

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Allen Howard S8730

f30NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/14/11 & 5/31/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

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State of North Carolina, Granville County: Superior Court of Law Fall Term A.D. 1832

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable James Martin one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and courts of Equity of said state now sitting for said County at Oxford Allen Howard a citizen of Granville County born on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February A.D. 1763 according to a register of my age made in my father's family Bible which I have transferred to my own, who was born and raised in said County and has continued to reside in it from his birth to the present day 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 7<sup>th</sup> June A.D. 1832.

His first service in the Army of the United States during the Revolutionary War was by Draft from Granville County on a tour of three months duty. His Captain was William Gilliam and Isham Harrison was Lieutenant, and Peter Badgett was Ensign. From Oxford, we were marched to Hillsboro and joined the Battalion of the detachment when we were all put under the Command of William Moore as Colonel, Elijah Moore as Major and the whole detachment was commanded by General Butler [John Butler] who marched us to Salisbury where we were put under the Command of some other officer but who I cannot recollect under whom we were marched to Charlotte and placed under the command of General Davidson [William Lee Davidson]. During this tour we were stationed at six mile Creek about sixteen miles from Charlotte on the road that leads to Campden [sic, Camden] where the British were then stationed. We were rendezvoused for about ten weeks. But our service was in all the country round about sometimes in South Carolina and sometimes in North Carolina. During my service here I was in no action or engagement, but repeatedly out on [scouting] parties and expeditions for various purposes. A short time before my Term of Service expired, our company was marched to Salisbury and upon its full completion we were discharged. That is we came in company with our officers but had left our arms in Salisbury – without pretending to be positive, I think we were discharged on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December having served as well as I recollect and believe, from the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September. This was in the year 1780. This service can be proved by James Terry,<sup>1</sup> who was in duty in the same Campaign but in the light Horse. He is now living within a few miles from me. Sowell Frazier<sup>2</sup> a citizen of Stokes County was a private in the same company with me and of my own mess. He can also prove this service. If ever I obtained a written discharge I have lost or mislaid it. I know they were all written & put into the hands of our Captain, but have no recollection of receiving mine.

Directly after the Battle of Guilford in the month of March 1781 [March 15, 1781] a Company of volunteers was raised in Granville County for the purpose of catching fish in Roanoke River within the State of Virginia. The company was commanded by Peter Bennett Captain and Thomas Grant as

<sup>1</sup> [James Terry R10464](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Sowell \(Lowell\) Frazer \(Frazier\) R3767](#)

Lieutenant. The whole was under the Command & direction of [Lt. Col.] Drury Smith. I volunteered and joined this Company on a Tour of three months service. Our company was kept on duty in the full term of their engagement and performed a very fatiguing & laborious service. At the expiration of our service our company was discharged and we all came home. James Terry Senior a Citizen of Granville and neighbor to me, and Sowell Frazier a Citizen of Stokes County North Carolina, were both volunteers in the same Company & performed duty in this Tour and can prove my service in it. I received a written discharge upon the expiration of my service but it is lost or mislaid as I'd never considered it of any value.

The next service I engaged in was under Joshua Coffee as Captain. The duty required of us was to press and take possession of one fifth part of the Dry cattle owned by the Inhabitants of Island Creek<sup>3</sup> and Spew Marrow District<sup>4</sup> in Granville County & to keep and take care of them for the use of the Army. Our Term of service was two months but I found my own horse according to a rule and general principle established in the country during the War a soldier who found his own Horse and performed a Tour of Service of two months was entitled to a discharge for a three months Service. This duty was diligently & faithfully performed by me for two full months. My Captain lived in the immediate vicinity of the Pasture over which I had command and direction, and I think I never received any discharge for this service. I am unable to prove this service by any person living that I know of, except some of my brothers who have removed to the State of Tennessee and by Grant Allen who if alive lives in the same State.

