

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

Pension Application of Aaron Forman S8507

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Ohio

Delaware County, SS Be it remembered that on the twenty first day of April, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas in and for the said county of Delaware and State of Ohio, now in session, Aaron Forman a resident of Westfield Township in the said County, aged seventy eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, upon his oath making the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

I the said Aaron Forman on my said oath state that I entered into the service of the united States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit.

I was born in Frederick County Virginia in September 1755 and resided there at the commencement of the revolutionary war. I have no record of my age, but according to the best information I have received I am now 78 years of age & was born in September 55 as aforesaid.

In the fall of the year 1776 I went from Virginia where I resided to Hagerstown in Maryland and there enlisted as a private for two months in a company of Maryland troops called the Flying Camp, and served that time under the command of Capt. Andrew Hines, Lieutenat Isaac McCrakin [sic: Isaac McCracken] and under the command of Col. Schryhowk [sic: Henry Shryock]. I marched with my company through Philladelphia, Trenton, Brunswick, to Fort Lee in New Jersey, and was at Fort Lee, when Ft. Washington, on the opposite side of the [Hudson] river near New York, was taken by the enemy [16 Nov 1776]. We were soon after that driven back by the enemy through New Jersey to Philladelphia, where I was discharged after I had served my two months. I received a written discharge from Capt. Hines which I have long since lost. I was in company with a great many troops & officers while out this tour, but as they were all strangers to me and was with them but a short time, I cannot now recollect their character, rank or names.

In the Spring of the year 1777, I volunteered to go a tour as a private soldier in an expedition into western country against the Indians. I served this Tour under Capt. Holden [John Holden or John Holder] and in a battalion or Regiment under Major Smith. I marched under arms under their command through the wilderness to Kentucky – at Boon's station [sic: Boone's Station at Boonesborough] on the Kentucky river, where the troops to which I belonged were stationed. I was here employed as an Indian Spy in scouting and watching the movements of the indians along the Ohio river. In about 6 or 7 months after I had been in this service (from the time I left virginia) while I was thus scouting & watching the movements of the Indians, I was taken prisoner by a party of the Shawnee's indians near the fall of the Ohio [Falls of the Ohio River at present Louisville], and was kept a prisoner by them 6 or 8 weeks, when I made my escape, and after some time I made my way back to Boons station. Soon after I was discharged (verbally) from this service after I had served at least 9 months.

Soon after that in 1778 I was at the Falls of the Ohio, I enlisted as a private under Col. Bowman in Capt. Harden's Company of Kentucky and was employed to keep garison at the falls of the ohio at a Ft. or station under their command. I enlisted for no particular time, but remained under their command nine months when I was discharged, without any written discharged. I cannot state whether these troops were virginia troops or not. I was promised pay but never received any. I suppose they were troops raised by some authority then exercised by the people of Kentucky. [See endnote.]

In 1782 at Washington in Pennsylvania in the spring of the year, I volunteered as a private to go under Col. [William] Crawford in his expedition against the indians at Sandusky. I entered this service with my own horse & accoutrements with 30 days provisions. I served in Capt. Bilderback's Company of

horse under Col. Crawford. we first rendezvoused at the Mingo Bottom on the Ohio river. We there crossed the Ohio & then marched to the Moravian Towns on the Tuscarawas river. We then marched west until we came to the Sandusky plains where we had a battle with the indians and Crawford was totally defeated and taken prisoner [June 4-6]. In the retreat I lost my horse & all I had. I then made my way back, crossed the Ohio at Wheeling and returned home. I was in this last tour six weeks.

I cannot now recollect the precise length of time I thus served. But I served as a private soldier in the war of the revolution at least twenty one (21) months, no part of which was spent in any civil employment & for which I claim a pension.

