

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Benoni Overstreet VAS352

[vsl 2VA &](#)

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/31/12 supp'd 4/13/15 & 5/27/15

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do hereby Certify that Benoni Overstreet enlisted with me on the 27th day of January 1777 for 3 years one of which he served as a private Soldier the other 2 as Sergeant in the 4th Virginia Regiment.

Given under my hand this 20th April 1784

S/ J. Holcombe c. 4th V R
while in service

I certify that Benoni Overstreet Sergeant in the 4th Virginia Regiment served the term of his enlistment and was Discharged the 28th day of January 1780

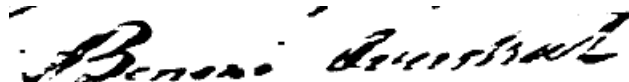
Given under my hand this 21st of March 1784

James Morton, Lt.
4th Virg. Regt.

Sir

Please to deliver him my land for Services to John B. Overstreet
Col. Meriwether

S/ Benoni Overstreet



[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislature of Virginia

Your petitioner Benoni Overstreet begs leave to represent to your honorable body that in May 1781 when General Lafayette was retreating before the British Army he, your petitioner, was appointed Brigade inspector to a brigade then commanded by Col. Christian Febiger, afterwards by General Lawson [Robert Lawson]: who continued your petitioner in the office of inspector until after the capture of Yorktown [October 19, 1781]; Indeed your petitioner had to remain in Williamsburg until the 22nd of December making the necessary returns of the Army. Your petitioner most solemnly avers that for this arduous service he never received one solitary cent, although he made every effort that could be made in order to get his right; but was as often disappointed. It was always alleged that your petitioner's appointment was contrary to law. This

was true. Brigade Majors was by law to be Majors of the line with an addition of ten dollars per month to their wages. Col. Febiger who gave your petitioner the appointment knew him to be qualified for that office and your petitioner has the happiness to know that all the various duties of that office he faithfully discharged. Two of the field officers only he recollects who served in that Brigade. The Honorable St. George Tucker was a Col. and Col. Philemon Holcombe was then Major; both of whom I know would bear personal testimony of your petitioner; but it is by no means convenient for him to procure in time, their certificates.

It is now forty-four years since these services were rendered and your petitioner (though struggling with adversity ever since) ~~is~~ still unpaid.

Your petitioner does not come before your Honourable body (though fair enough) as a begging pauper; but as one asking only his right and with the expectation, that his country will at this late hour do him ample justice.

There is at this time a tract of land, supposed to be between 2 and 300 acres about to be sold by the escheater of Prince Edward County. Your petitioner would thankfully receive this land as full compensation for this service and prays that a law may pass vesting to him that tract called Bosticks, and your petitioner, as in duty bound will ever pray &c

[Reverse]

The Petition of Benoni Overstreet

H. E. Watkins

that a law may pass vesting in him a tract of land called BOSTICK in Prince Edward as compensation for his services as Brigade inspector during the Revolution

December 18th 1825

Referred to Claims

1826

January 9 Rejected

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Cumberland County Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Virginia

The Petition of Benoni Overstreet sets forth that on the 24th of May 1781 he was appointed Lieutenant to a Company of Militia ordered from the County of under Captain Alexander Guthrey, as such served six days at the end of which time the said Guthrey quitted the Service, your Petitioner was then, to wit, the 30th of May appointed Captain & took charge of the said Company wherein he served 38 days, when your Petitioner returned to Cumberland he Desired the said Guthrey to make out a pay Roll for the Company and draw the Certificates do for their Services, the said Guthrey did so, & Drew the Company's full pay except your Petitioner's who he omitted to insert in his pay Roll, therefore no compensation has ever been received for the services above mentioned performed by your Petitioner,

Your Petitioner further Sheweth that he for a long time supposed that his Certificate was in the hands of the said Guthrey & therefore was easy until necessity required him to demand it, and then Guthrey explained the matter, Your Petitioner humbly hopes although at this late day he may be by your Honorable body compensated for his Service as aforesaid

I hereby Certify that on the 24th day of May 1781 Benoni Overstreet was appointed Lieutenant in

a Company of Militia which I marched from the County of Cumberland and on the 30 of the same month the said Overstreet upon my quitting the Company was appointed Captain. The Company served until 8 July following as I have understood under the Command of the said Overstreet. I do further certify that I made out the payroll and drew the Companies Certificates that Overstreet was not included in the payroll and that he is justly entitled to pay for the time he served.

Given under my hand this 13th day of October 1791

S/ Alexr Guthrey

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alexr Guthrey". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, typical of the late 18th century.

[Reverse]

Overstreet's Petition

11 November 1791

Referred to Claims

[illegible]

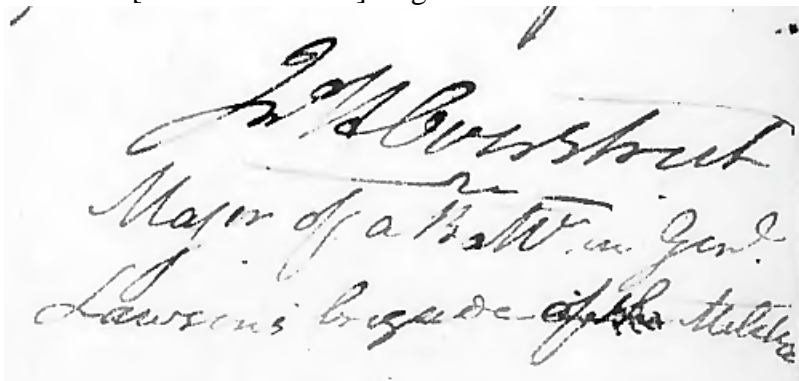
I hereby certify that Benoni Overstreet served in my Battalion 6 days as Lieutenant and 38 days as Captain of a Company of Militia from the County of Cumberland in the year 1781.

Given under my hand this 15th of October 1791

S/ Jn^o Overstreet [John Overstreet]

Major of a Batt [Battalion] in General

Lawson's [Robert Lawson's] brigade of the Militia

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jn^o Overstreet". Below the signature, there is additional handwritten text: "Major of a Batt in Genl Lawson's brigade of the Militia". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, typical of the late 18th century.