

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathan Green S3412

Transcribed by Will Graves

f46NC & HQ

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[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.]

The State of Tennessee, Henderson County: Circuit Court October Term the year of our Lord 1832

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John C. Hamilton one of the Judges of the Courts of Law and Equity held in and for the State of Tennessee and now presiding as Judge of the Circuit Court held in and for the County of Henderson Nathan Green aged seventy-three years on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of this present having been born in the year 1759 who being 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

This Deponent states that he first entered the service of the United States in the year 1778 in the latter part of the summer or first of the fall of that year in the company commanded by Captain Ambrose Harper as volunteer militia: [indecipherable word]<sup>1</sup> for the purpose of guarding the jail and magazine in the Town of Halifax in the State of North Carolina it being the seat of justice of the County of the same name in which County this Declarant was born, this tour of service was only for three months when there being no further use for this Company it dispersed –after this tour of service had expired this Declarant again entered the service of the United States in the month of November in the same year (1778) in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Eaton in the company commanded by Thomas Scurlock his lieutenant's name not now recollected his Majors were Clinch and Horn – in this Regiment he served as a volunteer militia private for the period of six months –during this Declarant's absence he was promoted by the Court Martial of Halifax as a Lieutenant under the Command of Captain William Morris of the same Regiment but which promotion did not reach him until he had served out his six months tour as a private of the said Regiment. This Regiment marched from the town of Halifax to the South and on Neuse River at the Town of Kingston [sic, Kinston] joined the American Army of Militia there under the Command of General Ash [John Ashe] the whole of this Army was composed of four regiments of militia from that place we marched into South Carolina passing by the ten mile house from Charlestown [Charleston] – still continuing our march on to Georgia in order to recover that state from out of the hands of the Enemy – our line of march was directed to the Savannah River at the White House near the place called the Two Sisters [ferry] where we remained for a few days in order to recruit from this place we marched on to Augusta and crossed the River and marched down to Briar Creek where we had a battle [Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779] or rather where we were surprised and Defeated Colonel Prevost [Augustine Prevost] who came upon us with about 900 or 1000 men the militia after sustaining several fires from the enemy retreated but Colonel Elbert [Samuel Elbert] who had the Command of a small Body of the regulars made a Gallant and desperate Defense nor did he surrender until most of his men were cut to pieces. This Declarant states that the loss of this Battle may in a great degree be attributed to the want of Military

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1. *Patrick*

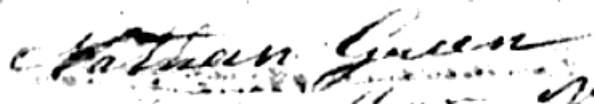
Skill in the commander in chief General Ashe. The regulars were on the right and the four regiments of militia were drawn up in solid column whereas if the line had been extended the fate of the Battle would have been very Different for the Regiment to which he belonged never got an opportunity to fire a shot and it was not from the fire of the Enemy that they retreated but it was from an apprehension of the Enemy who were extending their lines that they would be surrounded-- thence from this place we retreated and again crossed the Savannah River and marched down into the vicinity of a little town called Purrysburg from thence we marched up the River Savannah ten or fifteen miles where we were discharged and this Declarant in his Company returned home yet the Company was still under the Command of Captain Scurlock who Dismissed them at Halifax Court House verbally – This Declarant states that upon his return home he found that he had been appointed and recommended as a Lieutenant by the Court Martial of Halifax County in the State aforesaid as a Militia Lieutenant and upon which recommendation and appointment so made the hereto and herewith Commission is now exhibited bearing date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 1782 in the sixth year of the Independence of the United States – from the distressing and calamitous situation of the Country this Commission never reached him from the Executive until the period to which it bears date-- why and wherefore it should not have been dated from the appointment of the Court Martial he is at a loss to account – under this appointment and commission as such Lieutenant he became attached to the company commanded by Captain Morris and which company I had some time before joined under the aforesaid appointment as Lieutenant from the said Court Martial—a requisition of too any men being required and demanded a draft was made from the different companies of the Regiment to which this Declarant belonged as well as other Regiments including both officers and men and under this requisition and the Draft this Declarant became attached to the Company commanded by Captain John Hargroves in the Regiment commanded by Colonel \_\_\_\_ Kenan [James Kenan] the Major was by the name of Hardy Griffin. This Company marched on to Neuse River where we joined Colonel Kenan. It was at this place that Captain Hargroves was cashiered out this Declarant succeeded to the command of this Company. This Regiment after this marched down to Duplin [?] County to a Creek called Rockfish at the bridge in about twenty-five miles of Wilmington where we fell in with the enemy and where also we had a Battle [Battle of Rockfish Creek, August 2, 1781]<sup>2</sup> in which we were defeated. From that place we retreated back and crossed the Neuse River and there continued until we were discharged. This tour of Service under Colonel Kenan was for three months. This Declarant states that during both these Tours his Commission had not reached him – and that he further held himself bound upon all occasions to be ready at a moments warning with his Company whenever called upon to join the Army they being minute men – nor was this Declarant released from the service until peace was finally concluded between the United States and Great Britain.

