

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Bounty Land Claim for Smith Snead BLWt2056-400

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 Oct 2021.

Rece'd 17<sup>th</sup> August 1809 of the Secretary of War, a land Warrant No. 2056 issued in favor of Smith Snead late a major in the Virginia line, for four hundred Acres of Land, dated 26<sup>th</sup> June 1789. Also, one other land Warrant in favor of George Gilchrist No. 868 for four hundred Acres of land, for his services as Major in the said Line, dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 1789 [signed] Tho M Bayly

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Richmond June 23<sup>d</sup> 1783

I certify that Major Smith Snead entered into the Continental Service in the Virginia line in Jan'y 1776 and that he continued until the end of the war. John Poulson Maj'r. 8<sup>th</sup> V. Reg't.

A military land warrant issued to Smith Snead 24<sup>th</sup> June 1783 for 6222 acres on a certificate from Gov'r. & Council, for his services seven years as a Major. Edw'd C. Davis  
Land off./ June 9th 1809 Thomas M. Bayly, Esquire/ Accomack Courthouse

NOTES:

A synopsis of the service of Smith Snead:

- 25 Apr 1770 Major in Militia of Accomack County VA
- 10 Feb 177 Commissioned 1st Lt. of 9<sup>th</sup> VA Reg.
- 31 Aug 1776 Commissioned Captain
- 11 Sep 1777 Captured at the Battle of Brandywine (another source says Germantown, 4 Oct)
- Nov 1780 Exchanged; retained in 2<sup>nd</sup> VA Reg as Major
- 8 Sep 1781 Served at Battle of Eutaw Springs SC
- 30 Nov 1782 Wounded at Battle of the Barges near Tangier Island VA

It is possible that Smith Snead killed Col. Francois de Malmedy [François de Malmédy] in a duel at the High Hills of Santee SC some time between October 12, 1781, when Malmedy signed the discharge of Charles Bennett (S21641), and November 25, 1781, when Gen. Nathanael Greene stated in a letter that Malmedy "lost his life by that stupid custom which has in many instances disgraced the history of the American war and deprived the public of the services of several valuable men."

.Jacob Killion S32362 stated:

I was acquainted with Col. Malmery [sic] who fought a duel with & was killed by Major Steed [sic] of Virginia at the high hills of Santee

In the application of William Coff (Cuff) S39347, however, is the following by Richard Pugh S38319: he well recollects at the time when Colo. Malmedy a French man & a continental officer was killed in a duel at the High Hills of Santee by Ensign Snead of North Carrolina.

(There was an Ensign Stephen Snead (or Sneed) in the Granville County Militia.)

Jonas Hill R1799 also stated that Malmedy was killed by an officer named Sneed:

the French officer named aforesaid [Malmedy] who was killed in a Duel at this place by an American officer of the name of Sneed.

The file contains a copy of the last will and testament of Smith Snead dated 18 Oct 1792 in Northampton County VA and proved on the following 11 Dec. In it he left to his wife much of his large estate, including the following slaves: "Newberry & her two children Edmund & Levin, Ladus and Cate." Also named as heirs were his children Sarah Christian Snead, not yet of legal age; "the Child that my

Wife now goes with;" and Charles Snead; as well as his sister Elizabeth Snead. He appointed his brother William Snead as one of the Executors.