

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Amos Morris S7244

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia & County of Monongalia 28<sup>th</sup> August 1832 —

On this day Amos Morris of said County personally before the County Court of Monongalia seventy four years of age who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers some time in may in the year 1778 at Jarretts fort on big whitely (now in green County [sic: Garards Fort on Whiteley Creek in Greene County] and State of Pennsylvania it was not certainly known then whether it was in Virginia or Pennsylvania) under Samuel Swingler then a Lieutenant & was marched from Jarretts fort to Macluers bottom on the Ohio river and was there placed under the Command of Capt Cross thinks his first name was John from there was marched across the Ohio to the mouth of big Beaver where we built fort McIntosh and continued there untill some time in September and was marched to Tuskarara river [sic: Tuscarawas River in Ohio] on our way three of our men was killed by the Indians there we built fort Lawrence [sic: Fort Laurens] there I continued untill my six months service expired for which I volunteered I then Volunteered under Capt Clark (Col Gibson Commanding Col) for one year continued at fort Lawrence untill the middle of January before anything material happened at that time the Indians came & took our horses from the fort some distance the bells still in hearing a party of our men went out after the horses not knowing the indians were with them & were all killed but two and they were taken prisoners the same day a large party of Indians supposed to be six or seven hundred in Indian file a cross the prairie in full view of the garrison & there encamped & continued there five or six weeks. We had with us a Delaware Indian by the name of Thompson that went to & fro from the Indian camp to ours through him an arrangement was made by which we were to give the Indians some flour & a little salt they accordingly went away we seen nothing more of them for two or three days. Capt Clark was sent out with fifteen men to see if any sign of Indians remained and they were all killed next Capt Clark & two of his men a message was then sent to Gen McIntosh to Fort McIntosh informing him of our situation we were now of provisions so much so that we eat the hides of our beef and their guts. some time in March Gen McIntosh come to our relief with a considerable army fort Lawrence was then left under the command of Major Varman Col Gibson march his troops to Fort Pitt now Pittsburg there I was placed under the command of Captain Brady and continued at Fort Pitt untill some time in July when we were marched to his[?] Town killed eight Indians and took some Squaws and boys prisoners and lost three of our men with several others wounded I myself was wounded and lost three of our men with several others wounded I myself was wounded by a blow on the back of my neck with a Tomahawk from there we returned quickly to fort Pitt where I lay unable to do any thing untill the last of August not being able to do duty then I had permission to return home and did not return for some time when I did return however but seen none of my officers & got no discharge The next Spring I then Volunteered under Captain Whitsel [possibly John Wetzell] we then built a small block house on the place where I now live in the aforesaid county of Monongalia I then continued under the command of Capt Whitsel for six months nothing material happened. In the spring of 1781 I was appointed a Spy by Col William McClary [sic: William McCleary] of Morgantown and continued to perform the duties of a Spy for six months frequently seeing Indians but had no rencounter with them In the year 1782 I received a similar appointment from Col McClary about the last of March about the 4<sup>th</sup> of May Corblys family was killed [Rev. John Corbly, 10 May according to Withers, A. S. *Chronicles of Border Warfare*]. John Minor [pension application S2840] now an Associate Judge in Green County Pennsylvania took command of us and we pursued the Indians trail come nearly upon them & went on the top of a hill and lay down for the night within about four or five hundred yards from the Indian party In the night we were alarmed and one of our party that we heard something fall ran up to scalp and found it was a houn dog this alarmed the Indians & they fled we pursued by day light followed them to the mouth of Miracle

run in this county there we seen considerable Indian sign Minor concluded we had better return and we returned to Jarretts fort on our return we saw Indians the people were all alarmed and fled to the fort. Capt. Minor then directed that myself Richard Hall and William Hannah should take six days provision and reconnoitre the country and see when the Indians were which we did and followed on to a small Block house seen considerable sign of Indian, and supposed the Indians were near passed a little farther In a few minutes we were fired upon we wheeled and run the Indians pursued we met other Indians who halloood at us we halted and the Indians fired upon Hannah feel by my side I was shot through the arm Hall I think it fired and killed an Indian I made my escape the Indians pursuing still occasionally firing upon me I arrived at a little block house on little Whitely from there I was taken Union Town [Uniontown] Pa and was attended by Dr Sackett who I understand is still living [Samuel Sackett, pension application S4811] Thus ended my services untill after the close of the revolutionary I have lived ever since in this neighbourhood and am now a citizen of Monongalia

William Stiles George Wade [S7829] & James Troy [S7747] and Elihu Long Zachariah Piles [W10896] & divers others of my neighbourhood can testify as to my character and veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Amos Morris

