

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

Pension Application of William Smith W4806

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of virginia, and County of Nelson to wit.

On this 30th day of January 1834 personally appeared before me James Woods Jr a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid William Smith a resident of the county of Nelson in the State of Virginia, aged seventy eight years the 19th day of may last past who being 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 June the 7th 1832. That he was drafted in the county of Albemarle State of Virginia, in the year of 1776 to the best of his recollection; as a militiaman and that he hired a substitute, which substitute seved out that tour, which was not less than three months to the best of his recollection, that he was drafted again in the same County in the year of 1777 as well as he recollects, and again hired a substitute which served that tour which was not less than three months to the best of his recollection, that he was again Drafted in the same county in the year of 1778 he thinks; and marched to the barax in the same county [sic: Albemarle Barracks constructed Jan 1779 for prisoners surrendered by Gen. John Burgoyne at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777] where he served a tour of not less than three months to the best of his recollection commencing under Captain James Garland who got shot [accidentally by a sentinel] before the tour expired and his successor is not recollected. in the year 1781 to the best of his recollection he was drafted again in the same county and started under Captain William Grissom to march to the lower part of Virginia but was detached below Charlottesville Albemarle County and sent to Irvin's old store on James river in the same county where he served a tour of not less than three months to the best of his recollection as a guard to ammuniton and military equipage under an officer by the name of Yarber [sic: signed Joseph Yarbrough on a document in the file of applicant's brother, Thomas Smith, pension application S30707]. That his serice in person and by substitute during the revolution was not less than twelve months to the best of his recollection, and for those services he claims a pension; that in the whole of the above service he was a private he knows of no one now living by whom he can prove his services except Charles Rodes who was with him a few weeks on his tour at Irvins old store. he hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state or territory Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first aforesaid. [signed] Wm. Smith

Questions by the Magistrate

1st. Where and in what year was you born.

I was born as I was told by my parents in the county of Albemarl State of virginia in the year of 1755

2nd. have you any record of your age and if so where is it

I have and it is now in my possession

3rd. where were you living when called into the service where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live. I was living in the county of Albemarle when called into service and lived there some time after the war then moved to Amherst County lived there untill Nelson County was taken from Amherst and am now living in Nelson County

4th did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

I never did receive a written one to my recollection but was told by my officers when my tours was over that I was at liberty to go home

5th how were you called into service were you drafted did you volenteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom. I was Drafted

6th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the tropes where you served such

continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services. Colonel John Harvie [who donated the land for the barracks] was a colonel at the albemarle Barrax and Colonel John Jordan at Irvin's old store and I am of opinion they were militia officers the circumstances of my services are as fully set forth in my Declaration as my recollection will enable me to do it

7th State the names of persons in your present neighbourhood to whom you are known who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution.

[Alexander Heman and Charles A. Smith]

State of Virginia and County of Nelson to wit

On this 7th day of Feby 1834 personally appeared before me James Woods a Justice of the peace in and for the county of Nelson Charles Rodes a resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to law deposed and saith that he knows that William Smith who is now a resident of this county served as a Guard to some Military equipage and ammunition at Irvins old store in albemarle County in the revolutionary war but how long he is unable to say as he was there but a short time himself Sworn to and subscribed this 7th day of Feby 1834

[signed] Charles Rodes

NOTES:

The following document in the pension application of Thomas Smith may refer to William Smith: The Bearer Thos. Smith haveing a Brother in yor Garrison Very ill he has therefore leave of absents to endeavour to Convey his Brother to his friends in Albirmarl County.

March 15 1781

Mord'i. Throckmorton Major [Maj. Mordecai Throckmorton]
Command't of ye Garrison

On 15 Feb 1837 Elizabeth Smith, aged 78 on 10 Mar 1837, made application before John M. Smith for a pension, stating that she married William Smith on 22 Dec 1775, and he died 29 Dec 1836. A record of the marriage was searched for unsuccessfully in Augusta County VA. Charles A. Smith, 51, of Albemarle County, deposed that he was acquainted with Charles Smith, 61, who was the eldest son of William and Elizabeth Smith. Jane Martin deposed that William Smith and Elizabeth Massey were married and had a child named Charles Smith before she, herself, married Hudson Martin on 2 Dec 1778. Claudius Buster (pension application W25310) deposed that he knew that William Smith had married a daughter of "Charles Massey who lived near the line between Amherst and Albemarle Counties."