

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Murdocks (Murdoch) W9582

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

On the day of the date hereof John Murdoch, of Washington County and State of Virginia, presented himself before me, one of the Judges of the General Court, in the state aforesaid, allotted by law to the judicial duties of the thirteenth circuit, which comprehends the aforesaid County of Washington, and made oath, that he enlisted in the service of the United States, as a private soldier, about the first of February in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, with Captain Michael Bowyer [from Tygart Valley, then in the Western District of Augusta County], of the twelfth regiment of the Virginia line on continental establishment, commanded by Colonel James Wood; that he served the full period of twelve months, when he was regularly discharged, but can not produce the written instrument which was the evidence of that fact, because he transmitted it to one of the public officers in the City of Richmond in the year seventeen hundred and seventy nine, and has never been able to re-obtain it since; that he is now in the seventy seventh year of his age, and, from his reduced circumstances, needs the assistance of his country, for his support. The said Murdoch exhibited also other satisfactory proof of his extreme indigence.

Given under my hand (there being no official seal provided for any of the counties of the thirteenth circuit) this twenty second day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

Peter Johnston Abingdon – Washington County State of Virginia

Washington County in the State of Virginia On this 28th day of September 1820 personally appeared in open Court, being the Superior Court of law for the said County and a Court of record, John Murdock aged seventy eight years, resident in the County aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows; He enlisted under Captain Michael Bowyer in the 12th Virginia Regiment and continued therein during the period of his service. The original declaration bears date on the 22^d day of July 1818 and he has received a pension certificate No 9463 — And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18th 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 towit: One horse \$20. – Two Cows & calves \$16. – nine hogs \$9. – Six sheep \$6. Half dozen pewter & half dozen queens ware plates \$2.50 – six tin cups 25 cts. five knives & forks 25 cts. two small pots. two ovens & lids & one large pot \$5. one cow given to two grand children \$8 in all \$67. [signed] John Murdocks

The said John Murdock further declares that he is by occupation a farmer and that from age & infirmity he is unable now to work – His family now living with him is a wife aged sixty five years and two orphan grand children; one five and the other four years of age.

NOTE: On 19 Oct 1854 Joseph Murdock applied for a pension on behalf of himself and the following other children of John and Margaret Murdock: Jane Murdock wife of J. Brady, deceased; Mary Murdock, wife of Anderson Kelly, deceased; Robert Murdock, deceased; James G. Murdock, deceased; John Murdock; and Mathew Murdock. He stated that other children died in infancy, that John Murdock died in 1828, that the marriage to Margaret Murdock occurred in Pennsylvania in 1779, and that she died on 16 Sep 1842. As evidence, he submitted the following two family registers from the family Bible:

John Murdoch was Born in the County of Armagh and Townland of Bellanaleck in Ireland
on June 22 June the 11th in the year 1842
and Married in the year 1779 To Margaret Farand[?] Born in pennsylvania Near to Little Brandeewine [sic:
Brandywine Creek] and she was born in the year 1755
John Murdoch was Born in Ireland in the County of Armagh and Townland of Balanalack in the year of
1742 June 22th or in 1768 it [several other illegible words]
And was Married in the year 1779 To Margaret Forend
And She Was Born in the year 1755