

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Houston W3817

Mary Houston

f68SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves rev'd 2/3/10 & 1/13/16 & 10/17/22

[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 8th 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 8]

State of Georgia, Coweta County

On this the 11th October eighteen hundred and thirty two personally before me John D. Hinton one of the judges of the inferior court of said State and county appeared John Houston, a resident of said State and County, aged 72 years, who in being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that he entered the service in March 1776 for one month, as a substitute for his father who was drafted, this company it was commanded by Captain Flood and was stationed in Charleston, South Carolina. In June 1776 I again entered the service as a substitute for one month, in the place of Henry Coon; we sailed from Charleston the first of June down to Hadrel's [sic, Haddrell's] Point in company with the Charleston Grenadiers, Forresters, his company was commanded by Captain John Sally. He was one of the guard that was stationed on the lower bridge, between the point and Sullivan's Island. The day of the Battle of Sullivan's Island, this company was attached to no Regiment. The whole of the men at the point was commanded by General Armstrong. In July he again entered the service as a substitute in the place of Thomas Pindanas [?] for one month. This company was commanded by Captain Fullington [Fullerton?], the battalion was commanded by a Major Charles Linning [sic, Charles Lining]. He marched us from where we were stationed on the point to Sullivan's Island and remained ten days and returned to Haddrell's Point and served out the term of one month. In March 1777[could be 1779, last digit is unclear] he entered the service as a volunteer in Captain Thomas Dugan's company to range on the Indian frontier, he remained in Service until July. In March 1780, he again entered the service for 3 months—was drafted and added to Captain Thomas Dugan's [Thomas Duggin's] company, his major name was Lewis Gillum and the Col's name was John Purvis. He was stationed at Cupboard Creek about 2 miles from Augusta Georgia. In the month of September of the year 1780, he entered the service as a volunteer in Captain Thomas Dugan's company serving in said company until December 1781. Was ordered out upon an expedition under Capt. Levy Caisey [sic, Levi Casey], fell in with Gen. Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] and was placed in the march as his rear guard—Tarleton's coming upon us, attacked our rear guard, killed and took a good many prisoners. He was, himself dangerously wounded and taken prisoner, remained a prisoner until near Christmas, when he was paroled. As soon as his wounds would admit he joined the army under Captain James Dugan and was at the

Siege of Ninety Six. In the month of March following, he again entered the service for 3 months as a substitute in the place of Alexander Dunlap, his captain's name was Henry Key, the Col.'s name was J. Smith, this was a company of Horse, head Quarters at Orangeburg and was marched to Ashapoo, the whole detachment, when united was commanded by Col. Leroy Hammond, our detachment joined the main army under Genl. Greene [Nathanael Greene] while he lay with his army at Bacon's Bridge, on Ashley River where his term of service expire and he was discharged. In June 1782, he again entered the service as a volunteer for four months. This company was commanded by Lieutenant James Starks (having no captain) while in service in this company he was in an engagement with the Tories at John Richardson's Plantation upon Bush River South Carolina—he served with no Continental or regular troops but when on Sullivan's Island and under General Greene; that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knew of no person, whose testimony he can procure (except his brother James Houston,¹ whose affidavit is hereunto annexed, also the affidavit of William Malone) who can testify to his service. 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.

S/ John Houston, Senior



Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Jno. D. Hinton, J. I. C., CC

Answers to the interrogatories² from the War Department:

Answer to interrogatory 1st. He was born in Ireland in the year 1760 as his parents informed him.

Answer to Int. the 2nd. He has none.

Answer to Int the 3rd. He was living in Orangeburg District South Carolina, after the war about 19 years in South Carolina and moved to Georgia, here he'd lived in Jasper [County] and is now living in Coweta County Georgia.

Answer to Int. the 4th. He substituted, was drafted and sometimes a volunteered as stated more fully in the declaration.

¹ [James Houston S1914](#)

² The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer to Int. the 5th. Colonel Moultrie at Sullivan's Island and General Greene. He served with no Continental or regular regiments, but on Sullivan's Island and those that were with General Greene and he does not recollect the particular regiments he was with.

Answer to Int. the 6th. He never did.

Answer to Int. the 7th. He refers to Henry Keller and James Wood.

S/ John Houston, Snr.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Jno. D. Hinton, J. I. C., CC

[Henry Keller and James Wood gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 27]

December the 16th, 1825 Georgia Clarke County

I hereby Certify that in the month of November 1780 I was a prisoner under Colonel Tarleton on the day of the action at Blackstocks on Tiger River between General Sumpter & Colonel Tarleton in the State of South Carolina some time in the day Mr. John Huston was brought by some of Tarleton's dragoons (or horsemen) and delivered unto the same Guard that I was in very badly wounded, he at that time was a volunteer under the then Captain Levi Casey there in defense of the American Cause.

