

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Richardson S9075

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 29 July 2014.

State of Virginia } SS

County of Patrick }

On this 11th day of October 1841 personally appeared before the undersigned Justice of the County Court of Patrick County State aforesaid (it being a Court of Record) Thomas Richardson a resident of the said County and State aforesaid aged 79 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

This declarant states that he was drafted into the service of the United States in the County of Halifax State of Virginia (where he then resided) in the fall of the year 1780 and was attached to a company of Militia commanded by Captain Edmond King who immediately marched to the south to join the Southern Army under the command of general [Horatio] Gates. They joined Gates's Army at Hillsborough North Carolina. shortly after they joined this army General Green took command of the same [sic: Nathanael Greene at Charlotte NC, 3 Dec 1780]. in a short time they marched to the south and was for a while stationed on the Bank of the Pede [sic: Great Pee Dee River in South Carolina] oposite the Cheraw from thence they marched to Hixes ford [sic: probably a ford of Hicks Creek near Cheraw] there remained untill news of a reinforcement to the British Army reach General Green [see endnote], which caused him to leave there [28 Jan 1781] closely pursued by the British after they crossed the Yadkin River about 8 miles from Salisbury in N. C. [8 Feb] this applicant was discharged and made his way home. he does not recollect precisely when he entered the service nor the day of the month he was discharged, but he knows he had served over his three months tour when discharged but not knowing how long over, he only claims for three months service

Ques by the Magistrate – did you not get a written discharge

Answer no I got no written discharge for this tour, we were so closely pursued by the british that there was no time for writing discharges

this applicant states that he had not been at home but a few days before he entered the service again, as a Volunteer under Captain John Thomson who raised a company of Volunteers to join Greens Army who was retreating before the British. there they immediately march off crossed Dan River at Irwin's ferry [in Halifax County VA just upstream from present South Boston] marched to a River called Hico [sic: Hyco] from there to the Red House from there to the Battle of Guilford [sic: Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] in this Battle his captain (Capt. Thompson, was killed). after the battle was over and Greens army was again united this declarant was placed under the command of Capt. Wakly in the Regiment command by Major Rose [sic: Alexander Ross]. this applicant states that he was then marched from Deep River to South Carolina to the wax haws [sic: Waxhaws] camden, Rugely Mills [sic: Rugeley's Mills 12 mi N of Camden], fort granby [on Congaree River] and ninety six after leaving ninety six they march to the High Hills of Santee where this applicant was discharged on the 28th day of July 1781 as his discharge will show signed by Major Alex Rose and herewith enclosed to the war department [discharge not found in the file]

Question was you in any battles during this tour of duty and if so where were they – Answer I was at the battle of Guilford Waxhaws near Camden [see endnote] and ninety six [Siege of Ninety Six, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] and several other engagements during this tour of service, but was never in the heat of battle was either upon some outpost or taking care of the baggage or some other duty

Question where and in what year were you born

Answer – I was born in Halifax Va on the 3rd day of June 1763

Question – have you any record of your age and if so where is it. Answer I have my age recorded in my

Bible

Question – where was you living when you entered the service and where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live

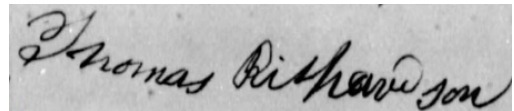
Answer – I lived in the County of Halifax when I entered the service and lived there and in Pittsylvania County ever since till about three year ago I moved to this county where I now reside–

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served and the names of such other officers as you can recollect Answer– in addition those already named I recollect Col [William] Washington [Gen. Francis] Marion [Col. Otho Holland] Williams and others but I do not know whether they were regular officers or officers of the Militia the declarant states in the last mentioned tour of service he must have entered the service the first of March 1781 and having continued in the service to the 28th day of July making four months and 28 days and three months the first tour making in the whole 7 months and 28 days without allowing time to get home from South Carolina were he was last discharged which must have taken ten days if it is right to charge the time in coming home he claims eight months and eight days if not allowed for coming home he was seven months and 28 days in actual service for which he claims a Pension he further states that knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services

Question why have you not made application for a Pension before now Answer – a gentleman in Halifax County shortly after the passage of the law giving pensions to the Militia proposed to make out my Declaration but said he would charge me half what would be conveyed to me. I refused to give it to him then being able to work for a living. I thought I had as well gave it to the government as to that gentleman. But I am not now able to work on account of old age and infirmity and should be glad to get help from the government

the applicant states that he is not able to attend the Court on account of bodily infirmity he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension, or an annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state of United States Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid

Martin Cloud JOP}

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Richardson".

NOTES:

The reason Gen. Greene left the winter encampment at Cheraw Hills was not a reinforcement of the British army, but to aid Gen. Daniel Morgan's troops that were being pursued by Cornwallis's after his Battle of Cowpens on 17 Jan 1781.

The Battle of Waxhaws occurred on 29 May 1780, not during the three-months tour that Richardson served.