

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

Pension Application of John Smith S3939

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Ohio } sct.

Highland County }

On this 25th day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas in & for said county now sitting John Smith a resident of the county of Fayette in said State of Ohio aged 90 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the statute in the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein after stated

And first the said Smith declares that before & at the time of the war of the American revolution he resided in Halifax County in the State of Virginia. that on the 6th day of January AD 1781 he was drafted for the militia of the State of Virginia, at Halifax Courthouse Halifax County Virginia. That he was in the company commanded by Captain Charles Wall & Lieutenant Fleming Bates – that soon after he was drafted he marched with his company to Cabin point [on James River in Surry County] where they remained 2 months & about twenty five days. That at Cabin point Captain Wall was broke because he had gone home on furlough & had not returned in time. that Lieutenant Fleming Bates then took command of his company – that he marched with said company to Suffolk (Virginia) where he remained with his company about three weeks after which he received a written discharge from s'd Lieutenant Bates – which discharge he has since lost he knows not when or where. S'd Smith is positive that he was in the US service this tour three months & 14 or 15 days – that after he rec'd his discharge he returned to Halifax County Va.

The said Smith further declares that he was again drafted for the militia of the state of Virginia at Halifax Courthouse Halifax County Virginia on the 15th day of September AD 1781 That he was placed in company commanded by Captain Michael Roberts – that soon after he was drafted he marched with his company towards Yorktown Virginia – that on his march towards s'd Yorktown he passed through the towns of Petersburg – Williamsburg & Jamestown. That at Yorktown he joined the regiment commanded by Colonel Richardson [Holt Richeson] in the army of General Washington which was at that time [28 Sep – 19 Oct 1781] besieging the British under General Cornwallis in s'd town of York. That he knew Gen'l Washington & General Steuben (by sight but not personally) does not recollect any other officers. That he was at Yorktown until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. That he was wounded during the siege. That after the surrender on the [blank] day of [blank] AD 17[blank] [19 Oct 1781] he received a discharge from [blank] at Yorktown Va. That after he received s'd discharge he returned immediately returned to Halifax Virginia where he continued to reside until AD 1821 when he moved to Fayette County Ohio where he has ever since resided. That he served in the s'd tour three months & [blank] days. that he has no documentary evidence except the discharge which he rec'd after his last tour, which he thinks he now has but is not certain of that fact.

That he knows of no person but Thomas Brady [pension application S4271] who can testify as to his service in the Virginia militia.

The following interrogatories were propounded by said Court to which the answers thereto annexed were made by s'd Smith

1st Question by the Court – Where & in what year were you born?

Answer by Smith. I was born in Amelia County Virginia on the 1st day of October AD 1742.

2 Question. Have you any record of your age?

Answer. I have no record of my age but know it only by hearing my parents say that I was born on the 1st

Oct 1742

3 Question. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war; and where do you now live?

Answer. I lived before & at the time of the war of the American revolution in Halifax County Virginia to which county I moved from Amelia County Va. I lived in s'd Halifax County until 1821 (December) when I moved to Fayette County where I have ever since resided.

4 Question. How were you called into service – were you drafted a volunteer or a substitute?

Answer. I was drafted in the Militia of the State of Virginia.

5th Question. What regular officers were with the troops with whom you served: What militia or continental regiments do you recollect & what were the general circumstance of your service?

Answer During my first tour I recollect no officers more than I have stated in my declaration. During my second tour of service I was at Yorktown with the American Army – I knew Genls Washington & Steuben when I saw them – saw them & other officers of the army frequently but do not recollect the names of any others – neither do I recollect the numbers of any militia or continental regiments who were at Yorktown.

6th Question. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; who gave it to you & where is it?

Ans. I rec'd written discharges from service after both tours – the first from Lieutenant Bates which I have lost the 2nd from [blank] which I think I yet have. He relinquishes all claim but this to pension or annuity & name is not on pension roll of any state

John hisXmark Smith