

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Findley R14183

f12NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/26/08 rev'd 1/12/15

[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.]

State of Indiana Spencer County

On this 19th day of November 1836 personally came and appeared before the undersigned John W. Grayham & John M. Barnett associate Judges of the Spencer Circuit Court Samuel Findley a resident of said County of Spencer and State of Indiana aged Seventy-four years in April last, who being 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

This applicant states that he was born in Guilford County North Carolina in the month of April 1762 and as well as he now recollects early in the month of February 1781 an officer then called Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] who commanded a Legion came into the vicinity of his mother then a widow living on a Creek called Alamance in the County of Guilford and being much in want of a person to pilot him through that section of country, and this applicant being well acquainted with the adjacent Country by the permission of his Mother joined Lee's Troops and piloted said Lee to a place then called Holts race paths, where in a Lane they surprise and cut to pieces a party of Loyalist commanded by Colonel Pyle [Doctor John Pyle] [Pyle's Defeat or Holt's Race Path, February 25, 1781]. This applicant was with Lee in the Memorable battle of Guilford Court house [March 15, 1781] and also accompanied him to Ramsey's Mills and when the Army of Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] accompanied by Lee's troops in the month of April marched to South Carolina, this applicant was discharged and returned home to Guilford, having served two months under Lee.

In a few weeks after his discharge from Lee I was drafted as a militia man in the aforesaid County of Guilford for the term of six months and we rendezvoused in the County of Randolph and as well as now recollected at Elijah Mendenhall's Mill on deep River [Deep River]. The Captain under whom I served was George Stewart the Major was John Gillespie and our Colonel James Martin, at this place we met the troops from Stokes County Randolph & Surry Counties in the whole was commanded by General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] from this place the Army marched through a town then called Cross Creek now called Fayette [sic, Fayetteville] and went in pursuit of Colonel Fannin [sic, David Fanning] who had Tories embodied and passed through a town then called Elizabeth, crossed the Cape Fear River and marched on to Wilmington where we remained until our tour of six months was completed, and this applicant was then honorably discharged in the latter end of the year 1781 he precise time not recollected, and this applicant here states that the discharge which he received has been lost and he knows of no living witness to prove his said Service here closes his revolutionary Services.

This applicant is advised that a Narrative of my subsequent life exhibits claims on my beloved Country, and he therefore proceeds to State that in a few years after the Revolution he removed to the West and Settled in the vicinity of the Cumberland River and lived in the family of Major Edward Douglas about 18 miles from Nashville for three years during my sojourn I went on many tours or scouts against the Indians, one was under Colonel Robertson who drove the Indians from a town called "Cold Water" on the Tennessee River and while I resided at Major Edward Douglas I became acquainted with our present patriotic President Andrew Jackson, who I hope when this narrative is presented will remember the person & name of this applicant, who is now old and infirm and needy, but whose stood by the flag of his beloved Country on many trifling occasions.

I was at the battle of Tippecanoe [November 7, 1811] on the Wabash River in the company of Captain Spencer when every Commissioned officer and upwards of 20 of the privates were killed or wounded.

I was in Barbours Regiment in Canday under the Command of Governor Shelby I was also in the memorable Battles at Orleans [New Orleans] under Captain Allen of the regular Service. I here again saw General Jackson who then recognized me and I hope and trust when this comes to his sight that he will again remember the worn-out soldier who now asks in the evening of life from his Country in a small pittance to supply the wants of his few remaining days

This applicant has resided in Kentucky upwards of 30 years but now resides in Spencer County Indiana he has lost all his revolutionary discharges and knows of no living person who can prove his said Services, 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 agency in any State. This applicant states that from infirmity he is confined to his room unable to attend in person before the Court of his County, to Execute this writing, and therefore swears to and subscribed the same at his residence in the house of Eleazer Young on the Ohio River in Spencer County before the honorable Judge of the Spencer Circuit Court witness my hand this 19th day of November 1836

S/ Samuel Findley, X his mark

Signed & sworn to in my presence

S/ John M. Barnett, Judges

S/ John W. Graham

[John M. Barnett, a clergyman, Eleazer Young & William Burrows gave the standard supporting affidavit.]