where he has ever since and now lives.

He lived in Sullivan County, North Carolina when he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer private soldier with a number of men in the Militia to go against the Indians. He states that it was usual in the part of the Country he lived in for the men to volunteer in small Companies without any commissioned officer to range & scour the Country and march against the Indians. He states that the Captain or supreme officer, who commanded them in these expeditions was by the name of Campbell [probably Capt. John Campbell]. He states that he volunteered at different times. He can't state the number of times, or the length of each time, that he was out, But feels certain that he served at the lowest Calculation at least three months. They marched about the head of Clinch River a place

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[1] Here the veteran begins to answer the 7 interrogatories promulgated by the War Department to be put to each applicant for a pension. Those 7 interrogatories were as follows:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

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

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

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

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

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

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.

called the Elk Garden, and Blackmore's Fort.[2] It was against the Indians they marched. It must have been as well as this applicant now recollects in the latter part of year 1776 or the year (the early part of it) 1777. The Indians were, as he was informed of the Shawnee tribe, and Commanded by a Chief Called Logan.

He states that in the year 1777 or 1778 as well as he now recollects, he was drafted as a private in the militia for the term of six months. He lived then in Sullivan County North Carolina, Captain George Brooks commanded his Company when raised. They ranged and marched over the Country, about the head of Clinch River – and some times on the head waters of Big Sandy [River]. He states, that during that six months tour, they had no important engagement. They marched against the Indians, and had frequent skirmishes. One he recollects above the place called the Elk Garden. He states that after he served six months, he was discharged and returned home to Sullivan County. He states that he received a written discharge but has lost or mislaid it, so he can't find it.

He states that in the spring following he volunteered as a private in the militia in Sullivan County N. C. to watch the Indians as a spy in the Company commanded by Captain Elliot. He thinks his given name was James. He states that he spied about the head waters of Clinch – also on the Old Kentucky Road, and frequently near a place called Flat lick. He states that he was to receive $1.50 a day for his services, but never received anything. He states that he served three months as a spy in that Company and was then discharged. He received a written Discharge but from the great length of time, and not viewing it as of much importance to him, he has lost it.

He states that the next year, in the spring probably about the 1st of March, his Father was drafted as a private in the militia to March and be forted at the mouth of the North fork of Holston [River], to defend the frontiers from the depredations of the Indians. He states that he marched & went in the place of his Father. That he was located principally at the Fort at the mouth of the North fork of Holston. That they frequently marched some distances from the Fort to scour the Country. He states that the Captain who commanded the company was by the name of Samuel Brashear [sic, Bradshaw? or Bradshear?], said Brashear lived in Sullivan County N. C. He states that he served three months, was discharged, but received no written discharge. They were in no important engagement during the three months.

That he states that he has no documentary evidence – and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, by whom he can directly prove his services.

He states that his Father kept a Register of the names and ages of his Children, but where that Register is he don't know.

He states that he is known to Isaac Cooper, Fleming Gregory, George Bill, Lewis Coffey, Martin Beaty and William Hardin, who live in his neighborhood and County.

That 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 the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.

John Adair

[John Bell and Garner Parmly gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Kentucky, County of Wayne} SS

On this 24th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court (it being a Court of Record) before the Justices of the Court of the County of Wayne and State of Kentucky, now sitting, John

[2] The veteran MAY be describing the Battle of Island Flats. https://discoverkingsport.com/h-Battle-Island-Flats.shtml

Adair, a resident of the United States of America, in the County of Wayne and State of Kentucky, aged seventy eight years, or going on seventy nine, 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 the 7th, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He lived in Sullivan County, North Carolina, when he first entered the service of the United States as a volunteer private Soldier with a number of men to scour the Country and march against the Indians. He states that the Captain who commanded them in these expeditions was by the name of Campbell. He states that he was engaged and served three months, in marching through the Country and in defending particular sections of the County. They marched about the head of Clinch River, a place called the Elk Garden and Blackmore's Fort. It was against the Indians they marched. It must have been, as well as this applicant now recollects in the latter part of the year 1776, or the year (the early part of) 1777. The Indians were as he was informed of the Shawnee tribe and Commanded by a chief called Logan. He was discharged after having served three months by his officer, Campbell – but received no written discharge, and returned home.

He states that in the year 1777 or 1778 (the month he can't recollect), he was drafted as a private in the Militia for the Term of six months. He lived then in Sullivan County, North Carolina. George Brooks was the Captain, who commanded the Company. They ranged and marched over the Country about the ahead of Clinch River – and some times on the head waters of Big Sandy. He states that during that six months Tour, they had no very important engagement. They marched against the Indians and had frequent skirmishes one he recollects above the place called the Elk Garden. He states that after he served six months, he was discharged by his officers and returned home to Sullivan County. He states that he received a written Discharge, but has lost or mislaid it, so he can't find it.

He states that in the spring following, he volunteered as a private Soldier in Sullivan County N. C. to watch the Indians as a spy, in the Company Commanded by Captain Elliot [sic, James Elliott], he thinks his given name was James. He states that he spied about the head waters of Clinch. Also on the Old Kentucky road, and frequently near a place called Flat Lick. He states that he was to receive $1.50 a day for his services, but never received anything. He states that he served three months as a spy in that Company and was then discharged. He received a written discharge from Captain Elliot but from the great length of time, and not viewing it as of much importance to him, he has lost it.

He states that in the year 1780 in the spring probably about the first of March, his Father was drafted as a private Soldier in the Militia in Sullivan County North Carolina, to march and be forted at the Mouth of the North fork of Holston [River], to defend the frontiers from the depredations of the Indians. He states that he marched and went in the place of his Father, that he was located principally at the Fort at the mouth of the North fork of Holston. That they frequently marched some distance from the Fort to scour the Country. He states that the Captain who commanded the company was by the name of Samuel Brashears [sic, Samuel Brashear]-- said Brashears lived in Sullivan County N. C. He states that he served three months, was discharged by S. Brashears but received no written discharge. They were in no important engagement during the three months.

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| This applicant states that in his first Tour, he served three months as a private Volunteer | 3 Months |
| In his second Tour, he served as a private drafted in the Militia for six months | 6 Ditto |
| In his third Tour, he served three months as a spy | 3 Ditto |
| In his fourth Tour, he served three months as a substitute for his father as a private | 3 Ditto |

making in all 15 months – which time he served as aforesaid, and for which services he claims a pension.

This applicant states that he was born in Ireland in the County of Antrim in the year 1754. His

father with him and the family came to America, and landed in Baltimore, the year he can't state with certainty, but it was when he was a youth, perhaps not yet 18 years old. His Father lived in Maryland a little upwards of a year. He then moved to Pennsylvania, and stayed there something like 12 months. His father then moved with him and a family to Sullivan County, then in North Carolina but now in Tennessee, where he the applicant lived, when the War of the Revolution commenced. He lived in Sullivan County aforesaid until some time in the year 1791, when he moved from said County to the place now called Knox County, State of Tennessee. He lived in Tennessee 13 or 14 years. Then he moved to Wayne County Kentucky about 27 or 8 years ago, where he has ever since and now lives.

He states that he has no documentary evidence – and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, by whom he can directly prove his service.

He states that his Father kept a Register of the names and ages of his Children, but where that Register is he don't know.

He states, that he is known to Isaac Cooper, Fleming Gregory, John Bell, Lewis Coffey, Martin Beaty and William Hardin, who live in his neighborhood and County.

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 the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.

John Adair

[Adam Vickery, a clergyman, and Roger Oates gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of $40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year's service in the North Carolina militia as a private.]