

John George Happy

Service: New York Rank: Private

Birth: 7-01-1740 Hesse- Kassel Western Europe

Death: 2-28- 1834 Woodstock, Ulster Co. New York

U.S. Rev War Pension and Bounty- Land Warrant Application Files Ancestry.com

Happy served in the 3rd Regiment Ulster County Militia under Capt. Moses Cantine and Hendrick Schoonmaker.

Al query June 20, 2026 3rd Regiment of the Ulster County Militia

The 3rd Regiment of the Ulster County Militia was a Patriot-led militia unit formed on May 3, 1775, by the Ulster County Committee of Safety. The regiment primarily consisted of men recruited from the towns of Marbletown, Rochester, and New Paltz.

Key Details & History Establishment: Organized under orders from the First New York Provincial Congress. Towns Included: Marbletown, Rochester, and New Paltz.

Leadership: Commanded by Patriot officers; for example, Captain Andrew Bevier was tasked early on with detaining local Loyalists and sending them to Kingston for questioning.

Militia Role: The broader Ulster County Militia was one of the primary defensive forces in the region, forming part of the 4th Brigade alongside Orange County.

Reference found in Alf Evers History of an American Town pg. 218-219

“As the people of Woodstock moved through the half century between 1805-1855, they were accumulating a great many of the beliefs, legends and lore that are still alive in Woodstock and help give the town its character. The early pioneers were dying out, having turned over to their children many tales of the hardships of frontier life. Veterans of the Revolution too were fading away. The last of them is thought to have been John George Happy. Happy was the oldest Ulster County Veteran to sit down in 1831 to a dinner in Kingston commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis. Before the dinner he marched wit his fellow veterans to the sound to “bands of music and cannons booming.” According to his tombstone in the Woodstock Cemetery Happy died at the age of ninety-seven years, eight months and twenty-four days on February 14, 1833. His death brought to an end the personal link of Woodstock people to the Revolution.”

Compiled by Janine Fallon Mower