

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Robertson S14341

f30SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/13/08 & 8/23/17

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 4]

State of Alabama, Tuscaloosa Circuit & County } Sct.

On this 13th day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before Anderson Crenshaw Judge of the Circuit Court for the County aforesaid now setting James Robertson a resident of the State of Alabama, Tuscaloosa County, aged 72 years & nearly 73 who being first duly 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in North Carolina near the Virginia line & his parents when he was an infant removed from there to South Carolina & settled in what was then called Ninety-Six District & since called Union County or District at which place he lived when he entered the service of the United States in the year 1776 as an enlisted soldier in the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment of provincials. The Regiment was commanded by Thomas Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], the Capt. was William McClintock<sup>1</sup>, he died & Alexander Buoy [sic, Alexander Boyce, Boyes or Boyer]<sup>2</sup> as Capt. took the command; Boyce was killed at the siege of Savannah<sup>3</sup> & Benjamin Brown<sup>4</sup> took the command. When he first enlisted as a provincial under Capt. McClintock it was for 16 or 17 months. He then changed his enlistment though in the same Regiment to that of the Continental service, in which enlistment he stipulated to serve three years or during the war. That he served under the Captains above named in that service. Whilst thus serving, the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment being greatly diminished in members was entirely extinct. He was then transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> There is no entry in Bobby Gilmer Moss *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983) (hereinafter cited as Moss, *SC Roster*) for a "Captain William McClintock." There is an entry for "McClintock, \_\_\_\_\_" referred to as a captain under Cols Thomas Sumter and William Henderson as referenced in the Federal pension application of John Thompson S39104. Robertson's pension application appears to refer to the same man listed in Moss, *SC Roster*, and gives his Christian name as being "William."

<sup>2</sup> Alexander Boyce [or Boyer or Boyes] was a lieutenant in the Sixth Regiment in 1776 and was promoted to captain on June 27, 1778. He died in November 1779 from wounds suffered at the Siege of Savannah on October 9, 1779. Moss, *SC Roster* 89 and 91

<sup>3</sup> Patrick O'Kelley, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter: The Revolutionary War in the Carolinas, Volume One: 1771-1779*, (N.p.: Booklocker.com, Inc., 2004) (hereinafter cited as O'Kelley, *Slaughter 1*) 312-353.

<sup>4</sup> Moss, *SC Roster*, 105

Regiment. This regiment was commanded by Charles C. Pinkney<sup>5</sup> [sic, Charles C. Pinckney] the captain was Charles Linen<sup>6</sup> [sic, Charles Lining] under whose command he remained until he was made a prisoner in Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island.<sup>7</sup> He was detained in prison about the space of one month, when meeting an opportunity to make his escape [he did so]. He then volunteered under the command of Captain John Thompson<sup>8</sup>, Branham's [sic, Thomas Brandon's<sup>9</sup>] Regiment and remained in that service until the close of the war. While in Sumter's Regiment, he was engaged in an action against the Cherokee Indians in the nations.<sup>10</sup> Also whilst in the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment now commanded by Col. Henderson<sup>11</sup> [William Henderson], the commander in chief being General Lincoln<sup>12</sup> [Benjamin Lincoln] he was in a battle at Stony point or Stono<sup>13</sup>. Also under the officers aforesaid he was engaged in battle at Savannah.<sup>14</sup> Then [he] transferred as aforesaid. He was engaged in battle on Sullivan Island under the command of Charles C. Pinckney. Whilst in the volunteer line he was engaged in many skirmishes, besides a general engagement under the command of General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] at the Cowpens.<sup>15</sup> During this period his marches were generally in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina. That his documents have been all destroyed so that at this time he has no documentary evidence of the particulars aforesaid. That the testimony of Thomas Lofton who now resides in the County of Pickens Alabama is all he can conveniently procure of his service. He herein and hereby relinquishes his 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 in open Court this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832.

