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Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the
Act of Congress passed June, the 7th AD. 1832.---
State of North Carolina, on the 14th day of-----
Davidson County August AD 1833.-----

Personally appeared in open
Court before the Justices of the Court of pleas and quarter
sessions (now sitting), Benjamin Dillen, a resident in
the county and state aforesaid, aged seventy-eight years,
who first duly sworn according to the law doth on his
oath make the following declaration: in order to obtain
the benefit of the Act of Congress passes June 7th AD 1832:
that he entered the service of the United States in the
year of the revolution (Viz): he states that in the beginning
of the year 1779 he then living in Henry County in the State of
Virginia, he was drafted for three months and was put into Capt
John Salmon's Company, Col. Abraham Penn's Regiment, Genl Joseph
Martin being Commander. That the Regiment he belonged to went into
actual service for the defense of the State, that there was a publick
arsenal & magazine at Henry Court House; that Col. Penn ordered
Capt Salmons to take charge and guard said magazine and
arsenal against the grevetions(?) of the enemy and Tories; that he
entered in this service the first day of March 1779; that he
remained on that duty as a private untill two weeks before
the expiration of his three months tour; that he was taken
sick; that Capt Salmon gave him a permit to be removed
home to his father's; that before he recovered his time of three
months service was expired. The permit he says is lost
and further this deponant states that the next spring 1780, he
was drafted again for six months and was again put into the
same John Salmon's Company, Col Abraham Penn's Regiment.
Genl Joseph Martin being Commander of the Virginia Militia,
that Capt Salmon's and Company was again by order of Col.
Penn put to guard the aforesaid arsenal and magazine
in Henry County; that he entered again in this service the
first day of March 1780. He states the Tories were troublesome
in the County and neighborhood and that the arsenal and
magazine was not attacked; that he lay there and did
soldier's duty the whole time of the six months service;

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That at the expiration of his six months tour he received a discharge signed by Col Abraham Penn that is lost many years ago. He states that Penn's Regiment was out on service at the same time under the command of Gen. Joseph Martin as some of his neighbours on their return stated, and that they were in service with the Continental Troops but that the nature of his service did not admit him to get acquainted with any of them; and this deponent further states that he knows of no person living that he can prove his above services by that his memory and mental abilities through age and infirmity are much impaired but to the best of his recollection, the above statement of his services in the war of the Revolution is correct and that he charges the government of the United States with eight months and fourteen days actual service and the two weeks in which he was sick and under a permit be added to the three months service will make nine months services as a private soldier under Capt John Salmon for which term of service he claims a pension under the Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June AD 1832 and that he hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension annuity under any other act that the above and that his name is not on the agency of the pension role of this nor any other state of the Union.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

Benjamin X (his mark) Dillen
SEAL

David Mock

Declaration of witness #1

State of North Carolina,
Davidson County

Mr. Ashley Swaim
, a clergyman residing
and John -----

in the County and State aforesaid and Pain -----residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Benjamin Dillen who has sworn to and subscribed the above declaration and that we believe him to be seventy-eight years of age and that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed that day and year aforesaid.

Ashley Swaim SEAL
John Pain SEAL

David Mock

Interrogations proposed by the Court-----
questions first: Where and in what year
were you born? Answer by deponent - I was born
in the State of Virginia, Pittsylvania County (now Henry)
on the 18th January 1755 as my parents told me.

2. Have you any record of your age and if so, where
is it? Answer -- No, I have no record written of my age

3. Where were you living when called into service, where
have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where
do you now live? Answer -- In the year 1796 I
emigrated from my native State to the State of North Carolina,
Rockingham County; in 1801, I removed to Guilford County
NC 1825 into Davidson County NC where I now
reside.

4. How were you called into service -- were you drafted,
did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a
substitute for whome? Answer - I was drafted twice;
first for 3 months in 1779, then for six months
in 1780.

Declaration of witness #2

5. State the names of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general sanctuary names of your service. Answer - I served as a private soldier in Capt John Salmon's Company, Col Abraham Penn's regiment Joseph Martin was our Genl of the militia but the nature of my service being to guard the magazine and arsenal at the Henry Courthouse State of Virginia prevented me from getting acquainted with the Continental officers and army as I might otherwise have done.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service? Answer - For the first nine months service I received a permit to go home when taken sick signed by Capt John Salmons and for the six months service I received a discharge signed by Col Abraham Penn they have both been lost or misplaced many years ago as I never thought they would be of service.

7. State the names of persons whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution? Answer: Elder Ashley Swaim, John Paine, Charles Paine, William ??? Stephen ??? Solomon Davis, Isaac Odell

North Carolina Davidson County And we the special court of said county Now sitting do hereby declare our opinion after the investigation of the matter and after the interrogations prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and Served as he states. And the court further certifies that it appears to them that Ashley Swaim who has signed the preceding Certificate is a Clergyman and resident in the county of Davidson and that John Paine Who has signed the same is a resident in the same county and is a credible person and that their statements are entitled to credit

Tho Hampton Chm
Zebulon Hunt
Jn M Smith