

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Samuel Gwinn S17992

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia     }

Greenbrier County   }

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 1834 Personally appeared before me Henry Erskine a Justice of the peace in and for s'd County Samuel Gwinn a resident of said County and State aged 82 years who being first sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress pass June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated

1<sup>st</sup> In the year 1771 or 2 he served a three months tour under Capt Laughridge [sic: Andrew Lockridge] was drafted in Augusta County Va and was stationed at Clover Lick on the head waters of Greenbrier in Augusta County and was stationed at that place to guard the frontier settlements against the Indians, during this time there some skirmishing, he served out three months and was discharged at Clover Lick 2<sup>nd</sup> He entered the service as a Volunteer he thinks in May or June 1774 in Capt Laughridge's Company in the County of Augusta to go against the Indians and was marched to Fort Union (now Lewisburgh) [sic: Camp Union at present Lewisburg] where he joined the main army under Gen'l Andrew Lewis and was marched from Fort Union to Point Pleasant on the Ohio River and was in the memorable Battle which took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 1774 at Point Pleasant, which lasted from Sunrise until Sunset. After the Battle was over the Army under Gen'l Lewis crossed the Ohio River and joined Dunmores Army near the Pickaway Plains where peace was made with the Indians [Treaty of Camp Charlotte] and that he was discharged on the 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 1774 at Point Pleasant and returned home to Augusta County Va after having served five months 3<sup>rd</sup> In the year 1776 He moved to Greenbrier and was classed in the Militia to serve tours as called on and he was called on he thinks some short time afterwards to serve a tour and was marched to New River and was stationed on New River with several others whose business it was to act as scouts and spies to reconnoiter the Country on new River where the Indians were in the habit of crossing and to give information to the settlers if any Indians made their appearance. That they were under no regular officers. That the Captains Company to which he belonged was Capt [Samuel] Glass. That he served three months on this tour as a scout and spy. That at the time he was detailed for this service he was Forted at Thompsons Fort and had been Forted there for some time. A short time afterwards he served another month as a scout and spy and after he returned and was Forted at Thompsons Fort news reached the Fort that Donnellys Fort [sic: Donnally's Fort near present Frankford WV] was attacked when he with many others marched all night to get to their aid and got to the Fort during the attack succeeded in getting in to the relief of the few that were in the Fort who must inevitably have been taken as the numbers of Indians were said to be about three Hundred and the Fort only defended by about Twenty men that he was employed in this service five days That he was afterwards at Vanbever Fort [sic: Van Bibber's Fort on Wolf Creek in present Monroe County WV] stationed and Forted there for Two Months. That he was stationed and served in Arbuckles Fort [at the mouth of Mill Creek in Greenbrier County] in 1776 five months In Thompsons Fort in 1777 five months in Vanbevers Fort again in 1778 or 9 Two months That he was Forted in different Forts and places and was frequently called on to go on small scouting parties the amount of which services he cannot bring to his recollection But with perfect safety to himself and doing justice to his conscience he is well satisfied that he was stationed and served five months in Arbuckles Fort Five months in Thompsons Fort four months in Vanbevers Fort at two different times besides four months as a scout and spy and his services of five months in 1774 and his three months services in 1771 or 2 with the five days at Donnellys Fort. That he hereby relinquishes every claim to any Pension or Annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll

of any Agency of any State and that he has no documentary evidence that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services [signed] Samuel Gwinn

1 Question

Where and in what year was you Born

Answer

I was Born in Augusta County Va I think in 1752

2 Qust

Have you any record of your age

Ans

I have not only I know I was about Twenty Three in 1774 when I went to the Campaign against the Indians at Point Pleasant

3 Quest

Where were you liveing when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary War and where do you now live

Ans

I lived in Augusta County Va when called into service in 1771 or 2 & 1774 I afterwards moved to Greenbrier [formed in 1778] and lived there during the balance of my service and have lived there eversince

4 Quest

How were you called into service were you drafted did you Volunteer or were you a substitute and for whom

Ans

I was first drafted in the tour at the head of Greenbrier 2<sup>nd</sup> I was a Volunteer against the Indians in the Campaign of 1774 In the other duty I was drafted to serve as a spy it comeing to my tour to do so and had to serve in the different Forts from necessity to protect myself and family and guard the inhabitants from the Indians

5 Quest

State the names of some of your regular Officers who were with the troops, where you served, such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of your Service

Ans

In the campaign of 1774 Gen'l Andrew Lewis was Commander in Chief [see endnote] Col Charles Lewis served as a Col under him and was killed at the Battle of the Point Capt John Stuart of Greenbrier was likewise in that engagement Together with several or many other officers that I could name in the other service there were no regular Officers and the statement made in my declaration gives the General Circumstances of my services

6 Quest

Did you receive any regular discharge from the service and by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans

I never received any written discharge that I now recollect of

7 Quest

State the names of Persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify to your character for varacity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Ans

John Mathews + Thomas Creigh I am know by and can testify as to my character for varacity and their belief of my services in the Revolutionary war

[signed] Samuel Gwinn

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners and applicants from present West Virginia. On the cover of the report Singleton wrote "Not entitled," probably because he had decided that service against Indians would not be eligible under the pension act. For details, see my transcription of the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111).]  
Samuel Guinn – Applicant

I the undersigned Samuel Guinn Give the following statement of my age & Revolutionary services – to wit – I am now 85<sup>th</sup> year of age – was born in augusty county – before Dunmores War of 1774, I done several tours of duty against the indians in Greenbrier at Warricks Fort [sic: Warwick's Fort near present Huttonsville WV] – after the forgoing service I Enlisted under Capt Louis [sic] and went to Point Pleasant where we had a severe battle with the Indians this was in 1774. a year or two after the last preceeding service I moved to the County of Monroe [formed from Greenbrier in 1799] with my wife & two children was at Thompsons Fort for a year or two. then moved to a blockhouse, finally to Vanbibbers Fort – at these 3 places I forted in the summer months. at other times of the year in the winter I returned to my Cabbin and devoted the winter to Hunting. All the people of the settlement took their families to the Forts in the Summer months where we lived pretty much in common. We would turn out all in a body and work each others corn and potato patches by turns. Whilst we would be working some one or two would be watching for Indians. we worked and watched by turns. we selected from among ourselves some one in whom we had confidence as a sort of leader or Captain – and in this way we got along as well as we could. I was four or five days defending the attack made on Donleys Fort – was called out for this service.

Mr. Erskine wrote my Declaration. I gave him the same statement now given. In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name. Jan'y 22, 1835

Saml. Gwinn

A Copy. W. G. Singleton

NOTE: Since the Continental Army was not organized until 15 June 1775, Andrew and Charles Lewis were not "regular officers" at the Battle of Point Pleasant.