

Individual Narrative of Samuel⁶ Gorsline [73] Son of Samuel Gorsline and Martha⁵ Leverich [23]

Samuel Gorsline Sr was born c 1723 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. He was the son of Jose Gorsline and Elizabeth Alburdis. He married in 1750 at Newtown Martha Leverich. In his will dated 1782 in Dutchess County, New York, Samuel names his "eldest son" **Samuel Gorsline (Jr) (Samuel, Jose)**.^{1,2,3,4}

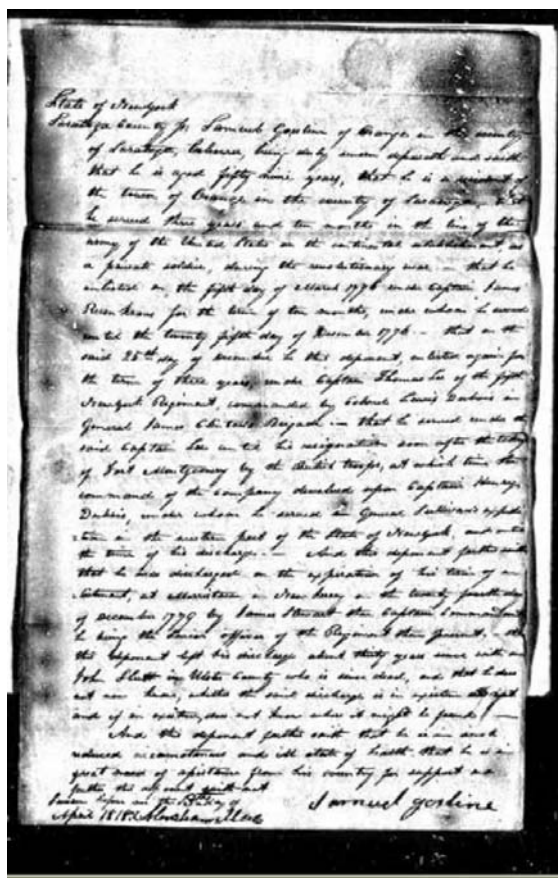
William Gorsline was born c 1733 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. He was the son of Jose Gorsline and Elizabeth Alburdis. He married first in 1756 Martha Thurston in Dutchess Co, New York. He married second Margaret (unidentified). In his will dated 1815 in Saratoga County, New York, William names a son **Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose)**.^{5,6,7}

Samuel Gorsline (Jr) (Samuel, Jose) was born circa 1751, probably at Newtown, Queens County, New York. He was the son of Samuel Gorsline and Martha Leverich. His birthdate is an estimate based upon the 1750 marriage date of his parents, and a reference in his father's 1782 will that Samuel was his eldest son. He is likely the Samuel Gorsline who appears in Rensselaer Co, New York as early as 1799.^{8,9,10,11}

Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose) was born c 1757, probably at Dutchess County, New York. He was baptized 29 April 1759 at the Rombout Presbyterian Church in Dutchess Co. His birth date is an estimate based upon his age at the time of death. He is likely the Samuel Gorsline who appears in Saratoga County, New York as early as 1818.^{12,13,14}

The two first cousins named Samuel Gorsline, living in adjacent counties Rensselaer and Saratoga in the same general time frame, are difficult to differentiate. This narrative pertains to Samuel Gorsline (Jr) (Samuel, Jose), unless otherwise specified.

