

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

Pension Application of John Smith S38389

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia to wit

On this second day of June 1819 before me the Subscriber one of the Judges of the General Court of the state aforesaid personally appears John Smith aged about seventy six resident in the County of Gloucester in the said State who being by me first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," That the said John Smith in the month of February 1776 enlisted as a soldier in the County aforesaid in a company commanded by Capt. Thomas Nelson in the seventh Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colo [John] Green. That he was marched to the north and joined the Army of the United States at Fort Washington in the State of New York. That he continued to serve in the said Corps and in the service of the United States actively until he was wounded in the thigh at Mud Island Fort [Fort Mifflin; see endnote] – that he was then removed to the Hospital at Prince Town [sic: Princeton NJ], where he remained unable to do service till his tour of enlistment expired when he was discharged, and with the greatest difficulty he reached home being assisted by the charity of Colo. [Theodorick] Bland and others who saw his distress: [one or two illegible words] he leave the Hospital for some time after his service expired, it was August or Sept 1779 before he quitted the hospital & he reached home in October of the same year his tour of service having expired and his discharge having taken place early in the same year. Whilst in active service he was engaged in the fight which took place on Long Island [Battle of Long Island NY, 27 Aug 1776], & he was in the Battles at the white-plains [White Plains NY, 28 Oct 1776] Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Monmouth [see endnote] & German Town [Germantown PA, 4 Oct 1777], beside many other [illegible word] affairs. That he has now a Pension from the United States of Forty Dollars per annum which he will & does hereby relinquish and surrender provided a pension shall be granted him under the late act of Congress before recited. That he is in very reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for his support. That he is from his age and decrepitude and disease unable to support himself by his labour that he is very poor his only property being a bed a very few articles of furniture and two head of Cattle –

I do with the advice of the Council hereby certify that John Smith aged about 40 years, late a Private in the 7th Virginia Regiment and whose Pay was at the rate of twenty four pounds pr. annum was wounded in the service of the United States by a musket Ball which passed through his hip or thigh and rendered him a cripple; and that he is allowed the sum of twelve pounds yearly, to commence from the first day of January 1786.

T. Merriwither [sic]

Given under my hand as Lieutenant Governor of the
Commonwealth of Virginia (the Governor being absent) at
Richmond the 7th day of June 1787 Beverly Randolph

The above is a true Copy of an original granted to John Smith.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this
10th day of November 1807 — Wm. H. Cabell

NOTES:

“Monmouth” was interlined in the list of battles. Since the British occupied Fort Mifflin after the siege from 10 Oct to 10 Nov 1777, it is not likely that Smith would have been wounded there after that time, and it is therefore unlikely that he was at the Battle of Monmouth on 28 Jun 1778.

The 1835 census of pensioners states that Smith died on 5 Sep 1819.