

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew McCullers W7415

Sarah McCullers

f103NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/3/09: rev'd 9/29/16

[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 'indcipherable' 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 7]

State of North Carolina Wake County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, February Term 1839

On this 19th day of February 1839, Personally appeared in open Court it being a Court of Record in & for said County, and at a Regular Term of said Court, Sarah McCullers a resident of the County & State aforesaid and widow of Matthew McCullers deceased who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836 -- That she is the widow of Matthew McCullers who was a Soldier and an officer a considerable time & held the rank of a Militia Captain for a considerable time as her said husband often told her, he was a volunteer and was in the Battle of Moore's Creek<sup>1</sup> in this State, and in the Battle of Briar Creek<sup>2</sup> in the State of Georgia, also at the Siege of Charleston<sup>3</sup> and in the Battle at Lindley's Mill,<sup>4</sup> in all he served he often told her was fully two years & was discharged soon after the Battle at Lindley's Mill in the year 1781 -- She further declares that she was married to the said Matthew McCullers on the 15th day of February in the year 1784 that her husband the aforesaid Matthew McCullers died on the 28th day of June 1825, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written –

before me

S/ A. Williams, Clk

S/ Sarah McCullers, X her mark

[p 10]

"Mat McCullers and  
Salley McCullers was

[?] Married this

15<sup>th</sup> Febr<sup>y</sup> 1785"

[pp 3-6 Family Record]

Marriages

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_lindleys\\_mill.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html)

William McCullers was Married to Salley S. Sanders the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1812  
Stephen Stephenson was Married to Rebecca L. McCullers 29<sup>th</sup> January 1822  
David Stephenson was Married to Sally B. L. McCullers the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1823  
John J. J. L. McCullers was Married to William R. Nance the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1835

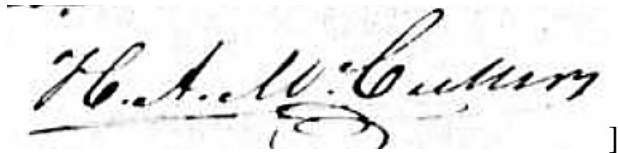
#### Births

Matthew McCullers was born 14<sup>th</sup> June 1759  
Sarah Lane McCullers was born 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1763  
H. A. McCullers was born 14<sup>th</sup> [?] day of December 1786  
Joseph John McCullers was born 16<sup>th</sup> May 1789  
William McCullers was born 19<sup>th</sup> November 1791  
Mary [?] McCullers was born 28<sup>th</sup> [illegible] 179[<sup>th</sup> last digit illegible]  
Rebecca McCullers was born 8<sup>th</sup> August 1796  
Salley B. McCullers was born 1<sup>st</sup> January 1799  
Patsey McKinney McCullers was born 29<sup>th</sup> May 1801  
Harriet H. B. McCullers was born 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1804  
Matthew McCullers was born 4<sup>th</sup> October 1806  
Josiah [pure guess] McCullers was born 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1810  
David H. Stephenson Son of Stephen Stephenson and Rebecca his Wife was born 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1823  
Reuben Sanders McCullers was born the 9<sup>th</sup> February 1816  
William Henry McCullers was born February 26<sup>th</sup> 1818  
Lucy Ann McCullers was born 15<sup>th</sup> May 1820  
Elizabeth Jane McCullers was born 12<sup>th</sup> September 1822  
Romulus S. McCullers was born 17<sup>th</sup> July 1825  
July Ann Stephenson was born 26<sup>th</sup> July 1824  
Matthew McCullers Stephenson was born 9<sup>th</sup> November 1825  
Sidney Augustine Smith Son of Simon Smith and Martha his Wife was born 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1830  
Sarah Carolina Smith Daughter of Simon Smith and Martha his Wife was born 3 March 1833  
Sarah An McCullers was born [entry ends here]

#### Deaths

Joseph John McCullers son of Matthew McCullers & Sarah his wife departed this Life April 27<sup>th</sup> 1792  
Reuben Sanders McCullers Son of William McCullers and Salley his Wife Departed this life 20<sup>th</sup> October 1821  
Matthew McCullers Departed this life 28<sup>th</sup> June 1825  
Mary McCullers Daughter of Matthew McCullers and Sarah his Wife Departed this life 20<sup>th</sup> November 1824  
Elizabeth Jane McCullers Daughter of William McCullers and Salley his Wife Departed this life 19<sup>th</sup> September 1825  
William McCullers departed this life 16<sup>th</sup> January 1828  
July Ann Stephenson Departed this Life 1<sup>st</sup> day October 1824  
Sarah Lane McCullers departed this Life 7<sup>th</sup> December 1843

[p 13: On November 18, 1839 in Wake County North Carolina Henry A. McCullers, son of Colonel Matthew McCullers gave testimony that he had often seen and distinctly recollects the signed commission given in the name of Richard Caswell in favor of Matthew McCullers.



