

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Hoffman S8735

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia. Ohio County SS. On this 17th day of May 1833 personally appeared before the Circuit Superior Court of Law & Chancery for the County of Ohio aforesaid, John Hoffman, a resident of the Town of Wheeling in the County aforesaid, aged Seventy one 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted as a Soldier in the month of January or February 1779, to serve in the Regiment of Guards, at the Albemarle Barracks in Virginia, that was raised to guard the prisoners of Burgoyne's Army [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and brought to Albemarle Barracks in Jan 1779], that at the time of enlisting in the Regiment aforesaid, he was a Resident citizen of Culpeper County in the State of Virginia aforesaid, and was enlisted by and in the company of Captain John Roberts [pension application W2347], who soon after [on 5 Mar 1779] received a Major's Commission in said Regiment - and Captain [James] Purvis, commanded the Company in his place, that he served in said Regiment, which was commanded by Col. Francis Taylor, from the time of his enlistment aforesaid, until some time in May 1781, when he was discharged at Winchester Virginia, by s'd. Col. Taylor, that his discharge was in writing, but the same has been lost by time and accident. That whether said Regiment of Guards was raised by the State of Virginia, or by the United States, he does not now recollect, but thinks [correctly] it was by the former.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. John hisXmark Hoffman

I [John Roberts] do hereby certify that I enlisted John Hoffman as a Soldier in the month of January or February 1779 to serve in the regiment of Guards at the Albemarle Barracks in Virginia, that was raised to guard the prissoners of Burgoyne's Army, and that the same Hoffman served faithfully as a soldier in said Regiment untill some time in May 1781 at which time he was discharged at Winchester Virginia by Colo Francis Taylor who Commanded said regiment

Given under my hand and seal this 28th day of March 1833

Jno Roberts Maj'r of late Reg't. of Guards

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.]

John Hoffman. Served two years. draws \$80. p annum

I the undersigned John Hoffman, give the following narative of my Revolutionary services as a soldier & statement of my age to wit. I was seventy three years old the 16th of April last. am a native of Pensylvania. when 16 years old I went with my father and his family from Pa. to Culpepper County Va. after the war closed I returned to pa. about 13 yrs. since I came to this place (Wheeling) sometime in January or February 1779. I Enlisted under Capt John Roberts of Culpepper county to remain in service as long as Burgoins Prisseners should be kept in Virginia - I was take to Albemarl Barracks and attached to Capt. Purvis's company - and remained there until we were driven away by Tarleton. when Tarleton came near the barracks, we retreated to the Winchester Barracks [sic: see note below] after being at the barracks at Winchester about 6 mos. months [sic] I was discharged I think I was discharged in April 1781. - Col Taylor commanded at Albemarl Barracks. John Roberts by whom I was Enlisted, was promoted to a Majority, and held that command at the Barracks. the retreat before stated was made under the direction & command of Col. Taylor. - I proved my Enlistment and services by Major John Roberts of Culpepper cty. the same by whom I was Enlisted - his affidavit is attached to my Declaration - after leaveing the Winchester Barracks as before stated I joined Genl. Lafayette

army first as a substitute & then as volunteer & served with him under Capt White for 6 mos. and was at the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. this latter service was not mentioned in my Declaration. I was told by Mr. Atkinson who wrote my Declaration it would be unnecessary to mention it in as much as I could not prove it. In Witness off all which I hereto subscribe my name July 2, 1835.

Witness N. Goff [Nathan Goff, Pension Agent at Clarksburg]

John Hoffman

A Copy W. G Singleton July 5, 1835

NOTE: On 20 Feb 1781 the Hessian prisoners were taken from Albemarle Barracks and marched to Winchester Barracks to avoid their recapture by the British. Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton did not enter Virginia until May 1781, and he did not raid Albemarle County until the following June 4.