

# Alfords Who Served in the Civil War from the State of Alabama

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Most pensions from the State of Alabama were made from the 1880s through the 1930s. Some applications were actually made or reviewed as late as the 1960s. In some cases, pensions were paid to surviving widows up into the 1970s. At least one surviving Confederate widow from Selma, Alabama was paid a pension well into the 1980s. Applications were maintained by the Alabama Pension Commission and transferred to the Alabama Department of Archives and History upon the death of the pensioner.

Beginning in 1881, the Alabama General Assembly passed various types of legislation which approved pensions to Confederate veterans and their widows. The Alabama Department of Archives and History in Montgomery, Alabama has records of 19 pensioners with the surname Alford. What follows is an abstract of information of a genealogical nature found in these Alford veteran's folders from their original applications, renewal applications, widow's applications, and miscellaneous other correspondence and papers. The actual papers were microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah in 1987 from the originals in Montgomery. The information below can be found on reel #4.

## Pension Records

1. **Alexander Marshall Alford.** Winston County. Private, Company B [or D] 37th Georgia Militia. First made application 10 May 1899. Application was witnessed by his brother Spire Warren Alford, youngest son of the elder Spire Warren Alford who died in Texas in 1854. Enlisted 29 Mar 1864 at West Point, Georgia at the age of 15. Captain was Cooper; Colonel was William W. Cato; General was Tyler. Served one and one half years and was at Macon, Georgia when the War ended. After a statewide review of pensioners in 1913, Alexander was dropped from the rolls. The reason given was that since he belonged to a State Militia organization, the pension Commission "would be without any authority to place [Alexander] on the pension roll of Alabama, [when his] only service is hown to be that of State Troops, Home Guards, or State Militia." There are no muster rolls on file in Georgia for the 37th Regiment Georgia Militia. Children: Odessa Alford Wilson, Daisy Alford Blake, and John Warren Alford. Alexander Marshall Alford always felt he was unjustly deleted from the pension rolls. Soon after he was dropped from the rolls, he began to pursue various legal and political means to have his pension reinstated. One letter sent to Alexander, dated 15 Aug 1929, was signed by W.B. Bankhead, Congressional Representative of the 10th District of Alabama. W.B. Bankhead's daughter found greater fame outside Alabama as the Hollywood actress, Tallulah Bankhead. Alexander repeatedly applied to be reinstated until his death 23 Mar 1934. He was never reinstated.

2. **Doctor(?) Fermer(?) Alford.** Choctaw County. Private, Company C, 3rd Regiment of Alabama Reserves. Applied 15 Feb 1896, age then about 80. The post office was Jachin.

3. **Ezekiel C. Alford.** Morgan County. Private, Company D, 3rd Alabama Calvary. Applied 25 May 1916, age then 74 years, 1 month, 1 day. "Born and reared in Alabama." Enlisted Dec 1861. Saw service until 1865; wounded "at foot of Cumberland Mountain," in 1863, "by a bushwhacker." Married 22 Nov 1867 and 14 Sep 1890; present wife was 64. Children: Alfred Alford, 49, farmer; Job Alford, 48, farmer; Pleas Alford, born in 1876, farmer. Belonged to Confederate Veteran's "Camp Friendship" at Hartselle, Alabama. Application 6 May 1912 said he enlisted at Arkadelphia. Second wife: Nannie Hines Alford; born: 4 Dec 1850 at Priceville, Morgan County, Alabama; died 3 Jul 1944; Nannie married Ezekiel on 14 Sep 1890. Nannie and Ezekiel had two children, but they had died by 1924. Nannie's father's name was William B. McAnear who died in 1885 in Morgan County. Ezekiel C. Alford died 6 Mar 1924 near Falkville, Morgan County, Alabama. He drew a pension for four or five years.

4. **J.J. Alford.** Clay County. Private, Company G, 5th Alabama Infantry. Applied 1 Jul 1889. Farmer. Application 24 May 1893 said he was "shot in the head by a minnie ball" on 17 Aug 1863 near Atlanta, Georgia. Applied 9 Apr 1891. Applied 2 Feb 1892.

5. **J.N. Alford.** Henry County. Private, Company I, 5th Alabama. [Illegible writing; may have been a Florida unit].

Enlisted 12 May 1862 at Gordon, Alabama. On date of application 27 May 1899, he was 76 years old.

