

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Archibald Woods R11825

f22VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/12/11

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Ohio County: SS

On this 2nd day of May in the year 1842 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Ohio County now sitting Colonel Archibald Woods a resident of Ohio County & State of Virginia aged according to the family record seventy-seven years on the 14th day of November last past 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 1842 [sic].

Declaration

I was born in Albemarle County in the State of Virginia in the year 1764 and removed at an early age with my father to Botetourt County in the same State. I was residing in the last named County when I entered the service of the United States as a Sergeant in a volunteer company of Virginia riflemen, commanded by Captain John Cartmill towards the last of February or first of March in the year 1781, (not certain which) and marched with that company direct to North Carolina, where we joined the Army, and served under the command of Colonel Otho H Williams, General Green [Nathanael Greene] being the commander in chief in that section of the Country; while in North Carolina, I was in two different engagements under Colonel Williams, the one was at Haw River and the other at a place called Alamance. Cornwallis was in command of the British at the time of these attacks, which occurred in the month of March. When General Green determined to march to Camden in South Carolina, I with others was transferred to the division of the Army then in Virginia, where I returned shortly after the occurrences above mentioned, acting in the capacity of a Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain Looney [perhaps Joseph Looney]; after we joined the Army under General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] I was in the battle of James Town in Virginia, where he (Wayne) commanded, the Marquis de Lafayette being commander in chief. After these events I was marched with a portion of the Army to Amelia County in the month of July the battle of James Town having taken place to the best of my recollection on the 5th day of the same month – while there and in camp, I was seized with the disease which prevailed extensively in the Army at that time, and being unable to do service, I received my discharge from under the hand of Brigadier General William Campbell on the 31st day of July 1781. I remained dangerously ill of the same disease for two months afterwards, being part of that time still in camp after receiving my discharge. I had no commission, though acting as Sergeant, during the time of service. The length of my active service from the time of my entering until the day of my discharge was upwards of five months, exclusive of the two months of sickness; including them, will make it upwards of seven months – I have no documentary evidence in my possession except the discharge above mentioned, having lost my pocket book containing my papers and I know of no

person whose testimony I could procure, who could testify to my service: of the two men whose discharges appear upon the same paper with my own (for paper was scarce in camp) Kelly is long since dead; with the other I was unacquainted, but presume he is dead if he ever reached home from camp. Shortly after the close of the revolutionary war, I removed to Ohio County in this state where I have ever since resided. I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any state to my knowledge –

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year first above mentioned.

The Court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war Department, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states – and the court further certifies that Colonel A. Woods can produce the strongest testimonials of his character and standing in the community, and that full faith and credit should be given to his declaration

S/ Peter Yarnell, Presiding Justice

[fn p 16]

Camp Mr. Newman's July 31st 1781

Archibald Woods, a Sergeant in Captain Looney's Company from Botetourt County, being unwell; and as there is not a probability of his recovering his health so far before the expiration of his Time as to be able to do Duty he is therefore hereby discharged, and Isaac Kelly is also discharge for the purpose of taking care of the said Woods on his way home.

Amelia County

Wm Campbell, B. G.

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[fn p. 17]

Public Commissaries are desired to furnish the Soldiers discharged by the within with Provisions on their way home to Botetourt County

Wm Campbell, B. G.

Robert Beatie is also hereby discharged for the Reasons assigned for Archibald Woods to draw provisions as above.

July 31st 1781

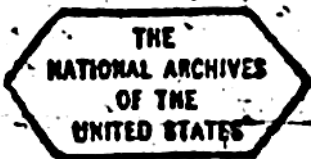
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[fn pp 2-3: is a handwritten letter, presumably in the handwriting of the veteran, addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions and dated "Wheeling May 2, 1842" in which the veteran pleads his case for a pension saying, among other things, that he has been acting as pension agent in his state without compensation. He says that he did not bother to get his application attested by a clergyman or other member of his neighborhood because, as a public servant, he deemed it unnecessary to allay the concerns of the Commissioner of pensions that his claim might be fraudulent. He does not explain why his application is not signed by him.

Archibald Woods