

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Wiggins R11501

fn9NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/10/10

[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.]

State of North Carolina Macon County: SS

On this 17th day of September 1845, Personally appeared before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions (now sitting in Franklin) Abraham Wiggins a Resident of Macon County State of North Carolina and aged eighty-three years, and after 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 7th of June 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers & served as herein stated, he entered the Service of the United States in Wilkes County North Carolina as a volunteer in the month of March in the year 1780 under one Captain James Henderson for a three months Tour, and was marched to Georgetown South Carolina and there joined the regular Army under the command of General Caswell, and, there remained, until the Siege of Charleston in the month of May following he was then marched to Cross Creek and there remained, until his said tour of three months expired, he then immediately volunteered, for another three months Tour, but from old age and infirmity does not recollect his Captain's name but was commanded by Colonel Benjamin Herren and was marched to King's Mountain but did not reach there until soon after the Battle<sup>1</sup> was fought at that place, he was then sent to Guard the Prisoners to brier Creek in Wilkes County, and after arriving there they learned that the Tories were committing Depredations in the Country he was then sent with a company in pursuit of the Tories, and after marching from place to place in pursuit of them for some time, they were informed, that one Fanning [David Fanning] had raised a company of Tories and was committing depredations on Deep River, he was then marched immediately to Deep River in pursuit of them, and after pursuing them for some time & failing to overtake them he was marched back to Wilkes County and the Tories still committing depredations in that section of country & his time being out he again volunteered under one Captain Robert Cleaveland [sic, Robert Cleaveland] and was again sent out on a scouting excursion Commanded by General Cleaveland [sic, probably Colonel Benjamin Cleaveland] in pursuit of the Tories & was marched to the Yadkin River & there remained, until the end of that Tour, after which he again volunteered under the same officers & was marched to Catawba River, to suppress the Tories in that section of the Country, & there remained until the end of that Tour, he again volunteered under the same officers, he does not recollect whether it was for any certain length of time or not

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<sup>1</sup> October 7, 1780

but knows that he remained, in actual Service until the surrender of Cornwallis at Little York, he thinks in October 1781 he never received any regular Discharge that he recollects, he was acquainted with Generals Davidson & McDowell. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

He further swears that the reason why he has not applied for a Pension earlier is this, that he did apply to one Felix Axley a lawyer, several years ago to prosecute his claim and, he has never heard from it since until he got some of his friends to write on to the war department & the Commissioner informed that he had no papers on file & he did not know that it was necessary to file a Declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court the day & year above

S/ J. K. Gray, Clerk

S/ Abraham Wiggins, X his mark

Questions

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ansr. I was born in the State of New Jersey in the year 1762

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ansr. I have not

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ansr. I was living in Wilkes County North Carolina when I entered the service, some years after the war I moved to Burke County North Carolina & from there to Buncombe County North Carolina and from there to Macon County where I have lived for about 20 years & where I now live,

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ansr. I was a volunteer.

5<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ansr. If I ever received a discharge I do not recollect it, I am acquainted with Mark Coleman, Andrew Welch, William H. Thomas, John McDowell & Samuel Sherrell who lived in my neighborhood & who can testify as to my Character & veracity and my Reputation as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn & subscribed

S/ J. K. Gray, Clerk

S/ Abraham Wiggins, X his mark

[John McDowell, a clergyman, and E. B. Newton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Macon County: On this 18th day of September 1845 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions (now sitting in Franklin) Colonel William F. McKee and after being duly sworn doth upon his oath declare that Abraham Wiggins who is a resident citizen of Macon County & State of North Carolina and now an applicant for a Pension is personally known to him and has been for the last forty years or more, and during all of his acquaintance with him he has often heard him speak of his services in the war of the Revolution, and that he has ever since his first acquaintance with him been regarded and reputed in the neighborhood in which he lived his having been a soldier of the Revolution and that he has always concur in that opinion and he further swears that the said Abraham Wiggins has ever since his first acquaintance with him maintained the Character of an honest & Respectable

Citizen and one whose Statements me at all times be relied on, as full faith & credit is due them.  
Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and date above,  
S/ J. K. Gray, Clerk S/ Wm F. McKee

[Joseph Welch Esquire gave a similar supporting affidavit to that given by William F. McKee.]