

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Hill Smith W26491

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Georgia } On the 28th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court
Clark County } before William Stewart presiding Judge of the Inferior Court of said
County now sitting Hill Smith a resident of the County of Oglethorpe &
state aforesaid, aged 72 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers &
served as herein stated. He entered the service as a Substitute for his Step father William Haynes
who was drafted for a Six months tour in the County of Chesterfield, State of Virginia in the last
of March or first of April 1780. Genl [Edward] Stevens commanded the Brigade of Militia (Genl
[Horatio] Gates the Regulars) Col [Ralph] Faulkner commanded the Regiment of Militia & Major
Boyd [sic: William Boyce] under him. Deponents Capt. who commanded the drafts was by the
name of Waters [sic: possibly Archibald Walthall] his other subaltern officers he does not
recollect. The first place he was marched to after organizing the Company was to Hillsborough
North Carolina then to a place called New Gardens [New Garden just west of present
Greensboro], then they were stationed on little river for sometime after which they were
marched to Pedee [Pee Dee River] near the fork of Great & little Pedee when in the early part of
November he was discharged. if he ever had any written discharge he has lost or mislaid it, he
has none now. He was in no skirmish but he served out the full six months tour. During that
summer Gates was defeated [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] he recollects to have seen a
number of the wounded soldiers who were in that defeat. He has no documentary evidence &
knows of no person who can prove his service. He lived in Virginia Chesterfield County, at the
time of his service & during the Revolutionary war, then after the war in Buckingham County,
same state then moved to Georgia where he has been living thirty six years next Christmas,
nearly all the time in Oglethorpe County, where he now lives. He states the names of [blank] &
Thomas Wood & Henry L Edwards who can testify as to his veracity & their belief of his services
as a revolutionary soldier

1st He was born in Chesterfield County Virginia in the year 1761

2^d He has no record of his age but has kept it from the tradition of his family, & consequently
does not know the month of his birth

3 This is answered in the latter part of my declaration

4 He was called into service as a Substitute & for William or Billy Haynes as he was called, his
step father

5 I have stated all the officers I know. I heard that Genl Stevens had a horse shot from under
him in leading on the battle near Camden, at the time of Gates' defeat. I do not know
whether it was so or not, but all that scene is familiar to me, by the conversations of the day

6th I never rec'd a discharge to my recollection if I did it is long since destroyed

7th This I have already done

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, &
declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Smith hisXmark Hill [sic]

NOTES:

Just before the Battle of Camden, Gates sent Gen. Francis Marion to the area of the Pee Dee
river mentioned by Smith. If Smith was with the famous Marion, however, it is strange that he
did not mention it.

On 23 Jan 1854 in Oglethorpe County Elizabeth Smith, 70, applied for a pension stating
that she married Hill Smith on 8 Mar 1832, and he died 1 Dec 1838. The file includes a copy of
the record of the marriage of Hill Smith and Elizabeth Barbee in Oglethorpe County.