

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

Virginia documents pertaining to William Abbott, Sr. and William Abbott, Jr. VAS2178
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#):]

Wm Abbot/ Sol. [Soldier] Illinois Reg't

The heirs of William Abbott Jr respectfully ask of the honorable executive of Virginia that they may allowed land bounty for the services of the s'd William Abbott J'r, who was a soldier in the [undeciphered word] regiment, & who is [undeciphered word] by Jno Smith as entitled to land March 1[?]th 1834

The Heirs of Wm. Abbot Jun'r [several undeciphered words]

Wm. Abbott Jun'r enlisted [undeciphered word] April 1781 for the war, & served to the end of it. He has been reported entitled to land for the war in the printed list [several undeciphered words].

His Heirs are entitled to three hundred acres of land [several undeciphered words]

Resp'y submitted/ John H Smith, Com'r &c

To his Excellency/ Governor [John] Floyd March 19th 1834

[The following are from the [rejected claim in the Library of Virginia](#) for William Abbott, Sr.]

The memorial of Joseph Abbott, Sharlottee Abbott Phebe Pritchard, Hannah Skilmore a widow, William Robert and Frank Abbott, Roxalana Bac wife of Joseph Bac, Wm Henry Abbott Fanny Neele wife of Thompson Neele – Lucian Abbott, a majority of whom live in Scott & Bourbin [sic: Bourbon] Counties, to the Governor of Va

Your memorialist would most respectfully represent unto your excellency that they are informed & believe that their deceased father William Abbott, enlisted as a regular Soldier in the Company of Captain Benjamin Roberts [pension application S31343] in Culpeper County Virginia in the fall of 1779 and that said company belonged to Crocketts [Joseph Crockett S46377] Regiment which was attached to the Illinois Department under Gen'l G R Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark VAS269], that said William Abbott served as a Soldier aforesaid at the falls of Ohio [now Louisville KY] in the untill his full term of his enlistment had expired and that he was honorably discharged from said Service, your memorialist would therefore pray an allowance be made them in land for the services aforesaid and they would ever pray.

[On 21 July 1835 the court of Scott County certified that Joseph Abbott, Charlotte Abbott, Phoebe Pritchard, Hannah Skillmore, William Abbott, Robert Abbott, Franck Abbott, Roxalana Bac, William Henry Abbott, Fanny Neale, and Lucian Abbott were the only heirs of William Abbott, Sr.]

Department of War/Bounty Land Office/ July 24th 1835.

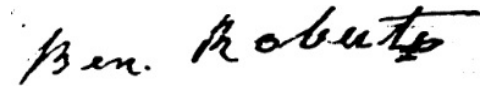
Sir [Hon. R. M. Johnson] I herewith return the letter of Mr. T. C. McCall and its enclosures, received in yours of the 23rd ins't. and in reply thereto, have to state, upon examination of the testimony in relation to William Abbott, Sen & Wm. Abbott Jun'r. it appears that both inlisted in the Virginia line on state establishment, for the limited term of two years; consequently, neither of them are entitled to bounty land from the U. States, that bounty having been promised by Congress to those men only, who inlisted in the Continental line for "during the war," and served to the close thereof in 1783.

It appears by printed Document No. 32 published at Richmond Virg'a in Aug't. 1833, and [undeciphered word] by Commiss'r Jno H Smith, and containing a list "of Noncommiss'd. officers and soldiers of the Illinois Reg't, and the Western Army, under the command of Gen'l Geo. R. Clark, who are

entitled to bounty in land from the State of Virginia” that Wm. Abbott Sen’r & Wm. Abbott Jun’r were both returned on that list, as Privates, entitled to bounty land for services “for the War” – their claims, of course, are referrible solely, to the Executive Dept of Virginia. On inquiry at the Gen’l. Land Office, it appears that no Land Warrants in favour of either of the Mr. Abbotts, have been filed in that office by Mrs. Todd.
I have the honor to be/ Very respectf’y Y’r ob’t St./ Wm. Gordon

