

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Edward Couch R2359

fn23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/9/10

[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 Orange County

On this the 29th day of May A.D. 1844, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of said County, Mary Couch, a resident of New Hope in said County, aged eighty-eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836:

That she is the widow of Edward Couch, deceased of said County of Orange, who during the war of the Revolution, served the United States as hereinafter set forth:

1. The said Mary Couch Declarant as aforesaid, states upon her said oath that she has reason to believe and does believe that in the fall of 1778 there was a draft for Militia men to serve the United States a tour of five months, when the Declarant's husband the aforesaid Edward Couch was drafted for said tour.

The company to which said Edward Couch was attached was commanded, to the best of her recollection and belief by Captain Thompson – Lock was Colonel: said troops rendezvoused at Hillsboro in the aforesaid County of Orange, on or about the 15th day of October 1778, were marched to Salisbury, to Charlotte, thence to Purrysburg on the Savannah River, thence to General Rutherford's Camp – thence to the Cheraw Hills – and at the Cheraws was discharged and returned home, having served the United States in the above Tour of five months as a private of infantry in the militia.

Her deceased husband, she thinks had a discharge, but does not know what has become of it. In all of the above tour, the said Declarant has reason to believe that her Deceased husband was in a legally organized Corps, and called into service by competent authority: This tour the Declarant proves by the affiant John Dolley<sup>1</sup> whose affidavit is hereto annexed and marked "A."

2. The said Mary Couch Declarant as aforesaid, further states upon her said oath that, sometime in the fall of 1781, about three years after her marriage with said Edward Couch, there was a draft for militia men to guard the Town of Hillsboro in the aforesaid County, – the length of this service under said draft was three months – and the object of it was to guard the prisoners and military in said Town.

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<sup>1</sup> [John Dolley S6802](#)

In this tour the aforesaid Edward Couch was in the Company commanded by Captain Lowe, \_\_\_ Taylor Colonel. This tour commenced a few days after Hillsboro was captured by the British and Tory forces under Colonel Fanning in September 1781 – about the 15 of September 1781 and terminated 15 December following: In duration three months. At the expiration of this tour, the said Edward Couch received a discharge from his Colonel (Taylor) but the Declarant does not know what has become of it. In all of the aforesaid tour of three months the said Edward Couch, served the United States, as a private of Infantry in the Militia.

In this tour the Declarant has reason to believe and does believe and does believe that her Deceased husband, the aforesaid Edward Couch was in a legally organized Corps, called into service by Competent Authority.

This tour is proven by the affiant James Riggs<sup>2</sup> whose affidavit is hereto annexed and marked "B."

She further declares that she was married to the said Edward Couch in the month of August 1778. That she has a "family Record" and is as follows, to wit:

"Edward Couch was born the 31st of July 1761 and married to Mary Whitworth the \_\_\_ day of"

(1<sup>st</sup> Child)-- "Elizabeth Couch daughter of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born June 26 1779 (departed this life)"

See "Family Record"

that her husband the aforesaid Edward Couch, died on the fifth day of February in the year 1831, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

The Declarant further states upon her said oath that from old age and infirmity of body is unable to attend Court to make this Declaration. And that during the revolutionary war she lived in the aforesaid County of Orange.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written

S/ Jas. N. Patterson, JP

S/ Mary Couch, X her mark

[fn p. 9: family record]

Thomas Whitworth the elder was born in King William County in the year of our Lord 17 ss 26 June 20th and married to Elizabeth Southerland the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ departed this life 4th of July 1802

Elizabeth Southerland wife of Thomas Whitworth the elder was born the 2nd of February 1727

Samuel Whitworth son of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 14th of December 1745

Thomas Whitworth Junior son of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 29th of June 1748

John Whitworth son of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 17th of October 1759

Levina Whitworth Daughter of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 9th of March 1762

William Whitworth son of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 8th of May 1764

Sarah Whitworth daughter of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the ninth September 1766

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<sup>2</sup> [James Riggs S9068](#)

Southerland Whitworth son of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 24th of December 1769

Rebeckah Whitworth daughter of Thomas Whitworth and Elizabeth his wife was born the 17th of the January 1774

Edward Couch was born the 31st of July 1761 and married to the Mary Whitworth the \_\_\_ day of

—  
Elizabeth Couch daughter of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born June 26th 1779  
(departed this life) –

Margarett Couch daughter of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born October the 4th 1780

William Couch son of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born May the 26th 1782 (departed this life)

Ann Southerland Couch and Thomas Whitworth Couch (Twins) was born June the 4th 1784

Thomas died –

Asa Couch son of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born February 4th 1786

Elijah Couch son of Edward Couch & Mary his wife was born April the 19th 1788

John Couch son of Edward Couch & Mary his wife was born February 1<sup>st</sup> 1790

Sampson Couch son of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born February the 1<sup>st</sup> 1792

Polly Couch Daughter of Edward Couch and Mary his wife was born March the 9th 1794

Sally Couch daughter of Edward and Mary his wife was born the 25th of June 1796

Edward Nelson son of Archibald Nelson and Peggy his wife was born the 6th of May 1802

William Couch departed this life the 23rd of January 1803

Edward Couch departed this life 1st of February 1831

Sally Davis his daughter departed this life 9th of October 1831

Asa Couch son of Edward Couch went to his frad [?] the 19th of March 1805

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 12th of September 1843 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County, James Riggs a resident of said County of Orange, aged 83 years, an United States pensioner, who being first duly sworn according to law states that sometime in 1781 there was a draft for three months militia man to joined General Butler's Army – about this time Colonel Fanning surprised & captured the Town of Hillsboro in the aforesaid County of Orange – a draft was had to raise men to guard said Town – when this deponent was drafted out of his Company to guard said town. That he entered upon this service as private of Infantry in a company of Militia under the command of Captain Lowe. Taylor was Colonel. Served in guarding said Town of Hillsboro as aforesaid from about the 15th of September 1781 to the 15th day of December following, being a three months tour of duty & was then discharged by Colonel Taylor.

In all of said tour, this deponent remembers that Edward Couch of the aforesaid County was a private of infantry in said Captain Lowe's Company & served all of said tour with us.

This deponent understands that said Edward Couch is dead, and that his widow Mary Couch is applying for a pension for the Revolutionary Services of said Edward Couch, and further this Deponent saith not.

S/ James Riggs, 2 his mark

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 28th of February 1844 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the

acting Justices of the peace in and for said County John Dolley a resident of said County and an United States pensioner who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath that in the year of 1778 there was a draft for five months men when this affiant was drafted for and did serve all of said tour in the United Service.

This affiant states that on or about the middle of October 1778 said tour commenced. Thompson was Captain. Lewis was Colonel part of said tour, as was also Locke.

Rendezvoused in the Town of Hillsboro in the County aforesaid was marched to Salisbury, thence to Charlotte, to Purrysburg on the Savannah – and thence to Rutherford's Camp on Black Swamp – and at Cheraws was discharged and returned home in all of said tour this affiant remembers that Edward Couch of New Hope in the aforesaid County was a private of Infantry with this affiant, and was discharged at the expiration of said five months tour at Cheraw Hills as aforesaid and further this affiant saith not.

S/ John Dolley, X his mark