

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Solomon Woolford VAS1831

2+2+

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/1/15: rev'd 7/20/21

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Shenandoah County Legislative Papers

To the Hon. the Speaker and Members of the General Assembly of Virginia  
The Petition of Solomon Wolford [sic]  
Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner enlisted as a Soldier during the late War, first in the Company of Capt. William McKee in the Spring of 1775 and continued in his Company at Point Pleasant [October 10, 1774]<sup>1</sup> on the Ohio for upwards of one year, when he again enlisted with Capt. Andrew Wallis [Andrew Wallace] of the 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and continued in his Company till a short time after the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] when he was discharged at Winchester; and sometime after your Petitioner unfortunately lost his house by fire, whereby his discharge and other papers were consumed which circumstance together with his Indigent and uninformed situation in life, have hitherto prevented him from applying for the usual Compensation granted for Similar Services, supposing from the loss of his papers together with the death of his Capt. and the other Officers of his Company that he could not establish the Justice of his Claim. But being informed that Congress had opened a door for such unfortunate cases, made application to our Representative in Congress, who informed him that it was too late, that such demands supported by the usual clear evidence had been rejected, in consequence your Petitioner is left wholly remediless without the Interference of your Hon. body. Your Petitioner therefore prays that his case will not be thought unworthy [of] the consideration of your Hon. house, and that upon his proving by General Wood that the Services were actually rendered, and by the Auditor's Office that he has not received any Depreciation of his Pay that you will not think him unworthy to receive a like bounty which has been granted to his fellow sufferers in the Depreciation of five years and half pay of a faithful and painful although willing service. And he as in Duty bound will pray, &c

I have examined the Books in this Office and [one or more illegibly faint words] the said Solomon Wolford has ever received the Depreciation of his pay as a Soldier in the Continental line

Auditor's Office 18<sup>th</sup> of November '96

[illegibly faint signature]

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<sup>1</sup> The battle of Point Pleasant is not considered as having occurred during the course of the American revolutionary war.

[Reverse]  
Solomon Woolford's Petition  
November 18, 96  
Claims  
Rejected  
Report

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[2<sup>nd</sup> file]

To the Hon. the General Assembly of Virginia  
The Petition of Solomon Woolford

Respectfully Sheweth

That your petitioner Enlisted as a soldier During the late war, in the Company of Capt. William McKee in spring 1775, and continued in his Company at Point Pleasant on the Ohio for upwards of one year when he again enlisted with Capt. Andrew Wallis of the 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and continued in his Company until a Short time after the Battle of Guilford when your petitioner was Discharged at Winchester, and so it was that sometime after he unfortunately lost his house by fire and of course his Discharge and other Papers were consumed, which circumstance, together with his Indigent and uninformed Situation in life, Did for a long time prevent him from applying for the usual Compensation granted for Similar Service. Supposing from the loss of his papers, with the Death of his Captain & subalterns, that he could not vouch for the Justice of his Claim, at last being informed that Congress had Opened a Door for such unfortunate cases, made Application to our Representative who told him he was too late that such Demands supported by the most Clear Evidence had been rejected in consequence your petitioner is left entirely remediless without the Interference of your Hon. body. Your petitioner therefore prays his Case may be taken under your Consideration and on his proving by Gov. Wood that the service was rendered and by your Auditor, that he has not Received pay to whom he begs to Refer. That you grant him that Important Justice that his fellow Sufferers have already received 2 wit the Depreciation of 5 ½ years pay, of a faithful and painful, although willing Service. And your Petitioner as in Duty &c

I have examined the Books in this Office and cannot find that the within named Solomon Wolford [sic] has ever received the Depreciation of his pay as a Soldier in the Continental Line

S/ S. Shepard

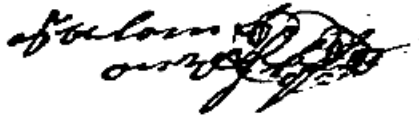
Auditor's Office  
11<sup>th</sup> of December 97

[Reverse]

Woolford's Petition  
December 11<sup>th</sup> 1797  
To Claims  
Reasonable  
(Reported)

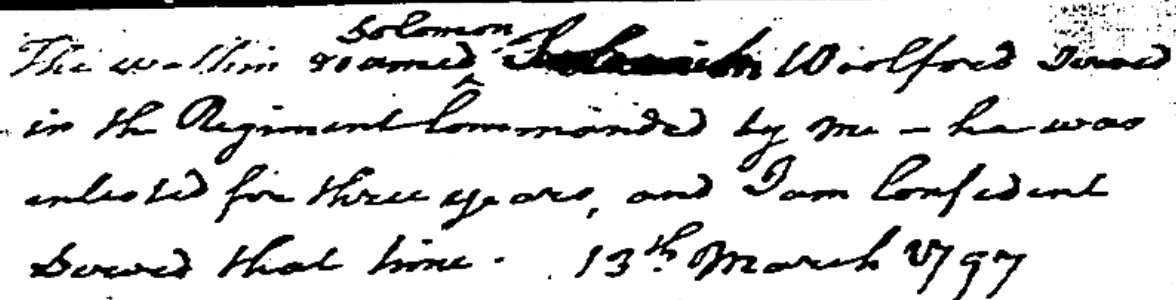
[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Power of attorney dated February 24, 1797 given by Solomon Woolford of Greenbriar County Virginia to John Hutchison to act in his behalf to draw the warrant for land due him as a soldier in the Virginia Continental line as proven by the affidavit of Gov. Wood signed Solomon Woolford



