

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Drury Walden R11014 Elizabeth Walden NC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 Dec 2014.

North Carolina }
Northampton County } S.S.

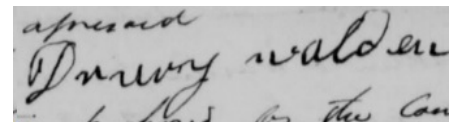
On the 4th of Sept 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting Drewry Walden aged about 70 years and being duly sworn to maketh oath to the following declaration to obtain the benefit of the act of congress passed 7th June 1832

That in the spring of the year of 1779 he was drafted for 5 months in Bute County North Carolina (since divided into Franklin & Warren) a musician in Capt Charles Allen's Company Lt. Wm Allen [William Allen] 4th Reg North Carolina Militia commanded by Col Thomas Pugh ["Eaton" interlined above "Pugh;" Thomas Eaton was Colonel of the Bute County Regiment] – with his company he marched to Georgia crossed the Savannah River at Augusta, went down the River to Brier Creek where we had an engagement [3 Mar 1779]. our Troops were commanded by General [John] Ashe, of the Militia, Gen'l [Samuel] Elbert of the Regulars. only about 300 Regulars there. Lord Cornwallis and Col Hamilton commanded the British [sic: see endnote]. The Americans retreated – about 300 men & 12 officers were taken, also Col Phil Alston [Philip Alston]. The company rendezoused at Pughsbury [sic: Puryburgh] So. Ca. where he staid until his term expired. He was discharged & his discharge signed by the Col. Eaton

This applicant again enlisted for a tour of three months under Col [Nicholas] Long who was Commissary General of North Carolina Militia – stationed at Halifax; here he served at his occupation making gun carriages for the cannon, canteens for the soldiers, building barracks &c &c. After his term of service expired he was discharged by Col Long. He was in 1781 a substitute for Edward Jackson a private in Capt Kid's [sic: Joseph Kidd's] company in Halifax County No Ca Reg't NoCa Mil'a In this company he was employed as a Guard for the Jail in Halifax which was filled with Tories. While here Cornwallis was taken at Little York [19 Oct 1781] He was discharge at the expiration of his service, his discharge was signed by Capt Kid He has no documentary evidence to support his claim, but believes the testimony of Henry Hill to be material & important herewith included

He hereby relinquishes all claim to any pension saving the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Drury Walden". Above the name, the word "appeared" is written in a smaller, less distinct hand. Below the name, there is a line of text that is partially obscured and difficult to read, but appears to be "Subscribed on the 4th of Sept 1832".

Here follow the answers to the interrogatory proposed by the Court

Ans'r 1st I was born in Surry County Va in the year of 1762

Ans'r 2 I have no record of my age

Ans'r 3 I was living in Bute Co when called into the service. I have lived since in Northampton County where I do now live

ans'r 4 The first time I was called into the service I was drafted in Capt Allen's company 4th Rig NoCa Mil'a Col. Eaton for five months service. The 2nd time I was drafted & served in the Commissary General's department for 3 mo's. The 3^d time I was a substitute for Edward Jackson a private in Capt Kid's Company No Ca militia

Ans'r 5th General Elbert commanded the Regulars at Briar Creek. General [Benjamin] Lincoln afterwards. Col [James] Clinch, Col To's Eaton Gen'l Ashe

Ans'r 6 I have received discharges signed by Col Eaton of the North Carolina militia for my 1st tour, & by Col Long for my 2^d tour of service, & by Capt Kid for my 3^d tour – but they are all lost or mislaid

ans'r 7 the Rev'd Wm H Hardie, Col Bryan Randolph, & John White, Jackson No. Ca. will testify as to my truth & belief in my services in the Revolution.

NOTES:

At the Battle of Brier Creek Lt. Col. James Mark Prevost commanded the British. Neither Cornwallis nor a "Col Hamilton" was present.

On 2 Sep 1844 Armstead Walden, 49, of Northampton County, applied for the pension of his mother, Elizabeth Walden, who died in the fall of 1840 as the widow of Drury Walden, who died 22 Dec 1834. He stated that they had the following children: "Stephen Walden who died in July, 1842. Drury Walden who is now living in the State of Tennessee; Polly Walden, who died 1835. Betsey Walden dec'd. – John Walden who went to the State of Ohio Mical Walden went to the Indiana, Patsey Walden went to the red River, and I Armstead Walden. His application for their pension was supported by William H. Hardie, who wrote that "Drury Walden was for years a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ," and that in his will he acknowledged Elizabeth Walden as "his beloved wife."

On 27 Nov 1844 Roberson Kee stated that "no man, no, not Jas. K. Polk himself is of better moral character than was the said Drury Walden." He also stated that Elizabeth Walden died "this fall four years ago" leaving the following surviving children: "Drew, John, Armstead, Mike and Martha."

On 20 May 1846 Mrs. Winafred Holley, 88, of Halifax County, made a statement that included the following: "she was an eye witness to the marriage of Drury Walden to his wife Elizabeth, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Harriss [Elizabeth Harris]; That they ran away, and was married some time in the year (1780) seventeen hundred and eighty (she well remembers) in an old field a little from the Road, in the County of Northampton North Carolina by Herbert Harris, who was at that time, an acting Magistrate in the said County of Northampton; and that the said Drury and wife (after their intermarriage) took supper that evening at her Winafred Holley's Mothers House. That she well recollects, that at the time of the aforesaid marriage (To Wit) in the year (1780) her husband Jesse Holley [Jacob (Jesse) Holly, W21388], was then a soldier in the army."

On 28 Sep 1847 Jarrel Thompson (pension application S7722), 85, certified that Drury and Elizabeth Walden were married before 1777, before Drury Walden entered service.

The application of Armstead Walden was denied because his mother was not a widow in 1838 when the law was passed under which he applied.

In the 1830 federal census for Northampton County NC Drury Walden is listed as a "free colored person" 55-100 with a female in the same age range, and a male and a female both 10 24.