

Pension Application for Abraham Van Valck

R.10895 (Widow: Margaret)

State of New York

Dutchess County SS.

On this twenty fourth day of September one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Abraham Van Vlack a resident of the Town of Orange in Dutchess County and State of New York aged seventy seven years who being first duly sworn on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain he benefit of the act of Congress passed June seventh on thousand eight hundred and thirty two.

That he entered the service of the United States in the militia of the State of New York in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy five in a company commanded by Capt. Joseph Horton in the Regiment of Col. Derrick Brinkerhoff in the Town of Fishkill in Dutchess County and State of New York.

That he marched to the Town of Patterson and Pawling, in said Dutchess County for the purpose of apprehending and securing the disaffected to the cause of the United States that he remained there about two weeks when he returned and was discharged or dismissed.

That in the spring of the next year to wit 1776, he went in the militia of the said Col. Brinkerhoff in a company under the command of Capt. William Fowler to the County of Columbia for the same purpose and was in that service about six weeks when he returned and was discharged.

That in the spring of the next year to wit 1776 he went in the militia of the said Col. Brinkerhoff in a company under the command of Capt William Fowler to the County of Columbia for the same purpose and was in that service about six weeks when he returned and was discharged.

That in the summer of the same year he went in the malitia [militia] of the same Town and County to wit, Fishkill in Dutchess County in a company commanded by Capt. Joshua Champlain to Fort Montgomery on the Hudson in the vicinity of West Point where he remained either five or six months and then returned to Fishkill and then went to White Plains in WestChester County under the command of Capt Jacob Griffin in the same Regiment of Militia where he remained six weeks in said company when then term of service expired or they were relieved by the militia from the north part of the same county of Duchess, he then took the place of one of the said militia and remained there six weeks longer—he does not recollect the name of the person whose place he took nor the name of the Captain under whome [whom] he served, but the reggigent [regiment] to which said company belonged was commanded by Col. Graham.

He then returned to Fishkill and in the spring of the same year 1777 he enlisted in a company of New York State Troops under the command of Capt. Henry Wyckoff in a regiment commanded by Col. Duboise went to Fort Constitution where he remained till the sixth day of October a day or two after the capture of Fort Montgomery went from there to Fishkill from there to Newburgh from there to Kingston when that village

was burnt by the Brittish [British] when hearing of the capture of Burgoines army he returned with the company to my neighborhood to Newburgh and were dismissed—that the whole time he was employed in that company was about nine months.

That in the year 1778 he went in the company of Capt. George Brinkerhoff in the Regiment of Col. Abraham Brinkerhoof [sic] in the militia to the highlands on the Hudson where he remained two weeks when he was dismissed.

And that he was engaged at sundry times and almost all the time of the revolution besides the times before mentioned more than one year in the service of the United States in taking up Tories and in guarding the roads, and in keeping guard on the lines—from the year 1779 – 80 that he was born in the Town of Fishkill in said County on the 22 day of Feb 1755 and that he has alwas [always] lived in that town and the adjoining Towns of Beekman and LaGrange ever since and is now living in the Town of LaGrange in the same county.

That he is known to James Delong Thomas Martin and almost every man in the said Town that he has no record of his age but derived his knowledge of it from his mother.

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.

(Signed) Abraham Van Vlack

Letter in folder dated May 31, 1940, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Abraham VanVlack of Dutchess County, New York, also, the record of any other VanVlack who applied for pension.

The data which follow were obtained from the paper on file in pension claim, R.10895, based upon service of Abraham Van Vlack in the Revolutionary War. This office is unable to identify the record of any other particular soldier with that name without his full name, approximate dates of birth and death, and residences at enlistment and after service.

Abraham Van Vlack was born February 2, 1755 in Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York; the names of his parents were not given.

While a resident of Fishkill, New York, he enlisted and served as private in the New York troops at different times, shown as follow: in 1775, two weeks in Captain Joseph Horton's company, Colonel Dirk Brinkerhoff's regiment; in the spring of 1776, six weeks in Captain William Fowler's company, Colonel Brinkerhoff's regiment, afterwards, six weeks in captain Jacob Griffin's company, in that same regiment, and six weeks in Captain Gregory's company. Colonel Graham's regiment; from sometime in the spring of 1777, nine months in captain Henry Wycoff's company, Colonel DuBois' regiment; in 1778, two weeks in Captain George Brindkerhoff's company, Colonel Abraham Brinckerhoff's regiment; subsequently, on various short tours, amounting in all to more than one year.

Abraham VanVlack was allowed pension on account of his service in the Revolutionary War on his application executed September 24, 1832, at which time he resided in LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York. Abraham VanVlack had continued to reside in Dutchess County, New York, ever since his birth, in the town Fishkill, Beekman, and LaGrange. He died November 19, 1836.

Margaret Van Vlack (Vanvlack) this soldier's widow, was a resident of LaGrange, Dutchess County, New York, on June 9, 1838; she gave her age then as eighty-one years, but did not state the date and place of her birth nor the names of her parents. She stated then that she married Abraham VanVlack in the year 1788, but did not give the day or place or their marriage. She died April 8, 1839.

September 25, 1838, Henry A. Van Vlack stated before a Justice of the Peace in Dutchess County, New York, that he was the son of Abraham and Margaret Van Vlack, that he was born in the year 1779, also, (in 1838) that his brother (Margaret) was aged about eighty-one years and upwards. No explanation was given regarding the discrepancy in the date of marriage and the date of birth of this son; no reference was made to a former marriage of this soldier.

In 1838, one William Van Vlack was in La grange , New York, his post office, Athensburg. In 1853, William Van Alack, the son of Margaret Van Vlack, was in Dutchess County, New York.

In 1838, John Schouten, the half-brother, of Margaret Van Vlack, soldier's widow, resided in Fishkill, New York; he was then about sixty years of age.

There are no further data pertaining to the family of Abraham Van Valck in the papers on file in this pension claim.