

Pension Application for Peter Smith

W.19065 (Widow: Catharine)

Peter died May 18, 1812. Catharine died July 14, 1839. Their children; James B. Smith & Mary Payne, received the benefit.

State of New York

City and County of New York SS.

On this sixth day of September in the year 1837, personally appeared before the Judges of the Marine Court, in and for the said City and County, Catharine Smith, a resident of the ninth Ward in the said City aged eighty one years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 4, 1836. That she is the widow of Peter Smith who was a private and a sergeant in the Militia in Col'n Hays Regiment. That in the year 1776, the said Peter Smith then belonged to a company whereof Jacob Onderdonk was Capt. in Colo A. Hawks Hays Regiment and early in the month of July in the year 1776, the British having sailed up the Hudson River and anchored in the Tappan and Haverstraw Bays, her said husband Peter Smith was ordered out to guard along the river and was absent until the last of July, she believes fourteen days, when he came home and informed her that he had enlisted under Capt. Dermonde for five months, and understood he was to go to Red Hills, at which place he told her they had been engaged in making fortifications, when he returned home early in the month of January 1777.

That early in the spring of the year 1777, he was called out to guard along the river and at other places under Capt. Onderdonk and was from home nearly half of the time until the first of August, and not less than one month in different tours when he informed her that he had enlisted for three months under Capt. John Garner, and was absent at that time except once in a while he would be home a day or part of a day and a night, and guarded at Haverstraw and at other places she does not now recollect, and as far down as Tappan Town.

That from early in the spring until in the winter in each of the years of 1778, 1779, and 1780 he was absent from home full half of his time, either on guard, on scouts, or on alarms and told her that he had been stationed at different places along the river, at the long and short cloves at Clarkstown, and many other places not now recollected, and also in the State of New Jersey as far as the Liberty Pole, to state the time positively that he was out on duty she is unable now to do, but can confidently say that it was not less than two months in each of the said years, that he served principally under Capt. Jacob Onderdonk, but had also served—under Capt. Tenure and Capt. Ackerson as her said husband informed her that they or their under officers sometimes took the command of stations at which he was placed, all of whom with Capt. Garner, she was informed did belong in Col'n Hays Regiment.

That in all the above recited service her said husband did serve as a private as she was informed by him to the best of her present recollection. That in the year 1781, her said husband was called out into the service as aforesaid and served at different towns until the first of August, and was absent from home in the said towns not less than one month when he informed her that he had enlisted under Capt. Thompson for four months, and on his return home in the month of December informed her that he had been to Fishkill and was discharged at Tappan, in which service her said husband served as a Sergeant.—

That her husband was out sometimes in the year 1782, but she is unable to say how much.

She further declares that she was married to the said Peter Smith by the Rev'd Samuel Nerbyck on the eighteenth day of December, in the years seventeen hundred and seventy two; and that her husband, the said Peter Smith died on the eighteenth day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and twelve, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Catharine Smith

Sworn to, and subscribed, on the day and yea aforesaid in open court. E. Schieffelin, Justice.