# WWI Fort Caswell Nurse Profile: Anna Andis, 1889-1943

By Norma Eckard

#### AND AMY ECKARD

WWI Fort Caswell Nurse Profile: Anna Andis 1889-1943 Anna Lucille "Lou" Andis Cleveland Johnson City, Tenn. Army Nurse Corps Served: Oct. 5, 1918 -Jan. 15, 1919

Fort Caswell, U.S. Army Post Hospital: Oct. 5, 1918 – Jan. 15, 1919

Anna Lucille "Lou" Andis was born and raised in Jonesville, Va.

The 1900 Census, when Lou was 11 years old, listed her father as a farmer. There were eight children, all living. Lou was the third eldest sibling and the eldest daughter. Her older brothers were working on the family farm. All siblings over age 5 were reportedly reading, writing, and attending school.

In 1910, Lou was living in Johnson City, Tenn., with her younger sister who had recently married. Lou's brother-in-law was employed as a salesman. Lou was employed as a trained nurse.

According to The Comet (Johnsonville, Tenn.), 01 Jul 1909; p.1; her younger sister's marriage was "a notable event in social circles." Lou served as maid of honor. The bride was reportedly a "most popular young lady" and the groom "is a successful young business man of Johnson City, where he holds a responsible position with the Summers-Parrott Hardware Company.'

Jonesville, Va., is in the far western part of Virginia. Johnson City, Tenn., is actually east of Jonesville, Va., and northeast of Asheville, NC, about halfway between Jonesville, Va., and Asheville.

The 1913 Johnson City, Tenn., City Directory, the earliest directory in which Lou appears, shows Lucile Andes (both names misspelled) as an apprentice nurse at Memorial Hospital, living at the hospital. It was common to live at the hospital while training. [Source: Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA]

The next year, the nurses

UT, USA] Ón Oct. 5, 1918, Lou enlisted in the Army Nursing Corps as Anna Andis. She served at Fort Caswell Post Hospital and was discharged on January 15, 1919. [Source: The American Journal of Nursing, Vol. 19. No. 3 (Dec., 1918), pp. 60, excerpt shown below.] Lou's younger brother Guy Herbert Andis served in WWI in the 117th Infantry,

30th "Old Hickory" Division. [Source: World War Record of Ex-Soldiers of Washington County, State of Tennessee; Page 10]

Lou remained in Johnson City, Tenn., according to city directories until some time after 1935. She married Wilbur Cleveland in Miami, Fla., sometime before the 1940 Census. (Wilbur divorced a woman named Ann in 1936, then married Anna Lucille "Lou" Andis, which created complications due to their similar names.)

Wilbur and Lou remained married until her death, as her death certificate shows. Lou died in 1943, at age 54, after spending 6 months in the VA Hospital in Asheville, NC. The cause of death was cervical cancer.

Lou's younger brother Guy Herbert Andis served in WWI in the 117th Infantry, 30th "Old Hickory" Division. [Source: World War Record of Ex-Soldiers of Washington County, State of Tennessee; Page 10] The following obituaries

were published:

#### Mrs. Wilbur Cleveland

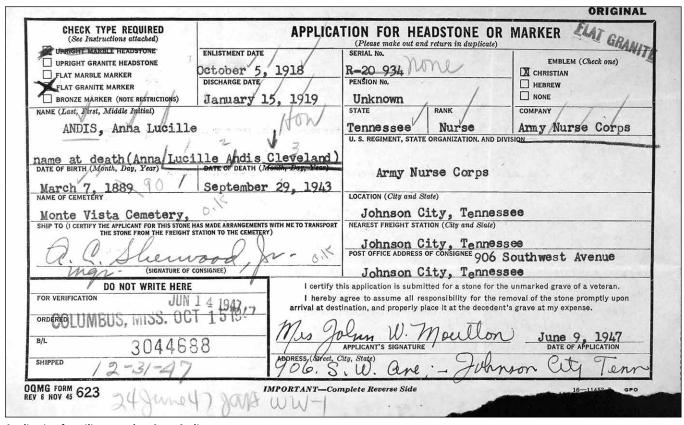
A nurse of World War I, Mrs. Wilbur Cleveland, 50, died in a hospital in Asheville, N.C., Wednesday morning. Word of her death was received by a brotherin-law and sister-in-law, Mr. And Mrs. Charles W. Cleveland, 1227 S. W. 11th Ave. The deceased had lived in Miami at 3030 S. W. 25th Terrace the last five years, coming here from Asheville. She was well known here, in North Carolina and in Tennessee as a nurse. Funeral services will be held in her hometown, Johnson City, Tenn.

