

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Thomas Griffith W4213

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }

Loudoun County } SS

On this 11th day of September [1832] personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Loudoun County now sitting Thomas Griffith, a resident of Loudoun County State of Virginia, aged seventy five years, 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 7 1832. That he enter'd the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. I was born the 2nd day of April 1757 in Bucks County Hill town Township, Pennsylvania. I have no record of my age. I first volunteered in Montgomery Co'y. Pa. for three mo's. in a Company commanded by Capt. Geo. Smith, Samuel Hinds Lieut. Jacob Humphrey Ensign; a Col. Wm Dean commanded the Reg't. to which I was attache'd. This was from August to November 1775. I was march'd into New Jersey with the first Militia ever raised for the defence of that state – after doing duty from Trenton to P. Amboy [Perth Amboy] at various points I was dischg'd. at P. Amboy & returned home. – I was next drafted in the Summer of 1776 in class No 1 of New Jersey Militia, under Command of Capt. Josiah Hart, Patrick Majors Lieut. – Col. D'l. Heister [Daniel Heister] – I perform'd much the same tour of duty and had some sharp skirmishing with scouting parties & picket Guards about Somerset, Woodbridge, Princeton, P. Amboy & other places. this term continued for 2 mo's. when I was dischg'd in Sept'r. 1776.

In the fall of 1777 when the British lay near to Phil'a. I volunteered and join'd a Company which was then Commanded by a Lieut. Walter Evans – our Captains were already out – General Bale had the command of the Militia troops – this was soon after the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & I think the Enemy lay along from Wilmington to Chester We were marchd to Norristown on the Schuykill [sic: Schuylkill River], this place was then called Schuykill ferry, where we continued in Garrison as well as I can remember for six or eight weeks after which I returned home. – In the spring of 1778 while the British occupied Philadelphia I was at home for a short period with orders to hold myself in readiness at a moments notice, when a party who were conveying some cattle to the American Camp were surprised by a body of Cavalry commanded by Col. Tarleton [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] & passing by my residence, they took me with them. I was a prisoner for about six weeks when I effected my escape & returned home. In the summer of 1778 I removed to Loudoun County Va. and when I was first drafted, I went into Court & proved that I had recently served a tour in Pennsylvania which excused me for that time. It was I think about July 1781 I was drafted into a Comp'y. of Loudoun Militia commanded by Capt Cannon for 3 mo's. and march'd to York T. [Yorktown] Va. I was then removed to Capt. Hugh Douglass's [Hugh Douglas's] Company. My term of 3 mo's was out a little before the Siege of Cornwallis commenced [28 Sep 1781] – I had been at home about 15 days when I heard of his surrender [19 Oct].

I remember a Col. Dark [William Darke] who commanded that portion of Va. Militia to which I belonged – I recollect also Col. [Sampson] Mathews U.S. officer & Major Hardyman & Maj'r Murray U.S. officers, who were march with our Troops.

My discharges have been long since worn out & lost to me. The only documentary evidence I have is the certificate of Issacher Brown [Issachar Brown, pension application S8102] a Continental Soldier who remembers me in the army – his certificate accompanies this declaration.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity, except the present & declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

Thomas Griffith

Loudoun County }
SS. }

Issacher Brown, a Revolutionary Soldier appeared in open Court this day and made oath that he was well acquainted with the within named Thomas Griffith and knew him in the army when he was attached to the the Company commanded by Capt. G. Smith & Lieut W. Evans – but does not know any thing of his services in Virginia.

Sworn to & subscribed this 11th day of Sept. 1832

[signed] Issachar Brown

NOTE: On 22 July 1839 Mary Griffith, 79, applied for a pension stating that she was married to Thomas Griffith in Loudoun County in the fall of 1779 by a Baptist minister named John Marks, and afterwards they lived with her father, Philip Marsh, for nearly two years, during which time their first child was born. She stated that her husband died 26 Apr 1835. On 22 June 1842 Philip Griffith returned the pension certificate “of his late Mother.”