

Colonel Joseph Hardin Research
Revolutionary War

<https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/wade-thomas>

Article about Thomas Wade, the colonel of the Salisbury District Minutemen who commissioned Hardin

The following is a list of Colonel Hardin's accomplishments:

Veteran of the American Revolutionary War
Major, 2nd North Carolina Minute Men, Salisbury District 1775
Captain, Tryon County Light Horse, Cherokee Expedition 1776
Colonel of Western Counties (Tennessee) 1788
Lost three sons in Tennessee Indian Wars
Member of Committee of Safety, Tryon County, North Carolina 1775
Member of Provincial Congress at Hillsborough 1775
Member of Provincial Congress at Halifax 1776
Member of the General Assembly of North Carolina 1778-1779
Member of the General Assembly of Tennessee 1782-1788
Organizer State of Franklin, Jonesboro 1784-1785
Member of the General Assembly, Territory South of Ohio, Knoxville 1794

List of accomplishments, TN Daughters of the American Revolution

<https://www.tndar.org/~josephhardin/wp/sample-page/colonel-joseph-hardin/>

Colonel Joseph Hardin died July 4, 1801, in Hardin Valley, Tennessee. He is buried in Concord, Knox County, Tennessee, at Hickory Creek Cemetery (Family Cemetery) on Watts Road off of I-40 exit 369 leading into Hardin Valley, Tennessee, in the cemetery at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church on Buttermilk Road and Everett Lane.

**Just as the Revolutionary War gave birth to a new nation
in America, Colonel Joseph Hardin gave birth to a
new settlement known as Hardin County, Tennessee.**



Headstone and inscription, TN Daughters of the American Revolution

<https://www.tndar.org/~josephhardin/wp/sample-page/colonel-joseph-hardin/>



Photographed by Sandra Hughes, September 1, 2009

Historical Marker, Savannah, TN

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=28702>



Col. Joseph Hardin, familysearch.com



Revolutionary War Historical Marker Knox County, [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), Joseph A. Hardin Col. Maj. gallery



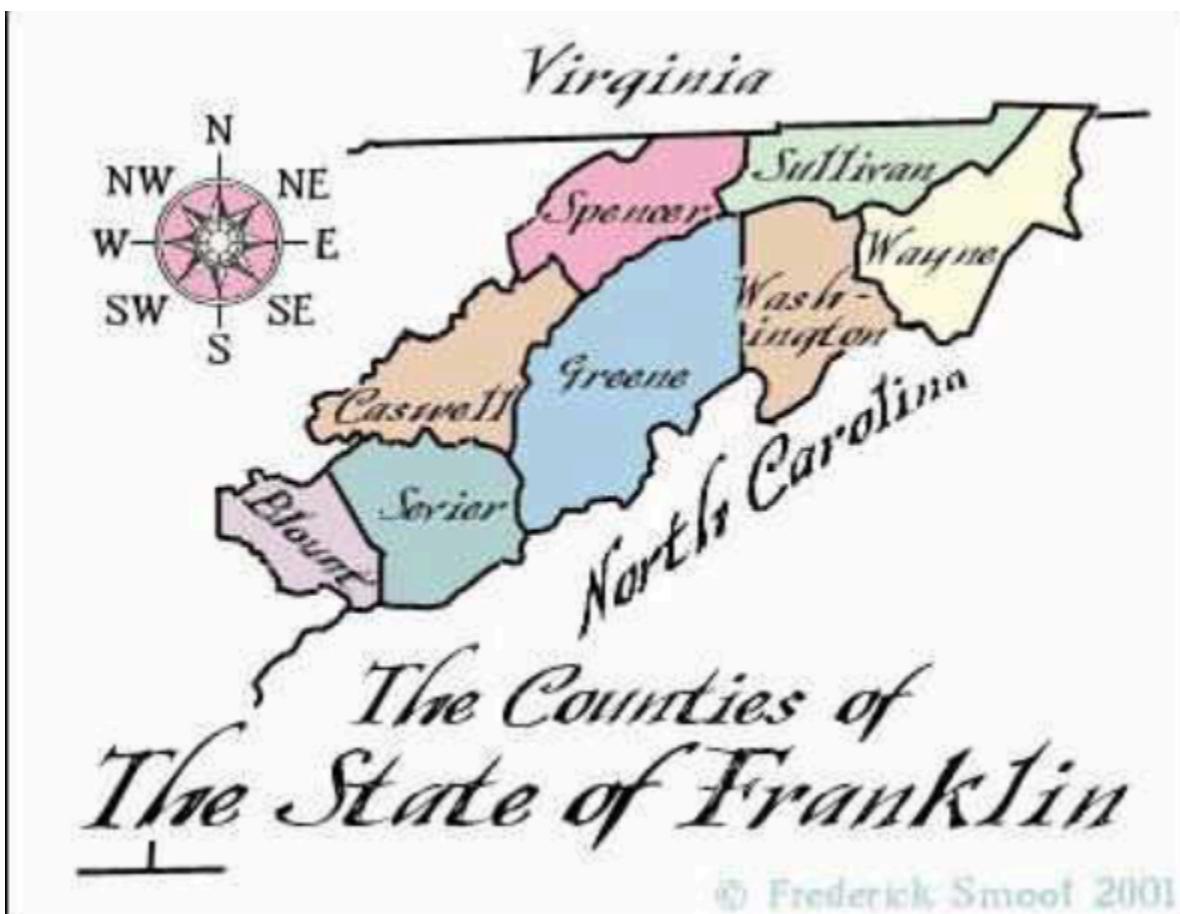
Tyron Resolves Signers, Benjamin (father) and Joseph Hardin listed, [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), Joseph A. Hardin Col. Maj. gallery

