

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Aaron Woosley S39134

f17VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

10/15/11: rev'd 9/22/23

[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.]

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State of Tennessee Lincoln County: 6 Judicial Circuit.

This day personally appeared Aaron Woosley a revolutionary soldier before me Alfred M Harris one of the Circuit Judges of the Judges for the State aforesaid for the Circuit aforesaid who being first duly sworn, in pursuance of an act of the last session of Congress providing a pension for poor & indigent revolutionary soldiers, deposeth & saith. That he is about sixty five years of age from the best information he has of his age. That in the year 1776 or 1777 in October he enlisted in the regular service of the United [States], in Amelia County State of Virginia, in a company of Infantry commanded by Captain James Harris, & afterwards he was attached to the company commanded by Captain __Wells. That he enlisted for three years & served the full term of his enlistment in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Bluford [Abraham Buford], which composed a part of the Virginia line of Continental troops commanded by General Woodford [William Woodford]. That after he enlisted & during the term of his service he was engaged in behalf of the United States against the Common enemy in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777 & Germantown [October 4, 1777] & at Monmouth Court house [June 28, 1770 a]. That he served out faithfully the full term of his enlistment and was discharged by Colonel Bluford at Middlebrook in Pennsylvania in the year 1779 or 1780 in the fall of the year. That this discharge he is now unable to produce, having lost it by accident or through the lapse of time is destroyed. That about the two months after he was discharged he again enlisted in the regular service of the United States in Amelia County Virginia in the company of horsemen commanded by Capt. James Gun [James Gunn] which belonged to the first Virginia light horse commanded by Colonel White [Anthony Walton White], which composed a part of the Virginia line commanded, as this affiant believes, for a time, by General Stephens [Edward Stevens], who was the commander of the horse and afterwards taken to the South under the command of Genl. Wayne [Anthony Wayne] & then commanded by General Greene [Nathanael Greene] in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia. That when he enlisted the second time, he enlisted during the war & continued to serve faithfully against the common enemy in the South until the conclusion of peace in 1782 when he was regularly discharge by Col. White in Charlestown in the State of South Carolina on the 5th day of July: That during the time he served in Georgia he received a severe wound in the shoulder by a sword, when in a skirmish with the British & Tories about five miles off above Savannah. This affiant further states that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his Country and unless he receives the bounty Government, he will ire long be unable to procure

even the common comforts & necessities of life. He further states that he never has received a pension from the United States for any cause whatever & he hereby renounces & releases his right & claim to all pensions from the U. S. except the one now requested for the services mentioned in this affidavit. This affiant further states that he is unable to prove these facts stated in this affidavit by any person now living within the limits of this state, nor does he know certainly of any person now living within the United States by whom he could prove it. He is a citizen of the United States of America and resident in the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee. He prays to be placed on the pension list agreeably to act of Congress &c
25th of September 1818

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 25th of September 1818
S/ Alfred M Harris, Judge &c

S/ Aaron Woosley, X his mark

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We the undersigned do certify that we are well acquainted with David Dodd,¹ Jesse Dodd² & Aaron Woolsey & have been acquainted with them for a long time and do know them to be men of credit, and to be fully believed on their oaths.

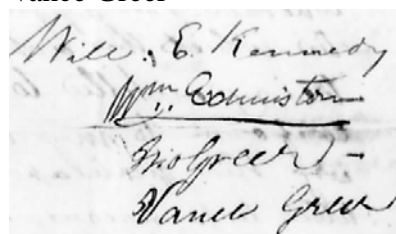
And further we do certify that they are in reduced circumstances, & from our own knowledge, do stand in need of the assistance of their country. July 20th, 1819

William E Kennedy

William Edmiston

John Greer

Vance Greer

A photograph of a document showing four handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The signatures are arranged vertically and are: William E. Kennedy, William Edmiston, John Greer, and Vance Greer. The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

