

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

Pension application of William Clifton W3945

Sarah (Sally)

fn45NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Wake County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions November Term 1832
On this the 20th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions for the State of North Carolina aforesaid, now sitting, William Clifton, a resident of Wake County & North Carolina aged 66 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 was drafted in the militia service of this State in the year 1781, but in what month he does not recollect, whilst a resident of Wake County for the term of 4 months, under Captain Dredd Jones -- Lieutenant Trent and rendezvoused at the Court House of the aforesaid County. That his company marched up to Salisbury North Carolina where his company remained for eight or ten days expecting the approach of the British Army on his way from Camden South Carolina -- that upon their arrival of an American Light Horse Company -- his company with the other Americans, marched backwards across the River Yadkin & retreated eastwards until they reached Guilford Court House North Carolina where having been met & reinforced by General Greene [Nathanael Greene] the American Army halted & gave battle. After the Defeat at Guilford, this Declarant with his Company, retreated to Wake County, where, in a short time after they reached the County of Wake, Colonel Sanders collected as many of the soldiers as he found & marched them down to Fayetteville North Carolina, then, called Cross Creek -- among whom was this Declarant. The British Army, had already passed through Fayetteville on its way to the North, but these men, of whom this Declarant was one, were marched down to that place on horseback for the more speedy suppression of the Tories by whom that Section of Country was very much annoyed at that time. The appearance of Colonel Sanders awed the Tories who gave no battle -- and after remaining there a short time, this Declarant's term of 4 months expired & he was discharged & returned home.

That in the year 1783 (the month not recollected with certainty -- but he believes in August) he volunteered under one Colonel Mathew Colours [Capt. Matthew McCullers¹] who raised a Light Horse Company for the term of 3 months. That the company rendezvoused at Wake Court House -- from thence they marched to Ramsey's Mills in Chatham County North Carolina to give fight to the Tories who had been plundering the neighboring Country & carrying everything before them. That hearing at Ramsey's Mills of the Tories who had invaded Hillsboro & taken up the Governor, Prisoner, they went up the Haw River on which Ramsey's Mills were situated & engaged the Tories who they found at Lindley's Mills² -- There the Tories were

¹ [Matthew McCullers W7415](#)

² The Battle of Lindley's Mill occurred on September 13, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm>

defeated with great slaughter. After this engagement, they marched down to Cross Creek, now Fayetteville North Carolina -- where their term of service having expired, they were discharged.

This Declarant though a native of Virginia, removed to this State and a very early period of his childhood & has constantly resided here ever since. He has a record of his age at his house. That he was born in the year 1765 -- He served with General Greene at Guilford as he has before stated -- & General Butler was also at the same engagement -- His first discharge was given by Colonel Sanders, his 2nd he believes by Colonel Colours.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid S/ Wm Clifton

I John Pool³ a soldier of the revolution do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with William Clifton who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration -- that I believe he is 66 years old -- and that having served with him in the same tours & in the same companies -- mentioned in his declaration -- I do know of my own personal knowledge, that he did serve as he states & that the aforesaid William Clifton is reputed & believed in the neighborhood in which he resides to have been a Soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Pool, X his mark

[fn p. 8: On January 14, 1842, in Wake County North Carolina, Sally Clifton, 75, filed for a widow's Pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of William Clifton; that she married him on March 4, 1787 and that he died March 16th, as 1838; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 10: a copy of the marriage bond dated February 19, 1787 taken out in Wake County North Carolina by William Clifton & John Rice for the marriage of Clifton to Sarah Hunter.]

[Other facts in the file: in 1842, Edith Guffy, 65, gave testimony in Wake County that she is the sister of Sally Clifton; Sarah Clifton was still alive in January 1845 and living in Wake County North Carolina.]

³ [John Pool S7329](#)