

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Thomas Cook W23855                      Martha Cook    VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia; Charlotte County to wit:

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1839, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Martha Cooke, a resident of said County and State, aged 77 years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1838, entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows"

That she is the Widow of Thomas Cook or Cooke, late of the said County and State, who was a private in the Continental and Militia service of Virginia, in the War of the Revolution. She declares, that she does not know any thing as coming within her personal knowledge, (being a woman and not in service with him) respecting the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary War. She has often heard him say in his life time, and others also, who served with him, that he was in the service of his country some considerable length of time, was engaged in several battles, and that he suffered much, and endured many hardships; all of which, she honestly believes. That from bodily infirmity, old age, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot at this time, call to recollection the particulars of her husbands service as related by him: and therefore, prefers to depend on the statments of those who served with him, and whose memories are better, for the particulars of his service – whose certificates accompany her Declaration. That for the same reason, she cannot state with any degree of certainty how long he was in actual service altogether, but would suppose he served at the least two years, for which length of time she claims a pension. In support of her claim, she refers to the Army Records of the period, and accompanying affidavits, all of which, are prayed to be considered as part.

She further declares, that she was married to the said Thomas Cook on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1784; that her husband the aforesaid Thomas Cook, died on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1819; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, Seventeen hundred and ninty four: to wit, at the time above stated.

[signed] Martha Cook

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit: [20 Nov 1839]

I do hereby certify that I was intimately acquainted with Thomas Cooke, late of Lunenburg County, in the War of the Revolution, and am under the impression and belief that he was drafted in the Militia from Lunenburg County in 1780, under Capt [Sylvanus] Walker, and marched to the South, and was engaged in the battle near Camden in August [16<sup>th</sup>] 1780. I farther certify, that in the early part of 1781, we were drafted again from the same county under Capt. Walker for three months, and marched to North Carolina, and were engaged in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. He served the said term faithfully. The said Thomas Cooke, was also at the seige of Yorktown [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], but under whom he served, and how long, I am unable to say. I am in the 81<sup>st</sup> year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolution. I have always understood, said Thomas Cooke was previously in the Continental line, but do not know the fact, not being with him.

[signed] Ambrose Haley [pension application S8689]

State of Virginia: Prince Edward County to wit:

I John Crute [John L. Crute, pension application S24980] late a Lieutenant in the Virginia Continental line, do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Thomas Cooke in the War of the Revolution. I recollect, that he enlisted for the term of three years, under Capt Hoard in 1777 and was

attached to the command of Col Matthews [possibly George Mathews]. He served the said term faithfully and was regularly discharged from the service, as coming within my knowledge.

March 24<sup>th</sup> 1840

[signed] John Crute Lt. late of the army.

NOTE:

The file contains a certificate that at his death Thomas Cook's real and personal estate were worth an estimated \$8000.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed in Amelia County VA on 24 Dec 1784 by Thomas Cook and Philip Williams for the marriage of Cook to Martha Vaughan. There is also a copy of a consent signed by Robert Vaughan, father of Martha, witnessed by James Cook and others.

Also in the file is a certificate that Martha Cook died on 15 June 1840 leaving the following children: Elizabeth Franklin, Nancy Davis, Mary Adams, Martha Wilkinson, and Thomas Cook. It also states that John A. Adams was administrator of her estate.