

Pension Application for Spencer Taylor

W.3620 (Widow: Sally)

B.L.Wt.6411-160-55

Declaration.

State of New York

County of Albany SS.

On this fourth day of April A.D. 1855 before me John J. Cole, a commissioner of deeds in and for the county and state aforesaid, personally appeared Sally Taylor aged 84 years, a resident of Watervliet in the State of New York, who being duly solemnly affirmed according to law, doth, on her affirmation make the following declaration in order to obtain the Bounty Land to which she is entitled under the Act of Congress approved March 3d, 1855.

That she is the widow of Spencer Taylor who was a private in the Revolutionary War, that on account of the services of her husband, the aforesaid Spencer Taylor in said war, she now receives a pension at the rate of eighty dollars per annum, under the act of 29th July 1848 as will more fully appear by reference to the evidence now on file in the Pension Office at Washington.

She further declares that she is now a widow; that she has never before applied for nor received any Bounty Land under this or any other Act of Congress. Claimant's Signature, Sally Taylor

State of Connecticut SS.

County & Town of Litchfield. This 6th day of April A.D. 1818.

I James Gould a Judge of the Superior Court for said State, do hereby certify that on the day above mentioned personally appeared before me Spencer Taylor now residing in & belonging to Warren in said County & made declaration under oath that he belonged to & served as a soldier in the American Army in the War of the Revolution & on the Continental establishment that he enlisted into said Army in the spring of the year A.D. 1782 for the term of three years—that he enlisted at Farmington in the State of Connecticut under Capt. Simon Newell (1) of Col. Willett's Regiment of the New York line—That soon after he enlisted he joined his Regiment at Albany & continued faithfully to serve in said Army until the war terminated, that after the termination of the War he continued to serve the United States in laboring on the Block House at Fort Stanwix (2) & on the roads from Fort Stanwix to German Flats in said State of New York under said Col. Willett (3) till about the expiration of said three years when he was honorably discharged at Schenectady by said Col. Willett, which discharge he has lost.

That by reason of his reduced circumstances in life he is very poor & in need of assistance from his country for support.

I also certify that from the foregoing declaration & from other testimony before me I am satisfied that said Spencer Taylor served in the Revolutionary War as aforesaid against the common enemy. (Signed with his mark) Spencer Taylor

Sworn April 6, 1818 before me James Gould a Judge of the Supr. Court.

Sworn before me at Litchfield this 6th day of April 1818.

End Notes—W.3620—Spencer Taylor

1. Captain Simeon Newell of Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York Levies. According to Captain Newell's payroll for 1782, Spencer served 12 months as a private received £ 26. .50 of his pay of £80. .0 and the balance due was £ 53. . 30 FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

The following information was extracted from Colonel Willett's Descriptive Book No. 4, Doc. No. 11105, Special Collections and Manuscripts, New York State Library, Albany, NY. "Born Connecticut, resided at enlistment at Colehead, New London County, Conn. Enlisted by Captain Newell on June 1, 1782 for 2 years. Age 16, Size 5 ft 1 in, Complexion Brown, Hair Brown, Eyes Light, Occupation Farmer.

2. Fort Schuyler, which was Fort Stanwix, was abandoned in May of 1781 because the fort was in a ruinous state from a severe flood and a fire which had burned part of the fort. In 1783 a blockhouse was built to garrison a small number of men to protect the area.
3. Spencer was discharged December 31, 1782 by Major Elias VanBenschoten because Colonel Willett had retired from the service on November 1, 1783.