

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Rolls R8968

Margaret

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Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

Bradford County State of Pennsylvania SS

Be it remembered that on the 18th day of April in the year of our Lord 1818 before meet George Scott one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Bradford in the State of Pennsylvania Personally appeared James Rolls of the Township of Towanda, County of Bradford and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and after being duly sworn according to law doth declare and say that he entered the into the Army of the United Colonies of America (afterwards the United States[]) raised for the defense of American liberty full repelling every hostile invasion thereof and was duly enlisted a private Soldier in the spring of the year 1775 in Baltimore under Captain Murdon, and the Eleventh Regiment commanded by Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] in the Virginia line of Continental Troops for two years and that he served the two years and was then honorably discharged at Bon Breach [??]<sup>1</sup> in New Jersey the discharge was signed by General Putnan [Putnam] and in the summer of the year 1778 he again enlisted under Captain Segone [Jacques de Segon] in Colonel Debose Regiment in General Count Polaski's [Pulaski's]<sup>2</sup> Legion for one year and went with Pulaski's Legion to Charleston in South Carolina about five hundred in number and there had a battle with the British and Pulaski was killed and all the soldiers excepting about fifty he together with the surviving ones returned to the State of New Jersey and was there discharged a short time before the year expired and in the year 1780 in the fall he again enlisted at Baltimore in the Maryland line of Continental Troops, he does not recollect the Captain's name, the Regiment was numbered for commanded by Colonel Hall for three years and that he served till the close of the war and then received an Honorable discharge signed by Colonel Hall at Baskin Bridge in New Jersey and that the discharges which he received our entirely worn out and lost, he further saith that he is a resident Citizen of the United States and that he hath no pension allowed him by the laws of the United States to his knowledge and if any such exist he does hereby fully and entirely release the same to the United States, and that by reason of his reduced circumstances in life he needs the assistance of his country for support and that he was in the battle at Egg Harbor [October 14, 1778] and that he was in the skirmish at Staten Island [August 22, 1777] under General Sterling [sic, John Sullivan?]

S/ James Rolls, X his mark

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<sup>1</sup> *Bon Breach*

<sup>2</sup> Casimir [Kazimierz] Pulaski died in October 1779 from wounds received at the siege of Savannah in Georgia.

[f p. 22: On August 19, 1819 in Bradford County Pennsylvania, Peter Miller<sup>3</sup> gave a supporting affidavit in which he states that he served with the veteran in the Pulaski Legion under Captain Segon. The quality of the digital version of this document displayed on Fold3.com is so poor that I did not attempt to transcribe it.]

District of Pennsylvania of Bradford County SS

On this 12th day of September A.D. 1820 personally appeared in open Court of Common Pleas and quarter Sessions being a Court of record holden in and for the County of Bradford district aforesaid James Rolls aged 60 years resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows that on or about the month of July 1778 he enlisted at Baltimore in Maryland into a Company commanded by Captain Segon in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Debose in a Core [Corps] or Legion raised and commanded by count Pulaski for the term of one year on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Court one year and three months, until October 1779 after Pulaski's defeat in an unsuccessful attack on Savannah where he received a mortal wound and most of his men killed or taken prisoners when he the said Rolls was legally and honorably discharged in the State of New Jersey, and that on the 18th day of April 1818 he made application to the War office for a pension under the act of Congress passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and the Certificate under Seal of the war office of the 18th day of September 1819 number 15:039 = and I the said James Rolls do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

Schedule

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Real estate none, personal         | one washing tub, 2 pales                 |
| 1 Buttonwood Table                 | one low Chest-2 buels=with one head each |
| 4 Common Chairs                    | one ax=one grub hoe, one Corn basket     |
| 1 Small Iron Kettle=1 do pot       | one teapot                               |
| 1 Iron tea kettle=one Iron Spider  | 3 tea Cups & 3 Saucers                   |
| 3 knives & forks, - 4 table spoons |  |
| 6 earthen plates, one do platter   |  |

Names and ages

James Rolls age 60 years, profession – Farming – My Wife Margaret Rolls aged 50 years unable to do much work – we have several children who are of lawful age and acting for themselves all poor and not able to support their parents without great inconvenience.

Sworn to and declared in open Court on the 12th day of September before the Court of Common Pleas and quarter sessions holden at Meansville in and for the County of Bradford district of Pennsylvania

S/ James Rolls, X his mark

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<sup>3</sup> FPA S41876

[f p. 20: On October 30, 1824, the veteran filed for the transfer of his pension benefit from Pennsylvania agency to the New York agency saying that he has moved to Livingston County New York where he intends to remain and wishes to receive future payments of his pension.]

[f p. 14: On August 16, 1845 in Livingston County New York, Margaret Rolls, 84, of Sparta in said County filed for a widow's pension under the 1844 act stating that she is the widow of James Rolls, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Pennsylvania in the spring of the year 1779; that her husband died January 6, 1845. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 14: On August 16, 1845 in Livingston County New York, Mary Weed, 48, gave testimony that she is the daughter of Margaret Rolls widow of James Rolls a revolutionary war pensioner; that her parents had 3 children older than deponent; that her father died January 10, 1845 and that her mother remains a widow. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 28: On September 5th, 1845, John Van Aukin, 78, a resident of Seneca County New York, gave testimony that he has been acquainted with Margaret Rolls whose maiden name was Heter for the last 70 years; that he was well acquainted with her husband James Rolls; that Margaret came to live with the deponent's father about the year 1774 or 1775, about the commencement of the revolutionary war; that he was present at the marriage of James and Margaret when he was about 12 or 13 years old which would put the date of their marriage in either 1779 or 1780.]

[f p. 18: On July 19, 1852 in Alegania [Allegheny] County New York, James roles [James Rolls], 50, filed a power of attorney in which he states he is a sun [son] of James roles a revolutionary war pensioner; that his mother Pegy roles [Peggy Roles] died March 15, 1851. He signed this document with his mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 18, 1818, for service as a private in the New Jersey & Maryland Continental line.]