

Alexander Contee Magruder

(1779 – 31 Jan 1853)

Archives of Maryland (Biographical Series)

Alexander Contee Magruder (c. 1779-1853)

MSA SC 3520-13023

Biography:

Born c. 1779 in Prince George's County, Maryland. Son of John Read Magruder (d. 1796) and Barbara Contee Magruder (b. 1741-1796). Attended St. John's College, Annapolis, B.A., 1794. Studied law. Admitted to the Prince George's County bar, 1798. Married Rebecca B. Thomas (d. 1814) in Frederick, Maryland, November 14, 1805. Children: Rebecca Thomas (1811-1889), Priscilla. Died January 31, 1853. Buried in the Congressional Burying Ground (today the Congressional Cemetery), S.E. Washington, D.C.

Alexander Contee Magruder was a lawyer admitted to the Prince George's County bar in 1798, after which he was engaged in an active law practice before the Prince George's County Court. He served on the Governor's Council from 1812 to 1815 and in the Maryland Senate for Anne Arundel County from 1838 to 1841. From April 1840 to April 1843 he was mayor of the city of Annapolis. He served as chief judge of the Prince George's County Court for a term in 1844 and from 1848 through 1851. He also served as a judge on the Court of Appeals of Maryland from 1844 until the new constitution was written in 1851. He became the first state reporter for the Court of Appeals of Maryland in 1852 and served in that capacity until his death in January 1853 at his residence at Fort Washington near Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County.