The Tryon Resolves was a document declaring resistance to the abuses inflicted upon the American colonies by the British Crown.

Tryon County, named for William Tryon, the fourth royal governor of North Carolina, was formed in 1768 to organize the area in western North Carolina between Mecklenburg County and Native American territory in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

It included the following modern North Carolina counties: Rutherford, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, parts of Polk, Burke, and McDowell.

Information on Tryon Resolve from DAR, <https://www.tryonresolvesdar.com/the-tryon-resolves>



The Counties of the State of Franklin, [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), Joseph A. Hardin Col. Maj. gallery

Interesting to note how involved Joseph Hardin was in the creation of the State of Franklin, the predecessor of Tennessee. He was also the Speaker of the House in 1785 for the State of Franklin.

The following day being the 14th, I detached Col. **Hardin** with 600 men, composed of 50 federal troops, and 550 militia, 100 of whom were mounted. The object was to reconnoitre the country, and feel at their towns, the enemy's pulse, while the army advanced. We marched about 9 miles this day, pursuing nearly the course of yesterday: the weather rainy.

Advanced on the 15th about 9 miles, in a direction somewhat more northerly, to an inconsiderable stream of the St. Mary. We had the pleasure of seeing water several times in the course of this day's march. The weather became clear in the afternoon.

A dispatch arrived on the 16th from Col. **Hardin**, informing me that the savages, and the traders (who are perhaps, the worst savages of the two) had evacuated their towns, with appearance of precipitation, and burnt the principal village called the Omee town, together with all the traders houses. This village lay on a pleasant point, formed by the junction of the Omee and St. Joseph. It was situate on the eastern bank of the latter, opposite the mouth of St. Mary, and had for a long time past been the rendezvous of a set of Indian desperadoes, who infested the settlements, and stained the Ohio and parts adjacent, with the blood of defenceless inhabitants. This day we advanced nearly the same distance, and kept nearly the same course as yesterday, we encamped within six miles of the object—and on Sunday the 17th entered on the ruins of the Omee town, or French village, as part of it is called. Appearances confirmed accounts I have received of the consternation into which the savages, and their trading allies had been thrown by the approach of the army. Many valuables of the traders were destroyed in the confusion, and vast quantities of corn, and other grain and vegetables, were secreted in holes dug in the earth, and other hiding places. Col. **Hardin** joined the army.

Excerpt from CONNECTICUT GAZETTE, New London, Connecticut, Jan. 21, 1791. This is a letter from Brigadier Gen. Harmar to the Secretary of War about fighting with Native Americans (of which Hardin did a lot of).

America's Historical Newspapers database

On the 21st of October the army decamped from Chillakothie, returning on the route we had come about 8 miles. Here we remained till the morning of the 23. Finding in the mean time, that the enemy studiously avoided coming to a general action; and conceiving it improper to leave them in the quiet enjoyment of their late success; I resolved to make an effort to bring on another partial engagement. For this purpose I detached, on the 21st, late at night, Col. **Hardin** and Maj. Wylls, with 360 men, 60 of whom were federal infantry—the rest being militia, from Pennsylvania and Kentucky. I had sometime before, mounted a company of militia, and annexed it to the two troops of Kentucky cavalry, giving the command of the whole to Major Fontaine, a brave and deserving officer, at that time serving as my aid-de-camp. This corps made a part of the present command.

I gave order to find out and fight the enemy at all events, and to be sparing of no means that might tend to lessen the number of the savages; knowing of what importance the life of every warrior is held among them.—The detachment reached the confluence of the Omeo and St. Mary, early next morning, and filed off in three columns. The left, under Col. **Hardin** and Maj. Hall, crossed at Kenogogue, and proceeded along the west bank of the St. Joseph.

Excerpt from CONNECTICUT GAZETTE, New London, Connecticut, Jan. 21, 1791. (same article as above)

America's Historical Newspapers database

In a personal combat of some duration with a mounted savage, whom he at last overcame, bringing off the arms of his antagonist, as trophies of the fact. I am under many obligations to all the field officers, both of the Kentucky and Pennsylvania militia, who gave me uniform proofs of the best disposition to second my endeavors during the expedition. Colonel **Hardin**, who commanded the whole militia, is in a particular manner entitled to my acknowledgements, as well for his cool and determined conduct in action, as for his attention and perseverance in the execution of orders. As to the officers of the federal troops under my command, I must, in justice to them, observe that their whole conduct was marked by a strict attention to discipline, a promptitude to obey orders, and alacrity in the execution of them.

Excerpt from CONNECTICUT GAZETTE, New London, Connecticut, Jan. 21, 1791. (same article as above)

America's Historical Newspapers database

...and twenty men, including non-commissioned officers. With this force I immediately proceeded to join the militia under the command of Col. **Hardin**, whom I had put in motion the 26th, and ordered to advance along what is called, "Clarke's Old Trace," for about five and twenty miles; there to halt until further orders. The militia had been draughted from Kentucky and Pennsylvania, and both together amounted to 1133 men. Many of the former were substitutes, and by no means equal, either in spirit or appearance, to the generality of their countrymen. My whole force then was fourteen hundred and fifty three (including two troops of cavalry) but from this number we may safely deduct two hundred of the militia as good for nothing. This

Excerpt from Columbian Centinel, Boston, Massachusetts, Jan. 22, 1791.
America's Newspapers database

jett—And on Sunday the 17th entered on the ruins of the Oneco town, or French village, as part of it is called. Appearances confirmed accounts I have received of the consternation into which the savages and their trading allies, had been thrown by the approach of the army. Many valuables of the traders were destroyed in the confusion, and vast quantities of corn, and other grain and vegetables, were secreted in holes dug in the earth, and other hiding places. Col. **Hardin** rejoined the army.

Excerpt from Columbian Centinel, Boston, Massachusetts, Jan. 22, 1791.
America's Newspapers database

On the 19th, Col. *Hardin* was detached with 180 men, taken from the Pennsylvania and Kentucky militia, and 80 federal troops, commanded by Lt. *Armstrong*. Part of the detachment proceeded about 10 miles westerly of the main body of the army, now posted at Chikakothe (the Pennsylvanians, who formed the left column, having fallen some miles in the rear) when a body of Indians appeared and advanced to the attack; and though the enemy did not, as it is believed, exceed a hundred and thirty, yet the militia made no resistance, but fled, leaving the handful of federal troops to their fate; seven only of whom escaped. The militia lost but few men; among these fell, lamented by his acquaintance, Captain *Scott*, of the militia, son to General *Scott*, of Kentucky. I am not informed of the loss sustained by the savages; but I conceive it could not be great.

Excerpt from Columbian Centinel, Boston, Massachusetts, Jan. 22, 1791.
America's Newspapers database

pany of artillery; making in the whole 320 men, including non-commissioned officers. With this force I immediately proceeded to join the militia under the command of Col. **Hardin**, whom I had put in motion the 26th, and ordered to advance along what is called 'Clark's Old Trace', for about 25 miles, there to halt till further orders. The militia had been drafted from Kentucky and Pennsylvania, and both together amounted to 1133 men. Many of the former were substitutes, and by no means equal, either in spirit or appearance, to the generality of their countrymen. My whole force was then 1453 (including two troops of cavalry); but from this number we may safely deduct 200 of the militia as good for nothing.

The Salem Gazette, Salem, Massachusetts, Jan. 25, 1791
America's Newspaper Database

Oct. 14th, I detached Col. **Hardin**, with 600 men, composed of 50 Federal Troops, & 550 Militia, 100 of which were mounted. The object was, to reconnoitre the country, and feel, at their towns, the enemy's pulse, while the army advanced. We marched about 9 miles this day, pursuing nearly the course of yesterday — the weather rainy.

The Salem Gazette, Salem, Massachusetts, Jan. 25, 1791 (same article as above)
America's Newspaper Database