

Louisiana Alford's, Part 2

By Executive Director Gil Alford

In this article we continue with an alphabetical approach to our Louisiana Alford's but also move into a chronological presentation.

In the previous issue we covered an Alford who came from the north and settled in south Louisiana. This time we look at an Alford who came from the south and settled in north Louisiana. We are indebted to Mrs. John S. (Novis) Odom, 702 N. 6th Street, Homer, LA 71040 for much of the information on this family. Novis, who is or was the Registrar of Voters for Claiborne Parish, is the granddaughter of Dora Alford Lewis and great granddaughter of Almon B. Alford.

Almon B. Alford

ALMON B. ALFORD was born December 17, 1810 in Georgia. He died October 6, 1891 in Louisiana. He is buried in Summerfield near Homer in Claiborne Parish. Almon was the son of WILLIAM ALFORD who married Mary ELLIS. Mary ELLIS was a daughter of Levin and Isabella ELLIS. William is almost certainly WILLIAM ALFORD, JR., son of the WILLIAM ALFORD, Revolutionary Soldier, who died in Hancock County, Georgia April 21, 1825 at the age of 84. However, RONALD HEAD, AAFA #326 thinks Almon was the son of a mysterious WILKINS S. ALFORD, born ca 1780, died ca 1847, resided in Montgomery County, Alabama. Ron has some of his estate records.

Almon married three times. His first marriage was to Harriet C./W. EUBANKS August 13, 1835 in Hancock County, Georgia. Harriet was born November 30, 1815 and she died May 5, 1855, apparently in the birth of ALMON HARRISON ALFORD. Almon next married Sarah Ann WOODS November

18, 1858 and his third wife was Harriet MCKINLEY who was born October 1840. They were married July 16, 1868 in Louisiana.

Children of Almon and Harriet C. Eubanks:

COLUMBUS L. ALFORD, born April 10, 1839 in Alabama and died April 16, 1862

WILLIAM J. ALFORD, born January 22, 1840 in Alabama, married a Mary

EMILY JANE ALFORD, born November 22, 1841 in Alabama

MARTHA FRANCIS ALFORD, born May 22, 1846 in Alabama

WILKINS [supports Ron Head's theory] SMITH ALFORD, born March 14, 1850 in Alabama

MARCELOUS FRANKLIN ALFORD (Dr.), born May 1, 1853, died May 12, 1892

ALMON HARRISON ALFORD, born May 5, 1855.

Children of Almon and Sarah Ann Woods:

MARY JOHN ALFORD, born October 8, 1859

JULIUS C. ALFORD, born April 26, 1861 in Louisiana, married Minnie L. CHERRY January 26, 1890

AMANDA SAVANORIA/SAVANNAH ALFORD, born February 16, 1863 in Louisiana, died January 21, 1891, married John K. RANDLE

JUDSON NIXON (JUDGE NICKSON) ALFORD, born October 14, 1862 in Louisiana, married Allie CARGAL December 23, 1890 in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana.

Children of Almon and Harriet McKinley:

TAYLOR HARRIS ALFORD, born October 9, 1869 in Louisiana, married Vider BOND November 25, 1891, she born January 1877
DORA VIOLET ALFORD, born

February 24, 1872 in Louisiana, married James L. LEWIS December 29, 1891

ARTIMUS INEZ ALFORD, born November 30, 1873 in Louisiana
ALMON C. ALFORD, born April 9, 1876

SALLIE S. ALFORD, born about 1879 in Louisiana

J. GLOVER ALFORD, born March 23, 1883.

Descendants can be found in several north Louisiana parishes, including one of the new members of the association, STEPHEN ALFORD AAFA #569 of West Monroe.

James Wiley Alford

JAMES WILEY ALFORD was born December 9, 1809 in Hancock county, GA. He died June 6, 1857 in Bellevue, Bossier Parish, Louisiana. He married Isabella Elizabeth MILLER December 15, 1833 in Sumter County, Alabama. Isabella, born February 23, 1814 in Hancock county, GA, was the daughter of William E. Miller and Phyllis ELLIS and granddaughter of Levin and Isabella ELLIS.

