

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Reuben Smith W6131

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia, Pittsylvania County Sct.

On this nineteenth day of October one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the County of Pittsylvania, Reubin Smith resident in the said County, aged sixty eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and 1st May 1820; that he the said Reubin Smith enlisted for the term of eighteen months on the [blank] day of April or May 1779 in the State of Virginia, was placed under the Command of Captain Tarlton Payne [Tarleton Payne], with whom he remained until he went to Petersburg, where he was placed under the Command of Captain Gray, under whom he went to Charleston South Carolina. Here Gray resigned and he was then placed under the Command of a Capt. Beal [sic: Robert Beale], whose given name is believed to have been Robert and whose Company was attached to [William] Heth's Battallion in the line of the State of Virginia on Continental establishment and [Charles] Scott's Brigade, where he remained until Charleston was taken by the enemy [12 May 1780] from whom he escaped. He then joined a Regiment or Battalion Commanded by a Colo. Davis who at that time was stationed at Chesterfield Courthouse, where he remained until his time expired. He was discharged by Colo. Davis at Chesterfield Courthouse in the State of Virginia but has lost his discharge and 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 Virginia, and that the reason he has not made earlier application for a pension is, that until age has enfeebled him, he was able to earn a support, and he was unwilling to tax the government while his health and strength remained unimpaired.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th 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 person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th 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. That since the 18th of March 1818 no material change has taken place in my property. The following is a schedule of my property, to wit.

136 acres of land worth 18£[?] pr acre.	\$408
1 horse worth.	40
1 Cow, Calf & 2 yearlings.	13
8 head of sheep @ [?].	8
9 head of shoats - [?].	9
3 pots old [?] - 2 ovens old [?].	2
plates, dishes, cups, saucers, knives & forks & c } old & much broken }	1.
3 ploughs [?] gear (old) [?].	2.50
Hoes & axes (old) [?].	2.00
and some articles not recollected but small } and of little or no value }	

Reubin Smith

Reubin Smith who came into Court in October last and made a declaration in order to obtain the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 18th day of March 1818 and of the first day of May 1820 this day [14 Dec 1829] came into court and in addition to the said declaration declared on Oath that his family consists of himself and his wife about sixty five years of age which is ordered to be Certified.

NOTE: On 9 Aug 1839 Elizabeth Smith, 73, applied for a pension stating that she married Reuben Smith on 14 Nov 1782, and he died 2 Dec 1831. It was stated that she was too infirm to travel 19 miles to court. On 25 Feb 1840 she applied again, adding that the marriage was performed by a Parson Williams in Powhatan County VA, that her husband died at home in Pittsylvania County, and that she moved to Rockingham County NC in 1832. In the file is a copy of a bond signed 14 Nov 1782 by Reuben Smith of Goochland County VA, Joseph Baker, and James Herndon for the marriage of Smith to Elizabeth Smith of Powhatan County. The marriage was certified by her son, Charles R. Smith. Elizabeth Smith listed the children born to her and submitted a family record certified by their son, John W. Smith, as being in the handwriting of his father. The combined list of children is transcribed below. In an application for bounty land dated 3 Apr 1855, Elizabeth Smith's age is given as 91

Edward Smith, 29 Oct 1784, living in Tuscaloosa AL

Judith Smith, 23 Dec 1786, living in St. Louis

Howel Smith, 30 Nov 1788, deceased

Reuben Smith, 10 Nov 1790, deceased

Thomas Smith, 6 Apr 1793, deceased

William Smith, 29 Oct 1795, deceased

Betsy Smith, 8 Feb 1799, deceased

Charles R. Smith, 9 Feb 1801, living in Rockingham NC

Salley Smith, 1 Jan 1805, deceased

John W. Smith, 8 Jan 1807, living in Rockingham

Nancy M. C. Smith, 16 Nov 1811, deceased