

Bounty Land, William S. Smith

B.L.Wt.1991-450- Lt Col.

Issued Aug 9, 1790

No Papers

Letter in file dated June 9, 1925.

I have to advise you from the records of this bureau, it appears that Warrant No. 1991 for 450 acres of bounty land was issued August 9, 1790, on account of the services of Lieutenant-Colonel William S. Smith of the New York Line, (1) War of the Revolution.

There is not further information on file as to his services, nor any data on file as to his family, owing to the destruction of papers in such claims when the War Office was burned in November 1814.

The above noted soldier is the only Lieutenant-Colonel William S. Smith found on the Revolutionary War records of this Bureau. Wilder S. Metcalf Commissioner

End Note—Bounty Land—William Stephens Smith

1. William Stephens Smith was appointed Aide-de-Camp with the rank of major on August 15, 1776 to Major General John Sullivan. On January 1, 1776 he was appointed lieutenant colonel in Colonel William R. Lee's Additional Continental Regiment. On April 22, 1779 Colonel Lee's Regiment was consolidated with Colonel Henry Jackson's Additional Continental Regiment but Smith was transferred to Colonel Oliver Spencer's Additional Continental Regiment to fill the vacancy of the lieutenant colonel. Spencer's Regiment was part of Major General John Sullivan's Army in 1779 which marched against the Iroquois Villages in Western New York. General Sullivan's Army was joined by Brigadier General James Clinton and his army that had been raised and gathered in the Mohawk Valley. Sullivan and Clinton's Army had only one major battle with the Indians and loyalists' troops under Major John Butler at Newtown which is present day Elmira. The battle was fought on August 29, 1779. On January 1, 1781 Spencer's regiment was consolidated with other Continental regiments and Colonel Spencer retired from Continental service. Lieut. Col. Smith was appointed on January 1, 1781 as adjutant and inspector on the staff of Major General Marie Jean Paul Roch Ives Gilbert du Motier Lafayette referred to generally as the Marquis de Lafayette. On July 6, 1781, William was appointed Aide-de-Camp with the rank of lieutenant colonel to the Commander-in-Chief General George Washington. He would have been with General Washington during the Yorktown, Virginia Campaign from September 28 to October 19, 1781. He served with Washington in this capacity until December 23, 1783.