

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

Pension Application of William Owens W8493

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Kentucky

Pulaski County Court Sct.

On this 20th day of January 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court for Pulaski County, state of Kentucky, now sitting as a Court, William Owens a resident of Pulaski County, State of Kentucky, aged Eighty three 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 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 while a resident of Augusta County, State of Virginia in the month of June 1776, the day not now reccollected, he volunteered to serve for the Term of Six months in the Company of Captian John Cook, he belonged to the Regiment of Colo. Brown, a Man by the name of Hambleton [Hamilton] was the Major of the Regiment. after he was rendevouzed, he together with the rest of the men was marched to and stationed at a place called Ellis's fort on the frontiers [at Little Levels in Greenbrier County, now Pocahontas County WV] and was a part of said term engaged in aiding to erect and complete said Fort and was occasionally during said term, whenever ordered, engaged scouting as a Spy and ranging to protect and defend the Country from and against the Indians. in the kind of service above mentioned he served out fully and entirely said Six months, and during the time was stationed at said Fort. he was discharged from the service and received a written discharge signed by Captian Cook, which has long since been lost.

afterwards when a resident of Montgomery County State of Virginia in the month of March 1778 a call was made by Government for Soldiers to serve eighteen months or until discharged from service by the officers in command and he volunteered in the company of Captian James Newell to serve eighteen months or until his officers thought proper to discharge him from service, but not to be retained in service longer than eighteen months. he belonged to the Regiment of Colo. [William] Preston. the company rendevouzed at a place called Davis's Station he was made & appointed a Seargent of the Company and after remaining in service at that place a short time he was marched to and stationed at Cumptons Fort on Blue Stone River on the frontiers in Montgomery County Virginia, and about the first day of June a Vacancy occurring, he was made and appointed first or Orderly Seargent of said Company and was engaged when ordered in scouting and ranging to defend and protect the country against the Indians he remained in the service in the rank of Seargent discharging the duties appertaining thereto untill the inclemency of winter made it necessary for the officers to dismiss the men. he was then ordered by his officers to return home for the winter but commanded to enter the service and rendevouz again at Cumptons Fort by the first of the ensueing March. he received no discharge in writing from the time he entered the service & was made Seargent until he was appointed first or Orderly Seargent not less than two months and a half and from the time he was made Orderly Seargent until ordered to return home for the winter was not less than six months and a half. in all not less than nine months.

afterwards still a resident of said County of Montgomery in the month of March 1779 he rendevouzed at Cumptons fort aforesaid and again entered the Service as first or Orderly Seargent in the Company of said Captian James Newell, belonged to the Regiment of Colo Preston as aforesaid, and the company was again stationed at said Fort. and he again discharged the duties of first or Orderly Seargent and was when ordered engaged in scouting and ranging to protect and defend the frontiers and the Country against the Indians, and was retained and continued in service by his superior officers in the rank of Orderly Seargent at the station aforesaid until the expiration and completion of the eighteen months the term and

period for which he at first volunteered in the service. he was by his officers discharged and received a written discharge at said fort signed by Jesse Evans [pension application S15826] the Lieutenant of the Company who was directed to discharge the men & sign their discharges. he received a discharge for his services as first or Orderly Seargent but does not recollect what term of service as Orderly Seargent was expressed in said discharge, which discharge has long since been lost. he is confident that said discharge was for eighteen months service altogether. as a Seargent and first or Orderly Seargent he served in all not less than eighteen months and not less than one year three months and a half of that period as Orderly Seargent

