

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas McDearman S5749

f8VA+f13VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/19/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6 in second file]

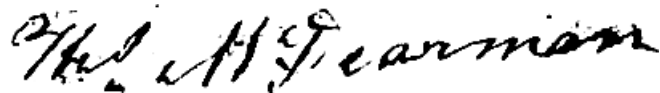
State of Virginia Charlotte County to wit

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Charlotte now sitting Thomas McDearman a resident of Charlotte County and State of Virginia aged seventy-four 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 in relation to the revolutionary soldiers. That in the year 1775 he was a resident of Prince Edward County Virginia and in the latter part of the summer of that year he enlisted as a soldier in the regular service for the term of twelve months Robert Ballard was Captain of the company Edward Garland Lieutenant and John Clayton of Charlotte County 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and Claiborne Lawson Ensign. The place of rendezvous was at Allmands in the County of Charlotte. The Company then marched direct to Williamsburg Virginia and there Joined the first Virginia Regiment under the command of Colonel Patrick Henry ([word obliterated] Governor of Virginia) Francis Epps from one of the lower counties was the Major, we remained at Williamsburg two or three months without being engaged in any active service, the Company was then marched to the Long Bridge near Norfolk to the assistance of General Stevens [Edward Stevens] and arrived there the evening before the battle of the Long Bridge was fought, the deponent was in the engagement and attached to the first platoon commanded by Ensign Lawson. The British which was under the command of Captain Fordyce who was killed in the action, Lord Dunmore was at that time on board a ship in the harbor near Norfolk. The deponent thinks the battle was fought late in autumn [December 9, 1775]. After the Battle the Americans follow the British (who were retreating down to Kemp's Landing and there they went into winter Quarters the deponent was engaged in various scouting parties at this place, he formed a part of a detachment sent to Norfolk when it was set on fire by the British. The Town was fired either Christmas or New Year's day. The detachment returned to Kemp's Landing and remained there until June 1776. The deponent was then marched to Williamsburg and reached there the latter part of June, General Stevens gave the deponent a recruiting commission and he returned to his residence in Prince Edward County and reached there a few days before Prince Edward Court day in November which was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month. The deponent has since lost his recruiting commission. The deponent thinks he was engaged in this service 14 or 15 months, The deponent recruited fifteen men and then marched to the North about the last of December 1776 he does not recollect the place of rendezvous but believe he it was near Philadelphia on the Schuylkill [River] when the deponent arrived at this place he was engaged in various scouting parties General Washington he thinks was in Philadelphia he was under the command of Marquis Lafayette. They had several slight engagements with the British. General

Lee [Charles Lee] was in command at the same time he was in the Army when General Washington reprimanded General Lee he does not recollect any other particulars of this service, but he did not receive any discharge but returned to Prince Edward County Virginia and arrived there in the spring of the next year. About the first of April 1780 the deponent was drafted in the militia at that time a resident of Amelia County Virginia and marched from Amelia under Captain Foulkes to Moore's old ordinary in Prince Edward County and was there transferred to Captain Owens Company of Prince Edward County and was made an orderly Sergeant in said Company. Dudley McDearman the father of the deponent was the Lieutenant, They then marched to Hillsboro North Carolina and there the deponent Joined General Stephens [Edward Stevens] Brigade. They then marched to Camden South Carolina and there they joined General Gates and was in the battle commonly called Gates defeat [August 15-16, 1780]. Colonel Porterfield of the infantry was killed in the Battle, after the Battle the deponent rendezvoused again at Hillsboro and was marched to Guilford Court House North Carolina and there received his discharge which accompanies this declaration. The discharges signed by Major Nath Morris and dated 8<sup>th</sup> of November 1780 – he acted as orderly Sergeant the whole of this service. About the first of April 1781 he was again drafted in the militia in Amelia County Virginia but does not recollect his Captain he marched to the place of rendezvous a few miles below Richmond on James River where the Army was stationed under Lafayette he was then attached to the artillery under a Captain Savage from the North and was engaged in various services between Petersburg and Richmond. General Phillips [William Phillips] commanded the British in Petersburg. The deponent was at Petersburg when Phillips was attacked he was in Richmond when Manchester was fired by the British they then marched from Richmond to Culpeper and there disbanded and this deponent reached his residence in Amelia County the last of June. He remained at home 11 days and was engaged as a volunteer in reconnoitering parties until the last of July (Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] was at that time passing through the Country). The deponent was then drafted in the militia in Amelia County and marched under Colonel Short of Amelia to James town Virginia and there he joined General Lawson's [Robert Lawson's] Brigade, They then marched to Williamsburg and joined Washington the Army then commenced the siege of Yorktown, he there remained during the whole siege and saw the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] to the Americans – he was then engaged as part of a guard to conduct Prisoners to Fredericksburg Major Wood Jones commanded the Guard he received no discharge but was told by Major Jones to deliver up his gun and return home and would then receive a discharge. The deponent reached home in Amelia about the first week in November – There is no person living by whom he can prove his services – The certificate of Nathan Johnson accompanying this declaration will prove his services in the first tour, he hereby relinquishes every claim 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/ Thos. McDearman



[Robert Morton and William Gaines gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Nathum Johnson<sup>1</sup> do hereby certify that I was acquainted with Thomas McDearman during the

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<sup>1</sup> FPA S7079

revolutionary war both of us belonged to the first Virginia Regiment under the command of Colonel Patrick Henry, we were together in Williamsburg and at Norfolk (when it was burnt) we did not belong to the same company I frequently saw him during this service. Mr. McDearman was a resident of Prince Edward County.

Sworn to and subscribed before me a justice of the peace for the County of Charlotte this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 1832

S/ Ro. Morton

[p 5 first file]

State of Virginia Charlotte County

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Charlotte Thomas McDearmon [sic] a revolutionary soldier who being first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following amendment to his original declaration as an answer and explanation of the objections made by the War Department to the admission of his claim to a pension under the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 which objections are contained in a brief accompanying the return of his original declaration and marked in red ink. In answer to said objections the applicant sayeth 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 not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades the is. In the first tour commencing in 1775 For one year and two months he served as a private in the regular service. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tour for two months and fifteen days he served as a recruiting officer in the North in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tour in 1780 for seven months and eight days he served as an orderly Sergeant in the militia to the South at Gates Defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16 1780] – 4<sup>th</sup> Tour. For three months he served in the militia as a private in 1781 near Richmond Petersburg &. 5<sup>th</sup> Tour he served for three months as a private in the militia at the siege of York Town and for the aforesaid services he claims a pension. The particulars of the above services are stated in his original declaration he applicant further states in answer to the interrogatories not answered in his original declaration that he was born in the County of Prince Edward Virginia in the year 1758. That his age was recorded in the Parish register at the Episcopal Church in Prince Edward County at Sandy River Church = he does not now know where the said register is. The applicant refers to the following gentlemen residing in his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, Robert Morton and Major William Gaines whose certificate is annexed to his original Declaration also to Mr. William Walker, Dr. Isaac Smith and Colonel Joseph Wyatt.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thos. McDearman

[Elisha Collins a clergyman gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 3 first file]

Thomas McDearman one of the Virginia Militia  
has Served his Tower [tour] of Duty in Genl. Stephens's Brigade  
& delivered up his Gun & Cartridge Box – and is hereby  
discharged by me

the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 80

S/ Nath'l G. Morris [Nathaniel G Morris]  
Major [illegible]

Thomas W. Dearmanson of the Virginia Militia  
has served his plow of Duty in G. S. Stephens's  
regiment up his Gun & Carriage Bar — and is hereby  
Discharged by me  
the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 80. Nathl. Morris  
Major

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$92.10 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private & Sergeant and in the service of Virginia.]