

# A Guide to the Northumberland County (Va.) Military and Pension Records, circa 1785-1919

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**Author:** Sam Walters

## History

**Processed by:** Library of Virginia staff

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Northumberland County (Va.) Military and Pension Records, circa 1785-1919

**Subtitle:** Northumberland County (Va.) Military and Pension Records, circa 1785-1919

**Collection:** 1182758-1182759

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## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from being created directly into EAD, created by Sam Walters, 03 February 2009

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

**2013-11-21** Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Descriptive Summary

### Barcode numbers

1182758-1182759

### Language

English

### Collector

Northumberland County (Va.) Circuit Court

### Physical Characteristics

0.2 cu. ft.

### 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 items came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Northumberland County under the accession number 43283.

**Preferred Citation**

Northumberland County (Va.) Military and Pension Records, circa 1785-1919. Local government records collection, Northumberland County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

## Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

Additional Northumberland County Military and Pension Records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

## Historical Information

Northumberland County probably was named for the English county. It was formed about 1645 from the district of Chickacoan, the early-seventeenth-century name for the region between the Potomac and the Rappahannock rivers.

Throughout the Civil War, the principal responsibility for Virginia's indigent soldiers' families lay with the locality. The Virginia State Convention in 1861 gave the responsibility entirely to counties and incorporated towns and authorized whatever actions had already been taken. Acts of Assembly in 1862 and 1863 expanded the localities' powers to provide for their need, and in 1863 some minimal state assistance was added in. At first relief was provided as money, but as the monetary system collapsed, relief was distributed in kind. Agents of the court maintained lists of eligible families, gathered goods for distribution and paid for them, and impressed supplies if necessary. Virginia was unique amongst the southern states in that it assigned the provisioning of needy families almost solely to the locality.

## Scope and Content

Northumberland County (Va.) Military and Pension Records, circa 1785-1919 consist of applications for commutation money and artificial limbs (1882-1886), applications for pensions (circa 1888-1908), a bond from Northumberland County to the widows and minor children of confederate soldiers and sailors (1877), confederate pension board minutes and appointments (1900-1915), a declaration of Revolutionary War military service (undated), exemptions from military service (1862), General Assembly resolutions regarding money and property expended during the Revolutionary War (1788), lists of applications for pensions (1906-1919), certification of pensioners (1785-1791, 1902), militia officer qualifications (1804), the muster roll of infantry attached to the 2nd battalion of the 3rd regiment (1850), a petition for an exemption from military duty (1862), records regarding soldiers' heirs and bounty warrants (1836-1858), reports of indigent families of soldiers (1862-1865), and salt agents' reports (1864-1865).

## Index Terms

**Corporate Names:**

Northumberland County (Va.) Circuit Court

**Subjects:**

Families of military personnel--Virginia--Northumberland County  
Military pensions --Virginia--Northumberland County  
Military service, Voluntary-- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Military supplies--Virginia--Northumberland County

## **Geographical Names:**

Northumberland County (Va.)--History  
Northumberland County (Va.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865  
Northumberland County (Va.)--History--Revolution, 1775-1783  
Northumberland County (Va.)--History--War of 1812

## **Genre and Form Terms:**

Local government records -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Pensions -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Reports -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Resolutions -- Virginia -- Northumberland County

## **Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically by subject and then chronologically.