January 29, 1851

State of North Carolina Wake County

We the undersigned do hereby certify that the following persons are the only children who survived their mother Sarah Lane McCullers widow of Captain Matthew McCullers Dead their names are to wit: Henry a McCullers, Matthew McCullers, Stephen Stephen [sic] wife Rebecca, Simon Smith wife Martha McKinney, Harriet H. B. McCullers, J J L McCullers, David Stephen wife Sarah B. L. McCullers

The above heirs are applying for an increase of pension for their said father's services in the Revolutionary War as Captain in the Militia Line in said State the above are the only heirs who survived their mother Sarah Lane McCullers widow of Captain Matthew McCullers of the Revolutionary War

January 29, 1851

S/ Stephen Stephenson, JP

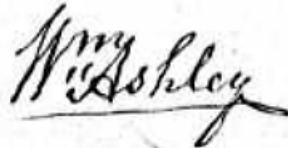


[p 17]

I the undersigned do hereby certify that I have often heard Major Lewis Bledsoe Speak of the said Captain Matthew McCullers' Bravery in the Revolutionary War, while acting under him, and of their being at the Battle of Moore's [Creek] Bridge, where he Bledsoe said it was reported that they took up the planks and greased the sleepers but that was not so for they did not have grease to greese [sic] their stomachs.

February 4<sup>th</sup> 1851

S/ Wm Ashley [William Ashley]



[p 19]

State of North Carolina Wake County: December 26 1850 Henry A. McCullers of said County and State aforesaid this day personally appeared before us -- acting Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for said County & State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law makes this his declaration under the act of Congress passed 7th day of July 1838 for the Revolutionary Services of Declarant's father Matthew McCullers Deceased who died in Wake County North Carolina, that during the Revolutionary War was living in Johnson County [sic, Johnston County] North Carolina who served during the greater part of the Revolutionary war as Captain in the Militia of North Carolina he further declares that he has often heard him say that he was engaged in seven general engagements in said war -- to wit the Battle of Lindley's Mill, the Battle of Briar Creek, the Battle of Moore's Creek bridge and at the Siege of Charleston and others not by me recollected. He further declares that his said father died 28th of June 1825 -- and left his widow the declarant's mother surviving who received a pension or pay some short

time before her death -- the amount not exactly recollected but supposed to be between seven hundred and \$1000, and he further declares that his said mother died on the 7th day of December 1843 whose maiden name was Sarah Lane and was married in the County of Wake North Carolina before the date of 1794 the declarant makes this his declaration in behalf of himself, brothers and sisters now surviving in order to receive an increase or back pay pension, for the long period of service of his said deceased father, Matthew McCullers, a Captain in said war, he further declares that his said Father's name and age is in my this declarant's handwriting in the record annexed No. 9 taken from the family Bible, who was as appears was born on the 14th day of June 1759 -- also his wife's the declarant's mother's to wit Sarah Lane McCullers was born the 22nd of April 1763 who was declarant's father's wife, he declares that said record contains the names and ages of all their children, and their first and oldest child's name is this declarant is Henry A. McCullers and was born the 4th day of September 1786, which is the declarant age, which is also registered on said record No. 9 consequently his father and mother was married before 1794 he Further declares that he believes that their marriage was proven satisfactory before his mother received her pension in part which he refers to the evidence in the City of Washington DC with the rest of papers (he further declares that the only children that survived his said mother said Sarah McCullers, who are now living, their names are as follows seven in number to wit the first and oldest child who is now living who is this declarant to wit

Henry A. McCullers, Harriet H B McCullers -- Matthew McCullers, J J L McCullers, Stephen Stephenson's wife Rebecca, David Stephenson's wife Sarah, B L Simon Smith's wife Martha McKinney

he further declares that the record annexed containing said surviving children's ages and that of his father and mother was wrote many years since by the declarant also the deaths of declarant's mother and father was wrote by this declarant: he further states that he believes it was in or about the date 1842 that his mother received said money through Hon. R. M. Sanders.

