

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Smith R9731<sup>1</sup>

Ferguson

fn287SC<sup>2</sup>

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/2/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Georgia County of Butts: SS

On this 3rd day of May A.D. 1855 personally appeared before me Hubbard Williams an acting Justice of the peace duly authorized to administer oaths within and for the County and State aforesaid Forgison Smith [Ferguson Smith] aged ninety years a resident of said County and State who being duly sworn according to law declares that she is the widow of Robert Smith who was a private soldier in the revolutionary war that said Robert Smith volunteered in Fairfield District South Carolina for a time, afterwards that he was drafted and served in said war as a volunteer served as a drafted Soldier at least for the term of four years.

That she was married to the said Robert Smith about the month of June A.D. 1780 in South Carolina Fairfield District, and in South Carolina there is no record kept of marriages.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the pension money to which he is entitled to under an act of Congress passed the 4th of July 1836 or 7 of July 1838, granting pension to the Soldiers widows or children of the Revolutionary War.

S/ Forgison Smith, widow, X her mark

[fn p. 7: On July 31st, 1858 [last digit unclear] in Chambers County Alabama, William Smith, gave an affidavit in which he states he does not know his exact age; that he was born in Ireland and was brought to South Carolina by his father before the Revolutionary War; that he was raised in Fairfield district South Carolina near Winnsboro; moved to Butts County Georgia about the year 1826 remained there 9 years then moved to where he now lives in Chambers County Alabama; that he is the brother of Robert Smith who died "a few years ago in Butts County Georgia"; that his brother was a volunteer soldier from Fairfield district South Carolina under General Winn, Captain Ned Martin and Lieutenant Gray during the revolutionary war; regarding his brother's service in the revolutionary war he states: "that his brother Robert, left his father's for the purpose of joining said Company, and that it was known and understood by himself and his family that his brother Robert was serving under the above named officers – and that his brother Robert would occasionally come home and stay a night and returned. That Captain Ned Martin and other soldiers of the company came several times and stayed all night at his father's during said service, and that he knew that Ned Martin was the Captain and that his brother Robert was under his command – that his brother Robert was with Captain Martin the night that Captain Martin stayed at his father's, and that he well knew that Gray, was the Lieutenant in said company, and that the company was under the command of General Winn – that he was not in

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt84046-160-55

<sup>2</sup> Not listed in HeritageQuest.com

said service himself, but was old enough and well remembers the foregoing facts. He further states that he and his brother David an older brother, and a Negro fellow made and gathered a crop during the time his brother Robert was in the service referred to and that he cannot recollect distinctly the date of said service, and thinks it was before the taking of Charleston by the British.... "He further and declares that his brother served other tours during the war, but that he cannot state anything about said service of his own knowledge – that it was generally reputed and understood that his brother Robert fought under Captain Martin at the battle of Cambridge and that he does not recollect in what year said battle was fought...." William Smith signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[fn p. 12: On April 14, 1856 in Butts County Georgia, the widow, giving her age as ninety two<sup>one</sup> or 94 applied for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Robert Smith; that her husband died in Butts County Georgia June 19th, 1853 aged about 100 years; that he was born in Ireland; that she married him in the year 1786 near Winnsboro in Fairfield District South Carolina; that they were married by John Turner Esquire; that her maiden name was Ferguson Wilson; that the only record of her marriage is in a Bible which she presents with her application which contains the record of the ages of her children; that her husband served in the companies commanded by Captain Ned Martin and Captain William Martin Lieutenant William Gray and General Winn.]

[fn p. 16: On February 17, 1857 in Butts County Georgia, the widow, 92, of filed another affidavit in which she said she was married in the year 1783 or 4 when she was 19 years old; that her first child was born November 27, 1787; that her husband was older than she; that her husband's father, Hughy Smith, an Irishman moved with his family to Charleston and remained neutral in the war; that her husband claimed to have been at the battle of the Eutaw Springs under General Greene; that her husband also assisted in the taking of a Fort she thinks Fort Congaree [fn p. 21].]

[fn p. 19: family record quoted as follows:

Hugh Smith son of Robert & his wife Ferguson Smith was born 27th of November 1787

Elizabeth Smith daughter of the above named was born 4th of July 1789

James Smith daughter of the above named was born the 19th May 1792

Robert Wilson Smith son of the above named was born the 10th of March 1794.

Ann Odair [Adair?] Smith daughter of the above named was born August 15th 1796]

[fn p. 22: On February 18, 1857 in Butts County Georgia, Susannah G. McLenden, 45, gave testimony that she is the daughter of John Winn, the son of General Richard Winn of South Carolina that she was born in Winnsborough, Fairfield District South Carolina that her father died in Jasper County Georgia 17 years ago and that General Richard Winn died in Tennessee; that she, affiant, was well acquainted with Robert Smith and his widow Ferguson Smith; that she recalls Robert Smith telling her about his services in the revolution and in particular about her grandfather General Richard Winn – "that he often said that he served in said war under General Winn – that she has often heard him say that he was in a battle when General Winn was wounded in the shoulder and that his aid, Baker carried him from the field of battle, and that shortly after the General was carried from the field the Americans gained the victory – that she thinks he said the battle was at the Hanging Rock...."]

[fn p. 29: On December 31, 1856 in Butts County Georgia, Robert W Smith, 62, gave an affidavit in support of his mother's claim saying that he is the son of Robert and Ferguson Smith

*Robert W Smith*

[fn p. 39: Facts in the file: in addition to the children named above, the veteran and his wife had other children some of whom are not named in the file; they youngest child Margaret was born December 10, 1810.]