## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Baldwin S37733

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[29 Nov 1830] For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act entitled, "An act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the army of the revolution," approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1828. I, John Baldwin of Mason county, in the State of Kentucky, aged sixty seven, in October last, do hereby declare that I enlisted in the month of May 1781 in the horse, for and during the war, in the company of Captain Philip Williams, and in the Regiment of Colo. [Anthony Walton] White, of the Virginia line, on continental establishment, and continued in service until its termination, at which period I was a private, and never was attached to any other Regiment that I know of, or any other company.

State of Kentucky Mason County Sct April Term 1834

April 14<sup>th</sup> 1834 On this day personally appeared in open court befor the worshipfull the justices of the Mason county court now sitting John Baldwin a resident of the of the county and state aforsaid aged seventy one years, who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 That he entered the service of the united states in the Revolutionary war as a drafted militiaman, some time in agust 1780 under the command of one Capt. Crawley [probably William Crowley], that he does not recollect the number of the Regiment to which he was attached, but thinks it was commanded by one Colonel [William] Boyer; that for about three months after he was drafted as aforsaid in Amelia County Virginia where he lived they continued at Chesterfield Court house (whither they had removed) training and performing military duty and some time in Nov'r. he thinks they marched to Cabin point in Surry county at which place they joined Col. Boyer's Reg't. of Light Infantry as aforsaid and after having remained there a short time they marched down to a point on James River about 18 miles above Portsmouth, where they fixed their head quarters and where they remained until the expiration of the term of 6 months watching the movements of the British who had entered Virginia under Lord Cornwallis [May 1781] and who some time toward the latter end of his term of 6 months as aforsaid fixed their head quarters in Portsmouth. Whilst they remained in Portsmouth and before they went there they were continually committing depredations in detached parties, which made it necessary to send out every night parties from their regiment to patroll the country in which service he the said applicant was engaged every three our four nights That a short time before the expiration of his term of 6 months as aforsaid or before he was discharged he thinks it was about the first of march, Col. Boyer received some information which induced him in concert with General Greene [see endnote] (who had his head quarters about a days march above them) to move down in the night with the entire regiment and the following morning they were conducted by the individual through whom he understood they had received the aforsaid information around the piquet gauard of the enemy in such a manner as to cut off their communication with the main body and in the course of the day they killed and took the whole guard aforsaid amounting to five or six hundred men he thinks [sic: see endnote]. In the mean time Genl. Green had drawn up his whole force about two hundred yards behind them in order of battle expecting that the manouver would lead to a general engagement. That being disappointed in this they all returned to their respective head quarters where shortly after, he was discharged, in a writing signed by Lieut. Cuningham of the company which writing he has lost. That he does not recollect any other officers than those named except Genl. Green who was pointed out to him on the day of the engagement at Portsmouth and a capt Cuningham

who bolinged to his regiment. That he was discharged as aforsaid from the service he thinks some time in March (perhaps towards the last, he cannot recollect posatively as to the time) and after having remained at home one week he was again drafted whereupon he determined to enlist for the ballance of the war. Accordingly he enlisted under one capt. Will Williams who he thinks was of Colonel Whites Regiment. That he entered the Service he believes about the 1st of April 1781 in Amelia County where he resided as aforsaid. That he never actually joined any Regemt, having been enlisted for the special purpose of pressing horses for the service of the United States and having been engaged in that service from the time of his enlistment aforsaid until the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] they were engaged in traversing Amelia and Prince Edward Counties presing and collecting horses for the army some of which were delivered to an officer by the name of Lee and some of them to Col White. That they were just about to join the main body at Yorktown when Capt. Williams received information of the surrender of Cornwallis and orders to discharge them Accordingly he was discharged he thinks about the last of October 1781 having served 6 months in the militia, and seven months in the regular service according to the best of his recollection. That he had a written discharge signed by Capt. Williams, which was also lost with his first discharge they having both been left by him in his fathers desk in Virginia and the desk having been sold after his fathers death and in the absence of the said applicant his discharges were either lost or destroyed. That he has no documentary evidence of his services. That he was born in Amelia County in the year 1762 and that he has no record of his age in this country the same having been made in his fathers Bible which fell into the hands of his sister who remained in Virginia. That he does not now recollect the names of any other officers than those named in the body of his declaration. That he never received any commission in the service. That he is known to John Ricketts and R C Ricketts in his neighbourhood who he believes well testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services in the revolution and that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or anuity 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 and year aforsaid John hisXmark Baldwin

The deposition of Joshua Davidson taken on the 7 day of April 1834 at the house of John McCarty in the county of Fleming and State of Kentucky as Evidence of the Services of John Baldwin a revolutionary soldier who is making application for a pension under the act of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 The deponent being of lawfull age and first duly sworn upon his oath doth state

That he dose not Recollect at what time the said John Baldwin entered the service of the army of the U.S. nor how long he served

This Deponent further states that the said John Baldwin served in the Company of Capt William Williams as a private, was enlisted dureing the war, continued in the service until the close of the war and was attached to Col White's Regiment this deponent further states that the said Baldwin was enlisted in Amelia County in the state of Virginia. and further this deponent saith not

Joshua hisXmark Davidson

NOTE: There was no General Greene or Green near Portsmouth Virginia in late Feb 1781. Gen. Nathanael Greene, as well as Col. John Green of the Virginia Militia, were in North Carolina at that time. The General in command in Virginia was Peter Muhlenberg. The claim of having captured "5 or six hundred" of the enemy is greatly exaggerated. John Steuart (pension application S19474) states that "several prisoners were taken."