

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Bartholomew Thompson (Thomson) W4085

Martha f42NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/29/17

[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 8]

State of North Carolina, Lincoln County

On this 30 day of October 1832 Personally appeared before the Worshipful the Court of said County Bartholomew Thompson a resident of the County of Lincoln aged Seventy years the 16<sup>th</sup> of May last who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he was drafted in the Militia (of Currituck County where he then resided) in the last of the year 1778 or the Beginning of the Year 1779 that he marched under command of Captain James Philips & Solomon Perkins Colonel until near Elizabeth Town on Cape Fear [River] where of the Regiments joined & Major General Ash [sic, John Ashe] took the Command from there marched to 10 mile house near Charleston from thence to Savany [sic, Savannah] River & up it to Augusta where they passed over into Georgia the Enemy had just retired from that place and they continued their march after them down to near Briar Creek Bridge where we encamped when about the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> of March [sic, March 3, 1779] the British having crossed the said Creek several miles above the same down in their Rear surprised and defeated them [Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779]<sup>1</sup> and a number was drowned in lagoon and all that escaped had difficulty in passing the Swamp & Savannah River when they were again collected & organized was stationed at the Sisters Ferry & at a place called White House from there to where General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] & the Regulars were encamped at Black Swamp when after the term of five months was expired was discharged but after the defeat at Briar Creek they were organized under other officers whose names he does not now Recollect.

He further deposes that some time after he came home to Currituck from the above stated five months Campaign as well as he can recollect in the fall of the Year 1779 a party of the British who were in Norfolk came into Currituck and a Bridge over what was called Tulls Creek was burnt and the Militia were ordered out that he turned out Volunteer he was stationed some time under a Sergeant William Thomson at Tulls Creek they were after some time relieved and were then marched to the Bridge on the North West River where Colonel Samuel Jervais [Samuel Jarvis] (of Currituck) commanded where after some time he was placed under the command of Captain William Goodman (a Continental officer) from there marched to the Great Bridge within 12 miles of Norfolk then came back to the North West River Bridge & there did duty until the three months was expired & was then discharged either by a Major Townsed [sic, Townsend?] or Captain Goodman cannot Remember which the said discharge either lost or mislaid with other old papers some years past.

The said Bartholomew Thomson further deposeseth that as he was informed that by the

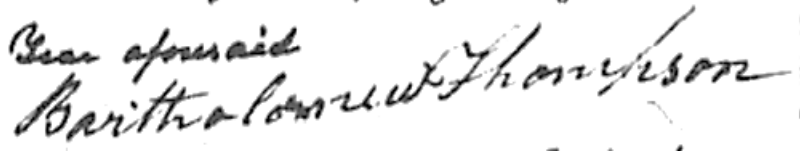
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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

Law of North Carolina he was in consequence of his former service exempted from military duty but an Act having passed the Assembly that every 30 men should find one man to serve 12 months that a class in Currituck County employed him as near as he can Recollect in the latter part of the year 1781 assembled at Hertford, in Perquimans County & under the Command of Captain Pouchet [Peter Pouchet] (a Frenchman) was marched to Hillsboro where the General Assembly of the State was then sitting and he and the said Thomson & seven others were detached under a Sergeant Hudson as a life Guard to his Excellency Alexander Martin the then Governor of the State of former Governor Burke [Thomas Burke] having been taken prisoner by Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] of the Tories after the rise of the Assembly the said squad escorted Governor Martin to his place of Residence on Dan River afterwards to Salisbury, Charlotte and Morganton (in Burke County) from thence back to Salisbury & Hillsboro from where he was dispatched with an Express to General Gregory in Camden County again joined his party at a Mr. Hawkins in Granville County and served out his full time of 12 months and was discharged in the town of Hillsboro by order of his Excellency Governor Martin by his private Secretary Major Pleasant Henderson which discharge is either lost or mislaid with the old papers of that period some years past. He has a Record of his Age taken from one of his Father's Bibles, since the Revolutionary War he removed shortly after it to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County & he since then removed to Lincoln County & resided in it greater part of the time sense. 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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Bartholomew Thompson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bartholomew Thompson". Above the signature, the words "Sworn aforesaid" are written in a smaller, less legible cursive hand.

[p 10]

General Joseph Graham<sup>2</sup> being duly sworn in open Court that he has been acquainted with Bartholomew Thompson upwards of 40 years (shortly after he removed from Currituck County) several years of which time said Thompson lived with this deponent that frequent conversation relative to the five months Campaign under General Ashe and the defeat at Briar Creek, the movements of the Armies to Sisters Ferry, White House, Black Swamp &c &c this deponent being then in the Regulars under General Lincoln is confident said Thompson was along or he could not have described the places & movements of the Army with such precision as he has always done. He has frequently in conversation made the statement set forth in his declaration of his other two tours of duty but this deponent was not in the Army in the Counties where they were performed at that time.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ J. Graham

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Graham".

Test: S/ Vardry McBee Clerk of Said Court

[Hartwell Spain, a clergyman, and Robert Johnston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 30]

State of Tennessee, Carroll County

On this Sixth [?] day of October 1832 appeared before me, Wilson Nesbitt, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, Major Pleasant Henderson,<sup>3</sup> who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration.

That in the year 1782, and he thinks in the month of June, he was appointed by Alexander Martin the then Governor of the State of North Carolina his private Secretary. That about which time eight men were detached from the militia or Continental Troops then in service to remain with him the Governor as his bodyguards; and to be subject to his command. For at that time it was unsafe in some parts of the State for prominent Characters especially a Governor to travel unguarded on account of the Tories or persons disaffected with the Government lurking about and often committing depredations on the peaceable Citizens.

These men remained with the Governor until the expiration of the period of their enlistments and were discharged, this declarant believes, by the Governor.

Among them was a certain Bartholomew Thompson, at whose instant and request this declaration is made, now living as he states, in Lincoln County in the State of North Carolina, at the Vesuvius furnace owned by General Graham, in and of his application for a pension under the provisions of the Act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June last.

This declarant believes he drew his discharge under direction of the Governor at Hillsboro. It is not at this late period of time, in the recollection of the declarant, whether these men were in the Militia or Continental service nor does he recollect when and where they enlisted nor the period of time of service. Thompson in his communication with this declarant on the subject states that he enlisted in the County of Currituck and marched to Hillsboro aforesaid under the command of Captain Purchell [sic], a Frenchman.

This declarant adds, from his recollection of Thompson, his conduct and general tenor of behavior, that he is willing and disposed to give full credence to whatever he may state, under oath, concerning those premises.

Sworn to and subscribed for me, the day, and year first above written.

S/ Wilson Nesbitt, JP

[Pleasant Henderson did not sign this declaration]

[p 12: On August 9, 1851, Martha Thompson, 88, filed in Lincoln County North Carolina for a widow's pension stating that she married Bartholomew Thompson on March 4, 1785 and that he died on August 17, 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6: Marriage bond issued in Lincoln County North Carolina and given by Bartholomew Thompson and Moses Scott on Feb. 14, 1785, for the marriage of Thompson to Martha Scott.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$66.66 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 20 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]