

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Clark W8610

Rosa Clark

f84SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/27/11 & 9/9/19

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Livingston County

On this 3rd day of December personally appeared in open court before John Smedley, Christopher Haynes, & D. H. Patterson Esquires justices of the County Court for the County aforesaid, now sitting, William Clark, a resident of said County, aged about Seventy five 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 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 year 1775, in the district of Camden, State of South Carolina, he entered as a volunteer in the militia of that state under Captain Andrew Love (who was afterwards Colonel after the death of Colonel Neal [sic, Thomas Neel]) and belonged to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Neal [Thomas Neel] – one William Irvin was Lieutenant of my company. We rendezvoused at Friday's ferry on Broad River, below the mouth of the Saluda [River] and there we joined General Richardson [Richard Richardson] or some such name and marched from thence up Broad River and crossed the Saluda at Widow Brown's ferry and from there to Raburn's [sic, Raborn's or Rabon's] Creek and there encamped. The Tories at this time lay at a cane brake on Reedy River, about twenty miles off and the General detached Colonel Neal with about 800 men to surprise them. Colonel Neal promptly executed the order and succeeded in totally defeating them, and took many of them prisoners. This campaign was called the "Snowy Campaign" and lasted about two months; ending after the defeat of the Tories as above mentioned. That in June 1776 or 1777 (which year he will not be positive) he volunteered again from the same district under Captain Francis Ross (who was afterwards killed at Briar Creek in 1779) and the same Colonel Neal commanded the Regiment – the first Lieutenant was the same William Irvin and – __ Polk was Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment. We rendezvoused at Seneca and there found General Andrew Williamson (who was an illiterate Scotchman) and marched from there to the middle settlements towns on the Tennessee River and expected to meet General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] at that place, but he reached there before us and had destroyed the East towns, but had left a party of men there. We then marched to the Valley towns on Hiwassee [River] & about five miles from there, at a place called the "Black hole" on the ninth day of September, the Indians made an attack on us but they were defeated after a severe battle of one hour and a half. We could never ascertain the number killed and wounded, but they must have been considerable. From this place we again marched back to Seneca where we had left some invalids. In the Valley we met General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], and sent back our wounded to where he had left a party of his men as before mentioned. From Seneca we marched home, having been out in this campaign four months from June till October, the time of our return. That again in the year 1779 he volunteered under the same Colonel Neal, Major Bratton [William Bratton] (who was elected such at Orangeburg by the soldiers) and

Captain Ross, who took the command of my company as there was then no regularly commissioned Captain – and one Hawthorn was adjutant of the Regiment. We rendezvoused at Orangeburg, and lay there about six weeks, when we were relieved by a detachment under Colonel Watson [Samuel Watson]. During our stay at Orangeburg Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge] was there and one Christian Snief [sic, Christian Senf], our engineer taken at Burgoyne's defeat as was said. That again in the year 1780, he volunteered under Captain Miller [perhaps John Miller] and Colonel Watson commanded the Regiment. We rendezvoused at Clem's branch and there Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] was made General of the Brigade, and Andrew Neal [Andrew Neel] Colonel of the Regiment. From this place we marched down to the Waxhaw meeting house (where Colonel Buford's [Abraham Buford's] wounded men then lay), and crossed the Catawba [River] at Lands Ford about sun down; and marched to the Rocky Mount, and arrived there on Saturday night. This place was a British post under a Colonel Turnbull (if I am not mistaken). We immediately commenced the attack. In the first assault Colonel Neal's Regiment marched to the attack through an old field about 200 yards to the house in which the enemy were posted and around which they had fixed huge timbers pointing outwards. On our approach, the enemy poured a destructive fire on us, and in this assault Colonel Neal, and several others were killed. Finding it impossible to take the place, and being much exposed to the enemy's fire, we were compelled to retreat. The attack was made, by dividing the Army into three divisions, each of which was to approach in different directions. The commanders of these three divisions were Colonels Neal, Brannon [sic, Thomas Brandon] & William Bratton. After the repulse, General Sumter fell back a short distance and sent a flag demanding a surrender, but this was refused, and Sumter ordered a second attack, but as in the former attempt we were again repulsed. It was possible for us to have set fire to the works, but a rain came on and prevented this last effort. Our loss was not great. From this place we retreated and camped on Fishing Creek; and from thence back to Lands Ford, where this applicant was discharged, having served in this expedition six weeks as Lieutenant of the company the whole time, appointed and commissioned as such by Governor Rutledge. In the attempt on Rocky Mount [July 30, 1780],¹ among the killed was Captain Miller. That again in 1781, he volunteered (as Lieutenant of the company) under Captain John Peters, and under Colonel William Bratton, and joined General Sumter at Ancrum's bluff on the Congaree [River] where he then lay. After our junction with Sumter, we marched to Friday's Fort (known then by that name) on Broad River, and laid siege to it. After besieging the place for sometime we were obliged to abandon it for want of cannon; but not long afterwards General Green [sic, Nathaniel Greene] arrived at Ancrum's with cannon, and set up Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] with a corps of infantry and dragoons and a brass 6 pounder. Immediately on the arrival of Lee, he ordered a breastwork to be raised (in the night, under a heavy fire). As soon as completed, Lee ordered the assault – the infantry on the left, and dragoons on the right and Sumter's militia in the center, with the Cannon. After three rounds, firing from the Fort ceased. At about 10 o'clock the enemy capitulated, and surrendered themselves prisoners of War. The Tories taken were tried, and some of them hung as Traitors. After this attack and surrender he with others were discharged having served two months in this campaign as Lieutenant of the company. This ended his revolutionary services, except a few short expeditions against the Tories which perhaps are not worth enumerating. That in his first expedition he served faithfully two months – in the second as much as four months – in the third as much as one month at least – in the fourth, as much as six weeks and in the last expedition as much as two months. Making in all as much as 10 months and a half – and the last 3 ½ months, as a commissioned Lieutenant of the company. In the last expedition above-mentioned, the company to which he belonged was

¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_rocky_mount.html

a horse company, which was omitted to be mentioned in its proper place. He declares, that he has no documentary evidence in his possession (having lost his commission) which would prove his service, nor does he know of any person now living who can prove it, except one James Clinton, living in Caldwell County, with whom he served a part of the time, and whose affidavit he will endeavor to procure as it is out of his power to get his attendance here in the court and Arthur Travis living in this County. 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 whatever.

Question by the court:²

1. Where and in what year were you born? Answer: I was born in Ireland, in the County of Downe, about 75 years ago from the best information I have. I came to America in 1773 & settled in Camden District South Carolina.
2. Have you any record of you age, and if so where is it? Answer: I have none. All I know is from the information of my parents, and my age when I left Ireland, and the time I came to this country.
3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live? Answer: I was living in Camden District, South Carolina when I entered the service and continued to live there until the year 1805, when I moved to this County & I have lived here ever since.
4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute, and if they Substitute, for whom? Answer: I always volunteered my services and never waited to be called out.
5. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity & there believe of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution. Answer: The Reverend John Travis, William Hughes, William Stewart, Joseph Hughes, Arthur Travis, James Anse [?] Esquire and many others of my neighbors.
6. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. Answer: As my services were generally with the militia, I did not become acquainted with any regular officer but Colonel Lee that I now remember. Nor do I remember becoming acquainted with any other militia regiments than those I have mentioned.
7. Did you ever receive a commission, and if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of it? Answer: I did receive a commission signed by Governor Rutledge, Governor of South Carolina, as Lieutenant of the company in my last two expeditions, which commission has been long since lost or worn out. I do not remember that any

² The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

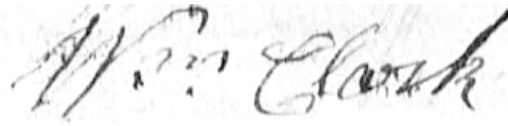
5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

written discharge was given me or any of the troops, as we were volunteers and that was not generally attended to.

S/ Wm Clark



Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Arthur Travis³ came personally into Court and made oath that he is now well acquainted with the above named William Clark and was acquainted with him in the Revolutionary war and does know that he did serve in the Revolution as a soldier – that he knew him when he was in Captain Miller's company and when he was in the battle at Rocky Mount and from his knowledge of him, he does believe everything that is stated in his declaration is true.

S/ Arthur Travis



Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$65.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private and 3 months service as a Lieutenant in the South Carolina militia.]

