

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Husbands S31768

fn21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/22/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama Greene County: Circuit Court

On this 26 day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Anderson Crenshaw Judge of the Circuit Court of the County of Green aforesaid now sitting William Husbands a resident citizen of said County of Greene and State of Alabama aged seventy-three years on the 5th day of January last past, 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 5th day of January in the year 1759 in Anson County North Carolina. He has no family register of his age except a transcript from the family Bible in which it was registered.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the summer of the year 1776 he was drafted in the State Militia in Richmond County (which was formed out of that part of Anson County in which he was born and resided until that period) in the State of North Carolina to perform an expedition against the Cherokee Indians who had been troublesome to the settlements in North and South Carolina. This expedition was performed and the soldiers engaged in it were drafted for three months. The Captain under whom he performed duty in this service was \_\_ Hay whose given name he does not now remember. – \_\_ Davidson was Lieutenant whose given name is also forgotten. Colonel David Love commanded the troops that were raised upon this occasion in the said County of Richmond as also in Anson, Montgomery &c near a place called Pleasant Gardens near the mountains we were joined by South Carolina troops. The troops encountered small parties of Indians but never had any serious engagement. These Indians were mostly seen in the neighborhood of Gilbert town, in which there was a small neighborhood fort for the protection and defense of the station. The said William Husbands cannot remember the names of any of the South Carolina officers. The South Carolina troops were composed of entire strangers to him and half a century has erased from his memory his recollection of the officers of the South Carolina troops or their numbers. When he the said William Husbands returned from this expedition, he volunteered his services in expeditions against the Tories who were exceedingly numerous among the Scotch settlement in between Richmond County and the seaboard. In this service he the said William Husbands was engaged until he joined the expedition to Charleston as hereinafter stated. The nature of this service against the Tories consisted in short expeditions, very frequently repeated and under the command of different officers. In this service the said William Husbands was commanded occasionally by Captains James Fair, Patrick Bowgen [?], and William Wall, Colonels Thomas Wade, Thomas Crawford and Edward Williams commanded these expeditions

against the Tories. As a substitute for one Solomon Sneed, he went on an expedition to Charleston in South Carolina. Upon this occasion he was commanded by Captain John Donaldson, John Jones Lieutenant, Major \_\_ Harris was our Major whose given name is not remembered, and Henry Harrington (afterwards General) was our Colonel, General Lincoln commanded the American Army at Charleston. When these troops arrived at Charleston that city was blockaded by sea, and besieged by land, the troops from North Carolina got into the City in the night by water in boats which went down Cooper River and into the port of Charleston. General Clinton commanded the British troops which Charleston was besieged. The said William Husbands remained in the City of Charleston about forty days, during which period almost every night the town was bombarded, and also in the daytime, but not so much as at night. The said William Husbands was upon duty nearly every other night till Charleston capitulated at last and the said William Husbands was made a prisoner of war. While the militia were in the condition of prisoners of war they were frequently visited by the British officers who endeavored to obtain recruits from amongst them for their own Army. The militia were however not detained prisoners very long. In some six or eight or ten days, all the prisoners belonging to the Militia service were set at liberty upon condition that they would not again engaged in the war until they were exchanged; The said William Husbands returned home as did also very many others. Notwithstanding his parole he engaged immediately in another short expeditions against the Tories. This was scarcely accomplished when the British Army under the command of Lord Rawdon arrived at the Cheraw Hills on Pedee River. Lord Rawdon made proclamation offering his protection to all who would submit or join his standard and take an oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain. Many persons who lived in the vicinity of the said William Husbands who would not accede to these terms fled into Wake County in the State of North Carolina and he the said William Husbands among others. A short time after his retreat to Wake County as aforesaid said William Husbands joined as a volunteer in Rowan County General \_\_ Davy [William Richardson Davie] whose given name is forgotten; and is also the name of the Captain in whose company he the said William was placed. Lord Cornwallis was stationed at this time with his Army at a little town in Mecklenburg County called Charlotte. He had sent out a detachment to grind wheat at the mill of Colonel Polk. About a week after he joined General Davie in Rowan County as aforesaid the said General Davie sent out a scouting party consisting of about seventy men of whom he the said William was one under the Command of Major \_\_ Dixon. Major Rutledge was also along with the party all of whom were mounted. This scouting party fell in with the detachment of British at Colonel Polk's mill, and in the engagement which took place he was severely wounded in the leg. In consequence of this wound the said William was unable to accompany the American Army at that time under the command of General Davie and was discharged for about 8 or 10 weeks. He returned to his place of residence in Richmond County on the Pedee River until the expiration of the time above mentioned. Immediately thereafter and as soon as his wound was healed he joined the scouting parties against the Tories who were still very troublesome burning of houses, plundering of property and abusing and molesting [?] of women and children. His service against the Tories consisted of short expeditions repeatedly made under the command of different officers, to wit Colonels Wade, Williams and Crawford; he was repeatedly engaged whilst in this service in a slight skirmishes on 2 of which occasions, balls were [indecipherable word] through his clothes. In this manner the said William Husbands was employed until the close of the war against Great Britain. After the close of the war the said William Husbands continued to reside in Richmond County formed as aforesaid out of the said County of Anson until the year 1818 the month of October