State of Kentucky }
Shelby county Sct }

The affidavit of Capt Benjamin Roberts of said county who after being first duly sworn upon his oath states that in the fall of the year 1779 he enlisted William Abbott [undeciphered word] of Culpeper county Virginia in his company for the term of two years that he came with the troops to the falls of Ohio the spring following that he served in his company until the 25th of December 1781 and then returned to Virginia and did not come back to join his company any more. But this affiant states that he is credibly informed and believes that the said William Abbott did serve out his time as an artist at Richmond Virginia. This affiant further states that he commanded a company attached to Col. Joseph Crocketts Regiment and Col. George Slaughters [George Slughter W8729] Corps. and further he saith not



Sworn to and subscribed before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said county the 12th day of February 1835
Geo. Berger JPSC

[The following are from the [rejected claim in the Library of Virginia](#) for William Abbott, Jr. The online image of one page is illegible.]

Kentucky Owen County Court Sct/ February Term 1834

Ordered that it be certified that on the 3rd day of February 1834 that it was satisfactorily proven in Open Court by the Oath of Richard Todd to the satisfaction of the Court that William Abbott Jr departed this life in the year [blank] and that Roxolana Abbott, William Abbott, Hannah Skillman, French Abbott and Polly Barber late Polly Abbott who departed this life leaving Joseph Barbee and Other Childred which are unknown and that they are the only heirs at Law of the said William Abbott Jr decd and it was also proven that the said William Abbott Jr was a private in the army of the revolution in the Illinois regiment of the Virginia State line, all which is ordered to be certified.

Ho. of Delegates Richmond Feby 18th 1835

Dear Sir [Hon. Rich’d M Johnson, Member of Congress] I Rec’d your favour yesterday concerning and applied to Mr Selden for the Warrant due to Wm Abbott but found that he had no authority to issue any. On application to the Sec’y of State he stated “That the Claim of Wm. Abbott is on file & has not yet been acted on”

Our governor having become disatisfied by the Legislature, passing a Resolution some time ago declaratory of their intention of appointing a board of Commissioners to pass on all revolutionary Land Claims; has declined acting on any of those claims until the Legislature decide; hence the claim of Mr. Abbot remains with many others “not acted upon” – I enclose the papers again as requested

Your with the highest esteem

A. Lawson

Great[?] Crossing/ 20th July 1835

Dear Sir [His Ex’l Littleton W. Tazwell (sic: Gov. Littleton Waller Tazewell)],

I take the liberty of enclosing to you the papers in the case of the heirs of Wm. Abbott S;r & Wm Abbott jr for Land. In the case of the first Wm. Abbott, I think the papers will entitle them to a warrant, &

as they are poor & the Claim too small to be placed, in the hands of any person who will ask compensation I have taken the liberty from my personal acquaintance with you to ask the favour to have the Claim placed before the proper tribunal for a speedy Decision & answer. as the warrant must issue to the heirs I presume no formal power of attorney is required to receive the warrant or rather to ask the officer of the State charged with this duty to transmit the warrant to the Gen'l Land office at the City of Washington. I regret to trouble you with this matter even for my near neighbours – please cause an acc't to be given to me as soon as convenient & oblige/ your friend & ob Ser't/ R M Johnson

Mr. Richardson will be pleased to write to the Hon. R'd. M. Johnson, informing him of the receipt of his letter of the 20th Ins't. incloseing the papers in [undeciphered word] of Wm. Abbott and Wm Abbott jr claiming bounty lands. That altho' these documents do conform to the rule established by the Executive for the receipt and examination of such claims, yet they have been looked into with a view of discovering, whether if made to conform more exactly to the rule mentioned, they could even then be allow'd. But that upon the face of the papers themselves now exhibited, it is apparent, that neither of the claimants ever had any legal claim for bounty land against the State of Virginia, inasmuch as if they actually served out the whole term of their enlistment, which is very doubtful (to say the least), such a short service did not entitle the [undeciphered word] rendering it to any bounty lands whatever, and that both these claims have, therefore, been rejected.