

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Angus Rucker <sup>1</sup> S19068

f77VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/1/10 rev'd 8/11/12 supp'd 4/28/15

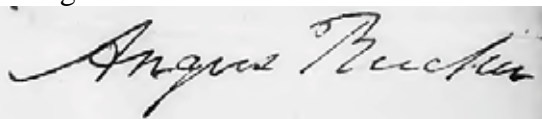
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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. 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.]

[p 4]

To the Legislature of Virginia<sup>2</sup>

The undersigned resident of the County of Madison begs leave to represent to your honorable body, that early in the year 1777 your memorialist embarked as a Capt. in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson in the war of the Revolution, that he continued in active service until the year 1780, that shortly after the battle at Brandywine he joined the Main Continental Army in the State of Pennsylvania that upon the return of the said Regiment to Virginia it was found that they had more officers than necessary, it was decided by lot who should become supernumerary that it fell to your memorialist to become with other supernumerary, he was still directed to hold himself in readiness to march whenever occasion should require, the key held his commission as Capt. and always ready to march until the end of the war; That he among others of his copatriots [sic] always relied upon the liberality and justice of their Country to make them some remuneration for their sacrifices, toils and privations, to which they cheerfully submitted, in achieving the liberties and independence of the American people. Your Memorialist has been gratified to find, that the long neglected and war worn soldiers of the Revolution have recently found that justice, in the liberal and enlightened representatives of the people of Virginia. That Campbell, Nicholas, Broadus and Ewell with whom your memorialist served and standing identically upon the same footing as your memorialist have all had their claims adjusted. Your memorialist most respectfully begs leave to refer to the accompanying documents which will clearly prove that he is entitled to the same measure of justice for revolutionary services as any other officers who served in that eventful struggle. He will not believe that a generous, liberal and enlightened Legislature will remunerate one portion of the veterans of the Revolution and exclude others equally deserving and equally meritorious: he relies with confidence upon the justice of his country in extending to him that remuneration, which has been bestowed upon others similarly situated. He therefore prays that your honorable body will pass a law allowing him his commutation pay, which is five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life -- And as in duty bound he will ever pray etc.

S/ Angus Rucker



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<sup>1</sup> BLWt1695-300 N. A. Acc. No. 874 See 050 161 Half Pay Angus Rucker

<sup>2</sup> What appears to be the original of this petition appears in the Madison County Legislative Petitions posted at [Digital Library of Virginia](#).

[Reverse]

Angus Rucker

December 15<sup>th</sup> 1825

Referred to Claims

that a law may pass

William Finks

allowing him 5 years full pay as commutation for half pay for life as he has served as Capt. in the Revolution

1825

December 17: Laid on the table

22 Reasonable

23 Reported

28 Bill drawn

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Auditor's Office December 19, 1825

It does not appear by any evidence in this office that Angus Rucker an officer of the Revolution ever received half pay or commutation of five years full pay in lieu of thereof.

S/ James E. Heath, Auditor

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In May 1775, in Farfax [Fairfax] the County town of Culpeper City Virginia, gentlemen of the amount of from 60 to 70 pledged themselves to each other, and composed a company, that should equip and hold themselves at all times ready to act under the authority of the Committee of Safety, who received and gave an order for our organization. We chose Col. William Champ as our Capt., and as co-patriots of this Company. I hereby certify Capt. Angus Rucker and myself to have been & served as minute men as the Committee of Safety titled them. The Company was trained at Culpeper Court house, and when Col.. Henry moved towards Williamsburg with a view of putting an end to Dunmore's depredations, we were marched as low as Fredericksburg where we met a messenger to stop us for further orders; where were you remained in camp for about ten days, and were removed back. At our August term John Green was appointed Capt., and authorized to raise a company, whose term of service was designated for 12 months: I enlisted with Capt. Green; but Angus Rucker remained in the minute service under the command of Capt. William Champ; and I know of no limitation as respected their service, until after the Declaration of Independence. The Legislature of Virginia met and authorized the raising a Regiment composed of 10 companies; the command of which they gave to Col. George Gibson; and the act authorized the Governor & Council to appoint all subordinate officers; and when raised and organized was to be titled the first Virginia State Regiment. In this Regiment Angus Rucker was appointed a Lieut. early in the winter 1776 -- 7 -- raised his men and marched them to Williamsburg -- the Regiment being organized was in May 1777, ordered to march to the North, and joined the grand Army, which was effected in the vicinity of Philadelphia: -- with the grand Army he served the Campaigns of 1777 -- 78 and in the summer 79 as well as I recollect, was commissioned a Captain and finished that campaign in the northern States -- that after the middle of the winter 1779-80, the Virginians were remanded to Virginia; and as they had few or no wagons, the troops were permitted to get with their friends at discretion; with orders to rendezvous at Williamsburg in the month of April, there to receive their discharge with certificates for balance of dues; but when we came to muster there, we could not raise three companies, consequently number of officers were sent out to recruit, but returned without success: -- the fact then existed demonstratively that the State was saddled with a full suite of

