

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Nichols W19919

Anna Nichols

f37NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/26/17

[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.]

State of North Carolina, Wake County}

On this 8th August 1844 personally appeared before the Subscriber one of the Acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Wake, Mrs. Anna Nichols resident of said County aged 84 years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the 3rd Section of the Act of Congress passed the 4th of July 1836:

That she is the widow of William Nichols deceased late of the County of Wake State aforesaid; that her husband the aforesaid William Nichols, as she was informed by him, enlisted in the Continental line of North Carolina as a private soldier in the year 1777 for the term of two or three years, and served out his tour of enlistment, which terminated a short time before they were married: She is unable to state with any precision under what officers he served, but she knows he was absent from home in the service the length of time he stated, as they resided in the same neighborhood. That some time after his return from his enlistment of the period above stated, this declarant was married to the said William Nichols in the County of Wake, by Tignal Jones Esq. a Justice of the Peace; and their marriage took place in the month of December 1780. That she has no record of time of their marriage and the family record if any was ever made is now lost or mislaid. She recollects the time particularly from the age of her eldest child Elizabeth Hatley [?]¹ who is an her 63rd year, and she was born some 12 months after the marriage: William Nichols her late husband enlisted, or was drafted, again about eighteen months or thereabouts after her marriage with him, and served in Captain Rhodes [Joseph T Rhodes'] company, but did not serve the time for which he was drafted, having been absent from home only five or six months, and the period for which he enlisted or was drafted, she believes was for a much longer time: She is unable at this remote period of time, to state with any greater accuracy the terms of Service &c performed by her late husband William Nichols, and this statement is made from what he told her relative to his services and what she has learned from other persons: That her husband the said William Nichols died in the County of Wake on the 16th day of December 1831 in the 82nd year of his age, and that she has remained a widow ever since as will appear more fully from proof hereunto appended.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written before me.

S/ Tignall Jones, JP

S/ Anna Nichols, X her mark

Elizabeth Hatley

1

[John Nichols, 56, a nephew of William Nichols, gave a supporting affidavit as to the reputation of his uncle as a soldier of the revolution for terms served both before and after his marriage.

John Nichols]

[p 10, marriage bond given by William Nichols and James Brown for William's marriage to Anna Brown dated December 24, 1780. William signed the bond with an "X."]

[p 14]

State of North Carolina, Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that William Nichols a private Soldier in Captain ___ Company of the 10th Regiment entered the service on the 4th day of November 1777 for the term of three years – and that he was a prisoner 2nd June 1779, mustered again in November 1779, and that he enlisted again in August 1782 in Captain Rhodes company of the 10th Regiment for 18 months.

Given under my hand this 31st day of August 1844

S/ Wm Hill, Secry of State

[p 22: John Shaw, 70, of Wake County gave an affidavit in support of Anna Nichols' application stating his recollection of conversations with William Nichols regarding his Revolutionary services.]

[p 26]

State of North Carolina, Wake County }

On this 12th day of August 1844 personally appeared before the Subscriber an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the said County James Brown² resident of Wake County and a Pensioner of the United States as a Revolutionary Soldier, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith – That he was present when his sister Anna Brown (now Anna Nichols) was legally married to William Nichols in the month of December 1780 – That previous to that time, he had been acquainted with William Nichols, and though he was not with him in the Service, yet he well recollects that he was absent from home in the Service a long time, and on many occasions has he heard him narrate the events of the War, and the Service performed by him as described in the Declaration made by Mrs. Nichols in applying for a pension – He further states that after the marriage of his sister (Mrs. Anna Nichols), and William Nichols, that he (the said Nichols) was absent from home another tour of duty for several months, whether drafted or enlisted, he is unable to say, but believes it was the former period that thereabouts That Mrs. Anna Nichols now applying for a pension is the widow of William Nichols who is the identical person married to the said Nichols at the time above stated. That William Nichols died some time in the year 1831, and Mrs. Anna Nichols has remained a widow ever since.

S/ James Brown, X his mark

[p 29: On August 19, 1844 in Wake County North Carolina Samuel Chappell,³ a resident of Granville County, also gave an affidavit supporting Anna Nichols application stating that he knew that the said Nichols did serve in the service of the United States during the revolution and

2 [James Brown S6702](#)

3 [Samuel Chappell \(Chapel\) W6671](#)

that he often had conversations with William Nichols regarding his revolutionary services. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing December 16, 1831 for her husband service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina Continental line.]