

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Archibald (Archible) McCorkle S2771 SC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Dec 2014.

[Because the handwriting is so small and poor, the following transcription should be used with more than usual caution.]

State of Tennessee }
Stewart County }

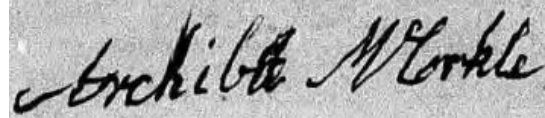
Circuit Court September 23rd 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before me the Judge of the fifth Judicial District for the state of Tennessee Archibald McCorkle resident of County & State aforesaid, Who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the pension law past in Congress June 7th 1832. This declarant was born in South Carolina, Lancaster District and Waxhaws Settlement on the 27th day of October 1754 according to record of his fathers family bible & his own bible into which he transmited the record of his age also it is the tradition of his family that said declarant was born some time before Braddock's defeat & is now on the eve of his seventy ninth year. & lived on the place where he was born untill 1806 when he moved to Tennessee State Montgomery County & there lived twenty one years then moved to Stewart County in about two miles of Dover where he now lives & is personally known to & acquainted with the principle Gentlemen of Clarksville & Dover & many reputable Characters of the adjoining Countys and would in particularly for the satisfaction of the department state he is known to the honorable James [middle initial illegible] Reynolds Henry H Bryant John C Marrible former Members to Congress and also to our present Member the honorable Cave Johnson. This declarant further states that he was a soldier of the Revolutionary war first called into the united states service by the authority of South Carolina as a drafted Malitia Soldier for three months service in what is called, in the South, the Snowy Campaign in 1775 in the month of October [sic: Snow Campaign, 8 - 30 Dec 1775], rendevoused as a Company under Capt John Barkley [sic: John Barclay] & Lieu John Kennady [sic: John Kennedy] in waxhaws then marched 20 miles west of Lands ford at Lee's old fields & met his Regiment which was command by Col. Joseph Kershaw, then marched & rendevoused as Regiment near Friday's Ferry on Congaree River where Columbia of South Carolina now stands Kershaw was placed under Col'n [Richard] Richardson as commander in chief destined to act against a body of Tories & Cherokee Indians collected on Reedy River in the upper part of the State. as such the army took up the line of march & proceeded up Congaree River to the junction of the Saluda River, then up the Country between the two Rivers until reaching the Enemys camp on Reedy River & after some tough skirmishing & 90 or a 100 prisoners taken & the Enemy dispersed the army counter marched to near the forks of the Saluda & Congaree & then disbanded without those formalities used in more systematic warefare he got no written discharge nor did he look for one nor hear of any. In his former declaration he believed he had served actually only six weeks on this tour but his witness & companion in arms on that expedition has convinced him that the time of their actual service was over two months but he placeses it at two only & returned home with his captain & company. His next or second tour commenced in October 1778 by being again drafted & called into the United States service by the authority of the State of South Carolina for three months, this expedition was destined for Purrisburg [sic: Purysburgh] on the banks of Savanah [sic: Savannah] River in consequence of the British appearing in Georgia & near that point he entered the service under Capt. Hugh White who belonged to Col'n. Kershaws Regiment, the division marched by the way of Camden, McCords Ferry on Congaree Orangeburg, Boxes ferry on Edisto, horse shoe; Round O & Purrisburg across the middle of the state, this declarant being at charelston at the time of the draft & the marching of his comrades lost half a month leaving his actual servises in this tour to be two & a half months & was discharged as before verbally but came home in company with his capt. in January of the year 1779 and in a few days after returning volunteered his servises for three months more under James Kennady [sic: James Kennedy] the brother of the above named John Kennady and in the regiment under the affore named Colo. Joseph