George Wade a resident of said county aged seventy two years, personally appeared before the said court, and after being sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, that he was personally acquainted with Amos Morris, who has signed and sworn to the above declaration, in the presence of said court, that the said Amos Morris served in what was termed McIntoshs campaign, as stated by the said Morris in his declaration and that ever since that Campaign he has known said Morris and believes that he performed all the services stated in his declaration and was always reputed a good soldier.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid [signed] George Wade  
James Troy a resident of said county, aged seventy three years, personally appeared before the said court, and after being duly sworn according to law states that he was a soldier at Fort Pitt, he believes in 1779 - that Col. Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] had the command, and that he has a perfect recollection of Amos Morris who signed and made oath to the foregoing declaration, was a soldier stationed at said Fort, and served six months, from which place he marched to Fort McIntosh as he understood -

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] James Troy

Commonwealth of Virginia } SS  
County of Monongalia }

On this 23<sup>d</sup> day of April in the year 1833 personally appeared before the County court of Monongalia in open court now sitting Amos Morris a resident of said county, aged seventy four years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in addition to his former declaration made before the said court on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August last past, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he served a period of not less than six months under Capt. Cross of Virginia militia in Col. [John] Evans regiment, in McIntosh' campaign as stated in his former declaration.

That he served a period of not less than one year, under Capts. Clark & Poraday, in Col. Gibson's regiment as a private soldier in the year 1779 as stated in his former declaration.

That during the year 1780 he served a period of not less than six months under Capt. Whetsel of Virginia militia, as stated in his former declaration

That during the year 1781 he served exactly six months as a spy under order of William McCleery of Morgantown the county-lieutenant. during this time we were constantly employed in watching and guarding the frontier inhabitants.

That during the year 1782 he served not less than one month under orders from the said McCleery and for the same purpose, that he was wounded a second time on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May and was not in service after. That he is confident that altogether he served a period of not less than Two years and seven months —

That he was born in Berkley county [sic: Berkeley County formed from Frederick County in 1772] Virginia on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 1758, that his brother George [George Morris, R7403] who lives in Green county Pennsylvania, has he believes the original record of his age - that when he was about ten years of age, his father removed from Berkley county, into what he supposes was then called Yohogania county [formed in 1776] Virginia now Green county Pennsylvania, that he continued to reside in Green untill twelve years ago he removed into this county where he has ever since resided —

That he recollect Col. Broadhead a regular officer he believes from Pennsylvania - Major Springer of Col. Evans regiment - Capts. Daugherty [Dogherty?] & Brent of some regiment - he has forgotten the names of many that he knew during the Revolution.

That he knows of no person by whom he can prove his services besides Henry Yoho [S7996] and those already sworn - that he has been for many years personally acquainted with Samuel Minor esq'r. William Thomas, William Stiles, Dudley Evans, and many other respectable men of said county who he believes can testify as to his character and general belief in the neighbourhood of his services in the Revolution — That there is no clergyman residing in his neighbourhood

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[signed] Amos Morris

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from Monongalia, Harrison, Lewis, and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]  
Amos Morris. draws \$80—

I the undersigned Amos Morris at the requisition of the Secretary of War give the following narative of my age and Revolutionary Services to Wit - I shall be 76 years old in august next - in the year 1777 or 1778 I volunteered in West augusty [sic: District of West Augusta] (now Mongalia County0) for six months under John Govely. Marched to Maclures Bottom. was there attached to Capt John Cross' Company, from there we marched to the mouth of Big Beaver River Genl McIntoshs army. aided in building Fort McIntosh. was then marched to Tuscarahwa under Genl. McIntosh and aided in building Fort Lawrence the last mentioned Fort was finished in January at that time and place my tour of six months expired - immediately upon its expiration I Enlisted under Capt. Clark for one year, I remained at Fort Laurence with others in all about 150 men under command of Col. Gibson. Genl McIntosh Left Fort Laurence with about 2000 men for Fort McIntosh. Sometime after McIntosh left Fort Laurence fourteen men under Lieut. were sent out after the Horses belonging to the station. (they had been turned out to graze) immediately after they left a tremendous firing was heard hard by. the men including the Lieut. were never more heard of. it was supposed that they were all killed — Some short time after the last mentioned incident the Fort was beseaged by almost 800 Indians the Seage continued for upwards of six weeks before our capture was abandoned by the Indians - Some few weeks thereafter Genl. McIntosh returned with 1500 men and provisions to the Fort. - the main part of the army was marched back to Fort McIntosh. Capt. Clarks company of which I was a member was marched to Fort Pitt. at that place I was attached to Capt. Brady's company - his company with other Troops were marched up the allegany to little Shawnee town at the head of Nimesheley[?] creek. made an attack upon the Indian Block House in which attack I was wounded. I returned to Pittsburg and lay in the Hospital until my 12 mos. expired. then returned home

In the Spring of 1781 I was Employed by the county Lieut. (of Monongalia) as Spy for twelve months. I Spied upon the head waters of the Monongalia & in Green County Pa. reported to Capt. Jno. Minor then commanding at Garretts Fort — in the Spring of 1782 I was again employed by the same County Lieut. as a spy and continued at same until the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May in that year, whilst engaged in Spying I wounded in the arm with a rifle Ball.

