

Pension Application for John Dean

W.16555 (Widow: Mary) John died April 14, 1816, Westchester, NY.

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of act of Congress of the 4th of July 1836.

State of New York

Westchester County SS.

On this eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven personally appeared before the undersigned, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Westchester (being a Court of Record) Mary Dean a resident of the Town of Gansburgh in the County of Westchester aforesaid aged eighty one years on the twenty first day of November in the year 1836, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress Passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of John Dean deceased, who was a soldier in the army in the Revolution. That she cannot set forth of her own knowledge the time that he enlisted & served not the officers under whom he served with any degree of certainty, but she refers to the proof hereto annexed.

That this deponent always understood that her said husband in the year 1775 entered the service of the U. States and was marched to the Canadas & was in service at least six months at that time, that he afterwards entered the service in 1776, & 1777, 1778, 1779 and 1780 under different officers & served at different periods in all during said war upwards of three years apart of the time as a private and a part of the time as a noncommissioned officer.

And she further declares that she was married to the said John Dean on the thirteenth day of October in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six.

That her husband the aforesaid John Dean died on the fourth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Mary Dean.

Sworn to and subscribed this 8th day of June in the year 1837 before me. Aaron Vark, one of the Judges of Westchest County.

Letter in folder dated March 20, 1939, written in response to an inquiry.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, W.16555, based on the military service of John Dean.

The date and place of his birth and the names of his parents are not shown.

While living in or near Tarrytown, New York, John Dean was enlisted in the summer of 1775 by Lieutenant Isaac VanWart in captain Ambrose Horton's company in Colonel James Holmes' New York regiment; he went on an expedition to St. Johns in Canada and served six months. He enlisted in the spring of 1776 and served six or eight months with the New York troops, names of officers not shown.

He enlisted early in December 1776, and served until May 1777, as sergeant in Captain Sybert Acker's company in Colonel James Hammond's New York regiment.

He enlisted in May 1777, in Captain Gilbert Dean's (uncle of John Dean) New York company and was discharged about the time Fort Montgomery was captured by the British.

He enlisted late in October 1777, and served at various times, whenever called upon, until sometime in May, 1778, in the New York militia under Colonel Hammond.

He enlisted about the first of May, 1778, and served until Christmas Eve, 1778, as quartermaster in Captain Daniel Williams' company in Colonel Morris Graham's New York regiment.

He enlisted about the middle of January, 1779, and served four or five months as horseman and guide with New York troops in Colonel Aaron Burr's regiment under Major William Hull.

He then enlisted and served in the New York militia for about one year in Captain Jesse Baker's company in Colonel Hammond's regiment.

On September 23, 1780, while serving as a guide to the Continental troops, this soldier along with John Yorks, John Paulding, James Romer, Abraham Williams, Isaac VanWart, David Williams and Isaac Lee, captured major Andre and carried him to Colonel Jameson.

John Dean married in October, 1776, soon after the battle of White Plains, Mary Sterns, who was born November 21, 1755.

Mary Dean stated that her husband, John Dean, died April 4, 1816. He died in "The Village of Tarryton" in the town of Greenburgh, Westchester County, New York.

In 1837 Mary Dean's sister, Susanna Burkhout, then the widow John Buchhout, was living in Westchester County, New York.

There are no further data relative to the soldier's family.

It might be of interest to you to know that reference is made to John Dean in Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution, Volume 1, page 755. This book was published by Harper & Brothers in New York City in 1860.