

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Guy: W17969

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina} Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions
County of Granville} February Term 1833.

On this 5th day of February AD 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful the Justices thereof, now sitting, William Guy a resident of the County aforesaid, aged seventy years, 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 was born in the County of Brunswick & State of Virginia, that he believes he is upwards of Seventy years of age, tho' upon this point he only speaks from tradition in his family, having no record of his age now in possession, nor never having had one - that he therefore cannot with certainty say in what year he was born - that he lived in Virginia in the counties of Brunswick & Mecklenburg in Va. both before & since the Revolution, until about thirty years ago, when he removed to this County & has resided here since that time - that he is a free man of color & was living in the said County of Mecklenburg, when he was called into service - that he entered the army of the United States in the Virginia Militia as a substitute for one Jack Goode at Mecklenburg Court house under Captain Reuben Vaughan, Leut. Whiting, Leut. John Holmes, & one William Halloway ensign - that his company marched to Granville Court House in N Carolina & joined a Regiment commanded by Colonel David Mason & Leut Colonel Burwell - that he believes it was in the Spring of the year 1779, when he joined the company under Captain Vaughan that he entered for a tour of six months - that his company after leaving Granville Court House, marched to Hillsborough, then to Salisbury, & then into South Carolina & joined the main army under Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln, near a place called Ashley Ferry - then on the 19th or 20th of June, an engagement took place between the portion of our army & the British at Stono Ferry [20 Jun 1779] when our forces were driven back - that he always preserved in his memory the date of this action, & of his junction with the army of Gen'l. Lincoln, & by this means he is enabled as above, to fix with some accuracy the time of his first entering the service - that he served out the remainder of his tour of six months in that portion of S. Carolina surrounding the City of Charleston performing all his duties faithfully in the same company, & under the same officers, until he received his discharge near Ashley Ferry but not having preserved it he does not recollect who signed it, or who gave it to him. After his return to Mecklenburg & in the next year, viz. 1780 he was drafted in the same County in a company commanded by Captain Stephen Mabry, for a tour of three months, to go to Portsmouth in Virginia - after getting as far as Dinwiddie Ct. House he received a very severe wound from the bite of a dog, which prevented from doing duty in the ranks, & he received a furlough in consequence of his inability - & before he recovered from the wound his term of three months expired. He is not able to recollect so accurately the names of the officers in his company at this time - as he was with them not more than four weeks & was during that time engaged in no active service.

If he is entitled to claim on account of this tour the Department will no doubt allow it - but he does not wish his claim on account of his other tours, which are more distinctly proven to be prejudiced on account of this. - If his claim for this tour or any part thereof is inadmissible, he submits that it may passed over.

He was again called out for three months towards the close of the Summer, or early in the Autumn of 1781 he is not able to say certainly which - by draft in Mecklenburg Va, under Capt Stephen Mabry & Leut Edward Pennington in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Lewis Burwell - They marched to the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] - and was at that Place when Cornwallis surrendered - At the end of this three months he received his discharge at Gloucester, but he forgets from whom, having long since lost it.

This affiant has procured the testimony of James Cunningham of Mecklenburg, Va, to his first tour of six months - of Buckner Rainey of Surry[?] County to his second tour. - They are

herewith transmitted certified by the proper authorities of Mecklenburg He expects to prove his reputation by the Rev'd. [?]illy Harris & Thomas B Lillbythe[?] Esq
He hereby relinquishes all claim to every pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. [signed] William Guy

NOTE: On 8 Nov 1842 Abigail Guy, 80, applied for a pension stating that she married William Guy on 12 June 1780, and he died 30 Jan 1837. In the file is a copy of a bond signed by William Guy and Charles Chavers on 10 Jan 1780 in North Carolina for the marriage of Guy to Abigail Chavers.

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That he was born in the county of Brunswick & State of Virginia, that he believes he is upward of Seventy years of age, tho' upon this point he only speaks from tradition in his family, having no record of his age now in possession, nor never having had one-- that he therefore cannot with certainty say in what year he was born- that he lived in Virginia in the Counties of Brunswick & Mecklenburg in Va. Both before & since the Revolution, until about thirty years ago, when he moved to this County & has resided here since that time-- that he is a free man of color & was living in said County of Mecklenburg when he was called into service-- that he entered the army of the United States in the Virginia Militia as a substitute for one Jack Goode at Mecklenburg Court house under Captain Reuben Vaughn, Lieut. Whitney, Lieut. John Holmes & one William Holloway ensign-- that this company marched to Granville Court house in N. Carolina & joined a regiment commanded by Colonel David Mabry & Lieut. Colonel Burwell-- that he believes it was the spring of the year 1779, when he joined the company under Captain Vaughn & that he served for a tour of six month -- that his company after leaving Granville Court House, marched to Hillsborough, then to Salisbury, & then into South Carolina & joined the main Army under Genl. Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln], near a place called Ashley Ferry -- that on the 19th or 20th of June, an engagement took place between the portion of our army & the British at Stono Ferry, when our forces were driven back -- that he always preserved in his memory the date of this action, & of his junction with the army of Genl. Lincoln, & by this means he is enabled as above, to fix with some accuracy the time of his first entering into the service -- that he served out the remainder of his tour of six months in that portion of South Carolina surrounding the City of Charleston, performing all his duties faithfully in the same company & under the same officers until he received his discharge near Ashley Ferry but not having preserved it, he does not recollect who signed it, or who gave it to him.

After his return to Mecklenburg & in the next year, viz, 1780, he was drafted in the same County in a company commanded by Captain Steven Mabry, for a tour of three months, to go to Portsmouth in Virginia. After getting as far as Dunwiddie Ct. House, he received a very severe wound from the bite of a dog, which prevented him from doing duty in the ranks, & he received furlough in consequence of his inability--- & before he recovered from the wound his term of three months expired -- He is not able to recollect so accurately the names of the officers in his company at this time -- as he was with them not more than four weeks & was during that time engaged in no active service- If he is entitled to claim on account of this tour the Department will no doubt allow it -- but he does not wish his claim on account of his other tours, which are more directly proven to be prejudiced on account of this. If his claim for this tour or any part thereof is [illegible word], he submits that it may be passed over.

He was again called out for three months toward the close of the Summer, or the early Autumn of 1781, he is not able to say certainly if by draft in Mecklenburg Va, under Capt. Stephen Mabry & Lieut Edward Pennington in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Lewis Burwell -- they marched to the siege of York -- and were stationed on the Gloucester side of the River -- and was at this place when Cornwallis surrendered. At the end of his three months he received his discharge at Gloucester, but he forgets from whom, having long since lost it.

The affiant has procured the testimony of James Cunningham of Mecklenburg, Va, to his first

tour of six months, & of Buckner Rainey of same county of his second tour. They are herewith transmitted certified by the proper authorities of Mecklenburg. He expects to prove his reputation by the Rev. [first name obliterated, appears to end "illy"] Harris & Thomas B Littlejohn, Esqr.

He hereby sitting wishes all claims to every pension on annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension role of the agency of any state-

Sworn and subscribed in open court before us

S/ William Guy

S/ Wm. Sneed, Chr.

S/ Wm. Hammaday

S/ Shadrack Parish