afterwards a resident of said County of Montgomery some time in the month of March 1780 the day not now recollected he volunteered in the Minnet Service [sic: Minute Service] as then called in the Company of Captian James Maxwell, belonged to the Regiment of Colo Preston. a man by the name of Trigg was the Major. he was to serve at any time when ordered in the service by his officers to march to any place and be engaged in any kind service when ordered. he was at all times day and night to be ready to enter the service when ordered and to remain in the service as long as his officers thought proper to retain him in the service. The necessities of the country were then great and pressing. the Indians were annoying the Americans and invading the settlements. the Tories were inflicting upon the friends of the Revolution every possible injury murdering, burning houses destroying crops capturing the citizens and plundering. he was immediatly after he volunteered ordered by his Officers into active service and was generally engaged in obedience to orders in the night as well as day scouting and ranging to protect and defend the country and the frontiers against the Indians and Tories, and was often ordered in the night on forced marches a considerable distance to disperse Tories and was frequently engaged in captureing Tories in and rendering such service as above described he continued until after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. he was in during the time no general engagement, but was in skirmishes such as were incident and common in scouting against Indians and in disperseing and capturing Tories. he was during the time exempt from all other militia service and was at all time ready to enter the service when ordered to do so. after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis he was discharged from further service. he received a discharge for eighteen months service signed by Captian Maxwell, which has long since been lost. he cannot now from old age, long lapse of time, and consequent loss of memory say with exact certainty how long he was actually engaged in the service, but states from the time he volunteered in the minut service until discharged he was actively laboriously and actually engaged in the service not less than Twelve months.

That he has no Documentary evidence whatever of his services and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services except that he can prove as he verily believes and expects by Genl. Jesse Richardson [pension application S30680] a resident of Pulaski County that he saw him the said William Owens either in the year 1778 or 1779 when he was engaged in scouting & ranging on Blue Stone River on the frontiers, and that he was informed by some of the company that the said William Owens was a Seargent of the company. he also expects he can prove by Michael Buster [S1178], a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States, who is a resident of said county of Pulaski that he was actually engaged in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war, but how long he does not expect he will be able to prove.

He is known to James Warrener a Clergyman and to John B. Lee residents of Pulaski County and residents of his present neighbourhood, who can testify 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 or Territory

He was born in the county of Frederick State of Virginia on the 10th day of November 1750. he has a Record of his age in the handwriting of his Fathers in a Bible now in his possession. He was living in the counties of Augusta & Montgomery when called into the service as stated in his

Declaration after the Revolutionary he lived in Montgomery until that part of it in which he lived became Wythe [1789] he continued in Wythe until the year 1796. he then moved to the county of Russell he continued to live in Russell until the year 1803 when he removed to and settled in Pulaski County State of Kentucky on the plantation upon which he has continued ever since to live and upon which in the county aforesaid he now resides.

He volunteered to render each and every term of service as stated in his Declaration.

He has in his Declaration stated the Regiments, the names of the Officers, and the general circumstances of the service where he served.

He received discharges for his services signed by the officers as stated in his Declaration, all of which has long since been lost.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] William Owens

NOTE: On 1 April 1839 Nancy Owens applied for a pension stating that she married William Owens on 20 Sept 1773, and he died 9 Aug 1836. She submitted as evidence a family record from her Bible, certified by Samuel Newell as being in the handwriting of Reuben Owens and transcribed below.

William & Nancy Owens MARRIAGE. Sept. 20th 1773

NAMES	BIRTHS	DEATHS.
	Month. Day. Year.	Month. Day. Year
William Owens	November 10 th 1750	August the 9 th 1836
Nancy Owens	March 15 th 1750	
& Children to wit		
Juda Owens	August 18 th 1774	November 20 th 1776
Reuben Owens	Nov. 13 th 1775	
Jane Owens	August 10 1778	
Sarah Owens	Feb 15 1781	
Rebeckah Owens	Sept 15 1782	
Samuel Owens	June 19 1785	January 9 th [?] 1834 [several illegible words and numbers]
Nancy Owens	Nov 10, 1787	
Avy Owens	Nov 11, 1789	
William & John Owens	March 25, 1792	
Behethleum Owens	Nov 5, 1794	August , 1795
Martin Owens	Ap 12, 1796	
Levina Owens	July 15, 1799	

CHILDREN'S MARRIAGES.

Samuel Newell was born January the 26th