

Pension Application for Joshua Ferris

S.10660

At a Court of Common Pleas held at the Court house in Elmira in & for the County of Tioga in the State of New York commencing on the first Tuesday in September 1832, the same being a court of Record & having a seal & Clerk. Present Hon. G.B. Baldwin first judge. Darius Bentley, Elijah Shoemaker, Joseph L. Darling, Esquires Judges.

State of New York

Tioga County SS.

On the 5th day of September 1832 before the above named Judges now sitting personally appeared Joshua Ferris of the Town of Spencer in the said County of Tioga aged sixty nine years & upwards who being duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That during the war of the Revolution he resided in the County of Westchester in the State of New York that during the greater part of the war the British were in force in the City of New York who encouraged and countenanced the depredations of the Tories & Refugees who were numerous in the Counties of Westchester & Dutchess. In consequence of which the militia of Westchester were kept in constant service or kept in readiness and bound to Military service during the greater part of the war.

That the deponent entered the service in a militia company in the said County of Westchester commanded by the Capt. Ebenezer Boyd, Lieutenant David Ferris, Second Lieutenant Elijah Drake and Ensign Joshua Drake, in the fall of 1778, and continued in the same until the close of the war in November 1783 bound to military service and actually performing such military service as the exigency of the times required in patrolling, guarding and expeditions to Various parts of the said County of Westchester.

During his said term of service each member of the company to which he belonged was required to patrol every fourth night & was engaged in such expeditions during the day as necessity required which occurred very frequently as the Inhabitants were almost constantly harassed by attacks from the enemy.

During the war he was frequently out in expeditions to White Plains, Rye, Marmaronick, New Rochelle, Crum Pond, EastChester, WestChester, North Castle, and various other places in Westchester and the Tory neighborhoods about New York. That all his services would amount to more than two years service during the war.

That he was born at Peekskill or Courtland Manor in the County of Westchester N.Y. on the 26th June 1763 as he has been informed and the record was kept in his father's bible now probably in the County of WestChester.

That he continued to reside in Courtland Manor aforesaid until the close of the war; after which he resided 6 or 7 years on Cortright's Patent in the County of Montgomery in the State of New York; that he returned to the said County of Westchester where he remained until 1796 or 1797 when he removed to the County of

Tioga where he has resided ever since at Owego head of Seneca Lake & latterly in the Town of Spencer aforesaid.

That the Continental officers whom he knew while in service were Generals McDougal, Lincoln, Putnam, Knox, Glover, Heath, Howe, Washington, Col. VanCortland, Sherman, Sheldon, Swift, Lamb, Scammel & Hazen.

That the persons who served with him and are now here in court to testify to his services are John Jones Esqr. And Richard Ferris, both of the Town of Spencer in the said County of Tioga & formerly of the County of WestChester—

He would refer to Henry Miller John McQuigg and Andrew Purdy of the said Town of Spencer for their belief in regard to his services and their belief in regard to his services and also the reputation in regard to them where he resides—

He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

(Signed) Joshua Ferris

Sworn & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Green M. Tuthill, Clk