Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Dillard W19174 Keturah Dillard VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 Sep 2019.

State of Virginia County of Fluvanna SS

On this the 4th day of December 1841 personally appeared before me William Rock a justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Mrs. Keturah Dillard (formerly Keturah Cawthorn) a resident of the County and state aforesaid aged about eighty years widow of John Dillard deceased who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838: That she is the Widow of John Dillard dec'd. who was a Drummer in the War of the Revolution and who died about the year Eighteen hundred and three as well as she can recollect, she has frequently heard her husband the said John Dillard before his death speak of his service during the War of the Revolution that she recollects his saying frequently that he served several years and she thinks through the war but cannot speak definitely as to that or as to any engagement he was in except the Seige of York [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] although she has heard him speak of being in several other engagements; That she was married to the said John Dillard in the County above named about the 1st May seventeen hundred and eighty seven by Parson Webber, and has remained in this County ever since. That she has also remained a Widow ever since the death of her above mentioned deceased husband as will more fully appear by refference to the proof hereto annexed Ketturah herXmark Dillard

[The following is from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

These are to certify that the bearer hereof John Dillard a Drummer in the 1st Virginia regiment having faithfully served the United States from June 1780 & being enlisted for the War is hereby discharged from the American Army. Given at the war office the 6th day of august 1783

B Lincoln [Gen. Benjamin Lincoln]

Jos Carleton Sec'y

Registered in the books of the regiment/ Sam'l Finley Major [Samuel Finley W10026] a copy Jno White

NOTES:

On 29 July 1842 a John Maddox stated that he had heard that John Dillard served under Gen. Anthony Wayne, and that soon after the war Dillard was appointed Drummer at the Barracks then in Fluvanna County.

In the file is a copy of a bond signed in Fluvanna County on 25 Apr 1787 by John Dillard and John Finch for the marriage of Dillard to Katurah Cawthorn. There is also a copy of a permission dated 25 Apr 1787 from E. Langham (possibly Elias Langham) for John Dillard, a soldier, to marry a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cawthon. The permission is also for another soldier, evidently John Finch, to act as security.

The file also contains a copy of the following record dated 24 July 1854 and connected with an application for bounty land: "Satisfactory evidence was adduced in court to prove that Thomas Dillard, Keturah S. Hall, Elizabeth Bull and Frances Ryon are the children of John & Keturah Dillard deceased that L. M. Weaver [Littlebury M. Weaver] is the grand child of the said John and Keturah Dillard being the only offspring of his mother Mary T. Weaver deceased who was the child of the said John and Keturah and that they the said Thomas Dillard, Keturah Hall, Elizabeth Bull, Frances Ryon and L. M. Weaver are the only heirs at Law in fee to John Dillard deceased late a drummer in the 1st Virginia Regiment in the War of the Revolution."

A letter in the file states that the widow of John Dillard had died before receiving her pension certificate, which is dated 9 Mar 1844.