

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Welchons (Welschhans) W319 Rosanna Welchons PA
 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee }
 Washington County } On this the 26th day of June 1845 Personally appeared before Jacob Hyder an acting Justice of the Peace in the County aforesaid, Rosannah Wechhons, a resident of the State of Tennessee and citizen in the County of Washington, Aged seventy nine years who being 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 William Welchhons, who was a resident citizen of the county of York Penn, who afterwards enlisted under Cocstain Stake a Capt in the Penn. line, for eighteen months which time he served out marching to Philadelphia Boston and many other places not recollected. He other[?] was drafted in the State of Penn to go and subdue some unfriendly Indians that were hostile to our citizens on the frontiers, which service he performed in like manner. He then enlisted under Genl [Anthony] Wayne marched to Alexandria [VA] north [North Carolina?] South Carolina & Georgia. He then sic: see endnote] was marched to Yorke Town [Yorktown]. was in that engagement when Lord Corn Wallace surrendered [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781] During his service as a Soldier in the four and a half years which he served, He was taken prisoner by the Hessions [sic: Hessians] for some days, which enabled him to form some Idea of the condition of the Hession army. He was kept constantly guarded by Hessions. his cloths that were good was taken from him and others placed upon him that were full of lice, and in addition to that treatment he received a wound in his breast with the point of a Bayonet whilst he and his companion were prisoners under constant guard. He one night when all things appear to be silent slipted to the gate and found the sentinel fast a sleep which enabled him without the company of his friend to make his escape, as soon as he returned to the army he reported their condition to Genl Washington, who immedately made an attack upon them, and took them without much trouble [possibly Battle of Trenton, 26 Dec 1776], in consideration for information given Genl Washington proposed to release him from the engagement, but he being anxious to avenge himself upon the Hession that inflicted the wound upon his brest went on in the engagement until the victory was won. His poor friend was hung by the Hessions, as a proof of his services he received a land bounty from the united states which he disposed of many years ago his name will be found in the land office in Philadelphia on records

She further declares that she was married to the said William Welchhons in the fall of seventeen hundred and eighty seven, and that your husband the aforesaid William Welchhons died on the 21st day of July eighteen hundred & Twenty four, and 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

Rosannah herXmark Welchhons

First Regiment 1783

We and each of us whose names are hereunto subscribed, do acknowledge to have received from Major Thomas B Bowen [Thomas Bartholomew Bowen], and Captain Ercurius Beatty [Erkuries Beatty], Agents for the late Pennsylvania Line, the several sums opposite to our names respectively, in Certificates, dated July 1 1784 bearing interest at Six per cent from November the fourth 1783, signed by John Pierce Commissioner, and described as below, being for the balance of a Settlement between the United States and us for Pay to November 3rd 1783.

| Dates of issues | Names | Sums Dollars | 90ths | Signers |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------|----------------------|
| October 29 th 1775 | William Welshance | 40 | 60 | William X Willshanes |

[Certified by Auditor General's Office, Harrisburg PA, 6 Nov 1846]

Muster Roll of Captain Philip Albrights Comp'y of the Pennsylv'a. Reg't. of Riflemen now Commanded by Lt. Col. Broddhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] Camp near Kings Bridge [Kingsbridge] September 1st 1776

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Capt. Philip Albright | First Lie't John Johnson 2 ^d William McPherson 3 ^d Jacob Stake | |
| Privates 16 Michael Killian 17 Wm Welshance 18 Sam'l Woods [Samuel Woods] | | |

Mustered on the parade in Camp near Kings Bridge New York Capt. Philip Abrights Company. One Captain, two Lieutenants, two Sergeants, one Drummer, one Q'r. M'r Sergeant, and thirty eight privates. This muster taken from 1st August 1776 to 1st Septem'r following.

(Endorsed) Lod'k Sprogell M.M. [Lodowick Sprogell, Muster Master]

1st Sept 1776/ Rifle Regim't./ Capt. Philip Albright

[Extract certified in Secretary's Office, Harrisburg, 5 Nov 1846.]

Return of the Pennsylvania Line entitled to Donation Lands reported by the late Comptroler General

| Names | Rank | Regiment | Ac's [acres] | |
|-------------------|---------|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Welshance William | Private | 1 st Penn'a | 200 | drawn |

[Extract certified in Secretary's Office, Harrisburg, 5 Nov 1846.]

NOTES:

Gen. Anthony Wayne did not command in Georgia and South Carolina until after Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown.

The file contains a document certifying that Rosanna Welchons died on 29 Aug 1845 in Washington County at the home of her son, William Welchons.

On 21 Oct 1845 Jacob Fishel stated that his sister Rosanna Fishel married William Welchons, that they lived in York County PA for several years before moving near to Martinsburg (West) Virginia, then to Rockingham County, then to some other place in Virginia before moving elsewhere.

On 20 March 1848 William Welchans, Jr., stated that he was the only surviving heir of Rosannah Welchans, who lived with him until her death. He stated that he had only one brother, Jacob, the oldest child who left Virginia some 35 years before who would be about 60 if living, and one sister, older than himself and dead for about 30 years.

The file contains a baptismal certificate translated from German as follows: Wilhelm Welschanss was born in Virginia, in Perth [Bath?] County in [blank] township in the year after the birth of Christ 1793 the 20 of July. His parents were Wilhelm Welschanss and his wife Rosina née Fichel, was brought into holy baptism by Mr Kemp, reformed preacher, his godparents were William Toebler and Catharina Coppenheber.