

Pension Application for Thurston Wood

W.1973 (Widow: Catharine)

B.L.Wt.28541-160-55

State of New York

Orange County SS

On the first day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before me Gilbert Ogden Fowler one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid at the office of Walter Case Esquire in the Village of Newburgh Thurston wood Esquire of the Town of New Windsor in the County ;aforesaid aged seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on is oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 with Captain John Belknap & served in Colonel Lewis Dubois Regiment of the New York State line under the following named officers.

On the second day of March in the year aforesaid he enlisted in the Company of Captain Joh Belknap as a private for the term of one year in the Town of Newburgh then Ulster County Zachariah Hausbrouck was first Lieutenant Henry Paulding second Lieutenant David Hunter Ensign and Benjamin Robinson was orderly Searjeant [Sergeant] said company was Intfantry [Infantry] and Continental Army and belonging to the Regiment Commanded by Colonel James Clinton Immediately after enrollment deponent went with Captain Belknap aforesaid in a Rowe [Row] Boat from Newburgh aforesaid to Fort Montgomery situated on; the West side of the Hudson River in the Highlands General James Clinton then Colonel of the Regiment Henry Livingston Lieutenant Colonel Gilbert Livingston and Thomas Palmer Engineer were there.

The companies of Rosecrants Swartwout & Belknap were all the Continental Troops at this place at that time a part of Colonel Isaac Nicholls Regiment of Militia of the County aforesaid was also there when Deponent arrived at that place Colonel Lewis Dubois came there in the fall with a part of his Regiment the Residue were left on York Island. General George Clinton was commander in chief of the troops at Fort Montgomery. Deponent served out his term of service in said Company agreeable to the terms of his enlistment aforesaid at that post and was afterwards taken sick and returned home on furlough.

He remained home sick until after said Battle which took place on the sixth day of October 1777. Immediately after this deponent had recovered from his illness which was some time in the Month of October last aforesaid he Joined the Company of Militia commanded by Captain Christian Vanduzer of the Town of Blooming grove [Grove] in the County of Orange aforesaid and continued to serve in said company against the Tories and other enemies of the country untill some time in the winter of the year 1778 during part of that time he was stationed at Newburgh as a teamster as hereinafter mentioned and at other times we were serving the Mountains and resisting the hostile incursions of the Tories who in this county were verry [very] numerous and

frequently poured down from their hiding places and scattered death and destruction upon the plains beneath in every direction Deponent was constantly engaged in one or other of these services but so great a length of time has elapsed & so numerous were the services and so short that respective terms in which we were actually engaged in any one species of service before we were ordered into another that deponent cannot now Recollect the duration of the respective terms in which he was engaged Respectively Deponent well Recollects that the company to which he belonged was often in pursuit of a band of Robbers who lived in the Mountains and Allmost [almost] nightly descended to the plains beneath under the command of a notorious Bandett [bandit] by the name of Claudius Smith who burnt plundered and murdered under the sanction of a Captains Commission in the British Army.

This man was afterwards taken and Henry at Goshen in said County Deponent was one of his guards after he was taken we also took one of his sons who was also Henry at the place aforesaid.

We also shot one of his Sons in the ;Mouontains. We also took two spies one by the name of Howelling in one of our Incursions both of whom were Hung at Goshen In the Winter of the year 1777. Deponent was ordered out with a team to draw provisions & forage for the Army and served five months Major William Jackson was forage Master, Zachariah Dubois was conductor of a Briggade [Brigade] of teams, curing my term of service as aforesaid I was ordered to Sussex in the State of New Jersey with Burgoynes Army.

In the winter of the year 1778 Deponent was stationed at Fishkill and Wappingers Creek under the command of Eliphalet Weeks who had the command of Teams. Deponent was ordered to find wood and forage for the Army and timber for building the Large Ship had young horses at Wappingers Creek.

And Deponent also saith the Militia of the county of Orange were divided into Classes or detachments one of which in consequence of said County being a a [sic] frontier. Both as it respects British and Indians and being Exposed to the frequent Incursions of the Tories who harboured in the Mountains and were under the command of brave and unprincipled leaders acting under the sanction of Commissions from the British Government.

