

Pension Application for Abraham P. Blauvelt

S.22654

State of New York

Rockland Country SS.

On this twenty seventh day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before the judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting at the Court House in Clarkstown in and for the County of Rockland and State aforesaid Abraham P. Blauvelt a resident of the town of Clarkstown in said County aged seventy nine years last December as appears by the records of the church at Clarkstown, where the same is recorded, who being 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That according to the best recollection of the said Abraham P. Blauvelt, he with many of his neighbours sometime in the latter part of the year 1775 or beginning of the year 1776 met together and signed articles of association or confederacy as it was then called by which they were pledged to do all things in their power to obtain the Independence of the United States of America.

That the first service, which he was called into as a soldier was in the summer of 1776. That he then became a volunteer in the Militia at the time when the British shipping made their appearance in the Hudson River near Haverstraw opposite a place called the short Clove.

That he with the whole of the regiment commanded by Colonel A. Hawkes Hay, and Mayor John Smith were stationed at different places on the west side of the Hudson River both above and below Haverstraw at Slaughter's Landing Nyack and Tappan Landings.

That after a short time it became necessary to divide the said regiment into what was then called classes so that the duty might equally be borne between them by relieving at times those who were on duty.

That he belonged to one of those classes, that remained to guard the shore along said river and other places as occasion required where the enemy thought proper to invade as the enemy frequently landed and committed depredations upon the property of residents along said river and took them prisoners, driving off cattle, and taking whatever they could find and burning houses.

That he continued in such service until the Spring of 1782, when he was appointed a Sergeant in the company of militia commanded by Captain Jacob Ouderdon, Lieutenant Resolvent Van Houten and Andrius Onderdonk, and continued thus in service until the close of the war.

That during the war her was in service not only in the County in which he lived but also often in the State of New Jersey in times of alarm, recollects that in particular he was at one time engaged in a skirmish with a British Barge, that was approaching the shore near Slaughter's Landing in Rockland County on the west side of the river, in order to receive, a deserter from the Americans who was making his way to them on a log, and that the barge succeeded in getting the man on board, whether dead or alive cannot say.

He now recollects also that at one time he was stationed at a place called in the Dutch Language the Diva's Brook in the State of New Jersey, that while there information was received that a company of horse thieves were about two miles west, stealing horses, that he was one of the number who went in pursuit of them, that they pursued them as far as the dwelling house of one Cornelius Haring, when they all made their escape except one man who they found in the House of Haring under a bed.

And further that he was born in the then Precinct of Haverstraw & County of Orange, now the town of Clarkstown in the County of Rockland, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty two as by the record above referred to doth appear. That he resided in said town of Clarkstown during the Revolutionary War, when called into service, and hath resided there ever since.

That he cannot declare exactly what time or how long he was in the service as there were intermissions when he was not on duty and sometimes a greater and sometimes a less period, and no account kept of the whole time when he was on duty, yet he can declare that the lowest estimate he can conscientiously make of the time of his service is at least two years in all.

That he has never received any written discharge while in the service at that day the discharges were by parole from the officers in command.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services and the positive testimony remaining to corroborate this his declaration that he now knows of is the testimony of Resolvent R. VanHouten the Lieutenant under whom he served and that of James Vanderbelt, who served with him at various times in the same company, which are hereunto annexed and humbly submitted.

And he the said Blauvelt further declares, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension rool [roll] of the agency of any state.

To the seventh interrogatory put by the court he further declares that he is known by the following person residing in his neighbourhood & who can testify to his character for veracity and the belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution to wit: James Vanderbilt, Abraham VanHouten, Resolvent VanHouten, Peter Stephens, & Resolvent Stephens and many others.

And he further states that he was acquainted with the following officers: that were with the troops where he served to wit, Col. A. Hawkes May, Major John Smith, Major John L. Smith, Major General Lee, who was taken prisoner at Baskin Ridge in New Jersey, that he was at Basken Ridge at the time and was also acquainted with Genl Sullivan who was also at Basken Ridge in New Jersey and was acquainted with other officers, whose names he cannot now call to his recollection. (Signed) Abraham P. Blauvelt

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. David Pye, Clerk