

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph McAdams S33081

f19NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/26/16

[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.]

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State of Illinois, Madison County: SS

On this fourth day of September in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court before their Honors the Judges of the County Commissioners Court before Madison County, now sitting, Joseph McAdams, a resident of the County of Bond and State of Illinois aged 75 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 he the said Joseph McAdams entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he volunteered at Hawsfields [sic, Hawfields?] on Black Creek [could be "Back Creek" as the "l" is very faint] in the County of Orange and State of North Carolina in the Spring of 1779, and belonged to the Company commanded by Captain John Carrington [sic, probably James Carrington] (the names of the subalterns not recollected) in the Regiment [commanded] by Colonel Armstrong, Brigade of General Butler [John Butler], and marched from Hillsboro Orange County to the State of Georgia and Joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at Stono with his troops. That he was in the battle [Battle of Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779]¹ at that place in June and served through a three months campaign and was discharged by General Butler, and returned home.

He declares that he volunteered again and was commanded by Captains Nathaniel Christmas, Hodge [George Hodge], and Guin and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William O'Neale [William O'Neal] and Robert Mayben [sic, Lt. Col. Robert Mebane] who was killed by Henry Hightower a Tory at a place ten miles from Hillsboro. He was pilot for Colonel Lee at Holt's Race paths² where there were many Tories were killed or taken. He was in the battle at Hillsboro [September 12, 1781]³ and several of the battles or skirmishes with the Tories and killed many of them. He declares that he was in the service until the war was closed in North and South Carolina or to the year 1782 and was in the service of the United States more than two years during the war of the Revolution.

He declares he never received but one discharge, and that was from General Butler and it has been lost for a long time. He knows of but two persons by whom he can prove his services and they are John Robinson and William McAdams both living in Madison County & State of

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html

² Applicant appears to be referring to the engagement between Col. Henry ("Light Horse Harry" Lee) and Dr. John Pyle commonly referred to as Pyle's Defeat. February 25, 1781

³ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_haw_river.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hillsborough.html

Illinois. And from that circumstance he has come to Madison County to obtain their depositions and make his declaration.

He was born in York County in Pennsylvania in the year 1757 but he has no record of his birth, but his parents moved to Hawsfields in a few years where he lived till the year 1786 when he left Carolina and went into Tennessee and joined the troops in the Indian Service and served some years. He then went to Kentucky where he lived till the year 1820 when he moved to Montgomery County Illinois and has lived in that and Bond County ever since.

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/ Joseph McAdams



I William McAdams⁴ a resident of Madison County and State of Illinois, hereby certify us that he knows Joseph McAdams who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, and was knowing to his performing the services as therein stated and believes he served more than two years in the war of the Revolution.

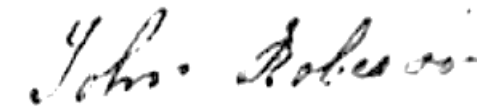
Sworn to, and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William McAdams, X his mark

I John Robinson⁵ a resident of Madison County and State of Illinois hereby certify that he is well acquainted with Joseph McAdams who has sworn to and subscribed the above declaration and knows that he performed a part of the services as therein stated as he was with him a part of the time and believes that he served as therein stated and thinks he served more than two years in the war of the Revolution.

Sworn to, and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Robeson



State of Illinois, Madison County: SS

On this twenty-fourth day of June A.D. 1833 personally appeared before William E. Starr an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Madison and State of Illinois Joseph McAdams a resident of the County of Bond and State aforesaid aged 76 years who being duly sworn according to law makes the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

He declares that he entered the service of the United States on the last of April or first of May in the year 1779 and served as a private soldier under the officers as stated in his declaration made the fourth of September 1832 and was in the service for four months or till the month of September of the same year when he was discharged by General Butler and returned home. (The discharge was long since lost.)

He declares that he volunteered again in the spring of 1780 he thinks in the month of

4 [William McAdams S33083](#)

5 [John Robeson S32488](#)

April and was a private in a company of light horse and was commanded as stated in his aforesaid declaration of September 1832 and General Butler had the chief command. He declares he was in the Battle of Hillsboro, also at Holt's Race Paths and also at the killing of Major Moore the Tory; and had the command of the party at the time. He declares he remained in the service till the war was closed in North Carolina and he thinks till about the month of January 1782, or at least some months after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] but the precise time he cannot recollect. And the said Joseph McAdams being duly sworn deposes and 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. For four months I served as a private in the year 1779 as I think and for the space of one year and nine months, I served as a private in the years of 1780 and 1781 & 2 – and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William E. Starr, JP

S/ Joseph McAdams

[William McAdams again gives a supporting affidavit, but adds no details.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$97.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service for 21 months in the North Carolina light dragoons and 3 months in the North Carolina militia infantry.]