

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Estes W1160 Cynthia Estes VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Jan 2014.

State of Tennessee Lawrence County Circuit Court August Term 1832

On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before William C Kennedy Judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit of said State now holding the Circuit court for the County of Lawrence in said State now in session Thomas Estes a resident citizen of the county of Lawrence and State of Tennessee aged about seventy one years and was about fifteen years old at the Declaration of Independence but has no record of his age 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 to wit That he enlisted under Joseph Hopson first Lieutenant at the Town of Williamsburg State of Virginia for the term of one year in January 1777 in the 7th Virginia regiment of the Virginia Line and served under Captain William Moseley Col Joseph McClanahan [sic: probably Alexander McClenachan] and William Woodford Brigadier General that he was marched from Williamsburg to Baltimore Maryland where he was put in the place of William Hopson and served untill the 15th day of February 1778, in all a year & fifteen days when he was discharged at the Camp at Valley Forge State of Pennsylvania. that he also volunteered in the State of South Carolina Sumerset 14 miles south of Charlestown about the 1st of March 1780 [sic: 1779; see endnote] under Peter Rogers Captain Colonel David Mason [Virginia Militia] and General [Benjamin] Lincoln for the term of 7 months and at the end of seven months and ten days he was discharged at Hico River [sic: Hyco Creek] on the North Carolina line. that he again volunteered in the County of Halifax State of Virginia in March 1781 [sic: 1780] for the term of six months under Captain Paul Wadlington [Paul Watlington] Holt Richardson Colonel and Robert Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] General and at the end of said term lacking ten days he was discharged in Hillsboro [sic: Hillsborough] North Carolina having served in all two years one month & fifteen Days that he has no living witness in his power except the certificates of John Milham [sic: John Milam, pension application W9951]. That he was in the Battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777], Stono [Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779] and Gates' Defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] that he lost all his discharges at the burning of his house in Grainger County East Tennessee his discharges as well as he recollects were signed by W. Woodford, Wm Mosely & J Hobson when in the regular army and Paul Wadlington and Peter Rogers when a volunteer. 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 or territory Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid Thomas hisXmark Estes

NOTES:

If Estes had began a militia tour on 1 Mar 1780 under Gen. Benjamin Lincoln he would have been captured and paroled at the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780, and he would not have been able to serve again during the war. It is likely, therefore, that this tour was actually in 1779 and included the Battle of Stono Ferry, where Lincoln commanded and Col. David Mason served. The last tour probably also occurred a year earlier than stated, and included the Battle of Camden, where Capt. Paul Watlington, Col. Holt Richardson, and Gen. Edward Stevens also served.

On 21 May 1853 Cynthia Estes, age 90 of Hardeman County TN, applied for a pension stating that she married Thomas Estes on 1 July 1812, and he died in Lawrence County on 10 Sep 1833. Nancy Estes, about 58, certified that she had witnessed the marriage in Franklin County TN. On 2 June 1853 John Estes certified that had also been present at the marriage and also at the death of Thomas Estes. On 21 Mar 1855 in the same county Cynthia Estes applied for bounty land. A typed summary states that Cynthia Estes died 23 June 1855.