

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Townsend W3889

Susannah Townsend

f79SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/3/09: rev'd 12/30/21

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 22]

State of Georgia Hall County} SS On this Sixth day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of ordinary of said Court now sitting Thomas Townsend a resident of said County and State aged Seventy nine years 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 service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service in Camden district South Carolina in 1775 as a volunteer under Captain John Wallis [John Wallace], he served about six weeks and was discharged -- he again entered the service in March 1776 in the Continental [line] in the State of South Carolina under Captain James Duff in the Second Regiment [sic, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment] it was afterwards altered but to what number he does not recollect the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Sumter [Thomas Sumter] he served under this engagement fourteen months and was discharged by Colonel Sumter he again entered the service under Captain Samuel Carr as a volunteer he was again under the command of Colonel Sumter he served about twelve months and was dismissed he was in the battle at Fish dam Ford [November 9, 1780]<sup>1</sup> he was also in the battle at Blackstock's [November 20, 1780]<sup>2</sup> on Tyger River he was in a skirmish at Rutledges Ford<sup>3</sup> on Saluda [River] he was also in a battle at Reedy Branch on Long Cane [December 12, 1780]<sup>4</sup> he was born in Augusta County Virginia in 1753 after the close of the war he resided in South Carolina until he removed to Georgia where he has resided ever since he has lost all his discharges and has no documentary evidence to establish his services he could refer to many persons who can testify as to their belief of his service but he submits other evidence he deems that unnecessary. 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 the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jonathan D. Chastain, CC

S/ Thomas Townsend, X his mark

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_fishdam\\_ford.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_fishdam_ford.html)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_blackstocks.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_blackstocks.html)

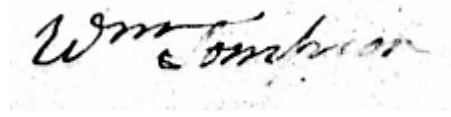
<sup>3</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_rutledges\\_ford.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_rutledges_ford.html)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_long\\_canes.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_long_canes.html)

In open Court personally appeared William Thompson<sup>5</sup> who being duly sworn deposes and saith on oath that he saw Thomas Townsend above named frequently in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary And that he was in the battle with this deponent at the Reedy branch [sic, Reedy Branch] on long Cane in the said War. Sworn to and subscribed in open court this day above written.

S/ Jonathan D. Chastain, CC

S/ Wm Tompson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Tompson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

[p 8]

State of Georgia Habersham County} SS

On this first day of July 1833, personally appeared before the Honorable the Inferior Court, Thomas Townsend a resident of said County, aged eighty years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That in the year 1775 he served in the Army of the United States as a volunteer private for the term of six weeks, under Captain John Wallace, the general & field officers were General Richardson [Richard Richardson] and Colonel Neil [Neel]; that he was engaged in a skirmish with the Tories on Reedy River at a place called the Big Cane Brake and that he marched from the Congaree River up the Country, through the Dutch Fork at Rutledge's Big Survey on Duncan's Creek, thence to Raburn's Creek, near which the company was dismissed. That afterwards in the year 1776 & 1777, he served 14 months as a private, having enlisted in 1776 with Captain James Duff to whose company he belonged, that he was attached to the 2nd Regiment of Riflemen, but the Regiment was afterwards changed and he forgets the number of it. The company officers were Captain James Duff, first Lieutenant George Duff, 2nd Lieutenant James Hawthorn & Ensign Lacy. The General and field officers were General Lee [Charles Lee], Colonel Sumter, Major Henderson [William Henderson] and Adjutant Redmond. During this term Declarant was engaged in a skirmish with a party of the British at Bolton's Landing near Charleston South Carolina and a Battle with the Indians at a place called the Black Hole or Horse Shoe in the Cherokee Nation, he marched from Camden District to Charleston South Carolina, thence to Sullivan's Island, Haddrell's Point and Bolton's landing, back by the same route to Charleston, through South Carolina to the Cherokee Nation at Seneca Fort, thence to Tennessee Valley and the Valley Towns, thence to the Tessentee [? Tennessee?] Towns in Georgia down the Tessentee to the Chestatee river, down said river to the Chattahoochee, through Swannanoa Town, thence to the Etowah (Hightower) River, up said River and back to Tessintee old Town, thence to Nancoochy, to Turronee & Chattanooga rivers, back to Seneca Fort, thence to Ninety Six, thence to Ripley's Fort on the frontiers, thence to Tuccaw [?] Swamp near Santee River, ordered thence to Fort Barrington on the Altamaha [River], marched as far as Savannah where he was taken sick and sent around to Charleston, from whence he was carried home, where he recovered and rejoined his Regiment at Tuccaw Swamp near Santee River South Carolina and was then discharged by Colonel Thomas Sumter on the 7th day of June 1777. That afterwards in the year 1778 he volunteered as a private and served 2 months and 10 days under Colonel Samuel Watson. The general and field officers were General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], Colonel

