

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Southworth W6141

Lucy Southworth f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/17/12 supp'd 4/12/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 16]

Virginia Caroline County Sct.

William Southworth a resident of the United States in the County of Caroline, in the State of Virginia, aged seventy-six years & seven months, 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 the 7th of June 1832. That in the year 1779 he was called on to enter the revolutionary Army by a draft upon the Militia of this County and was attached to the company commanded by Captain Anthony New to serve for three months [word written over and could be two months]. He was marched 1st to Richmond, then down to James River, crossed over at Westover & proceeded to a place called Cabin Point where his Company joined 1800 of the Virginia regulars Majors McClumond & McGill commanded. He remained at this point for some time then marched down to Mackey's Mills, where the enemy was expected to land. He remained here about a fortnight. The enemy disappeared from the River & he was marched back up the James River about 15 miles & camped for several days on the River bank. He was then carried back to Cabin Point where he remained a short time, was carried from thence to Petersburg at which place he was discharged, having served out the time for which he was drafted. In the following year 1780 he was again drafted in the militia from this County for a tour of two months & was attached to the Company commanded by Captain Gregory Baynham. He was marched down to Williamsburg & was carried backs & forwards from that point to a place called Trebell to keep guard the enemy being then in York River. He was engaged in this kind of service for some considerable time & was then marched to Richmond. He was joined at Williamsburg by about 650 of the Virginia Militia commanded by Colonel Mathews and Major Armistead. Whilst at Richmond the enemy came to Manchester & made an attempt to cross, but failed & afterwards went up the James River to the point of fork and crossed over after remaining at Richmond a short time he was discharged having served out his tour.

In the year 1781 he was again drafted in the Militia of his Country for a tour of two months & was attached to the company commanded by Captain D. Jamieson. He marched first to Williamsburg where he found about 600 [unclear could be 400] of our militia commanded by Colonel Mathews. The service which they performed was in guarding the River & marched up and down for several miles making Williamsburg their head quarters. He served out his tour of two months & was discharged at the latter place.

In the same year he was again drafted in the Militia of his Country for another tour of two months in the Company Commanded by Captain Johnson Faulkner. He marched to Williamsburg where he remained until his time expired.

The field officers whom he knew were Colonels Mathews & Jamieson, Majors

McClumond & McGill. He served a part of his time with Joseph N. Dicken & John Oliver whose certificates are hereto annexed. He has no documentary evidence to prove his services. He is well acquainted with William W. Dickinson, Nicholas George, Major Philip Samuel & Colonel Archibald Samuel & Colonel Booth Brown of this County and he has resided in the County of Caroline all his life. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the roll of any agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed in open The 11th day of January March 1833.

S/ Wm Southworth, X his mark

[Spilsbe Woolfolk, a clergyman, and Norment Dickin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Caroline County to wit

John Oliver¹ & Joseph N. Dicken² personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County of Caroline & made oath, that they served in the militia of the State of Virginia during the Revolutionary War with William Southworth as he has stated in his declaration and I do hereby certify that the said John Oliver & Joseph N. Dicken are entitled to full credit in the statement which they have herein made. Given under my hand this 14 day of January 1833

S/ A. C. Coleman, JPCC

Virginia Caroline County to wit

Wm Southworth personally appeared before the County Court of Caroline & by the way of Supplement & amendment to his foregoing declaration states upon oath that he served as a private in the Militia drafted from the County aforesaid during the Revolutionary War at the times & under the officers he has before mentioned. That the period of his services was 9 months at least for which time he claims a pension. John Oliver whose affidavit is annexed served 2 of those terms with him under Captains F. Fitzhugh & Baynham & Joseph N. Dicken served one tour under Captain Baynham which is all the living testimony he can produce of his services. Since the above was written he has met with an old revolutionary soldier Benjamin Hurt whose affidavit is hereto annexed who proves his service in another tour under Captain David Jamison.

S/ Wm Southworth, X his mark

Caroline County to wit

Benjamin Hurt³ personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County of Caroline & made oath that he served a tour of two months in the year 1780 or 1781 as a private in the company of militia commanded by Captain David Jamison in and about the City of Williamsburg with William Southworth where they were discharged. Given under my hand & seal this 8th day of July 1833.

S/ Alex. Chapman

[f p. 4: On May 14, 1839 in Caroline County Virginia, Lucy Southworth, 76, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 acts as the widow of William South worth a pensioner of the United States; that she married her husband November 18, 1781 and that he died June 26, 1835 and she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

¹ [John Oliver S5859](#)

² Sic, [Joseph N. Dickin R2948](#)

³ Sic, pensioned as Benjamin Hurst [but the name Benjamin Hurt also appears in his file] [Benjamin Hurt W27878](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Honorable the Legislature of Virginia

Petition of William Southworth respectfully Sheweth, that your petitioner, did, during the Revolutionary War, serve the three tours of duty as a militia man, and continued in service until he was rendered incapable of doing duty as a foot soldier in consequence of a rising on his knee, your petitioner was then appointed (together with others) by Major Richard Claiborne to ride as an express, which duty he performed to the satisfaction of his employer, while your petitioner was engaged in the performance of his duty, which was arduous, conveying packets of letters to General Washington then in Williamsburg, his horse was stolen from him, which he never recovered; and he would further state that while acting as express courier, he sold some of his own property to defray the necessary expenses attending the duty assigned him. Your petitioner is now old, infirm and palsied, and has nothing to rely on but the liberality of your Honorable body. Feeling confident that his cause is just he has reason to hope that his expectations will not be blasted, and be Suffered to spend the remainder of his life, which in the course of nature, can be but short, in want of the common necessaries of life, Had your petitioner retained his health and strength sufficient to have enabled him to earn a subsistence, this appeal would not have been made to you. Hoping then for the best, your petitioner submits his cause to your Honorable body and he will in duty bound, ever pray.

[Caroline County]

I certify that William Southworth rode as an express during the Revolutionary War for about twelve months & I understood, it was at the direction of General Washington, during which time I understood the said Southworth lost his horse. Given under my hand this 19th day of December 1829

S/ Benj. Boughan [? Benjamin Boughan? Benjamin Bougham?]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Benj. Boughan". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Hanover County to wit

This day Norman Harvey personally appeared before me Francis Blunt a justice of the peace for said County and made oath that William Southworth the foregoing petitioner was an express rider and rode as such for a considerable time during the Revolutionary War and that he understood that he lost his horse which said horse he understood was stolen.

Given under my hand this 21st day of December 1829

S/ Francis Blunt

[Reverse]

Petition of William Southworth for a pension

by Rd. Buckner [Richard Buckner]

December 22nd, 1829

Referred to Revolutionary Claims

2nd January 1820

Rejected

Reported

Th: W. Gilmer Chrmn: