

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Wilson Henderson R4878

f21SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

1/2/11: rev'd 6/17/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 2]

State of Illinois County of Gallatin } SS

On this 19th day of November 1838, personally appeared Wilson Henderson, in open Court, before the Honorable W. B. Scates, Judge of the Circuit Court in & for said County, now sitting, which said Wilson Henderson is a resident of said County, and State, aged 76 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 act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated:

His first tour of duty was under the command of Captain Anderson Thomas [Fairfield Regiment of SC militia], and [Lt.] Colonel Joseph Brown, – He lived in Chester County South Carolina, and was born in Parson County [sic, Person County]¹ NC, according to his family records, on the 30th day of October 1762, and at the age of fifteen years, he was drafted and served under the above named officers for a period of one month, to the best of his remembrance. In this tour he marched to Charleston, SC, from thence to Plurensburgh [sic, Purrysburg?] on Savannah River, & was then discharged. He served another tour under Lieut. John Mayfield, down towards Charleston, but he does not remember his Captain's or Colonel's name. The tour lasted about one month – and he acted as Sergeant therein –

He served another tour under Lieut. Mayfield & Col. Jos. Brown, – they marched down to Camden town, camped near the town, and the next morning the British took possession of the town, and the Americans had to make their escape. He acted as Sergeant that tour^{also} which lasted about one month. Then he served another tour, under the same officers, after Cornwallis left Waynesboro or Winsboro [sic, Winnsboro]² on a large River the name of which he has forgotten, also for one month – Then another tour under said Mayfield, joined with General Sumter's [Thomas Sumter's] Army, and in this tour they drove about four hundred Tories out of a mill pond, where he was shot through the wrist^{by the Tories}, a commissary by the name of Lipham³ – This tour also lasted one month –

¹ In 1762, the county which would later constitute Person County was Orange County, NC. In 1778 a portion of Orange County was broken off to form Caswell County. Person County was broken off from Caswell County in 1791/1792.

² Cornwallis decamped from Winnsboro SC in September 1781 heading to Charlotte NC.

³ In a later application transcribed below, the veteran states that it was Commissary Lipham [probably Frederick Lipham] who was wounded in this action, not the veteran. [Frederick Lipham SC1970](#)

Then another tour under the command of Capt. Robert Frost – in this tour the battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781]⁴ took place – Here we were mounted on horseback, every man finding his own, with a view to intercept the British, who were on their march from ~~96~~^{Ninety Six} to Charleston. This tour was also one month in duration – Then another tour under said Mayfield and Col. David Hopkins, down towards Charleston, also of one month – And lastly a tour of one month or more under Captain Frost & Lt. Mayfield, Scouting Tories and murderers – That he served as Sergeant in every tour except the ^{two} first –

That he moved from South Carolina, several years after the peace of '83 to Tennessee Overton County, where he lived about three years, from thence to Warren County, Kentucky, where he lived about three years, then to Muhlenberg County, Ky., where he lived until he moved to Illinois, Gallatin County, about twenty years ago, where he has resided ever since. He states that he served one or two tours more that he cannot now remember the particulars of, owing to advanced age and the consequent failure of memory. He states that he was drafted and the troops were so arranged as to be called upon in class to serve one month at a time, & until they were replaced by another class, and it often happened that he served more than one month at a time, in consequence of this – He served in all nine tours as he believes, averaging one month each, and of eight of them he is certain from the particulars he has stated – He has no documentary evidence, & he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State – That he has made one attempt heretofore to get a pension under the law, but it fell through, & no application was made.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year first aforesaid

S/ Leo^d White, Clk

S/ Wilson Henderson



[Stephen Stilles, a clergyman, John Lockhart and William J Gatewood gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8: heavily edited]

State of Illinois Saline Count} personally appeared before the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the aforesaid County, duly authorized by law to administer oaths, Wilson Henderson and first being duly Sworn according to law and in order to make a further declaration of his Services in the war of the Revolution or an addition to that of ____ doth on his oath Say that he was born in Parson County North Carolina on the thirtieth day of October seventeen hundred and sixty two and moved into South Carolina Chester County and raised there until he was fifteen years and three months of age and was then drafted into the Services of the United States Served under Captain Anderson Thomas and Cornal [sic, Colonel, misspelled throughout this document] Joseph Brown marched to Charleston in South Carolina and from thence to plueman [Purrysburg] on the Savannah River and was there discharged after nine weeks Service and stayed home one month the above tower [tour] of Service commenced about the first of February 1778

2 my Second tower commenced about the 15 of May 1778 under Lieutenant John Mayfield as an orderly Sergeant can't remember the Colonel's name we marched down towards Charleston

⁴ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

Served one month and discharged

3 a third tower commenced about the first of September 1780 served as an orderly Sergeant under Lieut. John Mayfield and Colonel Joseph Brown marched down to Camden town left there the morning the British took the town⁵ the above Tower may have commenced about the middle of August 1780.

