

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abner Aycock W9710

Sarah Aycock

f54NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/25/07 rev'd 8/4/14

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of North Carolina, Warren County

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1838 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace Mrs. Sarah Aycock of the County of Warren and State of North Carolina aged Eighty years who, being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath take the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836. That she is the widow of Abner Aycock who was a private in the militia service in the War of the Revolution and first served as a volunteer under Captain Jacob Turner at Wilmington for six months in the year 1777, and on his return in that year I was married to him. He after that time was drafted five times and one tour of the duty was served under Captain Thomas Alston. She further declares that she was married to the said Abner Aycock in the month of July 1777 by Thomas Turner father of the late Governor Turner [James Turner]. That her husband the said Abner Aycock died in the year 1823, and that she has remained a widow ever since as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Subscribed & sworn before me this the day & year above.

S/ Wm C. Clanton, JP

S/ Sarah Aycock, < her mark

[p 7]

State of North Carolina, County of Warren

This day appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County and state above written William Robertson aged Eighty-two years who being first duly sworn according to law testified as and says that he knew Abner Aycock and his wife who was Sarah Harper and resided in the same neighborhood with them at the time that they were married. This affiant testifies that Abner Aycock was married to Sally Harper in the early part of the Revolution. This affiant was not at the marriage but he resided close by, and he knows that Abner Aycock lived with his wife and was married by Thomas Turner. This affiant has lived ever since that time in two miles of Mr. Aycock and during the lifetime of Mr. Aycock. He can also testify that Abner Aycock served to the knowledge of this affiant as a volunteer under Jacob Turner and was absent for six months. He also served several other tours of duty of which this affiant is unable to particularize he knows he was in service off and on throughout the War. This affiant knows that after Aycock was a married man at the time he rendered the Service as a soldier in the Revolution, and he knows that his widow now applying for a pension is the identical person known to him in the war of the Revolution as the wife of Abner Aycock. And he also knows that she never married since the death of her husband the said Abner Aycock.

S/ William Robertson, X his mark

Sworn & Subscribed before me the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1838.

S/ Wm C. Clanton, JP

State of North Carolina

[p 10]

State of North Carolina, County of Warren

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County and state above James Durham of the said County aged Eighty years and a pensioner of the United States who being first duly sworn according to Law; testifies and says that he knew Abner Aycock and his wife who was Sarah Harper as early as the year 1776; that he then resided as they have always since within 5 miles of this affiant. This affiant can confidently testify that the said Abner Aycock was at the time mentioned then living with his wife who is now applying for a Pension as man & wife and that Mrs. Sarah Aycock then known to him is the identical person who applies for a Pension – and to the knowledge of this affiant has never married since the death of her husband. He also testifies that the said Abner Aycock served at the time that this affiant did and was at the defeat of General Gates near Camden in South Carolina [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1781]. This affiant is confident he served at least four months in that expedition.

S/ James Durham<sup>1</sup>



Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 1838.

S/ W. W. Vaughan, JP

[Burwell Davis<sup>2</sup> of Warren County, NC gave a substantially identical affidavit as given by both Robertson and Durham except he added the following regarding Aycock's service:

“... he knows that he [Aycock] was a married man at the time they served together in the year 1781. This affiant also testifies that Abner Aycock did to his knowledge serve the following tours of duty; he first served six months under Captain Jacob Turner, and afterwards was drafted with this affiant and served under Captain Thomas Alston in a light horse company at the time the Battle of Guilford Court House was fought [March 15, 1781]. We were drafted for three months.”



[p 15]

State of North Carolina Warren County

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County and State above written, Ransom Aycock of the said County who being first duly sworn according to law, Testifies and says – That the ages of the children of his father Abner Aycock & his mother Sarah Aycock were registered in the family Bible by his Brother Henry Aycock who is now dead. This affiant further testifies that the family Bible with the entries of the ages of the children was after the death of his father sold by this affiant as his Executor and was purchased by John Shaw husband of my sister Mary, and has been in her possession from the time of the sale in 1823 until a few days since when it was delivered to this affiant by his sister for the purpose of establishing the ages of the children of his father & mother.

