



VOLUME 1, NO.3

CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95014

JANUARY, 1979

PENNSYLVANIA

In 1750, when land grants were made in the then Province of Pennsylvania, Joseph Shirley was seated on 316 acres, part of 75 tracts granted to Moore Furman. Robert Shirley was seated on 320 acres granted to George Morgan. (Ref. History of Armstrong Co. PA, by Robert Walter Smith.)

Among the names of all the taxable inhabitants of Conemaugh T., Indiana County, PA for 1807, were Robert Shirley, yeoman; and John Shirley, yeoman. (Ref. History of Indiana Co. by Caldwell.)

Armstrong & Indiana County

Robert Shirley b. ca. 1735-1834
 married Susan Baker b. ca. 1742-1843
children

1. John M. b. Dec. 14, 1771 Bucks Co. PA
 d. July 27, 1875
 married Elizabeth Taiser (or Piser)
 (Purchased 330 acres in Armstrong Co.
 in 1836.)
their children
 1. Robert d. age 93, Indiana Co. PA
 2. John d. Armstrong Co. PA
 3. Henry killed at battle of Antieham, in Civil War.
 4. Thomas thrown from horse & killed.
 5. Joseph b. April 13, 1822
 6. James
 7. Susan
 8. Jennie
 9. Rachel
 10. Betsey

2. Robert R. b. ca. 1774
 married Elizabeth
 (I have no info on this line.)
3. Thomas b. ca. 1776
 d. ca. 1875
 married Mary Miller
children
 1. Margaret 1809 m. 1st John Lampkin
 m. 2nd Mr. Altman
 2. Barbara 1811 m. Jacob Long
 3. Robert M. 1813 m. Elizabeth Kelly
 4. Christopher 1850-1900
 m. Mary Douthett
 5. Susan 1818 m. Ezekiel Gray
 6. John 1821 m. 1st Ella Rasborough
 m. 2nd Widow Marshall
 7. Thomas 1825 m. Ellen Fairman
 8. Mathias 1829 m. Rachael Longwell
4. Jane
 married _____ Mullen and went west.
5. Joseph b. May 11, 1787
 d. Mar. 16, 1884
 married Catherine Fulmer
children
 1. David b. Mar. 11, 1824
 d. Oct. 31, 1908
 2. James b. Oct. 29, 1830
 d. Mar. 2, 1922
 3. Joseph b. ca. 1834
 d. Apr. 12, 1912
 4. Mary
 5. Catherine J.
 6. John H.
 7. Harry
6. Ann
 married William Bash

Armstrong & Indiana County, con't.

In Stewart's History of Indiana County, Robert Shirley, b. ca. 1735, is referred to as the founder of the Shirley family in Pennsylvania, and it is stated that he came from Conocohague Valley in Huntingdon County to Conemaugh T. in Indiana County, Pennsylvania where he became a farmer and resided until his death.

His wife, Susan, was of German descent. Robert served in the Revolutionary War.



Bedford County, Pennsylvania

- 1756 A stockade was built near here and named Fort Shirley.
Shirleysburg, Huntingdon County was named by Governor Morse after his good friend General Shirley.
- 1769 William Shirley taxed on 200 acres in Trough Creek Valley near Casseville. He owned this property until his death in 1788.
- 1771 William was elected constable of Barree Township.
- 1773 After Indian massacre, William moved to Hopewell Township.
Shirleys Knob was named for William Shirley.
- 1776 Taxables listed William Shirley Sr.
William Shirley Jr.
- 1780 Richard Shirley in service to offer protection against the Indians in the summer of 1780.
Richard Shirley b. ca. 1755
d. July 16, 1780
He was killed by Indians in the "massacre of Rangers."
- 1784 Only one Shirley listed in Hopewell Township.
- 1789 William Shirley, overseer of the Poor.
- 1792 John Shirley, a distiller.
- 1816 James Shirley Esq., Justice of the Peace in Hopewell Township.

Alice Shirley b. 1747, d. Jan. 5, 1842 at Gilson Ridge, Crawford Co. PA (95 yrs.)

Was from Bedford and Huntingdon Counties, PA. Married William Gilson, who was born 1737 in England. He was a Rev. War soldier joining in Maryland. Sworn in Jan. 1776 at Annapolis, participated in Battle of Trenton. John Shirley's name precedes William's name on the muster roll. He may be a brother of Alice. John joined the Revolution at the same time and place as William Gilson.

John Gilson, son of Alice Shirley and Wm. Gilson, set out on foot the winter of 1799-1800 and finally arrived at Crawford County seeking the French Creek Valley. That spring he returned to marry Ann Bell on May 5, 1800. They walked back to their new home in the wilderness, accompanied by his parents and family. (Richard Shirley settled in the same area in Crawford County, PA.)

Richard Shirley (Brother of Alice) married Sarah Cassidy

son: Patrick b. ca. 1795
m. Martha Gilson May 5, 1800
(They were cousins; Martha was the daughter of Alice Shirley Gilson.)

George Shirley b. 1761 PA
d. 1827 Morgan Co, OH
married Ruhannah Norris

They lived near Saxton, Bedford Co, PA. George served during the Rev. war as a fifer in Capt. Lawrence Keene's company, Colonel John Patton's Regiment of Foot, Continental Troops.

He enlisted April 24, 1777, and his name last appears on the company payroll April 1779. George was a tailor.

