

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Griffin W7586

Sarah Griffin

f74NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/08 rev'd 11/4/15

[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.]

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Revolutionary Claims

Form of a Declaration to be made by the Non-Commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates. For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved on the 15th of May, 1828, I, James Griffin of __ in the County of Irwin in the State of Georgia do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in its service until its termination; at which period, I was a Corporal in Captain Redding Blunt's [Redding Blount, also spelled Reading Blount] Company, in the 5th Regiment, of the North Carolina Line. And, I also declare, that I afterwards received certificates for the reward of \$80; to which I was entitled, under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th of May, 1778.

And I further declare, that I was not, on the 15th day of May, 1828, on the Pension List of the United States.

S/ James Griffin, X his mark

Witness my hand, this 11th day of August, in the year 1828

S/ Nathan Gant, J. P.

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State of Georgia, County of Irwin

On the first Day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Justice of the Inferior Court for said County James Griffin a Resident of the State of Georgia in the County of Irwin aged Seventy-nine years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832 that he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 with Thomas Blunt [sic, Thomas Blount?] and served in the fifth Regiment of the North Carolina Continental line under the following named officers I listed with Thomas Blount & served with Captain Riding Blunt [sic, Redding or Reading Blount], Thomas Armstrong and Benjamin Coleman as two lieutenants in the same company I served a eleven months [tour] as there was no certain time limited by Congress for enlistments I took no certificate for my time nor I could get no certificate for my having enlistment I was told by my officers I had best enlist again as there was no chance to get a Discharge from my first enlistment in March as well as I can recollect in 1777 I enlisted with Lieutenant Thomas Armstrong in the same company for three years and he gave me a certificate for my time and I served with the following named officers the time I left the Service general hagons [General James Hogun] as a field officer Colonel Harney [Selby Harney] as a field officer magor Dawson [sic, possibly Major Levi Dawson], magor murphy [sic, Major Murphy], Capt. Ingles [possibly John Inglas (Ingles)] he exercised the hole [sic] Brigade from North Carolina as Regiment was reduced I am not certain but I was Discharged from the second

Regiment I served as a Corporal During my inlistment I lived in edgecomb [sic, Edgecombe] County North Carolina and listed in the town of torborough [sic, Tarborough] and Joined the fifth Regiment at newbon town [sic, New Bern] in said State I was marched to the northard [sic, northward] and there I was ingaged in the following named battles the first I was engaged in was at Brandywine on the 11th Day of September I believe in 1777 on the 4 Day of october in the same year I was engaged in a battle at Jermantown [Germantown] on the 28th day of June 1778 I was ingaged in a battle at Monmouth then I was marched to Hallifax [Halifax] town North Carolina and then I got my Discharge I hereby Relinquish every claim whatever to a pension except the present and Declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the first Day of october 1832 before William Bradford one of the Justices of the inferior court for Irwin County Georgia.

S/ James Griffin¹

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State of George Irwin County

Brief objections made are

1st it Dose [does]

2. He Did

4. he enlisted in March 1777 and took his certificate for 3 years 1777, 1778, 1779 & sometime in 1780 I got my Discharge

5. I served 11 months without a Certificate as a private Soldier. I Served 3 years as a Corporal in the Continental Service and got my Discharge from the same.

6. I have given the names of all I served under in the Declaration but Colonel Bunkum [Edward Buncombe] he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Germantown, Lieutenant Colonel Irwin [Henry Irwin or Irvin] was killed in the same Battle

7. I Declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any State

8. they have given it in the Declaration in favor of the applicant

9. He has certified to the Declaration

10. I've the Clerk of the Court of Irwin County do hereby certify and declare my opinion that James Griffin was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states and that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of James Griffin for a pension in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and common Seal as there is no seal of offices. September the 18th, 1833

S/ William Slone, C.J.C. {Seal}

[p 15 & 70]

Georgia, Irwin County: Personally appeared before me Andrew McClelland a Justice of the peace James Griffin who being duly Sworn Depos and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services but according to the best of his Recollection he Served not less than three years and a 11 months three years as a Corporal in Captain Blunts [Blount's] Company a level months as a private Soldier in the same Company of the fifth Regiment and for such services I claim a pension.

S/ James Griffin

Sworn to and Subscribed the 27th of January 1834.

A: S/ McClelland, JP

¹ Not the actual signature of the veteran – the handwriting is identical to the body of the application. Also, note that the veteran signed an earlier application with his mark.

[p 6: On June 4, 1845, in Lowndes County, Ga., Sarah Griffin, 79, filed for a widow's pension as the widow of James Griffin; she states that she married James Griffin on April 1, 1781 in Edgecombe County North Carolina by publication of banns; that he died December 19, 1836. In her application she gives the births of her children as set forth in the note below. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 9: On June 4, 1845 in Lowndes County Georgia, Shadrach Griffin, 56, gave testimony in support of his mother's application; he notes that he was born October 20, 1792 [sic].

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shadrach Griffin". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

[p 17: On May 21st, 1845 in Thomas County Georgia, Lear Gandy gave testimony that she lived a near neighbor to Sarah and James Griffin in Edgecombe County North Carolina; that the day following their marriage she commenced living with them and remained with them for several years; that they always lived together as man and wife and reputed to be same. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[facts in file: the widow's maiden name was Sarah Lodge; she was born October 23, 1766; she says they lived in Edgecombe County, NC until they had 7 children when they moved to Burke County, Ga., lived there about 5 years, moved to Montgomery County, Ga., lived there also about 5 years, then moved to Irwin County, Ga.; in 1847, the widow was living in Lowndes County, Ga. with her son-in-law, William Bradford.

Family Record: James and Sarah Griffin had 9 children, but only the following are named in the file:

Noah born June 7, 1783

Josuah [sic, Joshua?] born March 22, 1785

Thomas born December 4, 1787

Rhoda born October 11, 1790, married a Hall and was living in Rowan County Georgia in 1847

Shadrick [Shadrach?] born October 12, 1792

Solomon born October 20, 1794, resident of Floyd County, Georgia in 1847

Elizabeth born July 28, 1803, married William Bradford and was living in the lounge County, Georgia, in 1847.]

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State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that James Griffin a Corporal in Captain Blount's Company of the 5th Regiment enlisted on the 1st day of December 1776 for three years and was discharged on the 1st of February 1780.

Given under my hand this ninth day of April 1833.

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a corporal for 2 years in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]