Kershaw who marched our troops on the first February to head quarters at black swamp [in Jasper County SC west of Tarboro], but then the command of the Regiment devolved on Coln Simmons [possibly Maurice Simons] in consequence of Kershaw leaving the army for some cause that he cannot now recollect, the Country & event to this point the same as the former expedition. General [William] Moultrie commanded in this army of observation but a short time before the expiration of declarant's tour the british suddenly fell down the Savannah River & crossed in to the South State which caused General Moltrie with all his forces to decamp & with forced marching to gain the junction of the Purisburg & Black Swamp Roads, then to throw evry possible obstruction in the way of British troops whose aim appeared for Charleston this circumstance caused that very unequal contest between Col. John Laurens & his magestrys troops at Coosahatchey Bridge [sic: bridge over Coosawhatchie River, 4 May 1779]; General Moltrie having placed Col'n Simmons Regiment with a few continentals together with some other troops under the command of Laurens left him to dispute the passage of the Bridge with the British which he performed in a state worthy of his Bravery but as was intended had to retreat before an over whelming power, but the enemy reaching Dorchester 21 miles from charleston Capt Kennady's time having expired for several days as also this declarants I was discharged in the usually way, that is, verbally from this time declarant was not called on again untill Charleston was taken in the following year [12 May] 1780. On the fall of Charleston for a short space of time all opposition to British power & authority seemed to be lost with it, but the untiring spirits, [Gen. Francis] Marion, Sumpter [sic: Gen. Thomas Sumter] & some others could not long be kept down, as such Sumpter raising the standard of liberty once more and in the name of & by the authority of the State of South Carolina [sic: see endnote] called for volunteers to rally around the standard of liberty, accordingly this declarant with many of his neighbours flocked to sustain the sinking but noble cause of liberty. this declarant volunteered on this occasion without respect to any specific regard to time otherwise than to the end of the momentous struggle or end of life in the conflict this service commenced about the last of June or first of July 1780 under the command of Capt Hugh White & Lieutenant John Drening [sic: John Drennan] in a short time Sumpters force had augmented so rappidly that he no longer stood on the defensive but began that rappid succession of offensive warfare that so signalises that short span of time from about the first of July untill the 16 or 17 of August when this brave officer received a compleat & total defeat & dispersion of his troops by Col'n Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] of the British light horse at the mouth of fishing creek [18 Aug 1780], General Gates having been but a day or two before also beaten by Lord Corn Wallis near Camden [sic: Horatio Gates defeated by Cornwallis, Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] once more in the peaceable possession of the british arms, while the poor whig's with out armies help or money fled before the insulting foe, declarant with most of his oppressed neighbours fled into North Carolina for refuge. The superior soil & cultivation of the Waxhaw lands & consequently quantity of provision of all kinds drew the particular notice of all sorts of soldiery whether whig tory or Britons as such Waxhaws was no sofa or creddle [sofa or cradle] of ease & safety to its whig inhabitants, but not so affrighted as to leave the [two illegible words] on Lord Corn Wallis removing his advanced camp at Charlotte back to Winnsborough [sic: Winnsboro SC, 14 Oct 1780] 40 Miles south west of Waxhaws the flying inhabitants faced about and walked back at the noble Lords heels untill they saw themselves once more in their own huts almost as free as the air they breathed & with renewed vigor in the month of October began to devise & execute means to defend those sons of liberty that had now become so dear to them, as such while Sumpter recovering many of his brave volunteers carried his victorious arms nearer the middle of the state left declarant & most of his neighbours to defend their lives, liberties & homes from the pernicious attacks of their loyal neighbours who were much emboldened in their freedoms by strong neighbouring post of British troops stationed at Camden under Lord Rawdon accordingly Col'n Kimble [sic: Frederick Kimball] & Col'n Henry Hampton headed & commanded the waxhaw volunteers & others they could get from October, as above stated untill General [Nathanael] Greene came to camden in April [1781], & altho' no battle was fought that was so called in that compass of time by Col'n Kimble and Hampton yet never was more vidgalence and activity used in the course of the war to guard on all sides against the inroads of a victorious & insulting foe and few periods of the war marked with more