George left Bedford and appears to have lived in York County, PA in 1810. In 1820 he appears in Ohio with his children. They lived in Marietta, Washington County, O. and then moved to Morgan County, O.

children

- 1. John b. 1787 PA, d. Mar. 5, 1853
Athens Co., Ohio
married 1st. Catherine Shanklen in Ohio.
married 2nd. Maria Mathews
- 2. Mary "Polly" - m. George Ogle in Ohio
- 3. Elizabeth "Betsy" - m. Adam Keith, "
- 4. Lewis - m. Julian Heath (Keith?) "
- 5. William - never married.
- 6. Joseph - m. Elizabeth Keith in Ohio

Warren County, Pennsylvania

John Shirley b. 1735 Chester, N.H.
d. 1826 Warrens Co., PA
married Hannah Stevens

9 children (only 3 names known)

- 1. Hugh - had a son, Peter.
- 2. Daniel - A revolutionary soldier.
- 3. Moses Benjamin b. 1795 Warrens Co., PA
d. July 3, 1840

married Sally Cogswell
known children

- 1. Elizabeth Jane b. Dec. 24, 1833
Warrens Co., PA
d. Dec. 12, 1880
Hebron, Indiana
married Wm. Henry Starring
- 2. Stephen W. b. Mar. 12, 1832
Warrens Co., PA
d. Jan. 27, 1895
Chicago, ILL
married Mary Allen

John lived in Warrens County, PA. as early as 1795, when his son Moses was born. Private John Shirley's name appears on a muster call and payroll dated Sept. 26, 1776, of men raised in Col. Thorton's and Col. Webster's Regiments in the state of New Hampshire, to serve in Capt. Runnel's Company, Col. Thomas Trask's Regiment at New York.

Warren County History states he was a pioneer of Warren County.

John's parents were:

(Captain) James Shirley b. Dec. 1700 Ireland
d. May 30, 1796 in
Chester, N.H.

married Janet - 1726 in Ireland

He was the 7th son of James Shirley
b. ca. 1649 Ireland
d. 1754 N.H.

Came to America ca. 1730.

Captain James first lived in Brookline, Massachusetts and in 1734 moved to Chester, New Hampshire. He served in the French and Indian War in 1756 in Capt. John Gilman's Company.

Allegheny County

Thomas Sherly b. Maryland, d. ca. 1804
married Eliza

children (I have only one name).

- 1. George b. ca. 1795, d. 1847 Allegheny
married Margaret Allison in 1820
their children (names of 7 out of 9)
 - 1. Harriett b. June 16, 1843, Allegheny
d. Aug. 19, 1911, Topeka, KA
married George Walter Oct. 1, 1861
(Velma Ficke & Richard Willmans
ancestors.)
 - 2. Susannah b. April 2, 1820
d. Aug. 13, 1898
married John A. Willey
 - 3. George, Jr. b.
d. Feb. 4, 1903
married Isabel Edgar
 - 4. Thomas b.
d. Jan. 10, 1855 (d.y.)
 - 5. Eliza b.
d. July 1854
 - 6. Margaret b. 1830 Topeka, KA
d. Jan. 12, 1910, Topeka, KA
married Joseph Rice Aug. 13, 1862
 - 7. John b.
d. Aug. 5, 1883,
married 1st. Mary Davis
married 2nd. Martha Davis Kramer
(C.W. Woods ancestor)

Our member, Velma Ficke, quotes her mother's letter written November 30, 1909. "My father (George) was left an orphan at age 9. He married my mother, Margaret Allison in 1820, and settled on a farm near Pittsburg, PA and lived there until his death in 1847. They had 9 children."



1790 Census

• Franklin County

Thomas
Thomas

• Huntingdon County

George
John
William

1800 Census

• Adams County

Jacob b. before 1755

• Bedford County

John b. before 1755
Richard b. 1755-1774

• Franklin County

Thomas b. 1755-1774
Thomas b. before 1755

• Huntingdon County

George b. ca. 1761

• Northampton County

John b. before 1755

Westmoreland

Frederick b. 1755-1774

1810 Census

Note: Names spelled Shealey. In 1800 Jacob is Sherly.

• Adams County

Jacob b. before 1765
Ludwick b. 1765-1784
Micholas b. before 1765
Peter b. 1765-1784

• Bedford County

John b. ca. 1738 (age written in census!) Greenfield T.
wife was b. ca. 1722 (also written in!)
Richard b. 1755-1774, Greenfield T.
Charle b. before 1765, St. Clair T.

• Berks County

George Shirely

• Bucks County - German T.

Robert (I couldn't find)

• Fayette County

Elizabeth Luzerne T.

• Franklin County

Thomas b. before 1765, Peters T.
Thomas b. 1784-1794, Hamilton T.
Thomas b. 1784-1794, Washington T.

• Indiana County

John Center T.
Robert b. 1755-1784, Center T.
Thomas Center T.
Robert b. before 1755, Conemaugh, T.
Robert b. 1784-1794, "
Thomas b. 1784-1794, "
John b. 1755-1784, "

• Mifflin County

Abraham b. 1765-1784, Fermanz T.
Joseph b. 1765-1784, Fermanz T.

• Montgomery County

Moses Chelteham T.

• Northampton County

Widow Shirley (probably John's widow)

• Philadelphia County

Daniel W. Sherly East Northern Lib.

