

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

Pension Application of James Hall S5492

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Sep 2011.

State of Virginia & County of Powhatan to wit:

On this 19th day of Septem. in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court before John Gilliam, Wm. [illegible], Saml Drake & ___ Meade the Court of Powhatan County aforesaid, now sitting James Hall a resident of the same County, aged 71 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.

Mr. Hall, like many very old people, seems to have a very indistinct recollection about many matters connected with his revolutionary services – especially such things as dates; but he hereby declares that he is about seventy years of age – that though now & for the last several years a resident of Powhatan County, he was born & raised to manhood in the adjoining County of Chesterfield. That he was in the engagement at Camden, South-Carolina, at the time of the defeat of General Gates [Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] & that in the spring after his return from this tour to the south, he went again to the South under the command of Captain Stephen Pankey & was in the battle at Guilford in North-Carolina [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. That on this last tour he was not all the while under the command of Capt. Pankey, but a portion of the time under the command of Capt. Tom Wooldridge [Thomas Wooldridge], & indeed of other Captains. That being in class no. 2 of the militia he was not called into service as early as some others & that he was probably about 17 or 18 years old at the time that he was draughted. That he served a short time as a volunteer. That the names of some of the officers engaged in the battle of Camden that he recollects of are Col. Williams [probably Otho Holland Williams, Col. [Ralph] Faulkner, Lieut. [John] Hill, Adjutant Whitlocke, Capt. [Richard] Booker, Archibald Walthall & Genl. [Edward] Stevens. That on their way to Guilford they passed through Petersburg, & crossed the Roanoke river at Taylor's Ferry. That in the engagement at Guilford he recollects that Col. Beverley Randolph & Major [St. George] Tucker were officers. That he continued to serve from the time of Gates's defeat, occasionally, until the end of the war – and that he doubts not that all the periods of his service taken together amount, at least, to two years. That he never had any regular discharge. That he was in the little skirmish that happened near Petersburg during the war. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.
[Henry Jackson (pension application S5609) and Archibald Shortt (S17085) certified Hall's service.]

Powhatan County, & State of Virginia to wit: [9 Apr 1833]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for the aforesaid County, James Hall, who, being duly sworn, deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & 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, & in the following grades. That when he went to the South as he stated in the body of his declaration, for the first time – that is at the time of Gates's defeat, he was gone five months, having started in the earliest part of June & returned in November. At this time he went as one of the militia. Very shortly after returning home he went as a volunteer down below Petersburg under Capt. Barnet Markham & was gone five weeks. That his next tour was during his 2nd trip to the South as a militiaman, & he was then absent from home three months. This was the tour during which he was engaged in the battle at Guilford. During this tour Stephen Pankey was Capt. of his company. That his next tour, the time of performing which he does not remember, was when he went as a militiaman, under the command of Capt. Tom Wooldridge down in

the neighbourhood of old James-Town & in the lower country, & that at this time he served his full term of three months. That his next tour of three months, the time again of which he does not remember, was when he went to Petersburg & the Country roundabout, under the command of Capt. George Markham. During this time there was a small skirmish at Petersburg in which he was engaged. That his next tour of three months was when he went down upon the Nansemond river, in the neighbourhood too of the Dismal Swamp, Cabin Point & other places under the command of Capt David Patteson [sic: David Patterson]. That the periods of the war during which he served are better designated by naming the particular service that he performed, such as being engaged in the battles of Camden & Guilford &c, that he can designate them by his recollection. All his other service followed on after these – but the time that [one or two illegible words] he cannot remember. That at the [illegible word] of the body of his declaration he has mention the names of many officers, such as he recollects, & that in that tour to the South during which he was engaged in the Battle of Camden, Archibald Walthall was the Captain of his company. As to the certificate of the Clergyman, he says that he has been wholly unable to procure it – there being no one at all in his immediate neighbourhood, & none that he knows of any where that knows any thing of him as a revolutionary soldier. The testimony of living witnesses he already on the face of his declaration. As to documentary evidence he says he has none – having never received any written discharge. He says that he has no record of his age – an older brother having obtained possession of the one that existed, but that according to the best of his recollection he is about 70 years of age. He says that he has already named in his declaration the names of all the regular officers that he remembers, of continental & militia regiments he confesses his ignorance to speak. the general circumstances of his service he says he has detailed as well as he can. As to the persons in his neighbourhood who can certify as to his character for veracity, & that he is a soldier of the revolution, he names Henry Jackson who lives not far from him, & Archibald Short who lives in the same County with him, both of whom have heretofore, as will appear upon the face of the declaration, given their certificate upon oath that they have an actual knowledge of the service of s'd. Hall, & the Court too, of the County have certified that said Short & Jackson are credible persons.