

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Taylor S39420

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/15/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Pendleton County: Sct.

On this 7th day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Pendleton County court now sitting Robert Taylor a resident of Pendleton County and State of Kentucky aged seventy-five 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 was enrolled as a minute man in the Militia of the State of Virginia about the month of October 1779 at Boonesborough Stationed on the Kentucky River then in the district of Kentucky and State of Virginia (now in Madison County and state of Kentucky) and in the beginning of the month of November 1779, he was detailed (regularly) with his own consent to go about fourteen miles from Boonesborough to a place which is now in the County of Clark and State of Kentucky to build a station which was and is now called Strodes Station [sic, probably Stroud's Station] and he did go as aforesaid and assisted in building the Station by working and guarding I turns and after the building was completed he remained in the station guarding (except when ordered out in pursuit of the Indians) until the beginning of the month of January 1781 making a term of fourteen months which he was stationed at Strodes Station all of which time he was engaged guarding at the Station, ranging through the country looking out for Indians and for Indian signs, marching in pursuit of the Indians as well as marching to the relief of other Stations which had or was likely to be attacked by the Indians, during all his Service at the Station he served as a private Soldier and under the command of Captain John Constant – and when there was any necessity for men to go in pursuit of the enemy it was common to take such men as was willing to go as there was always some left at the Station and those who did then go was said to volunteer. This declarant having served in almost all of the Indian wars in the west immediately subsequent to the year 1784 and Indian skirmishing being much of a sameness he cannot give at this length of time and at his advanced age many of the particulars of the aforesaid 14 months service but he will relate some of the most prominent of which he hath the most distinct recollection. About the middle of March 1780, the Indians aided by and perhaps altogether instigated by British emissaries sent no doubt by the British authorities commenced a vigilant reconnoitering of both the new and old Stations in the district of Kentucky and frequently when they could find any person out of the Station would kill them and steal and destroy all the property which they could at such times as the above we were always on the alert and compelled so to be until the latter part of July or first part of August when the Indians accompanied by a few British emissaries attacked and [sic] Martins and Riddles Stations the one on Kingstons [Kingston's Fork of the Licking River] and the other on Stoners fork [Stoner's Fork of the Licking River] of Licking River immediately there was men called on to go in pursuit of

the enemy and this declarant with many others volunteered and marched under the command of Captain John Holder with Lieutenant John Plick and Ensign Flanders Calloway with Benjamin Logan as Colonel we first marched to the mouth of Licking River near where Cincinnati of Ohio now stands where we were met by General \_\_Clark [George Rogers Clark] together with several other companies when we marched to old Chillicothe on the Little Miami River thence to Picaway [Piqua] on Mad River in what is now the State of Ohio where the enemy embodied their forces and gave us battle which resulted in the defeat of the Indians we losing some where about twenty and the enemy as was believed considerably more in killed the enemy had removed their women and children after this battle we returned home and a short time thereafter we again marched to within a short distance of Bardstown having been informed that the Stationed at that place was in danger but learning that it was a false alarm we returned this time this declarant marched under the command of Captain John Constant no other incident now recollected nor any other officers than those spoken of nor does he recollect nor perhaps he never did know to what Regiment he belonged nor what Colonel commanded him unless it was Colonel Benjamin Logan which is probable as he was usually along when there was many companies in company so he will close this part of his Service by saying that he served not less than two months in the year 1779 and not less than twelve months in the year 1780. This declarant returned to his Father's in Frederick County Virginia (from Strodes Station) in the month of January or February 1781 and soon after his arrival he was enrolled as a minute man in that County to be in readiness at a moment's warning and soon thereafter the time not now recollected and in the aforesaid year of 1781 and when General Washington called on his country to furnish new levies of troops to operate in the State of Virginia this declarant was drafted for the term of three months and marched and served in the grade of orderly Sergeant (first Sergeant) in the company commanded by Captain George Bell and Lieutenant Henry Catlett Ensign not now recollected and a Regiment the name of which he does not recollect nor indeed does he believe that he ever did know of any other name than Virginia Militia but the Regiment was numbered and he has forgot the number [several words run off the page] as the name if it had any the Regiment to which he belonged was commanded by [name written through and illegible] and a Major whose name he cannot now recollect. He marched through the country and occasionally fell in with other troops which was like the troops to which he belonged shaping their course to Little York Virginia to the investment of Lord Corn Wallace [Cornwallis] they ultimately arrived and set down before the enemy's works continued to operate as ordered until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis while at Little York he cannot now say to which Brigade or Division he belonged nor what General officer had the immediate command of the troops to which he belonged he sometimes now thinks that he was attached to the command of General Stephens [probably Edward Stevens] but on the other hand he distinctly recollects that in the capacity of orderly Sergeant he read to his Company General orders from General Steuben he therefore will not say what General had the immediate command of him except that Washington was the Supreme commander and there were many Generals at the Siege that he now recollects to wit, Generals Washington, Lafayette, Steuben, Nelson, Knox, Lincoln and Stephens and Colonel Alexander Hamilton who was attached to the staff of Washington. He recollects much more of the French troops engaged in the Siege than any other troops because from there equipment and dress they were calculated to attract more of his attention than those of his countrymen as he was more familiar with their appearance he continued at Little York Virginia until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and after the necessary arrangements was made he with the company to which he belonged was detailed to guard the prisoners of war to Winchester Virginia and when they arrived there they