The Miami News, 30 Sept. 1943, p. 13.

## Mrs. Wilbur Cleveland



Anna Andis, military marker.



5(b) Name of husband or wife Wilbur Clevelar

(c) Age of husband or wife if alive

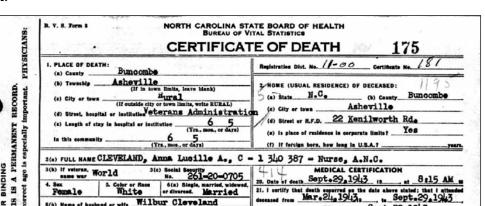
Unknown

March 7, 1890

### Application for military marker, Anna Andis.

the Morris-Gearing funeral home to Johnson City for funeral services and burial today. The Morris funeral home will be in charge of services in Johnson City.

Mrs. Cleveland, a nurse in World War I, is survived by her husband, Wilbur Cleveland of Miami; her mother, Mrs. W.H. Andis of 22 Kenilworth road, and four sisters, Mrs. George M. Hyder of 22 Kenilworth road, Mrs. Alton Riley of New Town, Ind., and Mrs. M.S. Smith of Roanoke, Va., and Mrs. Lon Smith of Jonesville, Va. Asheville Citizen-Times (Asheville, NC), 30 Sept. 1943, p. 2. Anna Lucille Andis Cleveland was laid to rest in Johnson City, Tenn. Her husband Wilbur passed away over 30 years later. Four years later, in 1947, a military flat marker was ordered for her gravesite. The marker was requested by Mrs. John W. Moulton. Her connection to Lou is unclear. If you would like to help us honor Anna Lucille "Lou" Andis Cleveland or another Brunswick County WWI veteran, email the Friends of Ft. Caswell Rifle Range at ftcaswellriflerange@gmail. com or go to caswellriflerange.com. Donations continue to be sent supporting the histori-



Sept.29,1943

\_\_19\_\_

Duration

and that I last saw h . OT alive on Septa29,1943

Carcinoma, cervix

were listed in the City Directory as shown. It is assumed that Lou had completed the training program. [Source: Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo,

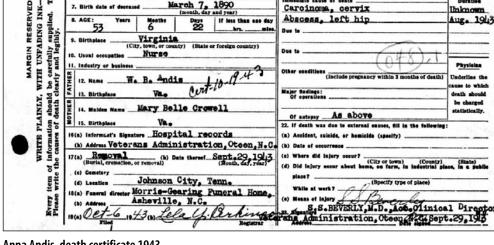
Mrs. Wilbur Cleveland of Miami, Fla., formerly of Johnson City, Tenn., died yesterday at 8:30 a.m. in an Asheville hospital following an illness of several months. The body will be sent by

Nurses

Andis Lucile Miss 304 e Holston av Dunington Nellie G Miss 348 e Main \*Coles Alice 900 blk 2d av. Carnegie Gearhart C E Miss Memorial Hospital Hodge L R Miss 405 Oak Hodge M W Miss 405 Oak Holland Carrie Miss Memorial Hospital \*Irwin Geneva 2d av, Carnegie

Jackson M F Miss Memorial Hospital Jarvis Amanda Miss 109 Harris av Keel Augusta Miss Memorial Hospital Keller Nancy Miss 301 e Holston av Newman Dora Miss Memorial Hospital

Anna Andis, 1914 city directory.



Anna Andis, death certificate 1943.

FOR

cal preservation of the 1918 World War I Fort Caswell Rifle Range Memorial and the book featuring all the men and women that served their country from Brunswick County. Send donations to Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range, 5 Foxfire Trace, Caswell Beach, NC 28465.

Appointments.-Flossie Cockrill, Jane Isenhower, Margaret G. Edwards, Attending Surgeon's Office, Washington, D. C. Theresa W. Boysen, Christine Nickels. Aviation Mechanics Training School, St. Paul, Minnesota. Custis M. Ounbey, General Hospital No. 19, Azalea, N. C. Eva L. Wells, U. S. Army Base Hospital, Camp Beauregard, La. Myrtle Hammond, General Hospital No. 25, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. Vivian Kauffman and Bess M. Hall, U. S. Army Base Hospital, Fort Bliss, Texas. Anna Andis, Post Hospital, Fort Caswell, N. C. Florence I. MacLean, Ruth E. Boren, U. S. Army Base Hospital, Camp Cody, New

ARMY NURSE CORPS

Army Nurse Corps appointments, American Journal of Nursing 1918.