Subscribed and sworn to before Wesley Jones & Simon Smith acting Justices of Wake County North Carolina December 26 1850.

S/ Henry A. McCullers

S/ Wesley Jones, JP

S/ Simon Smith, JP

[p 33]

State of North Carolina Wake County: January 16th A.D. 1841

This day came William Cutts<sup>5</sup> personally before me Alsey Holland one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County and after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is upwards of ninety years of age and that he was a soldier in the revolutionary war and is now a pensioner as will appear by reference to documents in the pension office and further saith that he commenced his service in Cumberland County in the above named State and that he was marched from thence to the City of Charleston South Carolina and was there under the command of General Lincoln his Captain was Simon Hadley and that he there remained upwards of four months and that he there saw one Matthew McCullers whom he was acquainted before they came there who was also in the service, acting, as a soldier and an officer and that he believes his grade was that of a Captain or higher he also believes from reports that he said McCullers was in the service at the other times and places.

Sworn to and subscribed before me.

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<sup>5</sup> [William Cutts S8274](#)

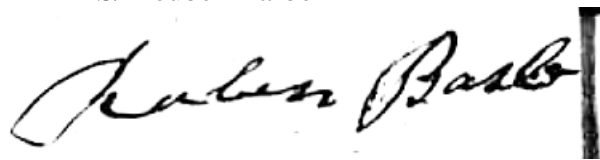
S/ Alsey Holland, JP

S/ William Cutts, X his mark

[p 39]

State of North Carolina Johnston [sic, Johnston] County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Ruben Barber a person of lawful age and of respectability and well-known to me, who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and saith that he is now 77 years old that deponent saith that he was a soldier himself in the Revolution War with Great Britain that the said Deponent was in the Service he believes in the date 1781 that he very well recollects his being in the service at the time the news reached the Army of Lord Cornwallis's surrender that on receiving the information of the said Wallace's surrender there was considerable rejoicing in the American Camp such as firing a salute &c. This Deponent further states upon his oath that a few days before he heard of the surrender of Cornwallis that he saw Matthew McCullers who at that time was a Captain of a company of light horse that said McCullers informed him as did others in the company which the said McCullers commanded, that a few days previous that the said McCullers & company under his command had an action with the enemy at a place called Baldwin's old field Deponent further saith that he hath no doubt about their being in said action that he very well recollects seeing several shot holes through the clothes of the men under the command of said Matthew McCullers they were at that time Deponent believes in the County of Columbus in the State aforesaid this Declarant states that he was a drafted militia man from the County of Wake under the command of Captain Robert High, Colonel Owen [sic, ?] and General Butler who was in chief command, this deponent further saith that he has reason to believe that the said Matthew McCullers in the tour when he saw him served as Captain at least two months or more and Deponent further saith upon his oath that he was well acquainted with the said Matthew McCullers before the war while he resided in Johnston County and during the war and was well acquainted with him after he removed to the County of Wake, that deponent believes from the best information that he has ever had that the said Matthew McCullers served several tours during the war, that he has always since as well as during the war bore the name of a brave officer and soldier, and further saith not. Sworn and subscribed to before me on this the 12th day of March 1837.

S/ Reuben Barber

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reuben Barber". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. To the right of the signature is a vertical line, possibly a separator or a mark.

S/ Right Ryals, JP

[p 45: James Gilbert, 85 (born July 3, 1766) of Wake County, gave testimony on November 29, 1851 in support of the petition of the heirs of Matthew and Sarah McCullers in which he states that he was drafted in the militia during the revolution but was refused for reason that he was "uncommon small size weighing only 63 pounds at the age of 21" -- he gives testimony as to what he heard regarding the services of Matthew McCullers during the war and names the same surviving children of the widow.]

