

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Williams Woods W6565 Ruth (Rutha) fn??NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/4/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Iredell: On this 24th day of May 1844 personally appeared before me an acting magistrate in and for said County Rutha Woods a resident of the County of Iredell and State of North Carolina aged 84 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed on the 7th of July 1832 entitled an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of William Woods who was a Regular and Militia man in the Revolutionary War. That he enlisted in 1775, under General ~~Wayne~~ in what was then called Rowan County, in the State aforesaid. That he was at the battle of the Eutaw Springs. The Officers he served there under she does not recollect. That he was at the Siege of Charleston and was taken prisoner by Tarleton and kept for some time in custody. That he marched mostly through South Carolina and for one tour he found his own Horse. That after the Surrender of Cornwallis in 1782 he returned to his father's house in Rowan County North Carolina and that one year afterwards or upwards he married her the aforesaid Rutha in Shenandoah County on Shenandoah River in the State of Virginia that they were married in the month of December 1784 by proclamation it being the custom of the Country at that date = by one James Ireland a minister of the Gospel and that on the 20th day of July 1832 her husband the aforesaid William Woods died, and that she was not married to him previous to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the year 1794 at the time above stated, and she further says that of her own personal knowledge she does not know anything of her husband's service having heard from his own lips what is set forth in the above declaration.

She further swears that she has remained a widow ever since her husband the aforesaid William Woods's death, and that owing to old age and bodily infirmity she is not able to go to the Court House to make this her declaration, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed this 24th May 1844
S/ LM Morrison, JP S/ Rutha Woods, X her mark

State of North Carolina Iredell County: On this 24th day of May 1844 personally appeared before me an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Thomas Woods of the County & State aforesaid aged 57 years who after first being duly sworn according to law Declareth that he

was well acquainted with William Woods who is set forth in the foregoing declaration and since he can remember. That he has often heard him talk of incidents etc. which transpired during the Revolution of the Eutaw Spring [sic] battle. That he has often heard him speak of General Greene & General Wayne and that he also heard him relate the circumstance of being taken prisoner at the siege of Charleston and that he volunteered and found his own Horse for one tour, and the said Thomas Woods further declares that he has known the aforesaid William & Rutha Woods for the last 50 years during which time they have lived together as man and wife and that the legality of their marriage has never been for a moment doubted, and he further declares that she the aforesaid Rutha is the widow of the identical William Woods who is set forth in the above declaration, and that owing to old age and weakness of body she is not able to go to the Court House to make her declaration. Sworn to and subscribed this the day and year above written.

S/ J. M. Morrison, JP

S/ Thomas Woods, X his mark

State of North Carolina Iredell County

On this the 26th day of May A.D. 1851, personally appeared before me, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for the County of Iredell, State of North Carolina, Ruth Woods, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged ninety-five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows:" That she is the widow of William Woods, who was a private in the war of the revolution: That her said husband William Woods joined the Army of the United States, living then in the County of Rowan State of North Carolina, as a volunteer in the year 1778, but in what particular company or Regiment this declarant does not know: That shortly after joining the Army he was marched to South Carolina, and there served under the command of Captains James Hambleton and Captain John Lawson, and Colonel Roebuck's Regiment upwards of two years, and was taken prisoner at the fall of Charleston, May 1780, and after being detained a prisoner a short time, he was discharged on parole. That her said husband William Woods, again in the year 1781, volunteered in the company commanded by Captain Nathaniel M. Martin, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Polk, Sumter's Brigade, General Greene commander in chief, and was in the battle of Camden, Ninety Six and Eutaw Springs, and continued in the service under said command, until the termination of the war, when he was honorably discharged, having been in actual service two years, making in all a service of more than four years.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Woods, in the County of Shenandoah, State of Virginia, on the 23rd day of December A.D. 1783, and that her name before her said marriage was Ruth Dotson: that her husband, the aforesaid William Woods died on the 20th day of July 1832: that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated, and that she has never married again.

S/ Ruth Woods, X her mark

State of North Carolina Iredell County

On this the 31st day of May A.D. 1851, personally appeared before me, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for the County aforesaid, Thomas Woods, who being duly sworn according to law, maketh oath, that the following extract is a true copy of the entry of the death

of William Woods, made by John woods, in his presence, in the family Bible of the said William Woods, viz.:

"William Woods departed this life July the 20th, 1832, aged about 74 years."

That the said John Woods has removed from this State, and that the Bible, the register of the births and deaths, and remained in affiant's custody from the date of the above entry.

He further maketh oath, that from his own personal knowledge, the above date of the death of William Woods, is correct.

S/ Thomas Woods, X his mark

[certificate from the clerk of court for Shenandoah County Virginia indicating the following appears in the records thereof:

"A memorandum of marriages celebrated by Mr. James Ireland Will Woods to Ruth Dotson Dec 23, 1783."]

[Certificate dated may 22, 1851 from the South Carolina Comptroller Generals Office in Columbia South Carolina showing payments made to a William Wood (Woods) for militia services before and after the fall of Charleston and for wagons services in 1779; to a 'Capt. W. Wood for duty of in Roebuck's Regiment; to Captain William Would for militia in duty in Roebuck's Regiment both before and after the fall of Charleston; to William Would for 264 days duty as a horseman in Captain John Hambleton's & John Lawson Lafayette's Company in Roebuck's Regiment from 29th March 1779 to 3 April 1781; for 171 days duty as a horseman from 29 March to September 15 1779 for the pay bill of Captain James Hambleton as certified by Colonel Thomas; & 93 days duty as a horseman from October 8, 1782 the 3rd of April 1781 per pay bill of Captain John Lawson; for duty as a footman under Colonel Lindsay; and that William Woods served as a private 10 months under Captain Nathaniel Marshall Martin in the Light Dragoons of Sumter's Brigade.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 2 years service in the revolution. The pension ended July 20th, 1832