

**Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements &  
Rosters**

**Pension Application of William Maffitt (Maffett, Moffitt)  
S36063**

Transcribed and annotated by R. Neil Vance  
Original spelling and annotation retained

Source Fold3 (Footnote) Va

[p. 4]

Schedule

District of Kentucky, Nelson County

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for said county of Nelson William Maffett aged Sixty five years or upwards resident in said county who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, that he enlisted in the year 1777 for three years of[sic] the state of Virginia in the company commanded by Capt. John Blackwell<sup>1</sup> in the Regiment commanded by Col. William Heath [Col. William Heth]<sup>2</sup> and served his time out (having been taken prisoner at Charlestown [Charleston] in South Carolina and made his escape from the enemy.) I was afterwards honorably discharged by this[?] said Captain and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of any property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in this schedule hereto annexed and by me to wit

One hundred acres of land worth twenty shillings per acre, Four head of horses one suckling coalt two cows & three calves twenty head of hogs young and old eleven head of sheep young and old Maffett is a farmer by occupation he has a wife upwards of fifty years old and four children.

I Vincent Davis magistrate and William Samuels & Ignatius Hagan members of the court do certify that the above Schedule of property is worth \$502.33

Witness this 17<sup>th</sup> of July 1820.

Vincent Davis

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt 264-300; see also Joseph Blackwell W1191

<sup>2</sup> BLWt 1064-500

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Nelson County and Circuit

On this fourteenth day of August 1818, before me the subscriber, circuit judge in & for the fifth judicial district of Kentucky, & sole judge of the Nelson circuit court in said district, personally appeared William Maffett, aged 59 or 60 years resident in said County of Nelson, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war." That he the said William enlisted in the state of Virginia in June 1777 in the company commanded by Capt. Jn. Blackwell of the third Virginia regiment, commanded by Col. William Heath; that he continued to serve in said corps until the spring of the year 1780 when he was taken prisoner by the British, & was detained by them as a prisoner about two months, when he made his escape from them, & this term of his enlistment having expired he returned home, & about two years after that time he was regularly discharged by the same Capt. Blackwell in the state of Virginia, but his discharge is lost & he cannot now produce it; that he was in a battle at Fort Moultrie and in Charlestown during the siege where he was taken prisoner<sup>3</sup>; that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support, that he has never received any pension under the laws of the United States; and that he has no other evidence in his power of his services -- sworn to and declared before me. the day and year aforesaid –

Alfred Metcalf

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Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Spencer County

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 1829 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the County of Spencer in the State of Kentucky William Maffitt resident in said County aged about seventy years who being first duly sworn according Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820.

That he the said William Maffitt enlisted as a private soldier for the term of three years, in the Spring or Summer in the Year 1777 in the County of Fauquier in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Capt. John Blackwell in the 3d Regiment commanded by Colonel William Heath in the line of the State of Virginia of the Continental Establishment, that he continued to serve in said Corps until the year 1780, when he was taken prisoner by the Enemy in the State of South Carolina, and continued prisoner until after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, when sometime in the year 1782 he was discharged from the Service

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<sup>3</sup> Charleston fell on May 12, 1780.

in the County of Fauquier in the State of Virginia that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any state except Kentucky and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension, he was once on the Pension List, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1821 he was stricken from the pension roll, upon the ground as he is informed, that he was adjudged by the War Department to be possessed of sufficient property accompanied with his ability to labour to support himself without the aid of public or private charity, To which decision your Declarant excepts and thinks improper and unequal in its bearings. but he now makes this application because of the entire inadequacy of his property to support him and of his inability to labour which if not supported by the General Government for his services as a Soldier of the Revolution he must inevitably become a charge to State in which he resides under the Poor Laws –

