

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

Pension Application of Wilson Roberts S6027

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 March 2012.

Virginia

At a circuit superior court of Law & chancery held for Albemarle county the thirteenth day of October 1832

State of Virginia County of Albemarle

On this day 12th of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before Lucas P. Thompson Judge of the circuit superior court of Law & chancery for said county, now sitting

Wilson Roberts a resident of said county and state aged seventy years 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 was born in the county of Albemarle and State of Virginia and entered the service in the war of the revolution under Lieutenant Robert Jouett for Eighteen months and was marched with a company of new recruits in the United States service to Fredericksburg – there they rendezvous'd on the 25 of April 1779. The new recruits were laid off in divisions and marched from there to Baltimore. The division that he marched in was commanded by a Lieut. or Captain Howard [sic: Thomas Hord] from thence they were sent by water to near the head of Elk [present Elkton MD], under the same officer. The vessel running aground they were landed and marched through Delaware to a Tavern of the sign of the Blue Ball 18 miles from Philadelphia. there they were ordered back to the South, when ordered to the South they came by Fredericksburg on to Richmond and Petersburg, at which latter place they were laid off into Regiments s'd. Roberts belonged to the 3^d. Regiment of the Brigade which s'd. Regiment was commanded by Col. Abraham Burford [sic: Abraham Buford] (called Bluford) The Brigade was commanded by Gen'l. [Charles] Scott –

They staid at Petersburg until about the middle of March 1780 – about this time there were two field Peices wanting at Charleston, South Carolina, and a company volunteer'd out of the Regiment to guard them of which company s'd. Roberts was one – The company of volunteers was commanded by the above mentioned Capt. Howard Sometime after the company left Petersburg. The remainder of the Regiment left that place for the South, the company of volunteers went within 25 miles of Charleston – which place was beseiged by the British at the time [from late March till the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780]. They then retreated to the Santee River, where he thinks they joined the regiment they belonged to – from there the whole Regiment retreated to Camden [SC] towards Salisbury North Carolina. The next day after leaving Camden they were overtaken by the British Light Horse and Infantry under command of Col. [Banastre] Tarleton at a place called Hanging Rock or Watau settlement [sic: Waxhaws SC 12 mi N of Hanging Rock] he thinks about the 29th May 1780. Where they had an engagement which resulted in the defeat of Col Burford and the Americans. There were nearly Five hundred in the Regiment he thinks. He is not positive of the exact number that escaped but it was a general chat among the remnant of them that there was not more than twenty five that got entirely clear – After this he found his way to Salisbury North Carolina where a remnant of the regiment had gathered, and from thence they proceeded to Chesterfield Ct. House in the State of Virginia at which place the regiment was again made up and ordered back to Hillsborough North Carolina still under the command of Col. Burford where he was discharged by said Colonel which discharge he is unable at this time to say what became of –

About September 1781 he was drafted from the County of Albemarle to serve two months in the Militia and marched under Capt. Robert Sharp (he forgets the names of the Colonel but he thinks it was Richardson [probably Holt Richardson]) to the city of Richmond and thence to Williamsburg on to York

Town where Cornwallis was besieged at the time – shortly after he arrived at York Town Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781] and he was then ordered back to Richmond to guard some prisoners or refugees – at which latter place he was discharged by a Capt. Falkner [sic: Faulkner] of the Virginia Militia -, but he has lost his discharge long since. he is not positive whether the tour in the Militia was for two or three months, but he rather thinks that it was for two – He was born the 13th day of May 1762 according to the family register – he lived in the county of Albemarle state of Virginia when called in the service and has lived there ever since – He has stated that he enlisted the first tour for Eighteen months and was drafted next in the Militia for two he would refer to Thomas W Gilmer one of the delegates from the county, and Alexander Garrett or Ira Garrett clerks of the circuit and county courts.

Wilson Roberts

The following questions were propounded to the applicant by the court

Where and in what year were you born

A I was born in Albemarle county Va. on the 13th May 1762.

Q. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A I have a record of my age in my bible at home

Q Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war & where do you now live?

A When called into service I lived in Albemarle county Va and have lived in said county ever since the revolution where I now live.

Q How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

A. I enlisted in the first tour – and was drafted in the remaining tours –

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such continental and militia regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A In the first tour I marched under Lieutenant Robert Jouett from the county of Albemarle to the town of Fredericksburg where the company was laid off into divisions & marched to Baltimore under Lieut. or Capt. Howard – at Petersburg the company was laid off into regiments – I belonged to the 3^d. Regiment of the Brigade which Reg't. was commanded by Colonel Abraham Burford (or Bluford) & the Brigade by General Scott.

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

A I received a written discharge from service from Col. Burford or Bluford, which is lost.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character as to veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution

I refer to Tho W Gilmer one of the Delegates from the county – Alex Garrett clerk of the court and Ira Garrett who know me and can testify to my character as to veracity and to Thomas Burton [pension application W5236] as to my services

We John Goss a clergyman residing in the county of Albemarle and State of Virginia and James Jarman residing in s'd. County do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Wilson Roberts who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be 70 years of age that he is respected and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion – John Goss Jas Jarman

Thomas Burton being duly sworn saith that he was with the applicant Wilson Roberts in the service during the revolution that he rendezvous'd with him on the 25th of April 1779 – under General Charles Scott, and marched to the northward near Philadelphia to a place called the Blue Bowl Tavern near Chester thence he returned southward to Petersburg Virginia where he arrived on the 11th day of June 1779 – s'd. Roberts was with him they were stationed together in the same company at that place until

the month of March 1780 – s'd. Roberts then marched to the south under Capt. Howard this affiant did not see the s'd. Roberts again until his return after Bufords defeat when he well recollects the service of s'd. Roberts as he was with him–