

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

Pension Application of Benoni Smith S7567

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia – Charlotte County to wit:

On the 7th day of October 1833, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Court of Charlotte County, now sitting, Benoni Smith, of the county of Charlotte and a resident thereof, and State of Virginia, aged about 74 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 7th of June 1832.

He states that he was born in the County of King William, in the State of Virginia, either in the year 1758 or 1759, he does not recollect which, not having the family Register with him, it being left in the county of King William, where he resided for many years. That he lived in the County of King William, at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and continued to reside in the same county until four or five years after the close of the war, when he moved to the county of Charlotte, where he has ever since resided. He states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he is unable to state precisely the dates of his service; or give the names of all the officers who were attached to the same company's or Regiment's, in which he served at various times during the Revolutionary war; but will endeavour to the best of his recollection at this time, to give as circumstantial an account of his services as the nature of the case will admit. He was first drafted in the Militia, in the County of King William, for the period of two months, under Captain Booth sometime in the year 1780 he thinks, and marched to Williamsburg. He recollects a Mr. Taliaferro, or Toliver as it is pronounced, was Lieutenant in the company; the other company officers names he does not now recollect. After term of service had expired, he was discharged by verbal orders of Capt Booth. He was drafted the second time, in the same county, and the same year he thinks, for the period of two months, under Captain Drury or Drewett [John Drewry], and crossed the Matapony [sic: Mattaponi] River at a place called West point, and marched into the county of Gloucester, and was stationed for a short time at a number of places. He was discharged in the same manner, by the verbal orders of the Captain. As it regards the two above named tours of duty in the militia, he has not been able to procure any direct or positive evidence, in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity. Those who have personal knowledge of his services, if living, reside in the county of King William, and the state of his health would not permit him to travel that distance to obtain the necessary testimony. He refers, however, to the latter part of the affidavit of Thomas Thorp [Thomas Tharp, pension application W6258], (herewith sent) as the best evidence of the above stated service, which he has been able to procure under existing circumstances. He also refers the Department to the affidavits, of James Hamlett, Col Joseph Wyatt late Senator in the Virginia General Assembly; and Captain John D. Richardson late a member of the Virginia Legislature and the present High Sheriff of the County of Charlotte, as evidence of his character and standing in society, as also of his inability to travel any great distance to obtain evidence.

He states he was drafted a third time in the militia, in the year 1781 as well as his memory served him, under Captain Terry for the period of two months, and marched directly to Williamsburg, where his company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. [Alexander] Dick and Major [William] Boyce. He was drafted the last and fourth time in the same year last mentioned, for the period of two months, and was attached to the company of Capt Abrams or Abrahams, and marched to the Green Springs, Sandy Point, and other places. Col Dick and Major Boyce were commanding officers in the Regiment under General [Robert] Lawson. He received a verbal discharge in both of the last mentioned tours of duty from the captains commanding. He does not now recollect that he ever received a written discharge in any case. As evidence of service in the two last mentioned tours, he refers to the affidavit of Thomas Thorp who was with him in the service from the county of King William, the whole of the time. He has no

documentary evidence whatever. His whole service in the Revolutionary war amounts to Eight months, for which he claims a Pension. He 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. The Clergyman who promised to certify for him, being absent in consequence of the Rainy day, he is compelled to dispense with that requisition of the Department. Benoni hisXmark Smith

State of Virginia – Charlotte County towit:

I Thomas Thorp of the county of Charlotte, and State of Virginia, do hereby certify that I knew Benoni Smith of King William County, (but at present residing in the county of Charlotte) in the Revolutionary war, and was with him in the service a portion of the time. I recollect very well of his serving a tour of two months under Capt Terry in the year 1781, and also an other tour of two months in same year under Capt Abram's or Abraham's. I was with him at Williamsburg, Green Springs, Sandy Point, and other places. Col. Dick and Major Bois were commanding officers in the Regiment and the Baron Stueben [sic: Baron von Steuben], our general. I was frequently in the company of said Benoni Smith, and have a very distinct recollection of the two above named tours in the militia. I think he was regularly discharged in both cases. And I do farther certify, that I was credibly informed by those who were in the service with the said Benoni Smith, that he had served two other tours of duty in the militia of two months each, previous to my being in the service with him; the first under Capt Booth, and the second under Capt Druett or Drewry I do not now recollect which. The said Benoni Smith was considered a good soldier. Thomas hisXmark Tharp