

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jeremiah Cunningham ¹ W6753 Hannah Cunningham f39NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/22/10 rev'd /30/14

[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' 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.]

[Note: the digital images in this file as posted on Fold3.com have been scrambled and are not in sequential order. The correct order is indicated in brackets.]

[p 25]

North Carolina Guilford County: November Term 1832

On this 21st day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of our County Court now sitting the same being a court of record Jeremiah Cunningham aged seventy-two 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 the 7th A.D. 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated, to wit:

That he was born June 6, 1760 in Lancaster County Pennsylvania & moved when very young with his father to that part of North Carolina now called Guilford County in which he has lived ever since – that he has a record of his age in his family Bible that sometime before the British marched into North Carolina from the South he was ordered out by Captain John Gillespie and was marched horsemen in a troop commanded by said Captain Gillespie and Colonel Paisley [John Paisley] toward the [p 26] forks of the Yadkin River after Tories commanded by one Colonel Bryan [sic, Samuel Bryant] – that Bryan made his escape after the troop arrived to his neighborhood – that after staying a few days to collect more force as there were many under Bryan's command he was marched in quick chase after Bryan's Company in their flight to join the British in South Carolina – that he traveled in pursuit into said state down near the Cheraw Hills and coming into the neighborhood of the British Army it was thought prudent to return – that he believes this was in the summer of 1780 and that he was out at least three weeks – that shortly after his return he was called out under the command of Captain John Gillespie & Colonel Davie [William Richardson Davie] & marched straightaway South passing through Salisbury and joined the troops in the County of Mecklenburg about three or four miles beyond Charlotte – that the troops were commanded by General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] – that he was continued there some time – that he was dispatched with other horsemen after Tories encamped a few miles beyond the Waxhaw Creek – that the troops killed 30 or 40 of these Tories and dispersed the rest, that on this being done he was marched back to head Quarters – that after staying some days encamped it was ascertained [p 27] that the British with a superior force was hard by them when he was marched

¹ BLWt28546-160-55

back to Charlotte – that after being one day in Charlotte the next morning came and made attempt to take the horsemen who were still in the village and separated from the main body of Americans under General Davidson, who had continued his march North – that after receiving a few fires from the enemy he was marched in retreat rapidly to join the main body of troops – that he was continued on retreat until he arrived on this side [of] the Yadkin [River] that he continued here some time and was then marched under Colonel Paisley to disperse a band of Tories collected in the forks of the Yadkin not far from the Shallow Ford – that the Tories had been overtaken by a company of Whigs from the mountains and killed and scattered just before his arrival that he was marched thence under one Captain Pearce [George Pearce] & Colonel Paisley to Salem Stokes County where he got a permit to go home which was then only 20 miles distant to get cloths with orders to join the Army again as soon as practicable but owing to his great [?] exposure and [p 28] his wading the Yadkin (having permitted a friend to ride his horse home before he started last for the forks of the Yadkin) he was taken sick and confined for some time – that this service was in the latter part of 1780 and the first of 1781 – and that in this Tour he was out a long time at least as much as five months – that after the battle of Guilford in 1781 [March 15, 1781] (summer) he was again called out under Captain Gillespie and Colonel Paisley down among the High Hills of Randolph County called the Caraway Mountains after Tories commanded by one Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] and must have been gone a month – that shortly after his return home he was called out under the command of Captain Bershurs [Asa Brashears] & Capt. Pearce and marched down on a tour down towards the town of Fayetteville after the Tories and must have been gone as much as two weeks – that his memory has greatly failed him and that he is unable to give a correct account of all of his tours as he was out frequently after the Tories – that he was called out on his recovery from sickness [in] February 1781 under Captain Pearce and marched to annoy the British. [p 22] On their march – that he joined the General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] of South Carolina at Troller's Ford on the Haw River in Orange County but finding they could not parade force enough to effect anything he was discharged and sent home with orders to use every endeavor to keep plunder and provisions from the British – that in this last mentioned tour he was out perhaps a week – that he was out many other small trips of which he does not now have any distinct recollection but that he must have served in all not less than ten months & stood always ready at the calls of his County officers – that he was not drafted but was a private volunteer – that he knows of no one living who can from their personal knowledge testify to his services but John Lowry Senior who was with him in one of the short trips mentioned above – that he has no documentary Testimony of his services that he is known to Henry Tatum and James McNairy and in short all his neighbors, who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution – That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present [p 23] and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court
S/ A. E. Hanner, CCC

