

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael Widener¹ W8303 Elizabeth fn64VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 9/15/11

[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.]

[fn p. 9]

State of Virginia Washington County to wit

On this 26 day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of the County aforesaid being a court of record, Michael Widener a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-four 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 in the month of June about the year 1779 he was drafted in the County of Rockingham in the State of Virginia where he then resided, that in the same month and year, about the first of the month he marched in a company commanded by Captain Robert Cravens to the Mongehala [Monongahela] River, he was then transferred to a Captain Abraham Lincoln and marched under his command to a place called Fort Mackintosh [Fort McIntosh] where we joined the main Army commanded by General Macintosh [Lachlan McIntosh], Colonel Benjamin C Harris or Harrison commanded the Regiment we remained at that place about one month when a detachment of which he was one, was sent to a place near the Shawnee Towns, at which place we built a Fort which was called Fort Lawrence [Fort Laurens], we then returned to Fort McIntosh and he was shortly thereafter discharged that he returned immediately home to his residence in Rockingham County Virginia where he arrived about the first of January 1790. That afterwards in the month of August 1781 he was again drafted and marched from the said County of Rockingham under the command of Captain William Lincoln to the City of Williamsburg in the State of Virginia & was then transferred to the command of Captain Cogan and remained in his company during the siege of York and surrender of Cornwallis. He does not remember the name of the Colonel commanding the Regiment to which he belonged, the name of the Major was Nall. After the surrender of Cornwallis he was attached to the party charged with guarding the prisoners who were sent to Winchester in Virginia, after arriving at that post he was discharged and immediately returned home where he arrived about the 25th of December 1781.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Michael Widener Senior, X his mark

State of Virginia Washington County to wit

This day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said

¹ BLWt26617-160-55

County John Weidner Senior and made oath that he is the Brother of the Applicant Michael Weidner, who is about seventy-three or seventy-four years of age, that he and his Brother lived in the County of Rockingham in State of Virginia prior to the year 1779, that about the year 1782 they removed to the County of Washington Virginia where they have resided ever since, that [one or more words overwritten and illegible] the fact that the said Michael Widener was drafted in a company of militia which marched from the County of Rockingham towards the Ohio and was attached, as this affiant understood to troops under the command of General McIntosh, this Affiant states that to the best of his recollection the said Michael marched in the summer of 1779 but being but about fourteen years of age, he may not recollect the year accurately, he remembers that he started in the summer and returned home again on Christmas day. The Affiant further states that in the summer of 1781 the said Michael Widener was again drafted and marched to lower of Virginia and returned home again late in the fall, this affiant has understood and believes that the said Michael Widener was at the siege of York at the surrender of Cornwallis. This affiant is perfectly certain that the said Michael was absent during the periods he has stated and verily believes that he was in the service of the country as a soldier during that period.

S/ John Weidner Senior, X his mark

[attested October 30, 1833 by Peter J Branch, JP]

[fn p. 17: the veteran filed another application dated November 28, 1833 almost word for word identical to the above application. Why this duplicate application was filed is not clear.]

[fn p. 7: On June 28, 1853 in Washington County Virginia, Elizabeth Widener, Aged near 70 Years, Filed for Her Widow's Pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Michael Widener, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she was married to him January 13, 1823; that her husband died April 12, 1842. She signed her application with her mark.]

[facts in file: the date of the marriage of the veteran to Elizabeth Calahan or Callahan is stated various late in the documents in the file as either January 13, 1823 or 1825. The widow applied for her bounty land entitlement under the 1855 act but did not state the normal facts recited such an application such as giving her maiden name.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th 1831, for 10 months service as a private in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned for a similar amount under the 1853 act.]