

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Hernden (Herndon) W11275

Frances Hernden f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/19/14

[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.]

[p 6]

State of Tennessee Hamilton County: SS

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 1843 personally appeared before me, Isaac C Rowden an acting justice of the peace and also one of the judges of our County Court which is a Court of record, in and for our said County of Hamilton, Frances Herndon, a resident of the County of Hamilton and State aforesaid aged seventy-eight years on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 1843, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. –["]

That she is the widow of Reuben Herndon who was a private in the Army of the revolution, She had not a personal knowledge of his services, but shortly after the war, understood and verily believes that at about the age of nineteen years he entered the military service of the United States as an enlisted soldier, in the State of Virginia, and continued in service for the term of three years – and that he, being older, and having first entered the service, was most of his time in company with his brother, James Herndon, who she understands was a pensioner under the laws of the United States for revolutionary service. – She declares that from the oft repeated statements of her said husband and other information from the family, she feels confident in the belief that her said husband was an "Bluford's defeat" [Abraham Buford's Defeat or the Battle of Waxhaw, May 29, 1780] – was with his brother James, taken prisoner there, and confined as a prisoner of war at Lunenburg Courthouse, until released by Colonel Carrington an American officer. – She states further that she understood, her husband on leaving the service took a certificate which was of value to him, and which was sold by his father, Jacob Herndon. – Her said husband was a "one eyed man"; but whether the certificate had reference to this circumstance or not she is not now able to state, but the impression is upon her mind that it had.

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She further declares that she was married to the said Reuben Herndon on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year 1787 in Charlotte County Virginia at Mossy Ford Meeting house on Twitty's Creek by John Williams a Baptist preacher – And further that her husband the aforesaid Reuben Herndon died on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1813 – that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated.

Declarant further states that the original records of the family marriages, births &c was destroyed by the burning of her house in the lifetime of her husband. That a second record upon

the dispersion of the family fell into the hands of Enoch Herndon her youngest son, and the Bible containing it has long since been destroyed – that she caused a third one to be made and that the paper hereto attached headed "Family Record" is a true record of her marriage and the number and ages of her children.

She further states that she never intermarried with any man except the said Reuben Herndon, and that since his death she has remained, and still is a widow. –

S/ Frances Herndon, X her mark

[p 5: family record:

Reuben Herndon and Francis Canada were married A.D. November 11, 1787 in Virginia Charlotte County at Mossy-ford Meeting house on Twitty's Creek by John Williams a Baptist Preacher – Children of Reuben and Francis Herndon were as follows first:

Sarah Herndon was born A.D. February 22, 1791

James Herndon was born A.D. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1792

William Herndon was born A.D. April 12<sup>th</sup>, 1795

John Herndon was born A.D. October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1797

Elijah Herndon was born A.D. September 26, 1799

Jacob Herndon was born A.D. October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1801

Reuben Herndon was born A.D. February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1804

Enoch Herndon was born A.D. February 7<sup>th</sup> 1806

Jane Herndon was born A.D. November 25, 1809]

[p 4: Certified copy of the marriage records appearing in the clerk's office of Charlotte County Virginia showing "Married 6 November 1788, Reuben Herndon to Fanny Kennedy by Rev. John Williams –"]

[p 16: On December 5, 1843 in Hamilton County Tennessee, Jane George, aged about 34 gave testimony that she is a daughter of Reuben and Frances Herndon; that she always understood her parents were legally married and that their marriage lasted until her father died in March 1813; that affiant is the youngest child of her parents numerous family of children; that their oldest child, a daughter, was said to have died in infancy; that her mother is a member of the Baptist Church; that her father was a member of the Methodist Church. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 20: Affidavit dated November 9, 1843 given in Rutherford County Tennessee by Jacob Herndon, 55, who gives testimony that he is the son of James Herndon and nephew of Reuben Herndon; that his father James Herndon was a pensioner and revolutionary war soldier who died in Rutherford County Tennessee October 1, 1843; that affiant was well acquainted with Reuben Herndon who died some 30 years ago in Franklin (now Coffee) County Tennessee; that Reuben was reputed to have been a soldier of the revolution with his brother, the affiants father; that affiant has often heard his father speak with Reuben about being in the same company and Regiment under General Bluford [Abraham Buford]; that affiant is the 6<sup>th</sup> child of James Herndon; that Reuben and Frances Herndon's oldest child, Sarah, would be if living and little older than affiant.

*Jacob Herndon*

. At the same time, Robert L Herndon gave testimony that he

agrees with the testimony given by his brother did Jacob as set forth above

*Robert L. Henderson* ]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1843, for her husband service in the Virginia service.]