

***Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements
Pension application of Owen Lea (Lee) by widow Elizabeth
Transcribed by Will Graves***

*State of North Carolina, Cleveland County: Court of Pleas and Quarter
Sessions February Session 1846*

*On this 9th day of February 1846 personally appeared Elizabeth Lea a
resident of North Carolina Cleveland County aged 80 years, who being first
duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following
declaration in Order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act
of Congress passed July the 7th 1838, and March the 3rd 1843, and the 17th
of June 1844, granting pensions to Certain Widows, that she is the widow of
Owen Lee, who was a private in the North Carolina Militia, and as such
served the United States against the Common enemy for the term of
nine months at different tours, and that he was a resident of North Carolina
Caswell County at the time he entered the service, and that he was in the
battle at Gates defeat and that he continued in this service to the close of the
war she further declares that she was married to the said Owen Lee some
time in the year 1782 and that her husband the said Owen Lee died on the
21st day of June 1817, and that she was not married to him prior to his
leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first
of January 1794 (Viz.) at the time above stated.*

*Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written in open Court
before me.*

S/ Elizabeth Lea, X her mark {Seal}

Sworn to in open Ct. February 9, 1846

S/ R. Champion, Clk.

[Documents in this file disclose the following: Owen Lea (Lee) married Elizabeth or Betsy Wright in Caswell County, NC in 1782; she was born March 31, 1765; that after the War, they moved to Chester District, SC, then to that part of Rutherford County, NC that later became Cleveland County, NC where he died on June 21, 1817; she died August 3, 1854; her claim was not allowed for failure to prove that her husband served at least 6 months during the War.

Owen and Elizabeth had the following children:

John born March 8, 1784

Richard born May 14, 1787
Phebe born January 31, 1790
Ivy born November 13, 179- (torn)
Richard born April 24, 179- (torn)
William born October 20, 1796
George born February 20, 1799
Nancy born September 30, 1801
Carter born March 23, 1804
Vincent Wright born October 15, 1807
Betsy or Elizabeth born December 27, 18—(torn)

Owen Lea's cousin John Lee resided in Caswell; Owen's sister Elizabeth Carter, resided in Chester District in 1847; John Wright of Caswell County was Elizabeth Wright Lea's brother; Elizabeth Wright Lea, the widow, was survived by the following children: Ivy, William, Carter, Vincent, Elizabeth and George Lea and Nancy Hardin.]

State of South Carolina, Chester District

Personally appeared Elizabeth Carter Before the Subscriber one of the Acting Justices of the peace in and for the District aforesaid and after being first Duly sworn according to law Saith on her oath, that she is the sister of Owen Lee, whose widow Elizabeth Lee of North Carolina in the County of Cleveland is now applying for a pension, for the services of her late husband, the aforesaid Owen Lee.

This Deponent saith, that she was living with her Brother at their father's own house at the time of the Revolutionary War, and that she well knows that her Brother, Owen Lee, was Drafted, and went into the Service and was absent from Home, and said to be in the Camps for and about the term of nine months, and that the Captain under whom her Brother Owen served was George Lee, his own Cousin, until George Lee was appointed Colonel and then her Brother served under Captain Sergeant – that her Brother was a resident of Caswell County in the State of North Carolina at the time of his Service – and that after the close of the war, he was married to Elizabeth Wright, the above named Elizabeth Lee now the widow of the said Owen Lee. Sworn to and subscribed the 6th day of February 1847 before me.

S/ Elizabeth Carter, X her mark
S/ John Davis, MGCD

State of North Carolina, Cleveland County

Be it known, that before me the undersigned, an acting Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County and State aforesaid, this day personally appeared old Mrs. Elizabeth Lee who being first Duly sworn according to law, depose as follows to wit – that she is the widow of Owen Lee, who was a soldier in the North Carolina militia in the war of the Revolution that he served in the said militia service six or nine months, under Captain George Lee and Captain Sergeant after Captain Lee was promoted to the office of Colonel, that her said husband Owen Lee was a resident of Caswell County in the State of North Carolina, at the time of his said service, that he was in the Battle of Guilford Court House – Declarant, further declares, that sometime in the years 1845 or 1846, she made a former Declaration before the Court of Cleveland County in the State of North Carolina claiming pension for her said husband's service in the Revolutionary war under the Act of Congress of the 7 of July 1838 to which Declaration now on file, in the pension office, at Washington City, she refers to for evidence, of her marriage, to her said Husband heretofore offered and that she has Remained his widow ever since his death, and that her name was Elizabeth Wright before her marriage, to her said Husband Owen Lee – and that she now makes this her additional Declaration in order to have her claim for a pension under said act of Congress Reconsidered to which Claim she knows she is justly entitled – the services of her said Husband under Captain Lee and Captain Sergeant she well recollects, that of his marching off, and of seeing him in actual service in the line of march and also of his returning home. She further Declares that her said Husband at the time of his going into the service was a near neighbor of hers and very intimate together; and that her brother John Wright also went into service at the same time in the same Company with her said Husband Owen Lee and that shortly after the Close of the war, her and her said Husband was married in Caswell County State of North Carolina that they did not live in said County of Caswell long but moved in a short time to Chester District in the State of South Carolina, and stayed there a few years and moved to Rutherford County, the part of which is now Cleveland County in the State of North Carolina – where Declarant now Resides.

Sworn to and subscribed this 12th day of February 1851 Before me
Attest: S/ Coalman Doggett, Esqr. S/ Elizabeth Lee, X her mark

State of North Carolina, Cleveland County

Personally appeared Major MaCombs before the Subscriber one of the Acting Justices of the peace in and for said County and after being first Duly sworn according to law, sayeth on his oath, that he first became acquainted with

Owen Lee more than 50 years ago, that at the time he first was acquainted with Owen Lee he the said Lee lived in Chester District South Carolina, that he the said Lee moved to that District from Caswell County North Carolina, that he Deponent often heard Owen Lee speak of having been in the Service in the war of the Revolution, that he said he was Drafted and spent two or three different tours, and that he said his Cousin George Lee was his Captain, his Major's name was Sharpe, and that he was in the Battle at Guilford Court House and several other scrimmages; and this Deponent further Saith that some few years after he first became acquainted with the said Owen Lee in Chester District S. C. that he Deponent went in to Caswell County N. C. and then and there he was made acquainted with John Lee, the Cousin of Owen Lee and John Wright, Deponent was also made acquainted with who was the Brother of Owen Lee's wife and the said John Lee and John Wright told Deponent that they and Owen Lee were Soldiers together in the Revolutionary war and Owen was a faithful Soldier and true patriot. Deponent well knows that these statements or Declarations was made in his presence by John Lee & John Wright some 45 or 50 years ago. This Deponent further saith that the said Owen Lee lived a few years in Chester District S. C. & then moved to Cleveland County N. C. where his widow now lives, and that he Deponent also moved to Cleveland County about the same time, and settled and lived a near neighbor to the said Owen Lee and that he was well acquainted with him until his death which was about the year 1817, and that he heard the said Lee after he moved to Cleveland County in N. C. speak of his having been in the war: and that the said Owen Lee was always Reputed and Recognized in the Settlements where he lived to have been a Soldier of the Revolutionary war and that the same belief prevails at this time and of which he Deponent has no Doubt for from his long acquaintance with the said Lee he believes him to have been a man of as good veracity as ever lived and that he Deponent is well acquainted with Elizabeth Lee, the widow of the said Owen Lee and that she is a venerable old Lady of good Repute; Sworn to and Subscribed this 19th day of June 1847 before me.

S/ Major McCombs
S/ James Roberts, JP