

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Davis S31642

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

County of Gwinnett to wit State of Georgia

On this fifteenth day of September 1830 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the County aforesaid John Davis resident in said County aged one hundred years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Act of Congress of the 18th march 1818 and the 1st of may 1820 – that the said John enlisted for the term of the war in the month of April in the year 1777 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by captain Leech in the regiment commanded by Colonel Philip Lee in the line of the State of Virginia on the Military continental establishment [see endnote] that he continued to serve in the said Corps untill the end of the revlutionary War when he was discharged from the service at the Red House in the State of Virginia that he hereby relinquishes evry claim whatever to a pension except the present that his name is not on the roll of any State except Virginia and the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension that this declarant was until recently ignorant of his rights under said act of Congress & also has been able by his own labour to produce a subsistence untill age has disabled him.

And in persuance of the Act of the 1st 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person 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 or property whatever. That since the 18th of March 1818 no changes has been made in my property

John hisXmark Davis

State of Georgia } Inferior Court
Gwinnett County } December Term 1832

Personally appeared in Open Court – it being a Court of Record (now sitting) John Davis a resident of the said County of Gwinnett and State aforesaid aged one hundred and two years – who being sworn according to law maketh on his oath the following declaration in order to avail himself of the benefits of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service as follows – (to wit) that he enlisted under Andrew Leach Captain – Volantine Payden [sic: Valentine Peyton] Lieutenant – attached to the Division of Gen’l. Henry Lee – in dumfries Town Prince William County in the State of Virginia – that they marched under the command of said officers to Philadelphia – and was in the battle of Brandy Wine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] – remained on duty at a Station near Phiadelphia – and up & down the Potomac River to prevent the landing of the British Ship of War Roebuck until the Battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] – in which battle he was also. That after the battle of Monmouth they were kept on duty as above sometimes stationed at or near Philadelphia as aforesaid & sometimes marching up and down the Potomac as aforesaid – and that he was engaged as such enlisted soldier – as a private on duty aforesaid for four years & five months – and that when peace was made he was regularly discharged (his discharges being in writing) – under the hand of his Captain. That said written discharges have since been destroyed by fire or otherwise At the close of the war he removed to Pendleton District in South Carolina where he remained a length of time – but knows not how long and removed to Louisiana – where he lived three years – from thence to Alabama – Jefferson County where he lived seven years – from thence he removed to his present Residence in the County of Gwinnett and State of Georgia where he has resided for the last six years. 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 & subscribed in Open Court the day & year aforesaid. John hisXmark Davis

NOTE: John Davis's 1830 application was rejected for reasons given in the following letter dated 10 Dec 1830 from James L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner, in a letter to Congressman Wilson Lumpkin: "The papers in support of the claims of John Davis, Thomas Taylor [Thomas Tyler, pension application R21894] and Archibald Henderson [R4866] have been examined. They allege that they served in Captain Andrew Leach's company of Colonel Philip Lee's regiment. No such officers belonged to the continental army. They probably belonged to Militia or State regiments. As the acts of Congress [of 1818 and 1820] extend to none who did not serve on the continental establishment, pensions cannot be granted."

"Andrew Leach" evidently refers to Andrew Leitch [BLWt1251-400], who was Captain of a company of the 3rd Virginia Continental Regiment raised in Prince William County. Andrew Leitch died of wounds on 1 Oct 1776, but nevertheless his "signature" as "Andrew Leach" appears more than 50 years later on documents supporting the pension application of Thomas Tyler (Taylor) mentioned above. "Colonel Philip Lee" may refer to Philip Richard Francis Lee, who was another Captain in the same regiment from Prince William County, but never a Colonel. There was a General Charles Lee early in the war, and later Colonel Henry Lee.