

Pension for Andrew Van Suydam or Van Suidam

W.16773 (Widow: Esther)

State of New York

Rensselaer County SS.

On this twenty sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before me George R. Davis one of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of Rensselaer and State of New York aged seventy two years of age 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the year 1777 on the 16th day of August he volunteered and went with the militia of the town of Hoosick to meet the enemy who were at Bennington in the State of Vermont, that he was at the battle of Bennington on the said 16th of August, that his captains name at this time was Thomas Brown who was not in the battle nor was the Lieutenant whose name was Joseph Gifford, that his Colonels name was Peter Yates and his Lieutenants Colonels John Van Rensselaer which last had command of him at the battle, that the General who commanded in this engagement was Stark, that he was out in service at this time ten days & was then dismissed.

That in the following year 1778 the company to which he belonged was called out to go to Fort Edward, thinks they went sometime in the month of October but cannot recollect the day in which he went. That the whole company were ordered out & went under the command of his captain above named, that the Regiment to which his company belonged went under command of Colonel VanRensselaer he thinks and that General Ten Beack acted as general during this expedition.

That he was marched to Fort Edward and at that time actually engaged in the service of the United States as a soldier of the Revolution three weeks and one day that he was employed while at Fort Edward in repairing the Fort, scouting & making a road to Fort Ann. That he don't recollect the names of any of the other officers who were out at that time with them at Fort Edward except Major Nicholas Groesbeek a militia major from Schaghticoke. That he was then dismissed.

That in the following summer 1779 he was frequently called out, that three several times he recollects of being called out with the rest of the company to which he belonged to go to a place called Palmerstown about forty five or fifty miles from where he resided, that he cannot recollect the particular times in which he went but the first he thinks was in the month of June the day of the month he cannot recollect, that he went at each time with the rest of the company to which he belonged and under the officers above named commanding the company to which he belonged that other militia were there at Palmertown while he was there but he cannot recollect what regiments or companies nor what officers commanded them that no continental troops or officers, were there, that at each of those tours he was gone two weeks, making in the whole six weeks & was each time dismissed & went home.

That in 1780 in the month of April he thinks but the day he cannot recollect he was drafted for nine months in the militia of the town in which he resided, that during this nine months he served in the same company under the same company officers above named and was at Fort Edward, Fort Ann, Lake George, Saratoga and other places while engaged in performing this service, that either the whole regiment to which his company belonged nor the whole company turned out during this nine months service but only that part which was drafted that Colonel VanRensselaer was out with them at one time & went to Lake George, that he does not recollect of his being out with them during said nine months at any other time, that he was marched to various places while performing this service and remained but a short time at any one place and that he does not recollect of any other troops being with the militia with whom he served during this nine months service.

That this service was performed as above stated and at the expiration thereof he was dismissed. That in addition to the services above detailed he was repeatedly called out (after the services first above mentioned at the battle of Bennington & during the Revolutionary war and frequently during that time turned out as a volunteer and was gone sometimes a week & sometimes only one, two or three days that he has in a memorandum of these services none of the several times at which they were performed but that the time actually spent by him in such service in addition to the services above detailed is onto less than six months.

That these services were generally performed under command of the officers commanding the company to which he belonged sometimes under command of officers commanding other companies & sometimes he turned out without any officers to command them as frequently happened in case of alarms. That he cannot recollect the names of any officers and or whom he served during the six months service except the company officer whose names which belonged to his company that they were generally performed at the several places above named and in the vicinity of those places and sometimes at other but by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot detail with more particularly his different tours of service nor the general circumstances attending the same, but that according to the best of his recollection & belief he served at the times and in the manner above stated as a private soldier in the revolutionary war not less in all than seventeen months & fourteen days & was then called out at each time dismissed.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of any person living who was personally knowing to his serving as above stated except his brother Anthony VanSuydam whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

That he is old and a cripple & infirm and in consequence of his bodily infirmity is unable to attend Court which is held in the county where he resides at the city of Troy about thirty miles from his residence.

1st That he was born in the Town of Salsbury in the State of Connecticut in the year 1760.

2nd That he has a record of his age at home in his family bible.

3d That he was living when he entered the service of the United States at the town of Hoosick in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York and that he has always lived there since that time and still continues to reside there.

4th That he entered the service as a volunteer without being enlisted.

5th That the names of all the officers that he can remember who were with the militia where he served are so fully stated in his declaration above as he can from his knowledge & recollection state the same and that no continental troops were at any time with the militia where he served nor was there any militia or State Troops with them that he can remember except those above mentioned in his declaration and that the general circumstances of his service are above as fully stated as he could from his recollection or knowledge state the same.

6th That he never received a written discharge.

7th That the names of the Persons to whom he is known in his present neighbourhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution [revolution] are Israel Keach, Joseph Dorr and Edward Eldridge.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State. (Signed with his mark) Andrew Van Suydam

Geo. R. Davis One of the Judges of Rensselaer County.