

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of George Sutherland S7667

NC VA

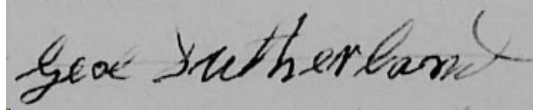
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 Sep 2014.

State of Virginia }

Fluvanna County } To wit. On the 13th day of February 1837 personally appeared before the Subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said County, George Sutherland, a citizen of said County and State aged 75 years in August last, who being first sworn according to law 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 7th 1832 – That he enlisted in the State of North Carolina in the fall of the first year of the Revolutionary War in the 1st North Carolina Regiment under one Captain Henry Dixon. The said Reg't Commanded by one Col. Clarke [sic: Thomas Clark]. That according to his understanding of his engagement at the time, he agreed to enlist as a Drummer for 3 years, and always supposed his enlistment was so entered of record, but of this he has no personal knowledge, as he was unlearned, and therefore unable to attend to such things – Early in the following spring he with the said Troops was marched to the North thro' Virg'a to GeorgeTown in Maryland where the said Troops were inoculated and from thence was march to Philadelphia and from thence to Trenton in Jersey and the troops to which he was attached were marched to & stationed at a place then called the Half Moon, and were there at the time of the engagement at Trenton the 25th Dec'r [sic: 26 Dec 1776] Thence said Regiment was marched back to George Town where they had been innoculated and in the summer or fall of that year said troops were marched to the northward again, and stationed on the Schulkill [sic: Schuylkill] River near Philadelphia. In the spring of the year following he was put in the Hospital at Trenton and after recovering so as to be able to march he proceeded to Philadelphia and from thence to Chester where the troops then lay to which he was attached, and there remained in service until he was discharged the last of August of that year, 1777 – He was discharged before the period of his enlistment expired and that arose from the custom of so discharging on the approach of winter quarters when the period of enlistmet was about expiring. That he was in active service under this enlistment for more than two years. was very young when he enlisted, not more than 14 or 15 years of age.

In the fall of the year 1780 he again enlisted, or more properly became a recruit from one of the districts or divisions in the County of Louisa in the State of Virginia for 18 months, and entered into active service on the 5th day of October 1780 and under one Ensign Philips was marched to Williamsburg and was then attached to an Artillery Regiment of the Virginia Troops which was attached to Gen'l. [George] Weedon's Brigade, and was in the Company commanded by Cap. Samuel Eddins [Samuel Eddens, 1st Regiment of Continental Artillery] – where he continued in actual service until a short time before the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] when on account of a painful affliction & swelling of one of his knees he was furloughed by Gen'l. Weedon the exact date he cannot state with precision, but refers to his account settled by the Auditor for that service as shewing more particularly the duration of said service [see endnote]. Shortly after the close of the War he called on Gen'l. Weedon at Fred[ericksbur]gh in Virg'a. and received from him an honorable discharge, which he delivered in Richmond to the State Auditor & thereupon received a certificate for £36.12.6 according to the best of his recollection; and also a certificate for a small amount of interest – that he was not in any battle whilst in said service. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. He states that at the commencement of the American Revolution he lived in Caswell County North Carolina, to which place he had moved from Virginia some years before the commencement of the American Revolutionary War – and with the exception of the time he was in service resided in that County & State. After leaving the service as aforesaid under the N. Carolina enlistment he removed to and settled in Albemarle County, in that part now called Fluvanna, and it was during his residence there, that he became the recruit [two illegible words] and discharge or district or division in Louisa County aforesaid – and that he has resided ever since the close of said War

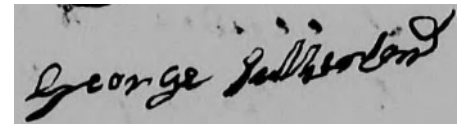
in said County of Fluvanna and has for more than 30 years been possessed of property of several thousand dollars value.



[Isaac Lucado (pension application S8869), a Baptist minister, certified Sutherland's character for veracity and reputation as a soldier of the Revolution.]

State of Virginia } [13 July 1841]

Fluvanna County } SS – George Sutherland an aged and respectable citizen of said county this day personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in & for said county and being first duly sworn according to law, states; that some years ago he filed his declaration at the War Department stating his services in the Revolutionary War first in the State of North Carolina under an enlistment for 3 years in Capt. Henry Dixon's Company of the 1st Reg't. of that State. Also his service of 18 month sin the Virginia Troops from the county of Louisa, Va. He the said George Sutherland now states that he having left the state of North Carolina some years before the close of the war, that the land due from that state for his services he never went back to enquire into. His Capt. in the latter part of his North Carolina service to wit Tilman Dixon [sic: Tilghman Dixon], who succeeded to the command of the company after Henry Dixon was promoted in all probability drew the land. He the said George Sutherland states that he has been laboring under the deep affliction of blindness for several years past, and although he designed at one time to go to North Carolina to enquire into these ancient matters, and endeavour to find some of his old comrades, he has found himself actually incompetent to undertake the trip. He further states that he received his certificates for the 18 months service in Virg'a amounting to between £30 and £40, which he sold to one James Studstill who he is informed removed to Bottetourt [sic: Botetourt] County, and dead, so that he finds it impossible to get the evidence of the fact of such sale of said certificates. He now respectfully asks that his application for a pension may be again taken into consideration with a view to all the circumstances of the case and that the allowance be made to him which ought in justice to have been done years ago. And with all respect he would beg leave to express his mortification that after having performed his services faithfully, and then exhibited positive proof of those services, that he should be met with the suggestion that he might not be the same person who did so perform s'd. services. If there were any other person of his name who was in the same service, then there would be some plausibility in such a suggestion, but in the absence of such a suggestion he is compelled to view the requisition of the department extremely hard and oppressive.



NOTES:

Sutherland's first application was suspended for the following reasons: 1) That he was so young when he claimed to enter service (although it was in fact not unusual for musicians to be so young); 2) The document from the Auditor referred to states that he was in the Infantry rather than Artillery. Sutherland petitioned the US House and Senate for a pension in words similar to those in his first application, and the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions reported favorably on 18 Jan 1842. On 15 Feb 1843 Sutherland was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per year for 12 months service as a private and 12 months service as a Sergeant.

The file includes a letter from John Winn of Winnsville in Fluvanna County, dated 7 Feb 1843, stating that he had lived in the family of George Sutherland as a school boy, that "although not entirely blind, it is with some difficulty he can distinguish his intimate acquaintances." He further stated, "When I first knew Mr. Sutherland he was in moderate circumstances, but by industry and economy he has accumulated considerable property & provided well for his children."