

The background of the title slide is a stylized American flag. It features a blue field with white stars on the left and red and white stripes on the right. The text is centered over this background.

# ALLREDS IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION PART II THE MILITIA

**Allred History Zoom  
November 16, 2021**

**Linda Allred Cooper**  
**[www.MyAllredFamily.com](http://www.MyAllredFamily.com)**



16, 1771). The Oath of Allegiance, taken before God, was to never again take up arms against the King, the King's representatives or rise up in protest against the Crown.

The Allred History Zoom: The Revolutionary War – The Home Front<sup>2</sup> (September 14, 2021) discussed what happened to and all around our Allred ancestors in North Carolina during the American Revolution years (1764-1783).



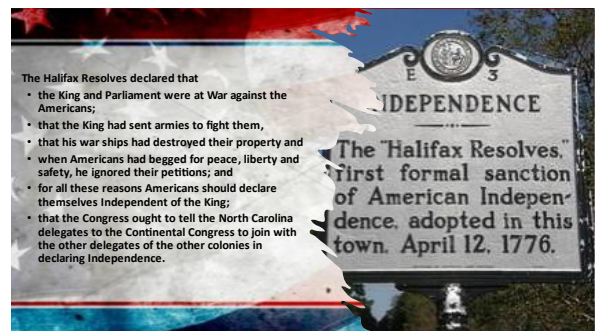
February 17, 1776.<sup>3</sup>

Anger over the Battle inspired North Carolinians to come together in a Provincial Congress in Halifax, NC where they discussed, formed Resolves and, with unanimous vote on April 12, 1776, became the first American Colony to declare Independence from England.

Let's review: The Allred History Zoom: The Regulators and Battle of Alamance<sup>1</sup> (August 17, 2021) discussed the War of the Regulation period in North Carolina (1761-1771) and how our Allred ancestors participated. Information was given detailing how our ancestors were forced, upon penalty of arrest, imprisonment and probable death, to take an Oath of Allegiance to the King and Crown following the Battle of Alamance (May



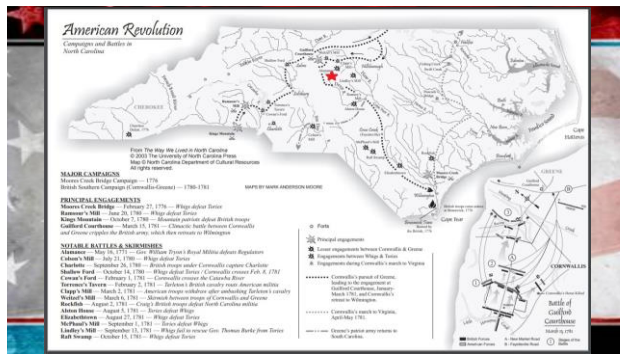
We discussed as talk of Independence increased, North Carolina's Royal Governor Josiah Martin ordered specific men in each County, including Allred cousin Semore York, to form a Militia and march towards Wilmington to meet with the Governor and form an army. Patriots rallied and formed their own Militia which resulted in the First Battle Of The American Revolution in North Carolina: The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge on



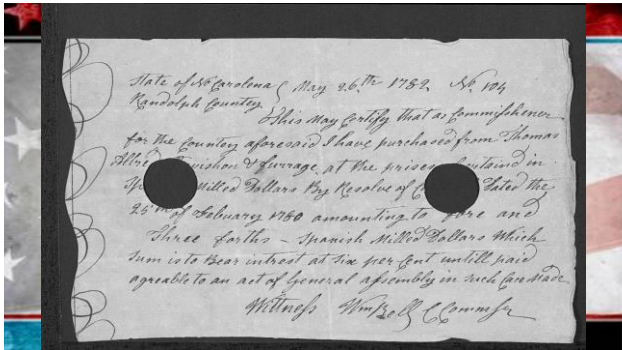
<sup>1</sup> To see the handout and video from The Regulators and Battle of Alamance Zoom, go to <https://myallredfamily.com/allred-history-zooms/>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid and a suggested website about the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge is <https://www.ncpedia.org/moores-creek-bridge-battle>

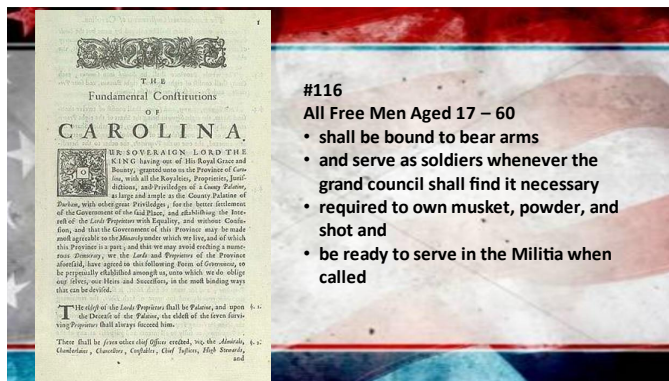


North Carolina was relatively quiet and peaceful following the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge until Fall 1780. British General Cornwallis' army was marched north toward North Carolina. This included Tory Colonel David Fanning who wreaked horror and death upon Randolph County where our Allred ancestors lived.



Although the Allred men had taken the Oath of Allegiance following the Battle of Alamance, swearing before God to never again take up arms against the King or Crown, several still found a way to support the Patriots and American Revolution without breaking their Oath. The newly formed American Government issued Pay Vouchers as a form of IOU for services and goods supplied to the Patriots. At the end of the War these Pay Vouchers were redeemed for payment and prove how some of our Allred ancestors helped in the Fight for American Independence.