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<sup>5</sup> [William Thompson R10560](#)

Watson, Colonel Few [Benjamin Few of the Georgia militia], Colonel Marbry and Major Ross [Francis Ross]. From Liberty Hill, where declarant joined Colonel Watson, he marched to Waynesboro in Georgia, to Rocky Ford on the Ogeechee [River], to Bryer Creek [sic, Briar Creek] and back to Liberty Hill, thence back again to Rocky Comfort in Georgia, where he was engaged in a skirmish with the Creek Indians, thence to Augusta and there discharged by Colonel Watson. That afterwards in the year 1780 he served three months as a private volunteer; The company officers were Captain Carr [Samuel Carr], who, being killed the first night deponent joined him, was succeeded by Captain Liddle George Liddle]. The General and field officers were, General Sumter and Colonels Clarke [Elijah Clarke of the Georgia of militia] and McCall [Lt. Col. James McCall], also Colonel Few. During this term he was engaged in the battles at Fish Dam Ford on Broad River South Carolina, Blackstock's on Tiger River [sic, Tyger River], Rutledge's Ford on Saluda River and Reedy Branch on Long Cane, at which last engagement Colonel Chandler was in the field. The marches during this tour may be inferred from the above battlegrounds. That afterwards in the year 1781 he was drafted and served two months and ten days as a private, in Captain Chamber's [sic, John Chalmers'] Company, under General Henderson, Colonels Bratton [William Bratton], & Moffat [sic, Lt. Col. John Moffett] and Major Hannah [sic, William Hanna], that he was not engaged in any battle during this term of service, having been stationed at Orangeburg to which place he marched from Camden District. He was, as he believes, discharged by General Henderson. That afterwards in the same year 1781 declarant volunteered and served one month as a private. His company officers were first Captain Chambers and afterwards Captain Anderson [Daniel Anderson] and Lieutenant Flemming. The general and field officers were Generals Greene [Nathaniel Greene] and Sumter, Colonel Moffat and Major Hannah that during this term he was engaged in the battles at Bigham Church [sic, Biggin Church, July 16, 1781]<sup>6</sup> near Moncks Corner, and at Huges [?Huger's?] Bridge, and marched from Camden District to Orangeburg, Moncks Corner, and Hugs [?] Bridge, thence to Santee River and thence home. And declarant further states that from the last mentioned period to the end of the war he was often in service as an irregular volunteer, for short terms, under General Lacy [Edward Lacey], Colonels Hawthorn [James Hawthorn] & Hill [William Hill], Major Hannah & Captain Anderson, sometimes under one and sometimes another chiefly against the Tories at Mobley's settlement, and Little River in South Carolina. And Declarant, in answer to the interrogatories of the Court further saith, that he was born in Augusta County, Virginia, in the year 1753, that he has no record of his age, the family record having been carried by his brother into Tennessee many years ago, that he resided, when called into service, in Camden District till the year 1778, when he moved into Ninety Six District and remained about two years and a half, then back into Camden till the end of the war; after the war he moved to Abbeville District and thence to Oglethorpe County in Georgia, thence to Jackson County thence into Morgan County, thence into Franklin County and thence into Habersham County where he now lives. His answers to the 4th interrogatory is believed to be fully addressed by his declaration. In addition to the officers already mentioned, the following are among the officers who were with the troops where he served; General Marion [Francis Marion], Colonel Washington [William Washington] and Colonel Hampton also Captain Horry, Declarant received a discharge from Colonel Thomas Sumter on this 7th day June 1777, but lost it by fire at the burning of his house many years ago. In answer to the 7th interrogatory he refers to Nathaniel Adams, a clergyman, Joseph Sitton, John Tate, Samuel Tate, William Nix and many others to tedious to mention. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or

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<sup>6</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_biggin\\_creek\\_bridge.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_biggin_creek_bridge.html)

annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on any Pension Roll of any Agency in any State.