success as such declarant was actively employed through that momentous time of scouring watching & skirmishing from waxhaws to Lynchs Creek, camden wateree & Santee, but on Greens [sic: Greene's] appearance in the vicinity of camden Kimble was ordered to support Green in his attempt on Rawdon [at the Battle of Hobkirk Hill, 25 Apr 1781] & accordingly declarant shared in that dangerous struggle, & fell back with Green to Rugeles mills [sic: Rugeley's Mill about 10 mi north] but then & from there Kimble was dispatched to Singletons Mills [in present Sumter County] to reinforce Marion who was posted or encamped at that place and while Green decamp't from the neighbourhood of camden & regressed across the Country & laid siege to Ninety Six [22 May - 19 Jun 1781], Marion moved across the wateree River & Congaree River he scowered the Country leading towards Orangeburg & in the mean time Gen Green being repulsed at Ninety Six suddenly concentrated his force near a British post at Orangeburg, but Cruger who commanded at ninety six perceiving Green's intention on Orangeburg decamped from that post & reinforced the post at Orangeburg & so made it prudent for Green to cease from his project, then the army falling back to the high hills of Santee [12 Jul 1781] where this declarant was discharged in August just before Green recrossed the Wateree, Congaree in pursuit of the british which resulted in the Eutaw battle [Battle of Eutaw Springs, 8 Sep 1781], being a volunteer, & not limited to any particular tour or time he only was discharged by a substitute and before he could rejoin the army the Eutaw battle was over and the hope of peace began to swell & his substitute continuing he never returned any more to the army & this ended his tours as a soldier of the Revolution. In this declarant's former declaration according to the opinion of several Gentlemen of the bar who were his friends & councelors this declarant set down the whole term of service from June 1780 to August 1781 embracing at least 15 months service but on the departments explanation he sees that is not their sense and as such to make every possible defect of service good without doubt may claim it as a ten months tour of service as the almost only loss of duty was in the time of flying before & returning after the british from Sumpters defeat a little after the middle of August untill somewhen about the last of October and what few Idle days or hours through the winter of 1781 will be made good by costing of 4 or 5 months of the whole time

as to officers in this term of service, before Sumpters defeat White & Drenand were as before stated his company officers and altho Sumpter himself was col'n Commident [sic: Commandant] yet Col'ns [William] Hill, Lacy [sic: Edward Lacey], [William] Bratton & Neal [Andrew Neel] were in Sumpter's army each having a small proportion of our neighbours Major [Robert] Crawford he thinks acted in behalf or in place of Kershaw who was not present. After his return from North Carolina untill spring & among the spying, scowering, watching & skirmishing troubles of the winter of 1781 declarant served under no col'ns except Kimble or Hampton and they sometimes only as captains having no other captain along but capt James Kennady was the regular & principle capt under whom he served, but on the approach of Green & the subsequent service of the spring & summer capt Kennady alone was his captain his Lieutenant William Barkly and in Col'n Kimble's Regiment commanded by General Marion after Sumpter joined Marions troops untill the american forces met before Orangeburg with a design of attacking that post, then the whole was commanded by Green the different battles in which this declarant was in, through the course of the war personally was the skirmish Reedy River, the battle at Coosahatchey Bridge, the attack on Rocky Mount [30 Jul 1780] the Battle at Hanging Rock [6 Aug 1780], Sumpters defeat [Fishing Creek] & Greens Battle at Camden [Hobkirk Hill]. In all this declarants tours he served as a private soldier in the infantry service and always in the open field and never in garison or forts. This declarant knows of no witness alive or near this who can testify of his services except Samuel Dunlap [pension application S3310] of Humphreys County Tennessee state said Dunlap was a near neighbour & served in some of the same tours that the declarant & knew of others In addition to this declarant offers John Lee esq'r a near neighbour & Travis Moore a clergyman both of Stewart County. Squire Lee has been personally acquainted with this declarant for twenty five or six years & the Rev'd. Travis Moore ever since he lived in Stewart County. This declarant doth further state on his oath that from the great length or laps of time since the performance of his tours of service in the Revolutionary war from having received no written documents or discharges of any kind & from a

