

Pension Application for David Harris

R.46502

State of New York

County of Chenango SS.

On this 12th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting David Harris a resident of the town of Guildford of Chenango and State of New York aged 69 years who being first duly affirmed according to law doth on his affirmation; made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was taken prisoner and that he was in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in the town of Cornwall in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in 1766. When he was nine years old he moved with his father's family to Nobletown near Hudson in the State of New York when he was thirteen years old his father bound him an apprentiss [apprentice] to the Lieut Lewis to learn the joiners trade and serve with to SocinDoger [Sacandaga?] about 10 miles from Johnstown in or near Schoharrie County N. York and on the 3rd day of June 1778 he was taken prisoner from that place by a company of Mohawk & Caughimwag [Caughnawaga] Indians and carried to lake George, crossed the lake in bark canoes and landed at Ticonderoga then crossed Lake Champlain and landed at St. Johns was taken from thence to Caughimwaga, was kept there a few days and was then carried to Montreal Upper Canada and was given over to the British, he understood that he was sold to them, was kept there by the British a few days and was then taken down the river St. Lawrence to Quebeck in Lower Canada, he was then put on board of a guard vessel and kept there a few weeks was then put on board another vessel and carried to Halifax (Nova Scotia) and was then put in prison; and kept there till the last of October, he was then taken out of prison and carried by the British in a vessel to Boston (Htgs) he was taken sick on the way and when he got to Boston was put into a hospital was kept in the hospital till in the month of January or first of February when he was taken out and stayed there a few weeks as he was unable to go home when he was taken with the small pox and was then put in the small pox hospital and stayed there till the last of February 1779 understood that he was swapped with the Americans for British Soldiers when he got to Boston. He was a prisoner among the Indians and British above five months and a half.

He further states on affirmation that in the month of April 1780 he was living at Nobletown in Columbia County New York and was hired by a company of men (thinks four) or five of Spencertown in Columbia County to go into the service of the State of New York he joined the company at the same time about 30 miles north from Spencertown under the command of Capt Froman has forgotten the other officers names if he ever knew them.

He marched directly to Albany (New York) stayed there one night, and then march[ed] with the company to Johnstown about 27 miles North West from Albany and joined the Regiment commanded by Col. Harper but don't now recollect the names

of the other officers of the Regiment. He lay at Johnstown with the Regiment till in the month of September.

He was then ordered off to guard boats of provisions up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwicks (now called Rome) and stayed at Fort Stanwicks two or three days and then returned to Johnstown, on the way back the company that he belonged to had a battle with the Indians near Fort Dayton, they had one man killed. Remained at Johnstown with the Regiment till in the month of October.

He was then ordered to Fort Hunter in about 9 miles of Schenectady and by at Fort Hunter till the last of December 1780, when he received a verbal discharge.

He was in the service this time nine months. He also stated that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

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.

He further answers to the following interrogatories as follows—

1st Q—Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In the Town of Cornwall County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in 1766.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have a record of my age at home in my family Bible.

3rd Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. When I was called into the service I was living at Nobletown (then so called) near Hudson in the State of New York. When I was taken prisoner by the Indians I was living at Sockedoger [Sacondaga] (then so called) in about ten miles of Johnstown in Montgomery County New York. I have lived since the revolutionary war in the towns of Sharon & Cornwall in Connecticut and in the towns of Rensselaerville & Unadilla and now live in Guildford in the State of New York—

4th Q—How were you called into the service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I was hired by a company of men who lived in; Spencertown in Columbia County in the State of New York some six or seven men but they were strangers to him and I have now forgotten their names if I ever knew them.

5th Q—State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served. Such Continental & Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans—I know none of the officers excepting those mentioned in my declaration whether did I know any Regiments excepting the one to which I belonged y the general circumstances of my service are contained in the body of my declaration.—

6th Q. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I received a verbal discharge from the Capt of the company to which I belonged & consequently have none to show.

7th Q. 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.

Ans—Dauphin Murray, Lyman Ives, Rufus Baldwin, Jesse Hendricks & PPhineas Atwater. There is no clergyman in my neighbourhood who I can get to testify as to my veracity & belief of my service, as now there. (Signed) David Harris

Affirmed & Subscribed the day & year afforesaid. [aforesaid] P.B. Rindle.