

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Morris W5147

Betsey Morris

f34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/18/09: rev'd 6/6/17

[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.]

[p 4]

Georgia Gwinnett County} In the Superior Court of said County at September Term 1821
Present his honor Augustin S. Clayton

On this Twenty Seventh day of September 1821 personally appeared in open Court being a court of Record in the Western Circuit of said State William Morris Senior aged Sixty-three years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the Provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 & the 1st of May 1820. That he the said William Morris Senior enlisted for the Term of one year in the Month of August in the year 1781 in the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Alexander Brevard in the Colonel Archer Litel [sic, Archibald Lytle] in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental Establishment that he continued to serve in said corps until about the 1st of November 1782, when he was discharged from the said Service in the State of North Carolina having served the full time of his enlistment the said deponent further states that he has lost his discharge which was given him by Captain Brevard the officer under whom he enlisted that he was in the Battles of Ninety Six [Siege of Ninety Six, May 21-June 19, 1781] & at the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] in the year 1781 that in the last mentioned Battle the said deponent received a wound by a Musket Ball through his left wrist which has disabled him in that part very much that he has no evidence of his discharge now in his possession.

I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. This deponent further states that he is by occupation a farmer & in consequence of the wound which was received at the battle of the Eutaw Springs in the left wrist he has not been able to provide but a small competency for himself and family, this deponent has a wife & one daughter named Betsy about sixteen years old & a Grand daughter who lives with him & who he has raised named Peggy Morriss about twelve years old the wife of this deponent is about 56 years of age, the said members of his family are about as able to perform labor as persons of their age except his wife who is considerably afflicted occasionally

with rheumatism

Sworn to in open Court this 27th of September 1822

Attest: S/ Jas Wardlaw, Clk

S/ William Morriss, Sr., M his mark

Schedule of William Morriss' Property	
1 Tract of Land very poor containing 137 acres	\$137.00
1 Sow & three Shoats	7.00
½ Doz. Plates	.50
1 Set Tea ware	.75
1 Sugar Box	1.00
knives & forks	1.00
1 Kettle	2.50
1 Spider	1.00
Total	<u>150.75</u>

I certify that I am convinced from evidence produced before me that the above property is not worth more than \$150.

S/ William Morriss, Sr., M his mark

The above Schedule exhibited before me in open court in the said County of Gwinnett where the Claimant resides

S/ A. J. Clayton, Judge

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State of North Carolina, Secretary's Office 6th November 1821

I William Hill Secretary of State in & for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that William Morris a private in Captain Brevard's Company of the 10th Regiment was mustered in 1781, for 12 months, and that he left the service on the 9th June 1872.

Given under my hand the date above.

S/ Wm Hill

[p 7: On May 1, 1840, in Gwinnett County Georgia, Betsy Morris, 73, made application for a widows pension stating that she is the widow of William Morris, a pensioner under the 1818 act; that she married him in the spring of 1785 in Halifax County Virginia; that they were married by the Reverend William Moore her cousin a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; that her husband died September 8 1824; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 21: on June 1, 1840 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Elizabeth McGinnis gave testimony that she was well acquainted with Betsy Morris the widow of William Morris before her marriage to William Morris; that her maiden name was Betsy McGinnis; that Betsy McGinnis was married to William Morris by the Reverend William Moore in 1784 or 1785; and that they have lived together as man and wife ever since. She signed her affidavit with her mark. Her relationship, if any, to the veteran or his widow is not stated.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 27, 1821, for service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40

per annum commencing March 4, 1836.]