

Pension Application for John Roth

W.16936 (Former Widow: Elizabeth Cradle) Elizabeth married John before the war began. John died July 5, 1816. Married Thomas Cradle 1824, Thomas died September 29, 1836.

In a deposition a nephew, Lawrence Gros of Canajohaire, of the Rev. Johann Daniel Gross who was the Pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church of Canajoharie (now Minden) during the Revolution states that in the year 1780 or 1781, the church was burned and the existing records as well. He also stated that no church records previous to 1794 exist.

State of New York

Oneida County SS

Jacob Garlock of the town of Rome in County aged eighty five years being duly sworn deposed & saith that he was a soldier during the war of the Revolution and is now a pensioner of the United States under the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That during said war he lived in the town of Minden Montgomery County N. York at a place called Fort Plank. That during said war deponent was well acquainted with John Roth, or as the Dutch called him "Homus Rother", who also lived in said Town of Minden. Said Roth was married before said war & brought his family to Fort Plank for protection against the Indians and Tories, who were ravaging the valley of the Mohawk, killing and making prisoners of the inhabitants. That while said John Roth and his family was at Fort Plank as aforesaid, one of his children while gathering apples at an orchard about a half mile from the Fort was murdered by the Indians and the body left dead in the Orchard. Deponent shortly afterwards found the body and removed it from the ground. It was a young child four or five years of age and was led to the orchard by other children to gather apples. Deponent well remembers that said John Roth was on duty at said Fort for a number of seasons during said war, and for a considerable length of time each season; but what other services he performed Deponent does not know.

He belonged to the Militia of Colonel Clyde in which Deponent also served but was enrolled in a different company as they lived four or five miles apart from each other in said town of Minden.

And deponent further saith, that he was not present at the marriage of said John Roth, but knew him and his wife Elizabeth during said war and knew that they always lived together as husband & wife, and that while said John Roth was in service as aforesaid. Said John Roth died nearly thirty years ago after which his widow was married to Thomas Cradle who has since died. The said Elizabeth now lives in Jefferson County N.Y. & is as deponent is informed an applicant for a pension.

(Signed with his mark) Jacob Garlock

Subscribed & sworn this [?] day of December 1845 and I certify that said Jacob Garlock is a credible witness. George Barnard, J Peace. Thos. B. Slingerland, Witness

State of New York

Montgomery County SS

Joseph Wagner of the town of Minden & Village of Fort Plain in said County Bountie being duly sworn deposeseth & saith that he is now 87 years of age, that he was a soldier of the Revolution & is now a pensioner of the United States.

That during the war of the Revolution he lived in Palatine opposite Fort Plain in said County of Montgomery (then Tryon) & was enrolled in the company of militia commanded by Capt Hess in the Regiment of Colonel Klock. That during said war he was well acquainted with John Roth who lived in the town of Minden near Fort Plank.

Said Roth married Elizabeth Nellis who was a blood relation to Deponent. He was married to her before the war of the Revolution commenced. Deponent was not present at the marriage but remembers that it took place before the war of the Revolution commenced from a number of circumstances.

He remembers that before the war he visited the house of said John Roth and wove for them a piece of checkered cloth. He was engaged about two weeks in weaving this cloth. The said John & Elizabeth were then living together as husband & wife. That during the war while the militia of that immediate vicinity was out on an expedition to Fort Stanwix guarding the boatmen who were conveying stores to said Fort the Indians and Tories made an attack upon the inhabitants and one Clouse a vile & notorious tory from the neighboring town of Sharon succeeded in murdering one of the children of said John & Elizabeth Roth a little girl of four or five years old. He at the same time murdered his own wife whom he had deserted & who had taken refuge in Fort Plans. This child must have been born before said war or near its commencement.

And Deponent further saith that he does not remember of having served in company with said John Roth as he belonged to a different Regiment, but he well remembers that said John Roth belonged to the company of Major House who lived at Fort Plank & has no doubt that he performed much service during said war, particularly in Fort Plank where a garrison was continually [?ranted] and maintained. Said John & Elizabeth continued to live together as husband & wife in Minden aforesaid, until the death of said John Roth.

His widow the said Elizabeth was afterwards married to Thomas Cradle who died nine or ten years ago & further saith not. (Signed) Joseph Wagner

Subscribed & sworn this 29th day of December 1845 before me, I certify that said Joseph Wagner is a credible witness. Jas. W. Hamilton, Justice of the Peace