



Napoleonic War Reserves

William Alexander

Acts of Parliament were passed in July 1803 which required each county in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales to provide a stated number of men to make up an Army of Reserve. These men were called up for the 'defence of the realm' at a time when there was a very serious threat of invasion.

The men were only required to serve in Britain and they enlisted for a limited period, commonly five years. The men from each county were allocated as reservists to a specific regiment or a specific numbered reserve battalion, of which 16 were formed. Several counties were grouped together and their men sent to the same regiment or reserve battalion.

These records cover the men who signed up from England and Wales. Many of them went on to enlist as regular soldiers for an unlimited period of service.

Surname	Alexander
Given Names	William
Year	1803
Place	Calne
Unit or Regiment	66 th Foot
Status	Substitute