

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Absalom Rutherford W59

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } This day personally appeared before me George Graves and acting Justice of the  
Knox County } Peace for said County Absalom Rutherford a resident of said county – aged 69  
years – who being first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following decleration in  
order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

Decleration

This applicant swers, that he was born in 1763 in Albemarl [sic: Albemarle] County State of Virginia, and moved from that County to Wythe County [sic: formed in 1789 partly from Montgomery County] in said State of Va. where he enlisted, and was moved from there to Chesterfield Barron [barracks?] in same State by Alexander Ewin, at which place he was mustered into service for eighteen months under the command of Capt. William Bently [sic: William Bentley] – From thence he states, that, they marched down James River for the purpose of driveing Gen'l. [Benedict] Arnold – From thence he says they were ordered to march under the command of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and Colonel [John] Green to the South – Under their command he states, that they marched to the Cheraw Hills – at which place they remained untill the battle of the Cowpens were faught [17 Jan 1781] – From that place this applicant states, they were marched to gittin between the Prisoners and Cornwallace untill they crossed Dan River [14 Feb 1781] – there he says, they were reenforced and followed him [Cornwallis] back to Gilford, and faught the battle at that place [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] – From thence they followed him over Deep River – From that place this applicant further states, that they were marched to Camden South Carolina, and besieged it untill the battle was faught [Battle of Hobkirk Hill near Camden, 25 Apr 1781] – and that they remained there untill the British left it [9 May]. From thence they marched to Congaree River where a fort was taken [probably Fort Granby, 15 May 1781]. From thence they marched to Ninety Six and besieged it [22 May - 19 Jun 1781], at which place this applicant states, that his Capt. was taken prisoner; and he was placed under the command of Capt. Coward [sic: Francis Cowherd]. At which place they remained untill the arrival of Lord Rawden [sic: Francis Rawdon] a British commander. From thence he says, they marched to the High Hills of Santee in South Carolina at which place they remained untill they were rested. From thence they crossed the River and faught the battle at the Eutaw Springs [8 Sep 1781] – then returned to the High Hills. From thence to a place called the three holes [probably Four Holes in Orangeburg County]. From he further states, they marched to the right of Charlestown on the Savanna [sic: Savannah] River for the purpose of takeing a fort. And which time and place this applicant states his time expired – it being the last day of December 1781. From thence he was ordered to Salsbury [sic: Salisbury] North Carolina, where he received an honourable discharge. From thence he returned home – and after his return, he moved from the State of Virginia to Knox County in the State of Tennessee where he has lived ever since – it being about thirty three years since he moved to this State of Tennessee. He states, that he rec'd. his discharge and that it was afterwards sent to Richmond Virginia, and what became of it afterwards he does not know. He further states, that he belonged to the second Virginia Regment. This applicant further declares, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pention or anuity except the present – and declares also, that his name is not on the pention roll of any State or agency. He further states that he has been afflicted for a long time, and that at this time he is not able from bodily infirmity to attend any court of record in or out of the county. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1832.

George Graves

[signed] Absalom Rutherford

NOTES:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: Absalom Rutherford/ age 17/ height 5' 10"/ farmer/ born in Albemarle County/ residing in Montgomery County/ light hair/ gray eyes/ fair complexion/ enlisted 11 Sep 1780 for 18 months.

On 7 Aug 1843 Mary Rutherford, 73, applied for a pension stating that she married Absalom Rutherford in Feb 1790, and he died on 28 Jun 1841. On 15 May 1844 she applied again under a later act. On 28 Sep 1848 her age was given as 77. On an application for bounty land dated 24 Mar 1855 her age was given as 82. As proof of marriage she submitted a partly illegible family record taken from a bible, transcribed below.

Deliah Rutherford was Born April Ye 11<sup>th</sup> day in the year of our Lord 17 [last two digits now illegible, but a typed summary says 1793]

Ann Rutherford was born December the 9[?] day in the year of our lord 179 [typed summary says 1791]

polly Rutherford was [illegible] the 23 of February 1795

[illegible entry, but typed summary gives year as 1797]