[p 55-- James Gilbert gives on another affidavit, this one dated October 5, 1852, in which he states that Captain Matthew McCullers served eight tours of three months each during the

revolution and that the reason he is so aware of Matthew McCullers's services is that the deponent's father James Gilbert Senior was cook for Captain Matthew McCullers and that he himself often was in camp assisting his father. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 58]

State of North Carolina Jonston County [sic, Johnston County]

Personally appeared before me John W. Jonshon [sic. John W. Johnston?] a Justice of the peace in and for said County James Stephenson<sup>6</sup> a person to me well known and of old age who being duly sworn declares and deposes, that during the Revolutionary War with Great Britain that he the said deponent was called into the service as a soldier in and from the County aforesaid and the deponent further saith that he was well acquainted with Matthew McCullers who lived in the aforesaid County that said Deponent further deposeth that he served a tour of five months and upwards that said deponent was mustered into service under the command of John Whitley as Captain and the said Matthew McCullers acted and served as Lieutenant from the time of our first marching from the aforesaid County until our discharge the deponent further saith that they started on their tour of service from the County aforesaid and from thence they marched to the South first into the State of South Carolina thence into the state of Georgia that shortly after getting into the state of Georgia we had a battle with the British Army which defeated the American troops at Brier Creek, the deponent further saith that at the aforesaid defeat the American soldiers were dispersed and scattered in small [indecipherable word] through the Swamps up said Creek, that he the Deponent further saith that the said Matthew McCullers was in the service at the time of the action at Brier Creek as well as before and after, that we remained together the night after the retreat from the enemy and again joined the Main Army together a few days after, we were at that time under the command of Colonel Caswell and General Ashe, this deponent further saith that he believes the above named service was rendered in the date 1779 this deponent further saith that he is now about the age of 75 years and further states upon his oath that he well knew the said Matthew McCullers before the Revolutionary War and frequently saw him while in the service that the said McCullers was a brave officer, that he frequently [indecipherable word or words of his services in other and different tours, that he was always considered a brave officer and true friend to the cause of liberty, Deponent further saith that he believes the said Matthew McCullers removed from the aforesaid County to the County of Wake during the time of the War, that deponent further saith that he has frequently seen him since the war and since his removal to the County of Wake this deponent further saith that they were discharged in the state of South Carolina and further saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed this 10th day of March 1839

S/ Jon W. Johnson, JP

S/ James Stephenson, X his mark

[p 88]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County

I Thomas Hutchins<sup>7</sup> do very well recollect that I served two months under Matthew McCullers as Captain in the year that Charleston was taken but do not recollect the date of the year, I served under him in the State of North Carolina but I know nothing about his services in South Carolina,

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<sup>6</sup> [James Stevenson \(Stephenson\) S7644](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Thomas Hutchins W7836](#)

At the time I served under him the two months in North Carolina James Hinton was our Colonel and in the same time we were in the Battle at Lindley's Mill, Mr. McCullers was Captain of the company that I served in --

In witness by the said Thomas Hutchins have been duly sworn and subscribe my name to the same this 10th day of March 1839

S/ Jos Taylor, JP

S/ Thomas Hutchins, X his mark

[p 90]

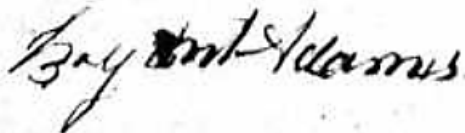
State of North Carolina Johnston County

Before me John C. Hood -- a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Bryant Adams of said County a person to me well known and of lawful age who being duly sworn declares and deposes that during the revolutionary war with Great Britain, he was personally acquainted with one Matthew McCullers (who then resided in said County) and in the year 1779 or 1780 there was a company raised who was ordered to assemble at Smithfield (the County seat of said County) in order to march, this deponent further swears that the said Matthew McCullers took the command of the man as Captain and chose him the deponent as Sergeant under him, they then marched from the town of Smithfield under the command of said Matthew McCullers bending their course towards the South, until they arrived at Charleston where they were stationed (being under the head Commander General Linkhorn [sic, Benjamin Lincoln]) until their term of service Expired (which this deponent believes to be 5 months), during which term of service the aforesaid Matthew McCullers continued as Captain of the company to which this deponent belonged. Sometime after they returned home from this tower of duty, it was commonly reported (and this deponent has good cause to believe it) that the said Matthew McCullers removed to the County of Wake in said State. This deponent says from the best account, he is now in his 85th year, and further he saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed this 5th day of March 1839

