

William Vredenburgh's Revolutionary War Discharge Certificate

William Vredenburgh's Revolutionary War discharge certificate was highlighted in the National Geographic TV program, [America's Lost Treasures](#) that aired July 27, 2012. This certificate is in the possession of James Speegle. I created a word document from screen shots of the TV program.

James and I have corresponded. He does not know how his family came into possession of the document, but here is a possible explanation. James Speegle is a descendent of James Reed. James Reed was commissioned 2nd Major of the First Regiment of Dutchess County, New York Minute Men, October 17, 1775. He served under Col. John Van Ness. This is not the same unit William served in.

On page 9 of my 1997 paper "A Biography of William Vredenburgh, Revolutionary War Veteran," I document that William sold the bounty land he was awarded for serving in the First New York Regiment to a James Reed. I can only presume that Reed had to present the discharge paper to obtain title from the government bureau that dispersed the land.

The full URL of the program:

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/americas-lost-treasures/galleries/photo-gallery-wilmington-delaware-treasures/#close-modal>

Larry Mark Vredenburgh, 2012

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq:
General and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the
United States of America

THESE are to CERTIFY that the bearer hereof
William Vredenburgh soldier

In the *First New York* Regiment, having faithful
ly Served the United States *six years*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ and being inlisted for the War only, is
hereby DISCHARGED from the American Army

GIVEN at HEAD – QUARTERS the *8th June*
1783

G Washington

By HIS EXCELLENCY'S

Command,

Illegible signature

REGISTERED in the Books

of the Regiment,

Illegible signature Adjutant,

THE above *Willⁿ Vredenburgh*

Has been honored with the BADGE of MERIT for *six*

Years faithful service.

born New York State

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq:
General and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the
United States of America

THESE are to CERTIFY that the Bearer hereof
William [unclear]

in the *1st [unclear]* Regiment having faithfully
served the United States *in [unclear]*
and being entitled to the W^o only

hereby DISCHARGED from the American Army

GIVEN at HEAD-QUARTERS the *10th* day of *June* 177*7*

[Signature]

By HIS EXCELLENCY
Command,

[Signature]

REGISTERED in the Books
of the Regiment, *[unclear]* Adjutant,

[Signature]

THE above *[unclear]*
has been honored with the BADGE of MERIT for *[unclear]*
Service, *[unclear]*

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
GEORGE WASHINGTON
General and Commander in Chief of the Forces
of the United States of America.

THESE are to CERTIFY that the
William Woodbury
the *Second Regiment* Regiment, has