

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

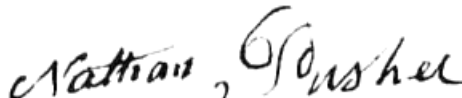
Pension application of Nathan Pushee¹ W13835 Jane Pushee f79MASS
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/4/11 & 12/7/15: rev'd 4/25/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 5]

Nathan Pushee of Antigonishe [Antigonish]² in the County of Sydney and Province of Nova Scotia, Farmer – maketh oath and saith that he was born in Massachusetts in the County of Worcester in the United States of America in the month of October in the year of our Lord 1758 – That in the month of May in the year of our Lord 1775, he deponent enlisted in the American Army at Cambridge in a Regiment then Commanded by a Colonel Gardner [Thomas Gardner] and fought under him in the engagement at Bunkers Hill [Bunker Hill or Breed's Hill, June 17, 1775] which took place on the 17th day of June in the year last aforesaid in which engagement said Gardner was killed.³ And deponent further saith that he remained in the American Service until the expiration of the time he had enlisted for when he again enlisted in the aforesaid service in the year of our Lord 1777 in a Regiment of Cavalry called *Lady Washington's [Horse]*, Commanded by Colonel George Baylor [Lt. Col. George Baylor was replaced as commander of this unit initially by Col. William Bond, but on November 20, 1778, Lt. Col. William Washington took command of the unit]. That deponent was attached to said Regiment until the year of our Lord 1780 or thereabouts, when he was taken Prisoner by some British Soldiers at a place called Monks Corner [sic, Moncks Corner, April 14, 1780]⁴ in South Carolina. And deponent further saith that he was detained a Prisoner at Charleston in South Carolina about 11 months by the British and then released. And deponent further saith that he hath resided in Antigonishe aforesaid since the year of our Lord 1784.

S/ Nathan Pushee



Sworn to before me at Antigonishe in the County of Sydney and Province of Nova Scotia this 12th day of June in the year while Lord 1838

¹ Phyllis R. Blakeley, "PUSHEE, NATHAN," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, vol. 7, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed April 25, 2021, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/pushee_nathan_7E.html . See also, Todd W. Braisted, "Detained a Prisoner... and Then Released: The Revolutionary War Adventures of Nathan Pushee", in *Military Collector & Historian*, Vol. 59, No. 4 -- Winter 2007: 261-265

See also, <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Pushee-43>

² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antigonish_County,_Nova_Scotia

³ Gardner was mortally wounded at the battle but lingered until July 3, 1775.

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moncks_corner.html

S/ John Thomas Hill, Notary Public

I the undersigned, Catholic Bishop of the Province of Nova Scotia, Do hereby certify that I have for 15 years last past known Nathan Pushee of Antigonishe in the County of Sydney and Province of Nova Scotia, Farmer. A man now about 80 years of age – Since my acquaintance with him he has born the character of an honest man and is highly esteemed by his neighbors –

S/ William Fraser, Bishop of Tanen
and Vicar Apostolic of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton

[p 43]

State of Massachusetts Suffolk County:

On this sixth day of October 1838 personally appeared before the Honorable Peter O. Thacher Judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Boston in said County of Massachusetts in open Court Nathan Pushee now resident in Boston in the County of Suffolk in Massachusetts, lately resident at Antigonish in the County of Sydney in Nova Scotia aged 80 years who first being 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 7th 1832:

That he was born at Lunenburg in Massachusetts and Enlisted in April 1775 as a private for the term of eight months at Cambridge in Captain Cook's [Phineas Cook's] Company and Colonel Gardner's [Thomas Gardner's] Regiment of Massachusetts Troops and served the whole term: he was engaged in the Battle of Bunker Hill in which said Colonel Gardner was killed, and Colonel Bond [William Bond] afterwards commanded the Regiment:

In January 1776 he again enlisted as a private for a year in the same Regiment in Captain Fuller's Company under the Colonel Bond, & served in it until March 1776 when he & three others of the Company were drafted into General Washington's Foot Guard under Captain Gibbs [Caleb Gibbs] & Lieutenant Lewis: he marched with the Army from Boston to New York, & served out the year there and in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and was guarding Washington's baggage at the time of the battle of Trenton:

In January 1777 he enlisted for three years as a private in Captain George Lewis's Company of Horse in Colonel George Baylor's Regiment of Virginia Horse, at Newtown in Pennsylvania, and was engaged at the Battles of Germantown [October 4, 1777] & Monmouth [June 28, 1778] & Brandywine [September 11, 1777], and was present at the massacre of Paoli [September 21, 1777] where Major Clough was killed with many of the Company: he served out all this enlistment, part of the time as private & then was made trumpet major:

In December 1779 he again enlisted for during the War as Trumpet Major in Captain Lewis's [George Lewis] Company in Colonel William Washington's Regiment of Horse in the Virginia Line, marched to South Carolina & served till he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Monk's Corner [sic, Moncks Corner] and detained prisoner eleven months till he escaped, but was not exchanged until Peace: he never had a written discharge: Captain Carter, he thinks, was his Captain part of the time in Baylor's or Washington's Regiment.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency in any State.

