

Pension Application for John DeGroat

S.18378

July 30, 1835

State of New York

St. Lawrence County SS.

On this twenty eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, John DeGroat, who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of his great age and infirmities and the consequent loss of memory, he is unable to state facts and dates with precision and certainty, but that according to the best of his recollection and belief it was in the month of November in the year seventeen hundred and eighty. He enlisted as a drummer in the artillery corps in the Continental line of the army of the Revolution.

That he enlisted at the Village of New Windsor about three miles below the Village of Newburgh on the North river in the State of New York. Deponent resided at this time near New Windsor [sic] and there was a recruiting rendezvous in the village, he cannot recollect the name of the Recruiting Officer but he well recollects the name of the Sergeant who enlisted him which was Cochran.

During the following winter the troops were in Barracks about a mile above New Windsor Village—but deponent did not join them until the next spring being stationed by the Captain as his Servant.

In the spring of Seventeen hundred and eighty one deponent joined the army at their Quarters and was attached to Captain Guion Company in Colonel Stevens Regiment of Artillery.

Major Doty in the only Field Officers named and Lieut Thompson attached to Capt [Parson's?] company the only company officers named he now recollects during the following summer the troops were ordered to Virginia, and this deponent marched under the above officers through White Plains and other places to Trenton in New Jersey where they took a shipping and landed a short distance below Philadelphia, they encamped there a few days and were then marched to Elk River when they again took shipping and sailed for James River where they joined the main Army and immediately commenced digging trenches and throwing up Batteries, Deponent was at the Battle of York Town and surrender of Cornwallis a short time after this Battle his Regiment was ordered to the north and they [?] that Fall as far as Burlington in New Jersey when they went into Barracks—The Regiment remained at Burlington until some time the next summer or Fall when they marched to New Windsor and remained here but a short time when they went down to West Point—at West Point Capt Guions Company was detached and ordered to Albany to relieve a company stationed there. They remained at Albany during the following winter and until the next June when they proceeded to West Point where they were discharged.

Deponent received a written or printed discharge but being then unable to read or write he cannot say by whom it was signed at the time of his discharge he received three and a half months pay—which if he recollect right was an order on Capt. Guions

Store, at all events Capt. Guion had established a store and being in want of clothes he took the amount of his pay out of the store. He also at the same time received his drum which was given to him by the officers.—Deponent has received no other bounty except fifty dollars and a guinea which was paid him at the time of his enlistment.
(Signed) John DeGroat

Sworn & subscribed before me the 28th day of June 1833. William Ogden Esq.
Justice Peace

Letter in folder dated January 22, 1940, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you state that you do not know the full name of your DeGroat ancestor and would like all possible assistance in locating his revolutionary War Record.

The record is furnished you herein, of a John DeGroat who served with the New York troops in the Revolutionary War, which may aid you somewhat.

The data which follow were taken from papers on file in pension claim, S.18378, based on the military service of John DeGroat.

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

While living near New Windsor, New York, John DeGroat enlisted in November, 1780, in Captain Guion's Company in Colonel John Lamb's Regiment of Continental Artillery, served as drummer with rank of private, was at the battle of Yorktown and the surrender of Cornwallis there and was discharged in June, 1783.

John DeGroat was allowed pension on his application executed September 29, 1828 at which time he gave his residence as Madrid, St. Lawrence County, New York, age not shown. His residence in 1832 was Madrid, New York.

In 1839, it was stated that he was a resident of Williamsburgh, "Upper Canada."

There are no data relative to the family of John DeGroat.

Because of his Revolutionary War service, John DeGroat received Warrant #7073 for 100 acres of bounty land from the United States and this warrant was issued August 20, 1790, to William Cummings, assignee. For information relative to the location of this land, it is suggested that you address the Commissioner of the General Land Office, Interior Department, this city, given the warrant number, the acreage and the date the warrant was issued.

Because of his service in the Revolutionary War, John DeGroat received 600 acres of bounty land from the state of New York. For information relative to this land, it is suggested that you consult the archives at Albany, New York.

John DeGroat died January 23, 1852.