

## Pension Application for Robert Bruis

S.22663

State of New York  
Rockland County SS.

On this tenth day of December 1833, personally appeared before me, Daniel Johnson one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for said County: Robert Bruis, a resident of the town of Ramapo in the County of Rockland and State of New York, aged eighty years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

That in the month of March 1776 he enlisted as a private in the City of New York, for nine months in a company commanded by Capt. Stewart, the regiment to which the said company Belonged he has lost all positive recollection and belief it was commanded either by Col'n Malcom or Col'n Heyer, and was stationed in the City of New York, and employed in building fortifications at Bunker's Hill and Fort Washington, on York Island, and from New York they crossed the east river and was stationed near Brooklyn, and remained until the battle was fough [fought] between Gen'l Sullivan and the British Army and after Gen'l Sullivan with most of his men was taken prisoners, he retreated with Gen'l Washington's Army to New York, then to Kings Bridge, from thence to White Plans—where he remained until after the Battle of White Plains was fought, and then they retreated with Gen'l Washington's Army to Kings Ferry where Gen'l Washington with his army crossed the North River and Capt. Stewart wis [with] his company and the regiment to which he belonged marched to Peekskill, where they were stationed doing guard duty until near Christmas, in the month of December of the same year when he was discharged having served out the full term of enlistment, and he went to the now town of Ramapo, in the now County of Rockland aforesaid, then Orange County.

That in the month of April 1777, he volunteered his service as a privet [private] in a company commanded by Capt. Garret Acker, in a regiment commanded by Capt. A. Hawks Hay and served therein two months and was stationed doing guard duty at Haverstraw and along the North River at Nyack at the Slote, and at Sneden's landing and at Clarkstown at which last mentioned place he was dismissed.

That then, in the month of August of the same year, he again volunteered his service as a private under the aforesaid Capt. Garret Acker in the aforesaid regiment in the now town of Ramapo aforesaid an served in the said company doing guard duty at the station aforesaid that during the two above recited service, the British war vessels lay in the North river and their duty was chiefly performed in guarding along the said river to prevent them from landing to plunder the inhabitants and they moved from one station to another as they moved up or down the said river.

That on the first of April 1778, he enlisted as a privet [private] at Nyack for nine months, in a company commanded by Capt. John Bell, in a Regiment commanded by Col'n Graham and was stationed some time doing guard duty along the North River at Nyack, then crossed the river and marched to White Plains and was stationed sometime in company with a body of Continental troops commanded by Major Peter Fell, then recrossed the said river and marched to Hackensack, and lay sometime at the New Bridge, until the British Army came there, when we retreated and marched to Paramus, where we was stationed sometime, doing guard duty, when we were marched to Tappan Town, and from thence to Nyack at which place he was discharged on the first of January 1779, having faithfully served out the term of his enlistment.

That in the month of April he enlisted as a privet for nine month[s] at Clarkstown, in a company commanded by Capt. John Blauvelt in a Regiment commanded by Col'n A. Hawkes Hay and stationed as a guard at Clarkstown at Tappan Town and along the North River from Haverstraw to Sneden's Landing and very frequent in scouts in the county of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey to Closter, Schralenberg,

Liberty Pole, and as far as Bergen woods as they from time to time received orders, or heard of the marches of the enemy, and was stationed at Tappan Town, when Major Andre was executed—at which place he was discharged in the month of January 1781, having served out the full term of his enlistment.

That he did perform duty in Capt. Aacker's company during the years 1779, 1781, & 1782 at tours of a few days or one, two, or three weeks at a time, but being now very aged and his memory very much impaired and half a century of years having passed he is now unable to fix the periods thereof which is the reason he has not set them forth in his declaration.

That he is unable to offer the testimony of a single witness to prove his service under Capt. Stewart in the City of New York, that much time has been spent by his friends to procure the testimony of some of his fellow soldiers in the said company but none can be procured nor any that has been heard from that yet are living. (He being so infirm as not to be able to attend to it himself) and that there is but one now living that served with him in his nine month service under Capt. John Blauvelt in the year 1780 to the knowledge[e] of this deponent.

That to the interrogatories prescribed by the war department and to be put to him by the judge. He states—that he was born in Strumness in Scotland in the year 1758 as he was informed by his parents. That he has no record of his age. That in the year 1773, he entered as a hand on Board of a brig at Liverpool, which loaded with coal and sailed for Boston, that the said Brigg arrived at Boston in the month of December of the same year in the month of December a few days before the Tea was thrown overboard, that some time thereafter he left the Brigg and came to New York where he resided until he enlisted under Capt. Stewart and after his term of enlistment was expired he came to the now town of Ramapo in the now County of Rockland, where he has ever since resided. That his services was voluntarily performed.

That during his above recited services, he served with Gen'l Washington, Gen'l Clinton and Gen'l Putman. That he did not receive a discharge in writing for any of his service. That Abraham Onderdonk are persons residing in his neighborhood to whom (with many other) he is personally known, who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hopes that the above statement will satisfy the honorable the War Department, that he is entitled to the benefit of the act of congress, aforesaid, he having set forth his services as particularly as he having a conscientious regard to truth after lapse of so many years is able to set forth.

And the applicant further states, that his services were field service, and that during the time in which the above mentioned services were performed he was not employed in any civil pursuit. That he has not at present any further evidence of his services except the proofs annexed.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed with his mark)  
Robert Bruis

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Daniel Johnson, Judge.