

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to George Backus VAS2330
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Some online images are illegible.]

No 1 State of Kentucky Burbon [sic: Bourbon] County

I certify that I was acquainted with Lieut George Backus of the Arti'y in the Revolutionary war & remember him as early as the Spring of 1778 when he was in Service as a Lieutenant in a Reg't. of Artillery in the Virginia Continental line and that he served in the Nothern Stats untill the Spring of 1780 when he marched to the South in the Detachment in which I served he was at Gates Defeat near Camden in Carolina [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] and I have reason to believe he continued to serve in said Reg't or line to the close of the war. I served as a Lieut in said line to the end of the war. Given under my hand this 8th day of October 1821

[Robert Wilmott BLWt2415-200] late Lieut. of
the 1 Reg't of Artillery of
Continentle Establishment

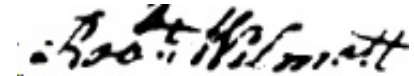


[The following document pertaining to Lt. James Carson apparently has no connection to George Backus except that it was written on the same sheet as the above. See endnote.]

State of Kentucky Burbon County

I certify that I was acquainted with Lieut James Carson of the Art'y in the Revolutionary war and Recolect that he was in Service as a Lieutenant in a Reg't of Artillery in the Virginia Continental Line in the Spring of the year 1779 and that he continued to serve in said line in the Nothern States untill I was Marched to the Southern State which was in the Spring of 1780 after which I did not recolect to see Mr Carson but from circumstances have reason to believe he continued in the service to the end of the war. Given under my hand this 8 day of Octer 1821

Rob't Wilmott late Lieut of
1st Reg't of Artillery on Continentle



I hereby Certify that I was well acquainted with Lieutenant George Backus of the Artillery in the Revolutionary war and know that he was a Lieutenant in a Regiment of Artillery in the Virginia Continental Line from the Spring of the year 1779 untill the close of the war I was a Lieutenant in the same Line Given under my hand this 15 day of July 1822

Young Wilkerson [S35136] Late Lieut
in Colo Harrison's [Charles Harrison's] Reg't Artillery

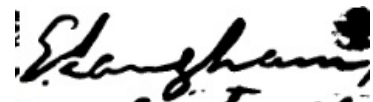


[The following two certificates are on the same sheet.]

I certify that I was acquainted with (James Carson) a Lieut in the 1st [illegible word] Continental Regt of Artillery And that he had been in service as an Officer in said Regt some time previous to the Battle faught at the Eutaw Springs in the Southern States [SC, 8 Sep 1781] in which Battle he was engaged and received a wound of which he died in a few days in Service. I served as a Lieut in said Regt

[Elias Langham S41747], late
a Lieut. 1st Reg't. Art'y

Subscribed and sworn to before me [several undeciphered words]

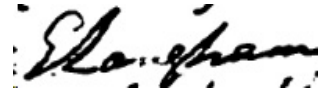


I certify that I was acquainted with (George Backus) a Lieutenant in the 1st Regiment of Artillery in the Virginia Continental Line – that he served in said Regt between [illegible] years

E. Langham, late

Lieut. 1st Reg't. Art'y

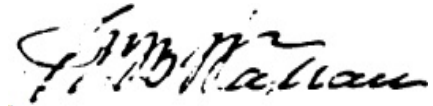
[several undeciphered words] 2nd day of May 1824



State of Kentucky Franklin County

October 15th 1824

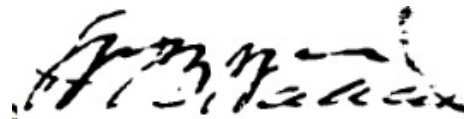
I William B Wallace [S42612] formerly a Lieutenant in the 1st Regiment of Virginia Artillery on continental establishment in the Revolutionary War do certify that I was intimately acquainted with Mr Backus of said Regiment (a native of Virginia[?]) whose christian or given name I believe was George, but of that I am not Possitive: I think he ranked as Lieutenant or Capt-Lieutenant – I had served in a Regiment of Infantry inlisted for 3 years which time expired, & the men discharged. I was transfered to the Artillery, which I joined at Pluckamin [sic: Pluckemin] in Jersey at the opening of the Campaign of 1779 hence I have not so perfect a knowledge of the Commencement of his service, but have much reason to believe it commenced with raising the Regiment I am certain as to his service in the Southern Campaign of 1780 but being captured myself by the British in August of that year [at the Battle of Camden] and remaining a Prisoner to the end of the war I had better opportunity of knowing the affairs of the Regiment. I believe he continued his service to the end of the contest – & tho from the great laps of time among the numerous names of my acquaintance of that day I cannot be Possitive as to his given name, I know him well, he was esteemed a valuable officer



Dr Sir Lawrenceburg Ken'ty Oct'r 15th 1824

I have certified what I can recollect of Mr Backus's service I well remember him and indeed many anecdotes respecting him I shall not readily forget – he had remarkable large eyes & so had an Irish Gentleman (Mr Sennott) a stranger to Backus who on being formally introduced to him observed that if either of them lost anything and could not find it it would not be for want of eyes

Yr Obed't Ser't/ Wm B Wallace



NOTE: The Lt. James Carson whose service is certified above may in fact have been Lt. John Carson, whose heirs filed an application for bounty land (BLWt366-200), which contains the following supporting statement:

I never saw Lieut John Carson of Cap'n Browns [William Brown's] company of Maryland artillery, that company was incorporated with the regiment of artillery commanded by Con'l Charles Harrison to which I belonged and served the two last Campaigns in the South, Con'l Harrison then ranked as a gen'l and commanded the Parke of artillery constituted by the Virg'a Maryland and Pennsylvania artillery, the account I had from my Brother officers and my twin Brother who belonged to Harrisons regiment, and was in the battle at Eutaw Spring was that Lieutenant John Carson of Cap'n Browns company was killed in that Battle and what made it more remarkable that he had a presentiment that he would be killed and mentioned it to his brother officers before the Battle began. Francis Brooke

Feb'y 23 1835