6. **J.Z. Alford.** Elmore County. Private, Company B, 61st Alabama Regiment of Volunteers. Applied 26 Mar 1881. Lost left arm “off above elbow” at Battle of Bunker Hill in Virginia on 10 Sep 1864. Application 6 May 11 1899 said he enlisted 20 Aug 1862 at Pollard, Alabama; discharged on 15 Oct 1864. Also wounded at Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee where he lost an eye. Applicant was 58 on application of 6 May 1899 and post office was Kowaliga, Alabama. Application 23 Mar 1885 said he was living at Champhatchee. Application 1 May 1897 and 2 Mar 1898 mentioned post office was David in Elmore County. Application 26 Mar 1915 said he was born in Tallapoosa County.

7. **James Badger Alford.** Henry County. Orderly Sergeant, Company E, 37th Alabama Infantry. Captain was Skipper, Colonel was J.F. Dowdell. Application 20 Oct 1923 by widow Mrs. Sarah E. Alford. “Lived in Alabama all her life.” On application 20 Oct 1923, she was 74 years, 11 months, 20 days old. James Badger Alford said he enlisted in March of 1862. He was “captured at Vicksburg, and there paroled, came home and re-organized and returned to service, and remained in service until surrender, when he was honorably discharged at Greensboro, North Carolina.” James Badger Alford married Sarah E. on 8 Dec 1870. James Badger died 10 Sep 1902 in Henry County, Alabama. Children: Wiley Alford, manufacturer; John C. Alford and Homer P. Alford, farmers; (misses) Maggie A. and Nettie G. Alford, housekeepers. In application of 20 Oct 1923, Mrs. Sarah E. Alford listed Abbeville as post office.

8. **James Edward Alford.** Etowah County. Private, 1st Alabama Cavalry. Widow: Mrs. Harriet Lillia Alford, 954 East Broad Street, Gadsden, Alabama. At time of application, Harriet was living with Mrs. Lizzett Myrick. Harriet Lillia Alford said she was born 18 Jan 1858 in Wetumpka, Coosa County, Alabama [that’s what the application says—Wetumpka is actually in Elmore County, Alabama]. Harriet’s father was Thomas Breckenridge Smith who died in Gadsden in 1910. Harriet Lillia Alford married James Edward Alford on 25 Mar 1875 in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. James Edward Alford died 6 Oct 1909 in Gadsden, Alabama. Harriet lived in Montgomery from 18 Jan 1858 until 1866. James Edward Alford enlisted in 1863. “All papers ... lost in 1926 when house and all furnishings burned.” Son was W.L. Alford.

9. **James Richard Alford.** St. Clair County. Private, Company C, 17th Alabama Infantry. Widow: Mrs. Elizabeth E. Alford, who died 21 Mar 1947. James Richard Alford enlisted 7 Sep 1862 at Camp Forney, Alabama. He was “wounded in the right hip and captured at Nashville, Tennessee 15 Dec 1864. He was imprisoned at Camp Chase, Ohio, where he was released 12 Jun 1865.... His personal description is recorded as follows: 20 years of age, residence Butler County, Alabama, dark complexion, dark hair, dark eyes, 5 foot, 7 inches.” At time of application on 28 Jul 1936, Elizabeth E. Alford was 76 years, 5 months, 13 days old. She married James Richard Alford 22 Nov 1891. James Richard Alford died 19 Feb 1919 at Ashville, Alabama. Children: H.B. Alford, Standard Oil Operator; James B. Alford, insurance; Oris Alford, teacher; Gladys Alford Ramsey, farmer.

10. **John W. Alford.** Lowndes County. Lieutenant, Company G, 28th Alabama Volunteers. John W. Alford died 29 Oct 1870. His widow was Mrs. S.E. Alford. She last applied 5 Jun 1900.

11. **M.A. Alford.** Geneva County. Private, Company K, 50th Alabama. M.A. Alford enlisted at Notasulga, Alabama in Sep 1862. He died 19 Jun 1921 in Geneva County. He was born in Coffee County. In his application dated 1 Jun 1901, he was living at Elton, Alabama. Widow: Mariah Marcenia Alford. When she applied 1 Jul 1921, her post office was Samson, Alabama. Mariah Marcenia Alford was born near Elba, Alabama on 9 Sep 1865. She married M.A. Alford in Feb 1901. Daughter: Ella Ola Alford Sellers. Ella’s husband’s name was John.

