

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Aiken (Akin) W8314

fn53SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/30/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of South Carolina District of Fairfield

On this 3rd day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before [illegible name] Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Fairfield District, in the State of South Carolina now sitting at Fairfield Court House, William Aiken a resident on Indian Creek, about two miles from the Town of Winnsborough in the District of Fairfield, in the State aforesaid, aged seventy-two years since 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

Deponent was born in the Kingdom of Ireland County of Antrim, about three miles from Ballemena [sic, Ballymena] between the first and 12th days of February A.D. 1760.

Deponent's father and family removed from Ireland and landed in Philadelphia in 1775, and settled on Brandywine Creek about forty miles above Philadelphia, when his house was burnt by accident, and all record of the family ages if any ever existed, as deponent supposes, But deponent is ignorant whether they had been recorded, being young at the time. Deponent's father and mother always told of his being born at the time the French and [indecipherable words]. Deponent left his father in 1779 and came to South Carolina, Fairfield District, lived with his uncle David Thompson on Jackson's Creek until February 17 1781, when he was called into due militia duty under Captain John Gray. Deponent does not know nor believes there was any draft, but believes that Captain Gray ordered all men out he could sign that were fit for duty. Deponent was marched to Major John Pearson's Plantation (afterwards General Pearson) on Broad River as a place of rendezvous. Andrew Gray was Lieutenant, and also James Kincaid. The Company was employed in dispersing and quieting the Tories. The troops performed several excursions through Mobley settlement in Fairfield District in one of these they disturbed a body of Tories thinks at the house of one Imes [?] in Mobley settlement at which the Tories lost one in killed William Smith and then fled. Deponent was out under Captain Gray in this tour two months; at the end of which time Captain Edward Martin arrived with some men and Deponent was transferred to his Company. William Grey was Captain Martin's first Lieutenant and William Owens second Lieutenant. Captain Martin sent his company under his first Lieutenant in to Congaree Fort a little above the present site of Granby, and returned home to collect more men. Lieutenant William Grey with his company and several other militia Companies lay around the

Fort until its surrendered. Captain John Turner & Company, Captain John Winn & Company were there. A Company of Artillery arrived in the morning before the Fort surrendered. Thinks a Colonel Taylor commanded the whole of the Militia. Deponent on the morning of the surrender whilst on guard was fired at by a detachment from the Fort. The guard were beaten back until met and supported by a Company from the Main Army. After the surrender of the Army were marched down the Congaree [River] to Ancrum's, where they encamped and lay for some time. The deponent served two months from the time he was transferred to Captain Martin's Company until discharged making this tour a tour of service four months in all.

Staid at home at his uncle David Thompson's when not in scouting parties until July 1781 when Deponent with Captain Edward Martin's Company was again ordered out, was marched to the Congaree below Columbia, where the company met with Captains John Winn, John Turner with their Companies. Other troops were there also. Crossed the River and marched towards Orangeburg and near Orangeburg fell in with a detachment of General Greens [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army. Encamped near them three days, was also met by Colonel Henry Hampton & his State troops. The militia and Hamptons State troops joined and marched down through the low country, was at Dorchester twenty miles above Charleston, at the forty-five miles house, and back and forward through the most of the lower Country. The troops were all mounted. Major John Pearson was long and Colonel Richard Winn commanded the Regiment of militia. Samuel Smart was Adjutant. The deponent was out above two months this tour but was allowed indents for only two months.

Deponent was from some time in February 1781 until the last of October 1781 constantly in the militia duty in either in the tours particularly mentioned or in scouting parties against the Tories under Captain Martin, with the exception of a few days, and two days at one time and the same at another. And believes that he was out in militia duty fully 8 months in all. All the time a private.

David Hamilton,<sup>1</sup> John Sloan<sup>2</sup> and Robert McCreight<sup>3</sup> were all out with deponent under Colonel Richard Winn in the tour to Dorchester the 45 mile house etc. We all live on Jackson's Creek in this District. They can also testify as to scouting duty. But Deponent knows of no person now living who was with him at the taking of the Congaree Fort. There may be some of them who were present alive but deponent does not now recollect or know if any such. Received no discharge except a verbal one from his Captain, it was not usual to obtain a written discharge. Deponent in November 1781 went into Pennsylvania and returned in June 1783 with his father and family, and settled in Fairfield District on Jackson's Creek and lived there until about the year 1800 when he removed and settled where he now lives as first above mentioned where he has lived ever since that time.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension list of the agency of any State.

