

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McCandless W8441      Jane McCandless      f46VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves      4/6/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 9]

To the Honorable John C Calhoun The Secretary of the Department of War of the United States  
I Alfred Metcalf, Circuit Judge in & for the fifth judicial district of Kentucky and sole judge of the Hardin Circuit court in said District do certify that this day John McCandless came before me and declared under oath that he is a citizen of the United States & a resident of Hardin County aforesaid, that in December 1775 he enlisted as a soldier in the Army of the revolution for two years, that he served as such in Captain John Hayes' company in the ninth Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Colonel George Mathews, until December 1777, when he enlisted for three years in the fourth Regiment of Light Dragoons commanded by Colonel Stephen Mayland [Stephen Moylan]; that he served in the said Regiment three years and was then regularly discharge by Lieutenant Colonel Ben. Temple [Benjamin Temple]; that his discharge was lost by accident; that he was at the capture of General Burgoyne [October 7, 1777] him in & Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], at the battles of Trenton [December 26, 1776], Princeton [January 3, 1777] & Monmouth [June 28, 1778]; that he was wounded in the head by a British Dragoon and in the thigh by a bayonet; that the wounds in the head is troublesome to this day; that he is so much afflicted with rheumatic pains that he cannot labor hard, that he is 63 years of age that he [paper damaged and several words illegible] been allowed any pension [paper damaged and several words illegible]<sup>1</sup> of the United States, and that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his country for support.

Robert Kinkade also made oath before me that he knew that the said McCandless served about 2 years in the Army of the revolution, during a part of the time they served in the same company; that he has lived a neighbor to said McCandless about seven years, & is intimately acquainted with him & his circumstances in life; that said McCandless is not able to labor for a livelihood, & has not property sufficient to support himself without labor.

James Hamback also made oath before me that he has lived in the neighborhood of said McCandless about seven years, & is well acquainted with him & his circumstances in life; that said McCandless is unable to labor and has not property to maintain himself comfortably without labor.

I do further certify, that from the appearance of said McCandless & of the testimony by him produced respecting his circumstances in life I believe that he needs the assistance of his country for support. Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818

S/ Alfred Metcalf

---

<sup>1</sup> I looked at the HeritageQuest.com version and could not decipher the missing words any better there than on the Fold3.com. version

[p 11]

State of Kentucky Hardin Circuit Sct.: June Term 1820

Ordered that the following declaration affidavit and schedule be admitted to record having been sworn to in open Court

Original Claim

District of Kentucky Hardin County & Circuit SS

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record for the County and for the District aforesaid John McCandless aged sixty-five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820. That he the said John McCandless enlisted first for the term of two years and then in the fourth Regiment of light Dragoons for the term of three years sometime in December 1775 and the second time in December in the year 1777 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain George Gray in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Stephen Moyland [Moylan] in the line of the State of Virginia during the first enlistment. I was enlisted by Colonel Moyland's light horse Continental establishment that he continued to serve in the said Corps until sometime in December 1780 when he was discharged from the said service in 1780 in the State of Pennsylvania in Lancaster that he was at the Battle of Piscataway [May 10, 1777] and at the Capture of Burgoyne then at the [indecipherably faint word] Battle of the taking of Burgoyne and the battle of Monmouth and the taking of Lord Cornwallis and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the affidavit of Robert Kinkade and John Humphreys marked (A) and in these words: Robert Kinkade<sup>2</sup> and John Humphreys made oath in court he the said Kinkade that he served two years with John McCandless and John Humphreys that he served near four years with the said McCandless And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed viz. Four head of horses three cows, two yearling calves and one yearling Bull six head hogs eight head sheep. My occupation is farming, and illy able to pursue that I have a wife named Jane aged fifty-five years and is very unhealthy also a Daughter Cynthia fourteen years [old] who is tolerably healthy I am myself almost entirely unable to pursue my occupation and my family also are very unable.

