

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Benjamin Hancock W5291 Susannah Hancock VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 July 2014.

State of Virginia }
Henry County } Ss.

On this 3rd day of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared before me Wm A Taylor a Justice of the peace for the County of Henry, Benjamin Hancock a resident of Henry County and State of Virginia aged seventy seven years, 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. That he was drafted and served two tours in the revolutionary war – That he was born in the County of Halifax, and was living in the County of Halifax when called into service. That in the first tour he served under Capt. Josiah Powel [probably Joshua Powell], Lieutenant Jacob Kelly, Major Jno Maberry [John Maberry] and General Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg], and was first drafted as well as he can recollect in the winter of the year 1781 [sic: probably 1780]. When engaged in the second tour, he was also a resident of Halifax County Virginia, his officers Capt'n Michael Roberts, Lieutenant Nathaniel Bates, under General [Robert] Lawson or in his brigade. In the first tour this applicant served at Portsmouth Virginia having marched by Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County VA], and through Smithfield Va. for the purpose of reaching the former place. In the second tour he marched from Halifax on through Petersburg, Newsom Springs, James Town, and thence across James River by old Williamsburg to York Town, where he saw the magazine blown up, and the place surrendered into the hands of the Americans [19 Oct 1781]. That he there served under the Continental and French troops under General Washington, whom he frequently saw. That in this tour he was drafted in the fall of the year 1781 while living in Halifax County Virginia. That the first tour at Portsmouth as well as the second at Yorktown consisted each of three months – That he received a discharge from Col Richardson [sic: Holt Richeson], but lost it not considering that it would ever prove of service to him, and that he has no documentary evidence of his service in the Revolutionary War.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed this 3d day of June in the year one thousand and eight hundred and thirty four. Benjamin hisXmark Hancock

Patrick County} Viz

This day [16 Jan 1836] personally appeared before me J Turner a Justice of the Peace for Patrick County in the State of Virginia, Moses Walden who being first duly Sworn according to law, doth on his oath depose & say, that he is well acquainted with Benjamin Hancock of the County of Henry and that he recollects well to have served a tour of Service in the Revolutionary War with the said Benj'm. at Portsmouth in the lower part of this State under Gen'l Mulenburg. I hereby further certify that this deponent Moses Walden, is a man of character and veracity, and that his statements are entitled to credit.

NOTE: On 10 Sep 1855 Susannah Hancock, 69, applied for a pension stating that as Susannah Martin she married was married to Benjamin Hancock by John Guillem, a Baptist minister, on 22 Sep 1803, and her husband died on 12 Aug 1837. On the same day she also applied for bounty land, stating that “she is sometimes called Sucky and sometimes Susan by her acquaintances and friends.” The file contains a copy of a bond signed on 21 Sep 1804 by Benjamin Hancock and John Gillington for the marriage of Hancock to Susannah Martin.