

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Majors (Magors) S16944

f34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2008: rev'd 5/29/16

[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 Kentucky, Wayne County: Sct.

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Wayne County Court the same being a Court of record and in Session John Majors aged Seventy-three years last April 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers Company officers Richard Goode Captain, Thomas Evans Lieutenant, Ambrose Blackburn Ensign field officers Colonel Joseph Williams, Major Joseph Winston – I entered the service in the month of July or August in the year 1776 the day of the month not recollected I was drafted for to fight the Cherokee Indians [1776 Cherokee Indian Expedition]¹ and served faithfully five months & 14 days received no regular discharge we got home just before Christmas 1776 at the time I was drafted I was a citizen of Surry County North Carolina and was rendezvoused at Richmond Court House in the same County and State and marched from thence to the Blue Ridge near the head of Holston [River] Virginia thence down the Holston to the Long Island and there Joined Colonel Christie [William Christian] Commander of the Virginia Troops thence to the Cherokee nation then the Indians fled, we burnt and destroyed their Towns I was in no Battle thence we marched home I again entered the Service of the United States as a Substitute in place of a person not recollected for the term of five months in the year 1779 in the month of October and entered the Service on the 10th day of the same month under the following named officers Company officers James Sheppard [James Shepherd] Captain other inferior officers not recollected the field officers General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], Colonel Locke [Francis Locke] Major Richard Goode who had been promoted I was at the time of my Substituting for the term aforesaid a Citizen of the same County and State as above stated and rendezvoused at the same place thence to Salisbury North Carolina thence to Camden South Carolina thence to Santee River South Carolina thence to Savannah River at Purysburg there we Joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and his Army we were there stationed during the winter occasionally marching up and down the River keeping guard &c I was a Substitute against the British in this Tour, but was engaged in no Battle I was discharged on the 10th of April and have lost the same.

I again was engaged and entered the Service of the United States to act and fight against the Tories whenever called on we were what was called minute men I was a volunteer for that purpose Served under various officers I was about a year off and on engaged in the Service of the United States as above mentioned I was a Citizen at the time of the same County & State

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776_TN.html

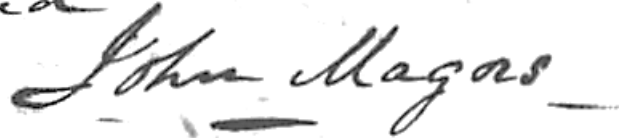
aforementioned and was engaged as aforesaid in the year 1780 & 1781.

I was again drafted in the year 1781 for three months, the month not recollected and entered the Service of the United States for term aforesaid in the year aforesaid under the following named officers in what was called the Light horse Service: Company Officers Minor Smith Captain rendezvoused at the same place as before mentioned and marched from thence to Pedee [River] where we Joined the Main Army commanded by General Rutherford, thence to a place called the Waukamau [sic, Waccamaw]² and were there attacked by the Tories we had a Battle and we whipped them thence to head quarters at Wilmington, we were at Wilmington at the time Cornwallis was taken [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] at the Little York from thence we were discharged and went home I received no regular discharge I was a Citizen of the same County and State as above mentioned I have no documentary testimony about which I can prove the above Services nor do I know of any person by whom I can prove the same.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Magors³

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Magors". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. There is a small mark above the "S/" in the text above it.

[Richard Barrier, a clergyman, and Lewis Coffey gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9]

State of Kentucky, Wayne County: Sct.

On this 24th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the County Court of Wayne the same being a Court of record and in Session John Majors who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

1st He states that he was born in the County of Baltimore in State of Maryland and in the year 1759.

2nd That he has a record of his age now in his possession

7th (the other interrogatories being embodied in his original declaration) That he is known to the following persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and as to their belief of his services to wit Lewis Coffy, William P. Hardin, William Sloan, Milton Christal, & many others that he did procure the number required by the regulations of the war department to certify in his original declaration to which this is an amendment.

Signed & sworn to the day above given under my hand.

S/ John Majors

[p 30]

State of Kentucky, Wayne County: SS

On this 25th day of November in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Wayne County Court the same being a Court of record and in Session John

2 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/waccamawriver.htm> or possibly

<http://gaz.jrshelby.com/waccamaw.htm>

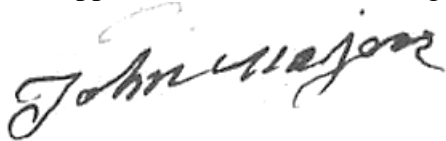
3 I do not think this is the actual signature of the veteran since the handwriting appears to me to be identical to the handwriting in the body of the application.

Majors who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amended declaration (in addition to his original and amended declaration heretofore made) in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That whilst acting as a minute man as stated in his original declaration he 1st entered under Captain Mosely [probably Samuel Moseby whose surname is variously spelled as "Mosby" or "Mosley"] and served as near as he now recollects one & half months that he served and acted the above time in State of North Carolina and was a citizen of the State and County Stated in his original declaration. The 2nd time he served as a minute man was under Captain Bostick [probably Absalom Bostick but could be John Bostick or William Bostick all of whom served as Captain's at various times in the Surry County militia] and served as near as he recollects three months in the same State as above the 3rd time he served as a minute man was under Captain Smith and served one & half months in the same State the 4th time he served as a minute man was under Captain Lovin [perhaps Edward Lovell] and served about one month & half months the 5th time he served was under Major Winston and served four months 6th time with the same and served as a minute man and one half months and under Major Winston joined General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and was with him in two battles in Guilford County North Carolina the 1st at Alamance 2nd at Whitesal's Mill [sic, Wetzel's Mill, March 6, 1781]⁴ I was during this time I served as a minute man as above stated a citizen of the same County and State mentioned in my original declaration I served as stated in this amendment and original declaration twelve months as a minute [man] and received no regular discharge for the same and has no documentary evidence by which he can prove the same nor knows of no person by whom he can prove the same signed and sworn to in open Court given under my hand the date first written.

S/ John Majors

[p 32: In May 1838, applicant petitioned for a transfer of his pension benefits to Missouri, County of Clay where he had moved in order to be near his son Elisha Majors. This document does appear to me to have been signed by the veteran himself as follows

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Majors". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_weitzells_mill.html