T. P. Ray [Thomas P. Ray, Clerk of the Court] wrote my Declaration — In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name —

Witness

Isaac Cooper

A Copy

[On the back Singleton wrote "Entitled."]

Amos Morris

W. G Singleton

Morgantown 19<sup>th</sup> Mar 1836

Col. J. L. Edwards Coms'r of Pensions

Sir Amos Morris of this county, who is one of the suspended pensioners, is the bearer of this letter, and at my suggestion last fall agreed to see you himself in relation to his case - the weather has been so very severe that he has put off until this time making the journey -

Your own examination of this man's case, I have no doubt will reinstate him -

I am very resp'l'y yrs Thos. P. Ray

Please enquire of Morris, his knowledge about Jas. Troy's services. Troy lives in this county is very poor, diseased and almost helpless - he is also suspended

Morgantown 19 Mar 1836

Dr Sirs I introduce to you Amos Morris of this county - he undertakes a long journey for so old a man to convince Col Edwards that he is entitled to a pension.

As he has resided in the woods all his life, I have deemed it best to recommend him to you, that you could go with him to Mr. Edwards' office.

I have known Morris for several years. - he is a stern man, but one upon whom I would rely and am confident he would not in the least misrepresent his services.

I am resp't'y yrs Thos P Ray

Honbl Wm. S Morgan [Member of Congress]

If Morris should need any money to come home on please forward it and I will repay you.

Mr. Gibson,

Sir, I am confined to my room and am not able to accompany Mr. Morriss to the War Department. He is recommended by Mr Ray, a gentleman of the highest standing If you can introduce him to Col Edwards it will confer a great favour

I am Sir, most respectfully Wm. S. Morgan M. C.

Questions propounded to Amos Morris, of Monongalia County, Virginia, and his answers thereto.

1. How old are you?

2. Where were you born?

3. Where have you resided since the revolutionary war?

4. When did you enter the service?

5. Under what officers? State their names and rank?

6. In what part of the country did you serve? State the Forts and Stations where you served.

7. How were you paid? by whom? when were you paid? When you were in the service, or after you left it? By whom were you paid? In silver, gold, paper money or certificates?

8. Do you know James Troy? If so, did he testify in your behalf? When and how did you first become acquainted with him?

9. Do you know George Wade? If so, did he testify on your behalf? When and how did you first become acquainted with him?

To the foregoing questions, Amos Morris, being duly sworn, deposes and says, in answer to the first, that he

1. I shall be seventy six the 25<sup>th</sup> day of next August 1834

2. Near Winchester in Virginia, at a place called Apple pie Ridge. So my parents have told me.

3. Principally in Monongalia County Va. and Green County in Pennsylvania - in the former about 16 years last past - where I now reside.

4. In the year 1778.

5. Under Gen'l. McIntosh - Col Evans - capt Cross and First Lieut Sam'l. Swingler -

6. At Jarrots Fort on Big Whitely Creek in Green County - march from there to McClure's Bottom to Fort McIntosh or rather where Fort McIntosh was built - staid there and helped to build the fort - from there to Tuscarawa River and there helped to build Fort Lawrence served at this place under Col. Gibson & Capt Clarke - where I enlisted for a year to keep the Garrison or so I was told when I enlisted. I went from Fort Lawrence to Pittsburg Pa. where I

was put under Capt Brady where I remained until my time was out - having been wounded  
In addition I served as a spy in '81 & '82 - under Lt. Col. McCleary & Capt. Minor.

7. In Congress money. I dont know by whom. Nor when but I think I was paid some in '78 and '79. I cannot be certain as to this - what I got was while I was in the service.
8. I do know James Troy as our neighbour knows another. I dont know whether he certified in my behalf. I became acquainted with him in Monongahela County since I lived in the County - but have no recollection of him during the war.
- 9 I do know George Wade. I do not know whether he certified Mr. Ray took the proofs such as was necessary — I first became acquainted with him in Capt Cross's Company at Fort Lawrence in the year '78.

[signed] Amos Morris

District of Columbia County of Washington To Wit Sworn }  
& Subscribed before me a Justice of the peace in & for said }  
County this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 1836. James Ord J Peace }