

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Duncan S21167

f23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/24/07 rev'd 12/9/14

[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.]

State of South Carolina, Greenville District

On this thirteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas & General Sessions now sitting Robert Duncan a resident of Greenville District and State of South Carolina aged seventy three 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He lived in North Carolina Randolph County when he entered the service. He was first drafted for three months about two months before the battle of Guilford in the year of our Lord 1781 under the command of Captain Robert McLane and Colonel John Lettrile [John Luttrell]. He was selected by Capt. McLane to help in building a house for the purpose rationing corn for the use of General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army. A great deal of corn was collected & this Deponent was placed to guard the same. General Greene's Army came on and made use of as much as they wished & passed on to Guilford. The corn was collected and stored in Randolph County. In a few days after Greene's Army passed by the battle of Guilford was fought [March 15, 1781]. This applicant heard the guns of the battle. Captain McLane rode to see which army kept in possession of the battle ground and on finding that the British maintained it, he left the store house and ordered this applicant to do the same as it was expected the corn would fall into the hands of the British. In a short time after the battle a detachment of the British forces came by where this applicant still remained guarding the corn although his Captain had left. They made use of a passel of it and went on without interfering with this applicant. Immediately after this he was put under the command of Captain John Rains and continued ranging about over the country after the Forces under the command of Col. Fanning [David Fanning] --.Capt. Rains would sometimes pursue on after them until he came near the Pee dee [Pedee River] in the Scotch settlement and then return. The company under the command of Captain Rains was very often alone and at other times with other companies. He served out his time of three months and was discharged in writing by Captain Rains.

Immediately after this he returned home and was informed by Colonel Dugan [or could be Hogen] or Colonel Clark that if he would join the light horse and furnish his own horse and arms for two months it should count for a three months tour when it came round for this applicant to be drafted again. He did under these circumstances join the Light Horse

under the command of Captain Jno. Rains. He was induced to do so in order to prevent a [word obliterated] to Charleston which he expected he might otherwise have to serve. He was employed during the tour of two months in marching after Colonel Fanning and scouring the Country for Tories. He was frequently with two other companies the command of Captain Hines & Captain Golston [probably a reference to William Goldston/Gholston of Chatham County]. All three of these companies were employed in protecting the country from the Tories & in search of Colonel Fanning. He served out this tour after having frequent skirmishes with the Tories but no battle of any consequence. He was again discharged in writing by Captain Rains. This discharge was for a three months tour. He served however but two months.

After serving this second tour this applicant moved into Washington County Tennessee on the Wattauga River [Watauga River]. In the Fall, after crops were laid by, there was a draft for the purpose of marching against the Cherokee Indians. This was in the Fall of 1782. He entered the service this time as a substitute for his cousin Charles Duncan who had been drafted for three months. He served under Captain William Cox and Colonel Jno. Severe [John Sevier] who had command of the expedition. The troops marched through the Cherokee Nation, crossing Hightower, Highwassey [Hiwassee] and other rivers, and burnt the Indian Towns and provisions—took some prisoners and came on to French Broad [River] where Colonel Sevier held a “talk” with the Indians and made peace—the Indian prisoners were given up and the Indians promised to send in the white prisoners. In this tour he does not recollect the exact time he served, but is confident it was not less than two months.

In all this applicant served three tours and seven months as a private and claims a Pension for such service. He has no documentary evidence at present of his services. His discharges were left in Tennessee when he moved to this country. He herewith sends the depositions of Elias Allread [Elias Allred]¹ and John Duncan as to his services. He was born in Randolph County North Carolina in the year 1762 June 14th. He has a record of his age in his family Bible. He was living in Randolph County when he first entered the service and in Washington County Tennessee when he entered the third time. He was drafted one time, volunteered the second time and substituted himself the third time. He has lived in South Carolina ever since the two first years after the close of the Revolution where he now lives. He was not with any of the regular troops nor was he acquainted with any of the regular officers. He was twice discharged in writing by Captain Jno. Rains which discharges he left in Tennessee when he moved from thence. He is known to Esli Hunt and Jno. Young Esq. who live in the neighborhood and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in his service as a soldier of the revolution.