when he removed to Wayne County Mississippi. He removed from Wayne County Mississippi to the city of Mobile where he resided 2 years, and then returned to the County of Wayne in the State of Mississippi aforesaid where he continued to reside until his removal to green County in the month of November 1830, in which County he now resides. The said William Husbands never received any other discharge from the service, except one received from General Davie given at the time he received his wound and was incapable of attending the Army. This discharge has been lost or mislaid since the close of the war, the said William believing that it would never be necessary to produce it and supposing it was of no value to him.

The said William husbands believes that Parson Enoch James, James Derden, James Monett and Jesse Alsobrook<sup>1</sup> can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief and knowledge of his services as a soldier of the revolution. 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 in the Union.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

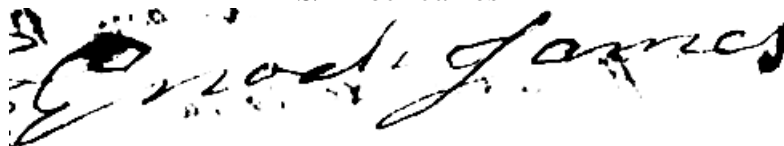
Attest: S/ James Yeates, Clerk

S/ Wm Husbands

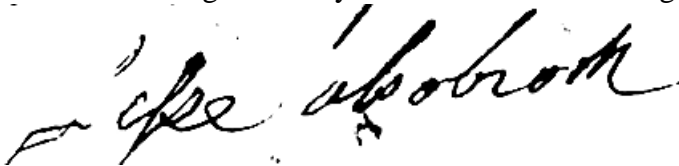


Enoch James being also duly sworn in open Court according to law deposeth and saith that he knew William Husbands in Richmond County North Carolina during the revolutionary war, and recollects perfectly well having seen him on two occasions and probably oftener marching with the American troops to subdue the Tories who were at that time exceedingly troublesome, burning of houses, plundering of property and capturing the American citizens. The said Husbands was several years older than this deponent but he recollects distinctly that said Husbands had the reputation in the neighborhood of having been engaged in nearly the whole of the revolutionary war against the British and Tories. This deponent was raised in Richmond County North Carolina and from his personal knowledge of the character of the said William Husbands and from his reputation generally he has no hesitation in declaring that he has full confidence in all the statements of the said William Husbands and believes that he is entitled to full faith and credit upon oath.

S/ Enoch James



[Jesse Alsobrook gave a very similar affidavit to that given by Enoch James above



[Enoch James and Jesse Alsobrook also gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Jesse Alsobrook S16600](#)