

Cornelius P. Vanderhoef
(Oct 17, 1762 – May 10, 1816)
Private, 1st Regiment of Monmouth County Militia

By Daisy Orr
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Cornelius enlisted in the State Troops from the 1st Regiment, Monmouth County Militia, serving under Captain Samuel Carhart on June 28, 1780. He was 18 years old at the time.

It should be noted that the State Troops played an important role during the Revolutionary War. They occupied a middle ground between the local militia and the Continental Army, more committed than militia units yet serving primarily within New Jersey rather than throughout the broader Continental theater.

New Jersey enlisted militia men into special units known as "State Troops." These were militia organizations with longer terms of service, typically one year, although some enlistments were for three, six, or nine months. They served along the state's frontiers and borders, where enemy activity was frequent, including Bergen County, Monmouth County, and the areas around Elizabethtown and Amboy.

While the State Troops provided sustained military service in these vulnerable regions, the local militia focused on community defense, suppressing Loyalist activity, and responding to emergency alarms and enemy incursions.

By 1780–1781, the Continental Army was focused elsewhere, particularly along the New York frontier and in preparation for the Yorktown Campaign. Meanwhile, much of the local militia was engaged in coastal patrols, watching for the movements of British ships and responding to Loyalist activity that targeted Patriot homes and supplies. By 1781, such raids had become common, with Loyalist forces operating from British-controlled bases such as Sandy Hook.

Cornelius was present at the capture of the British brig *Britannia* on December 28, 1779.

Later, he served under Captain John Walton in the State Troops of Light Dragoons for a twelve-month term beginning on January 11, 1782.

After the war, Cornelius P. Vanderhoef, Esq. was the first Postmaster of Middletown Point and he became a judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

Family of Cornelius Vanderhoef:

The parents of Cornelius were Peter Vanderhoef and Mary Dorsett. Peter was an ensign in the 1st Regiment Monmouth County and father and son served during the war together.

Phebe Hunn (1768 – 1808) married Cornelius P. Vanderhoef (1763 - 1816). Phebe was the daughter of Major Thomas & Catherine Hunn.



Phebe Hunn's portrait shown here was painted by her brother Perry Hunn.

Cornelius and Phebe Vanderhoef had the following children:
Mary Hunn Vanderhoef (1787–1865); married Nicholas Disbrow.

Thomas Hunn Vanderhoef (1789–1876)

Betsey Vanderhoef (1791–1819)

Elizabeth R Amy (1791–1819) married John Amy (son of David Amy – Sergeant in the Continental Army).

Peter S Vanderhoff (1794–1863)

Samuel Cox Van Derhoef (1796–1847)

Cornelius Vanderhoef (1798–1798)

Doctor John Van Emberg Vanderhoef (1801–1842)

Adrian and Cornelius Vanderhoef, twins (1805–1806)



Phebe was buried in Mt Pleasant Cemetery as is her husband and many of the Vandehoef clan. After Phebe's death, Cornelius married Betsy Forman.

From the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Index:

111	115	Cornelius P. Vanderhoef, Esq. Cornelius was the first Postmaster of Middletown Point and a judge of the Court of Common Pleas. b. 1763 d. May 10, 1816 age 53 yrs., 6 mos., 23 da.
116		Phebe Hunn, wife of Cornelius P. Vanderhoef and daughter of Major Thomas & Catherine Hunn b. 1768 d. April 4, 1808 age 40 yrs., 5 mos., 13 da.