

The Pension Application for Garret Smith

S.1106

Bergen County Common Pleas

State of New Jersey

Bergen County SS.

On this 31st day of October in the year A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas [sic], not sitting, Garret Smith, a resident of the Township of Pompton, in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, aged seventy five years, the sixth day of October, 1832, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That about the month of March 1776 he enlisted for three months, in a company commanded by Capt. Gilbert Cooper, as minute men, at a place called New City, in the now Town of Clarkstown, County of Rockland and State of New York, and then went to New York, went to a place called Bunker's Hill, and assisted in making the Fort there, was there some time and then came back to the Town of Clarkstown aforesaid where I remained until the time of enlistment was expired, then about the first of July in the same years, I enlisted for five months, in a company commanded by Capt. John Blauvelt, in a Regiment commanded by Col'n Drake in General Scots Brigade, at Clarkstown, went to New York then to Long Island, was near General sterling when he was taken prisoner, retreated with General Washington's Army to New York, then to Kings Bridge, then to White Plains, then to Peekskill, then to Haverstraw where I was discharged in the month of December 1776. Then I entered the service in a company of Militia commanded by Capt. Jacob Onderdonk, in a regiment commanded by Col'n A. Hawkes Hay, and served therein until the month of April 1778. I enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. John Bell (at Nyack) in a Regiment commanded by Col'n Graham for nine months, and first served a short time at Nyack, then crossed the river and marched to White Plains, there joined a regiment of the Continental line Commanded by Col'n Wisenvelt, then recrossed the river and marched to the new Bridge near Hackensack, where we lay until the British army drove us off, then we marched to Paramus and lay there some time, then marched to Tappan and there was discharged in January 1779. I then enlisted for three months, in a company commanded by Capt. Abraham Onderdonk, in a Regiment commanded by Col'n Gilbert Cooper and served therein in guarding along the Hudson River, then as soon as that term of service was expired, in the month of April 1779, I enlisted for two months in a company commanded by a Mr. Hays, who was a lieutenant in the Continental line, whose company consisted of about twenty five men, the remainder of men to fill his company he enlisted out of the militia to what regiment he belonged I do not recollect, and lay at Tappanstown, scouting at times through the County of Bergen. Then as soon as that time was expired I entered the service in a company commanded by Capt. Honderick Tenore, Walter VanOrden was a Lieutenant, and served therein to the close of the war, and served in guarding and scouting as above stated, the time I served under Capt. Onderdonk and Tenore I am not now able to positively to state (as my service in those companies was not continually but in tours of different periods) but I verily believe that it amounts to at least eighteen months, that during the revolutionary war and until the spring of the year 1821, he resided in the County of Rockland and State of New York and since that time he has resided in the Township of Pompton aforesaid, that he has no documentary evidence of his service as the does not recollect ever to have received a written discharge, and all the positive testimony is come of his surviving partners in the Revolutionary War. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) Garret Smith.

Sworn to and subscribed this 19th day of Oct'r 1832. Chas. K. Wallace, Justice of the Peace

Interrogatories by the Court

1st Where and in what year was you born. Answer: I was born at Clarkston N. York in the [year] 1757.

2^d Have you any record of your age and if so where is it. Answer: My age is recorded in the church books at Clarkstown.

3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolution and where do you now live. Answer: I lived at Clarkstown [will?] called into service since that I lived in N York fourteen years, then removed to Newfoundland where I now reside; Pompton Township.

4th How was you called into service, were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom. Answer: I enlisted voluntarily as before stated.

5th State the names of some of the officers that was with you, where you served; such Continental or Militia Regiment, you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. Answer: [???] Jno. Blauvelt, [???] and Colonel Drake.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom, was it signed and what has become of it. Answer: Never rec'd any discharge.

7th State the names of persons of whom you are acquainted in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your veracity and good behaviour; your services as a soldier of the revolution. Answer: John G. Kanous and John W. Blank.