

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition relating to Joseph Hawkins VAS1968

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Transcribed by Will Graves

5/7/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Isle of Wight County Legislative Petitions

To the Honourable Speaker and Members of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia

The Petition of William Bryant of the County of Isle of Wight in the State of Virginia Humbly Sheweth

That a certain Joseph Hawkins of the County and State above mentioned did on the 1st day of March 1777 Enlisted under the command of Capt. Thomas Bressie of the second Virginia State Regiment for three years which time he faithfully served as a Sergeant; in testimony of the fact, annexed hereto, is the said Capt. Thomas Bressie's Certificate – Sometime in the year 1782 or 1783 the said Joseph Hawkins shipped himself on board of a Vessel called the *Alert*, Commanded by David Ward and was bound for some of the West Indies Islands, but unfortunately floundered at sea, all of the Crew perished; except the Master David Ward, and a certain Thomas Allen who sailed in the capacity of Mate – a Certificate of which is also hereunto annexed – Your Petitioner sometime in the year 1791 married the legal representative of Joseph Hawkins and for her, as well as himself solicit a compensation for the faithful services rendered by the said Joseph Hawkins to his Country; for which nothing has been received, nor paid by the State, which will appear by your Auditors Certificate also hereto annexed – Your Petitioner therefore Humbly prays you will be pleased to take his case into your Consideration, and Grant an Order that Your Auditor shall Liquidate the Account and Certify the same to your Treasurer. That he is to pay your Petitioner the amount so certified according to the Equity of the Case.

Annual Petitioner will ever Pray &c &c &c &c

Isle of Wight County Virginia

October 6, 1795

[Reverse]

Briants Petition

November 17th, 1795

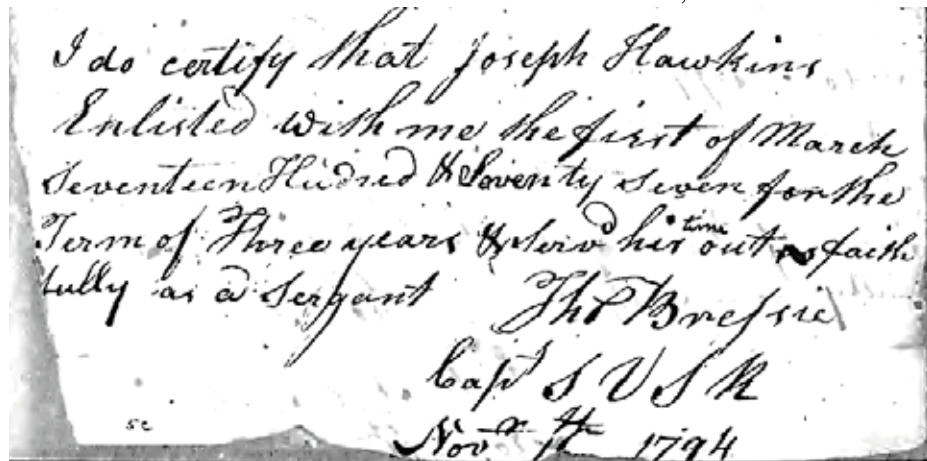
Claims

Reasonable

Report made out

I do certify that Joseph Hawkins Enlisted with me the 1st of March 1777 for the Term of 3 years & Served his time out faithfully as a Sgt.

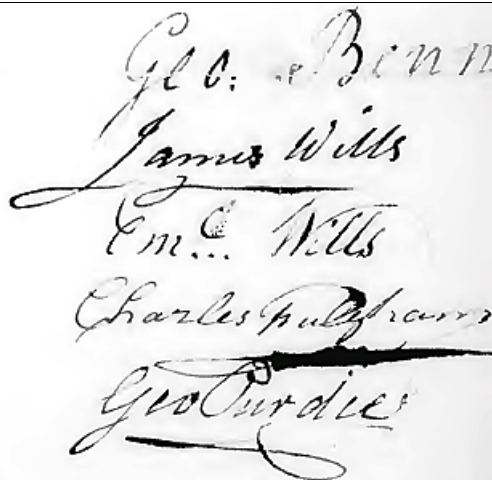
S/ Thos. Bressie
Capt. S V S R
November 11th, 1794



I do certify that Joseph Hawkins
Enlisted with me the first of March
Seventeen Hundred & Seventy Seven for the
Term of Three years & served his ^{time} out faithfully
as a Sergeant
Thos Bressie
Capt S V S R
Nov 11th 1794

This will certify that Joseph Hawkins a Brother of Mrs. Bryant the wife of William Bryant of the County of Isle of Wight did some time in the month of April in the year 1783 go to sea in a vessel from Smithfield (called the *Alert*) David Ward Master, and Thomas Allen Mate, – & I was informed by said Allen the Mate, after his return to Virginia that the said Vessel floundered at sea, and that Joseph Hawkins, and all the men were lost except himself and David Ward, given under my hand this 15th of December 1794

S/ Geo. Benn [George Benn]
S/ James Wills
S/ Eml. Wills [Emerald Wills?]
S/ Charles Fulgham
S/ Geo Purdie [George Purdie]



Geo. Benn
James Wills
Em... Wills
Charles Fulgham
Geo Purdie

Norfolk October 26 [?], 1795 I do hereby certify that the Schooner *Alert*, David Ward Master sailed from Smithfield in the month of April or May 1783 and was lost at Sea and that the Master and one person beside, was saved and that Joseph Hawkins was a Seamen on board the said Vessel & was lost – & that I had an oppty [opportunity] of being acquainted with the facts, being a part owner of said Schooner.

Witness my hand the day & date as above

S/ Robert Taylor

Robert Taylor

I do hereby certify that a certain Joseph Hawkins of the County of Isle of Wight departed from this State in a Schooner called the *Alert* in the Spring or beginning of Summer of the year 1783, that the said Schooner was shortly afterwards lost at sea & all the crew perished except David Ward, the master & one Thomas Allen.

Witness my hand this 26th of October 1795 at Norfolk

[indecipherable signature, perhaps the server name is "Wansford"]

(any) Wansford