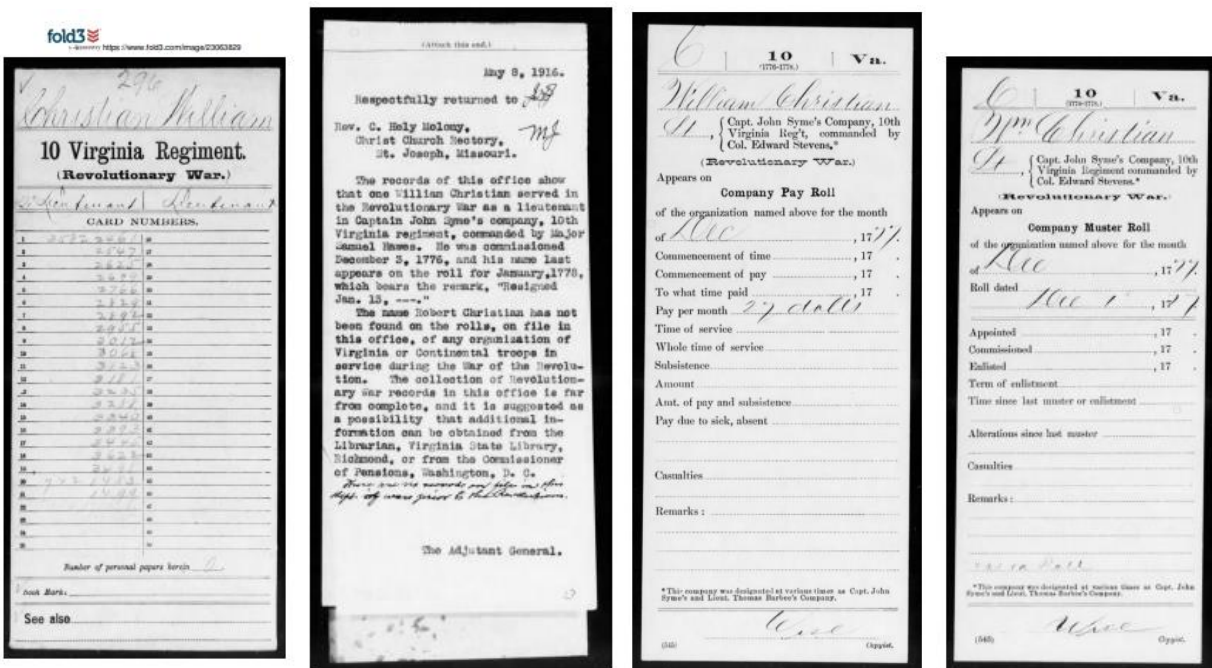


Genealogical Proof Argument supporting that William Christian was at Valley Forge

Jessica McManus Paul, Professional Genealogist

The first step to proving William Christian b. 1743 of Augusta County, Virginia was at Valley Forge would be to prove he fought in the Revolutionary War at all. This is easily proven by the fact that there are 27 pages of his Revolutionary War records available online. According to those records, William Christian was a Lieutenant in the 10th Virginia Regiment. Also included is a letter in response to a request for records by a Rev. C. Hely Molony which explains that William Christian served in John Syme's Company, 10th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Samuel Hawes. Christian was commissioned 3 Dec 1776 and he last appears on the roll dated January 1778. And that roll has the remark "Resigned Jan. 13, -----."¹



The first Company Pay Roll card indicates that he was a 2nd Lt. in Capt. John Syme's Co., 10th Virginia, Reg't, under the command of Col. Edward Stevens. It indicates his pay on this roll commenced on 3 Dec 1776 through 1 Jun 1777. There are payroll cards for May, Jun, July, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec 1777. The final muster roll cards for him in this group is for January 1778 stating he resigned on January 13, 1778.

¹ Fold3.com, "[Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army During the Revolutionary War for William Christian](#)" in Fold3.com at (accessed 21 Mar 2019). Original source: United States. Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918, National Archives Microfilm Publications M881, (Washington, D.C.: NARA, 1894 - ca. 1912). NAME-RESIDENCE: William Christian, Virginia.

6 | 10 | Va.
(1776-1778.)

William Christian

St., { Capt. John Syme's Company, 10th
Virginia Regiment, commanded by
Major Samuel Hawes.*
(Revolutionary War.)

