

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

Pension Application of Bailey Willis S39894

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 July 2011.

Virginia to wit

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the General Court and Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit came Bailey Willis aged fifty eight, resident in my said Circuit, and on his oath maketh the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the late Act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War". That the said Willis entered the Army in the year [blank] about four months antecedent to the Battle of Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781] as a substitute for a Class who were then bound to furnish a soldier for the time of service of 18 months, and continued in the army during his Term of service, during which he was at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse where he was wounded in the Leg. After the expiration of his Term he enlisted in the [illegible word] of the year 1781 in the county of Stafford in the 15<sup>th</sup> Reg't. commanded by Colo. [Samuel] Hawes on Continental establishment and continued in service until the close of the war, a Term exceeding Twelve months, when he obtained his discharge at Winchester and has since lost it. That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support.

Stafford County to wit

Rolen Holley [Rawleigh Holley, pension application S38034] made oath before me Samuel H Peyton a Justice of the peace for said county that Bailey Willis was a Soldier at Winchester at the time he was and they took the small Pox [inoculation?] together, got their discharges at the same time at the End of the War but was not acquainted with him until he meet him at the Barracks near Winchester which was about Ten or Twelve months before the End of the War. Given under my Hand this 26<sup>th</sup> day may 1818

Virginia, Stafford County to wit:

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1820 in open Court, being a Court of Record made so by Law, personally appeared Bailey Willis aged about sixty nine years, resident in said County, who being first sworn according to Law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows, that he became a substitute for John Botts of Stafford County, whose Lot it fell to to serve 18 months & was put under Capt. Fields at Fredericksburg and marched with a body of about 500 men of the same description, to Bays hole on the Potomac, from thence back to Fredericksburg, from thence to Richmond, where the enemy had been and just gone, from Richmond we were marched to Chesterfield Courthouse, which the Enemy had just burnt [27 Apr 1781]. from whence we marched to the South, to head quarters which was some distance out of this State, and was put under Capt. Darby in the Regiment, which the Declarant thinks was commanded by Colo. Hawes – from whence with all the Troops which were there, the Declarant marched to Guildford Courthouse was in that battle & got badly wounded in the right leg by a musket ball, from thence, tho not well of the wound, was of a party of about 300 which went to Salisbury – was in a small engagement with a part of Tarlton's horse [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion] I was taken prisoner – and being parolled returned (by very tedious traveling, in consequence of the aforesaid wound) home to Stafford, the time from enlistment to being parol'd being about 10 or 11 months That after being at home perhaps about a year and having been exchanged, the Declarant was enlisted by the agency of Colo. Thomas Mountjoy of Stafford for three years & marched to the Barracks near Winchester & there was put under Capt. Booker & served under him till the prisoners were moved away which from the time of this enlistment, was near 18 months & then received a furlough to be ready when called on, but never was called on. That the number of his certificate of pension he does not

recollect, not having it with him nor knowing it was necessary to have it at Court – but that the certificate was granted to him by the Secretary at war as a United States pensioner of the Revolution, at the rate of eight dollars pr. month & has once drawn the pension under the said certificate.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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, to wit: 4 plates – 6 pewter & Bellmetal spoons – 5 knives & 1 fork – 1 Cotton wheel & one Iron pot – 1 oven, – three pint Bowls, – 1 pitcher – 2 Gallon Jugs – 1 pint Bottle – 3 stools – 1 Chest – 3 barrels for fish – 1 water pail – 1 piggin – 4 baskets – 4 old Hoes – 2 old axes – 1 drawing knife – 2 Rounding knives for making wash basins – (bedding & wearing clothes excepted) the whole valued by the Court at \$14½ – his occupation is that of a Cooper as far as he is able – The number & names of his family residing with him, are – his wife Patience about sixtyeight years old who has been deranged in her mind for many years & his son Noah about 13 years old who has been in a state of idiocy from his infancy.

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NOTE: A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates compiled at Powhatan Courthouse lists the following: Bailey Willis/ age 15/ height 5' 5½"/ dark hair/ blue eyes/ fair complexion/ farmer/ born and residing in Stafford County where he enlisted as a substitute for 18 months on 22 Mar 1781. Sized on 27 Apr 1781. A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Winchester Barracks lists Bayly Willis/ age 17/ height 5' 9¼"/ black hair/ blue eyes/ dark complexion/ farmer/ born and residing in Stafford County where he enlisted 6 Oct 1782 for three years. Sized on 9 June 1783.