

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Southerland R10316 NC  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 Sep 2014.

State of North Carolina }  
Duplin County }

On this 26th day of May AD 1833 personally appeared before me one of the the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions Robert Sutherland a resident of said County & State 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. The said Robert Sutherland in consequence of extreme age & debility being unable to go to Court makes his declaration as below stated before me N. Hall JP

This applicant turned out under Capt [Isham] Sheffield at the Lime stone [possibly Limestone Creek] in Duplin County in the year that the British destroyed the long bridge across the North East of Cape Fear [Heron Bridge across Northeast Cape Fear River, burned 30 Jan 1781]. Under his command we went to the long bridge & was there put under the command of Col [James] Kenan, where he remained but Eight or ten days, when he was taken from the ranks & put to making shoes for the army – I worked out my tour at this business, which was three months, having made in that time seventy five pair of shoes – I worked three months independent of the few days I was under arms. After my time was out I remained home until near the close of the war when I joined under the command of Capt Gillespie, in Duplin, at Limestone as a volunteer, in the Light Horse. We marched through Duplin, Onslow, New Hanover & part of the County now called Samson [sic: Sampson] but then Duplin. Part of the time we were with General [Griffith] Rutherford from the mountain in New Hanover, at the Soy Bridge. We were in various scouting parties after the Tories. I served the three months for which I volunteered, two months in person, & being compelled to be at home, hired Wm Howden [William Howden], for one month. Wm Howden served the one month in the middle of the three. I was also one of a party of 20 who hired for one year Thomas Canaday [possibly pension application W3561] who served out his year & got a discharge.

our Company of twenty men also hired a John Edward Carter, a man of color, to serve one year – he went to Charleston & was carried away a prisoner by the British [probably at the surrender on 12 May 1780] & he never returned. one John Miller & James Brock were also taken away at the same time & have never returned, all three from Duplin. delivered Jno Ed Carter on on the part of our company to Col Kenan himself & took a receipt for him & know nothing of what has become of it

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In Richmond, Virginia, now called so, in the year 1747 – 30th August

2. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it?

Ans. I have the record now in my own house copied on paper from the book in which my father put it.

3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, & where do you now live?

Ans. In Duplin where I now live, & have lived there ever since the war

4. How were you called into service, were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, & if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I volunteered each time – was never a substitute, & hired a substitute once for a month.

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & Militia regiments as you recollect & the general circumstances of your service?

Knows nothing of the Regular officers, or Continental Regiments. Our services were various. During the whole of the war this applicant was out nearly every month with small parties hunting Tories – at Rockfish in the County in between Duplin & New Hanover. I was present with a large company to annoy Major Craige [sic: James Henry Craig, who occupied Wilmington NC after Jan 1781]. there was a small fight [probably the one at Rockfish Creek, 2 Aug 1781] – only one of our men was wounded in the hand. This applicant is certain that he was out fully six months on various occasions, were the time

consolidated, during the war, independent of his regular service stated above.

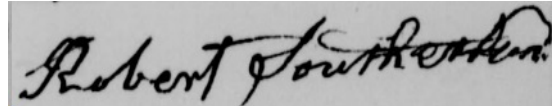
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, & if so by whom was it given, & what has become of it?

Ans. I never received a discharge, it being customary to give them only to soldiers in the Regular service.

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

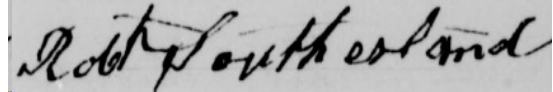
Thomas Canaday, Nicholas Sandlin who was part of the time in service with me, James William, & Nicholas Hall. Thomas Canaday was hired by a class of twenty for one year, & he served the time out & got a discharge. I hired him on the part of the nineteen – he being one of the twenty – & paid him myself – the rest paying their proportion to me. Canaday was in several battles.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above written



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 the day & year aforesaid



This Day Nicholas Sandlin Aged Seventy Eight years Came Before me and made oath in Due form that Robert Southerland of the State of North Carolina and County of Duplin was in Camp with me at the Big Bridg in Newhanover County as a Soldier under the Command of Col. James Kenan, Isham Shuffield Captin and John Lenear [John Lanier?] Lieutenant and Remained in Survis Eight of ten Day, and then was taken out of the Lines and sent home to make shoes for the army as he understood

Sworn too Before me this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1833 Nicholas hisXmark Sandlin

NOTES:

Robert Southerland's claim rejected on the grounds the he "did not serve in a military capacity," presumably because he was assigned to make shoes. If Southerland was in service during this time such a rejection is contrary to the pension act of 1832 and the Pension Office's own regulations.

On 28 Aug 1852 in Duplin County NC before Alsa Southerland, Justice of the Peace, David Southerland, 64, assigned power of attorney to obtain any pension or bounty land as the son and heir of Robert Southerland and Patience Southerland. He stated that his parents were born and lived their entire lives in Duplin County, that they were married there in 1777, that Robert Southerland died there on 12 Aug 1835, and that Patience Southerland died there on 1 April 1833.