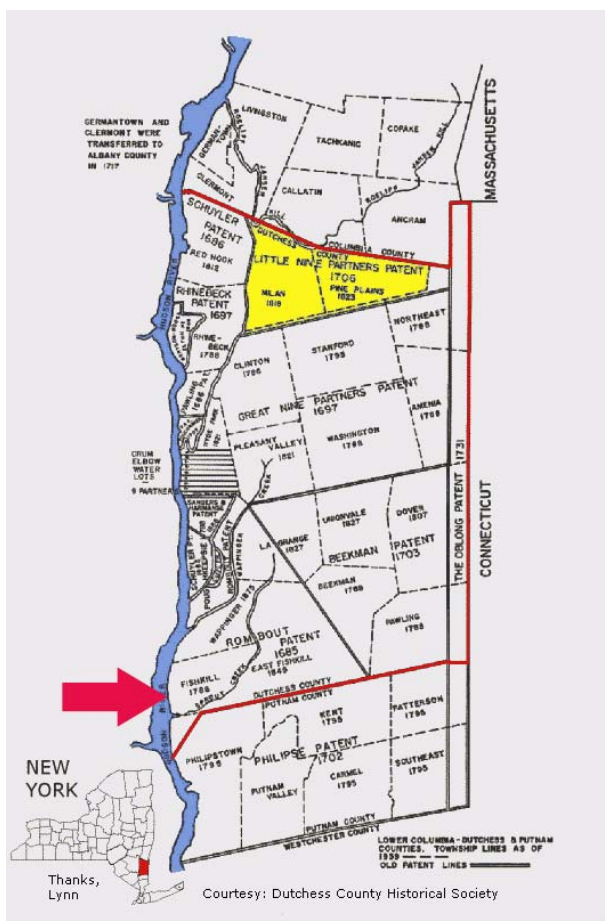
On 13 April 1818, a Samuel Gorsline signed an affidavit in support of his application for a revolutionary war pension.



In the affidavit, Samuel states that he is a laborer, age 59, with no family, no real estate, and no personal property other than wearing apparel. Samuel further asserts that he served 3 years and 10 months on the American side during the Revolutionary War. He enlisted as a private 5 March 1776 under Captain James Rosenkrans, in the 5th New York Regiment of the Continental Line commanded by Col. Lewis Dubois. He reenlisted as a private 25 December 1776 under Captain Thomas Lee, in the same regiment, serving for three years. He was discharged 24 December 1779 at Morristown, New Jersey. The 5th New York Regiment was recruited in Ulster County, which borders Dutchess County, where Samuel was living at the time. This Samuel could have been either of the two Samuel cousins, but based upon the Saratoga Co, New York location, it is more likely to have been Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose).^{15,16,17,18}

On 22 August 1934, Samuel Gilbert Gorsline of River Forest Illinois made application to the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) citing his ancestor Samuel Gorsline, husband of Martha Leverich, and the service of Samuel Gorsline in the 5th Line Regiment of the Continental Army. Although this Samuel Gorsline may well have been a revolutionary war veteran, probably the Dutchess Co Militia, it could not have been the 5th Line Regiment, that service having been performed by Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose). Samuel Gorsline Sr, husband of Martha Leverich, was deceased in 1818 at the time Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose) made a pension application. Samuel Gilbert Gorsline was a descendent of Richard Gorsline, a brother of Samuel Gorsline Jr. (Samuel, Jose).¹⁹

On 25 May 1782 Samuel Gorsline Sr of Dutchess County, New York made a will which stipulated, among other provisions, "I leave to my eldest son, Samuel, the choice of a horse for his birthright. All the rest of my estate I leave to my children, Samuel, Martha, William, Elizabeth, Sarah, Ruth, James, Richard, and Jose."²⁰



Samuel Gorsline Jr may have married Tabitha Calkins, daughter of David Calkins and Priscilla Burgess, between 1789 and 1800 at Dutchess Co, New York.²¹ In *The Settlers of the Beekman Patent*, Frank J. Doherty presents Tabitha Calkins, born about 1772 in the Oblong, Dutchess County, New York, as the daughter of David Calkins and Priscilla

