

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Edmisten (Edmiston, Edmonson) R3243

f56NC/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/25/08 rev'd 12/15/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Wilkes County

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1844 personally appeared in Open Court Before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions opened & held according to law for the County of Wilkes at Wilkesboro North Carolina now sitting William Edmiston a resident of Wilkes County State aforesaid aged 84 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 June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States while he resided in Amherst County in State of Virginia, in the month of August 1780, under Captain John Jacobs of Amherst County State aforesaid -- Commanded by Colonel Taylor [Francis Taylor] at Albemarle Barracks, and served a tour of one month in Garrison guarding General Burgoyne's men, that the Americans had taken prisoner some time previous to that period. Afterwards I again entered the service on or about the first of October 1780 for three months as a substitute for my father, Robert Edmiston under Captain Samuel Higginbottom [probably Samuel Higginbotham] who was Commanded by Lieutenant Joseph Higginbottom Morrison, at Richmond on James River in State aforesaid. I do not recollect the name of the Colonel Commander. I then left the service at the expiration of this three months and returned to my father, James Edmiston's house upon the head waters of Pedlar River in Amherst County State of Virginia; I abode till the first of March following at my father's, after which I emigrated to Lower Creek in Burke County North Carolina. On the eighth day after my arrival I was called again into the service of the United States by an appointment of Sergeant from Colonel Charles McDowell (afterwards promoted to General), Captain William Sumpter [William Sumter] and Lieutenant James Blair. In obedience to this appointment I took charge of a Company of Militia and was ordered to rout the Tories who infested the Western portion of North Carolina; Suppress invasions, and whole myself and company ready for immediate service in any emergency, over this Company and with it I served from the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1781 till 15<sup>th</sup> September following a period of five months and owing to our orders and situation was debarred from any civil pursuit whatever, during this period of five months we were not called into any battles, and there was no call upon us to suppress invasions: we rendezvoused near Kriders [Cryder's] Ford on what was called Lower Creek: at the end of this period or on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1781, I was discharged verbally by Captain Sumpter from the service. On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the same month, I went Home to Amherst County in Virginia and after about two weeks abode there I was again called into the Militia by Captain Richard Ballinger to go to Little York: we were commanded to rendezvous at Amherst C. H. a distance of 30 miles from where I lived. On my way there I met Charles Ison (afterwards promoted to a

captainship) who informed me of the surrender [October 19, 1781] of Lord Cornwallis and in obedience to orders from his Captain & General I was freed and returned home in Amherst County in Virginia and in September 1782 I again emigrated to what was then called Burke County, State of North Carolina in which County I resided to within the last three years I moved to Wilkes –

And I William Edmiston have now submitted to the department all I now know or recollect concerning my services, and I know of no documentary evidence I have to support my declarations or my services.

He the aforesaid William Edmiston 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 the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid  
S/ William Edmiston



Samuel P. Smith, a clergyman, and James Wellborn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 37]

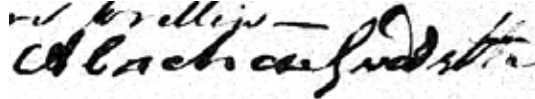
State of North Carolina Caldwell County

On this 27 day of August 1844 personally appeared before me one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County Abraham Southard [he signed his name Abraham Suddeth] a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 82 years who after being duly sworn according to law depose and saith that he was well acquainted with William Edmiston who has signed the foregoing Declaration and that he is a credible person and that his declaration is entitled to all due credit. And he further says that he well recollects that the aforesaid Edmiston was in the service of the United States under Capt. William Sumpter, but in what grade or how long he served he is not able to say, and he further says that having been acquainted with the aforesaid William Edmiston from childhood he has reason to believe from the acquaintance with him and from his age and bodily infirmity and from the Opinion and belief of the neighborhood in which he the aforesaid Edmiston lives that his declaration is true and that he served and done as he has set forth and sworn to in his declaration.

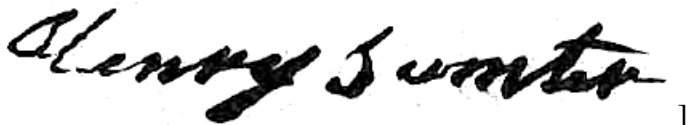
Sworn to and subscribed on this the day and year above written

S/ A. E. Hughes, JP

S/ Abraham Suddeth [or Sudderth]



[p 38: Henry Sumter, 77, a resident of Caldwell County North Carolina gave testimony substantially identical to that given by Abraham Suddeth above as to the reputation of the applicant in his neighborhood as a soldier of the revolution



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[p 6]

Know all men by these presents that I. Susanah Blair [Susannah Blair] of the County of Watauga & State of North Carolina and one of the children and legal representatives of William Edmonson who was a Revolutionary Soldier who is now deceased [deceased] he deceased on the 21st day of October in the year 1847 aged about 88 years at the time of his Death Leaving at the time of his Death 13 Living Children to wit myself Susannah, Sally, Robert, Lucy, Emanuel, William, Betsy, Allen, Abraham, Thomas, Suthard [?], Belinda, John my father William Edmonson some short time previous to his Death as I am informed filed a Declaration & had it sent to the war Department for the purpose of obtaining his pension but for want of attention or some over purpose has never drew any I do hereby irrevocably Constitute and appoint Judan Councill & William F. Davidson Mclenburg [sic, Mecklenburg] County and city my true & lawful attorneys for me & in my name to examine into & prosecute any claim that may be due or found due to the children and legal representatives of William Edmonson in virtue of said William Edmonson's services in the Revolutionary War and the several acts and resolutions of Congress relative thereto and that might have accrued to either of the said parties and not drawn during their lifetime and now due to their legal representatives and to receive the Certificate of pension &c.... in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 21st day of January 1853.

S/ Susannah Blair, X her mark

Signed in presence of  
S/ J. W. Councill, JP

[p 42: On March 22, 1853 in Wilkes County North Carolina, John T Edmiston executed a power of attorney in which he states he is the son of William Edmiston, a revolutionary war soldier.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T Edmiston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

[Facts in file: Veteran died at the home of his son, John T. Edmiston in Wilkesboro, NC either on October 21, 1847 or October 14, 1848 (both dates appear in the file)]