

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Isaac Furgurson (Ferguson) R3506
Transcribed by Will Graves

Nancy Furgurson f28VA
rev'd 9/19/11 & 7/18/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

State of Tennessee, Williamson County

On this 1st th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before me Thomas Stuart, Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of Williamson County, in the State of Tennessee, Isaac Furgurson aged 75 years a resident of said County and State, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was living in Halifax County Virginia when he first entered the service in his 20th year of Age which was in 1777 as a volunteer under Captain James Turner. Governor Dunmore [John Murray, would Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia] on the breaking out of the war had returned to England and soon after came back again with a fleet and landed on Gwinn's Island [sic, Gwynn's Island, July 8-10, 1776]¹. Capt. Turner marched him with the company against those British from Halifax County to Gwinn's Island. His Lieutenant was Fleming Bates. There the company to which he belonged joined the forces collected from the different counties under Major (I think, Thomas) Nelson. He with the other men were set to work in raising fortifications opposite the Island in order to plant some artillery. After this about two hundred men, including this applicant, were stationed at these fortifications while the main body moved lower [on] the River in order to cross and move up and attack the British at a given time. At the time appointed the artillery men stationed at the fortifications commenced the cannonading, but from accident the men who had gone below did not cross soon enough to commence a simultaneous attack and the British retreated without suffering much damage. Our artillery Capt. in this action was killed with a bomb thrown by the Americans themselves. The next day Dunmore sailed up the Potomac as if to attack Baltimore but did not do it. He was marched then up the same River to a place called Cherry Point where he arrived after two or three days. He had not been [there] more than a day or two when Dunmore sailed down with his fleet by him and escaped and he was pursued no further. He was then marched back home and got a discharge from Capt. Turner for three months tour, which discharge he does not recollect what has become of it. He went to school until the next summer of 1778 or '79 when a considerable force of the British having landed at Craney Island² on James River opposite Portsmouth in the neighborhood of which they were causing great ravage to the country, there was a call for volunteers and he entered a volunteer company commanded by Capt. Peter Rogers, several companies volunteering and some drafts men militia coming from the same county and of the same expedition against these British. He was marched accordingly from Halifax and down to Hampton. We then marched on and were landed at Portsmouth. After the forces were collected at Hampton, General Lawson [Robert Lawson] commanded them. When he and the men with him had crossed over to Portsmouth, he then saw that the British had burned Norfolk. At Portsmouth and there about he lay for

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/gwynnsisland.htm>

2 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Craney_Island_\(Virginia\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Craney_Island_(Virginia))

some time. His General watched the maneuvers of the British until they left those parts and he returned home getting a second discharge from Capt. Rogers for a three months tour of service. He does not recollect what became of it.

He remained at home until 1781 when there was another call for men. The British had collected and garrisoned themselves at Ninety Six. He entered a company commanded by his old Capt. James Turner and was marched with the company from Halifax to Salisbury, the place of rendezvous where Major Ross, a Continental officer, took the command of the men and he was marched by him immediately to Ninety Six where Gen. Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] commanded. He then was put to work laying fortifications and making entrenchments. This place was besieged [May 22-June 19, 1781]³ for some time and one or two places of minor importance were taken, when Lord Rawden [sic, Rawdon] with a strong reinforcement compelled him to raise the siege. When Gen. Greene raised the siege, he marched his men with this applicant northward and having crossed Broad River, he made a stand, the British being then on the opposite side. He then marched his men towards Camden, but before he got there he halted and sent his baggage with two or three hundred militia, of whom he was one, to the high hills of Santee. He was marched day and night over and thru dangerous routs and after a fatiguing march of several days he arrived at the place where the baggage was to be left. Greene in the meantime had fought the Battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]. He marched from the high hills of Santee to Salisbury where the prisoners taken at Eutaw had been sent, and this applicant and the militia who were with him commanded by Major Armstrong took charge of the prisoners and delivered [the prisoners] at a place called Halifax Old Town in Pittsylvania County. Thence he returned home receiving his third discharge for a tour of three months service.

