

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Brooks W5908

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia, County of Charlotte towit:

On this 3<sup>d</sup> day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court before the County Court of Charlotte now sitting, William Brooks resident of the said County of Charlotte and State of Virginia, aged Seventy three 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 7, 1832

That he served three tours of two months each as a Common Soldier in the Virginia militia in the Revolutionary war

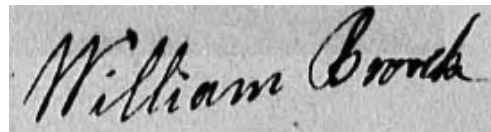
1<sup>st</sup>. In the year [blank], he does not recollect the year, but he recollects it was the year in which Wallace was taken at little york [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781], he the applicant was drafted from the County of Essex where he then resided and marched under the command of Capt Wm Gatewood [William Gatewood] & Lieutenant Richard Gwathmey Col. [Holt] Richardson. Genl Lafayette was the Commander in chief. during the time he was in Richmond the British army under Wallace was in Manchester on the opposite side of the River [James River, late May 1781]. They burnt the Tobacco that was in the warehouses in Manchester & marched out of the place. The American army then marched up the James River watching the movements of the enemy and continued in this service until the expiration of the two months when he was ordered home a Strange Sail having appeared in the Rappahannock; when he arrived at home the Sail had disappeared and the Company dispersed

2<sup>d</sup>. In a few weeks after he returned from the 1<sup>st</sup> Tour his brother Thomas Brooks was drafted and the applicant offered himself and was accepted as his substitute. The applicant at that time resided in the County of Essex, but his brother Thomas resided in the County of Richmond and was drafted from the county, he does not recollect the name of the Capt or any other officers of the Company. the Company was in service two months marching and scouring the country between the Rappahannock and Potomack [sic: Potomac] Rivers. at the end of the two months they were discharged but received no written discharge

3<sup>d</sup>. A short time after he returned from the 3<sup>d</sup> tour of only [sic] he was again called out and marched from the County of Essex under the command of Capt Wm Gatewood to the Siege of York and was there at the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, he was engaged in the service he thinks something above two months. he received no written discharge. Nor has he any documentary evidence of his service in either tour. he removed to the County of Charlotte about forty years ago where he has ever since resided and knows of no person now living by whom he can prove his service except Wm Cheaney who now resides in the State of Kentucky. He is acquainted with James McCargo, John Booth, Thomas Roberts and others who are willing to certify their belief of his service He was born in Essex in the year 1759. the record of his age is with his family in the County of Essex. There is no minister residing in his Neighborhood, nor does he know one whose certificate he can procure.

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 and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Brooks". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

NOTE: On 14 Aug 1838 Ann (Nancy) Brooks, 77, applied for a pension stating that she married William Brooks in May 1788, they moved to Charlotte County in the fall of the same year, and he died on 14 Oct 1836. She also stated that the family name was usually spelled "Brooks" but sometimes "Broocke." On 2 July 1849 John Brooks, 58, stated that Nancy Brooks died on 9 April 1849 leaving the following children besides himself: Frances Brooks, Elizabeth Brooks, William C. Brooks, and Catherine Roberts, all of legal age. The file includes a family record certified by John Broockes (as he signed) and transcribed below.

John Broocke the son of Wm. Broocke & anne his wife was born the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1790

frances Broocke the daughter of William Broocke \* anne his wife was born the 18 of November 1792

Elisebeth Broocke the daughter of Wm. Broocke & anne his wife was born the 29 of June 1796.

W;m C Broocke the son of W;m & ann his wife was Born 28<sup>the</sup> of July 1800.

James Broocke the son of W;m Broocke & ann his wife was Born thirsday 21<sup>the</sup> January 1802

Catharine Broocke the Daughter of W;m Broocke and anne his wife was born December the sixth one thousand Eight hundred and six