

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Pitts S7313

f32NC<sup>1</sup>

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/9/09: rev'd 12/8/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of Georgia Hall County} SS

On this 24 day of December 1841 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Ordinary now sitting James Pitts a resident of the County of Hall and State of Georgia, aged Seventy-nine years (according to the best information closed) 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He entered the service of the United States under Captain Benjamin Eves [Benjamin Eaves] of Colonel Sowell's [sic, Benjamin Seawell's] Regiment for a 3 month tour [sic, tour] in the year 1781, owing to the long lapse of time and frailty of memory he is unable to state the day or month. That he then lived near Lewisburg [sic, Louisburg] in Franklin County State of North Carolina he entered the Service as a substitute for George Winston and marched from Louisburg to Guilford Court House North Carolina just before the Battle [Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] at that place he was not in the Battle having been detached to guard the baggage wagons that day, he marched from thence to Ramsey's Mill under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] where he remained until discharged which discharge is lost. After remaining at home a short time a requisition was made for every twentieth man to join the Army of the United States for eighteen months Service that he was hired by the class to which he belonged, and entered the Service again under Major Hogg [Thomas Hogg] and marched from Louisburg [several words lined out and obliterated] 1782, to -- Warrenton from thence to Hillsborough from thence to Ashley Hill in the State of South Carolina where he joined the Army under Colonel Lightels [sic, Archibald Lytle?], where -- the Companies were reorganized and he was placed under Captain Carter [Benjamin Carter] of the regular Army of Major Blount's [Reading Blount's] Battalion and said Colonel Lytle's Regiment, after remaining at that post some time, thinks a month or more he was marched to James Island off Charleston, where he remained till after the news of peace when he was furloughed home where he arrived on the 26th day of August 1783 according to the best of his recollection, from old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot precisely recollect the length of time he was in service that tour, but from the best of his knowledge it was not less than fourteen months when he received a furlough it was to hold him in readiness to join the Army at a minutes warning if needed and that

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt1962-160-55

he received no other discharge; which furlough is lost:

He states that he knows of no person at present whereby he can prove his Service and that he has no other Documentary evidence But the Certificate of the Secretary of State of North Carolina which is hereunto attached -- He states that he made a declaration for his pension 7 or 8 years since which was sent back for some amendment which he amended according to the requirement and delivered to his agent to send on but has had no account of the matter since, this was done in Habersham County in this State.<sup>2</sup>

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/ James law, JIC

S/ James Pitts, X his mark

S/ Joseph Dunagan, JIC

S/ John Barrett, JIC

(He answer to the Interrogatories<sup>3</sup> prescribed by the War Department as follows) I was born in Smithfield County Virginia 1762 2nd his age is recorded in Louisburg N.C. in the Clerks office being bound as an orfant [orphan]. 3rd Franklin County North Carolina. 4th Substituted the first tour for George Winston and volunteered the next all of the above Service was performed as a private for which he claims a pension

[Josiah Askew, a clergyman, and Daniel H. Bryson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that James Pitts a private Soldier in Captain Carter's Company of the 10th Regiment, enlisted in the year 1782 for the term of 18 months, and that nothing more is said of him on said rolls.

Given under my hand this 5th day of October 1841

S/ Wm Hill

[The Secretary of State charged \$.30 for this service.]

[Facts in file: in 1855 the veteran was living in Habersham County Georgia; the file contains no information regarding the family of the veteran; the earlier application referred to in the above

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<sup>2</sup> no such earlier application is among the documents in this file

<sup>3</sup> The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

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

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

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?

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

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

6<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?

7<sup>th</sup> 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.

application is not in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the North Carolina militia.]