• York County

George b. ca. 1761
Stephen before 1765

Shirley Association
The Shirley News

Join the Shirley Association and receive The Shirley News quarterly. Send \$10 to 10256 Glencoe Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014. Please include your name, address, zip and phone including area code.

• Allegheny County

George	Pine T.
John	Armstrong T.
Robert Sr.	Armstrong T.
Robert Jr.	Armstrong T.
Thomas	Armstrong T.

1682 - Chester County
an original county

1729 - Lancaster County
formed from Chester County

• Bedford County

Richard	Greenfield T.
John	Greenfield T.
James	Woodbury T.

1749 - York County
formed from Lancaster County

1750 - Cumberland County
formed from Lancaster County

• Berks County

Abraham
Jacob
John
Ludwig

1771 - Bedford County
formed from Cumberland County

1773 - Westmoreland County
formed from Bedford County

1784 - Franklin County
formed from Cumberland County

• Clearfield County

John
William

1787 - Huntingdon County
formed from Bedford County

1788 - Allegheny County
formed from Westmoreland County

• Crawford County

Patrick

Dile Creek

1783 - Fayette
formed from Westmoreland County

• Indiana County

Thomas

Conemaugh T.

1789 - Mifflin County
formed from Cumberland County

• Northampton County

Robert

Hamilton T.

1800 - Adams County
formed from York County

1803 - Indiana County
formed from Westmoreland County

• York County

James
Widow Sherly

Newberry T.
York Bourough

1682 - Bucks County
an original county

1752 - Northampton County
formed from Bucks County



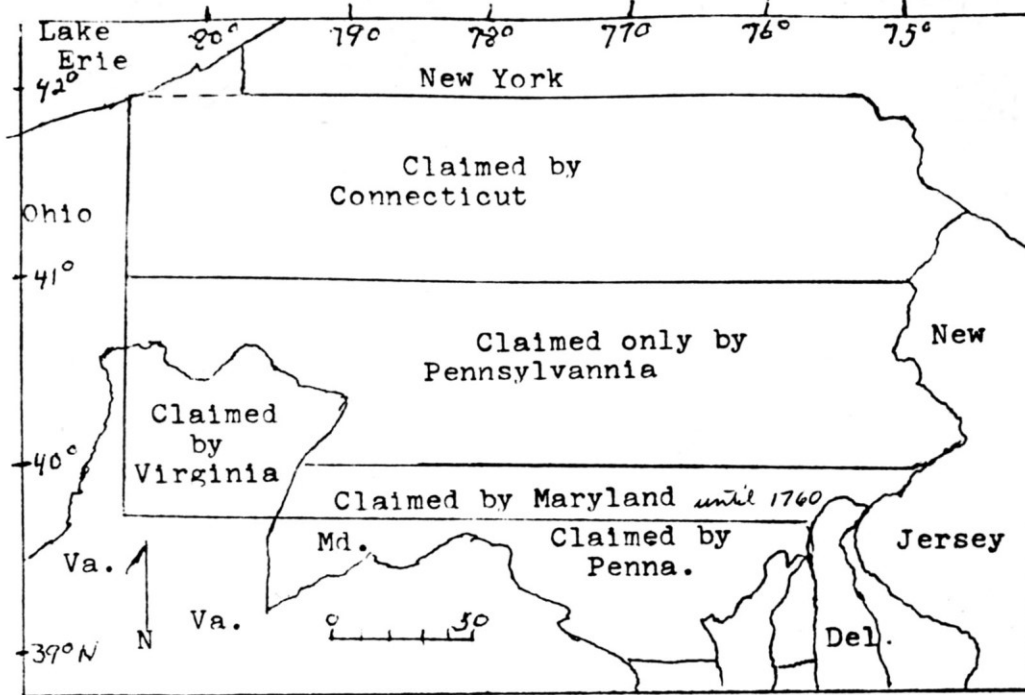


Figure 1 -
Colonial Land Claims Affecting Pennsylvania.

