

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Smith S31969

fn28NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/21/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

The State of Tennessee Bedford County

On this 7th day of February in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Samuel Phillips, George B Armstrong and William McClure Esquires Gentlemen justices of the peace appointed to hold the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Bedford County in the State of Tennessee now sitting George Smith, Senior a resident of said County aged sixty-nine years one month and fourteen days, who after being sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated (to wit) That he entered the service of the United States as a drafted soldier in Roan County [sic, Rowan County, State of North Carolina in the month of August 1779 and was placed under the command of Captain Peter Heddrick [Peter Hedrick] and his Lieutenant name was Caleb Kimble [Caleb Kimbell?] and was marched on horseback, down on Pedee River about sixty miles to Masses ferry [Mask's Ferry]¹ where he states he was in an engagement against the Tories under the command of a Tory Captain by the name of Kimbro, and that the Tories were nearly all killed and taken prisoners, he says he was then marched back to Roan County and from there he was marched down to Randolph County North Carolina about forty miles from Roan Court house, against a Supposed band of Tories said to be collecting on the waters of Deep River, when the Americans captured a few Tory prisoners and wounded one Tory who attempted to escape by the name of Hambleton, and was marched back to Roan again and their marched in search of Tories West of the Yadkin [River] in said County of Roan and from there up into the neighborhood of Salem; now Stokes County North Carolina, where it was supposed the Tories were embodying – in order to subdue the Whigs in that part of the Country – And from there he was marched back to Roan about the first of November 1779 where he says he was dismissed after serving 3 months. Deponent further states that afterwards he entered the Service again as a volunteer in the month of February he thinks in the year 1781. He recollects it was about the time Cornwallis passed through Salisbury with his Army and was marched as one of the guard in conveying the prisoners taken at Tarleton's defeat into the State of Virginia, he says he was under the command

¹ Contrary to the veteran's statement, this action is known to have occurred on September 10, 1780.

http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_masks_ferry.html and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/masksfy.htm>

of Mirick Davis [sic, Myrick Davis] a Captain on this tower [tour] and that he served not less than one month – Deponent further states, that he volunteered and entered the service again in said Roan County the first of September in the year 1781, and attached himself to a company commanded by Captain Frederick Smith who was under the command [of] Colonel Caleb Phifer in General Rutherford's Brigade, and he says he major's name was Arthur Harris; Deponent states he was mustered into service at one John Kimbro's on Little River, and was marched through Montgomery and Randolph Counties and to the Gum Swamp and Raft Swamp in search of Tories, who were very numerous there at that time and from there to Wilmington on Cape Fear River – where he was stationed when the news of the Surrender of Cornwallis was received by the Americans. He says that Colonel Phifer being elected a representative of the Legislature of North Carolina, had left the American Army and returned home to attend that business – and from Wilmington he says he was marched back to Roan and discharged in writing by Major Harris sometime about the first of December 1781 for a term of three months Service, making in all a term of service of not less than 7 months for which he claims a pension. Deponent states that he has no documentary evidence whatever and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his Service; except what he can prove by Benjamin Lentz that he hereby relinquishes all claims to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in the United States.

Interrogatories propounded by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in Roan County in the State of North Carolina the 24th of December in the year 1763. –

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no Record of my age at this time

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I was citizen of Roan County in the State of North Carolina, during the War, and for many years thereafter and from there I removed to Bedford County Tennessee where I have resided for many years & where I now live –

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I was drafted my first Tower, the 2nd, and the last I was a volunteer. –

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I was not acquainted with any Regular officers, my officers were all Militia – nor did I become acquainted with the names or number of any Regiment either Continental or Militia – and my declaration contains the most prominent circumstances of my Service in the War of the Revolution that I am able to give.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I did receive one discharge, but what has become of this I cannot tell.

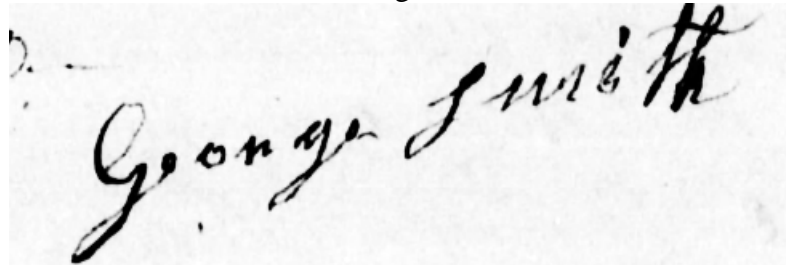
7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. The Reverend George Newton, Michael Fisher Esquire and James Brittain Esquire.

Sworn to in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jas. McKisick, Clk

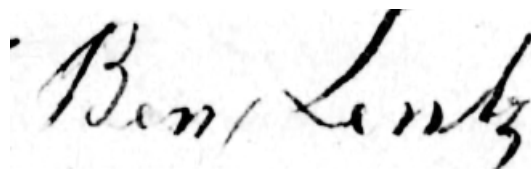
S/ George Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Smith". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

[George Newton, a clergyman, and James Brittain gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Bedford County

On this 7th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court Benjamin Lentz,² who after being sworn according to law doth on his oath depose & say that he is seventy-seven years eleven months and one day old agreeable to his Father's family record, that he was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution and while serving in that capacity he became acquainted with said George Smith (who subscribed and was qualified to the foregoing declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 at a place called Claytons plantation about 16 miles above the Town of Wilmington in the State of North Carolina and the said Smith was then a private Soldier in a volunteer Company commanded by Captain Frederick Smith in the Service of the United States, he states, it was about the first of November 1781, but how long he had been in Service or how long he remained in service afterwards he does not know. He further says that he has been well acquainted with said George Smith in his present neighborhood for the last 10 or 15 years, and believes him to be a man of strict honesty, and that he has never heard his veracity questioned by any person; Sworn to and subscribed this 7th day of January, 1833.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben. Lentz". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

[Facts in file: in 1842 he was a widower and living in Sevier County, Arkansas with his children (not named); there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

² [Benjamin Lentz W379](#)