

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Hughes S31764

f53SC

Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 10/8/08 & 1/12/11 & 11/25/21 & 11/9/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 3]

State of Alabama, Greene County} SS

On this 20th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before Anderson Crenshaw, Judge of the circuit court of the County of Greene aforesaid now sitting, Joseph Hughes, a resident citizen of the County of Pickens in said state, aged Seventy one years sometime in October next, who being first 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 was born in the year 1760 or 1761 in the place now called Chester district South Carolina; previous to his birth his parents removed there as refugees from some Indian invasion and about the time he was born he understood that General Francis Marion entered into a treaty of peace with those hostile Indians and his parents then removed back to their farm on Broad River in Union District South Carolina (then called 96 District). He was born in October and has a family register of his age. He entered the service in the militia of South Carolina at the commencement of the war between 14 and 15 years of age; attached himself to and was enrolled on Captain Joseph Jolly's company roll at the Seneca town on Seneca River having gone to that place with a detachment from that place for provisions for that place. He marched under Captain Jolly of Colonel John Thomas' [John Thomas, Sr's] Regiment, General Williamson's [Andrew Williamson's] Brigade, soon after his arrival to the middle settlements of the Cherokee Indians and thence down to the Tennessee valleys Destroying and Burning all of the towns we found. He recollects being present at the burning of Eastatoco, Qualatchee, Toxaway the valley towns and Tugalo on the River Tugalo. They were in but one engagement after he joined the Brigade & the night before his brigade lay in sight of a brigade from North Carolina. He recollects that a Colonel Neille [sic, Thomas Neel] commanded a regiment, Colonel Thomas another and that there were two or three more regiments along. This expedition began and ended in the latter part of 1776¹ as well as he recollects and it was from the time he Joined the Army on Seneca about 14 weeks. Soon after his return he was sometime in the service in Georgia without being in any engagement when General Williamson commanded an expedition to Florida.² He thinks in that expedition Major Brandon [Thomas Brandon] commanded Colonel Thomas' Regiment and he is

¹ https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

² Third Florida expedition: Spring 1778 [Robert Howe, Commanding Officer]
<https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/revolutionary-war-georgia#Three-Invasions-of-Florida>

not positive whether Captain Jolly or Captain Palmer [Joshua Palmer] commanded the Company that He went in. In that expedition tho he believes Palmer did. In passing Georgia his militia joined Williamson and the only Georgia officer he recollects was Colonel Twigg [John Twiggs] who commanded in some way. This expedition was as well as he recollects in 1778 and lasted from early in the spring until late in the fall. The Army suffered much from heat, hunger and thirst; had no engagement except one skirmish on the Satilles [Satilla River] with an infamous Tory (commonly known by the name of) Burntfoot Brown [Thomas Brown] and his party. In this expedition he recollects that Colonel Goodin [? Lt. Col. Robert Goodwin of the Camden District Regiment?] Commanded a regiment from Santee. After the return from the Florida expedition, he was stationed at Augusta Georgia under the same General Williamson and Brandon Colonel and same Captain. He remained there three months. The next instance of service was under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] from the North who commanded the expedition against a Stono [Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779]³ in South Carolina. He was in that engagement, a Desperate one. His regiment was commanded by Brandon, then a Colonel and his company by Captain Palmer. Many were killed in this engagement and neither side had the advantage. Not much good was however done for our cause. After his return he was detached to Charleston and stationed two months at Ten Mile branch under Lt. Col. Steen [James Steen] who commanded Brandon's regiment at that place. There was also stationed here a regiment from Chester district South Carolina. At the expiration of his time, the troops were discharged and soon after he was called out to defend Charleston. But by the time Brandon's regiment reached Congaree River news came that Charleston was Defeated [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780].⁴ This was in May 1780 about this time he received a commission from Governor J. Rullidge [John Rutledge] of first lieutenant in Capt. Benjamin Jolly's Company & in Brandon's Regiment, Spartan Regt., 2nd division which commission he lost by getting his house burned some time in 1788 or 9 after the war & with it lost many valuable papers for at that time he was a sheriff for Union District So. Carolina this applicant here states that Capt. Joseph Jolly Died some Time previous to the fall of Charleston & Palmer succeeded him & as he now recollects some time in January or February 1780 Palmer resigned & Benj. Jolly [Benjamin Jolly] was Commissioned Captain & this applicant Lieutenant under him about the middle of February 1780. Then after the news of the fall of Charleston reached Col. Brandon he marched to Camden for the purpose of securing ammunition & soon after was defeated by the Tories commanded by Bill Cunningham [William Cunningham] & one Nealy Tory Colonels.⁵ He was in the Battle & escaped the Tories with his Captain, Colonel & many of the soldiers—who Immediately flew to North Carolina for refuge with all the Georgia & So. Carolina Troops who refused protection under the British & met on the Catawba River ^{near Tuckaseegee ford} & elected Thomas Sumter our General from thence we marched to Ramsour's (a Tory) for the purpose of Taking some Tories but before our arrival the Rowan militia of N. Carolina had defeated the Tories.⁶ He then continued under the command of Sumter & was in the engagement at Rocky Mount⁷ & at the hanging rock.⁸ In the engagement at Rocky Mount Col. Andrew Neille [Andrew Neel] was killed he commanded ^{on that day} the same regiment from York district that had

³ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html

⁴ Battle of Charleston <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

⁵ Brandon's Defeat, June 8, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_brandons_camp.html

⁶ Ramseur's Mill, June 20, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ramseurs_mill.html

⁷ July 30, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_rocky_mount.html

⁸ August 6, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

previously been commanded by his father. Also Capt. Burns fell of a regiment as well as he recollects called Hayes' regiment & at the hanging rock, Capt. McLure [Major John McClure was mortally wounded] was killed & Major Richard Winn was wounded for this applicant & Capt. John McCool [John McCool] Bore him from the field. Captain Otterson [Samuel Otterson] & Davidson both of Brandon's regiment were wounded of which Davidson Died. He was then soon after in the Battle at Musgrove's Mill⁹ & King's Mountain.¹⁰ Col. Clarke [Elijah Clarke] of Georgia commanded at Musgrove's & Capt. Shad Inman [Shadrach Inman] was killed. He received 7 shots from the Tories at King's Mountain. General Williams [James Williams] of S. Carolina was killed after the British raised their flag to surrender by a fire from some Tories. Col. Campbell [William Campbell] then ordered a fire on the Tories & we killed near a hundred of them after the surrender of the British & could hardly be restrained from killing the whole of them. The next Battle he was in was at Hammond's Old Store.¹¹ Defeated the Tories & took 50 odd prisoners besides a good many killed & wounded. The next Battle he was in was under General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] at the Cowpens¹² & that day he commanded as Captain Jolly having been attached to Col. Washington's [William Washington's] Troop for some purpose. The events of that day are well known to the department & better to this applicant who bears the scars which he received from a stroke across his right hand from one of Tarleton's Troops soon after this He was Commissioned Captain & continued in the service until the close of the war signed by Governor J. Rulledge of So. Carolina the next engagement of note that he was in was under General Greene [Nathanael Greene] at the Eutaw Springs¹³ in So. Carolina. This was the severest engagement he ever was in being a General engagement. At this engagement Col. Stewart [Lt. Col. Alexander Stewart] Commanded the British & Tories & the command of the Americans devolved on General Greene, Cols. Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] & Washington commanded their Troop or horse—General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] commanded the North Carolina militia as well as he recollects. General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] Commanded the refugee militia of South Carolina (& Georgia probably) Major Benjamin Jolly (formerly this affiant's Captain) Commanded Brandon's Regiment. From this Time to the close of the war he does not recollect any general engagement that he was in. He continued continually in the service against the Tories with whom he had many skirmishes he well recollects with them tho he cannot refer to many of notoriety. He continued in the command as captain he thinks about two years & something over. He is certain his captain's commission bore date in 1781 but it was burnt with his house as before mentioned. He is certain he was Captain at the Eutaw Springs & continued so from that to the end of the war. Previous to his entering the service he resided with his father on the farm above alluded to and at the close of the service he returned to said farm where he lived until 1825. This farm fell to him after the war as the oldest son of his father who was murdered by the Tories in the latter end of the war. From that farm in 1825 he removed to Greene County in Alabama and settled near the line between Greene and Pickens [counties] and in the fall of 1829 he removed across the line into Pickens County where he now resides. He came to this county for the purpose of obtaining the Testimony of Major Otterson & Henry Story who were frequently in the service with him in the revolution. In reference to going to Pickens [County] besides said Otterson and Story he

