

**Case 13: Allen Austin born August 1824 in Apponaug, Kent County, Rhode Island and died April 11, 1908 in Warwick Town. Rhode Island.**

The life of Allen Austin before his Military career and subsequent stay in the National Homes can be outlined by the information on some Rhode Island Vital Records and the U. S. Census. Allen was born in the August of 1824, at a farm on Post Road in the community of Apponaug, Warwick Town, Kent County, Rhode Island. His parents were a Stephen and Olive Austin.

He married on September 17, 1844 to Elizabeth "Betsey" Randal Card. She was born in 1826 and died on January 14, 1865. Allen lived to be age eighty-four, and died April 11, 1908. He was buried in the Austin-Card Burial Lot in Apponaug, Warwick, on Post Road, next to his wife. Their monuments with inscriptions remain there to this day. Allen's full name could be Allen Albert Austin, as his son's death certificate shows that he was a Junior by that name. Allen had an older brother named, Stephen Anthony Austin who was also born in Apponaug about 1823.

Allen and Elizabeth Card Austin had one son, and four daughters. They had seventeen grandchildren, none who had the surname, Austin. The children of Allen and Betsey were: (1) Malissa Austin (1844-1852) who died at age eight; (2) Amey Austin (Aug 1845-8 Jan 1908) who married Samuel A. Card (1829-1901) about 1864, and had six children; (3)Olive Frances Austin (Aug 1848-31 Oct 1903) who married January 19, 1875 to William Albert Chute of Nova Scotia and moved away to Taunton, Massachusetts; (4) Allen Albert Austin, Jr. (Sept. 1849/1853-Sept. 8, 1908) who married Matilda "Tildy" Ann Harrigan (1855-) on Sept. 23, 1877, but had no children; (5) Sarah Elizabeth Austin (Aug. 5, 1854-Feb. 26, 1911) married George Walter S. Davis Mar. 7, 1860 in Warwick. Sarah and George W. Davis had ten children, and they removed to Northbridge, Massachusetts about 1890 for work that was available in a cotton mill.

The National Home records for Allen are:

1) The Register #472 (originally #469) of the Northwestern Branch National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Milwaukee, Wood County, Wisconsin shows that Allen Austin was admitted to the Home on September 13, 1886 when he was age

62. He lived there almost two years. His marital status was listed as widowed.

2) Allen was transferred on August 2, 1888 to the Northeastern Branch Home. The Register A 6590 of The Northeastern Branch National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers of Togus, Maine, lists a military history for Allen Austin who enlisted in Company D of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery Sept. 4, 1861 and was discharged Sept 5, 1864. He had a general disability when he was admitted to both the Northwestern and the Northeastern Homes. He was admitted by order of Gen. M.T. McMalone. A second military enlistment on April 1865 in Company F, 1<sup>st</sup> RI LA at Providence, Rhode Island, and a subsequent discharge in April 1866. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was documented. In 1888, he had no pension.

Soldiers could leave and return to the Home at any time. This had to be documented on the Register. For six months Allen had a furlough from the Home in 1888. He spent another six months at the Home beginning on Jan. 18, 1889. Additionally he spent another three months there, beginning on July 15, 1889. He was discharged at his own request on Oct. 8, 1889. These dates could be meaningful if something else notable happened to Allen during that time.

There are some differences in the military records for Allen as listed on the two National Home Registers. The military record at the Northwestern Branch Home at Milwaukee, Wood Co, Wisconsin, Register #472 (originally #469 is the same as that for the Northeastern Branch for his first military enlistment, except for this notice: "At expiration of his (military) term he was in Hancock Corp. Second military enlistment was April 1865 at Providence, Rhode Island, discharged April 1866 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Non-pension" (note this date was 1886 before his pension of 1889). His last residence was Warwick, RI, he was single in 1886, had no children living with him under the age of 16. His nearest relative listed once more, was Stephen Austin of Apponang, Kent, RI. Allen's occupation at age 62 was farmer. He was transferred from the NW Branch Home in Wisconsin to the NE Branch Home in Maine. He was later provided transportation from Providence, RI.

A pension application for Allen's Civil War Service in Co. F, 1<sup>st</sup> RI LA, was approved on September 12, 1889. His application No 727484, Certificate 178914 RI has more details. The 1890 U.

S. Veteran's Census of Kent County, RI, Crompton Post Office, on line 16, lists Allen Austin, Pvt., in Co. F, 1<sup>st</sup> RI, from Oct 28, 1861 to Oct 28, 1864. His disability was listed as Consumption.

After his military service, Allen returned home to his farm at Apponaug, where he could be near his married children. A widower, he remained a single man the rest of his life. The Register lists his occupation as, farmer. Importantly, the name of his nearest relative was given as Stephen Austin of Apponaug, Rhode Island. This helps us to identify records that link Allen Austin to other families of the Apponaug community in Warwick, Rhode Island.

On Jun. 13, 1900, the U. S. Census of Warwick Town, Kent, RI, for Family 236 lists Allen Austin born August 1823 RI, age 77, a widowed farmer who owned his farm free of mortgage. A relative living with him was named Alfred Austin, who was born in Jan. 1844. Alfred was listed as a boarder. As far as we know, no direct relationship with Allen has been proven. Alfred could be a son of Cyrus E. Austin.

There were four Stephen Austins who were contemporaries of Allen in Rhode Island, but only one who could be his brother. He lived at Apponaug at the same time as Allen. The marriage and death record for Allen list his parents as Stephen and Olive Austin of Warwick. Stephen Anthony Austin, Alan's brother, was born about 1823 to parents of the same name. This Stephen was also a farmer. He married Joanna Mowry who was born 1822. She died before 1880 in Warwick Town. Stephen and Joanna had no offspring who had the surname of Austin. They had three daughters: (1) Amey Austin(1844-1894) who had two short marriages (1)Lockwood, (2) Henry Francis Skinner, a stonemason; (2) Sarah Maria Austin (Feb 1847-22 mar 1932) who married Horatio Nelson Perry Read and had seven children; and (3) Phoebe A Austin (b 1850) who married Ethan T. Peck in 1867 and had four children. Stephen was buried at Brayton Cemetery in Apponaug.

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Source: *Historical Register of National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938*; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M1749, 282 rolls); Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

See possible relatives on Descendants of Brayton Austin of RI on our website. <http://www.afaao.org> compiler Art Sikes.

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1840 U. S. Census, Warwick Twp, Kent Co, RI, page 134. Allen Austin, ae. 16 in column 1 male age 15-20, 1 female b c 1810-1820.

1850 U S. Census, Warwick Town, Kent, RI, 20 Sep, P 352. Dwelling 952, Fam 1067. Allen Austin 26, m, laborer, RI; Betsey 24 f, RI (wife); Mary A. 5, f, RI; Olive F(Frances) 2 f, RI; Esther Arnold, widow, 63; Maria Kane 21, f, Ireland; Mary Marcy 20 f Ireland; May S. Keffington, Ireland.

1860 U. S. Census, Warwick, Kent, RI, 30 Jun, Apponaug PO, Dwelling 1104, Fam 1327. Allen Austin 36, m, laborer RI; Elizabeth A Austin 33, f, RI; Amey 15, f, RI; Frances (Olive) 11, F, in school; Allen A. Austin 10, m, in school RI; Sarah E. Austin 5, f, RI,

1880 U. S. Census: Warwick, Kent, RI, Jun 12, 1880, page 335, Dwelling 294, Fam 316. Allen Austin, Jr. 21, laborer, RI, RI, RI; Matilda H. 24, wife, keeps house, RI, IRE, RI; Allen Austin 50, father, laborer, RI, RI, RI.

1890 U. S. Veteran's Census p 2, SD129, ED172, Post Office, Crompton, Kent Co, RI. Line 16, 200, 222 Allen Austin, Pvt Co F., 1st RI Oct 28, 1861, Oct 28 1864, 3 yr.. His disability was consumption, a respiratory disease.

1900 U. S. Census, Warwick Town, Kent, RI, 13 Jun, p 295A, Dwelling 215, Fam 236. Allen Austin b Aug 1823 RI, age 77, widowed, farmer, owns farm free of mortgage, Farm Schedule #42; Alfred Austin, lodger, b Jan 1844, age 56, farm laborer, widower, RI, RI, RI (relationship of this Alfred is not known).

MILITARY: Civil War Records, Union, Allen Austin 1 Regt RI L Arty. Co D. Pvt. Residence was Warwick, RI, enlisted 4 Sep 1861 Pvt, Mustered out 3 Sep 1864, Charleston WV,

REGISTER Northeastern Branch Home for Volunteer Soldiers, Togus, Kennebec Co, ME; Register A 6590. Allen Austin lists Stephen Austin as a relative.

Military listed is Co. D, 1st RI Lt. Arty, Sept 4, 1861 to Sep 5, 1864 disability, general, admitted Sept 13, 1886 NW Branch in Wisconsin. Transferred from NW Branch Home Aug 2, 1888, furloughed 6 months, and then dismissed at his request Aug 9, 1888 to Providence, RI. At his request enrolled for an extra 6 months on Jan. 18, 1889 and again for 3 months on Oct. 8, 1889.

U. S. Military Pension for Civil War Service, Co. F, 1st RI Light Arty., September 12, 1889 approved, Invalid, Application 727484, Certificate 178914 RI.

DEATH: Rhode Island Death Record. On Pilot Record Search of FamilySearch.org. Index 1011950. Allen Austin d 11 Apr 1908, Warwick, Kent, RI, age 83 (b 1825) father's name was given as Stephen Austin and mother's name was given as Olive Austin.

Compiled and revised August 11, 2010 and July 12, 2012. [helencastin@afaao.org](mailto:helencastin@afaao.org)