

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to William Pope VAS241

vsl 11VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/4/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

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

To the Governor of Virginia

Your petitioners heirs of William Pope a midshipman in the State Navy of Virginia state that their ancestor served during the whole of the Revolution, for which Service he has never received the Bounty Land promised him by the Legislature of Virginia. He has been reported entitled to land for the War, which your petitioners pray may now be allowed to them.

S/ Thos Green

Attorney for Petitioners

Northumberland County Virginia

I John H Fallin aged 80 years do hereby Certify that William Pope a midshipman under the command of Captain Markham was my immediate neighbor, he died at home on furlough. Given under my hand December 28th 1833

S/ Jno. H. Fallin Senr.



[Attested December 28, 1833]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 2nd day of September 1783, in the name of William Pope, as a midshipman for £32.0.11, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to chose this Sanders and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
7th day of February 1834.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

Petition for bounty land

Hrs [Heirs] of Wm Pope – midshipman State Navy

The facts [one or more words illegibly faint] Wm Pope is shown by the Navy Journal & [one or more indecipherably faint words] Register to have been midshipman. He died on furlough, in Northumberland County. His heirs are entitled to land for the war. It does not

appear that his allowance all to be [word illegibly faint] for more than the quantity of land allowed a midshipman for a service of 3 years. This claim has been reported upon in the [indecipherably faint word] list [one or more indecipherably faint words] which is referred to. Respectfully submitted

John H Smith, Commissioner
March 18th, 1834

This [balance of intrigue illegibly faint]

Pt for bounty land
Hrs of Wm Pope midshipman S. Navy
This fact was ... Wm Pope is shown by the Navy Journal ... Register ... land bounty ... his claim ... 3 years ... March 8th 1834

Petition for Bounty Land

Hrs [Heirs] of Wm Pope – midshipman S. Navy

Wm Pope has been found mentioned as midshipman in the Navy Journals. In May 1778 he belonged to the *Lewis* Galley¹ (see Navy Journal page 390). He was [indecipherable words]² the Ship *Tartar* Feby 19th 1779 – Wm Pope is named as midshipman of the *Lewis Galley*³, April 14th 1778, in a list of warrant officers – on the [indecipherable word]⁴ of Navy

1 *Lewis Galley*

2 *ordered on b^d* [ordered on bd [board]?

3 *Lewis Galley* [this clearer image is what leads me to believe the entry in fn one above is probably "Lewis Galley"]

4 *back* [back?]

papers or Journals on file in the first Auditor's Office.

There is no reason to believe, he ever left the service; unless forced to do so, by the reduction of officers in the year 1780 – or 1781 – Even the seamen in the state Navy (as has been before mentioned in Reports upon other claims) hardly ever left the service, unless compelled. The Journals of the Navy Board, & the Papers relating to the Navy prove (according to the best of my information) only four cases of desertion of seamen.

The midshipmen are not often mentioned in the Navy Journal – otherwise, this officer Wm Pope might probably be traced further, and to the end of the War.

Nearly all the Books & Papers of the vessels of the Virginia Navy have been lost or destroyed. The state was bound to take some of these Books & Papers: and has not done so.

The midshipmen in the State Navy were [word partially cut off and illegible]⁵ by the captains of vessels: and [the digital image of this page of this document ends here]
[next page]

and papers of the different vessels contained in the evidence of the dates of appointments of midshipman, & of their times of service.

The lowest Gallery was built on the Rappahannock – Celey Saunders received his Comm [commission] as her [?]⁶ Captain August 2nd 1776 – Wm Pope probably belonged to this vessel, when she first went into service. The *Tartar* was in service, until March 25 1780 – after this last date Wm Pope, if in service, must have been in some other vessel.

Under the circumstances above mentioned, William Pope ought to be presumed to have served to the end of the war; or at least, for three years: I reported him entitled to land for a service of three years – I acted, in making that report under the Resolution of the Assembly of 1833, which called for a list of Officers &c who "may be entitled" to bounty land for Revolutionary services. I believed, not only that for (Mr. Pope) might be entitled to bounty land for a service as midshipman for the war; but that there was a reasonable presumption, that he did actually serve to the end of the war or for three years and was entitled to bounty for that service.

There is no evidence filed with this Petition. The Petitioners refer to my former report of the claim.

Respectfully submitted
S/ John H Smith, Commissioner
May 20th 1834

To his Excellency
Governor Tazewell

⁵  [obligated?]

⁶ 