S/ James Robertson, R his Mark

S/ John M. Jenkins, Clerk

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<sup>5</sup> Moss, *SC Roster*, 774

<sup>6</sup> Moss, *SC Roster*, 571

<sup>7</sup> Robertson is referring to the surrender of Charleston on May 12, 1780 following the siege of that city by British forces under the command of Sir Henry Clinton, the commander-in-chief of all the British forces in North America. The American forces, both Continental and militia, at Charleston were commanded by Benjamin Lincoln. For an excellent history of the Siege of Charleston, see Carl P. Borick, *A Gallant Defense: The Siege of Charleston, 1780*, (Columbia, SC, The University of South Carolina Press, 2003).

<sup>8</sup> Moss, *SC Roster*, 927

<sup>9</sup> Thomas Brandon (1741-1802) was a South Carolina Patriot militia officer who served under James Williams at Musgrove's Mill and King's Mountain and under Thomas Sumter at Blackstocks and later engagements. Phil Norfleet has a biographical note covering Brandon posted at [http://sc\\_tories.tripod.com/thomas\\_brandon.htm](http://sc_tories.tripod.com/thomas_brandon.htm). See, also, Bobby Gilmer Moss, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1983 (hereinafter cited as Moss, *SC Patriots*) 95.

<sup>10</sup> The Cherokee Campaign was conducted in the summer and early fall of 1776 under the general command of then Major, Andrew Williamson. [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

<sup>11</sup> William Henderson (1748-1788) served in a number of roles in both the Continental Army and the State militia of South Carolina during the Revolution. In the late spring and early summer of 1781 when Greene commanded at the siege of Ninety Six, Henderson was a lieutenant colonel in the First Regiment. He did not attain the rank of general until later in the War. Moss, *SC Patriots*, 436-7.

<sup>12</sup> Benjamin Lincoln, 1733-1810, was the commander of the Southern branch of the Continental Army from September 25, 1778 until his surrender of his army at Charleston on May 12, 1780. David B. Matten, *Benjamin Lincoln and the American Revolution* (University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, 1995).

<sup>13</sup> June 20, 1779: [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_stono\\_ferry.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html)

<sup>14</sup> Siege of Augusta (first/Clarke) [September 12-18, 1780] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

<sup>15</sup> For the most comprehensive history of the Battle of Cowpens, see Lawrence E. Babits, *A Devil of a Whipping: The Battle of Cowpens*, (Chapel Hill, N.C.: The University of North Carolina Press, 1998)

[Samuel M. Meek, a clergyman, and William Dunlop [could be Dunlap] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 25 is an affidavit given by Thomas Lofton<sup>16</sup>. The upper right-hand corner of this affidavit is missing. Text missing is indicated by "...” in the following transcript.]

State of Alabama, Tuscaloosa County

This day Tho...[Thomas]... ton [Lofton] appeared personally before me Lev... [Leven Brown] a justice of the peace of and for the County... [& State aforesaid] & made oath in due form that this Depon... [Deponent] ...listed [enlisted] along with James Robertson who at present resides in Tuscaloosa County Alabama -- in the year 1776 in the 6th Regiment of provincials in the State of South Carolina commanded by Colonel Thomas Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] in which service the said James Robertson continued for the full term of enlistment 17 months, and until discharged. Immediately after James Robertson was discharged he enlisted in the Continental Army of regular Troops 6th Regiment, under the same command, in which service said Robertson continued to discharge the duties of a Regular Soldier on the Continental establishment for the space of 3 years, and until the fall of Charleston, when he was taken prisoner -- after which, during the Revolutionary War, I have no further information concerning said James Robertson.

Subscribed & sworn to this 26th day of December 1828 before me

S/ Leven Brown, JP

S/ Thos. Lofton

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thos. Lofton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first letter "T" is large and prominent. There is a small number "3" written in the upper right corner of the signature area.

[p 29]

State of Alabama, Tuscaloosa County Sct.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said County James Robertson who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: For 16 months (at least) as a private Soldier (enlisted) afterwards as a private Soldier enlisted for 3 years or during the war which I served -- with a short exception of time when a prisoner. In the whole amount he served in the Regular & Continental service four years and a half -- to wit 16 months in the Provincial service of Regular troops and (more) than three years as a Regular Soldier, and for such service I claim a pension. September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1833  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833

S/ Charles Wright, JP

S/ James Robertson, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina Continental line.]

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<sup>16</sup> [Thomas Lofton S17114](#)