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| South Carolina Audited Accounts ⁴ relating to William Clark | AA26 |
| Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1272 | |
| Transcribed by Will Graves | 9/10/19 |

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No. 55

William Clark, for 97 days in Militia in 1780 and 1781 Colonel Bratton's [William Bratton's] Regiment General Sumter's [Thomas Sumter's] Brigade as private and Lieutenant

Amount £24.18.6 ¾ [Sterling]

Ex^d. J. M^c. A. G. [Examined by John McCall, Adjutant General]

Several William Clark's in Tate's Return (No. 10 and 11) one in each

Lay over until Peter's Return be examined

S/ E L [Edward Lightwood]

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The within account approved of per me

S/ Wm Bratton, Colo.

³ [Arthur Travis S1262](#)

⁴ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

Wm Bratton Col

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State of South Carolina to William Clark Dr. for service done as militia soldier in Colonel Bratton's Regiment and in General Sumter's Brigade in the month of July 1780, service done at Rocky Mount as a horseman fourteen days at twenty shillings per day £14.0.0

March 1781 Service done as Lieutenant in Colonel Bratton's Regiment & General Sumter's Brigade sixty-two days at forty-five shillings per day 139.10.0

June 1st 1781 Service done as a soldier in Colonel Bratton's Regiment and General Sumter's Brigade 21 days as a horseman at 20 shillings per day 21.0.0
£24.18.7 Sterling £174.10.0

South Carolina

Camden District } William Clark personally appeared and made oath that the above account the best of his knowledge is Just and no part paid. Sworn to this 29th of July 1784

S/ Wm Bratton, JP

S/ Wm Clark



Another Version

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Pension Application of William Clark, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll ___, Application #W8610

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Livingston County, Kentucky, December 3rd, 1832, William Clark, aged about 75 years: "That in the year 1775, in the district of Camden, state of South Carolina, he entered as a volunteer in the militia of that state under Captain Andrew Love (who was afterwards colonel, after the death of Colonel Neal) and belonged to the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Neal, one William ?Irwin, Lieutenant of said company."

"We rendezvoused at Friday's Ferry on Broad River, below the mouth of the Saluda, and there we joined General ?Richardson, or some such name, and marched from thence up Broad River and crossed the Saluda at Widow ?Bower's Ferry, and from thence to Rayburn's Creek, and there encamped. The Tories at this time lay at a cane break on Reedy River about 20 miles off, and the general detached Colonel O'Neal with about 800 men to surprise them. Colonel O'Neal promptly executed the order and succeeded in totally defeating them and too many of them prisoners. This campaign was called the 'Snow Campaign' and lasted about 2 months,

ending after the defeat of the Tories as above mentioned.”

“That in June 1776 (which year he will not be positive) he volunteered again from the same district under Captain Francis Ross (who was afterwards killed at Briar Creek in 1779), and the same Colonel O’Neal commanded the regiment; the 1st lieutenant was the same William Irwin and Kirk was Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment. He rendezvoused at Sirico [Seneca] and there joined General Andrew Williamson (who was an illiterate Scotchman) and marched from there to the middle settlement Tories on the T___ River and expected to meet General Rutherford at that place, but he reached there before us and had destroyed the east towns, but had left a party of men there. We then marched to the valley towns on Hiwassee, and about 4 miles from there at a place called the Black Hole on the 9th day of September, the Indians made an attack on us, but they were defeated after a severe battle of one hour and a half. We could never ascertain the number killed and wounded, but they must have been considerable.”

“After this, we marched back to Seneca Sirico where we had left some invalids. In the valley we met General Rutherford and sent back our wounded where he had left a party of men as before mentioned. From Sirico Seneca we marched home, having been out on this campaign 4 months, from June till October, the time of our return.”

“That again in the year 1779, he volunteered under the same Colonel O’Neal, Major Bratton (who was elected such at Orangeburg by the soldiers) and Captain Ross, who took command of my company, as there was then no regularly commissioned captain, and one Hawthorne was adjutant of the regiment. We rendezvoused at Orangeburg and lay there about 6 weeks when we were relieved by a detachment under Colonel Waters. During our stay at Orangeburg, Governor Rutledge was there, and one Christian Snief, an engineer taken at Burgoyne’s Defeat, as was said.”

“That again in the year 1780, he volunteered under Captain Miller and colonel Watson commanded the regiment. He rendezvoused at Elam’s Branch, and there Sumter was made general of the brigade, and Andrew Neal [O’Neal?] colonel of the regiment. From this place we marched down to the Waxhaw meetinghouse (where Colonel Buford’s wounded men then lay), and crossed the Catawba at Landsford about sun down, and marched to the Rocky Mount and arrived there on Saturday night.”