This declarant has documentary evidence of his service signed by Alexander Martin Governor of the State of North Carolina hereto subjoined and prayed to be taken as part of this Declaration under this Commission until the conclusion of peace between his Country and Great Britain he served ~~until the conclusion of Peace.~~ [Other text is lined out but illegible]

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathan Green



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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_rockfish\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_rockfish_creek.html)

[p 40]

State of Tennessee, Henderson County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions May Term 1833

The Amended Declaration of Nathan Green.

On this sixteenth day of May 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting Nathan Green aged seventy-three years on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 who having been born in the year 1759 who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amended Declaration in addition to his former Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1833 [sic, 1832]

This Declarant states that the period of his first tour of service in the service of the United States commenced between the 10<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 1778 in the Volunteer Company raised and commanded by Captain Ambrose Harper as a private volunteer militia soldier. The object of this service was for the purpose of guarding the jail and magazine of the Town of Halifax the seat of Justice of the County of the same name in the State of North Carolina.

This tour then only being for three months this Declarant must have been discharged on one or over of the days where on the 10<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> of November of the same year – but which one of these days either in entering the service or his discharge from the same is not now so perfectly recollected as to enable this Declarant to swear positively to either the one or the other of them for the his first tour of service he refers to his former Declaration.

Second Tour of Service – This Declarant states that he entered into the service of the United States in this his second Tour of service somewhere between the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November and the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December of the same year 1778 as a private volunteer soldier of militia in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Thomas Eaton and in the Company commanded by Captain Thomas Scurlock his Majors were Clinch and Horn, his Lieutenant's name is not now recollected.

~~During this Declarant's absence he was promoted and transferred to the company commanded by Captain William Morris of the same Regiment and under such promotion he served as Lieutenant for the Term of — months not having been notified of his promotion of the same until he had served out his Tour and returned home to the County of Duplin. the Historical facts of this tour are these.~~

This Regiment to which this Declarant belonged marched from the Town of Halifax and on Neuse River at the Town of Kinston joined the American Army then under the command of General Ashe this Army was principally of militia. For the historical facts of this Tour This Declarant begs leave to refer to his former Declaration now amended and returned and to which this amendment is now annexed and prayed to be taken as part of the same.

During this Declarant's absence in the Service he was promoted from the company commanded by Captain Thomas Scurlock by the Court Martial of Halifax County North Carolina and Transferred to the Company commanded by Captain William Morris of the same Regiment as Lieutenant. This Declarant's enlistment of the same was only for six months in this tour and consequently upon his return home he received no discharge being then a commissioned officer of the named [?] Regiment but that commission not as yet received by him and no knowledge of his appointment until he arrived at home as such Lieutenant.