The following are paragraphs from a 1976 letter written by D.E. ALFORD, Jr. of Haughton, LA to NOVIS ODOM (see Almon B. Alford above). "... I assume you are a great granddaughter of ALMON B. ALFORD who was a brother of my great-grandfather, JAMES WILEY ALFORD. ... Mrs. Barnett has the Family Bible of her great grandfather, LEVIN ELLIS ALFORD who says he was son of 'William and Mary' Alford. But the absence of a middle initial confuses the issue. William died about 1830-32 and buried in unmarked grave at Sparta, Georgia. I visited there in 1970 but was unable to find grave or information on him. William's wife Mary (maiden name unknown for sure) and family moved to Mt. Meigs,

Montgomery County (now suburb of Montgomery, Alabama) about 1832. She is buried near there but Mrs. Barnett says original grave was under highway 80 and was moved. But I believe a 'Mary' who lived with my great-grandfather JAMES WILEY ALFORD who moved from Mt. Meigs to Sumter County, Alabama and then to Bossier Parish, Louisiana, 1847, was mother of JAMES WILEY and ALMON and is buried in unmarked grave, but in Alford Family Plot in Fillmore Cemetery, Houghton. Mrs. Kennedy says Mary (nicknamed Polly) was Mary ELLIS, daughter of Levin ELLIS of Hancock County, Georgia and you see by Mrs. Barnett's great-grandfather's name LEVIN ELLIS ALFORD, this is a good connection. Also Mary Ellis' sister, Phyllis married William E. Miller and William Miller and William Alford were (records I have) associated in business and lived near and my great grandfather married William Miller's daughter Isabella 'Ellis' Miller. Phyllis is also buried with marker at Fillmore."

Georgia records show that a William Miller and William Alford were granted a passport to travel through Indian lands: "Mon Sep 30 1811 On application ordered which was presented and signed WILLIAM MILLER & WILLIAM ALFORD—both from the county of Hancock in this state, to travel through the Indian Nations to the Western Country".

Children of JAMES WILEY ALFORD and Isabella E. MILLER:

HENRY MONTGOMERY

ALFORD, September 17, 1834
AL

AMGRADE MILLER ALFORD,

February 23 1837 Sumter Co.
AL, died April 14, 1866, married
Lou BOON

MARCUS LABAN ALFORD, June
12 1839 Sumter Co. AL

CARNS BOLIN ALFORD, Novem-
ber 21 1842, Sumter Co. AL, died
August 8, 1866, married Carrie B.

BRADEN

JOHN FRANCIS ALFORD, March
7, 1845, Sumter Co. AL, died
1919, married Anna Belle
MCCADE September 15, 1870
CALADONIA ALFORD, September
15, 1847, MS, died September 28,
1911, married James ALFORD
EDWARDS

AMBROSIA ALFORD, September
26, 1850, died September 26, 1861

ISABELLE ELLIS ALFORD,
December 10, 1853, Houghton,
Bossier Co. LA, died June 1, 1937
in Taylor Co. TX, married John B.
(John Littleberry) KENNEDY
January 24, 1875, Fannin Co. TX
JAMES W. ALFORD, April 25,
1857 Bellevue, Bossier Parish,
LA, died November 13, 1864.

We are grateful to Imogene K. KENNEDY, AAFA #379, who compiled the above information and submitted it to the LDS personal ancestry file from which Debbie LOGAN, AAFA #428, extracted the data and submitted for our files. Of course we are grateful to Debbie also—who incidentally is the AAFA representative for Kentucky. Leon, the late husband of Imogene, was a great grandson of JAMES WILEY ALFORD. There must be other descendants in north Louisiana and Texas.

Early Louisiana Alfords

Let's look now at some of the early Alfords of Louisiana. The 1820 census was the first to show Alfords in Louisiana and it named two: ROBERT ALFORD of Feliciana Parish and JACOB ALFORD of St. Tammany Parish. Feliciana Parish was later split into East and West Feliciana Parishes and our 1993 meeting will be in the latter. Washington Parish and St. Tammany Parish made up the eastern third of what was the "Louisiana portion" known as Spanish West Florida. It is not known why Jacob was enumerated in St. Tammany because he had settled land in the very northern part of Washington Parish. Maybe he also had

some land in St. Tammany that we don't yet know about. In 1830 there were three "Alford" households enumerated—FRANKY B. ALFORD in Washington Parish, and two Alfreds in Orleans Parish. One had no first name listed and the other was shown as JEAN J. These were probably part of the EDWARD ALFORD family that came to Orleans Parish about that time from Ireland. Some Alford descendants of this family still reside in the area.

