

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

Pension application of John Roberts S7402

fn67NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/10/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 12th day of November, 1834, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid William Roberts for himself, Celia Roberts & Anna Roberts, all of Lawful age, and the only children, John Roberts, of Orange aforesaid (deceased) left surviving him at his deceased. And the said William for himself & Celia & Anna, Children and the only Children of said John Roberts aforesaid now Deceased exhibit it to the undersigned Justice a transcript from the records of the Court of the County aforesaid, setting forth that their deceased father John Roberts, departed this life on the 10th day of August, 1832, without leaving any widow him surviving, but three children, to wit, William, Celia and Anna aforesaid all of lawful age. And these affiants having good reason to believe that their deceased father served in & through the war of the Revolution, have procured the annexed evidence to substantiate the claims of these affiants to a pension under the Act of 15th May 1828 for revolutionary services of their father --

1. -- These affiants adduced the affidavit of John Hughes of Chatham County duly taken, in which the affiant Hughes set forth that he was well acquainted with the said Roberts (Deceased) previous to his removing to Orange. That he has frequently heard him say, he was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution, that he was at the Battle of Briar Creek in Georgia -- Guilford Court House was with Greene at Ramsey's Mills on Deep River in Chatham -- said Roberts was considered to have been a soldier in the war of the Revolution & a man of truth and veracity.

2nd And the said William for himself & sisters (to wit) Celia and Anna aforesaid, present the affidavit of Captain Joseph Johnston of Chatham aforesaid, and United States pensioner, under the act of 1832, setting forth That he was well acquainted with John Roberts, deceased of Orange for 10 years or more previous to his leaving Chatham County, that he has frequently heard him say he was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, that he was in the Battle of Briar Creek, Guilford Court House, & Stono, that he went from Halifax County North Carolina -- And the affiant Captain Johnson further states that said Roberts was a man of strict truth and veracity.

3rd And the affiants aforesaid produced and further testimony the affidavit of Richard Drake (clergyman) of Chatham County duly attested setting forth that this affiant was well acquainted with John Roberts, aforesaid (Deceased) for about 20 years -- has heard said Robert say he was in the Battle at Brier Creek, called Ashe's defeat, and in the Battle of Guilford Court House. And further that said Roberts, deceased, was considered to have been a soldier of the war of the Revolution & a man of truth & veracity --

4th And the aforesaid affiants 2 with the said William for himself & sisters Celia & Anna further abuse the affidavit of Elisha Braxton of Orange County aforesaid who sets forth that he

has frequently heard John Roberts, deceased, say, he was an enlisted soldier for the war & served through the war -- and further that said Roberts was a man of truth & veracity, and believed to have been a Revolutionary Soldier as he sets forth.

5th And the affiants aforesaid, exhibit the affidavit of John Bondy¹ (an United States pensioner of Orange aforesaid) stating that he was at the Siege of Little York (in the Maryland line) and while at that siege became acquainted with John Roberts, aforesaid who was of the State of North Carolina, that he heard said Roberts (Deceased) then say he was enlisted for the war, and since that he had served through the war.

That he was well acquainted with Roberts killed the period of his death living neighbor to him -- believes him to have been a Soldier in the war of the Revolution and a man of truth and veracity.

6th The aforesaid affiants, to wit William for himself & sisters Celia & Anna, have also produced the certificate of William Hill, Secretary of State, for the State of North Carolina, setting forth that John Roberts, was enlisted for the war, and that a warrant for Bounty land has been issued it to them the said heirs of the said John Roberts Deceased, and that said bounty only is given those that served through the war, which certificate, with the aforementioned affidavits are here with annexed.

These affiants further say, that, the above mentioned affidavits are genuine and contained the truth -- to the best of their belief.

That their father was born in Northampton County in the State aforesaid, that they have no record of his age, but believe that he was at the time of his death (the 10th of August 1832) in the 76th year of his age or thereabouts --

That they do not know the names & rank of all his field & Company officers, but have heard him speak of Colonel Lytle, General Lincoln, Major Blount, General Greene, Marquis Lafayette, General Wayne, General Washington & others: --

They cannot designate the time he left the Service whether he was in the more than one term of enlistment, or not -- but think it was in the Town of Halifax in North Carolina where he entered the service.

That they have heard him speak of several battles he was in, but does not remember them well enough to specify -- they have a perfect recollection of those specified in the preceding affidavit.

And the affiants, to wit, William for himself & sisters Celia and Anna, heirs, and the only heirs of John Roberts, late of Orange aforesaid (Deceased) do hereby relinquish every claim of their deceased father John Roberts, to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above written, before me

Test: S/ Rd. Thompson, JP

S/ William Roberts, X his mark
Son of John Roberts (deceased)
For himself & the above heirs
of John Roberts (Deceased)
to wit Celia Roberts & Anna Roberts

Supplementary:

I the aforesaid Justice to certify that the affidavit of John Webb accompanying this Declaration was through oversight omitted in the drawing of the Declaration. It is genuine and is

¹ John Bondy, Boudy or Bodray FPA W5858

desired that the Treasury Department except it as though it was formerly copied in the foregoing Declaration.

12 November 1834

S/ Rd. Thompson, JP

[fn p. 11: affidavit of John Hughes dated April the 9th 1834]

[fn p. 14]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State once for yes Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid do certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war that John Roberts a private in Captain Rolston's² Company of the first Regiment was an enlisted Soldier for the war; neither the date of his enlistment or time of his discharge is mentioned on said rolls.