4 another tower of Service under Lieut. John Mayfield and Colonel Joseph Brown Served as orderly Sergeant went down towards Charlestown and stationed on a river but can't remember its name Served one month and was discharged this tower I think commenced about the first of December 1780.

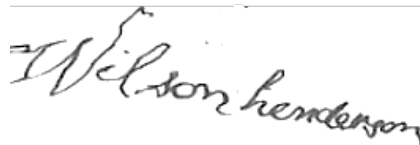
5 another Tower of duty I Supposed commenced in February or March 1781 I Served as orderly Sergeant under Lieutenant John Mayfield and Joined the Army's with General Sumpter [sic] and drove four hundred Tories out of a mill pond and Lipham the Commissary was wounded in his left arm Served one month and came home.

6 one tower of duty I Suppose Commenced about the first of October or maybe a little Sooner Served as a private in a horse company found my on horse and horse fair under the command of Captain Robert Frost was at the Battle of Eutaw Springs October 1781 [sic].

7 one Tower of duty under Lieutenant Mayfield and Colonel David Hopkins served as Orderly Sergeant commenced I suppose in December 1781 Served one month after the Tories and discharged removed from South Carolina to Tennessee Overland [sic, Overton?] County⁶ on the waters of Cumberland River from thence to Warren County Ky. from thence to Muhlenberg County Ky. from thence to Gallatin County Illinois where I now live. The said deponent further say and declare on his oath that he knows of no person living by whom he can prove his Services in the war of the revolution but that of his own oath and also States on his oath the reason why he did not apply sooner for a pension was that he never got what was called his indent from Charleston but some other person had forged an order and got it and so at the persuasion of my friends at last consented to make an effort

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this day and the year first above rite
S/ Hermon Thompson, JP

S/ Wilson Henderson



[Authenticated by the clerk of Gallatin County Illinois noting that the County of Saline had only recently been separated from Gallatin and "yet remained unorganized". His certificate is dated October 8, 1847]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁷ relating to Wilson Henderson
Audited Account No. 3528A

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⁵ Forces under the command of Lord Cornwallis took possession of Camden as a result of the Battle fought there on August 16, 1780. Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780: Battle of Camden https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html]

⁶ Overton County Tennessee was not formed until 1806.

⁷ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

[p 2: Printed form of Indent No. 84 Book L dated September 23, 1784 "delivered to Mr. Wilson Henderson this our INDENTED CERTIFICATE for the Sum of Nine Pounds Sterling for Militia Duty in 1778, 1780 & 1781 as per Account Audited."]

[p 3: Reverse of the above Indent bearing endorsements by Thomas Lehre and Frederick Hopkins. How these men acquired an interest in the Indent is not disclosed by the documents in this file.]

[Note: On page 15 of the veteran's federal pension file, the following record appears. The fact that more information was contained in the veteran's file in 1847 for his claim against SC for his services in the Revolution than now exists in that file indicates that someone has stolen these records from the veteran's SC file.]

Comptroller General Office
Columbia S.C. Oct. 19 1847

Indent Book
L No. 84 }
No 1 } Issued the 23^d day of September
1784 to Mr. Wilson Henderson, for
Nine pounds Sterling, for Militia
duty in 1778, 1780, and 1781. As
per Account audited £9.00, Sterling

The State of South Carolina

No 2 To Wilson Henderson

1778 Dec 7 -	61 days duty @ 10/11 day	£30.10.0
1780 May 9 -	10 " " "	5.0.0
1781 Aug 15	" " "	7.10.4
" Oct. 30	" " "	15. " "
" " 10	" " "	5.0.0
	<u>126</u>	<u>£63.0.0</u>
	Currencies	£63.0.0
	is Sterling	<u>£9.0.0</u>

I do hereby certify, that the extract
No 1 in the Margin, is a true copy taken
from Indent book L No 84, and that
No 2 is a true copy of the Original Act
for which said Indent was issued.

William C. Black
Capt. General
S.C.
Wm. Ben. Hart

