

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Bowen W20743

Mary Bowen

f60NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/22/10: rev'd 10/12/18

[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 7]

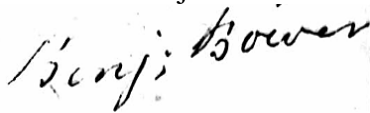
State of South Carolina Anderson District

On this fifth day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Sessions & Common Pleas in and for the State aforesaid and for the said District, now in session, Benjamin Bowen residing in the State & District aforesaid who being 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 7 1832. This Deponent was born in Lancaster County Pennsylvania in 1756 aged about 77 – removed to North Carolina 1775 – he lived in South Carolina when called into service – he has lived in South Carolina since the Revolution & now lives in Anderson District – he entered the service in July 1776 as a volunteer under Captain John Nelson Colonel Paisley [John Paisley] & Colonel John Locke, General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] in Guilford County NC & served during an expedition against the Cherokees<sup>1</sup> in North Carolina about 3 months – volunteered again under the same Captain in 1777 & served 5 months in South Carolina under the same officers – after the 5 months service returned home & was substituted employed by a Continental Officer, Patrick McGibiney [Capt. Patrick McGibbony], to supply the place of one whom he does not recollect, Captain George Pierce [George Pearce], Colonel Paisley – General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] the officers under whom he served. In service this time three months – he again volunteered under Captain Forbis [Arthur Forbis] – Colonel not recollect, General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] served four days and was at the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781]<sup>2</sup> in 1781 he volunteered under Captain Smith Moore Colonel[s] Isaacs [perhaps Elijah Isaacs of Wilkes County NC Regiment] & Paisley – to subdue that Tories and various parts of the State of North Carolina. This Deponent was liable to do duty whenever called on for six years and actually in service much more than two years.

He relinquishes all 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 although he has been for several years a Pensioner of the State of South Carolina –

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court day year aforesaid

S/ Benj. Bowen



<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_guilford\\_courthouse.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html)

In open Court 5th March 1833

S/ Van A. Lawhon, CC

[Sanford Vandiver, a clergyman, and William Acker gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 59]

State of South Carolina Anderson District

Benjamin Bowen appears personally before me and makes the following amended Declaration on oath to supply as far as in his power lies the deficiencies in his Declaration made in open Court the 5th of March 1833 though from the frailty of memory he cannot swear with more precision than follows as to the precise length of his service. This Deponent's age was recorded in a family Bible which has passed into the hands of one of his children since removed to Tennessee. He never received but one written discharge which was at Pocotaligo in South Carolina on the 10th day of April 1778 at the end of the second tour set forth before but which has been long since lost.

In stating his first tour to be about three months he was careful to declare to the longer period than he was assured he did serve and if the phrase be less objectionable he will say at least three months. His second tour which was in South Carolina may be ascertained from his discharge (10th April as above – He was out for a six months tour & has no doubt scarcely that he was actually out that long but preferred setting it down as five months positively –

The third tour in which he substituted was commenced in August 1780 and was for three months mos. [months]. His tour in 1781 was commenced in the month of October and was discharged in January after and continued at least 3 months. The foregoing tours he distinctly recollects was often out for a few days at a time which from his description of it is impossible to set forth with precision – For 6 years he was a volunteer and subject to orders.

Fourteen months and four days he has been able to call to mind of actual service as before set forth and is satisfied that two years of actual service and more was seen by him during the struggle.

He acted entirely in the capacity of a private.

Sworn to and subscribed November 2nd 1833 before

S/ Joseph in Whitner, Not. Public

S/ Benj. Bowen

[p 10: On February 10, 1845 in Anderson District South Carolina, Mrs. Mary Bowen, 79 she believes on the 12th day of March last, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Benjamin Bowen; that she married him in November 1783 in Guilford County North Carolina 12 miles from Guilford courthouse; that they were married by Squire McCama at his house; that she has no record of her marriage but a record on a slip of paper of the birth of her 1st child, John F Bowen, which was September 25th 1784, which slip of paper was made by Pinkney Vandiver; that her husband died November 5, which he thinks was in 1836. She signed her application with her mark.]

