

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

Virginia documents pertaining to William Thornton VAS4722
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

Culpeper County to wit

On this day before me a justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Reuben More [possibly Reuben Moore W8466] of said County aged 81 years of good character for veracity, who being duly, sworn deposeth and saith that he knew William Thornton formerly of Orange County being raised in less than 3 miles from him that early in the war of the Revolution said Thornton enlisted into the army and left home to go to the South. That after he Thornton had gone to the War deponent does not recollect to have heard much about him till he heard of his death some considerable time after, which he thinks was towards the close of the war. That deponent always understood that said Thornton enlisted for the war and thinks that was the understanding of those now living who were acquainted with him personally.

Given under my hand this 15th June 1835

Culpeper County to wit.

On this day personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for said county, Luke Thornton of Orange County aged 66 years and of good character for veracity, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith That William Thornton dec'd formerly of Orange County was his brother and that they lived together with their father till not a great while after the war of the Revolution begun—that said William enlisted into the army and left home and went to the south—that he continued to hear from him occasionally for some two or three years and at length heard from another that he was dead, having died at the high hills of Santee [in South Carolina]. That he does not know how long a period he enlisted for, whether for the war or for three years, but is sure it was more than two years from the time he left home till he died. That Jesse Thornton was the oldest brother of said William Thornton and inherited under the old law all his property, and that William B. Thornton now living in Culpeper County is the sole heir of the said Jesse Thornton. Given under my hand this [26] June 1835 [part missing from bottom of page]

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

To his Excellency the Gov'r of Va.

Your Petitioner William B Thornton respectfully sheweth that he is the only son & only child of the late Jesse Thornton deceased, that the said Jesse Thornton was the only heir at law of William Thornton a soldier of the revolutionary war of the Virg'a line on Continental establishment. That the said William Thornton enlisted in the [blank] Regiment & marched to the South, after being some years in service and after being at the battles of Camden [Hobkirk Hill near Camden SC 15 Apr 1781] Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC 15 Mar 1781] Eutaw Springs [SC 8 Sep 1781] & others, he died at a place called Fifty Mile[?] near the Hills of Santee, without any last will & testament as is believed, or proven. In consequence of which service & death both of William Thornton during the war & of Jesse Thornton since & of the right of [part missing from bottom of page] and he now asks an allowance of the same.

[signed] W. B. Thornton