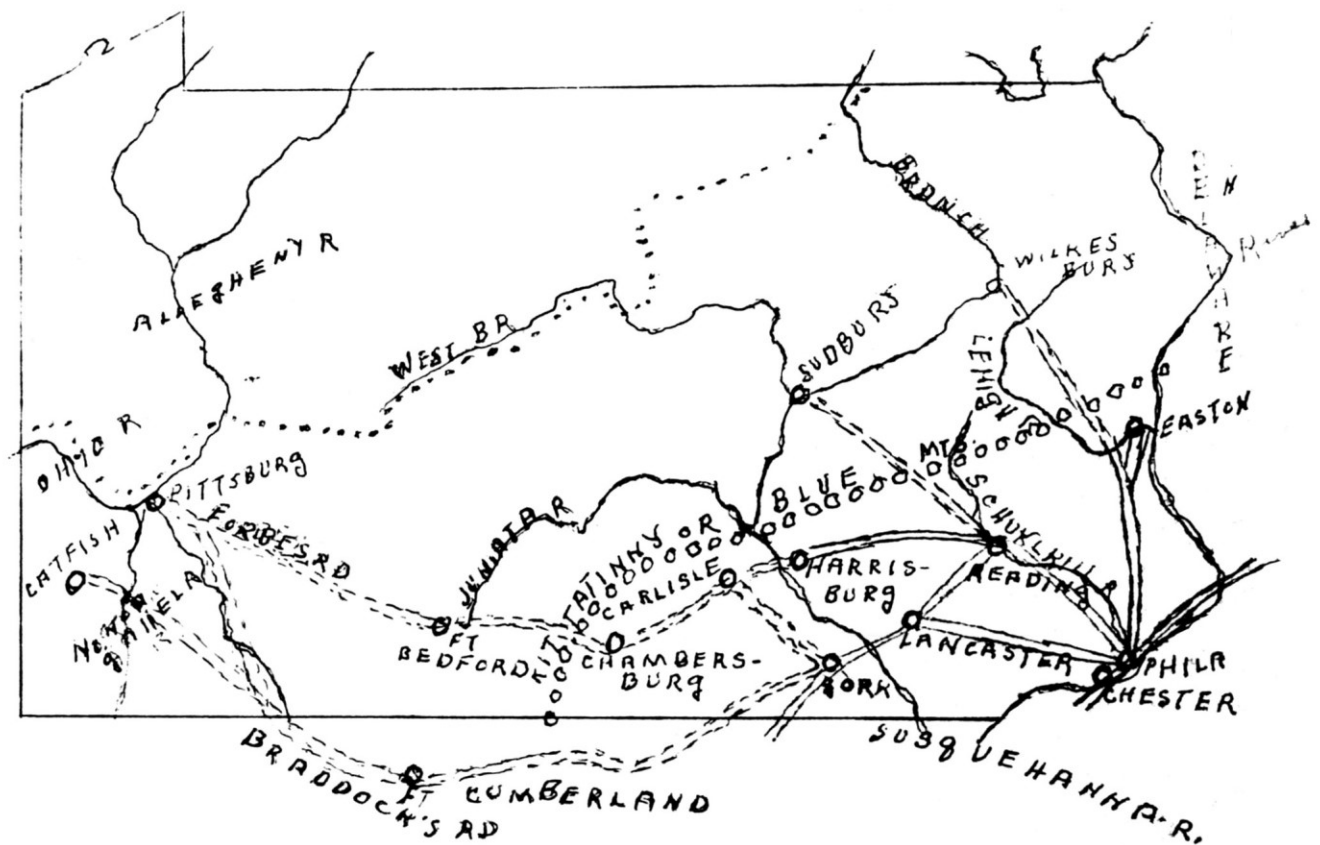


Figure 2 -
Migration Routes In Penna. At The Beginning Of The Revolutionary War 1776.

..... Frontier boundary in 1780
(Northwest of dotted line not included in organized counties until 1785).

==== Improved roads
----- Trails (improved)

Shirley - Penn. Archives

3rd. series, Vol. 15, page 312, City of Philadelphia - 1780
Valentine Shirley, taylor, valuation \$1,800

Vol. 25, Bedford Co.

Richard Shirley, 200 acres, Mar. 13, 1794
Peter Shirley, 400 acres, Mar. 18, 1794
J.S. Shirley, 17 acres, Sept. 30, 1853
James Shirley, 10 acres May 4, 1832
Sarah Jane Shirley, 300 acres, Dec. 5, 1833
John T. Shirley, 4 acres, May 17, 1854
John T. Shirley, 6 acres, June 30, 1854
John T. Shirley, Ex. 4 acres, Jan. 6, 1855
William Shirley, Jr. 200 acres, Mar. 14, 1786

Huntington Co.

John Shirley 100 acres, Jan. 5, 1856
William Shirley, 150 acres, July 12, 1788

Vol. 23 - Rangers on the Frontiers 1778-1783
page 345 Geo. Obermier's Co. - Christian Shirley
page 242 Northumberland Co. - Charles Shirley
page 353 John Beatty's Co., - Charles Shirley

Franklin Co. Pensioners

page 530 Thomas Shirley, sergt. P.M. April 12, 1834-35
page 708 Capt. Samuel Patton's Co., Cumberland Co., Militia 1780 6th Class
Thomas Shirley, also in 1781 and 1782

Vol. 22 Barrer Township, Bedford Co.

page 107 James Shirley renter
page 345 Woodbury, Co., of Huntington, 1788
John Shirley, 70 acres
William Shirley, desc. 150 acres
page 110 Barree Twp., Bedford Co., William Shirley
page 150 Hopewell Twp., Bedford Co., William Shirley

Vol. 24, Lancaster Co. 1733-1896

page 534 Lodowick Shirley, 100 acres, Oct. 26, 1751
page 168 Bucks Co., 1733-1889 Robert Shirley 25 acres, Nov. 25, 1758
page 525 Lancaster Co. Thomas Shirley --- acres Mar. 2, 1743
page 763 Cumberland Co. Thomas Shirley, 60 acres Feb. 14, 1775

Vol. 13 Bucks Co. Transcript - 1799

page 28 Robert Shirley estate 127 acres
page 164 Robert Shirley's estate 100 acres (1781)
page 221 Robert Shirley's estate 110 (1782)
page 431 Robert Shirley estate -- 6 white inhabitants

vol. 17 page 703 Stophel Shirley, 50 acres (may be misprint)

Vol. 11 page Chester Co. 1765

page 85 Thomas Shirley Jr.
page 369 Thomas Shirley Jr. 100 acres
page 495 Thomas Shirley Jr. 50 acres (1768)
page 737 Thomas Shirley Jr. 140 acres (1771) Blacksmith

Vol. 20, page 179, Cumberland Co., Thomas Shirley also listed on p. 1780, 81, 82

Pennsylvania, Franklin County: fs

Personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the Peace in & for said county.

