

William Reed, Revolutionary soldier, moved to Hall

By SYBIL McRAY
Special to The Times

According to family records, when Hall County was opened for white settlement William Reed was operating a "mill" on Wahoo Creek, northwest of Gainesville. It was a Grist Mill which would grind wheat and corn into flour or meal.

William Reed made his declaration in Hall County as to

his military service:

"State of Georgia, Hall County. On this the 22nd day of September, 1835 personally appeared in open court before Inferior court of said county William Reed a resident of Hamilton County state of Tennessee age 72 years the 10th December 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.

"That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit: that on the 1st day of January, 1777 he volunteered into the Company of Captain Waddy Tate under Lt. Davis and Poston as a private militiaman

for three months and marched through Salisbury in North Carolina to Camden in South Carolina...time of service expired when he was discharged...and returned home to Caswell County, N.C.

"About the 1st of May, 1780 he volunteered again but his father being unwilling for him to leave home hired a substitute by the name of Thomas Thaxton...

"And about the middle of August the same year there being another call or draft for men he volunteered again for three months tour as a private militiaman (but was appointed sergeant in about 10 days) into the company of Capt. John Graves and Lt. Hanold and marched to Lynchess Creek crossing Pee Dee River at the mouth of Rocky River, at

Lynchess Creek he joined the army under Gen. Gates and was appointed sergeant (as before stated) of the pioneers to cut a road from Lynchess Creek to Rugeleys Mills and from the Mills he was marched in the night to the battle and place known as Gates Defeat a distance of seven miles from the Mills.

"He recollects to have seen Capt. Porterfield who was badly wounded in the engagement...the place called New Providence he was discharged haven been in service four months though only called out for three.

"He immediately volunteered again for six weeks as private militiaman into Capt. Wilson's Company...a Battalion under the Command of Maj. Elijah Moore and the regiment was commanded by Col. William Moore...

"...He volunteered again under John Oldham as a private militiaman for a tour of two months, was attached to Col. William Moore's regiment and marched to a place called Powell's Race paths, joined the army under Gen. Pickens and defeated a body of Tories. His tour of service having expired, he was discharged and returned home."

In answer to inquiries William Reed gave the

following statements:

"Born in Caswell County, N.C., the 10th day of December, 1762...lived in Caswell County when called into service...resided the most of his time since the Revolutionary War in Pendleton District, S.C., or until the year 1800 when he moved to Jackson County State of Georgia and from Jackson removed to Hall, the adjoining county, and from thence into the Cherokee County and from thence to the State of Tennessee where he now resides...Gen. Bates, Col. Byrd, Andrew Thompson and Edward Cowen Esqr. are intimately acquainted with him as a Soldier of the Revolution...Wm. Reed. S. Garrison J.I.C."

A reply from the War Department, Pension Office, Oct. 19, 1835 stated: "Sir, the declaration of William Reed of Tennessee has been examined and filed with suspended cases...If possible some direct proof of service should be obtained, J.L. Edwards, James Law Esqr., Gainesville, Ga."

A sister of William Reed's, Nancy Adams (widow) of Habersham County, took oath that she was 71 years old and that she well remembered her brothers Revolutionary War service.

A Certificate of Pension was issued the 18th day of March,

1840 and sent to James Law, Gainesville, Ga. "Inscribed on the roll of Knoxville at the rate of 31 dollars 66 cents per annum to commence on the 4th day of March, 1831...Arrears to the 4th day of March, 1840 — \$285. Semi-annual allowance ending 4th Sept. 1840 \$15.83..."

Many documents are on

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