

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Frederick Soots W6153

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions
Guilford County } November Term 1833

On this 18th day of November AD One thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for Guilford County now sitting Frederick Soots a resident of the County of Guilford & State of North Carolina aged Seventy Six 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 the 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated —

That he first served as a substitute & private for one Peter Forst in a Company of Militia commanded by Capt Rogers of Orange County North Carolina for the term of three months - that he entered said Company about the middle of May 1780 in Orange County North Carolina that soon after joining his said Company the Company joined General Gates' [Horatio Gates's] Army as they marched on toward South Carolina and continued with Gates Army until Gates' defeat near Camden South Carolina [16 Aug 1780] that immediately after Gates defeat he returned home his term of service having expired to Guilford County where he remained only about two or three days when he was drafted for the term of three months, and immediately marched to Martinville [Martinsville = Guilford Courthouse] Guilford County and joined a company commanded by Capt Wilson as a private & was attached to a regiment commanded by Col John Paisley of Guilford County - Thomas Blair of Guilford County was Major of said Regiment. From Martinville he marched towards South Carolina in order to assist his Countrymen in resisting the advance of Lord Cornwallis on North Carolina [beginning 6 Sep 1780]. That after the retreat of Cornwallis [to winter quarters in Winnsboro SC, 12 Oct] he remained on the borders of South Carolina with his regiment and marched to various places the names of which he cannot now recollect being illiterate and understanding the English language but imperfectly having been taught the German language by his parents. That he served out his tour of three months and was discharged by Capt Wilson & received a written discharge from him which has been lost. In the month of December 1780 he volunteered as a private for the term of three months in a company commanded by Capt Henry Whitsell of Guilford county and joined some other companies of Militia at Martinville — Col John Paisley was the commander of the companies assembled at Martinville. They were ordered to march to the state of Virginia and advanced as far as the troublesome iron works [on Troublesome Creek in present Rockingham County NC] when they were order to return to Martinville. That he remained with his company at Martinville until Genl [Nathanael] Greene formed a junction of his Army at Martinville or Guilford Courthouse. After Genl. Greene left Martinville the Company to which he belonged was engaged in various services in the County of Guilford and the adjoining counties until Genl Greene detached a part of his Army into North Carolina. that this affiant and the company to which he belonged joined Col [Henry] Lee on the evening of Pyles defeat [defeat of loyalist Col. John Pyle in Alamance County, 25 Feb 1781] and marched against Col Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] who was stationed on Haw River Orange County to give encouragement to the tories or Royalists. That we pursued Tarlton under Col Paisley to Haw River and shortly after returned into Guilford County and was employed in Guarding some tory prisoners until the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar]. He was not in the battle having been sent into the country for some horses by Capt Whitsell. That his term of service expired in a few days after the battle of Guilford and he recd a written discharge from Capt Whitsell. That he immediately volunteered as a private for three months in a company commanded by Capt Eli Newland & joined Genl Greenes Army & marched in persuit of the British Army as far as Ramsey's Mills in Chatham County. When Genl Green marched towards South Carolina the company to which this affiant belonged was ordered still to persue the British Army and they did persue them until the

British Army got into the town of Wilmington North Carolina. That we then returned home to Guilford County and was called out twice against the tories before his last mentioned term of service expired. He was then discharged by Capt Newland & had from him a discharge in writing which has been lost. That he served the whole of his three first mentioned terms and had a written discharge from his then first Captain which discharges have been lost. That he also had a written discharge from Captain Newland - he was not in the field the whole of his last mentioned term of service, after his return from Wilmington he was permitted to return home & hold himself in readiness. that he was twice called out against the tories in the adjoining County of Randolph - and he verily believes he was in the field more than one half of the term for which he last volunteered. He further states that he faithfully served his Country ten months and a half for which service he claims a pension.

That he does not know of an person now living who can prove his services, his officers being now all dead.

That he was born in the County of Orange North Carolina on the 15th of September 1757 as he has been informed & believes - that he saw the time of his birth recorded in a large Bible belonging to his Grandfather many years ago & took a memorandum from it which he now has in his possession. that he was living in Guilford County when called into service and has continued to live in said County ever since, that he first substituted for one Peter Forst for the term of three months as before stated - that he was afterwards drafted & served for three months under Capt Wilson as before stated; That he then volunteered and served for three months under Capt Whitsell as before stated. He then volunteered for three months & served under Capt Newland as before stated.

That he is known to [blank] among many other respectable men in his neighbourhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Frederick hisXmark Soots

NOTE: On 7 Jul 1843 in Chatham County NC Peggy Soots, 75, applied for a pension stating that she married Frederick Soots in 1788, and he died 26 Sep 1842. In an application for bounty land dated 18 Apr 1855 her age is given as 96. Her application was supported by a deposition dated 26 Mar 1853 (date not clear) by her son-in-law, John Giston, who stated that he had known her for 30 years, that she had lived part of that time with him, that the year of her marriage is supported by the age of her oldest child, and that she had a granddaughter aged 42 whose mother was aged 62.