State of Virginia Tazewell County

On this 31st day of March in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared before me
William Thompson an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell and State of
Virginia Colonel John Thompson a resident in the County & State aforesaid aged seventy years
on the 27th of February last who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make
the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provisions made by the act of
Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the command of the following
named Officers and Served as herein Stated.

That he moved from Augusta County in the State of Virginia in the year 1776 to the head
of the Maiden Spring fork on Clinch River in what was then called Montgomery now Tazewell
County and State of Virginia. That in the Spring of 1780 he was enrolled in a company of Militia
which was commanded by Captain Thomas Mastin. That as early as the first of April in that year
he volunteered to serve as a guard in Wittons [Wilton's?] Fort which was situated on the North
fork of Clinch River that he was under the Command of the aforesaid Captain Thomas Mastin
and that he continued in Wittons Fort with an embodied Corps until the first of November
following at which time the Company of men stationed there he and those persons who had fled
to the Fort for protection would usually disperse and go to their respective Homes where they
could remain safely during the winter. That during this year 1780 he recollects of being out one
tour after the Indians in company with James Whitton, Thomas Peary and some others that they
were gone in this trip five or six weeks – That as early as the first day of April in the year 1781
he again volunteered to serve as before in Wittons Fort under the command of the aforesaid
Captain Thomas Mastin and that he continued in Service that year until the first of November
following at which time the Company of men stationed there he and those persons who had fled
also with the Fort for protection would usually disperse and go to their respective Homes where they
could remain safely during the winter. That during this year 1780 he recollects of being out one
tour after the Indians in company with James Whitton, Thomas Peary and some others that they
were gone in this trip five or six weeks – That as early as the first day of April in the year 1781
he again volunteered to serve as before in Wittons Fort under the command of the aforesaid
Captain Thomas Mastin and that he continued in Service that year until the first of November
following that he recollects of nothing very particular that transpired during this year – That in
the early part of the year 1782 he thinks it was in the month of March a small party of Indians
came to the settlement about two miles above Wittons Fort and murdered two of the children of
James Maxwell a party of nine persons & himself making the 10th were immediately dispatched
in pursuit of the Indians – they followed on to the big cane Break on the Dry fork of Big Sandy
River where they lost the track, that they then returned to the Fort. This circumstance created
considerable excitement in the settlement and the People immediately betook themselves to their
respective forts. That as early as 25th of March in that year (1782) he entered the service of his
Country as a Volunteer guard in the aforesaid Wittons Fort where he continued to serve until the
first day of November following. That in the year 1783 he again volunteered and served in
Witton's Garrison from the first of April until the first of November following. That owing to the
scarcity of men in the Settlement they were not able to defend themselves and there was a...
company sent from the Eastern part of Montgomery County in each of the aforesaid years to their assistance a part of which were stationed at Wittons Garrison.

That the nature of his services was to guard the Fort and to go when commanded in pursuit of the Indians when they were seen in the settlement. That he was during the whole of the aforesaid time under the Command of the aforesaid Captain. That he was stationed during the whole of the aforesaid. In Garrison with an embodied Corps and was not engaged in any civil pursuit (First) That he was born in Augusta County and State of Virginia in the year 1764 on the 27th day of February which will make him 71 years old on the 27th day of February next (Second) That he was living when called into service on the Maiden Spring fork of Clynch River where he has lived ever since (Third) That he has no record of his age but has been told that he was born on the 27th day of February 1764. (Fourth) That he volunteered (Fifth) That he has named his Officer in the foregoing part of his declaration (Sixth) That he never received any written discharge for any of the services he rendered his Country (Seventh) that he is known to the Reverend David Young and Jeret Bolen who can testify to his good character for veracity and their belief of his services as he states and that he can further support his Declaration by the evidence of Thomas Witten who served in the same Garrison with him.

He hereby relinquishes all claims 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 & subscribed before me and Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell the day and year aforesaid.
S/ William Thompson, JP

[David Young, a clergyman, and Jeret Bowlen gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Virginia Tazewell County
I Thomas Witten an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell & State of Virginia do hereby Certify that I am well acquainted with Colonel John Thompson who has subscribed and sworn to the above or foregoing Declaration that I well recollect the services of Colonel John Thompson in Wittons Fort & against the Indians as he states in the year 1780, 81, 82 and 83, that I believe him to have served at least is long in each year as he has stated in his declaration. I do solemnly affirm in my Official Capacity that the above Certificate contains the truth to the best of my knowledge in witness whereof I hereunto affixed my name this the first day of April in the year of our Lord 1834.

S/ Thomas Witten

1 Thomas Witten S6407
On December 28, 1852 in Tazewell County Virginia, William Thompson filed a power of attorney in which he states he is the lawful heir of John Thompson.