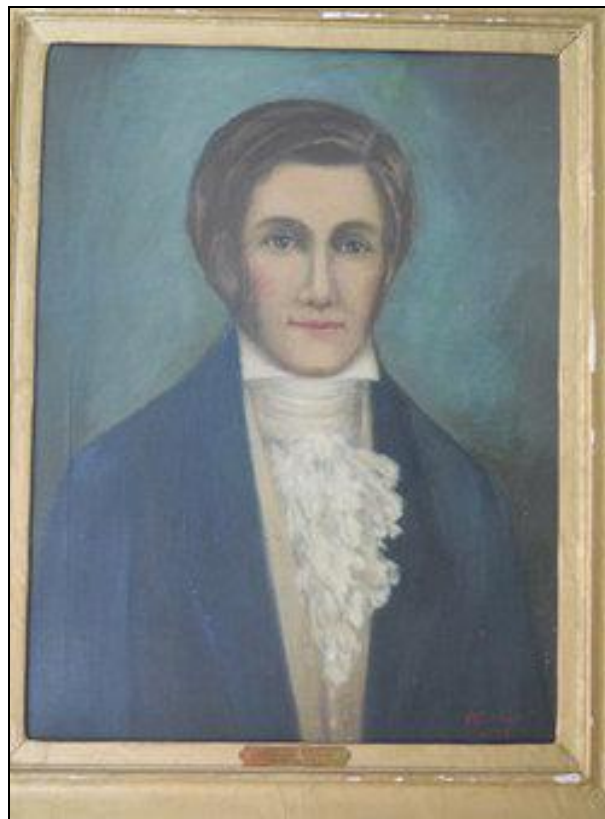


**JAMES HOUSTON**

18-1782

SERVICE		NUMBER
<i>Va.</i>	<i>Houston, James</i>	<i>S. 1914</i>
CONTENTS		<i>Carded</i>



Born November 12, 1757 Augusta/Rockbridge County, Virginia  
Died November 22, 1840 Maryville, Tennessee [Blount County]  
Early Resident of Greene County, Tennessee  
1796 Elected delegate from Blount County to Constitutional Convention  
which first formed the First Constitution of Tennessee  
State Senator of Tennessee



*Rev. War*

1914  
**INVALID.**

File No. 1914

James Houston  
Emigrant Va. Line

Act: June 7, 1832

Index:—Vol. A, Page 175

[Arrangement of 1870.]

4174

Benjamin Cash

James Houston  
 of the State of Tennessee,  
 who was a private in the Company commanded  
 by Captain [unclear] of the [unclear] commanded  
 in the Virginia  
 Militia for 14 months, and 25 days  
 from 1779.

Enrolled on the Roll of Benjamin Cash  
 at the rate of 102 Dollars 00 Cents per annum,  
 to commence on the 1st day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 14th day of January  
 1833 and sent to the  
White Mtd. State Senate

Amount to 1st of April 1832	153.99
Commut. allowance ending in March 1833	51.33
	<u>\$ 205.32</u>

{ Revolutionary Claim, }  
 { Act June 7, 1832. }

Recorded by Henry H. [unclear] Clerk,  
 Page 107

New Providence Cemetery, Maryville TN





Pension application of James Houston S1914

f47VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/13/11 rev'd 5/1/14

[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.]