Whom I certify are men of veracity & credit who being duly sworn say they have long been acquainted with Thomas Shirley the within declarant that they believe to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that according to their best information he entered the service in 1776 - served in Companies Commanded by Capte Jamieson & Craig the regiment Commanded by Colonel Thomas Craig attached to the Pennsylvania line and that he left the service as stated in his declaration.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 10 day of May.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Franklin: fs

On the 10 day of May Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open court before Matthew Paton and William McKesson Esquires Judges for the Court of Common Pleas and quarter Sessions and Orphans Court and for the said county of Franklin in the sixteenth Judicial District of said state of Pennsylvania now sitting, Thomas Shirley nearly eighty-four years who being first 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 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated to the best of his recollections his memory at this advanced age being exceedingly frail, viz:

That he was born in Springfield Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania on the tenth day of July A.D. 1746. That he enlisted as a regular soldier at Cookers Tavern, Springfield Twp in said County of Bucks sometime in the year 1776 - for a term of nine months in the Company Commanded by Capt. John Garrison - Lieut Daniel Jamison and he thinks Ensign Ball - that he marched to Bristol crossed the Delaware at Corleys ferry thence to Princeton crossed Raritan and proceed to Newark. That he accompanied the troops across to Fort Washington where he assisted in perfecting the defenses of the Fort after which he was detailed as the head of a guard to remove some cattle across the river to the New Jersey side when the attack was commenced upon the fort - That the commanding officers of his company and the balance of men were taken prisoners in the Fort - That he afterwards enlisted at town of Newark in Jersey for another term during the war - in the Company Commanded By Capt Craig and he thinks (Thomas Lucas - scratched) Keisline and Ensign John Borgs, but his memory has become so very frail as in consequence of in several spell of sickness that he cannot speak with absolute certainty of these names - his Col. was Thomas Craig - That he bled following Gen. Washington when he chased the British forces through the State of New Jersey - Crossed the Delaware, and afterwards acrossed to attack Trenton - That he assisted in the capture of the Hessians at the last mentioned place in the winter of 1776 and was afterwards in the Battle of Brandywine and Monmouth - That he was on his enlistment under Capt Craig and was conditionally appointed line Sergeant by that Officer, and continued such until he was discharged - That he was appointed to the command and (as sergeant) of a scouting party under Lieutenant - whose name he cannot remember on the North River on horseback; when he received a slight wound in the right leg from the enemy and had his horse killed under him. That he lay at Valley Forge with the troops at the time they endured so much exposure and suffering - That he knew Capt Morgan's Company, Capt Waigner's Company & Col Keeslein Col Dean Jr - That he knew Genl Putnam Genl Layne Genl Wood and numerous others - That he has no documentary evidence of his service, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service - That he received his discharge either at Princeton or Trenton from the Commander in Chief by the hands of Capt Craig but that it was lost by the burning of his father's home - That he hereto relinquishes his every claim to a pension or annuity except for the present and declares that he believes his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state nor has he ever received a pension or any compensation for his revolutionary war service under any pension law - that his service during the Command of Captain Jamison as a private soldier to the best of his recollection about two months - and that he continued in the service under Capt Craig as a Sergeant afterwards until the close of the war -

Sworn to and subscribed Thomas (x) Shirley
the day and year aforesaid (his mark)
in open court. Richard Morrow Clk

The following questions were then put to the applicant by the court: -

Questions: -

1. Where and what year were you born?
2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
3. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary war; and where do you live now?
4. How were you called into service?
5. State names of some of your regular officers who were with the troops where you served; And Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?
7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and can testify as to good character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answers: -

1. I was born in Bucks County Pennsylvania on the 11 day of July 1749.
2. I had a record of my age but lost it by fire.
3. I was called into service in Bucks County Pennsylvania where I resided. I have resided in that county part of my time since the Rev. War, but greater part of it in Franklin Co. Pa:
I am now in the poor house.

- That he believes that those who personally knew of his services in the War in Bucks County are dead, or removed away and that he is wholly without the means of inquiring & obtaining their services that the following and among his fellow soldiers but he knows not whether they are or where they reside, viz: Ephraim Morrison, John Lockiv, Sam'l Bell, Jno Gerhart, Caleb Blackman, Ephraim Rose, two Charltons, Jas Bailey -

Thomas (x) Shirley
(his mark)
John Hutchinson

Sworn and subscribed before me 20th day of Febr'y A.D. 1834.

Shirley History

About the year 1731, there came three brothers from England: William, John, and Peter. *William settled in Boston: Peter also settled in Mass. His descendents became the Shirley "Suspender" kings. John Shirley settled in Pennsylvania: afterwards came to Virginia, where they became large land owners and planters. Some way in Pa. we became mixed up with the Dutch and traces of German blood still flows in our veins. Several generations passed and finally came to my great grandfather, who married a Miss Youngblood. They had three children--Peter, John, and Mary. Mary married Adam Stinebaude. Peter--I have forgotten. John Shirley married Christianna Youst. Five sons and two daughters were born to my grandparents. Peter, Henry, John, Daniel, Elijah (Aley), Lydia, and Bettie. They all married into Va. families and settled close to grandfather Shirley. Grandfather Shirley and his wife came I believe, from the vicinity of York, Pa. to Va. circa 1822-26. He bought a large amount of land near Siler, Va. (known as Timber Ridge district about 14 miles south of Berkeley Springs, Morgan Co. then was Virginia.) He died in 1855, leaving a large estate (for those days) and along with his wife, who died shortly afterward, are buried in the Shirley cemetery on the homeplace. I think all my aunts and uncles were married by 1845.

