

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Harrison ¹W657 Mary (Molly) A. Harrison f29VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/24/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

At a Court held for Accomack County on the 28th day of August 1832

William Harrison of the County of Accomack, this day personally appeared in Court and made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 viz.. "State of Virginia, County of Accomack, SS – On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the justices of the County Court of the County of Accomack aforesaid, now sitting, William Harrison, a resident of the County aforesaid, in the state aforesaid, aged Seventy-three years 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: That he entered the Service of the State of Virginia in the Militia of the said State, in the year 1776 during the Revolutionary War; that he continued in the said service upwards of four years, that he served in a Company commanded by Captain R. Coleburn and attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel William Parramore, & that Major James Spyers was a Major belonging to the said Regiment, that he never received any regular discharge from the said Service, but continued in the same till the end of the Revolutionary War; that he was stationed most of his time on Watchpreague [Wachapreague] & Metompkin Creeks, in the said County of Accomack, but was frequently marched from place to place in the said County, whenever & wherever his services were required or his Officers directed; that he resided in the said County of Accomack when he entered the said service; that he did not Act as a substitute; that he was born in the year 1759 in the said County of Accomack, but that there is no record of his Age; that since the Revolutionary War he has resided & still resides in the said County of Accomack; that the 9th Regiment on Continental establishment was stationed in this County a short time before it marched to the North, that he was acquainted with Colonel John Cropper, Colonel Levin Joynes [Levin Jones], Isaac Smith, the Survey her for the said County of Accomack and Benjamin Colonna, individuals residing in his neighborhood, who can testify as to his Character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, and that he has no documentary evidence of his Service – He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State: Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid."

S/ William Harrison, X his mark

[Benjamin Colonna and Levin S. Joynes gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

¹ BLWt34543-160-55

At a Court held for the County of Accomack, on the 28th of October 1850,
It is ordered to be certified that it appears to the Court satisfactory evidence that William Harrison died on or about the ___ day of ___ 1840; that he left a widow Molly Harrison, who is now living, and is now the widow of said William Harrison.

[p 21]

At a Court held for Accomack County on the 25th day of November 1833 –

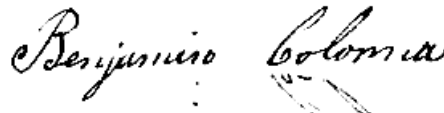
It is ordered to be certified to J L Edwards Commissioner of Pensions of the United States, that it appears to the Court by the most satisfactory evidence as well as from the tradition in this County, and the affidavit of William Watson² and Jonathan Phillips³ made before Walter D Bayne a Justice of the peace on the 20th day of July last, the said William Watson & Jonathan Phillips having been Soldiers of the Revolution, that William Harrison an applicant for a pension served and was actually in Camp and on duty in the Field & in Garrison 2 years as a soldier in the Militia of this County during the Revolutionary war, and that from his age he must have served and actually been on duty as long or longer than Jacob Edwards,⁴ Curtis Bull,⁵ Edmund Read,⁶ Daniel Bull,⁷ John Harmon⁸ and Bowdoin Snead⁹ to each of whom a Pension has been granted by the United States for their Services performed in this County in the same Regiment of militia in which the said William Harrison served.

[Attested by the clerk of the court as a true transcript from the records of the court, the certificate being dated April 2nd, 1851]

[p 18]

I Benjamin Colonna¹⁰ of Accomack County and State of Virginia aged eighty-nine years a Revolutionary Soldier do hereby certify that I lived in the immediate neighborhood of and was well acquainted with William Harrison: and I am positively certain that he served in the Revolutionary War. He was in the company commanded by Captain Robert Coleburn attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Parramore. To my certain knowledge all of the Militia Companies in this County were frequently called out to guard and defend exposed situations in the County. From my knowledge of the service of the Company commanded by Captain Robert Coleburn I am confident William Harrison was on military duty more than two years, but of the exact time he was in service I cannot after this long lapse of time say with accuracy.

S/ Benjamin Colonna



[attested in Accomack County Virginia March 22, 1851]

² [William Watson R11210](#)

³ [Jonathan Phillips W5535](#)

⁴ [Jacob Edwards S10609](#)

⁵ [Custis \(Curtis\) Bull S18338](#)

⁶ [Edmund Read S18564](#)

⁷ [Daniel Bull S18337](#)

⁸ [John Harmon S18006](#)

⁹ [Bowdoin \(Bowden\) Snead W7196](#)

¹⁰ [Benjamin Colonna S46634](#)

[p 9: On May 14, 1853 in Accomack County Virginia, Molly A Harrison, 71 years of age, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of William Harrison who made application for a pension under the act of June 7, 1832; that they pension was not allowed in his lifetime but that she has received the arrears of his pension as his widow from March 4, 1831 up to the date of his death; that she married him October 15, 1826; that her husband died September 25, 1840. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 12: On April 16, 1855 in Accomack County Virginia, Molly Harrison, formerly Molly East, 74 years of age, a resident of Accomack County filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of William Harrison. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum for his service in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount