Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Coffer (Cofer) R2097 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of South Carolina }
District of Abbeville }

On this twenty first day of December 1832 personally appeared before John Scott Justice to keep the peace for the district aforesaid, Joseph Cofer a resident Abbeville district So. Ca, aged 86 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 provision made by act of congress passed June 7th 1832. I am not certain what year I enlisted in the army, but recollect it was the 7th day of October. I was enlisted by 1st Lieutenant George Hancock in Capt Joseph Pannel's [sic: Joseph Pannill's] company & served in the regiment commanded by Col. Starke [sic: John Stirk]. When I entered the army of the United States I was a resident of Amherst County in the state of Virginia. Capt Miller, Capt Moseley [probably Mosby] belonged to the same regiment I did & we were commanded by Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln & Gen'l. [Samuel] Elbert

The company I was attached to marched to Savanah [sic: Savannah GA] & arrived there the 7th of March. I was out in various & repeated scouting Parties. I remained near that place over twelve months & then obtained a furlow for three months to return to virginia to visit my family. I did so and on my return met with Gen'l. [John] Butler at Salisbury in North Carolina & marched with him & his nine hundred new levies until I joined the remnant of my company near Augusta Ga – Gen'l Butler remained & the company I belonged to & several others making in all 446 were marched to Charlston [sic: Charleston SC], where we remained about three weeks. We were then marched to _____ where we met with Gen'l. Butler; Col. Malbany [sic: François de Malmedy] was authorised to raise a company of select men, & I was chosen one of them & fought under him at the Battle of Stono [Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1799], marched from thence to Beaufort & then to Augusta, here I obtained another furlow & my time of 3 years enlistment expired about the time the furlow did.

I was promised bounty land when I enlisted, which I have never received. I had a wife & one child at the time of my enlistment.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to, & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid Joseph hisXmark Coffer

P.S. any information or communication for Mr. Coffer will be directed to Calhoun's Mills Abbeville District So. Ca.

Farther testimony in Joseph Cofer Case to make his declaration more definite —
I entered the service the seventh day of October, (year not positive) Marched to Georgia where I remained untill August come a year following, which lacked two months of two years then I received my first furlough for three months, I got it prolonged till Christmas, then I returned and met with the remnant of my Company at Golphins [probably Fort Galphin in Aiken County SC] (after Savannah fell into the hands of the Brittish [29 Dec 1778]) Then we marched to Charleston S,C. Afterwards we fought the Battle of Stono. I am sure I remained in actual service at that time not less than six months longer which would make all added together two years and four months. But to be more definite and far within bounds, I say two full years

Sworn this 1st day of March 1834 Joseph hisXmark Cofer