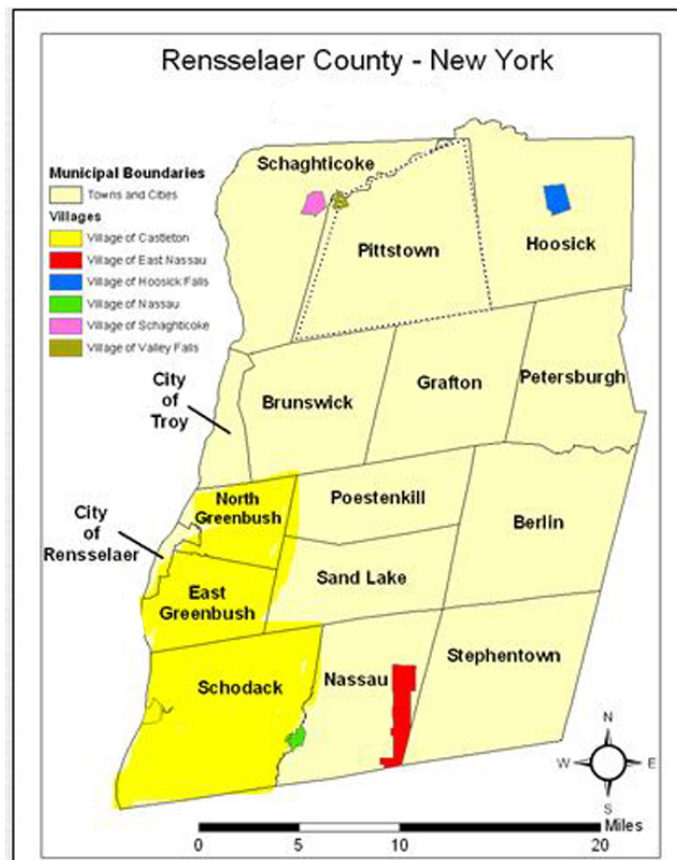
Burgess, and the wife of a Mr. Goslin. Doherty suggests that Mr. Goslin was Samuel Gorsline Jr. Doherty however does not identify sources for this information. Tabitha would have been age 17 at the time of her marriage, if she was married as early as 1789.²²

On 7 May 1789, a Samuel Gorsline replied to a lawsuit filed by James Weeks in the Dutchess County, New York Court of Common Pleas, in the cause of a debt. On behalf of Samuel, his attorney Silas March, asserts that the the bill in question does not belong to Samuel. This Samuel could have been either of the two first cousins.²³

S. Gorsline was a witness to the will dated 21 August 1799 of Henry Decker of Schodack, Rensselaer Co, New York. Also a witness was George Adriance, a brother-in-law of Samuel Leverich, and the husband of Samuel's sister Elizabeth. This is the earliest reference to Samuel in Rensselaer County.²⁴

Samuel Gorsline is listed as a head of household in the 1800 U.S. Census of Greenbush, Rensselaer Co, New York. The census tallies record 2 free white males under the age of 10, 1 free white male age 10 to 15, 2 free white males age 16 to 25, 1 free white male age 45 and over; also 2 free white females under the age of 10, 1 free white female age 10 to 15, 1 free white female age 16 to 25, and 1 free white female age 45 and over. Samuel is listed on the census page between his probable brother-in-law George Adriance, and his probable father-in-law David Calkins. Nearby on the same census page is a William Gorsline. Circumstantial evidence suggests that this William Gorsline was a brother of Samuel Gorsline.²⁵

In 1799, the State of New York enacted legislation providing for the collection of taxes on real estate and personal property. Samuel Gorsline is recorded on the tax assessment roles at Greenbush, Rensselaer Co, New York in 1800, and at Schodack, Rensselaer Co for the period 1801-1803. Samuel apparently did not own any real property, and was taxed solely on personal property valued at \$80 to \$100. This suggests that Samuel was among the less affluent members of the community at that time. In 1800, his brother William Gorsline is recorded with real property valued at \$2,000 and personal property at \$178.²⁶

