

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Grafton W5391

Jinny Moody

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia }
County of King and Queen } SS.

On this 6th day of January 1844 personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the peace in and for the aforesaid County, Jinny Moody a resident of the County of King and Queen and State aforesaid aged about ninety six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the acts of Congress passed July 7th 1838, and 23rd August 1842 granting pensions to Widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary war. That she is the widow of John Graften, who was a private in the Army of the Revolution, That she knows nothing of her own knowledge of his services, nor does she know when he entered, or left the service, neither can she now recollect under what officer he enlisted or served, although she frequently heard him say nor does she know the Regiment or Corps to which he belonged, or how long he was in service, as it has been now more than fifty years since her husband, the said Graften's death, but she frequently heard him and other old soldiers during his life, talk of their having been in the service a long time, and of the many hardships and deprivations to which they were subjected whilst in service, and she well recollects that he said he first enlisted for a specified period and served out the time for which he received his Bounty Land, and was afterward drafted several times and was forced to perform duty in the militia service for none of which service he never was more than half paid She further states that since so many of the old soldiers have been receiving pensions, she was informed by an old soldier who is now dead, but who at that time was a near neighbour to her, and who was himself receiving a Pension, that had her husband lived untill then, that he too would be entitled to a pension as well as himself, as they were in service together, and she thinks he stated that they were in the same Company, and mess, but of this she cannot speak positively. She further states that the name of the old soldier, above referred to, was William Cook [pension application W6708] of the aforesaid County of King and Queen, whose widow is yet alive and now receiving a pension. She further states that her husband aforesaid was a resident of the aforesaid County of King and Queen, and resided she thinks in the neighbourhood of the Vilage of New Town [now Old Church], when he entered the service She further declares that she cannot state positively the day, month, or year when she was married to the said Grafton, having kept no record of their marriage, but she was married to him not very long after the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and she knows that it was sometime during the year 1782 or 1783, and that they were married by Parson Matthews in the County of Essex That the said Graften, her husband, lived but a few years after their marriage, but she does not recollect the date of his death but that he died when their first child (who is now alive and about sixty years of age) was about three years old.

She further declares that she was not married to him previous to his leaving the service, but that the marriage took place prior to the first day of January seventeen hundred ninety four Viz at or about the time above stated. She further declares that after the death of her husband aforesaid, she was married to her late husband John Moody who died on or about the year 1837 the day of the month not now recollected, and that she is still a widow

[signed] Jinny Moody

This is to certify that I am now Seventy Eight years of age; that I was born and raised in the County of King and Queen and State of Virginia; was well acquainted with John Grafton deceased, the former husband of Mrs. Jinny Moody of the said County of King and Queen, and know that he the said Grafton was one of the Regular Soldiers of the Revolution; – That himself and my Father (Edward Taylor, were in a Company together, and I well recollect of hearing my Father after the close of the war frequently speak and laugh about the said Grafton's tricks whilst in service, especially of a circumstance

which occurred between the said Grafton and one of the officers, (I think it was Capt Lyne; I cannot state how long Grafton served, but I know that he enlisted in the Regular Service. My Father served three years & more and I have no doubt Grafton served the same time at any rate he was always reputed & believed to have been one of the three Levis men [conscripts]. I further certify that the said Grafton resided at the time in the neighbourhood in which the village of New Town now stands in the aforesaid County of King & Queen

Given under my hand this 26th day of March 1846

Sally herXcross Watkins

NOTES:

On 9 Dec 1843 Barbara Taylor, about 72, certified the service and stated that Grafton married Jinny Lain, and they had a daughter named Jinny Lain, who married S. Kelton. On 17 March 1846 Clara Cook, nearly 80, also certified that John Grafton had served in the war.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 19 Dec 1783 by John Grafton and James Young for the marriage of Grafton to Jane Lain, and also a consent signed by her parents, John and Sary Lain.