

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Bounty Land Warrant of Nathaniel Gist BLWt1874-500  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[VA]

United States of America }  
District of Columbia }  
County of Washington Sct }

Before me R. C. Weightman one of the justice of the peace in & for the County and district af'd, (duly commissioned, sworn and acting as such) personally appeared George M. Bibb, and made oath – that he is well acquainted with the Widow and children of Colonel Nathaniel Gist deceased, who, from information was a Colonel in a Regiment of Virginia troops in the Revolutionary war, but whether said Gist was upon the State or Continental establishment, this deponent can not positively state – that said Col. Nathaniel Gist, left at his death, the following children – Henry C. Gist, Thomas N. Gist, Sarah Gist, Judith Gist, Eliza V. Gist, Maria C. Gist, and Anne E. Gist: (and a daughter who died under age & unmarried;) that, the daughters aforesaid who survive are married as follows – s'd Sarah is the wife of Jessee Bledsoe Esqr, said Judith is the wife of Doct'r. Joseph Boswell, said Eliza is the wife of Francis Preston Blair (the Editor of the Globe in this city) and Maria is the wife of Benjamin Gratz, said Anne married Nathaniel G. Hart the brother in law of the Hon'le. Henry Clay – that s'd Nathaniel & Anne his wife are both dead leaving Henry C. Hart their only child: deponent farther states that he never heard of any other issue of s'd. Col Nathaniel Gist, & he verily believes they are the only heirs of the said deceased Col. Nathaniel Gist, and farther this deponent saith not.

Sworn to before me this 23<sup>d</sup> day of April 1832 [signed] Geo. M. Bibb  
[Certified on 24 April 1832 by Henry Clay, US Senator.]

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I do hereby Certify that Nathaniel Gist was appointed a Colonel in the Army of the United States on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 1777 and Continued in Service until the [illegible word] Close of the war which was determined by Congress to be on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 1783.

Given under my hand the [?]<sup>th</sup> of [rest of date illegible]  
James Wood formerly [illegible: Brigadier General] Continental Army

A warrant for 6666 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres No 147 issued the 25th of February 1783 to Colo Nathaniel Gist on consideration of his service as a Colonel of the continental line – from the 10th of Jan'y 1777 to the 24th of July 1783, agreeably to a certificate from the executive dated 24th Feby 1783 No other warrant appears to have issued for the military services of s'd Gist

Will G. Pendleton Chf Ck L Off/ 14 Jany 1812

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Washington Nov 7 1831

Dear Sir [His Ex'y Gov. Floyd] I enclose to you a certificate from the War department stating that Nath'l Gist served as Colonel to the end of the revolutionary war. There has been issued to Col. Gist from the Register of the land office of Virginia 6666 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres for 3 years service as the Register Mr. Selden has certified to Mr. Blair. But it is supposed that 1/6 for any year above 6 years is due to his heirs. It is believed he served from the commencement to the end of the War. For very few of the officers if any were Colonels at the end of the war who, were not in service at the commencement and were promoted to the command of a regiment.

I have no interest in this claim. For I do not charge an officer or soldier of the revolution any

compensation for any service I can render to them and always give to the heirs all the information I can without fee or reward      With great respect & esteem/ Tho M Bayly

At the request of the Hon'bl John S. Barbour, I hereby certify, that immediately after the appointment of General Washington to the Chief command of the Revolutionary Army of the United States [15 Jun 1775], it was a fact as notorious as any other of the day (which was about the middle of the year 1775) he called Charles Scott, Nathaniel Gist, & some others into the Service who had served with him against the French and Indians – both of whom became notoriously as distinguished officers as any in the army – one as a Brigadier General, the other as a Colonel. That they both served to the end of the War without being one day absent from Camp. I am as confident from my own personal belief, as it is I presume, a matter of historical notoriety. Col. Gist married soon after the War in my own immediate neighbourhood, where for many years before he removed to Kentuckey. I knew him intimately & personally, as respectable in private life as he had been distinguished & valuable in the military service of his country.

John Nicholas [pension application S46397]  
an Officer in the Revol'y. Army  
Washington Mar. 24<sup>th</sup> 1832

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Nicholas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

NOTES:

Francis B. Heitman's *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution* gives the following abstract: "Gist, Nathaniel (Va.). Colonel Additional Continental Regiment, 11th January, 1777; taken prisoner at Charleston, 12th May 1780; retired 1st January 1783. (Died 1796.)"

The federal file contains a letter dated 24 Aug 1829 from Newton H. Gist of Liberty in Bedford County VA, a nephew of Nathaniel Gist, inquiring about receiving bounty land as an heir. A letter from the Bounty Land Office of the War Department dated 1 Oct 1829 refers to papers filed by Newton H. Gist, but they are not found in the file.

On 4 July 1832 Francis Preston Blair stated that Nathaniel Gist died about 1798. There is an undated application by him for bounty land as an heir of Nathaniel Gist.