

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Aaron Copland (Copeland) R2308

f29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/3/11 & 1/29/15

[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.]

The State of South Carolina, Chesterfield District

On this the 29 day of September AD 1835 appeared in the open court of Common Pleas at Chesterfield Court House, before his Honor A. P. Butler the Presiding Judge of the said Court, Aaron Copeland, aged seventy three or seventy four years who upon oath made the following Declaration in order to obtain a Pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832; That he was born in Chatham County in the State of North Carolina; that his age was recorded in a family Bible which was burned up in his father's house when the deponent was quite small; Deponent states his age from a comparison of it with that of his brother who is yet alive & is two years & a half older than himself. That he was living in Chesterfield District at the time he entered the service & was at the time of his so entering the service not quite Sixteen years of age, was drafted by one Benjamin Hicks in the Militia. Deponent's father applied to Colonel Kolb [Abel Kolb?] to get deponent discharged on account of his now age but was told by Col. Kolb that Deponent was so near sixteen years old that he had as well serve. So that Deponent continued in the service one month at Cheraw Hill in the District & State aforesaid guarding the public provisions deposited there for the army from the North which was expected there. This was in the Spring of the year before Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] at Camden. Received discharge from Captain John Wilson who commanded the forces at Cheraw & returned home. In the fall of the same year or in the winter, was drafted a second time & served one month under Captain Thomas Ellerbe [Thomas Ellerbe] & Colonel Murphy [perhaps Maurice (Morris) Murphy]. Marched to Marion's [Francis Marion's] Camp on the Santee River. Received permission to return home & did so. In the winter or first of Spring of the following year was drafted again & served one month & under Captain Claudius Pegues, in the militia service, on or near the Santee River in Marion's Camp which were at that time below the High Hills of Santee. When the month expired, deponent returned home. In the fall of the same year deponent volunteered under Captain Joseph Howell under the command of Colonel Wade [Thomas Wade] in a troop of Horse, marched from Chesterfield to Hailey's Ferry on Great Pee Dee River [Pee Dee River], thence to Bettes' Bridge [Beatti's Bridge, August 4, 1781] on Drowning Creek in North Carolina—where there was an engagement with the Tories under Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] & Colonel Ellrod [William Elrod] & Colonel McNeill [Hector McNeil or McNeal]—Americans were defeated. Deponent lost his horse saddle & bridle & a suit of clothes. After this defeat he returned home having served at this time Six weeks. He stayed at home until he was recalled & joined Colonel Wade again as a volunteer in a troop of Horse. Sometime in the month of November in the same year, went up to Anson County to rejoin him, crossed again at Hailey's Ferry & marched down towards Wilmington, North Carolina. Had no engagement—Deponent served four weeks & returned home. In the winter of the same year or the 1st of the succeeding year, deponent went over to Marlborough District South Carolina & volunteered under Captain Pledger [Philip Pledger] of the Militia & served four weeks; marched down toward Waccamaw River & thereabouts in pursuit of one Captain Micajah Quincy who commanded a body of Tories, did not find him & returned

home without having any engagement. Deponent has no documentary evidence of his services, but knows of James McMillan¹ & Ripley Copeland² who served with him in Marion's Camps & can testify to his services. He further swears that for the periods above mentioned he was either in the field or in garrison and was not employed in any civil pursuit. He hereby relinquishes all claim to any Pension except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & signed before me this 29 September 1835

S/ Aaron Copland

S/ John Craig, CCP



South Carolina, Chesterfield District

James McMillan swears that Aaron Copland was in the service of the United States one month in Marion's Camps & that deponent served with him under Captain Thomas Ellerbe, but does not recollect the year.

Sworn to & signed before me in open court 29 September 1835

S/ James McMillan, X his mark

S/ Hugh Craig, QM

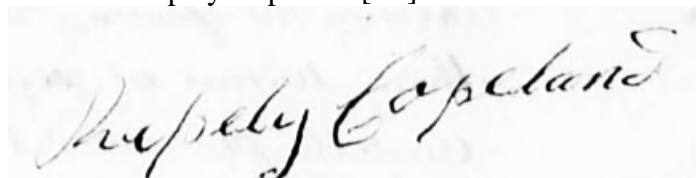
[p 22]

State of South Carolina Chesterfield District

Riply Copeland [sic] swears that Aaron Copland served one month in Marion's Camps under Captain Thomas Ellebee in the militia Service – & that Deponent served with him.

Sworn to before me in open Court 29th September 1835

S/ Ripely Copeland [sic]



[p 22: Lewis Gainey, a clergyman, & Hugh Craig gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 5: On May 14, 1853 in Chesterfield District South Carolina, Archibald Copeland, 50, a resident of Chesterfield District, and son and only living heir of Aaron Copeland filed an application for the purpose of obtaining the pay, bounty land, extra pay, pensions and whatever else may be due for his father's service under the acts of Congress passed from time to time; that his father intermarried with deponent's mother Polly Melton, the daughter of Isham Melton in Chesterfield District South Carolina in 1784; that his father died in 1839 survived by his wife about 6 or 7 years leaving ten children of whom deponent is the sole survivor;

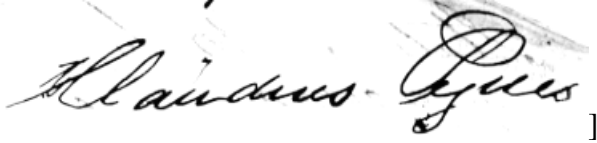


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1 [James McMillan W9559](#)

2 [Ripley Copland \(Copeland\) W9811](#)

[p 7: In Anson County North Carolina on May 18, 1853, Claudius Pegues now a resident of Anson County North Carolina gave testimony that he was acquainted with Aaron Copland in his lifetime; that they were born and raised not far apart in Chesterfield District South Carolina; that Aaron Copland married Polly Melton in Chesterfield district about the year 1784; that Aaron died in 1839 survived by Polly some few years; that he Claudius has good reason to believe that Aaron Copland was a soldier of the revolution in the company of Captain Thomas Ellerbee in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Truss Thomas [probably Tristram Thomas]; that Aaron Copland was residing with his family on land belonging to the deponent's father, William Pegues when his dwelling house was consumed by fire together with all of his papers



Claudius Pegues]

[p 26]

State of South Carolina Chesterfield District:

On this 13th day of July A.D. 1853 personally appeared before me Benjamin C Cassady a magistrate duly authorized to administer oaths within and for the District and State aforesaid Thomas Preswood³ aged about ninety-three years a resident of Chesterfield District in the State of South Carolina, who being duly sworn according to law declares that he was a Soldier in the Company commanded by Captain McGee and others not recollected, in the South Carolina Regiments during a period of the Revolutionary War, at Charleston, that he knew Aaron Copeland the father of Archibald Copeland who was also in the same company, that he said Copeland served and was honorably discharged, return home and died, cannot recollect whether he the said Copeland was married at that time or not, Said Copeland died with a Gravel Complaint, so said, he cannot recollect exactly when the said Copeland died but thinks about the spring of 1839.

Sworn and subscribed before me the 13th day of July A.D. 1853

S/ Thomas Preswood, X his mark [sic]

[p 18: Moses Moon and Miles Hurst gave testimony on August 10, 1854, in Chesterfield District South Carolina that Aaron Copeland died May 9, 1839.]

[p 20: Claudius Pegues testified on October 2, 1855 in Chesterfield District South Carolina that Aaron Copland of Chesterfield District was a soldier of the revolution and had 3 brothers with all of whom deponent was acquainted: namely John R, Riply and Moses Copeland.]

³ [Thomas Prestwood S7337](#)