Appears on
Company Pay Roll
of the organization named above for the month
of *Jan*, 1778.
Commencement of time 17 .
Commencement of pay 17 .
To what time paid 17 .
Pay per month
Time of service
Whole time of service
Subsistence
Amount *11 2/3 doll*
Amt. of pay and subsistence
Pay due to sick, absent

Casualties

Remarks: *Resigned Jan. 13*

Next must. roll on file Aug. 1778.

*This company was designated at various times as Capt. John Syme's and Lieut. Thomas Barber's Company.

(548) *W. C.* Copist.

6 | 10 | Va.
(1776-1778.)

William Christian

St., { Capt. John Syme's Company, 10th
Virginia Regiment commanded by
Col. Edward Stevens.*
(Revolutionary War.)

Appears on
Company Muster Roll
of the organization named above for the month
of *Jan*, 1778.
Roll dated *Feb. 10*, 17 ..
Appointed 17 .
Commissioned 17 .
Enlisted 17 .
Term of enlistment
Time since last muster or enlistment

Alterations since last muster

Casualties

Remarks: *Resigned Aug 13*

Next muster roll on file Aug. 1778.

*This company was designated at various times as Capt. John Syme's and Lieut. Thomas Barber's Company.

(548) *W. C.* Copist.

But these cards alone do not prove that this is William Christian b. 1743 Virginia. To do this, we need to look at the history of the 10th Virginia Regiment. We find William Christian listed on the Valley Forge Muster Roll Project website listed as being in the 5th Div., 10th Virginia Regiment of the Weedon's Brigade, Capt. John Syme's Company. (ID: VA26088)²

² "The Muster Roll." *Muster Roll*, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyformusterroll.org/muster.asp?id=VA26088.

VALLEY FORGE Legacy
THE MUSTER ROLL PROJECT

THE MUSTER ROLL

SEARCH: Last Name: State: (any) Regiment: (any)

ID	Last Name	First Name	Rank	State	Regiment
VA26088	Christian	William	Lieutenant	Virginia	10th Virginia

Lieutenant William Christian *Commissioned Officer*

State: Virginia Ethnicity: ID: [VA26088](#)

Division: 5th Regiment: [10th Virginia](#)

Brigade: [Weedon's](#) Company: Capt John Syme

DEC 1777
JAN 1778 Resigned Jan. 13, 1778
FEB 1778
MAR 1778
APR 1778
MAY 1778
JUN 1778

Personalized Products Available for Purchase

Support the Muster Roll Project: This project, a fully volunteer operation, needs your support so that all of the soldiers that encamped at Valley Forge will be remembered well into our shared future. We welcome your support to maintain the Muster Roll as a free service so that everyone can discover or add to the legacy of the brave Americans at Valley Forge.

Yours in Service to our Shared Heritage,
The Friends of Valley Forge Park

[Donate](#)

“The Muster Roll.” *Muster Roll*, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforgemusterroll.org/muster.asp?id=VA26088.

And in exploring the information on the Valley Forge Muster Roll Project, we also find the history of Weedon’s Brigade, 10th Virginia Regiment. We even see exactly where the Weedon’s Brigade was encamped at Valley Forge.³ And in the history of the 10th Virginia Regiment, we find the names of Colonel Edward Stevens, Major Samuel Hawes, and Captain John Syne (sic) that appear on the Roll Cards of William Christian.^{4 5} Also mentioned is the number of men assigned who entered and left Valley Forge.


In the continued study of the 10th Virginia Regiment, we find indication that they took part in the Philadelphia Campaign 1777-1778, which was the campaign where Washington and the troops

³ *Weedon's Brigade*, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforgemusterroll.org/brigades/va2.asp.

⁴ *10th Virginia Regiment*, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforgemusterroll.org/regiments/va10.asp.

