

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Sheppard (Shepherd) W7631

Priscilla Hay¹ f63VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/8/12

[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.]

[f p. 29]

State of Virginia King William County SS

On this 19th day of June 1839 – Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid, Priscilla Hay, who was Priscilla Shepard, widow of James Shepard deceased who was a revolutionary Soldier. She the said Priscilla a resident of the aforesaid County (King William) aged seventy-five years on the 22nd day of August next who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July the 7th 1838 – entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she was the widow of James Shepard deceased a revolutionary soldier but that she is now the widow of Gideon Hay who died in 1831. The said James Shepard was Sergeant in the Revolutionary Army of the United States, and enlisted under Captain William Spiller of King William County Virginia for the space of three years, which time he served faithfully, but the day, month or year she does not recollect, nor does she know what part of the Country he marched through, nor what battles he was engaged in – She further declares that she was married to the said James Shepard deceased in the month of April 1786 – and that he died in the year 1800 – and that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the 1st day of January 1794 – The is. At the time above stated.

S/ Priscilla Hay, X her mark

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

S/ Wilson Cary Nelson, JP

[f p. 32: copy of a marriage bond dated April 15, 1785 issued in King William County Virginia to James Shepherd and John Satterwhite conditioned upon the marriage of James Shepherd to Priscilla Gentry daughter of John Gentry.]

[f p. 39]

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 26th day of May 1783, in the name of James Sheppard, as a Sergt. of Artillery for £84.0.10, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Wm Spiller and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

¹ Former widow

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
5th day of October 1838.

S/ A. W. Morton, Clk
AUDITOR absent

[family record:

[f. p. 13]

John Hay the son of Gideon and Presila Hay was born in the year 1797 in July the 27

Thomas Hay was born October the 20 1799

Richard Hay was born Febuary the 8 1801

James Hay was [born] September the 8 1803

Robert Hay was born January the 10 1806

Saley Hay was born September the 2 1808

These are the ages of my children

[f p. 18]

James Shepherd was Mared [married] in the yeare Seventeen hundered & 86

Mary Shepherd was Born february the 8 1787

frances Shepherd was Borne february the 17 1789

Nancey Shepherd was Borne November the 5 1791

Nancey Shepherd Died in the year September 31 1793 [sic]

[Facts in file: The widow died March 18, 1844 leaving two children surviving by James Shepard: Francis, born February 17, 1789, who married August 7, 1816, Richard S. Rice, and Catharine, wife of Pleasant Davis, who had a daughter Mary Davis. A note of page 41 indicates that the proceeds due were paid to William A. Saunders for the benefit of Catharine Davis, Francis Rice, Thomas Hay, John Hay, Richard B. Hay, James C. Hay, Robert Hay and Sarah Ann Hay, surviving children.]

[Veteran's widow's heirs were awarded a pension at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836 and ending March 18, 1844, for her former husband's service as a Sergeant of artillery in the Virginia Continental line.]

The [Virginia State Library](#) has posted in its digital collection the following documents relating, I believe, to this veteran:

James Shepherd Serjeant in Colonel Marshall's Regiment of Artillery having Faithfully served three years, the term of his enlistment is hereby discharged from the said Regiment – Given under my hand this 22nd day of August 1780.

By order of Colonel Edmonds

Auditor's office May 26 1783

the above is the & a True copy of a
discharge laded [?] in this office

S/ B. Stark

John Mazaret

Major A:

Sir

I give to Capt. Wm Spiller a Certificate for the land due me as a Serjt in the State Artillery.
James Shepherd

To Maj. Meriweather [Meriwether] February 2th 1784

*Sir — I give to Capt. Wm Spiller a certificate for the land due me as a Serjt in the State Artillery. — James Shepherd.
To Maj. Meriweather February 2th 1784*

Received a Certificate for James Shepherd land Warrant the 5th of February 1784

Wm Spiller

*Received a certificate for James
Shepherd's land warrant the 5th
Feb'y 1784
Wm Spiller*