## Allreds In The Militia During the American Revolution



North Carolina's Militia was formed in 1669 by Order #116 of the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina. It states "All inhabitants and freemen of Carolina, above seventeen years of age and under sixty, shall be bound to bear arms, and serve as soldiers whenever the grand council shall find it necessary".<sup>4</sup> All male settlers in North Carolina after this date were required to own musket, powder, and shot and be ready to

serve in the Militia when called in order to claim land grants. This includes our Allred ancestors who began arriving in North Carolina in the mid 1740's.

The Militia was originally established to "*to suppress all intrigues and rebellions [and] to make war offensive and defensive with all Indyans, Strangers, and Foreigners.*" Whether a militia was actually organized, trained, and fielded in most areas of North Carolina is unclear, as the Fundamental Constitutions of 1669 only required that men aged 17 to 60 be summoned to serve as soldiers "whenever the grand council shall find it necessary." Since there was no mention of an active militia in the 1600s and early 1700s, probably because of a large Quaker population and others who refused to

<sup>4</sup> No. 116 of The Fundamental Constitution of Carolina drawn up by John Locke on 1 March 1669; North Carolina Colonial and State Records, Vol 25, Page 135.



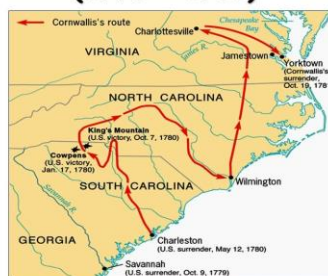
serve, it can be presumed that North Carolina was among a number of colonies that, as pointed out to Queen Anne in 1706, lacked a "regular militia" establishment.<sup>5</sup>

Most of North Carolina's militia regiments were understaffed, ill-equipped, and poorly trained. In addition, they lacked leadership, had no muster rolls, and were unable to take the field if needed. By 1758 North Carolina's Royal Governor Arthur Dobbs fashioned a stronger Militia Bill that increased fines for derelict behavior, improved record keeping, and required at least eight musters per year - four for each company and four general

musters per regiment. Successive militia laws in 1764, 1766, 1773, and 1774 sustained Dobbs's Militia Bill but reduced training for each unit. By 1774 companies and regiments were expected to drill only twice a year. Companies were permitted, as was traditional, to train at a site chosen by their captain, but regiments were for the first time in 1774 required to muster at the courthouse.<sup>6</sup> Most militia units



### The Southern Campaign (1778 - 1781)



were, in the words of General George Washington, "totally unacquainted with every kind of military skill" and were unreliable in combat.<sup>7</sup>

### Jonathan Allred 1758-1822 and the Battle of Kings Mountain

The Revolutionary War's Southern Campaign was a plan implemented by the British to win

the War by concentrating their forces in the southern states. The strategy depended upon the assumption that many southerners remained loyal to the British. The plan was to recruit as many British Loyalists as possible, starting in Georgia, and then move north through South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia and eventually into the northern colonies, overwhelm the Patriots and win the War. It initially achieved success in Georgia with the British capture of the colony's major port, Savannah, and the defection of thousands of colonists to the British in December 1778.<sup>8</sup>

The British strategy appeared to continue to work when the siege of Charleston in May 1780 became one of the worst American defeats of the Revolutionary War. The



<sup>5</sup> Ncpedia Colonial Militias online at <https://www.ncpedia.org/militias-colonial>

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/southern-strategy/>



British now controlled 2 of the 4 major Southern Ports: Savannah and Charleston. (Wilmington and Norfolk remained in American control.) Another British victory, the Battle of Camden, followed in August 1780.<sup>9</sup> American morale was low and the British appeared to be winning the War in the South. With Charleston and Savannah firmly in British Control, General Cornwallis began marching his army across South Carolina

with the goal of taking control of North Carolina. He sent British Major Patrick Ferguson into upstate South Carolina and Southwest North Carolina to gather and recruit as many Loyalists as possible. At first Ferguson was successful but he went too far when he sent forth a message, a warning, to the Americans who were on the frontier in the mountains of South Carolina, North Carolina (including the area that eventually became Tennessee) and Virginia. Ferguson's threat was that, if they did not comply and join the British, he would come into the Mountains, find the American leaders and kill them by fire, hanging and sword. The Americans did not react as Ferguson hoped, instead his threats rallied and inspired the Americans to organize and form their own Militia which began hunting Ferguson, tracking his every move. This newly formed Militia, The Over Mountain Boys, had one goal in mind: to hunt down Ferguson's Militia and destroy them.



After about 2 weeks of tracking Ferguson and his Loyalist Militia, the Over Mountain Boys who had joined up with North Carolina's Militia, discovered he had set up camp on a high hill on the southern edge of Kings Mountain. The combined Patriot Militias converged and attacked Ferguson's camp on October 7, 1780. The American Militia's plan was simple, they would go up the Mountain, surround Ferguson's men, and open fire. Ferguson's arrogance and lack of understanding of the American Militia's "Indian Style" fighting technique was his downfall. Whereas the British forces attempted to line up in formation to fight per tradition, the Americans used the heavily wooded and rocky terrain to their advantage. The large rock outcrops and trees were used for cover as the Americans fired on the British. The fighting lasted just over an hour. 290 British Loyalists were killed, 163 wounded, and 668 taken prisoner<sup>10</sup>. A Patriot marksman shot Ferguson, knocking him from his horse and he died soon after. He is buried on Kings Mountain in a traditional Scottish Cairn. Less than 100 Americans were killed or wounded.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/revolutionary-war/battles/kings-mountain>

<sup>10</sup> Battle of Kings Mountain, Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Kings\\_Mountain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Kings_Mountain)



The Battle of Kings Mountain was a pivotal event in the Southern campaign. This surprising victory of the American Patriot Militia over the Loyalists and greatly raised the Patriots' morale. With his Loyalist Militia destroyed, Cornwallis retreated back into South Carolina where he suffered another defeat at the Battle of Cowpens and was forced into North Carolina which was the beginning of the end of the War. Many historians consider the Battle of Kings Mountain the turning point of the Revolution.<sup>11</sup>



