

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

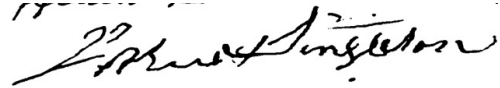
Virginia documents pertaining to James Willis VAS5035
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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

Gloucester County to wit

This day [7 May 1833] personally appeared before me Henry L. Nuttall a justice of the peace for the said county Joshua Singleton [S7510] of the said county who being sworn as the law directs saith that he was acquainted with James Willis formerly of the Parish of Kingston and county aforesaid and knows that he served in the Navy of Virginia during the Revolutionary War on board the Galley Henry Capt. Robert Tompkins [R102]. This affiant states that he was a Lieut. in the Navy during that war, first on board the Galley Manley, Capt. Edward Travis [R103] from which Vessel he was transferred to the Galley Henry Capt Robert Tompkins from whence he was transferred to the ship Dragon Capt James Markum [sic: James Markham R72].

And further this affiant saith not



I Richard Ripley [S11299] of the County of Mathews & state of Virginia do hereby certify and declare that I was well acquainted with James Willis formerly of that part of Gloucester County called Kingston parish now constituting Mathews County. The said James Willis did enlist as a Seaman in the Virginia navy on board the gally Henry captain Robert Tompkins in the Revolutionary war soon after she was lunched and served as I always understood and believe untill the end of the war. As witness my hand and seal this the fifth day of march A.D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty four.

Richard hisXmark Ripley

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) in two files assumed to pertain to the same man.]

This is to Certify that James Willis enlisted on board the Henry Gally Jan'y 1777 as a sailor and discharged in Jan'y in the year 1780. Given from under my hand this 14th of Oct. 1786.

Joshua Singleton Lt.

Entitled to depreciation from Jan'y 77 to Jan'y 1780 If not settled. July 26 1787

T. Meriwether

Copy


I do Assign to Wm. Reynolds a good right to James Willis's pay of Depritation and Land due for his service in the Navey of thus State. Mar 19 1787

Eliz'th herXmark Peed

Test Phillip Brownley Copy J. Pendleton

I John Christian [S15276] of the County of Mathews and State of Virginia do hereby Certify and declair that I was acquainted with James Willis formally of that part of Gloucester County caled Kingston Parrish now constituting Mathews County the said James Willis enlisted in the Virginia navy on board the Galley Henry Capt Robert Tompkins in the American Revolution in the year 1776 or 1777 and that said James Willis served three years in the capacity of Seaman by frequently seing and Talking with him whilst said Willis was attached to said navy I do certify that I am 74 years of age 16th of October given under my hand and seal this 29th day of June 1835

Test. Wm. Bassett



To the Honorable Littleton Waller Tazwell [sic: Tazewell] Governor of virginia

The memorial of Frances Jarvis and Sarah Miller daughters of Nancy Miller who was sister of James Willis of the County of Mathews and State of virginia and Elizabeth Robertson daughter of Patsy Peed sister of said James Willis of Portsmouth virginia and Lucy Peed daughter of Elizabeth Peed sister of said James Willis of Northumberland virginia that they are the only heirs of James Willis that they claim to be entitled to bounty land in right of said James Willis that said James Willis was a resident of Kingston Parrish, then a part of Gloucester County now constituting Mathews County, enlisted in the state service in the Navy of virginia during the Revolutionary war under Capt Robert Tompkins on board the galley Henry in the capacity of Seaman in the year 1776 or 77 and served in the virginia navy at Least three years as your memorialists is informed and verily believes That James Willis died without having received the Land bounty to which he was entitled.

Your memorialist verily believes that James Willis never received the Land bounty promised him and having respectfully submitted the case in the best manner that their Limited acquaintance with the facts would enable them prays that their claim to the said bounty Lands may be enquired into by your Honor In testimony of the foregoing facts they have hereunto subscribed their names this the sixth day of July in the year 1835

Frances herXmark Jarvis