

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Brandon (Brendon) W4901 Polly Brandon f97NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/22/08 rev'd 9/19/14

[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' 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.]

[p 8]

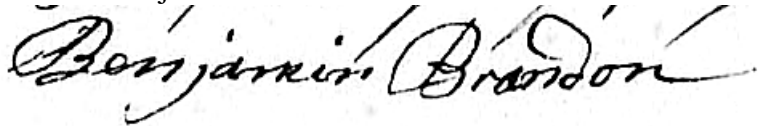
State of Ohio, Shelby County

On this 29th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of Shelby County and State aforesaid now sitting Benjamin Brandon a Resident of the County of Miami and State of Ohio aged Seventy-three 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. I do hereby certify that I was born in the month of April in the year of our Lord 1759 in Roan [Rowan] County in the State of North Carolina & that I continued to reside there at the time of the Revolutionary War, and that I volunteered my service in the defense of my country under the command of Captain William Armstrong in the year of 1777 I was marched to the Western frontiers to guard against the Tories and Indians I was continued there until the Stono campaign in South Carolina Captain Armstrong then being promoted to the office of Major I then volunteered under Captain John Knox and marched under his command into South Carolina where we joined General Butler's [John Butler's] Brigade in the Stono expedition. I continued there until Captain Knox's Company was relieved by Captain Richard Graham I then joined Captain Graham's Company and marched under his command to the Siege of Charleston I continued at Charleston until we were relieved by General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. I then returned home & remained there but a short time until called upon and again marched under Major Armstrong who acted as Captain in the expedition against the Tories at Ramsour's [Mills] in which battle [June 20, 1780] said Armstrong fell I then volunteered under Captain Abel Armstrong and continued in the service guarding the frontiers against Tories and Indians, we succeeded in taking 12 or 13 Tories prisoners and in marching to Camp we received information from Col. Dickson [probably Maj. Joseph Dickson] that it had been satisfactorily proven that three of the prisoners had been guilty of bringing Indians into the frontiers he forwarded the names of the men with orders to hang the men that answered to those names the names were called and the men that answered to them was hung that night, my tour was under Captain John Bickerstaff we marched to the lower part of the State against the Tories and free Called [Colored] people, my next tour was under Captain Abel Armstrong we marched into South Carolina and Joined General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] and was in the Battle at Cowpens [January 17, 1781] with him Colonel Washington [William Washington] against the British from thence we marched home to North Carolina and Joined General Davidson and fought against the British at Cowan's Ford [February 1, 1781] on the Catawba River in which action General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] fell on the same afternoon we were defeated at Torrences' [Tarrant's, Torrence, Tarrence Tavern, February 1, 1781] on the Cross roads I was also in the chase after Col. Bryan [Samuel Bryan] the leader of a Tory party this chase took place in the fork of the Adkin [Yadkin] River. I was in several other tours not so particularly recalled to give a

detailed account, I continued under the command of Captain Abel Armstrong until peace was concluded. I removed from North Carolina to Tennessee in 1804 I removed from Tennessee to Miami County in Ohio in 1808 where I have resided ever since. He never had any Claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Benjamin Brandon



Sworn to & subscribed to in open Court this 29th of October A.D. 1832

S/ James Wells, Clerk

[Samuel Kyle, a clergyman and John Houston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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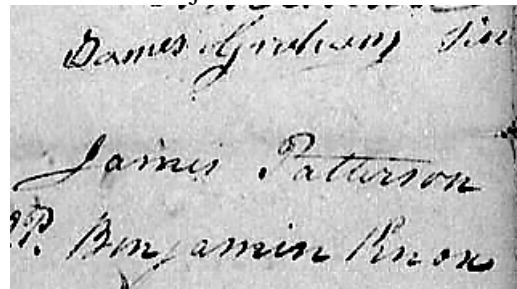
State of North Carolina Rowan County September 5th 1832

We the Subscribers, being old Revolutionaries, and also born and raised and still resides in the above named State and County do hereby certify that Benjamin Brandon Senior is a native of Rowan County and State of North Carolina and continued an inhabitant of said State and County during the Revolutionary War and for several years after when he and his family moved to the West and now resides in Miami County & State of Ohio. During his residence in his native State & County he sustained a fair, honest and an upright character and we have never heard it contradicted since his removal. We further certify that the said Brandon entered as a volunteer in the Revolutionary service in the year 1777 served under different captains, and was in several engagements, namely Ramsour's, Cowpens, & Torrences, and several other Campaigns and continued in service until peace was concluded.

