

The background of the top section 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 IV AN ALLRED TORY

Allred History Zoom
April 12, 2022

Linda Allred Cooper
www.MyAllredFamily.com



REVIEW: The Allred History Zooms – The American Revolution is a 4 Part Series and Follow-Up to the presentation on the Battle of Alamance in which our Allred ancestors fought on May 16, 1771. Part I - The Home Front and discussed what our ancestors experienced during the War years and how some of them provided goods and services to the American Patriots. Part II featured 5 Allred men who served in North Carolina's Militia: 1 who fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain (October 7, 1780) and 4 brothers who fought in the Skirmish at Trading Ford (February 3, 1781). Part III featured 2 Allred ancestors who filed Revolutionary War Pensions detailing their experiences and military service during the war.

Documentation was provided proving several of our Allred ancestors were American Patriots fighting for Liberty and the Founding of our New Country.

| REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--|
| Thomas | died 1810 | received 2 Pay Voucher |
| William Sr. | died c1781 | received 2 Pay Vouchers |
| William Jr. | died 1825 | received a Pay Voucher (DAR Approved Ancestor #A002014) |
| John | 1764-1850 | Continental Army (DAR Approved Ancestor #A002011) |
| Jonathan Allred | died 1792 | received Pay Vouchers (DAR Approved Ancestor #A002012) |
| Elias | 1758-1821 | Militia (DAR Approved Ancestor #A002013) |
| | died 1844 | received a Pay Voucher AND served Militia AND Continental Army |
| William | died 1824 | (DAR Approved Ancestor #A002010) |
| James | | Militia (son of Thomas died 1810) |
| John | | Militia (son of Thomas died 1810) |
| | | Militia (son of Thomas died 1810) |



This presentation – Part IV – features an Allred who may (or may not) have been a Tory (Loyalist). I will present the documentation, discuss what I think it means, then let you decide.



What Was A Loyalist?



Anyone who remained loyal to the King and Crown during the American Revolution was a Loyalist. Loyalists were known by several descriptive nicknames including Red Coat, Tory and King's Men. They came from all walks of life! Rich, poor, farmer, politician, men and women. The war split many families as a father chose one side while the son chose another. Just as happens in modern society, some people kept up with politics, following all events

closely, while others preferred to stay out of it. Some were better informed than others. Yes, there were conspiracy theories. Yes, there was "fake news". Yes, there were some who preferred to remain neutral, hoped to stay out of it and not be forced to pick a side. Some pretended to be a Patriot when dealing with other Patriots and pretended to be a Loyalist when dealing with Loyalists. There are stories of shop keepers who were reported to be one or the other depending on who they were doing business with. For some it was simply a matter of conscience and religion.

Following the Battle of Alamance on May 16, 1771, all men were required to swear an oath that they would never again rise up against the King, Crown or Royal Government. This was a very serious oath, taken before God, hand on the Bible.

America was a British Colony, most colonists believed the King had been anointed by God to be their ruler; rising up against him meant you were rising up against God. Many also believed they had always been ruled by a King and therefore should always be ruled by a King. The idea of a Congress was completely foreign and too different and strange to even consider.



Contrary to popular belief today, there were actually more Loyalists in North Carolina than Patriots during most of the war. During the examination of British General Robertson in Parliament in 1779, he declared that after careful observation and inquiry in 1779 in North Carolina, he was convinced that no less than two thirds of the people preferred the King's Government to the tyranny of a Congress. Another writer who gave much study to the subject

estimated that one half of the people were loyal to the Royal government.¹ At the start of the war, if a man in North Carolina was proved to be a Loyalist or enlisted in the King's forces, his goods and lands were forfeited; and if caught, he was liable to be tried for treason and shot.² There must have been many who secretly approved of the Royal Government and who were afraid to announce themselves. As the Revolution progressed, the Patriots became stronger, the neutrals were forced to take sides with one group or the other, and the Tories decreased in strength and numbers. This division often pitted brother against brother and neighbor against neighbor and it eventually created so much strife and ill will that after the war ended, many of the Loyalists were forced to move from the area.³

Sadly, the exact number of Loyalist Militia members is no longer known. The Library of Congress has photostatic copies of the muster rolls which give the names of the officers and for some of the states those of the privates also. Unfortunately, the North Carolina muster gives the names of the officers only.⁴

¹ Ibid pages 60-61

² *Loyalists in North Carolina During the Revolution* by Robert O. DeMond, Ph.D., page 60

³ *A History of Richmond County* by James E. and Ida C. Huneycutt, page 221

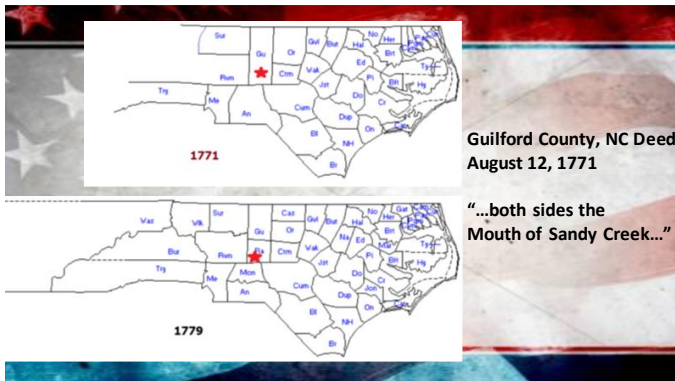
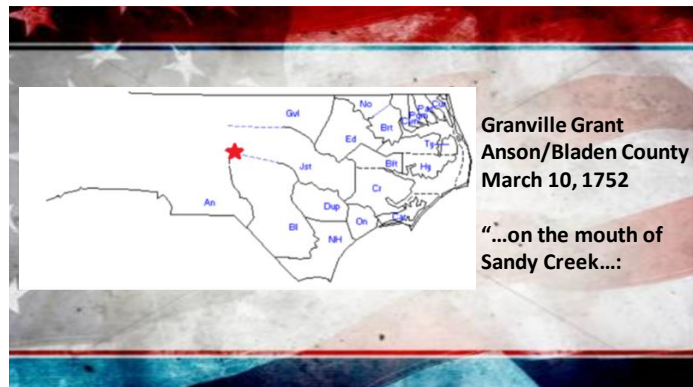
⁴ Ibid page 61

