

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Williams¹ W1119

Nancy Williams f64NC[VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/6/17

[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 6]

State of Tennessee, Knox County} SS

On this 16th day of October 1832 Personally appeared at his own house before me John Mynatt one of the acting Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for said County (it being a court of Record) Benjamin Williams a resident of said County and State (who is entirely unable to attend Court on account of his age and bodily infirmity) in the County of Knox and State of Tennessee aged 91 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He lived within about six miles of the town of Abingdon in the State of Virginia the name of the County at that time not recollected at which place in or about the 20th day of July 1776 he volunteered for a three months tour against the British and Indians under Captain Benjamin Grey in Colonel Christie's [William Christian's] Regiment of Militia Rendezvoused at a place near Abingdon we lay there till our time was out in reconnoitering the Country round there in quest of Indians and had several skirmishes with the Indians but no regular battle he was honorably discharged at the said Fort about the 20th of October 1776 he got a written discharge which was signed by Captain Grey what is since lost or mislaid he served at this tour three months. He then removed from Virginia into the State of North Carolina on the waters of Nolichucky River near Washington County State of Tennessee at which place on or about the first day of March 1777 he volunteered for a six months tour against the Indians under Captain John Clark in Col. John Sevier's Regiment of Militia Rendezvoused at John Williams place on Chucky River we were stationed at that place to our time was out and marched through the country round about there in quest of Indians we had several skirmishes with the Indians we killed some and took several prisoners at which place on or about the first day of September 1777 he was honorably discharged his discharge was signed by said Captain Clark but is now lost or mislaid he served at this time six months and he served in the whole nine months.

He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Benjamin Williams, X his mark

S/ John Mynatt, a Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for the said County of Knox and State of Tennessee

¹ BLWt26213-160-55

[Samuel Love, a clergyman, and Thomas Hall both of Knox County Tennessee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: On September 5, 1853, Nancy Williams, 50, a resident of Knox County Tennessee filed an application for a widow's pension as the widow of Benjamin Williams stating that she married Williams on December 9, 1829 and that her husband died on June 5, 1835 in Knox County Tennessee. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 11: On March 27, 1855, Nancy Williams, aged about 55 years, filed an application in the state of Tennessee, Knox County claiming her bounty land rights as the widow of Benjamin Williams. She signed this application with her mark.]

[A large portion of this file relates to Nancy's efforts to have her pension reinstated after the Civil War. Documents in the file indicates that the widow's name prior to her marriage to the veteran was Nancy Israel.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia and North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount. After the end of the Civil War and her reinstatement to the pension rolls, her pension was increased to \$96 per annum.]