

This data was sent on July 12, 2002, to Beverly Curry of the Army office support staff and to Brian Hogan in Huntsville. Brian is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans organization, and he helps to assure that Union soldiers are commemorated in the area. The message mentioned the location of Corporal Gabriel Blackburn's dwelling at the time as follows:

**Bey / Brian -- I have attached excerpts from the 1880 census for the only "G". Blackburn entries that might fit. I'm betting that it is the younger one, Gabriel, since I recognize in his neighbors in the census many family names that fit also on the arsenal.**

Brian Hogan of Huntsville helped with locating data about this particular tombstone and its owner, as given in his responsive e-mail of July 21, 2002, inserted below:

**John/Beverly,**

**John, you are undoubtedly correct!**

**The soldier is Corp. Gabriel R.Blackburn, Co.B,14th Regiment, U.S.C.infantry. He applied for an Invalid Pension on June 10,1887 and was granted same. Certificate # 1021428.**

**His name appears on the African-American Memorial, Plaque # B-31 I could find no Probate Court file, nor could I find a census record in 1880, but you have.**

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**Gabriel Blackburn, in Thomas Henry Kenny's "Slave Genealogy", wrote, on September 14. 1868:**

**" I was born in Madison County, Alabama and I am 20 years old. My father is Anthony Blackburn and my mother is Ann Blackburn. I have two sisters: Minerva and Ellen. Ellen is married to Levi Talley and has two children. During the War I served with Company B of the 14th Regiment. I work as a farmer and live on the Lipscomb plantation."**

**He was also a depositor in the Freedman's Savings and Trust Co. in Huntsville. Source: Names from Huntsville, AL in Fred Charles Rathburn's book. (HPL Call # H976.197 v.1, v.2)**

**Gabriel R. Blackburn filed for an Invalid Pension on June 10, 1887 and was awarded same, Certificate No. 1021428. No widow or minor pension applied for.**