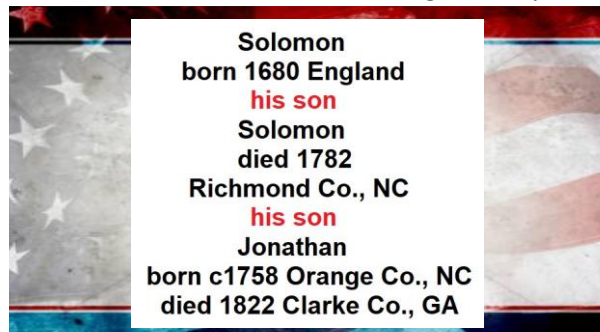
While doing research for this presentation, I was surprised to learn Jonathan Allred 1758 – 1822 fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) list him as Approved Ancestor #A002013. The first of his descendants to join the DAR qualified him using a family story handed down and the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery grant awarded to his widow, Margaret Burt Allred, on the grounds that she was a Widow of a Revolutionary War Veteran.

Jonathan Allred 1758 - 1822	
<p><b>REFERENCES FOR LINEAGE</b></p> <p>Give National Numbers of mother _____; grandmother _____; or any other close relatives credited with this ancestor _____</p> <p>Give below Authorities, published or unpublished, covering all names, dates, places and connections between generations in this line from the grandparents through the generation of this Revolutionary ancestor. Send one certified, attested or photostatic copy of each piece of unpublished data. Cite published authorities by title, author, edition, volume and page.</p> <p>The Cowart Genealogy by Jackson Cowart, 1883.</p> <p>Something of My Family History by Prof. F.J. Cowart, 1885.</p> <p>Allred 1553-1961, by Gov. James V. Allred of Texas, 1961.</p> <p>Our Cowart Family, by Nancy Cowart Brunson, 1967.</p> <p>Cowart, Jernigan &amp; Allied Families, by Ralph M. Pabst, 1968.</p>	<p><b>ANCESTOR'S SERVICES</b></p> <p>My ancestor's services in assisting in the establishment of American Independence during the War of the Revolution were as follows:</p> <p>Jonathan Allred of Randolph County, North Carolina, served as a volunteer Militiaman during the American Revolution.</p> <p>He served in Shelby's Brigade and participated in the Battle of King's Mountain during the Revolutionary War.</p> <p>According to family tradition, he served several short terms. He felt that this was his duty and would never accept pay for his service and therefore does not have an account number.</p> <p>Jonathan Allred did not apply for a land grant for his Revolutionary War service, however his widow, Margaret Allred received a grant of land for his service after his death. 2 peices of data returned with duplicate.</p> <p>The said Jonathan Allred</p> <p>is the ancestor who assisted in establishing American Independence, while acting in the capacity of Militiaman in the Battle of King's Mountain during the Revolutionary War. North Carolina.</p>

<sup>11</sup> The description of the Battle of Kings Mountain was extracted from several sources. For more information, I recommend watching the YouTube video Trail of History – The Battle of Kings Mountain, a production of PBS Charlotte, online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ssrGbfZ-Sw>

My question became: how did a young man from Richmond County, NC become involved with the Over Mountain Boys and the Battle of Kings Mountain?

Jonathan was born in 1758 in Orange County, NC (today's Randolph County) on land his father, Solomon

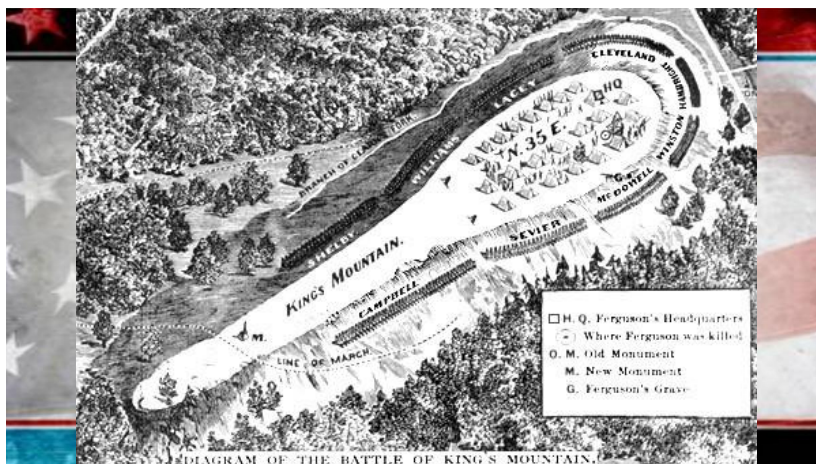


Allred received as a land grant in 1752. This land was located on the Mouth of Sandy Creek of Deep River near today's western edge of the town of Ramseur. Following the Battle of Alamance (May 16, 1771), Solomon sold his land (August 12, 1771) and moved about 60 miles south. On September 10, 1774, he finalized a deed for 100 acres located in Anson County. Using clues in the land records which mention Mountain Creek and Buffalo Creek,

we know this land is located in today's Richmond County, NC just south of the Montgomery County line. Jonathan was about 12-13 years old when his family moved to Richmond County. (Richmond and Montgomery Counties were formed in 1779 from a portion of Anson County.)

It is not known if Jonathan joined the Montgomery County or Richmond County Militia. Both were formed in 1779. The Allred family lived just south of the Montgomery County line so both Militia Units were an option and convenient for Jonathan. Both Militia units were active throughout the Revolutionary War and both fought in major battles/skirmishes in South Carolina during the British Southern Campaign. Terms of Service in Militia units were 3 months although terms could be extended or shortened upon order of the Militia Commander. If a man was released and returned home to check on farm and family, then returned to duty, he may not be able to find his original Militia Unit and be absorbed into another as the War's fighting increased. This may be what happened to Jonathan. Maybe he returned home or somehow became separated from his original Militia Unit then joined another so he could continue the Fight for Independence. No Muster Rolls exist (or have been found to date) so all we can do is guess how Jonathan wound up at Kings Mountain. But he did fight at Kings Mountain as documented by the DAR pension application of one of his descendants (shown above).

