

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Underwood W1003

Susan Underwood f106NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/1/17

[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.]

[p 7]

State of Tennessee, Anderson County} SS

On this second day of March 1841 Susan Underwood a Resident of Anderson County aged eighty-eight years, who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled, "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows," that she is the widow of William Underwood a Captain in the light horse militia in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War she cannot give any particular Service rendered by her said Husband. She heard him speak in his lifetime of being in several engagements with the enemy she cannot give the day nor month when he entered or left the service of her own knowledge. She believes that he belonged to Colonel Mat. Armstrong's [sic, Martin Armstrong's] Regiment the Number not known. He resided in Surry [County] North Carolina at the time he entered the Service. She cannot give any particular battles he was in she heard him speak of being in several battles, she cannot tell through what section of the Country he marched, affiant believes that said William Underwood entered the service the 27th of January 1780, and in evidence of the time he entered the service she would also the following Receipts, Certificates, and orders to wit

1st a Receipt Underwood 1st a Receipt from William Adkins for fourteen days service in the light horse dated 10th of February 1780, fourteen days from the date of the receipt would make back to day 27th of January 1780 at which date affiant believes her said Husband was in actual serviceable

2nd a Receipt from John Kirby for fifty pounds in part of his wages for Light Horsing under said Underwood dated the 19th of December 1780 which would make from the 27th January 1780 the term she believes he was in service from the showing of Adkins receipt the period of his actual service Eleven months, wanting eight days.

Applicant is also advised and believes when the pay Received by John Kirby are computed at what then allowed Light Horsemen for services would show that said Underwood were in actual Service the length of time shown stated.

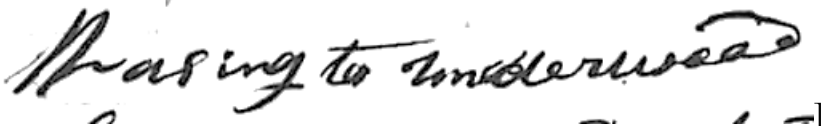
3rd Applicant would also offer the following as corroborating evidence in support of her claim, a Receipt from Moses Harris to said Underwood in full satisfaction for fifty-six days service done in the year 81 [could be 80] as a light Horseman, also a certificate statement signed officially by said Underwood which shows that he had a Company of Light Horse Militia and that Moses Snow ought to have been returned on pay Roll but were not by reason of a mistake pay Roll dated 1st February 1781, she also offers a Receipt from his Colonel Martin Armstrong, which will show that said Underwood had 12 months men & that the Colonel received three of said soldiers who his Colonel orders calling on him for himself & late drafts also a certificate of

his good Character also a Receipt for a Portion of his soldiers for their pay Tickets, but affiant relying principally on John Kerby's Receipt as showing the period of actual service performed by her said Husband. Affiant believes when said Kerby's Receipts are considered showing that he rendered services under said Underwood as a light horse man to entitle him to receive fifty pounds, and computing that sum at what affiant is advised would be the pay and bounty of a Light Horse Militia man was as she believes showed that the said Underwood is entitled to a credit for a Period of actual service of Ten months & 21 days affiant has no other Documentary evidence in support of the actual service of her said Husband neither does she know of any Person by whom she can prove any part of her claims. She further declares that she was married to the said Underwood in Surry County North Carolina on the 28th of February 1782, and that her maiden name was Susan Kerby by which name she were fully known & that her said Husband died on the 20th day of December 1814, that she has remained a widow ever since the death of her Husband that she was not married to the said William Underwood prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated she has no Record of her marriage she offers in evidence the family Register & births of her Children which Register will show that John Underwood the eldest Child were born the 24th of November 1782, which will also show when her said Husband died which appears to be on the 20th December 1814. She also office a Copy of said Underwood's Will which shows that he recognized applicant as his wife but a few days before his death also the affidavit of David Wallace which shows that she has remained a widow ever since the death of her said Husband.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the day & year above written.
S/ Richard Oliver, JP

S/ Susan Underwood, X her mark

[p 11: On May 5, 1853, Washington Underwood, son of William and Susan Underwood filed a petition in Anderson County, Tenn., seeking arrearages due his Mother. He says he understood his father to have served as a Captain of Light Horse under Colonels Lewis and Williams [Joseph Williams of Surry County]. Washington claims that he and his sister Elizabeth Sharp are the only surviving heirs of Susan Underwood.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Washington Underwood". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[p 15: On November 15, 1853, in Sevier County, Tenn., John Underwood, 86, brother of William Underwood, files a supporting affidavit saying he knows of his own knowledge that his brother Captain William Underwood served in the Revolution as a Captain of Cavalry in both Morgan and Salisbury 'districts'. And that Susan Underwood was his widow. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[pp. 21-23 Last Will and Testament of William Underwood in which he names his 'beloved wife' Susanna to whom he bequeathed a negro man named Jack; his daughters Betsy and Sucky; son, Washington; grandsons, Sevier Underwood and Haywood Underwood, sons of John and James Underwood]

