

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Rea S32474

f29NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/17/09: rev'd 9/6/20

[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 Indiana County of Jefferson} SS On this 12th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Probate now sitting Robert Rea a resident in the County of Jefferson and State of Indiana aged 70 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: That he first entered the service in November 1778 under Captain James Harris [Mecklenburg County North Carolina militia], General Lock [sic, probably Col. Francis Locke] as a drafted soldier in the State of North Carolina, that he left the service about the last of December following after serving six weeks -- marched from Mecklenburg to Cape Fair River [sic, Cape Fear River] -- That he entered the service again as a drafted soldier on the 20th of May 1780 under Captain Wiley [Oliver Wiley] & Colonel Harris. The latter had the charge of a magazine about 11 miles from Charlotte -- left the service as late as the 20th of December following after serving Seven months. That he was drafted again on the 27th or 8th of December 1780 -- under Captain Wiley for three months marched to Lincoln County and came under the command of Colonel Henderson. William Davidson [William Lee Davidson] commanded as general -- applicant was one of a guard that conducted British prisoners from Lincoln to Salisbury -- marched back from Salisbury to Tuckaseegee Ford on Catawba River and was stationed there until Cornwallis crossed the River and had an engagement with General Davidson in which he was killed [Cowan's Ford, February 1, 1781] -- then came under the command of General R. Smith and marched on after Cornwallis towards Guilford to Adkin River [sic, Yadkin River] was there taken sick -- before he recovered enough to do service the term of three months expired. -- That he enlisted early in April 1781 in the South Carolina State Service under Captain Thomas Shelby<sup>1</sup> in Colonel [Lt. Col.] William Polk's Regiment of Light Dragoons -- first rendezvoused at Charlotte North Carolina and thence marched to the Congaree River -- there Captain Shelby discharged his company the promise that was promised his men not having been paid according to promise -- Applicant then joined Captain William Hutchinson's [sic William Hutchison's]<sup>2</sup> company. Shortly after the regiments (being six in number at first) were reduced to three. Hutchison became a supernumerary and applicant was joined to Captain

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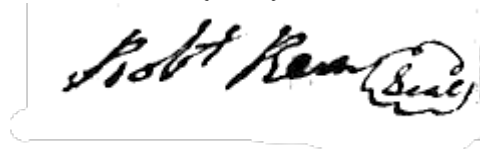
<sup>1</sup> Thomas Shelby recruited for the 10 month South Carolina State Troops of Light Dragoons serving under Brigadier General Thomas Sumter. Shelby never actively commanded a company in that Troop.

<sup>2</sup> Like Shelby, Hutchison recruited men to join the South Carolina State Troops under Sumter but never actively commanded a company in that Troop.

Samuel Martin's company & continued under said Martin until discharged on the 17th of April 1782 -- Under Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] he was at Snipes defeat<sup>3</sup> at the Horse Shoe and in a number of small skirmishes -- Lived in Mecklenburg North Carolina when he entered the service -- That he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He 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 and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Rea {Seal}



[James H. Johnston, a clergyman, and William G. Wharton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Ans<sup>4</sup> to Q 1<sup>st</sup> was born on the 7th of June 1762 in Lancaster County Pennsylvania

2<sup>nd</sup> Have a record of my age in my possession --

3<sup>rd</sup> Lived in North Carolina and Indiana since the Revolutionary [war]

6<sup>th</sup> Received a discharge from Colonel William Polk which was lost last September by my attorney while preparing an application for me in order to obtain a pension

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State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County} John Elliott<sup>5</sup> personally appeared before us Thomas T. Johnston, William M. Bostick and John W. King acting Justices of the peace for said County and made oath in due form of law and that he the said John Elliott did serve a ten months Tower [sic tour] in the Revolutionary war in South Carolina in the year 1781 as an orderly Sergeant in Captain Hutchinson's company and in Colonel William Polk's Regiment and Thomas Sumter was General and that he would was personally acquainted with Robert Rea then a Citizen of Mecklenburg County and that there was no other man in said company of that name nor in the Regiment as I recollect and that the said Rea did serve the said tour with him in the same company and Regiment and under the same officers and did serve faithfully and was honorably dismissed and further more he saith not.

Sworn to & Subscribed before us this 10th day of April A.D. 1834.

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<sup>3</sup> June 3, 1781 [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_snipes\\_plantation.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_snipes_plantation.html)

<sup>4</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

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

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

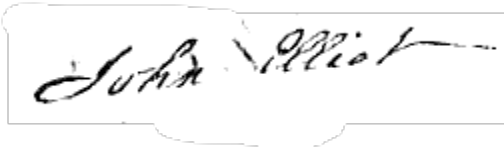
5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

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?

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.

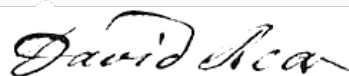
<sup>5</sup> Sic, [John Elliot S8411](#)

S/ John Elliot



State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County } Personally appeared before us Thomas J. Johnston, John W. King & W. M. Bostick acting Justices of the peace in & for said County Mr. David Rea<sup>6</sup> of the State & County aforesaid & saith upon oath that he is a brother of Robert Rea formerly of Mecklenburg NC & that he the said Robert Rea removed from Mecklenburg NC to Buncombe County NC and from thence to the State of Indiana Jefferson County near the town of Madison, and that he the said David Rea saith that he knows his Brother Robert Rea did go into the service the ten months service in South Carolina under General Thomas Sumter, and that he returned at the expiration of his service, and that he the said Robert Rea were honorably dismissed, and moreover brought home with him a Negro which he the said Robert Rea received for his services, -- & David Rea further saith that he has been in the habit of receiving letters from his Brother Robert Rea, ever since he has been living in the Indiana, and knows him to be the same Robert Rea alluded to, -- sworn to & subscribed before us the 10 day of April A.D. 1834.

S/ David Rea



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Indiana Jefferson County May 9th 1832: Dear Sir: These comes to inform you that from the time I Listed under Sumter till I was discharged was over one year -- my business with regard to service I have done in the Carolinas was hard to accomplish the most of my old acquaintance are dead or moved off I enclose what information I have received and send on to you to do what you think best. I am confident I served in the Revolutionary war over 22 months and only draws \$38 &

Friends and Neighbors are generally well

Hoping these made me you enjoying the same Blessing I had no more but remained yours etc.

To Mr. William Hindricks [William Hendricks?]

S/ Robt Rea

NB please inquire of the Member who represents Mecklenburg the credibility of the within presentment

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$38 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months and 12 days in the North Carolina militia. The amount of his pension was increased to \$79 per annum commencing January 10<sup>th</sup> 1834.]

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<sup>6</sup> [David Rea S7382](#)