

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of David Bradley R1132

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Musquodoboit County of Halifax Province of Nova Scotia May 28th 1842

Sir Observing an advertisement in the Nova Scotian News paper requesting those who have served in the American army during the war of the Revolution to send in their claims for Pension granted by Act of Congress, I am Induced to send you the following statement of services performed – I was born in Roanoke [see endnote] in the State of Virginia. I enlisted in the American Army in the year 1777 when I was 18 years of age. I entered in Cumberland County (Virginia) in the 7th Virginia Regiment under an engagement to serve 2 years, the Colonel of the Reg't was named Clannahan [sic: Alexander McClenachan], the 1st Leuit of my Company was named Will'm. Mosely [sic: William Moseley] afterwards promoted to be Captain the 2nd Leuit's name was Will'm Barnett [William Barnett] who died before we marched to the northward, the Ensign's name was Mahew Carrington [sic: Mayo Carrington], Gen. Woolford [sic: William Woodford] was our Brigadier General. I served the 2 years out and then enlisted for 3 years more but before they expired I was taken prisoner at the surrender of Charleston [12 May 1780] where Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln commanded. I lay 11 months in the hulks [prison ships] at Charleston, when finding our situation intolerable from filth &c and seeing no prospect of being exchanged, and conceiving ourselves neglected by our country, a number of us were induced in order to get out of prison to enter the British Service under the express stipulation of not bearing arms against our countrymen in America, our Oath was to serve his Brittanic Majesty on the Spanish Main for 3 years only. I was thus driven from my country by circumstances over which I had no controul, I was then sent to Jamaica where I remained nearly 3 years, from thence I came with the Regiment to Halifax, Nova Scotia where it was disbanded, I was then settled at a place called Manchester to the Eastward of Halifax where I obtained a small grant of Land from the British Government but not liking the location I left it almost immediately, from thence I came to the place where I now reside where I have since made my living by farming. During the time I served in the American Army I was in the Battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], and German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777], besides various skirmishes and small affairs of which I do not now recollect the names or places. When we left Virginia we marched to the Northward to join the main army under General Washington, we lay one winter in Quarters in Valley Ford [sic: Valley Forge] during the time I served in the army we marched through the Jerseys, Pennsylvania &c I am now about 83 years of age, should you deem the foregoing statement of service sufficient to entitle me to pension, the correctness of which can be tested by reference to the books of the 7th Virginia Regiment which I presume are still in existence, or by some other documents accessible to you or your agents. you will please write by an early mail – and give your opinion on the subject.

David hisXmark Bradley

NOTES:

The present City of Roanoke was named Big Lick until 1881. Bradley may have been referring to a place near Roanoke River.

A letter in the file states that Bradley died on 4 Apr 1844 or 1843 at age 84, leaving no children, but a widow named Susan Bradley, who was "upwards of 90."