Given under my hand (having no seal of office) this 5th day of May 1834.

S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 18: affidavit of Richard Drake dated April 9, 1834 and given in Chatham County North Carolina.]

[fn p. 25: affidavit of Captain Joseph Johnston of Chatham County also dated April 9, 1834.]

[fn p. 48]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 5th day of September 1834 personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Boudy a resident citizen of Orange aforesaid and a United States pensioner, who being first duly qualified maketh oath that he was at the Siege of Little York in Virginia in October 1781, and during said Siege, was acquainted with John Roberts (deceased) who was then a Continental of North Carolina Line. Heard said Roberts then & since say that he was enlisted for the War & served through the war -- Was well acquainted with Roberts till the period of his death which was perhaps 2 years ago: -- Roberts lived at the time of his death a few miles distant from this affiant -- and this affiant has frequently conversed with said Roberts of the incidents of the war.

And this affiant is under the full impression and belief that said Roberts served till the close of the War.

And in conclusion the said John Boudy says that the said John Roberts aforesaid was a good Soldier in the war of the Revolution & a man of truth & veracity.

Sworn and subscribed the day & year first above written before me

S/ John Stockard, JP

S/ John Boudy, X his mark

[fn p. 50]

State of North Carolina Orange County: On this the 7th day of November A.D. 1834, personally

² This MAY be Robert Rolston who was promoted to the rate of Captain in March 1777 and resigned from the service in August 1777, according to the summary of his service contained in Lawrence E. Babits and Joshua B. Howard, *Fortitude and Forbearance: The North Carolina Continental Line in the Revolutionary War: 1775-1783*, (Raleigh, N.C.: Office of Archives and History North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 2004)

appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County of Orange aforesaid Johnson Webb³ a resident Citizen of the aforesaid County, now in the 84th year of his age or thereabouts, and a United States pensioner: who being first duly qualified maketh oath, that in the Spring of 1779, he was in the southern Army a private in Colonel Lytle's Regiment all under General Ashe [John Ashe], and while in the Service there became acquainted with John Roberts of war from the Northampton County he thinks who was then a private in the Continental line -- that said Roberts was a man of unusual activity. And this affiant recollects that on the morning of Ashe's defeat, said Roberts was one of the Picket guard, and that all of that picket that day were surprised and either killed or taken except said John Roberts by his great activity, who escaped and got into camp closely pursued by some British dragoons from which circumstance, Roberts was nicknamed "Bay Bolten" & in conclusion this affiant says said John Roberts was reputed a good Continental Soldier and a man of truth & veracity.
Sworn & subscribed before me the day & date first above written
S/ William Shaw, JP S/ Johnson Webb, X his mark

[fn p. 52: affidavit dated May 27, 1834 given and Orange County North Carolina by Elisha Braxton.]

[fn p. 57]

State of North Carolina Chatham County

On this the first day of September 1835 personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County William Smith about 80 years of age, who being first duly qualified according to law deposeseth & saith: as follows: to wit --

That in the War of the Revolution -- he was a Continental soldier in the United States Service, and towards the Close of the War was under General Greene in the Southern campaign and at Bacon's Bridge and some other stations of Greene's, has a distinct recollection of seeing John Roberts, Deceased of this County who was a Continental soldier in our Army. Remembers of seeing said Roberts in Charleston after that place was surrendered to General Wayne -- and when this deponent was discharged from the Service and was on his way to Hillsboro in this State, he fell in company with said John Roberts & other Soldiers who all had discharges from the Army he thinks, & remembers of Roberts showing his discharge & mentioning who his Colonel was, but does not now remember but thinks it was Colonel Lytle. Said Roberts settled in this County many years before he died and I was well acquainted with him -- and know him to be the same man under General Greene in the Southern Army and who served till sometime in the spring of the year after Wayne took Charleston: when we were all discharged from the Service. & further this deponent saith not.

Sworn and subscribed the day & year first above written before me
S/ William Lindly, JP S/ William Smith, X his mark

[fn p. 60]

Supplemental evidence

State of North Carolina Chatham County

On this the 9th Day of April 1835, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County of Chatham aforesaid William Smith, a resident Citizen of the aforesaid County, who being first duly qualified maketh oath that in 1782, '83 he

³ [Johnson \(Johnston\) Webb W3904](#)

was first acquainted with John Roberts (Deceased) of this County. That Roberts was a Continental of the North Carolina Line "for the war," was under Greene, (he well remembers) [indecipherable word or words] said John Roberts at the Round O., Ashley Hill and Bacon's Bridge and in Charleston at the surrender of that place to General Wayne in the winter before peace was made. In the spring following (1783) this affiant went to Georgetown where after working some weeks set out from North Carolina -- and when on his way said John Roberts & 3 or 4 other soldiers of Greene's Army overtook him on their way home. Roberts mentioned he had a discharge from his Colonel, and he was discharged about (he thinks) the first April of that Spring -- that they both came on to the Town of Hillsborough in Orange [County] where said Roberts after resting a few days went on to some of the lower Counties where he then lived: --

Said John Roberts subsequently moved to this County and I have since his residence here, seen him, & conversed with him of our Revolutionary tales & dangers.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year first above written.

Test: S/ Wm Lindley, JP

S/ William Smith, X his mark

[fn p. 63: another complete application, this one dated January 4, 1836 and filed in Orange County by William Roberts, on behalf of himself and Celia Roberts and Ann Roberts: substantially identical to the prior application with a reorganization of the supporting documentation enclosed with it.]