[pp. 4-5: family record]

John F Bowen was born September the 25th 1784

Nancy Bowen was born April the 13th 1787

Martha Bowen was born May the 12th 1790

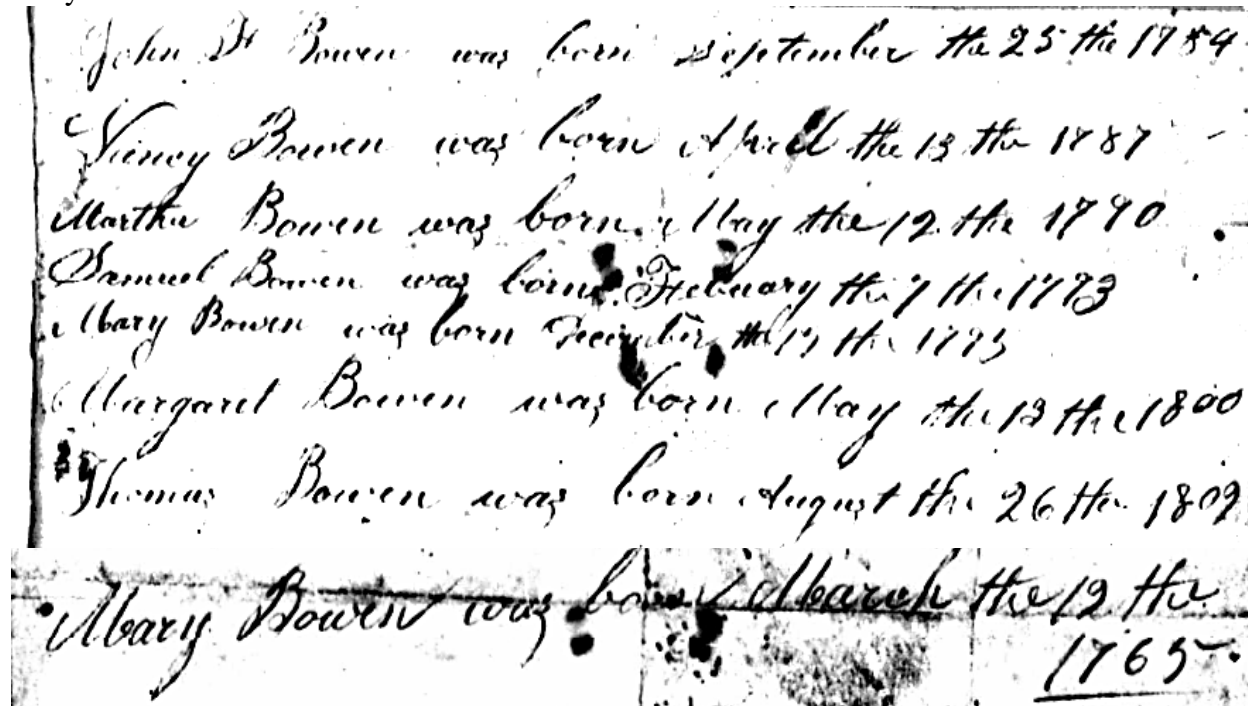
Samuel Bowen was born February the 7th 1793

Mary Bowen was born December the 13th 1795

Margaret Bowen was born May the 13th 1800

Thomas Bowen was born August the 26th 1809

Mary Bowen was born March the 19th 1765



John D Bowen was born September the 25<sup>th</sup> 1784  
Nancy Bowen was born April the 13<sup>th</sup> 1787  
Martha Bowen was born May the 12<sup>th</sup> 1790  
Samuel Bowen was born February the 7<sup>th</sup> 1783  
Mary Bowen was born December the 19<sup>th</sup> 1775  
Margaret Bowen was born May the 13<sup>th</sup> 1800  
Thomas Bowen was born August the 26<sup>th</sup> 1809  
Mary Bowen was born March the 19<sup>th</sup> 1765

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 14 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>3</sup> relating to Benjamin Bowen  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 643B

AA16

[p 3]

The State of South Carolina

South Carolina Anderson District } Before me personally came and appeared Benjamin Bowen of the same State and district aforesaid, who being first sworn in due form of the Law upon his Oath Deposeth and saith that he is the identical Benjamin Bowen named in the affidavits of Philip Evans, John Wilson and Andrew Hughs, hereunto attached – that he was a Soldier during the American Revolutionary War and acted with the South Carolina forces as stated in the said affidavits. That he did, during the said war, when soldiers were wanted for the defense of the Country, Volunteer his services and faithfully to the best of his ability discharged his duty. That he was generally in the service for 6 years – was in several engagements the last of which was the battle of Guilford, where he was commanded by Captain Arthur Forbis.

