

**Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters**

Pension application of George Strother S18611

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/7/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

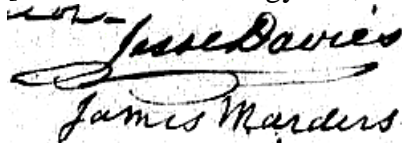
State of Virginia, King George County Sct.

On this 4th day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of the County aforesaid, John Strother a resident of the said County, aged seventy-three years, who being 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 1832. That at the commencement of the War of the Revolution, he was regularly enrolled & mustered as a Militia man in the Company commanded by Captain Francis Conway, which Company was attached to the \_\_Regiment commanded by Colonel John Skinker – That very soon after the war began, a general order was issued, requiring each Militia man in the County of King George to hold himself in readiness to take the field, with three days provisions, at any moment when required. That in pursuance of this standing order he was from time to time during the whole war, called into actual service to repel Hostile invasions from the Fleets of the enemy, stationed in the River Potomac; that on account of no Muster Rolls having been preserved, it is impossible for him to state the precise dates & Terms of the numerous, indeed almost incessant, tours of duty which he was required to perform in the aforesaid Service – He however is well satisfied & on his oath declares that the sum of all his services aforesaid amounted to a period of not less than two years. That the evidence of his aforesaid service herewith exhibited is all that he believes to exist – He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Geo Strother



[Jesse Davies, a clergyman, and James Marders gave the standard supporting affidavit.



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State of Virginia King George County to wit

Personally appeared before me Samuel Oldham an acting Justice of the Peace for the said County George Strother who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades during the year 1779 as a soldier during the year 1780 as a quartermaster & in

the [year] 1781 as a quartermaster until the 9th of April on which day he received a gunshot wound in the left shoulder which so disabled him that he was thereafter unfit for duty making in the aggregate a period of two years service as a soldier. And in answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the war Department he says that he was born in the year 1760 in the County of King George State of Virginia his age is recorded in a family Bible in his possession – that he was living in the County of King George State of Virginia when he was called into service & that he has lived in the same County ever since with the exception of about one year soon after the close of the Revolutionary War & is now a resident of the said County –

The Regiment was out en masse.

Captain John Willis with a company of regulars was at one time with us.

Captain Reid was with us also with a company of horse I think he belonged to Nelson's Corps.

At the close of a Campaign we were discharged verbally.

That he is known to most of his Countrymen & believes that they will generally testify to his character for veracity.

S/ Geo. Strother

Given under my hand & seal this 1st day of May 1833

S/ Samuel Oldham, JP

State of Virginia – King George County Sct.

Personally appeared before me John Taliaferro, an acting Justice of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid, George Strother a Soldier of the Revolution, who being first duly sworn made the following statement as supplemental to his Declaration bearing date the 4th day of October 1832, and sent to the Pension office of the United States, in order to obtain for him the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 – The said Strother now on his oath declares & states, that by reason of the great lapse of time, old age & the consequent loss of memory, and not having the advantage of any written memoranda or record of his military services, he cannot pretend to state with precision the length of that service, nor can he remember the dates of the various Tours of duty which he was called on to perform in a series of years beginning in 1776 & ending on the 9th of April 1781. He however recollects well, that at the commencement of the war of the Revolution he was enrolled a Soldier in the Company of Militia in King George County commanded by Captain Francis Conway, attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Skinker. That from his enrollment to the end of his services he was under orders to take the field at a moments notice, with three days provisions, to be furnished by himself. That under this arrangement, in order to watch the movements of the Hostile armed vessels, sometimes ranging in force in the Potomac River & often composed of no more than one or two vessels, that in one form or another, nearly the whole time and the said River; and in order to protect the property of our people from plunder & wanton spoil; to restrain the slaves from desertion & insubordination, and to protect the Ferry Boats at three public landings, the militia of King George County, en masse, was nearly all the time on duty – having a River margin of nearly forty miles to guard, besides several bold, navigable Creeks extending from the River many miles into the country. That he cannot recollect the exact number of times he was called out in each year in the aforesaid services, nor the exact duration of each tour, but that the hardships & privations he encountered then leave him no ground to doubt that for the following years he was at least half the time in actual service. He remembers well that during these years the calls on the militia were so frequent as to permit the man to remain but a very few days at a

time at their home. He therefore states that his various Tours in 1776 could not amount to less than 4 ½ months; in 1777 to the same – in 1778 to the same – in 1779 to the same – making in the whole an aggregate service in these four years as a private of 18 months. Further he states that early in 1780 he was appointed regimental Quartermaster, & that in this capacity he rendered actual services to the Regiment or the parts of it during the years 1780 & 1781, up to the 9th of April of the last year (at which time he was wounded & disabled to serve longer) equal at least 8 months. He therefore claims, on his oath, to have rendered 2 years actual military service. There were he states 3 places of general rendezvous for the Militia, to one of which they were severally ordered to repair and all the calls on them to perform the service mentioned above. Boyds hole immediately on the Potomac River – at which was a Public Tobacco Warehouse & a large stock of Tobacco – Machodie Ferry [?]<sup>1</sup> in the same situation, & Hooes Ferry [Hooe's Ferry], they then the regular pass over Potomac to Annapolis, Baltimore. That one or the other of these points he always repaired when called out, but as to the exact succession in which he went to each of them his memory does not now allow him to state. That he answers to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department are the same as will be found in his original Declaration & the amendment to it, both of which are again herewith submitted most respectfully by

S/ Geo Strother

[f p. 3: There is a note to the effect that the affidavit of John Taliaferro in support of the claim of service of John Strother and John Marders<sup>2</sup> is filed it with the papers relating to John Marders' claim.]

[f p. 18: John Marders' file: S18500]

I John Taliaferro of the County of King George in the State of Virginia, having examined the facts & circumstances stated in the Declarations of George Strother & John Marders filed in the Pension office of the United States setting forth the nature of the services performed by the said Strother & Marders as soldiers in the militia of King George County aforesaid during the war of the Revolution, do hereby certify & declare my conviction that the said Strother & Marders did serve the full term stated & claimed by them respectively. I have a full & perfect recollection of the events & circumstances of that period, and I have no hesitation to affirm that the said Strother & Marders being enrolled as they were at the commencement of the war in 1775, and serving as they did to the end of the harassing & predatory war conducted by the enemy in that section of the Country, must have been in actual service, in the manner stated in their respective Declarations aforesaid, the full term of 2 years. It is known to me that by an order of the Executive authority of Virginia the militia of King George County was detailed en masse subject to be called out at a moment's notice to perform military duty & that on failure to obey such call each militia man so failing was subject to military law & penalties. From the nature & frequency of the calls to perform the aforesaid service, that is to guard the many points on a navigable frontier extending at least forty miles; to guard & protect the several Public ferries, Tobacco Warehouses, as well as the persons & property of the citizens; every male from 15 to 50 years of age was held in constant requisition to perform military duty. The frequency of

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*Machodie Ferry*

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<sup>2</sup> FPA S18500

the calls to perform the aforesaid service in the short duration of many of them, must render it now impossible for anyone who performed them, especially aged & illiterate man, to state from near memory the dates or duration of those Tours. Given under my hand at the Pension Office of the United States this 18th day of October 1833

S/ John Taliferro

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Taliferro". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John Taliferro".

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