

Pension Application for William Hoff

S.13452 (Widow: Maria) William died October 26, 1836. Maria died April 14, 1837. Surviving children Elizabeth Sagendorf, Catharine Siperly, Jacob Hoff, Maria Ham. State of New York
County of Dutchess SS.

On this twenty fourth day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting William Hoff a resident of the town of Rhinebeck in the County & State aforesaid who was seventy eight years of age on the 4th day of November last past 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 7th 1832 concerning Revolutionary Soldiers.

That this deponent was born in the year 1753 on the 4th day of November at Clermont in the County of Columbia & State aforesaid, that his age is recorded in the Church Record at Clermont that a number of years ago deponent took a transcript of his age from that a record and copied it in his family bible now in his possession, that this deponent when he entered the service lived at Clermont in the County & State aforesaid that he has ever since lived in said County until lately when he removed to the town of Rhinebeck as aforesaid.

That he entered the service in the Militia the last of May or first of June in the year 1775 and served through the whole war of the revolution in behalf of the United States at different periods, in different capacities and under different officers, that he held himself in readiness and was bound to service at all times and at any time during the within named period.

That he entered the service at the time above mentioned in the company commanded by Capt. Philip Smith, Lieut Jasper Schultz Ensign ___ Hendricks and Sergeant Frederic Myres which company belonged to the Regiment commanded by Col. Peter Livingston, Major Samuel TenBrook & the brigade commanded by Genl Henry Livingston. That upon first entering the service deponent officiated as a Drummer at Clermont while organizing and drilling preparing for the service, also was drafted to officiate in that capacity at Kinderhook in the County of Columbia, also at Stillwater at Half Moon at Waterford in the State aforesaid and was employed almost daily in this service for Three Years.

Deponent immediately after this enlisted at Clermont in a volunteer Company of Infantry called Rangers (so called) belonging to the above mentioned Regiment under Capt. Peter VanGroesbeck, Lieut Samuel Tenbrook Jr. the ensign deponent does not recollect and sergeants Thomas Hopp and Peter Best. The first service deponent in this new capacity was drilling constantly for the space of one month.

Deponent also about this time was engaged in the County of Columbia in searching for Tories and acting as a Spy was successful in apprehending a great number and brought them before the Court Martial was engaged in this service constantly for upwards of three months.

Then passing through the Counties of Columbia & Dutchess was drafted and did serve as a spy in the above mentioned counties then passing as far as Fishkill with

a view of joining the Regular Troops and after remaining for a while returned to Clermont was employed upon this expedition for three months.

While at Clermont during the summer of 1781 deponent volunteered and officiated as a night guard at Chancellor Livingston's Mansion was engaged in this capacity during the whole summer of 1781 for upwards of Three Months.

Deponent with all the militia was next ordered to Stillwater in the State aforesaid passing through the Counties of Columbia and Albany where he remained for the space of three weeks and returned to Clermont.

Deponent further says that in the year he thinks 1778, 140 wagons were ordered from the different Counties to go to Lake George and transfer baggage and provisions from that place to Stillwater, deponent was drafted and taken from the ranks to go with a wagon because no men were to be hired that this deponent did not ask neither did he received any compensation for said service but served in this capacity in lieu of duty in the ranks. Deponent was engaged in this service for Four Months. Deponent was present at the surrender of Burgoyne after which he was engaged for Three Weeks more in this same service.

Deponent further says the year he cannot recollect – he joined the Regiment under the command of Genl VanRenslaer Col. VanRenslaer [VanRensselaer], Major Eselstine. Capt. Jacob Philip, Ensign Jeremiah Miller and went in pursuit of Indians who were committing ravages on the banks of the Mohawk River, about this time Col. Brown was killed. Capt. Miler was also wounded was engaged in this service for about three weeks.

Deponent further says that his only witness is Peter Barringer of the County of Oneida that he is unable to procure his attendance at this court but that he has his affidavit which is annexed to this declaration.

Deponent further says that he is poor and has a wife dependant upon him for a support, that he never received a discharge from the service.

That he has no documentary evidence, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Deponent further says that Elias Cowles of the town of Rhinebeck and Judge Wilson of the County of Columbia can certify to his character for truth and veracity.
(Signed) William Hoff

Sworn and subscribed this day and year aforesaid. Henry I. Traver, Clerk