

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Thomas Howard VAS1623

vsl 9

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/2/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Executive of Virginia

The heirs of Thomas Howard midshipman represent that since their claim for Bounty land was filed it has been ascertained that their ancestor Thomas Howard is returned on the list of officers of the *Accomack* Galley¹ as first midshipman, or stands at the head of the list. They therefore respectfully asked an allowance of land for his services as first midshipman.

The Heirs

Petition for bounty land

The Heirs of Thomas Howard – midshipman S. Navy

The facts of this case are – Thomas Howard was regularly enrolled as midshipman on board the *Accomack* Galley: and is mentioned as such in the Navy Journal.

Scarborough Bloxson² (a witness) a midshipman on board the *Accomack* says – that he knew well Thomas Howard, who was a midshipman on board the said vessel – that he entered the service, before the *Accomack* was equipped for service, and continued in service until she was laid up (nearly 4 years.)

Elhanah Andrews³ (a Seaman on board the *Accomack*) says that he recollects Thomas Howard & he was a midshipman; that he entered the service in the *Accomack*, when she was first manned in 1777, and continued in service until she was dismantled in the spring of 1781 – (more than 3 years).

Wm Thornton says he was well acquainted with Thomas Howard – that he entered the service in the *Accomack* Galley, when she was first manned and continued to serve until she was laid up, a period of some 3 to 4 years. – The witnesses are respectable.

If your Excellency should allow bounty land, it ought to be for a service of 3 years as midshipman.

Respectfully submitted
John H Smith, Commissioner

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<http://www.awiatsea.com/sn/VA/Accomac%20Virginia%20Navy%20Galley%20%5bUnderhill%20Andrews%20Harris%5d.html>

² [Scearbrough \(Scarborough\) Bloxson W5842](#)

³ [Elkanah Andrews S6507](#)

To his Excellency Governor Tazewell

16th April 1833 [last digit unclear]

I certify that I enlisted on board the galley *Accomack* as a midshipman for 3 years, before she was equipped for service, & served till compelled by ill health to leave the galley, which I did, on condition of serving again if required, – and that I was well acquainted with Thomas Howard, who also enlisted on board said Galley, about the same time, for 3 years, & remained in service when I left, and was made a midshipman, and acted as such when the galley was laid up.

S/ Scarborough Bloxson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scarborough Bloxson".

[Acknowledged in Norfolk Borough July 1833]

The deposition of Elhanah Andrews a Navy Pensioner of the United States, who says he served as a Seaman on board the *Accomack* galley during the time she was in service, & has drawn 100 acres of land for said service for three years – & that he recollects Thomas Howard who was a midshipman on board of said Galley & that said Howard entered the service when the galley was first manned in 1777 & continued in service until said Galley was dismantled in the spring of 1781 a period of upwards of three years & this deponent thinks nearly four years.

S/ Elhanah Andrews, X his mark

[Attested in Accomack County May 11, 1833]

I do hereby certify that William Thornton Senior aged about 76 years came before me & made oath that he was well acquainted with Thomas Howard of this County & that said Thomas Howard enlisted on board the galley *Accomack* when she was mad, & continued in service until said Galley was laid up, a period of from 3 to 4 years:

And I further certify that said William Thornton Senior is a man of unquestionable character, for truth & veracity, & entitled to full confidence on oath: as evidence my hand and seal at Accomack Co. this 27th June 1833

S/ John F. Riley, JP