State of Tennessee Blount County Second Judicial Circuit

On this 10th day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court, being a Circuit Court in and for said County before the Honorable Edward Scott one of the Circuit Judges of the State of Tennessee now presiding in said Court in said County of Blount James Houston a resident of said County of Blount in the State aforesaid aged nearly seventy-five years having been born on the 12th day of November 1757 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service in the spring season as well as recollected in the year 1776 under Captain William Buchanan as a volunteer in a patrolling Company, – that Declarant resided in the County of Augusta in the State of Virginia at the time he entered the service, that he does not recollect the Lieutenant and – Ensign in said company. – Declarant cannot recollect the precise time he served as a volunteer in said Company, but supposes it to be not more than one month, when he was discharged and returned home. Declarant has certificate of discharge, – Said Company during said time patrolled in the County of Augusta as a company of discovery to protect the frontiers and guard against the incursions of the hostile Indians. Declarant removed from Augusta County where he was born & had before always resided to Washington County in Western Virginia in the month of September 1777 [?], and in the month of February 1778 again entered the Service in said County of Washington, Virginia as a volunteer in a volunteer Company commanded by Captain Aaron Lewis whose subaltern officers in said Company were Lieutenant Robert Edmonson<sup>1</sup> [sic, Robert Edmondson] and Ensign not recollected. Said Company belonged to a Regiment of Infantry who embodied at Long Island on Holston River commanded by Colonel Evan Shelby – from Long Island on Holston the Army proceeded in canoes down Holston River to its junction with the Tennessee, then down the Tennessee River to the Mouth of Chickamauga Creek, where we proceeded to destroy the encampments and provisions of a party of the Cherokee Indians, called Chickamaugas, but had no encounter with the Indians – The Infantry then separated from a Company or Regiment of Regulars by whom they had been accompanied under the command of Colonel Montgomery destined for the Illinois Country, and returned home. Declarant was discharged in the month of May of the said year of 1778, but obtained no certificate of discharge. Declarant about the first day of October 1778 again entered the service as a volunteer in the Company commanded by Captain Nathaniel Williams being a Company of Guards to reconnoiter the frontiers, and marched to Powels Valley [Powell's Valley] in Kentucky and continued in service on the frontiers of Kentucky protecting the interior from the incursions of the hostile Indians until the month of January 1779 when the Company returned home to Washington County Virginia and in the latter part of said months, having been discharged as Declarant believes in Powell's Valley –



Declarant again about the first of April 1779 entered the service in Washington County Virginia as an Ensign in the Volunteer Company commanded by Captain William Edmondson, Robert Edmondson was Lieutenant and Declarant Ensign now the subaltern officers of said company who held themselves ready & equipped as mounted Riflemen and volunteers to march at a minute's warning wherever their services might be required, that from the time Declarant entered the service as aforesaid in the month of April 1779 until the month of October of the same year, said company reconnoitered as a company of discovery and guards on the frontiers of Washington, Virginia and on the head of New River, for the purpose of suppressing the disaffected and Tories.

In the month of October 1779 [sic, 1780],<sup>2</sup> said Company joined the Regiment of volunteers commanded by Colonel William Campbell at Watauga River in what is now Carter or Sullivan County in the State of Tennessee – then North Carolina – from thence the Army were marched under the command of Colonel Campbell into the State of South Carolina. That Declarant commanded as an Ensign of Captain Edmondson's company at the defeat of the British and Tories at King's Mountain under the command of Colonel Furgason [sic, Patrick Ferguson]. In the Battle Captain Edmondson & Lieutenant Edmondson were both killed, when the command of the Company devolved on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Patrick Campbell – from King's Mountain said Regiment returned home to Washington County and were discharged about the first of December 1779 [sic, 1780], having been in service from the month of April preceding as aforesaid. Declarant states that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service – declarant removed from the County of Washington, Virginia in the year 1782, to Green County, then North Carolina now Tennessee, where he resided three or four years when he removed to what is now Blount County in the State of Tennessee where he at present resides and was a member of the Convention from the County of Blount in 1796 which formed the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, and was also a member of the first General Assembly of the State of Tennessee.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Houston



We, Davis Hart a Clergyman residing in Maryville and the County of month in the State of Tennessee, and Jacob F. Forte, Jesse Wallace, Alexander McNutt, Robert Houston, Andrew Early residing in the County and State aforesaid hereby certify that we are well acquainted with James Houston who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration, that we believe him to be seventy-five years of age, that he is reputed and believed to have been a soldier and officer of the Revolution in the neighborhood in which he resides and that we concur in that opinion.



