

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wilkerson (Wilkinson) S11818

fn25GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/14/10

[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 errors to my attention.]

[the pages in this file as posted on Footnote.com are badly scrambled—I hope I have unscrambled them correctly in making the transcriptions below]

State of Alabama Wilcox County

On this the 28th day of January in the year of our Lord 183?¹ [last digit obliterated] personally appeared in open court before the Honorable John [balance of name obliterated] presiding judge of the County Court of said County of Wilcox now sitting in said County of Wilcox John Wilkinson a resident of said County and State aged eighty-two 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 the 7th day of June in the year of our Lord 1832, That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated -- the is General Elijah Clarke, Colonel Benjamin Few, Lieutenant Colonel Granbury Lee and Major __ Spurlock [probably George Spurlock] and Captain John Wilson and Lieutenant Samuel Beekman -- The names of the other officers he does not now recollect -- That he entered the services of the United States as a volunteer sometime in the spring of the year while Lord 1776 as he believes and that he served through the most of the revolutionary war and as he believes was not out of service during the War -- at least he was engaged in the service about 5 years and under the above named officers at the time when he entered the services, he resided in Richmond County in the State of Georgia and that his services were chiefly rendered and performed in defending the frontiers of said State of Georgia from and against the aggressions of the Indians, with which tribe he was engaged in several skirmishes or battles of which the most important was that at a place then known by the name of Jones Ford on the Oconee River in said State -- he further states that he was engaged in several conflicts with the Tories, one of which was at Rocky Comfort² in said State. That the whole of the services which he performed was within the State of Georgia and during his services he marched from her northern frontier to Savannah -- he further states that he did not serve with any of the Continental

¹ The clerk's attestation of this application is dated January 28, 1833.

² **March 22, 1779 at Rocky Comfort Creek, Georgia** - On March 22, Col. LeRoy Hammond and some 500 militia ran into 50 Creek Indians at Rocky Comfort Creek. The militia attacked the Creeks and drove them away. Hammond returned to camp with the scalps of the Indian dead. **Conclusion: American Victory. Casualties:** American: 3w; British: 12k, 6c <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1779s.htm>

Regiments, nor is he acquainted with any of the regular officers as at the time of the regular Army was at Savannah and in the Eastern part of the State, he was engaged on her Western borders -- he feels himself unable to state further particulars, which he conceives would be of any service to him in the investigation of his claim as many of the incidents connected with his trials and sufferings have in the lapse of time measurably faded from his memory.

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 the agency of any state or (if any) only on that of the agency of the State of Georgia.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court

S/ John Wilkerson

S/ D. C. Smith, Clk

[Manoah Mayhew³ and Randal Duckworth gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

1st Where and in what year were you born?

A. I was born in Frederick County in the State of Virginia & in the year of our Lord 1750

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

A. I have no record of my age except my family record or manuscript which I took from my Father's family record which I yet have in my possession.

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

A. I was living in Richmond County in the State of Georgia when I volunteered in the United States services as mentioned above and continued to reside there until I moved to this State about 16 years ago. That I now live in Wilcox County in the State of Alabama

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

A. he volunteered

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. He entered the services of the United States under General Elijah Clarke, Colonel Benjamin Few, Lieutenant Colonel Granberry Lee, Major ___ Spurlock, Captain John Wilson & Lieutenant Samuel Brackman as to the other officers my memory fails me. I think I entered the service sometime in the spring of the year 1776 -- that I served through the most of the war as a volunteer -- that my services were rendered in defending the frontiers of Georgia from the aggressions and ravages of the Indians and repelling the Tories -- more particularly described in the declaration. I served in all about 4 years.

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

A. He did receive a discharge from Captain John Wilson but unfortunately he lost it.

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A. John Carr, Randal Duckworth, James A. Butler, Stephen Morgan, Manoah Mayhew, Willis Nunnally, John Robinson, James Thompson

State of Alabama Wilcox County

³ This man's signature looks more like "Manoah Mayo"

An amended declaration to the original made in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress of the United States of America passed on the 7th day of June in the year of our Lord 1832 the original declaration and interrogatories propounded thereto by the court being hereunto appended.

