

Pension Application for John Gardineer (Gardner, Gartnere, Gardinier, etc.)

R.3900

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

I do certify that on the 16th day of November 1839, personally appeared before me, David F. Sacia one of the Judges of the County Courts of said County, & being a Court of Record, John Gardineer of the Town of Root in the County & State aforesaid and makes the following declaration to entitle him to a pension under the act of the 7th June 1832.

That he was seventy eight years of age in October 1839. That this applicant was called into the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War early in the month of April of the year 1777, as a private soldier to a place called Caughnawaga in the then County of Tryon now Montgomery and was then and there enrolled in a Company of Militia commanded by Capt. Abraham Veeder, (1) Lieut Col. Volkert Veeder, Col. Frederick Fisher. That this applicant and his said company under the aforesaid officers remained at Caughnawaga aforesaid, guarding Fort at that place, protecting the Inhabitants and their property going out on scouting parties & in being disciplined in Military tactics from the early part of April of said year 1777 until in the beginning of the month of June of that year when this applicant & his said company under the command of said Capt. Veeder & Col. Fisher were ordered out to a place called Johnstown in the then County of Tryon now (Fulton) where this applicant as a private & his said company commanded as aforesaid & other companies of soldiers numbering in all about three hundred men performed duty and service in encountering conquering & driving off about the like number of Indians & Tories collected in and about a building called Sir William Johnson's Hall (2) from whence the Indians and Tories were there and about that time spring forth into the county destroying life & property. That this applicant & his said company commenced as aforesaid remained at Johnstown aforesaid sometime after said Battle (3) performing duty in guarding the inhabitants & their property & in going out on Scouting Parties, pursuing & destroying the Indians & Tories and then returned again to Caughnawaga aforesaid distance about four miles from Johnstown aforesaid.

That this applicant & his said company were gone on this last tour one month & were subsisted & paid by the Government that this applicant & his said company commanded by said Capt. Veeder Lieut Col Veeder & Col. Fisher after their return as aforesaid from Johnstown aforesaid remained at Caughnawaga guarding said Fort at Caughnawaga in protecting the Inhabitants & their property [? [?] for six days and then were called out to go and did go to a place called Sacondaga in the then County of Tryon now (Saratoga) distant from Caughnawaga aforesaid about 30 miles. That at this last mentioned place called Sacondaga this applicant as a private & his said company commanded by said Capt Veeder & Col. Fisher performed duty & service in going out on scouting parties in guarding Fort at that place & in protecting the Inhabitants & their property & in being disciplined as aforesaid, that there was at this time at Sacondaga about 200 men including this applicants said company which numbered about 60 men, all provisioned & paid by the government.

That sometime in October of said year 1777 this applicant & his said company commanded as aforesaid left Sacondaga aforesaid having been absent on said tour to that place over two months & returned to Caughnawaga aforesaid when this applicant & his said company commanded by said Capt Veeder, Col Fisher & Lieut Col. Veeder remained doing duty & service in guarding Fort at that place in protecting the inhabitants & their property & in going out on scouting parties until in November of said year 1777 a period of 15 or 20 days or more & then this applicant & his said company were discharged & went to their respective homes (this applicant then residing near Caughnawaga).

That in the spring of the year 1778 and in the month of April or May of that year according to this applicants best recollection at this time. This applicant & his said company under the command of said Capt. Abm Veeder Lieut. Col. Veeder & Col. Fisher were called out to the said Fort at Caughnawaga aforesaid where they remained performing duty and service in standing sentry at said Fort at Caughnawaga a night & day in protecting the Inhabitants & their property, in going out on scouting parties & in being disciplined until the month of July of said year 1778 according to this deponent's best recollection at this time. That during this last period of service this applicant was a private in his said company and was paid & subsisted by the government. That in the said month of July & towards the middle of that month. This applicant as a private & his said company under the command of the said Capt. Abm. Veeder & Col. Fisher were called out to a place called Sandflats in the then County of Tryon, now Montgomery.

That when arrived at Sandflats this applicant's said company was divided and one division to which this applicant was attached as a private commanded by the said Capt. Veeder & Col. Fisher proceeded to a place called Fort Stanwix (4) in the then County of Tryon now Oneida. That the applicant performed service during this last tour in going to Fort Stanwix in carrying & conveying baggage & provisions for his said company with his own team and that when this applicant & his said company arrived at Fort Stanwix on this last tour they performed duty & service at said Fort Stanwix, in guarding & standing sentry thereat in protecting the Inhabitants & their property &

in going out on scouting parties and then this applicant & his said company returned to Caughnawaga aforesaid distant about 60 miles from said Fort Stanwix.

