

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

**Pension Application of
Elizabeth Apperson^a/Epperson,
Widow of William Apperson/Epperson
W3915**

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Pfannenstiel

State of North Carolina
County of Stokes

On this 19th day of March 1838 – personally appeared before me Charles Banner one of the acting justices of the peace in and for the County of Stokes aforesaid. Elizabeth Apperson (alias) Epperson) a resident at this time of the County of Stokes aforesaid at her son in law Thomas Sprinkle in North Carolina, and she being first sworn according to law doth on her oath declare that she believes her age is seventy seven [sic] six years the 23rd of December 1837. who being on oath maketh the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1836, that she is the widow of William Apperson^b who sometimes spelled Epperson, who was a private soldier in the Army of the United States in revolutionary war and served as private soldier in said service as a substitute in place of a William Harrison who had enlisted as a continental soldier under a Captain Joseph Philips in Surry County, N. Carolina in Col^o John Armstrongs^c [Armstrong's] Regiment. the date not recollected. But from what her husband William Apperson related he was marched northwardly under the above named officers. + fought in the following Battles (to wit :) Brandywine, Germantown near Philadelphia, a Battle of Monmouth + White Plains + and was at New York + many other places he mentioned and not now recollected, But the applicant believes he served in this service two years + six months as he stated that the above names W^m Harrison had enlisted for three years, and had served six months of is time previous to the time her husband he received a bounty of two hundred + twenty eight acres in the western district of Tennessee as will appear in records of Secretarys [sic] office of N Carolina or Tennessee; the next service the said William Apperson (alias Epperson) as a substitute in the place of William Head^d in Surry County, N. Carolina in August 1779 and marched from there under a Captain Salathial Martin^e to Salisbury N. Carolina + there joined the army. this applicant don't remember remember (sic) the officers names who did command from there he said he march^d in said army into South Carolina, + served in this tour three months,

The next service said William Apperson (alias Epperson) entered as a private substitute for a David Poindexter^f in Captain Joseph Philips Company at Surry old court house in the spring of the year 1780, as he related in Colo William Sheppards Regiment of Militia when he was ordered to transport lead from the lead mines near a placed call^d Fort Chissct, to the main army at Salisbury, which being done they march^d in pursuit of the Tories in many directions. + to a plain called Mulberry Fields. + into the mountains sometimes would be gone ten days. Sometimes two and four weeks + at intervals would return home + remain at home some length

of time always to be [illegible] to meet at Richmond as one of the minutemen, until he had fully served the tour of three months for which he had engaged for David Poindexter, and next his own turn or class had to be drafted. when he turn^d out as a volunteer private [illegible] in the same company of minute men under the same officers, for three months in the month of May 1781. + was called out at different periods after this applicant was married to said William Apperson + served as a guard at Richmond + in the fall of the same year he was discharged from this three month tour which was signed by Col^o Martin Armstrong^g as he stated + showed her the discharge but could not read it. She further declares that she was well-acquainted with her said husband at the time he first went into the service, as her Father, - + her husband's family resided not far from each other, that she was married to said William Apperson by Col^o Martin Armstrong a justice of the peace for Surry County North Carolina on the 6th day of June 1781 – at the house of Thomas Poindexter^h said County of Surry, and that her husband the aforesaid William Apperson died on the 22nd day of 182[illegible, but believed to be 6] and that she has remained a widdow [sic, widow] ever since that period. And from the infirmities of old age cannot remember half of the officers + places her husband told her of, and from bodily infirmity cannot attend court in order to make her Declaration, as will more fully [illegible] by reference to the proof hereto annexed, sworn to and subscribed the date above mentioned before me.

S/ C. Banner

Her **X** Mark
Elizabeth Apperson

State of N Carolina
County of Stokes

Amendatory Application of M^{rs}. Elizabeth Apperson – widow of William Apperson, dec^d

