

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Herndon W9479¹ Mary M. fn44NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 5/1/11

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Orange County: SS

On this the 10th day of March 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, at his own residence, he being too infirm to attend Court to make this Declaration, James Herndon, a resident of said County, aged 80 years, who being first duly qualified according to law maketh on oath the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and (the best of his recollection) served as herein stated.

1. This Declarant sets forth upon his oath, that on or about the 1st day of February 1780, he entered the United States Service by draft for the period of three months, and as private of Dragoons, was attached to the Company of Dragoons under Command of Captain Bledsoe, Mark Patterson, he thinks was Lieutenant, and Mebane was Colonel – rendezvoused on or about the first day of February 1780, in the Town of Hillsboro in the County aforesaid, from which place with other troops we were marched to the South: crossed Haw River, at Clark's ferry thence to Pittsboro, thence to Cross Creek where we were stationed some weeks, thence to Grassy Island on the Pedee [River], where we were also stationed some time – thence to Cross Creek, where we remained till the expiration of our three months tour, when we were marched to Hillsboro aforesaid, where we were discharged on or about the first day of May following by Captain Bledsoe & I returned home, my discharge has been lost or mislaid so that this Declarant cannot find it. He has no recollection of seeing it for many years past.

In a few weeks after this Declarant returned home from this tour he remembers of hearing of the surrender of Charleston to the British, which surrender he understood took place on or about the middle of May of the year he got home.

2. That on or about the 1st day of April 1781, he was again drafted into the Service of the United States, and entered the service thereof as above stated as a private in a Company of

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Dragoons of which Benjamin Herndon was Captain, Zachariah Herndon Lieutenant, and Malmedy Colonel; – Rendezvoused at North East [River] – and were stationed there some time – (the British being then in possession of Wilmington) – from North East we marched to Big Lime Stone [Limestone] where we remained sometime – thence we marched near to Wilmington, and remained there some time – thence back to North East – where our three months expired, and we were discharged for our three months tour by Captain Herndon and returned home. – This Declarant's impression is that whilst they were either at Big Lime Stone, or North East, the British troops left Wilmington for the Roanoke.

As to the discharge for this three months Tour, this Declarant has lost or mislaid it – he has not seen it for many years past.

The reason this Declarant did not apply earlier for a pension is, that he is old and very infirm and could not go abroad to make inquiry for evidence of his Services; nor could he hear of any one that could be of a to him till within a few months past.

The Declarant was born in Wake County North Carolina. He has no record of his age.

That he was living in Wake when he entered the service, that when he entered the service it was by draft. That he had a discharge for each of his 3 months tours as private of Dragoons, but that they are both lost.

That he knew Colonel Lytle, Colonel Locke, Colonel Malmedy, Colonel Dixon, General Butler & others –

That he is known in his neighborhood to Doctor James S Smith and Thomas Claney of Hillsboro – who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as Soldier in the War of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Herndon, X his mark

S/ L. Bilbo, JP

State of North Carolina Orange County: SS

On this the 13th day of March, 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the said County Edmund Herndon a resident of said County of said County, who being first duly qualified according to law maketh oath that he is the Junior brother of James Herndon of the aforesaid County who is now applying for a pension.

This Deponent remembers that his brother James in the war of the Revolution, did serve a tour of duty of 3 months, in the United States Service as private of Dragoons in a Company under command of Captain Benjamin Herndon and it is the impression of this deponent that said James Herndon was out in another tour of service as private of Dragoons as this Deponent believes, in the next year 1781.

S/ Edmd Herndon

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edmund Herndon". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 13th day of March, 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Captain justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Aquilla Herndon, son of

Captain Benjamin Herndon, above mentioned, – who being first duly qualified according to law maketh oath that he is intimately [acquainted] with the James Herndon of the aforesaid County and remembers of hearing his deceased father Captain Herndon say that the said James Herndon as private of Dragoons did serve a tour under him of 3 months.

S/ A. Herndon



State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 13th day of March 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Thomas Marcum,² a resident of the aforesaid County aged 86 he years who being first duly qualified according to law maketh oath, that during the War of the revolution he lived neighbor to James Herndon, of the aforesaid County now an applicant for a pension – this Deponent served several different tours of duty as private of militia, and remembers that went out in one of his tours of seeing said James Herndon in a Company of Dragoons in the United States Service under Captain Bledsoe – said Herndon as far as this Deponent remembers was a good Whig.

S/ Thomas Marcum, X his mark

[fn p. 15: On February 26, 1856 in Orange County North Carolina, Mrs. Mary M Herndon, 66 on the 23rd February instant, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act as the widow of James Herndon, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$22.50 per annum until his death on September 14, 1839; that she married him May 5th, 1814; that they were married by Abner Alston, JP, at her father's residence in Orange County; that her maiden name was Mary M Dixon



[fn p. 19: marriage bond dated May 3rd, 1814 issued to James Herndon and Rhodes Herndon to secure a license for the marriage between James Herndon and Polly Dixon.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 3 months service as a private in the infantry and 3 months service as a private in the Cavalry of the North Carolina militia.]

² [Thomas Marcum W9540](#)