

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Davis S21725

Transcribed by Will Graves

f13SC

rev'd 1/30/10 & 1/2/14

[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 South Carolina, Newberry District

On the 15th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before Richard Gantt Esqr., the Judge of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and common pleas of the said State now sitting John Davis a resident of Newberry District in the said state aged Seventy seven 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 was born on the third day of December Seventeen hundred and fifty five, in the State of North Carolina, but he does not recollect the County; that he has the record of his age in his family Bible at home; that he was living when called into service in the District of Newberry then Newberry County, part of 96 District; that he has lived in the same District ever since; that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated; that he entered the service as a volunteer in 1776, under the command of Capt. Charles King, in the regiment commanded by Col. John Lyles, and Major James Lyles, and was stationed for some time at Ellison's fort on Enoree River, thence he marched and joined General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] at Keowee, thence he and the other troops were marched against the Cherokee Indians to their middle settlements, and in the course of this march, a battle was fought with the Indians in which he participated but he does not recollect the name of the place at which it took place. He continued in this service until the Indians were driven from their towns; their corn cut down and destroyed. He was then verbally discharged. This tour of duty was rather more than three months. That he next went into service under a draft under the command of Lieut. Jones and marched to Augusta and joined Col. James Williams' Regiment commanded by him & Lieut. Col McCray [sic, McCreary]; thence commenced to march to Charleston to aid in its defense against the British forces who were besieging it, and proceeded as far as the Congaree [River], where they heard of the capture of the city: he was then discharged verbally. In neither of their tours were there any regular officers—the whole of the officers were of the militia .He cannot be certain as to the length of this last tour of duty, but he is certain that he was then in service at least one month. He afterwards as a volunteer joined the army under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] at the siege of 96, the company to which he belonged was commanded by Capt. Gillespie, in the regiment commanded by Col. John Lyles; and was sent by General Greene to collect provisions for his army on their retreat from the siege; that he accompanied

the retreat of the army collecting provisions to the Catawba River, where he was verbally discharged. He was employed in this service he thinks one month. He afterwards was required in Spartanburg to which place he had fled for refuge from the British and Tories, to turn out for another tour of duty; that he accordingly joined the company commanded by Capt. Crawford in the regiment commanded as he believes by Col. John Thomas, and marched to Bull Swamp in the present District of Orangeburg, where they joined a detachment of Militia commanded by General Andrew Pickens and marched to Edisto in pursuit of Capt. William Cunningham of the British partisan corps of loyalists; that he was employed in this tour of duty at least one month; that at its expiration he was verbally discharged. That after this he was again required to do duty but in consequence of the pregnancy of his wife, he was excused from going, upon his furnishing a horse, which he did and his horse was lost. That he was during the war frequently employed as a scout and he is certain that he was thus employed for at least two months exclusive of the tours of duty which he has already mentioned, confident that he was altogether in actual service during the revolutionary war, as a volunteer, as a draft and as a scout at least eight months.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services in his possession and knows of no one now alive who came prove his services, except Major James Dillard of Laurens, who served with him in the expedition to Bull Swamp and Edisto whose affidavit is herewith submitted.

That he refers to the Rev'd Phillip Cromer and John Caldwell for his character as a man of veracity and for the general reputation that he was a Revolutionary soldier.

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.

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court.

S/ John Davis



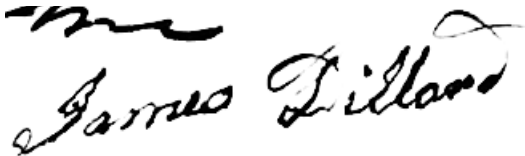
S/ Y. J. Harrington, Clk N. Dist.

The State of South Carolina Laurens District

Personally appeared before me John Whitmore one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the District of Laurens Major James Dillard,¹ who is infirm from age and disease and incapable of going into Court and made oath that he is well acquainted with John Davis, that he knows that he served as he has stated in the expedition to Bull Swamp and Edisto under General Pickens that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and this deponent concurs in that opinion and believes that he served in every respect S. he has stated.

Sworn to before me this ___ day of ___ 1832.

S/ James Dillard



S/ John Whitmore, JP

¹ [James Dillard S6797](#)

[Phillip Cromer, a clergyman of Newberry District and John Caldwell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the South Carolina militia.]