Solomon Allred



Solomon Allred was born about 1726⁵ in Chester County, Pennsylvania⁶ and died December 1782 Richmond County, North Carolina. His father, also named Solomon (born 1680 Lancashire, England), first appeared in North Carolina land records (Granville Grants) on March 10, 1752 when he received two land grants. The first grant was for 640 acres along both sides of Cain Creek and the

second grant was for 640 acres located at the mouth of Sandy Creek.⁷ There are no records to prove what happened to the land along Cain Creek (he most likely sold it) but the land “at the mouth of Sandy Creek” is located on the western edge of today’s Ramseur, Randolph County, North Carolina and is where the Solomon Allreds, father and son with the same name, lived.⁸



Shortly after the Battle of Alamance, a deed was filed in Guilford County, NC on August 12, 1771 that documents the sale of this land to John Lewis: “...being in the county of Guilford and province of North Carolina on both sides the mouth of Sandy Creek...”⁹

Thought: Was the sale of Solomon’s land shortly after the Battle of Alamance a clue as to his political beliefs? There are no records or even hints in records that he was

a Regulator or supported the Regulation Movement. There is no proof that he signed any Regulator Petitions or attended Regulator meetings. No proof that he fought at the Battle of Alamance.

⁵ Solomon’s birth date is not known and estimated based on several factors including when his siblings were born, when he first owned land and when his children were born.

⁶ Solomon’s father, also named Solomon, was living in Chester County, PA when he wrote a letter to his cousin Israel Pemberton in 1719/20. Solomon also appeared on the 1724 and 1730 Chester County, PA Tax Lists. More can be found on www.MyAllredFamily.com but I suggest you start with this report:

<https://myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Allred-Family-History-Zoom-10.27.2020-handout.pdf>

⁷ <https://myallredfamily.com/front-page/what-states/north-carolina/solomon-son-of-solomon-1680/solomon-nc-land/>

⁸ The death date of the elder Solomon Allred (born 1680 Lancashire, England) is not known. His grave has not been found but he is most likely buried on the land he owned “on the mouth of Sandy Creek”. No record of him is found after the 1755 Orange County, NC Tax List.

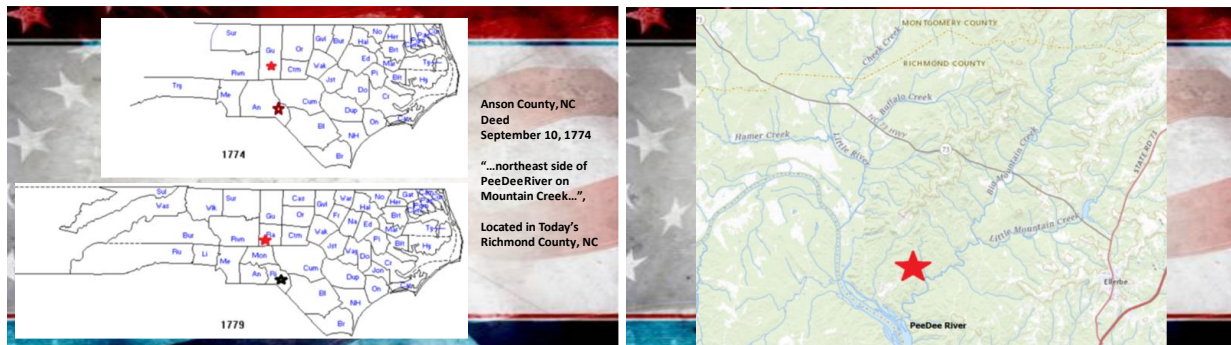
⁹ Guilford County, NC Deed Book 1, Pages 58-60

Governor Tryon demanded all men living in central North Carolina take the Oath of Allegiance to the Crown after the Battle of Alamance on May 16, 1771. Refusing to take the Oath meant forfeiture of land and property, arrest for being a Traitor and possible execution. Solomon survived and kept his land so must have taken the Oath. The question is WHY did he sell his land a few months after the battle? Was it because he was disgusted over the Regulator Movement? Was he one of the minority in central North Carolina that was against the Regulator Movement? Was he a Loyalist and felt pressure from his family, friends and neighbors who were Regulators? Keep this thought in mind as you continue to read this report.

Was the sale of Solomon's land shortly after the Battle of Alamance a clue as to his political beliefs?



Solomon disappears from records until September 10, 1774 when he bought 100 acres in Anson County from Stephen Touchstone.¹⁰ Keep in mind the process of buying land and filing deeds was a slow one in Colonial North Carolina, sometimes taking months or even years to complete so he could have been living on the land prior to the deed being finalized. Using clues in the land records which describes the land being "...northeast side of PeeDee River on Mountain Creek...", we know this land is located in today's Richmond County, NC just south of the Montgomery County line.



