

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John West R11341  
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn41<sup>1</sup>NC  
6/28/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

District of West Tennessee State of Tennessee Sumner County Court August Term 1836

On this 1st day of August 1836 personally appeared in open Court it being a court of record John West aged seventy-three years a resident Citizen of said County 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 of an act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1781 in the State of North Carolina Onslow County -- as a volunteer private and served three months under Captain Amos Love & Captain Daniel Newton and was stationed most of the term at a place called Richland Chapel on the head of the New River in North Carolina applicant was not in any action -- applicant was drafted again into the service of the United States in the latter part of the summer 1781 and served under Captain Bisell Grant -- whose company was attached to Colonel John Spicer's Regiment of militia. Applicant served three months as a Corporal in the spring of 1782 applicant served a [indecipherable word] weeks. This is the amount of applicant's services in the Revolutionary War amounting to six months service for which he claims a pension. Applicant was born in the State of Maryland in the year 1763 -- His parents removed to North Carolina during his infancy in which State he resided when he entered the service of the United States -- and until the year 1808 when he removed to Sumner County Tennessee where he has resided ever since. 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 any State.

Sworn to in open Court the 1st August 1836

S/ Thos. Donoho, Clerk

S/ John West

[Nathaniel Parker, a clergyman, and Thomas P. Freeland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 173]

State of Tennessee Sumner County

On this 7th day of August 1837 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of said County now sitting John West a resident of said County aged seventy-four years

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<sup>1</sup> At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States at Wilmington State of North Carolina in the early part of the summer of 1780 under Captain Amos Love whose company was attached to Captain Spicer's Regiment and served two months when he was dismissed in the fall of the same year he was again called into service and served one month in Captain Daniel Newton's Company and Colonel Spicer's Regiment and was discharged he received no written discharge. In the fall of the year 1781 he was again drafted into the service for the term of three months and served said three months in Captain Bazell Grant's Company which was attached to Colonel Spicer's Regiment -- he was again out for three or four weeks during that year or the early part of the next he served as a private militia man during said service -- This is the amount of applicant's service for which he claims a pension.

Applicant has no written evidence of his service and does not know of any person living by whom he could prove the fact. Applicant resided in the State of North Carolina when he entered the service and continued to reside there until the year 1806 when he removed to the State of Tennessee Sumner County where he has resided for the last 28 years.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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 and that this is the only application ever made by him for a pension except one forwarded to the War Department some time during the year 1836 from this court which has not been since heard from by the applicant.

Sworn to in open court  
S/ T. Donoho, Clerk  
7 Augt. 1837

S/ John West, X his mark

[William Woodall, a clergyman, and Thomas P. Freeland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 61]

State of Tennessee Sumner County: Amended Declaration

On this 13th day of March 1851 personally appeared before me Robert Dorris one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid and a Justice of a court of record John West a resident of the County of Sumner and the State of Tennessee aged about eighty-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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the War of the Revolution in the Spring of the year 1781 about the time of the battle of Guilford as a volunteer under Captain Daniel Newton but cannot recollect the day of the month. He volunteered for a tour of three months and was mustered into service at Richmond Chapel in Onslow County North Carolina and was marched through the [indecipherable word] Counties to intercept the supplies carried to the British Army by the Tories. They acted as spies and take the foraging parties of the British Army. They took a great many prisoners they were with Captain Love's Company and others he cannot recollect the name of the Colonel who had command of them as sometimes they were in detachments the better to check the foraging parties of Cornwallis Army. Their company was not in the battle but met some a short [time] afterwards who were in the battle. They took also a British Captain recollects seeing his commission but does not recollect his name he died while a Prisoner in their custody. They were marched back to Richland Chapel and there honorably

discharged having served three months and some days. This discharge he gave to his father and believes the same was destroyed or lost as he never expected to have any use for it.

