

Pension Application for Alexander McGregor

S.21370

State of New York

Monroe County SS.

On this fourth day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before James Smith, Samuel Castle & Joseph Sibley Esquires Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Monroe & State of New York being a Court of Common Law jurisdiction & having a clerk and seal Alexander McGregor of the town of Gates in said county aged seventy eight years who first being 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 was born in the Parish of Kincardine in the County of Inverness Scotland.

That he left Scotland on or about the 11th of May 1774 in a vessel which sailed from the part of Greenack and arrived in the city of New York sometime in the month of July following. He continued at New York for some time and afterwards went up the country to the neighbourhood of Schenectady, for the purpose of working with a countryman of his who was a farmer there--& with whom he engaged as a farm servant.

That he was residing at a place called Starlin within four miles of Schenectady in the County of Schenectady & State of New York at the time of his first enlistment which to the best of the applicants recollection was in the beginning or middle of the month of May in the year 1777, when he enlisted for a period of six months in what this applicant understood to be a regiment of the militia of the State of New York.

That the Regiment was commanded by Colonel Vandyck—whose Christian name he thinks was Henry. The Lieutenant Colonels name was Douyck or Ten Eyck. To the best of his recollection the Regiment had no Major. The Adjutant's name was Tass. The officers or applicants company were Captain Henry Maseilles (or a name of that sound) Lieutenant VanAntwarp—Orderly Sergeant John McKee. There were two other Serjeants in the Company one by the name of Robert Maston and another of the name of Gates.

After applicant inlisted he went immediately to Albany to join the company where they collected together & commenced their march. He thinks they commenced their march in the beginning of June. From Albany they marched on foot to Fort George on Lake George—applicants company marched alone—when they arrived there were a good many troops in the fort & when they were all collected applicant thinks there might have been about 700 of them.

That during all the time they remained at Fort George they were not called out but once, when they were suddenly marched down as far as Troy, where they staid over night and the next day were again marched back to Fort George. They were employed all the time in garrison duty mounting guard &c.

During the time applicants company remained in the fort there was a great sickness and mortality amongst the troops—and applicant himself very sick while in

the fort for nearly two months. That applicants company lay in Fort George till sometime in the month of November following when they were marched down to Albany & there discharged by their Captain their term of service having expired.

They received no written discharge. The applicant after his service when back to reside at Starlin aforesaid, but in the spring of the following year he went to Albany and worked as a servant in the family of a Mr. Williamson in Albany—While there he became acquainted with Morgan Lewis Esquire, then Quarter Master General of the United States Forces and afterwards Governor of the said State of New York, who used to board at the House of the said Mr. Williamson.

That in the month of May in the same year which he thinks was the year 1778, Governor Lewis proposed to the applicant that he the applicant should become his servant & attend on him while in performance of his military duties, and that he Governor Lewis should during the time of applicants service place him upon the list of Bateau men in the service of the United States on the Hudson River, and that applicant for his service to the Quarter Master General should draw the pay of a bateaumen;

That applicant acceded to this proposal, and to the best of his recollection it was In the month of May 1778 that he was placed on the List of Bateau=men [sic] in a Company on the Hudson River consisting of from twenty to twenty five men commanded by a Captain Fisher & while he continued in the service of the Quarter Master General he drew his pay and allowances as a Bateaman, & which were paid to him by the said Captain Fisher.

That he continued with the said Quarter Master General in this manner to the best of his recollection for the period of three years and some months – during 1778, 1789, 1780 & 1781—That his duties while thus in the service of the Quarter Master General consisted in a constant attendance on him wherever he went, taking charge of his horses accoutrements &c.

That Governor Lewis headquarters were at Albany but he was constantly travelling about in attendance on the army. The applicant went with him once to Boston, travelled with him through New Jersey & Maryland and was present with him at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga, and when the army were stationed at Saratoga the applicant used to ride with him from the army to Albany two or three times a week.

That he received no pay or compensation from the Quarter Master General farther than the pay which he received as a Bateau man in the United States service & that during the whole period that he remained with him as aforesaid.

That the applicant has no documentary evidence of his said services and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure & who can testify to his said services except it be the said Governor Lewis, but whether he is now alive the applicant is uncertain – and if alive he does not know where he resides as how he could procure his testimony.

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 and the court hereupon propounded & put to send applicant the respective interrogatories prescribed by the war Department under the act of the 7 June 1837 who upon oath doth make answer thereunto as following.

To the first Interrogatory.

He says he was born in the parish of Kincardine in the County of Inverness in Scotland on the seventeenth day of March seventeen hundred and fifty four.

To the Second Interrogatory.

He says that he has no record or certificate of his age in his possession but he has been informed & believes that his age is recorded in the records of the Kirk Session of the said Parish of Kincardine.

To the Third Interrogatory.

He says that he lived at the place called Starlin, about four miles from the City Schenectady in the county of that name & State of New York when he enlisted first & when he was placed on the list of Bateamen he resided in the City of Albany aforesaid.

That after his said services he resided some time in Albany aforesaid—afterwards he resided twelve years in the said county of Schenectady—afterwards resided about seven years in the town of Balton in the county of Saratoga & State of New York – afterwards resided about eight year in The town of Mayfield in the County of Montgomery in said State of New York—From Mayfield he moved into the town of Yates in the County of Monroe in said State where he he [sic] has resided for the last twenty two years & where he now resides.

To the Fourth Interrogatory.

He say that that his services were commenced by Enlistment as set forth in his foregoing declaration.

To the fifth Interragatory.

She says that the officers of the Company in which he enlisted were Captain Henry Maseilles, Lieutenant VanAntwerp—orderly sergeant. The McKee officers of the regiment so far as applicant recollects were Colonel Henry Vandyck. Lieutenant Colonel Donyck or Ten Eyck,-- adjutants name was he thinks Tass. The General in command at Fort George was General Philip Scuilier. The general circumstances of applicants service, are as narrated in his foregoing declaration. The Captain of the Company of Bateamen in which he enlisted or on the list of whom he was placed was Captain Fisher.

To the sixth Interrogatory.

He says he never received any written discharge.

To the seventh Interrogatory

He says that the names of some persons to whom he is known in the neighborhood in which he presently resides and who can (as he believes) testify to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution are the following viz. Luther Hill, Calvin Hill, Samuel Hart, Daniel Loomis.

(Signed with his mark) Alexander McGregor

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. J. Cutler, Dep Clerk