

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Hollems (Hollins)W27864 Hannah Hollems f23SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

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State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District: to wit

On this 7th day of March 1834, personally appeared in open court to wit the Court of Common Pleas &c now sitting William Hollems, a resident of Spartanburg District & State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States on the 4th day of July in the year, as he thinks, 1777 with Lieutenant Farrow [Thomas Farrow] and served in the Regiment of the South Carolina line under the following named officers to wit: Capt. Benjamin Tutt, Richard Tutt, 1st Lt. & Thomas Farrow, & 2nd Lieut. James Huggins Ensign, he thinks, Major Dickins—Col. Williams & Genl. Williamson [Andrew Williamson] were the field officers but they were but seldom at the Fort. He enlisted at Earle's Fort in Spartanburg District So. Carolina and marched thence through the upper part of the State to Seneca Fort on Seneca River in Pendleton District of the Said State last aforesaid on a campaign against the Cherokee Indians; that he remained stationed at that place until the 4th of July of the same year that Charleston was taken [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] which was three years after he was enlisted, when he was regularly discharged. Shortly after the Fort was taken by the British Army which was done without any resistance put up by the forces of the United States. He was in no regular battle, but was occasionally out with scouting parties a few miles from the Fort. He gave his discharge to a friend for safe keeping & he told this deponent that it was burnt with his house, which he believes is true.

He was born in the State of Virginia Halifax County on the 21st day of November 1760 or 1761 and removed to Packolet [sic, Pacolet] River in Spartanburg District South Carolina when he was about 10 or 12 years of age; that he moved to North Carolina, Wilkes County and then returned to Spartanburg District where he has resided ever since. He has no documentary evidence of his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ E. Bonear, Clerk

S/ William Hollems, X, his mark

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State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District: Additional Declaration of William Hollems

This Services which he performed he believes was in the State Service, which he thought was sufficiently indicated in the words of his first declaration; he had an indent for land on account of his Services which he sold to Thomas Farrow – a great many years since. He states that the reason he did not make application sooner, was that he requested a friend to draw his declaration for him at the first Court after of the act passed – but, that he is in the habit of intemperate drinking occasionally and that he got intoxicated & remained so until it was too late to do the business during that Court, that he afterwards waited to see if he could not possibly procure additional testimony of his Services by some living witness. The Lieutenant (Farrow) under whom he enlisted had resided in Pendleton District but he has been assured that he is dead & knows actually of no other person who is living that served with him in the war, (only the short time Mr. Couch [?] was with him). This Declarant made an attempt to obtain act of 1818 & then procured the oath of Lieutenant Farrow which may be found in the War Office now, which he refers to & hopes he may have the benefit of it, provided it can be found, he is a very poor man and consequently unable to travel or possibly he might find some one or more of his old companions in Arms. There was a lady some where in Alabama a few years since Frances Kemer [?] Nelson but he does not know what office to direct a letter or whether she is now alive. She was in Camp with her father who was a relation of this Declarant.

This declarant makes the following Statement in relation to the destruction of his discharge – he gave it to his relation whose house was afterwards burnt & he may possibly have associated the burning of the house with the destruction of the Discharge & in that way his memory may have deceived him but he is not deceived in the fact that he gave the Discharge to Couch [?] & that he never returned it.

Sworn to and subscribed on the eighth of February 1837.

S/ Jas E. Henry, J. Q ExOff.

S/ William Hollems, X his mark

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South Carolina, Spartanburg district

Personally came William Couch¹ and being duly sworn made Oath that he was acquainted with William Hollems in the Revolutionary war that his uncle by the name of William Hollems enlisted him to Thomas Farrow & he this first named William Hollems was stationed at Seneca Fort South Carolina that this deponent says that he was frequently at the Fort during the time & served himself as a substitute in the place of James Hollems part of the time at said Fort and he further says upon Oath that William Hollems served three years as a Soldier & was regularly Discharged that he left his discharge with him & he kept it for several years & that he threw it with other old papers in the fire thinking them of no service.

Sworn to and subscribed the 11th day of May 1834.

S/ Joel Dean, JP

S/ Wm Couch, X his mark

[p 4: On May 25, 1849, Hanah Hollmes [sic] of Union District, SC, filed a claim for a widow's pension stating that she married William Hollems in January 1788; that he died November 10, 1848. She signed her application with her mark. Another affidavit given by Jane Waters contains the statement that Hannah's maiden name was Hannah Couch.]

¹ [William Couch R2361](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]