

Henry Shultis

Service: New York Rank: Sergeant

Birth: 1757 Red Hook, N.Y.

Death C 1840 Woodstock, N.Y. Burial location not known.

Henry Wynkoop one of the Judges of the County Courts of the County of Ulster, State of New York, must have been a patient man. His name and signature appears on countless transcripts of depositions by friends and family members, who, on behalf of men who served during the Revolution, were hoping to be deemed eligible for "Benefit of the Act of Congress Drafted the 7th of June 1832."

What follows is a hybrid deposition, created from information given at two separate depositions on behalf of Henry Shultis, born 1757 in Rhinebeck, N.Y. The deponents, George Shultis, Henry's younger brother, and Michael Ploss, his friend, both noted similar information about Henry's service during the Revolution. Additionally, the records show that there is a deposition from Henry Shultis, given on his own behalf.

On 26 April in 1834 appeared before Henry Wynkoop said Henry Shultis a resident of the town of Woodstock, County of Ulster and the State of New York. He is age 76 years old and has been duly sworn in according to his oath, and he make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed on 7 June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as here and after stated that he was born in the town of Red Hook County of Dutchess and state of New York in the year of 1757. He states that he lived in the town of Susquehanna, County of Northumberland and State of Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary War in the year of 1775 or 1776. That in the spring of said year about the 1st of April deponent volunteered in the service of the United States as a private soldier in company of Rangers, commanded by Captain Gillespie, Lieutenant Mc Kim, in a regiment commanded by Colonel Plunkett, that the said company rendezvous in the town of Sunbury, of County Northumberland, and marched from there after remaining there a few days to a place called Wyoming(prior to Wyoming massacre July 3 1778) and remain there a few days then he with the remaining company and regiment moved to the town of Pittsburgh in the state of Pennsylvania remain there three or four months and then moved about in a number of different places, scouting and guarding inhabitants in the in those areas from the Indians and Tories until sometime in the winter of the following year and was discharged after a service of nine months or more and receive no written discharge. Shortly thereafter the above mentioned deponent re-entered service.

Each transcript divulges that the service period was for three or four months and then the duo was discharged. Ploss repeatedly attests to his knowledge of "the said Henry Shultis that the said Henry Shultis was in the same company as Michael Ploss for the same length of

time and knew that the said Henry Shultis continued to serve and said Shultis was in the capacity of a Sergeant until discharged at the end of term of three months, and this deponent further said immediately after the last mention service, they again entered the said military service of the state of New York in the company of Captain Platner of the County of Columbia and was under the command of Major Ten Broeck that the said company was later stationed on the west side of the Hudson River at a place called Coymans and was discharged sometime in the fall of 1776 after a service of two months and 26 days that this despondent was well acquainted with the Henry Shultis and that Henry Shultis was in the same service for the same length of time with the deponent and knew that the said Henry Shultis continue to serve in the capacity of a sergeant until discharge at the end of the term."

Nestled within the statement by George Shultis is the information that he is living in Columbia County at the time of the Revolution, as is Henry. Also, that Henry was rarely home to work the farm and it was a well-known fact that he was off serving in the War. George recalled that Henry took a wagon to Clavarack with the intention of volunteering along with a number of other men. George notes that Henry was gone for a couple of summers, however was often back in time for the fall harvest.

Michael Ploss noted that both he and Henry Shultis were in a company commanded by Captain Diel Rockefeller and Major TenBroeck from Columbia County. They served from about April 1777 to January 1778 and were present at "Stillwater, Beamis Heights, Whitehall, Fort Edward. They remained in the area until General Burgoyne surrendered his army.

Both Michael Plass and George Shultis made their "X" mark on the signature line.

For his 3 ½ years of rigorous service he was granted about \$ 7.00 a month. (source Bill Kiessel genealogy produced in 1980's)

"For Henry to go across the river to Woodstock with his brothers and younger sister may have been rejuvenating. Today we use the term PTSD to describe the many psychological aspects of war fatigue. In Henry's own words he went over to Woodstock "Immediately" after the war, and lived out the rest of his life there, close to his brothers Phillip and George and his younger sister Maria Shultis Yerry. (Bob Baumeister)

Henry Shultis was an accidental finding thanks to the work of Bob Baumeister.

Resource:

<https://arrrtop.org/lecture/october-2019-captain-diel-rockefeller-and-the-albany-militia-victories-at-saratoga-and-in-the-mohawk-valley/>

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/battle-bemis-heights>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Wyoming

Henry Shultis military record accessed on Ancestry.com

Compiled by Janine Fallon Mower