

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Magill W5336 Mary B. Magill VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 Sep 2020.

[Magill did not apply for a pension, but he deposed as follows in support of the pension application of William Burke (Burk) S37802:]

I recollect that the above named William Burke enlisted as a private in Captain Peter B. Bruin's [Peter Bryan Bruin S42092] Company late in the year 1776 or early in 1777 to serve during the Revolutionary War, (in which Company I at that time served as Ensign) I also recollect that he was in service at Valley Forge in the month of April 1778 at which time I left the 11th Virginia Regiment to which Bruin's Company belong'd returned to Virginia where after remaining some time I went into one of the Virginia State Regiments in which I served as a Captain and Major until late in April 1781 when I retired as a Supernumerary Officer. In the month of March preceding I left the American Army under the command of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] preparing to pursue the British Troops under the command of Lord Cornwallis who were retreating from Guilford Court House after the general engagement which took place there (I think on the 15th of March) [15 Mar 1781] between the hostile armies, and I well recollect seeing the said William Burk in service with the Troops under General Greens command as a private in Colo Lees Legion both before & after the action at Guilford Court House. Certified the 28th day of March 1818 by Cha. Magill

[Magill deposed as follows in support of the pension application of Richard Addison S37651:]
Virginia Frederick County Sct

Memorandum That on this 24th day of January in the year 1820 Col Charles Magill of Winchester in the County and State aforesaid personally appeared before me Robert White sole and presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Law for the County aforesaid in the State aforesaid and being first duly sworn deposed and said that he was a second Lieutenant in a Company commanded by Captain Peter Bruin and belonging to the eleventh Virginia regiment on Continental establishment and commanded by Col Daniel Morgan. That in the fall of the year 1776 he, the deponent thinks he knew Richard Addison (who is now an applicant for a pension under the law of Congress of 18th March 1818) That the said Addison belonged to the Company commanded by the said Capt Bruin. That in the Winter 1777, he, the Deponent quit the said Regiment at Valley forge and went to the Southward and does not recollect of having seen the said Addison in service afterwards.

State of Virginia } SS

On this ninth day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty eight, personally appeared before Wm H Gains a justice of the peace in the county of Fauquier, Mary B. Magill a resident of Eastern [illegible word] in the County of Fauquier, aged sixty six years, on the twenty seventh of July last and of the above named year eighteen hundred and thirty eight, 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 the 7th 1836, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows" That she is the widow of Charles Magill deceased, who was a Major in the regular army during a large part of the Revolutionary War, the evidence of which rank and also of his term of his term of service is on file in the proper department in Washington city, and additional evidence is furnished by a judgement, rendered in the city of Richmond, for thirteen thousand and odd dollars, in behalf of the heirs of the aforesaid Charles Magill, for and in consideration of the services of the aforesaid Charles Magill. She further declares that she was married to the said Charles Magill, on the twenty fourth day of May seventeen hundred and ninety two, that her husband the aforesaid Charles Magill, died on the second day of April eighteen hundred and twenty seven; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marri took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninety four, to

wit at the time above stated.

Mary B Magill

Mr Bradley/ Dear Sir April the 8th 1844

I perceive by the papers, that my Nephew, Thomas and yourself have advertised to recover and collection pensions, my Brother wrote to me sometime ago, that if it could be proved, that my husband, was an Aid to Gen'l Gates, I could recover an additional pay of ten dollars a month, for the pensions that I have already received. I got two Certificates, from respectable men, in Winchester that went to prove, that he was certainly an Aid to Gates [see endnote]. John Magill, sent them on with my papers of application, for the last years pension, to [Pension Commissioner James L.] Edwards. I have received the pension, but Edwards says nothing about the certificates sent to him. I wish dear Sir, that you, and Thomas would enquire and search into this matter and if any thing can be obtained, whatever is right shall be yours, for the trouble you may be obliged to take in the business. I think something on the subject might be gained, from the papers of the Pinckney family, in South Carolina, if you could find out, who to write to, perhaps that information could be obtained, from a member of Congress from that State. and looking over the public papers in Washington, and enquire of Edwards for the certificates sent to him by John Magill. your attention to this business will greatly oblige me.

My dear son Buckner, mentions in a short memorandum which he left, that there was some money still due to him, as assistant surgeon of the Navy, he does not say how much, but if there is any due, I should like to have it. I find a receipt among his papers from the purser of the ship, in which he was for all that he owed, dated in June when he left that ship, to go on his journey, to the South of France, for his health, and he never returned to the vessel again, but died in the December following. he borrowed some money to pronente[?] his journey, and he mentions in the memorandum, that the money due him, was to pay that debt. if you think any thing can be gotten I should be very glad if you would try to get it for me. of course you would pay yourself for your trouble out of it.

My best love to Sidney, and young ones, and believe me dear sir your affectionate Mary B Magill
I forgot to say that My Son died in December 1840
Perhaps Thomas Green of Richmond can give some information about my husband being an Aid to Gates

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I do hereby certify that Charles Magill was commissioned an Ensign in the 11th Reg't of Va Continental line on the 26th November 1776 and that he was Commissioned as a Captain in the State Garrison Reg't (without resigning from the Continental line) on the 4th June 1777 and as Major of the said Reg't 26th February 1780 in which he served until [two undeciphered words] 15 March 1781 when he became a Supernumerary which he still continues to be. Richmond 6 Nov. 1783
Geo. Muter Col. S.G.R. [George Muter VAS803]

The petition of C. S. Magill & others Representatives of Major Charles Magill Respectfully state. That he was an Officer for seven years in the Revolution without ever receiving the additional Bounty of Land [several illegible words] upon which he drew the 5333 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres shews he was entitled to the additional Bounty for one year over six, which is solicited to be now allowed him.

Th Green for the Petitioners/ Aug 1830

NOTES:

On 26 May 1843 Samuel Bent stated that he moved to Winchester VA in the spring of 1799 and became acquainted there with Charles Magill and understood from him and others that Magill had been an Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC on 16 Aug 1780. However, according to E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra (*A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774-1787*), Gates's correspondence indicates that Magill was actually an aide to Col. John Christian Senf and was at the battle only as an observer. Sanchez-Saavedra also lists Magill as a Major in the Virginia State

Garrison Regiment from Sep 1780 until 1 Apr 1781.

A typed summary of the pension application provides the following summary of Magill's service:

26 Nov 1776: while residing in Winchester commissioned Ensign in 11 th Virginia Regiment

1 Mar 1777: commissioned Lieutenant in same regiment

4 June 1779: Captain in State Garrison Regiment

26 Feb 1780: Major in State Garrison Regiment

15 Mar 1781: supernumerary

Mary B. Magill's application was sent by her son, Augustine S. Magill. The file also includes a copy of the register of the marriage of Charles Magill and Mary Thruston. On 12 June 1841 Mary B. Magill applied to have her pension transferred to the District of Columbia, where she moved because of "the ill health of her daughters family, in Alexandria."