General Allen Daniel  
Statesman, Soldier, and  
Namesake of Ft. Daniel  
by Harriet Nicholas, Descendant

Allen Daniel, Sr., appears in Wilkes County, Georgia, as early as 1788. He settled in the Scull Shoal and Blue-stone Creeks area. That part of Wilkes County became Elbert County in 1790 and on December 5, 1811, when Madison County was created, it became a part of the new county. He continued to live there until his death in 1814. Information from earlier research suggests that Allen Daniel, Sr., was born 1738 in Prince George County, Virginia. He was believed to have served in the Revolutionary War and to have commanded a company in the 8th Regiment, Virginia Line. Later research indicated that this service record is incorrect and the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution removed his name from the list of patriots. He might have served in some capacity in the War but it was not as a captain in the 8th Regiment. It is not documented that Allen was born in Virginia. He married Mary Allen in 1760. She was born in Virginia in 1743 and died (date unknown). When Allen migrated to Georgia, he came with three known children: Charity, Elizabeth, and Allen, Jr.

What we do know about Allen Daniel, Jr. is documented. He was born 1772 (possibly in Virginia) and died 1836 in Madison County, Georgia. In 1792, he married Mary “Polly” Jones. Mary was born 1770 in Virginia and died 1858 in Madison County, Georgia. She was a daughter of Russel Jones, Sr., and Ann Beasley. Russel Jones migrated from Virginia to Wilkes County, North Carolina, with his family before settling in Franklin County, Georgia in 1791.

Children of Allen Daniel, Jr. and Mary “Polly” Jones Daniel

Jane Daniel  
Anne Daniel  
William C. Daniel  
Mary Frances Daniel b. after 1792 Georgia  
Nancy Daniel b. 1794 Georgia  
Russel Jones Daniel b. 1796 Georgia, d. 1880  
Cynthia Daniel b. c1797 Georgia  

James D. Daniel b. 1807 Georgia  
Elizabeth Daniel b. 1812 Madison County, Georgia, d. before 1870  
Allen C. Daniel b. 1813 Madison County, Georgia  
Frances Daniel

Military Service, Georgia Militia

- Brigadier General of the 1st Brigade of the 4th Division, December 8, 1807 – November 9, 1812  
- Major General of the 4th Division, November 9, 1812 – November 20, 1817

Public Service

Allen served Elbert County as Tax Receiver; Upper Battalion, 1795; as a Member of the Georgia House of Representatives 1802 – 1803; Extra Session Member 1803 – 1804; Extra Session Member 1805 (resigned before Extra Session), Extra Session Member 1807 – 1808; Member of House of Representatives 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811.

He was the first State Senator elected from the newly created Madison County 1812 – 1815. He served as a Justice of Inferior Court 1814 – 1828; represented Madison County in the House of Representatives 1821 – 1823; Speaker of the House of Representatives 1822; Speaker Pro-Tem 1823; and Foreman of Grand Jury in 1812, 1814, 1816, 1822, and 1830.

Personal Notes

Allen Daniel owned and operated a ferry that was located on the Broad River near the present bridge on State Highway 281 between Danielsville and Royston.

Danielsville, the county seat of Madison County, was incorporated in 1817 and named in honor of General Allen Daniel.

In 1832, the Inferior Court found General Allen Daniel incompetent and appointed his son James Daniel as Guardian. Another son, Russel J. Daniel, cared for his father until his death six years later.

General Allen Daniel and his wife Mary “Polly” Daniel are buried on land which once was a part of their home place. The gravesite is located on the east side of Highway 281, several miles north of Danielsville, marked by tall granite markers that are impossible to see from the...
road. The family plot is mostly overgrown although the local Boy Scouts are said to have cleaned it out at one time.

Descendancy

Allen Daniel, Sr. m. Mary Allen
Allen Daniel, Jr. m. Mary "Polly" Jones
Elizabeth Daniel m. William Sorrells, Jr.
John Crawford Sorrells m. Sarah Elizabeth Carroll
John Henry Sorrells m. Harriett Melissa Brooks
Constance Azalee Sorrells m. Lowell Thaddeus Green
Irma Amanda Green m. Oliff Orren Nesbit
Harriett Ann Nesbit m. Herbert Eugene Nicholls

Resignation Letter

Allen Daniel held the rank of Brigadier General of the First Brigade of the Fourth Division of Georgia Militia, December 8, 1807 – November 9, 1812. He served as Major General of the Fourth Division of Georgia Militia, November 9, 1812 – November 20, 1817. His resignation to the Governor of Georgia is on file.

Madison County 20th November 1817

Sir:
The honorable termination of the late war and the United States being at peace with all nations on Earth it promises tranquility to this Country for many years. You will therefore receive this communication as my resignation of the Command which I have the honor to hold as Major General of the Fourth Division of the Militia of this State of Georgia, the Legislature being now in Session composed of a number of our fellow citizens with whom I have had the honor to associate for many years in the most perilous times and if differences have arisen in our deliberations, it is not more than might have been expected in the then situation of the Country and I have the consolation to believe that whatever differences might have existed, it was only an honest difference of opinion and that the whole aimed for the prosperity and happiness of our beloved Country and I should do injustice to my feelings if I was in the communication to omit to present to the legislature of Georgia my grateful acknowledgments for this mark of their confidence in conferring [sic] on me this high and honorable command. I think this a fit occasion to congratulate the legislature of Georgia and my fellow citizens generally on the honorable termination of the late war, the happy and flourishing condition of these United States the envy of the Tyrant, an asylum [sic] for the oppressed, the pride and glory of freemen. I have the consolation to believe that in the late contest the citizens of the United States has taught the world this lesson that it is for freemen alone to prescribe bounds beyond which despots must not approach.

I have the honor to be very Respectfully, your Excellency's [sic]
Most Obedient & very humble Serv. His Excellency Wm. Rabun

Allen Daniel

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Front and back of the Daniel tombstone in Madison County just miles out of Danielsville. Major General Daniel is responsible for the construction of Ft. Daniel in Hog Mountain in 1813 during the War of 1812, though by all indications he never visited the fortification.