On this the 15th day of July in the year while Lord 1833, personally appeared in open court before the Honorable John W. Bridges Judge of the County Court of said County of Wilcox in the State of Alabama now sitting in said County of Wilcox John Wilkerson a resident citizen of said County of Wilcox and State of Alabama aged 82 years on the 4th day of August last passed, 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 on the seventh of June in the year while Lord 1832. That he entered the services of the United States as a volunteer under the following named officers viz. Colonel Benjamin Few Lieutenant Colonel Granberry Lee Major __Spurlock and Captain John Wilson. The General was Elijah Clarke. That he entered the services of the United States as a volunteer under the above named officers sometime in the spring of the year of our Lord 1776. That he served through the most of the revolutionary war and believes that he was not out of the services of the United States during the revolutionary war. It is the morally impossible by dent of memory for him to state at which particular time he entered the services of the United States as also the time he was released from the services of the same. But from historical facts as recorded the nature, circumstances and events of which are familiar to his recollection he entered the services of the United States on the 5th of April in the year 1776 and that he was discharged from the Services of the United States on the 11th day of July in the year of our Lord 1782. That at the time he entered the services of the United States he was a resident citizen of the County (called at that time) of Richmond in the State of Georgia and that his services were rendered and performed in defending the frontiers of the said State of Georgia from and against the aggression, attacks and devastations of the Creek Indians with which tribe he was engaged in several skirmishes or battles of which he most important was that at a place then known by the name of Tom's Ford on the Oconee River in said State -- he further states that he was engaged in several conflicts with the Tories But the most notorious engagement of which was that at Rocky Comfort in said State. The date of those engagements he does not nor can he recollect at this late period of his existence. But both the Battles were of but short duration. That all his services were rendered and performed within the State of Georgia. That the above named officers under whom he volunteered were he believes the officers of the said County of Richmond in the State of Georgia and that he does not now recollect at this late day of his existence whether the company was ordered out by competent authority or not but that he very distinctly recollects that at the time he volunteered the Creek Indians were making great ravages in said State and killing the white population and burning and destroying everything they could get to belonging to the whites.

That the Tories were guilty of like conduct. That during his services he was marched from the northern frontier of said State to Savannah. He further states he did not (as he knows) served with any of the Continental regiments nor was he acquainted with any of the regular officers. He states as before he does not recollect from memory when he was discharged but from circumstances which occurred and as recorded in history he was discharged on the 11th day of July in the year 1782 viz. the abandonment of Savannah by the British --

That he served all the time aforesaid as a volunteer. That the whole of his time was employed in defending the said State as aforesaid to the entire exclusion of all kind of business of a civil nature: That he received a written discharge from Captain John Wilson but is of the

opinion it was current when several years since he was so unfortunate as to have his dwelling house burned and nearly everything therein. He does not know what has become of the said discharge above mentioned unless it was burnt as above stated which he believes to be the case -- he has not got it nor neither does he know anything about it certain.

He feels himself unable to state further particulars which he conceives would be of any advantage to him in establishing his claim as many circumstances incidental to his service having elapsed from his memory nor does he know of any person by whom he could prove his actual claim.

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 of any State or if any only that of the agency of the State of Georgia.

Sworn and subscribed to the day & year aforesaid in open Court
July 15th 1833

S/ D. C. Smith, Clk

S/ John Wilkerson

[Elias Carroll, a clergyman, and Hall Ray gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The following are the interrogatories propounded by the court and the answers thereto by petitioner

Qu 1st Where and in what year were you born?

A. I was born in Frederick County in the State of Virginia & in the year of our Lord 1750

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

A. I have no record of my age except a transcript which I took from my Father's family record, I yet have in my possession

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

A. I was living in Richmond County in the State of Georgia when I volunteered as mentioned in my declaration above and continued to reside there until moved to this State about 16 years ago that I now live in Wilcox County in the State of Alabama.

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

A. I volunteered as stated in my declaration

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. I entered the services of the United States under the following named officers to wit Colonel Benjamin Few, Lieutenant Colonel Granberry Lee, Major Spurlock and Captain John Wilson, General Elijah Clarke as to the other officers my memory fails me -- I entered the services as stated in my declaration I think the 5th day of April A.D. 1776. That I was discharged on the 11th day of July A.D. 1782. That my services were performed as stated above in my declaration

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

A. I did receive a discharge from Captain John Wilson but unfortunately I have lost it or it got burned

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A. John Carr, Randall Duckworth, James A. Butler, Stephen Morgan, Manoah Mays [this name also appears as Manoah Mayhew], Wilkes Nundly, John Robinson and James Thompson

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 for 2 years service in the revolution.]

[Unfortunately this file contains the cover sheet for the Bounty Land Warrant Record Card for a John Wilkerson, private in the Maryland line, warrant number 11796 for 100 acres issued April 19 1797 to James DeBanfre [?], assignee.]