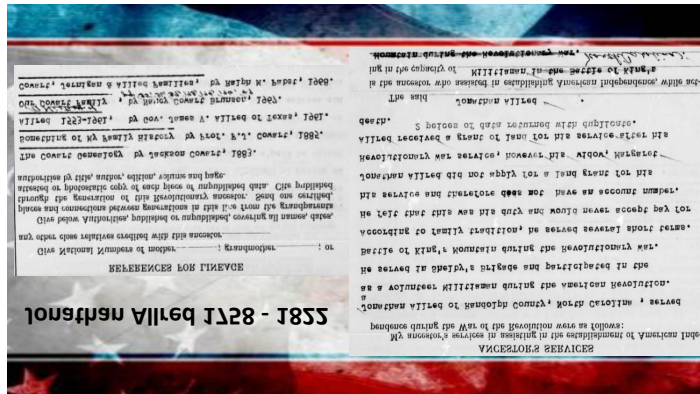
The DAR application states "he served in Shelby's Brigade", a reference to Sullivan County, NC (now Tennessee) Captain Isaac Shelby of the Over Mountain Boys. In the 1830s, many survivors of the American Revolution submitted applications for a federal pension as authorized by new federal laws. Many North Carolina men who claimed they served under



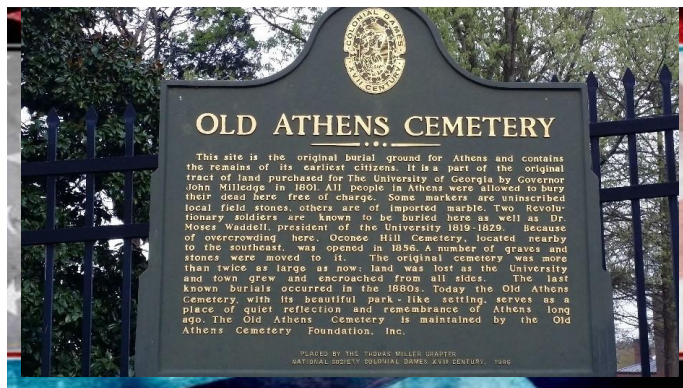
Capt. Isaac Shelby. Most "official records" indicate that Isaac Shelby was a Captain of VA Militia and a Commissary for VA Militia between 1777 and 1779. Pensioners later asserted that he was considered by



many to be a Captain of NC Militia during the Revolutionary War.<sup>12</sup> All of these clues appear to explain how Jonathan may have wound up at the Battle of Kings Mountain as part of Shelby's Brigade.



## Lottery



pivotal battle of the American Revolution – the Battle of Kings Mountain. Jonathan died in Clarke County, Georgia on April 5, 1822. He is buried in Old Athens Cemetery which is now located on the campus of the University of Georgia. Sadly, his grave is no longer marked and no tombstone has not been found. Several years ago, the Elijah Clarke Chapter, DAR placed a marker in the cemetery honoring all



Jonathan's Revolutionary War service is documented by the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery grant that Margaret Burt Allred received as the Widow of a Revolutionary War Veteran.<sup>13</sup> Per the Georgia State Archives, among the qualifications for the 1827 Lottery was<sup>14</sup>:

- Veteran of Revolutionary War – 2 draws
- Veteran of Revolutionary War who had been a fortunate drawer in any previous
- Widow, husband killed in Revolutionary War, War of 1812, or Indian War, 3-year residence in Georgia

Jonathan survived the War, moved to Georgia where he received Georgia land grants which qualified his widow, Margaret, to enter the 1827 Lottery.

Thus, we have an Allred ancestor, Jonathan, who fought in what was perhaps the most

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/patriot\\_leaders\\_nc\\_isaac\\_shelby.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/patriot_leaders_nc_isaac_shelby.html)

<sup>13</sup> "Reprint of Official Register of Land Lottery of Georgia 1827," Compiled and Published by Miss Martha Lou Houston, Columbus, Georgia, printed by Walton-Forbes Company, Columbus, Georgia 1928 online at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ga/deeds/1827/sur/surn-a1.txt> ; State of Georgia. Recorder Office. Official Register of the Land Lottery of 1827. Milledgeville, GA, USA: Grantland & Orme, 1827, REPRINT of OFFICIAL REGISTER of LAND LOTTERY OF GEORGIA 1827; 67th DAY'S DRAWING-May 23.CLARK. page 209, Ancestry.com

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.georgiaarchives.org/research/1827\\_land\\_lottery](https://www.georgiaarchives.org/research/1827_land_lottery)



Revolutionary War Veterans, including Jonathan Allred.<sup>15</sup>

#### 4 Allred Brothers and the Skirmish at Trading Ford



As anger/frustration was building in North Carolina among Regulators in the late 1760s, more men began taking their local Militia more seriously. When the estimated 2000 Regulators challenged Governor Tryon's Army at the Battle of Alamance (May 19, 1771), no doubt some, if not most, of them had received some Militia training. However, they had no leaders and were ill-equipped; it wasn't enough to overcome Tryon's well-trained British Army.

North Carolina's large and growing Quaker population resisted all attempts for their men to participate in the Militia training or activities and the Society of Friends (Quaker) was the predominant religion in Orange County where our Allred ancestors lived. Yet, some men did take the Militia seriously especially as talk of Independence from England grew including those who joined the Randolph County Militia when it formed in February 1779.

