

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Gurganis (Gurganes, Gurganus) R4392 Rebecca Gurganis f27NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/8/06 rev'd 11/24/15

[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' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia, County of Bibb

On this the first (1) day of March in the year 1847, personally appeared in open court David Gurganis before the Honorable the Inferior Court, for said County and State, the same being a Court of Record the said David being a resident of the said County of Bibb and State of Georgia, aged eighty four years in May next, the said David having been first 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 United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated viz:

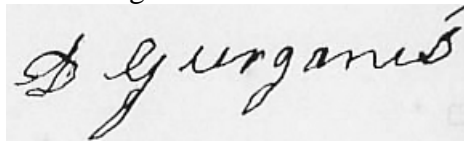
In his first Tour-- Deponent being now very old and infirm, does not recollect as fully as he otherwise would do, but states, that in his first Tour, the only names he can remember are his Captain, Samuel Barrow and the Colonel, John Moore; he thinks these were the Christian names; he entered the service as he can now recollect and believes, about the first of June the year 1780 and thinks he left the service about the middle of October in the same year (1780); he was drawn for only three months, but having been taken sick, remained in the Hospital some time after his time had expired, before he was discharged. At the time he was drafted he lived Pitt County, North Carolina and was drafted in Greenville in said Pitt County. He was drafted and acted as a common soldier, not as an officer. He was not in any Battle. He marched from Greenville to Kingston [sic, Kinston], where he remained with the army about three weeks; they were then marched to the country between Drowning Creek and Cheraw Hills (crossing Drowning Creek at Coles Bridge) at Cheraw Hills we met soldiers returning from Genl Gates' defeat [Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden August 15-16, 1780], this was about the middle of August. We then retreated by orders from Col. Moore and joined Genl. Cazewell [sic, Richard Caswell] at Deep River, at or near to Ramsey's Mill: I then remained in the Hospital at this Mill about three weeks and was then removed to Chatham Court House, where I remained in Hospital five or six weeks, when I was discharged by Col. Skirloch [probably Lt. Col. Mial Scurlock of the Chatham County militia], who was left in command, by orders, I think from the Board of War at Hillsboro. Joseph Guilford, William Gatlin, and Emanuel Teal were discharged at the same time I was. There were seven others discharged with me, at this same time, but I cannot now recollect the names of any others than those just named. Deponent does not now recollect that he knew any Regular Officers of the Army, or if he did, he has now forgotten their names. He was regularly drafted and served under the said draft. After he was discharged and returned home, one David Perkins bought from him his Certificate for pay, for about two thirds of the amount it called for, and thinks drew the money at Halifax; of this he is not now certain, but thinks it was at Halifax. A man named Godfrey Williams who was a wagon master, served with me this time and was in my mess. He is the only other person I can now recollect the name of.

In his second Tour-- Served this time under Capt. John Goram [John Gorham] and Col. John Salter; does not recollect the names of any other officers. Entered service about the first of July 1781 and thinks he left about the last of Sept. in same year as he was drafted for three months as before. Was drafted from same place as in the first Tour; served as a common soldier; was in no battle. Marched from Greenville and crossed the Neuse River below Kinston toward Wilmington for the purpose of meeting and repelling Major Craig [James Craig] a British Officer, with his forces. Before getting to Wilmington, heard Major Craig had shipped his men and we were then marched back between New and Cape Fear Rivers, where we were discharged. Does not think he served with any of the Regular or Continental Army or that he knew you any of the Officers. Does not recollect anything further. Has no documentary evidence, his discharge having been lost or destroyed. He sold his certificate this time, as before, to David Perkins, who drew the pay.

And the said Deponent, David Gurganis, 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ D. Gurganis

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Gurganis". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

And in open court before us:

S/James Smith, J. I. C.

S/ N. C. Munroe, J.I.C

S/Henry Newsom, J. I. C.

We, Whitman C. Hill--a clergyman and Adam Robinson both residing in said county of Bibb and State of Georgia hereby certify that we are well acquainted with David Gurganus who subscribed and swore to the above Declaration; that we believe him to be about 84 years of age; that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

S/ Whitman C. Hill, Minister of Methodist E. Ch.

S/ Adam Robinson

Interrogations propounded to David Gurganus and his answers:

1st. When and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Pitt County. North Carolina on 4th May 1763.

2nd. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have here a record of my age, which I copied from my Fathers Bible and which I now show to this Court.

3rd. Where were you living when you were called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer: When called into service, I was living in Pitt County, N. Carolina I remained there about ten years~ then in Martin and Halifax Counties about eighteen years more. I then moved to S. Carolina to Edgefield District & remained there and in Abbeville about sixteen years, until I moved to Georgia about I think 1825 or 1826 in this county near where I now live.

4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted or did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

Answer: I was drafted both times.

5th. State the name of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I do not recollect the names of any Regular Officers or Reg. with whom I served, but think I only served with the Militia unless there were regulars under Genl. Caswell; I was taken sick and went into the Hospital so soon after joining him, that I do not know as much as I otherwise would. The "general circumstances of my service" as well as I can recollect at this distant date are fully put forth and contained in my Declaration, which I have answered and sworn to before the Court.

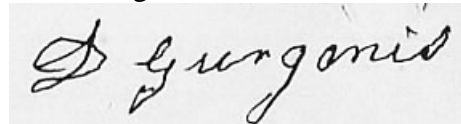
6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer: I received two discharges, I think the first was from Col. Skirloch and the second from Capt. Goram; they both been either lost or destroyed, thinking them of no value.

7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can certify as to your character for veracity, their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: Henry G. Ross, Asa C. Earnest, Adam Robinson, Rev. Whitman Hill, James White, John Wimbush, Mark D. Clark, Hon. Henry G. Lamar, Ex Governor Chas J. McDonald, Wm Johnston, & Rowland Bivins Esqr. Sworn to in open Court, 1st day of March, 1847.

S/ D. Gurganis

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Gurganis", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 25: On September 18, 1852 in Bibb County Georgia, Rebecca Gurganis, 70, filed for a widow's pension as the widow of David Gurganis, a revolutionary war soldier; that her husband died March 6, 1851; that she was married to him in 1825 in Edgefield District South Carolina; she signed this document with her mark.]

[p 14: On November 6, 1852 in Bibb County Georgia, Rebecca Gurganus, 70, made application for a widow's pension as the widow of David Gurganus; she states that her husband served for 3 months in Pitt County North Carolina in the year 1780 in the company commanded by Captain Samuel Barrow, Regiment of Colonel John Moore; that he served another 3 months in 1781 in a company commanded by Captain John Goram in Colonel Salter's Regiment; that she intermarried with David Gurganus in Edgefield Court House South Carolina in 1816; that her husband died in Bibb County Georgia March 26, 1849 being then 88 years old; that she has no public or private evidence of her marriage but swears that she was legally married to her husband; she signed her application with her mark.]