

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gardner High W19778

Rachel High

f35VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/27/14

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

State of North Carolina Anson County: October Session 1832

On this 9th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting Gardner High a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 79 years a Soldier of the Revolution – who being duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. I entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers & Served as herein stated – I enlisted in May 1776 in the County of Dinwiddie State of Virginia (a minute man for no stated or definite time) under Captain Edward Walker, Lieutenant Pegram [Edward Pegram] – Colonel Harrison's Regiment – was marched from Hampton where we joined our Regiment under General Nelson – I continued stationed at Hampton being our headquarters until October 1776 from whence place [?] we marched back to Dinwiddie – where I was discharged in October 1776 – by Captain Walker having served five months – I was drafted in March 1778 46 weeks in Brunswick County State of Virginia under Captain Peoples, was marched to Portsmouth (I do not recollect the name of the Colonel Commandant). Served the Term of six weeks for which I was drafted – and was discharged at Portsmouth in April 1778 – having served out – the time for which I was drafted of six weeks –

I was again drafted in the County of Brunswick State of Virginia in April 1779 for six weeks under Captain Maclin – was marched to Portsmouth which was headquarters – where I served out my Term of six weeks and was discharged in May 1779. – In the year 1780, I removed to the County of Montgomery State of North Carolina. Soon after Gates Defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] at Camden the Tories became very Troublesome in this part of the Country – when Companies of Whigs were organized in different Counties. I volunteered in August 1780 in the said County of Montgomery under Captain John Randel [John Randle], Colonel Lofton [probably William Lofton of Anson [County militia] Commander – was marched to Little River against Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] the notorious Tory leader – thence to deep River – where we had an engagement with Fanning at night – who was defeated. I continued these Troublesome times almost constantly under arms – and was mostly employed against the Tories in the Counties of Chatham, Moore, Randolph, Richmond & Anson in North Carolina – it is true that a small portion of the time – I was allowed [to] be at home – I was discharged in the month of October 2 – 1781 – After the capture of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] at Little York. I served at least ten months during this Time – from the time I volunteered in August 1780 – Having served in all during the four terms Eighteen months – that is five months as an enlisted Soldier and thirteen months in the militia.

I have lost all my discharges – and have no documentary evidence in my possession, nor do I know of any person living whose testimony I can procure to prove my Services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State whatever.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Gardner High, X his mark

Question by Court 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the County of Dinwiddie State of Virginia in the year 1753.

Question by Court 2. Have you any Record of your age, if so where is it?

Answer. My age was kept in the family Bible – but I do not know where it is now.

Question by Court – 3rd. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary Wars and where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in the County of Dinwiddie, State of Virginia when called into service the first time – the 2nd & 3rd time in Brunswick County State of Virginia & the last time in Montgomery North Carolina – I continued to live in Montgomery for some years after the Revolution removed to Anson where I have lived for 20 years.

Question by Court – 4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute, if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I enlisted in the first instance – I was drafted in the 2nd I was again drafted in the last service, I volunteered –

Question by Court 5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the Troops with whom you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service.

Answer – Colonel Harrison and I think General Nelson were regular Officers – the militia Officers & regiments and the general circumstances of my Services are set forth in my declaration – here it would be a new repetition of the same –

Question by Court 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer – for my Service in the regular Service I received a discharge from Captain Walker. I cannot recollect from whom I received my discharges in the militia service – I have lost all –

Question by Court – 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behavior and of their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer –

S/ Gardner High, X his mark

[John S Kendall a clergyman and Edward Winfield gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 4: On July 28, 1838 in Anson County North Carolina, Rachel High, 80, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Gardner High, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she has no record of her children's ages; that she and her husband had 2 children at the time her husband was in the service; her oldest child if living would be 60 or 61 years of her age; that she, the applicant, has grandchildren and great-grandchildren; that her husband died January 5, 1837. She signed her application with her mark.]

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I John Culpepper do hereby certify on oath that I was personally acquainted with Gardner High

when he served as a Soldier in the revolutionary war & that Rachel High who made the above declaration in my presence was then living with him as his wife & they lived together as man and wife until the death of said Gardner High. This 28th day of July 1838

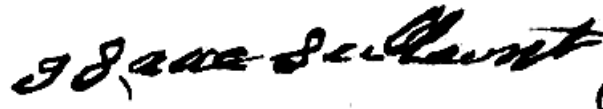
S/ J. Culpeper

[p 6]

Certificate of Isaac Sullivant North Carolina Anson County

I Isaac Sullivant do hereby certify that I was present when Gardner High and Rachel Gibbs went on to the Church to get married and saw them both returned from the church after they were married they with a number of their friends proceeded on to old Mr. Gibbs to the wedding and I was one of that number, they have lived together as man and wife until the death of Mr. High which occurred on the 5th day of January 1837 and his widow has remained a widow ever since the death of her husband. At that date the parties above mentioned lived in Brunswick County State of Virginia. I have no papers by which I can fix the date but I know it was in the time of the war and according to my age and the circumstances of that day it has been 61 or 62 years ago I have known Gardner High and his wife ever since and Rachel High is the Identical person who has made application for a pension and is a very worthy old lady and that her statement is entitled to credit

Sworn to and subscribed this 13th day of September 1838

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isaac Sullivant", written in a cursive style.

[Facts in file: The widow died December 25, 1844, place not shown; although there is reference to children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in this file, none of them are named.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$59.31 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 17 months in the Virginia and North Carolina service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]