natural decay of his memory in so great an age leaves him without support datta to be as deffinite & certain in many dates & circumstances as the war department would wish on matter of so much consequence to the publick but this declarant has come as near the truth as he can, these circumstances considered, & hopes he has not failed in any point to the injury of the United States. He does hereby relinquish any or every claim to pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is on no role or List of any agency in any state whatever.



The following are the interogatories submitted to the said Archibald McCorkle by the Court

1 Where & in what year were born

Answer In South Carolina Lancaster District waxhaw settlement on the 27 October 1754

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

Ans'r I have a record of my age in my bible & that from the record originally in my father's bible & this at my home

3rd Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war & where do you now live?

Ans'r On the plantation where I was born; there I continued to live untill 1806 then moved to Tennessee State & lived 21 years in Montgomery County, then moved to Stewart County, where I now live

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

Ans'r I was drafted twice & I volunteered twice; I never was a substitute

5th State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such continatal & Malitia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services

Ans'r on my first tour Col'n Tompson [possibly John Thomas, Sr.] of the Rangers, and Col'n Thomas Polk of North Carolina was in the army besides those who were my immediate officers as stated in my declaration. In my second tour beside my commanding officers I recollect of General [Griffith]

Rutherford of North Carolina, In my third tour I don't recollect any but the command officers that I have named in my declaration nor any particular Regiment or division of army in those three several tours. My last tour embracing from June or July 1780 to August 1781 there was many changes in armies time places and circumstances, while under Sumpter I have named the several Col'ns of parts of Regiments, in my winter services of 1781 and I recollect of none, but from the arrival of General Green to my final discharge. I recollect of Col'n [William] Washington, Capt. James & Company, for circumstances I refer to my declaration

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

Ans'r I in no case received a written discharge

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Ans'r besides those mentioned in my declaration already I name Britton Bayliss, Cullen Bayliss, Doctor Clemants Wm Williams Esq'r William Bailey Esq'r &c &c

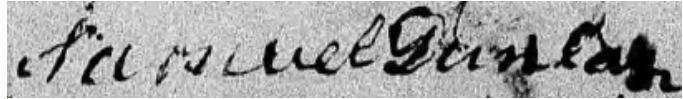
State of Tennessee }

Stewart County }

I Samuel Dunlap of Humphress County & State afforesaid do hereby testify that I am well acquainted and have been from my recollection with Archibald

McCorkle who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration in order to obtain a pention as a Revolutionary Soldier, I further state that he not only lived in the same neighbourhood with myself before & at the time of the Revolutionary war & can testify as to said Archibald McCorkles good Chairecter, as a citizen, a soldier and moral standing with the community but also served with him in his

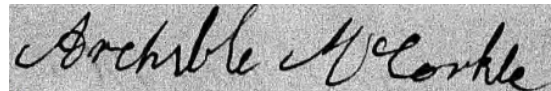
first tour of Revolutionary duty in the same Capt's Company in the same Regiment in Sumpter army before & at his defeat & also from October following to Greens Battle at camden in April through the winter of 1781 under Col'n. Kimble & Col'n Henry Hampton. then we were parted & served no more together but have no doubt of his having performed the further services as he states in this his declaration and [several illegible words] I knew that he was out on duty and that no doubt respecting his services as he has related them ever reach me from any quarter and I do hereby testify that so far as my recollection serve me and my knowledge of them extends they are true & faithful and as he has set them forth in the above declaration

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas Sumter".

