Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Griffin W3677 Cynthia Griffin VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of North Carolina } Ss. Surry County

This day came John Griffin before us, William Thornton and Jesse Lester, two of the Justices of the peace for said County, and made Oath, in due form of Law, that he enlisted in the service of the united State of America, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, for three years, on Continental establishment in the Virginia line, fourteenth Regiment, and that before his time was out, he enlisted for during the war with great Britain, and that he continued in Service 'til the end thereof – And he further swears that he went into the service a Serjeant and came out an Ensign, and that he never has received any satisfaction for the same from the United States. John Griffi

Sworn to and subscribed before us this 23^d day of June 1796.

State of No Carolina }

Surry County } This day came Robert Quilling [Robert Quillen (Quellin) BLWt392-100] before me William Meredith a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid & made oath in due form of law that John Griffin who is mentioned in the annexed power of Attorney [to Daniel Wheaton, not transcribed] was an enlisted Soldier for during the War with great Brittain that he belonged to the Virginia line & served to his the s'd Deponents knowledge to the end of the War

() robe Quellin

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of Nov'r. AD 1797 Wm Meredith J.P

Sup'r Court of Law October Term AD 1821 State of North Carolina }

on this 9th day October 1821 personally appeared in open Court (being a Havwood County Court of record for said County John Griffin aged sixty eight years Resident in said County of Haywood, who being first duly sworn, according to Law, doth on his Oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows that he enlisted on the 8th day of February one thousand seven hundred & seventy seven, in Albermarle County in the State of Virginia, in the United States Army for two years in the Company Commanded by Capt. Moses Hawkins in the Regiment commanded by Col. Charles Lewis, and that he served in the same Regiment in or about Twenty two months, and that he then enlisted for and during the war in the Company Commanded by Capt. Thomas Holt in the Regiment commanded by Col William Davis [sic: William Davies] of the Virginia line; and that he then came home on Furlough, and at the expiration of his time of Furlough he returned to Capt. Holts company who was then commanded by Col. William Keith, was Marched to Charleston South Carolina and was there taken prisoner by the British in May [12th] 1780, and was detained as a prisoner untill June 1783 when he made his Escape, and went and applyed to Gen'l. [Henry] Knox, and got a permit to return home to Virginia, That while in service he was in the Battles of Germantown [4 Oct 1777], Brandiwine [sic: Brandywine, 411 Sep 1777], Monmouth, (& several other Scirmishes) and in the Battle of Charleston [Siege of Charleston, spring 1780], and after his return from service he had no oppertunity of obtaining a discharge; and that the date of his original declaration was he beleives the 12th day of October 1818 [see endnote], and that he has not received any pension, 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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.

Schedule of John Griffins property	
9 head of hogs Value	\$10.00
plates, knives & forks & Table furniture	5.00
two pots one oven & skillet	8.75
Carpenters tools Value	25.00
	48.75
two Beds & furniture	20.00

Sworn & subscribed this 9th day of October 1821

John Griffin

The deponent declares that by Occupation he is a Carpenter and that from age and infirmity he is unable to pursue his Trade so as to obtain a support for his family, and the state of his family as follows, Demaris a Daughter of 17 years of age Cynthia a Daughter of 15, William a Son of 12 years, Betsy a Daughter of 10, Franklin a Son of 7 years old, Patsey a Daughter of 5 years of age, all of which is now living with him

John Griffin

NOTE:

The service described by the above John Griffin in 1821 is virtually identical to the service claimed in 1840 by the widow of John Griffin in pension application W23142.

A note in the file reads: "Declaration alleged to have been made Oct. 12. 1818, is not on file, and as the pension was allowed from Oct. 9. 1821, it does not appear to have been on file at that date. V. L. M. June 18. 1918."

On 2 June 1845 Cynthia Griffin, 69, of Cherokee County NC, applied for a pension under the act of 7 July 1838, which provided for widows who married soldiers before 1 Jan 1794. She stated that she married John Griffin in the summer or fall of 1793, and he died in the fall of 1838 in Macon County NC.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed in Surry County NC on 9 Nov 1797 by John Griffin and Timothy Williams for the marriage of Griffin to Cyntha Calvert.

On 29 Dec 1851 Cynthia Griffin, 81, applied for a pension under the act of 29 July 1848, which provided for widows married up to 1800, stating that the marriage occurred in 1797, and that her husband died on 15 Sep 1838 (the 15 possibly crossed out). A document dated 25 Aug 1852 explains the discrepancy in the year of marriage and states John Griffin "obtained his pension about 1822 at which time they had six or eight children some of them Grown and Married."

A letter by Cynthia Griffin's agent dated 23 Dec 1852 refers to "Cynthia Griffin of Cherokee living with her son in Law Mr. Morgan on Valley River a mile or so below Abernathys."

Cynthia Griffin's pension certificate under the act of 29 July 1848 was issued 6 Jan 1853. On an application for bounty land dated 8 Sep 1855 Cynthia Griffin's age was said to be 84, and her maiden name was Cynthia Colbert.

The file contains a letter dated 23 Dec 1803 referring to the discovery of gold in Cabarrus County NC.