

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Solomon Burriss (Burriss, Burrus) W3936 Judith fn48NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/18/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Montgomery County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October Sessions 1832

On this second day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the County Court of Montgomery now sitting Solomon Burriss a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged about seventy-seven or eight years who being 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 is at this time as well as he can ascertain about eighty years of age that he had a record of his age which his father who is dead made, but that he does not know what has become of it as the Bible was carried to Bertie County by his father who is dead. That at the time he entered the service of the United States he lived in the County of Anson in North Carolina. He states as he is no scholar, that he does not know the time he entered the service except in this way that it was as much as eight months previous to the Battle of Stono Gap [sic, Stono Ferry] in South Carolina. That he entered the service about this time for a term of nine months in which service he was drafted or enlisted but he does not know which – about the same time there was a company drafted in Anson for a Term of five months: That he marched off with that Company into South Carolina, went by a place called the Ten Mile House and from there to Purrysburg on the Savannah River where all those who [were drafted] or enlisted for nine months joined the Continental troops and served the following named officers, viz. Captain Armstrong, Lieutenant Armstrong, Colonel Sumpter and General Lincoln that the British lay on the other side of the River Savannah and he with Lincoln's Army were detained passing up and down the River and crossing and maneuvering in that section until the battle at Stono Gap in South Carolina where the American Army was repulsed. After the battle was over this affiant states that he was sick and sent around to Charleston with the wounded where he remained about a month in the Hospital where he got permission from a Continental Captain who was in Charleston to go to General Lincoln in order to get a discharge as his Term of service had expired. Lincoln, when he came to him granted him a written discharge, which he had and kept many years, but which now by some means is lost. This affiant states that he never received any compensation for this service. He states that he has performed several other tours of three months each but that he was paid for that service. This affiant states that he is known to Thomas Motley, Nathan Auman who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of

his service as a Soldier of the Revolution. This affiant states that there is no person now by whom he is able to prove his service as a soldier of the revolution.

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

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ J. B. Martin, Clerk

S/ Solomon Burris, X his mark

[Ezekiel Morton, a clergyman, and Nathan Allman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions propounded by the court to the applicant

Q. 1st Where and in what year were you born?

A. 1. I believe I was born in the year 175 [text obliterated by an ink blot]. I am now 80 years old to the best of my recollection – in the County of Anson in North Carolina.

Q. 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

A. 2. I have no record of my age. My father [text obliterated by an ink blot] my age set down in his Bible and he carried it to Bertie County in this state and has long since [text obliterated] – and I know not what has become of the record.

Q. 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

A. 3. I lived in the County of Anson in this state when I entered the service and since that time I lived in Montgomery where I have lived for upwards of forty-five years.

Q. 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

A. 4. I was drafted I think – although I do not know the distinction between drafting and enlisting I was drawn from amongst the men of my County for a term of nine months.

Q. 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

A. 5. After I joined the Army of General Lincoln at Purrysburg I was commanded by Lieutenant & Captain Armstrong – and Colonel Sumpter also commanded a Regiment but as to the names or numbers of the regiments I have no recollection at this time if I ever knew. For the General circumstances of my service they are fully detailed in my declaration.

Q. 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

A. 6. I received a Discharge from the under the hand of General Lincoln at his own residence after I had been in the hospital at Charleston. I Captain a long time but lost it and cannot account for its loss.

Q. 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

A. 7. I am known to Thomas Motley and Nathan Allman who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ J. B. Martin, Clerk

S/ Solomon Burris, X his mark

[fn p. 21]

The Amended Declaration of Solomon Burroughs in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June seventh 1832

Personally appeared before me Solomon Efir a justice of the peace for the County of Montgomery in the State of North Carolina Solomon Burriss who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith as follows viz. that in filing his first declaration for a pension he declared for nine months service only which is the time detailed in his first statement notwithstanding he had served other tours of service both before and after the nine months tour for which he claimed – but from the fact of having received pay for his services in the past and also for the reason that on account of old age and the consequent loss of memory he was not able to make a full and satisfactory statement of many facts relating to the tours which he has omitted to claim for he thought proper only to claim for one tour of nine months. He states that he is still unable to give a particular account of these different tours of service as he is of the nine months tour but that he will at it [several indecipherable words], that he has served two three months tours before he served the tour of nine months and one three months tour afterwards. He states that he lived in Anson County during the whole of the Revolution and the first tour of service was for three months in the early part of the war when he was drafted, the name of the Captain he does not recollect, but that he was commanded by one Colonel Davidson and marched by him with a considerable number of men besides this deponent to Salisbury in North Carolina and from thence to Fayetteville in order to quell a great number of Scotch Tories who were collecting in that quarter when Colonel Davidson came to Fayetteville he remained there while another considerable number of American troops who had marched down from the upper part of the State [word obliterated] on down the River and took up at a bridge where the Tories and the American forces had an engagement and the Tories were entirely routed [word or words obliterated] that were not killed or taken prisoner were taken to the Sentinel by Colonel Davidson's men. After the expiration of the three months tour for which this deponent had entered the service the whole of the men from Anson County were disbanded and returned home – they received no written but verbal Discharges.

Not long afterwards this Deponent volunteered his services and he joined an Army coming from Virginia and marched with them to Camden in South Carolina, where he remained for three months, at a meal in the neighborhood of Camden. He is entirely unable to state the names of a single officer as they were all strangers to him and if he ever knew he has now entirely forgotten their names. After the expiration of his second tour he was paid the cash in hand for his services and was permitted to return home without having received any written Discharge. He next served his nine months tour as before stated: and afterwards about three years as well as he can recollect (for he was to be cleared from service three years after the expiration of his nine months tour) he entered in a volunteer under one Captain Boger who raised a company of men in Anson County and marched them to Wilmington in North Carolina. Boger's Company joined General Rutherford's Army. Rutherford's Army remained in the neighborhood of Wilmington marching backwards & forwards in order to keep the Tories from joining the British who were then laying in Wilmington. The British left a considerable number of American prisoners in Wilmington after they evacuated the place, and a great many of them were confined with the smallpox. This last Tour of service was near the breaking up of the war, and when the three months had expired for which he had entered, he returned home and never afterwards served. This Deponent states that he is not able to give as satisfactory & full accounts of these three tours as the nine months as that made from its lengths [several indecipherable words] impression upon his mind, However he is now certain and always has been that he was engaged as a soldier of the revolution 18 months in all, viz. one nine months tour and three three months tours for which he claims a pension. The Deponent states that there is no person by

whom he can prove his services except his own oath, and that he has given as full a statement as he is able. That although he recollects the number of his tours of service and [several indecipherable words] yet he cannot state all relating to them or their particular dates.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of August 1833

S/ Solomon Efir, JP

S/ Solomon Burriss, X his mark

[fn p. 12: on May 2, 1851 in Stanley County North Carolina, Judith Burriss aged 85, filed for her widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Solomon Burriss a pensioner at the rate of \$60 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him December 12, 1784; that he died May 21st, 1845; and that she remains his widow.]

[family record: the veteran and his wife had the following children according to the Bible record appearing in the file at fn pp. 3-4:

Taylor born December 28, 1784

William born August 23, 1786

Gracy born July 5, 1788

Joshua born June 4, 1790

Elizabeth born June 2, 1793

Judith born December 16, 1795

Solomon born August __, 1800

Ann born February 3, 1804

Obedience born February 6, 1808]

[fn p. 25: Joshua Burriss gave testimony in Stanley County North Carolina on December 26, 1857 verifying the above family record.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 18 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]