The next and last service in which I engaged was in the early part of the month of October 1781. I volunteered for a three months tour and was placed under the direction of Colonel Robert Burton and Anderson Smith who were stationed at Williamsborough in Granville County. The duty required of me was to carry expresses to all parts of the Country and when not on this duty, to attend to the public property there stationed -- & had charge of the Corn, fodder & provisions -- that was there stored for the use of the Army. The public Horses there stationed were also attended to by me -- and the Army was disbanded after the surrender of Cornwallis at York [October 19, 1781] the Regiment of Colonel White passed through Williamsborough and it was my duty to provide & deliver to his officers provisions for his Horses -- shortly after the Departure of Colonel White, General St. Clair with two or 3000 men passed on [text missing as a result of a tear in the paper] the same service for them. While in Service on this duty I traveled to sundry & various parts of the country -- while in service on this Tour a man who appeared to have been a Soldier came to Williamsborough; he was very large stout man, and was riding a very indifferent Horse -- was dressed in the Uniform of Tarleton's Dragoons. His name was Alexander Shannin [sic, Alexander Shannon?]. His dress and other circumstances had excited Suspicion and he was arrested and kept in confinement for about a week. Colonel Burton [Robert Burton] sent for Colonel Phil Hawkins [Philemon Hawkins] to come & assist him an examination of said Prisoner. Upon this examination and by his own statement which I heard, it appeared that he was a native of Guilford County North Carolina. That he had left home and went to the British on the Catawba in the fall of 1780 immediately after the defeat of General Gates [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1781]. That he joined them and being a large likely man, he was placed in the Troop of Dragoons commanded by Colonel Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton]. That he was in the action at the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781]. That he was also on duty with the enemy at the battle of Guilford

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<sup>3</sup> Island Creek District: Listed on the 1850 and 1860 census. 1770 description of the district was "bounded by Taylors Road from the County line to Hico Road, by that road up to Grassy Creek, by Grassy Creek down to the county line and by the county line to Taylors Road." [www.ncgenweb.us/ncgranville/other/gran-landmarks.pdf](http://www.ncgenweb.us/ncgranville/other/gran-landmarks.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Spew Marrow District: Created in May of 1774, its boundaries were "beginning at Taylors Road, crosses the county line and by that road to Howel Lewis's to Hico Road, then up Hico Road to Knotts Fork, from thence to Mountain Creek, then down Mountain Creek to Grassy Creek, then down Grassy Creek to the Virginia line, then by that line to the beginning. This district was located in northeast Granville County, north and a bit west of Stovall." [www.ncgenweb.us/ncgranville/other/gran-landmarks.pdf](http://www.ncgenweb.us/ncgranville/other/gran-landmarks.pdf)

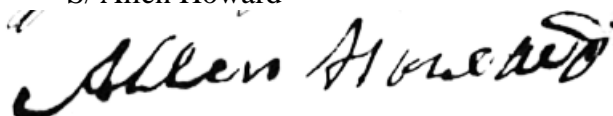
[March 15, 1781]. That he marched with the British after that Battle through North Carolina and into Virginia Petersburg in Richmond to York town. That he was with them during a part of the siege of that town, but finding that the British were declining in strength, and likely to be overpowered by the Americans, he repented that he had forsaken his own Country's cause, and taken up with the enemy, and determined to desert from them. An opportunity soon offered to effect this purpose and he succeeded in making his escape to the American Army – what induced some of the American officers to do it – I do not now recollect, but he had a written permit purported to be signed by some of them, giving him license to travel to Guilford County the place of his Nativity. News of the capture of Cornwallis at York reached Williamsborough the day that I was to start an Express to Guilford on public business and the said Prisoner was by Colonel Burton put in my charge to carry & deliver him to the Commanding officer of that County – accompanied by a letter to that officer – I accordingly took him in charge and carried him and delivered him and that letter to the Sheriff of that County as Colonel Paisley [John Paisley] the Commanding officer of the County was out on duty at that time on an expedition towards Cross Creek. It seems that Shannin had been recognized by some person, for after he & myself had lain down to sleep a party of men came and waked us up observing who Shannin was & immediately took him out of bed, & bound him securely hand and foot, and declared he should die before sunrise. A little before day they left the house I remaining until I got my breakfast. They took the prisoner with them, and between day break & sunrise I heard the Report of guns – the Sheriff soon returned & informed me that Shannin was killed. After breakfast I went on my way home & passed a party of men round the body of Shannin then lying dead on the ground where he had been shot. This circumstance is related in as much as I now consider that I had a fortunate escape – Shannin was a large and very able bodied man, and I was but a stripling weighing perhaps not more than 120 pounds. I returned home and continued on duty until after Christmas when my Term of three months service being fully ended I was discharged. If I received a written discharge for this service I have lost this also with my others.

I am not able that I know of to prove this last tour of service by the Testimony of any person now living.

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 or Territory.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Allen Howard



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We James Terry Senior James Downey<sup>5</sup>, Senior, Esq., and Zachariah Hester<sup>6</sup> all of the County of Granville and Sowell Frazier a Citizen of the County of Stokes in all of the State of North Carolina, being duly sworn according to law, in open court, doth Testify and declare as follows viz.: The said James Terry declares that he was a soldier in both the first Tours of duty named in the foregoing declaration of Allen Howard. That this affiant was a soldier in both these Tours of duty with the said Applicant & knows of his own knowledge that the service stated by him and these two Tours was duly & faithfully performed.

