

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Blacknall S46023

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }
County of Granville } Ss.

On this 9th day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the worshipful the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, for the County aforesaid, now sitting Thomas Blacknall Sen'r. a resident of the County aforesaid aged seventy two years, 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 was born in the County of Gloucester in the State of Virginia on the 18th day of February in the year 1760 – that the only record of his age is in his Family Bible – that he lived in Gloucester before & since the Revolution until about the year 1800 & since that time he has resided in Granville County & in this state – that he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1776, on the 7th day of March, shortly after he reached sixteen years of age, under Captain Tompkins [probably Charles Tomkies] – Lieut. James Bateup [sic: James Baytop], & Ensign Samuel Eddings [sic: Samuel Eddins] in what was called the 7th Virginia Regiment. Amongst the field officers was Colonel [William] Nelson – that he lived in the County of Gloucester at the time of his enlistment – that he remained in the eastern part of Virginia, in the neighbourhood of Little York & Williamsburg about two months, when he was ordered to the north. He marched under the same company officers named above, except his captain whose name was [Reuben] Lipscomb at first, & afterwards under Capt. Harry Young [Henry Young]. He was marched on through Fredericksburg – Alexandria & other places to Baltimore where he was taken down with the small pox & continued there several months & then joined the army under Gen'l. Washington near Philadelphia but he does not recollect precisely where. At this time he recollects that Generals Stevens [sic: Adam Stephen], [Charles] Scott, & [William] Woodford were field officers. His captain now was Harry Young. After marching in New Jersey & Pennsylvania through many places, the names of which this affiant cannot now recollect, the army marched into Delaware & met the British forces at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], in which action this affiant was engaged. The names of his company officers in the action were Captain Young, Leut. Bateup & Ensign Eddings. The names of his field officers in the action he does not now remember. He marched after the action northwardly into Pennsylvania & was in the action at Germantown [4 Oct 1777] under the same company officers just named. He recollects in this action that whilst a part of the american forces were storming a large house [Judge Benjamin Chew House] occupied by the enemy Gen'l. Stevens ordered a retreat, as it was said prematurely & improperly & the American Army was then pursued for some distance. This affiant continued with his company in Pennsylvania between the Delaware & Schuylkill until the season was far advanced, when the army took up winter quarters at Vally-forge [sic: Valley Forge]. Before the army broke up winter quarters, his term of enlistment having expired, this affiant rec'd. his discharge on the 7th day of March 1778, but he does not accurately recollect from whom having lost it, as he supposed, shortly after. This affiant returned home & continued there until Cornwallis marched into Virginia [8 May 1781]. He then turned out as a volunteer in Gloucester County in a company of Grenadiers, whilst Cornwallis was at York Town [arrived 1 Aug 1781; surrendered 19 Oct]. He was under the immediate command of Colonel [Hugh] Mercer, & during the siege of York a part of his time he was stationed on the opposite side of the [York] River to prevent the escape of the enemy in that direction. During this tour he served six months – He knows of no person alive who can testify to any part of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. [signed] Thomas Blacknall