

Notes for Reuben Treadwell (1751-1833)

By Kenneth M. Treadwell, 28 Mar 1998

Individual biographical text for Reuben TREADWELL (Pvt. Rev War) (TRADWELL)

REUBEN TREADWELL, 1751 - 1833. Reuben TREADWELL is believed to be the son of Adoniram TREADWELL Jr. who migrated south to VA & NC from CT before 1750.

Reuben was born in Bertie County NC in 1751 according to his Revolutionary War Pension claim W 6311. This claim is recorded in the National Archives

Microfilm No. 804 Roll 2411 "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files" covering names from Alpheus TREADWAY to Cato TREDWELL.

Adoniram TREADWELL Jr. was granted a warrant for 400 acres of land on the South River in Bladen County in September 1751, so Reuben moved from Bertie Co. to Bladen County as an infant. Reuben's entire boyhood must have been spent farming and crafts work in the South/Black River region of Cape Fear.

The first documented record (Rev. War Pension Files) of Reuben's activities is his volunteering in Dec 1775 for NC Militia duty. He was called to duty in January 1776 for three months and joined Captain Steven ANDERSON's Company in Col. CASWELL's NC Regiment to fight the Tories under command of General Macdonald. Macdonald had collected an army of 14 to 15 hundred men from the Scotch Loyalists around Campbelltown (Fayetteville) NC and was proceeding to Wilmington to take over the supplies of the Patriots, and provide troops for the British effort in the south and New York. Brigadier James Moore was in command of the Patriot forces which included Col. Caswell Regiment of 800 men who had marched from New Bern while adding men to his regiment. The Patriot force maneuvered north and west of Wilmington and met the Tories at Moore's Creek Bridge on 27 Feb. 1776. This is the first major military action of the Revolutionary War in the south. General McDonald attacked but was driven off with about 30 killed and wounded. McDonald was captured by the Patriots the next day. The Patriots casualties were 2 wounded with one, John Grady, dying. This engagement temporarily put an end to the Loyalists, Scottish Highlanders effort to gain control of Wilmington. NC remained free of Loyalists disturbances until 1779.

The following words about Moores Creek Bridge Battle are from Reuben's testimony on 24 October 1832 when he applied for his Rev. War Pension before a Justice of the Peace in Rutherford County, NC. The microfilm copy and the handwriting are poor so many words are indistinguishable. "As well as I can recollect --- in year 1775 I was living in Hanover County North Carolina when we ----- I was called out in January (1776) for three months. I was under Steven Anderson Capt. We served at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge where we defeated the enemy. We were there under the command of Col. Caswell. After the battle was over we was all --- to return home.

Shortly after we returned home, I was drafted on another tour at Wilmington. I was placed under the same Captain Anderson, Col. Robertson commanded this regiment. (A Col. Robeson of Bladen Co. headed a NC Regiment in 1777) We --- up some breast works --- the British could not land at --- point. --- by reports of the spy. We could hear the roar of his cannons was at a place below Wilmington. --- large vessels to fill up the channel to prevent their ships from --- up the sound. I remained at this place until our leave of service expired and we returned home". (Note that the British forces and fleet left Wilmington in May 1776 to attack Charleston, SC. They were unsuccessful.)

The next record for Reuben is when he witnessed a deed of sale for 300 acres to his brother Benjamin on 25 Sep. 1777 in Duplin Co on the Cohary River. The assumption that Benjamin was Reuben's brother is based on deduction from the known TREADWELL family names and settlements around the Cohary and Black River region. We know that neither Reuben or Benjamin were sons of Adoniram Sr., or John his son, as they are not mentioned in either of their wills. Also Benjamin and Reuben continue to follow one another in location from 1777 to 1786. They were in Duplin Co. NC in 1777. Benjamin sold his 300 acres on Cohary River to William Vann on 26 April 1779. Both, Reuben and Benjamin obtained bounty land grants in Georgetown (later, 1801, Horry) District, SC near Galivants Ferry and Tredwell Swamp following the Rev. War in 1786.

