

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

Virginia documents pertaining to Robert Watkins VAS2186
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Several online images are not legible enough for transcription.]

This may certify that Robert Watkins enlisted in the first Virg'a. Reg'mt. 4th Feby 1776 & served faithfully as a Sergeant untill 24th Feby 1781.

Given under my hand Nov. 21 1783

Copy B Stark W Brown Capt [Windsor Brown BLWt1816-300]/ 1st Vir. Reg'mt

Norf February 6th 1832

Sir I must earnestly entreat you to examine into the claim of my deceased father Robert Watkins who I have always understood was an officer in the continental line of the virginia revolutionary army. my father died when I was an infant twelve months old, but my mother has frequently spoken of him as having served during the whole of the war, from your prompt and kind attention heretofore, I must rely on your kindness to see into this matter for me without any delay

yours respectfully Mary Thomas

Norfolk Boro' to wit:

Before me appeared William Jennings and made oath that he was well acquainted with Ensign Robt. Watkins Sen'r formerly of the Revolutionary Army. The affiant knew the said Robert Watkins when he was a recruiting officer at Hampton, and was attached to the Virginia State Line on Continental establishment [several undeciphered words] before the Siege of York the [undeciphered word] he was recruiting officer as already stated, and he [several undeciphered words] main body of the Army and he return'd to his family in Hampton shortly after the Peace. The rank of the said Robert Watkins as the deponent understood and verily believes was that of an Ensign.

[signed] Wm. Jennings

The above affidavit sworn to before me this 20th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty two.

Virginia Borough of Norfolk towit.

The affidavit of Jeremiah Cain taken before me John E. Holt Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk aforesaid.

The affiant being duly sworn states, that he was well and intimately acquainted with Ensign Robert Watkins of the Revolutionary army of Virginia, on Continental establishment. Affiant knew the said Watkins when he was a boy and he well remembers to have seen the said Watkins at a place called Fox hill recruiting near Hampton, Virginia, the precise year he cannot remember but he feels entirely confident that it was at least three or four years before the peace. Affiant always understood that the said Watkins served out until the end of the war. The said Watkins left three children at his death viz. Howard Watkins, Mary Watkins and Nancy wife of John Hope[?].

Sworn to before me on this sixth day of June 1832 Jeremiah hisXmark Cain

[The following from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) is assumed to apply to the same Robert Watkins as above.]

To David Campbell Governor of Virginia, and the Council of State.

The petition of James Watkins only heir of Ensign Robert Watkins dec'd humbly represents to

your Excellency that some few years ago he he was allowed bounty land, by Governor Floyd, for the services of his father in the war of the Revolution and for the term of that war, but in consequence of a difficulty between the Governor and the Register of the land office, as he is informed, in fixing the time when the service commenced and when the war ended, he has so far failed to procure the additional bounty to which he is entitled. He prays your Excellency to review or reconsider his case, and correct the defect, so as to enable him to receive a warrant for the balance of his land; and he will pray &c.

Jan 7 1839

James Watkins, by atto, C. S. Morgan

See Evidence in the case Goggin [John Goggin VAS2183]