This affiant knows that the entries are in the proper handwriting of his Brother Henry Aycock and were made he is confident as much as forty years since. The reason why the entries were made by my Brother was that neither my father or mother could write: and after my Brother was taught to write

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<sup>1</sup> [James Durham S8371](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Burwell Davis S8286](#)



knew him from a boy to the time of his death. This affiant has a perfect knowledge and recollection of the following tours of service rendered by Abner Aycock in the War of the Revolution. First this affiant knows that Abner Aycock was a minute man in a Company commanded by Captain Jacob Turner Edward Yarborough being Lieutenant: in the spring of 1776. Colonel Turner was called into service and Abner Aycock marched under his command to Wilmington and remained in service to the knowledge of this affiant for six months. What impresses the fact on his recollection is that he was at the marriage of Abner Aycock in the fall of 1776 on his return from Wilmington – the cousin of said affiant Captain Thomas Alston who was afterwards a Captain of Cavalry was an Ensign; and I have heard him often speak of the expedition to Wilmington at the time the Battle of Moore's Creek was fought [February 27, 1776]; The companies of minute men drafted to serve on this expedition were commanded by Colonel Long. In the month of June 1779 Abner Aycock was drafted and served a tour of duty under Captain Wren [Joel Wren] at the time Gates was defeated this service was for three months; but I am confident he was four if not five months from home. Abner Aycock was again in service at Guilford Court House under the Command of Captain Thomas Alston. And in the fall of the same year he was in service under Captain Wren at Halifax for three months the service at Guilford Court House commenced in the first of February 1781, and terminated at the Battle in March of that year. The service at Guilford and at Halifax was under Colonel Long.

I am induced from a sense of justice as well as truth to make this statement that the widow of Abner Aycock may get what I know she is entitled to.

Given under my hand this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 1840.

S/ J. J. Alston

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. J. Alston", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

[p 25]

State of North Carolina, Warren County

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Pleas for the said County James Durham who being first duly sworn testifies and says that in his former affidavit he did not state as he understands the officers who commanded when he was in service with Abner Aycock. He now testifies that he was mustered into service in Mecklenburg County Virginia: under Captain Benjamin Ferrell and on reaching Hillsboro he was transferred to the company of Captain Swepston [Richard Swepson] and marched from that place to the head Quarters of General Gates. When at Hillsboro Abner Aycock joined the troops in a company commanded by Captain Wren, and he marched with us to head Quarters and continued to serve until the defeat which was in the month of August 1780 we left Hillsboro in the month of June the early part of it. This affiant is confident that Abner Aycock served in that expedition at least four months. He also testify as to his own knowledge that the said Abner Aycock was then a married man. This affiant lived in North Carolina, until the war commenced and then moved from the neighborhood to live in Mecklenburg Virginia: with his brothers when he was drafted.

S/ James Durham

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 1839.

S/ W. W. Vaughan, JP

State of North Carolina, Warren County

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace William Robinson [same man as "William Robertson" who gave an affidavit transcribed above] of the County of Warren; who being first duly sworn testifies and says that since he gave his Testimony on behalf of Mrs. Aycock widow of

Abner Aycock he has reflected upon the subject of his services in the Revolution; and had his memory refreshed by talking with others. He testified to the following facts – 1<sup>st</sup>: he has a distinct recollection that Abner Aycock served six months under the command of Captain Jacob Turner in a Regiment commanded by Col. Philemon Hawkins. This affiant well recollects that the service was performed in the year 1776 or 1777. He is confident of the fact because he well recollects that he was to be married about the time he was called into service and the marriage was postponed until the fall he having joined the Regiment in the month of March or May – and in the month of November of that year he returned and was married to his wife now applying for a Pension. These facts are strongly impressed upon the mind of this affiant because he saw Abner Aycock carrying his wife to Mr. Turner's on the horse behind him to be married this affiant knows also that Abner Aycock was drafted and served at Guilford Court House; in that service he was commanded by Captain Alston – on his return from that expedition he was in service with this affiant in and near Halifax Town for three months when the enemy were in that place – the service rendered by this affiant he has never claimed, as it was for three months & not worth the trouble of getting. This affiant knows that Abner Aycock served at Halifax and at Guilford not less than five months – under the command of Captain Wren. In conclusion this affiant says that he has resided from his birth to the present moment in the same neighborhood with Abner Aycock's widow, and up to the death of Mr. Aycock. He can and does speak most confidently of the facts set forth in this affidavit as he had the best means to know them to be true. This affiant has had called to his recollection, the service of Mr. Aycock at Gates defeat; he certainly did serve in that expedition under Captain Wren and was from home for four months he left home in May and returned in September.

S/ William Robinson, X his mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for her husband service as a private for 12 months in the North Carolina service.]