To continue with Reuben's pension application testimony: "I from that place went into South Carolina Horry District. (Georgetown District in 1779) I--- in the year 1779. Shortly after my arrival at that place, I was drafted for a three month tour under Capt. Benjamin Jarrel, under the command of Col. Horry. We was stationed at Doctors Creek about two miles from George Town. We was kept at that station for time until we was discharged and returned home. (Reuben married Amelia Dawsey of the Dawsey family at Galivant Ferry, Georgetown District on 2 or 22 October 1779). Some short time after, I was drafted again under Capt. Benjamin Jarrel. We was ordered to Orangeburg under the command of Col. Giles. We was placed as a guard over some wagons bound for Charleston with provisions. Since Clinton --- Commandant --- --- --- ---Charleston. We was stationed there for four (six) months. I was then discharged by Captain John James and returned home. Some time after my return I was called on again and went to George Town under Captain Benjamin Jarrel. Stationed here under Col. Peter Horry - -- --- --- was a guard until our time expired and returned home. Shortly after that time peace was proclaimed." (The battle of Yorktown was 19 October 1781.)

Reuben's pension application continued with questions by the Court: "Question 1 by the Court: Where and in what year were you born?"

Answer 1 I was born in the State of North Carolina, Bartie (Bertie) County in the year 1751.

Question 2: Have you any record of your age, if so where is it?;

Answer 2 I know it from some correspondence of my age at the time when I entered the service and from the declaration of my parents in their lifetimes.

Question 3: Where were you living when called into service; Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live; Answer 3 I was living in Hanover County North Carolina when called into service from that place. I moved to Horry District North Carolina in the year 1779 where I resided until sometime after the Revolutionary War. (Note that Horry District was not formed from Georgetown District until 19 Dec 1801) I then moved to Darlington District S. Carolina. (Land deed applications in 1799, 1805 and 1829 of Darlington District by others note that Reuben Treadwell was an adjacent land owner in the region of Lake Swamp and Sparrow Swamp.) Sometime after that I came to Rutherford County N. Carolina where I now reside.

Question 4: How were you called into service; were drafted, or were you a volunteer, were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom;

Answer 4 In my first tour I volunteered for 3 Months In my second I was drafted for 3 Months In my next tour I was drafted in S. Carolina for 3 Months My next service drafted in S. Carolina for 3 Months My next tour drafted for 4 (6) Months My next service drafted for 3 Months Makes nineteen months I was on actual service. Infarct I was scarcely out of service for we could not stay at home at peace. Our county was --- --- --- --- --- --- ---.

Court: State some of the Generals --- --- you know in the Regiments or Militia, officers and then general commanders as you can recollect.

Answer: At Moores Creek Bridge, Governor Col. Caswell; at Wilmington General Moore and Colonel Robertson; at S. Carolina, General Marion, General Moultrie, General Lee. Whilst in Horry District the British took the greatest part of peoples --- that belonged to what was theirs Col. L----- was --- ---".

Reuben was granted a pension on his testimony of 24 October 1832. The North Carolina Rev. War Pension Rolls page 117 shows that Reuben began receiving the pension effective 4 Mar. 1831 and had received \$148.19 until death on 29 May 1833 in Rutherford County, NC.

Reuben met Amelia Dawsey in Georgetown District SC (later Horry District) and they were married on 22 October 1779. Amelia was 15 years old and Reuben was 28. After Reuben's death, Amelia traveled to Lamar, Marshall County MS in 183- with her sons Reuben D. and Timmons. She applied for a MS Rev. War Pension on 9 June 1840. The MS Pension Court has the following record: "Marshall County,

Mississippi 24 Aug. 1840 Personally appeared in Court, Amelia Treadwell, resident of Lamar, in said County, age 76 years. Married to Reuben Treadwell the 22nd of October 1779, that her husband died the 29th of May 1833.

