Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Edward Harris R4649

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 March 2012.

State of South Carolina } SS

District of Richland On this Nineteenth day of November in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty personally appeared in open court, now sitting, before the Judge of the Court of Ordinary within & for the District & State aforesaid Rowland Harris a resident of Richland District in the state of South Carolina aged sixty one 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 the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows" & of the Acts of 3d March 1843, 17th March 1844 and such other acts & resolutions as relate to such class of widows. That he is the son & heir at law of Clarissa Harris deceased who was the widow of Edward Harris deceased who entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That said Edward Harris was a regularly enlisted soldier in the Third South Carolina Continental Regiment Commanded by Colonel William Thompson [also spelled William Thomson] and in the Company Commanded by Captain Richard Brown: That among his Comrades in said service & from the same neighborhood were Gideon Griffin [pension application W8877], Morgan Griffin [S18844], Berry [Berry Jeffers, W10145] Allen [Allen Jeffers, S1770] & Osburn Jeffers and his cousin, Drury Harris: That his said father Edward Harris deceased aforesaid having served three years in said company & Regiment for which he enlisted returned to his home in what is now Richland District South Carolina: That among the battles of which Deponent recollects hearing his said father speak of having been engaged in were those of Savannah, Georgia [Siege of Savannah, 16 Sep - 19 Oct 1779], Camden [either Battle of Camden SC on 16 Aug 1780 or Battle of Hobkirk Hill 25 Apr 1781], Stono [Sotno Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779], Charleston [Siege of Charleston, 29 Mar - 12 May 1780], Eutaw [Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781], Monk's Corner [sic: Moncks Corner SC, 14 Apr 1780], Cowpens [17 Jan 1781], & Hanging Rock [30 Jul or 6 Aug 1780] That neither of his said parents could read or write, but that Deponent's mother Clarissa Harris dec'd, aforesaid, spoke of having the Grant of Land made to her said husband for his services in the Revolutionary War & of keeping it until she worn it out & thrown it away: That his said mother being illiterate, poor and destitute as a widow after the death of his said father about the year 1830, did not know that she was entitled to a pension, both parents being free persons of color: That his said mother Mrs. Clarissa Harris deceased after the death of her said husband continued the widow of said Edward Harris until her death on the fifteenth day of September A.D. 1848: He further declares that said Clarissa Harris dec'd. was married to the said Edward Harris deceased on the [blank] day of [blank] in the year seventeen hundred and about eighty seven as this deponent being sixty one years of age must have been born in the year 1789 & his brother Jacob being older by one year at least: That her husband the aforesaid Edward Harris dec'd. died on the [blank] day of [blank] about the year 1830: That said Clarissa was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred & ninety four, viz, on or about the time above stated: That the Deponent has a record of his own birth, but that his father & mother aforesaid had no family record showing the births of their childern or their date of their marriage: Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year above written

howland Harris

NOTE: If Edward Harris served for three years with Allen Jeffers and Morgan Griffin in the 3rd SC Regiment, then returned home, as stated by his son, then he probably did not serve at all the battles listed

by his son. Jeffers and Griffen were discharged at the end of their three-year terms during the Siege of Charleston, and the Third SC Regiment was dissolved at the surrender of Charleston on 12 May 1780. Thus Harris's most likely engagements were those before 12 May 1780.