

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Guill S6942

f22VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/09 rev'd 6/2/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

Virginia Halifax County

On this 27th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the County Court of Halifax now sitting, William Guill a resident of said County of Halifax and State of Virginia aged seventy-one years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he volunteered and entered the service of the United States as a private on the first of November 1780. He started from the County of Prince Edward and State of Virginia in a Company then under the command of James Allen as Capt. and Alexander M. Clark as Lieut. which company at that time belonged to a Regiment commanded by Col. Charles Allen and which belonged to a Brigade then under the Command of General Robert Lawson. He marched from the County of Prince Edward aforesaid to Bank's old store in the County of Amelia at which place Capt. Allen was taken sick and the company placed under the Command of Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham. He then marched directly to the town of Petersburg Virginia, at which place he remained till the 14th of February 1781, on which day he received a discharge from Col. Charles Allen. This tour of duty was three months and fourteen days. He again volunteered and marched as a private from the County of Prince Edward on the first day of March 1781 in a company under the command of Ambrose Nelson as Capt. and Josiah Morton as Lieut. & which company belonged to a brigade commanded by General Robert Lawson. He marched directly after entering on the service of the second tour of duty to Guilford Court House in the State of North Carolina -- passing through the Counties of Charlotte and Mecklenburg in the State of Virginia & crossing Roanoke River at Taylor's ferry thence to Guilford Court house, where he remained until after the battle that was fought at that place on the 8th of March 1781 [sic, March 15, 1781]. He was in the said battle and marched from there some time after it was fought to a place called Ramsy's Mills [Ramsay's Mills] on Deep River where he remained in service until the 5th of the ensuing May at which time he received a discharge from Col. Philip Holcomb. The length of time which he was in service on this tour was two months and five days. He again on the first of August 1781 marched from the said County as a Substitute for one John Davidson who was a private, in a company commanded by Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham, and Lieut. Josiah Morton to little York in Virginia passing through the Counties of Cumberland, Amelia to via James Town &c. He remained at Little York in service till the first of the following November. He was in service on this tour three months and thirteen days.

He regularly received written discharges at the expiration of the several tours which he

served, and preserve them many years, but not knowing, or believing that they would be ever of any service to him, he consequently paid no attention to their further preservation and they became lost or destroyed. He does not know by whom his discharges were signed as he is wholly illiterate. He was born in the County of King William Virginia; he has no record of his age, but from his memory and calculation, together with what he has always been informed by persons older than himself residing in his neighborhood, he believes that he is about 71 years of age. He was raised in the County of Prince Edward in Virginia where he resided until some time subsequent to the Revolution. He now resides in the County of Halifax, Virginia where he has resided for more than thirty years. He knows of no person now living by whom he can prove his service & has no documentary evidence of it. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ William Guill¹

Questions by the Court:

Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in the County of King William and from the best evidence that I can obtain in the year 1761.

Question. Have you any record of your age?

Ans. No

Question. Where did you live when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Ans. When called into service I lived in the County of Prince Edward, and have lived in the said County of Prince Edward in Halifax ever since & now reside in Halifax Virginia.

Q: How were you called into service?

Ans: The two first tours which I served I volunteered, and the third tour I went as a substitute for John Davidson.

Ques: State the names of some of the regular officers who were with troops, where you served, Such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services?

I recollect that a Regiment that was with me at York from Campbell & also one from Bedford. I do not recollect the names of any [of] the officers, except a Major from Campbell then I think was named Boice. The particulars are detailed in my declaration.

Did it you receive a discharge from the service, if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

I received my discharge from the first tour of duty from Col. Charles Allen, -- from the 2nd I received my discharge from Col. Philip Holcomb, and from the 3rd I received it from Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham.

State the names of some of the persons in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief as to your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Nathaniel Carter & David Street know me well & can testify as to my character for truth.

S/ William Guill

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

[David Street, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit; Nathaniel Carter gave a

¹ I do not believe the signature is that of the veteran but rather is his name spelled out by the scribe. This opinion is based on the fact that the handwriting for the signature is identical to the body of the document itself and on the veteran's statement that he is wholly illiterate.

separate standard affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months and 2 days in the Virginia militia.]