

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Mays (Mayes)¹ R7054 Leuitia (Lutitia) Mays f44VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/1/13

[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.]

[p 41]

State of North Carolina Iredell County: August Session A.D. 1832

On this 25 day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before Court of Pleas and Quarter Session of said County now sitting Benjamin Mays a resident of Iredell County and state of North Carolina aged 75 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service of the United States in Albemarle County Virginia by draft for one month under Captain Baninger and served in the same County. His next service was under Captain Samuel Hickenbotham [Samuel Higginbotham] at Richmond in the State of Virginia. This was about two months. His next tour was at New Glasgow in the State of Virginia and thinks it was about 8 or 10 days. His next tour was at York in the State of Virginia where he was at the time of Siege of Cornwallis, his service was performed under Captain Woodruff and was as well as he recollects about two months and a half at this time. He is certain that he served more than six months. 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. He has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except those who are annexed.

He was born in Stafford County Virginia in the year 1757 and has a record of his age in a Bible in his possession. He was living in Amherst County Virginia at the time he entered the service & since then has removed about the year 1799 to Iredell County North Carolina where he now lives, that he was called into service in the manner above stated, and served under Colonel Gaines in his last service, and when at Richmond he was under General Muhlenberg.

He refers to James Mays and David Hair.

Received one or more discharges but has lost them all as his house was burned.

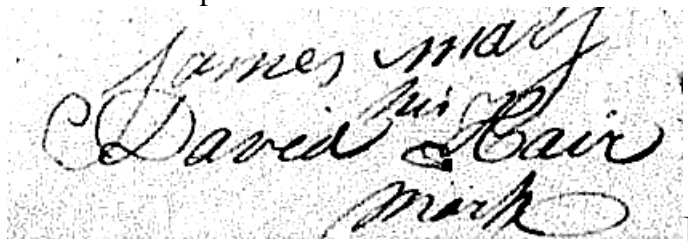
S/ Benjamin Mays

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin Mays". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[David Hair & James Mays gave the standard supporting affidavit; and James Mays "further

¹ See N. A. Acc. No. 874 No. 050 113 – Not Half Pay Benjamin Mays

states that he recollects that during the Revolutionary War, Benjamin Mays was frequently called into the Service of the Country – That this witness assisted in taking care of his family and crop of Benjamin whilst he was absent – that he does believe that Benjamin's Services amounted in all 29 months or upwards."



James Mays
David Baird
mark

[p 3]

State of North Carolina Iredell County:

This day personally appeared Benjamin Mays before me the Subscribing Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and being sworn in due form of law doth upon his oath make the following additional declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832.

He deposes 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 to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades:

His first tour was in the foot under Captain Ballinger he was drafted and assisted in guarding the British in Albemarle County Virginia he thinks it was about the year 1777 shortly after the capture of Burgoyne one month. His second tour was in the foot under Captain Higginbotham and was spent in a Station at Richmond in Virginia this service to the best of his recollection was in the year 1780. He understood that General Muhlenberg had the command at that place. This service was for 2 months & 10 [days] at least. His third tour was in the foot under Captain Higginbotham and Colonel Gaines at New Glasgow in Virginia in the early part of the year 1781 10[days]. His fourth tour was under Captain Woodruff and Colonel Gaines at the time of the Siege of York Colonel Gains commanded the Regiment. He assisted until the surrender of Cornwallis altogether in 1781 2 [months] 15 [days]

and for such service I claim a pension 6 [months] 5 [days]

He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State.

He was born in Stafford County Virginia in the year 1757

He has a record of his age in his Bible in his possession.

He was living in Amherst County Virginia at the time he was called into Service and continued to live there until the year 1799 when he removed to Iredell County North Carolina where he still lives.

He says that the Militia were classed in two classes and that he served when his class was required.

He is unacquainted with the Regular officers except General Muhlenberg above mentioned was a Regular Officer.

He thinks he had one or more discharges but his house was once burned and many of his papers destroyed therein.

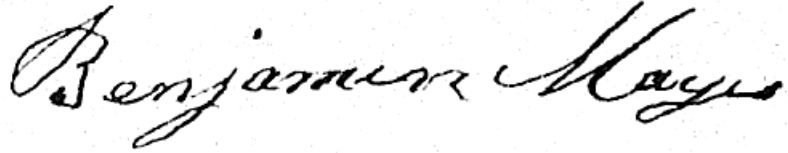
He thinks Captain Woodruff gave him a discharge but if so it was either burned or has been otherwise lost.

He refers to James Mays and David Hair.

Sworn to and subscribed this 22nd day of May 1833 before me

S/ J. Campbell, JP

S/ Benjamin Mayes

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

[p 6: Power of attorney dated December 4, 1851 given by Leutitia May [sic] of Davidson County North Carolina as the widow of Benjamin May [sic]. She signed with her mark.]

[Note: The file does not contain any formal application made by the widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20.55 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and 5 days in the Virginia militia. His widow was denied a pension.]