

## Robert Dowling



No Picture Available

Born: 1730 in , Augusta, Virginia,

Married: Sarah Guinn

Died: 20 Mar 1794 in Jeffries Creek, Darlington, South Carolina

Parents: Robert Dowling & Beulah Unknown

Robert Dowling was born 1730 in Virginia (a section that became Augusta County in 1738). He died on February 23, 1808 in Darlington County, South Carolina and is buried at either Philadelphia South Methodist Church or at Darlington Oaks Cemetery. (it may have been that he was initially buried at one and later moved to another, there are sources indicating that his and his son John's headstones were both replaced by the DAR in recognition of their Revolutionary War Service).

Robert had six children; the first child, William, was raised with his siblings by Robert's second wife, Sarah Guinn, however his record of birth (Family Data Collection) does not name a mother and family sources say that his own mother died during childbirth. William is the only child Robert does not list in his will.

Robert and his family moved from Virginia to South Carolina sometime between 1773-1777; all six of his children including his youngest daughter (born in 1868) are shown as having been born in Augusta County, Virginia. The court records below are dated 1773 and are from Augusta County, however his military records beginning in 1777 are all listed in South Carolina.

Below is a citation regarding charges that were filed against a Justice of the Peace, Joseph Gowley by Robert Dowling. I have no record as to what the alleged charges against Justice Gowley were, however, this is the documentation regarding the charges:

At the April term of court for Cheraws District, 1773, Robert Dowling filed charges against Joseph Gowley, Esq., one of the Justices of the Peace, and upon said charges the grand jury made presentment No. XII: "We present Joseph Gowley, Esq., one of the justices for the District as a profane swearer, a common drunkard and disturber of the peace on information of Robert Dowling."

I also have record of Robert having been a “servant” for some portion of his life. This document is dated in 1773, when Robert was approximately 43 years old. Based upon this record and the previous court records, Robert wasn’t living the most comfortable or “free” life ever – it was very soon after that he voluntarily began his military career. He also encouraged all three of his sons to actively pursue the fight toward Liberty.

Title: Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia

Source Citation: Volume I; Augusta County Court Records. Order Book No. XV. Page 173 Date: AUGUST 18, 1773

“(157) Robert Dowling--runaway servant of Hugh Dever.”

Family records information was obtained from One World Tree and verified with Family Data

Dowling, Robert - Augusta County, Virginia - Revolutionary War Records

Robert Dowling joined the 12th Virginia Regiment in May, 1777. He later served with the 6th Regiment of the North Carolina Continental Infantry and fought in the following battles: Musgrove Mills; Guilford Courthouse; Battle of the Cowpens; Battle of King's Mountain.

Volume 16, page 1042 of North Carolina Records lists his pay voucher No. 1563 for \$186 for eight years of service.

Title: South Carolinians in the Revolution Chapter: Ancestral Roll, S.C. Daughters of the American Revolution Page: 98 Dowling, Robert  
(Dowling, William is also listed and is likely Robert’s brother William)

Below are a few of the payment records for Robert Dowling regarding his service in the military:

June 10, 1777 - Robert Dowling appears on Company Muster Roll for Capt. William Vause's Co. of the 12th Virginia Reg't. of Foot commanded by Col. James Wood. Revolutionary War - appears on Company Muster Roll of the organization Named above for the month of May 1777. Roll dated June 10, 1777. When enlisted - Feb. 4, 17 (rest of the date not listed) June 30, 1777 -- Robert Doling (Dowling) appears on a listing as a private with Capt. William Vause's Company of the 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. James Wood. Revolutionary War - Appears on Company Pay Roll of the organization named above for the month of Apl. to June 30, 1777 Time of service - 3 mos. Pay per month - 6 2/3 dolls. (dollars)

Amount of pay - 6 pounds

July 1777 -- Robert Doling (Dowling) appears on a listing as a private with Capt. William Vause's Company of the 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. James Wood. Revolutionary War - Appears on Company Pay Roll of the organization named above for the month of July 1777 Time of service - 1 mo. Pay per month - 6 2/3 dolls. (dollars) Amount of pay - 2 pounds

Remarks - Sick at Trentown

August 5, 1777 -- Robert Doling (Dowling) appears as a private with Captain William Vause's Co. of the 12th Virginia Reg't. commanded by Col. James Wood. Appears on Company Muster Roll of the organization named above for the Month of June 10 to July 1, 1777. Roll dated Aug. 5, 1777. Term of enlistment 3 years. Remarks: sick at Trentown (Trenton?) and Robert Doling (Dowling) appears on a listing as a private with Capt. William Vause's Company of the 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. James Wood. Revolutionary War - Appears on Company Muster Roll of the organization named above for the month of July 1777. Roll dated Aug. 5, 1777. Term of enlistment - 3 years. Remarks - Sick at Trentown August 1777 -- Robert Doling (Dowling) appears on a listing as a private with Capt. William Vause's Company of the 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. James Wood.