Certified the day & date above & subscribed Before me

S/ Wm Malone



Sworn to the day & date above written

S/ John Shepherd, JP

[p 50]

Georgia Coweta County: Personally appeared before me John D. Hinton one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of said State & County, James Houston, who after being duly sworn, deposed & saith, that the declaration made this day, and answers to certain Interrogatories from the war Department made by John Houston for the purpose of obtaining a pension from the United States, for his services performed during the revolutionary war, which is hereunto annexed, are substantially true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

S/ James Houston, H his mark

Sworn to before me this the 11th of October 1832

S/ Jno. D. Hinton, JICCC

[p 34]

State of Georgia Coweta County: On this the 23rd day of August 1833 before me Samuel D. Echols one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of said State and County, appeared John Houston a resident of said State and County aged 73 years not being able to attend in open court from infirmity and old age 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service in the Army of the United States the first day of March 1776 for one month, as a substitute for his father who was drafted, and served out his term of one

month and was discharged, his Captain was Flood, and his company was stationed at Charleston South Carolina. On the first day of June 1776 he again entered the service as a substitute one month in the place of Henry Coon, and served out his tour of duty and was discharged, this company was commanded by Captain John Sally, this Company was stationed on the Lower Bridge, between the point (Hadrell's) and Sullivan's Island, the day of the battle on Sullivan's Island, this Company was attached to no Regiment, but the whole of the men at the point was under the command of General Armstrong: On the 3rd of July 1776 he again entered the service as a substitute in the place of Thomas [last name written over and illegible] for one month this company was commanded by Captain Fullington, the Battalion was commanded by Major Charles Lining, he marched us from where we were stationed on the point to Sullivan's Island, where we remained ten days, thence to Haddrell's Point, where he served out his tour of one month and was discharged –

On the 5th of March 1779 [could be 1777 as the last digit is written over] he entered the service as a volunteer in Captain Dugan's Company for 6 months, to range on the Indian frontier, but remained in service only 4 months and was discharged in July of the same year --

On the 1st of March 1780, he again entered the service for 3 months, was drafted and added to Captain Thomas Dugan's Company, his Major's name was Levi Gillum and the Colonel John Purvis, the Company was stationed at Cupboard Creek two miles from Augusta Georgia and he there served out his term of duty of 3 months and was discharged on the 3rd of June of the same year.

On the 10th of September 1780, he entered the service as a volunteer in Captain Thomas Dugan's Company for 18 months, served in said Company until the 15th December 1781 about 16 months and was discharged, while in this Service or campaign, was ordered out upon an expedition under Captain Levi Caisey fell in with General Sumpter's detachment, and was placed in the march as his rear guard. Tarleton coming upon us attacked our rear guard, killed and took many prisoners, he this deponent, himself was dangerously wounded and was taken prisoner, remained a prisoner until near Christmas, when he was paroled, as soon as his wounds would admit, he joined the Army under Captain James Dugan and was at the siege of Ninety Six. On the first day of march 1782 he entered the service for 3 months as a substitute in the place of Alexander Dunlap his Captain's name was Henry Key, that in Colonel name was Smith, this was a Company of Horse, headquarters at Orangeburg South Carolina and was marched to Ashapoo, the whole detachment, when United was commanded by Colonel Leroy Hammond, our detachment joined the Main Army under General Greene, while he lay with his Army at Bacon's Bridge on Ashley River until his term of service of 3 months expired, when he was discharged. -

- On this 6th of June 1782, he again entered the service as a volunteer for 4 months, this Company was commanded by Lieutenant James Stark (having no Captain) while in service in this Company he was in an engagement with the Tories at John Richardson's plantation on Bush River South Carolina, he served out his tour and was discharged. That he served with no Continental or regular troops but when on Sullivan's Island and whilst under General Greene -- That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person living within his bounds, whose testimony he can procure (except James Houston, whose affidavit is hereunto annexed, also the affidavit of William Malone who is now dead) who can testify to his service. 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 and subscribed before us this 23rd day of August 1833

S/ Samuel D. Echols, JIC

S/ John Houston

[p 48: John W. Pentecost and James Wood gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 38]

Georgia Coweta County: Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Inferior Court for the County and State aforesaid, John Houston Senior who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection, he served at the following named places & periods as mentioned below, and in the following grades: --

1st He was living in Orangeburg district in the State of South Carolina when his father was drafted to serve a Tour of one month for the protection of Charleston -- he entered in the month of March in the year 1776, as a substitute for him and served out the Tour as mentioned in the declaration.

