

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Richardson W6629

Elizabeth Caruthers¹ f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/26/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Accomack County State of Virginia

This day Elizabeth Caruthers formerly Elizabeth Richardson eighty years of age (but the record of her age has been lost) who in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity not being able to appear in Court. Personally appeared before me a justice of the County Court for Accomack County and State aforesaid and made the following Declaration
State of Virginia County of Accomack: SS

On the 1st day of September 1751 Elizabeth Caruthers aforesaid formerly Elizabeth Richardson a resident of the County of Accomack & State of Virginia who being first duly sworn according to law on her corporal of made the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the acts of Congress 7th July 1838.

That she intermarried with her deceased Husband William Richardson on or about the year 1786 with whom she lived as husband and wife about eight years when he departed this life as will more fully appear by his last will and testament now of record in the Court of Accomack in which he speaks of me as his wife.

That she after the death of her said husband Richardson intermarried with one James Caruthers of this County on or about the year 1790. And who also departed this life on or about the year 1830, and she has not since married but remains his widow. That she has frequently heard her said husband William Richardson speak of his Revolutionary Services and the privations through which he passed hungry and without clothes and that he could be tracked by the blood from his feet in the dead of winter was engaged in several Battles and about the Close of the War returned home and brought with him the musket he used, which musket I yet have – and have this day exhibited it to the subscribing Magistrate. That she does not know under whom he served but has often heard him speak of Colonel Cropper & Colonel Joynes. That he was reputed and believed in the community in which he lived to have been a revolutionary Soldier and that she verily believes he served in said war at least three years, as many years ago Colonel Bayly [Bailey?] of this County received a Land Warrant for his revolutionary Services for three years receipt and allowance of which is herewith enclosed.

That she does not know at this late day by whom to prove his services, but is informed Mr. Zadoc Lewis knew him so does Comfort Phillips² who is a revolutionary Pensioner and was raised in the same neighborhood.

Her deceased husband William Richardson resided all his life in the County of Accomack (except the term in the Army) and died in said County about the time mentioned above.

¹ also spelled Elizabeth Cauruthers (Former Widow)

² FPA W5535, Comfort Phillips being the widow of Jonathan Phillips

That he was acquainted with William Gibb the Clerk of the court Isaac Smith Surveyor of the County and William P. Moore Esquire and nearly all the prominent men of the County. That she believes he entered the service early in the war and continued 3 or more years.

She hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that her name nor that of her said husband William Richardson is not on the pension Roll of the agency of this State or any other so far as she knows or believes.

Test: S/ William P Moore, Senior

S/ Elizabeth Caruthers, X her mark

[f p. 7: copy of the last will and testament of William Richardson of Accomack County Virginia in which he names son William, eldest son Major, beloved wife Elizabeth. The will is not dated but was probated in Accomack County Virginia December 29, 1795.]

[f p. 14]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 15th day of June 1784 in the name of William Richardson as a Soldier of Infantry and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £102.3.10 and was delivered to Colonel Joynes ~~but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.~~

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
22nd day of September 1851.

(From page 257)

[No Seal of Office]

S/ Ro Johnston

First Auditor

[f p. 15]

The Representative of William Richardson is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a private of the Continental line for 3 years service.

Council Chamber

Samuel Coleman

June 15th, 1807

Wm H. Cabell

September 17 1807

Received a Warrant on the above in mind name as assignee for 100 acres No. 5274

S/ Tho. M. Bayly

A copy of a paper on file in the Virginia Land Office

Test> S/ S. H. Parker, Reg. L. Office

[f p. 17: On September 3, 1851 in Accomack County Virginia, Zadok Lewis gave testimony that he lived and immediate neighbor to and was well acquainted with William Richardson a soldier of the revolution; although he was young at the time he recollects Richeson enlisted as a soldier and marched to the North and was gone at least two years; that shortly after his return from the Army, Richeson married Elizabeth Mears he thinks about the year 1786 but certainly before 1790 and that her husband died about the year 1794 or 5 after which she intermarried with James

Caruthers; that he, affiant and James Caruthers were rival suitors for the widow Richardson; that James Carothers died in the year 1830 and that Elizabeth Caruthers remains his widow. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[f p. 19]

Affidavit of Comfort Phillips, aged about 80 years a revolutionary Pensioner, deposes and saith, that she well remembers that William Richardson, kept guard in the revolutionary war at Rumley's gut & other places in this County before his enlistment, from several circumstances but the one most certain is that of his being a fiddler, she although young having been at several dances in the neighborhood where he was the musician, she also recollects that the said William Richardson, enlisted as a soldier in the war of the revolution at the same time and she thinks in the same company that her two uncles Stephen & John Moore did, that they all three went to the North & remained in the Army until about the close of the War, they were in the Army I am confident more than three years, that after William Richardson returned home from the war, he intermarried with one Elizabeth Mears, which I think was about the year 1786 & certainly before 1790, they lived together as husband and wife for 7 or 8 years when he died, his widow Elizabeth Richardson, afterwards intermarried with one James Caruthers, and they lived as husband and wife until his death which was about the year of 1830. She has not since been married is now a widow and a living in my neighborhood

S/ Comfort Phillips, X her mark

[Veteran's former widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her former husband's services as a private in the Virginia service.]

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Addendum to William Richardson W6629

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 11 Feb 2021.

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

I certify that Elkanah Andrews [S6507] a navy pensioner & a man of truth & veracity made oath before me that William Richardson enlisted on board the Diligence galley for three years as a seaman & served for that period in the Revolutionary War. Given under my hand as a justice of the peace in & for Accomack County this 27th Jany 1834 [illegible signature]

The deposition of Abel Mears Sen. who says he was well acquainted with William Richardson of this County in the time of the Revolutionary War & that said Richardson enlisted on board of a vessel in the State Navy of Virginia & was in service some time & used to come home on furlough sometimes to see his family & this deponent always understood that he enlisted for the same term as other seamen & served out his regular term Abel hisXmark Mears
Accomack County January 29 1834

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 30th day of June 1786, in the name of William Richardson as a Seaman for £2.3.1, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Col Cropper [John Cropper W3781] and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 6th day of February 1834.
Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.