

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Wardlaw S32040

f21SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/19/10: rev'd 6/8/17

[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 Georgia Gwinnett County

On this 25th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Inferior Court of the County aforesaid now sitting William Wardlaw, a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged sixty-eight years, 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 7, 1832.

That during the Revolutionary war he performed service as a private in the militia of South Carolina as herein stated: viz. --

I first took up arms during the siege of Charleston by the British in the spring of 1780. My father Hugh Wardlaw was then first Lieutenant in a company of Whig militia in the upper part of what is now Abbeville District in South Carolina then included in Ninety Six District, and in that capacity was one of the Garrison often commander of it, which had charge of a stockade Fort, called Reids Fort, about 20 miles above 96, intended chiefly for defense against the Cherokee Indians, whose boundary he was not then far above, when a requisition of assistance for the defense of Charleston was made upon our neighborhood, I marched with 6 other privates towards Charleston, but hearing below Orangeburg that Lincoln had surrendered we returned home. I was then not white 16 years old, & [balance of this sentence obliterated and illegible] than I have always supposed, but he being an officer, I have been probably mistaken as to that & perhaps went for some other person at the request of my father.

I remained at home at my father's until after the British had taken possession of 96, when the protection promised to the inhabitants having been violated, and great outrages committed upon the Whigs by the Tories under the authority of the British I having never taken protection joined as a volunteer sometime in the winter of 1780-1, a partisan company of mounted Infantry, which was raised by Sam Moore a Captain to scour the country, keep the Tories in check & cut off the foraging parties of the British. In this difficult & dangerous service I continued until the American Army under General Greene invested 96 in May 1781 when Moore's company united with the besiegers and I during the siege joined a volunteer company of militia riflemen raised, by Captain John Norwood to pickoff the British who might be exposed, whilst the American works were in progress. After the siege was raised the Whigs who had been active were all obliged to leave the Country or to be concealed, and I went to Rutherford County North Carolina, and was absent about 10 days, when I returned and again joined Moore, who I heard head at the [indecipherable word] request of Colonel Pickens again undertaken by his video months & activity to restrain the small bands of Tories who were plummeting & murdering the

Whigs. With Moore I continued until the fall of 1781, when as a member of the militia [indecipherable word] Company under Captain Frank Carlisle I marched with a detachment of militia under Major Alexander Noble to join Greene's Army then near Dorchester, and lay at Bacon's Bridge 7 or 8 days, when the British being confined to Charleston & provisions very scarce, the militia were discharged. After my return home, the Tories & Indians being yet troublesome I again joined Moore, and continued with his company until he was killed by Bill Cunningham about the time of the massacre at Hayes Station. After Moore's death, the company was continued by Robert Maxwell, and under him I was engaged in to excursions into the Cherokee Country, the first conducted by Major Robert Anderson and the other by Colonel Pickens. After Pickens returned, Captain Maxwell quit service, and I joined a company of Rangers under Captain John Norwood, which guarded the frontier between the Saluda & the Savannah from the Indians some time after the British left Charleston, & until [indecipherable word or words] was established in 1783. Mr. Norwood, I was along at one incursion into the Indian Country between the Savannah & Tennessee rivers conducted by Colonel Pickens and with Colonel Clarke of Georgia, where several of the Refugee Tories were taken & killed.

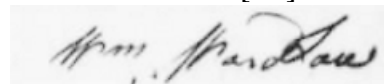
Independent of the short service and the spring of 1780, I was almost constantly engaged from the battle of the Cowpens in January 1781 until the summer or fall of 1783 [interlined sentence illegible]. In this time I was not one month out of service or concealment & during it I had the smallpox. I came home to stay during my sickness, but was obliged to be concealed in the woods near my father's, and whilst I was yet not half recovered the Tories hearing of my concealment, I went off & joined my company then under Moore. After the war I resided in Abbeville District South Carolina removed thence to Habersham County in Georgia & thence to Gwinnett County where he now resides.