officers, and not three complete companies of men; the older but conclusion was that they must ballot for continuance -- under this arrangement Captain Angus Rucker became a supernumerary officer, but remained through that year with the Army or in its neighborhood; and ever distinguished a wish to go into the command.

S/ Elliot Rucker<sup>3</sup>

I Charles Ewell <sup>4</sup>formerly Captain in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson do certify that Angus Rucker was an officer in said Regiment as well as my memory charges as a Captain in said Regiment & served or was considered as an officer in the Regiment till an arrangement took place during the siege of York when the two regiments commanded by Gibson & Brent were reduced & the remaining soldiers put under a few officers etc. by Lieutenant Colonel Dabney the balance of the officers of the two regiments being returned supernumeraries.

S/ Chs. Ewell  
6<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1825

I do hereby certify that Captain Angus Rucker was appointed as an officer and the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson in the first of January 1777 and served as a Captain in the North three years afterwards returned to Virginia with the troops and after some time was arranged out as a supernumerary officer; he still stood ready at any time to take command when called upon. Given from under my hand this 28th day of July 1825.

S/ John Breedlove<sup>5</sup>

I do hereby certify that Captain Angus Rucker entered the service in the revolutionary war in the capacity of a first Lieutenant in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson in January 1777 that he served to the North about three years with the Continental troops and that while at the North he took rise to the command of a company as Captain and in the summer of 1779 Regiment was ordered to Virginia and in the course of the year 1780 there was an arrangement took place for the want of men and that Captain Angus Rucker was one of the captains who was arranged out as a supernumerary officer and he afterwards superintended a hospital in Chesterfield County Virginia.

Given under my hand this 28th day of July 1825.

I can further say that he was in the same Regiment with Major Ewell and Major Braddus and was on the same footing.

S/ Churchill Gibbs,<sup>6</sup> Lt.  
St. Va. State Regt.

I do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Captain Angus Rucker (of Madison County then Culpeper) at the time of the old revolution -- he was made Captain at the time of said war and obtained his commission until the end of the war and was allowed to be a good officer.

Given under my hand this 16th day of July 1825.

S/ John Simpson

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<sup>3</sup> [Elliot \(Elliott, Eliot\) Rucker S46408](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Charles Ewell W9432](#)

<sup>5</sup> [John Breedlove S2102](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Churchill Gibbs S46002](#)

I do hereby certify that I became acquainted with Captain Angus Rucker in July 1778 on the banks of the North River -- that he was then serving in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson and served through that campaign. As I was one, among others, who volunteered their services to go to the South in the spring of 1779 I know nothing further of his services.

Given under my hand this fifth day of July 1825.

S/ Ro. Beale  
Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> Va. C. Regt.

This is to certify that in the month of March 1777 I was enlisted a soldier to serve in the war of the American Revolution. I was enlisted in a part of the State then called Culpeper but now forming a part of the County of Madison, and was enlisted by Captain Angus Rucker now a resident of Madison. I served three years in the first Virginia State Regiment, which Regiment was commanded by Colonel George Gibson.

It is within my certain knowledge that Captain Angus Rucker was an officer in said Regiment during all the time that I was a soldier in the same & when at the expiration of three years from the time of my enlistment I was discharged, I left Captain Rucker in the Army acting the part of Captain in the said Regiment.

S/ Joseph Houffman<sup>7</sup>

I hereby certify that I was raised in the neighborhood of Captain Angus Rucker was near his father's then Culpeper now Madison County & was well acquainted with him and after the war began I very seldom saw him about his father's & believe him to be doing duty in the Army - he was commissary to the Marines in the year 1776 and I do further certify that in the first of 1777 I enlisted under Captain Angus Rucker as a soldier in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson for three years and as soon as the Regiment was complete that we marched to the North and joined the Main Army where I served my three years out and was discharged; it is within my certain knowledge Captain Rucker was an officer in said Regiment all the time that I was a soldier -- when I was discharged I left Captain Rucker doing the duty of Captain in the said Regiment. I do further certify that he was arranged as a su [sic] a supernumerary Captain and held himself in readiness to take command at any time called upon in said Regiment until the end of the war.

