

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Harris S41616

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 March 2012.

State of North Carolina } SS

Wilkes County }

On the 13th day of September AD 1819, William Harris aged sixty seven years, personally appeared before me and made oath according to Law, and doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions of the late Act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War"; towit, That he the said William Harris enlisted in the 10th Virginia Regiment in Captain John Gillison's Company in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County, on the 17th day of January AD 1776, and that he continued to serve as one of General George Washington's life guard in the service of the United States until the 18th day of January AD 1779, when he was honorably discharged at Morris Town [sic: Morristown] in the state of New Jersey. The deponent further saith that when he enlisted the Regiment to which he belonged was commanded by Col. E. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] but that he was immediately transferred to the Company of Life Guards as before stated. That he was at the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], and at that of Monmouth Court House [28 Jun 1778]. That he now resides in Wilkes County in the State of North Carolina; and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of assistance from his county for support – The deponent further saith his discharge was unfortunately washed and destroyed in his jacket pocket.

State of North Carolina } SS Court of Pleas & quarter

Wilkes County } Sessions October Term 1820.

On the 31st day of October 1820, Personally appeared in open court, being a court of record for the county of Wilkes aforesaid, William Harris aged seventy years, resident of Wilkes County in the State aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, in the 10th Virginia Regiment of the continental line commanded by Edward Stevens in the company commanded by Capt. John Gillison; that he enlisted for three years in January 1776, and faithfully served his term of 3 years and was discharged January 1779, at Morris Town in the state of New Jersey, having been transferred to the company of Washington's life guards commanded at that time by Major [Caleb] Gibbs of New England: That he was in several skirmishes, and in the Battle fought at Monmouth court House in New Jersey: and was at the Battle of Brandywine, but not engaged in it, being attached as one of the guard to the Generals baggage waggons. That after being discharged from the regular service he was in the Virginia Militia and was at the siege of Little York [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and the capture of Lord Cornwallis. That his original declaration was made on the [blank] day of September 1819. And I do swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th March 1818, and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled "an act to provide for certain Persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th March 1818 and that I have not, nor has any Person in trust for me any property or Securities, contracts or debts due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. That he has about forty acres of land rated for the direct tax at one dollar per acre; One mare about fourteen years old and one filly about three years old. Three cows, four yearlings and three calves; two old sows, and fourteen young hogs, eight head of sheep; two old plows; three hoes, two axes and two mattocks; That his occupation is farming in a small way. That he is not able from old age to do much at

his business; That his wife named Sarah is about fifty eight or nine years of age who has been afflicted with sickness for seventeen years last past, and is incapable of any usefull labour; That he has one son living with him about eighteen years old and able to do any farming wortk; and one daughter named Mary about thirty years old that stays with them but is free from his controul; and that he has no other family living with him.

Sworn to and subscribed in Open court October Term 1820

William hisXmark Harris