

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Worsley S42081

Transcribed by Will Graves

f9NC

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

Original Claim

Declaration of Thomas Worsley in order to be placed on the Pension list, under the Act of 18th March 1818.

State of North Carolina, Beaufort County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term A.D. 1830

On this 25th day of August in the year 1830, personally appeared here in open Court, the Chairman & Associate Justices presiding, being a Court of Record for said County – to wit, Thomas Worsley, resident of said County; aged Seventy-one years; who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818; and the 1st May 1820; that he, the said Thomas Worsley, entered the Army of the Revolution on the 10th of June 1778, on a nine months tour of Service, in the State aforesaid, in the Company commanded by Captain David Roach, who was soon afterward transferred to the Company commanded by Captain Michael Quinn in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Hogan [sic, James Hogun] in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment; and that he continued to Serve in said Corps until about the first of June in the year 1779, when he was discharged from the service at Halifax in the State aforesaid: his principal service was at Philadelphia -- & West Point in the State of New York: That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension, except the present; that his name is not in the roll of any State except that of the State of North Carolina – and that the following are the reasons for his not making earlier application for a pension: to wit, that he did not feel willing to apply for the bounty of his Country, so long as he could do without it but my advanced age & the infirmities attending it, have rendered him unable to labor, and made the assistance of his Country requisite for the Comfort of the evening of his life.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, the said Thomas Worsley doth further swear, that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, sale or other wise disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself 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 h has not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the following schedule, to wit, His wearing apparel & nothing else – His occupation when he was able to labor, was that of a farmer, in the small way & for many years, he has been indebted to the kindness of friends for a small & poor place serving him little besides a shelter, a small patch & a garden & has been aided by a Son to make out a scanty subsistence. His family consists of himself, his wife Joanna Worsley aged 61 years & now & for many years has been, & will be a cripple for life – and an old Negro

woman lent him by his son to assist him to live. That no other changes have been made in his property since the 18th of March 1818 except that in the year 1822 he gave his son when he expected to die in a few days, 12 cows & calves, three beds, two tables, eight country made chairs and a few articles of kitchen furniture, the kind not now recollected, but probably such as a man, in his indigent circumstances would have; the use & enjoyment of which however his son has permitted him to keep and enjoy the benefit of, and the reason of this gift was this – many years ago, to wit, in 1808, when he was then far better circumstances he gave to his daughters on their marriage, two beds and six shares worth not more than \$40 & 10 head of cows & calves of the value of \$60 – and this latter gift to his son, was intended as some measure of equal justice to him: the entire value of the gift to his, was perhaps \$200, or nearly, & the use of it since that day has kept him and his family from suffering – illy able as they have been to do hard or productive labor since that time.

S/ Thomas Worsley

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Worsley". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Worsley".

The foregoing Sworn to & declared in open Court by the said Thomas Worsley. This 25th of November 1830.

S/ Wm Ellison, Clk

[Reading Grist, Esqr., “an old and very estimable Citizen of the said County” gave a supporting affidavit as to his belief of the revolutionary services rendered by Thomas Worsley in the 9-months service as well as other short tours in emergencies as a volunteer.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 27, 1830, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina Continental line.]