The Randolph County Militia was made up of farmers who served terms of 3 months. As the American Revolution progressed and the Continental Army needed support and backup, the Militia's training and terms of service increased. Whereas the Militia originally patrolled and/or guarded just Randolph County, they were now required to travel farther and they gained more military experience with each skirmish and battle they participated in. By January 1781 the Randolph County Militia were battle-hardened having fought in several major Revolutionary War Battles including<sup>16</sup>:

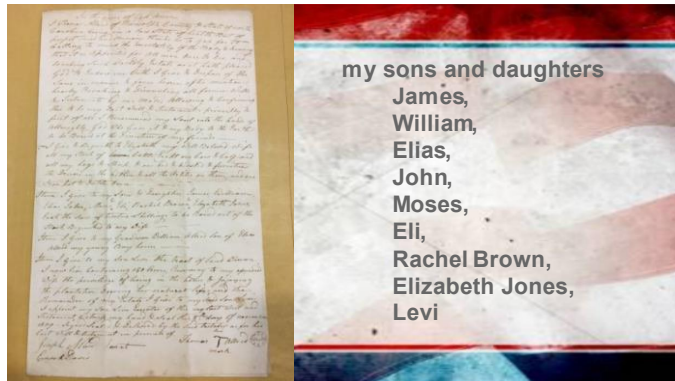
Documented Battles/Skirmishes Randolph County, NC Militia Fought In:	
8/11/1780	Little Lynches Creek (SC)
8/16/1780	Camden (SC)
1/17/1781	Cowpens (SC)
2/3/1781	Trading Ford

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2/3/1781	Trading Ford

<sup>15</sup> Cemetery and DAR Marker photos courtesy of Ed and Bettina Allred of Athens, Georgia.

<sup>16</sup> The American Revolution in North Carolina, Randolph County Regiment of Militia online at [https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc\\_randolph\\_county\\_regiment.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_randolph_county_regiment.html)

If Muster Rolls were kept, they no longer exist today (at least I was unable to find any) so there is no way of knowing who or how many men participated in each battle. However, considering how far from home



the Militia was, the number of battles/skirmishes and critical support Randolph County's Militia provided to the Continental Army, I feel most, if not all the men in the Militia unit remained together with no one leaving to go home to tend to farm and family during this stage of the War. Thankfully, there are three forms of documentation that prove 4 Allred brothers participated in the Skirmish at Trading Ford: James, William, Elias and John – the 4 oldest

sons of Thomas Allred who died 1810 Randolph County, North Carolina.<sup>17</sup>

**Documentation #1:** Randolph County Militia's Captain John Hinds kept records of his military service including mention of the men who served under him. Following the War, he moved to Knoxville, Tennessee where he died sometime between 14 Sep 1810 when he made his will and January 1811 when it was proved in Court. At some point, per the story I was told, his papers were put in a secret drawer within the family's Secretary Desk and left there,

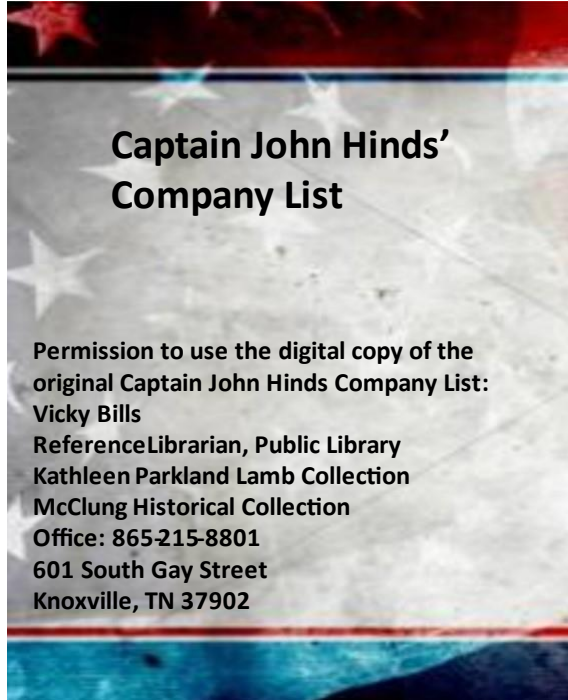
forgotten in time. Eventually the desk was sold and the new owner, knowing some of the old Secretaries have hidden drawers, was messing around, found it and out fell the papers which were donated to the McClung Historical Collection at Knox County Public Library in Knoxville. These papers are now available online at <https://myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/John-Hinds-List.pdf> and <https://myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Digital-Copy-of-John-Hinds-List.pdf>



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<sup>17</sup> Thomas Allred wrote his will November 8, 1809 and it was Proved during the May Session of Court 1810 telling us he died between those two dates. Traditionally wills were exhibited/proved in court as quick as possible after the death so the Probate and Estate Settlement process could begin. Court met quarterly so Thomas probably died after the end of the January/February session of court and May 1810. However, his exact death date is not known and his grave/tombstone has not been found so all we can do is estimate when he died. Thomas' original will is on file in the Search Room of the North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC (C.R.801.108) and a digital copy and transcription is available on my website at <https://myallredfamily.com/front-page/what-states/north-carolina/originals-2/thomas-1809/>



The background of the entire slide is a stylized American flag. It features a blue field with white stars in the upper left and a red field with white stars in the upper right. A horizontal white stripe runs across the middle, flanked by thin blue lines. The stars are of varying sizes and are scattered across the blue and red fields.