2. -- In the month of June of the same year he again entered the service as a substitute for Henry Coon to serve a tour of one month. Rendezvous at the City of Charleston, he was under the Command of Captain John Sally -- about the first of the month sailed from Charleston in company with the Charleston Grenadiers & foresters to Haddrell's Point. The Charleston Grenadiers were commanded by Captain __ McCall. The Foresters by Captain __ Laziez [?]. On the day of the Battle of Sullivan's Island his company was placed as a guard at the lower bridge between the Point and the Island. The day of the Battle his Company was not attached to any Regiment. The whole of the men at the Point was commanded by General __Armstrong -- at the expiration of this tour which was about the first July he was discharged & immediately entered the service again at Haddrell's Point for the term of one month as a substitute for Thomas Pindarves [?]. -- he was commanded by Captain Fullington -- his Battalion by Major Charles Lining, who marched us from the Point to Sullivan's Island and remained there ten days. Thence back to Haddrell's Point at which place he remained in actual service until his time of service expired, which was about the first of August when he was discharged. In the month of January in the year 1779 he removed from Orangeburg to Ninety Six district South Carolina and settled in Colonel James Williams's Regiment -- about the first of March of the year 1779. He entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Thomas Dugan. Rendezvoused 2 miles above the Tubling Shoals [sic, Tumbling Shoals or Tumblin Shoals] on Reedy River. Then on the Indian line -- at which Station he remained in actual service till sometime in the month of July when he was discharged --

In the month of February or march of the year 1780 he was drafted and added to Captain Thomas Dugan's Company. Rendezvoused at a place called Chalk Hills in South Carolina (near Augusta Georgia). The Battalion was commanded by Major Lewis Gillum we remained at this place 2 or 3 weeks when we were marched across the Savannah River to Cupboard Creek near Augusta Georgia, where we fell in with other Troops at which place we remained till our term of service expired which was 3 months. -- At Cupboard Creek the whole of the Troops were under the command of Colonel John Purvis. --

In the fall of the year 1780 (the month not now recollected) he turned out as a Volunteer under Captain Thomas Dugan with a fixed resolution to retake his Country or die. He immediately thereafter joined General Sumpter & the Troops under his command at Indian Creek now in Newberry district -- we were marched to Broad River -- the whole under the

command of General Sumpter and down said River to Shira's Ferry [sic, Shirer's Ferry³], at which place we had a smart skirmish with the British across the River -- from there we went marched back again to Dunkin's Creek [Duncan's Creek] -- Immediately on our arrival at this place, we were informed of the approach of Tarleton and his Troops -- by order of General Sumpter Captain Levi Casey chose twelve men of the Main body of the Army to reconnoiter -- of which twelve he was one of the number thus chosen -- on one occasion that night we fell in with three Tories & took them prisoners. The next morning whilst we were endeavoring to return to the Main Army we were observed & overtaken by Tarleton and his Legion at a place called Cross Roads between Duncan's Creek and Enoree River. In this skirmish he was dangerously wounded and taken Prisoner -- and carried to Blackstock's -- at which place he remained about a week then placed in the hands of Major McCarthy and his Battalion -- taken by him to Shirer's Ferry on Broad River at which place he remained about ten days from there removed to the widow Woodward's on Little River where Tarleton and his Legion lay at which place he remained about two weeks when he was removed to Winnsborough (Cornwallis's headquarters) at this place he remained a few days when he was paroled -- he returned home to his father's where he remained a short time -- till General Greene came on with his Army -- he then broke his parole and joined the troops under General Greene, was attached to the Company commanded by his old Captain viz. Thomas Dugan -- and remained with him until the siege of Ninety Six was raised -- at which time Captain Thomas Dugan resigned his brother James Dugan took the command of the Company. They retreated from the Main Army to Hamilton's Ford on Tiger River [Tyger River] at which place his Captain and his Company left the Main Army to scour the Country of Tories -- remained under him till he was killed by the Tories -- after this he is Company was commanded by Captain John Virgin & Lieutenant James Stark -- The whole of the Troops were under the command of Colonel Joseph Hayes -- rendezvoused at Carr's Mills Bush River -- Thence to a place called Dutch Ford. Then fell in with Captain Philemon Waters & his Company of State Troops. Thence marched in company with him & his forces to Fosse's Ford on Broad River. Thence down to Ankrum [Ancrum's] big house on the Congaree River. -- There we remained till Greene's Army marched from the High Hills of Santee near us where we furnished them with some beef cattle. About this time our Colonel was informed that the Tories were numerous in our part of the Country -- which caused him to return -- after which we were closely employed two or three weeks in driving the Tories off -- (about which time the Battle of the Eutaw Springs was fought) shortly thereafter Governor Rutledge issued his proclamation for removing of the wives & children of the Tories into the British lines -- in which occupation Colonel Hayes & his forces to which he himself attached were engaged five or six weeks after which the Tories attacked Colonel Hayes & his company & being too strong for him -- overpowered and murdered him together with seventeen of his men in cold blood after he had surrendered to them -- at the time of this engagement he was sent off into his own settlement by order of his Colonel. -- after the murder of Colonel Hayes, Colonel Levi Casey commanded the Regiment -- rendezvoused at the house of John Cunningham -- where he was placed under the command of Lieutenant Arthur McCracken together with five other men to guard the Tories and make them break hemp to send to Petersburg Virginia to purchase salt -- at which time the legislature convened at Jacksonborough South Carolina when all the volunteers were discharged he thinks in the latter part of December 1781. In the month of March of the year following he again entered the service for 3 months in a company of horse as a substitute in the place of Alexander Dunlap -- his Captain's name was Henry Key his Colonel name was Jared Smith --

³ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/shirersfy.htm>

[indecipherable word] commanded the Regiment headquarters were at Orangeburg -- the whole under the command of Leroy Hammond. Our detachment joined the Main Army under General Greene while he lay with his Main Army at Bacons Bridge on Ashley River at which place he remained a short time where his term of service expired -- when he was discharged. In June 1782 -- he again entered the service as a volunteer for a tour of 4 months -- this Company was commanded by Lieutenant James Stark -- having no Captain while in service in this company. He was in an engagement with the Tories at John Richardson's Plantation on Bush River South Carolina. This company of Tories was commanded by William Cunningham the noted Tory -- and deponent further deposes & saith that the following contains the periods he served all of which he served as a private for which he now claims a pension Viz. --

March 1776	1 Mo.	under Capt.	Flood—	substitute
Jun 1776	1 do		Sally	do
July 1776	1 do		Fullington	do
March 1779				
to July 1780	4 do		volunteer under Capt.	Dugan
__ 1780	3 do	drafted		Dugan
Fall 1780				

to Dec. 1781 he was less than 12 months in actual service & that he actually received pay for the whole of the time and that during this time he served under such officers as set forth in the foregoing.

March 1782 3 months as a substitute under Capt. Henry Key

till 1st June 1782

June 1782

Oct. 4 months Volunteer under Lt. Starks

Sworn & subscribed before me this 15th day of November 1833

S/ John Houston

S/ Jno D. Hinton, JIC

[p 30]

Georgia Coweta County: Personally appeared before me Samuel D. Echols one of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Coweta County John Houston who being duly sworn, deposed and saith, that he did serve as stated in his amended declaration, as is returned unsatisfactory, twelve months constant service (to wit) from November 1780 to December 1781 -- as follows -- That he entered the service in November 1780 in Captain Dugan's Company as a volunteer, for no settled period, but to serve as circumstances might require that in ten days after, this deponent had joined his Company, he was in a battle, with the British under the command of Tarleton, that this deponent was dangerously wounded and taken prisoner, and retained in close confinement for six weeks, and was then liberated on parole until exchanged, and remained under parole about six weeks, more, and having recovered from his wounds, he broke his parole, by joining the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], in the early part of the year 1781, in Captain Dugan's Company, and served, three months, under General Greene at the Siege of Ninety Six and immediately after the siege, this deponent rendezvoused at Carr's Mills on Bush River and remained in this Service, or tour about one month, and returned back to his Regiment, under the command of Colonel Joseph Hays [sic, Joseph Hayes] -- Colonel Hays received orders from Governor Rutledge, immediately after this deponent had joined his Regiment, to remove all the women & children of the Tories out of the limits of his command, over to the British, which

service, we were about two months in performing the balance of the year, for self preservation, we were compelled to remain in service, and under arms, to keep from being butchered up by the Tories, for they killed every Whig they could get hold of -- my recollection, from extreme old age, does not now serve me, as to the exact dates of my service to a day, but they are set forth as well as my memory now serves me in my former declarations.

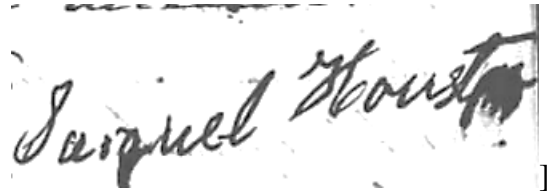
Sworn to and subscribed before me this first March 1834

S/ John Houston, X his mark

S/ Sam. D. Echols, JICCC

[p 12: on December 25, 1843 in Coweta County Georgia, Mary Houston, 75, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Houston, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him in the year 1788 (day and month not recollected but that it occurred in the summer of that year); that her husband died May 24th, 1835; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13: On December 25, 1843 and Coweta County Georgia, Samuel Houston gave testimony that he is the reputed son of John and Mary Houston; that his parents lived together as man and wife for 40 years previous to the death of his father who was a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution; that his father died May 24, 1834 and that Mary Houston remains his widow.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Houston". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "Samuel" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than "Houston". The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box with a vertical line on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]
