

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Armstead Shumate R9551 Elizabeth

f22VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/12

[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.]

[f p. 11]

The State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: to wit

The Declaration of Armstead Shumate a Revolutionary Soldier for a Pension under the act of Congress of 1832. He was born in Fauquier County in the State of Virginia the 4th of October A.D. 1761 thence he removed to Spartanburg South Carolina about fifty years since where he has ever since resided. He entered the Army of the Revolution under a Draft Captain Helms [perhaps Thomas Helm] commanded the Company – Edward Waller Major he served two months under this Draft & immediately thereafter he commenced as a Substitute for Nimrod Peters – ___ Paten Captain commanded his company Waller still Major in this Service he served two months & during this four months he was on the Potomac [River] at various places stationed at longer than anyone place at Triplets fishery [Triplet's fishery?]. He then stood a draft in place of his uncle Jarvis Shumate [? could be James Shumate] & entered the service under Captain W Blackwell who joined the main Army under General Washington near Yorktown and was at the Surrender of Lord Corn Wallace [Cornwallis] at that place [October 19, 1781] and was one of the party of American Soldiers that took the redoubt of the Enemy while the French took another – from this place he went to guard the prisoners to Winchester in this service he was two months & between twenty & thirty days – he served altogether between six & seven months – he was regularly discharged after each term of service but they are all lost. He knows of no living witness to prove his services by, & must depend upon the testimony which he hopes may be found in the archives at Washington & the reputation of the Country that he did serve as he alleges. He has not petition before for a pension because he intended never to do so, but adverse circumstances have reduced him to such a dependent state that he now feels himself almost compelled to throw himself upon the bounty of his country which has been so freely bestowed upon his compatriots.

He has never received a pension under any act of Congress or the State & he hereby relinquishes all Claim to any other than the one he now applies for.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

S/ Armstead Shumate, X his mark

S/ J. B. Tollison, Clerk

[Attested (but not dated) by D. L. Wardlow, Judge of the Superior Courts of Law in South Carolina for Spartanburg District. The cover letter transmitting this application to the Commissioner of Pensions is dated Oct. 7, 1846.]

The State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States Greeting

The Humble Petition of Armstead Shumate of the District of Spartanburg State aforesaid formerly of the State of Virginia, sheweth

That he served in the Army of the Revolution two terms of three months each in the State of Virginia. That he was drafted and entered the service the first time under Thomas Helms Captain & Edward Waller Major & remained most of this time on the Potomac River. The second Term he stood a draft in lieu of his uncle James Shumate & entered the Service under William Blackwell Captain and joined the [indecipherable word] Army under General Washington near York Town & was present at the Surrender of Corn Wallis, he went with the prisoners to Winchester & was there discharged the second time having served altogether six months. Your petitioner does not know of any living witness to prove his services all of his Companions in the Service having been called home to their reward before him, & he has not preserved his discharges he has not heretofore applied for his pension for the fact that he was indisposed to claim one but his present condition drives him to change his mind on account of his poverty & want. And therefore prays your Honorable body to give him that which has been so liberally extended to others in which he cannot procure by the regular operation of the law on account of the death of witnesses. And your Petitioner is in duty bound will ever pray &c
S/ Armstead Shumate, X his mark

[acknowledged and attested April 13, 1846]

[f p. 8: testimony of Francis Moor [sic, Frances Moore] given in Spartanburg District South Carolina on July 2, 1853 that she is the daughter of Armstead Shumate; that she makes this affidavit in favor of her mother who is aged and infirm and now living in the state of Georgia; that her mother "has been three times bereft of reason and incable [incapable] of making a declaration. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 6: Order entered in Spartanburg District South Carolina on July 7, 1853 finding that Elizabeth Shumate, widow of Armstead Shumate is still living.]

[f p. 2: Affidavit of George McVay given on July 1, 1853 in Spartanburg District South Carolina that he was well acquainted with Armstead Shumate whose children are applying for a pension; that deponent always understood that Armstead Shumate was a soldier of the revolution from Fauquier County Virginia and recalls having heard the veteran state that he was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.]