

Pension Application for William Shufelt

S.22980

Private, Captain Hermance, Col. Graham.

State of New York

County of Greene SS.

On this fifth day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas of said County of Greene, now sitting, William Shufelt a resident of the Town of Durham County of Greene and State of New York aged 72 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.

I William Shufelt entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the year 1780 or 1781, I cannot recollect which year nor the time in the year, I entered into the militia of the State of New York as a substitute for a person drafted or enlisted for three month whose name I cannot now recollect into a company commanded by Capt. John Hermance in Colonel Graham's regiment, joined the company at Rhinebeck where I then resided—was marched down to West Point staid there but a short time, then the regiment was marched to Fishkill, then to Haverstraw, then to Albany and then to Fort Edward. Did not stay long at either of the places aforesaid except Fort Edward as when the three months had expired we were at Fort Edward cannot say how long. After the regiment was marched to West Point it was then commanded by Col. Harry Livingston who continued to command until discharged. When the three months expired for which the troops were drafted or enlisted the regiment was at Fort Edward and could not be discharged until relieved by other troops, by reason of the Indians and tories who were in the neighbourhood and had a short time previous ravaged the country and burnt the houses and killed the cattle & hogs in the neighbourhood, & in sight of the fort and had come so near as to alarm the garrison so that we continued in service two months in service after our time (three months) had expired before we were discharged, making in all five months service. I went once while my computer stationed at Fort Edward with 5 others under command of a sergeant to Fort Stanwix on a scout to learn intelligence of the enemy & if in that quarter, slept in the woods nights—gone six days and returned to Fort Edward was discharged at Fort Edward with my company—entered the service as a private and faithfully served as such five months when discharged.

I cannot recollect the names of any other officers or circumstances of this service. After wards and to the best of my recollection about two years after in the fall of the year I again entered the service in the New York Militia for one month as a substitute for one Joseph Mower who had been drafted or had enlisted into a company commanded by the same Capt. John Hermance—was marched down to West Point stationed there a very short time, then marched to Fishkill where we remained until discharged. I was discharge with my company at Fishkill after one month's service entered the service as a private and regularly & faithfully served as such for one month, making in both services as an actual service by time of six months as a private. – I cannot recollect the names of any officers nor circumstances of service. I know of no person living by whom I can prove and of my services except by John Shufelt all of whose testimony appears in the affidavit hereunto annexed and is all the proof I can procure of my services.

In answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department I answer.

1. I was born October 15th 1760 in the present town of Windham County of Greene and State of new York as always informed & believed.
2. I have no record of my age.
3. I was living in the town of Rhinebeck County of Dutchess and State of New York at both times called into service and continued to live there through the war and until a bout 35 years ago when I removed to Hillsdale N.Y. & resided there until

about 30 years ago when I removed to Durham N.H. where I have since continued to, and do now reside.

4. I entered the service as a substitute as before stated.
5. Owing to old age and the consequent loss of memory and decay of mental facilities is it out of my power to give the names of any other officers, or of any other circumstances of my service than herein before stated.
6. To the best of my recollection I received a written discharge when discharged at Fort Edward is of, such discharge has been long since destroyed as supposed to be of no consequence. I did not receive a written discharge when discharged at Fishkill
7. I can state the names of an extensive circle of acquaintances in my present neighbourhood who know me and can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution. I will mention Rev. Hermon Harvey, Rev. Bela Smith, William Avery, Michael Boomhower, Orren D. Cory, Stephen Jones, D.B. Harvey.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) William Shufelt

Sworn & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. William V.B. Heermance, Clk.

Letter dated February 4, 1931

You are advised that it appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.22980 that William Shufelt was born October 15, 1760 in Windham, Greene County, New York.

While residing in Rhinebeck, New York, he enlisted and served as private with the New York Troops as follows:

In 1780 or 1781, five months in Captain John Hermance's company, Colonel Graham's regiment, and later, one month in the same company.

He was allowed pension on his application executed February 5, 1833, at which time he was living in Durham, Greene County, New York.

In 1838 he stated that his son, with whom he had been living, had moved to Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, and that he had moved there to live with him. The name of the soldier's wife is not given and there is no further reference to children.

The land bounty rights referred to by you have reference to land granted by the State of New York and it is suggested that you might find a record of same at Albany.