

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

Pension Application of James Carter S8145

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas & quarter sessions  
Chatham County } November Term 1832

On this 15th day of November personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of said Court, being a Court of Chatham in the State of North Carolina James Carter a resident of said county aged sixty nine years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the Provisions made by the act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st May 1820

That he the said James Carter enlisted for the Term of nine months on the [blank] day of February 1781 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Brown in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Mumford [sic: Robert Munford] in the line of the State of Virginia on the Infantry establishment that he continued to serve in the said corps until the [blank] day of November 1781 when he was discharged from the service in Mecklenburg county in the State of Virginia that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. That his name is not on the roll of any state except Virginia and the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension. That until the year 1829 he was able by industry and frugality to maintain himself and family without the aid of charity and he did not desire to throw himself on the bounty of his country, that in August 1829 having become old and infirm and unable to work as he had been accustomed to do he felt the necessity of applying for a pension and in said month and year he went to Virginia to ascertain if he could and if so to procure the Testimony required in such cases since which time he has been endeavouring to procure proofs of his service and to get some person who understood the business to Transact it for him and has been unable by reason of said Impediments earlier to present his claim to the War department. His Occupation is that of farming but having become old and owning no land he is unable to pursue it to any advantage. his family consists of himself, his wife Mary near 60 years of age two sons John and William John is 27 years old and is deranged so that he has frequently to be confined. William is 18 years of age and is as able to work as most persons of his age. And three daughters Mary aged 23 years. Elizabeth aged 20 years and amy aged 12 years his daughters are as able to work as most girls of their age –

And in pursuance of the act of the 1st May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income whatever. that sine the 18th of March 1818 there have been no changes in my Property. Sworn to and declared on the 15th day of November before the worshipful the Justices present in said court

James Carter

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions  
Chatham County } Febuary Term 1836

Declaration of James Carter

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of february AD 1836 personally appeared in open court James Carter a resident of the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina aged seventy two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed june 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, that he entered into the Army of the United

States, in the year 1781 with Capt John Brown and served in the [blank] Regiment of the Continental line under the following named Officers (to wit)

That he was born in the year 1763 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November, in the County of Mecklingburg Virginia, where he enlisted in the army of the United States, as a volunteer on the 1<sup>st</sup> of february 1781 in the riffle company commanded by Capt. John Brown, the company consisting of about one hundred men, rendezvoused at Mecklingburg Court and then repaired to the magazine in Mecklenburg County about a mile from Taylors ferry on the Roanoke river [S of present Boydton], where we suplied ourselves with artillery – from this place we marched into North Carolina pursuant to the orders we had recived, and joined a company of the state Troop at the high rock ford on Haw River, Caswell County [sic: SE corner of Rockingham County], we then proceded to march to Guilford Court House, where we joined the regular armie, under the command of Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene, whome we found at Guilford Courthouse watching the operations of Cornwallis; – after this reinforcement of the army by the arrival of our Company on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 1781 Gen'l Greene determined upon an action which took place the next day (March 15<sup>th</sup>) this declarant states that the evening before the engagement he was sent off with a detached party, foraging and did not return to the field of action untill the canonade had commenced, he then entered the conflict, which was very furious for a short time, when a retreat was directed and he retired commanded by Gen'l. Greene to Speedwels Iron works [sic: Speedwell's Iron Works on Troublesome Creek], about 10 or 12 miles distant from the battle ground, where we remained a short time and began a march in pursuit of Lord Cornwallis through the counties of Guilford and Chatham, untill we arived at Ramsey's ferry [Ramsey's Mill] on deep river here the army were compelled to abandon further pursuit as the river was made impasible by the great quantity of rain, which had fallen on the previous day, we remained on the bank of the river about one week when our provisions getting scarce Gel. Greene ordered Capt. Browns Company (to which this declarant belonged) to return to Virginia and await further orders, in compliance with this order we marched into Virginia Mecklingburg County on the last of May we remained in Mecklingburg County three or four weeks part of the time guarding the Magazine in said County untill we recived orders to march to York Town (Virginia) – This declaret states that soon after he commenced his march to York Town he was taken sick, and being unable to prosecute his march, he was placed on furlough by Capt. Brown, where he received a discharge from the service by Capt. Brown on the first of November 1781 – he states that his whole term in service in the army of the United States, is from the time he inlisted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of february 1781 untill he was discharged on the first of November in the same year is nine months.

This declarant further states he has no documentary evidnce and knows of no living witness whose evidence he can procure, who can testify as to his services in the war. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an anuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state

[signed] James Carter

The following are the answers to the questions put by the Court.

Ans to question 1<sup>st</sup> I was born in Mecklenburg Va.

Ans 2<sup>nd</sup> My age was recorded in a family bible which I have with me.

Ans 3<sup>rd</sup> [When first entered service, lived] In the County of Mecklenburg Va, & came into NoCa abut the year 1790 in the County of Chatham where I have lived ever since

Ans 4 – I volunteered – Ans 5 – The answer to question 5<sup>th</sup> is more particulary imbodied in my declaration

NOTE: On 25 March 1836 Carter applied again under the pension acts of 1818 and 1820. The application adds no new detail to his military service, but he described his family as follows: "he has a wife and several children all of whom live in the state of Mississippi he is dependent upon the charity of his neighbours for support.". Carter's pension was dated 13 July 1836.