

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Alexander Berryhill S16639

f52SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/26/10: rev'd 7/29/18

[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 13]

State of Tennessee Franklin County: Circuit Court February Term 1821

Alexander Berryhill presented to the Court an additional declaration and Schedule of his property which is in the words and figures following, viz.

State of Tennessee Franklin County: February Sessions 1821

This day personally appeared in open Court being a Circuit Court [a] Court of record for the County of Franklin in the State of Tennessee Alexander Berryhill aged sixty years by occupation a farmer who being first duly sworn according to law on his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by an act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 [&] the 1st of May 1820 entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States in the revolutionary war and the said Alexander Berryhill who is now an inhabitant of Franklin County in the State of Tennessee states. In the year 1781 he enlisted in the State of North Carolina for the term of ten months in the Continental Establishment under Captain James N. Martin and William Polk as the Colonel under whom he served in the second Regiment of line of the State of South Carolina that he continued in the service of the United States until he served out his term of Enlistment, When at Orangeburg he received a permit from General Thomas Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] to return home that he was directed by General Sumpter to attend at New Market to receive pay and he did attend at the time and place according to his instructions and never received any pay for the same and he states that he never received any other kind of discharge that during his term of his enlistment he was in the battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] and in the battle at Biggin Church [St. James Goose Creek Church, July 15, 1781] and at the battle of Dorchester in South Carolina and that he has no other evidence in his power of said facts but his own oath and the deposition of James Evans which accompanies this declaration and his hereto annexed and states further that he is a very infirm and frail man & has lost the sight of one of his eyes that he has a wife named Rebecca about forty-six or forty-seven years old much afflicted with rheumatic pains that he has one daughter named Polly about sixteen years & named Linsfield about fourteen years old one son named Edward about six years old and one named Thomas aged four years that he has forty-two acres of extremely poor land on which is a small log cabin in which he now lives with a little personal property in the schedule hereto annexed. And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within

the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court 15th of February 1821

S/ J. H. Robertson, DC

Schedule

42 acres of land	\$52.50
3 head of horses	40.00
4 cows & calves	32.00
2 Steers & 40 head of hogs	16.00
4 sheep 1 cart	11.00
4 hoes 1 axe	1.75
3 plows & gears	4.00
3 dishes & 3 basins	2.5,00
6 pots and ovens	6.00
1 Frying pan	<u>1.00</u>
	\$166.75

This day James Evans came into court and being duly sworn states that [he] enlisted with Alexander Berryhill at the same time and served under James N. Martin the same Captain under whom the said Berryhill did serve saith that he served out his tour of enlistment as stated in his own declaration under Colonel William Polk in the Continental Establishment of the United States in the second Regiment of the South Carolina line & he further states that he was with said Berryhill at the battles of Eutaw Springs, Biggin Church and also at Dorchester and that the declaration of said Berryhill is throughout just and true so far as he knows it.

Sworn to in open Court 15th of February 1821

S/ J. N. Robertson, DC

S/ James Evans



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State of Tennessee Franklin County} On this 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of the court of pleas & quarter Sessions of said County, now sitting, the same being a court of record Alexander Berryhill a resident of Franklin County in Tennessee aged about sixty-nine years 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 seventh 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

In the year 1781 he enlisted in the State of North Carolina in the town of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County for the term of ten months; he believes as well as his recollection serves him he entered the service of the United States in the month of June 1781 but does not remember the day. That he enlisted under Captain James N. Martin and belonged to the third Regiment commanded by Colonel William Polk in which Regiment he served until his term of service

expired on the 17th of April 1782 on which day he received from Colonel Polk the discharge herewith filed and left the service: after this applicant enlisted as above stated he was marched with his company from the town of Charlotte in the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina to Camden in the State of South Carolina, from thence to Statesboro at the high hills of Santee and joined a Regiment at An big lake [??] upon Santee: from thence the Regiment was marched to Brown's old field upon the Congaree [River] where the Regiment remained part of the winter -- thence the Regiment was marched to Orangeburg, but owing to the great length of time since these transactions took place his recollection does not serve him distinctly. This applicant was in the battles of Eutaw Springs & Dorchester and at those battles he was commanded by Lt. Col. Wade Hampton. In the year 1821 this applicant made an application for a pension which is now on file in the pension office at Washington City as he believes -- the deposition of James Evans thereto annexed he refers to in support of this application. This applicant was under the impression that he belonged the Continental establishment and made said application under the act of 18th March 1818; this applicant did not know at that time that he was in possession of the discharge that is now filed with this declaration; being unable to read or write himself he lately procured a friend of his to examine every paper he had among which it was found. This applicant states that he has no other evidence of his services, that he can procure except that above referred to and his own oath & the annexed statements. He 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.

S/ Alexander Berryhill, X his mark

Sworn to in open Court September the second 1832

S/ E. Russell, Clerk

[the court set forth the seven interrogatories¹ required by the war department to be put to applicants under the 1832 act]

In answer to the first and second Interrogatories this applicant states -- he does not know the year he was born, he never saw any record of his age, nor does he believe any was ever kept, but he believes as before stated that he is about sixty-nine years of age.

In answer to the third question he states that he was living in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, when he was called into service as above stated. After he received his discharge he lived in the State of Georgia about seventeen miles below Augusta where he lived until about twenty-one years ago when he removed to Franklin County Tennessee where he has lived ever since.

