

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Archelaus Gilliam S8567

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 April 2014.

Virginia: Amherst County to Wit

On this 8th day of April 1833 personally appeared before me Thomas N Eubank, a Justice of the peace for the county of Amherst aforesaid Archelaus Gilliam a resident of the said county and State of Virginia aged about 78 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That some time about Christmas of the year 1775 he enlisted under Capt Thomas Patterson of the county of Buckingham Va. where he then lived for the period of two years, that soon after his enlistment, he was marched to the city of Williamsburg in Va. where he was attached to the 6th Regt of Virginia Troops commanded by Col Mordecai Buckner. That his company officers were Samuel J Cabell [Samuel Jordan Cabell] Capt and Benjamin Taliaferro and James Barnett subalterns. that this said Regt viz the 6th Regt to which he was attached in the character of a private soldier, remained near the said city of Williamsburg at a Camp called Springfield, until the fall of the year 1776, when it was marched through Pennsylvania to the state of New Jersey, where it was united with the main army under the command of Gen'l Washington. That after joining the army of Gen'l Washington he was with it when it was marched to Trenton on the night of the 25th December 1776 he thinks that they crossed the Delaware River at a Ferry called Carrols; That he was with Gen'l Washington at the partial engagement at Trenton [where Hessians were captured, 26 Dec 1776] and the taking of the Hessians on the next morning at Princeton [sic: Princeton, where British were defeated, 3 Jan 1777]. That after this he was marched to Amboy in the state of New Jersey, was at Newark and that during the summer of 1777 he was attached to Gen'l Morgans [Daniel Morgan's] Rifle Corps, that with that corps he joined the northern army under the command of Gen'l [Horatio] Gates, that he was at the battle of Saratoga and the capture of Gen'l Burgoyne at that place [17 Oct 1777]. That at another time he was engaged with the British forces, he thinks at a place called Edge Hill [in PA, 7 Dec 1777]. That after these services he was marched to a place called the Valley Forge, he thinks in Pennsylvania. That whilst at the latter named place, he having served out the two years for which he had enlisted, was discharged at that place, about Christmas of the year 1777 when he returned to his then residence in the said County of Buckingham. That some time after this but the day nor year he does not recollect, he was drafted in the militia as a private soldier from that said county of Buckingham, under the command of Capt Charles Patterson whose subalterns were James Barnell and John Barksdale; that his company was marched to Norfolk Virginia where he served out his Tour of three months, when he was discharged. That after the last mentioned service, but the day nor year he does not recollect, he served a Tour of three months to the best of his recollection as a private and a substitute for his brother Charles Gilliam who had been drafted for the Tour from the militia of the County of Bedford That the last mentioned service was performed under the command of Capt Adam Clements, under whose command he was marched to South Carolina, where he was at the siege and surrender of the British post called Ninety Six [see note below]. That after the expiration of this Tour he returned to the County of Amherst, there settled himself and has resided there ever since.

That he has no documentary evidence to support his said claim, he herewith presents the testimony of two living witnesses both of whom testify as to his tour in the regular service and one of them also of the Tour of three months, performed as a substitute for his brother Charles Gilliam. That he served in the whole two years and six months – and he does not know that there are any other living witness by whom he could more fully prove his said services.

He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Interrogatories propounded to the applicant

1st Where and in what year were you born?

answer I was born in the year 1754 on Tye River at a place then in the County of Albemarle but it is now in the county of Amherst Va.

2^d Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?

answer I have no record of my age I speak from what my parents told me of my birth

3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live

answer When I enlisted for the first service spoken of in my declaration [two illegible words] I was a resident of the County of Buckingham Va. and was living there when drafted for the second service by 3 months also spoken of in my declaration and was living there when I entered as a substitute for my brother Charles and shortly before or soon after the close of the war I removed to the County of Amherst and settled myself, and have here lived ever since

4th How were you called into service, where you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

answer I first enlisted in the Regular service for two years, after serving out that time I was drafted for 3 months from the militia, and after serving that latter tour I substituted and served 3 months in the militia for my brother Charles Gilliam

5th State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental and militia Regts as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

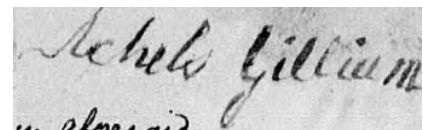
answer I enlisted under Capt Patterson of the 6 Regt but served under Capt Saml Cabell whose subalterns were Benj Taliaferro and James Barnett. Col. Buckner was our Col. during my service in the regular army I saw many regular officers Genl. Washington, Genl Morgan, Genl Gates and many others. I do not in the great lapse of time recollect the names of the militia Regts that served [illegible word] at any time nor even the name of the militia Regts to which I was attached my first militia Tour was under Capt Chs Patterson, whose subaltern was James Burnet and John Barksdale, my second under Capt Adam Clements, details not recollected and I do not know where any of them live or whether they be alive or not – the general circumstances of my service I have fully and circumstantially[?] set out in the body of my declaration (which the applicant here repeats)

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it

answer I Rece'd regular discharges from my various services but I do not now remember by whom they were signed, all of which discharges have been long since lost or destroyed

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behaviour, and your reputation for service as a soldier of the Revolution

answer I am known to the Reverend John Davis and John D Davis Esq who I expect will testify to my character for veracity and good behaviour, my reputation and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Archelaus Gilliam". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

Amherst County Set

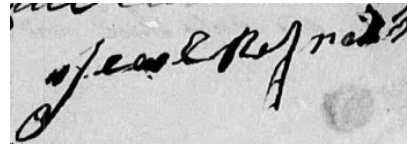
This day Jarrat Gilliam made oath before me Tho N Eubank a Justice of the peace for said County, that he well remembers his Brother Archelaus Gilliam's going & returning from the service of the Revolution, that he started from the house in which He lived when went into service, he inlisted for two years service under Capt Thos. Pateson from the County of Buckingham.

He was at the first Militia Muster of the company to which he belonged, Colo. Charles Pateson took Archilaus Gilliam discharge with sevrul others that had served with him, and read them aloud to the

company, my Brother John Gilliam [W5282] was one who served with him who is since dead and many others from the same neighborhood, to wit Berry Patteson, James Brown, (Allen [Allen Brown] & John Brown died in service & Joseph Dykes. He afterwards served a tour of three months in the Militia as a substitute for our Brother Charles Gilliam [signed] Jarratt Gilliam

Amherst County Sct

The affidavit of Jesse Reynolds [W5683] who being first sworn on the holy evangelist of Almighty God saith that he well recollects Archelaus Gilliam in the service of Revolutionary War that I was a soldier under Gross Scruggs Capt. from the County of Bedford, and Mr. Gilliam from the County of Amherst a soldier under Capt Samuel J Cabell from the said County and was attached to the 6th Virginia Regiment Commanded by Cols. Bucker. I well recollect seeing him at Trenton, I have known Mr Archelaus Gilliam ever since the War of the revolution. We have lived not more than five miles apart for the last thirty years further saith not

A rectangular inset showing a close-up of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Jesse Reynolds". The ink is dark and the background is light-colored paper.

NOTE: The Siege of Ninety-Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781, did not result in the surrender of the British. Gen. Nathanael Greene was forced to abandon the siege on learning that British reinforcements were on the way from Charleston.