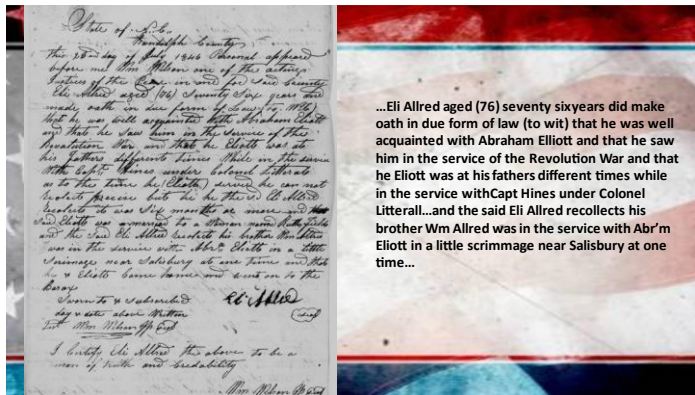
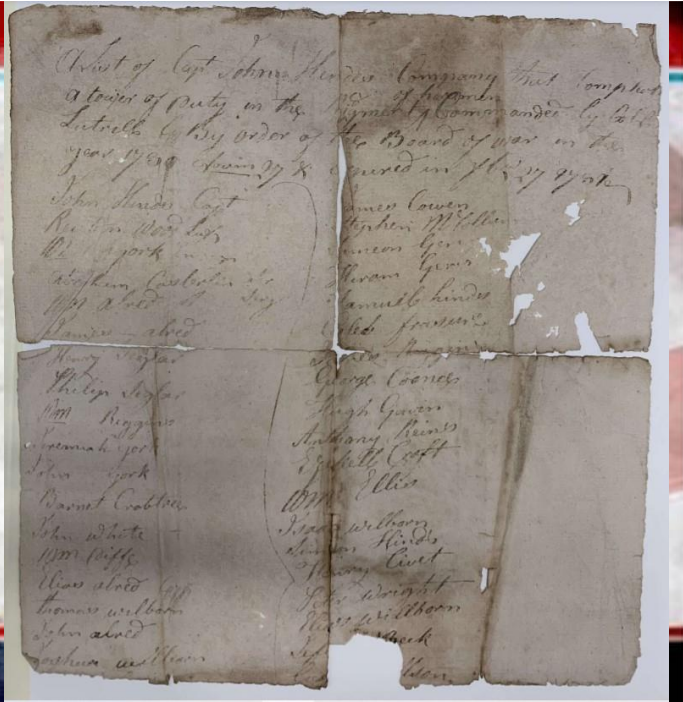
# Captain John Hinds' Company List

Permission to use the digital copy of the  
original Captain John Hinds Company List:  
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Office: 865-215-8801  
601 South Gay Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

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**Documentation #2:** Abraham Elliott filed his Revolutionary War Pension Application on May 2, 1854. Once an application was filed, Pension Agents began a process of documenting the accuracy of the information provided. This included collecting affidavits from friends and family who would swear they knew the pensioner and his statements were accurate. One of the affidavits in Abraham Elliott's file was given by Eli Allred, son of Thomas Allred

who died 1810 and brother of the 4 men who served with Elliott in the Randolph County Militia.<sup>18</sup>

(One of Abraham Elliott's daughters, Mary, married Samuel Allred (lineage: Samuel, John, William, William, Solomon born 1680 England))

**Documentation #3:**

One of the 4 brothers, Elias Allred, described his participation in the Skirmish at Trading Ford in his Revolutionary War Pension Application:

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<sup>18</sup> Abraham Elliott's Revolutionary War Pension Application file is online at [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com). Eli Allred's statement/affidavit is page 10.

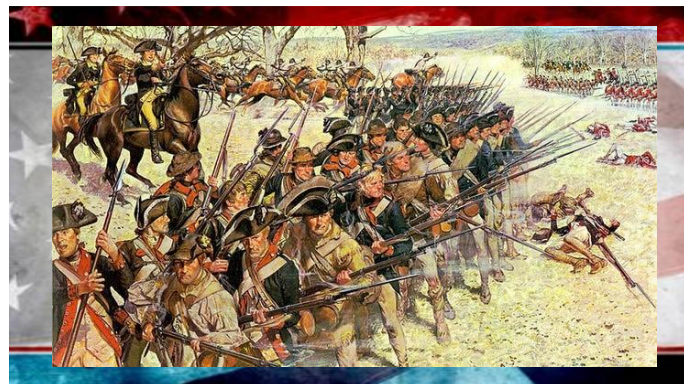
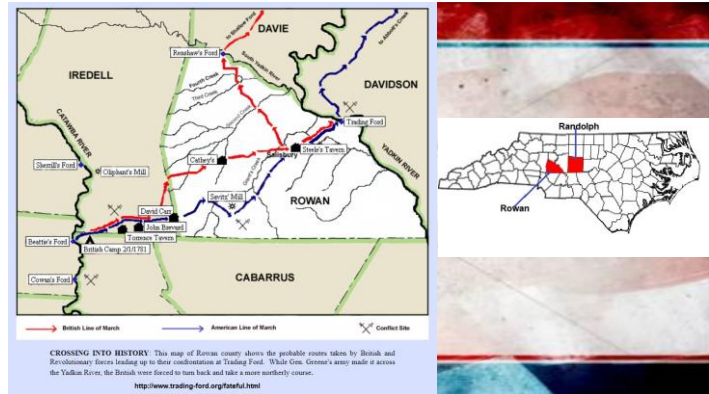
*...Tarlton at the Cowpens when we reached Salisbury we found Gen. Morgan with his army marching through town who placed the company of Calvary to I belonged together with about eighty of his own riflemen to guard until the main army could be ferried across the Yadkin River but just about the time the last baggage wagon got onboard the flat a party of Wallis men said to be about one thousand came upon us. We fired two rounds and retreated and on the next day joined Col. Littrel marched to the barracks and in two or three days was discharged.*

