

Pension Application for Claus Vanhouten

S.23041

State of New York

Rockland County SS

On this twenty eight day of November in the year A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas [Pleas] now sitting Clause VanHouten, a resident of the town of Ramapo in the County of Rockland, aged eighty five years, the first day of December 1831, 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 service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the month of March 1776. I enlisted in the town of Hampstead (now Ramapo) for four months in a company commanded by Capt Gilbert Cooper, John D. Coe and John Vanderbilt were under officers, called minute men, and went to New York, and was stationed sometime at a place called Bunkers hill, near the City, and then the company returned home, where I served at every call of the officers until the time of enlistment was expired.

Then about the last of July or the first of August, of the same year, I at a place called Nyack enlisted for five months, in a company whereof Jacob Deronder was Capt and Isaac Coe and John D. Coe were Lieut and Marched from thence to Haverstraw where we remained some time, marched from there to Fort Montgomery, then back to Haverstraw, and then we went to [Pied?] hills near Peekskill, where we lay until the first of January 1777 when the company was discharged and went home. Then after being a short time home I as ordered out on duty in a Company commanded by Capt Hendrick Tenure, Vout Van Orden and Thomas Blauvelt were Lietuenants, and served the greatest part of time with that company having but little time that I could be at home, until the month of October following.

There being orders given that the militia should be divided into four classes in order that each man might bear his proportion of the duty of guarding and each class was to serve one week and then relieved by an other so all had to serve one forth part of his time or get a substitute in which capacity I served in Capt. Tenure's Company as a Corporal from about the first of March 1778, until the close of the war. The Regiment to which the company belonged was formerly commanded by Col'n A. Hawghs [Hawk] Hay, but then chiefly by Col'n Gilbert Cooper, and our duty was guarding along the river from Closter to Stony Point and Scouting along through the county of Bergen to protect the inhabitants from being plundered murdered and being taken prisoners by the reffugees [refugees] and British army and that exclusive of my service aforesaid every man that was at home to hold himself in readiness to run at a moment's notice when ever there was an alarm made which was whenever the enemy found any part of our country not sufficiently guarded when they would march out and plunder & c then we had to hasten to meet them and collect under such officers as appeared and peruse them until we drove them off, which alarms was very often

and some times would take a week or more before I arrived at home. These with my tower [tour?] of duty with the militia occupied almost the whole of my time that I did very little but military duty. And I feel confident that is [it] was actually out on duty, exclusive of my enlistments for more than two years.

He has no documentary evidence of his services as he did not receive any discharge.

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 of the Agency of any State. (Signed) Claus VanHouten

Sworn and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid in open court. David Pye, Clerk.

Letter in file dated January 5, 1933, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to Thomas Blanch and Klaas Van Houten, soldiers of the War of the Revolution.

Revolutionary War data furnished by this office are obtained from claims made to the United States for pension and bounty land based upon the military service of soldiers in that war.

A search of the records fails to show such claims on file on account of the services of any Thomas Blanch.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.23041, based upon the Revolutionary War service of Claus (his persona signature) Vanhouten.

He was born December 1, 1746 in Orange, New York, the names of his parents are not given.

He enlisted in Hampstead (later Ramapo), New York in March, 1776 and served three months as a private in Captain Gilbert Cooper's company under Colonel Heyer in the New York troops. He enlisted at Nyack, New York in July or August, 1776 and served about five months as a private under Captain Jacob Deronde and Colonel Nichols. He served in 1777, three and one half months as a private in captain Hendrick Tenure's company in Colonel A. Hawk Hay's New York regiment. He served from March 1, 1776 at various times as a corporal until the close of the war in captain Hendrick Tenure's company sometimes under Colonels Gilbert Cooper and A. Hawk Hay; this service was in scouting to protect the inhabitants.

The soldier, Claus Vanhouten, was allowed pension on his application executed November 29, 1832, while residing in Ramapo, Rockland County, New York.

He died August 25, 1839.

There are no data in this claim relative to his company.