

WILLIAM HOUSTON

SERVICE	NUMBER
<i>Va</i>	<i>Houston, William</i>
	<i>S 1835</i>
<i>Carded</i>	
CONTENTS	

5942

Jonestown Agency -
William Houston
of Green in the State of Tennessee
who was a P.S. in the Army commanded
by Captain Wall - of the Regt. commanded
by Stevens - in the Va.
line for 7th mo: from 1781

Forw'd on the Roll of Jonestown Agency
at the rate of 25 - Dollars - Cents per annum
to commence on the 15th day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 20th day of Feb'y
1832 - and sent from John
Blain, Sec'y of P.S.

Arrears to 15th of Sep. 1832 37.50
Pension - allowance ending 4th Mar: 33 12.50

\$50-

{ Revolutionary Claim, }
 { Act June 7, 1832. }

Recorded by *Nathan Rice* - Clerk
 Book *Q* Vol. *9* Page *206*

Date of claim
 1832

See letter to Hon. J. Blair Jan. 20
1836. Per. of July 23 1836 + to Do.
letter to 3rd Auditor 23 July 1839
Paid at the Treasury under
the Act of the 6th April 1838
from 4th Sept 1836 to 4th March
1838. age notified 280 July 1839
May 22, 1840. see let to 3rd and 2nd
of Hon. John Blair, Sec'y of P.S.
Paid at the Treasury under
the Act of the 6th April 1838. from 4th March
1838 to 4th Sept. 1839. age notified
19th June 1840
Letter to H. M. Loring 5 April 1841

Revolutionary War soldier William Houston was the son of James Houston. This Family gave rise to the area in South Greene County known as the Houston Valley. James Houston's Will was probated in Greene County on September 24, 1820. The named heirs of James Houston were Hannah Baker, John Houston, William Houston, Absalom Houston, John Horton and Polly Russell. William Houston and John Horton were the Executors of James' Estate. On November 15, 1793, a survey was made for Land Warrant #3796 for 640 acres.

Two marriages for a man named William Houston occurred in the early years of Greene County. The first occurred on April 17, 1796 to Hannah Sherrill. The second occurred on June 29, 1798 to Susanna Long. The later marriage was for William Houston, the Revolutionary War Soldier, who lived in today's Houston Valley area. [Refer to the footnote on page 2 of the Pension Application that refers to these two marriages.]

State of Tennessee Green County, September Term 1832

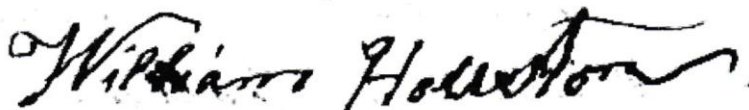
On the 5th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Samuel Powel Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for Green County now sitting William Houston a resident of Green County Tennessee aged seventy years or in his seventieth year who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, towit that he in the year 1781 he was drafted and placed under the command of Captn Wall¹ of Shandoane [Shenandoah] County Virginia it being the same county in which this aplicant resided at sd time and where he was drafted and was enrolled in the uper part of sd county called Massannuting [sic Massanutten] and marched to Fredericksburgh [sic Fredericksburg] Virginia. On this march his capt was taken sick with the flux and allso the Lieutenant & Ensign with the greater part of the company were taken sick with the same complaint and many of them were left on our said march. The Captn Lieutenant & Ensign being sick Sargent Wolf took command of the remnant of the company to which belonged which was fourteen in number the sargent then was taken sick with the same disease at Fredericksburgh [sic Fredericksburg]. When the this [sic] applicant remained some short time and was discharged by the said Sargent Wolf and returned home to Shanendoa [sic Shenandoah] County Virginia after having served two months or thereabouts. He states that shortly after his return home he was again drafted for a two months Term in the said County of Shanendon and state aforesaid and enrolled either at Stauntoun [sic Staunton] or Masanuty [sic Massanutten] under Capn Abraham McCoy the names of subordinate officers not recollected and was marched to a place called the bottom springs below Richmond from thence to Williamsburgh [sic Williamsburg] where he Joined head quarters and was placed under Brigadier General Stephens [Edward Stevens] & Maj. Welch from there this Brigade to which he belonged was marched two miles below Williamsburgh [sic Williamsburg] near old JamesTown [sic Jamestown] where he was stationed some weeks during which time General Washington arrived at that place and marched his company to York Town [sic Yorktown] to the seige where this declairant remained some days at the seige of that place when he was discharged either by his Lieutenant or Captn and returned home to Shanandon [sic Shenandoah] County Vir [sic Virginia] after having been from home in traveling to and from the army and during his stay with the army at least three months and a half he states that from the time he was enrolled until discharged was at least three months. Shortly after he returned home, he substituted in the place of Henry Harden, a resident of Shanandon Cty Va [sic Shenandoah County Virginia] with the declamant for a two months Term to guard the prisoners taken at the seige of York [sic Yorktown] and sent to the Borex [sic Barracks] near Winchester Virginia. he states that he was placed under some Capt or Lieutenant whose name he thinks was Turner and he remained at said Barracks guarding sd prisoners untill discharged by the sd Turner as he believes and returned home after having served a term of two months. He states that he received

¹ probably Martin Nall

written discharges for the three several terms above stated but does not recollect how or what became of them. He states that he served altogether in the Revolution not less than seven months and a half in the service of the United States. He states that he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose Testimony he can prove who can testify to his service and there is not any minister in his neighborhood who can verify for him any 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 he states that he is now a citizen of Green County Tennessee. Sworn to & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

William Houston



[Leonard Starns and Thomas Jones gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Notes:

He was granted a pension of \$25 to be paid semi-annually on March 4 and September 4 beginning in September 1836. Payments were issued by the agency in Jonesboro Tennessee until 19 March 1841 at which time a letter was written in his behalf by William Downey in Greenville, Tennessee to the Pension Office informing them that the agent in Greenville was withholding William Houston's pension payment because the original certificate had the heading torn off. It said that if a new certificate could not be obtained in 30 days from March 4, then the payment would not be paid. No response to this plea was in the file.

William Houston married Susannah Long 29 June 1798. Many have mistakenly identified this William Houston as the one who married Hannah Sherrill. However that William Houston left Greene County and went first to Roane County Tennessee along with his father-in-law Adam Sherrill and from there to Hancock County, Illinois by 1830.]

**From Find-A-Grave: Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery:
[Excerpted from The Southside, by Goldene Fillers Burgner]**

James Houston is said to have been in Greene County by November 1, 1786. He sold this land to purchase the 640 acres south of the river at the head of Brush Creek. There, James Houston built a 2-story log house, which was still standing in 1953 according to Goldene Fillers Burgner. He also built the log Church that was the original Pine Springs Baptist Church. The present Church is located on 4765 Houston Valley Road.

FROM THE SOUTHSIDE, by Goldene Fillers Burgner

James Houston was in Augusta County, Virginia where he married Agnes Wilson on June 17, 1749. When Greene County, North Carolina was formed in 1783 Mr. Houston was a member of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and made Magistrate of [Greene County] District IV.

He was instrumental in the establishment of the Lost State of Franklin, was appointed Sheriff by John Sevier and Major of the State Militia. He acquired a third interest in the Painted Mountain Turnpike, leading from Sherrill's Cove to the Painted Rock on French Broad River. A toll gate was erected at his two story log house.

The Houston family in the early days seemed to have the slickest horses, best houses, prettiest women and paid the highest taxes of anyone in the Southside [of Greene County].



Pine Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Houston Valley Road

WILL OF WILLIAM HOUSTON

William Houston Sr. deceased.

Oct 4th 1841. April 3^d

1843 p 26 8 4 1/2.

I William Houston Sr. do make
and publish this as my last
will and Testament. hereby revoke-
ing and making void all
other wills by me at any time
made First I direct that my
funeral expences and all my
debts be paid as soon after my

death as possible out of any
moneys that I may die possessed
of or may first come into the
hands of my herein after
named Executors. ©

Article and I give and bequeath
to my daughter Polly one thousand
dollars exty of a note of hand I
put in the hands of Joseph Horton
in trust for the benefit of her
heirs & her as a gift to be converted
into land so well as I now
recollect which note I passed
in the fall of the year 1839. on
George W. Foute Cain Broyles & Alfred
Hunter which note at that time
amounted to betwixen seven
hundred & fifty and eight hundred
dollars, it is further my request
that after the expiration of one
year after my death that the ©
above named sum of One
thousand dollars be paid
to her by my executors out of the
first moneys that may

William Houston

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thenafter come into their hands
of my estate, - Article 3^d I give
and bequeath to my daughter in
law Elizabeth Houston wife of my
son Howel for the benefit of her
heirs & her forever the sum of
fourteen hundred dollars extra
of a sum of money that I
loaned to her husband Howel Houston
many years since amounting
with interest at this time as I
believe to about six hundred
dollars, the above sum of fourteen
hundred dollars it is my request
be managed & appropriated in the
following manner to wit, to be
paid over by my executors after
the expiration of one year after
my death or as soon thereafter
as they can command the same
out of any moneys belonging to
my estate, not otherwise heretofore
appropriated, To Stephen HUFF who I
do hereby nominate and appoint
their guardian he having first

entered into bond with good
& sufficient security to my
executors for the faithful
performance of his hereinafter
prescribed duty as such.
whose duty it shall be after
the reception of said money
or any other moneys that I
may hereinafter appropriate
for their use to loan the
same on interest one hundred
& fifty dollars of which I hereby
authorize him to retain and
appropriate to the best advantage
for their interest & support for
the first year thereafter, & from
that time it is my request that
there be for each year annually
the aforesaid sum of one
hundred & fifty dollars out of said
moneys & interest derived
therefrom, appropriated to their
support so long as it may continue
or the same is thereby expended
otherwise until the first one

William Houston

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of her heirs becomes twenty one years of age & then it is my desire that an equitable division be calculated of the remaining sum should (P256) there be any and the one that is of age is to draw its proportionable share of said moneys in full, leaving the ballance or interest for the others to be appropriated as above each year until they all become twenty one years of age, receiving as the first heirs by rotation should they said moneys or any part thereof with their interest continue to exist until that time, But should the said Stephen HUFF fail or refuse to act as above desired by me, then & in that case it is my request that my executors appoint if in their power some one suitable person to act as their guardian in the said Stephen HUFF's stead subject however to the same penalties and

restrictions) as are hereafter required of him in every respect — Article 4th I give and bequeath to my daughter Orphey my two servant girls to wit Lydia & Amanda with their increase immediately after my death. I also bequeath to her immediately after my decease one years service of my servant woman Dry. I also bequeath to her the sum of fourteen hundred & ninety three dollars, which sum I advanced to her husband Joseph Horton to pay for the Fort & possession which he purchased at public sale on the first day of May 1841 — It is further my request that my estate be bound & my executors are hereby requested to pay to her husband Joseph Horton so soon as they may be incurred against him all costs and expences that may grow against him out of any suit or suits that he has or may hereafter be

William Houston

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compelled to institute in law
for the recovery of said possession.
It is further my request that he
be paid out of my estate a reason-
able compensation for whatever trouble
& expence may be incurred to his
predudice in attending &c to a suit
in which he is trustee for my
daughter Polley against George W Fouts
& others for debt now pending in the
Circuit Court of Green County -

Article 5th I give and bequeath
to my son William all the proffits
ariseing from the sails of the
hereinafter described tracts or
parcels of land to wit The
plantation that my father James
Houston last occupied before his
death which I purchased of him
containing by estimation two
hundred acres more or less also
a portion of an eighty acre tract
granted to me by the State of
Tennessee lying and being
immediately on the north side

and joining said two hundred acre tract consisting of the following boundary to wit commencing at the north east corner of said two hundred acre tract there in north fifteen poles in said Eighty acre tract thence west two poles west of the west corner of said two hundred acre tract as to make said boundary taken from said eighty acre tract fifteen poles in width from one and to the others also the flat place which is overcultivated by the Meloy's containing by estimation fifty acres more or less also one other tract joining the same that I purchased of Capt. Tro. Parsons containing by estimation as I believe about thirty one acres more or less which lands it is my request as soon as the present crop of small grain corn &c. that is now growing on the same is gathered and harvest if I should not be living

William Houston

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at that time) that they be advertised by my executors giving at least twenty days previous notice & sold at public sale on a twelve months credit to (P257) the highest & best bid, it is further my request that my executors sell said land altogether or in each parcell to its self which ever way they may believe will be the most conducive of bringing the most money. I further request my executors that as soon as they can collect said money then after to lay it out for land to the best of their judgments for the advantage of my said son William, not nearer than twenty five miles of my present residence, I further bequeath to him to take into possession immediately after my death my read bird rowill mare and colt. But should it then after be made to appear satisfactorily to my

executors that the Brownfields
or Woodset are making use of said
mare either working or riding
Ser. or in any other way with the
full knowledge & approbation of
my said son William Then & in
that case it is my request
that my executors take said
mare & colt from him again &
sell them at public auction on
a twelve months credit giving
not less than ten days
notice of time & place & divide
said moneys when collected
equally between my other
legatees - Article 6th I give and
bequeath to my son Warren the
farm on which I now live
containing by estimation two
hundred & ninety four acres more
or less, Also a one hundred
& six acre tract granted by the
State of Tennessee to me on the
west side and joining the
aforesaid tract on a mob. also

William Houston

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a twenty acre tract granted to me by the State of Tennessee lying on both sides of Cove Creek joining the first mentioned survey at the north west corner which lands and possession it is my request be owned and enjoyed for the term of two years jointly by my said son Warren & my daughter Orphey or until they raise two broods and geather the same after my decease, and it is further my request that they also have in conjunction with the same during the above term the use and benefit of my two negro men namely Isaac & Bill & my negro woman Feldy & my smith tools, and it is further my request that they be at equal expence in the keeping up and management of said above mentioned property for their benefit and shear equal proffits of the same

during the above term, after the expiration of which it is my request that my said son Warren retain in his own individual right said above mentioned lands forever, it is further my request that he have the benefit and services of my negro woman Dixy, the second year after my death & thereafter it is my request that for her faithful services heretofore rendered to me & my children that she be set free & at perfect liberty during her natural life. It is further my request that my son Warren have my interest it being the third in the Paint Mountain Turn pike road, also my two servant boys, namely Ishmael & George and four of my milk cows such as he may see proper to select from amongst my cattle, also three of my beds & bedding with steeds of the best

William Houston

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I may have at my decease, also my clock, I further appropriate for his use and benefit one hundred & fifty dollars to be appropriated in the following manner to wit to be expended in painting the new dwelling I have herein bequeathed to him and underpinning the porch to the same & in finishing off the new barn I have also bequeath to him. It is fur- (P 258) ther my desire that so soon as it is authentically made known to my executors that said work is completed or that that amount of money has been expend towards completing said work it is my request they pay to him the before mentioned one hundred & fifty dollars out of any moneys they may have not otherwise heretofore appropriated Article 7th It is my will and desire that the remainder of my

estate both real and personal of every description (that is not included in the foregoing bequests by me made in this my last will) be sold by my executors on a twelve months credit at public sale, they having first give at least twenty days notice by public advertisement of the time place & property as soon as practicable after my death, which moneys therefrom derived it is my request as soon as they can be collected to be equally divided between my before mentioned five legatees, though I desire it to be distinctly understood that the fifth part of said moneys which my daughter in law's heirs & her is entitled to is to be managed in every

William Houston 1078

respect and appropriated as the monies heretofore herein set apart for them & her in the third Article herein contained Article 8th It is further my request that after the expiration of the before mentioned term of time that my son Warren & my daughter Orphey is to have the use of my three negroes to wit Isaac, Bill & Fiddy should the said negroes be living at that time, that the said negroes be sold & the smith tools also, on a twelve months credit at public sale by my executors they having give at least one months previous notice of time place &c. & when said monies are collected it is my request that the same be paid over and appropriated in the same manner by my executors as they are requested by me to do in the seventh article herein contained.

though I wish it to be distinctly understood that it is my desire that no unconnected person purchase my before mentioned negro man Issam, except Jacob Stephens who owns his wife - Article 9th and lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint George Jones merchant in Greenerville & Joseph Horton my executors I in witness whereof I do to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal this 5th day of June 1841.

William ^{his} Houston Sr.
mark . (seal)

Signed sealed and published in our presence and we have subscribed our names hereto in presence of the testator this the 8th day of June 1841 John A. Park, Jacob Stephens