## The Skirmish at Trading Ford

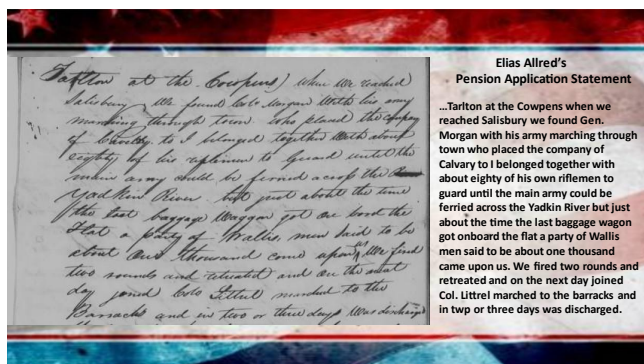
Following defeat at The Battle of Kings Mountain, the British were forced back into South Carolina where they suffered another defeat at Cowpens, South Carolina (January 17, 1781). Following the Battle at Cowpens, American General Nathanael Greene began marching his Army north into North Carolina to join with the forces of General Daniel Morgan to prepare to block the British Army from marching into Virginia and returning to the Northern

Colonies. General Greene sent the Calvary Militia unit from North Carolina (including Randolph County's Militia) ahead because the horse unit could move faster than the Infantry who were on foot. The Militia Unit followed the Pee Dee River north to Salisbury where they found General Morgan with his army marching through town. It was the middle of winter, cold, rainy and miserable for all concerned.

On February 1, 1781, the Americans were marching through Salisbury, North Carolina, and headed seven miles north to the Trading Ford, a well-known crossing place on the Yadkin River. The Americans gathered all the flat boats they could and began ferrying the 1,800 men and supplies, etc. across the river.



The next day, February 2, 1781, General Morgan sent the North Carolina Company of Calvary with about



100 of his riflemen from Virginia to guard the river crossing until the main army could be ferried across the Yadkin River. On February 3, British General Cornwallis himself arrived in Salisbury and discovered the American troops had almost finished crossing the river. He sent a contingent to stop as many American troops as possible. But it was nearly midnight on a cold winter's night, raining hard and the British were



not familiar with the territory. About 100 Virginia rifleman and about 50 North Carolina Militiamen (including the four Allred brothers) were hiding in the bushes and behind trees and began firing upon the British. According to the pension application of Elias Allred, “we fired two rounds” and then got on the flat boats to the other side of the Yadkin.

The British decided to wait until the next morning to cross the river but the heavy rain caused the river to rise about two feet over night. The current was very strong and the river was full of big trees and other debris from the storm; it was simply too dangerous to cross. This forced the British to march west along the river, hoping to find a safer crossing. It took them another 5 or 6 days to finally cross the river. By then the Americans were long gone and preparing to stop them near Greensboro at what became The Battle of Guilford Courthouse.<sup>19</sup>

The Skirmish at Trading Ford was written about in many military reports to and from British and American Officers and letters sent to and from Civilian Leaders on both sides of the conflict.

**American Calvary Captain Joseph Graham wrote:**



*By the time the front ranks got twenty or thirty steps up the river they had loaded their pieces and began to fire up the bank. The Americans receded a few steps when loading, and when ready to fire would advance to the summit of the hill, twenty-five or thirty steps from the enemy, as they deployed up the river bank. They had gained the ford and just commenced firing when General Davidson arrived from the horse ford with the infantry, and finding his cavalry on the ground he chose to occupy, and impressed with the opinion given by Gen. Greene, that the enemy's cavalry would attack them in the rear, he ordered my command to mount and go up the ridge and form two hundred yards behind. As we moved off, the infantry took their places, and the firing became brisk on both sides. The enemy moved steadily forward, their fire increasing, until their left reached the mouth of the branch upwards of thirty poles from the ford. The ravine was too steep to pass. The rear of their infantry and front of their cavalry was about middle of the river, when the bugle sounded on the left, on which their fire slackened and nearly ceased. (They were loading their pieces.) In about a minute it sounded again, when their whole line from the ford to the branch advanced up the bank, with their arms at a trail. The hill was in many places so steep they had to pull up by the bushes.<sup>20</sup>*

**American General Nathanael Greene wrote about the skirmish in a letter to General George Washington on February 9, 1781:**

<sup>19</sup> This description of the Skirmish at Trading Ford was taken from an article written by Alice Allred Pottmyer, published in the Allred Family Newsletter issue #69, Winter 2006, page 5.

<sup>20</sup> The American Revolution in North Carolina online at [https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cowans\\_ford.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cowans_ford.html)

*The light Infantry continued their march to Salisbury and crossed the Yadkin. But before we got over all the baggage and stores the enemy were at our heels. A pretty smart skirmish happened between a party of our riflemen and the advance of the enemy, near the ford. We had secured all the boats, and the river was so high that the enemy could not follow us.*<sup>21</sup>

**Another account was written in a letter from American General Edward Stevens to Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson on February 8, 1781:**

*The Great Quantity of Rain that fell the night before raised the River in such a manner as made it difficult to*

*Cross even in Boats. General Greene with a small Party of Horse was still at Salisbury, Pushing out the remainder of the Stores from that place to the Tradeing Ford which was effected that night, except some few old musketts which were unfit for service.... On the evening of the 3rd Inst. the enemy appeared at the River tho by this time we had Compleated Crossing all to a Waggon or Two and those they paid Pretty dear for, as there was a Party of Virginia Rifflemen of about a Hundred under the Command of Major [David] Campbell, and a small party of North Carolina Militia Horse formed in ambush to receive them with Orders to give them a fire or Two and then Disperse down the River and Cross in Canoes which they executed very well and with but a very Triffleing loss on their part.*<sup>22</sup>