That on this last tour there was stationed at Fort Stanwix about 250 soldiers including this applicants said company which numbered about 40 men provisions & paid by the government. That on returning as aforesaid from Fort Stanwix to Caughnawaga which took place in the beginning of the month of October 1778, this applicant as a private & his said company now numbering about 70 men commanded by the said Capt. Veeder, Lieut Col. Veeder & Col. Fisher remained at the said Fort at Caughnawaga, protecting the inhabitants & their property, going out on scouting parties & guarding Fort night and day for the period of at least one month & were then discharged & went to their respective homes, that during the last service at Caughnawaga this applicant & his said company were paid & subsisted by the Government—

That in the month of May in the beginning of that month of the year 1779 this applicant (5) again called out to said Fort at Caughnawaga under the command of said Capt. Veeder one Lieut. Nich. Dockstader & said Lieut Col. Veeder & Col. Fisher. That at this last mentioned time & place this applicant was promoted to the rank of Corporal in his said company and that this applicant as such Corporal & his said company commanded by the said Capt. Veeder, Lieut. Nicholas Dockstader, Lieut. Col. Veeder, & Col. Fisher remained at said Fort at Caughnawaga from the beginning of the month of May in said year 1779 until the last of July of said Year 1779 a period of at least one month & one half of a month performing duty & service in guarding said Fort at Caughnawaga, protecting the inhabitants & their property & going out on scouting parties & being disciplined as aforesaid & were provisioned during this last period of service & paid by the government.

That in the month of July or first of August of said year 1779 this applicant as such Corporal as aforesaid & his said company commanded by the said Capt. Abraham Veeder, Lieut Col. Vedder & Col. Fisher were ordered to go & did go to a place called Stone Arabia (6) in the then County of Tryon now Montgomery distant about 14 miles from Caughnawaga aforesaid when this applicant as such corporal as aforesaid & his said company commanded as aforesaid performed duty & service at Stone Arabia aforesaid in guarding a fort at Stone Arabia aforesaid in protecting the inhabitants and their property & in going out on scouting parties & driving off the Indians & Tories who were then infecting the County & vicinity of Stone Arabia & then returned again in August of said year 1779 & towards the middle of this month to Caughnawaga aforesaid.

That this applicant & his said company on this last tour were about at least 8 or 9 days & were paid & provisioned by the Government. That on returning as aforesaid from Stone Arabia aforesaid to Caughnawaga aforesaid this applicant as such Corporal as aforesaid or a private and which this applicant does not now recollect and his said company commanded by said Capt. Veeder, Lieut. Col. Veeder & Col Fisher were immediately or very soon thereafter were ordered out & did go again to said place called Fort Stanwix in the then County of Tryon now Oneida and then & there this applicant at such private or corporal & his said company commanded as aforesaid & other companies of soldiers numbering in all about two hundred men performed duty and service in guarding the said Fort Stanwix in protecting the inhabitants and their property in repelling and driving off the Indians & Tories and then again returned to Caughnawaga aforesaid in the month & towards the last of September of said year 1779.

That on this last tour this applicant & his said company performed duty & service as aforesaid for the period of at least 20 days & were paid and provisioned by the Government. That this applicant and his said company on returning as last aforesaid from Fort Stanwix to Caughnawaga which took place towards the last of September or first of October of said year 1779, performed that & served under the command of said Capt. Veeder, Lieut Col. Veeder, Col. Fisher at Caughnawaga aforesaid in guarding the fort at said Caughnawaga in protecting the inhabitants and their property & in going out on scouting parties until sometimes in November of said year 1779 & for the period of at least one month. That this applicant performed this last mentioned service at Caughnawaga as Corporal in his said company.

That this applicant & his said company during this last period of service were provisioned & paid by the Government. That generally during said year 1779 this applicant acted as corporal in his said company & performed the duties of that rank. That in the month of November of said year this applicant & his said company were discharged and went to their respective homes. That in the month of April of that year 1780 this applicant & his said company were again called out to said Fort at Caughnawaga when this applicant a corporal in his said company & his said company commanded by the last mentioned officers again performed duty and service in guarding said Fort at Caughnawaga in protecting the inhabitants & their property in going out on scouting parties & in being disciplined until in the month of May in said year 1780 a period of one month at least & during that time were paid & provisioned by the Government and that in the said month of May 1780 this applicant as such corporal & his said company commanded by said Capt Veeder & Col. Fisher were ordered out and did go to a place called Fort Plank in the then county of Tryon now Montgomery, distant about 15 miles from Caughnawaga aforesaid when this applicant as such Corporal & his said company & other companies in all about 150 men performed duty & service in guarding Fort at said Fort Plank in protecting the inhabitants & their property & in going out on scouting

parties, scouring the country & driving off the Indians & Tories who were numerous & destructive about this time. That one Major Fink & one Col. Willis. (7)