In answer to the fourth question he refers to the foregoing declaration.

In answer to the fifth he refers to the foregoing declaration: he recollects that Colonel

¹ The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

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

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

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

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

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Polk commanded the Regiment he recollects of being attached to Hampton's command as above stated; that James N. Martin was his Captain, Robert Walker was his first Lieutenant, Jonas Clark second Lieutenant -- Jesse Clark orderly Sergeant, & John Clark the eldest of these brothers was the adjutant of the troop. During the latter period of his service he was under the command of Major Moore, but he does not recollect his Christian name, nor what Regiment Moore belonged to.

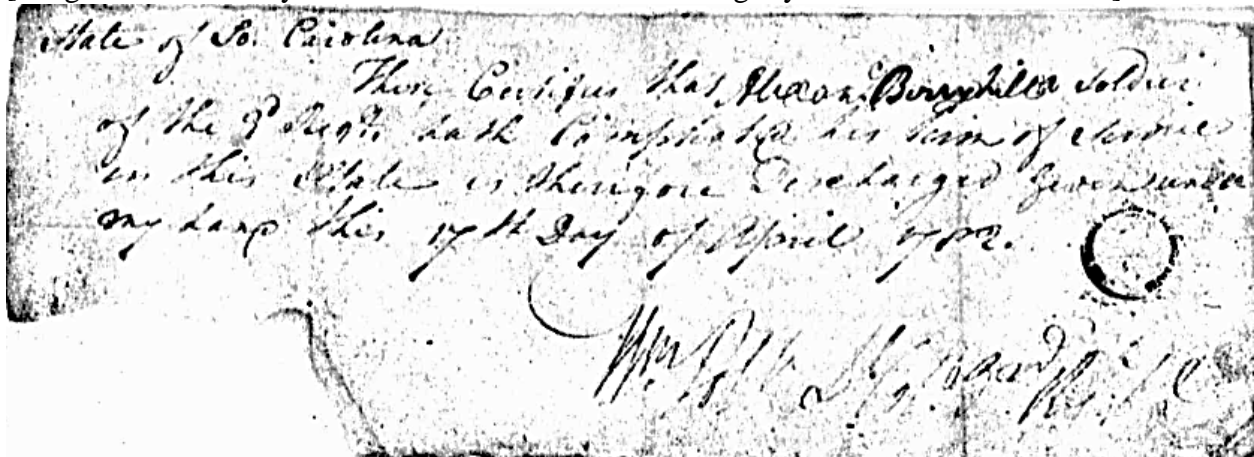
In answer to the sixth interrogatory he refers to the above declaration.

In answer to the seventh Interrogatory he refers to James Martin of said County the son of James N. Martin his Captain to James Weeks with whom he has been acquainted about fifty years.

S/ Alexander Berryhill, X his mark

[James Martin and Charles Weeks gave the standard supporting affidavit. "And James Martin further says -- That about seven years ago he heard his father say that he had seen one of his old revolutionary soldiers in town -- to wit Mr. Alexander Berryhill and a Mr. Evans who he says he had enlisted as soldiers during the revolutionary war: This conversation took place about the year previous to the death of my father. S/ James Martin.]

[image 42 on Ancestry.com's version of this file: it is illegibly faint on Fold3's version]



State of South Carolina

These Certifies that Alexander Berryhill Soldier of the 3rd Regiment hath Completed his term of Service in this State is therefore Discharged. Given under my hand this 17th day of April 1782

S/ Wm Polk, Lt. Colo. 3rd Regt.

[p 17: On March 1 1838, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefits to the state of Alabama, stating that he had recently removed from Tennessee to Marion County Alabama where he intends to live so "that he might enjoy the society and be with his relations and to advance it practicable his interest." This application for transfer a pension benefits supported by the affidavit of Willis Ward and William Berryhill both of them signed thereon names.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for ten months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Alexander Berryhill
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 463A
Transcribed by Will Graves

AA7

7/29/18

[p 2]

Gentlemen Please to pay the bearer Jonas Clark [too faint to discern] my pay and clothing [too faint to discern] Sumter's brigade [too faint to discern] Colonel William Polk's Regiment
S/Alexander Berryhill, X his mark

[p 4: Form of Indent No. 593 Book W dated October 1st 1784 delivered to "Mr. Alex^r Berryhill late Private in N. Martin's Troop Polk's Regt. Sumpter's Brigade this our Indented Certificate for the Sum of Ninety four pounds Sterling amount pay and bounty due him for Service in that troop with Interest thereon from the first April 1782 to date hereof agreeable to a resolution of Eleventh March last."

[p 6: Form of Indent No. 2041 Book X dated 22nd June 1787 delivered to "Mr. Alexander Berryhill this our Indented Certificate for the Sum of Six pounds three Shillings Sterling for arrears of Cloathing due him for Services in Sumter's Brigade State Troops per Certificate from the Commissioners for Liquidating the Claims against the Brigade &c."

[p 7: reverse of Indent]

For value Received I Assign over all my Right and Title to the within Indent to Thayer Bartlett & Co. or their Assigns December 17th 1787

S/ Alexander Berryhill

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexander Berryhill". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the late 18th century.

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [ENTER ON-LINE RECORDS INDEX](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Individual" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.