A family by the name of Finch lived about ten miles away from grandfather Shirley. The way we children figured it was that grandfather Finch was looking for a wealthy man for his daughter. I do not think my father (Henry) knew of their scheme. One day, John Finch and his daughter, Hester Ann (later to be my grandfather's wife) called and paid grandfather Shirley a visit. They stayed all night. When they arrived, my father was out hunting. He came home with rabbit hairs all over his clothes. After he had cleaned up, he and my mother (after the old folks had gone to bed) stayed up and had a talk. They called it sparking. He said that as soon as he saw Miss Finch, he knew that he wanted her for his wife. When they left it was agreed between them that he would call on her in two weeks. The courtship ran on rather smoothly. My father thought that all was fair in love and war and he was determined to have her at any cost. My grandfather Finch was anxious for the wedding but, as time drew near (it was set for May 1844) he was in New York. You had to be twenty-one years old to get married without the consent of your father. Since that was impossible, they decided to go over into Pa. In the evening before the wedding, my father sent three riding horses for my mother, her sister and brother to fetch them to grandfather's to join the rest of the wedding party for the trip over to Yerdietown, Pa. where there was no marriage license required.

They left Grandfather Shirley's in the evening; riding horseback. There were eight men and two women. Grandfather Shirley and my mother rode in front, Uncle Jesse and Aunt Nancy Finch came next and the Shirley men and in-laws brought up the rear. They rode all night and upon arrival, went to the hotel to change into their wedding clothes. My mother's gown was white goods made very long with ruffles from the bottom of the skirt up to the neck. The presents from the bridegroom were always a comb and bridal veil. The veil was green; draped over her head and it hung down her shoulders and fastened with the comb. My father was dressed in a black suit, low cut with one or two buttons at the bottom (velvet or plush) along with a Prince Albert coat and a tall stove pipe hat. They sent for the minister and were married at the hotel, then started on the long trip back home to Va. For the "in-fair" at grandfather Shirley's, the guests came from far and near. Two long tables in the dining room. My aunts and grandmother Shirley did the honors. The guests stayed all night; departing the next day. It was considered a very brilliant affair for those days. They had decided before the wedding to make their home with grandfather Shirley. My father was what is known today as grandfather's private secretary. After grandfather Shirley died in 1855, my aunts and uncles divided the large estate among themselves; selling what they did not want. My father, Henry, inherited the homeplace.

Grandfather died very suddenly but, two days before he died he had a gallon bucket filled with silver and gold coins. This was never found but, we children always suspected that he had buried it.

By that time rumors of war were being circulated and the south was making great preparations to break away from the union. Grandfather, before his death, had set all his slaves free and my mother made my father promise that he would never own a slave or play a violin before she married him. From 1855 to 1861 they followed their usual vocations. Early in 1861, the south began to call for volunteers. Father went to Winchester, Va. and enlisted in the 89th regiment of the Confederate State Militia. The breast works and trenches which he helped to throw up can be viewed today in Winc. He hired a substitute for two months in late 1861 so that he could come home and look after mother and the children. He sold off all the livestock except my mother's riding horse and one cow; which she kept in the cellar of our home.

One day he went over to a place about a mile from our house called Phillip Boarden's and the Yankee soldiers took him prisoned to Camp Chase, Sandusky, Ohio. His grandson, Gerald, had the distinction of camping on the same site during World War I. I don't know how long he was a prisoner at Camp Chase but, he was transferred to Johnson's Island in Lake Erie (near the Canadian border)

Mother sent a man to Sandusky, Ohio but, father had already been transferred before he got there. He, being over the age of forty-five, mother thought he would be released. In the meantime, General Stonewall Jackson was camped within a mile of our house, with an army of over one thousand men. Gen. Jackson boarded at a neighbor's house--Mr. Squire Unger. Squires in those days were under the impression that they were just about as high as the pres. so--one morning at breakfast Squire Unger asked Gen. Stonewall Jackson, "General I understand you are soon breaking camp". "Yes", replied the Gen. "May I inquire where you are going?" "Can you keep a secret?", asked the Gen. "Yes, said Squire. "Then so can I", replied Gen. Jackson.

