

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Gouge (Gouch) ¹ R4156 Rosa Gouge f56NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 8/22/08 rev'd 9/19/15

[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.]

[p 5]

State of Georgia, County of Gwinnett: SS: Inferior Court March 1833.

On this the 25th day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court Joseph Gouge a resident of said County & State aged ninety-one years who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted for short tours of duty and was drafted at various times during the war between Great Britain & her Colonies during their struggle for independence – that he is quite certain that he was in the service of the Colonies & States more than six months. That his longest term of service was under General Caswell [Richard Caswell] Colonel Branham & Captain Henderson [perhaps Pleasant Henderson] &c &c in an attempt to reach Charleston but after some marching and countermarching the enterprise was abandoned after three months service. That he served under Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] – Lieutenant Larkin Cleveland -- & Lieutenant William Reynolds in various enterprises against the Tories about New River &c &c in all more than six months. That he resided in Wilkes County North Carolina but in consequence of a want of education & also of extreme old age he cannot remember distinctly the years in which he rendered said service. 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 the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.

(Attest) S/ Wm Maltbie, Clk

S/ Joseph Gouge, X his mark

[Hamden C. Carter, a clergyman, and Samuel T. Pharr gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Joseph Gouge who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades:

Two weeks I served as a Volunteer in an infantry company under Captain Jacob Nickols [sic, Nichols?] and Colonel Rutherford [presumably Griffith Rutherford]. I marched from Salisbury NC to Cross Creek from thence I was marched back again to Salisbury where I was discharged the above service I believe was performed in the year 1779. Six months I served as a volunteer in a company of infantry under the command of Lieutenant Cleveland and mostly under the general command of

¹ BLWt18368-160-55

Colonel Benjamin Cleveland the nature of my services during the above period was in guarding the Gaps or Passes through the Mountains to New River and other places in order to prevent the Tories and Indians from making incursions upon and plundering the Whig settlements. The above was performed as I believe in the year 1779. Three months I served as a drafted Militia man in a company of infantry commanded by Captain Henderson under the general command of Colonel Branham and General Caswell I marched from Salisbury NC through Mecklenburg County left Charlotte County on our right thence on to Camden SC – thence to McCord's Ferry on the Congaree River thence to within 20 miles of Charleston – thence to Georgetown while at or near Georgetown I well recollect to have heard the report of the blowing up of the Magazine in Charleston – thence to Camden – thence to Deep River – thence to a Ford on the Yadkin River near Salisbury where I was discharged. At the time of my discharge I was under the command of Major McDowell of the Cavalry. The above service was performed I believe in the Spring & Summer 1780 but being in a great measure illiterate & extremely old I cannot recollect dates but I am certain that I served my Country the times above specified. And deponent further asks leave to explain that in stating in his original Declaration that his longest period of service was under General Caswell, Colonel Branham & Captain Henderson &c that he intended by such declaration no more than he was longer from home at that time than any other during his service under Captain Park, Lieutenant Cleveland and Colonel Cleveland he was incidentally at home subject to march on the shortest notice And Deponent further says that the word enlisted in his original Declaration should have been, volunteered, as he is conscious that he was not a regularly enlisted Soldier during the War of the revolution – Sworn to & subscribed before me this 24th day of August 1833.

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Joseph Gouge, X his mark

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Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for said County Joseph Gouge who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For six months and more (deponent believes fully twelve months) he served the United States as a volunteer in the Militia he entered said service the first time in Salisbury NC under Captain Nichols & Colonel Rutherford & marched to Cross Creek at which or near said Creek a party of Scotchmen were attacked & defeated by Governor Caswell before our arrival² – from thence we returned home to Salisbury – the balance of deponent's services (except the three months hereafter mentioned) were performed under Lieutenant Larkin Cleveland – Major Allen & Colonel Cleveland in defending the frontiers of North Carolina but deponent in consequence of old age (92 years of age & extremely frail) cannot without doing injustice to his conscience swear though he should fail in substantiating his claim with any more precision than he has heretofore sworn with regard to the times and length of his service but deponent confidently believes that he was under arms in the field in the defense of his Country more than 12 months. For three months I served as heretofore stated under Captain Henderson, Colonel Branham & General Caswell. Deponent further saith that if it was stated in his original Declaration that he served six months under Captain Park that said statement was erroneously made – that he never did serve under Captain Park but that he well recollects that Captain Park commanded a company in the same service with himself to wit in defending the frontiers of NC.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 9th day of October 1833.