⁹ August 18, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_musgroves_mill.html

¹⁰ October 7, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

¹¹ December 29, 1780 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hammonds_store.html

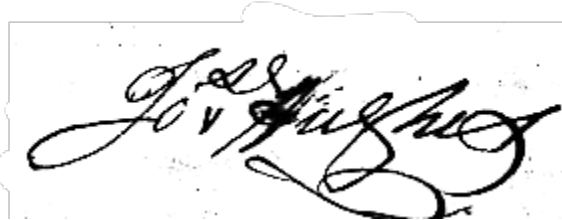
¹² January 17, 1781 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

¹³ September 8, 1781 https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

believes that Jesse Gordon and Benjamin Anderson both knew of his services in the revolution. They were not old enough to be in the service. He states that he was in many different battles and skirmishes that he could not give a correct account of and many that he could besides what are enumerated if it were necessary to state them and in answer to further questions propounded to him by the court he states that he entered the Army and served as a volunteer all of the time. All the other interrogatories are answered in the foregoing statement except the question relating to his veracity. To that he answers that he thinks Parsons Kenedy, Gray and Haddon could testify as to his reputation as a man of truth for veracity and their belief of his services in 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 (in the Union).

S/ Jos. Hughes

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jos. Hughes", enclosed within a faint rectangular border.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Attest: James Yeates, Clk.

[p 10: Robert W. B. Kennedy, a clergyman, and Isaac C. Snedecor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8]

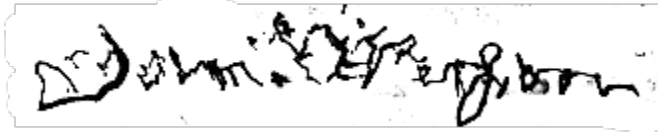
Samuel Otterson¹⁴ being also duly sworn in open court according to law deposeth & saith that he knew Joseph Hughes whose name appears to the above application for a pension from the time he was a boy & that they were both in an engagement together against the Cherokee Indians near the Tennessee valleys & he thinks it was the first either of them ever was in he was with said Hughes at the ten mile Branch In the service as above stated & saw him while in the service at Augusta above mentioned he was with him at the Battle at Rocky Mount & at the Hanging rock where this affiant got wounded & also in many skirmishes with the British Indians & Tories in one of which this deponent got a slight wound in the chin & said Hughes was shot through the hair and someone else received a hurt on the cheek supposed to have been the same Ball & from this deponent's intimate acquaintance with said Hughes (his father ~~Brothers~~ & Uncles who were killed in defense of their country in the revolutionary war) he fully believes he was in all the engagements & rendered all the service he mentioned. I recollect distinctly that he commanded as a Lieutenant for some time & believes said Hughes was promoted & commanded as Captain but does not know how long -- he states that he has explicit confidence in all the statements of said Hughes & from his Knowledge of him & his reputation Generally for truth he believes him worthy of full faith & belief upon oath.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid,

Attest S/ James Yeats, Clerk

S/ Samuel Otterson

¹⁴ [Samuel Otterson S25344](#)



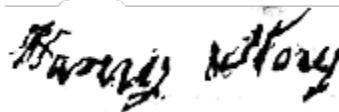
[p 9]

