

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Roach W19930

Ruth

fn88NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/9/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County

On this 20th day of March 1846 personally appeared before the undersigned, one of the acting Justices of the peace and a member of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, in and for said County; Ruth Roach a resident of said County & State, aged eighty-nine years, who being first duly qualified according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the acts of Congress passed June 7th 1832, and July 4th 1836. That she is the widow of the late James Roach Deceased, who was a private & Waggoner in the War of the Revolution;

That her said husband James Roach to the best of her knowledge & belief, entered the service as a volunteer in the early part of the year 1781 under Captain William Bethell [sic, William Bethel]; of Guilford County North Carolina; and served a three months tour as Private; and when said three months tour expired, he volunteered and served a 3 months tour as Waggoner; which ended on the 4th of July in the same year; which is plainly shown by a Discharge which he received from one George Elliott; and is here with sent; and soon after returning from the last mentioned tour, he again volunteered as Private under Captain Abram Phillips of Guilford County, North Carolina; and served a three months tour; and in this Tour he marched to the South; and to the Raft Swamps in the Eastern Part of North Carolina; and during the time he was gone in this tour their first child William was born; and that he served in the Infantry and that she understood that he was in any Battle; the reason she supposes that her Husband said James Roach did not obtain a Pension in his lifetime, is that he was unlearned, could neither read nor even write his name; Though he made application to the Honorable Augustine H. Shepherd,¹ who at that time represented this District in Congress, to establish his claim on the government, for his Revolutionary services, and said Shepherd promised to assist

¹ Sic, SHEPPERD, Augustine Henry, a Representative from North Carolina; born in Rockford, Surry County, N.C., February 24, 1792; completed preparatory studies; studied law; was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Surry County, N.C.; member of the state house of representatives 1822-1826; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twentieth through Twenty-second Congresses, reelected as an Anti-Jacksonian to the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Congresses, and elected as a Whig to the Twenty-fifth Congress (March 4, 1827-March 3, 1839); chairman, Committee on Expenditures in the Department of the Navy (Twenty-first Congress), Committee on Expenditures in the Department of War (Twenty-second Congress), Committee on Expenditures in the Department of State (Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Congresses); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1838 to the Twenty-sixth Congress; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1841-March 3, 1843); chairman, Committee on Public Expenditures (Twenty-seventh Congress); elected as a Whig to the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Congresses (March 4, 1847-March 3, 1851); declined to be a candidate for reelection in 1850; resumed the practice of his profession; died at "Good Spring," Salem (now Winston-Salem), Forsyth County, N.C., July 11, 1864; interment in Salem Cemetery. <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=S000338>

him in the matter, but for some cause or other neglected to do so;

She further declares that she was married to the said James Roach, in the Fawl [Fall] of 1780 that her husband said James Roach died on the 23rd day of August in the year 1841 and that she has remained a widow ever since that Period; as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed;

That her original Family Record has gotten misplaced, and that she has calls a search to be made by the Clerk of Guilford County, for her Husband's said John Roach's Marriage License Bond which cannot be found; that her Eldest child William Roach was born in the fall of 1781 when her husband said James Roach was gone in the service of his country under Captain Abram Phillips.

Sworn to & subscribed this 20th day of March 1846 Before me

S/ A. P. Robertson, JP

S/ Ruth Roach, X her mark

[fn p. 16]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: March 20th A.D. 1846

Personally before me Thomas Roach one of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for said County, William Pirkle a resident of said County, & State, aged eighty years and made oath in due form of law, Viz.; That he was well acquainted with the late James Roach Deceased, and is also well acquainted with Mrs. Ruth Roach, widow of the said James Roach Deceased, that he knew the said James & Ruth Roach ever since his earliest Recollection; that he and the said Ruth Roach were schoolmates together that he remembers when said James & Ruth Roach were married; that he is under the impression that they were married before the Guilford Battle, and that he remembers of hearing the Cannon at the said Battle of Guilford; and that his father (to wit John Pirkle) was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was a tour under Captain Abram Phillips of Guilford County North Carolina, and he is under the impression that said James Roach was in said tour with his father and that they in said tour was marched to the Where I have Swamps.

Sworn to & subscribed this 20th day of march 1846 Before me

S/ Thos. Roach, JP

S/ William Pirkle

[fn p. 17, Daniel Hutson, 62, testified on March 20, 1846 in Rockingham him County that his father, Joel Hutson, removed from Bedford County Virginia and settled in Rockingham County North Carolina when deponent was only 9 years old that he knew James & Ruth Roach and their son William Roach who is 65 years of age.]

[facts in file: veteran married Ruth Spyles, Spiers or Spiars; she died June 9, 1847; James and Ruth Roach had the following children:

William born in the fall of 1781 and living in Rockingham County, NC in 1852

James

Thomas, their 8th child, who in 1851 was 52 years old and living in Rockingham County, NC

Nathaniel

Mary

Sarah

Katharine or Catharine

Lucy]

[fn p. 74: North Carolina Comptroller's certificate dated May 20, 1852 this thing a number of payments made to a James Roach for services in the revolution under Captain William Bethel and Captain Abraham Phillips.]