

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh Houston (Huston) W8928 Martha fn45NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/13/11

[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.]

[fn p. 7]

The State of South Carolina

By the Honorable Waddy Thompson one of the Judges of the Court of Equity for the State aforesaid:

Before me personally appeared Hugh Houston who being duly sworn declared under affirmation that he is a citizen of the United States resident in the District of Abbeville and State aforesaid, that he served as a common soldier in the Army of the United States under the Continental establishment for 3 years during the war of the Revolution: that he enlisted the beginning of the year 1776 for 3 years under Captain Robert Smith in the 4th Regiment, North Carolina line, commanded by Colonel Thomas Polk and was reduced in 1777 to Lieutenant Captain Slade's Company in the first Regiment, North Carolina line commanded by Colonel Thomas Clarke [Thomas Clark]: that he continued in the service until the 14th day of July 1779 when he was honorably discharged after the expiration of his term of enlistment by Colonel Clarke at West Point: that his discharge has been worn out by frequent folding & rubbing, & that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his country for support.

S/ Hugh Houston, H his mark

In testimony that the above mentioned Hugh Houston did swear to & subscribed the foregoing affidavit before me, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Court of Equity for the State aforesaid to the hereunto affixed this 8th day of June 1818

S/ W. Thompson

S/ John M. Comb, Commissioner

[fn p. 8]

Before me personally appeared Joshua Pruitt¹ who being sworn deposed that he was a fellow soldier of the within named Hugh Houston during the War of the Revolution: that he this deponent was in Nelsons company 4th Regiment North Carolina Line when the said Houston was enlisted into Captain Smith's Company of the same Regiment, that they were together reduced into Captain Slade's company of the first Regiment North Carolina Line in 1777 & served together until this deponent was discharged in 1779, & that the said Houston faithfully performed the part assigned to him, & was as this deponent has been often informed & verily believes discharged honorably at West Point in July 1779.

S/ Joshua Pruitt, X his mark

¹ [Joshua Pruitt S39027](#)

[fn p. 10]

State of North Carolina Secretary's Office 13th of October 1819

I William Hill Secretary of State in & for the State aforesaid do hereby Certify that it appears from the muster roll of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary war, that Hugh Huston a private in Captain Smith's Company of the 4th Regiment was mustered on the 5th of July 1776 for 3 years, and was discharged 5th July 1779. Given under my hand at office the date above.

S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 16]

South Carolina Abbeville District: In the court of Equity

On this day being the 10th of June 1823 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record for the District aforesaid, Hugh Houston, aged about sixty-eight years, a citizen of said District & resident Marianne 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 & the 1st May 1820, that he enlisted for the term of three years in June 1776 in the State of North Carolina in the Company commanded by Captain Robert Smith, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Polk, in the line of the State of North Carolina and on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps until July 1779, when he was discharged from the said service at West Point in the State of New York. That when he was discharged he was under the command of Colonel Clark & Captain Slade as he recollects. He was in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown & Monmouth under the command of the officers under whom he enlisted; he further states that he has no other evidence of his services than what is here produced –

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 18th 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 18th 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 – viz.: 1 Tract of land containing two hundred and three acres, not worth more than \$200; which I purchased with the expectation of paying for it with my pension money; there remains due of the purchase money upwards of \$200, for which a judgment is obtained with considerable costs

2 cows & calves worth	\$20.00
Household & kitchen furniture	30.00
2 ploughs	2.00
1 sow & 6 shoats	10.00
5 geese	2.50
Dunhill fowls	1.00
5 Sheep	10.00
2 weeding hoes & a grubbing hoe	<u>2.00</u>
	\$77.50

He is a farmer by trade but is unable to work from age & confirmed [?] disease; he has a wife 67 years old, & two boys living with him; the boys both are of age & work for their own

profit.

This Declarant further states that his original Declaration is dated the 8th of June 1818 and that his present certificate is numbered 15.923.

Sworn to & declared the 10th day of June before the court of Equity for Abbeville District the Honorable Waddy Thompson presiding.

S/ Thomas Livingston, Commissioner in Equity

S/ Hugh Houston²

[fn p. 40]

South Carolina Abbeville District: Amended Claim: On this 19th day of March 1824 personally appeared in open court being a Court of record for the said District Hugh Houston who being duly sworn as the law directs saith on oath in addition to what has been sworn to that the schedule made out by the said Hugh in June 1823 was correct & that he has not disposed of any of his property since the 18th of March 1818 except one Negro woman named Mim & child which were living owned by the Sheriff of the said District & sold by virtue of an execution against him in favor of John Black. The said Hugh Houston further saith that the only reason he can assign for not having exhibited a schedule of his property previous to the passage of the act of the first of March 1823 was that he had received a certificate from the War Department dated 25 November 1819 authorizing the payment of \$8 per month from 18th of June 1818 & having received a part thereof & under the impression that this would be continued was content there with until the said order was withdrawn own inquiry he learned for the first time in 1823 that it was necessary for him to comply with the additional requisitions of the subsequent acts of Congress which was accordingly done at the first session of any Court of record in the said District after such information.

Sworn to & subscribed in Open court 19th of March 1824

S/ Hugh Huston

[fn p. 11: On August 29, 1845 in Abbeville District South Carolina, Martha Huston, 86, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Hugh Huston, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in the month of March 1789 and that her husband died January 4th, 1834; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 5: On December 27, 1845 in Abbeville District South Carolina, Mary Douglas Fleming wife of Bailey Fleming gave testimony that she is the 3rd child of Martha Houston and her father Hugh Houston deceased; that the record of her birth has been destroyed; that she has a distinct recollection that the oldest sister and first child of her parents was born in February 1788; and that their 2nd child was 54 years of age on the 3rd day of June last; and that she, their 3rd child, was 52 years of age October 8 last; that their first child is long since dead and the 2nd child is living somewhere in the Western country.]

[Facts in file: a typed letter in the file [fn p. 20-21] contains the statements that the Veteran married in March 1789 in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, Martha McLure; veteran enlisted in Mecklenburg County, NC and that the widow died October 30, 1876—I did not find documents supported these 'facts' in the file other than a certificate for the Mecklenburg County, NC clerk of court saying that he had searched the records in his office and found none relating to

² Signature is in the identical handwriting as the balance of the document and consequently I do not believe that it is his actual signature.

the marriage of the veteran to Martha McLure.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 18th, 1818, for 3 years service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]