

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Willis Wilder S32077

fn14<sup>1</sup>NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/11/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia [?] County of Jones: SS

On this 19th day of October in the year of Christ 1832 personally appeared before the undersigned Lucius Q. C. Lamar Judge of the Superior Courts of the Okmulgee Circuit in said State, this day presiding and holding the Superior Court now in Session in the County & State aforesaid Willis Wilder a resident of said County of Jones in said State aged seventy-seven on the 10th day of June last, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service under the following named officers & served as herein stated to wit in the militia as first Sergeant in Captain Thomas Miles [company] under Colonel John Hinton in the month of March or April in the year 1778 & served a tour of duty as first Sergeant of three months in the County of Wake in the State of North Carolina guarding a Commissary store at or near the Court house in said County of Wake NC and left the service at the end of said three months tour the principal object was to save the stores from the British and Tories, and in the same year about a month afterwards he was again ordered into the same service at the same place and under the same officers & served a three months tour of duty, the affiant resided at the time he entered the first and last time in that year in said County of Wake in State of North Carolina in the first tour of duty was drafted and in the second tour entered as a volunteer. The applicant again entered the service as a substitute for his brother William Wilder who was drafted, & went into service for a tour of three months in the militia in the month of July 1779 as first Sergeant under command of Captain John Bledsoe under Colonel Michael Rogers, marched from the Courthouse in Wake County [indecipherable word] the Army at Charleston South Carolina but after starting was stopped and Orange County North Carolina on account of the threatened hostilities of Colonel Frannin [sic, David Fanning] & his Tories & guarded the Commissary Stores at Hillsboro North Carolina at the end of the tour applicant & his company marched back to Wake County & was discharged. The applicant again was drafted into the service & served as first Sergeant under Captain Hillsman [?] and guarded the General Assembly sitting at Wake Court house North Carolina upwards of six weeks & his company &

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<sup>1</sup> At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

himself marched to Smithfield the Court house of Johnson County [sic, Johnston County] in said State of North Carolina & from thence marched to Goshen in Wayne County [indecipherable word] bridge & joined the command at that place under Major Hardy Griffin, who was here in an engagement with the British & Tories commanded by General Cragg [sic, Major James Craig] at Rockfish North Carolina and said Griffin having been defeated he marched back to Goshen where applicant & his company joined him and then was marched by command of Major Griffin on the West side of the Neuse River at Gray's ferry holding the Tories in check until applicant's tour of duty expired when he was discharged, this last tour commenced the last of May or first of June 1781 & ended about the first of September in the same year, applicant served part of the last tour as Captain and after that time in the years, 1781 and 1782 applicant served as much as a month more in scouting parties arresting & dispersing Tories was present and arrested John Harp, Richard Harp and John Mathews as Tories & turn them over to Colonel Hinton who delivered them to a Continental officer whose name is not recollected. Applicant has no documentary evidence, his discharges having been long since lost or destroyed so that he now cannot find them and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service and 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. The above declaration made in open Court the honorable L. Q. C. Lamar presiding said court being a Court of record. The Judge of said Court then propounded the following interrogatories in open Court to said applicant Willis Wilder who made the answers to the respective questions as hereinafter written, to wit.

Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born on Tar River in Edgecombe County in the State of North Carolina on the 10th of June A.D. 1755

Question 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age by my parents & only know it from being told by my father that time I was born when I was about 12 or 13 years old & read it down myself and have kept it in writing ever since.

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I was living in Wake County on Neuse River in North Carolina as above stated. I was drafted, part of the time, served as a substitute, was a volunteer at other times, during this service as I have stated in my declaration above written when I substituted it was in place of my brother William Wilder as above stated.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I do not have the names of any regular officers who were with the troops, cannot remember the regular officers the Tories were delivered to, by him, numbers as other officers but thinks Major Griffin served under Colonel Benjamin Exum or Acbson, my service generally was in the militia against the Tories.

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

Answer. I always got discharges for the different tours of duty signed by the respective captains or Major as above stated at the expiration of said tours of service which have been lost

or destroyed as above stated.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I state Robert Beasley, a Justice of the peace & Thomas S. Humphries deputy sheriff of said County will testify to what is required there being no clergyman in his vicinity. The above sworn to & subscribed in open Court before me the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Lucius Q. C. Lamar, JSCOC

S/ Willis Wilder

[Robert Beasley, JP, and Thomas S. Humphries gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 9 months service as a Sergeant in the North Carolina militia.]