

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jonathan Roach W3870                      Ruth Roach                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Feb 2021.

Virginia Monroe County SS

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of said County of Monroe and State aforesaid Jonathan Roach a resident of said County aged 71 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted in the County of Orange Virginia in February 1779 under Lieutenant John Goodall for and during the time That the time that the prisoners of War, who were taken at the Battle of [blank; see note below] being Burgoins Troops would be kept under guard and expressly for that service as one of that guard he served for and during the term of two years three months and twenty four days he was commanded by Capt Madison [Ambrose Madison VAS468] Majr John Roberts [W2347] and Colonel [Francis] Taylor. He went to Charlottesville when the prisoners were under guard and remained there nearly two years from Charlottesville he was one of the Guard who went with the prisoners to Winchester [Feb 1781] where he was discharged by Colonel Taylor in May 1781 That he gave his discharge to Nathaniel Mills to whom he sold his right to his claim to land and supposes it is filed in the War Office and in the same year 1781 he substituted in the place of James Craige who was drafted from the County of Rockingham for a Term of two months under Capt Smith of the Militia commanded by Majr Long and Colo. Samuel Lewis and was marched from Rockingham County through Charlottesville Richmond Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] to York and was discharged eight miles from York and eight days before Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] was in no Battle during this time. That he was born in the County of Rockingham Va. & remained in said County about 24 years when he moved to where he now lives and has been forty seven years a resident in the said County of Monroe. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State                      Jonathan Roach

We Christian Peters [S5898], Jacob Meadows [S7225] & Mathias Meadows do hereby certify and declare that we saw Jonathan Roach (who signs the above declaration) in the revolutionary war that we saw him guarding the prisoners at Charlottesville and also Jacob Meadows saw him at York Town where Cornwallis was taken and that we know that he served but do not know how long. Given under our hands this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832

Christian Peters                      Jacob hisXmark Meadows                      Matthias hisXmark Meadows

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications in what is now West Virginia. For details see my appendix to David W. Sleeth S6111.]

Jonathan Roach — (2 yrs Va. Line Capt Madison Col Taylor)

I the undersigned J Roach in pursuance of the regulations of the Secretary of War make the following redeclaration of my services as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. I was 73 years old the 29<sup>th</sup> July last. I am a native of Rockingham County Va and lived in that County during the war of the Revolution, Settle in Monroe County 49 years ago – I think it was in the year 1778. I was Enlisted in Rockingham county by Lt John Goodall. I went to the Albemarle barracks and was there attached to Captain Maddison company Col. Taylors Regt. I was in the Service at the Barracks upwards of two years. I went on with the Prisoners to Winchester was in service there upwards of 3[?] mos. was discharged at Winchester by Col. Taylor. I sold my discharge to Nathan Mills shortly after the war closed. I proved my service by Christian Peters, Jacob Meddow & Matthew Meddow. Henry Alexander wrote my Declaration. I Enlisted to remain in service whilst the prisoners should remain in Albemarl County. After being discharged as before stated I substituted in place of James Craig for two months and served for that time at Yorktown – was at the

Surrender of Cornwallis. September the tenth 1835.

Witness

W Kelly

A Copy

Jonathan Roach

W. G Singleton

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

To his Excellency Littleton W. Tazwell [sic: Littleton Waller Tazewell] Gov'r of Virginia

The petition of Jonathan Roach of Monroe County humbly represent that your petitioner Inlisted in the service of the United States as a private soldier of the Revolution under Lieutenant John Goodall for and during the time that the prisoners of war might be kept under guard who ware taken at the Battle of [blank] being Burgoins Troops and expressly for that service – as one of said guard I served for and during the term of two years three months and twenty four days and if those prisoners had been kept during the war I would have been bound to continue to the end thereof. I was commanded by Capt. Madison Maj'r John Roberts and Colo Taylor. I went to Charlottsvilll where the prisoners ware under guard and remained there near two years. from Charlottsvill I was one of the guard who went with the prisoners to Winchester where I was discharged by Colo. Taylor [part missing at bottom of page] am entitled to Land. Your petitioner would therefore pray your Excellency to issue the Commonwelths warrant for such quantity of Land as I may be intitled to for s'd Service as in duty bound will ever pray

Jonathan Roach

NB I have been receiving a pension from the U. States for several years past. J. Roach

Monroe County to Wit

This day Jonathan Roach came before me a Justice of the peace in and for said County and made oath in due form of Law that the foregoing facts as stated in the petition are true, all of which he proved in Court in September 1832 by the Oaths of Christian Peters Jacob Meddows and Mathew Meddows at the time he made his decleration in order to obtain his Pension. given under my hand this 21<sup>th</sup> da of March 1836.

Henry Alexander JP

NOTES:

The prisoners guarded by Roach were Hessians surrendered at the Battle of Saratoga on 17 Sep 1777 by Gen. John Burgoyne. One of the terms of surrender was a "convention" under which the Hessians were to be sent home, but Congress reneged on the agreement and detained the "Convention Army" at Cambridge MA until finally marching them to prison barracks near Charlottesville VA in Jan 1779.

On 31 Mar 1847 Ruth Roach, 86, applied for a pension stating that she married Jonathan Roach in Oct 1782, and he died 14 June 1840. On 9 June 1848 her age is given as 83. With her application she submitted a family record transcribed as follows:

[On back of title page of a New Testament; barely legible]

Jonathan Roach

Amy meddess Dater of Leuss meddess was Born in the year of our Lord 1781 the 19<sup>th</sup> Day of august  
Elijah Roch sun of Jonathan Roch was Born in the year of our Lord 1783 the 28 Day of December  
John Roch sun of Jonathan Roch was Born in the year of our Lord 1786 the 14 Day of march  
Jacob Roch was born in year of our lord 1789

[Second page]

Rebaca Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1792 the 13 day of Janary  
Rohada Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1794 the 16 of July  
Rachal Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1796 the 12 of July  
Lethe Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1798 the 19 of December  
Caty Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1800 the 12 of september  
Mary Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1802 the 25 of August  
Lanty Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1804 the 28 of october

Isaac Roach was born in the year of our Lord 1808 the 21 of february