

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of WILLIAM HOUSTON S1835
Transcribed by Janelle Swearingen

f38VA
12/26/12

State of Tennessee Green County, September Term 1832

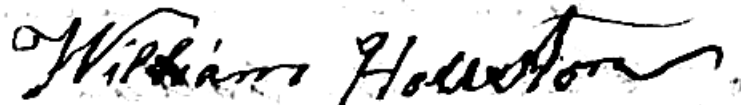
On the 5th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Samuel Powel Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for Green County now sitting William Houston a resident of Green County Tennessee aged seventy years or in his seventieth year who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, towit that he in the year 1781 he was drafted and placed under the command of Captn Wall¹ of Shandoane [Shenandoah] County Virginia it being the same county in which this aplicant resided at sd time and where he was drafted and was enrolled in the uper part of sd county called Massannuting [sic Massanutten] and marched to Fredericksburgh [sic Fredericksburg] Virginia. On this march his capt was taken sick with the flux and allso the Lieutenant & Ensign with the greater part of the company were taken sick with the same complaint and many of them were left on our said march. The Captn Lieutenant & Ensign being sick Sargent Wolf took command of the remnant of the company to which belonged which was fourteen in number the sargent then was taken sick with the same disease at Fredericksburgh [sic Fredericksburg]. When the this [sic] applicant remained some short time and was discharged by the said Sargent Wolf and returned home to Shanendoa [sic Shenandoah] County Virginia after having served two months or thereabouts. He states that shortly after his return home he was again drafted for a two months Term in the said County of Shanendon and state aforesaid and enrolled either at Stauntoun [sic Staunton] or Masanutty [sic Massanutten] under Capn Abraham McCoy the names of subordinate officers not recollected and was marched to a place called the bottom springs below Richmond from thence to Williamsburgh [sic Williamsburg] where he Joined head quarters and was placed under Brigadier General Stephens [Edward Stevens] & Maj. Welch from there this Brigade to which he belonged was marched two miles below Williamsburgh [sic Williamsburg] near old JamesTown [sic Jamestown] where he was stationed some weeks during which time General Washington arrived at that place and marched his company to York Town [sic Yorktown] to the seige where this declairant remained some days at the seige of that place when he was discharged either by his Lieutenant or Captn and returned home to Shanandon [sic Shenandoah] County Vir [sic Virginia] after having been from home in traveling to and from the army and during his stay with the army at least three months and a half he states that from the time he was enrolled until discharged was at least three months. Shortly after he returned home, he substituted in the place of Henry Harden, a resident of Shanandon Cty Va [sic Shenandoah County Virginia] with the declamant for a two months Term to guard the prisoners taken at the seige of York [sic Yorktown] and sent to the Borex [sic Barracks] near Winchester Virginia. he states that he was placed under some Capt or Lieutenant whose name he thinks was Turner and he remained at said Barracks guarding sd prisoners untill discharged by the sd Turner as he believes and returned home after having served a term of two months. He states that he received

¹ probably Martin Nall

written discharges for the three several terms above stated but does not recollect how or what became of them. He states that he served altogether in the Revolution not less than seven months and a half in the service of the United States. He states that he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose Testimony he can prove who can testify to his service and there is not any minister in his neighborhood who can verify for him any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State he states that he is now a citizen of Green County Tennessee. Sworn to & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

William Houston

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Houston". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

[Leonard Starns and Thomas Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Notes:

He was granted a pension of \$25 to be paid semi-annually on March 4 and September 4 beginning in September 1836. Payments were issued by the agency in Jonesboro Tennessee until 19 March 1841 at which time a letter was written in his behalf by William Downey in Greenville, Tennessee to the Pension Office informing them that the agent in Greenville was withholding William Houston's pension payment because the original certificate had the heading torn off. It said that if a new certificate could not be obtained in 30 days from March 4, then the payment would not be paid. No response to this plea was in the file.

William Houston married Susannah Long 29 June 1798. Many have mistakenly identified this William Houston as the one who married Hannah Sherrill. However that William Houston left Greene County and went first to Roane County Tennessee along with his father-in-law Adam Sherrill and from there to Hancock County, Illinois by 1830.]