

Information from the "Mark of Honour" by Hazel Mathews

Hugh Alexander Banyar Patent - Lot 51, Tryon County, Province of New York.

*Grandfather*  
Alexander took a tenant farm in 1774. He had a grist mill near where Banyar's brook entered the west branch of the Delaware river. A number of Scotch settlers had land in this area. The property was owned by Goldsborough Banyar and Lawrence Kortright. Banyar was a registrar of the Colonel Court of Chancery and officer of the Perogative Court, then Deputy-Secretary under Governor Cadwallader Golden of the Province of New York. Kortright made a fortune privateering during the seven years war and was one of the founders in 1770 of the New York Chamber of Commerce.

John Burch Burch had 5,000 acres on the Delaware. All his buildings, including a tenahouse, were burned and a lot of valuable livestock and grain carried away. He had a saw-mill and grist mill machinery and numerous other effects at Marble Town and Woodstock. When he fled from Albany he tried to carry away the contents of his dry-goods store and japanning and tin shop, but the goods were seized on the road and those with them were imprisoned, one of the men being Hugh Alexander. Burch's Albany losses exceeded 1,000 pounds. (Ontario Historical Society)

Alexander escaped from Albany Jail. He joined McDonells Company which was organized in opposition to the rebel sympathizers. In November, 1776 the following were taken prisoner by the Seneca Indians: Janet Cooper, Thomas and John McMicking, Thomas and James Cooper and Hugh Alexander, who was born among them. In March 1781 they were taken by the Indians to Fort Niagara where they were released for a ransom. The trip took ten days and they slept in the snow. A small ration of corn was carried in a sock. (McMicking history)

In 1805 (April 6th) The Crown granted a Patent to John Reilly, Peter Thompson, Thomas McMicking and James Cooper, as Trustees, of 150 acres, being part of lot 55 of the survey of 1791. It was not until 1816 that a plan was final worked out to lease the lands. At a meeting held on July 25th, 1816 Hugh Alexander provided proof that he had been in possession of lot 8-9-36-37 and buildings or improvements had been made thereon. He was therefore entitled to a lease .

Under date of Nov. 1st, 1822 a lease was given to Susannah Alexander, Widow of Hugh Alexander. It is therefor apparent that Hugh Alexander died between 1816 and 1822. Mrs. Alexander paid rent thereon until at least November 1834.

*died 1821*