

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hugh Murphy S9044

Transcribed by Will Graves

f29NC/SC

rev'd 2/14/17

[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 5]

State of North Carolina, Bladen County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions August Sessions 1833

On this the \_\_ day of \_\_ in the year 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Robert Melvin, John J. McMillan and Amos Jessup, Justices of the Peace for the County of Bladen, holding the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County, now sitting – Hugh Murphy, a resident of said County aged Eighty one years, who being first duly sworn according to law, makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

About the last of January or first of February 1775, he entered or enlisted into a Company of New Hanover Militia, of which John Devane, Sr. was Captain, John Devane Jr. Lieutenant, and Archibald Sellars Ensign in a Regiment composed of Militia – called Minute Men from the Counties of New Hanover and Duplin commanded by Colonel Lillington [John Alexander Lillington], Lieutenant Colonel Bloodworth [Thomas Bloodworth a/k/a Thomas Bloodworth], and Major Samuel Swann. The Company rendezvoused at Wilmington & on arriving at that place, they were immediately ordered against the Tories under McDonald [Donald MacDonald] & McLeod [Donald MacLeod], at Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) [Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776]. He, Findley Murphy and John McAlister, before the Company marched, were ordered by Timothy Bloodworth, Commissary, on board of a Boat to take charge of provisions for the Americans under General James Moore, at Rockfish Creek below Fayetteville. They were stopped at Gray's Point by a freshet in the River; and could not proceed further with the boat. He had the other two men get on board of a canoe, that came down from Rockfish, for a supply of provisions, and proceeded up the River, as far as Elizabethtown, in Bladen County; where they ascertained that the Troops under General Moore had arrived—the Tories having crossed the Cape Fear [River] at Campbellton, and were marching towards Wilmington by the way of Black River. He joined his Company, and they immediately descended the River, for the purpose of protecting Wilmington from the Tories – but on reaching the mouth of Black River, ascended the River, and landed a little below the Widow Moore's Creek – thence marched to Long Creek; thence back to Colvin's Creek, after various marches & countermarches, until they joined the Army under General Caswell [Richard Caswell], between those two creeks. On the Evening of the day that General Caswell's Troops arrived at the Widow Moore's Creek, they marched over the Creek, and threw up an entrenchment at the end of the bridge below – and another a little further off and higher up the Creek. The next morning the Tories led by McLeod

attempted to force a passage of the Bridge, but McLeod having been immediately killed, they were repulsed. After which the Tories dispersed, and the Americans were permitted to return home to procure a supply of clothing and afterwards to repair to Wilmington. A few days after he joined his Company at that place, and was stationed there and at old Brunswick until twelve months had expired from the time he first entered the service; he does not recollect whether he received any written discharge or not; if he did, he has lost it. Captains Love [James Love] and Clinton [Richard Clinton] commanded Companies of Minute Men. General Moore [Col. James Moore] commanded a body of Continental Troops stationed in & about Wilmington, and he knew of a Continental Officer called Captain Bowman. The British Cruisers were stationed in the River the greater part of the summer; which was the cause of the Militia being stationed at that place.

2. In the Spring of the year 1777 he was drafted into a Company of New Hanover Militia (then residing in New Hanover County) for a tour of three months under the Command of Captain Thomas Devane, and Lieutenant John Devane, and marched with the Company to Wilmington where he was stationed until he was discharged, at the expiration of his term of service.

3. In the latter part of the year 1782, in returning from Charleston, where he had been, to New Hanover County, North Carolina, where he then resided, he repaired to General Marion's [Francis Marion's] Camp, about twenty or thirty miles from Georgetown South Carolina, and volunteered as a Private, and a Company of Charleston militia attached to General Marion's Command, of which William Wilkie was Captain (the names of the other officers not recollected), in a Regiment of which (as well as recollected) a man by the name of Larkinton [? perhaps a mistaken attempt to identify Richard Lushington?] was Colonel. The troops marched from Marion's camp to Charleston and arrived there, at the time the Americans took possession of it [December, 1782] – and after remaining there two or three days, he was discharged, having served Fifty days – as will appear by his discharge signed by Captain Wilkie & which is herewith sent. He remembers none of the Continental Officers, except General Marion, Colonel Peter Horry, (who he believes were, or had been, Continental Officers) and Captain John G. Scull – nor has he any recollection of any of the Militia Officers or Regiments, except those already named.

He has no documentary evidence except the discharge signed by Captain Wilkie, and knows of no person whose attendance he can procure who can testify to his Services.

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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Hugh Murphy



Answers to the questions prescribed by the War Department as propounded to the Applicant by the Court.

1. I was born Argyleshire, North Britain November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1752
2. I have a record of my age in my Family Bible.
3. I came to the County of New Hanover, December 14, 1774 where I resided until immediately after the Revolutionary War, when I removed to Bladen County, where I have resided ever since.

4. I was enlisted (as I understood it) in the Regiment of the Minute Men; was drafted for a tour of three months, and was a volunteer in Captain Wilkie's Company.
5. I beg leave to refer for answer to this Question to the body of my declaration.
6. For answer to this Question, I beg leave to refer to my Declaration.
7. Robert Harvey, John Simpson, Wm Sutton, James McDuffie, James Cromartie, Alexander Cromartie, Jeremiah Reeves

[Robert Harvey and John Simpson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 29]

Charles Town South Carolina December 20<sup>th</sup> 1782

I do Certify that Mr. Hugh Murphy has serv'd in the Company under my Command Fifty Days During which time he behav'd as a Good Souldier & Citizen.

S/ Wm Wilkie Capt.  
Chas. Town Militia

*Charles Town South Carolina Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 1782*  
*I do certify that Mr. Hugh Murphy has serv'd in the company*  
*under my command Fifty Days During which time he behav'd*  
*as a good Souldier & Citizen -*  
*Wm Wilkie. Capt.*  
*Chas. Town Militia*

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$55.55 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months and 20 days in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]