

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Morriss R7407

f20SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/5/09: rev'd 6/9/17

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

The State of South Carolina Anderson District

On this eighth day of March in the year of all Lord 1833 personally appeared John Morris before me an acting Magistrate for said District who being first duly sworn on oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 --

This applicant by reason of his infirmity is unable to attend at the Court House of this District for the purpose of undergoing an examination in open Court without great personal inconvenience and probable risk.

He was born in East Jersey on the first of April 1744 a record of his age was made but lost during the Cherokee War. He resided in Ninety Six District in that part now called Abbeville District when he entered the service and continued throughout the war. He entered the service in 1775 as a volunteer under Captain James McCall & Major Williamson [Andrew Williamson] & marched to 96 Fort and was in the engagement at that place with the Tories under Patrick Cunningham [November 19-21, 1775]¹ -- he served 2 months on that tour -- he volunteered first July 1776 under Captain Baskins [William Baskin], Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens], General Williamson and marched on an expedition against the Indians and an engagement with them at Seneca Old Town [August 1, 1776].² He then returned & was stationed on the line to protect the frontiers -- A tour of 4 months -- August 1777 he entered under Captain Baskins, Colonel Pickens as a spy and served 14 months after that he was discharged but has lost it since -- in 1778 he was discharged -- he again volunteered in 1778 under Captain Baskins & Colonel Pickens to go on an expedition against the Indians & British -- & was in an engagement with them & the Negroes at Governor Wright's plantation on the Ogeechee River -- he was at Buck Island when the British crossed the Savannah River on their way to Charleston and from which place he started to the Ogeechee -- he was in service this tour 3 months when he returned he was discharged & went home, he has not his discharge -- he again volunteered about Christmas 1780 under General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] & during that expedition he was at the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] Tarleton's Defeat³ -- he was in service that tour 4 months and a half -- he with was again a 2 months tour down to Bacon's Bridge near Charleston though in no engagement -- he has received no compensation for his services -- and has no discharge -- and no other proof but what is here offered -- And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a

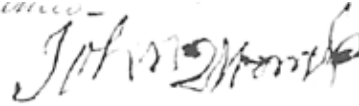
¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ninety_six_1775.html

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_seneca_town.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

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 & subscribed this 8th day of March 1833.
Sworn & Subscribed before me

S/ John Morriss



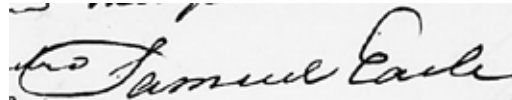
S/ A. J. Liddell, JQ

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Samuel Earle⁴ makes oath before [the undersigned] according to law that he was acquainted with John Morriss during the War of the Revolution -- Knows that he was in the Whig service as this Deponent served with him -- Said Morris was always reputed in his neighborhood to have been a faithful and devoted to the cause of American Independence.

Sworn to & subscribed 5 March 1833 Before me

S/ Samuel Earle



S/ Joseph N. Whitner, Not. Pub.

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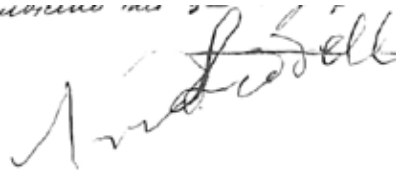
State of South Carolina Anderson district

Came personally Andrew Liddell Senior Before me who after being sworn on his oath -- saith that he was acquainted with John Morriss Senior during the revolutionary war, This deponent saith that he was acquainted with him before the war and was with him frequently in the time of the war he served with him under Captain Baskins in Abbeville South Carolina but cannot recollect whether they were in any battle together or not -- But knows that he was a firm friend to the Whig cause from the Commencement to the End of the war and both belonged to one beat [? heat?] Company & has lived within 3 miles of him in Pendleton District for 40 years or upwards & he has always supported the character of an honest man & man of truth.

Sworn & subscribed this 5th day of March 1833.

S/ A. J. Liddell, CQ

S/ Andrew Liddell

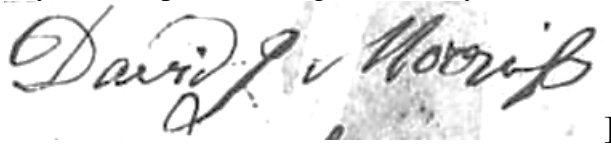


[p 4: Last will and testament of John Morriss, Sr. executed in Anderson District, SC, in which he names wife "Surrah"; daughter Margaret Cornelius; son , Adam; daughter Jenny Holly; son, Amos; son, John; son, William; son, James; son, David; his will is dated April 27, 1830 and probated March 16, 1835.]

[p 10: On September 17, 1855 in Anderson district South Carolina, David J. Morris, executor of

⁴ [Samuel Earle S21174](#)

the estate of John Morriss, filed a claim under the 1832 act stating that his father died on the 26 or 27th of February 1835 in Anderson district South Carolina; that at the time of his death he had signed an application for a pension but that he is agent Judge J. A. Whitner had neglected to send the application to the pension office during the life of the veteran; that there are now only 4 of the veteran's children now living, the deponent, James Morris, Amos Morris & Margaret Cornelius; "that his said father said John Morriss did not leave a widow, his wife this deponent's mother, having died prior to his father & her husband. That said Deponent has such son & Executor makes this claim as set forth by his father for the benefit of said Act and he further swears that Mrs. Mary Foils widow of John Foils killed in the Revolutionary war as he believes was a sister-in-law of deponent's said father & lived in his neighborhood and deponent early boyhood, deponent being now nearly 65."

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[p 12 South Carolina Comptroller Generals certification of payments made to John Morriss for services in the military during the revolutionary war including a pavement for 148 days duty as a spy in 1779 in the company of Captain William Baskin; and as a spy under Colonel LeRoy Hammond.]

[Facts in file: Veteran died February 26 or 27, 1835 leaving no widow and only 4 children surviving: David J., James, Amos and Mrs. Margaret Cornelius.]