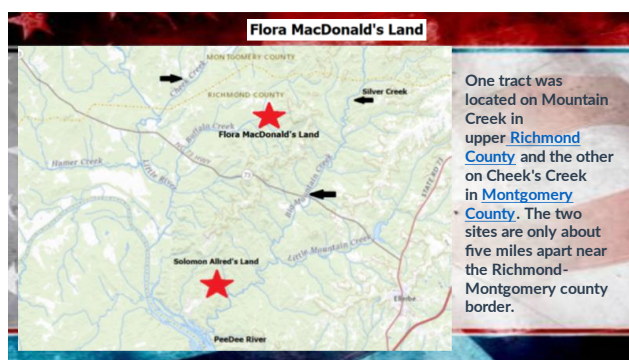
Solomon Allred found himself surrounded by Highland Scots who began migrating to America after the Battle of Culloden on April 16, 1746. They had fought against English rule in Scotland, suffered a devastating loss and, under penalty of death, were forced to swear an Oath of Allegiance to the King and Crown. Although they were former Jacobites, most of the Highland Scots who lived on the land that became Richmond County were fiercely loyal to the King. Perhaps the most famous Highland Scot to live near Solomon Allred was Flora MacDonald.

¹⁰ Anson County, NC, Deed Book K, pg 249



Famed Scottish Heroine Flora MacDonald had been internationally famous since she, as a 24-year-old woman, assisted Prince Charles Edward Stewart (Bonny Prince Charlie), Pretender to the throne of England, avoid English soldiers following the April 16, 1746 loss to the English Army on Culloden Moor. Her husband was already living in Anson County when Flora arrived aboard the *Cato* on December 1, 1774 with their family. After moving to the PeeDee,

the MacDonalds bought 2 plantations from Caleb Touchstone along the Richmond and Montgomery County Line. One tract was located on Mountain Creek in upper Richmond County and the other on Cheek's Creek in Montgomery County. The two sites are only about five miles apart near the Richmond-Montgomery County border.¹¹ They attended a Richmond County Presbyterian Church, Mount Carmel, located on Silver Run of Mountain Creek just south of the Montgomery County line.¹² (In February 1776, Flora's husband Major Allen MacDonald, raised a powerful company of their clansmen, the Loyalist Highland Militia, who fought and were defeated at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge.¹³)



You may wonder why the Highland Scots, former Jacobites, were so loyal to the Crown as the American Revolution began. Many fought at Culloden and vividly remembered the devastation of the Battle and had been imprisoned and lost family members, friends, their lands and property during the aftermath. Many were very religious and took the Oath of Allegiance they swore after the Battle of Culloden very seriously. It was an Oath sworn hand on the Bible and before God and not easy to break. Once they arrived in North Carolina, they became landowners and built a comfortable life for themselves and their



family. At the start of the American Revolution, the Crown proclaimed all Patriots, Sons of Liberty or anyone who promoted the over-throw of the Royal Government were Traitors who would forfeit their land, property and possibly be tried as Traitors and executed if found guilty. The Highland Scots of North Carolina had a lot to lose by choosing to support the Patriot Movement. They remembered what

¹¹ <https://www.ncpedia.org/flora-macdonald-homesite>

¹² *No Ordinary Lives: A History of Richmond County, North Carolina 1750-1900* by John Hutchinson, page 23

¹³ Ibid

happened to the Scots after Culloden and were not anxious to repeat that disaster in America.

I will admit to an obsession with the TV series Outlander on STARZ. Season 6, Episode 5 aired recently and featured Jacobite Heroine Flora MacDonald giving a speech encouraging everyone to remain Loyal to the Crown. Her statements sum up the Loyalist/Tory opinion very nicely:

"We must seek to find what ails us not outwardly but within. What is ailing us today is the threat of division and we've seen it before. We know the symptoms of this disease. Peace and Unity – that is what is at stake! We have sworn oaths of loyalty to the Crown and we are proud subjects of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and if we are to live in peace in this new land, so we must continue to be."

Thought: Did Solomon Allred move to Anson County because he knew he would be surrounded by fierce supporters of the Crown. Did he want to be surrounded by Loyalists because he was one too?



In Anson County (the land Solomon lived on became Richmond County in 1779), both Loyalists and Patriots were extra cruel to each other. The Tories, along with the British Army, seemed intent on breaking the spirit of the so-called rebels by plundering, pillaging, robbing, burning possessions and outright killing along the home front. Women, children and parents of soldiers who were off fighting, were left to the mercy of the

enemy. In retaliation for their crimes, Tories and English soldiers were bushwhacked and shot on-site by the Patriots.¹⁴ Although most of North Carolina was relatively calm during the first few years of the war, a bitter civil war of murder, lying, ambush and treachery erupted in Richmond County in mid-1780 and continued more than a year. Both sides committed brutal assassinations, tortured prisoners, abused civilians and freely engaged in plundering. American General Nathanael Greene, who passed through

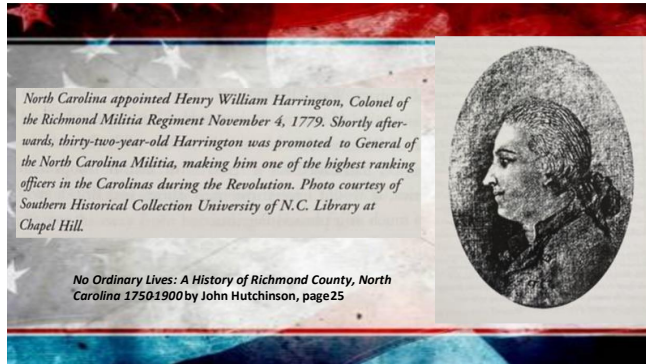


American General Nathanael Greene, who passed through the area in December 1780 said,
"The whole County is in danger of being laid waste by the Whigs and Tories who pursue each other with as much relentless fury of Beasts of Prey."