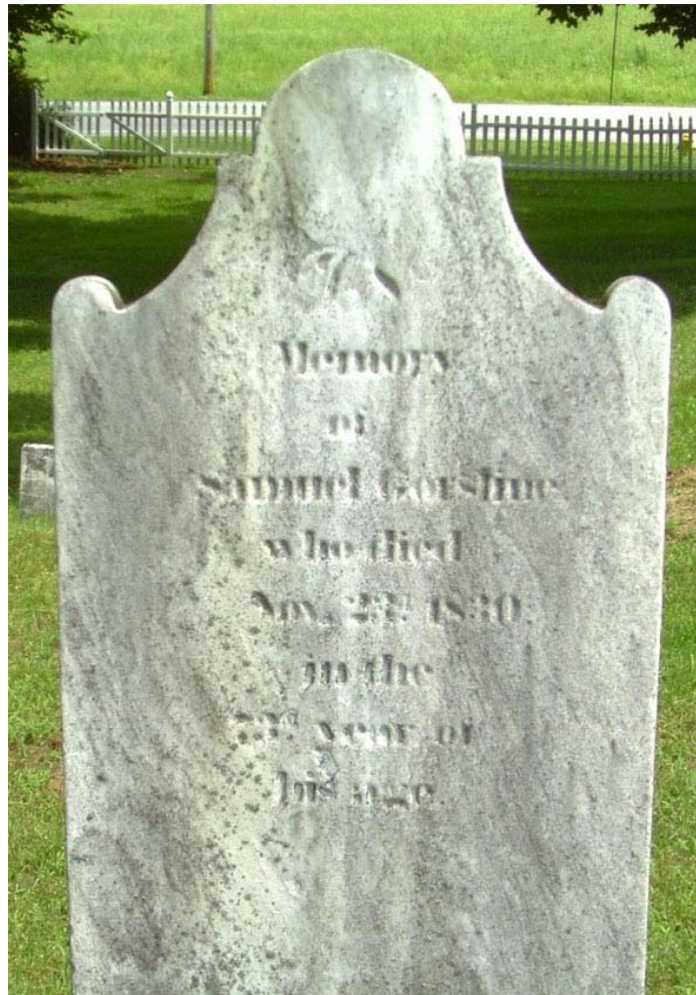


Samuel Gorsline is listed as a head of household in the 1810 U.S. Census of Greenbush, Rensselaer Co, New York. The census tallies record 1 free white male under the age of 10, 2 free white males age 16 to 25, 1 free white male age 45 and over; also 1 free white female age 16-25, 1 free white female age 45 and over.²⁷

Samuel Gorsline Jr was a witness to the 9 April 1814 will of David Thurston of Schaghticoke, Rensselaer Co, New York.²⁸

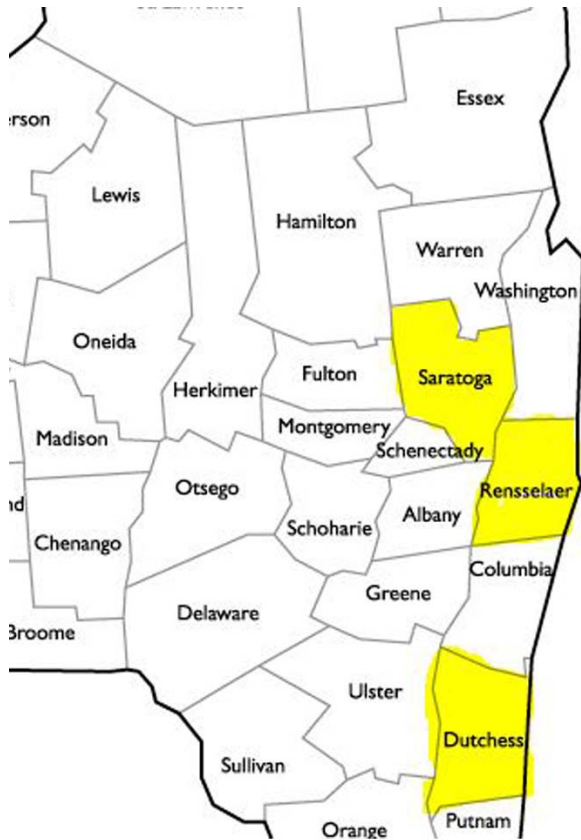
The 1800 and 1810 census tallies would strongly suggest that Samuel Gorsline had a wife and family. However, no record of a family has been found. What happened to his wife and family, if he had any, is unknown. No record of death or burial has been found for Tabitha Calkins Gorsline. Samuel Gorsline Jr is not found as a head of household in the 1820 or 1830 U.S. Census. No record of death or burial has been found for Samuel.^{29,30,31}

Samuel Gorsline Jr would have died after 1814 probably in Rensselaer Co, New York. A Samuel Gorsline died on 23 Nov 1830 at Half Moon, Saratoga County, New York. This Samuel was buried at the Newtown Baptist Cemetery in Half Moon. Also buried in the same cemetery are William Gorsline, probably Samuel's father, and other members of this family. Therefore this is likely Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose). Samuel's gravestone indicates he was age 73 at the time of his death in 1830, which suggests a birth year of c 1757.³²



