

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Absalom Martin: S41800

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of No. Carolina Carteret

On the seventeenth day of September one thousand eight hundred and eighteen before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Superior court of Law and equity for the state aforesaid personally appeared Absalom Martin aged seventy five years, Resident in the county of Carteret and State aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & navil service of the Untied States, in the revolutionary war. that he the said Absalom Martin Volunteered in the county of Carteret in April 1781 as the fourteenth man which was to be furnished in each county in the state by every fourteen men in order to make up a requisition by the United States to furnish troops for the same, that he joined the company commanded by Capt. John G. McRea [sic: Griffith John McRee] which said company was attached to the sixth regiment commanded by Col Lyttle [sic: Archibald Lytle, then a prisoner of war]. he continued to serve Twelve months in the service of the united states and received a discharge at Wilmington N.C. agreeable to the rules and articles of war which discharge was lost by a person employed to draw His pay [several words illegible] I never received any pay for This service. That he was in the battles of Eutaw springs [South Carolina, 8 Sep 1781] and is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power for his said services Absalom hisXmark Martin

On this 22^d day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions for the County of Carteret & State of No Carolina (the said Court being by the laws of said State a Court of record) Absalom Martin aged seventy five years, resident in Carteret County in said district, who being first duly sworn according to law; doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows: - that he enlisted for the term of 12 months in the State of No. Carolina at the town of Beaufort, in the company commanded by Captain William Dennis in the 1st regiment Commanded by Colonel Lighton in the line of the State of No. Carolina on the Continental establishment - that at the September Term 1818 of Carteret Superior Court of Law & Equity he made the declaration required by act of Congress for procuring a pension before the Hon'ble John Hall Judge of said Court that he accordingly received a pension & that his certificate is numbered 13.721 Geo Reade Clerk And I, Absalom Martin do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818; & that I have not since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, & that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed & by me subscribed.

Schedule

140 acres barren pine Land

6 Hogs

1 Mare

2 Chairs

2 Pots

2 Axes

3 Hoes

1 Plough

1 Pine Table

Absalom hisXmark Martin

I do further swear that by occupation I am a farmer that in consequence of the infirmities incident to old age I am generally unable to pursue my calling, that my family is in number five viz. Absalom Martin aged 75 years, Rachel my wife aged 75 years, William my grandchild aged 13 years, Jacob my grandson aged 12 years & David my grandson aged 9 years - and that none of them are able to contribute to their own support. Sworn to & declared on the 22^d day of August 1820 before us presiding Justices of Carteret County Court.

NOTES:

A typed summary gives the dates of Martin's enlistment and discharge as 25 April 1781 and 28 April 1782.

The 1820 federal census for Carteret County lists Absalom Martin of Bogue Sound as a "Free Colored Person" over 45 with three males under 10, one male 10 - 16, a female 26 - 45, and a female over 45.