

Joseph Hagaman (1740-1817) P-172195
Captain, New York Militia

Joseph Hagaman was born in Queens, New York, on March 27, 1740, the son of Hendrik (Henry) Hagaman, and his wife, Geertie (Charity) (Barent), both natives of Holland. Hagaman married Dientje (Blandina) (Pels) on June 15, 1780 in New Hackensack, New York. They had seven children: Gertrude (Grietje/Charity), Jane, John, Evert, Francis, Denne, and Nicholas.

Hagaman was a first lieutenant in the Dutchess County, New York, militia. In 1775, four Continental Army regiments were raised in New York, and one of these was the Fourth Dutchess Militia. A Charlotte Precinct was organized into 13 regiments for Northeast Dutchess County under the leadership of Colonel Daniel Shepherd. Hagaman was a first lieutenant for the 11th regiment, under Captain William Gay. Commissions were issued on Oct. 17, 1775. As a Captain, Hagaman commanded a company of associated exempts in the New York militia. It is unknown if he was a pensioner.

Hagaman is considered a pioneer of Montgomery County, New York. He made the first settlement at Hagaman's Mills, as early as 1777. He traveled from his home in Dutchess County, New York. He was the first to locate in the northern part of the town, having previously purchased four hundred acres of land, as follows: one hundred acres from Mr. Vischer, of Schaghticoke, for \$5 per acre, and three hundred acres of White and Palmer, of Saratoga County, for \$2.75 per acre. Hagaman at once commenced improvements on his new homestead, the erection of a saw mill being among the first made. It is related that here the name of Amsterdam was first adopted for this part of the then large district of Caughnawaga. The scattered settlers had assembled for the purpose of raising the frame of Mr. Hagaman's saw mill, when it was proposed to give a name to this section, whereby it might be known and more definitely distinguished. A vote was taken, and Amsterdam was almost unanimously agreed upon, the name being retained at its organization as an independent town.

Joseph died on Dec. 18, 1817, in Hagaman's Mills, New York. He is buried in Old Hagaman Cemetery. His grave is honored with a Patriot Marker, installed in July 2015 by descendant Craig Paige.

Submitted by Craig Paige
NSSAR# 191359
Saramana SAR Chapter
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