

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Smith S4855

fn22SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/3/11

[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 Tennessee Jefferson County October 2nd 1832

On this second day of October personally appeared before me Alexander McDonald one of the Justices of the peace for the County of Jefferson and State of Tennessee, William Smith, a resident of said County and State, aged eighty-six 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 act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That the Deponent William Smith was born the 16th day of January 1746 on Christy's Creek a branch of Shenandoah River in the State of Virginia. At four years of age he removed with his Father to South Carolina. The Deponent lived in a district called "Ninety Six" until the breaking out of the Revolution. This Deponent was a volunteer in a company raised by Captain Richard Pollard, Robin Pollard and Robin Finney [Robin Fainy] Lieutenants. He was engaged in the following services. In the year 1776 – in the winter – He was marched [indecipherable word] his Captain in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Andrew Williamson – Andrew Pickens Major – against a large body of Tories, assembled at the Cane-Break on the Saluda River. The Tories were routed and dispersed -- Some taken prisoners. This expedition was known by the name of the Snow-Camps, on account of a heavy snow that fell at the time – He was absent on this expedition one month. He was afterwards engaged in the attack which Captain Pollard made upon the Tory Captain Linley and his company – which resulted in his defeat – the capture of Several of his men, and the subsequent capture of Captain Linley himself and this Deponent afterwards saw him punished with death – by being hung at Gowdy's Store called "Ninety Six." In this affair the deponent was absent three weeks.

When the Indians were about to attack Philips Fort upon the head of Little River in Georgia, and had already killed several that had come out of the Fort – a draft was made from the district of "Ninety Six" to march to the relief of the Fort. This Deponent was drafted and marched under Captain Pollard seventy miles to the relief of the Fort. After Captain Pollard had been encamped near the Fort for one month lacking three days – General Williamson arrived with a reinforcement. The deponent was marched under General Williamson in pursuit of the Indians to the head of Oakmulgee [Okmulgee River] – overtook a part and killed some – returned to Philips Fort, where this Deponent was discharged and returned home after a service of three months. This discharge the Deponent lost in coming from South Carolina to the State of Tennessee, fourteen years ago. In consequence of Captain Richard Pollard's death, Robin Pollard the son and first Lieutenant of the company became the Captain. The Deponent was marched in May 1781 to the Siege of "Ninety Six" under Robin Pollard, Colonel Henderson commanding the Regiment. A large body of Tories and British were besieged by General Nathanael Greene in a Fort at this place. The deponent served one month at this Siege. The besieged were about to

surrender when an express arrived from Lord Rawdon and the information was conveyed by one Hugh Aikens who pretended to be friendly to the Whigs, but by a [indecipherable word, looks like "preconcerted"] signal he was admitted into the Fort and thus the siege was protracted. When General Greene [several words written over and blotted out] the besieged, declined yielding on account of the prospect of speedy relief; he determined upon an assault which terminated unsuccessfully, and cost us a considerable number of men. This deponent was afterwards selected, on account of his acquaintance with the localities of the country, as one of the Guard for the wagons employed to supply the Regulars under General Greene with provision and forage. He was engaged in this service two weeks. This Deponent has no documentary evidence in regard to his Service, nor does he know of any person from whom he can procure the testimony as to his service. He is very infirm from old age and much afflicted with the disease of the Gravel, and now receives from the charity of his fellow citizens the support of his old closing life. He hopes the services detailed above will entitle him to a pension under the late act of Congress. The Deponent William Smith hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He was engaged in many small and short services, which he has not detail, and most of which he does not now recollect the particulars of. He is fully satisfied that he served upwards of 8 months and so declares.

S/ William Smith, X his mark

[William McClister, Charles Flowers & Obadiah Hudson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born 16th day of January 1746 on Christy's Creek, a branch of the Shenandoah River, State of Virginia

Question 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer – I have none.

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

Answer – When called into service I was living in the district of "Ninety Six" near the Saluda River in the State of South Carolina. Since the War I have lived on Tyger River in the same state, about 14 years ago, I moved to East Tennessee, where I now live in Jefferson County.

Answer – I volunteered in every service I was engaged in except the expedition to Philips Fort, when I was drafted. According to the times specified in my declaration, I was in service as a volunteer three months and a 4th – and as a drafted militia man 3 months. But there were many short periods of service which I have not been able to recollect so as to swear to there particulars – making in all a service of 8 months.

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

Answer – The Deponent well recollects General Greene at the Siege of "Ninety Six" – which was the only service of the Deponent where there were any regular troops. This deponent does not recollect the names of the field officers of the Regular Troops. He was himself under the command of Colonel Henderson at the siege of "Ninety Six."

Question 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

Question 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

Answer – I would refer to William McClister, Charles flowers and Obadiah Hudson who can be examined touching my character for veracity, and their belief of my services in the Revolution.

S/ William Smith, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 8 months service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]