

Josiah Hibbard (1735-1776)

Private, Connecticut Militia

The Hibbard family arrived from England as part of “The Great Migration” in 1635. They settled in Salem Massachusetts. Robert Hibbard was a salt maker, and the salt works can still be found there. In 1700, part of the family relocated to Windham, Ct.

Josiah Hibbard was born on January 5, 1735 in Windham. He married Hanna White in 1756, and they had nine children. Josiah joined the Connecticut Minute Men Militia. His unit from Windham was a part of The Battle of Bunker Hill. The Militias were used frequently by General Washington to supplement the regular army. Such was the case in 1776 when Washington was fighting a retreating battle from Long Island. The Ct. Militia participated in several of those battles, and Josiah was killed in action at the Battle of White Plains. The records from The White Plains Historical Society confirm his participation and death.

Josiah’s son Jedidiah was born in 1761 in Windham, Ct. and also was a Revolutionary War Veteran. He is listed as a Private in the 4th Connecticut Regiment. In 1781, General Washington formed a battalion of Light Companies and assigned them to Lt. Col. Alexander Hamilton, and later to General Lafayette. One of the Companies was the 4th Ct Regiment, including Jedidiah. This group made a rapid march to Yorktown, where Cornwallis was defeated. Jedidiah’s term expired in 1783, and he and his wife relocated to Bradford County, Pa. where they had six children. In 1814, he returned to New York to collect his pension, and died there in 1834.

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