

### Pension Application for John Smith

S. 22998

Major in Colonel A. Hawkes Hay's Regiment, born October 14, 1743, died January 12, 1833.

State of New York

Rockland County SS.

On this twenty first day of September in the year A.D. 1832, personally appeared before me, Cornelius J. Blauvelt, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas [sic], in and for the said county John Smith whose age as by him stated as taken from the church records will be ninety years the fourth day of October next, who from bodily infirmity is not able to attend court, being now confined to his bed through the infirmity of old age and has for more than one year being gradually declining and no prospects of his ever again being able to leave his bed, 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 7, 1832. That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That before the Revolutionary War he held a Major commission signed by the then Governor, and in the year 1776, I received a commission as Major in a Regiment whereof A. Hawkes Hay was Col'n, dated the seventeenth Day of February, signed by Nath'n Woodhull, President of the Provincial Congress, attested by Rob't Benson Secretary, and after there was a governor appointed for the State of New York I received a new commission, signed by George Clinton Governor appointing me first Major of the aforesaid regiment, both of the said commissions was sent to the war department sometimes in the month of [blank] 18[blank] and have not again been received by me, but a copy of the first is herewith presented, in the summer of 1776, the British army having taken possession of the City of New York, and their shipping sailed up the Hudson River as far as Haverstraw bay—their men often landing plundering, burning and destroying what came in their way, and some of the army crossing into Bergen County in the State of New Jersey, assisted by men that were enemies to their country, who frequently came out in large parties, plundering the inhabitants of their horses, cattle, sheep &c and destroying all the household furniture that they did not carry away, taking many of our Citizens that were friends to their country prisoners, to prevent those depredations, the militia was all that our country had to depend on and they had to be continually on the march from place to place pursuing the enemy, recapturing the prisoners and cattle when ever it was in their power so to do, and some to keep guard to prevent the enemy from distressing the inhabitants, when possible, and when overpowered to give notice that more might come to their assistance to pursue the enemy, in which capacity I served from the beginning of 1776 to the close of the war, how long I was in actual service during that period I cannot precisely say, but am positive that it far exceeds two years, his services are known to most of the survivors of the war in this county especially by those who served in the aforesaid regiment.

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 [roll] of the agency of any state.

(Signed with his mark) John Smith.

Sworn and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid before me. Corn'l J. Blauvelt, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County