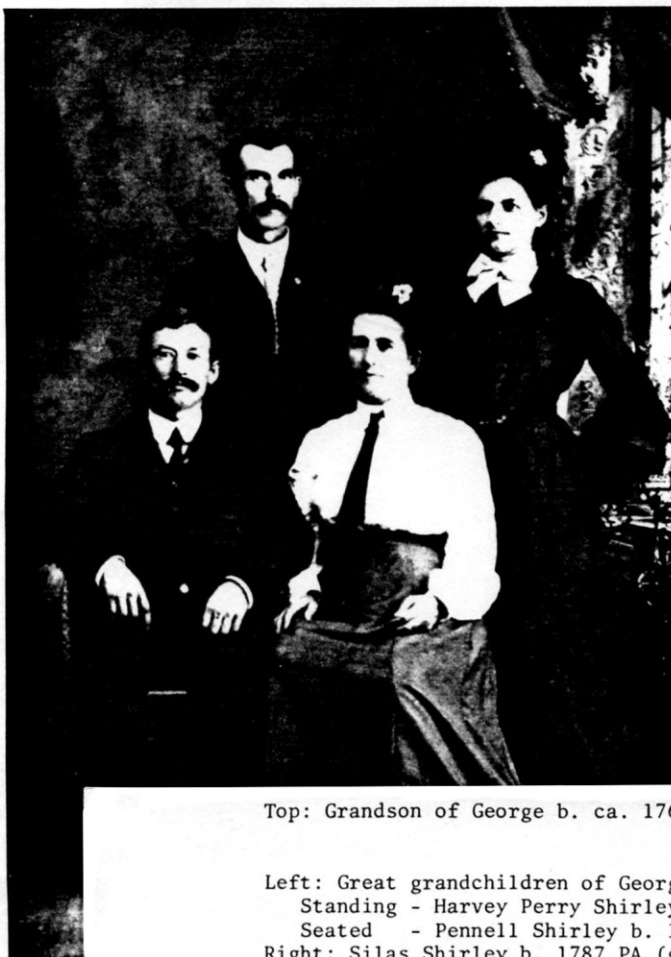
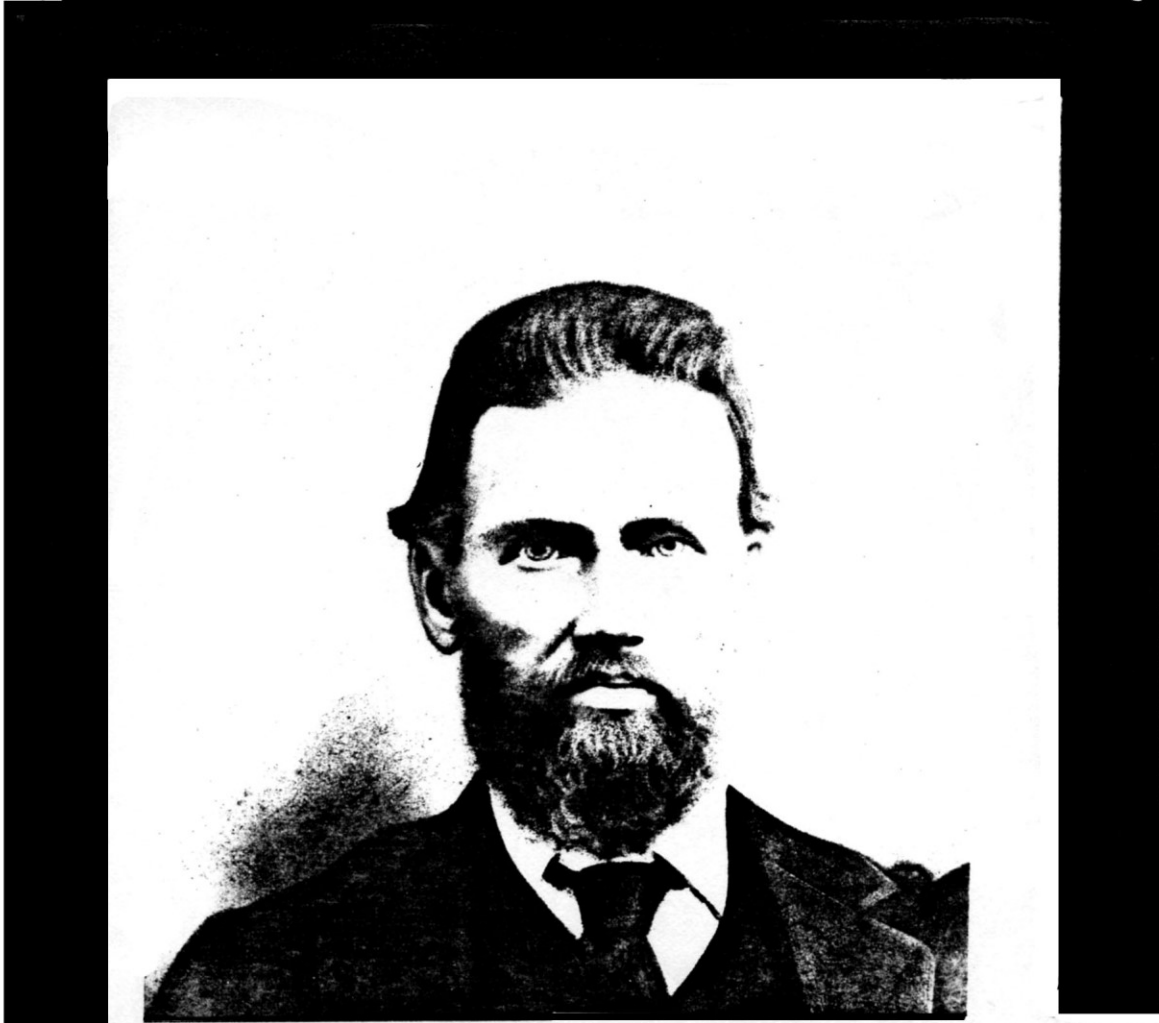
Mother obtained an interview with Gen. Jackson through the Squire. This talk concerned the release of father and the Gen. told her that Gen. Robert E. Lee was in a better position to help her than he was and he gave her the necessary papers to take her to his headquarters in the Shenadoah Valley. She and father's brother Aley (Elijah) arrived there and were conducted to Gen. Lee's. Uncle Aley was not allowed to pass the outer sentry. She delivered a sealer document to Gen. Lee and he asked her name along with other questions pertaining to her family and where she lived. She ate breakfast with Gen. Lee and he promised to do all he could to obtain father's release. My mother often spoke of Gen. Lee with the greatest respect; as being such a mild, kind southern gentleman. He gave her passes to take them back through the sentry lines--to travel the long way back to their home. On arrival home, she settled down to watchfull waiting. She had to go to Pa. to buy coffee at \$1.00 a pound, calico at \$1.00 per yard and everything else in proportion. The south; raising nothing: suffered more than any history has ever told. No crop planted or nothing raised. Soldiers of both armies took whatever they found and residents were left with nothing. Time went by and mother went to visit my grandmother Finch at Fredericktown, Va. (about ten miles away). During the time father was imprisoned, mother kept a housekeeper and her four children. She took two of them with her and left two with the housekeeper. She and these two children contracted scarlet fever on this trip. No doctors or medical treatment within miles, the youngest (a Boy) died. His father had never seen him. Father traveled by foot, train, and boat to Vicksburg, Miss. where he was to be exchanged for five northern prisoners. He then traveled to Gen. Jackson's headquarters where he was given an honorable discharge (written on parchment paper with a goose quill pen. When he went before the General, he was asked his age, where he lived, and other questions to ascertain he had the right man.

