

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Alexander ¹ W20586 Susanna Alexander

f53NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/26/07 rev'd 7/14/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 37]

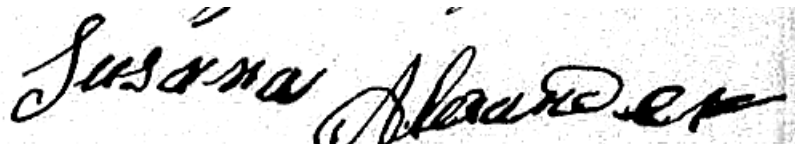
State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County

On this 31st day of July 1846 personally appeared in open Court now opened and held in the Court House at Charlotte in Mecklenburg County Susan Alexander a resident of said County and State aged 86 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1836 that she is the widow of John Alexander who was a private soldier in the North Carolina Militia in the War of the Revolution as such served the United States against a Common Enemy but was not inscribed on the pension roll. She further declares that the time he went in service and the time he kept the service and the length of the tours are unknown to her but that he was out in the war nearly all of his time for nearly five years or more but from the loss of memory that the length of the tours and the Officers names she is not able to give nor the name of the Regiment in which he served.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Alexander on the 12th day of November in the year 1777 and that her husband the aforesaid John Alexander died on the 12th day of July 1805 and that she has remained a widow every [sic, ever] since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Susana Alexander

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susana Alexander". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes.

[p7]

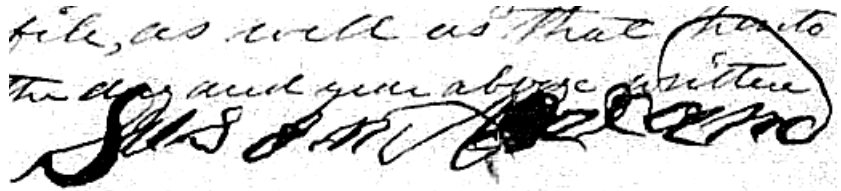
State of North Carolina, Mecklenburg County

On this 13th day of October A.D. 1851 – personally appeared before me Joseph A. Cannon one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter sessions for Mecklenburg County, Susannah Alexander, a resident of Mecklenburg County in the State of North Carolina, aged about Ninety two 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 provisions made by the various acts of Congress for the relief of widows of deceased soldiers of the Revolution, passed July 4th, 1836, July 7th 1838, March 3rd, 1843, June 17th, 1844 and February 2nd, 1848; That she is the widow of John Alexander deceased, who was a private Soldier of the Continental line of the State of North Carolina in Captain Ballard's Company of the 10th Regiment, that he entered the Service in said Company on the __ day of __ 1779 – for the term of nine months, and was discharged on the first day of December 1779 – as will appear by reference to

¹ BLWt20586-160-55

the enclosed certificate of the Secretary of State, for the State of North Carolina. She further states that her said husband was also a private soldier in the Militia of North Carolina and served his Country in that capacity several years, the number of terms and precise length of time her husband served in the Militia, she does not now remember, but begs leave to refer the Commissioner of Pensions to the evidence now on record in the Pension Office, filed by her former agent in the year 1846 – which she prays may be taken as part of this her second declaration – she further declares that her Father was named James Alexander who also served in the war of the Revolution, and that she was married to the said John Alexander on the 12th day of November A.D. 1777, in the County of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina; that her husband the aforesaid John Alexander died on the 12th day of July A.D. 1805 – and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, all of which will more fully appear by reference to the proof already on file, as well as to that hereto annexed – Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before.

S/ Susannah Alexander

*file, as well as that hereto
the day and year above written*


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State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that it appears from the muster roll of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that John Alexander a private Soldier in Captain Ballard's Company of the 10th Regiment entered the service on the ___ day of 1779 for the term of nine months, and was discharged on the first day of December 1779.

Given under my hand this 13th day of September, 1851.