He hereby relinquishes his every claim whatsoever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares that his now is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Jno. Daniel, C. C. P.

S/ Robert Duncan, X his mark

[William King, a clergyman, and John Young gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Georgia, Hall County

1 [Elias Allred S16307](#)

Personally appeared before me Elias Allred Sr. and after being duly sworn saith that he was personally acquainted with Robert Duncan the applicant in this foregoing declaration and served one tour of three months service in Col. John Luttrell's Regiment with said Robert Duncan in the Revolutionary War and deponent further says that he knows of his own knowledge of said Duncan's having served One other tour in guarding the public stores.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 11th day of June 1834.

S/ E. M. Johnson, JP

S/ Elias Allred, A his mark

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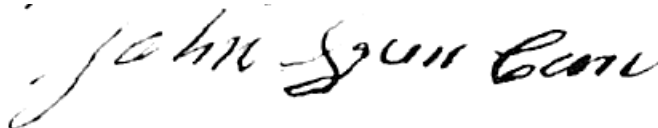
Georgia, Hall County

Personally appeared before me John Duncan and after being duly sworn deposed & saith that he was and is personally acquainted with Robert Duncan the applicant in the foregoing declaration and served one tour of three months in Capt. Rain's Company of Cavalry in Col. John Luttrell's Regiment in the Revolutionary War with said applicant and deponent further states that he knows of his own knowledge that said Robert Duncan served one other tour of three months in guarding the public stores in Capt. Robert McClain's [Robert McLane's] company.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 14th day of July 1834

S/ E. M. Johnson, JP

S/ John Duncan

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Duncan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John Duncan".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the North Carolina militia.]

[Note: the following document from this file is included because, although not authenticated or notarized, it is the most modern document (dated in 1968) I've personally ever seen included in a pension file. I've not transcribed it because the information in it is not authenticated and I have no way of testing its accuracy. Consequently I did not want to include the information in it in the searchable database of this website. View it as the curiosity that it is.]

The Duncan Family Tree
Robert Duncan Family

Robert Duncan was born June 14, 1762 in Randolph Co. North Carolina. Died July 2, in 1845 in South Carolina. Robert fought with Francis Marion in the Battles of Guilford Court House and Eutaw Springs. Received Bounty Land in District # 96. Robert married Hannah Carr who was born September 28, 1765 in Tennessee. To this Union twelve children were born:

1. John Duncan B. Dec. 18, 1783 D. Feb. 9, 1850 in Phelps Co. Mo.
2. William L Duncan B. April 29, 1785
3. James Duncan B. Aug. 24, 1787 D. 1814
4. Louisa Voss Duncan B. Dec. 7, 1789 D. in Mo. 1863
5. Charles Duncan B. Dec. 22, 1791
6. Deborah Duncan B. February 6, 1794
7. Permelia Carr Duncan B. March 12, 1795 D. in Mo. 1861
8. Robert Berry Duncan B. November 10, 1798
9. Perry Emory Duncan B. May 26, 1800
10. Sophronia Isabel Duncan B. March 5, 1804 - 1900
11. Hannah Millicent Duncan B. July 12, 1806.
12. Melissa Fairfield Duncan B. March 24, 1810

John Duncan's wife is unknown to me

Louisa Voss Duncan married James Berry Harrison

Permelia Carr Duncan married William Eaton Hawkins

Robert Berry Duncan married Jane Hill

Perry Emory Duncan married Mary Ann Hill (sister of Jane Hill)

Sophonria Isabell Duncan married Solomon Hawkins (brother of
William Eaton Hawkins)

These names and dates are from the Bible of Louisa Voss Duncan and James Berry Harrison.

Supplied by Mrs. Gertrude R. Duncan Groff to the National Archives at Washington, D.C.

*Gr. Gr. Gr. Grand-daughter of Robert &
Hannah (Carr) Duncan.
July 26, 1968.*