¹⁴ The Richmond Observer (online), Friday, February 14, 2020
<https://www.richmondobserver.com/lifestyle/item/7446-column-the-war-within-a-war.html>

the area in December 1780 said, *"The whole County is in danger of being laid waste by the Whigs and Tories who pursue each other with as much relentless fury of Beasts of Prey."*¹⁵

The haphazard guerilla fighting continued through 1781. British Major James H. Craig controlled Wilmington for the British. His job was to make life unbearable for North Carolina Patriots. He



accomplished the order handily by commissioning a host of field officers in the counties between the Cape Fear and the PeeDee Rivers providing them with munitions and encouraging them to attack and plunder Patriots.¹⁶

A substantial landowner and fiercely proud Patriot in Richmond County was Henry William Harrington. His promotion to Brigadier General

of the Militia in July 1780 made him one of the highest-ranking militia officers in the Carolinas, adding considerably to his military duties. His 24-year-old wife, Rose Anna, would feel the full brunt of the Revolution. Worst, one of the Harringtons' infant daughters would become a wartime casualty.¹⁷

During the time that General Harrington was at Cross Creek, he sent Mrs. Harrington a message advising her to take as many valuables of the family possessions as possible and go to Maryland to stay with relatives where her life would be in less danger. She had



proceeded as far a Mountain Creek near Norman when Captain John Legett, a notorious Tory from Bladen County, with a small band of followers attacked her and took most of the valuable family possessions, scattering Harrington's valuable library of books along the road. Mrs. Harrington made her

way back to her father, Major James Auld, and he and a group of men pursued the Tories but never caught them. One of the Harrington children (10-month-old Harriett Harrington) died as a result of exposure on this trip.¹⁸

By late 1780, raiding parties, both Tory and Patriot, roamed the Richmond County conducting brutal guerilla warfare. General Harrington recognized this and realized that



¹⁵ *No Ordinary Lives: A History of Richmond County, North Carolina 1750-1900* by John Hutchinson, page 29

¹⁶ *Ibid* page 35

¹⁷ *Ibid* page 28

¹⁸ *Ibid* page 224 and page 34

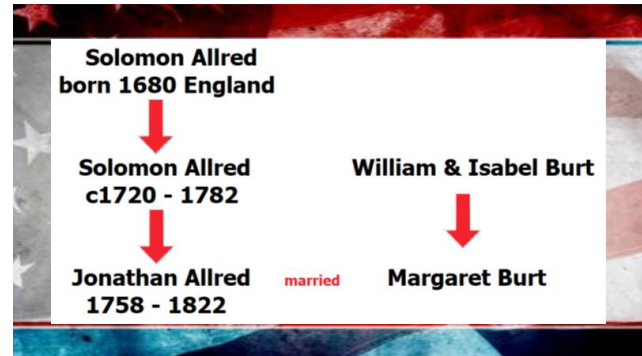


local Patriots could not guarantee anyone's safety.¹⁹ Despite both the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 19, 1781 and the British evacuation of Wilmington November 18, 1781, local lawlessness continued into 1782. Gradually, however, Patriots regained control. They began arresting Tories. Beginning in June 1782, wartime Patriots evened the score through a series of civil and criminal trials. The highlight came with seventeen trials in which thirty-

nine Richmond County men faced charges of treason. The first trials were held in June 1782 and continued throughout September 1782. Court records are missing and except for the verdicts, details are long lost. Of the 39 men prosecuted, five were found guilty – Duncan McFarland, John Peek, John Thornton, Shadrack Williamson and William Burt.²⁰

William and Isabel Burt

William Burt was a Loyalist. A Tory. He was also one of our Allred Ancestors; a collateral member of the Allred family. His daughter Margaret married Solomon Allred's son Jonathan (around 1785/1786 based on the birth of their eldest son.²¹) William Burt was tried and convicted of Treason in June 1782. Court records do not detail William Burt's punishment but his estate records and subsequent court records tell us he was



"Deceased for Treason". On August 23, 1775, England passed the Treason Law which gave the official punishment for treason as execution by hanging, drawing and quartering.²² This law was still in effect during the American Revolution although I found no records proving anyone was drawn and quartered in the American Colonies. Most likely William Burt and the other 4 Loyalists

¹⁹ Ibid page 34

²⁰ Ibid page 37 - the book states the trials began October 4, 1782 but the original court records document Isabel Burt was appointed Administratrix of her deceased husband's estate the last Tuesday of June 1782. Additional trials are documented in September 1782 per Richmond County, NC Court Minutes 1779-1868, FHL Microfilm #008320337 online at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTM-SSC2-Y?i=23&cat=163832>

²¹ Jonathan and Margaret Burt Allred's eldest son, John Allred, was born 10 Oct 1787 per his tombstone. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/43679353/john-allred>

²² Time magazine: *Benedict Arnold Is America's Most Famous Traitor. But You Probably Don't Know His Whole Story* by Stephen Brumwell, July 30, 2018 online at time.com; Black's Law Dictionary by Henry Campbell Black, M.A., page 875

who were convicted of treason were hanged, possibly the same day of their trial.

As you read the Court Record²³ and Estate Inventory²⁴ below, take special note of the property that was taken/confiscated by General Harrington's men.

State
1779
Isable Burt Administratrix
of Wm Burt Deceased for Treason
In which suit the following
Jury was sworn (viz) John Mask, Solomon Nye
John Turnage, Robert Wilson, Lott Stricklin, Stephen
Cole, Nicholas Stone, Randolph Haley, Daniel Sneed,
John Sneed, Charles Huckaby and Joseph Nye who upon
their oath do say that the Estate of the said William
Burt Deceased in the Hand of Isable Burt administratrix
of the Deceased is liable to Confiscation agreeable to act of
assembly and so they say all &
On Motion of Spence McCoy Esq an appeal granted by
Morgan Barron Randolph McDaniel Secutius Esq in the
Sum of one Hundred Pounds Specie &