And in pursuance of the act of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of any property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled “An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818. and that I have not nor has any Person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or Debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule annexed and by me subscribed. I am owner of & reside on 100 acres of Poor Land, the fencing out of repair and the soil so deteriorated, that I could not rent it to any person for less than 3 years for the repair of the fencing alone. I own Two horses, two cows, and 16 head of young hogs or shoats. I declare that my occupation is that of a Farmer but I am entirely unable to labour from bodily infirmity. My Family consists of my Wife Elizabeth Moffitt, aged about sixty years, she has been labouring under Dyspepsia and under the Doctor but now able to go about, my son Henry Moffitt Twenty Seven years of age cripple, and unable to labour, my daughter Peggy Moffitt, aged twenty two years, sickly not able to do any laborious work but can do such work as spinning or sewing, my son William Moffitt aged about thirty eight years, and Elijah aged about 18 years, by the labour of the last two Sons myself and family have been poorly subsisted for several years, but William is about to leave me, in the event of which the labours of Elijah cannot in any way support the Family. That since the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 the changes which have taken place in my property are as follows. The soil of the land has become sterile by cultivation, the fences have rotted, and there is scarce timber left to fence the Farm, in consequence of which it serves only for a shelter for myself and Family, it would require more labour to repair it than I can perform, and time and careful cultivation to reclaim the soil so as to make it produce –as it respects to my personal property it has gradually diminished by sale and otherwise, the proceeds appropriated exclusively to the support of my Family until it is reduced to the remnant set forth in the Schedule.

William Maffitt  
his mark

Spencer County

Sworn to and declared in open Court on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 1829 before me  
Raphl. Lancaster Clerk of the  
Spencer County Court

State of Kentucky  
Spencer County

I Raphael Lancaster Clerk of the County Court in and for the County aforesaid do hereby certify that it appears to the satisfaction of the Court, that the said William Maffitt did serve in the Revolutionary war as stated in the preceding Declaration against the common enemy for the term of nine months, under one engagement in the Continental establishment, I also certify that the foregoing oath and schedule thereto annexed, are truly copied from the records of the said Court; that the total amount in value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid Schedule is two hundred and fifty Dollars in the opinion of the said Court.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Court on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 1829 & the 37<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth

Raphl. Lancaster Clerk of the  
Spencer County Court

[Transcribers Note: The file indicates that William Maffitt died on June 18, 1835]

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Addendum to William Maffitt (Maffett, Moffitt) S36063  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The file also contains copies of documents from the federal file.]

1831 Apl 26 Rejected

State of Kentucky } Sct.

Spencer County } The affidavit of James Walden [S31454] aged Seventy two years taken before me Thomas Newman a Justice of the peace for the County of Spencer in the State of Kentucky. This affiant being first duly Sworn according to Law saith upon his oath [undeciphered] say that he is well acquainted with William Maffitt now a resident of Spencer County and has been acquainted with him for many years, that he became acquainted with the said William Maffitt in the year 1777 in the State of Virginia that said William Maffitt was then a Soldier in the virginia continental line in the Army of the Revolution in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Heath as this affiant believes from his present recollection. he states that he did not see the said William Maffitt enlist, but became acquainted with him while he was in the army in actual service at the time aforesaid. he this affiant being a Soldier in the Regiment of the virginia line commanded by Col. Gibson he states that he was not always in company with the Regiment in which the said William Maffitt belonged but was in the habit of seeing him occasionally in the years 1777, 1778, 1779 & 1780 when he the said William Maffitt was still engaged always and continually when he saw him upon actual duty as a Soldier of the virginia continental line in the army of the Revolution. he states that the said William Maffitt was a Soldier in the army [undeciphered] part of General Lincolns [Benjamin Lincoln] Army at the Siege of Charleston. that during the seige he the said William Maffitt & this affiant frequently [undeciphered] duty together this affiant being then under the command of Colonel Russell [William Russell BLWt1849-500] and Gen'l Lincoln [imdeciphered] and became very intimate. the said William Maffitt and this affiant were both taken prisoners of war at the surrender of Charleston in May 1780 which was surrendered by General Lincoln [part illegible and missing at bottom of page] William Maffitt for several years after he was taken prisoner, he this affiant being taken a prisoner himself and continued as such until August 1781. he think some time in the year 1783 he saw the said William Maffitt for the first time after he was taken a prisoner at Charleston as aforesaid when he had very recently returned home after having been exchanged or liberated as he understood. this affiant and the said William Maffitt were not confined together when taken prisoners of war but he [undeciphered] of his own knowledge he knows the said William was a Soldier of the virginia continental line and that he was in General Lincolns army was taken a prisoner of war at the surrender of Charleston and was detained as a prisoner of war as this affiant always understood & verily believes until the close of the war. Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833 & interlined before signed and sworn to  
James hisXmark Waldin

Add'l evidence filed 19 Aug 1833

1834 Jan 3 Allowed for the war. J. F. [Gov. John Floyd]