I hereby Certify, that in the month of September 1776, By order of the Committee of Safety, I succeeded Colonel Adam Stephens in the Command of the forces ordered to the defense of Portsmouth & Norfolk, and being vested with Power to give such Assistance to Captain Faukner as I might Judge necessary, for carrying on those Fortifications, at & near Norfolk & Portsmouth; I did appoint John Overton Esquire and Engineer which office he took on him shortly after my arrival at the place above mentioned, & whose conduct met with my highest Approbation.

Given under my hand this 22nd Day of March 1800

S/ Saml. Meredith [Samuel Meredith]

In Council May 3rd 1800

On consideration of the Case of Captain John Overton who claims a bounty of Land for seven years services in the late war –

The Board are of Opinion that the time of service commenced from September 1776 when he was called upon to act as Engineer for the Defense of Portsmouth & Norfolk by Colonel Meredith, under the authority of the Committee of Safety.

Extract from the minutes

S/ ? Blair, C. C.