

Pension Application for John Brown

S.12339

State of New York

County of West Chester SS.

On this fourth day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of West Chester John Brown aged seventy three years 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 June 7th 1832.

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

That he enlisted as a private he served for the term of three months on the first day of January in the year 1776 at Stamford in the County of Fairfield and State of Connecticut (where he then resided) in the Company of militia commanded by Captain Nathaniel Webb in the regiment commanded by Colonel David Waterbury that he continued to serve in the said company until the 25th day of March then next, when he was discharged in the City of Ne York. His discharge was not in writing. The company to which he was attached as aforesaid with the regiment marched from Stamford through the County of West Chester to New York where they remained connected with the Continental troops under the command of General Lee until they were discharged on the 25th day of March in the year aforesaid.

Declarant personally knew General Lee. The said John Brown again enlisted 1st July 1776 for six months service at North Salem in the County of West Chester (where he then resided) as a private in a company of militia commanded by Captain Nathaniel De Lavan in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Thomas that in the 15th July the Regiment marched to Kings bridge and remained there some time from thence marched to White Plains and were there at the time of the Battle but this Regiment was not brought into action; he continued with the said regiment in WestChester County until the first January following when he was discharged, he had no written discharge.

The declarant again unlisted for three months service at North Salem in the County aforesaid on the 1st day of March 1777 in the company of Militia commanded by Captain Andrew Brown in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Hammond he continued in the service at and in the vicinity of White Plains for the said three months, when he was discharged his discharge was not in writing. He then resided in the Town of North Salem aforesaid.

The Declarant again enlisted for the term of one year service at North Salem in the County aforesaid (where he resided) on the first day of January 1778 in the company of Militia commanded by Captain John Drake in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Morris Graham that he continued to serve in the said Company until the first day of January 1779 when he was discharged from the service in the Town of Mount Pleasant in the County of West Chester aforesaid that his discharge was not in writing.

That he has no documentary evidence of his service and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except the persons named in the annexed affidavits & whose testimony as to his service appears by the said annexed affidavits.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. (Signed by his mark) John Brown.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. N. Bayles, Clk

The following Interrogatories were propounded by the said Court to the said John Brown to wit.

1st When and in what year was you born? Answer, I was born in the year 1759 at Stamford in the State of Connecticut.

2d Have you any record of your age & if so where is it. Answer, I have a record of any age in my Bible at North Salem in West Chester County.

3rd, Where were you living when enlisted into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Answer, I lived at Stamford when first entered into service that I lived in South Salem and that I have ever since the War of the Revolution lived in South Salem and there I have ever since the War of the Revolution lived in North Salem & South Salem in West Chester County.

4th How were you called into service were you drafted. Did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? Answer, I was always a volunteer in the militia service I performed.

5th State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service. Answer, I recollect Gen. Lee who commanded at New York at the time when the regiment to which I was attached was marched. I do not recollect any other Regular Officers except Gen. Gray, Clinton the militia officers I recollect Colonel David Waterbury, Captain Nathaniel Webb. I cannot state any other particular circumstances of my service except as contained in my declaration.

6th did you ever receive a discharge from the service. Answer, I did not receive any discharge except by parole.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. Answer, I name Joseph Benedict of South Salem Frederick J. Coffin, inhabitants of the Town of [Somer?] in West Chester County, State of New York for ten or twelve years past.

We Joseph Benedict of South Salem & Frederick Coffin Town of [Somer?] in the County of West Chester do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with John Brown who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be seventy three years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion. (Signed) Frederick M. Coffin, Joseph Benedict. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. N. Bayles, Clk.

Letter in folder dated August 13, 1925, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S.12339, it appears that John brown was born in 1759 at Stamford, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

While residing at said Stamford, he enlisted January 1, 1776 and was a private in captain Nathaniel Webb's Company, Colonel David Waterbury's Connecticut Regiment, and served until March 25, 1776.

While residing at North Salem, Westchester County, New York, he enlisted July 1, 1776 and served six months as private in Captain Nathaniel DeLavan's Company, Colonel Thomas Thomas' New York Regiment.

He enlisted March 1, 1777 and served three months as private in Captain Andrew Brown's Company, Colonel James Hamman's New York Regiment.

He enlisted January 1, 1778 and served one year as private in Captain John Drake's Company, Colonel Morris Graham's New York Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 4, 1832, while a resident of South Salem, Westchester County, New York. he died March 9, 1838.

In 1829, soldier referred to his wife, Dianna, aged sixty-two years, daughter, Jane aged twenty years and son, John, aged seventeen years.

It is stated in 1838 that his widow resided in Connecticut. There is no further family data on file.