

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Gray R4300¾ Susanna Gray VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia: Prince Edward County to wit:

On this 24th day of August, 1840, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Susanna Gray, a resident of said County and State, aged 84 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1832.

That she is the Widow of William Gray, deceased, late of Prince Edward and formerly of Cumberland County, Virginia, who was a private and sergeant of Infantry in the Virginia State line, on State establishment, in the War of the Revolution.

She declares, that she was married to the said William Gray on the 29th April 1777, and prior to his first entrance in the service of his Country.

She recollects that in the year 1777, he enlisted under Capt J. Williams, for the term of three years, and served about Peterburgh [sic: Petersburg] and other places in Virginia, the particulars of which from old age, bodily infirmity, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot now call to recollection. She recollects distinctly that he was confined to the Virginia State service only, and never marched out of State. She cannot state precisely how long he was in service altogether, and therefore prefers to rely on the statement of others, whose certificates accompany this Declaration. She knows that he served at least two years, for which time, she claims a Pension.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Gray in the County of Amelia by old parson Saunders of the Old Episcopal Church on the 29th day of April, 1777; that her husband the aforesaid William Gray, died on the 14th day of June, 1826, and that she has remained a Widow ever since that period, and still continues to be his Widow, and has never intermarried. She further declares that she married him prior to the last period of his service, all of which will more readily appear by reference to the accompanying proof.

[signed] Susanna Gray

NOTES:

The file contains a certificate from the Auditor of Virginia stating that on 10 June 1783 a certificate for the balance of pay was issued to a William Gray, who had been a Sergeant of Infantry. Susanna Gray's claim was denied for insufficient proof that she was the widow of that William Gray.

The death of William Gray was certified by Edwin Gray.

In the file is a family record certified by Susanna Gray as being in the handwriting of her husband, transcribed below.

A letter dated 14 Feb 1853 states that Susanna Gray had died a few years previously leaving a large family of children, and that the family was in destitute circumstances.

William Gray was bon february the 25th 1745

Susanna Gray was born October 17th 1756.

William & Susanna Gray was Married April the 29th 1777.

~~William Gray died 11 of June 1826~~

Polley Gray was born February the 2nd 1778.

Sally Gray was born March the 24th 1780.

Lucy Gray was born July the 3rd 1782

Mildred W. Gray was born April the 20th 1785

James Gray was born April the 15th 1788.

Edwin Gray was born March the 22nd 1791

William Gray was born August 27th 1793

Betsey Gray was born October 28th 1796

[other side]

James James April the 5 1812

Virgina James March 11

Edwin Gray the Second day