

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Smith S19093

f25SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/2/11: rev'd 11/21/20

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of South Carolina Spartanburg District

Personally appeared this day in open Court before me the presiding Judge of the court of Ordinary Samuel Smith of the district of Union and State aforesaid, aged 78 the 31st [could be 21st] of December, who being duly sworn doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the pension act of the United States passed the 7th day June 1832. That he entered the service in the militia of South Carolina on the 20th of November 1780 under Captain James Elder of Colonel John Thomas' [John Thomas Jr.'s] Regiment remained in service five or six weeks and until taken prisoner and carried down upon Bush River, remained a prisoner about three or four days and was retaken by Colonel Washington's [William Washington's] cavalry. After which he joined General Morgan's [Daniel Morgan's] Army at the Grindal Shoals on Pacolet River and was detached by him to aid in collecting provisions for his troops, after which he rejoined Morgan's Army the day before the battle of the Cow-pens [Cowpens, January 17, 1781]¹ was in said battle of the Cow-pens after which he was permitted to remain with his brother Aaron Smith who was severely wounded in said battle, until he died which was five days after. He then joined Captain Elder's Company again and was engaged in skirmishing against the Tories until they joined Colonel Roebuck [Benjamin Roebuck] and crossed Enoree [River] in pursuit of them, but did not overtake them. This deponent was soon after again taken prisoner by the Tories and carried to Ninety Six Jail in company with Colonel Roebuck and Captain Elder who were also prisoners. He was confined in Ninety Six Jail about three months, where he suffered very severely with the smallpox. After which he was released and joined General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army near Saluda River, but was so disabled from the effects of the smallpox which he had while in jail that he was considered unfit for service and was consequently sent home. Having recovered from the effects of the smallpox he again turned out and was engaged in scouring the country from Tories until the British evacuated Charleston. This last service was performed under different officers viz. Colonel Brannon [sic, Thomas Brandon] Captain Joseph Wofford and Lieutenant Hannah. Having served in all about two years and one month including the time he was imprisoned and disabled from the effects of smallpox.

That he hereby relinquishes all and every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the roll of any agency in any state and that he has no documentary evidence other than that herewith transmitted. This deponent further states that he

¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html

has neglected to make the present application from the circumstance that heretofore he has been able to live without it, and is now induced to do so from increased infirmity which compels him to do but he has so long neglected. Question 1st Where and when were you born? I was born in the State and district first above written and only about three miles from where I now live on the 31st [could be 21st] day of December 1765. 2nd Have you any record of your age? I have. 3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since, and where do you now live? I was born in the district of Spartanburg and State of South Carolina, and have always resided there until about ten years ago when I moved into the age of Union district and remained one year and returned to Spartanburg where I resided three or four years and again removed into the edge of Union district where I now reside and which is only about three miles from the place where I was born and have always lived. 4th How were you called into service? I joined the militia as a volunteer. 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such of the Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. To the 5th interrogatory I must refer to the foregoing declaration for an answer and do not now recollect anything further in regard to it. 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given? I never received a written discharge, as the militia in South Carolina did not, I believe, receive written discharges. 7th State the names of persons in your neighborhood to whom you are known, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief as to your services as a soldier of the Revolution? Mr. Landon Miles, James Hamm Esquire, Captain John Morrow, Reverend Benjamin Wofford or any other respectable man in the neighborhood where I now and always have resided.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 11th day of September 1843

R. C. Poole, JQ Ex Off

S/ Saml. Smith



[p 10: Certificate dated February 18, 1850 from the South Carolina Comptroller General showing payments made to a Samuel Smith for services in the South Carolina militia including payments for service as a private in N. Martin's [Nathaniel Martin's] Troop, Polk's Regiment, Sumpters [Thomas Sumter's] Brigade; services under Lieutenant Mitchell, Captain Craig's company Colonel Taylor's [Thomas Taylor's] Regiment as certified by Lieutenant Nimrod Mitchell; services as a private in the 3rd company of the Charleston Battalion of Artillery; services in Roebuck's Regiment. Clearly some of these services were rendered by other individuals named Samuel Smith since this veteran did not claim to have served in the State Troops nor in the Charleston artillery.]

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State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: Personally appeared before me the subscribing magistrate Jethro O'Sheals² who being duly sworn says on oath that he is on the United States pension roll as a revolutionary soldier. That he is well acquainted with Samuel Smith who is applying for a pension. That is reputed to have been a revolutionary soldier, to have been imprisoned at Ninety Six by the Tories a considerable time, where he suffered much from smallpox; and to have been at the battle of the Cowpens, all of which I never heard disputed, and I have no doubt of its being the fact.

² [Jethro Osheals \(O'Sheals, Osheal, Oshiel, O'Shields\) S18144](#)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd of August 1843
S/ Jethro O'Sheals, X his mark

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State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: Personally appeared before me the subscribing magistrate John O'Sheals³ who being duly sworn says on oath that he is on the pension roll of the United States as a revolutionary soldier. That he is well acquainted with Samuel Smith who is applying for a pension. That he is reputed to have been a soldier of the revolution. That he the deponent saw the said Samuel after he was discharged from Ninety Six Jail where he had been imprisoned for a considerable time by the Tories. That the said Samuel was in a bad condition from the effects of the smallpox which he had while in jail. This deponent further says that he thinks he saw the said Samuel Smith at the battle of the Cowpens and has no doubt of his having been there.

Sworn to and subscribed the 24th day of August 1843 before me
S/ John O'Sheals, O his mark

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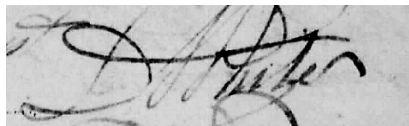
South Carolina Union District: Personally came Mordecai Chandler⁴ before me William Skelton one of the Magistrates for said District and duly made oath as the law directs that he this deponent was a prisoner in Ninety Six Jail with the British and that Samuel Smith was a Prisoner with him at the same time. Sworn to and subscribed the 7th of August 1843

S/ Mordecai Chandler, X his mark

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State of South Carolina Spartanburg District: Personally appeared before me the subscribing magistrate David White who being duly sworn says on oath that he was 71 years of age on the 8th day of January 1843. That he is well acquainted with Samuel Smith who is applying for a pension. That he knew the said Samuel during the Revolutionary War – that he saw him frequently under arms in Colonel Roebuck's Regiment. That the father⁵ of this deponent was the Lieutenant Col. That he knows that said Samuel Smith was in the service both before and after the battle of the Cowpens – but can't say how long he served – that the applicant is the brother of Major William Smith⁶ who was an officer of the Revolution & was drawing a pension at the time of his death – that the said Samuel Smith was reputed & believed to be a soldier of the Revolution, and a very active and efficient friend of Liberty.

Sworn to and subscribed for me 4th of August 1843
S/ D. White

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'D. White', written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

³ [John Osheals \(O'Shields\) S18146](#)

⁴ [Mordecai Chandler R1848](#)

⁵ Lt. Col. Henry White

⁶ [William Smith W22272](#)

[Transcribers Note: I could not find it among the South Carolina Audited Accounts⁷ any claim which I could identify as having been filed by this veteran. All of the claims for service in the militia during the Revolutionary War by a South Carolinian named “Samuel Smith” identified officers under whom they served, none of those officers having been named by this claimant. Consequently, I do not believe that any of the existing Audited Accounts relate to this Samuel Smith.]

⁷ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person’s surname first in the “Full name” box followed by a comma and the person’s Christian name.