were discharged by proclamation of the Captain and he returned home. At another time in the same year and after the three months turn aforesaid this declarant volunteered under the command of Captain Heiskill [Heiskell?] and Lieutenant Wm Jenkins [William Jenkins] and guarded the prisoners of War from Winchester Virginia to Lancaster Pennsylvania and perform that service which he engaged him and the Company one month no other company and said duty nor any other officers. After which time and in the same year he volunteered and served one month more under the command of Captain Thomas Berry and went in pursuit of some Tories on the South Branch of the Potomac River by the order of General Morgan there [word or words written through and illegible] this time as the Tories fled yet some of our men found means to kill one of them there was but the one company on this tour so that summing all of his Service up that this declarant served in the Revolutionary Army as a Soldier in the Service of the United States he served not less than two months in the grade of a private in the year 1779, and in the same grade not less than twelve months in the year 1780 and as first Sergeant not less than three months and as a private soldier not less than two months in the year 1781, so that he has served as a private soldier sixteen months and as a first Sergeant three months making in nineteen months. This declarant never received any discharge in writing from any of his officers but was always discharged by word-of-mouth he has no doubt but he could have received a discharge in writing from Captain Bell had he called on him for it after his return home but he did not do so. He therefore has no record evidence of his services.

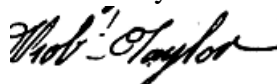
He was born on the 28 day of July 1758 in (as he understood from his Father) Prince William County and State of Virginia and removed when he was yet young and before he could recollect more notice the year into Stafford County Virginia and when he was somewhere about fourteen years of age his Father removed with him into the County of Frederick State of Virginia And in the year 1779 (as before stated), he moved to Boonesborough Station on the Kentucky River and in November of the same year went to Strodes Station and remained there until January 1781 when he returned to his Father's in Frederick County Virginia and in the year 1783 he removed with his Father in what is now Madison County State of Kentucky and immediately went again to Strodes Station in what is now Clark County Kentucky and in the year 1785 he removed to what is now Mason County Kentucky (then Bourbon) and in the year 1796 he removed on Licking River in what is now Pendleton County Kentucky (then Campbell) where he has ever since resided and still resides and has served the County of Pendleton for two years as high Sheriff and twenty-four years as a Justice of the peace and a member of the County Court and is at this time a Justice of the peace and member of the County Court in and for the County of Pendleton.

He knows of no person now living whose residence he is acquainted with who can testify as to his service and refers to the certificate of Charles Boner Esquire, Colonel Thomas W Hart & Reuben McCarty who is well acquainted with him and resides in the County of Pendleton Kentucky and will state what is general belief in his neighborhood of his having been a Revolutionary Soldier there being no clergyman in his neighborhood and in his County.

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 or Territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robt. Taylor



[Charles Boner, Thomas W Hart & Reuben McCarty gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

This affiant Robert Taylor for the purpose of amending a declaration which was made before the County Court of Pendleton and State of Kentucky on the 7th day of October 1833 and which has been sent to the War Department and returned by the Commissioner of Pensions to be amended will now state that he served in the year 1780, as a private soldier and in active service and as he believed regularly called out not less than two months and twenty-one days under the officers named in his said original declaration (to which he refers) and that he served in the year 1781, three months as first Sergeant and two months as a private soldier making in all seven months and twenty-one days. But this affiant does believe that he in justice is entitled to a credit for six months in the year 1780 for although he was not marching and contending with the enemy not more than two months and twenty-one days yet he spent the whole summer in guarding at the station at night (in his turn) and hunting for the support of the station and answered all the purposes of a spy so that if he is correct in his conclusion he out to have credit for eight months as a private soldier and three months as first Sergeant as before stated. And he will further say that he does verily believe that could he at this distance of time distinctly recollect all of his services it would amount to much more and that he would have amended his declaration sooner but he was waiting to see what Congress would do for the Indian fighters as he was engaged in all of the Indian wars in Kentucky up to the year 1788 and could were that service taken into the calculation make out a full turn.

Given under my hand this 31st day of May 1834

S/ Robt. Taylor

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$\$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 11 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]