⁵ “The Muster Roll.” *Muster Roll*, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforgemusterroll.org/muster.asp?id=VA26088.

wintered at Valley Forge. ⁶ ⁷ The US Army website also indicates that Weedon's Brigade, including the 10th Virginia Regiment was at Valley Forge with General George Washington. ⁸



The screenshot shows the 'VALLEY FORGE Legacy' website. The header features the 'VALLEY FORGE Legacy' logo and 'THE MUSTER ROLL PROJECT' text. Below the header is a navigation menu with options like 'Overview', 'The Encampment', 'Continental Army', 'Divisions', 'Brigades', 'Regiments', 'SEARCH THE Muster Roll', 'products', 'Valley Forge Images', 'Join the Honorary Muster Roll', 'History of the Muster Roll', 'credits', 'Links', and 'contact us'. The main content area is titled '10TH VIRGINIA REGIMENT' and includes a breadcrumb trail: 'Stirling's Division | Weedon's Brigade | 10th Virginia Regiment'. The 'History' section provides details on the regiment's organization, its status at Valley Forge, and previous engagements. The 'Field Officers' and 'Company Commanders' sections list names, with some highlighted in yellow. The 'Regimental Staff' section lists various roles and names.

VALLEY FORGE Legacy

THE MUSTER ROLL PROJECT

10TH VIRGINIA REGIMENT

[Stirling's Division](#) | [Weedon's Brigade](#) | 10th Virginia Regiment

History

Organized from Augusta, Amherst, Caroline, Culpeper, Cumberland, Fairfax, Fauquier, Orange, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and King George Counties.

Entered Valley Forge with 442 men assigned and 175 fit for duty.

Left Valley Forge with 400 men assigned and 218 fit for duty.

Previous Engagements: Northern New Jersey, Defense of Philadelphia, Philadelphia-Monmouth

Field Officers

- Colonel John Green
- Colonel Edward Stevens
- Lt. Colonel Lewis Willis
- Major Samuel Hawes

Company Commanders

- Captain Thomas Blackwell
- Captain Clough Shelton
- Captain John Gillison
- Captain David Laird
- Captain John Mountjoy
- Captain John Spotswood
- Captain Richard Stevens
- Captain John Synne
- Captain Thomas West

Regimental Staff

- Quartermaster William Smith
- Quartermaster John Yancey
- Adjutant John Robinson
- Paymaster Charles Jones
- Surgeon's Mate Archibald Alexander
- Quartermaster Sergeant Francis Smith
- Sergeant Major John Hughes
- Drum Major John Wilson
- Fife Major John Fitzsimmons

10th Virginia Regiment, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforagemusterroll.org/regiments/va10.asp.

⁶ Americanwarsus. "Virginia Regiments in the Continental Army." *American Revolutionary War*, American Revolutionary War, 4 Jan. 2018, revolutionarywar.us/continental-army/virginia/#va-10.

⁷ Brent. "Philadelphia Campaign 1777-78." *American Revolutionary War*, American Revolutionary War, 7 Jan. 2018, revolutionarywar.us/campaigns/1777-1778-philadelphia-campaign/.

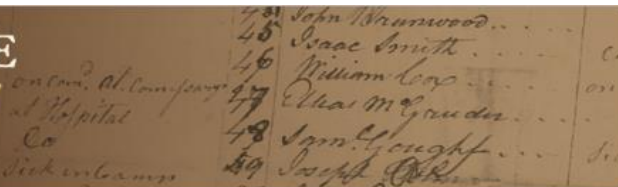
⁸ "Continental Forces at Valley Forge 29 February 1778." *United States Army Combined Arms Center*, US Army, 1993, usacac.army.mil/CAC2/CGSC/CARL/nafziger/778BAA.pdf.

VALLEY FORGE



Legacy

THE MUSTER ROLL PROJECT



overview

The Encampment

Continental Army

Divisions

Brigades

Regiments

SEARCH THE Muster Roll

products

Valley Forge Images

Join the Honorary Muster Roll

History of the Muster Roll

credits

Links

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WEEDON'S BRIGADE



[Stirling's Division](#) | Weedon's Brigade

Commander: Brigadier General George Weedon

Regiments

[2nd Virginia Regiment](#)

[6th Virginia Regiment](#)

[10th Virginia Regiment](#)

[14th Virginia Regiment](#)

[13th Pennsylvania Regiment](#)

History

Entered Valley Forge as part of Greene's Division.

Left Valley Forge as part of [Stirling's Division](#).