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

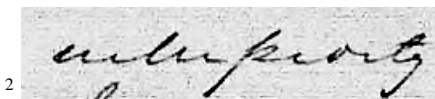
[p 21]

I certify that I am personally acquainted with Susan Alexander widow of John Alexander. I have also known the reputation of Susan Alexander for many years. She is reputed to be over 90 years of age and her husband was a soldier of the revolution. Her father was also a revolutionary soldier and served as I have been informed through a long period of the revolutionary War when the British Army passed through Mecklenburg County during the various trials of that period Susan Alexander was distinguished for her activity in giving aid to the Whigs and especially to the who were wounded in the different skirmishes which took place in the vicinity of Charlotte. She was especially distinguished by her intrepidity [?]² in preserving the life of Major Joseph Graham (the father of the Honorable W. A. Graham Secretary of the Navy[]) – whom she found lying on the roadside badly wounded – and by her personal exertions carried him to her mother's House situated a short distance from the highway, and their concealed him so that his life was saved. She has ever been distinguished for uprightness and integrity and is regarded with great veneration in the community in which she lives.

S/ James W Osborne

Superintendent B. Mint of the US at Charlotte

September 23rd, 1851



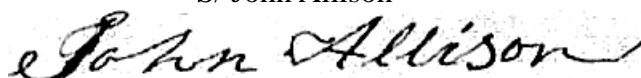
[p 23]

State of North Carolina, Cleveland County

Personally appeared before me James Roberts one of the acting The justices of the peace in and for said County and State aforesaid, John Allison, aged Eighty three years, January, at last, and after being first duly sworn according to law, sayeth on his Oath, that he was born in Ireland about the first of the year 1768, that he came with his father to the United States when he was about 10 years of age, that his father settled at that time in Mecklenburg County in the state of North Carolina not far from Charlotte Court House at which time he became personally well acquainted with John Alexander and wife Susan for they were near neighbors and living together as husband and wife and Deponent understood that John Alexander had been in the service and that he the said John Alexander and Deponent's father was both Drafted and went into the service in the North Carolina militia. Deponent's father was taken prisoner at Charleston South Carolina. Deponent well recollects that the said John Alexander was absent from home a great Deal and was said to be in the service, but how many tours or how long the said Alexander was in the service, deponent is not able to say, but he knows that the said John Alexander was always Reputed to have been a faithful Soldier and a true patriot, that he was well acquainted with Susan Alexander the wife of said John Alexander while she was at Home and her husband in the service, that he well Recollects, the Circumstance of the said Susan Alexander being instrumental in saving the life of Captain Joseph Graham who was wounded by the British near Charlotte Court House and supposed to be dead, that she the said Susan Alexander found the said Joseph Graham and taken him Home to her own House washed and dressed his wounds, and taken care of him until he was able to be carried off which she is did herself on a little pony that she had, of the above fact, Deponent has a personal Knowledge and that they were told to Deponent by Captain Joseph Graham himself what Mrs. Alexander had done for him, that the said Susan Alexander who is yet a Resident of Mecklenburg County in the State of North Carolina, who is now applying for a pension for the services of her late husband the aforesaid John Alexander is the identical widow of the said Alexander. Sworn to and subscribed this 21st day of December 1851 before me.

S/ James Roberts, JP

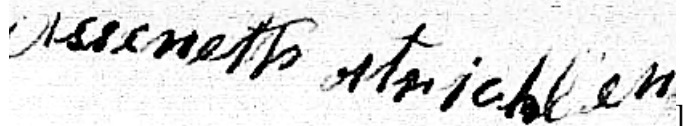
S/ John Allison



[p 12: On April 3rd, 1855 in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, the widow filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war veteran. She signed this document with her mark

[Note: page 30 is an accounting by the NC Comptroller of disbursement made to John Alexander for militia services.]

[p 3: Affidavit given in Mecklenburg County North Carolina on May 1, 1846 by Asseneth Stricklen in which she states she is the daughter of John and Susannah Alexander and that the family record is that which has been in the possession of her mother ever since the death of her father John Alexander.



[p 4: Appears to be the original of the family record referred to above but the image as posted online is illegibly faint. In a letter summarizing the contents of the file, the following information is contained obviously taken from a more legible version of the family record:

Elizabeth born February 16, 1780

Ann (?) born February 18, 1782

Nancy (?) or Mary (?) born January 19, 1784
a son born March 25, 1785
Asenath born (illegible) 1776, married __ Strickland
(name illegible) born November (illegible), 1789
Susannah born March 19, 1792
a son born October 15, 179?]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina service.]