**Newtown Baptist Cemetery
Half Moon, Saratoga Co, New York**

Samuel Gorsline (William, Jose) does not appear on the tax assessment rolls (1799-1803) or the U.S. Census records (1800-1830) in Saratoga County, New York. He may have been living in the household of his younger brother William W. Gorsline, who is recorded in Saratoga County in 1820 to 1850. The 1820 census tallies for William W. Gorsline in Half Moon Township, Saratoga County include 1 free white male age 26 to 45 (William W.), and two free white males over the age of 45 (perhaps one of these was Samuel). The census tallies also indicate 2 persons engaged in agriculture. The 1830 Census household of William Gorsline in Half Moon Township includes 1 free white male age 40-49, and 1 free white male age 70-79.^{33,34}



**New York State
Dutchess, Rensselaer, Saratoga Counties**



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Endnotes

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- ¹James Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown in Queens County, New York: Containing Its History from its first Settlement* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852), page 346. Hereinafter cited as *Annals of Newtown*.
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- ⁴Samuel Gorsline will (1782-1784), 1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986: Dutchess County New York Surrogate, Dutchess County Archives, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York 12601. Hereinafter cited as 1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline.
- ⁵Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 346.
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- ⁸Newtown Presbyterian Records, Marriages, 1750.
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- ¹²New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, "Rombout and Poughkeepsie NY Presbyterian Records", Rombout Baptisms 1759.
- ¹³Find A Grave, online <www.findagrave.com>, Memorial No. 91864695. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
- ¹⁴Samuel Gorsline Jr file; S43,615; *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty0Land Warrant Application Files*; NARA, M804, Roll 1098 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives), Image No. 1056.
- ¹⁵Ibid.
- ¹⁶Alphonso T. Clearwater, editor, *History of Ulster County NY* (Kingston, New York: W. J. Van Deusen, 1907), pages 200-202. Hereinafter cited as *History of Ulster County NY*.
- ¹⁷New York Historical Society *Collections of the New York Historical Society for the Year 1915*, Volume 48 (New York, New York: Printed for the Society, 1916), pages 474-476. Hereinafter cited as *Collections NY Historical Society V48 1915*.
- ¹⁸Office of the State Comptroller, *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State* (Albany, New York: J.B. Lyon Company, Printers, 1904), Volume 1, pages 55-56. Hereinafter cited as *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*.
- ¹⁹Lineage application of Samuel Gilbert Gorsline, National Number 54373, Sons of the American Revolution, <http://search.ancestry.com/Browse/view.aspx?dbid=2204&path=256.142&sid=&gskw=Samuel+Gorsline>.
- ²⁰1784 Probate Samuel Gorsline Ancient Documents File No. 10953 and 10986.
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- ²²Ibid., Volume 3, page 164; Volume 5, page 698.
- ²³*Samuel Gorsline v. James Weeks*, Ancient Documents File No. 12,916, 7 May 1789: Image No. 757, Dutchess County New York Surrogate, Dutchess County Archives, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York 12601.
- ²⁴Phillips, *Abstracts of Wills Rensselaer Co, New York*, Liber I, page 318.
- ²⁵1800 U.S. Census New York, Rensselaer Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 26, Town of Greenbush, page 10.

²⁶New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804. New York State Archives, Albany, New York; Series B0950. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604, Town of Greenbush 1800, Town of Schodack 1801-1803: Rensselaer Co, New York. Hereinafter cited as New York Tax Assessment Rolls 1799-1804.

²⁷1810 U.S. Census New York, Rensselaer Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M252, Roll 35, Town of Greenbush, page 466.

²⁸Phillips, *Abstracts of Wills Rensselaer Co, New York*, Liber 7, page 179.

²⁹Samuel Gorstline Jr, Pension Application Revolutionary War, S43,615, NARA, M804, Roll 1098, Image No. 1056.

³⁰1800 U.S. Census New York, Rensselaer Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Greenbush, page 10.

³¹1810 U.S. Census New York, Rensselaer Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Greenbush, page 466.

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³³1830 U.S. Census New York, Saratoga Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M19, Roll 108, Town of Half Moon, page 79.

³⁴1820 U.S. Census New York, Saratoga Co. unknown repository, Provo, Utah. NARO, M33, Roll 79, Town of Half Moon, page 222.