

Pension Application for William Orr

W..19941 (Widow: Hoppy or Hopy Salisbury Orr) Married August 2, 1775. William died in 1822. Hoppy died January 20, 1844.

This pension folder is 203 pages long. Hopy had trouble proving her marriage, and the children made depositions as well; also supporting depositions proving William's service. There doesn't appear to be a deposition by William.

State of New York

County of Orleans SS.

On this 30th day of September eighteen hundred & forty seven personally appeared in open court James Orr of the town of Murray in said County aged fifty seven years who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain he amount due to the heirs of Hopy Orr, widow of William Orr, deceased under the act of 4th July 1836.

This declarant states that he is the son of William Orr, who was a soldier in the war of the revolution—that the said William Orr was a native of the town of North East Dutchess County & State of New York—that he entered the service of the United States in said war (as this declarant has understood from his father the said William Orr) as a soldier in the New York Line to serve during the war—that he was a sergeant during a portion of the time he was in service, and that for his services in said war he drew (to this declarant's Knowledge) six hundred acres of forestry land located in the County of Cayuga in said state.

This declarant further states that he has heard his father the said William Orr say that he was employed by orders of General Washington during a portion of the time he was in service (with a brother of his named Hugh Orr) in casting Cannon for the use of the American Army at a place near the Hudson River called Livingston's Furnace, but how long his said father was employed in this capacity this declarant is unable to say—that his said father was a blacksmith by occupation that he assisted in making the chain across the Hudson River & this declarant states that he has seen and read the annexed certificate issued from the office of the Secretary of the State of New York & signed by Arch'd Campbell and this declarant states that he believes & had no doubt that the person therein mentioned was his father the said William Orr.

This declarant further states that his said father was married to this declarant's said mother before the close of his service in said war—as this declarant has heard his said mother say, by a minister named Elder Brandner that the marriage took place on the second day of August but in what year this declarant is unable to say.

This declarant further states that the annexed is a true copy made by this declarant some twelve or fifteen years since of the original family record kept by his aid father & mother—that it contains a true statement as this declarant believes of the time of the birth of this declarants said father & mother & of their children—that the two names first mentioned in said record are this declarants said parents & the other names are those of the children of his said father & mother.

This declarant states that he believes that the original record from which the annexed transcript was taken is still in existence, but of that he is not positive.

This declarant further states that his father the said William Orr died on the [blank] day of [blank] in the year eighteen hundred and twenty that this declarants mother the said Hopy Orr died on the twentieth (20th) day of January in the year eighteen hundred and forty four (1844) that after the death of this declarants said father, his said mother did not again intermarry. That this declarants said father & mother left six children surviving them whose names are Gideon Orr, William Orr, James Orr, Aaron Orr, John Orr and Polly Ward. And further this declarant saith not.

Sworn & subscribed to the day & year first above written before me. H. N. Curtiss, County Judge.