

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Guthrie W4975

Nancy Guthrie

f127NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/9/08 rev'd 11/30/15

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Federal Circuit Court of the United States now sitting Henry Guthrie a resident of said County & State aforesaid aged seventy-seven years & nine months who being sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

Agreeable to my father's Register I was Born in Hanover County and State of Virginia the 10 day of December in the year of our Lord 1754 and in the year 1766 my father moved to North Carolina Halifax County and settled within about 7 miles of the town and continued there until 1789 in the year 1774 & 1775 we were greatly alarmed by the Disturbance at Boston and expecting war and we being ripe for a revolution Prepared for the same by joining into what we called Independent Companies and dressed ourselves in uniforms Signed the Association and took the State oath or oath of Confederation, at that time Samuel Weldon was Captain of the company I belonged to at that time but was soon made Colonel and Nathan Turner made Captain in his place, in the beginning of the year 1776 there was a gang of Tories collected together in Randolph County and on their way to Wilmington was defeated [probably a reference to the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776]¹ their guns taken from them and a great many of them taken Prisoners and them and their guns Brought to Halifax and I was Commanded to stand guard over them. I was not more than 2 or 3 days on that guard before Nicholas Long the deputy quarter master general took me from that and set me to repairing the guns that was taken from the Tories, and I think there was 2 or 300 guns and chiefly wanting repair seeing that it would take me so long to repair them myself I spoke to Long to get some Person to help me, but he said he knew of no person he could get it. I told him of Turner Mason who lived in my neighborhood and he sent me after him, he came and worked one week and finding that the wages was less than he was willing to work for, he quit and left it all for me to do. I do not know what time of the year 1776 I began to work on the guns, nor what time in the year 1777 I quit, but I very well recollect that I was at that work when General Lee² with his Army marched through to meet Clinton the British General at Charlestown, which I think was the last of May or the first of June and I continued at that work that summer and the ensuing winter and I shall recollect that winter while I lived there being 2 weeks the coldest weather in January I ever felt in the State of North Carolina. I continued at the business until I had repaired all the guns that were thought worth repairing, then Long dismissed me after serving I think about Twelve months, then I went to work with a man by the name of Gardner making little

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html

² General Charles Lee who commanded the forces at the first defense of Charleston in the summer of 1776.

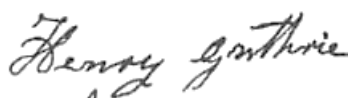
wheels to spin flax on there being great call for them at that time, but had not the chance to work at that long before I was Drafted, but not being in the Company I belonged to and was classed, I was taken one of the first of the militia that went from North Carolina for six months, and to go to Georgia the Captain of the company where I was drafted was as well as I recollect, by the name of John Hargrove I was put under Captain Scurlock [Thomas Scurlock] and was ordered to rendezvous at Long's as soon as I got there Long came to me and requested me to turn in and work out my tour at the Armory and I refused, saying that I had taken a very forward part at the beginning of the revolution in joining the independents and persuading other young men to do the same, that it would not look well for me to stay behind when there was men called for then Long and Scurlock both set in to Persuading me to stay, Saying that as there was a great deal of work that was absolutely necessary to be done for the use of the Army and as Long knew no man he could get to do it unless I would and that my service in the Armory would be of more value to the cause than several men in the field of Battle as they could not fight without weapons to fight with so I agreed to stay and I worked out that six months in the Armory --The men that I was to have gone with was just under General Ashe [John Ashe] and was Defeated at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779] as I understand in Georgia, then John Burts belonging to the same company that I was Drafted in was Drafted for six months and offered me \$100 to take his place and as I saw so little chance of staying at home to work for myself I agreed to take it and to substitute in his place and I was stopped at the Armory again and served out that six months tour there then in the year 1779 but I do not know now what time in that year the commissioners that was appointed by the State to extend the Boundary line between the State of North Carolina and Virginia which is now line between Tennessee and Kentucky, employed me as a surveyor to come out and run the line, we came out and ran the line and while we were out there Charlestown was taken by the British [May 12, 1780], and I got home just before Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780],³ was one year from home, soon as I got home William Hurt Belonging to the same company that Burton did and in the company that I was Drafted in, was Drafted for six months, he offered me \$100 to take his place as a substitute and gave me a horse in part pay which suited me very well as I was so unlucky as to lose mine on the line, so I substituted for him and was stopped at the Armory again and served out that six months But what officer Burts or Hert was to have gone under I do not now recollect. I was then Drafted again but as those that went out on the line was as much exposed to hardships and danger as those that went out against the British but none of us were killed or wounded as I recollect yet we had several horses stolen and saw and buried several men that was killed by the Indians, so we was all allowed credit for the Tour of Duty and it was considered that I had already served out the tour for which I was last drafted and was exempted. Then I had an uncle by the name of Levi Guthrie who belonged to the regular service and was working in the armory who had three or four months to serve he got me to go in his place and Long received me in his place and let him go home to his family and I served out three or four months.