Jacob Alford

In 1820 JACOB ALFORD's family was listed with 2 males under 10, three males from 10–16 and one over 45. There were 2 females under 10, 1 10–16 and 1 over 45. There were also 5 slaves. In 1830 FRANKY B. ALFORD, widow of Jacob, was listed with 1 male 10–15 and 2 20–30. There was 1 female 10–15 and 1 50–60. JACOB ALFORD was listed as number 986 on an "Abstract containing a list of the names of actual settlers on land in that part of Louisiana which lies East of the Mississippi River and Island of New Orleans, West of Pearl River, who have no claims thereon derived from French, Spanish or British Governments." A larger title is "Exhibit of Private Land Claims, State of Louisiana—Greensburg District." The record shows that he settled the land December 1807 and was confirmed in certificate no. 41 which had no date. The surveyors listed were C.J. Cabell and H.T. Williams. The survey was approved by "Boyd" September 27, 1851. The land was located in section 54, township 1S, range 10E and contained 641.32 acres. The plat was sent to the registrar for patent April 21, 1856. There is also a map of T1S-R10E that shows all the surveys in the area with a table showing JACOB ALFORD with this land. Finally there is plat and description prepared by the surveyors of just the JACOB ALFORD property. Of course by the time all these surveys and records were made Jacob had been long dead. The plat was identified as "Heirs of JACOB ALFORD". Copies of the first two

documents described are normally available at our annual meeting and those who want a copy of the survey plat and description may obtain one by writing to the AAFA Missouri office. JACOB ALFORD was the progenitor of most of the Alford's in the Florida Parishes of Louisiana, in Sabine Parish, Tangipahoa Parish and Pike and Walthall counties of Mississippi. Space does not permit covering the entire family here at this time. That will be the subject of a biographical sketch to come.

Robert Alford of St. Francisville, Louisiana

According to all the information we have to date ROBERT ALFORD was one of the first Alford's or Alford families in what was to become Louisiana. He was one of the two listed in the 1820 census. He first came there as did the other early Louisiana Alford, JACOB ALFORD, of St. Tammany (later Washington) Parish, when the area was still Spanish West Florida.

Our first reference to ROBERT ALFORD and St. Francisville is in his discharge certificate signed by Col. Jos. Carson, February 8, 1814. In his certificate there is mention of paying travel allowance "to St. Francisville his place of residence."

Muster rolls from Captain Charles G. Johnson's Co., 1 Reg't Mississippi Territory Vols in the War of 1812 attest to Robert Alford's service. He enlisted in March 1813 as a sergeant. Having enlisted for a year he was discharged in February 1814. There was also a Robert Alford who served as a private from October 2 1814 to March 25 1815 with Captain John G. Richardson's Company of Dragoons. He had enlisted for six months and was in camp near New Orleans at the time the muster for December 31,

1814—February 28 1815 was recorded. It is not certain that this is the same Robert in the second tour of duty but there is no conflict in dates or places.

ROBERT ALFORD married Catherine GAINER in West Felicinia Parish, November 22, 1815—according to a marriage list purchased some time ago. [We need someone to research the source there in Louisiana.]

In the 1820 census of Felicinia Parish ROBERT ALFORD was enumerated and the index lists the township as "Thompson." The association census research team his not done 1820 Louisiana at this time. It is hopeful that this will help to establish an age for Robert.

Feb. 7, 1822 the *ASYLUM/FELICIANA ADVERTISER* posted a notice of a probate sale. Three Negro slaves belonging to the succession of ROBERT ALFORD were to be sold at the court house in Jackson on Feb. 18, 1822.

Other Alford presence in the Feliciana Parishes, most coming from purchased

marriage lists, were:

- 1860 W. ALFORD is enumerated in the census of East Feliciana with Post Office in Clinton.
- 1870 LOUIS ALFORD is enumerated in the census of West Feliciana with township shown as "8 W Tunica."
- 1873 HESTER ALFORD married Henderson JONES February 5.
- 1876 CHARITY ALFORD married Ben LITT April 29.
- 1882 EDWARD ALFORD married Octavia SCUDDER February 15.
- August 1968 ZEALES ALFORD who was born January 14, 1890 and was given Social Security number 439-84-3040 died in or near Jackson, West Feliciana. There is no evidence of this person's presence in the Soundex listings of the 1900 or 1910 censuses.
- September 23, 1988 CLIFTON ALFORD who was born February 13, 1922 and given Social Security number 437-07-1453 died in or near Jackson, West Feliciana Parish. ♦

LOUISIANA 1820

*The Neutral Ground was disputed by Spain and the U.S. after the Louisiana Purchase and for a while neither claimed it.

Dashed lines represent boundaries that were uncertain because of imprecise surveys or poorly defined ecclesiastical jurisdictions.

