

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McBride W4730

Eleanor McBride

f87NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/31/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6]

State of North Carolina: Court of Pleas & Quarter Session August Term 1832

On this 20th day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Guilford now sitting John McBride a resident of Guilford County State of North Carolina aged Seventy Six 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 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he first Volunteered as an Indian Spy or Ranger and Served three months as Adjutant to about three hundred rangers Commanded by Captains Whitner [?], White, & Taylor<sup>1</sup> & composed of part of General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] Army sent against the Cherokee Indians in the now western part of North Carolina.<sup>2</sup> That he marched from Guilford County to the now western part of North Carolina. That he was in a battle with the Indians in the fork of the Catawba River in the now western part of North Carolina. That he next served as a Volunteer as First Sergeant in a company commanded by Capt. John Nelson for the term of five months. That he marched from Martinsville North Carolina to Purisburg [sic, Purysburg] on the Savannah River in South Carolina. Said Company was under the Command of Col. John Paisley and attached to General Rutherford's Brigade and General Ashe [John Ashe] of North Carolina was the Major General, this service was finished in the year 1779. That if he received a discharge which he cannot now recollect, it is lost. That he next served as Ensign in a company of Guilford Militia Commanded by Captain John Hamilton and was engaged in various expeditions against the Tories in Randolph and Guilford. John Paisley was Colonel. That he also frequently volunteered under Capt. David Gillaspie [sic, David Gillespie?] and Col. John Gillaspie [sic, John Gillespie?] in various expeditions against the Tories in Randolph and Guilford. That he next served for one month and fifteen days as a volunteer in a Company commanded by Captain Arthur Forbis against Col. Brian [Samuel Bryan], a Tory or Regular who raised a number of Tories in Rowan and adjoining Counties in North Carolina and marched to join the British Army at or near Camden South Carolina. This service was rendered a few weeks before the defeat of General Gates [Horatio Gates] at Camden [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. That he was next engaged for the term of twelve months in carrying communications from Col. John Paisley, the commander of Guilford Militia and from the Committee of Public Safety to different parts of

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<sup>1</sup> Of officers known to have participated in the 1776 Indian Campaign under Rutherford, the only Captain having a name similar to those named by this veteran is Captain Henry Whitesell [Weitzel] of the Guilford NC militia.

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

the State often at the hazard of his life.

That he next served as a volunteer Lieutenant for the term of six months in a company commanded by Capt. John McAdow, John Paisley Col. in pursuit of the Tory Fanning [David Fanning] and his followers through the Counties of Randolph, Montgomery, Cumberland and Bladen. This service was rendered in the summer and fall of 1781.

That he was in the service of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] on his march through North Carolina a short time before the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781]. That he continued to serve as a volunteer in various expeditions against the Tories up to the close of the War. He further states that he has not either commission or discharge now in his possession. That all the above named officers under whom he served are dead. That he knows only of William Ryan<sup>3</sup> and Reuben Land<sup>4</sup> who have any personnel knowledge of his services and their affidavits are attached unto. The declarant further states that he was born in the State of Pennsylvania on the 22 day of March 1755. As he was informed by his parents that he removed to North Carolina when he was about ten years of age, where he has resided ever since. That he has no record of his age but believes it is correctly stated above. That he was living in Guilford County when called into Service and has continued to live in said County State of North Carolina ever since. That he is well known in the County of Guilford where he resides and among other persons he is well known to the Reverend William D. Paisley and to Jonathan Parker.

That he hereby relinquishes any claim whatsoever 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.

Sworn to and Subscribed this day and year aforesaid

S/ A.E. Hanner [?], CCC

S/ J McBride



[William D Paisley, a clergyman, and Jonathan Parker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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William Ryan maketh oath that he is well acquainted with John McBride who Subscribed & Swore to the above declaration. That he was acquainted with him during the Revolutionary War – that he has read over the above declaration of McBride and believes he served as therein stated – that he frequently saw McBride in the Army during the War & particularly recollects seeing him with the Army just before Gates' defeat – likewise saw him with General Greene's Army at Halifax Court House Virginia just before the battle of Guilford.



Reuben Land maketh oath that he is acquainted with John McBride who Subscribed & Swore to the above declaration – & that he was acquainted with him during the Revolutionary War and Served six months in a company of Infantry of which the said John McBride was Lieutenant & John McAdow Captain – That he also Served with said McBride in some other expeditions against the Tories – that he has heard the declaration of said McBride & verily believes he served as therein stated.

S/ Reuben Land, X his mark

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3 [William Ryan S7436](#)

4 [Reuben Land S7135](#)

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State of North Carolina Guilford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid John McBride who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and 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 and in the following grades –

That he first volunteered as an Indian Spy or Ranger & Served three months as adjutant That he had his appointment as Adjutant from Colonel McDowell [probably Charles McDowell, possibly Joseph McDowell] – that said Commission was burnt in his shop with many other valuable papers and he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove that he was appointed & acted as Adjutant –

That he next served five months in a Company commanded by Captain John Nelson as first Sergeant of said Company – as stated in his declaration –

That he next served as Ensign in a Company of militia Commanded by Captain John Hamilton at least three months, that he was duly commissioned as Ensign by Richard Caswell then Governor of North Carolina<sup>5</sup> – the Said Commission was burnt several years since with many other valuable papers in the shop of this Affiant –

That he served one month & fifteen days as a Volunteer private in a Company commanded by Captain Arthur Forbis as stated in his declaration.

