

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Smith W4070 and W4340 [see note below]  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Maryland     }  
A Arundel County     }     On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 1818 before the subscriber Chief Judge \_\_\_\_ of the third judicial district in the said state, personally appears John Smith aged sixty six years, resident in Anne Arundel County, state of Maryland, who being by me duly sworn, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war.” That he the said John Smith enlisted in 1777 in the state of Maryland, in the company commanded by Captain [Edward] Gale of the second regiment of Maryland Artillery. That he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States, until the close of the revolutionary war, when he was discharged from service, in Annapolis, state of Maryland; that he was in the battles of Eutaw Springs [8 Sep 1781] of Cambden [sic: Battle of Hobkirk Hill near Camden SC on 25 Apr 1781], of Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781], at Gates’s Defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] and at the Siege of Little York [Siege of Yorktown VA, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support, and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

I certify that it appears by the Musters of Maryland Troops that John Smith a private in the Second Reg't. Enlisted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept'r. 1777 and was Discharged on the 10 Jan'y 1780.  
R Loorherman Aud'r. Gen'l. Auditors Office Annapolis 27<sup>th</sup> April 1818.

[Undated]

To the Honourable the Congress of the United States.  
The Petition of John Smith of Herring Creek or Bay of Anne Arundel County humbly sheweth your honours that He was a Soldier in the Maryland line as set forth by the accompanying certificate signed by the Auditor of Maryland marked A. Beig no longer able to support a Living He is compelled to call upon His Country to assist him, being always a renter of land and dependant on his own labour and that of his children, all of whom have grown up and left him, and being now in his 76 year and having a few years since broke one of his legs, He finds it impossible any longer to support himself, consequently feels himself compelled to solicit Congress to put him on the Pention list and as In duty Bound He will ever pray.  
John hisXmark Smith

District of Maryland SS   City of Annapolis                     Anne Arundel County  
On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 1825 personally appeared in Open Court it being a Court of Record having a Jurisdiction unlimited in Point of amount, and the power of fine and imprisonment, John Smith aged seventy six years on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September last, Resident in Anne Arundel County in said District, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath declare, that he enlisted at Annapolis as a private soldier in the 1<sup>st</sup> maryland Regiment Artillery in the Company Commanded by Capt. Gale in the Regiment Commanded by Major [John] Fulford in the line of the State of maryland on Continental Establishment in the year 1776 and continued to serve until the close of the war when he was discharged in the State of South Carolina, that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any State except the State of Maryland and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension that he made out to support himself by his labours untill about three years ago that he is by profession a labourer, and unable any longer to support himself and that he is in such indigent Circumstances, without the assistance of his Country, except by private or public charity, and in pursuance of the act of the 1<sup>st</sup> may 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the united States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of march 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any

part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed

Schedule

Property None, Except the following. 2 Feather beds, 5 old chairs, 1 old chest, 1 pine table, a few plates & knives & forks and 2 old pots, 3 old axes, 5 old hoes, and he receives as a Pension from the State of Maryland \$40 per annum, he has a wife aged 65 years and 8 children, men and women grown who are all in indigent circumstances John his Xmark Smith

Annapolis 31<sup>st</sup> Oct'r. 1825

I hereby Certify, that it appears from the Pay Rolls Remaining in my Office, That John Smith a Private, Received from John Hamilton agent of the Maryland Line, The sum of \$80— for arrears of Pay from the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1780 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1782. also \$80— for Pay from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y. 1782 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y. 1783 also \$43 30/100 for Pay from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y 1783 to the 15<sup>th</sup> Nov'r. 1783, Gratuity \$80— Total \$283.30. Thos. Karney Aud'r.

State of Maryland Anne Arundel County Sct

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 1839 personally appeared before me the subscriber Chief Judge of the Orphans Court of Anne Arundel County, Sarah Smith a resident of the first District of the aforesaid County aged Seventy Seven years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7<sup>th</sup> 1838 "Entitled An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. that she is the widow of John Smith who enlisted as a private for and during the war of the Revolution in the Maryland Continental line. she further states that she does not recollect the number of the Regiment the said John Smith was attached to, nor the time he entered the service, nor the time he left the same, she further declares that she doth not know the names of the officers under whom her husband served in the Revolutionary War. she further declares that he was in several engagements two of which and only known to the applicant, Viz. the Battle of Bunker Hill [17 Jun 1775] and York Town [Siege of Yorktown VA, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. and that at the time he entered the service he resided in Montgomery County in the State of Maryland, but ever since the Revolution he has resided in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. She further declares that she was married to the said John Smith on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year 1785 and that her husband the said John Smith was a pensioner a short time previous to his death [beginning? ending?] in or about the year Eighteen hundred and twenty two, but was withdrawn on the account of property, and that her husband the aforesaid John Smith died on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1826 and that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the 1<sup>st</sup>. of January 1794 namely at the time above stated.

State of Maryland Anne Arundel County SS. ["4070" in corner]

Be it Remembered that on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1839 personally appeared before me the subscriber one of the Justices of the peace for the aforesaid county Richard Crandall aged 76 years who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with John Smith who was always reputed and believed to be in the neighbourhood where he resided a soldier of the Revolution, and the deponent further states on oath that he has frequently heard the said John Smith say previous to his death that he did enlist in the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Maryland Continental Line for the term of three years and at the expiration of the said first time he reenlisted, and the deponent further states on oath that he does not recollect of but one officer of said John Smith named to him which was Captain David Linn [David Lynn]. and the deponent further states on oath that he has frequently heard the said John Smith say that he was at Gates defeat and in South Carolina and at the Battle of York Town, and the deponent further states on oath that he is well acquainted with Sarah Smith the present applicant and that she is the identical widow of the said John Smith

NOTES:

This file has two numbers either because two applications were discovered to be from the same person, or because papers from two different applicants were accidentally filed together. All the papers are from a John Smith who served in the company of Capt. Edward Gale and lived in Anne Arundel County. The John Smith who applied in 1818 stated he was born about 1752 and enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment in 1777; the John Smith who applied in 1825 said he was born 20 Sep 1749 and enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment in 1776. It would not be unusual, however, for depositions made by the same person seven years apart to have such discrepancies. The only pension certificate in the file took effect 14 Dec 1825 and was for the application made earlier that year. The number W4070 appears on the deposition in behalf of Sarah Smith, who appears to have stated that her husband's pension began or ended around 1822.

"A Pay Roll of the Late Captain Gale's Maryland Company of Artillery in the Service of the United States for Sept'r. & October 1779" lists only one "Jno. Smith" in each of the two months. A muster roll for the same period taken at "Camp Near Chester [PA] Nov'r 9 1779" lists "John Smith Wagoner" in a column beside "Enlisted Sept'r. 3<sup>d</sup> 1777."

On 19 Dec 1842 Sarah Smith filed an additional deposition, enclosing a copy of a record stating that on 26 Sep 1785 a license was issued for the marriage of John Smith and Sarah Tynings.