

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

Pension Application of William Carter W25391

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } Sgt.

County of Ohio } }

On this 5th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Court of Ohio County, now sitting, William Carter, a resident in the County of Ohio and State of Kentucky, aged 72 years past, 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.

That in the last of February or first of March, he served as a substitute in a tour of militia duty, under Capt. Philip Thurmond, Lieut. Joseph Edwards, and marched from Amherst County in the State of Virginia, where he resided, to the Barracks in Albamarle County in said State to guard the prisoners [Burgoyne's army captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks Jan 1779 - Feb 1781], under the command of Col. Francis Taylor and served out his full time of about four weeks, the time for which he was called out. He recollects the time of the year, but being very young at that time, cannot say positively the year in which said service was rendered, but recollects distinctly, and knows that it was after Burgoyne's defeat.

That in August or September 1779 he was again a substitute in a militia company for three months from Amherst County, where he resided, and served under Capt. John Cristian [sic: John Christian], Lt. James Ware[?] and Ensign Travis Chambers. That he marched from the said County of Amherst down to Richmond and was stationed below that town a short distance, near the first creek which empties into James River below the town – where he remained, and in the neighbourhood, during the three months – as it was rumored that the British were to ascend James River. That he returned home in the month of November or December, having served out his full time. That in the summer of 1780, he was drafted for a tour of duty in the militia from Amherst County, where he resided, but cannot say for how long. That he marched under Capt. Richard Taliaferro, below Richmond, but having gotten crippled in one of his knees, and unfit for duty, he received a furlough, and returned home. he believes the said tour was for three months, but will not be certain. That the latter part of the summer or fall of that year, the said Capt. Taliaferro returned to the said County of Amherst and raised volunteers, he believes for three months, when he again joined him, and marched to Richmond, and was stationed in its vicinity – but does not recollect the date of his return home.

That in February 1781, he was drafted for six months, from the said County of Amherst where he resided, and marched in said month, under Capt. James Dillard, in company with Capt. James Franklin, there having been two companies from that county. That he rendezvoused at Stoball's ferry in James River, and there joined his regiment, commanded by Col. Gabriel Penn, & Hugh Rose. That about the last of February, they marched to Guildford [sic: Guilford] County in the State of North Carolina, to join General [Nathanael] Greene – they crossed Dan River the night before the battle at Guildford Court House [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781], and arrived the day after the battle, and joined the army when he was attached to Col. Blueford's rifle Regiment [see endnote], with ten or twelve others of his company – being those who had rifles. That a few days after he was attached to Col. Blueford's regiment he was taken sick, with the pleurisy, and received a furlough to go home. That he started home, and passed Gen'l Greene's army, and overtook a wagon, by which means he was aided to get along, untill he arrived at Surry Town [possibly Saura Town] on Dan River, where he was [illegible word] into the Hospital, where he remained only a few days, when he left there and crossed the upper Surry town, on his way home,

where he arrived in April, having been delayed on the road in consequence of his indisposition. That he never sufficiently recovered his health to join his regiment, until the time of service had expired – or so nearly so, that he did not deem it expedient to go that distance to join the Army – but joined another expedition in the militia service against Cornwallis, in August 1781, from Amherst County, where he resided, under Capt. Samuel Higginbottom [sic: Samuel Higginbotham] – for three months, and marched down on the south side of James River to Carters ferry [at present Cartersville], and there crossed over, and marched down to New Kent County, where they halted and was joined by others troops. That whilst there, Capt. Meeky proposed enlisting men for during the war, when he with others enlisted under the said Capt. Meeky for the war, and consequently was taken out of the Militia company to which he belonged, but received a furlough, signed by the said Capt. Meeky for 90 days, to return home to make preparation for the service during the war – but before the time had expired, Cornwallis had surrendered [19 Oct 1781] – and he did not join the army. That he has no documentary evidence of his service – and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service except Zachariah Briant [pension application S16326], who knows of his first service of four weeks, and his last service of three months in 1781.

That he was born the 21st day of August 1760, in Amherst County and State of Virginia That he has a record of his age, which he copied from the record made by his father in a family bible which he has at home. That he lived during the whole war, in Amherst County, Virginia, and continued there until 1802, when he moved to Carter County in the State of Tennes, and remained there until the fall of that year, when he moved to Washington County, and State of Kentucky, and remained there until the fall of 1805, when he moved to Ohio County in said State, where he now lives. He does not believe that he ever received a written discharge, and never received a commission. That he is acquainted with the Rev. Thomas Taylor & John H. Mason in his present neighbourhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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. Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.
[signed] Wm Carter

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the peace in and for Ohio County and State of Kentucky William Carter who, being duly sworn, depose and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he can not 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 in the following grade, For one year and four months he served as a soldier in the Militia service at the end of which time he enlisted during the war and served ninety days on furlow and for such service he claims a pension Given under my hand this 21st day April 1834 Caleb Hale J.P.O.C.

NOTES:

There does not appear to have been a “Col. Blueford.” Carter may have been referring to Col. Abraham Buford, although Buford did not command a rifle regiment and was not in North Carolina at the time of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Gen. Greene’s army went southeast and then south soon after the battle, so Carter could not have passed them on his return to Virginia.

On 27 April 1853 Sarah Carter applied for a pension stating that as Sarah Williams she was married by Mr. Walls, a Methodist preacher in Breckenridge County KY, to William Carter, who died on or about 14 Oct 1842. On 13 Dec 1853 Sarah Carter was said to be 74 years old. On an application for bounty land dated 5 April 1859 Sarah Carter stated that she was 79, that she had never been married except to William Carter, that the date of her marriage was on or about 7 Jan 1809, and her husband died on 15 Oct 1842.