S/ John C. Hood, JP

S/ Bryant Adams

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryant Adams". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 94]

State of North Carolina Johnston County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid James Holt<sup>8</sup> a person of lawful age and respectability and well known to me, Who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and saith that he is now in his 85th year of his age that he himself was a soldier in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain that he served as a soldier from the County aforesaid under the command of Captain John Whitley that they served a tour of 6 months that he was at the battle of Brier Creek: this deponent further saith that their Lieutenant was named McCullers that Deponent saith that he has forgotten the given name of McCullers but that the said McCullers was at the action of Brier Creek that he often saw him while in the service that shortly after the

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<sup>8</sup> [James Holt S9585](#)

action at Brier Creek our Lieutenant McCullers was taken sick in South Carolina, deponent further saith that he was discharged in South Carolina that after Deponent was discharged on his return home he saw the said McCullers at the house where he was left sic, that shortly after their return home the deponent believes the said McCullers removed to the County of Wake as deponent has been informed, since which time deponent has seldom seen him this deponent further saith that he his recollection does not serve him as well as to recollect the particular date and further saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this 2nd day of March A.D. 1839  
S/ Wm Brown, JP

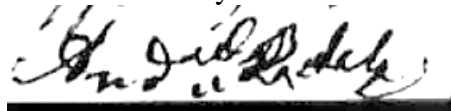
S/ James Holt, X his mark

State of North Carolina Wake County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Andrew Peddy<sup>9</sup> a person of lawful age and of respectability and well known to me, who being first duly sworn according to law, Deposeth and saith that he is now of the age of 81 years, and was for many years well acquainted with Colonel Matthew McCullers, who was a Captain in the militia of the State of North Carolina in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain, and generally bore the character of a very brave officer, that some years before the year 1781 he understood, the said Matthew McCullers, in his first services he entered the service in the County of Johnson [Johnston], as a volunteer and was in the Battle at Moore's Creek in the month of February 1777 or 78, in the State of North Carolina, and sometime thereafter he went in the service into the State of South Carolina & Georgia, & was in the Battle at Brier Creek, & at the siege of Charleston. This Deponent further saith that to his own knowledge, he the said Matthew McCullers was in the Battle at Lindley's Mill in the corners of Chatham & Orange County and he was with him & often saw him and was a volunteer soldier under him, & he said McCullers commanded the company as a Captain & this deponent was a Soldier in the same company. And further saith that for his own Services in the whole of the Revolutionary war he now draws a pension of \$36 per annum & for proof of his services he refers to the Documentary evidence now on file in the Department: He further saith that from his own knowledge & from what he understood of the said Matthew McCullers Services, that he served about 2 years which time he served nearly the whole of as a Captain, at Lindley's Mills had this deponent was under Colonel Robert Mebane & there joined General Butler & about 3 months thereafter, in the year 1781, he was discharged & further saith not.

Sworn to & subscribed before me on the 19th day of February 1839  
S/ William Pearce, JP

S/ Andrew Peddy

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew Peddy", enclosed within a rectangular border.

[p 97]

State of North Carolina Wake County: Personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid John Pool<sup>10</sup> aged upwards of 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, Deposeth & Saith that he was well acquainted with

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<sup>9</sup> [Andrew Peddy S8945](#)

<sup>10</sup> [John Pool S7329](#)



Colonel Matthew McCullers some time before, and for many years after the War of the Revolution in the year 1777 to 1781, and saith that he served 2 tours of 3 months in the War aforesaid as a drafted soldier in the Militia of the State of North Carolina & for which he now draws a pension of \$20 for his said Services as on Record may appear at & the war Department. That in his first Tour he served under Captain Eldridge Jones, and in his second Tour he served under the said Matthew McCullers who was then his Captain and they were both in the Battle at Lindley's Mill, the said Matthew McCullers was a very brave officer, and always bore the character of such ever since to the day of his death. That they were both together in said Battle and often saw him, at that time as he the said Matthew McCullers commanded the Company There that this deponent was in said Battle & afterwards which took place in the corners of Chatham & Orange Counties. After this deponent's term of 3 months service, he returned home, & believes he left the said Matthew McCullers, commanding as a Captain in the service, and further he saith not

S/ John Pool, X his mark