State of Tennessee Blount County: SS: Amended Declaration

On this 25th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court being the County Court about County aforesaid, and being a Court of record, before the justices thereof presiding in said Court, James Houston a resident of said County of Blount in the State of Tennessee aforesaid aged seventy-five years on the 12th day of November last past having been born in Augusta County in the State of Virginia on the 12th day of November 1757, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832, – That he entered the service in the County of Augusta in the State of Virginia as a volunteer Soldier under Captain William Buchanan in a patrolling company of volunteers in the spring of the year 1776 (but being aged, from defect of memory cannot be more precise as to the time) – Declarant cannot recollect the names of the subaltern Officers of said Company nor the precise time he served in said company, but believes it was not less than 25 days, when he was discharged in said County of Augusta, and returned home. – Declarant received no certificate of discharge, – Said Company during said time patrolled in said County of Augusta, as a company of discovery to protect the frontiers, and guard against the incursion of the hostile Indians. Declarant removed from Augusta County Virginia where he was born, and had always before resided to Washington County in Western Virginia in the month of September 1778 and in the month of February, as near declarant can recollect on the 15th day of the month 1778 he again entered the service in the County of Washington Virginia as a volunteer soldier in a volunteer Company commanded by Captain Aaron Lewis, Robert Edmondson Lieutenant, the name of the other subaltern officers not recollected. Said Company belonged to a Regiment of Infantry commanded by Colonel Evan Shelby, which embodied at Long Island on Holston River. From Long Island on Holston River, the Army proceeded in canoes down the River to its junction with the Tennessee, then down the Tennessee River to the mouth of Chickamauga Creek, and then proceeded to destroy the encampments and provisions of a hospital party of the Cherokee Indians, called Chickamaugas, but had no rencounter with the Indians, – The Infantry then separated from a company or Regiment of Regulars by whom they had been accompanied, under the command of Colonel Montgomery, and destined for the Illinois country, and returned home. Declarant was discharged as near as declarant can recollect on the 14th or 15th of May 1779 having been 3 months in service. Declarant received no certificate of discharge. On the first day of October 1779 as near as recollected declarant again entered the service in Washington County Virginia as a volunteer in the company commanded by Captain Nathaniel Henderson (instead of Williams as stated by mistake in the original declaration) – the names of the subaltern officers in said company not recollected being a Company of guards to reconnoiter on the frontiers, and marched to Powells Valley in Kentucky, and continued on the frontiers of Kentucky protecting the frontiers from the incursion of the hostile Indians until the first of January 1780 as well as declarant can recollect, when declarant was discharged, as he believes in Powells Valley, and returned home having been 3 months at least in service. Declarant received no certificate of discharge. Declarant again as near as he can recollect on the first of April 1780 entered the service in Washington County Virginia as an Ensign in a volunteer Company commanded by Captain William Edmondson, Robert Edmondson Lieutenant, with declarant Ensign were subaltern officers of said Company, who held themselves ready and equipped as mounted volunteer rifleman to march at a minute's warning wheresoever their services might be required – that from the said declarant entering the service as an Ensign as aforesaid on the first of April 1780 until the month of October in the same year, said Company reconnoitered as a company of discovery and guards on the frontiers of Washington County Virginia and on the head of the New River for the purpose of suppressing the disaffected and Tories. In the month of October (declarant cannot recollect the day of the month) 1780 said company joined a volunteer Regiment commanded by Colonel William Campbell at Watauga River in what is now Carter or Sullivan County in the State of Tennessee – then North Carolina. From thence the Army was marched under the command of Colonel Campbell into the State of South Carolina. That declarant commanded as an Ensign in Captain Edmonson's Company, at the



defeat of the British and Tories commanded by Colonel Ferguson at Kings Mountain. In the battle Captain Edmondson and Lieutenant Edmondson were both killed, when the command of the Company devolved on Patrick Campbell the 2nd Lieutenant of said company. From Kings Mountain said Regiment returned home to Washington County Virginia and were discharged, as well as declarant can recollect on the first of December 1780, having been in service as an Ensign as aforesaid 8 months. Declarant received no certificate of discharge. Declarant further states, that he was elected Ensign by the company in which he served, as was then the custom in volunteer Companies, and never was commissioned as an Ensign, but held his appointment, and acted as such under and by virtue of his election by said Company. Declarant has no documentary evidence of his services aforesaid, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his service except John Houston, whose affidavit is hereto annexed. The only record evidence declarant has of his age is an entry thereof in an old family Bible now in his possession & reentered in a new Bible. Declarant removed from the County of Washington Virginia in the year 1782 to Green County, then North Carolina now Tennessee where he resided 3 or 4 years, after which time he removed to what is now Blount County in the State of Tennessee, where he at present resides. He was a member of the convention from the County of Blount, which framed the Constitution of the State of Tennessee in 1796, and was also a member of the first General Assembly of the State of Tennessee. Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any State or Territory. Declarant further states that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned in this his amended declaration being 6 months and 25 days as a private soldier and 8 months as an Ensign, and for such service he claims a pension. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in Open Court.

