

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of JOHN GRIFFITH: NC S3425

f13NC

Transcribed by Robin Marshall

*Supplemented 11/8/15 by Will Graves in italics*

{State of Tennessee} Circuit Court S.S.

{Monroe County} Personally appeared in open court on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833, before the Hon. Charles F. Keith John Griffith a resident of said county of Monroe, aged 77 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth as his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born in Lancaster County, Pa, in the year 1756. He has no record of his age, except that he took the date of his birth (when he married) from his fathers record, which is long since lost. He was living in Rowan County, N<sup>o</sup> Carolina, when called into service, where he remained till about 13 years age, when he moved unto Blount County and lived there about a year then moved into said Monroe County where he has resided ever since.

In the summer of the year 1780 applicant expected to be drafted & volunteered for 3 months (in the Company of Capt James Pervine [*also spelled James Peavine*], Lieut. Thomas Harrison under Col. Armstrong & Major Oneal) to go down towards Camden against the British and Tories. He started with somewhere about 800 from Salisbury, Rowan Co. N<sup>o</sup> C<sup>a</sup> and joined Genl Rutherford [*Griffith Rutherford*] a few miles below, with about a similar force, then marched on (in company with him) and crossed the Pedee just above the mouth of Rock river (where Genl Davidson [*William Lee Davidson*] with some troops left them and went down Rock river against Tories, in which excursion he was wounded.) Then marched down the north side of Pedee to Cheraw hill and dispersed some British & Tories. Remained there some days, then marched on to Lynch's Creek [*Engagement at Little Lynches Creek, August 11, 1780*]<sup>1</sup> where likewise they dispersed some British & Tories, then marched on to Roachley's Mills [sic, Rugeley's Mill] and remained till all the troops – Regular and Militia – assembled under Genl. Gates [*Horatio Gates*], Genl. DeKalb &c. About the middle of August they marched toward Camden [*Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780*]<sup>2</sup> and met the British under Cornwallis, by whom they were defeated. Applicant was in the battle, which took place early in the morning, but during the engagement the smoke being so thick that he could not see distinctly, he stooped and on looking under it saw the British but a very few steps off charging bayonets, when he and those with him retreated, and were dispersed, and returned home not knowing where to rendezvous. He remained at home a few days, his feet being exceedingly sore with blood blisters, then found his company at Charlotte (some of whom were missing having been killed or taken prisoner) and found out his team under said Capt Pervine, who was under command of Col Lock [sic, Francis Locke] till Genl. Davidson sufficiently recovered from his wound to resume command. He recd no discharge & don't know that any of the militia did. He was a private of infantry.

In the summer of 1781, after Cornwallis had marched on through Salisbury in triumph applicant volunteered under Capt Abel Armstrong, Jas. Ireland [*James Ireland*] Lieut \_\_\_\_ [blank in original] Lucky [*John Lucky*] Ensign and Rutherford Genl to go down against the British who

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_little\\_lynchs\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_little_lynchs_creek.html) At this engagement, the Rowan County Regiment of Militia to which the applicant belonged was commanded by Colonel Francis Locke.

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_camden.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html)

were then stationed at Wilmington N. Car. They marched from Salisbury eastwardly (crossing Pedee river) down to the Raft Swamp dispersed some British & Tories on the south side of Cape Fear river then turned and marched 60 or 70 miles up the country crossed Cape Fear river below Fayetteville and marched towards Wilmington within nine miles of which they camped, at Clayton's plantation where they remained a considerable time not remembered how long – and where they were when intelligence arrived of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781]. Applicant remembers the troops were marched out to a high field, where they fired 3 rounds by way of rejoicing. Soon afterwards they returned home. He was engaged in this campaign 5 months, for which he recd no discharge (private of infantry).

During the last two years of the Rev. War, while at home in said Rowan County, he was called out frequently and rendered services at several times, under his militia Capt Joseph Sharp, in marching against the Tories – many of whom they caught & conveyed to jail in Salisbury. Tories were there and numerous & troublesome. He cannot state any particular circumstances of importance relative to this service, nor definitely how long he served, but is convinced not less than 3 weeks – he should conclude from all he can remember, something more for which he recd no discharge (in all 6 months & 3 weeks).

The following persons are at present his neighbors and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in his services as a soldier of the Revolution – Joseph Marshall Eq. George C. Harris, Henry Marshall, and Charles Wilson – He has no documentary evidence and knows of no one whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes any 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 and subscribed }  
{ the day and year aforesaid }                      John Griffith, X his mark

*[Enoch M Moore, a clergyman, and Henry Marshall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]*

*[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and 21 days in the North Carolina militia.]*