

**Sergeant William T. Nivison**  
(War of 1812 Veteran Candidate for St. Paul's Episcopal Church Recognition)  
**St. Paul's Churchyard Inscription No. 211<sup>(1)</sup>**

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF  
WILLIAM T. NIVISON  
BORN NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> [10], 1789 [1780]  
DIED OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> [21], 1821[(21)]

**Subject Name:** William T. Nivison<sup>(2)</sup> [Disambiguation: "William T. Nivison, Esq.,"<sup>(3)</sup> "Sgt. Wm. T. Nivison"<sup>(4)</sup> and "Lieutenant William T. Nivison"<sup>(5)</sup>]

**Subject Date of Birth:** Friday, November 10, 1780,<sup>(1)</sup> Tuesday, November 10, 1789,<sup>(2)</sup>

**Subject Place of Birth:** Ukn

**Subject Date of Death:** Sunday, October 21, 1821<sup>(1,2)</sup>, "in the 32d year of his age."<sup>(3)</sup>

**Subject Place of Death:** Petersburg, Virginia<sup>(3)</sup>

**Subject Cause of Death:** "...late illness.. of three weeks... a gradually debilitating disease."<sup>(3)</sup>

**Subject Burial:** Borough Churchyard, Inscription No. 211. (From Brick Wall to Cove Street Gate S. E.)  
"...interred by the side of his father's"<sup>(6,7)</sup> [remains]."<sup>(3)</sup>

**Subject Date of Marriage:** Ukn

**Spouse Name:** Ukn

**Spouse Date of Birth:** Ukn

**Spouse Date of Death:** Ukn

**Spouse Place of Death:** Ukn

**Spouse Cause of Death:** Ukn

**Spouse Burial:** Ukn

**Subject War of 1812 Service:**

**Stuart Lee Butler's "A Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812"** (See below, pg. 152-153)

**Selected War of 1812 Compiled Military Service Records<sup>(4)</sup>** (Appended, pg 3.)

**Notes:** William T. Nivison was born November 10, 1789. He was educated at the College of William and Mary and studied law under John Wickham, Esq. of Richmond. He then entered into the practice of law. During the War of 1812 he served as a Sergeant in Lieutenant William Seymour's Company of Infantry, 54<sup>th</sup> (Sharp's) Regiment of the Virginia Militia in Norfolk, from June 22 to July 16, 1813. Following the War he was commissioned a Lieutenant in that same Regiment on June 16, 1815. Nivison died on October 21, 1821 after an illness of three weeks.

**Disposition:** Approved. Plaque recommendation: "SERGEANT WILLIAM T. NIVISON"

<sup>1</sup> *St. Paul's Inscriptions*, C. W. Tazewell, Tazewell Papers, Library of Virginia Accession No. 24194, No. 23: (Inscription dissimilarities noted in italics and brackets.)

<sup>2</sup> Tombstone Inscription No. 211.

<sup>3</sup> Obituary, "American Commercial Beacon," Oct. 25, 1821. (See "Appendix A.")

<sup>4</sup> *Compiled Military Service Records for the Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.

<sup>5</sup> Commonwealth of Virginia "Commission" Document, June 16, 1815. (Appended, Pg 4.)

<sup>6</sup> Norfolk Directory, 1801, <http://www.usgwarchives.net/va/history/1801dir/1801dir1.html>: "Nivison, John, attorney at law, and notary public, No. 4 Main Street."

<sup>7</sup> Norfolk Directory, 1806, <http://www.usgwarchives.net/va/history/1806dir/1806.html>: "Nivison, John, borough recorder, 12 Main Street."

**NORFOLK BOROUGH**

(54th Regiment)

BRIGADE: 9

DIVISION: 4

Regimental command:

Lt. Col. William Sharp - June 3, 1803

Maj. Thomas Newton - June 4, 1803

Maj. James Maurcie - October 19, 1809

*The city's militia units served in the Norfolk vicinity during the war. A number of Norfolk borough units absorbed other militia units arriving from other counties. For these units, see the units under each county's listings.*

**COMPANIES:****Capt. Peter Ferguson**

June 22-July 13, 1813

**Capt. Thomas McCandlish Troop of Cavalry**

March 6-September 20, 1813

August 20-October 20, 1814 [Detachment of Cavalry - 1813]

**Ens. George Kelly**

August 21-October 25, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]

**Capt. Miles King Artillery "Norfolk Light Artillery"**

August 21-October 25, 1814

*Attached to corps commanded by Col. William Lindsay at Fort Barbour.*

**Capt. Arthur Lee**

February 24-August 14, 1813 [3rd V.M. - Boykin]

August 20-October 24, 1814 [8th V.M. - Magnien]

**Capt. James R. Nimmo**

June 22-July 13, 1813

October 8, 1813-April 28, 1814 [5th V.M. - Mason &amp; Preston]

August 21-October 24, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]

**Capt. George Ott Flying Artillery**

March 4-September 8, 1813 [6th V.M. Artillery - Reade]

*Attached to 2nd V.M. - Sharp, March 4-31, 1813.*

September 9, 1813-January 31, 1814 [Battalion of Artillery, 1813-1814]

**Lt. William Seymour**

June 22-July 16, 1813

**Capt. John West**

June 22-July 16, 1813

August 16-October 24, 1814 [8th V.M. - Magnien]

**Capt. Julian Magagnos**

March 9-September 9, 1813 [2nd V.M. - Sharp]

October 7, 1813-March 10, 1814 [5th V.M. - Mason &amp; Preston]

August 21-October 24, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]



No.

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To William S. Morrison.

Greeting:

**KNOW YOU**, that from the special trust and confidence  
 reposed in your fidelity, courage, activity, and good conduct, our Gov-  
 ernor, on the recommendation of the Board of <sup>War</sup> Norfolk Barracks,  
~~and~~ and in pursuance of the act, entitled "An act to amend  
 and reduce into one the several acts of the General Assembly for re-  
 gulating the Militia of this Commonwealth," doth appoint you  
 the said William S. Morrison, **Lieutenant**,  
 in the fifty-fourth Regiment, ~~Seventh~~ <sup>Seventh</sup> Brigade and  
 fourth Division of the said Militia, to march as each agree-  
 ably the number and date hereof.

Witness my hand and seal of the Commonwealth, this 16th day of June, 1862.

Wm. C. Nicholas, Secy. of War,  
at Richmond, this 16th day of June, 1862.



W. C. Nicholas

Registered  
W. C. Nicholas