

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Wilson S32599

fn46NC<sup>1</sup>

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/18/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[Note: The handwriting of the scribe who wrote down the following application is, to speak plainly, absolutely atrocious and borderlines on illegibility. What follows is full of errors and pure guesses. I elected not to use question marks as I have done on other transcriptions to indicate uncertainty because almost every word in the transcript would be followed by a question mark.]

State of Alabama Clarke County: On this \_\_ day of \_\_ in the year while Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Samuel Wilkinson Judge of the Commissioners and County Circuit of said County Joshua Wilson who resides in said State and County aged seventy-three years old who being 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 the 7th day of June, 1832.

That he entered the service of Congress and served under the following officers and served as herein stated.

The first term of service was under Captain James Denton of the North Carolina militia. I was at Wilmington & Brunswick and served about three months. Ashe was the commanding General & Ungar [Huger?] was Colonel.

The second term of service was under Captain John McCann Colonel Armstrong and General Butler. I served in this tour three months. I was in South & North Carolina during this term of service.

The third term of service I was enlisted in the Continental Army under Captain Robert Temple and was transferred to Captain Rhodes company Pink Eaton was the Colonel and Lincoln was the General. I was enlisted for nine months but served twelve the Campaign he was in South Carolina and part of the time was on the Savannah River at Purrysburg with the militia was defeated at Briar Creek the regulars was ordered to take up the line of march and crossed the Savannah River a little below Augusta and marched in the direction of Briar Creek and finding no enemy we recrossed the River and marched towards Stono. The enemy had fortified there

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<sup>1</sup> At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

[one or more indecipherable words], we engaged them and were repulsed. This campaign was ended in a short time after that.

The fourth term of service was under Captain Allen Colonel Dickerson and General Sumner and a part of the time I was [several indecipherable words] Kelley and others in driving in the stock to support the Army in North & South Carolina. I was employed in that service three months and was discharged at Ramsey's Mill.

The fifth term of service was under Captain [indecipherable name] and Colonel Joseph Hawkins in the horse company General Eaton was my commander the service was mostly rendered in North Carolina and I served between two and three months.

The sixth term of service was under Captain Exum Clinton [indecipherable word or name, could be "Sewell" or "Sowell"] was my Colonel we were marching to join General Gates, when the news reached us at the High Hills of Santee of his defeat, and here returned to Swimming Creek on Coals [indecipherable word]. Sowel's Regiment became our head quarters, the remainder of Gates Army fell in with Sowel's Regiment and he joined General Green at the high rock [several indecipherable words] in North Carolina. Greene was now our commander in chief and we now marched to Guilford about 3 or 4 miles beyond Guilford Washington & Lee attacked Wallace Army, which informed us of the approaching Army all our wagons were sent off [several indecipherable words] to the old iron works on troublesome which was to be our place of rendezvous [indecipherable word] the line of [several indecipherable words] was formed and a very severe engagement took place between the 2 armies [several indecipherable words] on the 3rd day General green took up the line of March 2 follow the enemy again but they retreated & we pursued them as far as Ramseys mill on Deep River. In this term of service I served 3 months.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Westmoreland County Virginia the 27th of Jny [could be July or January] 17??

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

I have none

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

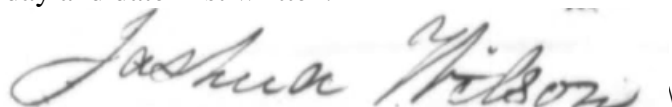
I lived in North Carolina Warren County I remained in North Carolina until 1817 and then moved to Alabama Clarke County where I now reside

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

I volunteered my service the 1st time under Captain James Carver, [can only discern a few words in the next few lines.]

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

I was discharged by General Sumner, and by Benjamin Sewell a Colonel. I was discharged from the Continental service by Colonel Pink Eaton I am known to Richard Hopkins & Miel Ezel who reside in the same neighborhood with me. Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and date first written.



[Christopher Prichard a clergyman and Richard Hopkins and Miel Ezel gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 302]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify, that it appears from a book containing a list of settlements of accounts of officers and Soldiers of the revolutionary war, that Joshua Wilson was allowed a balance of species due him as a twelve months man the sum of \$23.30.

Given under my hand this 11th day of October 1833

S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 431]

Sir,

To save the trouble to myself and others incidental to making an entirely new declaration, I will endeavor to amend the original one as nearly in conformity to the instructions given me as possible by means of this supplement; and as you will doubtless be satisfied of some period of service I must insist that you adjust my claim accordingly and make and in of the affair.

After a lapse of fifty odd years it is scarcely to be expected, in the absence of any records or documents to which I can refer, that I can be very precise as to the time or remember distinctly the several terms of service embraced in the four or five years in which often him, I was almost continually in the Army: nor is it possible for me to say what regiments I belonged, as I served in so many different ones.

Independent of the regular terms laid down in my declaration, I served in the capacity of a private soldier both in the cavalry and on foot several broken terms or full towers [tours] which not recollecting with sufficient distinctness to give the particulars of was omitted in the original – one of them I distinctly recollect was with Captain Thomas Alston and Colonel Reed of the cavalry, towards the close of the war. These I merely make mention of by way of showing that the period embraced in the six distinct terms set forth in my declaration is strictly within the bounds of certainty and sufficiently limited.

Before offering my Amendment to the several terms referred to in the original; it may be well to correct some errors I have detected in looking over the papers which you sent me. In calculating my age I made myself 74 instead of 73 as recorded in the original. I discover you have committed some mistakes also in the names of officers under whom I served – for Colonel Huger read Hogan, who was either Colonel or Major and I am not positive which – for Captain Tabler read Toller.

I was living in Warren County North Carolina when the war broke out between Great Britain and the colonies, where I continued to reside during the war. I was at this time not more than 16 or 17 years old and though strongly opposed by my parents I pursuit and joined the Army of the United States under Captain James Denten as stated in my "first term of service" which lasted 3 months. This I think was in the spring of 1776. We were stationed at Wilmington North Carolina.

My "second term of service" I think was in the same year. This tower of 3 months we marched into South Carolina, and went from place to place, but was not long stationary anywhere – one grand object in marching us to and fro in this manner was, I think, to suppress the insurrection in that quarter. For the officers refer to the original under this read.

My "third term of service" was probably in the year '77. For further particulars see the original and in this instance, to which, I have nothing in addition to add.

My "fourth term of service" you say is inadmissible. To this I can only say I see no reason why agreeable to the "regulations" that "have been adopted – for I belonged to a regularly "embodied Corps called into service by competent authority" and was not "occasionally employed" clerk to commissaries &c" but was subject to all and every duty of a soldier.

My "fifth term of service" was in the capacity of a Substitute and as some of the term of service had elapsed before I entered the Army I cannot distinctly recollect how long I served but should say at least two months. This must have been in '77 or '78. For further information see the original.

"Sixth term of Service" see the original.

The events recorded in that paragraph will apprise you of the date, which has escaped my recollection; but think it was in the year '78.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a justice of the peace for and in the County of Clark & State of Alabama, Joshua Wilson, who being duly sworn, deposed and saith that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but, according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than 2 years as a private soldier, and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ Joshua Willson [sic]

Attest: S/ James Campbell, JP

[fn pp. 69 &70: Joshua S. Wilson testimony gave on February 20, 1855 that he was one of the surviving children and heirs at law of Joshua Wilson; finding by the court that Joshua Wilson died September 4th, 1844 in Clark County Alabama; that he left a widow, Barbara Wilson who died September 17th 1844 and the following children: John R. Wilson, Matilda Henderson, Joshua S. Wilson, James M. Wilson, & William W. Wilson.]