

## **Pension Application for Jonathan Vail**

S.11129

State of New York

County of Suffolk SS.

On this second day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County, now sitting, Jonathan Vail, a resident of the town of Southold In the said County, aged seventy four 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated-viz—

In the summer of the year 1775 (the particular day or month he does not recollect and cannot state) he enlisted in a company of soldiers stationed at a small fort or entrenchment at Oysterpond point in the said town of Southold. He served as a soldier there several months, but cannot recollect the time or dates.

He however thinks that it was early in the season when he commenced and he remembers that it was cold weather when he was discharged. His officers were Captain Thomas Terry (afterwards colonel Terry) and Sergeant Jeremiah King—He does not recollect that there were any other officers nor does he know that this company was connected with others, nor whose orders Capt. Terry obeyed.

This company was raised to supply the place of a company under the command of Capt. Roe or Capt Griffin which was called away—Deponent served at least two months in it. It was their duty to watch & stop British vessels. This required every man [three lines are squeezed in here and are not legible].

Early in the next season (in the spring of the year he believes, but cannot state the time with greater certainty) he enlisted as a minute man and served in this capacity during the summer until called to Brooklyn as hereinafter mentioned. L He carried his arms always about him, so as to be ready for service at a moment's warning, and attended service a week to train. His officers were Captain Joshua Youngs & the said Sergeant Jeremiah King. He does not know of any other officers then connected with this company.

About the 1<sup>st</sup> of July (1776) they were called to Brooklyn into active service, to oppose the anticipated attack of the British upon the City of New York, and were there he thinks about six weeks.

They were under the same company officers before named and Lieutenants Robart and Higgins or Hicks, and in the Regiment called the Easter Long Island Regiment of which Colonel [blank] Smith had the command, and were in the lines at Brooklyn when they were attacked by the British just as the breastwork was finished. One man from East or South Hampton was killed. The same night they retreated, over to New York & the company was then broken up. Deponent was sent back to the East end of Long Island and was directed, to assist such of the inhabitants as desired to remove to Connecticut, and to treat those who refused, as tories.

He came down accordingly and soon afterwards went to Lyme in Connecticut where he received a notice to turn out and assist in protecting some property. The notice did not reach him in time. He immediately started, but on his way heard that he was too late and he was never afterwards called into service.

To the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, he answers as follows.

1<sup>st</sup> I was born in the said town of Southold in the year 1758.

2<sup>nd</sup> I have a record of my age, which is now in my possession.

3<sup>rd</sup> At the time of my enlistment I resided in the said town & have lived there ever since the Revolutionary War.

4<sup>th</sup> I voluntarily enlisted on both occasions and was not drafted, nor a substitute.

5<sup>th</sup> At Brooklyn, General's Washington, Putnam, Greene, Sullivan, & Sterling were pointed out to me—I was also acquainted with Major Barnabas Tuthill of the army. I do not recollect any other regiment by name either continental or militia; and I have already stated, the circumstances of my service, as fully & particularly as my memory will permit. I feel sure that I have in all served, at least for the period of six months.

6<sup>th</sup> I never received a written discharge.

7<sup>th</sup> John [?], James Griffing, Joseph Terry & Ezekiel Glover & others of the said town of Southold have long known me, and can testify as to my character & as to their belief or knowledge of my services in the war of the revolution. There is not clergyman residing near me, who is well acquainted with me.

And the said deponent further declares that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not on the pension roll of a the agency of any state to his knowledge, and if any only on that of the agency of the State of New York. (Signed) Jonathan Vail

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Joseph Hunting, Clk.