

[This is a typed transcription of the original document]

Revolutionary War Pension Application

Borden Brayton S.21087

Declaration ...In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832

State of Rhode Island }

County of Newport } ss.

On this fourth day of November 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the court of rebate for the Town of Tiverton in said County of Newport, a court of record non-sitting. Borden Brayton a resident of Tiverton in the County of Newport and State of Rhode Island of Providence Plantations age Seventy three years 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. In the month of December 1776 at Freetown in the state of Massachusetts, he volunteered and served one month under Captain Brightman. Stationed at a guard house at the village of Fall river on Taunton River in the southerly part of said Freetown, since then erected into a separate town, named Gray; he performed this service as a guard at the time the British took possession of Rhode Island. lying near or about four miles down the river and to give an alarm upon the approach of the enemy that the militia might assemble and to keep in check or repel any marauding party that may be detached from the enemy for pillage or conflagration. When his month had expired he was discharged at said Fall river.

The enemy now having possession of Rhode Island, to prevent their crossing over to the main to pillage and forage, forces were assembled and a chain of guard posts established on the shores of the Taunton River opposite and in the vicinity of said island. He in the month of April in the year 1777 volunteered into Capt Joseph Durfee's Company at said Freetown, now Troy, and served until the month of December following actions at a building near the shore of Taunton River, south of the stream at said Village of Fall River. He was discharged in the month of December, cold weather having now commenced and it not being thought necessary to keep up a regular guard at this place in the winter. In the Spring of the year 1778 in the month of March he volunteered at said Fall River into Capt. Henry Brightman's Company and was stationed at the aforeward guardhouse, he served in said company until the following December when he was discharged and he again in the year 1779, month of March, volunteered at said Fall River, town of Freetown into a company commanded a part of the time by Capt Thomas Elsbry and a part by Capt. Burt, in this company he stayed until the British left Rhode Island the last of October of this year. He was on duty at the said guard station at the time the galley Spitfire was taken and saw that transaction, it being after daylight in the morning, and viewed said Galley lying in the river nearly opposite our guard house. In the year 1777, according to the best of his recollection and he recollects perfectly that he was then under Capt. Joseph Durfee, afterwards, Colonel, and was on duty at said guard station, the enemy landed, at said Fall river and burned the mills of Richard Borden and carried him said Richard away prisoner, we had something of a skirmish with them. They left two of their men, one of which was shot through the jaw and dropped dead, the other lived about two hours and told that Thomas Borden and Richard Holland (?) them there. We hastened their departure in time to put out most the fires they had kindled. At another time while in the service at said station, your declarant with three others was detached to guard two Tories to Providence to deliver over to General Sullivan ~ these Tories in arms were John & George Brightman ~ from old age and the consequent lose of memory your declarant cannot state precisely the days he entered the service nor the exact length of his service positively, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the following periods ~ For one month he served under Capt. Brightman, commencing in December 1776. For not less than eight months he served under Capt Durfee commencing in April and ending in December 1777. For nine months from March to December 1778 he served under Capt. Brightman. For not less than seven and a half months

commencing in March 1779 he served in a Company part of the time under Capt. Elsbry and a part under Capt. Burt, all of said service performed as a private Soldier, and making in the whole not less than twenty-five and an half months, and for such service I claim a pension. He further declares that the companies afore named in which he performed his services were attached to the regiment of Colonel John Hathaway, that John Hathaway was the adjutant ~ and to the best of his recollection, they were under the direction of of Gen. Cornell, he will recollect they had their (?) from him.

After this in 1780 he shipped on board the privateer General Wayne at Providence, was taken and carried into New York ~ after being released in March 1782 he shipped at Providence on board the Letter of Marque ~ More, fitted out of Providence, but armed in Philadelphia ~ we carried the baggage of the French troops to Little York and from thence we went to France.

And your Declarant further avers, that he was born at Newport, in the State of Rhode Island on the 25th day of May 1760. That he with his father removed to the town of Freetown, and the part of said Freetown, since erected to the Town of Gray, in the State of Massachusetts, in the year 1775. That he resided at said Freetown when he entered into the above mentioned services, and continued to reside there, until the year 1783, when he removed into the adjoining Town of Tiverton in the State of Rhode Island where he has ever since resided and does now reside that he has no record of his age except in a family bible, that he never received any written discharge from any of his said services. But was verbally discharged by the commanding officer. That said Corps were ordered out by the State of Massachusetts, and he drew pay for all of said services and that during the periods of said service he was not engaged in any civil pursuit whatever ~ that most of the time he was in said service they drew their provisions from the Town of Bristol in the State of Rhode Island. ~ That there is no clergyman in his neighborhood or vicinity. He therefore refers to Peter Estes and George Lawton Esquires his neighbors who will testify to their belief of his age, of his revolutionary services and to his credibility and to the accompanying Declarations ~ and he further declares that Thomas Butts, the maker of one said depositions was with him in all of his services except the first month of 1776.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed }

The day and year aforesaid }

Borden Brayton

Asa Gray, Clerk

We, Peter Estes and George Lawton residing in the Town of Tiverton, County of Newport in State of Rhode Island hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Borden Brayton who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration, that we believe him to be Seventy three years of age; that he is reputed and believed, in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a Soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that opinion

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid

Peter Estes

George Lawton

Asa Gray, Clerk

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion, after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the "interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier, and served as he states." (missing from document)

27338
Rhode Island

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Borden Brayton
of *Tiverton* in the State of *R.I.*
who was a *private* in the *company* commanded
by Captain *Durfee* of the *regiment* commanded
by *Col. Hathaway* in the *R.I.*
line for *24 Months*

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Inscribed on the Roll of: *R.I.*
at the rate of *80* Dollars _____ Cents per annum
to commence on the 4th day of March, 1834.

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Certificate of Pension issued the *19* day of *April*
1834 and sent to *Asa*
Gray Esq. Tiverton R.I.

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Arrears to the 4th of *Mar. 1834* \$ *240.*
Semi-ann. allowance ending 4 "*Sep*" *40.*

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\$ *280.*

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{ *Revolutionary Claim,*
{ *Act June 7, 1832*

Recorded by *George Taylor* Clerk
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