S/ Jeremiah Cunningham



[Henry Tatum, a clergyman, and James McNairy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 39]

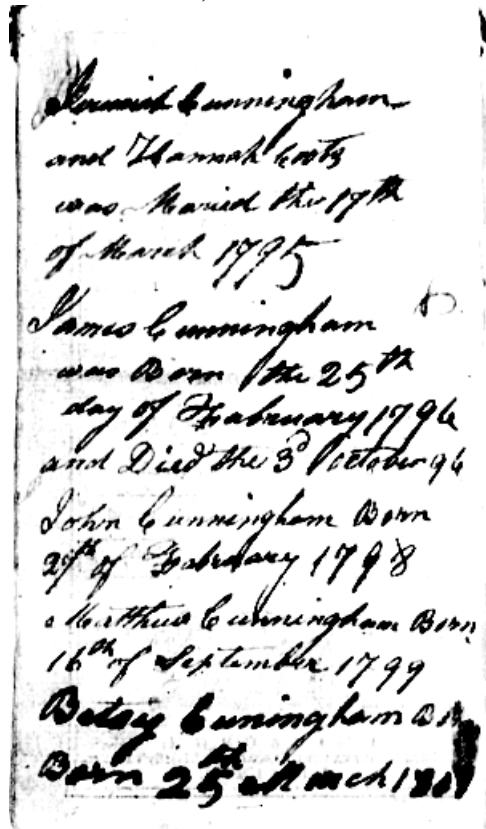
State of North Carolina Guilford County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions November Term 1832

On this 21st day of November appeared in open Court John Lowry² and made oath in due form of law that he has for near sixty years known Jeremiah Cunningham who has this day filed a declaration to obtain a pension – that he has done service with him in one of the short tours mentioned in his declaration (to wit) when they were marched into Orange County and joined General Pickens from South Carolina; that he served with him no other tour; but knows that he was out in service many other tours during the revolutionary war.

Subscribed & sworn to in Open Court the day and year above mentioned –
Test: S/ A. E. Hanner, CCC S/ John Lowry, X his mark

[p 10: On the third Monday in August 1851, in Guilford County North Carolina, Hannah Cunningham, 79, as of the January 18th last, filed for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of Jeremiah Cunningham, a pensioner at the rate of \$40 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him March 17, 1795; that her husband died August 24, 1834 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13: James C Cunningham gave an affidavit in support of his mother's application stating that he was born May 30, 1807; he certified the family Bible record in which is recorded the births of his brothers James, John and Matthew and his sister Betsey as follows:



A handwritten family Bible record on aged paper, listing the following information:

- Jeremiah Cunningham and Hannah Cook was married the 17th of March 1795
- James Cunningham was born the 25th day of February 1796 and Died the 3rd October 1846
- John Cunningham born 29th of February 1798
- Matthew Cunningham born 16th of September 1799
- Betsy Cunningham born 25th March 1807

² I could not find evidence that this veteran filed for a pension from the federal government for his service in the revolution. This may be the only evidence of his service in the revolution.

Jeremiah Cunningham and Hannah Coots was married the 17th of March 1795
James Cunningham was born the 25th day of February 1796 and died the third of October 96
John Cunningham born 27th of February 1798 to
Matthew Cunningham born 16th of September 1799
Betsey Cunningham born 25th of March 1801.

J. P. Cunningham

[p 17: copy of a marriage bond dated March 14, 1795 issued in Guilford County North Carolina to Jeremiah Cunningham & Robert McCuiston conditioned upon the marriage of Jeremiah Cunningham to Hannah Coots.]

[p 6: on April 5, 1855 in Guilford County North Carolina, Hannah Cunningham, 84, filed for a widow's bounty land entitlement stating that she is the widow of Jeremiah Cunningham; that she is now a pensioner of the United States based on her husband's service; that she married him March 17, 1795; that they were married by James MCamy [sic McCamy?], a justice of the peace in Guilford County; that her name prior to her marriage was Hannah Coots; and that her husband died August 25, 1834.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]