

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Douglass Irby S38069

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 9 June 2020.

Virginia Botetourt County, to wit,

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 1820 personally appeared in the Court of said County being a Court of record – Douglass Irby aged 69 years on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November next who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration (in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820) that he the said Douglass Irby enlisted as a Soldier in the Year 1775 under Captain John Jones for the term of 3 years attached to the 6th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel [Mordecai] Buckner of the Virginia line; that he continued to serve in said Regiment untill the fall of 1776 when he was discharged from the said service in the State of Virginia– That he then enlisted for one year in a company of Artillery commanded by Captain Rundell [sic: Dohickey Arundel VAS2967] attached to Gen'l. And'w Lewis [Andrew Lewis's] Brigade, Virg'a. Line. That he was discharged from said company some time in the year 1777– when he was attached to a Working Corps for 6 months that he afterwards served as 3<sup>d</sup> Lieutenant in a company of Artillery commanded by Capt. Walters [probably William Waters] of the Reg't Commanded by Colo. Chs. Harrison [Charles Harrison VAS1411] that he served nearly 12 months in said company before he resigned That he then enlisted as a Sergeant in a Company commanded by Captain Nathan Reed [Nathan Reid] of the 10<sup>th</sup> Reg't Commanded by Colonel Davis [sic: William Davies BLWt597-500] of the Virginia line That he served in said Company for one year when he was discharged– That he never was in an engagement and that he has no other evidence of his sd. services now in his power other than the Certificate of Captain Nathan Reed and in pursuance of an act of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States of the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any other manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with an interest to diminish it, so as to bring myself within the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & Naval service of the United States in the War of the revolution passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities or Contract or debt due to me nor have I any income other than is contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed and by me Subscribed –

Schedule

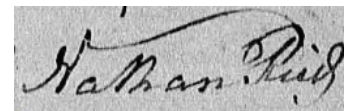
Four bench plains two tounge & groove plains three saws, two axes plough & traces two drawing knives one wedge four chisels 6 hand saw files, pair of fire tongs  
That he is a carpenter by trade but is not able thereby to make a living that he has a wife & three daughters living with him his wife is 53 years old Elizabeth aged 25 years old Sally aged 22 years Polly aged 21 years his daughters are able to support themselves his wife is not–

Douglass Irby

I do hereby certify that Douglass Irby enlisted under me in the regular Service, in the spring of the year 1781; and acted as Sargeant untill the spring following (I suppose about one year) at the end of which time he procured a certain Charles Stevens to take his place

Given under my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> Nov'r. 1821

Nathan Reid Cap't/ 10 Virg'a Regim't./ Com'd by Colo Wm Davis



Campbell County to wit

this day Robert Stevens [R10139] personally appeared before me Alexander Austin a justice of the peace in & for the County of Campbell & made oath that Douglass Irby enlisted under Capt. Nathan Reid as

Sargeant in the year 1781 & continued with him in that capacity for twelve months, as well as this affiant recollects.

Given under my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> day of Novemb'r. 1821 A. Austin

Virginia Bedford County towit,

This day Benjamin Rice came before me a justice of Bedford County aforesaid and made Oath, that in the year 1781 this Affiant had the command of a Guard of the Public Stores of the United States deposited at New London in the County aforesaid [now in Campbell County]: that during the term of his Service, Douglas Irby served under Capt Nathan Reid as his orderly Serjeant: but this Affiant knows nothing of the date of his enlistment or time of his discharge. Given under my hand this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 1821. James Otey J.P.

Virginia Botetourt County to wit

This day Samuel Coller [Samuel Colter (Coulter) S39352] Came before me a justice of Botetourt County aforesaid and made Oath that in the year 1781 this affeiant acted as sargent in the larbitary [sic: laboratory] at new London in the County of Bedford: that during the term of his Service Douglas Irby served under Capt Nathan Reid as his orderly Sargent and this affiant knows to a certainty that Douglass Irby did serve Twelve month in the said service Given under my hand and seal this 7 day of march 1823 Lewis Harvey

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Irby, Douglas.]