State

vs

Isable Burt Administratrix

of Wm Burt Deceased for Treason

In which suit the following

Jury was sworn (viz) John Mask, Solomon Nye

John Turnage, Robert Wilson, Lott Stricklin, Stephen

Cole, Nicholas Stone, Randolph Haley, Daniel Sneed,

John Sneed, Charles Huckaby and Joseph Nye who upon

their oath do say that the Estate of the said William

Burt Deceased in the Hand of Isable Burt administratrix

of the Deceased is liable to confiscation agreeable to act of

assembly and to they say all

On motion of Spence McCoy Esq an appeal granted

²³ North Carolina Archives, Richmond County Court Minutes 1779-1786, CR. 082.301.1

²⁴ William Burt's Estate Records on file in the North Carolina State Archives CR 082.508.6

*Morgan Beason Randolph McDaniel Securities each in the
sum of one hundred pounds specie.*

State of North Carolina & Inventory of the Estate of
Richmond County William Burt Deceased: To Witt:

26 head of Cattle 3 mares & one Colt - 7 head of Sheep - 2 hinds
and Furniture - one mans saddle - 3 flax wheels - and one

Woolin wheel - 24 putter Dishes - 5 Basons - 8 plates -

12 Spoons - 6 knives & forks - 3 Candle Sticks - one bedstead

One Chest - 3 Iron pots - 5 hoes - one plow hoe - 2 axes -

2 pair of Beards - one Looking glass - 11 head of hogs -

And such of the said Estate as hath been plundered away

As follows - 5 negroes taken by Capt Johnson -

2 negroes taken by Col Wade - 2 negroes taken by

David Smith - 1 Indian taken by Gen. Harrington - one

horse taken by malicia Jones - one horse taken by John

Coatens & Company - 2 mares taken by Capt. Murlock -

One horse taken by William Hales - Three hundred pounds

Proclamation money taken by Jereb Medlock & ^{information} one man taken

By Jaramiah menasco - One saddle taken by David Love

One saddle & blanket taken by Gen. Harringtons men -

One saddle & one steer taken by Col Chiles - one Cow

taken by Capt. Pow - one sheet one blanket and

setout Coat taken by Capt. Light foot - 3 sheets taken

By John M. arley - one new Raccoon hat taken by

By Robert Cook - 7 head of Sheep taken by Capt

Sighten for Gen. Rutherford's army

Due by sundry promisearies notes on sundry persons

&c. &c. - Certified under my hand this 25th Day of June 1782.

Isabel - J. Burt Moore

*State of North Carolina An Inventory of the Estate of
Richmond County William Burt Deceased To Witt
26 head of Cattle 3 mares & one colt 7 head of sheep 2 beads
and furniture one mans saddle 3 flax wheels and one
woolin wheel 4 puter dishes 5 basons 2 plates
12 spoons 6 knives & forkes 3 candle sticks one bedsteed
one chest 3 iron pots 5 hoes one plow hoe 2 axes
2 pair of cards one looking glass 11 head of hogs
and such of the said Estate as hath been plundered away
is as follows 5 negroes taken by Capt Johnson
2 Negroes taken by Col Wallen 2 Negroes taken by
David Smith One mare taken by Gen'l Harrington one
horse taken by Malicia Jones one horse taken by John
Coateny's Company 2 mares taken by Capt Scurlock
one horse taken by William Hales three hundred pounds
proclamation money taken by Isreal Medlock by information one mare taken
by Jaramiah Menases one saddle taken by David Love
one saddle & blanket taken by Gen'l Herrinton's men
one saddle & one steer taken by Col Chiles one cow
taken by Capt Pon one sheet one blanket and
set out coat taken by Capt Lightfoot 3 sheets taken
by John Mcarty one new raccoon hat taken by
by Robart Cook 7 head of sheep taken by Capt
Nighthen for Gen'l Rutherford's army
Due by Sunday promisaries notes on Sundry persons
£81.0.7 Certified under my hand this 25th day of June 1782
Isabel (B) Burt Widow*

Although the Court had ruled William Burt's property would be "*liable to confiscation agreeable to act of assembly*", his widow, Isable, spent years fighting to regain everything. On June 1, 1789, seven years after William Burt was executed, Isabel appointed her son-in-law, Jonathan Allred, to act on her behalf in the effort to locate and return of some Slaves that she had apparently learned were in Virginia.

State of North Carolina, Richmond County.

Know all men by these Presents, I Noble Burt
wife and Heir, and administratrix of William Burt
Deceased of the County and State afore said, have
Constituted, made and appointed, and by these Presents
do Constitute, make and appoint, my Trusty and
Loving Friend Jonathan Alred, of the County and
State afore said my true and Lawfull attorney,
for me, and in my name, and Heir, and to my
use, in all cases, Personal or Migt, That shall be
in the State of Virginia, Particularly for the recovery
of sundry Negroes, supposed to be stolen or Stolen
from the County afore said, of the Property of the
said William Burt Deceased. for and in my name
to appear, Stead, Pursue to final Judgment,
and Execution, Receive and Give final Discharges
for and against me, and in my name, as fully
as I my self might or could do were I Personally
Present, for the Purposes afore said, Ratifying
and allowing all whatsoever my said attorney
shall Lawfully do in and about the Premises
by Virtue Hereof Switnes whereof I have here
unto set my Hand and Seal this first Day of
June anno Dom. one thousand seven Hundred and
Eighty nine &c

Noble Burt

Signed sealed and Delivered
in Presence of us

John Burt,

State of North Carolina, Richmond County, seventeenth
Day of January 1790.

