

Pension Application for Joseph Rooker, Ruker

S.43958

State of New York

Washington County SS.

On this fifteenth day of November 1819, before me, the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said County of Washington, personally appeared Joseph Rooker aged fifty nine years, resident in Whitehall in said County who, being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war:" That he, the said Joseph Rooker enlisted for the term of During the said war on the Sixth day of March in the year one thousand and seven hundred and seventy seven in Kinderhook in the State of New York in the company commanded by Captain John Copps (1) & of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Ghoose [Goose] Van Schaick in the line of the State of New York on the Continental Establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, until the twenty first day of August 1778, when he was discharged from service in White Plains State of New York by reason of Sickness as in the annexed Declaration.

Sworn to and declares before me, the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) Joseph Rooker

Jonathan Wood, one of the Judges of Washington Common Pleas.

State of New York

Washington County SS. To wit:--

Joseph Rooker of the Town of Whitehall in the County of Washington and State of New York aged fifty seven and upwards do according to the act of Congress of the United States of America entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War", make the following Declaration under oath, that is to say—I do solemnly Declare that I was on the eighteenth day of March last and now am a resident Citizen of the United States to wit in the Town County and State aforesaid and that by reason of my reduced circumstances in life I am in need of assistance from my Country for support I do further declare that I was a private soldier in the War of the Revolution and that I served as such in the said Warr [War] of the Revolution against the Common enemy for more than one year during said war on the Continental establishment that I belonged to the company Commanded by Captain John Cops in Colonel Ghoose VanSchaick's Regiment and the line of New York—And I do further Declare that I entered the said service on the sixth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and seventy seven and left the said service on the twenty first of August one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight having left the same by reason of sickness & fits disabling me from duty and had a written discharge for that Cause by the colonel of the said regiment—

And that the same is now lost and that in 1776 I enlisted in Captain Alexander Baldwin's (2) Company of Rangers in which I served above five months and further that I have now not the evidence of my service except the affidavit annexed.—

And I do further Declare that I hereby relinquish all claim to any and every pension allowed me by the Laws of the United States or any Individual State previous to the eighteenth day of March last past witness my hand this twenty third day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and Eighteen. Joseph Rooker (3)

Witness, John C. Parker

End Notes—S.43958—Joseph Rooker

1. Joseph enlisted March 20, 1777 for during War in Captain John Copp's Eighth Company in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's First New York Continental Regiment. He was discharged as unfit for duty on August 21, 1778. According to Captain Copp's muster rolls Joseph is listed as sick for during most of his service. His illness prevented him from serving in June of 1778 which kept him out of the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778 which is why he did not mention the battle in his affidavit. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 65, folder 7, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Alexander Baldwin was appointed Captain of a company of Rangers for Albany County on July 23, 1776. So far only a subsistence roll for March of 1777 for Captain Baldwin's Company has been found. Rooker's name is on this roll from March 1 to March 20. The ranger companies were all discharged on March 27, 1777. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 77, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Joseph was again lucky that he enlisted out of Captain Baldwin's company into Captain Copp's Company on March 20, 1777. On March 20 near Sabbath Day Point Lieutenant Nathaniel Henry of Captain John Graham's Company of the First New York, Captain Baldwin's Rangers and some of Captain Hans Marcus Demuth's Company of Tryon County Rangers were ambushed by Loyalist troops and Indians. Captain Baldwin and Sergeants Joseph Graves and Ezekiel Roberts were taken prisoner, Lieutenant Henry was wounded and several of his men were taken prisoners and James Rankins of Captain Demuth's Company was also taken prisoner.