And the said James Downey declares that he was a soldier in the first Campaign as stated in the foregoing declaration upon the Catawba River, that said applicant performed the duty as by him stated.

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5 [James Downey R3064](#)

6 [Zachariah Hester S7002](#)

And Sowell Frazier declares that he well knows that Allen Howard the applicant in the foregoing declaration performed the duties as therein stated by him in the two first Tours of duty – for he was himself a Private in both of them, and was a messmate in that to the Catawba.

And Zachariah Hester declares that although he does not know of his own knowledge that Allen Howard did perform the Tour of duty as stated by him in the foregoing declaration at Williamsborough, yet he has ever since the remarkable occurrence mentioned in said statement of conveying Shannin to the County of Guilford heard and understood that that service was performed by the said Allen Howard and was so universally understood and believed in Granville County since that period.

And they all unite in the declaration that said Allen Howard has ever supported the Character of a honest and Honorable man and of Strict veracity, that the statement made by him as to the services performed was truly, honestly & faithfully performed according to his said Statement.

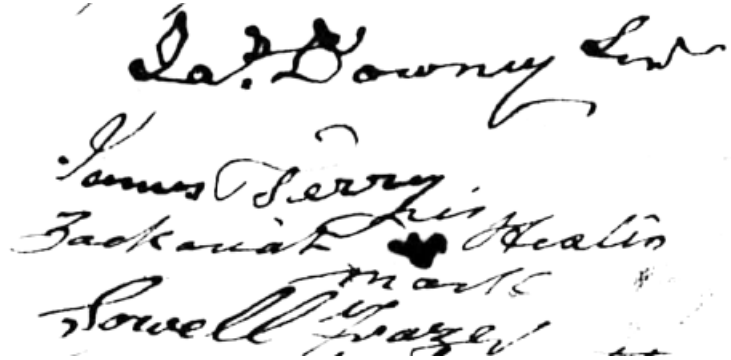
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year above stated.

S/ Jas. Downey, Sr.

S/ James Terry

S/ Zackariah Hester

S/ Sowell Frazer

The image shows four handwritten signatures in cursive ink. From top to bottom: 'Jas. Downey Sr.', 'James Terry', 'Zackariah Hester', and 'Sowell Frazer'. The signatures are written in a fluid, historical style.

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Richard Glasgow<sup>7</sup> makes oath that he served with Allen Howard in the tour mentioned by him in the foregoing declaration and he believes he served the whole tour and knows that he served part of it of his own knowledge, in the manner he has stated viz.: the Tour when he was engaged in pressing cattle in Granville County for the use of General Greene's Army.

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court 7<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1832.

S/ Richard Glasgow, X his mark

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State of North Carolina, Granville County

Personally appeared before me William M. Sneed a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid, Daniel Gooch Senior, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath testify and declare as follows viz.:

That he is in his Seventy Seventh year, that he is a native of the State of Virginia, but was living & resident of Granville County, State of North Carolina in the year 1781. That in the month of March of that year and he believes in the early part of that month, a Company of Militia was required to be organized and a Draft was about to be made, but sooner than submit to draft, the Company was made up by the men as volunteers. The company was commanded by Peter Bennett as Captain, the other officers this affiant does not recollect. But remembers that the Detachment when organized was placed under the Control and direction of Drury Smith. As soon as the Company was organized, they were

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<sup>7</sup> [Richard Glasgow W7536](#)

marched to Montford's fishing place on the Roanoke River in the State of Virginia. Our duty was to catch, cure & band up fish for the use of the American Army then retreating before the British after the Defeat on the Catawba.

This affiant was a private in Captain Bennett's company and there were three other men now living privates in the same who performed the same tour of Duty – viz.: Allen Howard, James Terry Senior both now residents of Granville County and Sowell Frazer a resident of Stokes County and State of North Carolina. This affiant certifies that these men faithfully performed their duty in this tour, which commenced early in March and was still kept on duty, he feels well satisfied until sometime in the month of May. The tour was for three months, but we served more than two months, but not quite as much as three months he thinks probably as much as two & a half months.

The company was formed in the usual way that the Militia were called into the Service of the United States at that Eventful period.

No discharge was given to this affiant.

Subscribed and sworn to this 8<sup>th</sup> May A.D. 1833

S/ Daniel Gooch

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Gooch". The ink is dark and the signature is written in a fluid, connected style.

[Facts in file: Veteran died June 7, 1835.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]