

Pension Application for Samuel Hawkins

S.24201

State of New York

County of Putnam SS.

On this twelfth day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before Frederick Stone, Samuel Washburn & Bennet Boyd, Esquires, three of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the county of Putnam aforesaid the said Court being now sitting Samuel Hawkins a resident of the town of Kent, in the County & State aforesaid, aged seventy two 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 7, 1832.

That he was born on the eighteenth day of May in the year 1760. That he has no record of his age except a memorandum made by himself in his family bible & which was taken a great many years ago from a family record which has been lost or destroyed for a great number of years.

That he lived at Cortland t's Manor (near South Salem) in Westchester County in the State of New York when he first went into the revolutionary service & during the early part of the revolution at those periods in which he was out in the service & during the revolutionary war he went to live in Frederickstown in the county of Dutchess now Kent in the County of Putnam & State aforesaid, married then has continued to live there ever since & now lives there.

That he first enlisted into the service in June 1775 when he was in his sixteenth year but does not remember whether the regiment to which he belonged was of the state troops or militia.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

That he first entered the service in June 1775 as above stated under Captain Joseph Benedict by enlisting for six months.

James Holmes was the Colonel who afterwards abandoned the American cause Gould Bonten & Samuel Sacket were lieutenants, but he does not remember the names of any other field or company officers—about a fortnight or three weeks after his enlistment the declarant marched with his regiment for Canada.

They proceeded to Fishkill in Dutchess County, where they embarked on board a schooner and sailed to Albany, marched thence to Fort George on Lake George, thence sailed to Ticonderoga in bateaux.

They there joined a body of troops & embarked on Lake Champlain for Canada, went to St. Johns & besieged the fort at that place—too their position first on the south & then on the north side of the fort & cut off supplies.

While the American troops were investing St. Johns, the fort at Chamblee was carried by the American arms—the ammunition & military stores there taken were brought to the encampment under St. Johns & the declarant helped guard those stores & ammunition.

The fort at St. Johns was subsequently taken & surrendered the besieging army under Montgomery & a number of prisoner captures—Captain Mott had a company detailed under him to conduct the prisoners to Philadelphia (as Declarant understood at the time) and the declarant was of that company & continued under Captain Mott in this service until they reached Esopus on the Hudson river, where the prisoners rose & attempted to regain their liberty but were subdued.

While at St. Johns declarant scalded his foot very badly with the contents of a mess kettle & became very lame. In consideration of his situation from this injury, when they had reached Esopus as before stated, Captain Mott gave declarant a furlough until he should be fit for service—this was declarant thinks in the month of November. The furlough is lost & the date & precise terms of it are not recollected by the declarant—He was in actual service under this enlistment as above stated for over five months & continued lame from the injury above stated for some months.

In the latter part of January or first of February 1776, still residing at Cortlandts Manor declarant again enlisted into the militia for three months under Captain Samuel Delevan in Colonel [blank] Drake's Regiment, James Cox was Major and [blank] Doolittle ensign or lieutenant, no other field or company officers are now recollected by declarant. He served out the whole three months & was discharged the last of April or first of May, by a verbal discharge from his commanding officer—

The company to which he belonged lay a greater part of the time at Young's house near Whiteplains & marched along the lines in that quarter from time to time as the occasions required to protect the patriots against the enemy, tories, & cattle stealers who then infested the country—there was no engagement during this period.

The declarant afterwards again enlisted while residing at Cortlandt's Manor in the militia under Captain [blank] Steenwood in Colonel [blank] Drake's Regiment for three months. The day of his enlistment and discharge are now forgotten. James Cox was Major & [blank] Doolittle ensign or lieutenant. They soon marched to Harlaem [sic] by land & commenced the building of a fort there. While they lay at Harlam, [sic] General Putnam visited the place as the declarant was then informed & believes. Declarant served out his term of enlistment & was discharged verbally—No other officers are now recollect ted except there above stated.

The declarant enlisted again for three months under Captain Elijah Townsend in the year 1776 or 1777. John Berry was the ensign & Nathaniel Jagger lieutenant. This declarant with the said company lay at Red Mills, in Carmel Putnam County, then Dutchess County to protect the continental stores principally of [whest?] which were deposited in the said Red Mill—at the expiration of the said term of three months declarant was discharged verbally—no other troops that deponent recollects except those of said Townsends company were engaged in the service while declarant was there.