Then in a few days after that I went with Long in Halifax Town and he told me that he had left his home and had sent his family on before and he had to go along after them to take care of them that the British was hourly expected a long and requested me to go to his house and see to taking care of the public property, that there was four men sent out as spies William Frohawk, Thomas Hawkins, William Hurt and John Guthrie my Brother on the swiftest horses that could be got and they would be sure to bring news to me if they were near so that I could make my escape, but the British light horse met them in a short turn of the road fired upon them killed Frohawk shot my brother through and thought they had killed him, wounded Hawkins who made his escape through the woods and wounded Hurt and took him Prisoner. I went and while we were busy in taking care of the Public property we were surrounded by the British light horse

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

and was taken prisoner and wounded, which would have put an end to the war for me for a few years had war continued for I was weakened by the loss of Blood that for several years I was of very little account to the public or myself, after keeping me eight days they gave me a Parole. Then Cornwallis and his Army went to Virginia and was captured at Yorktown [October 19, 1781]. After the war was ended I continued to live in Halifax County chiefly making cotton cards till the year 1789 my father moved to Kentucky. I went with him I then lived chiefly in Lexington working at the tanning and copper smith work till the year 1799 I then moved to Nashville Tennessee and have lived in Davidson County Tennessee ever since and that he has no Documentary Evidence of his discharge or of his service, and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service – and 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, that he is known to the Honorable John McNairy one of the Judges of this Court, Robert C. Forlie, Senior, Ephraim H. Foster, Esquire, Colonel Robert Weakley and John Bell Esquire present Representative in Congress from this District and William Lytle, Esquire.

S/ Henry Guthrie



[John McNairy, District Judge, and Ephraim H. Foster gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: On June 13, 1851 in Davidson County Tennessee Nancy Guthrie, age 72, filed for a widow's pension stating that she was the widow of Henry Guthrie; that she married him in 179_ [last digit omitted in the original] in Madison County Kentucky. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 126: On June 13, 1851 in Davidson County Tennessee, Henry Guthrie, aged about 48, gave testimony that he is one of the children of Nancy and Henry Guthrie; that he was born on the 11th day of January 1803; that he is his parents 4th child; that his sister Mary was his parents oldest child and she is about 5 years older than affiant; that affiant's brother William was the next oldest child; that his sister Eleanor was the next oldest child; that his sister Mary married in Davidson County Tennessee about the year 1816.



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[p 16: On November 30, 1855 in Giles County Tennessee, Nancy Guthrie aged 77 filed for her bounty land entitlement stating she was the widow of Henry Guthrie; that her maiden name was Nancy Shackelford and that her husband died in Davidson County Tennessee January 4, 1837. She signed this application with her mark.]

[p 19: John Pace gave an affidavit dated January 8, 1798 in Madison County Kentucky stating that he performed the marriage between Henry Guthrie and Nancy Shackelford in Madison County Kentucky on November 24, 1796.]

[p 114: A letter dated April 24, 1855 sent from Veil Mills, Giles County Tennessee to the Commissioner of Pensions by Daniel Guthrie in which she refers to the application made by "his mother" (Nancy Guthrie widow of Henry Guthrie).

Daniel Guthrie]

[p 47: On March 31, 1869 in Davidson County Tennessee, the widow, 90 years of age and a resident of Nashville Tennessee made application for an increase in her pension benefit as provided under the 1868 act. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 122: NC Comptroller's certificate of payments made to Henry Guthrie

State of North Carolina
Comptroller's Office

I, George W. Brooks, Comptroller of public accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for military services in the Revolutionary War, as follows to wit:

Henry Guthrie
Statement of Commissions of Army accounts, Continental soldiers, C. 1388 Henry Guthrie, private, \$168⁷⁵ for services in 1777 and 1778
Book E page 95 & 10 currency Nov. 1779 this was equal to \$75³³ the denomination being 27³ for 1 specie this was a bounty
Book H. Pa 16 page 11 \$36 2 specie
" " " " 17 " 11 \$ 115 " "
Indent or Army Certificate issued by the Auditor of Halifax District No. 5517, August 11th. 1783, Henry Guthrie of Halifax County \$9 specie
It also appears by Book 146 old series army accounts for the years 1775 & 1776 that Samuel Holman was a captain and that his company was engaged in guarding prisoners, deserters & Tories but Halifax's pay for his company by Capt. J. P. et al certify that said Guthrie's service having been most of it on the Continental establishment, the books recording payments, do not give the Comptroller as in some cases they do of Militia men. I further certify that Henry Guthrie served under Col. Nicholas Long as appears by Book 146 Old series and that Nicholas Long was Deputy Quarter Master General & superintended the Army at Halifax, but there are no regular lists of artificers on file
In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office this 2^d day of January 1855
George W. Brooks
Comptroller

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]