S/ Jac. F. Foute, Clerk

S/ J. Houston

We, Isaac Anderson a clergyman residing in Maryville in the County of Blount in the State of Tennessee states that I verily believe the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration and we, Jesse Thompson, Andrew Cowan, P. H. Fitzgerald & Samuel Gold residing in the County and State aforesaid hereby certify, that we are well acquainted with James Houston, who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration, that we believe him to be upwards of 74 years of age as he states; that he is reputed and believed to have been a soldier and officer of the revolution in the neighborhood in which he resides and that we concur in that opinion. Sworn to and subscribed the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832.

S/ Jesse Thompson

S/ And Cowan

S/ Pat. H. Fitzgerald

S/ Samuel Goule [sic]

Sworn to & subscribed in Open Court the 25<sup>th</sup> December 1832

S/ Jac F Foute [?], Clerk

[p 14]

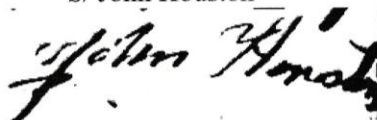
John Houston<sup>3</sup> makes oath that he has been acquainted with the foregoing declarant, James Houston, from his infancy, that he believes the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration of his services during the revolution are true – that affiant knows that said declarant served some time in Augusta County Georgia as a Ranger, but cannot recollect the precise time, but believes it was at the time & during the period stated by declarant. Affiant lived at declarant's fathers (the uncle of affiant) at the time declarant returned home from his expedition down the River against the Chickamauga in the month of May 1779 having as affiant understood and believes been in service three months. Affiant was with declarant &

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<sup>3</sup> [John Houston S1832](#)

served with him in the campaign to Powell's Valley from the first of October 1779 until the first of January 1780. Affiant was in the neighborhood at the time on or about the first of December 1780 when Declarant returned home from the battle at King's Mountain having been in service as an Ensign in Captain Edmondson's company eight months as affiant believes, it being so understood & believed in the neighborhood at the time and also understood & believed in the neighborhood that Declarant had been in the battle at King's Mountain & served as an Ensign in that engagement. Sworn to & subscribed the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December 1832.

S/ John Houston



Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 25 December 1832  
S/Jac F. Forte, clerk

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$102.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 14 months and 25 days service as a private & Ensign in the Virginia militia.]

### HOUSTON FAMILY BIBLE RECORD

James Houston, born Nov. 12, 1757, died Nov. 22, 1840  
Polly Gillespe, born April 26, 1770, died June 23, 1830  
Samuel F. Houston, died Sept. 17, 1885)  
Betsey Houston, born October 13, 1780, died April 13, 1809  
Robert Gillespy, died April 15, 1809)  
Patsy Houston, born July 28, 1783, died July 11, 1805  
William Houston, born May 3, 1786, died July 11, 1805  
Samuel Cowan, died Dec. 30, 1820  
E. Jane G. Houston born July 23, 1799  
Mary Ann Houston died Sept 20, 1920)  
Ester L. Houston, born Sept. 10, 1794, died Sept 20, 1842  
Lucindia Houston, born Sept 20, 1820  
Phobe M. Houston born June 11, 1800  
Samuel F. Houston, born August  
Children of Samuel and Ester Jane Gillespie (E. J. G.) Houston Cowan:  
Christopher Columbus Cowan , born June 2, 1811, died June 2, 1863  
George Washington Cowan, born Feb. 11, 1813  
Martha Malinda Houston Cowan, born Mar. 13, 1815, died June 2, 1863  
Samuel Franklin Cowan, born March 6, 1818  
Eliza Jane Cowan, born August 18, 1819 died Nov. 25, 1890  
Mary Ann Cowan, born Nov. 23, 1821, died Sept. 26, 1842  
James Houston Cowan, born November 29, 1823  
Lucinda Gallaher Cowan, born June 28, 1826