S/ Joseph Gouge

² Appears to be a reference to the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776



S/ John Mills, JP

[p 34]

State of Georgia, County of Gwinnett: SS

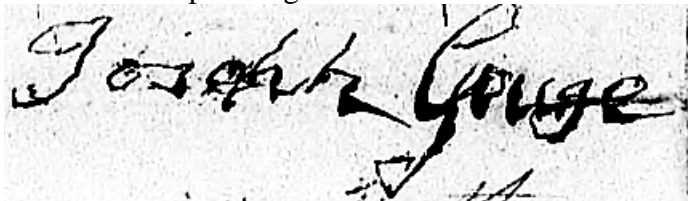
On the 24th day of January 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Inferior Court now sitting Joseph Gouge a resident of the County of Gwinnett and State of Georgia aged 93 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as is stated (and as full a manner as he can now do) in his annexed affidavit with the exception of three months service under Captain Henderson Colonel Branham & General Caswell which said last service was begun and entered as follows that he entered said service as a drafted Militia man under the above named officers in Wilkes County in the State of North Carolina – and by the command of his said officers marched for Charleston – Having received information that Charleston was under siege and that we could not approach it by land – we were marched to Whites Point – and receiving information that that part was also blockaded by the British encamped on Cape Fear River not far from Georgetown where remained until the surrender of Charleston when returned home by way of Camden in South Carolina.

And deponent further states that he was born in the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia [word or words obliterated by an ink blot] 1742 – 3. That he has no record of his age in his own possession that he lived in Wilkes County NC when he with entered the service After peace was made he removed to Abbeville SC where he lived until about seven years since when he removed to his present residence and the State of Georgia, Gwinnett County – that he never received a discharge in writing.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above written.

Attest: S/ Wm Maltbie, Clerk

S/ Joseph Gouge



[Samuel T. Pharr, a clergyman of Walton County, and James Mayn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: On April 4, 1855 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Rosa Gouge, 81, a resident of said County and state filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war veteran; that her husband served as a private in the company commanded by Captain Jacob Nichols the Regiment of volunteers commanded by General Rutherford; that he afterwards served several tours under Lieutenant Larkin Cleveland, Major Allen and Colonel Cleveland; that he also served under Captain Henderson & Colonel Branham as a drafted militia man; that she was married to him in South Carolina in the year 1809 or 1810; there is no public record of her marriage; that to the best of her knowledge and belief the marriage was performed by one Hugh Morrow a justice of the peace; that her name prior to her marriage was Rosa Thacker; that her husband died in Gwinnett County Georgia January 28, 1838 and

she remains his widow. She signed this application with her mark.]

[p 9: On August 18, 1855, Rosa Gouge, 81, of Gwinnett County, Ga., filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Joseph Gouge (or Gouch as his name was frequently called and spelled); that she married him about the year 1810 in SC; that he died January 28, 1838 in Lawrenceville, Gwinnett County Georgia. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 15: On February 16, 1854 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Rosa Ann Gouge, widow of Joseph Gouge, Joseph Gouge and Thomas N. Shackelford in right of his wife Mary Ann Shackelford, formerly Mary Ann Gouge, being all of the heirs of said Joseph Gouge, deceased, and empowering their attorney H. C. Spalding of Washington city DC to pursue their claims as the heirs of a revolutionary war soldier to such pension and bounty land as they might be entitled to under the law. Rosa and Joseph Gouge signed this document with their respective marks.

Thomas N. Shackelford

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State of North Carolina
Comptroller's Office
Geo W Brooks Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State
expressed as hereby certifying that
It appears of record among the
payments made by said State to
Sundry persons for Military
Service in the Revolutionary War
as follows. To wit.
Joseph Gouge a private
Book No. 2, Page 19 \$1511. 26 specie in 1782
Joseph Gouch
Book L No. 3, Page 8 \$1 - specie
" All " 45 \$1333 26 28 Currency
allowed by the Auditors of Middleboro
District dated Jan. 11 1782
The above names though differing
in orthography are very probably
the same, as the same name was
frequently written differently by the
Clerks
In testimony whereof I
have hereunto subscribed
my name and affixed
the Seal of my Office
in Raleigh This the 18th
day of April 1855
Geo W Brooks
Comptroller