

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Humphrey W7841

Margaret Humphrey

f43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/18/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 8]

State of Kentucky Sct.

John Humphrey of the County of Hart this day Personally appeared before me Christopher Tompkins one of the Circuit Judges for the State aforesaid and presiding Judge of the Barren Circuit Court and made oath that he served in the revolutionary war during the times & in the capacities herein after stated, that is to say: he enlisted about the year 1777 (to the best of his recollection) in Captain Gross Scruggs' company of the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel afterwards General Scott [Charles Scott] in which Regiment he served one year & six months as a private, that he was then drafted into Captain William Henderson's rifle Company belonging to the rifle Regiment commanded by Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan] in which service he remained six months for which services he obtained Honorable discharges. He afterwards enlisted in the horse under Captain Heard in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Milan [probably Stephen Moylan] & served three years at which time he was discharged at Lancaster Pennsylvania, his discharge was given by Colonel Templeton [probably Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Temple]. He afterwards served six weeks in the militia under Colonel Linch [probably Charles Lynch] & was in the battle at Guilford Court house [March 15, 1781]. His discharge was sent to the war office for the purpose of obtaining his pay & never returned to him. The said Humphrey furthermore declares & makes oath that from his reduced circumstances he stands in need [of] the assistance of his Government for support.

Sworn to & subscribed by the above named John Humphrey before me this 21st

September 1818

S/ Christopher Tompkins

S/ John Humphrey, X his mark

I do further certify that it was proven by the oath of Will J. Bush that the total value of the property of the said Humphrey does not exceed \$200. Given under my hand this 24th of November 1818.

S/ Christopher Tompkins

[p 5]

District of Kentucky Hart County to wit

On this [word written over and illegible] day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court, it being a court of record for Hart County John Humphrey aged about Sixty-five years resident in said County and district who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath

declare That he served in the revolutionary war as follows. In Captain Gross Scruggs' company in the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonels Scott and Parker and afterwards transferred to Colonel Morgan's Regiment two years, three years in the Regiment of light Horse commanded by Colonel Milan & William Washington and afterwards transferred to Colonel Ben Temple.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed: Four Head of Horses, 7 Head of Cattle, Thirteen Head of Hogs, – Household furniture, kitchen furniture, beds & clothing excepted.

S/ John Humphrey, X his mark

I am a farmer but owing to my advanced age and the great number of hardships I have underwent am not able to support myself & family by my own labor, I have a wife fifty years of age with four children living with me by name James about 17 years of age, Susanah 12 years old, Robert 10 years old, & Jackson 7 years of age.

S/ John Humphrey, X his mark

[p 42]

District of Kentucky SS

On this 9th day of August 1820 before me the Subscriber one of the Judges of the County Court of Hart County for the said District personally appeared John Humphries [sic] in addition to the affidavit made on the 9th day of August 1820 in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Naval & Land Service of the United States in the Revolutionary war that he the said Humphries enlisted under Captain Gross Scruggs in the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonels Scott and Parker and afterwards transferred to Colonel Morgan's Regiment in all which he served two years – and that afterwards That he enlisted in a Regiment of Light Horse commanded by Colonel Milan and William Washington and afterwards transferred to Colonel Ben Temple in which he served three years at which time he was honorably discharged. In that he was in the Battles of Princeton [January 3, 1777], Trenton [December 26, 1776], at the taking of Burgoyne at the Battle of the Plains of Stillwater [Battle of Saratoga or Bemis Heights, October 7, 1777] – The battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] – the Battle of Guilford and that he is in reduced circumstances and needs the assistance of his country for his support.

S/ John Humphrey, X his mark

[p 40]

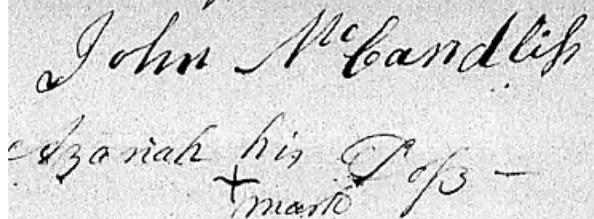
Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County of Hart Azariah Doss and John McCanless [sic] who are of Lawful age and being credible witnesses and first duly sworn depose and saith that they now are and were acquainted with John Humphries [sic] during the revolutionary war with Great Britain and that the said Humphries enlisted under Captain Gross Scruggs in the 5th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonels Scott and Parker and afterwards transferred to Colonel Morgan's Regiment Serving in all two years. And further said John McCanless Testifies and says that said Humphries Served three years in a Regiment of Light

Horse commanded by Colonel Milan and William Washington and afterwards transferred to Colonel White [Anthony Walton White] – And that they verily believe that the said Humphries served in the revolutionary war two years as they often saw him there during the time above stated, and that said McCanless verily believes the said Humphreys served an additional time of three years in the aforesaid Regiment of Light horse as he often saw him there during said term of time in Service of the United States as a private Soldier.

Given under our hands this 9th day of August 1820.

S/ John McCandliss¹

S/ Azariah Doss, X his mark

A photograph of a document showing two handwritten signatures. The first signature is 'John McCandliss' in cursive. Below it is a second signature, 'Azariah his Doss', followed by a large 'X' mark and the word 'mark' written below the 'X'.

[p 13: On March 17, 1840 in Fayette County Virginia, Margaret Humphrey, 71, a resident of said County filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Humphrey, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Bedford County Virginia November 25, 1780; that her husband died April 7th, 1825 in Barren County Kentucky. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 20: On October 12, 1840 in Edmundson County Kentucky, Mary Bradley, 73, gave testimony that she was present at the marriage of John Humphrey and Elizabeth Humphrey in Bedford County Virginia she thinks in the month of November 1782 but she is not certain as to the year. She signed her affidavit with her mark]

[p 14: In a document dated March 29, 1844 in Fayette County Virginia, the widow again stated her age as 71 years. There is no explanation in the file for the discrepancy in her age.]

[p 11: Copy of a marriage bond dated November 22, 1784 issued in Bedford County Virginia to John Humphreys [sic] and William Woody conditioned upon the marriage of John Humphreys to Margaret Murphy.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 21, 1818, for service as a private for 5 years in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 2-page file indexed under the name "John Humphries"

This is to certify that John Umphris of the 4th Regiment of Light Dragoons is hereby discharged having served the full time of his enlistment as a good & faithful Soldier given under my hand this 5th day of December 1780

¹ Perhaps the same man as [John McCandless W8441](#)

S/ Benjamin Temple
Colo. Comd.

I do certify that John Umphris as with and served the time of his enlistment in the 4th Regiment light dragoons which was 3 years.

S/ Thomas Overton
Captain 4th LD
19th October 1783

Copy

J Pendleton