#### Marriages

James Houston and Ester Houston, Nov. 3, 1780  
James Houston and Polly Gillespie, October 10, 1791  
Robert Gillespie and Besty Houston, July 7, 1799  
John Gillespie and Patsey Houston, July 7, 1799  
Samuel Cowan and E.J.G. Houston, July 19, 1810  
Haywood Bennett and E. L. Houston, Nov. 13, 1816  
Robert Tedford and Phoebe M. Houston, Aug 10, 1825  
William Woods and Martha G. Houston, Feb. 16, 1826  
Hillary Patrick and Mary F. Houston, July 22, 1826  
James Telford and Elizabeth G. Houston, Dec 10, 1830  
Ralph E. Telford and Malinda Houston, April 12, 1836  
Rev. John Sawyers Craig and Sidney Neal Houston, May 13, 1841



## WILL OF JAMES HOUSTON

I James Houston of the County of Polk and State of Tennessee being of sound and perfect mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner in manner and form following First I give and bequeath unto my Son in law Robert Sedgwick my farm containing three hundred acres of land lying on the west of Pistol Creek commencing at the bridge on the McNeill's corner running with the meanderings of the Creek up to the fork near the Baptist meeting house thence with Samuel Houston's line till it strikes Doct McThurs line thence with Doct McThurs line till it strikes McNeill's line and thence with McNeill's to the beginning with its appurtenances I also bequeath to Robert Sedgwick one half of the farm stock and one half of the farming utensils attached to said farm. The household and kitchen furniture exclusive of what belongs to Robert Sedgwick is to be sold after my daughter Sidney McHouston shall have been furnished with two well equipped beds I also direct that Robert Sedgwick shall out of his portion of the estate furnish my daughter Sidney when she leaves the place with an outfit in kind and quantity equal to that given to my daughter Malvina

Sidney is also to have the use of my grey Pony while she remains on the place and after she leaves the Pony is to be given to Fabyala Sedgwick I also direct that one tenth the proceeds arising from the perishable property so soon as it can be sold and the money collected with one tenth of all notes due the estate so soon as they can be collected be divided equally between the following benevolent institutions One third to the Southern Western and Theological Seminary located at Maryville Tennessee one third to the American Sunday School Union and one third to the American Board for foreign Missions and that the remainder be vested together with the Annual interest in some safe Bank or other institution for five years. I also direct that my interest in the mills on the waters of Pistol Creek be rented out for the space of five years at the expiration of which time said interest is to be sold and that my daughter Sidney McHouston receive out of the profits of the rent one hundred dollars per Annum for her own use and if the rent should not amount to one hundred dollars per Annum the remainder is to be furnished her out of the interest of the vested money. I further direct that the several Tracts



and parcels of Land not otherwise devised lying in the Counties of Blount  
and Linn together with one bar back in DeKalb County and one  
lot situated in the town of Louisville Blount County be sold at the  
option of my Executors within the space of five years and that a tenth part  
of the proceeds of said land be divided equally between the following benevo-  
lent Institutions: One third to the Southern Western and Theological Sem-  
inary located at Knoxville Tennessee One third to the American Sun-  
day School Union and one third to the American Board for Foreign Mis-  
sions, I further direct that the whole residue of my real and personal  
estate at the expiration of five years or so soon thereafter as it can  
be collected be divided in the following manner: One tenth to my Grand-  
son James Gillespie Son of John Gillespie one tenth to Jane Brown and  
her heirs. One tenth to Baywood Bennett and his heirs. One tenth to James  
Walker and his heirs. One tenth to Robert Sedford and his heirs. One tenth  
to William Woods and his heirs. One tenth to William Patrick and his heirs  
One tenth to James Sedford and his heirs one tenth to Andrew Sedford and  
his heirs. And one tenth to my daughter Sidney M. Houston

Article 2nd. I recommend my heirs to appropriate as much of their Several por-  
tions of this estate as they can conveniently to the benevolent insti-  
tutions of the age in which they live.

I hereby appoint Sole Executors of this my last will and testament  
Doctor James H. Gillespie Baywood Bennett and Robert M. Sedford  
and do hereby revoke all former wills by me made and testimony  
whereof I have herewith set my hand and affixed my Seal this the  
Seventh day of March A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty  
nine

Signed Sealed published and declared by  
the above named James Houston of the County of Blount and of  
the State of Tennessee to be his last will and testament in the  
presence of us who have herewith subscribed our names as witnesses  
in the presence of the testator

Wm. Mier of James  
Robert <sup>his</sup> Gillespie  
Robert <sup>his</sup> McCalister