

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Wooldridge S31494

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/14/11

[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.]

State of Kentucky Henry County: SS

Be it known that on this 7th day of December 1833 personally appeared before [me] William McCracken a justice of the peace in and for Henry County Kentucky and one of the Justices of the Henry County Court Thomas Wooldridge aged seventy-seven years of said County and state 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that is to say being a resident of Chesterfield County in the State of Virginia he entered the service of the United States on or about the first June in the year 1777 as a private soldier and drafted militia man in the company of Captain Morgan upon a tour of three months. That he rendezvoused with his company at Manchester Virginia and was there attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Haskins – that he was kept stationed at Manchester for some time that being the main point at which he was kept during his whole tour – that he was frequently called out from that place to aid in protecting the country along on that side of James River from the incursions of the British – that he performed much service of that kind during his said tour and at the termination thereof having fully and faithfully served out the same he was discharged and returned home – He states that there was no regular officer with the troops where he served during this tour according to his present best recollection.

He further states and declares that in the month of September 1779 as well as he remembers he again entered the service of the United States as a drafted militia man and private soldier in the company of Captain Moseby [Mosby?] upon a tour of three months – that he rendezvoused with his company at the Courthouse in Buckingham County in which County he then resided and was marched by his Captain to Williamsburg Virginia where he was kept stationed during the whole of his tour as a part of the garrison of that place and as a guard for some public stores which were there deposited and at the termination thereof having fully and faithfully served out the same he was discharged and returned home to Buckingham County Virginia.

He further states and declares that in the month of July in the year 1781 being still a resident of Buckingham County in the State of Virginia, he again entered the service of the United States as a private soldier and drafted militia man in another company commanded by Captain Moseby upon a tour of three months – that he rendezvoused with his company at the Courthouse in said County and was marched by his Captain to Williamsburg Virginia where he remained until sometime in the month of September following as a part of the garrison of that place and was then attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lowry and was there joined to the main Army under General Washington and was marched down to York and the

siege of that place commenced & was continued till the capture of the British Army under Cornwallis during all which time this declarant was with the Army aiding and assisting in its operations and he states that he witnessed the surrender on that occasion. He states that he continued with the Army actively engaged until the full expiration of his tour and after having fully and faithfully served out the same he was discharged and returned home.

He states that from the great lapse of time his advanced age and his consequent loss of memory that he has forgotten the names of the regular officers whom he saw and knew during this last tour except some of the commanders. He states that he is confident from his best recollection that he did not serve during the War of the revolution less than nine months as a private militia soldier and for that service he claims a pension.

He states that he has no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

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 the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thos. Wooldridge

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thos. Wooldridge". The signature is written in a cursive style with some flourishes.

Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the said Justice of the peace

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Chesterfield County in 1756

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I had a record of my age but have lost it.

3rd 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 upon my first tour I lived in Chesterfield County Virginia. When called into service upon my other tours I lived in Buckingham County Virginia where I continued to reside until 1793 and then moved to Franklin County Kentucky where I lived about 4 years and then moved to Henry County Kentucky where I have continued to live up to the present time.

4th 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 was drafted.

5th 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. Upon my first tour I served with a single Regiment only – upon my 2nd tour I served at Williamsburg where there was no other company than the one to which I was attached and I was under the command of an officer of no higher grade than Captain. Upon my 3rd tour at the taking [of] Cornwallis I was so short a time with the regular troops and the time has been so great since that I have now forgotten the names of all the regular officers except some of high rank – I recollect Generals Washington, Lafayette, Wayne and Lincoln. Upon my first tour I was stationed principally at Manchester but was frequently along the coast of the River & bay. Upon my second tour I was garrisoned at Williamsburg Virginia. Upon my third tour I was part of the time at Williamsburg and the balance of the time at York and witnessed the siege of the British

Army and its capture.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I received discharges signed by my officers which I have lost.

7th 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. I will name James Sams and Wesley Flood

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thos. Wooldridge

[James Sams, a clergyman, and Wesley Flood gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]