

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Benoist R773

f6SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/25/10 & rev'd 7/3/18

[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.]

### District of South Carolina

On this 9th Day of December 1824 personally appeared in open Court Francis Benoist aged sixty-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820 viz. That he the said Francis Benoist enlisted for the term of sixteen months on or about the 10th day of February 1779 in the State of South Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Thomas Giles in the Regiment of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Daniel Horry in the line of the State of South Carolina on the Continental establishment, and continued to serve in the said Corps until 10 June 1780 when he was discharged from said service in Salisbury in the State of North Carolina -- that he again enlisted for the term of one year on or about the 20th of August 1781 at St. Stephens Parish in the State of South Carolina in another company commanded by the said Thomas Giles, in the Regiment of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Hezekiah Maham in the line of the State of South Carolina, and believed to have been on the Continental establishment, and continued to serve in the said Corps until about 20 August 1782 when he was discharged from the said Service in St. John's Berkeley the State of South Carolina -- that he also served in several militia and volunteer Companies in 1776, in 1778, in 1781 and lastly with General Marion [Francis Marion] in the latter part of the year 1782. -- That he was engaged in the battles of Savannah [September 16-October 9, 1779] and Stono [June 20, 1779], but that he hath no other evidence of said service in his power except the certificate of Jervis H. Stevens Esquire hereto annexed --

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

#### Schedule of my property

3 Negroes Slaves -- one of them is rather a source of expense from chronical [sic] disease and infirmity -- one Horse -- one mule -- eight head of Hogs --

My general occupation was overseeing until within the last six or seven years when my age and infirmities were considered as a disqualification since which time I have rented a small body of

land my family consists of a wife aged about 47 years -- a son aged 22 years capable of common laborer and a daughter aged about 10 years all of whom reside with me -- and neither of them hold any separate property or income not included in the above schedule.

S/ Francis Benoist

Sworn to before me this 9th December 1824

S/ Thos. Lee, Dist. Judge So. Carolina

I do hereby certify that the Bearer hereof Francis Benoist enlisted on the 20th day of August 1781 in Colonel Hezekiah Maham's Regiment of State Troops of Cavalry to serve one year which he did perform with honor to himself and the State, and was discharged on the 20th of August 1782 and after peace was restored did receive and Indent from the State of South Carolina for £56 as his for pay. Given under my hand in Charleston State aforesaid this 9th December 1824

S/ J. H. Stevens, late Captain &  
Adjutant above Col. Maham's Legion of State Cavalry

[p 6: The Clerk of Court certified that the above documents were copies of the originals filed in his office as clerk of the US District Court for South Carolina.]

[Note: James Jervey, Dist. Judge of So. Carolina, certified that the value of the property schedule by the veteran is \$500. That amount of property exceeded the threshold of property a veteran could own and still be qualified under the 1818 and 1820 acts.]