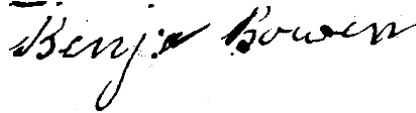
And the deponent further swears that he never received from his Country any pay or reward for his Services, Save Scanty rations – except in the Cherokee expedition for which he received pay.

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<sup>3</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) 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.

That he is now upwards of seventy-three years of age, and of course unable, well to support himself, by manual labor, and has no income of any kind – That he considers himself absolutely in need of the assistance of his Country, to enable him to subsist Comfortably, and to prevent his coming to Sufferance – in his now old age. – And that his only dependence is on receiving a reward from his Country, for Services which he has freely and faithfully rendered her – The deponent further swears that his wife now living with him is unable to assist him much in procuring manual support, She being upwards of sixty-four years of age – And also that he has no dependence or claims on any relatives or friends for assistance.

S/ Benjamin Bowen



[p 6]

The State of South Carolina

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of said State in General Assembly Convened.

The Humble petition of Benjamin Bowen of Anderson District, in the State aforesaid

Respectfully Sheweth:

That his case is fully, and he hopes satisfactorily set forth in his affidavit preceding, and in others therein mentioned and hereto attached. That he hopes your Honorable body will take the same into deliberate consideration, and grant him such reward and assistance, as his services merit, and his present need requires – And your petitioner, as in duty bound will ever pray &c

S/ Benja. Bowen

Anderson District

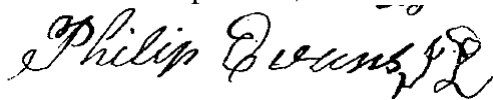
December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1829

[p 7]

State South Carolina Anderson District} Personally came Philip Evins [sic] before me William Berry an Acting Justice in said District and makes oath in due form of Law and saith on said oath that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Bowen in the Service in the revolutionary War and Served a Tour with him in South Carolina near Savannah about the year 1777 & 1778 & that he was a true friend to his Country. Sworn to and Subscribed this 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1829

S/ William Barry, JP

S/ Philip Evans,<sup>4</sup> JL



[p 10]

South Carolina Pickens District}

Personally came John Wilson<sup>5</sup> before me the Subscribing Justice and made Oath in due form that he was personally acquainted with Benjamin Bowen in the time of the revolutionary War and that he was knowing to said Bowen's bearing arms in defense of the United States against the forces of Great Britain and the Indians – and that he served one Campaign with him in this State and had good reasons to believe he was a true Whig and much devoted to the cause

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<sup>4</sup> [Philip Evans W5272](#)

<sup>5</sup> [John Wilson S21581](#)

of his Country.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 1829

S/ James Osborn, JQ

S/ John Wilson



[p 11]

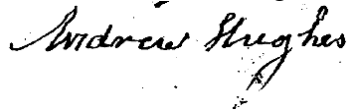
South Carolina Pickens District}

Personally came Andrew Hughes before me the Subscribing Justice and made oath in due form that he was acquainted with Benjamin Bowen in the time of the revolutionary War and that he was knowing to his bearing arms in defense of the United States against the forces of Great Britain and the Indians. And that he this deponent served two Campaigns with said Bowen – and had good reason to believe that he was a true friend of his country.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 1829

S/ James Osborn, J Q

S/ Andrew Hughes<sup>6</sup>



[pp 15-16: receipts showing payment of an annual pension to Bowen of \$60 from May 25, 1830 through 4 June 1834.]

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<sup>6</sup> [Andrew Hughes W25805](#)