

Pension Application for Samuel Holmes

W.18066 (Widow Sallena or Salina) Married September 11, 1782. Samuel died March 19, 1813.

B.L.Wt.31279-160-55

State of Vermont

Lamoille County SS.

On this 18th day of September A.D. 1844, personally appeared in open Court, before the Hon. Probable Court for the District of Lamville, in said County of Lamoille, now sitting Sallena Holmes, a resident of Cambridge in the County of Lamoille, and State of Vermont aged Seventy Seven years and over, 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 4, 1836, granting pensions to widows.

That she is the widow of Samuel Holmes, who served as a private in the War of the Revolution for more than three years as she verily believes.—

That the said Samuel Holmes, enlisted as she thinks in the spring of 1776, at Stillwater, New York, for two years, but she cannot positively state the time or place of enlistment, as it was previous to her marriage with the said Samuel, she has often seen a discharge from service in favour of said Samuel, which is lost, or has been destroyed, being considered of no value; she does not recollect any of the officers' names under whom the said Samuel served; except Col. Ebenezer Walbridge and Capt. Joseph Safford, the last mentioned being the brother of the declarants mother.—

She frequently heard her husband tell of being in the battle at the taking of Burgoyne.

She further declares that she was married to the said Samuel Holmes on the eleventh day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty two, by Moses Robinson, a Justice of the Peace at Bennington Vermont.

That her husband the said Samuel Holmes stood as a Minute man at the time of her marriage to him and remained so to the close of the War, and she knows that he went out several times after marriage, in alarms, for a short time, but she cannot identify the particular times, except in a single instance.

The night after their marriage there was an alarm, and her husband was called out and went in pursuit of some tories who had been discovered making their way to the Green Mountains through the woods in the south easterly part of Bennington; the party were only gone a day or two and returned with several tories who were making their way to Canada through Windham County with three of our people whom they the tories had taken as prisoners. I think that some of the tories belonged to Pownal, the town south of, and adjoining Bennington.

She has no record of her marriage nor does she know of any person living who was present at her wedding, except her sister Milatiah Noble, whose testimony accompanies this declaration.

She also herewith forareds a certificate copy of the Record of Births of her children, form the Records of the Town of Cambridge.

She further declares that her husband the said Samuel Holmes died at Cambridge, Vermont, on the 19th day of March one thousand eight hundred & thirteen and that she still remains the widow of the said Samuel Holmes. (Signed) Sallena Holmes.

In present of August Young, Salmon Wires.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before, Salmon Wires, Judge of Probate.

Letter in folder dated October 16, 1929, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.18066, it appears that Samuel Holmes enlisted at Stillwater, New York, in the spring of 1776, and served as a private for a year or more, in Captain Hezekiah Dunham's Company, Colonel VanVeghten's New York Regiment.

While living at Bennington, Vermont, he served as a private in Captain Joseph Safford's Company, Colonel Ebenezer (Walbridge's) Regiment of Vermont Militia on alarms from August 2, to August 8, 1781; from October 14 to October 31, 1781 and from September 7 to September 13, 1782.

He married September 11, 1782, at Bennington, Vermont, Salina or Sallena, the daughter of Captain Jonathan Scott and his wife, whose given name is not stated, she was the sister of Captain Joseph Safford.

Sallena or Salina (she signed both ways) stated that her husband was called out on the alarm the night after they were married.

He died at Cambridge, Lamoille County, Vermont, March 19, 1813.

She was allowed pension at the rate of \$35.75 per annum on her application executed September 18, 1844, while living at Cambridge, Vermont, aged seventy-seven years.

They had the following children: Salina or Sally; Abigail, Anna, Theron, Levi, William or Billy; Emela, John and two named Samuel, one of whom died in infancy and the other was born after his father's death. A daughter, name not stated, was the wife of Augustus Young, a member of Congress from Vermont.

The date and place of soldier's birth, the names of his parents and the members of their family are not given.