Notes

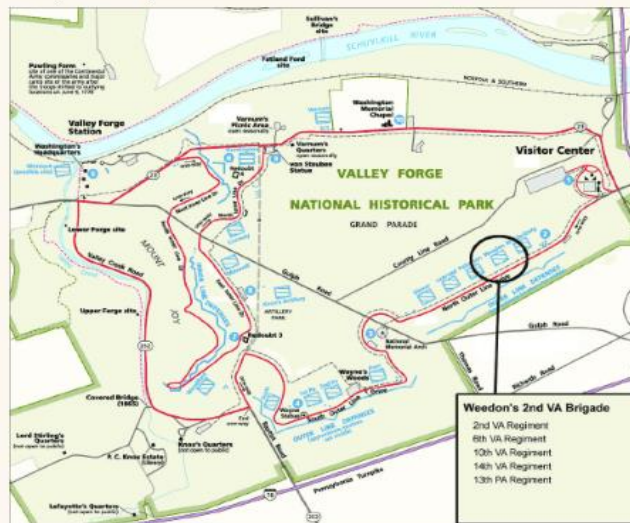
Some January alteration figures not available.

Monthly Strength Reports

Month	Fit for Duty	Assigned	Died	Deserted	Discharged	Enlisted
DEC	849	1974	8	21	6	0
JAN	386	1578	0	0	0	0
FEB	318	1336	31	20	211	34
MAR	268	1209	44	20	57	14
APR	593	1424	30	25	15	232
MAY	920	1490	32	25	12	103
JUN	644	1157	18	6	6	38
Totals			163	117	307	421

Ref: C.M. Lesser - *The Sinews of Independence, Monthly Strength Returns of the Continental Army*

Encampment Map



Weedon's Brigade, Valley Forge Park Alliance, 2019, valleyforagemusterroll.org/brigades/va2.asp.

10th Virginia Regiment

- The Regiment was authorized on September 16, 1776 in the Continental Army as the 10th Virginia Regiment. It was assigned on December 27, 1776 to the [Southern Department](#).
- Organized on February 12, 1777 to consist of 10 companies from Augusta, Amherst, Caroline, Culpepper, Cumberland, Fairfax, Fauquier, Orange, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and King George Counties.
- It was assigned on May 22, 1777 to the 2nd Virginia Brigade, an element of the [Main Continental Army](#).
- Reorganized on November 1, 1777 to consist of 8 companies.
- Reorganized and redesignated on May 12, 1779 as the [6th Virginia Regiment](#), to consist of 9 companies.
- Relieved on December 4, 1779 from the 2nd Virginia Brigade and assigned to the [Southern Department](#).
- Captured on May 12, 1780 by the British Army at [Charleston, South Carolina](#).
- Disbanded on January 1, 1783

Engagements

- [New York and New Jersey Campaign 1776-77](#)
- [Philadelphia Campaign 1777-78](#)
- [Battle of Charleston](#)

Americanwarsus. "Virginia Regiments in the Continental Army." *American Revolutionary War*, American Revolutionary War, 4 Jan. 2018, revolutionarywar.us/continental-army/virginia/#va-10.

Continental Forces at Valley Forge
29 February 1778

Forces under Washington: General George Washington
Woodford's Brigade: (31/23/8/57)¹
3rd Virginia Regiment (Beth)
7th Virginia Regiment (McClanahan)
13th Virginia Regiment (Moran)
15th Virginia Regiment (Mason)
Scott's Brigade: (32/31/12/77)
4th Virginia Regiment (Read)
8th Virginia Regiment
12th Virginia Regiment
Additional Regiment
1st Pennsylvania Brigade: (32/53/12/147)
1st Pennsylvania Regiment (Chambers)
2nd Pennsylvania Regiment (Bicker)
7th Pennsylvania Regiment (Irvine)
10th Pennsylvania Regiment (Hubley)
Additional Regiment (Hartlye)
2nd Pennsylvania Brigade: (29/63/13/148)
4th Pennsylvania Regiment (Cadwalader)
5th Pennsylvania Regiment (Johnston)
8th Pennsylvania Regiment (Brodhead)
11th Pennsylvania Regiment (Humphreys)
Poor's Brigade: (66/131/14/328)
1st New Hampshire Regiment (Cilley)
2nd New Hampshire Regiment (Hale)
3rd New Hampshire Regiment (Scammell)
2nd New York Regiment (van Cortlandt)
4th New York Regiment (Livingston)
Glover's Brigade: (66/133/11/244)
4th Massachusetts Regiment (Shepard)
13th Massachusetts Regiment (Wigglesworth)
1st Massachusetts Regiment (Vose)
15th Massachusetts Regiment (Bigelow)
Learmont's Brigade: (28/20/7/106)
2nd Massachusetts Regiment (Bailey)
9th Massachusetts Regiment (Weason)
8th Massachusetts Regiment (Jackson)
Paterason's Brigade: (36/61/14/85)
10th Massachusetts Regiment (Marshall)
12th Massachusetts Regiment (Brewer)
14th Massachusetts Regiment (Bradford)
11th Massachusetts Regiment (Tupper)

¹ Numbers are officers, NCOs, staff officers, and rank & file present under arms.