Revolutionary War - Appears on Company Pay Roll of the organization named above for the month of

Aug. 1777. Commencement of pay - Aug. 1, 1777. Pay per month - 6 2/3 dolls. (dollars) Time of service - 1 mo. Amount - 2 pounds

September 3, 1777 -- Robert Doling (Dowling) appears on a listing as a private with Capt. William Vause's Company of the 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. James Wood. Revolutionary War - Appears on Company Muster Roll of the organization named above for the month of Aug. 1777. Roll dated Sept. 3, 1777. Term of enlistment - 3 years

Not Dated -- Robert Doling (Dowling), Cap. Vause's Co., appears on a list of absentees of the 12th Virginia Regiment, with the sum due each. Revolutionary War Dated - not dated Sum due - 8 24/72 Dols. (dollars)

Casualties - Invalid Corps.

D	12	Va.
Robert Dowling		
{ Capt. William Vause's Co. of the 12th Virginia Reg't of Foot com- manded by Col. James Wood.		
(Revolutionary War.)		
Appears on		
Company Muster Roll		
of the organization named above for the month		
of	May	, 1777.
Roll dated	June 10	, 1777.
Appointed		, 17
Commissioned		, 17
When enlisted	Feb 4	, 17
Absent and where		
Remarks:		
(543) S. Muchant Copyist.		

D	12	Va.
Robert Doling		
{ Captain William Vause's Co. of the 12th Virginia Reg't commanded by Col. James Wood.		
(Revolutionary War.)		
Appears on		
Company Muster Roll		
of the organization named above for the month		
of	July	, 1777.
Roll dated	Aug 5	, 1777.
Appointed		, 17
Commissioned		, 17
Enlisted		, 17
Term of enlistment	3 years	
Time since last muster or enlistment		
Alterations since last muster		
Casualties		
Remarks:	Seeh at Trenton	
(548) S. Muchant Copyist.		

Below is a copy of a list of soldiers who have received payment 1 April 1786 for service in the Revolutionary War. Robert Dowling received the pay listed below for his service in the North Carolina militia in the amount of \$186. \$139 of this was given to him in the form of a certificate for \$139.

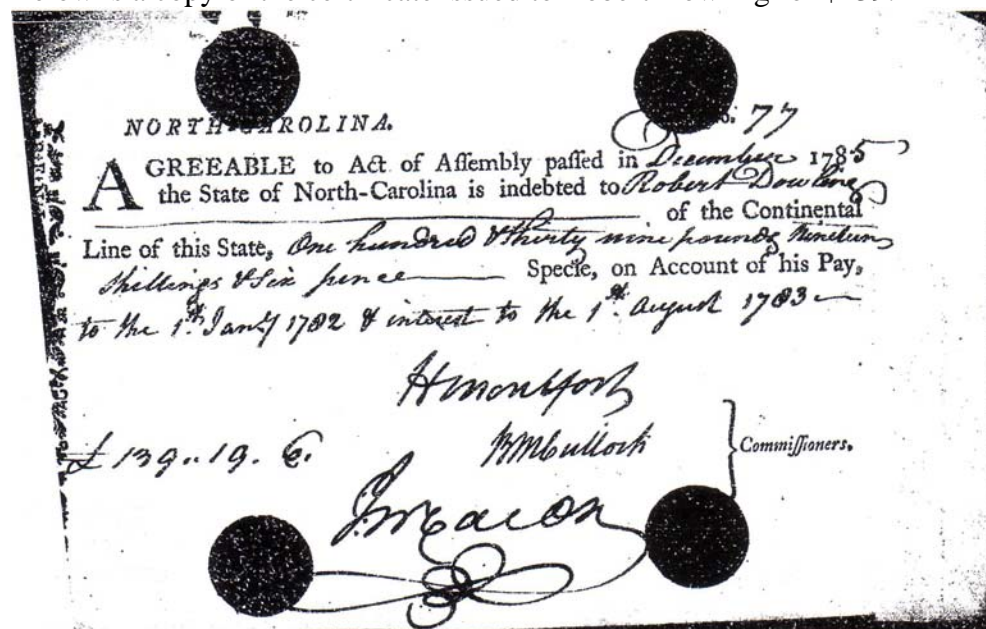
162

*List of Soldiers acct: settled since the  
First day of April 1786.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Due by</i>	<i>Certificates</i>	<i>Receipts</i>
<i>158</i>	<i>Robert Dowling</i>	<i>186.12.8</i>	<i>116.13.2</i>	<i>139.19.6</i>	

*Handy*  
*Due Money*  
*1786*

Below is a copy of the certificate issued to Robert Dowling for \$139.



In place of hard cash for military service, soldiers were issued vouchers or certificates as written promises that they would be paid a specified amount in hard cash at some time in the future. The same system was adopted to pay for goods or other services that were bought or impressed as the war progressed. (As a comparison, the situation would have been the same had the U. S. Government decided to pay its soldiers in World War II in savings bonds instead of dollars.)

<http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/FindingAids/Circulars/AIC1.pdf>

\*\*For more information about Robert, see the pages in the book, "Dowling's of the South" by R. A. Dowling, pages 1Th 2, also, listed is Robert's "Last Will and Testament."

