

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Hickman W366

Judith

fn38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/2/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee White County: SS

On this 10th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful the Justices of the Court of Place in Court Sessions for said County of White Benjamin Hickman a resident of White County and State of Tennessee aged about seventy years who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath take the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

After the defeat of General Gates near Campden [Camden], and as this Declarant believes, in the year 1779 [sic, August 15 – 16, 1780], he joined a Regiment of horse raised by Colonel Davy [sic, with William Richardson Davie] a distinguished attorney at law, either of Mecklenburg or Rowan County North Carolina, in this Declarant is not positively certain which. The Regiment was raised from the above named to Counties. This Declarant who was then very young, not exceeding seventeen years of age, went out in place of his father, it was customary at that time, he states, to draft man for three months. But the troops were given to understand, that if they would volunteer themselves properly equipped and become attached to Colonel Davie's Regiment of horse, two months service in said Regiment would be received in lieu of three months under the drafting system. The father of this Declarant had thus volunteered, and joined the said Regiment. About this time the domestic affairs of this declarant's father, required his attention at home – and he became a substitute in place of his father Joseph Hickman, notwithstanding the Regiment, might properly be termed a "volunteer" one – Colonel Davie's Regiment consisted of about five hundred men – and rendezvoused at "Fifer's Mills" [Pfifer's Mills] on the Charleston road about twenty-five miles from Salisbury. This Declarant belonged to a company commanded by Captain James Craig, his Lieutenant's name was Joseph Cunningham, & his Ensign's name was Hugh Cunningham. There was along with them a Colonel Brisby, who had a command, subordinate to that of Colonel Davie – he was also

acquainted with Major Rutherford, who was along but what actual command he held at the time alluded to, if any, this Declarant does not know. The troops belonging to Colonel Davie's Regiment were in actual Service at least two months – he thinks more. They were generally engaged in intercepting "foraging" parties of the enemy, and took a number of prisoners both British and Tories. He was not in any engagement that could be denominated a "battle" these two months he believes were September and October in the year 1779 – the troops received no written discharge according to his recollection.

His second tour was only for 10 days. He was engaged in entrenching on the West bank of the Yadkin River – this was a precautionary measure, in expectation of an attack from the Tories.

His third tour was for three months. He was drafted in the County of Rowan, in the company commanded by Captain Andrew Ellison or Allison – this he thinks must have been in the latter part of the year 1780, but it is impossible for him to say with certainty. He cannot recollect the name of his Colonel. The troops marched to Fayetteville. The British he thinks then had possession of Wilmington and also of New Bern – At Fayetteville the troops not having much to do, remained but a short time – a portion of them, he cannot say how many, were ordered back to Salisbury, in this Declarant and he thinks the most of Captain Allison's Company, were there set to work in the armory. Here he served out his 3 months, most of his time being occupied in making cartridges. He was not on this occasion discharged in writing, but was dismissed, or as it was called, "mustered out of the service." He knows of no living witness by whom he can prove the foregoing facts, near a band Logan County Kentucky – and he is not able to go there – he has neither the bodily strength, nor the means of going – He has no documentary evidence by which he can establish the same. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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 –

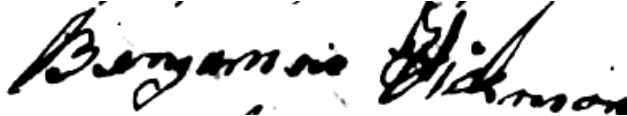
Answers to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department

- 1<sup>st</sup> answer – He was born on the 13th day of September 1762 in Cecil County Maryland
2. His age is recorded in an old family Bible which belonged to his father, in which he presumes is now in possession of his brother, John Hickman in the State of Kentucky Logan County, about 8 miles from Russellville.
3. When called into service he lived in Rowan County North Carolina, in about 6 miles of Salisbury. Since the Revolution, and while he was yet single, he went to Wilkes County Georgia, where he got married and resided about 2 years – from thence he removed to Pendleton District, South Carolina where he lived about 16 years. From thence he removed to the County of Quiet in State of Tennessee, where [he] now resides – has long resided in is well known.
4. He has already stated the manner in which he was called into service – 1<sup>st</sup> he was substituted for his father – and after that he was drafted.
- 5 – He knew Captain Langham a regular officer from Virginia – Captains Yarborough and gamble – His acquaintance however was but limited. He cannot give a more full account than he has already given of the General Circumstances of his service.
6. He has no recollection of ever having received a discharge being on one occasion dismissed, or mustered out of the service, as was common with the militia.
- 7th. – He states the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution – viz. – John McGee – George Long, Solomon Yeager, Larkin Wisdom & Reverend Corder Stone

He knows of no living witness by whom he can prove the foregoing facts – he has no documentary evidence – he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court 10 October 1832

S/ Benjamin Hickman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin Hickman". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[Corder Stone, a clergyman, and John McGee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 32]

State of Tennessee White County: May Term of the Circuit Court for said County 1834

