

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Williams W26078

Ann Williams

f69NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/6/17

[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 South Carolina, District of Charleston

On this 7 day of March 1839 Personally appeared before the undersigned Mrs. Ann Williams aged 84 a resident of Charleston South Carolina & formerly of North Carolina, who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to be entitled to the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836, that, she is the widow of Benjamin Williams Deceased formerly of Smithville North Carolina, who was a Soldier and an officer during the war of the Revolution, and served under arms during same two years, To wit, at the Commencement of the Revolution he joined a company of light horse raised in Brunswick County North Carolina commanded as Deponent thinks by Captain Callender<sup>1</sup>. Deponent saith that her husband shortly after, removed to Duplin County North Carolina & there joined another company of Horse, commanded as she believes by a Captain Dodd. Deponent saith that during said War, her husband was promoted to the rank of a Lieutenant in said Corps and served in this capacity for 12 months & more, Deponent saith she remembers having seen said commission, Deponent saith her recollection is that said Benjamin Williams was at the Battle of Cross Creek [? Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776?], in North Carolina and at the Battle of Briar Creek [March 3, 1779] & other places in South Carolina [sic, Georgia].<sup>2</sup> Deponent saith, her belief is that, the said company in which her said husband served was attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment North Carolina Continental line, as is also set forth in a Book called the defense of the *Revolutionary History* of North Carolina by John S. Jones, Boston 1834, page 218,<sup>3</sup> where her said husband is designated as a Lieutenant in Colonel Howe's [Robert Howe's] Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> North Carolina, Deponent saith her husband's two Brothers also served in said War, she further declares that she was married to the said Benjamin Williams at her father's House in North Carolina a Presbyterian Minister on the \_\_\_ day of May 1774, the same having been originally entered in her Bible, and copied there from (because said Bible was nearly destroyed by fire & continually decayed away), about 30 years ago, into a large Prayer Book now in her possession and that her husband the said Benjamin Williams died in the year 1817, at Smithville North Carolina, shortly after which, Deponent removed to her present residence and has remained unmarried ever since, Deponent saith she has no other documentary evidence, having lost nearly all her papers by fire, & that she is now in feeble health and reduced circumstances as will appear by reference to the proof annexed.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above written & I also certify the credibility of the affiant.

S/ Ann Williams

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1 Could be a reference to Capt. [Thomas Callender BLWt482-300](#), see [W514 Samuel Ashe](#).

2 Briar Creek March 3, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

3 Jones, John Seawell Jones, *A Defence of the Revolutionary History of the State of North Carolina from the Aspersion of Mr. Jefferson.*, Boston, Charles Bowen, 1834.

*Ann Williams*

S/ Jacob Axson, Judge of the City Court

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State of South Carolina, District of Charleston

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 1839 Personally appeared before the undersigned Mrs. Frances [spelled Francis] Williams Delaney aged 51 years a resident of the City of Charleston a daughter of Benjamin and Ann Williams formerly of North Carolina, who being duly sworn Depose, in relation to the marriage of her father & mother, that, she remembers to have seen nearly 40 years ago in the family Bible a Registry of the marriage of her father and mother as contained in the aforesaid registry, that said original entry was in the handwriting of her father, said Benjamin, that sometime afterwards said Bible was nearly destroyed by fire, and that while it was in this dilapidated condition, the portion containing the family register of said Births and deaths being still entire, her father and mother had same copied about 30 years ago into a blank leaf in a large Prayer Book, Deponent saith said Prayer Book is now in her possession and that she has cut the leaf containing said registry out of it, that it is a true copy of the original and that, by it, it appears the father and mother were married in the year 1774 for her sister Mary Williams if now alive would be 63 years of age, Deponent saith that shortly after said copy was made from said entry in said Bible as aforesaid, the said Bible rapidly declined, and not a vestige of it now remains – Deponent saith she has read the Commission of her father constituting him a Lieutenant, that it referred to the period of the Revolution, that said Commission is lost, that her mother the applicant resides with her – and that from her recollection of the many conversations her father Benjamin Williams and of his contemporaries, she has reason to believe & does believe he served under arms two years during said War, and that one year was as a Lieutenant as aforesaid. Deponent saith she cannot recall to mind the name of the Corps in which he was so commissioned but believes it was signed by Governor Nash [Abner Nash] or Ashe and Deponent saith that ever since the death of her father Benjamin Williams her mother the said Anne has remained a widow & unmarried A. Now of upwards of 20 years.

S/ Frances Delany

*Frances Delany*

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day & year above written & I also certify the Credibility of the affiant, the word “Births 14” first duly entered & the words “as contained in the annexed registry” line also being inserted.

S/ P. Cantwell

[Veteran died October 29, 1818 survived by his widow, Ann Williams and two daughters, Mrs. Francis Delaney and Miss Susan Williams, unmarried.]

[pp 3-4: The Registry referred to contains the following information:

“Benjamin Williams, Son of Joseph Williams Born the 30 November 1754.

Ann Simpson Daughter of William Simpson and Ann his Wife, born January 16, 1755.

Mary Williams, Daughter of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife born the 10 April 1776.

Ann Williams Daughter of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife, born the 4 December 1777. Died in the 7<sup>th</sup> year of her age.

Simpson Williams Son of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife, born the 31 October 1779.

Daniel Williams, Son of Benjamin Williams & Ann His Wife, Born in the Year 1781. Died the Eighteenth Year of His Age.

Benjamin Williams, Son of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife, born the 11 May 1783. Died in the Fifth year of his age.

Elizabeth Williams Daughter of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife, born the 8 December 1785. Died in the Third year of her age.

Frances Williams, Daughter of Benjamin & Ann his Wife, born the 29 December 1788

Joseph Williams, Son of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife Born the 8 December 1790. Died in the 14<sup>th</sup> Year of His Age.

Susanna Williams Daughter of Benjamin Williams & Ann his Wife Born 19 September 1797.”]

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State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Benjamin Williams a private in Captain Pointers [John Poynter's] Company of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment enlisted the 6<sup>th</sup> day of February 1777 for three years, & that he was a Sergeant on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1779, that nothing more is said of them on said rolls. That on the \_\_ 1796 a warrant for 640 acres bounty land was issued to the Ayers of Benjamin Williams, for his services in the revolutionary War.

Given under my hand at office in Raleigh 21<sup>st</sup> December 1839.

S/ Wm Hill

[Wm Hill's fee for the above certificate was 40cents.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$250 per annum commencing March 4, 1831 and ending April 17, 1840. The amount of her pension was based upon her husband service as a private and Lieutenant in the North Carolina service.]