

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

Pension Application of William Bumpass W2718

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia Hanover County to wit.

On the 25th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of said County, now sitting William Bumpass aged Seventy Seven years of age, 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 7th 1832.

He states that he was born in the said County of Hanover on the 20th day of January 1755 according to family register there being no record of his age.

That he was drafted & called into service in the year 1779 as a private under Captn John Stanley and marched from said County through New Kent to the Town of Wmsburg [Williamsburg] where he was stationed awhile, thence to York Town where he joined the army commanded by Genl Thomas Nelson, there he was stationed some time and discharged. He served in this tour three months. He enlisted in the service of the united states in the year 1779 as a volunteer and was appointed and regularly commissioned as a Lieutenant under Captn Thomas Richardson for the purpose of recruiting soldiers to march to the Northern states, where the principal part of the war was then acting but before they had made out a company sufficient the scenes of war was changed and the enemy came among us – and consequently his intended expedition was prevented. He was in service as a recruiting Lieutenant four months. He was called out as a private in January 1780 [sic] under Captn Thomas Richardson and Col. Nelson Anderson and marched from Hanover through Henrico to a place called Duval's Hill, where he joined a Regiment of Regulars and while we were there the Traitor Arnold was then destroying Richmond by fire [Gen. Benedict Arnold, 5-7 Jan 1781]. We then held a counsel as to the propriety of attacking the enemy in Richmond but before we got there they retreated below Richmond and about four miles below Richmond we took seventeen prisoners and just before we got to Maubin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond] we had a slight engagement with the enemy they still retreating before us and finally took shipping at west point. We then marched through Charles City by Charles City Court House where we saw a great deal of blood in the Tavern occasioned by an attack made upon our men a few days before we marched there [8 Jan], thence by Holts Forge to Wmsburg where he was stationed sometime and then discharged. He served in this tour two months. He was called out again in the month of April 1781 and marched from Hanover as a private under Captn Bartlett Anderson, and Col. Samuel Meredith through Henrico to a place called Farfield about the time that Lord Cornwallis was passing through the Country, thence to Maubin Hills where he was stationed a short time and whilst there he saw an engagement on the other side of James River between the Americans & British. we then marched back to Richmond in order to join the army commanded by Genl Washington [see endnote]. He then hired a substitute to serve out the remainder of his tour. He served in this tour before getting a substitute one month. He was called out again the first of December 1781 under Captn Anderson Lipscombe as a private and was appointed as first Sergeant and marched from Hanover, through Caroline, Spotsylvania, Culpeper and far as Winchester for the purpose of guarding some prisoners which we had taken at the siege of York, which we were ordered to carry to the Red Stone but before reaching the last-mentioned place we received orders to carry them to Winchester. He served in this last tour one month. He states that he served during the revolution as a private seven months in all and four months as a Lieutenant in all, for which he claims a pension. that he has no documentary evidence or written discharge, but can prove a part of his services by David Blackwell [pension application S6666] & Jacob King [W7988] & knows of no other person by whom he can prove the remainder. that he refers to Col. Charles Goodall, [illegible word] Francis Blunt, Philip B. Winston & William D. Winston as persons who reside in the

neighborhood who can testify to his character and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He states that [two or three illegible words] out into the service he resided in the said [county] of Hanover and has resided in the said county ever since the revolution and now resides in the same. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or territory whatever. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid [signed] Wm. Bumpass

NOTES:

In Bumpass's tour beginning in April 1781 he probably joined the army commanded by Gen. Lafayette rather than Washington, since the latter did not arrive in Virginia until Sep of that year.

On 26 Aug 1851 Edmund E. Bumpass applied for the pension due to his mother, Elizabeth Bumpass, up to the time of her death on 22 Oct 1848 for the services of his father, William Bumpass, who died on 7 June 1837. He stated that the only other surviving child of his mother was Overton N. Bumpass. The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 9 March 1796 by William Bumpass and John Trevillian for the marriage of William Bumpass, widower, to Betsy Harris, Spinster.