On this 19th day of May 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Honorable Abraham Carothers, Judge of the third Judicial Circuit, now sitting in the said County of White, Benjamin Hickman, a resident of said County, aged seventy-two you years if he lives to the 13th day of September next, 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

1<sup>st</sup> As well as he can recollect, it was in the year 1780 that he entered the service in the month of September. In this he may not be precisely accurate, but he states, that he has a distinct recollection, that it was after Gates defeat at Camden. He then lived in Rowan County North Carolina. He volunteered as a private Soldier for three months. His Captain was James Craig. His Lieutenant was Joseph Cunningham. His Ensign was Hugh Cunningham. The Regiment to which he belonged was commanded by Colonel Davy. The troops rendezvoused at "Fifer's Mill" which he believes was in Rowan County, but near the Mecklenburg line. From there, they marched to Mecklenburg Courthouse, where they only remained a short time, and went on to what was called "the Waxhaw settlement," in which place, or near it, they remained, reconnoitering the British, and occasionally taking some prisoners, until the period expired for which he volunteered. He was not in any battle: but aided in taking a number of prisoners, at different times during this campaign. He received no written discharge, but were drawn up and dismissed. After which they returned home: although he was not in any battle, he states that his services were laborious, and that he was exposed to much fatigue and many dangers.

2. His next engagement or service was also for three months also He cannot give the precise date of this engagement, but thinks it was shortly after the Battle of Guilford. He was also, on this occasion a private soldier. He was drafted, under Captain Andrew Allison of Rowan County North Carolina. He does not remember the names of his other officers. This campaign, the troops to which he was attached rendezvoused at Salisbury North Carolina. The object of raising these troops was to protect the Country as far as practicable from the depredations of the Tories. From Salisbury, they traversed the Country along Deep River, and went to a place called "Cross Creek" near Fayetteville, where they encamped but a few days: their principle active service was in pursuit of a body of Tories under Colonel Fannon [David Fanning], a Tory, who had once lived in Salisbury. He was not in any battle or engagement: But assisted in taking a number of Tories as prisoners. They returned to Salisbury, where they assisted with the laborers in the armory. He received no written discharge but was "dismissed" as formerly. Thus his services terminated his services except a period of 10 days, in which he was engaged at work at an

entrenchment at what was called "the trading Ford of the Yadkin:" for this 10 days, he presumes he cannot claim, and therefore only as a pension for 6 months, being the period of his actual service. He knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services: he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Answers to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department and propounded by the Court

1<sup>st</sup> He was born in Cecil County Maryland, on the 13 of December 1762.

2. He has no record of his age in his possession: it is however recorded in the family Bible which he presents is still in the possession of his brother John Hickman of Logan County Kentucky.

3. When called into service, he lived in Rowan County North Carolina: from there he went to Wilkes County Georgia, from there he removed to Pendleton District South Carolina – from there he removed to the County of White and State of Tennessee, where he now resides and has resided for the last 17 years.

4. His first engagement, was as a volunteer. His second engagement he was drafted.

5. Cobb of the Officers of the Regular Army, he remembers Major Lewis Captain Gordon Captain Langham & Captain gamble – these Officers were stationed at Salisbury: he does not know anything specific, about their respective regiments, nor can he improve upon the statement he has already made relative to the general circumstances of his service.

6. He never received a Written discharge.

7. He states the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. The is: Reverend Andrew McBride, John McGee, George Long, Reuben Wilhite, William Wisdom, John W Deering Esquire and Solomon Yeager.

Sworn to and subscribed in Open court this 19 day of May 1834

S/ Benjamin Hickman

[Andrew McBride, a clergyman, and John McGee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 16: On May 8, 1844, in White County Tennessee, Judith Hickman, 81, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act as the widow of Benjamin Hickman, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$20 per annum; that she married him in Wilkes County Georgia May 3, 1787; that she has no record of her marriage except the family Bible record of the ages of her children; that her husband died May 5, 1838; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 20: family record

Stephen Hickman Of Benjamin & Judith Hickman Was Born January the 23rd 1788

Sarah Hickman Was Born May the 27th 1790

William Hickman Was Born January the 21st 1792

Anna Hickman was born February the 9th 1794

Abigail Hickman was born December the 27th 1795 and died October 12th [illegible]

Jabez Hickman was born April the 10th 1798 died December 1<sup>st</sup> 1829

Kezia Hickman was born January the 22nd 1802

Jesse Everett Hickman the 22nd 1805

Benjamin Hickman was born September 13 1762 and died May 5 1838

Judith Hickman was born May 1763

Abigail McGhee died October 12, 1824

Keziah McGhee died September 1, 1829

Sarah Pental died March 30, 1833

[fn p. 12: On November 17, 1851, in the White County Tennessee, Jesse E Hickman, 46, filed a claim seeking the pension is due his father and mother Benjamin & Judith Hickman under the various acts of Congress; he states that he is the lawful child of Benjamin and Judith Hickman; that his father was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$20 per annum; that his father died May 5, 1838; that his mother Judith died November 26, 1846; that his mother died leaving 5 children surviving, namely Stephen, William, Anna, Jabez and the affiant.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]