

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Raiford (Raeford) Boon W4900

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina
Chatham County

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
November Term 1832

On this 12th day of November personally appeared before us Robert Bingham Abram Roadly & Joseph Q May Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the County of Chatham NC said Court now setting Raeford Boon a resident of the County of Chatham aforesaid aged sixty nine who having been 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he was born in the County of Franklin [sic: formed in 1779 from Bute County, which was from in 1764 from Granville County] in the State of North Carolina on the [blank] of [blank] in the year 1762 being now 69 years of age. that he was drafted the 13th of June 1780 and resided in the County of Franklin at the time that Julius Alford was Captain of the company in which he commenced the service. that Samuel Jones was Lieutenant and William Ely ensign of the company at Alford's Cross Roads in Franklin County this company fell in with the militia of the said County which was commanded by Colonel Benjamin Seawell and Major William Brenner [unclear: probably should be Brickell or Brickle]. that Colonel Seawell assumed the command of Captain Alford's company and held it until it marched as far as Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) when Colonel Seawell and Major Brinker returned home, they being only entrusted with the command of the troops until they reached head quarters which were at Cross Creek. that there the company commanded by Captain Alford together with the militia of which Colonel Seawell had the temporary charge fell under the command of Colonel [Benjamin] Exum. that he forgets the name of the major of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Exum. that General Richard Caswell was commander in Chief of the militia of N Carolina at that time. that the troops under the command of General Caswell marched from Cross Creek into South Carolina where they fell in with General Horatio Gates who commanded the regular Continental troops. this meeting occurred somewhere between Cross Creek & Camden he can not recollect the name of the place. that the troops then marched forward to Camden where they took part in the memorable action of Camden which terminated in the defeat of General Gates. that he Raeford Boon was then taken prisoner by the British troops the 16th of August 1780 from which time till the 29th of June 1781 he remained in the custody of the British. that from Camden he Raiford Boon was taken to Orange Burg [sic: Orangeburg SC] where after remaining a short time he was taken to Charleston in S Carolina where after remaining a few months he was sent over to Eddesto [sic: Edisto] Island and from thence back to Charleston again and from thence to an Island about 30 miles from Charleston the name of which as well as he can recollect was Wadmelow [sic: Wadmaw]. that he remained there until the 29th of April 1781 when he was taken thence to Charleston again where he remained until the 27th of June 1781 when he was put on board the Trent[?] Schooner commanded by Captain Neal in which vessel many of the prisoners of war took passage for Newbern [sic: New Bern] in the State of N. Carolina at which place he landed the 6th of July 1781 from whence he returned home. that he has no documentary evidence to support his claim and no living testimony as far as knows to testify to his services. And he hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency or state whatever.

Raeford hisXmark Boon

NOTE: On 14 Dec 1841 Polly Boon applied for a pension as the widow of Raiford Boon, who died 19 Dec 1834. Her application was supported by a deposition by her son-in-law, Stephen Petty, 68. A note on her pension certificate indicates that she died 1 Jan 1851. With her application she submitted a family record said to have been written by her husband and transcribed as follows [parts that are less clear are in brackets]:

Rai[ford Boon was] born November 8th day 1763

Polley [Boon] his wife was born August the 24th 1771

Raiford Boon & Polley his wife was Married September the 13th day 1787

Ages of [Children] born to Raiford Boon and Polley his wife are as follows (Viz)
James Boon was born June the 5th day 1788
John Boon was born September the 19th day 1789
Dempsey Boon was born December the 29th day 1790
Patsy Boon was born [Janry] the 17th day 1793
Polley Simmons Boon was born April 19th day 1794