Benjamin Treadwell, their oldest son born 25th Feb, 1781;
Sarah Treadwell, daughter, born 11th April 1783;
James Treadwell, another son, born 22 August 1785;
Reuben D. Treadwell, another son, born 22 Feb. 1790;
Samuel Treadwell was born on 11 Jan. 1792;

Adoniram Treadwell, a son, born 16 June 1794;
William D. Treadwell was born on the 4th of Feb, 1796;
John H. Treadwell, a son born atheist. 1798;
Timmons L. Treadwell, a son born on the 27th of Aug., 1800;
Thomas D. Treadwell was born on the 11th of March 1802;
Julia Ann Treadwell born on the 11th Aug. 1804;
Gilead C. Treadwell born on the ___th Feb. 1806;
Bethel D. Treadwell, a son born 27th Sept., 1808;
Lovick P. Treadwell, a son was born the 26th of September 1812.

Signed by her mark, Amelia Treadwell". Amelia Treadwell, widow of Reuben Treadwell was placed on the Pension Roll at Jackson, Miss. \$63.33 per annum. Court #5780 issued 29 March 1844.

Amelia and Reuben's first child, Benjamin Franklin, was born on 25 February 1781 in Wade County, VA according to the DAR Linage #230510 and #611015 or possibly Edgefield, SC according to Judy Prisley. There is no Wade County in VA and Edgefield is far west of Georgetown District where Reuben appears to have been during 1781. More research on this location will have to be done.

Their second child, a daughter Sarah, was born 11 April 1783 probably in Georgetown (Horry) District SC.

Reuben obtained his Rev. War land grant of 250 acres in Georgetown(Horry) District on the N.E. side of Little Pee Dee River, with a creek running through the property, on 23 April 1785. His brother, Benjamin, also obtained his land grant adjacent to Reuben on the same date. The creek became known as TREADWELL Creek. The US Geodetic map of 1982 shows this area as TREDWELL SWAMP just south of Galivants Ferry, SC. DAWSEY SWAMP is just north of Galivants Ferry.

The 3rd child, James, was born on 22 August 1785 in Georgetown (Horry) District.

Reuben probably moved the family to the Lake Swamp area, in Darlington, Cheraws. District SC after the birth of James.

Reuben is recorded in the 1790 census as living in the Cheraw District. This district was composed of Darlington, Chesterfield and Marlboro Counties. The family had 2 males under 16; three males were born between 1781 and 1790. Benjamin b 1781, James b 1785 and Reuben D. B 1790; only 1 female is listed and it must have been Amelia even though their daughter Sarah was born in 1783. They had 1 slave.

Reuben and James MORRIS appear as an adjacent land owners in Darlington District on a State Land Grant to Thomas CLEMONDS dated 4 March 1799, State Land Grants, Book 45,page 91. James MORRIS is shown on the 1820 Mill's Atlas as living along a road which is parallel to the east side of Lake Swamp.

Reuben is recorded in the 1800 census as living in Darlington District SC, probably at Sparrow Swamp, with 5 males under 10, Samuel b 1792, Adoniram b 1794, William D.

b 1796, John H. b 1798, and Timmons L. b 1800; 2 males 10 & under 16, James b 1785 and Reuben D. b 1790; and 1 male 45 & up, Reuben b 1751. There were 1 female under 10, and 1 of 26 & under 45, Amelia b 1764. The female under 10 could be an error as Sarah was born in 1783 as the only daughter to that time. They had 2 slaves according to the census.

Benjamin, their first son born in 1781 must have moved on as he is not accounted for in the Darlington census. We later find him in Columbia SC 1830 census under the name of TRADEWELL. He married Eliza Mckennedy Byrd of Columbia SC in 1808.

Reuben is again recorded as an adjacent land owner to land sold on the south side of Sparrow Swamp in Darlington County Deed Book B, Page 214, dated 31 December 1805. Other adjacent land owners include James MORRIS, and Josiah CLEMONDS. It appears that Reuben owned a considerable amount of land between Lake and Sparrow Swamp approximately 3 to 5 miles north of their junction. The combined flow then exits into Lynche's Creek after 3 miles.