I do here by Certify that
the above is a copy of the Original Bill of
Sale taken from the records of the County Court
afore said &c

Test Mm Love

State of North Carolina, Richmond County
Know all men by these present I Isable Burt
wife and relict and administratrix of William Burt
Deceased of the County and State aforesaid have
constituted made and appointed and by these presents
do constitute made and appoint my trusty and
loving friend Jonathan Alred of the county and
state aforesaid my true and lawfull attorney
for me and in my name and stead and to my
use in all cases personal or _____ that shall by
in the State of Virginia Particularly for the recovery
of Sundry Negroes supposed to be stolen or Tendered
from the county aforesaid of the property of the
said William Burt Deceased for and in my name
to appear Plead Pursue to final judgment
and execution receive and give final discharges
for and against me and in my name as fully
as I myself might or could do were I personally
present for the purposes aforesaid ratifying
and allowing all whatsoever my said attorney
shall lawfully do in and about the premises
by virtue thereof I witness where of I have here
unto set my Hand and Seal this first Day of
June anno Dom. one thousand Seven Hundred and
Eighty Nine
Isable Burt (seal)
Signed Sealed and Delivered
in Presence of us
John Burt

State of No Carolina Richmond County Seventeeth
Day of January 1790
I do hereby certify that
the above is a copy of the original Bill of
Sale taken from the rerecords of the county court
aforesaid
Test Wm Love Clk

It is not known if Isabel Burt or her son-in-law Jonathan Allred recovered any of the confiscated property.

Solomon Allred

Archivists at the North Carolina State Archives state “A few of the Richmond County court records are missing; reason unknown.”²⁵ As luck would have it, of course, the court records that could have told us how/why Solomon Allred died no longer exist. However, there is an Estate File that contains clues about his fate. As you read the documents below, keep in mind what happened to William Burt, how and why his property was confiscated after his death.

Solomon’s exact death date is not known but his Estate records tell us he died in Richmond County, NC sometime prior to December 26, 1782.²⁶ Keep in mind General Harrington began holding Treason Trials in June 1782. Although most of the accused Tories were found not guilty or found guilty but only fined property or money some, including William Burt, were executed (“Deceased For Treason”). William Burt’s Estate records also document General Harrington and some of his men confiscated some of William Burt’s property after his death.

North Carolina Colonial Law (later State Law) dictated when a person died without a will, intestate, his next-of-kin must appear in court as soon as possible to begin the Probate process. The first step in the Probate process is someone, next-of-kin preferably, be appointed Administrator and the second step is for that Administrator to take an Inventory of the Estate. This Inventory includes all property owned by the deceased along with an accounting of all money on hand and all debts he may owe. The Administrator then works to settle the debts and distribute remaining property among next-of-kin.²⁷ Next-of-kin is defined as “the persons nearest of kindred to the decedent, that is, those who are most nearly related to him by blood.”²⁸ By tradition, the deceased’s eldest adult son (21 years old or older) and/or widow served as Administrator/Administratrix.

However, Solomon’s Estate records document the Inventory was taken FIRST - BEFORE the Administrator was appointed.

²⁵ Revised County Records on file for Richmond County, NC via NC Archives and personal conversations with NC Archivists <https://archives.ncdcr.gov/researchers/collections/government-records/county-records-guide>

²⁶ Solomon Allred’s Estate Records on file in the North Carolina State Archives CR 082.508.1

²⁷ Black’s Law Dictionary by Henry Campbell Black, M.A., pages 58-60, 718, 1003

²⁸ Black’s Law Dictionary by Henry Campbell Black, M.A., page 1242

1782 Feb-26

An Inventory of the Estate
of Solomon Alred Deceft—
one horse taken away by—
one D^o taken by General Harrelton Men
A Rifle Gun taken by Thomas Jinnens

two head of Cattle—

a small Stock of hogs—

two Beds & furniture—

two Iron Tools—

one Dutch Oven—

some Pewter—

some Working Tools—

*1782 Dec 26
An Inventory of the Estate
of Solomon Allred Dec'd
one horse taken away by
one Do (horse) taken by General Harriton's men
a rifle gun taken by Thomas Jennins
two head of cattle
a small stock of hogs
two beds & furniture
two iron tools
one dutch oven
some pewter
some working tooles*

No one named General Harriton was found in any military records searched in the NC Archives or online. However, as you learned in this report, there was Brigadier General Henry William Harrington of the Richmond County Militia; the same General who held Treason Trials in Richmond beginning September 1782.

Why would General Harrington's men take away Solomon Allred's horses?

Why would a "rifle gun" be taken by Thomas Jennins. Captain Thomas Jennings served in the Richmond County Militia under General Harrington.²⁹

²⁹ Richmond County, NC Militia online at
https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_richmond_county_regiment.html

State of New Jersey
Richmond County

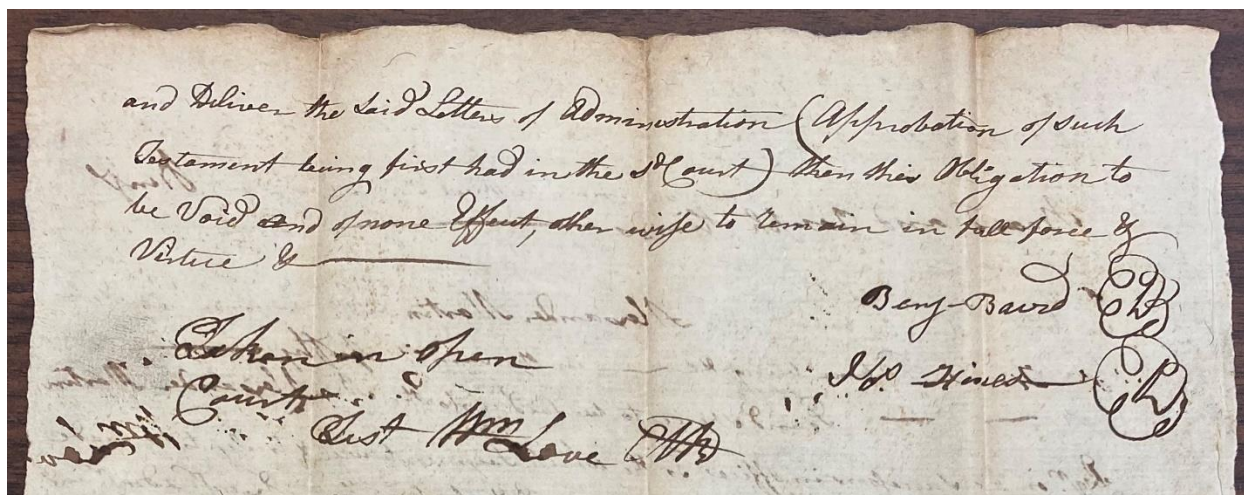
Know all men by these Presents that we Benj
Beard and Joseph Hinds

are held and firmly bound unto Alexander Martin Esq. Governor in and over
the ~~State of New Jersey~~ in the County of Richmond