The declarant residing in Frederickstown aforesaid enlisted for three months under Captain Elijah Townsend in Colonel Henry Livingston, Regiment. He thinks this was in the year 1777—All the officers now remembered by deponent was [blank] Hammond Lieutenant Colonel, John Berry first lieutenant & Elijah Fuller second

lieutenant—Jonathan Hopkins, Jabez Berry, William Drews & this declarant were serjeants in said Townsends company. The declarant served out the said term of three months & was discharged verbally at its expiration. The regiment lay at White Plains during this period, protecting the lines & watching the enemy & patrolling in small parties occasionally along the lines of such duty having a skirmish occasionally, declarant had a skirmish when on that duty, or patrolling, on scouting—Declarant recollects so other troops being with this regiment at this period.

The declarant again enlisted under Captain Henry Mitchell of the Artillery for five or six months, the time of this enlistment not recollected & declarant does not remember the names of any other officers—He was marched to Fort Constitution on the Hudson river & remained in garrison or until the expiration of his term when he was discharged—believes there was no other company of the regiment to which he belonged, Fort Constitution, there were other troops there, but declarant does not remember what troops they were or the names of their officers. The declarant was of a small party sent down the river in a barge to watch the motions of the Phanix [Phoenix?] a British vessel below—while there a party in a barge from the tender of the Phanix attempted to land to carry off some battle near the entrance of the Highlands & were driven off by the party to which declarant belonged.

The declarant still living in Frederickstown enlisted in February or March 1778 in Captain Elijah Townsend's company in Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment for one year. The remembers the names of no other officers except John Berry & William Bartine or Martine lieutenants & Jabez Berry orderly sergeant—they lay at White Plains protecting the lines for some part of the time & declarant thinks there were some troops under General Clinton there—Declarant went there with his company to Yonkers Westchester County or near there, & lay there at a place the name of which is forgotten by declarant, until they went into winter quarters near Bedford Westchester County—at the place at which they lay before they went into winter quarters, there were some Virginia troops with them under General --- Scott, as declarant believes—During this period of service the declarant had charge of a guard at Bedford Westchester County to guard tory prisoners at a guard house, one of whom he'd spiked a cannon at Valentines Hill.—

The declarant again enlisted for two terms of a month each in 1779 in Colonel Thomas Thomas Regiment & served out is term being the month of March & April in said year & was discharged & lay at & near White Plains during the periods for the purposes herein before stated. Declarant recollects that Colonel Barr was there during that period. But declarant does not remember the names of any officers, except those of Captain Brewer & Major Hill whose names appear on the pay rolls hereto annexed, which declarant offers as evidence of his said service.

In addition to the terms of service above detailed the declarant at different times, during the revolution served on alarms & as a volunteer on many occasions, for one, two, & three weeks at a time & was in service of his country for a chief part of that war.

The declarant further states that the foregoing declaration contains a statement of the general circumstances of his services in the revolutionary war & the places where he served & the names of the regiments & officers and other facts & circumstances required by the war department as far [set?] forth as the declarant is unable to recollect or detail the same.

The declarant states that he was born at Cortlandt's Manor near South Salem aforesaid. The declarant never served as a substitute for any other person in either of the terms of service above stated.

The declarant was honorably discharged in each & every instance in which he has herein stated that he was discharged—He thinks that on one occasion a discharge in writing & if so, he took no particular of it & it has been lost & he can not now remember by whom it was given, or what has become of it. It was the practice at that time in the troops in which the declarant served for some one of the officers, to address those whose terms of service had expired & discharge them verbally & deponent can not nor recollect any instance in which he was discharged in any manner.

The declarant further states that he has no documentary evidence other than that annexed, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, he can testify to his service, other than those, who affidavits are hereto annexed.

He can support his character for veracity & the belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution by the following persons among others to whom he is known in his neighborhood viz—Edward Smith and Alvin Chase.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.
(Signed) Samuel Hawkins

Sworn & subscribed this 12th day of September 1832 in open court. J.
Morehouse Clk