

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jonathan Davis R2722

Hannah Davis

f38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/20/10: rev'd 5/10/22

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 3]

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the Acts of Congress passed for the relief of the Widows of the Officers & Soldiers of the War of the Revolution,
State of Tennessee White County }

On this Sixteenth day of February 1839, personally appeared before me William Hunter one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County of White and State aforesaid -- Hannah Davis a resident of said County and State, aged ninety years the tenth day of the present month: (February) who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress passed the 4th day of July 1836, the 7th day of June 1832 and all other acts of Congress passed for the relief & benefit of the widows of the Soldiers & officers of the revolution -- That she is the widow of Jonathan Davis -- who was a soldier of the revolution as this affiant is informed and believes, her said Husband served a tour of duty, but she cannot now state whether as a Militia man or volunteer nor where he went to, nor who he served under, it was before she was married to him, that she believes he returned home early in the year 1777. That about harvest of that year she was married to Jonathan Davis familiarly and commonly known by the name of Schoolmaster Davis. She will further state, from all that she can learn and remember, Jonathan Davis entered the Army early in the year 1780 as an officer of some kind, and was killed by the British in the battle at Camden [August 15-16, 1780]¹ on or about the month of October 1780 -- That she in company with Jonathan Davis's mother visited the Battle ground, a few days after the action, and all that they could hear of Jonathan Davis was that he was seen to fall in the Battle to rise no more -- killed. That Jonathan Davis entered the Army from Rowan County State of North Carolina that she has no documentary evidence whereby she can establish her claim for a pension. She cannot state the corps or grade in which he served and that she verily believes, and is well satisfied he was killed in action as stated, She further declares, that she was married to the said Jonathan Davis on or about the first day of July 1777 that her husband the said Jonathan Davis was killed in Battle as before stated at Camden in South Carolina on or about the 16th day of October 1780, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. Hannah Davis further declares that she had two sons by her marriage with said Jonathan, that are now living to wit Augustus Parks Davis, born the 10th day of November

¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

1778 and Jonathan C. Davis born the 28th day of October 1780 -- the last birth took place but a little time after the said Johnson was killed and that said Johnson entered the Army as well as she can now remember about the first of April 1780 he said he was promised great things if he could go so that I believe he entered the Army for during the war.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and date above written.

S/ William Bruster, JP

S/ Hannah Davis, X her mark

[p 36]

State of Tennessee White County} On this 2nd day of April in the year of our Lord 1839 personally appeared before me Benjamine Brown² aged about Eighty Seven years in June next who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement to wit that in the year 1777 Jonathan Davis served a campaign of three months as a private in Capt. James Smith's Company against the British at Cross Creek under Col. Locke [Francis Locke, Rowan County NC Regiment of militia] with this affiant when this affiant returned home Jonathan Davis returned home also, that in the summer of 1777 -- Jonathan Davis was married as he believes to one Hannah Parks -- being at this time some few miles from this affiant saith Hanna is very old and infirm, this affiant will state that he did not see the said Jonathan & Hannah married, but they all lived not far apart in North Carolina at the time, and the said Jonathan & Hannah passed for man & wife they lived together and were reputed to be such and he never heard a breath of suspicion to the contrary and this affiant verily believes that they were lawfully married & about the first of April 1780, Jonathan Davis again entered the Army as this affiant believes as a Lieut. and as this affiant believes a first Lieut. for the reason that at the place of rendezvous he had the command of the Company in the absence of his Capt. and wanted this affiant to go with him saying that Congress had promised the Army a big bounty and great things & that he was going to fight the enemy till the war was over, for this reason this affiant he believes he went for during the war, again that was the impression made on this affiant's mind from the time he parted with Davis until the present day. Jonathan Davis poor fellow was killed as he believes in the Battle with the British at Camden, the fall after he went to the Army, say in the month of October A.D. 1780. Hannah Davis has lived a widow ever since the death of said Jonathan the said Husband, and has two sons Augustus and Jonathan, Jonathan the Father was an active businessman, well qualified as an english Scholar for any ordinary business in society. This affiant cannot now say what officers Jonathan Davis served under the last term -- nor could he say what line.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & date above written