On this 28th Day of December 1838. before me Charles Banner one of the acting justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Elizabeth Apperson aforesaid and she being sworn according to law, at her present place of residence at her son in-law Thos Sprinkles [Sprinkle's] in the county aforesaid, and declared on her oath, that her former state=ment made in her Declaration of facts, was just + true to the best of her recollection, that her husband often told her he actually served as a Continental Soldier about three years + the year before they were married he finished the service of two three Month Tours in the militia, and after their marriage he only served in some small routs of the Tories in the militia, which she does not recollect exactly where nor by whom she can prove it at present owing to her loss of memory + old age. and declares that from bodily infirmity she is unable to attend court – further she declares that it appears from the family Records in a Bible now before me – that her children were born in the following order (towit) their first child. John Appersonⁱ was born the 8th of March 1783. [the word “dead” is inserted with a caret at this point] 2^d. Peter^j born the 23d March 1784, 3^d [the name of Francis Apperson^k is omitted] the 2d May 1785, 4th Richard^l born the 6th September 1786 - [the word “dead” is inserted with a caret at this point] 5th William^m Born 25th August 1788 – 6th the 25th May 1790 named Thomasⁿ - 7th Born 28th March 1792 named Doctor Alex^r [Alexander^o] 8th Child Mary P. Apperson^p was born 26th Noovem [November] 1794. dead 2 twins dead born 24 Nov. 1796 – Bennett^q Born the 5th Feb^r 1798 – dead – Elizabeth^r Born 30th June 1799 and George the last was born the 16th June 1801= And that she this applicant was born the 23rd Decem [December] 1763 and is the lawful widow of William Apperson, dec^d -----

Sworn to + subscribed the day + year above mentioned before me

C Banner JP

Her X Mark
Elizabeth Apperson

^a Elizabeth Apperson was born December 23, 1763 in Virginia. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth [Henderson] Kerr. Her father died in 1777. Details of the settlement of her father's estate can be found in Order Book I of Powhatan County, Virginia, [published on line at the Powhatan County, Virginia GenWeb site, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~vapowhat/orders/powob1.htm> . The Order Book was transcribed by Carol Morrison] Sometime after her father's death, she moved to Surry County, North Carolina with other members of her family. See pension applications of her brother James Kerr, and brother-in-law Arthur Scott at this site. She was listed as the widow of William Apperson in the 1840 census of Surry County, North Carolina. In the 1850 census, she was listed in the home of her son, Thomas Apperson/Epperson. Her son George was also living in the household. The census is dated October 10, 1850. Elizabeth Kerr Apperson died about June 28, 1850. (See "A List of Surry County., N.C., Estate Files", by " Betty J. Camin, in North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal, February 1991.) She is listed because the instructions to the enumerators stated that everyone "whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850 was in this family."

^b William Apperson bought 100 acres of land in Surry County, North Carolina near the Surry-Stokes county line in 1782. (See Mrs. W.O. Absher, Surry County, North Carolina Abstracts, Deed Books A, B, and C, 1770-1788, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1981, p. 42.)

^c Armstrong was enumerated in Stokes County, North Carolina in 1790.

^d Head was enumerated in Surry County, North Carolina in 1790.

^e Martin was enumerated in Surry County, North Carolina in 1790. He was also a pensioned Revolutionary War Veteran. See file # W1044/BLWT61263-160-55 of Salathiel and Mary Martin.

^f David Poindexter remained in Stokes County, North Carolina area, and was himself pensioned there. See file # S3723.

^g Martin Armstrong was enumerated in Stokes County, North Carolina in 1790. He was a pensioned Revolutionary War Soldier. See file #R256

^h Thomas Poindexter married Elizabeth "Betty" Pledge in Goochland County, Virginia on 13 February 1760. (See The Douglas Register, "A Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths...as kept by the Rev. Wm. Douglas, 1750-1797", transcribed by W. Mac Jones, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1985, p. 82.) Thomas Poindexter was in Surry County, North Carolina as early as 1771, when he purchased land there. (See Mrs. W.O. Absher, Surry County, North Carolina Abstracts, Deed Books A, B, and C, 1770-1788, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1981, p. 8.

ⁱ John Apperson married Celia Mitchell in Tennessee. They moved to Missouri, where John died before 1838.

^j Peter Apperson married Elizabeth Petty in Barren County, Kentucky. They moved to Texas, where the couple was enumerated in Ellis County in 1850.

^k Francis Apperson also moved to Missouri

^l Richard Apperson died unmarried in Surry County, North Carolina.

^m Richard Apperson married Tilitha Vest in Stokes County, North Carolina. He relocated to Polk County, Tennessee.

ⁿ Thomas Apperson married Luvitha Vest, the sister of Tilitha Vest. They were the daughters of Isham and Nancy [Pledge] Vest. They remained in North Carolina.

^o "Doctor" is a name bestowed to some seventh sons in that time period. He married Mary Ruth "Polly" Mitchell, the sister of Celia Mitchell Apperson. They also relocated to Missouri.

^p Mary P. Apperson died before the 1800 census.

^q Bennett Apperson married Nancy Scott, and remained in the Surry County, North Carolina area.

^r Elizabeth was the wife of Thomas Sprinkle. Her mother, Elizabeth Kerr Apperson was residing in their household when she made her pension application. The Sprinkles remained in North Carolina.