

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Documents relating to the Service of Simpson Harris SC3648

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/8/22

[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 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 9 of the documents indexed under the name of Robert Harris in South Carolina Audited Accounts No. 3370]

South Carolina

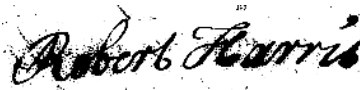
To the Honorable, the House of Representatives
now met and sitting in General Assembly

The Petition of Robert Harris most humbly –
Sheweth –

That sometime in the Year One Thousand Seven hundred and eighty-two, Simpson Harris, a Soldier in the first Pennsylvania Regiment, and then in active Service in the State of South Carolina, departed this life, leaving (as it is said) his last Will and Testament duly executed and of Force at the time of his Death. That your Petitioner from a strong combination of circumstances is well assured that the Will of the said Simpson Harris has been fraudulently and surreptitiously obtained and fabricated after his the supposed testator's death, in derogation of the legal right of your Petitioner's Father who is the uncle and heir at all to the said Simpson Harris. That your Petitioner in proof of these facts humbly beg leave to adduce to your Honorable House the Affidavit¹ of a certain Stephen Poorman, in which the fraud is fully explained and substantiated. That the said supposititious Will of the said Simpson Harris has been duly recorded in Secretary's Office of this State, and that the legatee under the said forged Will, hath entered into Possession of the property of agreeable to the devise. Your Petitioner as the agent of his father, the heir at law, most humbly prays your Honorable House to relieve him in the premises, and that your Honorable House would pass an Act in relief of your Petitioner's father, authorizing the Secretary of State to deliver unto your petitioner the original Writing or will that he may remove the same to Dauphin County in the State of Pennsylvania, where the witnesses reside, in order that the facts may be fairly and legally developed, and the forgery detected. And that your petitioner's father, who is the genuine and bona fide heir at law, may thereby be enabled to vacate the said will and come into possession of his just rights.

And your petitioner as in duty bound, will ever pray &c

S/ Robert Harris



¹ This affidavit is not among the documents in this file.

[A typescript of the will of Simpson Harris appears on line in the South Carolina archives.* In this will Simpson Harris leaves to his Uncle John Harris the sum of five pounds and “to my dearly beloved Uncle Nathaniel Simpson his heirs, executors administrators and assigns all my land together with all my pay due to me in the Service period.....”

After the signature of the testator, the following text appears:

“The above will was written by the Testators desire and in his presence signed and Sealed and Signified in the State of South Carolina, in the Pennsylvania Regional Hospital near Ashley hill the Second day of November 1782

Witness prest.

S/ John Hilsdorph Surgeon at the hospital

S/ Eliner Hilsdorph, X her mark

S/ James Swiney”]

*Record details:

Date: 11/2/1782

Series: South Carolina Wills (WPA Transcripts) 1774-1784 (S146002)

Document type: Will (Typescript)

Images: Available at SCDAH building or by order. See *How to search* menu.

Identifiers:

Archives ID: Series: S146002 Volume: 0019 Page: 00212 ignore: 000