The 1810 SC census has Reuben TRADWELL listed as living in Darlington District. Note the last name spelling. His home was in the Lake-Sparrow Swamp area as many of his recorded census neighbors are shown on the first SC state atlas, Mills 1826 Atlas as living in Darlington District, around Lake-Sparrow Swamp which is 15 miles south of the city of Darlington. Reuben is recorded as having 3 males less than 10, 3 males 10 and under 16, 2 males 16 and under 26, 1 male 45 or greater, 1 female less than 10 and 1 female 45 or greater. No slaves. This census record agrees with the children's birth dates except for Benjamin, Sarah and James. It is possible that Benjamin had left for the ministry in Richland District and Sarah and James had died.

The next record for Reuben is witnessing a will for Thomas Hickson in Darlington District on 10 Feb. 1810 and a note for 15 Jan. 1812 that Reuben Treadwell is formerly of Darlington now of Richland District, SC. An entry in the Darlington County Deed Book K, pages 395-398 shows Reuben as a former adjacent land owner on a deed transfer from heirs of Thomas HICKSON to John GARDNER dated 20 May 1829. This deed transfer has a detailed plat showing one boundary of Reuben's land.

It is not known when Reuben took the family to Rutherford County, NC. The family is shown in the 1820 Census of Rutherford Co. NC with 2 Males 10 to 16, (Gilead B. & Bethel C.) 1 Male 16 to 18, (Thomas D.) 2 Males 18 to 26 (John H. & Timmons L.) and 1 Male over 45 (Reuben). Only one female is listed as over 45,(Amelia).

The 1830 National Census shows Reuben to be living with his son, Timmons, in Rutherford County, NC.

Thruster Weekly Newspaper published a notice that Reubin TREADWELL had letters at the post office on 8 Jan and 9 April 1831 so he could probably read unless his sons, Rev. John H. TREADWELL who also had letters at the post office or Timmons, read them to him.

He was granted his Rev. War Pension in Rutherford Co NC on 24 October 1832 and died there the next year on 29 May 1833.

Event Note: birth event on 14 Dec 1751

Mrs. Eliza Aldrich (1864-1932) memorandum in the Univ. of MS Archive Treadwell/Aldrich Letter File shows the birth date of 14 Dec. 1751. This is consistent with the Rev. War Pension Application with the addition of day and Month.

The following individuals are linked to this event: Adoniram TREADWELL Jr. (2) (father); Reuben TREADWELL (Pvt. Rev War) (TRADWELL) (Child).

Event Text: birth event on 4 May 1764 Place of birth from tombstone, Lamar, MS as seen by Judy Prisley in Sep.1995. The following individual is linked to this event: Amelia DAWSEY (Child).

Event Text: military active duty event on Feb 1776 Reuben Treadwell volunteered as a private and joined Captain Steven Anderson's Company, Colonel Caswell Regiment, North Carolina Militia. They were marching from New Bern to Moore's Creek with 1800 men in February 1776 to face the Tories under General MacDonald with 1600 men. MacDonald had raised his Royal Highland Emigrant Regiment in the NC interior among the numerous Scottish settlers and was marching to Wilmington to embark the Regiment for duty in New England. The NC Committee of Safety was determined to oppose them. Reuben lived in New Hanover County, probably along the Black River along with the rest of the Treadwells. He was unmarried and 25 years old.

The following individual is linked to this event: Reuben TREADWELL (Pvt. Rev War) (TRADWELL) (Enlisted person).

Event Text: death event on 10 Apr 1844

Date of death from tombstone inscription as seen by Judy Prisley, Sep.1995. Judy describes the cemetery as: "The cemetery is in a copse of trees in the middle of a rolling field. Remnants of an iron fence appears in places. Amelia's stone about four feet high is the only one that still sits solidly, un chipped and perfectly legible! It states her birthplace as Marion District, SC. Timmons and Reuben D. are both buried there with the statements on their stones that they were born in Darlington District, SC. Lovick is also buried there and probably Bethel. About 50 yards from the cemetery down the road is a little rise and abroad view to the east. The home that Timmons built in 1836 is believed to have located there. Mrs. Aldrich memorandum at Univ. of MS Archives gives death date as 8 April 1844.

The following individual is linked to this event: Amelia DAWSEY (Deceased).