S/ John McCandless<sup>3</sup>

[p 24]

5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Kentucky

I

John P Oldham Judge of the District aforesaid & sole Judge of the Nelson Circuit Court in said District do certify that James Thomas this day personally came before me & made oath that he

---

<sup>2</sup> This is PROBABLY the same man as Robert Kinkade FPA W9102

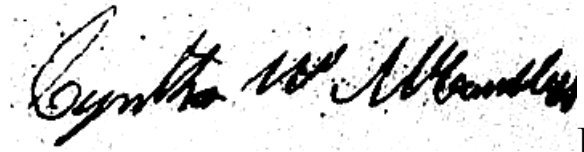
<sup>3</sup> the signature is identical to the body of the document consequently I do not believe it is the actual signature of the veteran

was acquainted with John McCandless whilst the said McCandless was a soldier in the Army of the revolution & that he & the said McCandless served three years as Common Soldiers and colonels Stephen Moyland [Moylan's] Regiment of Light Dragoons – that the said McCandless is the same person who made a declaration of his revolutionary services before the Honorable Alfred Metcalf on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818.

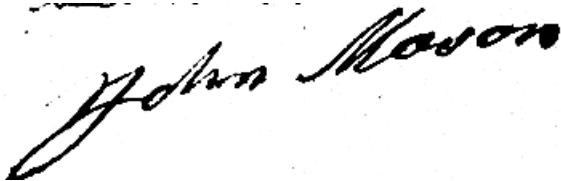
I do further certify that Robert Kincaid whose deposition was taken by Alfred Metcalf at the time aforesaid & the said Thomas so far as I am informed are credible & disinterested witnesses & from their testimony & the Declaration of said McCandless made upon oath; I do believe that said McCandless was in continued Service in the Army of the revolution for at least 9 months. Given under my hand this first day of February 1820

S/ Jno. P. Oldham

[p 15: On October 16, 1839 in Hardin County Kentucky, Jane McCandless, 74, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John McCandless, late a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him April 5, 1785; that her husband died February 2, 1827; that she remains his widow; that they were married in Greenbrier County Virginia by the Reverend John McCure [?]<sup>4</sup>. She signed her application with her mark. Cynthia W McCandless, 33, gave a supporting affidavit in which she states she is the daughter of John and Jane McCandless; that her father was a pensioner; that he died February 2, 1827; that her mother remains his widow; "And that she has been this day shown her father's pocket book containing the family register of the ages of her Father and Mother's Children. The register commences with the age of the deponent's Mother in these words to wit: Jinney McCandless was born may the 3, 1764; then commence the age of their Oldest Child, Polly McCandless her Daughter was born September the 3 1786 And the name and age of Alexander and William is contained on the same leaf these being the age of their 3 oldest Children. The age of the other Children are registered on another leaf of the said pocket book, the whole register is in the handwriting of the deponent's Father and was in his possession at the time of his death, and has been in the possession of her mother ever since...."

 ]

[p 17: On October 16, 1839 in Hardin County Tennessee, John Mason, 68, gave testimony that he is the brother of Jane McCandless, an applicant for a pension; that his sister married the veteran sometime in the spring 1785 in Greenbrier County Virginia and that they lived there after as man and wife until the death of the veteran.

 ]

---

<sup>4</sup> 

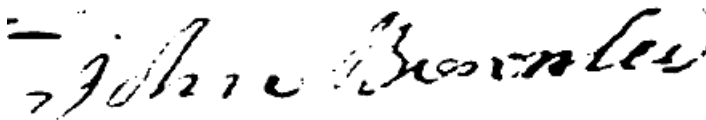
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 27, 1818, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental service. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1843.]

---

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] indexed under "John McCandliss" 6-page file

I John Brownlee<sup>5</sup> of the County of Green State of Kentucky do [indecipherable word] that I was a soldier in the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Continental Regiment in the Revolutionary War that I knew in service John McCandless, then he enlisted as a soldier to serve 3 years in Captain John Hayes' Company in the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Continental Regiment, & enlisted as well as I can now recollect sometime in 1776 as I know he was in service at the Valley Forge in 1777. – That the said McCandless served out the said 3 years, & then enlisted to serve during the war in one of the Virginia Continental regiments of Light Dragoons, but which I cannot now recollect, & that he served to the close of the war & was honorably discharged.

S/ John Brownlee

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

[attested in green County Kentucky on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of an illegible month in 1819]

[power of attorney signed by the veteran but the image posted on line is split. The document is dated Oct. 1819]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John McCandless". The signature is written in dark ink and is somewhat slanted to the right. The end of the signature is partially obscured by a vertical line.

---

<sup>5</sup> [John Brownlee S35799](#)