

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Irby Phillips R8191

Elizabeth

f53VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/18/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County

On this \_\_day of February A.D. 1833 personally appeared in a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Rockingham aforesaid, Irby Phillips a resident of said County of Rockingham age seventy years on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he was born in the city of Richmond State of Virginia, but was raised in Charles City County of the same State. That he volunteered in the militia of that County as a minute man in the year 1776 (when he was about the age of 14 years) and continued enrolled in that capacity until the close of the war. He was first called out soon after his enrollment and marched under Captain Colyer Harrison to Hampton Virginia and joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Royster – Major Stith Hardeman was also attached to the same Regiment – during this tour he was engaged in watching Lord Dunmore, who was then lying with his ships in Hampton Rhodes and that he is Company had frequent skirmishes with foraging parties from these vessels. In this tour he served as a private three months. His second tour was under Captain William Ryal also of Charles City County – in this tour [text obliterated by an ink blot] Company was principally engaged in supporting [text obliterated by an ink blot] insurrection of the Negroes and that and the adjoining Counties and that he served in this Company as a private three months. He was next called out under Captain Harrod and stationed at Charles City Court House under the command of Major Gregory, for the protection of that place, but was at length surrounded in the night by the British light Horse and owing to the Cowardice of Harrod and Gregory (both of whom was afterwards disgraced) most of them men was cut to pieces or drowned in a neighboring mill pond. In this Company he served as a private at least two months before its dispersion by the enemy as aforesaid. His next tour was in Captain Edward Maynard's Company which after joining Major William White's command at Charles City Court House, marched near to Bermuda [Bermuda] Hundred to watch the British – in this Service he was occasionally marched into Henrico and Prince George Counties and had frequent skirmishes with parties of the Enemy and on one occasion took two boats and killed and took 84 men – this affair took place off to Bermuda Hundred at a place called Shearly Hundred [Shirley Hundred]. He was afterwards taken prisoner by the British light Horse and placed on board a prison ship at Bermuda Hundred from whence he made his escape in a small boat. In this tour including his imprisonment, he served as a private at least three months and a half. His next tour was under the same Captain William Ryal under whom he had formerly served, and was marched to Chesterfield Court-House where they joined General Nelson's Command and was then marched to Osborne's where they joined Baron Steuben and then marched to Petersburg where they had a

sharp engagement [April 25, 1781] with the British under General Phillips [William Phillips] – but had to retreat. In this tour he served as a private three months. His sixth and last tour he marched from Charles City Court-House to Little York under the command of Major Stith Hardeman, and there joined the Brigade of General Thomas Nelson and was before that place during the siege. After the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] he remained at little York a considerable time and was engaged in leveling the entrenchments, moving Garrison from on board British ships, firing ball &c. In this tour he served at least three months. He states that besides these specified tours he served several others of shorter duration, one under Captain Ryal and marched to Sandy Point on James River and was engaged in guarding a vessel loaded with Flower [Flour] intended for the American Army at Valley Forge. This vessel was blockaded by the enemy below who made many attempts to cut her loose but was beat off nine or ten times in the vessel ultimately sailed [?] and got out: In this duty he served at least two months. He was frequently called out during the war to join various reconnoitering parties in which nothing particular happened by which this Service can be designated nor can he recollect the names of all the officers under whom he served while performing this duty. That he has been afflicted with a paralysis for the last twenty years and his memory somewhat impaired but he is positive and entirely certain, that he was in actual service during the War the Revolution at least two years, that he has no written discharge or other document of this Service – that he knows of no one in this State by whom he can prove his Service – that he is unable to travel to Virginia where there was many alive with whom he served some 12 or 13 years ago when he was last there but does not know that any of them are alive at this time. That he knows of no other person with whom he served by the name Phillips except his Father James Phillips, with whom he served during the whole War and in the same Companies – James Phillips has been dead nearly 30 years.

He relinquishes all claim to a pension or annuity but the present, and declares that his name is not on any pension Roll of any State whatever.

The following interrogatories were propounded by the Court to Irby Phillips an applicant for a pension under the Act of 1832.

Q. Where were you born

Ansr. I was born in Richmond and raised in Charles City County State of Virginia.

Ques. When and in what year were you born

Ansr. I was born in the city of Richmond Virginia on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 1762

Ques. Have you any record of your age?

Ans. I have none in this State but my age is recorded in a Bible in Charles City County Virginia

Ques. Where were you living when called into the service – were you drafted or did you volunteer – or serve as a Substitute. –

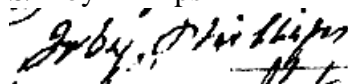
Ans. I volunteered in the latter part of the year 1776 as a minute man and remained in that capacity during the whole war – I lived at the time in Charles City County Virginia and remained in that County about 3 years after the close of the War when I moved to this State. –

Ques. Can you state precisely the different periods of time you entered the service. –

Ans. I cannot state them precisely – my first tour commenced in the latter part of the year 1776 and the different tours above stated was at short intervals between that time and the surrender of Cornwallis at Little York as above stated.

Sworn and subscribed to this day and year above written.

S/ Irby Phillips



[John L Wilson, a clergyman, and Robert Martin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

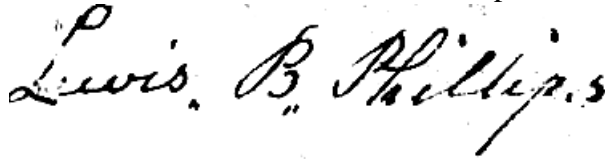
[f p. 8: On May 27, 1841 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Elizabeth Phillips, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act as the widow of Irby Phillips a pensioner at the time of his death at the rate of \$65 per annum for his service in the revolution; that her husband died August 10, 1838; that she married him when she was about 15 years old and that she is now past 65 years of age; that she married her husband in the Wake County North Carolina; that they were married at the house of Frances Bledsoe in the spring she thinks the month of May 1791 by Richard Banks, Esquire; that her husband removed to Raleigh North Carolina, from thence to Hillsboro and from thence to Rockingham County North Carolina where she has continued to live for the last 23 years.

S/ Betsy Philips

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Betsy Phillips". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

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[f p. 14: On September 25, 1852 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Lewis B Phillips a resident of said County filed a claim stating that he is the son of Elizabeth Phillips, widow of Irby Phillips a revolutionary war pensioner; that his mother applied for a pension under the 1838 act and he has been informed that the pension should have been allowed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lewis B. Phillips". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

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[Facts in file: the veteran is said to have married in wake County North Carolina in the spring of 1791 Elizabeth Moore; Elizabeth died January 2, 1845 survived by Lewis B Phillips.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$65 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 19 in the half months in the Virginia service.]