

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Yearwood R11933

Transcribed by Will Graves

f13NC

rev'd 3/10/17

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

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County: To wit

On this twenty seventh day of November in the year of our Lord 1840, personally appeared in open court, before the Circuit Court of said Rutherford County now sitting, John Yearwood, a resident of the County of Rutherford and State of Tennessee, aged seventy-eight 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 7, 1832; That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated; He entered the service in the month of January 1781; he does not remember the day of the month. His officers were as follows – Ensign Peter Salter (who was killed at Eutaw Springs), Lieutenant Parks, Captain Finess Reynolds [Finisse Reynolds], Major Martin [Salathiel Martin?], Colonel Lewis (who died some 20 years since near Nashville) and General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. He never was with the Main Army but once; though he was frequently in scouting companies against the Tories. He resided in Rowan County North Carolina, at the time he entered the service. He entered the service voluntarily, but does not know whether he was in the Continental service or not. He was not drafted, but entered for during the war. He received no bounty, but at the end of his Service he received two papers from Captain Reynolds – one of which he was told (not being able to read) was a discharge – (which he lost shortly after he received it) and the other a certificate for land. The latter he sold to Colonel William Polk for a wool hat. When he left Rowan under Captain Reynolds, he marched to Guilford Court house – the whole of Reynolds' Company, and himself among the number, were guarding the baggage during the battle there. The baggage was kept about two miles from the Main road, & three from the field of battle, at a place called “Stinking quarter.” After this battle he marched across Pedee River, to the Eutaw Springs, and was in that battle. He there received a wound from a ball just above the right knee – but having on leather britches, & the force of the ball being weak, he recovered entirely from the wound, though the scar is still to be seen. After the battle he with others pursued the British a few miles, & then returned & buried the dead. Captain Runnels [sic, Reynolds?] was wounded in a severe manner – The morning after the battle the wounded soldiers of the British, stated that they (the enemy) had received news of the surrender of Cornwallis and that this was reason of their retreat towards Charleston. Two or three days after Captain Reynolds' (or Runnels') company, of which this declarant was a private, was discharged, in about 12 or 15 miles from the battleground. He does not remember the day on which he was discharged – but it was two or three days after the above named battle. He was in the service eight months & some days – He did not reach home till November – Being young when in service he knew but few of the regular officers, or even their names, further than he has stated. He has no documentary evidence from which he can prove his services. The testimony of the only living witness by whom he can prove his services (Mary Alice Sailors) is hereto annexed –

he was born in Halifax County North Carolina on the 6 June 1762. He has a very old record of his age in his Bible. He lived in North Carolina until 1805 when he moved to Rutherford County, Tennessee, where he still resides. He names to the Court the following persons who can certify to his veracity, to wit Rev. Robt. L. Fagan, Hugh Kirk, Wm. Gilliam, & Wm. B. Lillard. This deponent would have applied before this for a pension, but being in tolerable circumstances, he did not feel that need of it that he now does – nor did he know until he found Mrs. Sailors that he could prove anything of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state or Territory.

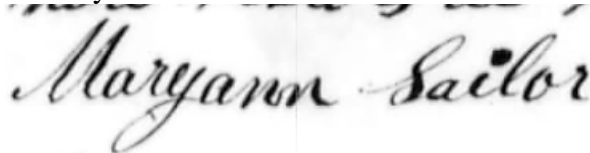
S/ John Yearwood, X his mark

[Robert L. Fagan, a clergyman, and William Gilliam gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County: to wit

Before me Edward Waller a justice of the peace in and for Rutherford County aforesaid this day personally appeared Mary Ann Sailors, aged 91 years, who being first duly sworn deposeth, & saith that she was acquainted with John Yearwood a revolutionary soldier, as far back as the year 1774, that she knew of his Serving in the Army. He went into the Service in the month of February in the year 1781, and served till the news of the surrender of the British at Yorktown reached the place of his service which was at Eutaw Springs. This deponent's husband Philip Sailors, was in the Service with John Yearwood. This deponent lived in 2 miles of Yearwood, at the time he went into the service, and also when he returned. John Yearwood was in Captain Finess Runnels' (or Reynolds') company; and marched from Roan [sic, Rowan] County. He was in the regular service, under Major Martin, Colonel Lewis and General Greene. This deponent has known him ever since. He now resides in the County of Rutherford, Tennessee.

S/ Maryann Sailor

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maryann Sailor". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 11th day of March A.D. 1839 and I do certify that deponent is a person of credit, and respectability.

S/ Edward Waller, JP {Seal}