He was then employed by the quarter Master William McCraw [?] to haul a load of provisions, ammunition & etc. to Salisbury. After that he was procured to take another load to Port Royal which was about two hundred miles. Then he took or was engaged to take a load of flour to headquarters then at Little York, but before he arrived Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781]. He was engaged in this business at least one month for which service he never received one cent. He was born in North Carolina, Edgecombe County. He volunteered every tour but the last, in which he was drafted. He was acquainted with Greene, Ross, Nelson and Lawson who were with the troops with whom he served. I have a record of my age now in my possession taken from my father's family bible. He has no documentary evidence except those he has named which are lost. He knows of no one in this county except Charles Pistole,⁴ who can testify to his services as stated.

I have lived in Virginia, Halifax County until 1806 when I moved to Williamson County, Tennessee, where I now reside.

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

S/ Isaac Furgurson, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court 30 August 1832

S/ Preston Hay, Clk &c

[p 12]

I Charles Pistole do hereby certify that I have been acquainted with Isaac Furgurson for 50 years, that I served one tour of 3 months with him and saw him at Ninety Six and was with him in the retreat from Ninety Six Lord Rawdon having compelled General Green to raise the siege. I was with him guarding the baggage which General Green had ordered to "High Hills of Santee" was with him and served with him at Salisbury guarding the prisoners which General Green had taken at Eutaw Springs and also from Salisbury to Halifax old town where the Prisoners were left. I have heard his declaration and knows

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html

⁴ [Charles Pistole W26894](#)

that a great part of the service he has stated is true having seen it with my own eyes. I know he has been reputed ever since the war in several neighborhoods where he has lived have been a soldier of the revolution. I know him to be a man of veracity and honor.

S/ Charles Pistole, Senr., CP his mark

S/ Preston Hay, Clk.

[Donaldson Potter, a clergyman, David Black and Thomas Hardimon gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 3]

State of Tennessee Williamson County: Circuit Court for said County July Term A.D. 1843.

On this twentieth day of July A.D. 1843 personally appeared here in open court before the Honorable Samuel Anderson. Nancy Furgurson a resident of the said County of Williamson, aged near eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth make on her oath the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision through an Act of Congress passed July 7th, 1838 entitled "An Act granting pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Isaac Furgurson who was a Private in the Army of the Revolution in the State of Virginia and whose name is upon the pension roll for the agency of West Tennessee as a Revolutionary pensioner having been placed there in the year 1833 as appears from the original pension certificate which is now in her possession and which is dated the 28th day of August A.D. 1833. A copy of the same is herewith appended and marked A and made a part of this declaration. That this said Isaac Furgurson served several tours of duty as a private in the Virginia troops as she always understood from him in his lifetime. She understood from him that he lived in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia when he entered the service and then had served a tour of nine months before his intermarriage with her. After their intermarriage he served another tour of six months. He entered the service this last time in said county of Halifax sometime in the early part of the year 1781. The declarant is unable to give a detailed statement of the incidents and events of the several tours of service of said Isaac Furgurson. But she supposes such incidents and events are fully stated in the declaration of said Isaac Furgurson which is now on file in the proper office. She further declares that she was married to said Isaac Furgurson on the 27th day of October 1779 in the said County of Halifax in the State of Virginia and that her said husband died on the 2nd day of September A.D. 1841 in the said County of Williamson. The only record she has or knows of her marriage with said Isaac Furgurson is an entry in their family bible, which entry is in the file owning words and figures "to wit Isaac Furgurson and his wife Nancy was married October 27th, 1779." This entry is as the declarant believes in the hand writing of said Isaac Furgurson.⁵ She further declares she was married to said Isaac Furgurson before he performed his last tour of service and previous to the first of January 1794, viz. at the time above stated, and she removed with her said husband from Halifax County in the State of Virginia in the year 1806 and settled in said County of Williamson in which County she continued to live with her said husband until his death at the time above stated and where she still resides. She further declares that she has never intermarried with any other since the death of her said husband but has remained and still is a widow. And that her said marriage with said Isaac Furgurson took place before he performed his last tour of service above mentioned.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before Mark L. Andrews, Clerk of said Circuit Court for said County of Williamson in Open Court.

S/ Nancy Furgurson X her mark

S/ M. L. Andrews, Clk

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service in the Virginia militia.]

⁵ This file does not contain a copy of the family record referred to by the widow.