This applicant recollects were also in command at this last time at Fort Plank. That this applicant as such Corporal & his said company were gone on this last tour to Fort Plank performing duty & service as before stated at least two months & the half of one month & was paid & provisioned and paid by the government. That this applicant & the said company commanded by said Capt. Veeder & Col. Fisher returned from Fort Plank aforesaid to Caughnawaga as aforesaid in the latter part of July or first of August of said year 1780 when this applicant as a private or Corporal & which this applicant does not recollect & his said company commanded by said Capt. Under Lieut. Col. Veeder & Col. Fisher performed duty & service until sometime in November of said year 1780 a period of at least 3 months, in guarding said Fort (8) at Caughnawaga aforesaid in protecting the inhabitants & their property & in going out on scouting parties & in having disciplined & & then were discharged & sent to their respective homes, that during this past period of service this applicant this said company were paid & provisioned by the government and this applicant further says he is the same individual mentioned & named in a certificate of the comptroller of this state attached to this declaration. And that there was no other Gardineer in the said company in which this applicant served as above stated, who has the same Christian name with this deponent & applicant and this applicant further states that he served as corporal & private at the times & places before stated at least one year & one half of one year, and this applicant says he has no documentary evidence whatever of his said services except said certificate hereto annexed and that he relies upon the affidavit & certificates (9) hereto annexed as evidence of his said services in said war & that this applicant had never been on any pension list of the United States. Whatever and further this applicant says not. (Signed) John Gardineer

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year above written before me. D. T. Sacia, Judge of Montgomery County Court.

End Notes—R.3900—John Gardineer

1. Abraham Veeder was appointed First Lieutenant in Captain John Davis' Second Company on August 26, 1775 in Colonel Frederick Visscher's (Fisher) Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Any service prior to 1778 would have been in Captain Davis' Company. Captain Davis was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777. Lieutenant Veeder then assumed command of the company and was in 1778 appointed captain. His commission is dated March 8, 1781.
2. The former home of Sir William Johnson. Sir William died on July 11, 1774 and his son John inherited the Hall. Sir John, being a staunch loyalist fled his home in May of 1776 to Canada and raised a regiment of loyalists called the King's Royal Regiment of New York.
3. It is hard to pinpoint this "Battle" at Johnson Hall as he gives the month of June 1777 which is wrong on several accounts. A raid took place in October 1778 to Johnson Hall to retrieve Johnson's papers that had been buried which were virtually ruined. There was a small skirmish but the British force may have been no longer than 100 Royal Yorkers and Indians. The closest to the month of June was when Sir John Johnson raided the Mohawk Valley on May 22, 1780. He went to Johnson Hall to retrieve the silver still buried in the cellar in flour barrels in the Hall. Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Harper with his regiment of New York State Levies and men from the Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia met up with Johnson at the Hall and started on attack. Johnson quickly sent a messenger under a flag of truce to Harper. *If you persist in attacking the Indians who had over 30 persons including women and children would kill them.* Harper disengaged his troops and pulled back and allowed Johnson to retreat from Johnson Hall. Colonel Visscher had been tomahawked and scalped in this raid. He was taken to Schenectady where he recovered from his wounds. Visscher would not return to the Mohawk Valley until after the war. From this time forward Lieutenant-Colonel Volkert Veeder commanded the regiment. The next battle was on October 25, 1781 at the Hall. Major John Ross and Captain Walter Butler with about 600 British Troops and allies were resting at the Hall after burning and destroying settlements in the Mohawk Valley on the 24th and into the morning of the 25th. Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett with a mixed force of his regiment of New York State Levies, Tryon County Militia, Massachusetts State Levies and a company of the Second Continental Artillery caught up with Major Ross at the Hall and commenced to attack the enemy. After several hours of fighting, Major Ross with his forces retreated under the cover of darkness heading back towards Canada thru the north country.
4. Fort Schuyler (Fort Stanwix) stood in present day City of Rome, Oneida Co., N.Y.
5. Nicholas Dockstader was appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain Davis' Company and was commissioned as such on June 25, 1778. When Captain Veeder was commissioned Captain on March 8, 1781, Dockstader was commissioned First Lieutenant.
6. Fort Paris was built in 1776 at Stone Arabia and named after Isaac Paris.
7. This would be in the year 1781. He is referring to Lt.-Col. Comd't Willett and Brigade Major Andrew Fink of Willett's Regiment. Willett and Fink were in Continental Regiments in 1780. Major Fink was a Captain

in the First New York Continental Regiment and was stationed at Fort Schuyler until September when they were relieved and marched to West Point, N.Y. area.

8. It is not clear during this application what "Fort at Caughnawaga" refers to. There was a blockhouse built to protect the mills of John Veeder which may have been stockaded but there is no real proof to suggest that it was stockaded. The Dutch Reformed Church was of stone and troops and civilians used this church for protection during raids. The closest fort was at Johnstown, other than the homes which were picketed in the area. He never mentions the fort as such but Captain Veeder's Company may have been the blockhouse at the mills he was referring to. Caughnawaga during the War of Independence took in what is now the Village of Fonda and a big part of the Town of Mohawk. It was part of what was called the Mohawk District. After the war, the name of Tryon County was changed to Montgomery County. The Caughnawaga District was formed and went north to include the Village and Town of Johnstown and Mayfield.
9. On a Receipt Roll dated February 16, 1786, sworn to by Lieutenant-Colonel Volkert Veeder that the following certificates of money were paid on May 24, 1785 to John Gardineer.

No.	Amt.
30949	£3..13..0
32067	0..19..6
32260	0..11..8
32297	0..11..8
31909	0..8..10
32342	0..16..0
32156	0..19..6
31888	0..8..10
32849	0..19..6

FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 74, Folder 100, National Archives, Washington, D.C.