Was always in actual service during the war and until relieved by some other detachment. That in case of General Alarm the whol [whole] Militia turned out and remained in service until the danger was over and deponent also saith that he has not Written discharge. That if he ever had one it is lost and that he has no other evidence of his services than the affidavits of James Edmonson & Daniel Belknap who were in the service with the deponent as stated in their respective affidavits hereunto annexed and in answer to the Interrogatories specially put to his deponent by the said Court Deponent answering saith.

In answer to the first interrogatory Deponent saith that he was born in New Windsor in the year 1760.

To the Second Interrogatory he saith that he has a record of his age at home in his family bible.

To the third Interrogatory he saith that when he entered the service he lived in Orange County and continued to live there untill near the close of the Revolutionary War. That he now lives there and has lived there for 22 years last past.

To the fourth Interrogatory he says that when called into service he volunteered.

To the fifth Interrogatory Deponent saith that the names of the Regular officers who served with the Troops when he served have been already stated by him in this affidavit.

The General George Clinton, General James Clinton, Colonel Lewis Dubois, Colonel Henry Livingston, Colonel Thomas Palmer, Colonel McLaughry and Captain Moody of the Artillery & Eliphalet Weeks and Major Jackson. The Continental Regiment with which Deponent served was Dubois and Clinton and the Militia Regiments Deponent Recollects were the Regiments of McLaughry and Hawthorn. There were many other Regiments of Militia there but three terms of service were so short generally & they were so often changed that deponent cannot recollect tem. The general circumstances of his service were stated above in his affidavit.

To the sixth Interrogatory deponent saith that he never received a written discharge that when said company of captain John Bellknap was discharged he was sick at home and it was never the practice to give discharges in companies of Militia.

To the seventh Interrogatory he saith that he is acquainted with Joseph Morrell Esquire an officer of the Revolution and Daniel Moores Esquire who can testify as to Deponents character for veracity and belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

And Deponent who saith that by reason of two fits of apoplexy with which he has been afflicted he will be unable to attend the Court of Common Pleas at its next term and from his experience of the nature of his complaint he verily believes that he well never be able to attend the same again without great inconvenience as the disorder aforesaid has produced a total derarrgment of the [?] discharge of service.

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. (Signed) Thurston Wood

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before Gilbert Ogden Fowler one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for Orange County.

Letter in folder dated June 6, 1940, written in response to in inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of Samuel and Thurston Wood, both of whom served from Orange County, New York.

The record of Thurston Wood which follows was obtained from claims for pension and bounty land, on file under W.1973, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

Thurston Wood was born in the year 1760, in New Windsor, Orange County, New York. The names of his parents were not given.

While a resident of Orange County, New York, Thurston Wood enlisted in Newburgh, New York, March 2, 1776, served one year as private in Captain John Belknap's company, Colonel James Clinton's New York regiment, stationed at Fort Montgomery. He served in 1777, one month in Captain Christian Vanduzer's Company, Colonel Jesse Woodhull's New York regiment, was in some skirmishes with the Tories. He served from the fall of 1777, five months as teamster, under Zachariah Dubois, Conductor of Teams. He served from sometime in December, 1778, five months as teamster, under Zachariah Dubois, Conductor of Teams. He served from sometime in December, 1778, five months as teamster under Camp Ayres, Conductor of Teams.

The soldier, Thurston Wood, was allowed pension on his application executed September 1, 1832, then a resident of New Windsor, New York.

It was stated that he was Alderman in New York City, also magistrate in Orange County, New York.

Thurston Wood died April 17, 1838, in New Windsor, New York.

Thurston Wood married October 2, 1796, in New York City, Miss Catharine Beck or Beek. The date and place of her birth, and names of her parents were not given.

The widow, Catharine Wood, was allowed pension on her application executed May 25, 1849, at which time she was seventy-nine years old, and a resident of Newburgh, Orange County, New York. She was allowed, also, one hundred sixty acres of bounty land, on her application executed April 23, 1855, still living in said Newburgh.

Timothy Wood, brother of the soldier, Thurston Wood, was sixty-seven years old, in 1833, then of Orange County, New York.

Moses H. Wood in 1849, thirty-five years old and living in Newburgh, New York, stated that he was present at the death of Thurston, Wood, but gave no relationship.

Reference was made in 1860 to Mrs. McLaughlin, widow of Michael McLaughlin, as the granddaughter of the soldier, Thurston Wood, also, to her son living near Brooklyn, New York.

The papers on file in these claims contain no further discernible family data.