

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of David Roberts S32487

fn46NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/9/10

[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.]

State of Alabama Shelby County

On this 21st day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 before the County Court of the County of Shelby aforesaid now sitting David Roberts a resident of the County of Shelby and State of Alabama aforesaid aged eighty-seven 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 –

He first entered the service in April in the year (he thinks) 1776, under the command of William Rutherford as Captain, and of William Moore and officer of the Regular service as Colonel -- he served under Rutherford two successive tours of three months each -- that at the time he entered the service, he resided in the State of North Carolina, Caswell County -- that he was drafted that he was engaged in no prominent battles, and only in a few skirmishes as. he marched from Hillsboro, the place of rendezvous of Captain Rutherford's company, through part of North Carolina and a part of South Carolina, to Campden [Camden]. That of the Officers of the Regular service, he knew Major James Moore & Colonel William Moore & General Stephen Moore, each of whom sometimes visited his company.

Sometime in the spring of the year next succeeding the service above mentioned he again entered the service under the command of Captain Hardin & Lieutenant John Bolls [sic] & Ensign Benjamin Harrison -- that he was drafted -- and that he served under Captain Hardin two tours of three months each -- that he was engaged in no battles -- and that he marched from the Court House of Caswell County, the place of rendezvous, to the High Rock Ford on Haw River.

That in the spring next following the one last above mentioned, he again entered the service of the United States, in the company commanded by Captain Willis Nichols -- that he served two tours of three months each under Captain Nichols -- that he was drafted to serve the first tour, and that he volunteered the second -- that during these two tours the company to which he belonged was engaged in scouting, and scouring the country, sometimes in North Carolina -- and sometimes in the edge of South Carolina -- that they had no considerable battles; but had one or two little skirmishes with the Tories.

That he again entered the service as Captain of a Company of volunteers about three months previous to the surrender of Cornwallis at Little York -- that his Commission was signed by General Butler [John Butler] and also by Colonel William Moore -- That his company rendezvoused at Caswell Court House -- that he marched from thence to Guilford -- where he took the trail of the enemy and followed them down Deep River to Ramsay's Mills -- Here he met with General Butler who commanded him to continue there with his company to guard the

baggage and public stores. He continued at Ramsey's Mills about 6 weeks when pursuant to the instructions of General Butler (his term having expired) ~~he discharged his men and~~ returned to Hillsborough and discharged his men -- having heard that Cornwallis had surrendered.

That he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows 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 & year aforesaid.

S/ David Roberts

[Leonard Tarrant, a clergyman and Daniel E. Watrous [?] Gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, by David Roberts

Answer to first Interrogatory -- I was born near the line between Virginia and North Carolina (I am not certain on which side) in October 1745.

Ans: to 2nd Interrogatory -- I have had a record of my age, but do not now know where it is.

Ans: to 3rd interrogatory -- When called into service, I was living in Caswell County, North Carolina. I continued to live in North Carolina, for several years after the close of the War. I then removed to South Carolina where I resided about 2 years -- thence to Georgia where I resided about 8 or 10 years. About 7 or 8 years ago I removed to the State of Alabama, where I have lived ever since and where I now live.

Ans: to 4th interrogatory -- I was drafted to serve 2 tours of 3 months each under Captain Rutherford -- Also when I served the same length of time under Captain Hardin -- I was also drafted to serve one tour of 3 months under Captain Nichols. The last tour of 3 months under Captain Nichols, I served as a volunteer. I was also a volunteer when I commanded a Company, under the Commission of General Butler, and served 3 months --

Answer to 5th interrogatory -- I recollect the names of Major James Moore, Colonel Williams, Colonel William Moore General Stephen Moore and General Butler -- who sometimes came to the troops which I served -- There were no Continental or regular Regiments, at any time, connected with us. Nothing very remarkable occurred with any of the several companies to which I belonged -- we were generally engaged in scouting about through the Country, fighting the Tories. When I commanded the company of volunteers, I broke my left arm and erecting a bridge across the Big Alamance, the British having crossed, and the water having afterwards risen very high so as to render it in passable without a bridge.

Answer to 6th interrogatory -- When I quitting the service as a soldier I received no discharge -- when I commanded as Captain, the Company of volunteers, I received a Commission, signed by General Butler and Colonel William Moore.

Answer to 7th interrogatory -- In answer to the 7th interrogatory I will mention the names of John Hughes, Daniel E. Watrous, James W. Smith, Lane W. Mardis and Leonard Tarrant.

[fn p. 11: on June 18, 1840 in Shelby County Alabama, Sila Robertson [could be Sela Robertson] filed an affidavit in which she stated she is the daughter and surviving child of David Roberts, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$60 per annum; that her father lived in Shelby County Alabama for the space of 16 years before his death and previous thereto he had resided in the state of Georgia.]

[facts in file:fn p. 45: the veteran is said to have died February 23, 1840 according to a finding made by Noel Mason Clerk of the Shelby County, Alabama Court; according to the clerk's findings he died a widow were in the house of his daughter Sila Robertson in Shelby County Alabama and that said Joyner was his only child.]