

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>1</sup> relating to Benjamin Harris SC3619  
Audited Account No. 3355

pp22

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/31/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 7]

The Petition of Benjamin Harris praying permission to be placed on the Pension Roll  
Pensions  
J O Lewis

[p 9 (pages out of order)]

The Honorable the Members of the Senate and of House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina

Your Petitioner Sheweth

That Soon after the commencement of the Revolutionary War he was drafted in the Whig Service for a Tour of Three Months under Captain Richard Taylor [presumably of the Granville County NC Regiment] a Captain under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford of North Carolina] and marched into this State, where he was continued Five Months – He was Stationed, a large proportion of the time on Savannah River at the time of the Siege of Savannah<sup>2</sup> during which time he was in Several Skirmishes but in no General engagement he after that Joined General Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army, as he marched into this State from Virginia, but was taken Sick, just before he reached Ninety Six where he lay Sick and at the Point of Death for nearly six Weeks he had previously fought under him at the battle of Guilford<sup>3</sup> [text compromised and obliterated] a [undeciphered word] friend of the Cause of liberty.

Your Petitioner is Seventy two years of age and from the circumstance of his having been nearly blind and much afflicted with the Palsy he is no longer able to procure a living by the Sweat of his brow [text obliterated] and his aged Wife [p 8] who is nearly as much afflicted as himself. All the Estate that he is possessed of Consist of Two Hundred Acres of land the greater part of which is much worn, worth Four or Five Hundred dollars one Mare and Colt worth about Fifty Dollars,

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<sup>1</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

<sup>2</sup> Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_guilford\\_courthouse.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html)

eleven head of Cattle worth thirty four dollars a Small Stock of Hoggs and Sheap and about as much Household furniture as common poor man is possessed of. Your Petitioner therefore hopes that you will take his case into your Consideration and relieve his distressed situation as you have many in this similar Situation by placing of him upon the Pension Roll, and he as in duty bound will ever pray &c &c &c &c

S/ Benjamin Harris



State of South Carolina Anderson District } Benjamin Harris came before me and made Oath that the Statements made by him in the above petition is the truth.

S/ Benjamin Harris

Sworn and Subscribed to before  
me this 18 November 1828  
S/ Sampson Pope, JP

[p 12]

The Committee on pensions to whom was referred the petition of Benjamin Harris praying for a pension –

Report that your committee have had his petition and vouchers under their consideration and our opinion the prayer thereof all to be Rejected

S/ E. Benbow's Chairman

[p 14]

State of South Carolina Anderson District } Frederick Owen<sup>4</sup> came personally before me and made Oath, that he was personally acquainted with the petitioner Benjamin Harris in the time of the Revolutionary War that he knew him to be a good Whig – the deponent further Saith that he Served a Tour with him, of several Months, in the time of the said War under General Rutherford in Colonel Yancey's [Thornton Yancey's] Regiment [Granville County North Carolina Regiment] during a part of which time the deponent saith that they were Stationed together on Savannah River at the time of the Siege of Savannah.

Sworn and Subscribed to  
before me this 13 day of November 1828  
S/ Rt. Carr, JQ

S/ Frederick Owen, X his mark

[p 16]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of Benjamin Harris praying permission to be placed on the pension list –

Respectfully Report

That they have considered the same and recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted

7 December 1829

S/ Sampson Pope, Chairman

[p 17: Receipts indicating that Benjamin Harris received an annuity of \$60 per annum on May 25, 1830 and again on May 31, 1831.]

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<sup>4</sup> [Frederick Owen S21907](#)

[p 19}

To the Legislature of South Carolina

Karon Harris respectfully shows that she is the widow of Benjamin Harris late a Pensioner of the State That she is aged and infirm and in circumstances which render a continuance of the pittance heretofore allowed somewhat indispensable for her comfort. She prays that she may be allowed the amount of Pension usual in such cases.

Mrs. Harris makes oath before me that she is the widow of Benjamin Harris aforesaid and that her declaration above is true

Sworn to before me

S/ Alexander Moorhead, JQ

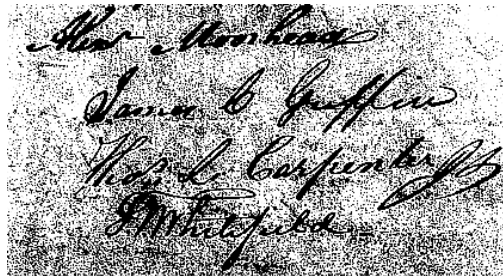
We the undersigned certify that we have been for many years well acquainted with the above Pensioner Mrs. K. Harris the widow of Benjamin Harris – they lived a great many years and this District, always sustained a good character and were reputed in the neighborhood to have been friends to the cause of American independence

S/ Alex. Moorhead

S/ James C. Griffin

S/ Thos. C. Carpenter, JP

S/ J. Whitefield

A rectangular area containing four handwritten signatures in cursive script, corresponding to the names listed above: Alex. Moorhead, James C. Griffin, Thos. C. Carpenter, and J. Whitefield. The signatures are written in dark ink on a light background.

[p 22: Receipts in the file indicate that Karon Harris [also spelled Karen Harris] received an annuity of \$30 on May 30, 1833 and again on June 4, 1834.]