Given under my hand this 16th day of July 1825.

S/ John Garrell<sup>8</sup>

Jefferson County Harpers Ferry Virginia third September 1825

I do hereby certify that Captain Angus Rucker (of the County of Madison) and myself served together in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson from the early part of the year 1777 until some time in the summer 1780. That sometime in the month of September 1777 shortly after the Battle at Brandywine we joined the Main Continental Army in the State of Pennsylvania; we continued in active service with the said Army until nearly the end of the year 1779 when re-returned again to Virginia. That sometime in the summer of 1780 having more officers in the Regiment and were necessary, several of them had to retire as supernumeraries; among which the said rocker was warned. During our services together that the

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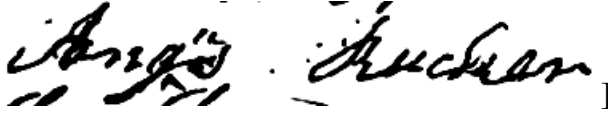
<sup>7</sup> Sic, [Joseph Huffman W7826](#)

<sup>8</sup> Sic, [John Garrell \(Jarrell\) W7874](#)

said Rucker was always considered an attentive good officer. Given under my hand this day and year above written.

S/ Will Broadus<sup>9</sup>

[p 16: On September 22, 1830, in Madison County Virginia, Angus Rucker filed for his bounty land entitlement under the act of Congress of September 16, 1776. He states that he is 77 years of age; that he served in the first Virginia State Regiment under Colonel George Gibson. He appoints Captain Churchill Gibbs as his attorney to except his bounty land warrant.

Handwritten signature of Angus Rucker in cursive script, followed by a closing bracket.]

[p 18]

Revolutionary Claims

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act entitled an act for the relief of certain Surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution approved on the 15th May 1828.

I, Angus Rucker of

In the County of Madison in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that I was an officer in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution and served as such to the time when the arrangement of the Army provided by the resolves of Congress of the 3rd day and 21st of October 1780 was carried into effect and that I was reduced under that Arrangement as a supernumerary Captain subject to be called into service at any time to the end of the war. I'll was a first Lieutenant in Colonel George Gibson's Regiment raised by full quota of men marched them to Williamsburg in the last of 1776 or the first of 1777 and joined Colonel Gibson's Regiment. I was Captain John Nicholas' first Lieutenant in said Gibson's Regiment the Regiment marched to Pennsylvania early in 1777 and joined the Continental Army commanded by General Washington. I continued in said Gibson's Regiment and while at the North to rise to the command of a company as Captain in Gibson's Regiment after the said Regiment was transferred to Continental establishment in place of the 9th Virginia Continental Regiment served accordingly with Continental Army never in other states that in Virginia till the end of the War [word partially lost by tears in the paper] services with [words lost] rations [sic, rations], Clothing &c in common with Continentals, in the year 1775 I was a volunteer soldier under Captain Thornton in 1776 I was Commissary to the Marines in 1781 I was ordered to take charge of the Chesterfield hospital in Virginia which I continued until the siege of York in Virginia. My Commission has long since [been] lost or rather worn out.

Given under my hand this 26th day of February 1830.

S/ Angus Rucker

Before me Charles R. Gibbs a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Madison in the State of Virginia personally appeared Captain Churchill Gibbs and John Breedlove this day both of the said County who did severally make oath that Angus Rucker by whom the within declaration was subscribed is generally respected and believed to have been an officer in the Army of the Revolution in manner as therein stated. Witness my hand and seal this 26th of February 1830

S/ C R. Gibbs {seal}

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<sup>9</sup> [William Broadus W8396](#)

[p 31]