S/ James Graham, Senior¹

S/ James Patterson²

S/ Benjamin Knox³



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State of North Carolina Iredell County: September 6th 1832 this day Robert Hair⁴ & David Hair⁵ personally appeared before me the subscribing Justice of the peace & made oath that they were with Benjamin Brandon who now is an inhabitant of the State of Ohio in the Revolutionary war in several Battles namely at Ramsour's under Capt. William Armstrong, at Cowan's Ford on the Catawba [River], and Tarrents & at Bryan's chase in the forks of the Yadkin under Capt. Abel Armstrong, and that we continued in service until peace was made.

¹ [James Graham S8623](#)

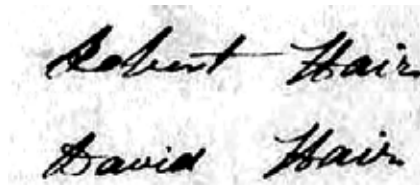
² Possibly the same man as [James Patterson S8926](#)

³ [Benjamin Knox S8800](#)

⁴ [Robert Hair S9567](#)

⁵ [David Hair S6978](#)

S/ Robert Hair
S/ David Hair

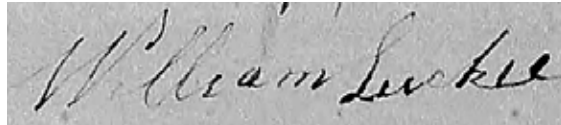
Handwritten signatures of Robert Hair and David Hair in cursive script.

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State of North Carolina Rowan County: This day William Luckey of said County appeared before Cowan Hall and Robert N. Fleming 2 of the Justices of the peace for said County and made oath in due form that he knew Benjamin Brandon who is now an inhabitant of the State of Ohio and that he was with him in the Revolution war to wit in the battle of Ramsour's under Capt. William Armstrong and in Bryan's Chase under Capt. Abel Armstrong, and he believes the said Benjamin Brandon served in the Revolution war until the conclusion of peace.

Sworn to and subscribed this 7th day of September A.D. 1832

S/ William Luckee⁶

Handwritten signature of William Luckee in cursive script.

[p 5]

At Piqua Ohio, the 12th day of October 1833, Benjamin Brandon of Miami County of Ohio, formerly of North Carolina, and who now claims a Pension from the United States by reason of his services in the War of the Revolution makes the following statement on oath in pursuance of a letter lately received from the Pension Office at Washington and dated the first of this instant.

He believes that all the material facts required by said letter are given and contained in the declaration made by him on oath in open Court at Sydney in Shelby County Ohio on the 29th of October 1832, which paper has been already submitted to the Pension office.

The reason the declaration was not made in the County of Miami the County of his residence, the Court was not in Session, nor was it soon to be, his Honor Judge Holt presides in both Shelby and Miami counties, the two counties are adjoining and are parts of a large Circuit.

The Interrogatories directed to be propounded by the Court were so propounded in manner and form as set forth in the printed sheet headed "regulations under the act of June 7, 1832"

There is no Court at this time in Session in this part of the State in order to review the proceedings and put them in exact form required.

The only person now within his reach whose testimony can be material is his brother Abel Brandon and that will be found on this sheet.

The undersigned can offer no new facts in his case, all that his material will be found in the declaration of October 29, 1832. He served his country faithfully in the time of its greatest trial, in volunteer association from the year 1777 to the peace of 1783 except that such intervals as were employed in choosing new officers and forming associations, going home and returning to camp for the purpose of getting cloths made and mended, always acted as volunteers, choosing our own officers, was never engaged during the whole time in any civil pursuit, was often employed as a scout, as Express and spy, served some time associated with the Catawba Indians who were commanded by ___ White, they were useful on the march in ferreting out and watching the Tories, but could not be relied on in Battle.

