

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Williams S31488

f19VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

9/27/11: rev'd 5/28/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

Thomas Williams

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of "An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the 15th day of May 1828, I Thomas Williams a resident Citizen of the County of Cumberland, State of Kentucky aged eighty seven years – do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution in the year 1777 for and during the war, and Continued faithfully in its service until its termination; at which period, I was a private in Captain Isaac Israel's Company of the Regiment of the Virginia line, commanded by Colonel John Green.

And I also declare that I afterwards received a Certificate for the reward of \$80, which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th day of May 1778 And I further declare that I was not on the 15th day of March 1828 on the pension list of the United States – that I was born in the County of Brunswick in the State of Virginia in the year 1755 –

Subscribed and sworn before me this 14th of January 1833

Attest: S/ A. King, JPCC

S/ Thomas Williams



Revolutionary Claim Thomas Williams

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act entitled "An act for the relief of Certain Surviving Officers & Soldiers of the Army of the revolution,["] approved the 15th May 1828,

Before me Alfred King a Justice of the peace in & for Cumberland County Kentucky duly empowered to administer oaths, personally appeared Thomas Williams of said County personally known to me as a person of good repute & entitled to credit, who being first duly sworn does on his oath say that in the year 1776 or 1777 in the month of September, he enlisted in the County of Brunswick State of Virginia under Lieutenant Thomas Threadgill & Captain Isaac Hicks for and during the War. That he continued in service within the State of Virginia & the South from his enlistment till the fall of 1780 at which time he was marched from Petersburg Virginia to the South under the command of Colonel John Green, & continued in the South until February or March 1781 was taken sick and with other sick & the baggage wagons returned to Virginia in the month of May or June 1781 and very shortly thereafter he again entered the service in Virginia under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gaskins upon James River above

Richmond, and continued in service at different places within the State of Virginia until the termination of the War – at which time he was under Colonel Gaskins of the Virginia Continental line. That in August 1781 he received pay for his services on James River not far from Cabin Point from some officer who was under Colonel Gaskins. That he was discharged from service after the Close of the War, at Petersburg Virginia, but whether it was written or parol, he cannot now say – if written, it is lost or destroyed – that he has not received from the United States or any one of the States any bounty for his services either in Land or money.

That he received a certificate for the reward of \$80 to which he was entitled under a resolve of Congress of 15th of May 1778. That he has never received a pension from the United States & his first application was made in January 1833 – he does not know of anyone living by whom he can prove his service, but in all probability there are – that is [his] age is 79 years, born in Brunswick County Virginia in 1754 now lives in Cumberland County Kentucky, moved direct from Brunswick to this County in the year 1813 & has lived here ever since.

And In Testimony whereof he has hereunto affixed his signature. Witness my hand this 4th day of May 1833.

Attest: S/ Alfred King, JP

S/ Thomas Williams

[William Baker, Thomas N Barton, & Winston J Barton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Revolutionary Claim of Thomas Williams under the Act of 18th of May 1828

Before me [indecipherably faint name] a Justice of the Peace in & for Cumberland County Kentucky duly empowered to administer oaths, personally appeared Thomas Williams a resident citizen of my said County, personally known to me as a man of good repute and entitled to credit, being duly sworn does declare – That in September 1777 in Brunswick County Virginia – he enlisted into the Army of the Revolution for the Term of three years under Lieutenant Thomas Threadgill & Captain Isaac Hicks – that he served with in the State of Virginia until the fall of 1780 at which time the said Williams was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Green & marched to the South Carolina and wintered at or near Pedee River not far [from] the Cheraw Hills – the month of February 1781 he returned to Virginia after serving out the full enlistment.

– Again in the month of May or June 1781 he again entered the service for five years or for and during the War under an enlistment and joined the Army immediately after on James River above Richmond, in the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gaskins his Captain's name not recollected – That he continued to serve till the final termination of the War. If he got written discharges, he does not recollect, if he did, however, they are lost or destroyed. That his first application for a pension was in January last – & he amended his declaration in May last. That he has never received a pension nor pay in the land or money for his said services. That he is aged 79 years born in Brunswick County in 1754 lived there from the end of the War to the year 1813 removed from thence to Cumberland County Kentucky where he now lives & has lived ever since –

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of July 1833

S/ Thomas Williams

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the Virginia service.]

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Addendum to Thomas Williams S31488

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 27 May 2023.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#). The file includes copies of the federal applications of 4 May 1833.]

Petition for bounty land.

Thomas Williams – Soldier – C. L.

There is no evidence offer'd in support of this claim. The declarations on oath of the Petitioner, unaccompanied by any corroborating proof, do not amount to evidence. The Petitioner has contradicted himself in his statements. In one he says that he enlisted in 1776 or 1777, in the month of Sept for & during the war. In the other statement he says, he enlisted in Sept 1777, for a term of three years. [See endnote] Therefore even if the declaration on oath of Petitioner for bounty land was evidence the declarations in this case are not. They contradict one another.

To his Excellency Gov'r. Tazewell

Resp'ly reported

John H Smith Com'r &c

May 9th 1834

N.B. since the above was written, I have seen that Thomas Williams settled his accounts as private from Jan'y 1st 1782 to 15th Nov'r 1783, with Com'r A. Dunscomb (see Dunscombs settlement in the Ex[ecutive]. dept.) another document in my possession call'd "a Return of specie due sundry non commissioned officers & privates, of the late Va line, being arrears of four months pay in 1783" contains the name of Thomas Williams, as one of the soldiers who received arrears of pay.

NOTE: There is no contradiction in the two applications by Williams. Many enlistments were for "three years or during the war," and it was often unclear whether the soldier was to serve for three years or until the end of the war.