So soon as he returned home there was orders for a draft and although he had just served yet as Cornwallis was in the Country and carrying everything before him there was use for all the men that could bear arms and Declarant submitted to a draft and entered the Service of the United States under Captain Basil Grant and was mustered into service at the same place Richland Chapel. This was while Cornwallis was at Wilmington or in that direction he acted this time as second Corporal appointed by his Captain. So soon as Cornwallis marched up the country in the direction of Virginia they had orders to march to Wilmington which they did and was stationed there some time. Then marched [indecipherable word] to Swansbury [sic, Swansboro?] and was stationed there at Bouge Inlet [sic, Bogue Inlet?] prevent the British row galleys from landing and plundering the town. Colonel Spun [? Austin Spain?] was their Colonel as well as he recollects. There were several officers of the Army would come down to give orders but cannot from the loss of memory recollect their names nor most of the particulars. They were stationed at Swansbury until the end of their service and were then honorably discharged which discharge he gave to his father and was lost or destroyed and he never knew what became of [it] he served this tour three months. The money he got for both these tours of service never done him any good as it was Continental which was no account or turned out so. He does served six months in all in a few days and for this he claims a Pension.

This Declaration he makes this as an amendment to a former Declaration sent to the War Department in August 1836. The reason he did not apply sooner for a Pension was that they being in a [indecipherable word] part of Sumner County he was told that none but regular Soldiers were entitled and also that unless he served six months under one engagement he was not entitled until he went to Gallatin while court was in session and Colonel Guild and Major Blackamore told him better and as Colonel Guild was going to Florida in the war with the Seminole Indians Blackamore fixed his papers in the year 1836. The reason why they left Wilmington was the breaking out of the smallpox. They were marched back to Richland Chapel and inoculated there during the first tour or second tour he cannot recollect which. They were sometimes with General Butler while he was in North Carolina but were ordered out by him or General Greene on various tours of duty to scour the County and suppress the Tories. I do not recollect the name of regiments I was attached to. It was a North Carolina volunteer Regiment the first time and a North Carolina militia Regiment the second time and their orders were received from General Greene and General Butler and sometimes from others not now recollected. Saw a great many of the wounded from Greene's Army but we were not permitted to mix with the regulars. I cannot appear in open court to make this declaration as old age prevents may and I am sorely afflicted with the gravel and cannot walk or ride. I hereby relinquish every other claim to a [pension] but the one under act of 7th of June 1832 and I further declare that my name is not on the roll of any Pension Agency of the United States or territories.

#### Questions

Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born in Maryland in my father moved to North Carolina when I was a child. I was born on the 12th day of March 1763

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

Answer I have which is hereto annexed

3. Where were you living when called into service where have you since lived and where do you now live

I lived in Onslow County North Carolina when called into service and lived there after the Revolutionary War until 1807 when I moved to Tennessee where I have lived ever since  
4 How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for the

Answer I volunteered first three months tour and was drafted the last three months tour I never was a substitute for any

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

Answer I cannot [recollect] the names of the Regiment as there was a great many we got our orders from General Greene and others not recollected but I refer to my above statement what I now recollect

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

Answer I have already [said] what became of my discharges and they were given [by] a field officer whose name I do not recollect

7. 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 of your services as a Soldier of the revolution

Answer There are a great many pastors who know me and can testify to my character as I believe to wit Nathaniel Parker a Methodist clergyman and William W. Ausbrook a Baptist clergyman & James Tay [sic, James Taylor], James Keppey & Thomas Freeland. Declarant further states that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove his services in the war of the revolution as detailed by him they being all dead.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day and year first above written being 13th day of March 1851

S/ Robert Dorris, JP

S/ John West, X his mark

[Nathaniel Parker, William W. Ausbrook, James Taylor, James Keppey and Thomas Freeland gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 133: family record]

"John West Son of Levi West and Mary his wife was born march the 12<sup>th</sup> 1763  
Rachel West dufter of Samuel [document ends here]"