Sworn and subscribed before me a Justice of the peace in and for Miami County of Ohio this

⁶ [William Luckie S7165](#)

12th day of October 1833.

S/ Samuel Caldwell, JP

S/ Benjamin Brandon

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State of North Carolina Rowan County September 10th 1832

We the subscribers being acquainted with Benjamin Brandon Senior of the State of Ohio do hereby certify from his standing in Society and of the services which he has rendered in the Revolutionary War, being equal to many of his fellow Soldiers who has drawn, and still continued to draw a pension from the General Government, which he the said Brandon was debarred from by the act passed in the year 1828 by holding property which the act passed in 1831 has rescinded Therefore think it nothing but fair and right that the said Brandon should be 1st in possession of a pension from the time peace was concluded to make him equal with those of his fellow soldiers who have had a pension from the termination of peace.

Given under our hands

S/ James Graham Sr.

S/ Benjamin Knox

S/ Zadock Griffith

S/ William Luckey

S/ James Patterson

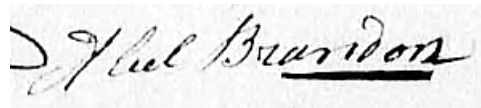
A photograph of a document showing five handwritten signatures in cursive script. From top to bottom, the signatures are: James Graham Sr., Benjamin Knox, Zadock Griffith, William Luckey, and James Patterson. The signatures are written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

[p 4]

State of Ohio Miami County

Abel Brandon aged Sixty-two years a native of the State of North Carolina, but for many years now last past a resident of the State of Ohio, being duly sworn according to law doth declare that during the Revolutionary War he was a Boy but a very well remembers that his Brother Benjamin Brandon who is an applicant for a pension, was called out and served in several tours of duty in the cause of the Colonies against Great Britain and that a Brother older called William and a younger Brother named James served together in the same cause that he the said Abel was too young to know any of the particulars of their services, but remembers very well their going from home and returning again from the duty mentioned, and that his Father James Brandon always encouraged and recommended his brothers to serve their country against the enemy, that his brother William served a part of the time in the regular service.

S/ Abel Brandon

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Abel Brandon" and is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Miami and state of Ohio this 12th day of October 1833.

S/ Samuel Caldwell, JP

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State of Ohio, Miami County

On this first day of November A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable George B. Holt, President, & his Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County & State aforesaid, & now in session, Benjamin Brandon, aged 74 years now residing in the County aforesaid who, being first duly sworn according to law doth, on his oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by Congress, by act passed June 7th, 1832.

That he was born in Rowan County North Carolina in April 1759; but has no record of his age; that he lived in Rowan County aforesaid until the year 1804. That he volunteered, as a private, in the service of the United States, in the spring of the year 1777, and served a tour of three months (& upwards) under the command of Captain William Armstrong (Colonel Francis Locke & General Rutherford) in an expedition against the Tories & Indians, on the West side of the River Catawba; and continued in the service until he again volunteered under Captains William Armstrong & Knox (Armstrong having been promoted to a Majority during the Campaign) and that he had no Colonel – to command the party until he joined the Camp at Stono (in the year 1779) & remained there under the command of General Butler (Col. McDowell) a little before the Siege of Charleston South Carolina. That without having returned home, he immediately volunteered again, as a private under Captain Graham (Colonel's name not recollected) under the Command of General Lincoln under whose orders he was marched to the defense of Charleston, and served under them for a term of three months, and was then discharged by Captain Grimes, & Relieved by General Rutherford. That he then was discharged & returned home, where he staid but a few days, until he again volunteered, as a private under Captain William Armstrong, in an expedition against the Tories & Indians, and was at the scrimmage of Ramsour's; where Colonel Locke was the commander, although he did not act in the field on that day, but his party was commanded by Captain William Armstrong, principally, during the action, & until he was killed.

