

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Paul Tanner W26510 Mary Ann Tanner VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Jan 2022.

District of Columbia
Washington County SS

On this 9th day of August in the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight personally appeared before me, one of the Assistant Judges of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia Mary Ann Tanner a resident of George Town in the County of Washington in the District of Columbia aged seventy three 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 the 4th 1836 & the joint resolution of July 7th 1838: That she is the widow of Paul Tanner, who was a private of Cavalry & was in the Infantry at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & was made prisoner at Williamsburg & was in the Light horse at the seige of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], that he served to the end of the war she further declares that she was married to the said Paul Tanner in December in the year seventeen hundred and eighty four, That her husband, the aforesaid Paul Tanner died on the fifth of August in the year Eighteen hundred, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by a reference to the proof hereto annexed. Mary Ann herXmark Tanner

District of Columbia } SS.
Washington County }

On this third day of September in the year eighteen hundred and thirty eight before me William Cranch Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Mary Ann Tanner, a resident of Georgetown in the County of Washington & District of Columbia, aged seventy three years, who, being infirm & unable to appear in Court and 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 Paul Tanner who was a soldier in the Army of the Revolution That she knows nothing of her late husband service from her own knowledge, but that she has always understood and believes, both from him & from others that he entered the Army early in the revolution as a substitute first for William Huber and afterwards for Peter Due both of the Virginia Militia & was made a prisoner at Williamsburg Va. & that after he was exchanged he enlisted in the Cavalry and was at the Seige of York & served until the end of the war. That she recollects having heard that one of his Captains was named Valentine Payton [sic: Valentine Peyton BLWt2241-300, 3rd Virginia Regiment of Foot]. She further declares that she was married to said Paul Tanner on the twenty seventh day of December in the year seventeen hundred and eighty four – that her husband the said Paul Tanner died on the fifth day of August in the year eighteen hundred, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, seventeen hundred and ninety four; viz: at the time above stated, and that she has remained a widow ever since his death

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

The memorial of the heirs of Paul Tanner to the Hon. the Executive of the State of Virginia. Respectfully sheweth that your memorialist Thomas Tanner is a son of Paul Tanner, and that he has always understood and believed that his father enlisted in the army of the revolution, and Virginia Continental line early in the war, for during the war, & served until the end of the same, at which period he was a private in the Cavalry That your memorialist's father died many years go in Virginia, and left six sons and one daughter, all of whom except your memorialist are dead & died intestate, four of them leaving heirs & that your memorialist has further understood that his father's services entitled him to

bounty lands from the State of Virginia & therefore prays the Executive to direct the Register of the Land Office of Virginia to issue a warrant to himself and the other heirs for such land as they may be entitled to. Your memorialist would further beg leave to state that in consequence of his father's services his mother has been placed on the pension list of the United States Thomas hisXmark Tanner
[7 Jan 1839]

District of Columbia } Ss
Washington County }

Personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the County of Washington in the District of Columbia Thomas Tanner, who being first duly sworn on his oath says that he is the son of Paul Tanner, who he has always understood and believed to have been a soldier in the army of the Revolution, that his father died in virginia many years ago without making any will, that he left at the time of his death a widow, Mary Ann Tanner, this deponent's mother, who is yet living. that he also left six sons and one daughter. that three of the sons died intestate without ever having married. namely Richard, Paul, & William. That two of them married & died leaving heirs. viz. John who left four children named Richard, Susan, Mary Ann, & John. and Samuel who left two children named William George & Thomas. that the daughter's name was Ann, that she married James Crocker and died leaving four children; viz. James Crocker jr. Mary Ann wife of Thomas Sweeny, Martha Ann & Catherine Virginia Crocker. The deponent further says that the above named persons together with himself are all the heirs of the said Paul Tanner.
Thomas hisXmark Tanner

NOTES:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: Paul Tanner/ age 24/ height 5' 3"/ b. binder [book binder?]/ born in Dublin Ireland/ residing in Alexandria VA/ hair brown/ eyes gray/ complexion dark/ enlisted 1 Sep 1777 for duration of the war/ "Waggoner gone to the southward."

The name of Paul Tanner was also found on a list of soldiers in the office of the Treasurer of Virginia who received back pay on 1 June 1784.

On 7 Sep 1838 Mary Ann Tanner stated, and her son Thomas Tanner certified, that the record of her marriage had been lost by a granddaughter. Robert S. Reid of Fairfax County stated that as a neighbor of Mary Ann Walker he had personal knowledge of her marriage to Paul Tanner. Perry Hoskins stated that Paul and Mary Ann Tanner had several children in Fairfax County, and that Paul Tanner died there.