

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Williford S1737

f15NC

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

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State of Tennessee Grainger County: August Term 1832

On this 23rd day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in the County of Grainger and State of Tennessee now sitting Jacob Williford aged seventy-five 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he enlisted in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit Col. Benjamin Axum [Benjamin Exum] commanded the Regiment and Capt. Axum Phillips [Exum Phillips] commanded the Company to which he belonged. He states that he entered the service in Edgecombe County in the State of North Carolina and rendezvoused at Tarborough in said State. He states that he entered the service in the month of June in the year 1780 and that he left the service in the month of September of the same year. He states that he served in this tour 3 months. He states that he was discharged in Hillsboro in the State of North Carolina at the expiration of his said term of service but that he has lost it long since. He states he marched from Tarborough and joined General Gates [Horatio Gates] in the State of South Carolina and was attached to his Army when he was defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]<sup>1</sup> but was not in the engagement in consequence of sickness but was left with the baggage wagons. He states that after the defeat of General Gates he was taken prisoner by the Tories and was rescued by a company of Light horse -- that the Tories dispersed when the light horse came up. He states that Col. or General Lee [Henry ["Light Horse Harry"] Lee] and Col. William Washington commanded the Dragoons. He states that he volunteered he thinks in the month of June in the year 1781 and joined a Company at Halifax under Capt. Orphy Thomas [Theophilus Thomas] and served a while under him and was then transferred to the Company commanded by Capt. Benjamin Coleman a Continental Capt., and marched under him to the County of Onslow near Wilmington and from thence we marched to Duplin County in North Carolina from thence we marched to Kingston [sic, Kinston] I think in Dobbs County where I was discharged by Capt. Coleman. He states that in this tour he served three months. He states further that he has lost his discharge given him by Capt. Coleman. He states that he left the service in the month of September in the year 1781 and that after he returned home he heard of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. He states that he has no documentary evidence and

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_camden.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html)

knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He further states that he received for his services two tickets one for 7 pounds and the other for 40 shillings.

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 any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jacob Williford, X his mark

[Walter D. Coin [Cohen?] and George Millikin [George Millikan?] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories propounded by the court to Jacob Williford in the matter of his application for a pension

Question Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in South Hampton County [Southampton County] in the State of Virginia in the year 1755.

Question Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer When I was called into service I was living in the County of Edgecombe North Carolina. I lived in Edgecombe until about 20 years ago and I now live in Grainger County Tennessee.

Question How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer I enlisted the first tour for three months the last tour I volunteered for three months I was not drafted nor did I go as a substitute --

Question State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer General Gates, General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] General Gregory or Gregor, Col. William Washington & Col. Lee of the dragoons.

Question State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer Sherad Mayse, Joseph Daniel, Senior, John Noe, Senior, Eli Hodgen and I could mention others if it be necessary.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]