

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Sherwood (Sherrod) Harris: W3984
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina} Court of Pleas & Quarter Session
County of Granville} November Term 1843

On this the first Monday [6th] of November A.D. 1843, personally appeared before the worshipful, the justices for the County of Granville, holding the Court aforesaid, Martha, or Patty Harris, a resident of North Carolina in the County of Granville aged 76 years 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 7th 1838, entitled "An Act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows": that she is the widow of Sherrod Harris who was a soldier in the regular American Army, in the war of the Revolution, commenced in 1776; that he served as a regular soldier, to the best of her knowledge & belief eight months at one time, & three months in another & was in one engagement with the enemy: She further declares that she was married to the said Sherrod Harris, in the year one thousand seven hundred & eighty seven or thereabouts and that her husband the aforesaid Sherrod died about the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty three, of what disease she cannot recollect, nor the day of his death. that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred & ninety four, to wit at the time above stated -

Martha herXmark Harris

State of North carolina} November the 13 day 1843
Granville County}

Personally appeared before me E Hester one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County: Peter Cash a resident of said county aged ninty years and a pensioner who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with Sherrod Harris who was a soldier in war of the Revolution that he and said Harris was attached in the same Ridgment the no. he does not recollect but Wm Moore commanded as Col. that he a said Harris was not under the same Captain. that he beliefs said Harris serve under Captain Harrison. further this affiant sayeth not. sworn & subscribed the day & year above written

[signed] Peter Cash

State of N Carolina} November the 23rd 1843
Granville County}

Personally appeared before me James Beasley one of Justices of the peace in and for said County Samuel Chapell resident of said County aged eighty seven or eight years of age and a Pensioner, who first being duly sworn according to law deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with Sherod Harris in the time of the revolutionary war, and that said Sherod Harris was a Private soldier in said war, in the Regular army. He thinks he was attached to the Second regiment, and that he does not now recollect who was his officers but was inclined to think that Col. Moore did command his regiment - but is not positive as to that He farther deposeth that he thinks the said Harris served at least two years or moore in said army, farther this deponent sayeth not Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written

Samuel hisXmark Chapell

State of N. Carolina} Nathaniel Estes this day [15 Aug 1844] came before me Abner
Wake County} Peace one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said
County. After being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with Sherwood Harris that he was the husband of Martha or Patty Harris that he has known them for thirty nine years he has frequently visited their house. and has frequently heard the said Sherwood Harris speak of being in the revolution war and he left an impression on my mind that he served almost during the war. but do not recolect what officer

he said he served under I am unable to state in my conversation with him I ast him why he had not petition for a pension. he gave as his reason that he had frequently seen pensioners petitioning who he thought were not entitled and that he felt rather above beging. I am unable to state the date of the marage but I well recolect his having a son Buried at my house which I believe to be older than one of my sons which was born in the year 1793. This the said Sherwood Harris nor his wife could neither read nor write and was unable to keep a Register of the ages of their Children. [signed] Nat Estes

State of No Carolina} This Day personally appears before
Granville County}
Stephen Bridges of the County & State aforesaid and after having ben duly Sworn deposeth and sayeth that he is well acquainted with Martha or Patty Harris that she is the widow of Sherwood Harris Dec'd that from reccord of the birth of my Sister Fanny Cavender now in my Possion in a bible which I believe to be correct I am enabled to state that the mariage of Sherwood & Martha or Patty Harris occurd more than fifty seven years back. that he has lived near said Sherwood & Patty from child hood Frequently visited the house of said Sherwood & often heard him speak of being in the Revolutionary War have heard him speak of being with my Father & one of my Brothers from what he told me I was led to believe he was out nearly During the ware that he served a pat of his time under Col Dickerson of Granvill the said Sherwood or Wife could neither Read or Wright & further this deponant saith not Sworn to & subscribed before me Abraham Lawrence one of acting Justices in & for the County aforesaid this 27 of August 1844 [signed] Stephen Bridges

State of N Carolina} George Peteford [sic: Pettiford] a Resident of said County came before me
Granvill County} Clement Wilkins one of the acting Justices of the Peace of said County
and after being Duly Sworn Deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with Sherwood Harris in the Revolutionary War that he saw the said Sherwood Harris in the survis some time before the Battle Gilford [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] in the State of N Carolina that he the said Peteford went on to the South and does not Recollect seeing him any more untill after the Ware when they Both settled them selves in Granvill County and have Remained there Eversince untill the Death of said Sherwood Harris who died in said County Further the deponent sayith not George hisXmark Petiford
Sept 4 1844

NOTES:

In the 1810 federal census for Granville County Sherwood Harris is listed as the head of a household of 10 "Other (i.e. not white) Free Persons." In the 1850 federal census Patsy Harris is enumerated as age 80 and Mulatto.

On 2 April 1855 Martha Harris, 80, applied for bounty land, stating that she was still a widow.

On 27 Aug 1844 Fanny Cavander deposed that according to the Bible register mentioned above by her brother, she was born in 1765 and was about 25 when she married, and that she had been present some three years before her own marriage when Sherwood and Patty Harris were married by John Pope, a Justice of the Peace for Granville County.