Capt. Henry Story¹⁵ Being duly sworn in open court according to law deposeth & saith that he recollects being with said Hughes a great deal in the revolutionary war & that he knows of his having rendered the most of the service in the up of declaration to which he has sworn & subscribed his name that he was with him in the Battle of King's Mountain & at the Battle at Musgrove's Mill & also at the Cowpens -- he was with said Hughes in many other Tours & skirmishes one at the ten mile Branch and one through the State of Georgia to the Oconee River which said Hughes has not mentioned he believes that said Hughes rendered all the services in his declaration mentioned from his long acquaintance as well as from his general reputation he believes him to be a man of perfect veracity & worthy of full Credit & belief upon oath he also states that said Hughes commanded as an officer a great portion of the time & part of the time as a Captain though he does not know how long as Captain or Lieutenant.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid

Attest S James Yates, Clerk

S/ Henry Story



[p 15]

State of Alabama, Greene County} Personally appeared before me, the Undersigned, a justice of the peace in & for said County Joseph Hughes who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; for one year two months & twenty days I served as a private; For one year seven months & fourteen days I served as a Lieutenant and for two years and six months I served as a Captain and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed for me this 27th May A.D. 1833

S/ Jos. Hughes, Sr.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a Captain for 2 years in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹⁶ relating to Joseph Hughes
Audited Account No. 3857

pp6

¹⁵ [Henry Story S32537](#)

¹⁶ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

[p 2]

No. 2372 Book X

10 April 1786

Joseph Hughes for 191 Days Duty as Horseman from the 3rd February 1779 to 13th February 1780 Alternately in the Companies of Captains Jolley [Benjamin Jolly] & Palmer [Joshua Palmer], 415 Days Duty as Lieutenant of Horse from the 7th May 1780 to 13th June 1781 Inclusive, in Captain Jolley's Company, & 37 Days Duty as Captain of Horse from 25 June 1781 to the 18 August 1783 Alternately in Col. Brandon's [Thomas Brandon's] Regiment.

Charged [old South Carolina] Currency £2432.5

Deduct Balance of Errors [illegible]

Currency £[illegible]

[Note at the bottom of the coversheet is illegible as posted online]

[p 3]

Jos. Hughes

£347.9.3 ½

Received 10 April 1786, full Satisfaction for the within in an Indent No. 2372-X

S/ Jos. Hughes



[p 4]

The State of South Carolina

To Joseph Hughes

Dr.

To 93 Days Duty as Horseman from 13 th November to the 13 th February 1780, both days Included per pay Bill of Capt. Benjamin Jolley & Certified per Col. Thomas Brandon at 20/ [20 shillings old South Carolina currency per day]	£93.0.0
To 415 Days Duty as Lieut. of Horse from 7 May 1780 to the 15 th June 1781, Inclusive per pay Bill of Do. & Certified per Do. at 40/	933.15.0
To 84 days Duty as Capt. of Horse from 25 June to 15 September 1781 per my own pay Bill & Certified per Col. Thomas Brandon	294.0.0
To 90 Days Duty as Capt. of Horse from 1 st October to 29 th December 1781 – Inclusive per pay Bill of do. Certified per do.	315.0.0
To 56 Days Duty as Capt. of Horse from 1 st January to 25 th February 1782 per pay my own pay Bill & Certified per do	196.0.0
To 31 Days Duty done as Capt. of Horse from the 1 st May to 1 st June 1782 Inclusive per my own Pay Bill 10/more Certified per Col. Thomas Brandon per 70/	108.0.0

To 113 Days Duty as Capt. of Horse from 29 July to
 only 21 days 18th August – 1782 Inclusive per pay Bill of do.
 & Cert'd per do.

395.10.0

£2335.5.0

Stg. £333.12.1 ³/₄

To 25 Days Duty as Horseman from the 3rd to the
 27 February 1779 Inclusive per pay Bill of Capt. Joshua
 Palmer Cert'd per Col. Thomas Brandon

£25

To 72 Days Duty as Horseman from 27th February
 to 9 May 1779 Inclusive per pay Bill of
 do. & Cert'd per ditto

72

1 day less, being included in the charge just above

Currency

£97

13.17.1 [illegible]

Stg. £347.9.3 ¹/₄

[p 5: Printed form of Indent No. 2372 Book X]

[p 6: Reverse of the above Indent bearing endorsements by the veteran.]