

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Leonard Wills W26027<sup>1</sup> Sarah fn??NC<sup>2</sup>  
Transcribed by Will Graves 1/16/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia Gwinnett County: Inferior Court October Term 1832

On this 5th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court (it being a Court of Record) now sitting Leonard Wills a resident of the said County of Gwinnett and State aforesaid aged seventy-four 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated (to wit) That he entered the Service in Edgecombe County & State of North Carolina where he then resided as a volunteer under the command of Captain \_\_\_ Horn for the term of three months & was afterwards discharged by said Horn. That from his present infirm ages he only recollects the names of his Captain Horn that the time he entered the service he thinks General Caswell commanded & he is pretty certain he was attached to Colonel Irvin Regiment & was in the battle, at the widow's Moore's Bridge,<sup>3</sup> where we defeated McDaniel & McCloud which were Tories, the year he cannot recollect and was during this service in the State of North Carolina, and that he again entered the service as a drafted militia man in Captain John Shipp's Company in the same State & County for another term of three months – marched, under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] & he thinks was attached to Colonel Linton's Regiment, – into South Carolina but was not in the battle of the Eutaw Springs<sup>4</sup> only on the march from there he marched to Deep River in North Carolina, taken sick and discharged at the hospital near Colonel Scurlock's in said State of North Carolina. Afterwards near the close of the war went out again a short time against Wallace [sic, Cornwallis] as he passed through North Carolina. That he recollects of no person living who can prove the services that he has no Documentary evidence by which he can prove his services nor does he know of any person now living who could establish the same. That since the Revolutionary war he has resided 1st in North Carolina

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt31715-160-55

<sup>2</sup> At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

<sup>3</sup> February 27, 1776 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/moorescreek.htm> and [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_moores\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html)

<sup>4</sup> September 8, 1781

then to Tennessee thence to South Carolina & from there to the State of Georgia & County of Gwinnett where he now resides. 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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ Wm Maltbie, Clk

S/ Lennard Wills

[Elijah Moore, a clergyman, and Elisha Winn gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Georgia Gwinnett County: Before me a Justice of the peace of said County personally appeared Leonard Wills who has made & subscribed the annexed declaration and after being duly sworn saith by reason of old age & feeble constitution and consequent decay of memory he cannot positively swear as to the identical date of his first service but from the best of his recollection it was in the year 1779 and that he then served under the officers & in the service as stated – and he also recollects that John Daniel was one of his messmates the first service was entered in Edgecombe County in North Carolina where he then resided and that he recollects that his second tour was in the year 1780 which service was rendered in North & South Carolina under the officers &c as stated – that he entered this service in the said County of Edgecombe and that during the service Gates Army was defeated in South Carolina after he had returned to North Carolina in the year 1781 he was again called into service at the same place as a volunteer for an unlimited time to oppose the march of Cornwallis as he passed through that state and remained in this Service 3 months that he was regularly discharged from the service but his discharge are all lost – in his second service one Joshua Johnson was a messmate – and in his third service William Spikes [?] was a messmate and was a private soldier. That he was born in the said County in North Carolina in the year 1758 – as his parents informed him that he has no record of his age – his first discharge was given by Colonel Irvin – his second by Colonel Scurlock – his last service was under officers whose names he cannot now recollect nor does he recollect from whom he received his discharge. That Elijah Moore a clergyman and Elisha Winn who have already testified John Suddith & John L Tippin & many others of his neighbors can testify as to his character for veracity & of their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. And for such service he claims a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed before me a justice of the peace of said County this 17 June 1833

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Lennard Wills

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lennard Wills". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[On March 27, 1855 in Georgia, Cobb County, Sarah Wills, 75, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Leonard Wills who she alleges served as a private and some times as a Lieutenant in the Company of Captain Ship; that she married him in Edgecombe County on May 8, 1813; that they were married by Orphy Thomas; that her name prior to her marriage was Sarah Baily; that her husband died in Cobb County Georgia September 21, 1852. In a later documents he gave his date of death as September 22, 1852 and she stated that her maiden name was Sarah Bayly and that she was married by the Theophilus Thomas, a justice of the peace in Edgecombe County North Carolina.]

[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. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing February 3rd, 1853.]