Richmond Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> 1830

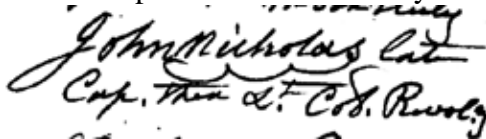
I do hereby certify, that Angus Rucker of Madison County Virginia, was a first Lieutenant in my Company raised by Act of Assembly in 1776 in the six additional Virginia Regiments on Continental establishment, five Companies of which were transferred to Gibson's State Regiment which early in 1777 was sent to the North & joined the Continental Army in Pennsylvania, & given up by an Act of the Virginia Assembly to the U S & served & suffered equally with their Troops, both to the North & South (but very little in Virginia) till the end of the Revolutionary War -- were fed, paid & clothed out of the same common Continental Stores, & treated & considered in all respects, as Continental Troops. The Legislature of Virginia has liberally and gratuitously bestowed on some of the Officers of that Regiment commutation, for special services rendered that particular State at some periods of the war, as well as the United States throughout -- which perhaps was more than Virginia was strictly bound to do. Continental Land Bounties have been allowed some, & State Land Bounties allowed others, as the doubts & difficulties about the different lines to which they belonged, happened to be interpreted in the different individual cases as they occurred.

Being sent myself early in 1780 to South Carolina with the Maryland line & some Virginia forces, & there serving under General Gates & Greene till 1781, then called to Virginia & serving with Lafayette &c &c to the end of the act of war; have never seen my Lieutenant Rucker sent 1780 when I left him in actual command in the said Gibson's Regiment; & have always heard & believes he was promoted to the rank of Captain to the end of the Revolutionary War --

It gives me pleasure to be able to certify further & most truly, that Lieutenant & afterwards Captain Angus Rucker was a faithful & meritorious officer, & a perfectly honorable man (when I knew him) on whose word & claims for services the strictest reliance may be placed by that Country which I have no doubt he most truly served.

S/ John Nicholas,<sup>10</sup> late

Cap. then Lt. Col. Revoly. Army



[p 49]

Pension Office

October 24, 1844

I have examined the claim of George A Rucker, Executor of Angus Rucker deceased who was a Captain in Gibson's Virginia State Regiment, and it appears that there is still due to him under the act of July 5, 1832, entitled "an act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia," on account of said Angus Rucker's service, half-pay from the 5th of July 1832, (to which time payment has already been made under said act) to the 2nd of September 1836, when he died. The amount now claimed should therefore be paid at the rate of \$240 per annum to the Honorable John S. Barbour of Virginia, attorney of said George out for Rucker, executor of Angus Rucker, deceased.

Commissioner of Pensions

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<sup>10</sup> [John Nicholas S46397](#)

Approved  
Secretary of War

[p 58]

I do hereby Certify that Captain Angus Rucker of the County of Madison and State of Virginia was appointed a first Lieutenant the last of 1776: raised his full quota of men marched them to Williamsburg the last of 1776 or the first of 1777, and joined Colonel George Gibson's Regiment; and early in 1777 marched to Pennsylvania and joined the Main Continental Army commanded by General Washington. He remained in said Gibson's Regiment, and while at the North was promoted to the command of Captain in said Regiment; he returned to Virginia in 1780 and the last of that year was arranged a supernumerary Captain by the Resolves of Congress of the 3rd & 21st of October 1780. I further Certify -- that he was a supernumerary Captain at the close of the War, but from everything I have heard he has since lost his Commission. Given under my hand this 21st day of February 1830.

S/ John Breedlove, X his mark

[p 69]

I do hereby certify, that a Military Land Bounty warrant No. 98 for 4000 acres issued to Angus Rucker January 21st 1783, in consideration of his services as a Captain of the State Infantry for three years and that no other warrant appears to have been issued to him for said service in the Revolutionary war.

Given under my hand and seal of office at the city of Richmond February 11, 1830

S/ Wm Seeden, R L Off

[A note in the file indicates that the veteran died September 2, 1836, place not noted.]

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Addendum to Angus Rucker S19068

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 20 March 2021.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). This file also contains copies of documents from the federal file transcribed above.]

Reg[istere]d 19 Feby 1838

Additional bounty land is allowed in this case from 1<sup>st</sup> day of Jany 83 to the 3<sup>d</sup> Nov 1783

David Campbell

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) in three files. These files also contain the original of the statement by Elliott Rucker transcribed from the federal file.]

