

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Witherford [Wetherfoard] W4400 Mary Witherford f28VA
Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 10/10/11: rev'd 6/12/23

[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' 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 4]

State of Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

On this 26th day of September, 1838, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Mary Witherford a resident of Lunenburg County, Virginia who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make 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 Witherford, deceased, who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. That she knows very little as coming within her personal knowledge, respecting the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary War; but has always understood from him, and credible soldiers who served with him, and verily believe their statement to be correct, that in the County of Cumberland, he served in the militia two tours, of three months each, in the year 1777: that then he removed to the County of Lunenburg, and whilst a resident of Lunenburg County, and after the marriage of said William Witherford to said Mary Robertson, he enlisted under Captain Hopkins for the term of three years, in the Continental service, and marched to the South under General Green [Nathanael Greene], and served the said term faithfully and was honorably discharged from service. For evidence of service, length of service, rank in the line, and other particulars of service, she refers to the Public Records of the Army, and the accompanying certificates of old soldiers who served with him – She recollects distinctly that in October 1780 he enlisted in the Continental service and did not return home until about or near the time peace was made.

She further declares that she was married by publication of banns to the said William Witherford on the 3rd day of December 1778; that her husband, the aforesaid William Witherford died on the 31st day of January, 1819, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed and accompanying this declaration.

S/ Mary Witherford



Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year above written.

S/ George L. Bayn, JP

[p 6: Hillery Wetherford gave testimony in Lunenburg County that William Witherford died in

Lunenburg County January 31, 1819 as coming within his personal Knowledge. His relationship, if any, to the widow and/or the veteran is not stated.

Hillery Witherford

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[p 8: Benjamin Evans of Charlotte County Virginia gave testimony on November 11, 1839 that he has been acquainted with William and Mary Witherford for the last 64 years and all their children having lived in the same neighborhood with them; he listed the children of the veteran and his widow as follows: Judith the oldest child is about 60 years of age; Joseph, about 57; William is about 55; Polly is about 52; Josiah is about 51; Jonas is about 49; Tabitha and Peggy (twins) about 47; Ann is about 44; Mastin is about 41, and Hillery the last child is about 39 in all 11 children.]

[p 9: Mary Robertson of Charlotte County gave testimony that she has been acquainted with William and Mary Witherford for at least 70 years; was present at their marriage; has lived in the same neighborhood with them ever since they were married; and is intimately acquainted with all of their children whose names and ages as stated by Benjamin Evans is correct. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 25: On October 2, 1839, Mary Witherford gave testimony that she married William Witherford in Cumberland County (now called) on the 3rd day of December 1778; that they were married by Parson McCray of the Episcopal Church; that she kept no family register. This document she signed by her mark.]

[p 26: On the same day, Mary Robertson made oath that she is the sister of William Witherford who married Mary on December 3, 1778; that they were married by Parson McCray of the Episcopal Church.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a Sergeant for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

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Addendum to William Witherford [Wetherfoard] W4400

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 11 June 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Witherfoord, William.]

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit: [26 September 1838]

I Benjamin Evans do hereby certify, that I was intimately acquainted with William Witherfoord late of Lunenburg County, in the Revolutionary war, and recollect distinctly, that in October, 1780, he enlisted under Capt Joseph Michaux [VAS882] for the term of three years, and attached to the 14th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment: That he marched to the South under General Green [Nathanael Greene], and did not return home untill about the time peace was made. That he served faithfully and was honorably discharged from service. [signed] Benjamin Evans

To his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

The Memorial of The Heirs and legal representatives of "William Witherfoord," deceased, late of Lunenburg County, who was a soldier of the State line of Virginia on Continental establishment in the War of the Revolution: Respectfully Sheweth:

That the said William Witherfoord late of Lunenburg County, enlisted in the month of October 1780, under Capt Joseph Michaux for the term of Three years, and was attached to the 14th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment; and that he marched from Lunenburg County to the South under General Green, and did not return from the Army, untill about the time peace was made. That he served faithfully, and was honorably discharged from service. All of which, will more readily appear by reference to the Army Register of the Continental line, and the accompanying certificates of old and reputable soldiers who served with him in the Army of the Revolution.

Your Memorialist farther state, that the said William Wetherford in his life time, never applied for, or drew the portion of Land Bounty promised by the State of Virginia to her soldiers of the Continental line: nor have the Heirs of said William Wetherfoord, since his death, applied for, or drawn the same.

Your Memorialist, therefore humbly pray that your Excellency will grant them the usual quantity of Land Bounty allowed a soldier of the Virginia Continental line, for the service of three years, pursuant to the laws of Virginia and as in duty bound shall ever pray &c Hillery Weatherford

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

This day Hillery Wetherford, a son and heir of William Wetherfoord, deceased, came before me a Justice of the peace in the county aforesaid and made oath, that the facts as set forth in the foregoing Memorial, he believed to be true. given under my hand this 26th day of September 1838.

George L Bayer JP.