

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Espy (Espey) S31669

f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/4/08 rev'd 1/2/15

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia, Clark [Clarke] County: In Clark Superior Court August Term 1832

On this 15th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before me Charles Dougherty -- one of the Judges of the Superior court of the State of Georgia now sitting in & for the County of Clark, John Espy a resident of said State & County aged 72 years eight months & eight days being born on 7 December 1759, <sup>There is a record of his age in a Bible in the possession of his brother James and was born in the State of Pennsylvania Cumberland County</sup> 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 June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, viz., That he entered the service of the US under the following officers & served as herein after stated.

1<sup>st</sup> In 1778 served one half of a three months service which he & his twin brother James had engaged to perform under Captain John Carruth of Tryon, now Lincoln County North Carolina Benjamin Cirkindol [Benjamin Kuykendall] Lieutenant & Charles McLane [Charles McLean] Colonel of the County.

2<sup>nd</sup> About 1<sup>st</sup> July 1780 he entered the service as a volunteer under Colonel William Armstrong & attached to the Regiment of Colonel George Alexander of Mecklenburg N. C. & belonging to General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] Army then with General Gates [Horatio Gates]. Went with General Gates Army as far as Rugeley's Mills, & was then attached to reinforce General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter]; & was with him during the attack made upon him by Colonel Tarleton at Fishing Creek [Battle of Fishing Creek, August 18, 1780].<sup>1</sup>

From this time till about the middle or close of the summer of 1781 along to Captain White's [Isaac White] volunteer company & frequently called into service. About July or August served a regular three months tour under Captain White & Major Joseph Grimes of Mecklenburg & went to Wilmington in pursuit of the British, being a part of General Rutherford's Army. Was in the skirmish at the brick house [15 Nov. 1781]<sup>2</sup> near Wilmington & also the Surprising in taking the Tory camp at a short distance from that place.

From this period to close of the war belonged to Captain White's volunteer company & held himself in readiness to March at any time & was repeatedly engaged in service such as was then required of militia. During the whole war often engaged in the service of the Army attempted to little else than the duties of a soldier.

During the whole war a resident of Tryon now Lincoln County N. C. & at present a Citizen of Clark County & State of Georgia. He can state that uniting his terms of Service he

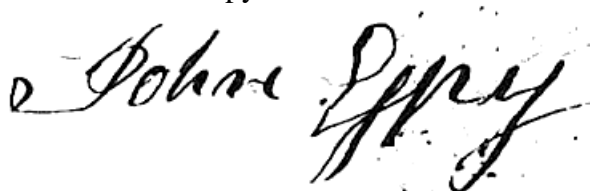
<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_fishing\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishing_creek.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://gaz.irshelby.com/brickhouse.htm> and [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_brick\\_house.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brick_house.html)

served a period of two years during the war of the revolution on the side of Liberty & that he has no documentary Evidence of the foregoing facts & with the Exception of his two brothers whose testimony is Subjoined he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. If he ever received a discharge it is lost -- He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity Except the present -- & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any other State -- he states that he is known to the Reverend Alonzo Church President of the University of Georgia & Augustin S. Clayton a member of Congress --

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court being a Court of Record this 15th day of August 1832  
S/ Robert Ligon, Clerk

S/ John Espy



[Alonzo Church, a clergyman, and Augustin S. Clayton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

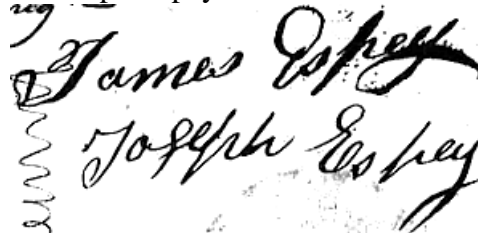
Georgia, Clarke County: In Clarke Superior Court August Term 1832

Came in person into open Court James Espy<sup>3</sup> & Joseph Espy who being duly Sworn deposeth & saith -- that the first James Espy, that he knows his brother John Espy who has this day made a declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, did serve in the Revolutionary War at one or more times & as he verily believes for a period of two years -- & deponent states that he is acquainted with the most of the facts stated by him in his said declaration -- Joseph Espy states that he knows of his serving in said Revolutionary war having seen him come & depart from home in the character of a Soldier and heard him say at the time & talk frequently of the Occurrences of his different military tours Deponent was then quite young --

Sworn to in open Court eating a Court of record the 15th day of August 1832.  
S/ Robert Ligon, Clerk

S/ James Espey

S/ Joseph Espey



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

---

<sup>3</sup> [James Espey \(Espy\) S31668](#)