S/ Wm Hitchcock, JP

S/ Benjamin Brown, X his mark

[p 37: On April 2 1839 in White County Tennessee, Jane Brown, 76 last February, wife of Benjamin Brown gave testimony as to her acquaintance with Hannah Davis and her belief that Hannah and Jonathan Davis were lawfully married and that Jonathan Davis was killed as she believes at the battle of Camden by the British in 1780. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 7]

The Amended Declaration of Hannah Davis -- In order to obtain the benefit of the acts of

² Sic, [Benjamin Brown S3061](#)

Congress passed for the relief of certain officers & soldiers of the war of the Revolution
State of Tennessee White County} On this fourth day of January in the year of our Lord 1840
personally appeared before me William Bruster one of the acting Justices of the peace in & for
said County of White & State aforesaid -- Hannah Davis a resident of said County & State aged
ninety-one the tenth day of February next who being first duly sworn according to law doth on
her oath make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the various
acts of Congress passed for the benefit of the officers & soldiers their widows & heirs of the War
of the Revolution.

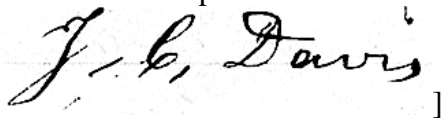
That from her great age the great length of time & loss of memory she will here make the
best and most accurate statement she can, She therefore states that she is the widow of Jonathan
Davis who was a Soldier of the Continental line of the State of North Carolina in the
revolutionary War, and that [he] was killed in the fall say in the month of October 1780. That
said Jonathan Davis served a tour of three months in the year 1777 in Capt. James Smith's
Company against the British at Cross Creek in the Regiment commanded by Col. Lock [sic,
Francis Locke] after his return home and during the harvest of that year (1777) she was married
to said Jonathan Davis. That said Jonathan Davis again entered the Continental line of North
Carolina as a private soldier for during the war on the first day of April 1780 and was killed in
the month of October thereafter she has always or for some time back thought he was killed at
Camden South Carolina but of late learning that Battle took place in the month of August 1780
she is satisfied she was not correct for it was after the first of October he was killed. Jonathan
Davis lived in Rowan County in the State of North Carolina when he entered the Army. She has
no documentary proof in her possession to offer the department in the authentication of her
claim.

S/ Hannah Davis, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed before made this fourth day of January 1840

S/ Wm Bruster, JP

[p 11: On December 1, 1851, Jonathan C. Davis filed a claim in White County Tennessee seeking
the amount due him as an heir of his father Jonathan Davis and his mother Hannah Davis; he
states that his mother died November 2, 1840; that his parents have but one son or daughter
surviving them and that is this affiant, Jonathan C. Davis; that his mother had applied for but did
not receive her pension as a widow of his father.



Jonathan C. Davis

[p 20]

Near Rock Island Tennessee 26 August 1839

Dear Sir

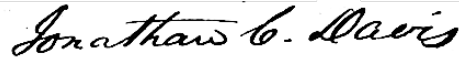
Yours is at hand, I am certain my Father was killed fighting the British, for his country
for my own part, I think from what I have long since been told, that he was under the command
of a Col. from South Carolina & that he fell fighting Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] , he was an
officer of some kind, commissioned or non-commissioned as I believe, he may have fallen at
King's Mountain [October 7, 1780],³ my Mother visited both places (Camden & Kings
Mountain) in search of relations in company with other Whig ladies of that day, you are correct

³ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

about the date of the battle of Camden, it was the 16th of August. I am sure mother has it all mixed up in her memory from the fact that I had a piece of an old letter that was in the hand writing of my father dated near Cowpens South Carolina 5th of October 1780 -- I am reasonably certain he was not a militia man, I had been told years sense that he entered the Army under the promise of a bounty from Congress -- all this I communicate for the sake of obtaining your kind aid in the investigation of the claim. I am sure no fraud is intended to be committed the truth is all we ask paid us if you please if it is in your power answered this soon if you please.

Yours Respectfully

S/ Jonathan C. Davis



J. L. Edwards, Esqr.
Washington City

[p 21]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears of record in this Office, that they Warrant issued to the Heirs of Jonathan Davis on the second day of February 1786 for 640 acres of land No. 3458 -- for the services of said Jonathan Davis as a private Soldier in the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, which is the quantity allowed by law to a War Soldier, or to the heirs of such as fell in the service of their Country.

Given under my hand this 7th day of October 1839

S/ Wm Hill