\*\*According to Scott Howell a descendant of the Dowlings; Both Robert and son John Dowling were memorialized with headstones placed in the Philadelphia Southern Methodist Church cemetery in Darlington, South Carolina. If he remembers correctly, he read in a newspaper clipping from the 1960's that those headstones were placed by the DAR.

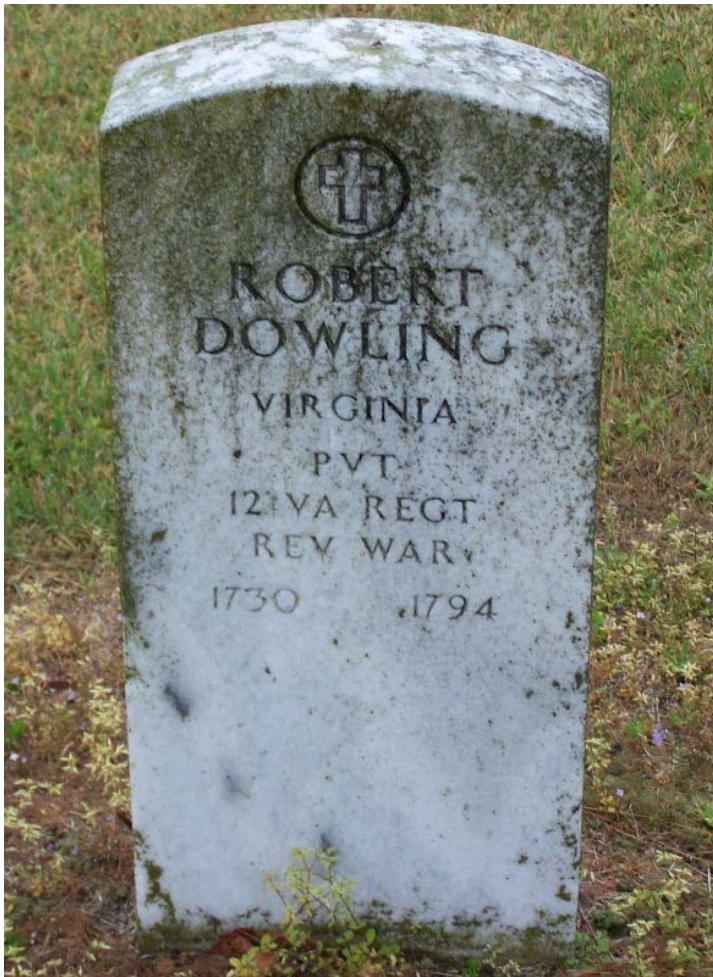
SCMAR, Vol. VII, Spring 1979, No. 2, p.74

2nd. The last will of Robert Dowling proved in Open Court, May Intermediate Court 1794. Sarah Dowling and James Dowling appointed

Executors to said Will. From Darlington County Court Records:Original on file: Courthouse, Darlington, SCWill of Robert Dowling – 20 March 1794 “ I, Robert Dowling of State of South Carolina, County of Darlington, being very weak of body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given to God calling into the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say princepely and first of all I give and recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty Good that gave it, and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discrietions of my executors nothing doutting at the General Resurrection Ishall receive the same again by the Mighty power of God and as touching such wordly estate wherein it hath pleased God to bless me in this life. I give demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. First I give and bequeath to **Sarah Dowling**, my dearly beloved **wife** all my goods and chattels land and tenements to act and to take and dispose as she sees good for her own use and support during her life or widowhood if she be in want. I give and bequeath to my eldest daughter five Shillings -- I give to my daughter Mary-An Stewart five Shillings. Also I give to my oldest son **James Dowling** five Shillings. Also to my son John Dowling one bed and furniture. Also to my daughter Elizabeth Ogelsbee and my daughter Sarah I leave the land I now live upon to be divided between them. Also to Milly Dowling the daughter of Elizabeth one pided cow -- Earling and hur name marked with a split in each ear if cow should breed the beaf cattle shall be sold and the money put on interest after the death of the Testator till she cums of age and then to be delivered to hur or hur lawful hairs; (author's comment: it is unknown why the inheritor of this "earling" should not have been referred to as Milly Ogelsbee); and also to my youngest daughter I give and bequeath after our deaths all the rest of our goods and chattels lands and tenemets to hur and hur hairs forever. I leave my wife Sarah Dowling and James Dowling (both of the state of South Carolina) for and absolute Executors to them my last will and testament and I do hereby utter my disalow revoke and dessavou all and every other former testament wills segours bequeaths and executors by me in any wise before named willed and bequeathed ratifying and confirming these this and no other to be my last will and testament in witnys where of I have hearunto set my hand and seal this 20 day of March in year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety four. By: Robert Dowling"

Information from online research at: Ancestry.com





Robert Dowling headstone found at Philadelphia Southern Methodist Cemetery near Darlington, NC  
Pictures taken March 30, 2011

