

## **Pension Application for Jonathan Hopkins**

S.46046

State of New York

West Chester County SS.

On the twenty first day of September 1832 before the Honourable the Court of Common Pleas of the county of West Chester in the State of New York.

Jonathan Hopkins a resident of the town of Courtland in the County of West Chester aged seventy five years in May last who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That in the fall of the year 1776, I entered into the service of the United States by enlisting into a company of minute men commanded by Capt. Comfort Luddington for the period of six weeks.

I then resided in the town of Fredericks then in the County of Dutchess now Putnam County in which place said Capt. Luddington also resided soon after my enlistment into said Company we were marched to New York—

During the time of my lying there which was until the time of my enlistment was out I was occasionally on guard duty but mostly engaged on fatigue duty such as cutting & bringing from the woods brush and faggots for constructing Breast works & such like serviced.

My next enlistment was in the forepart of the next season according to my best recollection into a company of Rangers commanded by Capt. Clark for the period of four months Melancton Smith Captain, commandant.

This company was not attached to any particular Regiment or Brigade but was connected with another company of Rangers—During the period of this enlistment I was mostly engaged in ranging thro the county of Dutchess in different parts taking up and bringing in deserters picking up Tories and disaffected persons & taking them to a station where a guard was kept and such like services in the performance of which I served out the time of my enlistment and was regularly discharged but not in writing.

The next season after according to my best recollection at any rate the same season in which Danbury was burnt by the British I again enlisted into a company of Foot belonging to the regular line of State troops of New York commenced by Capt Elijah Townsend for the period of five months during this period of my service my company was stationed to guard the Red Mill in the town of Fredericks County of Dutchess now Carmel County of Putnam.

This mill was filled with a large quantity of wheat Continental Stores. We lay at this place making Morris's house our barracks night & day the whole period of my enlistment & I was regularly, discharged here at the expiration of my time the [sic] not in writing. My next period of service was at the time of the alarm at Kingsbridge taking the place as a substitute one William Merritt who was drafted into the service at which place I stayed one month.

During this time I was under different Captains as one was discharged and went home and another took his place whose names I am not able to recollect at this distance of time.

The particular time of this service I can not recollect. It was I well remember in very severe weather in the winter & before I obtained quarters I slept several nights upon my blanket on the snow with a stone for my pillow—During this period my principal service was in guarding the fort at Valentines Hill called Fort Independence a Fort at that time occupied by the British—they having taken it from us. While here we had a sally made upon us from the fort by the British—Our party consisted of about seventy men under Major Strang—The British made several fires upon us before their retreat in to the fort—I do not remember seeing but one man killed who fell near me—I was discharged at this place after staying my time out.

My next enlistment was into Capt Elijah Townsend's Company in Col. Luddington's Regiment of New York State Troops for the period of three months. During this enlistment my services were principally on the lines in West Chester County - I was marched to Yonkers at the time the British came up and took Fort Montgomery—I served out his enlistment and was regularly discharged at Crumpond in the County of West Chester.

Besides the services above detailed I was called out at alarms at a variety of different times during the war—once I was marched to North Castle where I was billeted out for some time at another time under Col. Luddington who was out with a detachment to drive away cattle from the lines to keep them from the enemy—I was out at several other times in alarms and scouting parties—putting together the whole of the time spent in these services it would amount to more than one month according to the best of my recollection and belief. During the time of these services I lived at Fredericks in the County of Dutchess near Putnam.

To the several Interrogatories recommended by the War Department I answer as follows Viz.

I was born in the town of Fredericks County of Dutchess (now Putnam) State of New York in the year 1757 in the month of May I had a record of my age in a family Bible but the Book is either worn out or missing and the Record has never been transferred to any other Book—

I lived in the town of Fredericks aforesaid when I was called into service—

Since the Revolutionary War I have lived in said town of Fredericks now Carmel until about sixteen years ago -

When I moved to the town of Courtlandt where I have lived ever since & now life with the exception that I have several years since lived with the exception that I have several years since lived a short time in the City of New York.

My manner of entering the service was as detailed in my preceding Declaration— I never received any discharge in writing to my knowledge—

I can not at this distance of time recollect the names of many of the officers who were with the troops where I served—I remember Col. Luddington to Lieut Col. Hammond, Captain Clark, Capt. Townsend—Capt. Luddington—

The names of persons in my present neighbourhood to whom I am known and who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the Revolution are Thomas A. Whitney of the town of Courtland and Ralsanian C. Austin Esq. of the same place and Daniel D. Tompkins a Clergyman living in in the town of Phillipstown in the County of Putnam.

And I do further declare that I do not know of any person by whom I might prove the services by me before detailed besides Jabez Berry whose affidavit is hereto attached--& that I have no documentary evidence relating to my inlistment [enlistment] services or discharge.

And I do further declare that I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Jonathan Hopkins

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. N. Bayler Clk of West Com Pleas