

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Joshua [Joshua] Collins S12530

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

On this 9th day of Sept'r Eighteen hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open Court, before the Circuit Court for Washington County District of Columbia now sitting, Joshua Collins a resident of the County aforesaid, aged eighty five years on the 22nd of October 1832, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was drafted and served as a private Soldier under Captain Robert Beall a militia Captain in the year 1779 and marched to George Town [Georgetown] on the River Potomac to protect the place, and attack by the Enemy being apprehended, He remained there in Service thirty one or two days, and was dismissed with orders to hold himself in readiness to march again whenever called upon, – The following year about the 1st May 1780, he marched under the command of Captain Aaron Harris a Militia Captain to Frederick Town in Maryland to guard the Prisoners of War confined there, where he remained in service till about the middle of November following and was then and there discharged by Captain James White a Militia Captain then in command. His discharge was in writing but it has long since been lost or destroyed. He was born on Rock Creek about five miles from George Town District of Columbia on the 22nd October 1747, he was christened by Parson Williamson and the time of his Birth was recorded in the Vestry Books of the Rock Creek Church of which he had a certificate many years, but has lost or mislaid it and he knows not in whose possession the Records of said Vestry now are. He was living when called into Service at the place of his nativity and has lived since the Revolution where he now lives within four miles of the place of his Birth except about nine months that he has lived in Virginia. He does not recollect the names of any of the Regular officers nor does he recollect any of the Continental or Militia Regiments. He received a written discharge from Captain James White about the middle of November 1780 but it has long since been lost or destroyed. He never received a Commission. Richard Barrett John Collins James Calder know him and can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution as he verily believes if called upon. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not to the best of his knowledge & belief on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

Joshuah hisXmark Collins

Interrogatories by the Court to the applicant Joshua Collins and his answers thereto – Sect. Interrogs
Answers

- 1st That he was born on Rock Creek about five miles from George Town, District of Columbia, on 22nd October 1747
- 2nd That he was christened by Parson Williamson, and the time of his Birth was recorded in the Vestry Books of Rock Creek Church of which he had a certificate but has lost it or mislaid it.
- 3rd That he was living when called into service at the place of his Birth and has lived since the Revolution and where he now lives within four miles of the place of his Birth; except about nine months that he has lived in Virginia.
- 4th That he was first required to muster, and then was drafted to march to George Town District of Columbia in 1779.
- 5th he does not recollect the names of any of the Regular officers nor does he recollect any of the Continental or Militia Regiments – he marched to George Town, a private Soldier under Captain Robert Beall a Militia Captain in the year 1779 to protect the place, an attack by the Enemy being apprehended, he remained there in service about thirty or two days [sic], and was dismissed with orders to hold himself in readiness to march again whenever called upon; the following year 1780 he

marched about the 1st of may under the command of Captain Aaron Harris a militia Captain, to Frederick Town in Maryland to guard the Prisoners of War confined there, where he remained in Service till about the middle of November following and was then and there discharged by Captain James White a militia Captain then in command.

6th That he received a written Discharge from Captain James White, but that it has long since been lost or destroyed.

7th That Richard Barrett, John Collins and James Calder know him and can testify as to his Character for veracity and their belief of his service, as a soldier of the Revolution as he verily believes, if called upon.

District of Columbia County of Washington Sct.

Eleventh September 1833 – This day personally appeared Joshua Collins the within named, before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For seven months and sixteen days I served as a private and for such services I claim a Pension; and he further deposeth and saith that he was drafted and as such marched and served under Captain Robert Beall & Aaron Harris with an embodied Corps of not less than Fifty men under each of said Captains, called into service as he always understood and was generally believed by competent authority —

Joshua hisXmark Collins

NOTE: The file jacket notes that Collins served from Virginia as well as Maryland, but the pension application gives no evidence that he served from or in Virginia.