

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Edward Harris R4683

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 March 2012.

State of Georgia }

Greene County }

On this the twentysecond day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty personally appeared before the subscriber one of the Justices of the Inferior court of said county Martha Harris widow a resident of said county aged Eighty-two years and upwards who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled an "act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows"; that she is the widow of Edward Harris late of said county deceased who was a corporal in Col. C. McDowells Regiment under the command of Gen'l [Griffith] Rutherford in the Militia of Burks [sic: Burke] county in the State of North Carolina all of which will more fully and at large appear by reference to the original discharge annexed hereto, and that Joseph White was the name of the captain who commanded the company to which said Edward Harris belonged – Deponent further saith that from the length of time and extreme old age she does not now remember the period when her said Husband first entered the service of his country nor how long he served but to the best of her recollection deponent believes it was sometime in the year 1778 in the State of S Carolina where it appears from a certificate of Nathaniel Spraggins hereunto annexed that the said Edward Harris took & subscribed the oath of allegience & fidelity as was presented by an act of the General Assembly of the State of S Carolina reference being thereto had will most fully and at large appear.

Deponent further saith that she hath often heard her husband Edward Harris say that he was taken a prisoner by the Brittish [see note below] and carried to Kings Mountain and that he witnessed the engagement which took place between the Americans & the Brittish on that occasion which happened as well as she can remember in the fall of the year 1780. Deponent further saith that she hath reason to believe and verily doth believe that the said Edward Harris was at the Siege of Wilmington and aided and assisted on the latter occasion in repelling the enemy [18 Nov 1781]. She further declares that she was married to the said Edward Harris on the sixteenth day of January in the year 1777 and that her husband the aforesaid Edward Harris died on the twentieth (20th) day of March 1826. that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen Hundred & ninety four namely at the period above stated and that she hath never been married since this first time

Sworn to and subscribed Before me the day & year above written

[signed] Jas. Madison Porter J.I.C.

Martha herXmark Harris

AC I do hereby Certify that Edward Hairiss hath Taken and Subscribed the Oath or affirmation of allLegeance & Fedility as Describ'd by an Act of A General assembly of the state of South Carolina Intitled an Act to Obligate all Free male Inhabitants above a Certain Age to give assureance of Fedility & allegiance to the Same and For other purposes this Given from Under my hand this 14 Day of June 1778
Nathaniel Spragins

South Carolina Ninety Six District Edward Hairis Informs me that he wonts to move his family as far as Catabaw [sic: Catawba] River Therefore all persons are Desired to Let the said Hairis pass and repass if he Behaves himself in a Becoming manner This Given from Under my hand this 23 Day of October.

Nathaniel Spragins

These May Certifie That Ed'd Harris of the Burke Militia Did Serve as a Corporal in [two illegible words] under the Command of Gen'l. Rutherford from the 15 of Sep'r to the 15 of Dec'r and is Dischargd [two or three illegible words] full Tour of Duty [one or two illegible words] C McDowell Colo

Sep'tr 29 1794

This to Certify that Edward Harris was Discharged by Court Marshall held at Columbia Court from my Company John Gartrell Cap'tn

NOTE: Harris was apparently captured at Cane Creek in present McDowell County NC on 12 Sep 1780, when Col. Charles McDowell ambushed Loyalists under Maj. Patrick Ferguson. Anthony Allaire, a Lieutenant under Ferguson, recorded in his diary that "We totally routed them, killed one private, wounded a Capt. White, took seventeen prisoners...." Harris was evidently freed when Ferguson was killed and his troops defeated at the Battle of King's Mountain SC on 7 Oct 1780.