

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of John Howell S2628

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/13/09 rev'd 6/15/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Wayne: Superior Court of Law Fall Term 1832

On this 2nd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before J. J. Daniel Judge of the Superior Court of Law now sitting John Howell a resident of the County of Wayne & State of North Carolina aged 79 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer soon after the commencement of hostilities between Great Britain and this Country for a service of 3 months, which term he served as Sgt. -- under command of Capt. Joseph Greene Lieut. Herring -- Ensign Joseph Herring -- Col. Abram Sheppard General Caswell. He was ordered to Wilmington and encamped below that Town where his term of service expired. At the expiration of the term which declarant avers he served fully and faithfully -- the company was disbanded and returned home -- receiving no written discharge.

In the year 1780 Declarant volunteered for a 2nd Term of Service as private in a company of Light Horse under command of Capt. Thomas Grantham -- Col. Benjamin Exum -- He was for 3 months placed under command of Capt. Boon [Boone]. During this term of service Declarant was ordered to meet and oppose the Br. officer Craig then at Wilmington NC. The Corps of which he was a member was principally employed in suppressing disaffection in Wayne and the adjacent counties -- in crippling the Tories which were numerous in that quarter -- in taking their cattle horses and corn for they supply of the Army. He was in this service when Lord Cornwallis was leading his troops through North Carolina. At one time he was selected and ordered by Capt. Boon to reconnoiter and ascertain his position and forces. He rode to within 3 miles of the encampment of Cornwallis and ascertained the facts he was sent to learn and returned to Little River the point from which he was sent but could not find his Company who had in the meantime dispersed. Shortly after this he was taken in his house by soldiers under command of Cornwallis and by an officer commanding them was [put ?] upon his parole -- which parole he soon afterwards surrendered to Col. Exum and enrolled himself again. Declarant believes he served as Dragoon nearly 8 months, but will not state upon oath that he served more than 12 months under this latter engagement. He avers that he served at least 12 months as Dragoon -- in addition to his previous term of service as Sgt. 3 months -- owing to the circumstances as above stated he received no written discharge at the close of either time of service. Declarant was not personally connected with any Continental troops -- he has no documentary evidence of his services -- but can prove them in part by his fellow soldier -- John Wiggs¹ -- now living in

¹ [John Wiggs W4398](#)

Wayne. Declarant was born May 29 1753 -- as recorded in Family [word or words missing]. He has always lived in Wayne County NC --

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 the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Howell



[Curtis Hooks, a clergyman, and William Thompson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina County of Wayne: Superior Court of Law for the said County Spring Term 1833

On this 2nd day of April 1833 personally appeared in open court before John R. Downell Judge of the Superior Court of Law now sitting John Howell a resident of the County of Wayne and State aforesaid aged 79 years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration amending his declaration of 2nd day of October 1832, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That the date of his first term of service mentioned in his said declaration was in the spring of 1776 while Gov. Dunmore and some Tories were off Wilmington -- and the object of the troops at that time was to prevent them from landing.

That the date of his 2nd Term of service mentioned in his said Declaration was the Spring of the year 1780 -- and continuing with some intervals until Cornwallis passed through the State -- declarant swears that under this engagement he served not less than 12 months as private and for such service he claims a pension. Sworn to and subscribed the day and date of this his amended Declaration

S/ John Howell

Declarant waves his claim to compensation for more than 6 weeks of his first Term of service as stated in the proof of said service as given in the affidavit of Major Howell, not corresponding with his recollections of the length of time of said Term as stated in his Declaration aforesaid.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 4th day of April 1833

S/ N. Washington, Clerk

S/ John Howell

I Ezekiel Slocumb² of the County of Wayne and State of NC do hereby certify on oath that I was in the troop of horse mentioned by John Howell as his 2nd Tour of Service in his declaration & of 2nd day of October 1832 -- and knows the facts stated therein to be true.

In open court, Sworn to and subscribed the 2nd day of April 1833

S/ N. Washington, Clerk

S/ E. Slocumb



² [Ezekiel Slocumb S7526](#)

I Major Howell of Wayne County NC do hereby certify on oath that I was with John Howell in his first term of service as stated in his Declaration &c of October 1832 and know that he served in that time at least 6 weeks.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 4th day of April 1832.

S/ N. Washington, Clerk

S/ Major Howell, X his mark

Interrogatories prescribed by the war Department &c John Howell

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Wayne County NC May 29, 1753.

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

Ans: My age is recorded in my family Bible in Wayne County NC

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

Ans: I have always lived and now live in Wayne County NC

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

Ans: In all my service I was a volunteer

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

Ans: I was not at any time connected with any Continental troops. I remember General William Bryan at Wilmington who commanded the minute man, Capt. Fellows Capt. Sessums, Capt. Mourning & Williams -- The general circumstances of my service are stated fully in my Declaration above.

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

Ans: I received no written discharges for reasons detailed in my declaration above --

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.

Ans: I name as persons to whom I am known &c the Rev. Curtis Hooks, Gabriel Sherard, Gen. Nicholson Washington, Col. E. Slocumb & Uriah Langston.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date above written.

S/ John Howell

I John Wiggs do hereby certify that I know of the service of John Howell in the troop of horse stated in his above declaration -- being myself in the Corps to which he was attached a part of the time.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date aforesaid.

S/ John Wiggs, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$57 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 13 months and 12 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]