

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Gilliland <sup>1</sup> W7533  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Susan Gilliland f91GA  
7/3/08 rev'd 8/27/15

[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.]

[p 14]

State of Georgia, Fayette County

On the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before us Findly G. Stewart, Samuel Swanson and William Pace, Justices of the Inferior Court of Fayette County, now sitting, William Gilliland Senior a resident of Fayette County in the State of Georgia 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 the seventh of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated. I was born on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year 1761 according to the family record of my age which is here in Court produced. I was born in the then Parish of St. Paul now Columbia County and State of Georgia where I resided until after the revolutionary war took place and I and my father moved to the County of Wilkes in the State of Georgia where I remained until after the close of the war. As soon as I arrived at the age of 15 years, which was in November 1776, I was placed on the muster roll. The men of Wilkes about this time were divided into three classes each of those classes served every three months guarding the frontiers of Georgia during the year 1777, 1778, 1779 and 1780, in one of those classes I served as a private my regular tours and in each of the four named years ending in the month of June 1780. That is four months in each of the first named years and two in the last during this time of the Regiment in which I served as a private was commanded by Colonel John Dooly of Wilkes County in the State of Georgia in a company commanded a part of the time by Captain Walker of Wilkes County and the balance of the time Captain Ware. I[n] September 1780 I volunteered and joined as a Private the Georgia refugees commanded by Colonel Elijah Clarke of Wilkes County the Company in which I served was commanded by Captain Dunn about this time, I was in an engagement near Augusta in the State of Georgia at a place called the white house [White House] against the Indians and Tories after the engagement was over Colonel Clarke and his men marched from Georgia across the mountains to Nolichucky River where we remained a few days when we returned to Catawba River, here I left the Army and after two or three weeks I joined General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] (as a private) at Pacolet River in South Carolina and was Commanded by Captain Hammond [probably Samuel Hammond] in of South Carolina near this place we had an engagement with the British at a place known by the name of the Cowpens the battle was fought on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 1781 after the battle was over I again joined Col. Clarke as a private, we then marched across the mountains and remained there until Colonel Clarke recovered from his wounds we then recrossed the mountains and marched into South Carolina & thence to Georgia on our march we had an engagement with a party of British & Tories commanded by Major Dunlap, we were victorious, hung two Tories and sent the prisoners to Gilberttown in North Carolina about this time Colonel Clarke was taken with the smallpox we were then commanded by

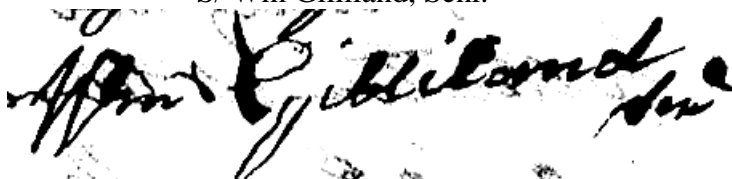
---

<sup>1</sup> BLWt28640-160-55

Colonel Williamson of Wilkes County we crossed the Savannah River at the lower part of then Wilkes now Lincoln County thence we marched for Augusta on our march at a place called Wrightsborough in Columbia County we routed a parcel of Tories Commanded by Major Howard thence to the Siege of Augusta [May 22-June 6, 1781] he Col. Clarke resumed his command again. Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] and Major Eaton of the regular Army was at the siege of Augusta after the capitulation of Augusta which was the latter part of May 1781 we were marched with Col. Lee for Ninety Six but was ordered back to Georgia which was in June thereafter. I never received a discharge. There is no person acquainted with my personal service in the Revolutionary war who can be personally produced in court. Martin N. Bunch lives in my neighborhood and can testify to his belief of my revolutionary services also Mr. Benjamin Thompson<sup>2</sup> of Hancock County in this State can testify in part to my personally serving in the Revolutionary war. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present –And declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Since the close of the war, I have resided in the Counties of Wilkes, Hancock & Fayette County in this State.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Wm Gilliland, Senr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wm Gilliland Senr". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

[William Henderson, a clergyman, and Martin N. Bunch gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 47]

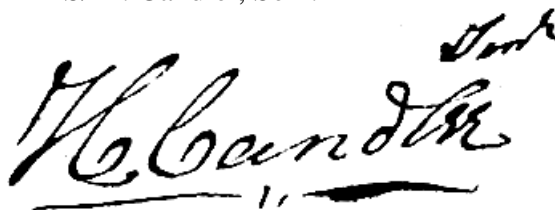
Georgia, Monroe County

Before me personally appeared Henry Candler<sup>3</sup> Senior, who being duly sworn saith, that himself and William Gilliland Senior was raised near together, in what was originally St. Paul's Parish – afterwards Richmond, and now Columbia County in the State of Georgia, and this deponent knows and believes, that the said William Gilliland Senior was in the service of the Revolutionary War, was with us at both Sieges of Augusta, and Refugeed [sic] with us over the mountains, and had the character of an active, and enterprising Whig during the War of the Revolution, and, this deponent believes the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration to be substantially true.