The within named Solomon Woolford served in the Regiment commanded by me – he was enlisted for three years, and I am Confident served that time. 13<sup>th</sup> of March 1797

S/ James Wood



The within named <sup>Solomon</sup> ~~Solomon~~ Woolford served in the Regiment commanded by me – he was enlisted for three years, and I am Confident served that time. 13<sup>th</sup> March 1797



[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#): indicate that the heirs of Solomon Woolford applied for sums due him in 1840 but there are no documents posted online regarding this claim. The summary of the documents posted online indicates that the application was made by John Woolford, an heir, and supported by an affidavit of Daniel Woolford but their relationship, if any, to the veteran is not stated.]

Addendum to Solomon Woolford VAS1831

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 19 July 2021.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) in the first file of the several rejected claims indexed as Smith, John. These are the papers referred to in the last paragraph above. Note, however, that the service differs from that attributed to the Solomon Woolford in the above records. Punctuation partly corrected.]

Logan Ct August the 15th 1840.

The humble petition of John Woolford of the County of Logan & State of Virginia respectfully Sheweth:

That his Father Solomon Woolford; Enlisted in the Army early in the War of the Revolution; for 3

years and at the end thereof, again Enlisted; & served during the whole period of the War; and that he the said Solomon Woolford or his heir is entitled to bounty Land from the State of Virginia; And that He the said John Woolford, being the only Child of the said Solomon Woolford now known to be living; He prays that His Excellency the Governor of Virginia will grant him a Warrant for said bounty Land as his Father may be entitled to; and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

John Woolford

State of Virginia

Logan County to Wit: Personally also appeared before the subscriber Daniel Woolford, a person, evidently an old Man and says on Oath that he was born in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County in Virginia was raised in the County of Shanadough [sic: Shenandoah] and is now 75 years of Age. Remembers his brother Solomon enlisting in the Company of Captain Swain [?; see first endnote] who was a brother in Law of General Mulenberg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] who Commanded the Regiment then raised in Shenadough County. He enlisted in the town of Woodstock in said County for three years and very early in the War, and at the end of this period his brother did not return home, but enlisted again as your deponent says he was subsequently informed by his brother Soloman, who returned to his family in said County in Virginia after the peace. Deponent Saith that he was present (a boy) when his brother enlisted & with him in the Church when Gen'l Mulenberg preached his farewell Sermon to his people; immediately after on the same evening[?] when the Gallant General beat up for recruits to join the Army; his brother Solomon was one of the first to Join him and served in the army during the whole of the War.

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 15th day of August in the year 1840.

Anthony Lawson J.P.

Daniel his Wmark Wolford

test James Mandeville to the signature of Mr. Dan'l. Wolford

Logan Ct Va August the 15th 1840

His Excellency Thos. W Gilman

Sir Permit me respectfully to submit the petition of John Woolford of this County; I would beg leave to remark that his uncle Daniel Woolford now lives in Illinois, & he has not seen him for 25 or 30 years, & that he was the only person that was aware & capable of proving the services of his father, and he now avails himself of his testimony, he being on a Visit to his nephew in this County

I remain with much esteem/ your Excellency's most Ob [illegible]/ Anthony Lawson

NOTES:

The name of the captain under whom Solomon Woolford enlisted, according to Daniel Woolford, is shown below. There was no captain with a name similar to that in Col. Peter Muhlenberg's 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Continental Regiment. The captains whose troops were from Shenandoah County were Jonathan Clark and Richard Campbell. According to online genealogies, Peter Muhlenberg had three married sisters: Eve Elizabeth Muhlenberg, who married Christopher Emmanuel Shultz (or Shulze); Margareta Henrietta Muhlenberg, who married John Christopher Kunze; and Maria Salome Muhlenberg, who married Matthias Richards. None of the three brothers-in-law appears to have been a captain in the Continental army.



Daniel Woolford's account of Peter Muhlenberg's final sermon (see below) appears to be the only one by someone claiming to be an eye witness. According to legend, at the end of the sermon Muhlenberg threw off his clerical robe to reveal his uniform, which inspired numerous parishioners to immediately enlist. For a discussion of the legend see Michael Cecere, "The Fighting Parson's Farewell Sermon." Journal of the American Revolution, April 15, 2020.

<https://allthingsliberty.com/2020/04/the-fighting-parsons-farewell-sermon/>

in Virginia, after the peace - Depomont. says that he was  
present (a boy) when his brother enlisted: & with him in the  
Church when Gen<sup>l</sup>. Schalmberg preached his farewell sermon  
to his people: immediately after on the same evening when  
the Gallant General bent up for recruits to join the  
Army; his brother Solomon was one of the first to join him