12. **Preston Giles Alford.** Houston County. Private, Company A, 6th Alabama Infantry. Captain was Tom T. Smith; Colonel was Seibles. Preston Giles Alford enlisted 4 Jun 1861 and was taken prisoner at Langsters Cross Roads, Virginia on 17 Jul 1861 and later exchanged. He was sent from Ft. McHenry, Maryland to Ft. Monroe, Virginia on 13 Nov 1861. He died in Columbia, Alabama. Widow: Mrs. Lucy Alford was living in Columbia, Alabama “with my daughters” on the application date of 21 Feb 1920. On that date, she was 61 years, 5 months old. She married Preston Giles Alford on 16 Dec 1876. She mentioned she had also lived in Jackson County, Florida. Children: Thurman Alford, railroading; Lucile Alford, government work; Daisy Alford Sanders, “keeping house for me.”

13. **Richard R. Alford.** Geneva County. Private, Company K, 5th Alabama. Application of 6 Jun 1916, he was a resident of Samson, Alabama. He enlisted Sep 1862 at Greenville, Alabama. He was “wounded at the Battle near Washington and Appomattox in the State of Virginia ... wounded in right arm near Washington with a piece of bomb

shell and the left elbow at Appomattox, Virginia.” He was 72 on application date 6 Jun 1916. His application was witnessed by M.A. Alford [see #10 above].

14. **S.W. Alford.** Elmore County. Private, Company E, 60th Alabama. S.W. Alford died 16 Feb 1891. Widow: Mrs. E.J. Alford made application for pension 13 Dec 1915.

15. **Thomas Alford.** Jefferson County. Private, Company B, 56th Georgia Volunteers. He died during the war of disease, not battle. Widow: Mrs. Lucinda Alford, made application 17 Jul 1887 and 3 Jul 1891.

16. **Thomas L. Alford.** Clay County. Private. [No rank or military unit listed.] Thomas L. Alford died 28 Apr 1899. Widow: Mrs. Samantha J. Alford. Date of application: 7 Aug 1903.

17. W.M. Alford. Crenshaw County. [No rank or military unit listed.] Born in Montgomery County. Made application 10 Oct 1914. [No further information listed].

18. W.M. Alford. Bullock County. Private, Company B, 61st Regiment. Enlisted 1 May 1863 in Montgomery County, Alabama; discharged 12 Apr 1865. He was wounded at the Battle of Winchester in Virginia. He was 57 years old on the date of application, 4 May 1902.

19. William Alford. Lee County. Private Company A, 15th Alabama Volunteers. He died 1 Mar 1862 of disease, not battle. On date of application 7 Mar 1896, widow Mrs. Jane P. Alford was living at Society Hill, Alabama. On 5 Apr 1897, she was living in Opelika, Alabama; on 21 Jan 1898, she was living in Auburn, Alabama.

## Compiled Service Records

The following names are from the microfilmed Index of Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers from the State of Alabama with the surname Alford. Following the name is the rank at which the Alford entered the service; the highest rank attained; and the military unit to which assigned. Duplicate names in some cases might be due to an Alford switching units. The names are presented in the order they appear on microfilm.

**Augustus Alford;** Private/2nd Lieutenant; 37th Alabama Infantry  
**Artimus S. Alford;** Private/Private; Company E, 4th Alabama Infantry  
**A.T. Alford;** Private/Private; Company E, 62nd Alabama Infantry  
**Daniel J. Alford;** Private/Private; Jeff Davis Alabama Artillery  
**D.T. Alford;** Private/Private; Company C, 3rd Alabama Reserves [see #2 above]  
**E.W. Alford;** Private/Private; Company K, 33rd Alabama Infantry  
**Frank Alford;** Private/Private; Company H, 34th Alabama Infantry  
**George C. Alford;** Private/Private; Company H, 3rd Alabama Infantry  
**George C. Alford;** Private/Private; Company F, 29th Alabama Infantry  
**George Cook Alford;** Private/Private; Company B, 61st Alabama Infantry  
**George W. Alford;** Private/Private; 3rd Battalion Alabama Reserves  
**G.M. Alford;** Private/Private; Company K, 2nd Alabama Cavalry  
**Greene Alford;** Private/Private; Company E, 40th Alabama Infantry  
**Henry D. Alford;** Private/Private; Company C, 3rd Battalion Alabama Reserves  
**H.J. Alford;** Private/Private; Company I, 17th Alabama Infantry  
**H.J. Alford;** Private/Private; Company G, 1st Battalion Hilliard’s Legion of Alabama Volunteers  
**J. Alford;** Private/Private; Company D, 29th Alabama Infantry  
**J.A. Alford;** Private/Private; Company F & K, 7th Alabama Cavalry  
**J.A. Alford;** Private/Private; Goldthwaite’s Battery, Alabama Light Cavalry  
**J.A. Alford;** Sergeant/Sergeant; Company D, 58th Alabama Infantry  
**Jackson Alford;** Private/Private; Company G, 48th Alabama Infantry  
**James Alford;** Private/Private; Company A, 31st Alabama Infantry  
**James Alford;** Private/Private; Company B, 61st Alabama Infantry [#6 above]  
**James T. Alford;** Sergeant/Sergeant; Company K, 33rd Alabama Infantry  
**J.B. Alford;** Private/Sergeant; Company E, 37th Alabama Inf Alford; Infantry  
**J.E. Alford;** Private/Private; Company F, 12th Alabama Cavalry