I, John Nicholas, late Cap & Lt. Col. in the revol'n state, that Angus Rucker of Madison County, was a first Lt. in my Company of Regulars in the Revolutionary Army from early in 1777[?] marched & served as such both to the north & south was promoted before the end of the war to the rank of Capt in which rank he continued to the end of the war [several illegible words] four thousand acres of additional land bounty, depretiation, & Commutation, as will be seen by the Acts in his favor similar to my own, & the Registers Books, which it is hoped, will be taken as the best evidence in the case. Cap. Rucker, being very old & infirm & not capable of travelling to Richmond to seek his rights, authorised me by a regular Power of attorney to apply for & receive whatever additional bounty in lands may be due him from the State under the foregoing circumstances & facts – therefore I ask the attention of the Gov'r & Council to his case.  
[2 Nov 1830] John Nicholas

State of Kentucky            }  
Jefferson County Towit } [certified 5 May 1832]

Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for said County & State, duly commissioned, sworn and acting as such, Joseph Saunders and made oath – That early in the month of September 1775 he the said Deponent enlisted in the Company commanded by Capt John Green of Culpepper County Virginia, together with Angus and Elliott Rucker and George Triplett [W607], for the period of one year, and marched thence to Williamsburgh. Thence deponent with said Angus & Elliott Rucker and said Triplett went in to the navy under Walter Brooke [R14] and Wright Westcott [R106]. From whence they were all appointed subalterns in the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson. Said Deponent says at the time of his resignation, about the close of the year 1777, the said Ruckers and Triplett were then subalterns of said Regiment and in service and had been [part missing at bottom of page]

To the Gov'r of Virginia

Your petitioner A Rucker respectfully states that he enlisted in Sept 1775 in Col. Jno Green's Company and continued in service to the end of the war. He has received 4000 acres of Land from Va. & his Commutation pay from the United States.

The Report of the Board of Officers which sat in Richmond in 178[?] stated that he was A Supernumerary Capt of Gibson's regiment [undeciphered word] continued such to the close of the war. He considers himself entitled to [illegible] one year and 7 months service over six years, which he respectfully asks [several illegible words] [illegible]/ A Rucker

To His Excellency William Smith Governor of the Commonwealth of Va

The undersigned in behalf of the heirs at law of the late Capt Angus Rucker, Represent that the



said Rucker entered the Revolutionary army in the first Virginia Regiment in the year 1775. That he was at the battle of "The great bridge" near Norfolk on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dec'r 1775 & in the bloody fight with the British at the "Water edge" in Norfolk on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1776. That the said Rucker rose in the said Regiment to the rank of Captain which rank he held at the close of the War of the Revolution & was in every hard fought battle from that of the Great Bridge to the surrender of Cornwallis at York in 1781. The said first regiment was a state line regiment until the battle of Germantown which was fought on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1777. On that day it was placed by George Washington in the Continental Service in line of [part missing at bottom of page] and the said regiment Commanded as it was by Col George Gibson) remained in the Continental line from the said 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1777 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1780 making a period of three years & nearly two months of Continental service. The Journal of the House of Delegates of Decr 1780 is referred to as it furnishes proof of the day on which that regiment returned from the north & also to show that the Legislature of Virg'a did then bestow on its courage, toils, dangers & sufferings the highest praise. The Government of the United States (in its Executive & Legislative Departments) has repeatedly admitted that George Gibson's regiment was in Continental Service from Octo 1777 to the close of the war, and particularly to the said Angus Rucker did the United States make this admission by allowing him bounty land of three Hundred acres, and placing his (the said Rucker's) name on the pension roll under the Act of Congress of the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1828. The act of the General Assembly of Virginia Casting Gibsons regiment into the Continental line in Octo 1777, the resolution of the same body of Decr 1780 admitting its return of that moment would be conclusive as [part missing at bottom of page]ment are conclusive against all enquiry. The State of Virginia promised to every Captain serving three years in the Continental line (if one of her citizens) 4000 acres of bounty land. For this service the said Rucker in his lifetime nor his heirs since his death have received nothing – and it is beyond all doubt that they are entitled to this bounty Land for Continental service in addition to what was secured for service in the State line, both by law and by precedent. Numerous precedents existed before your Excellencies decision to like effect in Marston's case. That case is identical in every point with that of Capt Rucker except that Rucker was two years sooner & longer in Service. In Conclusion your petitioners pray that you allow them the same you allowed Marston & they as in duty bound [undeciphered] ever pray &c.

Catharine Early/ Margaret Blakey/ Onslow Rucker  
for themselves & others heirs at law of the late Capt. Rucker dec'd

15<sup>th</sup> Mar '50/ It appears that he has already received 4000 acres, the allowance to a Captain for six years service. There is no proof of service long enough to entitle him to more. Approved J B Floyd  
1850 Sept'r 17. Rejected.