[William Underwood was born February 17 or 18, 1756, son of John and Margaret Underwood. Married Susan (Susanna) Kerby February 28, 1782 in Surry County, NC; died December 20, 1814; Susan and William Underwood had to following children:

John born November 24, 1782
 James born December 31, 1783
 ___ boy born April 13, 1785, died in 1794
 William born January 5, 1788, died in March, 1813
 Betsey or Elizabeth born November 11, 1790
 Susannah or Sucky born February 4, 1795
 Washington warned December 1, 1796

Susan Underwood died March 5, 1851 survived only by Washington Underwood and Elizabeth Sharp or Sharpe.

William Underwood they had at least two brothers, one named John Underwood who was 86 years old and 1853 living in Sevier County Tennessee and a brother named Thomas Underwood, then 83 years of age.]

[p 32]

“December the 18, 1780 [illegible] of Wm Underwood the Sum of 50 pounds for Part of My Wagers [sic] for Light horsing In the [several illegible words] under the Said Underwood.

Received by Me John Kerby

Test: S/ Christopher Kerby”

A handwritten receipt on aged paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "December the 18 1780 the sum of 50 pounds for part of my wagers for light horsing in the [illegible] under the said Underwood. Received by Me John Kerby. Test: Christopher Kerby." The signature "Christopher Kerby" is written in a larger, bolder cursive at the bottom left.

[p 33]

“State of No. Carolina
 Surry County March 27th 1786

Present may Certify that Moses Snow served as a soldier in My Company of Horse Militia and found Himself a Horse the term of Twenty two days and also Certify that the sd. Snow Should Have Been Returned on Pay role Dates February 1st 1781—But Was not Returned By Reason of a Mistake.

S/ Wm Underwood, Capt.”

A handwritten certificate on aged paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "State of No. Carolina 27th March 1786. Present may certify that Moses Snow was found in My Company of Horse Militia and found himself a horse the term of twenty two days and also certify that the sd. Snow should have been returned on pay role dates February 1st 1781 but was not returned by reason of a mistake. Wm Underwood Capt." The signature "Wm Underwood Capt." is written in a larger, bolder cursive at the bottom right.

[p 36]

August the 23 178?

Received of William Underwood full Satisfaction for fifty Six Days [indecipherable] as a Light horseman under said Underwood's command in the year '80—Moses Harris

?

Wm Shepperd 1780

3rd

August 23 1780

Received of William Underwood
full Satisfaction for fifty Six Days
as a Light horseman under said Underwood's command
in the year '80—Moses Harris

Wm Shepperd 1780

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“Surry County May 11th 1781 Rec'd of Capt. William Underwood three Soldiers part of his Twelve Month Men 5th S/ Martin Armstrong, Col.”

Surry County May 11 1781
Rec'd of Capt. William Underwood
three Soldiers part of his Twelve Month
Men

Martin Armstrong Col.

5th

[p 52: Largely illegible receipt signed by William Adkins]

Received of...
fourteen days in the...
under the command of...
Delivered by me
William Adkins

[p 54]

“June 29th 1781 [? date unclear]

Sir

On Receipt of this you will order
The late Draughts [sic, draftees] to meet at the Shallow
ford Ready to march to Salisbury by the
2nd of next month, The orders are very
pressing and so insist on you to Sur [?]
That the men are well armed with four
Days provisions and appear your
self in person & Deliver your men Agree
=able to Law, herein Dont fail at your
Piral [sic, Peril] S/ Martin Armstrong, Col.
Capt. Underwood”

On Receipt of this you will order
The late Draughts to meet at the Shallow
ford Ready to march to Salisbury by the
2^o of next month, The orders are very
pressing and so insist on you to see
That the men are well armed with four
Days provisions and appear your
self in person & Deliver your men Agree
=able to Law, herein Dont fail at your
Peril
Capt. Underwood
Martin Armstrong Col.

[pp: 88 & 92 & 101 NC Comptroller's certificate of amounts paid to William Underwood during the Revolution.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$300 per annum commencing March 4, 1836 for her husband service as a Captain in the North Carolina militia. The amount of her pension was initially \$150 per annum.]