

### Story of William Anderson

by Janet Anderson

Cumberland Co., VA & It's People – pgs. 65 or 66.

The Cumberland County Historical Society, Inc.

My third Great Grandfather, Thomas Anderson, left Cumberland County in 1806 and headed west. He traveled with two brothers, Garland and Joel.

The three Anderson boys had been born and raised in Cumberland, VA. They left behind several brothers and sisters and their mother Catherine Shirley Anderson. Their father, William Anderson, had died in Cumberland, VA in 1795. William had been a tailor by trade and lived on land in Cumberland, VA he had inherited from his father James Anderson. Beside William lived his two brothers Lawrence and George and their families. Also, living in Cumberland were three other brothers of William – Richard, John and Jesse.

When it came time for William to marry, he picked a girl from Spotsylvania County, VA. Catherine was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Shirley and was probably one of the oldest children of her parents. She and William were married about 1770.

William and Catherine, by family tradition, had fourteen children; however, records have been found for only eleven: Elizabeth, who married John “Jacky” Tally and had many descendants, lived for many years in Cumberland, VA. John married Frances Anderson, his first cousin, and had many descendants. Joel, Thomas and Garland moved to middle Tennessee. Thomas and Garland married sister, Judith and Sarah Robinson, daughters of Edward and Anna Meador Robinson of Cumberland, VA who moved with their daughters and sons-in-laws to Tennessee.

William was a tailor as was his father. He married and lived in Cartersville, Cumberland County, VA, until his death about 1822. He had one son and three daughters. Sarah married Gross Robinson in 1809 and lived in Cumberland, VA until her husband's death. Gross Robinson fell from the courthouse in Richmond, VA, while he was helping to build it and died. Then she and her many children moved to middle Tennessee near her brothers. Caleb married his first cousin Rebecca Anderson and lived in Cumberland, VA. He had no children and died in Cumberland, VA in 1847.

Frances married James Meador and had children. Little is known of Frances after her marriage, however. Shirley married twice, first to his cousin Elizabeth Anderson and then to Mary Oslin. He had one son, Willis, whose descendants still live in Cumberland, VA. James died as a young man in CaRa, Cumberland, VA. He too was a tailor, and when he died he had no wife or children. Children also recorded for William and Catherine for which no records have been found are Paul, Nancy, and Patsey.

The Anderson brothers produced a bountiful clan in the early years of Cumberland County. William, George, and Lawrence lived on Soke Arse Creek, which was later renamed Bonbrook Creek. Richard lived near by and John and Jesse lived lower in the county near the present Brown's Church. Their children married into many of the families of Cumberland including Meadors, Robinsons, Talleys, Oslins, Osbornes, Jenkins, Blantons and Trents.

**Source:** NSDAR Patriot Index: Revolutionary Patriot/Soldiers

**ANDERSON, WILLIAM**

Birth: C 1753

Rank: [Ens](#)

Service: [VA](#)

Death: [VA](#) C 1795

Patriot Pensioned: No

Widow Pensioned: No

Children Pensioned: No

Heirs Pensioned: No

Spouse: (1) **CATHERINE Shirley**

**Source:** Supplement for the DAR magazine, American Spirit:

Daughters of the American Revolution Newsletter - March/April 2005: Volume 5, No. 2 on page 99.

The following ancestors were approved on December 9, 2004, by the NSDAR Board of Management after verification of documentary evidence of service during the American Revolution.

**ANDERSON: William: b c 1753 d c 1795 VA m (1) Catherine Shirley  
Ensign VA**

William Anderson is my ancestor listed with the new ancestors of the Rev'l War. This is the supplement that I submitted and had William Anderson registered with the DAR as a Rev'l War patriot. My certificate has a gold seal and a red, white and blue ribbon on it showing that William was a newly accepted Rev'l war patriot. By Audrey J. (Denny) Lambert. DAR #811361- A879.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

