

William Longyear

Born Nov. 15, 1759, Shandaken, Ulster County

Died Sept. 22, 1842, Buried Woodstock Cemetery

“The New York Records list him as a private in Colonel Albert Palwings Regiment of levies; in the 4th Regiment of Orange County Milita commanded by Colonel John Hathorn; in the 1st Regiment of Ulster County Militia commanded by Colonel Johnnes Snyder; and in the 1st Regiment of Ulster County Militia (Land Bounty Rights). The Washington records recite that while residing with his father in Shandaken, N.Y he enlisted in the fall of 1778 and served one month as private in Captain John L. Dewitts’ New York company. Soon after the expiration of this tour, his father (Jacob) moved and William enlisted from there in the latter part of the summer or early fall of 1779 and served one month as private in Captain Evert Bogardus New York Company. He enlisted about harvest time of the year 1780 and served three months as private in Captain Derick Wesbrook’s company of rangers and was discharged by Colonel Cantine. He enlisted in 1781 and served two months as private in Captain Livingston’s company, Colonel Albert Pawling’s New York Regiment, and was engaged in protecting the settlements against Indian depredation. He resided in Shandaken and Plattekill until about 1816 when he moved to Kingston. He is said to have been “blind for fourteen years from the effect of explosion of cannon.” Interestingly, the parents of his wife Bregje Merkel (Bridget) were Tories and were sent to Canada at the close of the war.

Reference:

Pg. 9, pg. 4

Descendants of Jacob Longyear of Ulster County NY

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