

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Willis S39125

fn16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/28/11

[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.]

State of Tennessee Roane County: I do affirm that I was born and raised in the County of Goochland and State of Virginia and in the fall or beginning of the winter 1775 I left my Parents and Schooling and went to Williamsburg and enlisted under Captain John Hodges in what was called the minute service for the term of one year, and on the first day of February 1776 I reenlisted under Captain John Pleasants in the 5th Virginia Regiment, Muhlenberg's Brigade, and in the winter following in the State of Jersey [New Jersey] the said Pleasants resigned William Mosby first Lieutenant took the command of the said Company, and at a camp known by the name of Valley Forge on the first day of February 1778 I received my discharge which discharge I can give no account of except it was filed with the auditor's Office in the city of Richmond. I hold no post or Pension but my reduced Circumstances requires the assistance of my Country
S/ William Willis¹

State of Tennessee Roane County

On this 25th day of October 1821 personally appeared in open Court for the said County William Willis, aged sixty-one years the 29th day of September last, resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows

Two years in the 10th Virginia Regiment Captain William Mosby's Company General Muhlenberg's brigade and that his original declaration was on the 29th day of April 1818 and that the number of his pension certificate is 15.273, and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. I have 200 acres of poor land more or less one horse with the glander [?], six sheep, 18 hogs young and old, three cows, two two-year old and one calf, one pot, one oven, six chairs, one table, one trunk, knives & forks, spoons and dish, six plates, the greater part of which was paid for with my pension money since my house was burnt in March 1818

S/ William Willis

¹ none of the documents in this file appeared to bear the actual signature of the veteran as all of them appear to me to be in the identical handwriting of the scribe

My occupation is planting and am infirm I have eight in family (viz.) my wife Elizabeth and six children Nancy Eliza was born February 14th 1803, Susannah the 3rd February 1807, Francis the 15th of March 1809, William Fountain 31st July 1811, Elizabeth the 16th of March 1814, Andrew Jackson 7th of March 1817 –

One horse with the glanders	\$__
6 sheep \$7.50 18 hogs 4 of which worth \$6	13.50
9 shoats at 75 cents	6.75
5 pigs at 25 cents	1.25
3 second rate cows at \$7.50	22.50
6 chairs 15 years in service at 25 cents	1.50
2 two-year old heifers	7.00
one calf \$1.51 pot \$2.50	4.00
one oven \$2 one table \$1.25 old trunks \$1.25	4.50
knives Forks & spoons	1.75
one dish 75 cents 4 plates 75 cents	1.50
200 acres of poor land which I gave \$200 in trade worth \$1.50 cash	<u>150.18[?]</u>
	\$214.25

S/ William Willis

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 29, 1818 for two-year service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]