S/ Wm Akin

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year first aforesaid  
S/ J. Elliott, CCP

[fn p. 27]

I Robert McCreight residing in the District of Fairfield and State aforesaid do hereby testify that

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<sup>1</sup> **David Hamilton S21804**

<sup>2</sup> FPA S18206

<sup>3</sup> **Robert McCreight S21881**

I am well acquainted with William Aikin, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be seventy-two years of age. That Deponent and said Aiken served together as soldiers in the tour spoken of in said Akins declaration to the 45 mile house and Dorchester and through the low country, term 2 months. Heard of him being out on different tours. Lived in the neighborhood at the time and now lives about 3 or 4 miles distant. He is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and deponent knows that he was. And has full confidence in the declaration he has made being correct. That he is a man of veracity and truth and his statements are entitled to full credit.

S/ Robert McCreight

[fn p. 39]

I David Hamilton residing in the District of Fairfield in the State aforesaid do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Aikin who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be seventy-two years of age, that deponent and him served together several towers of duty in the Revolutionary War and at the time mentioned in said Akins declaration to the 45 Mile House and Dorchester and through the low country, heard of his being in different tours, lived in the neighborhood at the time, and now lives about 4 miles distant, he was reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier in the war, and has full confidence in the declaration he has made being correct, that he is a man of veracity and truth and his statement entitled to full credit.

D. Hamilton

[fn p. 12: On June 26, 1847, in Chester District South Carolina, Hannah Aiken, \_\_ years old, filed for a widow's pension under the 1843 and 1844 act stating that she is the widow of William Akin, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Fairfield district South Carolina in 1783 just at the close of the revolution; that her husband died October 31, 1844 and that she has remained his widow; she states that she has no family record showing her marriage or the births of her children.]

[fn p. 34: On October 3, 1848 in Chester District South Carolina, Hannah Aiken, 87, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 at restating the same allegations as made above and adding that she has no record of her marriage or the births of her children but that she had 5 children prior to the year 1794: viz.: Nancy, James, Sarah, Jane & Martha; that she had a record of the births of her oldest child until within the last 20 years.]

[fn p. 15: On October 10, 1848 in Fairfield district South Carolina, John Wylie made oath that his wife Nancy is the daughter of the late William Akin and Hannah Aiken his wife; that Nancy was born in March 1784 that he has a record of her age he copied some years since from an older original family record of the aforesaid William and Hannah Aiken; he testifies that he married Nancy on January one, 1805 and that his first child was born in November of that same year; and that a record of the births of his children is appended to his affidavit; he states that he came to the United States from Ireland in the year 1787 and settled in Fairfield district immediate neighbor to William & Hannah Aiken and that they were always recognized as man and wife in the neighborhood.]

[fn p. 18: on January 29, 1852 in Fairfield District South Carolina, Martha Aiken testified that she is the daughter of Hannah Aiken, late deceased, a pensioner of the United States based on the services of William Akin, affiant's father; that her father died October 30, 1844 and her mother died October 29, 1851.]

[fn p. 20: "Nancy Aikin was born March 18<sup>th</sup> 1784."]

[fn p. 21: "[illegible] Wiley was born November the 26<sup>th</sup> 1819"]

[fn p. 31: On October 3rd, 1848 in Chester district South Carolina, Sarah Wylie made oath that she is the 3rd child of William and Hannah Aiken; that she was born June 24, 1786 and is now 62 years of age. On the same day Samuel Wylie, husband of Sarah, gave testimony that he was acquainted with William and Hannah Aiken; that Sarah his wife was their daughter and 3rd child; that he married Sarah on February 30th 1807; that when he married her Sarah was reputed to be some 20 or 21 years old; that when he was a boy he attended school with James Aiken, son and 2nd child of William & Hannah Aiken; that James was thought to be one or 2 years younger than the deponent and the deponent was born in 1783 or 4.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 6 months service in the revolution.]