

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wadkins (Watkins)¹ W6415 Cynthia Wadkins f46NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 7/15/17

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Georgia Habersham County

Personally came this day before me Andrew Gailey a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid James Anderson and after being first duly sworn, saith on oath that he has been acquainted in the family of John Watkins [sic] and Cynthia Watkins his wife from early youth and has often seen the within record and knows it to be their family register and that he is now fifty-one years old, he further says that he always understood from the said John Watkins that he was raised an orphan boy by his aunt Rachel Watkins, he also further says that the said John Watkins was always regarded and respected as a soldier and patriot of the revolution. Sworn and subscribed before me this 6th day of November 1850.

S/ Andrew Gailey, JP

S/ James Anderson



[Bible record, p. 6

Nancy Watkins [sic] was born April the 3rd 1792 { Rebecah Watkins was born January the 28th 1794

Job Watkins was born May the 15th 1796

Dorcas Watkins was born the January 29th 1798 { Samuel Watkins was born February the 21 1800 { John Watkins was born the 16th day of July 1803

Sally Watkins born May the 27 1806

David Grissom Watkins was born the 4th day of April 1809

Patsey Jaler [?] Watkins [sic] was born April the 27 day 1817

James [indecipherable middle name] Watkins was born the 17th [?] August 1818]

¹ B.L.Wt15154-160-55

Nancy Watkins was born April
 the 3rd 1792 } Rebecca Watkins was
 born January the 28th 1794
 Joseph Watkins was born May the 13th
 1796 }
 Marcus Watkins was born the January
 29th 1798 } Samuel Watkins was born
 February the 21 1800 } John Watkins
 was born the 16th day of July 1803
 Abby Watkins born May the 27 1810
 David Grisem Watkins was born
 the 11th day of April 1809
 James later Watkins was born
 the 27th day of 1817
 the 11th day of 1830

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Department of the Interior
 Claim for military service

I certify that, in conformity with the law of the United States, on the 7th June 1832, John Wadkins deceased, was a private in the Revolutionary War, was entitled to a pension of \$30 per annum, commencing for March 1831 & ending 19th February 1841, when he died;

And that the amount due is payable to Cynthia Wadkins his widow.

Given at the Department of the Interior, this first day of May, 1852.

S/ Alex^r H. H. Stuart
 Secretary of the Interior

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State of Georgia, Habersham County

On this 24th day of June A.D. 1851 personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of the County and State aforesaid, Cynthia Wadkins, a resident of the County aforesaid, aged eighty-one years, who being first duly sworn, makes on oath the following

declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows:"

That she is the widow of John Wadkins a soldier in the Army of the United States in the war of the Revolution, in the North Carolina line, as she has been informed by him and served in that war as she has been further told by him as an express;

That she was born in Pennsylvania and taken in early childhood to North Carolina, as she remembers to the County of Guilford, and there resided until she was nearly grown; that there she became acquainted with the said John Watkins, her future husband, who lived in the same neighborhood; that when nearly grown she was taken by her father Job Loftis to Newberry District, South Carolina, where she was married to the said John Watkins who had accompanied her father's family from North Carolina as a wagoner, during the year 1791, the precise month having escaped her recollection, that her eldest child named Nancy Wadkins, now living in aged 59 years, was born the April of the year following the marriage: that she believes no record of the marriage exists;

That the aforesaid John Wadkins her husband, who with the declarant and the rest of his family moved into that part of Georgia now organized as Habersham County about 40 years ago and there resided till his death, died in said County on the 19th of February 1841:

That she was not married to her said husband prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place prior to the first day of January 1794, to wit, at the time and place aforesaid:

That she and her husband were both illiterate and were therefore unable to keep records of events happening in their family; that she did not apply earlier for a pension because she did not know of the Act of Congress under which this application is made until a recent period.

S/ Cynthia Wadkins, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of June A.D. 1851

S/ Moses Ayers, JICH

State of North Carolina, Office of the Secretary of State

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that John Wadkins a private in Captain Baker's [John Baker's] company of the 10th Regiment,² entered the service on the 20th day of July 1778, for the term of nine months.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of February 1851.

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

Georgia, Habersham County

Personally appeared before me a justice of the Inferior Court said County, Sally Wadkins a resident of said County, who being duly sworn deposes and says that she is the daughter of the late John Wadkins of said County and of Cynthia now his widow, that she was present in her father's house at the time of the latter's death and distinctly remembers that it was in the month of February in the year of our Lord 1841, the precise day he deponent cannot state, but the common tradition of the family is that it was the 19th; deponent knows that no record of deaths have been kept in the family.

S/ Sally Wadkins, X her mark

² J. D. Lewis advises that the designation of the 10th Regiment as the regiment in which a veteran served was often the NC Secretary of State's 'default' designation when he could not find muster rolls giving the actual regiment in which the veteran served. J. D. indicates in his online posting that this veteran served in the 3rd NC Regiment. See, http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_privates_w.htm and search for "Wadkins, John."

[p 7: On July 24, 1851, James Reynolds, 64, a resident of Habersham County Georgia, gave an affidavit stating, among other things, that he had heard John Wadkins state that he served in the revolutionary war and fought at the battles of Guilford and the Cowpens and was sometimes employed in said Army as an express.]

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State of Georgia, County of Habersham

On this 20th day of April A.D. 1855, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid Cynthia Wadkins aged 85 years, a resident of Habersham County in the State of Georgia, who being duly Sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of John Wadkins deceased who was a private in the company commanded by Captain Baker, the Regiment nor the name of the Colonel, not now known or recollected, in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain, and the United States, that her said husband enlisted at Guilford in the State of North Carolina, Some time as she believes between 1776 and 1780, the precise time not known, nor the term of time for which he enlisted, and continued in actual Service in said war for the term of nine months, and was honorably discharged, the place nor time of his discharge not known or recollected, get she further States that she was lawfully married to the said John Wadkins some time in the year of 1791, a month nor the day not recollected, by a Justice of the peace, whose name she has forgotten, in Newberry District South Carolina, and that her name before her said marriage was Cynthia Loftis, that there is no public or private record of her said marriage, within her knowledge, possession, power or control. That her said husband died at her present place of residence in said County on or about the 19th day of February 1841, and that she is now a widow. She also declares that she is now a pensioner for the Services as aforesaid to of her said husband, and respectfully refers to the proof now on file in the Pension office, of his said Services, in aid of this claim for bounty land. She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the Act approved March 3, 1855.

S/ Cynthia Wadkins, X her mark

[Veteran was posthumously pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, and ending with his death on February 19, 1841. Presumably the amount of his pension was based upon 18 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]