

Pension Application for Lewis Smith

W.15352 (Widow: Eunice Judd & Lewis Smith married on November 3, 1785, Lewis died March 15, 1838.)

Declaration: In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June, 1832.

State of Massachusetts

County of Hampshire SS.

On this fourth day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court, before Hon. Samuel Hinckley Judge of the court of Probate in & for said County now sitting, Lewis Smith, a resident of Northampton in the County of Hampshire, and State of Massachusetts, aged sixty nine 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 provisions made by 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.

I was born at West Springfield in the County of Hampden & State of Massachusetts on the 17th day of February AD 1763—I know of no record of my birth nor do I recollect ever to have been one—When I was a very small boy my father removed with his family to Half-moon now called Waterford in the State of New York where we resided until sometime in the Revolutionary War when he died in the service of the United States at Valley Forge.

Before my father's death he placed me as a servant in the family of one Hermon Levasser at Half-Moon and for the space of two years or more I was most of the time out as a soldier in the New York Militia at short periods varying from; a few days to several months.

The following are the times and services which I more particularly recollect.

- I. I was drafted in the Militia of the State of New York in a company commanded by Capt. Swart as near as I can remember in the Regiment commanded by Col. Jacobus VanSchoonhoven of Waterford—The officers of the company and Regiment were all Dutch and I cannot now recall their names—They were marched to Fort Edward where we were stationed as near as I can remember three months and were then discharged.
- II. [skipped from I to III]
- III. I was again drafted but under what officers I cannot now recollect and marched to Johnstown where we were stationed three months and were discharged at the expiration of said term some time in the fall or winter. I should now think as late as December.
- IV. I was again drafted but under what officers I cannot now recollect & marched to Stone Arabia now called Fort Plain where we were stationed at least a month. I should think in the fall of the year and was then discharged.
- V. I was again drafted with the whole Waterford Company and we were transported across Lake George to Ticonderoga and were stationed at this Fort and in barracks or Block houses on the West Side of the Lake at least one & perhaps two months but which I am not now able to determine and were then discharged.
- VI. I was again drafted and stationed at Barracks then within the bounds of Saratoga and supposed to be near Scuyler's Mills so called for one month or more and we were then discharged.
- VII. I was again drafted and stationed at Fort Miller and at a blockhouse west of that fort for two months or more—during this time we were very frequently out on scouting parties in which we were accustomed to go as far as Saratoga Springs.
- VIII. I was again drafted and marched with the whole regiment under Col. Schoonhoven on an alarm—We were stationed at Fort Miller—getting out of provisions the Regiment was marched back as far as Gen. Schuyler['s] house where we were met by Gen. Schuyler who with many fearful oaths and imprecations ordered the Regiment back to the Fort.—We were then marched

back to the Fort and remained there until discharged being absent from Waterford as near as I can recollect a month & perhaps six weeks.

I was sixteen years or seventeen years of age when I performed the above mentioned services and suppose they were performed in the years 1779 & 1780. I was also frequently called out for a few days or weeks at a time other than the periods above mentioned. The Country was kept in a continual state of alarm by the British Tories and Indians and it is impossible for me now to state with any particularity the times or periods of my service but I confidently believe & am willing to swear that I served as much as fourteen months as a soldier in the N. York Militia as aforesaid I never received any written discharge but at the period of each term was honourably dismissed—I have now no recollection that I ever served in connection with any of the officers or troops of the Continental army and my memory is now so much impaired that I cannot recollect the names of any members of the company in which I served as they were all Dutch.

When I was nineteen years of age, I removed from Waterford to Northampton Mass. where I have ever since resided—my townsmen and neighbors who can testify to my character for truth and veracity & to my reputation as having been a soldier of the Revolution are Hon. Isaac C. Bates, Roswell Morgan and perhaps some others but my services were performed & residence had in a distant part of the country & little is probably know of them here—

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State, or (if any,) only on that of the agency in the state of [blank] (Signed) Lewis Smith

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Samuel Hinckley Judge of Probate.

Supplemental, Lewis Smith

In his declaration for pension he stated that he served at least seven tours of duty, (being drafted for each tour), all of which were rendered in the years 1779 and 1780; exact dates of enlistment and discharge not given. Stationed three months at Fort Edward under Capt. Smart and Col. VanSchoonhoven; three months at Fort George under the same officers; three months at Johnstown, officers names not stated; one month at Fort Plain, officers names not stated; two months at and near Fort Ticonderoga, with the militia company from Waterford; one month at the barracks in Saratoga, officers names not stated; one month at Ft. Miller in Col. Schoonhoven's regiment.

From another paper on file with his claim it appears that three of the above named terms were performed under Capt. John Vanderbergh, in Lt. Col. Peter Wagener's regiment; one under Lt. Nathaniel Wood, Col. Van Schoonhoven's regiment, and one under Capt. Elias Steinburg, Col. Harmanus Wendell's regiment.