

OCCGS Civil War Veterans Project

Veteran's Information

Veteran's Name: John Youel ANDERSON

Birth Date: 2 April 1838

Location: Rockbridge County, Virginia

Death Date: 18 May 1920

Location: East Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

Buried at (Cemetery): Fairhaven Memorial Park

Plot Location: R-88-1

GPS Coordinates: N33° 46' 14.21123" W117° 50' 33.06816"

(DMS) Datum: NAD83. Coordinates are +/- 1.00 feet of the grave location



Side Served - Confederate

Rank: 3rd Corporal

Company: H

Unit: 14th Cavalry

State: Virginia

Rank: Lieutenant

Company:

Unit: 25th Infantry – Stonewall's Infantry

State: Virginia

Occupation: Farmer

Family Information

Parents –

Father: Robert Blaine Anderson

Birth Date/Location: 17 October 1811, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Death Date/Location: 4 April 1853, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Mother: Mary Magdalene Horn

Birth Date/Location: 23 August 1813, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Death Date/Location: 26 October 1900, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Spouse: Virginia Caroline "Jennie" Firebaugh

Birth Date / Location: 12 April 1840, Virginia

Death Date/Location: 26 November 1889, Westminster, Orange County, California

Marriage Date / Location: 19 December 1862, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Children –

Name: Robert Kerr Anderson

Birth Date / Location: 3 February 1865, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Death Date / Location: 15 March 1866, Rockbridge County, Virginia

Name: Harry Blaine Anderson

Birth Date / Location: 25 July 1878, California

Death Date / Location: 7 March 1974, Contra Costa County, California

Married Gladys Irene Phillips

Name: Mary Elinor Anderson (Tilton)

Birth Date / Location: 12 December 1880, Westminster, Orange County, California

Death Date / Location: 28 February 1930, Los Angeles County, California

Additional Information

Enlisted 14 May 1861 in Rockbridge County, Virginia as a 3rd Corporal with Co H, 14th Virginia Infantry. Promoted to Lieutenant and enlisted on 23 October 1864 with Co H, 25th Virginia Infantry. He mustered out 9 April 1865 at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

John Y Anderson had two brothers who also fought during the Civil War:

- Jacob Horn Anderson, Private, Co H, 14th Virginian Cavalry.
- James Davidson Anderson, 1st Sergeant, Co H, 15th Virginia Infantry.

When the colony of Westminster was started in 1870, Anderson bought the first lot and built the first house in 1871 with the help of another Orange County CSA veteran, James D. Ott. Anderson was possibly the first member of the Presbyterian Church in Westminster and held the initial church meetings in his home.

John Anderson is credited with establishing the first sorghum mill in Southern California. He grew and manufactured sorghum selling thousands of gallons of syrup.

Sources

“Pioneers in Blue and Gray”, Civil War Veterans in Orange County by Gordon Bricken, First Edition, The Bricken Press, Santa Ana, California, Copyright 2009

- Record for John Y Anderson

“Confederates in California”, compiled by Margaret Alley, Published by Motheralley, PO Box 3295, Montebello, California 90640, copyright by Margaret Alley April 1, 2008

- Record for John Yowel Anderson

Historical Data Systems, comp. U.S Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles [database on-line], Provo, UT, USA:

Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009

- Record for John Youel Anderson

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- District 53, Rockbridge County, Virginia, Roll M432973, Pg 413B, Family 504, Record for John G Anderson in the household of Robert Anderson
- District 53, Rockbridge County, Virginia, Roll M432_973, Page 383A, Family 101, Record for Virginia C Firebaugh in the household of John Firebaugh

1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

- District 6, Rockbridge, Virginia, Roll M653_1376, Page 306, Family 789, Record for John Y Anderson in the household of Mary M Anderson

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. United States of America, Bureau of the Census.

- Westminster, Los Angeles County, California, Roll T9_67, Page 30C, ED: 029, Family 72, Record for John Y Anderson

Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

- Westminster, Orange County, California, Roll T623_95, Page 22A, ED: 0142, Family 503, Record for John G Andersen

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

- Westminster, Orange County, California, Roll T624_90, Page 5, ED: 0061. Family Record for John Y Anderson in the household of Harry B Anderson

"Virginia Marriages, 1785-1940," index, "FamilySearch" (<https://www.familysearch.org>)

- Record for John Y. Anderson and Virginia C. Firebaugh
- Marriage Date: 19 Dec 1862, Rockbridge County, Virginia

California, County Birth, Marriage, and Death Records, 1830-1980. California Department of Public Health

- Harry Blaine Anderson and Gladys Irene Phillips

California, Death Index, 1905-1939. California Department of Health and Welfare. California Vital Records

- Record for John Y Anderson

State of California. California Death Index, 1940-1997. Sacramento, CA, USA: State of California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics

- Record for Harry B. Anderson

World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls

- Record for Harry Blane Anderson

Find A Grave, database and images - <https://www.findagrave.com>

- Memorial 8722196, Created by Shiver, Record for John Anderson
- Memorial 58490929, Created by Tony & Cindy Lloyd, Record for Virginia Caroline “Jennie” *Firebaugh* Anderson
- Memorial 85248695, Created by Margi, Record for Mary Elinor *Anderson* Tilton
- Memorial 68190685, Created by Jessie Barbour, Record for John Blaine Anderson
- Memorial 68190780, Created by Jessie Barbour, Record for Mary Magdalene *Horn* Anderson
- Memorial 15417008, Created by Scott Hutchison, Record for James Davidson Anderson
- Memorial 22993093, Created by Scott Hutchison, Record for Jacob Horn Anderson

“Bollman, Ivana Freeman, Westminster Colony, California: 1869 to 1879. Santa Ana, CA: Friis-Pioneer Press, 1983

- Contains biographical information on John and Virginia Anderson who were among the first settlers of Westminster, California.

The Confederate Soldiers of Rockbridge County, Virginia, A Roster; Robert R Driver, Jr.; McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers, Jefferson, North Carolina, 2016

- Record for John Y Anderson
- Record for Jacob Horn Anderson
- Record for James Davidson Anderson

Los Angeles Herald, Los Angeles, California, Friday, September 15, 1893, Pg 3, Col 3

- “In Southern California”, Westminster
 - J Y Anderson starts sorghum mill

The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California, Saturday, October 14, 1893, Pg 9, Col 5

- “Orange County Fair” Pavilion Exhibit
 - J Y Anderson of Westminster showed amber syrup, and sugarcane sixteen feet high

The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California, Friday, August 3, 1895, Pg 11, Col 5

- “Orange County Brevities”
 - J Y Anderson of Westminster operates the largest sugar-cane mill in Orange County.

The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California, Monday, December 11, 1899, Pg 9, Col 3

- “A Growing Industry”
 - J Y Anderson sorghum mill has been operating for 15 years with a season output of three thousand gallons

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Monday, April 8, 1918, Pg 10, Col 1

- Pioneers Gather to Celebrate Eightieth Birthday, John Y Anderson Receives Surprises; Much Activity in Westminster Social Circle

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Tuesday, May 25, 1920, Pg 5, Col 3

- Obituary John Y Anderson

Santa Ana Register, Santa Ana, California, Wednesday, May 19, 1920, Pg 8, Col 3

- County Pioneer Passes in L.A. - John Y Anderson

Photograph of headstone for John Youel Anderson, Fairhaven Memorial Park, Orange County, California taken by Charles Lewis Beal, 01/25/2007. Used with the permission of Charles Lewis Beal.