

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Mullins (Mullin, Mullen) R7483 Sarah Mullins f80NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 6/12/17

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 9]

State of North Carolina, Wilkes County} SS

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year 1845 Personally appeared before me William Horton one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Sarah Mullins late a resident of the adjoining County of Ashe & now a resident of the adjoining County of Caldwell aged 82 years the second day of July next who first being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 7<sup>th</sup> 1838 entitled an act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of William Mullins who was a private in the Army of the revolution as a regular soldier & also as a militia man his first enlistment was for two years & six months as she has always understood & has good reason to believe. She does not know the date of his enlistment but respectfully refers to the testimony of Flower Mullins<sup>1</sup> who was with him & enlisted at the same time and in the same company, and he served as she has heard him say under the command of Captain Pearce [George Pearce], Major Thomas Owens, Captain Davidson she has heard him say that he was in the battle near Savannah Georgia, also at the battle or skirmish at Jacksonborough. She has repeatedly heard him & his brother Flower talking over their services, that they served their first tours together, as regards superior officers. She has heard him speak of being under the command of Count d'Estaing, General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] & Others. She has also understood that her husband was considerably over a year in the service. She believes & so declares a year & six months or thereabouts. That he lay three months under the care of the Army Surgeon who finally gave up his care as hopeless & he was discharged and after undergoing great fatigue & anguish he arrived home & lay at least six months confined with his wound which was in the knee. He was afterwards a soldier in the militia but of the extent of that service she does not know. She had since his death two discharges which he obtained as a soldier while in the Army of the revolution and when she heard of the passage of the act of 1836, she took them & placed them in the hands of Col. John Harding of Ashe County for the purpose of showing to the Honorable Lewis Williams which discharges are now lost or mislaid so they cannot be found, See Colonel Harding's statement under oath. She has therefore no documentary evidence of her said husband's service but respectfully refers to the history of Flower Mullins.

She further declares that she was married to the said Will Mullins in the County of Guilford State of North Carolina by a justice of the peace by the name of Clarke they were married by publication. No documentary evidence was ever kept of the marriage. She was married in the month of March 1782. She was born 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1762 and was 20 years old the next July after her marriage. She had seven children by her husband William Mullins viz. Elizabeth,

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1 [Flower Mullins S1557](#)

Mary, Jesse, John, Franky, Mark & Fulton they continued to reside in Caswell County State of North Carolina until some time after the war when they moved to Ashe County where they continued to reside until her husband's death which took place in the month of March 1811. She knows of no living witness by whom to prove her Marriage except Mary Jacks to whose affidavit she respectfully refers. She was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated. In correction of the foregoing declaration as regards residence she states that after leaving Caswell County they settled & resided several years in Wilkes County after which they moved to Ashe where they resided at the time of her husband's death & where she has resided ever since until it few months past.

Sworn to & subscribed on the day and year above written before me.

S/ William Horton, JP

S/ Sarah Mullins, X her mark

[p 11: James Brown gave an affidavit attesting the marriage of William and Sarah Mullins.]

[p 16: Mary Jacks, sister of William Mullins, made an affidavit in Surry County, NC, in 1844, aged 78, supporting Sarah's claim. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 2]

State of North Carolina Watauga County

On this fifth day of November A.D. 1851 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting for said County and State Jesse Mullen a resident of said County & State aged Sixty years, who being by said Court first duly sworn according to law in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1838, entitled an "Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows (and their legal heirs)"; that he is the son of William Mullen who was a private in Captain Callendar's Company, and the name of the Colonel who commanded the Regiment he cannot recollect, belonging to the State line or State service of North Carolina in the Revolutionary War; that his father William Mullen (he thinks) entered said service in the year 1777, and continued in said service, for many years, at times coming home & staying a short time, and then returning to his post again; That he so continued through the whole war, and was a portion of this period of service under the command of one Captain Bethel and he thinks in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lock (sic, Francis Locke) or Lopp, and that he was in a Battle fought at a place called Hanging Rock and another by the name of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] and another one that he cannot recollect the name of; That he states these facts merely from the recollection of his father's conversations on that subject; he being a man of no education at all, and that he has no record of said facts in his possession. Deponent further states that his Mother Sarah Mullen the widow of said William Mullen made a declaration in her lifetime, claiming this pension, and which was sent to the Commissioner of Pensions, and being defective was returned but, falling into the hands of one William Hagler, he never returned it, and now refuses to deliver said papers into the hands of the heirs, and on that account he being administrator of the estate of said Sarah Mullen deceased, is compelled to make and swear to another Declaration, which may not conform in every particular with the former Declaration as every fact is stated from memory: That the last time he heard from all the children of Sarah and William Mullen, there were five living and that was two years ago viz. John Mullen of the State of Indiana, DeMarcus Mullen of Missouri, Mary Hodges of Watauga County N. C., Elizabeth Hagler of Caldwell County N. C. and Jesse Mullen of Watauga County N. C.

Declarant further states that his mother Sarah Mullen widow of William Mullen was

married to the aforesaid William Mullen in the County of Guilford and State of North Carolina he thinks in the year 1788, but the month and day he cannot now recollect, that said William Mullen died on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of March A.D. 1810, and that Sarah Mullen his widow and the mother of the Declarant died on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1849 as will appear by accompanying testimony, and that they were not married prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place before the first day of January 1794. That it is his candid opinion that his father William Mullen served very near all the time that the Revolutionary War continued in the State of North Carolina and that his Mother's name before her marriage was Sarah Triplet, and that William Mullen was at his death about 65 years of age. He further states that his father William Mullen had at his death two or three discharges and another paper showing where he was enlisted and the names of his officers, which are now all lost or mislaid, and that these were all the papers that said Mullen had at his death relating to his Revolutionary Service. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court on the day and year above written.

S/ Jesse Mullen, X his mark

[p 4: Jonathan Horton gives an affidavit stating that 15 or so year earlier he saw at Jesse Mullen's house 2 or 3 discharges given William Mullen for service in the Revolution.]

[p 6: Phineas Horton and Reuben Hartly gave an affidavit as to the reputation in his neighborhood of the revolutionary services of William Mullen.]

[p 27]

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County

This day personally appeared Flower Mullins before me John Ball an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and after being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he is upwards of Eighty-Two years of age and that at about the age seventeen himself and his brother William Mullins enlisted (at Guilford Court House in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina) under Major Thomas Owens and they was then placed under the command of Captain Davidson and served in the Company of Captain Davidson for the space of five or six months and was then placed under the command of Captain George Pierce [this name is spelled Pearce in Flower Mullins' application] under whom they served during the Siege and Battle of Savannah and in the engagement at Jacksonborough, that they enlisted for the space of two years and six months and was together under the command of Generals Count d'Estaing, Lincoln and Marion [Francis Marion] and Colonel Tenon [sic, Hugh Tinnen] together with the inferior officers above named, and that him and his brother William Mullins served together in the Army of the revolution under the above named officers from the time that he enlisted for the space of something over 12 months and after serving in the two engagements above alluded to his brother William Mullins accidentally cut his leg with a tomahawk which caused a running sore for some time when the Surgeon pronounced him incurable he was accordingly discharged and sent home and after he went home his wound was cured and he intermarried with a lady of the name of Sally Triplett with whom he lived with till the time of his death by whom he had several children deponent does not recollect the date of the year in which they listed [sic enlisted] but believes it to have been about the year 1776 or 1777, but from the long lapse of time is not positive about the year and that William Mullins was about four years older than deponent and that the said William Mullins was married to the said Sally Triplett about one year after he returned home from the Army, in the County of Guilford & State of North Carolina by Justice of the peace by the name of John Clark and that of personal knowledge he knows that the said Sally Mullins widow of William Mullins formerly Sally Triplett to be more than 80 years of age and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed this 13 day of December in the year of our Lord 1843 before me.  
S/ John Ball, JP

S/ Flower Mullins, X his mark

[p 61]

State of North Carolina, Ashe County

Be it known that on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 1844 before the Subscriber a justice of the peace in & for the said County personally appeared John Harding and made oath in due form of law & under oath states as follows: that Mrs. Sarah Mullins brought his papers to me several years ago & requested that I look out [missing text] revolutionary discharges & for her & get Lewis Williams a Member of Congress to try to get her placed on the Pension List. I recollect there was one or two discharges from revolutionary Officers as they purported to be. I do not recollect the date, time of service or the names of the officers who assigned them, the papers had a very old appearance, I don't know what has become of them. I might or might not have given them to Mr. Williams. I have no recollection to that effect. I do not recollect of having returned them to Mrs. Mullins who is an old respectable lady a neighbor [of] mine. I have made diligent search but cannot find them. I further would state that I do not think that it would be prudent for the old lady to attempt to go to the court house it being a rough mountainous road.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year last above written before me.

S/ Reuben Hartley, JP

S/ Jno Harding {Seal}

[p 20: On June 26, 1854 in Watauga County North Carolina, Mary Hodges, daughter of Sarah Mullins, executed a power of attorney whereby her attorney was empowered to pursue the pension due her mother. She signed this document with her mark.]