

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Decker S30380 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Grayson County S.S.

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before Joseph Boone, Benedict Carrico & Charles H Stuteville the Court of Grayson County now sitting John Decker resident of Grayson County and State of Kentucky aged 80 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in Order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was in the service of the Revolutionary war from five years before the close until the close of the war he was drafted but cannot tell the time and placed under the command of Capt Monroe, Maj'r. Montgomery & Colo Mumford [Munford?] and stationed at the magazine on Roan Oak River in Macklenburg County [sc: Roanoke River in Mecklenburg County] Virginia in which County he was born and entered the service in the same County at which place he was stationed one winter say three months, he was also drafted for six months and served that time in guarding the Town of Portsmouth or the Aplomatic River [sic] in Virginia he was at another time in service and stationed at the Town of Stono in North Carolina [sic] under Capt John Homes [John Holmes?] & Samuel Lark Lieut – at the time he was stationed at Portsmouth he was under the Command of Capt Anderson and Gen'l. Burrel [Burwell?], that he was in service at various other times and places and marched through Virginia and North Carolina, that he was in the service at the time Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] and was in hearing, he was guarding the magazine at the time of the battle of Guilford [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. – he is positive he has served upwards of one year.

Questions propounded by the Court to the applicant

Question 1st. where and what year were you born

Answer I was born on the 21st day of October 1752

Question 2nd have you any record of your age and if so where is it – Answer I have no record of my age
3rd Question where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live –

Answer I was born in Macklenburg County Virginia and resided in the same County when I entered the service and continued to reside there during the War. I moved to Georgia soon after the war and lived there about 18 years from thence I moved to Mercer county & from thence I moved to Grayson County where I now live and have lived in Grayson County Kentucky 15 years.

Question 4th how were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute. Answer I was drafted, our militia Company was laid off into Classes and when my turn came to go I had to march and that was very often during five years.

5th Question State the names of some of the regular officers where you served and such Continental & Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Answer. I served under the Officers named in this declaration, I dont know whether they were regular or militia Officers, and the general circumstances of my service ar those already stated

Question 6th did you ever receive a discharge

Answer I never did receive a discharge

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Answer – Samuel Rhoads John Cook, James Gatten, William Caswell, John Hayse Sen'r. John Hayse Jr. Mordecai Lincoln Zachariah Carns Allen Decker, John Decker Jr.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid John hisXmark Decker

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for Grayson County in the State of Kentucky John Decker who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, in the year 1776 I served as a private in the militia of the state of Virginia the term of three months in guarding the magazine on Roan Oak River in Macklenburg County in the State of Virginia and that he served under Captain Monroe Maj'r. Montgomery and Colonel Mumford – that in the year 1780 he served six months in the militia of Virginia in guarding portsmouth on the aplomatic River in the State of Virginia and was under the Command of Captain Anderson & Gen'l. Burrell, that he knows he served one month at the Town of Stono in Virginia [sic] under Captain John Homes but cannot recollect the year positively but thinks it was in the year 1777 That since the filing his Original Declaration he has procured the affidavits of William Decker [pension application S12750] & Henry Decker proving his service which is hereto annexed as part hereof. That the reason of his not procuring the clergyman to certify in his Original Declaration agreeably to the regulation sof the War department was that there was no clergyman in the neighbourhood and he was not acquainted with any near having been stone blind for five years.

May 25th 1833

John hisXmark Decker

State of Kentucky
Grayson County Sct

The Affidavit of William Decker Taken at the town of Leitchfield in Grayson County State of Kentucky before William C Wortham a Justice of the Peace for Grayson County on the 25th day of May 1833.

The Deponent being in the 89th year of his age after being duly sworn according to law saith that he was well acquainted with John Decker in the time of the Revolutionary War that he knows the said John Decker in the year 1776 was in the service of the United States and was stationed at the magazine on Roan Oak in Macklinburg County in the State of Virginia and served three months, and that in the year 1780 he knows the said John Decker was in service of the United States and Stationed at Portsmouth on the aplomatic River in Virginia and served a tour of six months he the said William Decker was in service at the same time and served with the s'd John Decker and further saith not

William hisXmark Decker

Also the Deposition of Henry Decker taken at the time and place above mentioned

The Deponant being in the 6[?]^d year of his age and being sworn agreeably to law saith that he was acquainted with John Decker in the time of the Revolutionary war that he lived in the same neighbourhood in the State of Virginia and recollects perfectly well to have heard it talked of in the neighbourhood at the time that the said John Decker and his father [sic: brother?] William Decker who has given his affidavit was gone to guard Portsmouth and the magazine which was between the years he thinks of 1775 & 1781

And further this Deponant saith not

[signed] Henry Decker

NOTE: I could find no records of the officers named.