NOTES:

After the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780 there was essentially no government of South Carolina other than the British army. Thomas Sumter was elected general by McCorkle and other South Carolina partisans, and Gov. John Rutledge legitimized the rank in Oct 1780.

On 8 Feb 1838 Archibald McCorkle, Sr. requested that his pension be transferred from the agency in Nashville to the one in Jackson TN, because a few weeks before he had moved from Stewart County to Jacks Creek in Henderson County. He gave the following reason for moving: "had the missfortune to receive a dangerous fall from my horse which has left me acriple probably for life and has nessessitated me to change my residence and be conveyed from Stewart County Ten to Henderson County Tennessee in order to be with my children so as to be taken care of by them." He signed as shown.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Archibald McCorkle".

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to Archibald McCorkle
Audited Account No. 4961

pp 4

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

2/8/24

[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]

2 [No.] 1337

[Book] Y

21 June 1786

Archibald McCorkle for 42 days for himself, Waggon Team, and driver from 27th December 1779 to 7th February 1780 both days included at £4 per day, for 42 Bushels Indian Corn at 22/6 per Bushel, for 67 days duty as horseman from 30th June 1780 to 13th August 1781, alternately, in Genls. Sumter's [Thomas Sumter's] & Marion's [Francis Marion's] Cavalry for 43 days Do as a private footman under command of Major Thomas Thompson from 25th November 1781 to 6 January 1782 inclusive and for a Horse and Saddle lost at Sumter's Defeat [Battle of Fishing Creek, August 18, 1780] in 1780 appraised at £70

[old South Carolina] Currency £373.15

Stg. [Sterling] £53.7.10 ¼

Ex^d J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[There is a note at the bottom of the cover sheet but it is illegible as posted online]

[p 3]

State of South Carolina
to Archibald McCorkle

Dr.

To forty two Days of myself, my Waggon and Team in the publick
Service to Purisburg under the command of Major Robert Crawford
at 4£ per Day Commencing the 27th of December 1779 and
ending the 7th of February 1780 Inclusive

£68.0.0

To forty two Bushels of Corn purchased by him
for forage for Said team for the Said Expedition
at 22.6 the Bushel

47.5.0

To fifty Days Under the Command of
Capt. Hugh White in Genl. Sumter's Brigade
commencing the 30th of June and ending the 18th
of August 1780 both Days included at 20/per day
in his Cavalry

50.0.0

¹ 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.

To a Horse and Saddle lost by him at Genl.
Sumter's Defeat the 18th of August 1780 under the
command of Captain Hugh White

70.0.0
£335.5.0

The above account is Just as it Stands Stated known to me
Robt Crawford Magr [Robert Crawford Major]



To Seventeen Days under the command of Colo.
Frederick Kimble [Frederick Kimball] in Genl. Marion's Cavalry at
Orangeburg commencing the 27th of July and
ending the 13th of August 1781 both days Included
at 20/per day

17.0.0

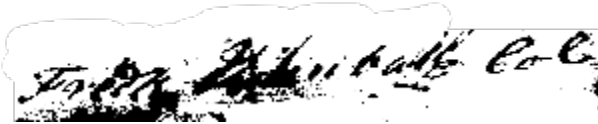
To forty three Days Guard at the Goal in the Waxhaws
under the Command of Major Thomas Thompson
commencing the 25th of November 1781 and ending
the 6th of January 1782 at 10/per Day

21.10.0
£373.15.0

Sterling £53.7.10 ¼

I do Certify that the two tours of Duty was performed that is not Certified by Crafford [sic] by
me

Fredk Kimball Col.



Campden District} Personally appeared Archibald McCorkle and made Oath before me that the
Above Account is just and true and that he has never Received Value for any part of the same.
Sworn this 4th day of February 1784
Before me Andrew Foster, JP

[p 4]

Rec'd 21 June 1785, full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 1337 Y per Order
Archible Mccorkle

