

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

Pension Application of Josiah Blankenship S8072

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, Chesterfield county, towit;

On this 8th day of October anno Domini 1832; personally appeared in open court, before the county court of Chesterfield county, now sitting, Josiah Blankenship at present a resident of the town of Petersburg, but late a resident of Chesterfield county in the state of Virginia, aged about seventy three or seventy four 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 7th June 1832.

That in the year 1780 he was called out in a company of militia commanded by Capt'n. Joseph Royall, of which Robert Brooking was Lieutenant, the Ensign not recollected, which company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colo. Robert Goode, that they marched from Chesterfield county down to the lower part of Virginia, were at Smithfield, McKey's mill [Mackie's Mill] &c, and after serving a tour of six or eight weeks, were marched up to Petersburg and discharged; he was in no battle or skirmish during this tour.

About one month after being discharged at Petersburg, he was again called out, in the same company, under the same officers, they marched from Chesterfield county to Petersburg, from thence to Tuckahoe above Richmond, from thence to Westham, from thence to Wilton and from thence across James river to the town of Osbornes [Osborne's, E of Chester], were they were discharged, after serving a tour of about ten weeks, he was in no battle or skirmish during this tour. About two months afterwards, he was again called out, in a company of Militia commanded by Captain George Markham, the subaltern officers not now recollected, The marched to Petersburg, from thence to James river above Richmond, and crossing over they marched down to New Castle [now Old Church] a small town on Pamunkey river, and from thence to the City of Williamsburg where they were discharged, after serving a tour of about ten weeks; they were in no battle or skirmish during this tour.

Sometime early in the month of September 1781 he was called out in a company of militia commanded by Capt'n. Wm. Smith [William Smith] of which Joseph Weisiger was Lieutenant, the Ensign is not recollected. They marched from Chesterfield county to Williamsburg, from thence to little York, he was present during the whole seige of that place [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and after the surrender of the Brititsh army under Lord Cornwallis, marched with the prisoners to Winchester, where he was discharged, having served about six weeks this tour. He thinks he served in all the tours, about eight months: he never received any written discharge. He was born and raised in Chesterfield county Virginia, and has resided there ever since, untill about a year ago, when he removed to the town of Petersburg: the register of his birth has been lost; he supposes he was born either in the year 1758 or 1759. He has no documentary evidence, but is well known in the neighborhood where he has resided, by Bland Blankenship and sundry other persons, who can testify as 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.

Josiah hisXmark Blankenship

I Bland Blankenship of Chesterfield county, about sixty five years old, being first duly sworn before the county court of Chesterfield now sitting, do hereby certify & depose, that I well remember during the revolutionary war, my brother Josiah Blankenship who has made the above declaration, was called into military service and served three tours of duty in the militia: a strong impression was made on my mind, by these facts, because all my brothers who were old enough were called into military service,

and during their absence, I was compelled to work very hard. Sworn to & subscribed in open court this
8th October 1832.

Bland hisXmark Blankenship

Virginia; Chesterfield County to wit:

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Justice of the peace for the county of Chesterfield aforesaid Josiah Blankinship who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than eight months as a private in the Militia during the War of the Revolution and for such service he claims a Pension: He has not obtained the evidence of any Clegyman residing in his neighbourhood in support of his Declaration, because there is none residing in many miles of him. During the tour at the seige of York, he was frequently under the command of Colo St. George Tucker, Colo. [Alexander] Dick and Major [William] Boyce of the Regular Army [sic: Militia] – he was also under the command of Colo Dick and Major Boyce, during part of his second tour, particularly at the time of the Battle of Petersburg [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781], but he was not in the engagement. Subscribed and sworn to this fourteenth day of February anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty three.

Josiah hisXmark Blankenship