

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Edward Hancock W7648 Jane Hancock VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 10 Oct 2014.

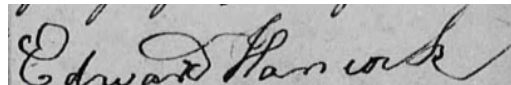
State of Virginia }
Bedford County } S.S.

On this 25th day of January 1833 personally appeared before me Parker Preston a justice of the peace for the said County of Bedford and State of Virginia Edward Hancock a resident of the County of Bedford and State aforesaid aged seventy eight 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States under Captain Gross Scruggs about the 1st February 1776 to serve a tour of two years in the revolutionary war in this company Isham Talbot was first Lieutenant Joseph Early second Lieutenant Barnabas Arthur Ensign that the company rendezvoused at New London [now in Campbell County VA] until they had marching orders they then marched & he believes crossed James River at Carters mills [now Cartersville] & thence on to Hobbs hole on the Rappahanock [sic: Rappahannock] river there he staid a few days from thence marched on to Williamsburg where he stayed two or three weeks he was from thence marched to Portsmouth where he was the most of the Summer from there he was marched back to Williamsburg & from there to Little York, where he took shipping and landed at the head of Elk [now Elkton] in the State of Maryland he from thence was marched to Wilmington in Pennsylvania [sic: more likely Delaware] & from thence to Chester in said State of Pennsylvania where his Brother Simon [Simon Hancock] died who enlisted with him & marched with him he was then marched to Philadelphia where he took water & landed at Trenton he was then taken sick and left the Army about the middle of November of the said year 1776 and came home & his Brother Samuel Hancock [pension application X916] volunteered in his place & served out the term this company belonged to the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded at first he thinks by Colo. [Peter] Muhlenberg and afterwards by Colo. [Charles] Scott & he thinks [Josiah] Parker was then Major. The next tour he served he thinks was for two months a Volunteer in the Militia his Brother Samuel Hancock was the whole time with him they marched under Capt. Jacob Early Wm Leftwich [William Leftwich] was the Colo. they marched from the County of Bedford to Petersburg he thinks in the fall or winter of 1779 a distance of 140 miles where he was stationed waiting for movements of the British shiping then in the mouth of James River till his term expired. General [Robert] Lawson was the commander he has no written document by which he can prove the foregoing service & knows of no living witness by which he can certainly prove them except his Brother Samuel Hancock who can prove that he enlisted under Captain Gross Scruggs & that he served a part of the time & was with him the whole of the tour to Petersburg. the next tour he served was a tour of four months & for which he has a discharge (without stating the time of service) given by Major Alex'r Rose [Alexander Rose] & served in the capacity of a Serjeant. he marched from the County of Bedford in Virginia in the Spring of 1781 (the precise time he does not recollect) to Salisbury in North Carolina where he was stationed some time, he was from thence marched to ninety six in South Carolina where he joined General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] who had laid seige to the Fort [siege of Ninety Sic, 22 May - 19 Jun] in this Siege he received a slight wound in the arm he served in this siege nineteen days when Lord Rodney [sic: Francis Rawdon] came up & relieved the Fort & Green retreated & was closely pursued by the British to near broad river during which time we marched day & night until we crossed said River a distance he thinks of One hundred & twenty miles from ninetysix the distance from the County of Bedford in Virginia where he commenced his march in this term to ninetysix in South Carolina is reported to be the distance of three hundred miles that he was born in the County of Chesterfield in Virginia on the 15 day of November in the year 1754 agreeable to his Fathers register of his age, that said register or record or a copy of it is now in my possession

That he cannot more particularly state the names of the officers under whose command he was

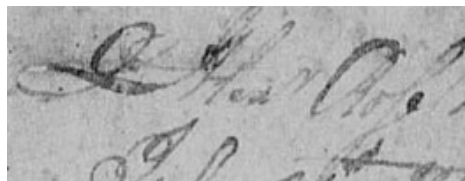
than he has done in the foregoing declaration & that the names of all the officers that he distinctly recollects are set forth therein

The names of the persons in my present neighbourhood to whom I refer to testify as to my character as to veracity and the belief of my services as soldier of the revolution is the Reverend John Ayres & Pleasant Preston. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any state

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Hancock".

Edward Hancock Serj't in the Virginia Militia from Bedford having performed his tour of Duty is by Order of the Hon'l Mag'r Gen'l Greene Discharged

Alex'r Rose Maj'r
July 31st 1781

A very faint and illegible handwritten signature or stamp, possibly a second signature or a faded one.

Bedford County to wit

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace for said County Edward Hancock who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades: for nine months as set forth in my declaration I served as a volunteer Soldier under Cap Scruggs in the year 1776 for two months a Militia Soldier under Cap Early for one month I was in my tour to the South as a common Soldier. & three months I served as a Sergeant in the Spring & summer of 1781 & for such service I claim a pension. Given under my hand this 25 day of January 1833 Bawker Preston

Bedford County S.S.

This day [25 Jan 1833] Samuel Hancock came before me Bawker Preston justice of the peace for said County & made Oath that his Brother Edward Hancock as he understood about the first day of February 1776 enlisted under Capt Gross Scruggs in the revolutionary Army and he well recollects he marched away from home under Capt Scruggs & was gone between nine & ten months & returned home sick & that he enlisted in his place for the balance of the tour, & that he well recollects that the said Edward Hancock served a tour in the Virginia Militia & was marched from Bedford County to Petersburg he thinks in the Fall of the year 1779

NOTE: On 1 June 1839 Jane Hancock, 72, applied for a pension stating that she married Edward Hancock on 23 Dec 1783, and he died 9 March 1836. With her application was a copy of the certificate of marriage between Edward Hancock and Jane Nichols officiated by Rev. William Johnson.