

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Oliver (Olliver) W5444 Susannah fn37NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/25/10

[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. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 12]

State of North Carolina County of Rockingham

On this the 3rd day of March A.D. 1852 personally appeared before me a justice of the peace within & for the County & State aforesaid Mrs. Susanah Oliver aged eighty-eight years, a resident of the County of Rockingham in the State of North Carolina who being duly sworn according to law declares that she is the widow of James Oliver deceased who was a private in the company commanded by Captain Josiah Gates, or Captain George Cook in the Regiment of the North Carolina Militia commanded by Colonel James Martin in the Revolutionary war of the United States of America with Great Britain. That her said husband was drafted in the County of Rockingham¹ on or about the last of the year 1780 or the first of the year 1781 for the term of about six months & continued in active service in said war for the term of about six months & was honorably discharged, she thinks in the County of Guilford NC.

She further states that she was married to the said James Oliver in the County of Rockingham NC in the year 1782 by one George Peay a justice of the peace in and for said County. That her name before her said marriage was Lemons and that her said husband died at his residence on the 8th day of February 1840 and that she is still a widow –

She states that her husband never applied for or received any pension for his services, from the fact as he stated to her that he was able to live without it & that he was no scholar & that it would be attended with a good deal of trouble.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the pension to which she may be entitled under the act passed by Congress the 15th day of May 1828, The act passed the 7th day of June 1832, The act passed September 28th 1850 and any other act passed by Congress giving pensions for services rendered in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain.

S/ Susanah Oliver, X her mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above written.

S/ P. D. McCollum, JP

[fn p. 22]

¹ Rockingham County was not formed as of 1780, but was still then a part of Caswell County North Carolina.

Supplementary Declaration

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: two with

On this 12th day of May in the year of our Lord 1852, personally appeared before the subscriber a justice of the peace, Mrs. Susannah Oliver, a resident of Rockingham County in the state of North Carolina aged eighty-six years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration; Supplementary and to correct one error which she believes to have been made in her Original declaration already on file at the Pension office, and bearing date 3rd day of March 1852, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of James Oliver, who was a private in the North Carolina Militia, in the Revolutionary War, in a company commanded she believes by Captain Josiah Gates, or Captain George Cook, but he may have served in both Companies and under both those captains, in Colonel James Martin's Regiment. She further states that her husband may have served in other Companies and under other captains, but at this remote period and owing to her great age, if such was the case she does not now recollect. She has been led to believe however since making her first declaration that her said husband served at the least a full year and perhaps longer, and she therefore wishes hereby to amend her Original declaration as to give her the benefit of all the time during which her said husband served, which she is induced to believe was a year at the least if not longer. She says as to her original declaration that her husband entered on one of his tours [tours] of service in Rockingham County in the State of North Carolina, about the last of the year 1780 or first of 1781. She also states that he may have served, and probably did serve other tours than the one above, She states that her husband was in the service when the battle of Guilford was fought. She also states that she was married to her said husband in the County of Rockingham in the State of North Carolina by one George Peay a justice of the peace in the year 1782 that her name before to her marriage was Lemons, and that her said husband died at his residence on the eighth day of February 1840 and that she is still a widow.

S/ Susannah Olliver, X her mark

[fn p. 4: family record – transcribed verbatim]

John Olliver the Sun of James and Susanah Olliver was Born December the 16 Day 1785

Poley oliver was Born Apral the 27 Day 1787

Salley Olliver was Born January the 16 Day 1789

Susanah olliver was Born in apral the 18 [?] Day 1791

James oliver Jr was Born the 20 of october 1792

Samuel olliver was Born in May the 28 1794

Elizabeth oll olliver was Born in January the 22 Day 1796

Nancey oliver was Born in november the 22 Day 1797

[fn p. 6: On May 27, 1852 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Alexander Wall gave testimony that he was acquainted with James Oliver and his wife Susannah for 40 years; that they lived together as man and wife and raised several children to wit: John, Samuel, Mary, Susanah, Elizabeth, Nancy and Sarough [sic].]

[fn p. 9: on March three, 1852, in Rockingham County North Carolina, Peter Oliver, 82, the brother of James Oliver gave testimony that his brother was drafted he thinks in the year 1782 serve against Great Britain in a company he thinks commanded by Captain Josiah Gates

belonging to the Regiment of North Carolina militia commanded by James Martin; that he was present when his brother entered the service; that his brother about six months; that he has often heard old revolutionary soldiers speak of being in the service as his brother; that his brother was in the service at the time of the battle of Guilford and was discharged in Guilford County, he thinks; that about the year 1782 his brother married Susanna Lemons. Peter Oliver signed with his mark.]

[fn p. 27: certificate dated June 14, 1852 from the North Carolina Comptroller General showing payments made to one James Oliver for military service during the revolution.]

[Veteran's widow was awarded the pension due him at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending February 8, 1840, the date of his death,; in addition, commencing March 4th, 1848, she was awarded a pension in her own right at the rate of \$40 per annum.]