

### Pension Application for Abraham Smith

W.16409 (Widow: Rachel VanHousen. Married March 1784. Abraham died 24 Aug 1837.)

Captain Weaver's Company, Col. Nichols Regt.

State of New York

Saratoga County SS.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace of the town of Providence in & for the County & State aforesaid, Abraham Smith who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the foregoing grades—For three months I served as a private under Capt. Weaver, Lieut Alex Miller & Ensign Edsell we were garrisoned at Fort Independence opposite West Point until the expiration of the said three months there was two companies besides the one to which I belonged garrisoned there also, there was no Col. in Command at Fort Independence. Capt. Weaver being the oldest Capt. took command [of] the above service was rendered between the month of Dec. 1775 and the month of April 1776 and that during the time I was not employed in any civil pursuit—In the year 1776 & the forepart of the year 1777 I served as a private for at least nine months under the command of Capt. Weaver, Major Logan and Col. Isaac Nicholas employed in the following manner at Kingsbridge in erecting fortifications a detachment of our regiment was sent to Westchester on the East River to drive back a party of the British & protect the place, from thence back to Kingsbridge, from Kingsbridge the whole regiment marched for the City of New York thence to Flat Bush on Long Island where we joined a large body of the American forces were obliged to retreat about one mile above Brookline from thence the whole American forces marched back to the City of New York under the command of Genl. Washington from New York the public stores were ordered to Kingsbridge under the charge of our Regiment & others upon our arrival at Kingsbridge, we were sent from there to East Chester after a tary [tarry] of a few days (during which time) a brisk cannonading was kept up. We were ordered to West Chester were [where] we lay a few days encamp'd on the Delancy farm from thence to Kingsbridge, from Kingsbridge to White Plains, then to Dob's Ferry where we remained a few weeks, then to [?] on Hackensack & finally Bascom Ridge in Jersey where our Regiment quartered during the winter until the month of April when my term of service having fully expired and being faithfully served. I was discharged—For at least three months I served as a drum'r under Capt. Wood who when I joined was engaged in enlisting men in the towns of Goshen & Warwick in the County of Orange under Capt. Wood, raised his compliment of men, we march'd for Smith's clove where we were attached to a regiment commanded by Col. Nichols, we were garrisoned at Smith's Clove during the period of the said three months frequently detachments were sent out to [?] and arrest the Tories in the destruction of property & to prevent them from furnishing the enemy with provisions. I was not employed during the above periods in any civil pursuit for my revolutionary war services I claim a pension. (Signed) Abraham Smith

Subscribed & Sworn to before me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833. Jesse Briggs, Justice of the Peace &c.

Letter dated December 21, 1923.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.16409, it appears that Abraham Smith was born in Hardis, Sussex County, New Jersey in 1760.

While residing in Warwick, Orange County, New York, he enlisted in December 1775 and served three months in Captain John Wisner's Company.

He enlisted July 25, 1776 and served in Captain John Wisner's Company, Colonel Isaac Nicholls' New York Regiment, was in the battle of Flat Bush and several skirmishes, and served nine months. He

then went as drummer in Captain Wood's Company, Colonel Nicholls' Regiment and served three months.

He was allowed pension in his application executed September 5, 1832, while a resident of Providence, Saratoga County, New York. He died August 24, 1837.

Soldier married at Paramus, New Jersey, March 17, 1784, Rachel VanHousen, she was allowed pension on his application executed October 9, 1838, while living in Schenectady, New York, aged seventy six years. She died January 21, 1841.

Their son, Harmanus, was baptized December 19, 1790. Other children are referred to in 1842, no names stated.