That he then volunteered, as a private under Captain Abel Armstrong (Colonel Joseph Dickson) & continued three months on the South West side of the Catawba River guarding the Tories & Indians; in which time his party succeeded in capturing a number of Tories – 3 of whom suffered exemplary punishment by hanging, for the treasonable crime of murdering the settlers who were devoted to the cause of the revolution. His next tour was as a private under Captain John Bickerstaff (Col. Smith) under whom he was marched to the Southern part of North Carolina against the Negroes & Tories. That he then volunteered as a private of a rifle Company under Captain Abel Armstrong (Colonel David Caldwell) for the term of three months; & was in the pursuit of Col. Bryant, a Tory leader (commonly called Bryant's Chase) in the fork of Yadkin [River]; -- volunteered again under the same Captain as a private for the term of three months; & was in action in the Battle of Cowpens, commanded by General Morgan, in the winter of 1781 -- & well remembers the effect of Colonel Washington's charge on Tarleton's troops, when the American Army pursued them 15 or 20 miles (as he supposes).

He then proceeded under General Davidson & was present & took part in the Battle of Cowan's Ford, in which action General Davidson fell. This was on the Catawba [River] & under the command of Captain Abel Armstrong (Col. Locke). He was also at the defeat of the American troops at Torrences' Cross Roads, under the last named Captain. That he does not precisely recollect other services in the field under him; but that he continued from the period last referred to under Captain Abel Armstrong until the Peace; & that he remained at home but very few days during the term of five years; from the year 1777 to 1782, inclusive, the balance of which time he devoted to the service of his country.

That he was not engaged in said term of five years, in any civil pursuit, except preparing himself for the various Campaigns in which he acted.

That he has the testimony of James Graham, James Patterson, William Luckee, and Benjamin Knox, of North Carolina, Rowan County; and that of David Hair and Robert Hair of Iredell County & state aforesaid at all of whose testimony go to show his service & reputation and which evidence is hereunto accompanying. That in the year 1804, he removed from Rowan County North Carolina, to the State of Tennessee, where he resided until the year 1808; thence he removed to Miami County & State of Ohio, where he has resided ever since. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present; & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court on the day & date above written.

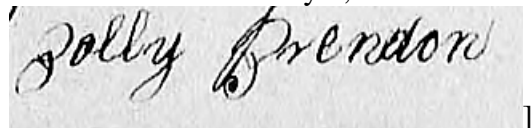
Sworn to & subscribed in open court November 1st 1833.

S/ John G. Telford, Clerk

S/ Benjamin Brandon

[James Harrison, a clergyman, and William McCampbell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: On March 21st 1844, Polly Brandon, aged 73, a resident of Miami County of Ohio filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she married Benjamin Brandon on February 6th 1790 and that he died on May 5, 1837 in Miami County.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Polly Brandon". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The first letter "P" is large and prominent. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

[p 14: Copy of the marriage bond issued to Benjamin Brandon and James Willson February 4, 1788 conditioned upon the marriage of Benjamin Brandon to Mary Knox.]

[facts in file: Mary or Polly Brandon's maiden name was Knox. She was born May 11, 1771 in Rowan County, NC. Mary and Benjamin Brandon had the following children:

James born March 10, 1791

Lisey or Elizabeth born February 1793

John K. born March 1795

Jesey born October 1797

Benjamin born April 1799

Zilla born 1801

Fanney born 1803

Gidion born 1805

Jeney born March 11, 1807

Faley [or Paley] born ?

Levi born April 28, 1811.

[Bible record appears on p 15: see below:

Benjamin Brandon of North Carolina
 Was Married the 6 of february 1790
 Their Son James was born the 10 of March 1791
 Jesse was born the february 1793
 John R. was born the March 1795
 Jesse was born the October 1797
 Benjamin was born the ~~17~~ 1799
 Zilla was born the 1801
 Fanny was born the 1802
 Gideon was born the 1805
 Nancy was born the 31 of March 1807
 Joseph was born the
 Levi was born the 28 of April 1811

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]