— For & in — Sum of to be paid unto the Alexander Martin
Esq. or his Successors in office. To the which Payment will & truly to be made
we bind our selves and each of us, our and each of our heirs & adm^rs. and
assigns jointly and severally, firmly by these Presents, sealed with our seals
and Dated this 20 Day of December Anno Dom 1782

The Condition of this Obligation is such that if the above
Bauden Benjamin Beard Administrator of

all and singular the good and, Chattles rights and Credits of Abner
Abner deceased, do make, or cause to be made, true and Perfect
Inventory of all and singular the good and Chattles, rights and Credits of the
said Abner which have or shall come to the hands Knowledge or Possession
of the said Benj^r Beard — or into the hands or Possession of
any Person, or Persons for them and the same do exhibit or cause
to be exhibited, into the Secretarys Office, and one attested copy thereof to the
County Court where orders for Administration shall be given within thirty
Days after the Date of these Presents; and the same goods, Chattles and Credits
and all other the goods, Chattles and Credits of the deceased, at the time of his
Death which at any time hereafter shall come into the hands or Possession
of the said Benj^r Beard — or into the hands or Possession of any other Person
or Persons for him. Do well and truly Administer according to Law; and
further do make or cause to be made a true and Just account of his
Administration within one year after the Date of these Presents, and all the
rest and residue of the said good Chattles and Credits which shall be found remaining
upon the said ~~Administration~~ Administrators Accounts (the same being first allowed
by the Governor and Council, or the Court where Letters were first granted) shall
Deliver and pay unto such Person or Persons respectively as the same shall be Due
Pursuant to the true intent and Meaning of the act in that case made and Provided
and if it shall appear that any will ~~or~~ Testament was made by the deceased,
and the Executor or Executors therein named, do exhibit the same into Court
Making request to have it allowed, of accordingly, If the said Benjamin
Beard — above Bauden being thereunto required, do tender and



State of No Carolina

Richmond County

Know all men by these presents that we Benj'

Beard and Joseph Hinds

are held and firmly bound unto Alexander Martin Esqr Governor in and ever
the s'd state for the time beingin the sum of fifty

.....pounds specie to be paid unto the s'd by order Martin

Esqr or his successors in office to which payment will be truly to be made

we bind our selves and each of us our and each of our heirs Execrs adm's and

assigns jointly and severally firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals

and Dated this 30 Day of December Anno Dom 1782

The Condition of this obligation is such that if the above

Bounden Benjamin Beard – administrator of

all and singular the Good and Chattles rights and credits of Solomon

Alred Sen'r Deceased do make or cause to be made a true and perfect

Inventory of all singular the good and Chattle rights and Credits of the

said Deceased which have or shall come to the hands Knowledge or Possession

or the said Benj' Beard – or into the hands of Possession of

any person or persons for then and the same so made do Exhibit or cause

to be Exhibited into the Secretary's office and one attested copy there of to the

County Court where orders for administration possessed within ninety

days after the date of these presents; and the same goods chattles and credits

and all other the goods, chattles and credits of the Deceased at the time of his

Death which at any time hereafter shall come into the hands or possession

of the s'd Benj' Beard or into the hands or possession of any other person

or persons for him. Do well and truly administer according to Law; and

further do make or cause to be made a true and just account of his

administration within one year after the Date of these presents; and all the

rest and residue of the said good chattles and credits which shall be found remaining

upon the said Administration account (the same being first allowed

by the Governor and Counsel or the Court where Letters where first Granted) shall Deliver and put unto such Person or Persons respectively as the same shall be due and if it shall appear that any will and testament was made by the said Deceased the Executor or Executors there in Named do Exhibit the same into Court making request to have it allowed of accordingly If the said Benjamin Beard above bounded being thereunto required do render and and Deliver the said Letters of Administration (Approbation of such Testament being first had in the s'd Court) then this obligation to be void and of none Effect, other wise to remain in full force & virtue

Benj Baird (seal)

J P Hinds (Seal)

Taken in open Court

Test Wm Love Clk

Refer back to the Probate Law described above. First an Administrator is appointed. Second the Administrator takes the Inventory. Yet Solomon's Inventory was taken first, on December 26, 1782 – with his horses and rifle going to Richmond County Militia's General Harrington and Captain Thomas Jennings. The Administrator was appointed second, on December 30, 1782.

Subsequent land records filed in Richmond County after Solomon's death prove he had several adult sons living in Richmond County when he died. As you read above, by tradition, when someone died without a will (intestate), the court would appoint a family member (next-of-kin), usually an adult son and/or widow, administrator of the estate. Yet, Benjamin Beard (also spelled Baird) was appointed administrator and Joseph Hinds was the bondsman.

Solomon had a widow (Mary) and several adult sons living with and/or near him when he died: Solomon Jr., John, Jonathan, Francis, Phineas and Theophilus. Why wasn't one of them appointed the administrator?