Relationship to Father: son. Relationship to Mother: son.

1. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll 2411.

2. Reuben Treadwell; Rev. War Pension Application W6311; Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files; Microcopy Number 804, Roll 2411; National Archives Microfilm Records 1969.
3. Rev. War Pension NC, W6311 at. Archives
4. Rev. War Pension NC, W6311 at. Archives
5. Rev. War Pension NC, W6311 at. Archives
6. on Cohary River for 60 lbs. 1779 Horry Dist. SC until after Rev. 1783.
7. 22 Oct. as the Marriage Date; and Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311.
8. Reuben Treadwell; Warrant Number 526; SC State Grants; State Grants Vol. 10, page 486, Microfilm Roll SC 7; SC Department of Archives & History, Columbia, SC.
- 9., 10., 11. #IMPORT 77465443.
12. SC Dept. of Archives and History. Columbia, SC., Darlington District, SC Sessions Journal 10, 1806-1828
13. Darlington Dist. SC Journal.
14. Notes by Eliza Allison Treadwell (Mrs. Aldrich) made March 17, 1909 in Memphis, TN.
15. 22 Oct. as the Marriage Date; and Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311.
16. "Revolutionary Pensions," Mississippi Genealogical Exchange Vol. 7 Numbers 1&2 (Spring-Summer 1966): Pages 1&2.
17. and before 1850.
18. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll2411; and Benjamin Franklin Tradewell (Treadwell) & Eliza McKennedy Byrd and Descendants Family Group Sheet & Letters, 1994-1996 Judy Prisley, 46880 Grissom Street Sterling, VA 20165. Good coverage.
19. #IMPORT 77465443.
20. DAR Linage # 230510 TRADEWELL.
21. 1 Male Age 20<30, 1F 5<10, 1F 10<15, Occupation Learned Profession. 1 Salve Reedy.
22. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll 2411; and.
23. TREADWELL Creek location of Reuben's 250 Ac. grant on 23 April 1785.
24. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY
25. Chesterfield) 1800 census has Darlington as home, so it must be there.
26. 1850 Census, 62 born SC, living with Timmons in Lamar, MS.
27. Chesterfield) 1800 census has Darlington as home, so it must be there.
28. MS Gen. Exh Reuben.
29. 'Early Marriages of Georgia', Richmond Co page 224.
30. 1 Male 18<26, 1 Female 16<26, 1 Female Slave>45. Name could be Tradwell.
31. 1Male 30<40, 1 Female <5, 1Female 30<40, Slaves 1M<5, 2F<10, 1F24<36.
32. 1850 Montgomery, Montgomery Co AL, Bricklayer, Age 60, born SC.
33. Died from injuries caused by fall of scaffold at bricklayer work.
34. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll2411; and Reuben Treadwell's Descendants as Organized by Rev. James G. Glass & Mrs. George H. Treadwell Type written pages deposited in " Rev. Glass Genealogical Files" The South Carolina Library, Columbia SC., From 1897 to 1910 plus later additions by others Columbia, SC and New York, NY. Most of the information checks out, but caution needs to be taken in use.
- 35., 36., 37., 38., 39. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805Roll 2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY
40. DAR # 230510.
41. Reuben Treadwell & Amelia Dawsey Family and Descendants Family group Sheets & Copies of Primary Letter Sources., 1996-97 Pat & Jim Treadwell, P.O. Box 2015, Dunlap, TN 37343. Extensive information on Timmons Treadwell & Descendants.
42. Jim & Pat Treadwell, Descendants of Reuben TREADWELL
43. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY
44. Rev. War Pension Claim # NW. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll 2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY
45. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll 2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY

46. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805 Roll 2411; and Glass-Treadwell Gene, Carolina Lib. SC
44. B. D. Treadwell W. L. Treadwell. Brenham, Washington Co. TX.
45. Texas Letter.
46. Rev. War Pension Claim # W. 6311, Nat. Archives Microfilm M805. Roll 2411; and Mrs. G. H. Treadwell, 22 Nov. 1897, NY, NY

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