

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Adam Arbogast S8037 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 21 Oct 2013.

[Punctuation partly corrected]

State of Virginia Adam Arbogast
Pocahontas County

On this 6th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before John Bradshaw, Jacob Warwick, David W. Sleeth and William Cackley gentlemen, the Court of Pocahontas County now sitting, Adam Arbogast, a resident of the County of Pocahontas in the state of Virginia, aged seventy two 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 on the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the summer of 1776 or 1777 as an Indian spy, he was drafted for and served three months under Captain John McCoy, Joseph Gwin Lieutenant. The Ensign not recollected, at the time he was drafted he lived in the County of Augusta, now Pendleton on the South branch of the Potomack [sic: Potomac]. That he marched from the above place to Buckhannon River, or Bushes Fort [Fort Bush near the town of Buckhannon in present Upshur County WV] where he remained about two weeks. From thence he marched to the west fork of the Monongahala River [sic: Monongahela River, probably actually Tygart Valley River] at West's Fort [near present Jane Lew in Lewis County WV], where he remained about one or two weeks. And from thence down the River to Lowthers Fort [in present Harrison County WV] and from thence down the River to Nutter's Fort [at present Clarksburg] where we remained nearly the balance of the three months. from thence to Coontz fort [Joseph Coon's fort, also called Fort Koontz, in Harrison County], to which place we were called in consequence of the Indians having killed a white woman whilst she was spreading hemp in a field [see endnote]. That from thence he returned to Nutters fort, where he remained until his Term of service expired. he received no discharge in writing. That he served another tour of three months as a volunteer in the year 1778 under the above named Capt John McCoy and Ensign Thomas Right, as an Indian Spy. That he scouted from the place above named towit the County of Augusta, where he then resided, and marched to the Warm Springs in the same County of Augusta. When himself, George Hull [pension application S13317], Conrad Flesher and John Guin were ordered by Colonel Hughart [sic: Thomas Hugart] and Colo. McCrary [sic: John McCreery] to return to the place where he resided to spy and guard that section of the state of Virginia, where he remained until the expiration of his Term of service. That he at another time served as an Indian Spy some short time, he does not recollect. That he marched from the place where he then resided across the Alleghana [sic: Allegheny] Mountains and across the Greenbrier River to the head of Seneca Creek in pursuit of the Indians. That he was in no engagement. [The following is marked "omit."] That he has no documentary evidence. That he knows of no person now living whose testimony he can procure except George Hull, Eli B. Wilson [S6401] and John Simmons [sic: John Simmon, S7512] whose certificates accompany this document. That 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

Adam Arbogast

[Certified also by Abraham Burner (W24693).]

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigted many pensioners in present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. Singleton wrote "Entitled" in his report on Arbogast, who was listed as a pensioner in the 1840 federal census of Pocahontas County.]

Adam Arbagast Served 6 mo. [illegible word] \$60

I the undersigned Adam Arbagast at the request of W. G. Singleton give the following statement of my age & of my Revolutionary Service as a soldier. to wit I was 75 yrs. old on the 25th October last – am a native of Frederick county and resided in west augusta now Pendleton county during the war of the Revolution — in the year 1777 (to the best of my recollection) I was drafted for 3 months and marched from Pendleton county (under Capt. John McKay, Lieut. James Guinn & David Marton Ensign) through Tygarts Vally Randolph County thence across the Buckhannon River into the present County of Harrison county. there our company was divided & subdivided and sent to the different forts or stations in the settlement. myself with others were stationed at Bushes Fort on Hackers creek afterwards removed to the west Fort of the Monongalia River, and thence to Nutters & Louthers Fort. at the several stations above mentioned I served out the 3 months and returned home. I drew rations received pay & was furnished with arms & ammuniton — about two years after the preceeding tour (I wont be certain as to the time, except in this, that it was during the war of the Revolution) I volunteered in same county under Ensign Thomas Right who marched with about twenty men including my self to the Warm Springs now Bath county. on our arival there found at that station Cols. Huggard & McCreary who ordered us back to Pendleton to protect that county from Invasion by Indians. we returned & six of us including my self remained in service for the three months. we were raingeing & scouting through the Frontiers of that county. I was Sergeant and had the command of the little party. Six in number includeing myself as before stated & thus ended my services. My son Jacob wrote my Declaration. Jan'y 30 1835

Adam hisXmark Arbagast

A Copy.

W. G. Singleton

Feby 14 1835

NOTE: “A short time after this [June 1777], two Indians came on the West Fork and concealed themselves near to Coon’s fort, awaiting an opportunity of effecting some mischief. While thus lying in ambush, a daughter of Mr. Coon came out for the purpose of lifting some hemp in a field near to the fort, and by the side of the road. Being engaged in performing this business, Thomas Cunningham and Enoch James passing along, and seeing her, entered into conversation with her, and after a while proceeded on their road. But before they had gone far, alarmed by the report of a gun, they looked back and saw an Indian run up to the girl, tomahawk and scalp her.” Withers, A. S. *Chronicles of Border Warfare*. p 159.