

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Yeats (Yates, Yeates) W7335 Rebecca Yeates f27NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 3/10/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 12]

Robertson County State of Tennessee

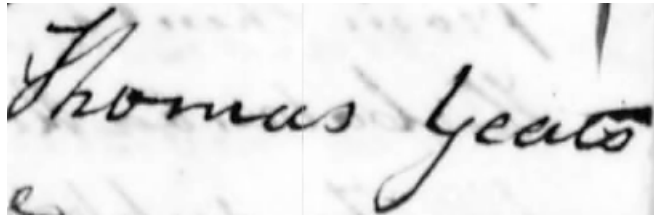
Personally appeared Thomas Yeates at his residence in said County before me Joel Moor a justice of the peace for said County and made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 being Seventy-nine years of age or more do hereby declare that he enlisted in the service of the United States in Caswell County North Carolina for a term of six months under Captain John Hightower & Absalom Taytum [sic, Absalom Tatum] Lieutenant of Hillsboro and was attached to the command of Colonel Moore [William Moore] & General Nash [Francis Nash] Brigade and marched to Hillsboro from there to Wilmington and stayed till we fortified the place then we marched to the mouth of Barnet's Creek where it empties in Cape Fear [River] from thence to a small town called Brunswick and Stationed in sight of a British Man of War for some time then we marched to Wilmington again thence marched to the aid of Governor Caswell Brigade who had a Battle with the Tories we arrived on the Battle Ground but not in time to participate in the Action. Then we marched to Wilmington and stayed our Time Out and was Honorably Discharged. The Second Tour I volunteered my Service instead of standing a Draft for three months more under Captain James Wilson & Lieutenant Walker Taylor myself an Ensign and marched to Hillsborough from thence to Salisbury then to a Creek near the Catawba River we were stationed and kept there for the suppressing the Tories and keeping them in check under the Command of General Butler [John Butler] & Colonel Moore of Caswell.

The third tour I volunteered my services for three months more at Caswell Court house was to rendezvous at Colonel Moore's under Captain John McMullin [John McMillen] Now my recollection is Very Good The Regiment met the Evening before we started the next morning Stayed at home to replenish Our knapsacks the [indecipherable word] night But the British put in so close our whole Regiment marched off and left my Captain five other soldiers & myself to keep up the rear and so we were did & volunteered all we could and pushed after them with forced marches but found it in vain then marched to join General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Command but found it still not in our power to ever arrive in time I further declare it to be the hardest tour ever served, too weak to guard ourselves, and not able to overtake our own Regiment, we had to march to & fro, till our time was out and now I further declare I have no documentary Evidence nor can procure no other with any kind of convenancy [sic] being entirely Blind for nearly 12 months which is my reason for making this declaration out of Court at my own house. And I hereby relinquish every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and further declare my name are on no pension roll of the Agency of any State or States whatsoever.

Sworn to Subscribed and Acknowledged this the 31st of August 1832.

S/ Joel Moore, JP

S/ Thomas Yeats

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Yeats". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are connected and fluid, with a prominent 'T' at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail on the 's'.

[Greenberry Kelly, a clergyman, and James Doss gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Personally appeared before me the undersigned at his own house Thomas Yeates the foregoing applicant for a pension in order to amend the same who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he entered the service to the best of his recollection was [sic] in October in the year of 1776 first tour, second tour was in '79 I believe and served as an Ensign for three months Received my commission from Captain James Wilson. The third tour of duty I served as a soldier for three months more entered in service shortly after Gates Defeat& served the same – Next I was born in the year 1752 Bedford County Virginia I have no record of my age at home but it was registered in my father's Bible but know not where it is. I did receive discharges from the different tours of duty they were all mislaid or lost. Next my two Brothers William & James Yeates knew I was in the service and application made to the neighborhood where I Reside who can testify to my character and veracity and their belief of my service as a Soldier of the Revolution Thomas Holland, Thomas Fisher, Samuel Hudgeons, Azariah Doss, Yearby Hudson, Abraham Young.

Sworn to & subscribed the 20 of April 1833 before me.

S/ Joel Moore, JP

S/ Thomas Yeates

[p 6: On October 17, 1837 in Robertson County Tennessee, Rebecah Yates [Rebecca Yates], 79, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Yates; that she married him December 22, 1776 which she knows because it was 3 days before Christmas and at the time Cornwallis was taken at Little York [Yorktown, October 19, 1781], their oldest child was 4 years old; that her husband died March 15, 1834; and she remains a widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 8: On October 17, 1837 in Robertson County Tennessee, William Yates Senior, aged about 88 years, gave testimony that he was present at the marriage of his Brother Thomas Yates and Rebecca Ragsdale in Caswell County¹ North Carolina on December 22, 1776; that they were married by a Presbyterian Parson; "... His Brother Thomas Yates served two tours after the time he was married he knows he served one tour with himself (This affiant states that he himself served four tours of service one tour of which was for three months and was making saddles for the Light Horse Troops the other three in actual service but always refused to make application for a pension because he says he got what he fought for Liberty) he knows therefore of his own knowledge that his Brother was legally married to his present widow Rebecca Yates above stated and that he was in actual Service of the United States after the marriage...." He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

¹ sic, Caswell wasn't formed until 1777, so the marriage had to have been in Orange County from which Caswell was divided

[p 8: Likewise on October 17, 1837 in Robertson County Tennessee, James Yates, 74, gave testimony that he was present at the marriage of his brother and Rebecca Ragsdale in Caswell County North Carolina on December 22, 1776; that they were married by a Presbyterian Parson named McCaddin. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[Note: p 18: A note in the file indicates that the veteran died March 15, 1834, place not stated.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]