

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

**Pension Application of William Hope
S1956**

Transcribed by Susan K. Zimmerman and R. Neil Vance

State of Tennessee
County of Williamson

On this 2 day of October personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, now sitting, William Hope, a resident of the county of Williamson, and the State of Tennessee, aged seventy-one years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born June 28th 1761 in Bucks County Pennsylvania. In 1772 his father moved to South Carolina, and settled in York District, where he was raised. About the 1st of April 1779 he was drafted in Capt. Byers' [William Byers] company, and went under Lieutenant Henry to Orangeburgh, and there joined the regiment under Colonel Neal [Thomas Neel], was at Orangeburg several days and then went on to Charleston where the regiment staid a few days. During one of the nights they staid there, the British marched up to attack the town, but finding the American Army prepared, did not make the attempt & Major Hughes was accidentally killed by a shot from the Americans. They then went up by Dorchester to Bacons Bridge on Ashley river and joined Gen. Williamsons brigade, in Gen. Lincolns Army and went from thence to Stono. His time of Service was then out he does not recollect the precise time but thinks it was the last of June or beginning of July. After the British took Charleston in 1780 and had spread all over South Carolina, Genl. Sumpter formed a camp at Maclenburgh County North Carolina and some time toward the last of June, he volunteered in Captain Moffitts [John Moffett] Company, and went to Sumpters Camp in Col. Bratins [William Bratton] regiment and staid there some time. About this time the British burnt Hills Iron Works and the regiment in which he then was, was sent over the Catawba river, into South Carolina and he was then constantly out on scouting parties over the whole country, until after Tarletons defeat [Cowpens] on the 17th of January 1781. The week after his defeat, Cornwallis went in through the country with the British Army, and the next week Genl Sumpter took a tour down through South Carolina with about 300 men. He had then volunteered in Capt. Venables company in Col. Hawthorns regiment and went with them and attacked Fridays Fort on the Congaree river but without success, they then attacked another at Colonel Thompsons, on the same river but were again unsuccessful. They then fell in with 16 Wagons belonging to the British, with a guard of 40 or 50 men they killed several of the guards, and took the rest prisoners – burned the Wagons – and, put the plunder they had taken in boats, and sent it down the river with a view to meet it again, but the British had a fort at Wrights bluff, and in going down the river found the British firing upon them before they were aware that they were near them. The British retook the plunder taken from the Wagons and the Americans swam their horses across the river in hopes of regaining their boats, but had at length to leave the place with the loss of several brave men. They then went by Black river then by Linches creek where they had another fight and went from there home. About the middle of December 1780 he was drafted in Capt Henrys company, and attached to Capt Hendersons Company in Col. Moffitts Regiment. He then went to Orangeburgh and served a three month tour which was the last of his Service. He believes he served in all upwards of twelve months. In the year 1790 he moved to Cabarras County in North Carolina and lived there six years; then moved back to York District, South Carolina, where he had formerly lived. In the year 1802 he came to Tennessee, settled on Stones River, and in 1810 he moved into this county (Williamson) where he has lived ever since.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever, to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any State.

(signed) Wm Hope

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

(signed) Tho. Hardan (?)

To all whom it may concern. I Hugh Allison of Davidson County and State of Tennessee, do certify that I have been acquainted with William Hope personally since the year 1780. I lived in South Carolina, York District, at the above date, and within three miles of the above named William Hope, and after the British took Charleston and Lord Cornwallis marched his army through our country, Said Wm. Hope from the best information was generally with the American troops fighting the enemies of our Country, my father, and one uncle part of the time with him. (signed) Hugh Allison

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid

(signed) Tho. Hardan (?)

We Robert Davis, a clergyman residing in the town of Franklin, County of Williamson and State of Tennessee, and William Reed residing in the Same County and State, do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with William Hope, who has subscribed and Sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be 71 years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution, and we concur in that opinion

(signed) Robert Davis

(signed) Wm Reed

Sworn and Subscribed to the day and year aforesaid

(signed) Tho Hardan (?)