The General said, "soldier, I was camped within a mile of your house; You are free to go home now". "Give me a pass and I will do so", said father. Along with this, the Gen. handed him a five dollar bill. "How will I return is to you"? Gen. Jackson replied, "If you ever see me again, you can pay me back and if you don't-- he waved his hand. Father then started on the long journey home. While he was on the boat to Vicksburg, a soldier pointed to a house saying, "See that house over there? My family lives there". When the guard was at the other end of the boat, the soldier slipped over the side. Father could just see his head above the water. Another incident occurred while father was on picket(guard) duty. He had sat down by a tree and fallen asleep with his gun resting between his knees. He awoke to find a Yank soldier taking his gun. He was badly scared and cried "Oh, Oh, what do you want?" "Give me a plug of tobacco, soldier". Father handed him a plug and said, "keep it all". The Yank broke off a piece and handed it back to him along with his gun and disappeared.

After father returned from the camp where he was discharged. The "Old South had disappeared and things were changed. He was very much discouraged and then decided to go to Illinois, where the money would be on the trees. This was in 1872. He rented out his land in Va. and he, mother, and six children ended up in Greenfield, Illinois about September 1, 1872. He went to farming immediately but, all soon got homesick for Va. so, after two years, decided to return home. Father had some nice horses which he wanted to keep and he decided to return by wagon train. All thought this would be great sport; which it was. They had two covered wagons, a spring wagon, and a lumber wagon. They traveled slowly and visited many places of interest on the way. When they stopped in or near a town, father would go to the authorities and explain, so that we would not be taken for gypsies or horsethieves. The journey was happy with nothing happening to mar the pleasure. They encountered several aqueducts, toll gates, and canals. They arrived home safely in Va. Sept. 1874. They found the south in about the same condition so, in 1880 father sold his land and the family returned to Greenfield, Ill. where he again took up farming along with school teaching. In 1884, he moved to the city of Carrollton, Ill. He then went to the Dave Wright farm north of the city and resumed farming until 1893, when he retired and moved back to Carrollton. Between 1855 and 1877 there were ten children born to mother and father. All were born in Va. Two died (a girl-4, and a boy-1) They were buried in Va. The other eight lived to maturity. The oldest, William, never married. Henry Alexandria Wise married Clara Gardner (Kane, Ill.) Lydia marr. Ananias Spiker (Va.), Catherine marr. John Dawson (Va.), Betty marr. William H. Cross (Va.), Jesse marr. Ada Purcell of St. Louis, Missouri. Zonia marr. Charles C. Capps of Greenfield, Ill. Miss Virginia Shirley never married.

In the year 1859, father was called to help capture John Brown. Father was not at the capture when John Brown was taken at Harpers Ferry but was stationed at Sir John's Run, several miles distance. (This is very near Berkeley Springs, W. Va.)

*William Shirley was a relative. He was royal governor of Mass. 1741-1756. His occupancy of the governor's chair was marked by the French and Indian War. He died at Roxbury, Mass. in 1771. He was instrumental in re-building King's Chapel (oldest stone church in Boston). He and his family had a special pew with a canopy top. The silver chalice and service in the church was a gift from Queen Mary and King George II. Governor Shirley is buried in the basement of the church.



Top: Grandson of George b. ca. 1761 PA

Left: Great grandchildren of George

Standing - Harvey Perry Shirley b. 1861 Ohio, Hulda Shirley Oliver b. Ohio

Seated - Pennell Shirley b. 1871 Ohio, Eliza "Lyde" Shirley Otis b. Ohio

Right: Silas Shirley b. 1787 PA (grandson of George).