“This place was a British fort under a Colonel Turnbull (if I am not mistaken). We immediately commenced the attack. In the first attack, Colonel Neal’s regiment marched to the attack through an old field about 200 yards to the house, in which the enemy were posted, and around which they had fixed large timbers, pointed outwards. On our approach, the enemy poured a destructive fire on us, and in this assault, Colonel Neal and several others were killed.”

“Finding it impossible to take the place, and being much exposed to the enemy’s fire, we were compelled to retreat. The attack was made by dividing the army into ___ree divisions, each of which was to approach in different directions. The commanders of these divisions were Colonel Neal, Brannon and Wm. Bratton. After the repulse, General Sumter fell back a short distance and sent a flag demanding a surrender, but this was refused and Sumter ordered a second attack, but as in the former attempt, we were again repulsed. It was possible for us to have set fire to the works, but a rain came on and prevented this last effort. Our loss was not great. From this place we retreated and camped on Fishing Creek, and from thence back to Landsford, where this applicant was discharged, having served in this expedition 6 weeks as

lieutenant of the company the whole time, appointed and commissioned as such by Governor Rutledge. In the attack on Rocky Mount, among the killed was Captain Miller.”

“That again in 1781, he volunteered (as lieutenant of the company) under Captain John Peters and Colonel William Bratton and joined General Sumter at Ancrum’s Bluff on the Congaree where he then lay. After our junction with Sumter, we marched to Friday’s Fort (then known by that name) on Broad River and laid siege to it. After besieging it for some time, we were obliged to abandon it for want of cannon; but not long afterwards, General Green arrived at Ancrum’s with cannon and sent up Colonel Lee with a corps of infantry and dragoons and a brass 6-pounder. Immediately on the arrival of Lee, he ordered a breastwork to be raised (in the night, under a heavy fire). As soon as completed, Lee ordered the assault, the infantry on the left and the dragoons on the right, and Sumter’s militia in the center with the cannon. After about three rounds the fire from the fort ceased. At about 10 o’clock the enemy capitulated and surrendered themselves prisoners of war. The Tories later were tried, and some of them hung as traitors. After this attack and surrender, he, with others, were discharged, having served 2 months in this campaign as lieutenant of the company.”

“This ended his Revolutionary services except a few short expeditions against the Tories, which perhaps are not worth enumerating. That in his first expedition, he served faithfully two months; in the second as much as four months; in the third as much as one month at least; in the 4th as much as 6 weeks, and in the last expedition, as much as 2 months, making in all at least 10 months and a half, and the last 3 and a half months as a commissioned lieutenant of the company. In the last expedition above mentioned, the company to which he belonged was a horse company, which was omitted to be mentioned in the proper place. “

“He declares that he has no documentary evidence in his possession (having lost his commission) which would prove his service, nor does he know of any person now living who could prove it, except one James Clinton, now living in Caldwell County, with whom he served a part of the time and whose affidavit he will endeavor to procure, as it is out of his power to get his attendance here in this court, and Arthur Travis living in this county...”

Interrogatories:

Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Ireland in the county of Downe about 75 years ago from the best of information I have. I came to America on 1770 and settled in Camden District, SC.

Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

I have none. All I know is from the information of my parents and my age when I left Ireland, and the time I came to this country.

Where were you living when called into the service, and where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

I was living in Camden District, SC when I entered the service, and continued to live there until the year 1805, and have lived here ever since.

How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if so, state for whom?

I always volunteered my services and never waited to be called out...

As my services were generally with the militia, I did not become acquainted with any regular

officer but Colonel Lee, that I now remember, nor do I remember becoming acquainted with any other militia regiments than those that I have mentioned.”

Arthur Travis made oath that he was well acquainted with the afore named William Clark, and was acquainted with him in the Revolutionary War...that he knew him when he was in Captain Miller’s company and when he was in the Battle at Rocky Mount...”

Crittenden County, Kentucky, September 15, 1855, Rosa Clark, aged 88 years: “That she is the widow of William Clark, senior, deceased, who was a private and a lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain ____ in the ____ regiments commanded at different times and places by Generals Ross, ?Heath, Hawthorn...”

They were married November 30, 1792 or December 16, 1793 or early in 1793 (all of these dates appear in this claim) in York County, SC. Her maiden name was Rosa Cunningham. William died April 16, 1834 in Crittenden County, KY. They raised a large family, only 2 mentioned, James, the oldest born Aug. 15, 1793, 2nd Aug.20, 1795.