**British General Earl Cornwallis wrote about it in a report to Lord George Germain on March 17, 1781:**

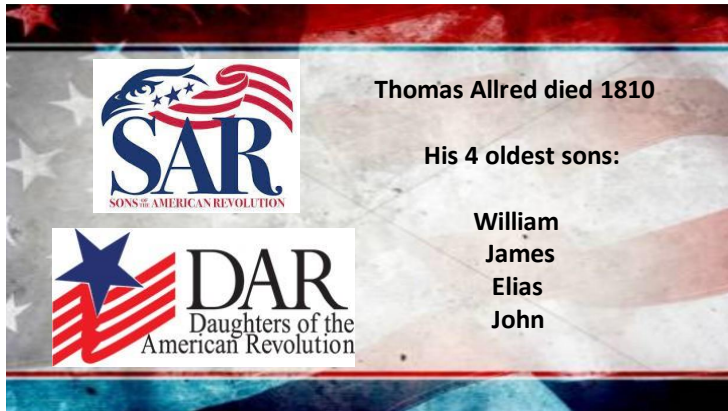
*...the Rebels having quitted Beattie's Ford, Lieut. Colonel Webster was passing his detachment and the Baggage of the Army, this had become tedious and difficult by the continuance of the rain and the swelling of the [Yadkin] River, but all joined us soon after dark, about six miles from Beattie's Ford. The other fords were likewise abandoned by the Enemy; the greater part of the Militia dispersed, and General Morgan, with his Corps, marched all that afternoon and the following night towards Salisbury. We pursued next morning, in hopes to intercept him between the Rivers, and after struggling with many difficulties, arising from swelled Creeks & bad Roads, the Guards came up with his rear, in the evening of the 3rd, routed it, and took a few Waggons at the Trading Ford of the Yadkin. He had passed the Body of his Infantry in Flats, & his Cavalry and Waggons by the ford, during that day and the preceding night, but at the time of our arrival, the Boats were secured on the other side, and the ford had become impassable. The River continuing to rise, and the weather appearing unsettled, determined to march to the upper Fords, after procuring a small supply of provisions at Salisbury. This, and the height of the Creeks*

<sup>21</sup>

<sup>22</sup> (Boyd, Jefferson Papers, 4: 561-62) The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Volume 4, Pages 561-562, edited by Julian P. Boyd



*in our way, detained me two days, and in that time, Morgan having quitted the Banks of the River, I had information from our friends who crossed in Canoes, that General Greene's Army was marching with the utmost dispatch, to form a junction with him at Guilford.*<sup>23</sup>



Our ancestors, the 4 Allred brothers, James, William, John and Elias, served in Randolph County's Militia, survived the battle and the War. They returned their homes in Randolph County but wanderlust had taken hold and 3 of them didn't remain there for long. Elias moved most of his family to Pendleton District, South Carolina in 1815 where they lived until 1827 when he moved to Hall County, Georgia.<sup>24</sup>

William moved his family to Pendleton District, South Carolina in 1787 where they appeared on the 1790 Federal Census. In the early 1790's they moved across the Tugaloo River into Franklin County, Georgia. By 1804/5 William and his growing family moved into Middle Tennessee, settling in what was Rutherford County (later became Bedford County) where William died around 1824.<sup>25</sup>

James sold his land to his cousin Jabez York in 1801 and moved to Richmond County, NC then a few miles north to Montgomery County where it is presumed he lived out his remaining years and died.<sup>26</sup>

John married Ruth Lane where they settled on land located along Solomon's Branch (of Deep River) near today's Ramseur. Per Dawnell Hatton Griffin's book "From England to America, Our Allred Family", John and Ruth raised 5 children.<sup>27</sup>

Much more information about the Allreds in the American Revolution is available on my website. Look for the link on the right side of the home page (depicted by the green arrow below). Part III of the Allreds in the American Revolution focuses on the men who served in the Continental Army. Part IV focuses on an Allred Tory. The schedule is below and I hope to see you then!

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<sup>23</sup> North Carolina Colonial and State Records, Vol 17, Page 997-998

<sup>24</sup> Elias Allred's Revolutionary War Pension Application, page 8, online at [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com)

<sup>25</sup> William Allred and wife Elizabeth Thrasher written by Alice Allred Pottmyer, online at <https://myallredfamily.com/front-page/what-states/utah/family-histories/william-elizabeth-thrasher-allred/>

<sup>26</sup> No Leaf Unturned (Revised/Final) written by Larry Cates online at <https://myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/No-Leaf-Unturned-Revised-Revisited-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> *From England to America, Our Allred Family* by Dawnell Hatton Griffin, pages 227-228

## Plan To Attend Allred History Zooms



Free, Fun and Easy way to meet Allred Cousins  
while learning Allred History and Genealogy  
Q&A after each presentation

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Nov 16 | 7pm EST (5pm MT)<br>Allreds in the American Revolution - Part 2<br>Allreds who served: Militia  |
| Jan 18 | 7pm EST (5pm MT)<br>Allreds in the American Revolution - Part 3<br>More Militia and a Minuteman |
| Feb 15 | 7pm EST (5pm MT)<br>Allreds in the American Revolution - Part 4<br>Allred Tory                  |

A screenshot of the 'My Allred Family' website. The header features a crest logo and the site name. A navigation bar includes links for Home, Donations/France, About, and Allred DNA Research. The main content area is titled 'Where Did Your Allred Ancestors Live?' and features a map of the United States and a map of the United Kingdom. To the left of the map is a Facebook link and a PayPal donation button. To the right is a 'What's New?' sidebar with links to 'Allred History Zooms', 'Reunions', 'Allreds in the American Revolution', 'Research Reports Videos &amp; Tours', 'Allred Family Tree', 'History of the Allred Name', 'Collateral Families, York and Toronto', 'Famous Allreds', 'How Do You Spell Allred?', 'Allred Family Organization Newsletters', and a book 'The Allred Family in America' by Rufon C. Allred. A green arrow points to the 'Allreds in the American Revolution' link in the sidebar. At the bottom, there is a photo of a stone building identified as the 'Home Church of the Allred Family, St. Mary the Virgin Church, Eccles, Lancashire, England'.