

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Smith W17828 Nancy fn36NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/27/11

[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.]

North Carolina Rockingham County

On this 29th day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Rockingham aforesaid William Smith a resident of the County of Rockingham & State of North Carolina aged sixty-nine on the 30th of October next – who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That as well as he now recollects in the month of March 1780 in the County of Bertie State of North Carolina he took the place as a substitute of one Hardy Hunter a drafted militia man for 3 months under the command of William Ashbourn [sic, Ashburn?] Captain. That at or about the time aforesaid he marched under the command of the said William Ashbourn I Kingston [Kinston] to Fayetteville in said State then the said Captain Ashburn resigned his commission and deponent with the rest of his company was transferred to the command of Captain Isaac Carter of [illegible name, looks like Richford], that his Company was attached to the command of General Caswell of the Militia of North Carolina. From Fayetteville deponent marched to Camden in South Carolina from there near Charleston where his company was encamped and there remained until the town was taken possession of by the enemy upon which event the troops to which he belonged retreated under the command of General Caswell and near Camden upon the return march met with Colonel Bluford [sic, Colonel Abraham Buford], that his command separated from the troops under the said Bluford a few days before his defeat. That deponent was marched back to Fayetteville *and there encamped for some weeks that Deponent remained at his post in the service as a private until sometime in the month of July of the same year when he was discharged having remained in actual service for more than the term of his engagement waiting for his place to [be] supplied by another draft. That he obtained a regular discharge from his Captain the said Isaac Carter that it has long since been lost – that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove the performance of the above mentioned service. That his company was under the command of Colonel Reden Blount [sic, Redden or Reading Blount] of the militia. That after his return home deponent in September of the year 1780 again entered into the militia service against the enemy by substituting for 3 months in the place of William Cook in the said County of Bertie under the command of Solomon Cherry Captain Thomas Pew*

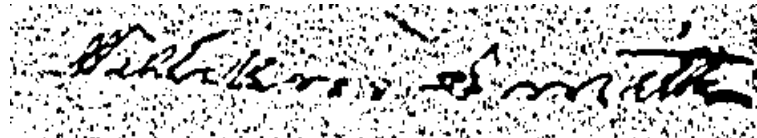
Major that immediately after his entering into the service he was marched through the Western part of the State passing through Lewisburg, Hillsboro & Salisbury & that he remained in the service in that part of the State until the termination of the period for which he had entered & was regularly discharged in Mecklenburg County NC that his discharge has been lost or mislaid so that he cannot now produce the same – the troops to which he was attached in this tour of duty were he believes under the command of General Butler [John Butler]. That he returned to the County of Bertie after his discharge: In March 1781 he again entered into the militia service as a substitute for one Dempsey Cook for twelve months that he marched to the South under the command of Lieutenant Richard Andrews & Thomas Fenny [Thomas Finney] of the Continental Army that he was engaged in the battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs], that after the battle he was transferred to the command of Captain Benjamin Bailey of the first Regiment of the North Carolina line that after the engagement – deponent under the last mentioned command was marched to the High Hills of Santee from thence to the Southwards [?] from thence to Bacons bridge South Carolina where he discharged on the first of June 1782. That he has lost or mislaid his discharge and is now unable to produce the same nor has he any documentary or written evidence by which he can establish any part of his service as herein set forth nor does he know of anyone now living by whom he had prove the same –

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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Sworn to in open court this 29th of August 1832

S/ Ro Gallaway, CCC

S/ William Smith¹

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. C. Morton", is written over a background of a dense, stippled or dotted pattern.

[William C Morton, a clergyman, and William Williams gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

That the following are the interrogatories propounded by the court to the above named William Smith an applicant for pension with his answers thereto –

[1st] Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in 1763 in Nansemond County Virginia

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

I have none in possession a record was made of it in the Parish of Suffolk County of Nansemond

[3rd] 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 in Bertie County North Carolina when called into service since the revolutionary war I have & do still reside in Rockingham County North Carolina

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

Answer I was a substitute for Hardy Hunter, William Cook and Dempsey Cook

[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

¹ The text in italics is missing from the digital images posted on Footnote.com but can be found on HeritageQuest.com.

your service.

Answer. My service was in the militia & mainly know that [indecipherable words] General Wayne, Sumter Colonel Washington & many others with whom my command was [indecipherable word or words] united.

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

Answer. I received a discharge at the expiration of each of the terms for which I had engaged which I suppose was signed by order of the officers referred to in my previous statements.

[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.

It answer. The Reverend William C Morton & William Williams and others are willing to testify thereto.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the 29th of August 1832

S/ Ro Gallaway, CCC

S/ William Smith

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: January 23rd 1833

William Smith who is the applicant for a pension under act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 personally appeared before me John J Wright an acting Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and after being sworn according to law, he swears that he now resides in the County of Rockingham North Carolina that he swore to the foregoing declaration in open court held for the said County. That he relinquishes every claim to any other pension, but the one applied for under the foregoing mentioned act of the 7th of June 1832 and that the clergyman William C Morton who has certified for him lives in the County of Rockingham North Carolina and he further swears, That upon reading and reflecting upon his declaration he finds that he did not set forth that upon his said [words interlined that are too faint to discern] Tours of duty mentioned in the foregoing declaration he served as a Sergeant something like twelve months, he further states the foregoing declaration contains all the facts of his service in the Revolutionary War to the best of his recollection.

S/ William Smith

[fn p. 6: on April 12, 1842 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Nancy Smith, 79, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act; that she is the widow of William Smith; that she married him January 12, 1779; that her husband died January 11, 1835; and that she remains his widow.]

[Facts in file: The veteran married January 12, 1779, Nancy Wood pursuant to a license procured in Bute County North Carolina; the widow died in October 1847 survived by a daughter but the name of the daughter is not given in the file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$83.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 20 months service as a private & sergeant in the North Carolina militia.]