

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

Pension application of William H. Rice W2437

Elizabeth M. fn58NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/4/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina County of Rockingham: Superior Court of Law October Term 1832

On this 30th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Superior Court of law for the County and State aforesaid William H. Rice a resident of the County of Rockingham him and State of North Carolina aged seventy-one years on the 12th day of March last, 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. To wit: Sometime in the month of October 1778 I was drafted in the County of Caswell and State of North Carolina, for the term of five months in a Militia Company commanded by Captain George Moore, in which Company John Lawson acted as Lieutenant. On the 3rd day of November following, we marched to Hillsboro and this State and joined a Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel James Saunders, from that place we were marched to Salisbury and joined a Brigade of Militia commanded by General Rutherford, we then continued our march to a place called the Ten Mile House in South Carolina, from that place we proceeded to Purrysburg, where we joined General Lincoln's Army, a number of British troops having been stationed at that time on the opposite bank of the Savannah River, a part of our troops were ordered to cross the River and attack them, which they did, and had an engagement with them at a place called Briar Creek, though I was not in the engagement having continued with the Main body of the Army. From Purrysburg the Troops commanded by General Rutherford (the Company which I served in forming a part of them), marched to a place called the Two Sisters [ferry], from thence we marched to a place called Turkey Hill in South Carolina where I was discharged on the 10th day of April 1779 and reached home on the 23rd day of the same month, having served in this tour a period of 5 months and upwards, during which time I performed the duties of a Sergeant in the Company which I served in. I do not remember to have received any written discharge when my tour of Service expired, if I did it has been lost or mislaid.

In the fall of 1780 about the last of September, as well as I can now recollect, I was drafted in Caswell County North Carolina for the term of 3 months in a Militia Company commanded by Captain Wilson in which company I also performed the duties of Sergeant. We were ordered to Hillsboro in this State, and were placed under the command of Colonel William Moore who commanded a Regiment of Militia, from thence we marched to Salisbury and joined several Regiments of Militia, commanded by General Rutherford, from that place we were marched to New Providence in this State, where we joined General Morgan and his Riflemen,

Colonel Washington and his Troop of Horse, and General Davidson, who had a number of Militia under his command. A part of our Troops were ordered in pursuit of a number of Tories who had embodied in that part of the State and having attacked them took a large number of them prisoners at a place called Rudgeley's Mills [sic, Rugeley's Mills]. I was not in this engagement, having continued with the Troops who remained at New Providence. I was afterwards discharged at Salisbury, in the latter part of December having served a period of 3 months in this tour. I do not remember to have received any written discharge at the expiration of this tour, if I did, it has been lost or mislaid. On the 12th day of March 1781 I joined General Greene's Army as a volunteer at the High Rock Ford, on Haw River, and was at the battle of Guilford on the 15th of the same month, having served in a Militia Company, commanded by Captain Oldham. In this tour I served only 5 days.

Sometime in the month of August or September 1781 the precise time I cannot now recollect, I entered a Militia Company in Caswell County North Carolina for a tour of 3 months, as a Substitute in place of John Harvin, Captain Oldham commanded the Company, and I acted as Lieutenant of the company during the tour of 3 months, having been commissioned by Colonel William Moore, who commanded the Militia Regiment to which we were attached. We marched to Hillsboro, and having joined the Militia commanded by General Butler, we were ordered in pursuit of a number of Tories and having pursued them until we arrived near Wilmington, we were attacked by a body of British troops and Tories, and after a short engagement our Troops were ordered to retreat. About 2 weeks afterwards our Army was attacked by the enemy about midnight at a place called the Brown Marsh, in this attack some of our men were killed and some were taken prisoners. In this expedition a Militia Regiment commanded by Colonel Taylor from Granville County in this State, was likewise with us. At the expiration of that term for which I engaged to serve, I was discharged as well as I can now remember, sometime in the month of November 1781, at a place called Clayton's on the North fork of the Cape Fear River having served as Lieutenant a period of 3 months in this tour. The commission which I received as Lieutenant was signed by Colonel William Moore who commanded the Regiment in which I served; it was lost as I believe, in the engagement, we had at the Brown Marsh. I was engaged in the revolutionary war in the different tours above stated, for a period altogether of 11 months and upwards. I was born on the 12th day of March 1761 in the County of Hanover in Virginia, agreeably to a record of my age which I have at home copied from my Father's family Bible. In 1775 I removed with my Father to the County of Caswell in North Carolina, where I continued to reside until about 14 or 15 years since, when I removed to the County of Rockingham him in North Carolina, where I have continued to reside until this time.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Wm H. Rice

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid
S/ T. Searcy, SCC

[fn p. 20]

State of North Carolina County of Rockingham am: Superior Court of Law October Term 1832

Personally appeared in open Court on this 30th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 Jonathan Brookes¹ a resident of the County of Guilford in the State of North Carolina, who

¹ FPA S6721

being first duly sworn according to law deposes and saith that he was well acquainted with William H. Rice whose name is subscribed to the foregoing declaration both of them having resided in the same neighborhood in the County of Caswell North Carolina before the commencement of the Revolution, that he entered a Militia Company in the County of Caswell North Carolina in the early part of November 1778 commanded by Captain George Moore for the term of 5 months, that the said William H. Rice was drafted in the same Company at the same time (Colonel James Saunders having commanded the Regiment in which they served) and that he the said Rice continued to serve until the expiration of the term of 5 months, this affiant and the said Rice having been discharged at a place called Turkey Hill on the 10th day of April 1779 in South Carolina.

This affiant further states that he was drafted in a Militia Company commanded by Captain Wilson in the County of Caswell North Carolina in the latter part of September 1780, for a tour of 3 months, and that the said William H. Rice was drafted in the same Company at the same time both of them having continued to serve until the end of the tour for which they were drafted, were discharged at Salisbury in the latter part of December following.

This affiant further states that in August or September 1781 he entered a Militia Company commanded by Captain John Oldham for 3 months in the County of Caswell North Carolina and that the said William H. Rice served in the said Company as Lieutenant, for the term of 3 months, this affiant having served in the same Company during that period.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ T. Searcy, CSC

S/ Jonathan Brookes

[fn p. 10: On August 11, 1853 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Elizabeth M. Rice, 53, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of William H. Rice, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$71.66 per annum; that she married him March 27 1838; that her husband died August 30, 1847; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 12: copy of a marriage bond issued to William H. Rice & Wiley Boman, bondsmen, dated March 21, 1838 securing the marriage of William H. Rice to Elizabeth M. Boman, issued in Rockingham County North Carolina.]

[fn p. 14, in a declaration to claim her bounty land entitlement filed April 4, 1855 in Rockingham County, North Carolina, Elizabeth Rice gave her age as 55 years and stated that her name prior to her marriage to William H. Rice was Elizabeth M. Bowman.]

[the widow died December 6, 1857; there is no reference to children in this file.]