

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Smith W4808
Transcribed by Will Graves

Martha

fn48NC
2/25/11

[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.]

[fn p. 8]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: SS

On this 30th day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before Alfred M. Seals, Tompson S Cruger [?], & Grief Clayton [?] the court of Rockingham County now sitting Samuel Smith Senior a resident of Rockingham County and State aforesaid aged seventy-three years 16th of November last: 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 the 7th of June 1832:

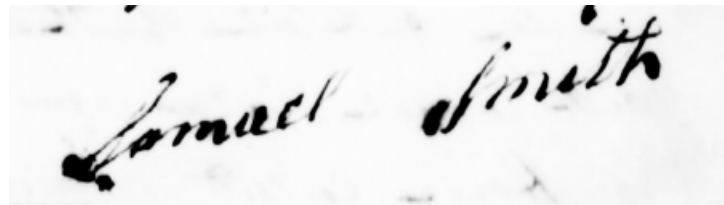
That he entered the service of the United States served under the following named officers and served as herein stated: That he was born in the County of Guilford now Rockingham County in the State of North Carolina on the 16th day of November 1757 as appears from his father's family Bible which is now in his possession and that he has resided in the said County from his birth up to the present day. That about the year 1775 he was called upon to march against the Cherokee Indians; that he was excused from the performance of service upon his making powder for the use & consumption of those persons called into service, That this regulation was adopted among the officers for the purpose of encouraging the supply of ammunition: That sometime after the Declaration of Independence, he was attached to a company of Horse under the command of Colonel Gillespie, that he was with him but for a few days when he was transferred by General John Hamilton to a company of Virginia militia where he was engaged as a commissary in collecting provisions for the Army for about three months: when he was discharged by Captain Williams of his own company under Colonel Gillespie by the interference of General Hamilton, who stated the reasons of his being taken from the Horse and engaged as a commissary: That after his return home he was placed under Captain Bethell who was left at home together with Captain Sharp for the purpose of forming companies of Horse called minute Light-Horse to check & suppress the Tories: that he was engaged in this service for the space of 3 months and reconnoitering the country and we marched once on to near the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River for the purpose of dispersing a number of Tories who had assembled there, but before their arrival the Tories had been dispersed by some of the troops

near the place of their rendezvous: after the term of service he was discharged by Captain William Bethell which discharge he has lost: that after he returned home he was several times called out in the State troops & was employed generally as a commissary for several tours under the direction of General Hamilton & was ordered to provide provisions for the Army under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]: That at the time of the Battle of Guilford Court House he was on a 3 months Tour under Captain William Bethell down on Haw River & part of the time down the Pedee River protecting the country from the ravages of the Tories. That Major Owens had the principal command in this Tour & gave him his discharge at the expiration of his Term of service, which he has long since lost or destroyed: that he was frequently after this sent on different [indecipherable word or words] relative to some branch of the Army but was in no other regular campaign: Peace further states that he does not know of any person by whom he can prove his service as all his old associates are dead or removed except one who is a lunatic: He further states that he is known in his neighborhood to the Reverend William C Morton and Burton Fields and to almost every old man in the [indecipherable word] end of the County: He hereby relinquishes every claim whether 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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Robt. Gallaway, CCC

S/ Samuel Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Smith". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged or off-white.

[fn p. 19: William C Morton, a clergyman, and James Miller gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 18]

State of North Carolina Rockingham County: January 28 1833

This day Samuel Smith the applicant for a pension in the foregoing Declaration under the act of Congress mentioned in the aforesaid declaration appeared before me John J Wright a justice of the peace for said County and after being sworn according to law he states that his memory is much impaired by old age but to the best of his recollection that he has served in the Tours of duty mentioned in the foregoing declaration in the Virginia militia three months under Captain Bethell & Sharp three months, ordered out by General Hambleton [sic] as commissary to General Greens Troops three months and three months more under Captain Bethell, after the Tories – which Tours of duty is mentioned in the foregoing Declaration but he believes that taking together all the Tours of duty in which she was engaged and ordered by his officers to do and performed, That he was engaged in the service in the United States Army during Revolutionary War nearly two years or thereabouts That he has lost his discharges as set forth in the Declaration and his recollection is so much impaired that he cannot state positively the times of his services in the revolutionary war. That they were mostly in the first of the Revolutionary War as his recollection now serves him.

S/ Samuel Smith

[fn p. 4: On July 17, 1843 in Rockingham County North Carolina, Marthy Smith, 78, made application for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Samuel Smith a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$40 per annum; that she married him on the 3rd day of April 1783; that her husband died May 6, 1839 and that she remains his widow. In support of her claim she submitted her family record which reads as follows:

John Smith son of Samuel & Martha born 4th day of April in the year 1784

Elizabeth Smith was born the 18th of February 1786

Thomas Smith was born 25th of November 1788

Samuel Smith was born the 14th February 1790

Henry Smith was born 19th of November 1791 died August 12, 1796

Lucrecy Smith was born the 30th of September 1794, died August 10, 1796

William Smith was born 25th of January 1797

Clement Smith was born the first of August 1798

Martha Smith was born 16th of August 1800

Joseph Smith was born 7th of January 1802

Robert Smith was born 8th of January 1804

Dolly Smith was born 20th of August 1805

Moses Smith was born first July 1807

Joshua Smith was born 22nd January 1809.

Calvin Smith was born 16th of March 1811

Clements Smith testified that the above record is a true copy of the records from his fathers family Bible in the handwriting of his uncle William Huff and Andrew Foster.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clement Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. The first name "Clement" is written in a larger, more prominent hand than the last name "Smith". The signature is enclosed in a small rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[NOTE: this file contains 4 separate declarations by the widow seeking her pension. Why did the commissioner require this of her? They all appear to me to state the same facts and bases for her claim.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 12 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]