

Alford Research

Can Belle Newton Be Identified As Susan Isabelle Alford?

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| <p>I. Projection of the Johnson Name.</p> <p>A. Belle Newton's maiden name was reported as Johnson.</p> <p>B. Alford members were assigned the surname Johnson.</p> <p>II. Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Newton.</p> <p>A. Names.</p> <p>B. Birth dates.</p> <p>C. Birth locations.</p> <p>D. Daughter, Elsa Allean Newton.</p> <p>E. Address at death.</p> <p>F. Burial site.</p> <p>G. Summary.</p> <p>III. Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford.</p> <p>A. Established conclusions.</p> <p>B. Maiden name.</p> <p>C. Married name.</p> <p>D. Full given name.</p> <p>E. Summary.</p> <p>IV. Susan Isabelle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford.</p> <p>A. Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Newton.</p> <p>B. Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford.</p> <p>V. Belle Newton was Belle Alford.</p> <p>A. Establish conclusions.</p> <p>B. Marriage.</p> <p>C. Summary.</p> <p>VI. Susan Isabelle Alford was Susan I. Alford.</p> <p>A. Established conclusions.</p> <p>B. Census records.</p> <p>C. Names.</p> | <p>D. Ages.</p> <p>E. Birthplaces.</p> <p>F. Summary.</p> <p>VII. Susan I. Alford was Susan Alford.</p> <p>A. Established conclusions.</p> <p>B. Census.</p> <p>C. Names.</p> <p>D. Birthplace.</p> <p>E. Summary.</p> <p>VIII. Conclusions.</p> <p>Projection of the Johnson name. Probably because the surname of her two brothers, James William and Richard Joseph, the maiden name of Belle Newton was believed to be Johnson from both oral and written family history. Over the past four years, dozens of interviews with the descendants of these two brothers have been conducted. When asked, "What was Belle Newton's maiden name, in almost every case, the response was "Belle Johnson." Certainly, Alford was never offered.</p> <p>In some cases, her name was actually written as Belle Johnson or Belle Johnson-Newton. As one cousin put it, "There is no one that I know of by the name of Alford. Aunt Belle was always a Johnson, since she and Uncle Dick were the only brother and sister he (James William Johnson) had.. the name of Alford would never to my knowledge have been Aunt Belle's..." (Parenthesis mine.)</p> <p>Sometimes even speculated siblings were named Johnson, like brothers, Robert Johnson of Kingston, Tennessee, Frank Johnson, J.W. Johnson of De Queen, Arkansas, and Walter Johnson of Eureka City, California. A sister was named Rebecca Johnson-McFadin of Arlington, Texas,</p> |
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and, according to the obituary of James William Johnson, his father was Robert Johnson of Kingston, Tennessee. Some of these individuals have been identified, while others have not.

It has been mused by one of Belle Newton's nieces that, "Aunt Belle is as much a mystery in death, as she was in life." With this article, we intend to remove some of that mystery and establish the family name of Aunt Belle Newton.

Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Newton.

Names. The name "Belle Newton" appears to be a shortened form of "Susan Isabelle Newton" so there is no contradiction in these terms. In short they are forms of the same name.

Birth Dates. The burial marker of Belle Newton sets her date of birth as July 31, 1864, and, according to the death certificate and the funeral record of Susan Isabelle Newton, she was born on that date also.

Birth Locations. Based on Belle Newton's obituary, she was born in Carlinville, Illinois. Comparison to death certificate and funeral record of Susan Isabelle Newton, she was also born at that location.

Daughter. Based on her obituary, Belle Newton had a daughter, whose name was Elsa Allean Newton. Susan Isabelle Newton, according to her funeral record, also had a daughter named Elsa Allean Newton.

Address. Belle Newton's address when she died, according to her obituary, was 5410 Mercedes. The death certificate and funeral record of Susan Isabelle Newton purports that her address at death was 5410 Mercedes.

Death Date. Belle Newton's burial marker sets her death date at September 29, 1957. Susan Isabelle Newton's death certificate and funeral papers record that same date for her. In personal papers of Elsa Allean Newton, entitled "History," she shows the death date of Susan Isabelle Newton as September 29, 1957 also.

Burial Site. According to the Restland Memorial Park and

her obituary, Belle Newton was buried in Restland. The death certificate and funeral record of Susan Isabelle Newton place her burial in the same cemetery.

Summary. The following is established: (1) Belle Newton is a shortened form of Susan Isabelle Newton; (2) they were both born on July 31, 1864; (3) they were both born in Carlinville, Illinois; (4) they both had a daughter named Elsa Allean Newton; (5) at death, they both lived at 5410 Mercedes; (6) they both died on the same date and (7) they were both buried in Restland Memorial Park.

Based on information held in these records and stated in these comparisons, we believe that Belle Newton can be identified, with reasonable certainty, as Susan Isabelle Newton and that they are the one and the same person, Belle Newton.

Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford.

Established. We have previously established that the names Belle Newton and Susan Isabelle Newton represent the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Maiden Surname. On the death certificate of Elsa Allean Newton, her mother's maiden name was listed as Belle Alford and on the marriage record of M. J. Newton, his bride's name was Miss Belle Alford. From this, we see that the maiden surname of Belle Newton, the mother of Elsa Allean Newton and the wife of M. J. Newton, was Alford.

Married Name. On a Deed of Trust, dated 10 August 1889, in which a certain parcel of land is transferred from James H. Austin to Thomas W. Alford, is found an interesting statement. The land is described by dimension and then it is added that previously the land was conveyed to Austin by M. J. Newton and wife, Mrs. Isabelle Newton.

Full Given Name. We have already established that Belle Newton's death certificate was drafted under the name Susan Isabelle Newton, showing that her full given name was Susan Isabelle.

Summary. Since her maiden surname was Alford and her full given name was Susan Isabelle, we assert that Belle

Newton can be identified, with reasonable certainty, as Susan Isabelle Alford; and that the names represent the one and same person of Belle Newton.

Susan Isabelle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford.

Given that (1) Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Newton and (2) Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford, we assert that Susan Isabelle Newton can be identified, with reasonable certainty, as Susan Isabelle Alford and that they are the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Belle Newton was Belle Alford.

Established. We have previously established that the names Belle Newton, Susan Isabelle Newton and Susan Isabelle Alford represent the one and same person, who is Belle Newton. We have also established that Elsa Allean Newton was the daughter of Belle Newton. On Elsa's death certificate, her mother's maiden name is given as Belle Alford. In this section, we will compare the name, Belle Newton, with Belle Alford.

Marriage. According to the 1900 and 1910 Federal Census records, Belle Newton was married to M. J. Newton, who was wed on March 27, 1882 in Tarrant County, Texas to Miss Belle Alford.

Summary. We have learned that Belle Newton married M. J. Newton under her maiden name, Miss Belle Alford and that Belle Newton's maiden name was given as Belle Alford. Based on this information, we assert that Belle Newton can be identified, with reasonable certainty, as Belle Alford and that they are one and the same person, Belle Newton.

Susan Isabelle Alford was Susan I. Alford.

Established. In the previous sections, we have shown, with reasonable certainty, that Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Newton; that Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford; that Susan Isabelle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford; that Susan Isabelle was Susan I. Alford; and that these names represent the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Census. In the 1880 US Federal Census, a family of Alfords were enumerated in Arlington, Texas. Among the

children of this family was a fifteen year old girl, whose name was Susan I. Alford. We will compare the information on the Census record with details that we established regarding Susan Isabelle Alford.

Names. From the death certificate of Susan Isabelle Newton, we have established that her original unmarried name was Susan Isabelle Alford. The girl's name in the Census record is Susan I. Alford.

Ages. Susan Isabelle Alford was fifteen on June 1, 1880. Susan I. Alford was that age also. Birth Place. Susan Isabelle Alford was born in Illinois as was Susan I. Alford.

Summary. Because the names Susan Isabelle Alford and Susan I. Alford are similar, because their ages reconcile and because they were both born in Illinois, we assert that Susan Isabelle Alford can be identified, with reasonable certainty, as Susan I. Alford and both names represent the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Susan I. Alford was Susan Alford.

Established. We have established that the names Belle Newton, Susan Isabelle Newton, Susan Isabelle Alford, Belle Alford and Susan I. Alford represent, with reasonable certainty, the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Census. In the 1870 US Federal Census for Carlinville, Illinois, the same family' of Alfords was enumerated as the one in 1880. In the list of children, was a six year old girl, whose name was Susan Alford.

Names. The names, Susan I. Alford of the 1880 Census and Susan Alford of the 1870 Census, do not conflict and are fundamentally the same.

Birth Place. Susan I. Alford was born in Illinois as was Susan Alford.

Summary. Because the names, Susan I. Alford and Susan Alford are the same and because their place of birth is identical, we assert that Susan I. Alford can be identified with reasonable certainty as Susan Alford.

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Conclusions.

The full maiden name of Aunt Belle Newton was Susan Isabelle Alford. Since she has been identified under various names, what may be true for all of the forms of her name is true for all forms of her name. What may be false for one form of her name is false for all forms of her name. This is true because each form represents the one and same person, Belle Newton.

Here is an example of that application. Susan I. Alford's father was Robert Alford. Since Susan I. Alford and Belle Newton are the one and same person, then it may be concluded, with reasonably certainty, that Belle Newton's father was Robert Alford.

This application may be used fairly with all of the various forms of Belle Newton's name, including the use of her family name for her brothers, James William Johnson and Richard Joseph Johnson.