1783 An Act of Sale of Solomon Allred's Estate
Deceased

January 17 - To Edward Williams 2 Cows £ 5-0-0

To Mary Allred 2 Beds & furniture - 2-1-0

To a Post & a Dutch Oven - - - 1-12-0

To a Grindstone Saw 6ft & hoop 2ft - - - 3-3-0

To a Bedstead 3ft & Linen Wheel 10ft - - - 0-13-0

To Solomon Gross & a Water Pail - - - 0-3-0

To Solomon Allred & a Broad Ax - - - 0-15-6

To a Whipsaw - - - 3-2-0

To Jonathan Harney 3 Chairs - - - 0-6-0

To Dyra Boppick a Chest - - - 0-13-0

To Dyra Boppick a Chest - £ 17-8-6

Dr. Accepted of Benj Baurd Adm^r

January 17, 1783 An acct of Sale of Solomon Allred's Estate

| | |
|--|---------------|
| To Edward Williams 2 cows | £5.0.0 |
| To Mary Allred 2 Beds & furniture | 2.1.0 |
| Do (Mary Allred) a Pot & Dutch Oven | 1.12.0 |
| Do (Mary Allred) a Cross cut saw 6 hogs | 3.3.0 |
| Do (Mary Allred) a bedsted & Linen wheel | 0.13.0 |
| To Solomon Gross a water pale | 0.3.0 |
| To Solomon Allred a Broad Ax | 0.15.6 |
| Do (Solomon Allred) a Whipsaw | 3.2.0 |
| To Jonathan Horrey 3 chears | 0.6.0 |
| To Ezra Bostick a Chest | <u>0.13.1</u> |
| | £17.8.6 |

In Excepted by Benj Baird Admin'

Solomon's land and all household and farming possessions belonged to him in life and after his death belonged to his estate. Even though his widow and possibly some or all of his children lived in his house, all belongings except for the clothes on their backs were put up for sale. The family was forced to buy any items they could afford which explains why Estate Sales were often called Crying Sales.

Note: Edward Williams purchased 2 cows. He served as a Lt. Colonel in the Richmond County Militia under General Harrington.³⁰

Note: Ezra Bostick purchased a Chest. He was one of the Tories accused of Treason and put on Trial in September 1782. He was found Not Guilty and took the Oath of Allegiance to the new Continental Government.³¹

Note: Ezra Bostick's daughter Elizabeth married William and Isable Burt's son John in Richmond County, October 12, 1783. Ezra signed as Bondsman.³² John was born 1765; I found no record of his participation in the war.

Note: Solomon Gross purchased a "water pale". He served as part of the company of "Patroll from Mountain Creek to Little River" under local Patriot Militia Captain William Love in March 1783.³³

Note: Jonathan Horrey purchased 3 "chears". I was unable to find any records on him proving if he was Patriot or Tory.

WHAT DO YOU THINK – WAS SOLOMON ALLRED TORY OR PATRIOT?

³⁰ https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_richmond_county_regiment.html

³¹ *No Ordinary Lives: A History of Richmond County, North Carolina 1750-1900* by John Hutchinson, page 39.

³² "North Carolina, County Marriages, 1762-1979," index and images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XF9X-9X2> : accessed 7 July 2012), John Burt, 1783.

³³ *Richmond County, North Carolina Court Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Minute Book 1 1779-1786*, page 55 (87).

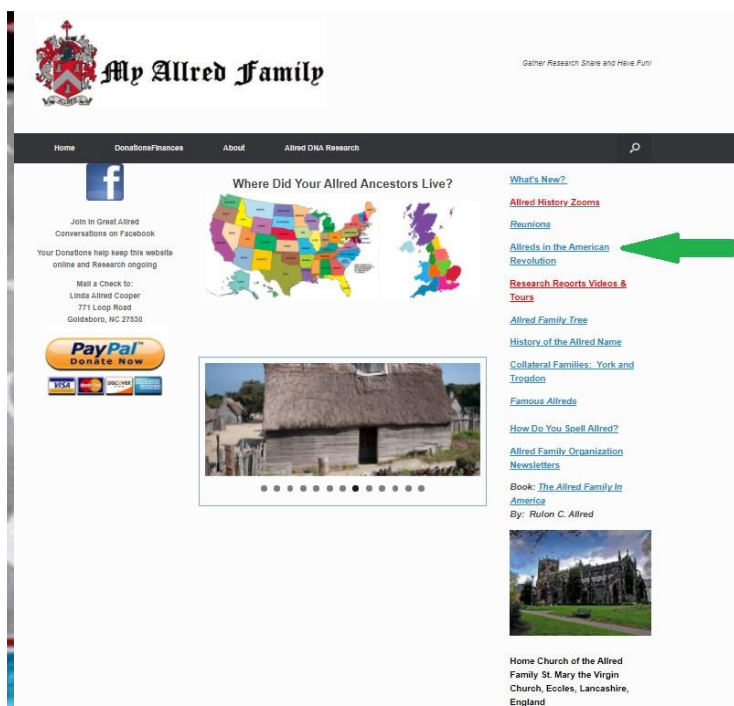


Note: Many online family trees claim William Burt was a Patriot and cite Militia Pay Records and Muster Rolls as their source. However, the William Burt who served in the Militia lived in Halifax County, North Carolina³⁴ and was not related to the Richmond County Burt family to my knowledge.

This ends the Allred History Zoom series on the Allreds in the American

Revolution. You can find links to videos of previous zooms and their handouts by going to my website www.MyAllredFamily.com and clicking on the link Allreds In The American Revolution (see the green arrow below).

Please keep in mind the research that goes into producing these zooms, the website, research and information are free for you to view, learn from and enjoy – but Research Costs Money!! Your donations are very welcome and much appreciated!!! The link to my PayPal account and/or address where you can mail a donation check are on the website. Thank you!!



³⁴ North Carolina Colonial Records and Ancestry.com. North Carolina, U.S., Revolutionary War Soldiers, 1776-1783 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 1998.