And the said William Wardlaw hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed in Open Court, the day & year aforesaid

Attest; S/ Wm Maltbie, Clk

S/ Wm WardLaw [sic]



[Mitchell Bennett, a clergyman, and Samuel Reid gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia Gwinnett County:

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County William Wardlaw who being duly sworn deposes & 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 he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades:

That he entered the United States service as a volunteer Militia man in Abbeville District South Carolina in the month of May 1780 and served one month under Sergeant James Dobbin, we marched to within 20 miles of Charleston SC in order to join the American forces, but said town having been surrounded by the British, we were ordered home again. That he again entered the service of the U S as a volunteer in the month of October 1780 and served under Captain Hugh Wardlaw & Colonel Andrew Pickens in the District of Abbeville SC two months. That he again served as a volunteer under Captain Samuel Moore & Colonel A. Pickens in a company of

cavalry 6 months, this service was performed in the District of Abbeville & Lawrence [sic, Laurens] SC in the year 1780 & 1781. That he again in the year 1781 and served one month as a volunteer under Captain John Norwood -- Colonel Pickens & General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] before Ninety Six as a Rifleman. That he again served as a volunteer under Captain Samuel Moore & Colonel Pickens in a Company of Cavalry or mounted Infantry from June 1781 to August same year 2 months our place of service was Abbeville District SC (always meaning formerly Ninety Six) & marching to and at Bacon's Bridge about 20 miles from Charleston SC at the latter place he was discharged & went home to Abbeville District -- And that in the latter part of the year 1781 he again served 2 months as a volunteer in a company of Cavalry or mounted Infantry under Captain Samuel Moore in what is now the District of Abbeville & Lawrence SC at which time Captain Moore was killed by William Cunningham a Tory Captain -- Robert Maxwell our first Lieutenant was then appointed Captain and I served under him as a volunteer in Abbeville & Lawrence District in a company of Cavalry or mounted Infantry for 4 months. That he then in the year 1782 served in the US service as a volunteer in a company of Cavalry or mounted Infantry 8 months, under Captain John Norwood & Colonel A. Pickens which company was principally engaged in defending the frontier settlements of South Carolina against Tories & Indians. In the same year 1782 I served one month as a volunteer in a company of Cavalry under Captain Robert Maxwell & Colonel Pickens in an excursion against the Cherokee Indians & again early in the year 1783 I served 6 weeks as a volunteer in a company of cavalry or mounted Infantry under the above named officers, and another excursion against the Cherokees where we killed 32 Indians and two white's -- And that he was not in any civil pursuit during said periods and that for the above specified services he claims a pension & deponent further states that he was born in Rockbridge County Virginia in the year 1763 and that the record of his age taken from his father's family Bible is at his own house in Gwinnett County & deponent states the names of the following persons who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, John G. Park, Clerk S. court, Gilbert Coffee Sheriff: William Maltbie C. J. Court, Asakel R. Smith, P. Master, John S. Wilson Minister of the Gospel Colonel Mason L. Hutchings & John Mills Esquire -- And deponent further states that he was called into service as he believes by competent authority And further that he has no recollection of ever having received a written discharge. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 6th day of May 1833

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Wm Wardlaw

Georgia Gwinnett County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & so for said County Samuel Reid¹ who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he was well acquainted in the Revolutionary War with William Wardlaw who is now personally present -- that he resided in Abbeville District SC and served as a volunteer Militia Man in the year 1780 -- 1781 & 1782 under the following Officers Captain Samuel Moore -- John Norwood & Robert Maxwell -- Colonel Andrew Pickens & General Andrew Pickens -- that he served at least 18 months and probably longer and that the places of his services were chiefly in Abbeville District SC Laurens District SC & in the Cherokee Nation.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 5th day of May 1833

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Saml Reid

¹ [Samuel Reed \(Reid\) S14259](#)

Samuel Reed

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