Sworn and subscribed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832<sup>4</sup>

S/ M. Culpepper, JP

S/ H. Candler, Senr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. Candler Senr". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a horizontal line.

[p 12: On December 21, 1843 in Fayette County Georgia, Susan Gilliland, 77, a resident of said County and state made application for a widow's pension as the widow of William Gilliland Senior, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him March 10, 1792; that she married the veteran in Warren County Georgia; that her husband died November 25, 1840; and she remains his widow. She

<sup>2</sup> [Benjamin Thompson S32016](#)

<sup>3</sup> There is no federal pension application filed by anyone of this name claiming service in Georgia. There are, however, a number of listings in Lucian Lamar Knight's Georgia Roster to a person of that name.

<sup>4</sup> There evidently was another, earlier application, filed by this applicant, but no copy of it is preserved in the file.

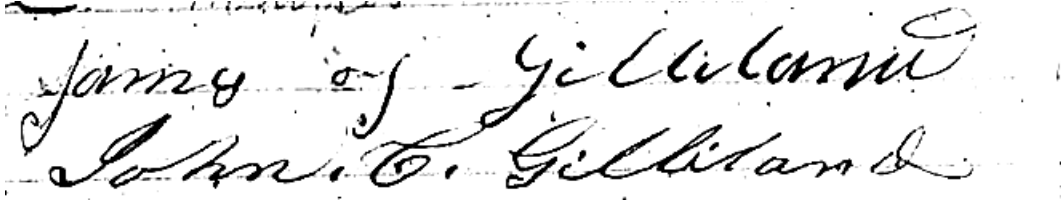
signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13: On December 21, 1843 in Fayette County Georgia, Patsey Mcbook and John Mercer gave testimony that they were present at the marriage of Susan Gilliland to her husband William Gilliland on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1782 in Warren County Georgia. Both signed the affidavit with their respective marks.]

[p 71: On May 5, 1845 in Fayette County Georgia, Susan Gilliland, aged 80, made another application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Gilliland Senior a revolutionary war pensioner; that she was married to him by a minister of the gospel named Crowden in Warren County Georgia some 2 or 3 years after the close of the revolutionary war; that her husband died November 23, 1840; that there is no family Bible record of her marriage; that their oldest child William Gilliland now lives in the state of Alabama and is in his 59<sup>th</sup> year of his age. She signed this document with her mark. p 73: Mary Mcbook and Patsey Mcbook gave testimony supportive of the widow's application stating they were witnesses to the marriage of Susan and William Gilliland.]

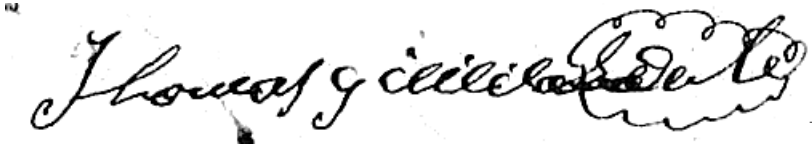
[p 20: On May 16, 1855 in Coosa County Alabama, Susan Gilliland aged 80 years a resident of said County and state and the widow of William Gilliland filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier; she states that she was married by Benjamin Thompson, a minister of the gospel; that her name prior to her marriage was Susan Grantham. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 19: James T Gilliland and John C Gilliland residence of Coosa County Alabama gave testimony in support of the application of Susan Gilliland for her bounty land entitlement; they testified that she lived together with her husband as man and wife; and that Susan remains the widow of the veteran. Their relationship, if any, to the veteran and/or his widow is not stated.



James T. Gilliland  
John C. Gilliland

[p 6: On March 30, 1860, Thomas Gilliland of Randolph County Alabama executed a power of attorney in which he states he is the only child of William Gilliland, deceased, by which he authorized his attorney to apply for and receive the arrears in pension due his mother up to the time of her death on December 5, 1859.



Thomas Gilliland

[Facts in file: Veteran died November 25, 1840; veteran married shortly after the close of the Revolution in Warren County, Ga., Susan McCook or Grantham]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months in the Georgia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount]