

# A Guide to the Lynchburg (Va.) Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia  
Library of Virginia  
2013

## History

**Processed by:** G. Crawford; M. Long

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Lynchburg (Va.) Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828

**Subtitle:** Lynchburg (Va.) Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions

**Author:** Greg Crawford

## Publication Statement

**Date:** © 2013 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

**Publisher:** Library of Virginia

## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Greg Crawford, 15 August 2013

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Descriptive Summary

### Language

English

### Collector

Lynchburg (Va.) Circuit Court

### Extent

.15 cu. ft. (1 box)

### Location

Library of Virginia

### Repository

The Library of Virginia

## Administrative Information

### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

### Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

## Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Lynchburg.

## Processing Information

Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828, were removed from the Lynchburg Court papers and processed by G. Crawford. Declarations were reprocessed and indexed by M. Long.

Encoded by G. Crawford: August 2013; updated by M. Long: July 2024.

## Preferred Citation

Lynchburg (Va.) Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828. Local government records collection, Lynchburg (City) Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, 23219.

# Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

Additional Lynchburg Court Records can be found on microfilm at The Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

## Historical Information

**Context for Record Type:** In 1818, Congress passed the first of three major Revolutionary War pension acts. The act granted lifetime pensions to all men who had served as regular army soldiers in the Continental Line and who could demonstrate financial need. Prior to the passage of this act, pensions had been restricted to former soldiers who were no longer able to support themselves due to injuries sustained while in service. The second act, passed by Congress in 1820, required applicants to provide more concrete evidence of this financial need in the form of a certified inventory of his property and income. They also had to include an account of all members of the applicant's family, including their health and ability to contribute to household income. In 1832, the third act extended pension benefits to include soldiers who had served in the state troops or militia. Congress also passed a related act in 1836 granting pensions to the widows and orphans of Revolutionary War veterans.

**Locality History:** Lynchburg, in Campbell County, was named for John Lynch, the owner of the original town site. It was established in 1786, was incorporated as a town in 1805, and became a city in 1852.

## Scope and Content

Lynchburg (Va.) Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828, primarily record the declarations of individuals seeking to obtain Revolutionary War pensions provided by various acts of Congress. The applicants present detailed testimony of their time of service during the Revolutionary War. Information found in the declarations include date and location applicants entered into service, names of military companies they served in, names of military commanders they served under, names of fellow soldiers they served with, length of service, their age, and their place of birth. The predominant portion of the declarations are narratives of their tours of duty during the Revolutionary War with emphasis on battles they fought. The declarations also include affidavits from witnesses who could verify information provided by applicants.

Applicants in this series reported to have served in various military units, including the 2nd Pennsylvania Regiment; 7th Pennsylvania Regiment; 1st Virginia Regiment; 1st Virginia Regiment, Rifle Corps; 5th Virginia Regiment; 6th Virginia Regiment; and the general Virginia Continental Line.

Applicants also gave accounts of being present during several military engagements, including the Battle of Amboy, Battle of Brandywine, Battle of Brunswick, Battle of Germantown, Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Battle of Jamestown, Battle of Long Island, Battle of Monmouth, Battle of Peoly, Battle of Somerset Courthouse, Battle of Whiteplains, Capture of Burgoyne, Siege of Ninety-Six, Siege of Yorktown, the storm of the tour of Savannah, the surprise of Colonel White at Leonard's Ferry on Santee River, and the surprise of Colonel White at Monck's Corner.

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following series:

- **Series I: Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828**, arranged chronologically.

## Contents List

## **Series I: Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828**

### **Extent**

.15 cubic feet (1 box)

### **Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically.

**Barcode number 0007450503: Declarations for Revolutionary War Pensions, 1820-1828**

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