State of Virginia Sct }  
Botetourt County } [28 Oct 1826]

Douglas Irby aged Seventy five being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that in the fall of 1777 he was recommended to congress by Colonel Charles Harrison and Major Holman [probably Christian Holmer VAS584] upon which Recommendation Congress granted him and Ensigns Commission and soon after receving his commssion he Entered the army at fort Stephens [Fort Stevens near Portsmouth] (now Called fort Nelson) in the state of Virginia for the term of three years in the Company Commanded by Captain Waters Sixth Regiment of the Virginia line on Continental Establishment Commanded by Collonel Charles Harrison and Major Holman Applicant further says that he served faithfully in said Regiment and company untill the Expiration of the term for which he Entered which was in the fall of 1780 and that he resigned his commission and was Honourab[one or more lines missing at bottom of page]

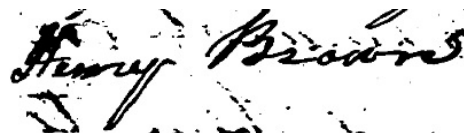
Applicant further says that he was attached to the third Virginia Continental Brigade Commanded by General Andrew Lewis

Applicant further sayeth that after being discharged from the sixth Regiment he Retired to the western part of the preasant Limit of Virginia for the purpose of working at his trade but finding his trade would not profit him anything in Consequence of the continuance of the war he determined to joine the army again and in the month of aprill he Enlisted at New london in the year 1781 for during the war into the company Commanded by Captain Nathan Reed in the county of Bedford and State of Virginia and was attached to the 10 Regiment of the Virginia line on continental Establishment applicant further sayeth that he [undeciphered word] in the capacity of a recruiting ensian[?] in said company and regiment untill the end of the war though applicant remaind stationed at new london and as fast as he Recruited men were sent on to head quarters — Applicant further sayeth that he was discharged by Capt Read By proclamation of General washington in the year 1783— Applicant further says that his hith [height] was five feet ten inches high dark Hair fair complected and Blue Eys and was born and raised in Prince George county in the State of Virginia and a house carpenter by profession. Applicant further says that after the war Ended it was a Comon saying that in regard to the land promised the officers and soldiers

they would now have to fight and conquer the Indians before they could get possession of it and the low price that was offered by those who were there trying to speculate off the officers and soldiers Caused him to neglect his right together with a Vague Report that the officers and soldiers Clames were Bared [barred] by the act of limitation – applicant further sayeth that he never has transfered his Clame to any person directly nor Indirectly nor has he ever received an acre of land for his servises in the Va line on continental Establishment during Revolutionary war Neither from the State of Virginia nor the united states and further says that his commission and dischargs is lost.

Douglas Irby

The affidavit of Capt Henry Brown taken this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 1827 saith that he has long been acquainted with Douglas Irby whose name affixes to the foregoing affidavit and that he has always believed him to be a man of credibility and truth



State of Virginia

Bedford County Sct [10 Nov 1826]

Samuel Colter aged 71 years being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath say that that sometime in the latter part of the year 1777 Douglass Irby entered the army as an ensign in the Virginia line on continental establishment for the term of three years at fort Stephens in a company commanded by Captain Waters in the Sixth Virginia Regiment commanded by Col Charles Harrison. The deponent further says that said Irby served faithfully in said Company and regiment until some time in the fall of 1780 and was then honourably discharged at Williamsburg (he thinks) by Col Harrison this deponent was acquainted with said Irby from the time of his entering the army until the time of his discharge and has been acquainted with him from the time of his quitting the army until the present and know him to be the same who served as above stated. The deponent further says that some time in the Spring of 1781 (to the best of his recollection) the said Irby enlisted at New London Bedford County as a recruiting sergeant for during the war in the Virginia line on continental establishment into a Company commanded by Capt Nathan Read in the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment. The deponent further says that he was acquainted with said Irby until the disbanding of the armies some time in 1783 and that said Irby was again honourably discharged.



NOTE: Douglass Irby was pensioned for one year of service as a Private. On 18 Aug 1856 Mary Berry, about 53, of Washington County TN, stated that Douglass Irby, her father, died in Roanoke VA on 15 May 1843. She applied for the additional pension he should have received for his service as a Sergeant, on behalf of herself and other children: Elizabeth Irby of Lee County VA, who never married, and Tabitha Cowan, widow of John T. Cowan. She stated that there had been a total of seven children, and that her mother's maiden name was Hannah Candler, that her parents were married in Campbell County, and that her mother died 11 years 3 months, and 7 days before Douglass Irby. On 24 Sep 1856 Jacob Shafer of Washington County TN stated that Douglass Irby was buried with the honors of war. The file contains a letter dated 16 June 1843 from John T. and Tabitha Cowan of Lebanon in Russell County VA to Sally and Betsey Irby regarding the death of their father.