## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Crouch (Couch) R2532 Margaret Crouch PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Lee County VA] on the 7 day of May 1855 be fore me J Jacob Rasnick an acting justis of the peace personly aperd Marget Coutch and made oath in due forme of law that she is the identicle widow of William Coutch and that she was maried in guilford County N.C. on the 19 day of September in the year 1789 and that he volenteerd in Pennsilvania in the year 1777 and was discharged in the year 1781 and that he served fore year in the revolution war and was shot in the thigh at the battle of york town [sic: possibly Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and that he dide in the year 1802 and that she has never bin paid by the navy or mariene for his servis in the war and that he was orderly Sergen in the light Horse company and that she has not bin paid from the year 1781 to the year 1855 Jacob Rasnik JP

## State of Virginia }

County of Lee } SS On this 16 day of June 1855, personally appeared in Open Court, now Session, for the County and State aforesaid, Margaret Couch, who in due and solemn form of Law, doth, on her Oath, declare, that her Husband, William Couch, was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution, that he entered the army in the State of Pensylvania in the year 1772, that he served in said War, subsequently Four years. And was honorable discharged, in the year 1781. and was wounded in the thigh at the Battle of Yorktown, that his first service in the State of Pensylvania was a Vollenteer Service, that his subsequnt four years service was in the Continental, or State line, & that he served as an Orderly Seargent in a Company of horse, that she was married to the said William Couch in the County of Guilford North Carrolina, on the 19th day of September 1789, and that he died in the year 1802. And that he never received a pension, nor has she ever received pension, She makes this declaration for the purpose of Obtaining pension, under the Act of 1836, and for obtaining Bounty land, under the Act of 3<sup>d</sup> March 1855. Margaret herXmark Couch

State of Tennessee } County Cou	rt Aprile Term 1857
Hancock County }	
John Crouch administrator of the	)
Estate of Margaret Crouch deceased	) Claim to pension under act 7 July 1838
VS	)
United States	)

Be it rememberd that at a County Court begun and held in and for said County at the Court house in Sneedville on the  $6^{th}$  day of Apriel AD 1857 present the Honorble Thos R. Coleman Judge the following proceedings in this case are had to wit,

John Crouch admr. &c alleges that his father William Crouch deceased was a private of Infantry in the Revolutionary war and the reason he states that he knows his father was a private of Infantry is from what he has heard his mother say; often that his father said he rather be an officer in service that they fared better and that he served a while as Seargeant in the place of a Sergeant that was Sick and he states that he has often heard his mother speak of how in marching his father would have to walk on very Small Rashons, & that he was wounded in the battle at Guilford North Carolina under Gen Green [sic: Guilford Courthouse under Nathanael Greene] on 15 day of March 1781, and that the british was victorious and that he has heard his mother state the foregoing with other conflicts his father had while in service times past his recollection and that for the last 2 or 3 years before his mothers death she lost her mind to such extent that she was not capable of stateing the facts as correct as she could prior to that time and that his father died the last of the year 1807 or the first of the year 1808, and that his mother the said Margrett survived him and lived until the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September eighteen hundred and fifty six when she died.

That after the death of his father his mother never was agane married during her life, but died his fathers widow that the said John had the following brothers and sisters of the whole blood and that the ages of the eldest and youngest are annexed

William the eldest born 30<sup>th</sup> day of December

1794 2<sup>nd</sup> Hanna born [blank] day of

17 3" Pegga born [blank] day of

17 4" Easter born [blank] day of

17 5" Marriam born [blank] day of

6 Dempson [or Sempson] born [blank] day of

1 and 7<sup>th</sup> a little Boy that died in Infancy born [blank] day of

1 8<sup>th</sup> was John this declarant and youngest child born 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1808

That som of said children live here and som and som lives in Virginia and in Kentuckey – that his said mother came to Hawkins now Hancock Tennessee from Grayson County Virginia about the year 1812 and went from here to Lee county Virginia about the year 1850 and that he always under stood and believed that his father and mother lived and cohabited together as man and wife and was so respected by good Society until the day of his fathers death and that he has heard his mother speake of haveing been married to his father (as aforesaid) and that his mother the said Margaret always acknowledged the Eldest as well as the youngest to be by his father and Legitimate and treated and provided for him and that they were so was generally believed [The rest not transcribed]

## NOTES:

On 30 July 1855 Margaret Crouch stated that she applied under the name Couch, because that was how she was known in Lee County, but that she believed her husband's correct name was William Crouch.

The file includes two certificates dated 12 July 1855 from the Auditor's Office of Virginia stating that two infantry soldiers named William Crouch settled their accounts. This appears to have led the agent of Margaret Crouch to modify the original claim that William Crouch had been a cavalry sergeant from Pennsylvania.

On 22 Sep 1855 her agent, J. W. Stevens of Abingdon VA, wrote to the Commissioner of Pensions in part: "I saw Mr. Stickley her neighbour – he says she knows nothing about his being a Seargent in the Revolution, he questioned her when and where he was a Seargent in the light Horse as they call it. her ansr. clearly shows her Husband was in a troop of Militia Calvalry after the war was over. he was a Soldier of the revolution there is no doubt, in Virginia." On 22 Oct 1855 Stevens wrote: "Mrs Margaret Crouch an applicant for pension and Bounty Land, in right of her Husband William Crouch, has been brought from the County of Lee to this place and now in my office in ansr to my questions relative to Wms. service, she says, Why Child, he was a light Horsman when I first knowed him, this is her language, but the whole truth is, she knows nothing about his service, except that he served in the Revolutionary War. She appears to be a simple, plain, honest old Lady.... The Old Lady talks much of her Husbands services, What she has heard him say, but all amounts to nothing.... She is very poor, and alone, as to relatives living on Charity of her Neighbors, who respect her."

On 6 April 1857 John Crouch stated that his mother said he was about six months old when his father died, and that the eldest child, William Crouch, died 30 Aug 1844.