Subscribed and sworn to on the day and year first before written on the 6th of October 1838 in open Court before me.

S/ Peter O. Thacher, Judge [etc.]

S/ Nathan Pushee

[p 38]

I Jesse Smith⁵ of Salem in Massachusetts aged 82 years, on oath testify That I have been acquainted with Nathan Pushee now of Nova Scotia and know that in 1777 he enlisted as a trumpster [sic] and served continually from that time till the latter part of 1779: he was Trumpet Major of the Regiment & he served with me in Colonel George Baylor's Regiment of Horse in Captain Lewis's Company – I served in the same Regiment and Company. He was a native of Lunenburg in Worcester County in Massachusetts as I understood from him.

S/ Jesse Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[attested on July 21, 1838 in Essex County, Mass. by Benjamin Merrill, JP]

[p 46]

I, Jesse Smith, of Salem in Massachusetts, aged 82 years, on oath testify that I well know Nathan Pushee, now present: I served with him in Captain Lewis's Company of Horse in Colonel George Baylor's Regiment three years & ten months from March 1776 to December 1779, at first and Cambridge in Captain Caleb Gibb's Company of Washington's Foot Guards, and in December 1776 in the Light Horse till December 1779, when I was discharged at Philadelphia.

He again enlisted in the Troop & marched on the Southern Campaign: he was Trumpet Major about 18 months before I left.

I have a perfect recollection of him and know the man now present is the same who served with me.

William Washington was Colonel of the Light horse part of the time I served, I think in 1778. Baylor did not serve after he was taken prisoner.

S/ Jesse Smith

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[attested October 5, 1838 in Essex County, Mass., by Benjamin Merrill, JP]

[p 40]

Daniel Sellars⁶ of Guysborough in the Lower District of the County of Sydney and Province of Nova Scotia, Farmer, maketh oath that he is well acquainted with Nathan Pushee of Antigonishe in the Upper District of the County of Sydney and Province aforesaid Farmer, and hath so been acquainted with him since the Siege of Charlestown, South Carolina, where he the said Nathan Pushee then a Soldier in the American Cavalry and deponent were taken Prisoner by the British Troops and detained in confinement for about eleven months. And deponent further saith that he hath had an interview with said Nathan Pushee on the present day of April in the year of our Lord 1836.

Sworn to before me this 5th day of April in the year of our Lord 1836
S/ John Thomas Hill, NP

S/ Daniel Sellars, X his mark

⁵ [Jesse Smith S19469](#)

⁶ [Donald \(Daniel, David\) Sellers \(Sellars\) R9376](#)

[p 11: On March 1, 1852 at Antigonish in Sydney County Nova Scotia, Jane Pushee, 92, the widow of Nathan Pushee filed an affidavit in which she states she married him in Antigonish on or about April 12, 1787; that she has no record of her marriage; that her husband resided in Antigonish for the space of 54 years before his death but died at New Port in Hants County, Nova Scotia on or about October 31st 1838 when returning from a temporary visit to the United States to obtain his pension. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 15: Testimony by John Kell, 88 as of August 12, 1852, that he knew Nathan Pushee and Jane Brown before their marriage; that they were married by George Whitmore, JP; that Pushee and his wife had six sons and 1 daughter; that the parish book in which their marriage was recorded has been lost.]

[Facts in file: the widow died May 5, 1853.]

[p 9: Indicates that Nathan Pushee was pensioned at the rate of \$132 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service in the Massachusetts Continental line as a trumpet major:

p 8: cover sheet indicates that Jane Pushee was pensioned at the rate of \$132 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848 for the service of her husband Nathan Pushee in the Massachusetts Continental line as a trumpet major.]

[C. Leon Harris noted the following:

Phyllis R. Blakeley in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography states the following (http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/pushee_nathan_7E.html): “Taken to Charleston, S.C., Pushee and more than 500 comrades faced almost certain death from disease and poor food in British prisons, and in order to escape this fate they agreed to enlist in the British army provided they did not have to fight their fellow Americans. Pushee joined the Duke of Cumberland’s Regiment, a provincial unit, and was sent to Jamaica, where he became a sergeant in Captain Gideon White’s company. At the end of the war those who had served in British regiments could not return to the United States because they were excluded from the terms of amnesty. The commander of Pushee’s regiment, Lord Charles Greville Montagu, arranged for those men who wished land to be taken to Nova Scotia, and they arrived in December 1783.”]