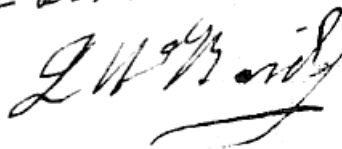
That he next Served for the term of twelve months in Carrying Communications as stated in his declaration –

That he served for six months as a Volunteer Lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain John McAdow – That he was duly Commissioned by the Governor of North Carolina Thomas Burke<sup>6</sup> Esquire as he believes – The Commission was handed to him by John Paisley then Colonel of the Regiment to which he belonged – said Commission was likewise burned in the manner before stated

That he next served at least three months as express rider under General Greene while he was in North Carolina & Virginia & South Carolina.

That after this affiant returned from the Raft Swamp expedition<sup>7</sup> in the fall of the year 1781 he was almost Constantly in the Army until the Close of the War – but cannot now from defect of memory pretend to detail the particular Services he rendered. He volunteered very often and went short Tours against the Tories in the adjoining Counties Sometimes as an Officer & Sometimes as a private – and for the above Services I claim a pension

S/ J. McBride



Sworn to & subscribed  
before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of January 1833  
S/ William Adams, JP  
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<sup>5</sup> Richard Caswell served as governor of the state of North Carolina from November 12, 1776 until April 20, 1780.

Caswell served a subsequent term from May 13, 1785 until December 20, 1787.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Burke served as governor of the state of North Carolina from June 26, 1781 until April 22, 1782

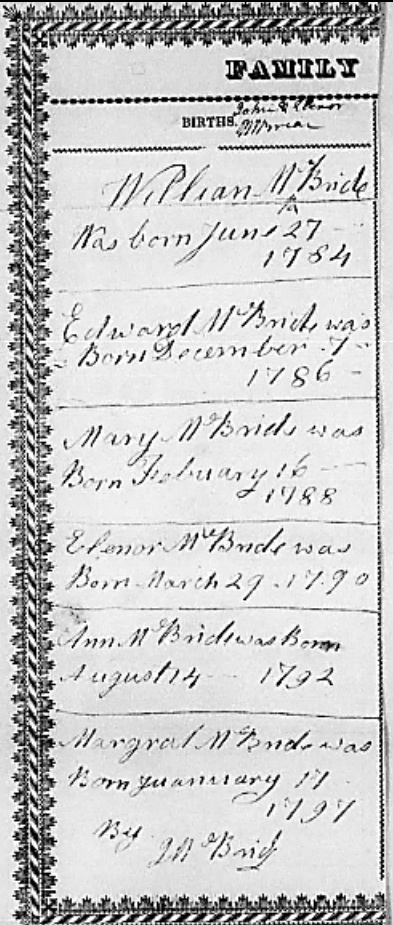
<sup>7</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_raft\\_swamp.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_raft_swamp.html)

State of North Carolina Guilford County: This day came William Ryan before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid and made Oath – that he well remembers to hear during the Revolutionary War that John McBride was the Ensign in Captain John Hamilton's Company – and that he was Lieutenant in Captain John McAdow's Company.

S/ Wm Ryan

[Sworn to January 28, 1833]

[p 4: family record]

Births	
William McBride Was born June 27 1784	
Edward McBride was Born December 7, 1786	
Mary McBride was Born February 16, 1788	
Elenor McBride was Born March 29, 1790	
Ann McBride was Born August 14, 1792	
Margrat McBride was Born January 17, 1797	
By J McBride	

[p 12: On November 6, 1843 in Orange County North Carolina, Ellenor McBride [sic], aged 88, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John McBride, a private, Sergeant, Ensign and Lieutenant in the service of the United States during the revolutionary war; that she married him in Martinsville, Guilford County North Carolina in the year 1783; that her husband kept a family Bible record which was given to their eldest son Doctor William McBride who moved to South Carolina 27 years ago; that said William McBride made a copy of the family record which shows the following

William McBride was born 27 June 1784 (eldest child)

Edward McBride was born 7 December 1786

Mary McBride was born 16 February 1788

Elenor McBride was born 29 March 1790

Ann McBride was born 14 August 1792

Margaret McBride was born 17 January 1797;

that her husband died May 27, 1843. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 66: On November 28, 1843 in Orange County North Carolina, Mary Puryear, 56, gave testimony that she was raised in and adjoining County of Guilford and lived a neighbor to the late Captain John McBride, a United States pensioner; that said McBride married Ellenor Ryan

*Mary Puryear* ]

[p 72: On April 4, 1845 in Guilford County North Carolina David Gorrell, 74, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with John McBride and his wife Elenor McBride; that affiant was enrolled and mustered into the militia in 1790 at which time he knows McBride was married; affiant also recalls leaving his father's horses to be shod at said McBride's blacksmith shop in 1788 and that McBride was already married.

*David gorrell* ]

[p 10: On January 26, 1852 in Alamance County North Carolina, Mary as to, gave testimony that she is the daughter of Ellender McBride [sic], widow of John McBride late a pensioner of the United States as a revolutionary officer.

*Mary Wood* ]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$168.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private, Sergeant, Ensign & Lieutenant in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$35 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1843.]