I have no documentary evidence & know of no person by whom I can prove my service. There is no clergyman residing my present neighbourhood, but I can refer to following named persons who reside in my neighbourhood, who can testify as to my character for veracity as to their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution to wit – David Cooke Esqr. Benjamin Williams Esqr. Benjamin Olds Esqr. Thomas W. Powell Esqr. and Major Thomas Butler.

After the revolution I settled in Virginia. I next moved to Pennsylvania, where I resided until about 1805, when I removed to Ross Co. Ohio where I resided about 20 years, about 8 years since I removed to Delaware County where I now reside.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn & subscribed to,

[signed] Aaron Forman

The State of Ohio }

Delaware County Ss. }

Be it remembered that on this 10th day of February 1835 personally appeared before me Sidney Moore a justice of the peace in & for the said County Aaron Foreman of the said county an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress of the 7th of June &c. and in due form made the following oath, to wit;

I Aaron Forman being duly sworn upon my oath say, that previous to my going to Hagerstown where I entered into the Flying Camp as stated in my declaration I resided in or near Martinsburgh [sic: Martinsburg] in Virginia. I went to Hagerstown as stated in my declaration in the fall of 1776 and enlisted in the Corps called the Flying Camp under Capt. Andrew Hynes in Col. Shryhawk for two months. Capt. Haynes company were raised in the fall of 76 for two months only. the residue of the Corps were raised previous for a longer term and I believe they were raised five months previous. Capt. Haynes Company marched from Hagerstown through Philadelphia, Trenton &c through New Jersey to Ft. Lee where our company joined the Corps under Col Shryhawk. In cannot recollect the precise time or dates, but recollect when I was in New Jersey on this tour they were then making cider it being in the fall. I was discharged at Phil'a after two months service when it was quite late in the fall.

I know nothing of John Fields of Lebanon, Ohio, mentioned in Honbl. J. L. Edwards [Pension Commissioner] letter upon the subject of my claim. I was not acquainted with any person of that name in the Flying Camp.

Previous to going to Kentucky in the Spring or the latter part of the winter of 1777 I resided near Martinsburg Virg'a. At that time it was necessary for every able bodied person in Kentucky to bear arms. Some were kept constantly under arms for such time as they would volunteer, others only at times of danger. I did not volunteer for any length of time, but volunteered in Virg'a to go under arms to Kentucky under Major Smith & Capt Holden. the number of soldiers who went through with me were about 20 or 30. I remained under the command of these officers at Boon's station nine months. I was under no engagement for any particular time, but volunteered to serve until it was convenient to discharge me. I could have obtained my discharge sooner if I chose. During the time I was at Boon's station I was generally employed as an indian spy and was most all of the time out as a scout. During a part of this time I was taken prisoner by the Shawnee Indians and was detained by them as a prisoner 7 or

8 weeks. It was in the fall of the year when I was a prisoner. I made my escape from them. Majr. Smith & Capt. Holder remained at Boon's station during the time I was in this service, and was under their command. The object of their service & command was to protect the inhabitants at that station and that part of the country from the attacks of the indians. Daniel Boon was there & had some command and great influence but whether he was superior to Maj. Smith in command or not I cannot tell. Whether these troops were Virg'a. troops or Kentucky troops raised by the indipendent authority of the then people of Kentucky I cannot tell. I received no pay during that time nor did any of the troops there; we generally subsisted upon buffalo beef

I know of no testimony I can get upon my service in Capt. Bowmans company.

I positively affirm upon my oath I served during the revolution in the manner stated in my declaration at least twenty one months. But I now ask the Secretary at War or Com'r of Pensions to allow me a pension for what may appear to be due me and I for the present abandon the residue of my claim.

[signed] Aaron forman

NOTES:

The officers named in the first tour were with the 6th Maryland Regiment. The officers in the Kentucky service were under Gen. George Rogers Clark's Virginia State Forces, Kentucky being a part of Virginia until 1780.

For an account of Forman's escape from the Indians, see the pension application of Ansel Goodman, S13175.