1

Needon's Brigade: (43/66/17/192)
2nd Virginia Regiment (Feltiger)
6th Virginia Regiment (Gibson)
10th Virginia Regiment (Stevens)
14th Virginia Regiment (Lewis)
Muhlenberg Brigade: (48/78/19/138)
1st Virginia Regiment (Hendricks)
5th & 9th Virginia Regiment (Parker & Mathews)
13th Virginia Regiment (Russell)
German Battalion (von Arsendt)
1st Virginia State (Gibson)
Maxwell's Brigade: (33/93/10/351)
1st New Jersey Regiment (Ogden)
2nd New Jersey Regiment (Shreve)
3rd New Jersey Regiment (Dayton)
4th New Jersey Regiment (Martin)
Conway's Brigade: (54/83/16/227)
3rd Pennsylvania Regiment (Craig)
6th Pennsylvania Regiment (Magaw)
9th Pennsylvania Regiment (Butlekr)
12th Pennsylvania Regiment (Cooke)
Additional Regiment (Malcolm)
Additional Regiment (Spencer)
Huntington's Brigade: (43/102/9/532)
1st Connecticut Regiment (Prentiss)
2nd Connecticut Regiment (Webb)
5th Connecticut Regiment (Bradley)
7th Connecticut Regiment (Swift)
Varnum's Brigade: (48/92/9/528)
4th Connecticut Regiment (Durkee)
1st Rhode Island Regiment (Greene)
8th Connecticut Regiment (Chandler)
2nd Rhode Island Regiment (Angell)
McIntosh's North Carolina Brigade: (52/192/13/490)
1st North Carolina Regiment (Clark)
2nd North Carolina Regiment (Fatten)
3rd North Carolina Regiment (Sumner)
1st Maryland Brigade: (82/103/17/314)
Delaware Regiment (Hall)
3rd Maryland Regiment (Gist)
5th Maryland Regiment (Richardson)
7th Maryland Regiment (Gunby)
2nd Maryland Brigade: (34/36/7/96)
2nd Maryland Regiment (Price)
4th Maryland Regiment (Hall)
6th Maryland Regiment (Williamms)
Other:
Additional Regiment (T. Hartley) (17/31/3/81)
Detachment (W.S. Smith) (2/40/2/130)
Independent Corps T.C.Armand (4/9/1/20)
Artillery:
3rd Continental (Crane) (19/104/2/95)
2nd Continental (Lamb) (17/52/76)
4th Continental (Proctor) (21/70/3/63)

Notes: The organizations of the brigades shown is for December 1777. Those of the McIntosh, 1st & 2nd Maryland Brigades are the March 1778 organization. They are assumed not to have changed significantly. The name in parenthesis is unit commander.

Lesser, C.W., The Struggle of Independence, Monthly Strength Reports of the Continental Army, 976, Chicago, IL, University of Chicago Press
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In conclusion, based from the information provided we can see that William Christian of Augusta County was certainly enlisted in the 10th Virginia Regiment under Edwards and Hawes during the time frame of the Continental Army wintering at Valley Forge. His name is on the muster roll and the pay roll for that time. And we also know from the historical records of the 10th Virginia regiment and its inclusion as part of the Weedon's Brigade that the regiment was part of the Continental Army led by George Washington and that they wintered at Valley Forge during the time period of 19 Dec 1777 through 19 Jun 1778. By a preponderance of the provided evidence, we can assume that because there are Roll/Pay records indicating that William Christian was present and accounted for as part of the 10th Virginia Regiment in December 1777 and from January 1, 1778 to January 13, 1778, and that the 10th Virginia Regiment did winter at Valley Forge at the same time George Washington did; that William Christian would have been at Valley Forge at the same time as George Washington for December 1777 and half of January 1778.