S/ Andrew M. Norris, CIC

S/ Thomas Townsend, X his mark

[Stephen Poe, a clergyman and William Longstreet gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 18]

Georgia Hall County: personally appeared before me James McCleskey<sup>7</sup> and after being duly sworn depose and saith that he was acquainted with Thomas Townsend in the State of South Carolina in the time of the Revolutionary War and that he was a soldier in the service of the United States and was with him in and Engagement against the British and Tories at the Reedy Branch under the Command of Colonels Clarke and McCall -- in the year 1780. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th of September 1832.

S/ Thad H. McCleskey, JP

S/ James McCleskey



Georgia Hall County: Personally appeared before me William Fleming<sup>8</sup> and after being duly sworn saith that he was well acquainted with Thomas Townsend in the Revolutionary war and knew him to be a soldier in the service of the United States we were parted & I was with him in no engagements. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 17th of September 1832.

S/ Philip M. Byrd, JP

S/ Wm Fleming



[p 12: On August 6, 1842 in Lumpkin County Georgia, Mrs. Susannah Townsend, 89, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Townsend; that she married him in November 1779; that her husband died February 17th 1836 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 4: In an application dated April 8, 1844 in Gilmore County Georgia, Susannah Townsend, 95, filed an application under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Townsend, a pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him December 16, 1778; that they were married by John Lusk, JP, in Abbeville District South Carolina; that her husband died February 17 1836; that she has no documentary evidence of her marriage. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6]

I Susannah Townsend certify that at seventeen years of age I was married to John Stephens by whom I had 5 children and that my husband the said Stephens was killed by the Indians 3 years after which time I was married to Thomas Townsend on the 16th day of December before the

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<sup>7</sup> [James McCleskey S16475](#)

<sup>8</sup> [William Fleming S32250](#)



S/ Thomas Townsend, X his mark

I do Certify that Thomas Townsend did sign the above the day and year above written  
S/ William Baskin, JP

[p 6: Printed form of Indent No. 435 Book L]

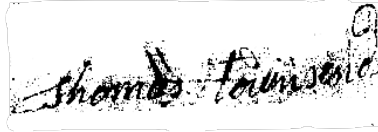
[p 7: Reverse of the above Indent bearing, among others, the following endorsement:

December the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1789

I Do assign the Balance of the Within indent to Joseph Colton

S/ Robert Stevenson

S/ Thomas Townsend



[p 8]

[Book] V [No.] 452 10 August 85 [1785]

Mr. Thomas Townsend his Account of Militia Duty as Private before & since the reduction of Charlestown [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]; also for a rifle Gun Lost in 1780 the whole amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency	<u>£120.10/</u>
Stg. [Sterling]	£17.4.3 ¼

Ex<sup>d</sup>. W.R. [Examined by W. R. [identity unknown]]

J. M<sup>c</sup>. A.G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

“the rifle Gun included above charged £50 old Currency

Passed for £10.1.3 ½

S/ E. Lightwood [Edward Lightwood

Received 16 August 1785 full Satisfaction for the Within in an Indent No. 452 – The – per Order Vide Order 435 L

S/ Joseph Culton



[p 9]

State South Carolina Dr. [Debtor] [to] Thomas Townsend

for Duty per Col. Anderson’s [Robert Anderson’s] Return [not extant]

a Rifle Gun lost in 1780

	£70.10/
	50.0.0
Currency	<u>£120.10</u>
Sterling	<u>£17.4.3 ½</u>
deduct	<u>7.3</u>
	£10.1.3 ½

[p 10: Printed form of Indent No. 452 Book V]

[p 11: Reverse of the above Indent bearing endorsements only by Joseph Colton]