**J.E. Alford**; Private/Private; Company B, 61st Alabama Infantry [#6 above?]  
**J.F. Alford**; Private/Private; Company F, 29th Alabama Infantry  
**J.F. Alford**; Private/Private; Company H, 34th Alabama Infantry  
**John Alford**; Private/Private; Company T[?], 5th Alabama Cavalry [#4 or #5 above?]  
**John Alford**; Private/Private; Company T, 18th Alabama Infantry  
**John B. Alford**; Private/Private; Company E, 40th Alabama Infantry  
**John F. Alford**; Private/Private; Company A, 6th Alabama Cavalry  
**John F. Alford**; Private/Private; Clanton's Battery, Alabama Light Artillery  
**John F. Alford**; Private/Private; Company H, 53rd Alabama Partisan Rangers  
**John W. Alford**; Sergeant/2nd Lieutenant; Company G, 23rd Battalion Alabama Sharp Shooters  
**J.R. Alford**; Private/Private; Company C, 17th Alabama Infantry [see #9 above]  
**J.S. Alford**; Private/Corporal; Company F & K, 7th Alabama Cavalry  
**J.W. Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 23rd Alabama Infantry  
**J.W. Alford**; Corporal/Sergeant; Company G, 1st Battalion Hilliard's Legion  
**J.W. Alford**; Private/Private; Company D, 3rd Alabama Infantry  
**J.W. Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 43rd Alabama Infantry  
**M.A. Alford**; Private/Private; Company K, 5th Alabama Infantry [see #11 above]  
**Pierce L. Alford**; 1st Sergeant/2nd Lieutenant; Company C, 47th Alabama Infantry  
**Preston G. Alford**; Private/Private; Company A, 6th Alabama Infantry [see #12 above]  
**Reddin Alford**; Private/Private; Jackson's 3rd Battalion Alabama Reserves  
**S.W. Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 1st Battalion Hilliard's Legion  
**Sylvesta W. Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 23rd Battalion Alabama Sharp Shooters  
**T.C. Alford**; Private/Private; Company D, 25th Alabama Infantry  
**Thomas Alford**; Corporal/1st Sergeant; Company G, 3rd Alabama Cavalry  
**W.A. Alford**; Private/Private; Company K, 18th Alabama Infantry  
**William A. Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 53rd Alabama Partisan Rangers  
**Warren Alford**; Private/Private; Company B, 61st Alabama Cavalry  
**W.H. Alford**; Private/Private; Company D, 4th Battalion Hilliard's Legion Alabama Artillery  
**W.H. Alford**; Private/Corporal; Company H, 59th Alabama Infantry  
**William Alford**; Private/Private; Company A, 15th Alabama Infantry [see #19 above]  
**William Alford**; Private/Private; Company G, 53rd Alabama Partisan Rangers

Spelling variation: Allford.

**J.M. Allford**; Private/Private; Company B, 15th Battalion Alabama Partisan Rangers  
**J.M. Allford**; Private/Private; Company B, 56th Alabama Partisan Rangers  
**John D. Allford**; Private/Private; Company G, 54th Alabama Infantry  
**W.W. Allford**; Private/Private; Company K, 42<sup>nd</sup> Alabama Infantry

One Alford, **Jackson Alford**, enlisted as a Private in Company L, 1st Alabama Cavalry. This unit was a Union Cavalry unit. It is not known if this Jackson Alford is the Confederate Soldier listed above. Captured Confederates were routinely ordered to take an oath to the Union as a condition for their release. Jackson Alford may have the oath one step farther.