

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jonathan Haines R14821

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

North Carolina }

Surry County }

On this 17th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record and opened and held as such this day for the County and State aforesaid Jonathan Haines a resident citizen of said County and State, aged eighty three years in the month of August next, 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 the 7th of June 1832, that he the said Jonathan Haines entered as a volunteer militia soldier into the service of the United States in the year 1775 at the Town of Reading or Reding in the State of Pennsylvania in the company commanded by Capt Witherington or Worthington of said State; That he in the company as aforesaid, marched from Reding to the upper ferry on the Schuylkill River called he thinks the "Black horse" about three or four miles above Philadelphia. That at this point near Philadelphia Capt Witherington joined General Warren [Joseph Warren; see endnote]; That after he had joined Gen'l. Warren the whole army took up the line of march by the most direct rout for Boston in the State of Massachusetts; that on this side of Boston Gen'l Warren joined Gen'l [Israel] Putnam; John Hancock and Samuel Adams came also in the army with Putnam but the rank they held, he the said Haines does not now recollect; That he with the army as aforesaid remained in the vicinity of Boston two months as well as he can remember; That the American forces being entrenched behind some kind of fortifications were attacked by the British under the command of Gen'l [Thomas] Gage in the celebrated battle of Bunkers Hill [sic: Bunker Hill, 17 Jun 1775]; that the American forces having been routed, he the said Haines returned home; that his Captain was kiled in the Battle and General Warren likewise; that in consequence of this general dispersion, he the said Haines obtained no written or regular discharge; That he served during this period or engagement for the term of six months; that being now a citizen of North Carolina and residing five hundred miles from the place of his nativity, it is not in his power to produce any living witnesses who can testify to the fact of his service

That after he the said Haines had returned home from the battle of Bunkers Hill, he emigrated to the State of Virginia where he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer militia soldier in the companies commanded by Capt Joseph Pugh in the County of Augusta in said State; That he marched from Augusta as aforesaid to Pennsylvania where Capt Pugh joined the regiment under the command of Col Mark Bird [see endnote] who belonged to the army under the immediate command of General Washington; That after remaining some time with army, they had an engagement with the British at Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], in which he the said Haines was concerned and took part. That after the battle of Brandywine he returned to virginia not having obtained a written discharge, but a verbal one That in this second period he entered for three months, but continued in service six months as a volunteer militia soldier. The year of service he does not remember, but it was in the year of the Battle of Brandywine.

And he the said Hainis further states that he again entered the service as a drafted militia soldier in the year of the capture of Cornwallis [at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] in the County of Bedford in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Capt McDowel as well as he now recollects; that he marched from Bedford as aforesaid to Guilford NC and was in the battle fought at that place [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]; from thence he was marched to the Point of Fork on James River in Buckingham County Va [sic: at the junction with Rivanna River in Fluvanna County] where they were placed under the command of Baron Steuben [Baron von Steuben], and remained in this situation till the American Troops were attacked and driven from it by Col Tarlton [sic: John Graves Simcoe, not Banastre Tarleton; 5 Jun 1781]. That the American troops marched down the Country towards York Town; that he remained in service and was engaged with the American Troops in the capture of Cornwallis. That he

served during this term one year from the time he entered the service in Bedford County to the capture of Cornwallis as aforesaid; that he was drafted for six months, but was continued in service according to the best of his recollection one year having marched to Guilford NC from Bedford and thence to the Point of Fork and York Town as aforesaid.

And the said Haines further states that he has no living witnesses to produce who can testify to the facts set forth in his declaration, because if any are still living they are resident in Pennsylvania and Virginia far removed from the place of his present residence; that he rec'd only verbal discharges while in service as stated in the preceding part of his declaration.

And in answer to the several interrogatories the said Haines further states as follows.

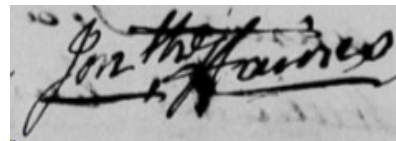
1. Where and in what year were you born?
answer. I was born in the year 1750 in Chester County Pennsylvania.
2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
answer. I had a record of my age taken from the family bible but my copy of the record is now lost.
3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?
answer. I have stated in my declaration the answer to this interrogatory to wit that I lived in Pennsylvania when first called into service; and in Virginia when called out the two latter periods; I now reside in North Carolina where I have lived since the year 1782.
4. How were you called into service were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute? and if a substitute for whom.
answer In the declaration I have stated that I was a volunteer for the two first terms, and a drafted soldier for the third term.
5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the Troops where you served; such continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service?
answer. I have in the declaration given the names of Putnam, Warren, John Hancock and Sam'l. Adams as connected with the first period of service. with the second term the name of Col Mark Bird but whether of the militia or regular service I do not now remember, and of Gen George Washington & with the third period the name of Baron Steuben.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.
answer. The declaration states that I never recd any but as a verbal discharge.
7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution?
answer I can give the names of Joseph Williams Clerk of the Superior Court and a Justice of the Peace in Surry County; Matthew M Hughes Esqr Register of the County and a Justice of the Peace and Col Thomas D Kelly of said County The affidavits of these men or some of them will be procured and affixed to this declaration – with them I have been acquainted for many years.

And the said Haines further states that there is no clergyman that he knows of now at Court, whose certificate he can procure; that there is no one in his neighborhood with whom he is acquainted. That the Methodists circuit Riders are the only officiating clergyman in his neighborhood and with them he has no personal acquaintance.

That the said Haines hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

Test
John Wright Clc

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Haines", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: Pennsylvania troops were not present at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and Haines's account of that battle are incorrect in several details. The only Virginia Militia Captain named Joseph Pugh that I could

find was from Shenandoah County, and he did not take the oath as Captain until 28 Feb 1782. Mark Bird was a Colonel in the Pennsylvania Militia. It is unlikely that a Virginia Militia Captain would have served in the militia regiment of another state. It is highly unlikely that Haines served one continuous militia tour that included both the Battle of Guilford Courthouse and the siege of Yorktown. Haines's application was "Suspended for further proof," which does not appear in the file.