

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Stephen Austin S2040

f38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/27/07 rev'd 8/3/14

[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.]

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State of Tennessee, Wayne County Circuit November 4th 1832 Court of said county for the year 1832, November term.

On this 4th day of November in A.D.1832. personally appeared in open court before the Judge of said court now sitting, Stephen Austin, a resident of said County, aged seventy seven years & five months, who first being 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated, that is to say—He listed [enlisted] & went into the Continental service in the County of Surry & State of North Carolina, for the whole Term of the war. He marched through North Carolina, into South Carolina on as far as ninety six [Ninety Six] —by the Hanging Rock, Camden & was at the Cowpens, but not in the Battle fought at that place [January 17, 1781]. He was marched through South Carolina—He was in hearing of the Battle at Guilford [March 15, 1781] in North Carolina in Guilford County. He belonged to the light horse, & was posted outside the lines to guard the flank. He was in a great many Skirmishes, but no regular engagements. His principal service being performed in guarding & scouring the country & protecting foraging parties--& such services as this. He was in actual service during the revolutionary war five years. And hired a substitute for the last two years of the war, who served for that period in the place of the applicant. He was in Virginia, also in the service of the United States some part of the time of his service. He entered upon the service at about the age of twenty one years under the command of Captain William Armstrong who was afterwards promoted to the place of Major of the Cavalry - & Col. Washington [William Washington] of the light horse dragoons, & in General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] division.

He knew General Sumter [Thomas Sumter], General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] & General Lock [sic, Col. Francis Locke]. The above is a statement of all the service which applicant states he did positively perform, & was honorably discharged. And said discharge has long since been destroyed. He has no documentary evidence & he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

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/ Stephen Austin, X his mark

Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court November 5th, 1832

Test: S/ James C. Alderson, Clerk

Interrogatories of the War Department

Question 1st: Where & in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in the state of Virginia in Pittsylvania County & cannot recollect the year.

2nd: Have you any record of your age & if so, what is it?

I have no record of my age & do not know that I ever had any.

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

When I joined the army I lived in Grason [sic, Grayson] County in the State of Virginia but went over into Surry County in North Carolina where I joined the army. I lived twenty years in Grayson County Virginia. After the war I lived next in the State of Tennessee, & from there I moved into the State of Alabama, & after being there three years, I moved back into Wayne County where I now live, & have been living for the last ten or twelve years.

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

I listed [enlisted] in the regular service.

5th: State the names of some of the regular officers who were in the same troops, where you served such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service.

I have stated everything I can now recollect about the circumstances of my services & the names of my officers that I can now state about it at this distance of time!

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

I did receive a discharge from Major William Armstrong, which has long since been lost.

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

I am well acquainted with Benjamin F. Leden a Minister of the gospel & with General John Rayburn, both of the County. I am well acquainted with General John Coffee & Hugh McVay, Saml. Gray [could be Young] Esq. of Lauderdale County Alabama but cannot procure their attendance here in person but have their written certificates.

S Stephen Austin, X his mark

[Benjamin F. Leden, a clergyman, General John Rayburn gave the standard supporting affidavits.]

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The amended declaration of Stephen Austin Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a justice of peace for the County of Wayne & the State of Tennessee. Stephen Austin aged seventy eight years, last November who being duly sworn deposed & saith that in his former declaration it appears that he stated that he listed & entered the service of the United States, as a regular, but he now states that he was laboring under a mistake as to the meaning of the term "listed" through infirmity of age & consequent lapse of memory & that on that account he did not readily comprehend the meaning of the language in his former declaration. The manner in which he obligated himself to enter the service, and on account of which he performed the service mentioned in his former declaration was as follows: The Militia Company to which he belonged voted in those, who were to serve, instead of volunteering, drafting or listing, this was done by agreement among the company & applicant was one of those, who were voted in to join the service of the United States, as stated in his former declaration. He further states that he belonged to a cavalry company during his whole service which he supposes & believes according to his best recollection, was considered mounted Militia. He was attached to various troops during his service & mentioned in his former declaration, sometimes to regulars & sometimes to the Militia as circumstances required. He never was considered as a regular soldier.

Sworn & subscribed before me, this 10th day of March 1834.

S/ Stephen Austin, X his mark

Lemuel D. Mack, JP

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State of Tennessee White County January the 10 1834

This is to setify [certify] that I hve [have] bin [been] acquainted with Stephen Auston [sic] form the

year 1787 and I never knew aney [any] thing or hearde [heard] aney thing against him disonist [dishonest] or disonorable [dishonorable] up to this daite [date] above mentioned

S/ James Cole—Capt.

State of Tennessee } This is to setify that I have
White County } been acquainted with the
January the 10-1834 } Stephen Detuston from
the year 1787 and I never know aney thing or
heard aney thing against him disonist or dis
onorable up to this daite above mentioned
James Cole-Capt

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the cavalry of the North Carolina militia for 6 months.]