Third Tour of Service – A Requisition of men being called by the Governor of the State of North Carolina a Draft took place in the County of Halifax of the militia of that County from the different companies of the said Regiment as well as other regiments belonging to the said State and including both officers and privates under this requisition this Declarant became attached as Lieutenant in the Company commanded by John Hargroves in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Kenan. This Declarant refers to his former Declaration now amended and to which this is an amendment and prayed to be taken as part of the same for the historical facts of his service in this Tour. He further States that about the first of June 1782 his Captain John Hargroves was cashiered and the Command of the Company devolved upon him and which company for two months was under the command of this Declarant. This requisition of the Governor was made about the first of May 1782 and lasted only for

three months. This Declarant states he commanded the company to which he belonged after the Captain Hargroves had been discharged and cashiered for the space of two months. This Declarant states as he has heretofore stated in his former Declaration that owing to the distressing situation of the Country he had not received his Commission as Lieutenant – and why and wherefore the Date of the same is subsequent to his appointment by the court martial of Halifax County he is at a loss to say

Questions by the Court

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

Answer – in the County of Halifax in the State of North Carolina on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 1759

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

Answer in my Family Bible at home left me by my Father and by him recorded

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?

Answer when called into service I was living in Halifax County North Carolina and have since removed into Mecklenburg in the same State and from thence to Madison County, Claiborne and lastly to this County where I now reside

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

Answer In my first tour of service for three months under Captain Harper I volunteered in my second tour of service which lasted for six months in the Company of Captain Scurlock I also volunteered and in both those tours served as a private soldier in my third tour of service which only lasted for three months although liable to be called upon at any time until peace I served as Lieutenant and commissioned for two months the company of my Captain John Hargroves who had been cashiered nor was I finally released from the service until the Definitive treaty was signed in 1783

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 The only regular Officer with whom I served were Colonel Elbert who commanded a small Body of the Georgia Regulars Continentals his other Officers were first Colonel Eaton my Colonel Majors Clinch and Horn, General Ashe and Briant [Bryant?]

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 never received a written discharge for none at that day was given to the Volunteers in either my first or second Tour of service and my Commission heretofore annexed to my former declaration is of evidence of my service and my third and [last?] tour of service

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 The Reverend Daniel Webb, the Reverend Edmund Jones, John Woods, Jephtha Wetters [?] and Samuel G Bell Esquire a Justice of the peace

Question two and Officer Did you ever receive a Commission and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it

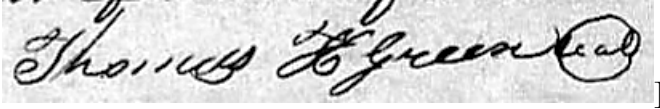
Answer – after my return from my second Tour of service under Captain Scurlock I found that I had been promoted as Lieutenant in the Company commanded by Captain William Morris by the Court martial of Halifax County and which Commission did reach me until some [indecipherable word] period after its date the Commission bears date Halifax County on the first day of August 1782 and in the sixth year of the American Independence and under the signature of Alexander Martin who issued it to me then Governor of the State of North Carolina and with the seal of said State there to affixed.

S/ Nathan Green

[Daniel Webb, a clergyman, and Samuel G. Bell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 18: Lieutenant's commission signed by Alex Martin and dated August 1, 1782.]

[p 9: On April 2, 1853 in Henderson County Tennessee, Thomas H Green, 45, made application under the Act of May 15, 1828, as the heir at law, executor, administrator and son of Nathan Green, a revolutionary war pensioner, now deceased. He made the claim on his own behalf and that of his brother Nathan Green Junior; he states that his father died in Henderson County Tennessee August 2, 1846; that his father left no surviving widow or heirs other than the affiant and his brother Nathan Green Junior

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas H Green", followed by a circular seal or stamp. The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months and as a Lieutenant for 3 months in the North Carolina militia.]