I am very intimately acquainted with the above named Gentlemen; all of whom are citizens of Lincoln County Will E Kennedy is a lawyer of respectability – William Edmiston, our current representative in the State Legislature – John Greer Brigadier Genl., on the militia establishment; and Vance Greer, a very respectable merchant of Fayetteville – I believe the statement by them above made as much as if they had sworn to it; & though not strictly regular, yet think proper to transmit this paper, not as proof to the Secretary of War of the indigent circumstances of the applicant; but as a part of the foundation upon which I have framed my certificate of indigence. Indeed these Old men have had to walk with their staff as their only support near thirty miles, in order to see me upon this subject; & I have no hesitation in pronouncing them in miserably indigent circumstances. I should have made out a certificate to that effect in the first instance; & transmitted it with the papers heretofore sent on; except for the circumstance of having believed (as I still do) that the act of Congress only required my certificate of the applicants' service; and left it with the Secretary to decide, from the evidence transmitted whether the applicant was of that character which the act of Congress points out as being entitled to pensions” However I will conform to my instructions; although in doing this perhaps many persons who are entitled to

¹ [David Dodd S38670](#)

² [Jesse Dodd S39453](#)

pensions, will never get them; in as much as they are Strangers to me, and I can know nothing of their circumstances, except from the information of those persons whose testimony I transmit.
28th of July 1819

Alfred M Harris

NB: I live in the town of Pulaski; and would be thankful that returns of paper be made to that place

AWH

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State of Tennessee Lincoln County} Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions – July Term 1820

On this 22nd day of July 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record prescribed by statute and of unlimited civil jurisdiction on the law side of said Court, for the County aforesaid Aaron Woosley about sixty seven years of age on the 11th day of February 1821 [could be 1820] resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, declare that he served in the revolutionary war, as follows, to wit, that he enlisted in January 1776 in Captain James Harris Company for three years of the fifteenth Virginia Regiment in the Continental establishment commanded by Colonel Beauford & was discharged in January 1779, he again enlisted in June 1780 during the war in Captain James Gun's troop of horse of the first Virginia Regiment horse in the Continental establishment commanded by Colonel White and he was discharged by Captain Hughes at the close of the war in Charlestown South Carolina on the 5th day of July 1782 he was in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown & Monmouth and I do solemnly swear that I have been placed on the pension list roll of West Tennessee agency being number 14,879 and that I made my original declaration for a pension on the 15th day of September 1818 and that I have no particular trade or profession & my family consists of myself who are considerably disabled, by reason of a wound in the right shoulder by a sword received in scouting party in the State of Georgia and my wife aged 56 years, very feeble & unhealthy and one daughter named Susanna aged fifteen years, able to support her self, and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

S/ Aaron Woosley, X his mark

one old horse, one old saddle, one old bridle, six head of Cattle being two Cows, three yearlings, one Calf, eleven head of hogs, to wit, one sow, five shoats & five Pigs, one plough, two pair drawing Chains, two hoes, one iron wedge, one ax, one pewter dish, six pewter plates, six delph plates, five cups & saucers, six knives & forks, one washing Tub, one pale, one pigan & one table.

A true schedule of all my property my wearing cloths & bedding & the necessary wearing cloths and bedding of my family excepted.

S/ Aaron Woosley, X his mark

[The court valued the property has scheduled at \$60]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 25, 1818, for 3 years service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

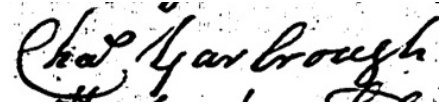
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Addendum to Aaron Woosley S39134

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 23 Sep 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Certified that Aaron Woosley was enlisted as a soldier in the 1st Regiment of Light Dragoons the fifth of August 1780 and Serv'd. till the Close of the war & Rec'd. no pay
Chas Yarbrough [Charles Yarbrough BLWt1923-200] Lt.
1st Reg't LC
Feb'y 26th 1784

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chas Yarbrough". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a large initial "C" and "Y".