

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Brewington S8091

Transcribed by Will Graves

f18NC fo

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[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.]

State of North Carolina New Hanover County

On this the 19th day of September A.D. 1836 before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Joshua Brewington a resident of New Hanover County in the State aforesaid aged seventy-seven years who being first duly sworn 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.

1st. In a company of nine months men raised in Duplin County in the month of February or March in 1779 collected at Duplin old Courthouse and remained thereabouts 3 months – thence into South Carolina and joined the Continental Army at Purrysburg and were sent under Continental officers and served 9 months in South Carolina under Captain Sharpe [Anthony Sharpe], Lieutenant Pearl [James Pearl], Brigade Adjutant Parker, and sometimes Curtis Ivey, in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle]; sometimes under Colonel Malmedy [Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne], General Sumter [sic, Thomas Sumter], thence to Black Swamp and had a battle with the British and compelled them to retreat, thence to Kingston on Savannah River, thence to Bacon's Bridge and stacked arms and were discharged soon after by Colonel Lytle in July or August 1780, the battle at Black Swamp is also called the battle of Stono [Stono Ferry, June 20, 1780].<sup>1</sup> His entrance into service was called "balloted in". The Army in South Carolina he thinks consisted of about 30,000 men of whom 15,000 were regulars, the regular Officers he remembers in South Carolina besides the above were Major Mackee, Captain Daniel Williams, Captain Joseph Rhodes & Captain Thoroughgood, has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service but thinks he can prove he was seen in service this tour by Richard Curtis<sup>2</sup> of this County, though they did not serve in the same company –

2ndly. In a company of Duplin militia as a volunteer under Captain Michael King as a light horse [man], his other officers he forgets, marched down into New Hanover about the Big Bridge reconnoitering the enemy and served three weeks as a private in the month of November or December in 1780 has no documentary evidence and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

3rdly. In a company of volunteer Duplin cavalry under Captain David Dodd, his other

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_stono\\_ferry.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html)

<sup>2</sup> [Richard Curtis R2606](#)

Officers he forgets in the fall of 1781 and served four weeks as a private, marched into New Hanover, back into Duplin, thence into Bladen on the Brown Marsh [September 1781]<sup>3</sup> and had a skirmish with the British and Tories, commanded by Major Craig [James Craig] and Manson [Daniel Manson], which was a right sharp fight, but the Americans retreated, and came upon the enemy's baggage and magazine – Colonel Brown of Bladen was there and Lieutenant Pearl – Captain Dodd behaved with great bravery, then marched home and was discharged, has no documentary evidence, being verbally discharged and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

4thly. In a company of Duplin volunteer light horse under Captain James Oates, Lieutenant William Durden, in the spring of the year 1781 and served three weeks as a private, marched into New Hanover thence to New River Chapel in Onslow, thence to Kingston [sic, Kinston], thence home and discharged, in no battle, received no written discharge and knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

Answers to the questions<sup>4</sup> prescribed by the War Department and propounded to said Joshua Brewington the aforesaid applicant –

1. I was born in Duplin now Sampson County NC in the year I suppose 1759 or '60.
2. I have no record of my age
3. When called into service I was living in Duplin now Sampson County NC. Since the revolution I have lived about 10 or 12 years in Sampson County, then moved into New Hanover County and have ever since lived and now live in New Hanover.
4. I was first balloted in and afterwards volunteered.
5. I refer to my declaration.
6. I received but one written discharge, which motored away with age, it was given by Colonel Lytle.
7. Joshua James, Esquire, John A. Lillington Esquire, Benjamin Beasley, Christopher Dudley, James Collins, Gen. M. W. Campbell, Richard Curtis and others I could name.

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 before me.

S/ J. A. Lillington, JP

S/ Joshua Brewington, X his mark

[Joshua James and Christopher Dudley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Raleigh 4th of February 1837

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_brown\\_marsh.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brown_marsh.html)

<sup>4</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.

Dear Sir

It appears from the musterrolls that Joshua Bruinton enlisted as a private in Captain Sharpe's Company of the 10th Regiment on the 10th of November 1778, for 9 months, and this is all that is said of him on the rolls, so you see the rolls does not show how long he served, or when or how discharged.

Yours respectfully

S/ Wm Hill [NC Secretary of State]

Patrick Murphy Esquire  
Attorney at law

Near Taylor's Bridge NC December 5th 1836

Sir,

I have to inform you of the death of Joshua Brewington whose declaration I sent on a short time ago, and from whom reasons were required for the delay in his application;

Although it seems proper when an application of this kind has been delayed thus long, that a sufficient reason should be assigned – and as under the circumstances of the case, personal reasons cannot be obtained from the applicant yet I hope a pension will not be refused, if it be believed that his case is entitled to one.

His reasons as far as I know them are, that he was a person of color and illiterate, lived in a retired section of New Hanover County, on the sound, was depending on Gen. M. W. Campbell to prepare his case who promised from time to time to do so, but never would get him to do it: – General Campbell spoke to me about Brewington's case last June and asked me if I had the regulations for carrying the pension law into effect.

I know General Campbell to be neglectful and dilatory in doing business – and I know another instance of his disappointing an applicant who had been depending on him to do his business – I believe 4 years

Respectfully

your obedient servant  
S/ P. Murphy

Hon. J. L. Edwards

State of North Carolina New Hanover County: On this the 24th day of September A.D. 1836 before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Richard Curtis a resident of New Hanover County NC aged eighty-two years who being first duly sworn doth on his oath depose and say that he is acquainted with Joshua Brewington a resident of said County and an applicant for a pension, believe him to be the same man he saw in service in South Carolina at Bacons Bridge in 1780 and also in a skirmish on the Brown Marsh in Bladen in the fall of 1781.

S/ Richard Curtis, X his mark

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid and I hereby certify that Richard Curtis is well known to me and entitled to full faith and credit.

S/ J. A. Lillington, JP

State of North Carolina New Hanover County

On this 19th September 1836 before the undersigned a Justice in and for the said County personally appeared Joshua James a resident of the State and County aforesaid aged fifty-six years tomorrow who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is acquainted with Joshua

Brewington an applicant for a pension and has heard William Sholar who was a man of veracity and credit and a soldier of the Revolutionary war, say that said applicant (Brewington) was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and was in service with him (Sholar), and that Sholar is now dead & served in Sharpe's Company. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Joshua James

State of North Carolina New Hanover County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions June Term  
1837

On this the 13th of June A.D. 1837 before William R Meares, Thomas H Wright and John Eakin Esquires, Justices now holding the Court aforesaid personally appeared John A Lillington who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that he was well acquainted with Joshua Brewington or Bruinton an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress of June 7th 1832 and also with his family, that said Brewington left no widow and only one child viz. Yenah, now Yenah Connor widow of John Connor, and that said Joshua Brewington died on or about the 22nd day of November 1836.

S/ J. A. Lillington

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]