

Jacob Alford Family History

Submitted by Joanne B. Harley, AAFA #0560

JACOB ALFORD FAMILY HISTORY

Jacob Alford, son of Lodwick Alford and his wife, Susannah Cade, was born December 12, 1738, in New Kent Co., VA, and died July 1826 in Robeson Co., NC. His birth is supported by the record in the Register of St. Peter's Parish, New Kent Co, VA.:

Jacob, Son of Lodowick and Susanna Alford born December 12, baptized February 18 under 1738 entries. In the old or Julian calendar, February 1738 followed December 1738. He married about 1758 to Mary Pace, probably in NC. She was born Feb. 1739/40 to George Pace (?) and Obedience Worekan, and died after 1810 in Robeson Co., NC, and is buried in the Fulmore Cemetery, Robeson Co., NC.

Some family tradition says he is buried in the Fulmore, sometimes called Ashpole Cemetery in Robeson Co., NC but there are no stones or other evidence of his burial there.

Records of land patents show that Jacob Alford began to enter land in Bladen (now part of Robeson) Co. in 1764 which indicates that he removed there about the time he was 26 years old. He settled first at Harper's Ferry, later the Lowery Bridge on the Lumber River, then called Drowning Creek, near the old Lebanon Presbyterian Church and about 2 miles west of the present railroad station at Pembroke.

Jacob Alford was one of the first members of the county commissioners to arrange for a courthouse for the newly created Robeson County along with John Cade and five others, on 6 Jan. 1787. He also served as a Justice of the Peace in Robeson Co. The House Journal of the General Assembly, 1790, at Fayetteville, NC, shows that his resignation was read and sent to the Senate in Dec. 1790.

"By the act of 1787, Section VI, which created the county, Jacob Alford was among the men appointed to choose a site for the county courthouse and to contract for the erection of that building, a prison, and stocks."

In 1788, early sources list the members of the county court, which was the governing body of the county, as Jacob Alford, Abraham Barnes, Elias Barnes and John Willis.

Alfordsville, a community in southern Robeson, was the site of the Alford family lands. It boasts the second oldest post office in the county where Warren Alford received \$2.20 as post master in 1817 and \$3.00 in 1818. He remained in charge of the office until 1844 when Sion Alford became postmaster.

During the Revolutionary War, Jacob Alford was active in the cause of the Revolution. It is not known whether he was enrolled in a body of troops in the pay of the state, but it is known that he was an active combatant as were many others of that area. He was once captured and held prisoner in an old school house near the present town of Little Rock, SC.

Jacob Alford was a member of the House of Commons of the NC General Assembly from Robeson Co., 1791-2 and 1793-5. His grandson, Jacob Alford, and his son Warren also served in this capacity at a later time.

The Will of Jacob Alford is recorded in Robeson Co., Lumberton, NC, Book of Wills 1, p. 36.

"In the name of God Amen I Jacob Alford, Planter, in Robeson County being very well in health and parfit sound in judgment and perfect memory thanks be to Good for his merses knowing the mortality of my body do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say:

Principally and first of all I order my just debts to be paid and for the love and affect I have to my beloved wife Mary Alford I order to be given her four negroes named Hardy, Marget, Mint, and Tom, and at her death Tom to my young son Wiley, and Mint to Lod my son, except the first incres of her body to Wiley.

I order my son Warren have Scot my negroe wench.

I order that my daughter Charrity have my negroe gall Safron except the first child to my son Lias.

I order that my son Lias have my negroe boy Nat.

I order that my son Warren Alford to have my negroe fellow Hardy after my wife's death and Marget to my son James Alford after her death.

I order that all my lands on Ashpole be given to my son James Alford except one hundred acres to my son Sion Alford provided that he pays Sion Alford for the part of said land that he bout of him agreeable to bargain.

I order that all the land that is in the new sevey that is in Trawick name that I have his bond for titel be given to my son Sion Alford direct from the run of the swamp agreeable with his Long Line to the outside line of said sevey and that none of these lands be sold to pay any of my debt that I give to son Sion and James.

I order the land that I bout of Solloman Nolton of South Carolina the titels to be made to my wife.

I order the land that belongs to the plantation whereon I now live with all the improvements and the tracts of land on the Great Mach be sold to pay my debts and the young bay horse and the black horse.

*I order that all my estate be divided betwext my sons Lod, Elias, and Wiley at my wife*s death except one bed and furniture to my daughter Charity.*

I order that all my debts be put to the use of paying of my debts.

I order that my Exetours sell all the property that I have ordered to be sold at private sale or public sale as they see fit to pout it to the best advantage of settling my debts and that their deed be a good and lawful right for the land and if the property that I have left to be sold and my debts will not pay my debts I order that equal proportion be taken from Warrens, Lod, Lias, and Wiles part til the sum be made up or they pay the ewqual part.

I order that Sion Alford, Warren Alford, my sons, and Elias Barnes be Exetours to my will.

signed and sealed this 4th day of July 1794/JACOB ALFORD MARY(her X mark) ALFORD

(Note that his wife signs his will, WCH)

Test: Duncan McEachern/Sara Ann McTyer/Sion Alford

This will is endorsed: Jacob Alford's Will

Recorded in Book A, page 36, July 1826, Neill Buie, Clerk"

James Alford, son of the above named Jacob Alford, was born Dec. 12, 1764, in Bladen Co., NC, married abt. 1787 to Katrain MacTyer and died Feb. 19, 1838, in Copiah Co., Miss. His wife, Katrain MacTyer, was born in 1768 in Robeson Co., NC, and died in 1833 in Copiah Co., Miss. She was the daughter of William MacTyer, Sr. b. 1740 (VA), died 1778 (NC) and his wife, Sara Anna Adair (born Oct. 5, 1743, in St. Stephen's Parish, Northumberland Co., VA, daughter of James Robert Adair, of "Fairfield", Robeson Co., NC, who authored "The History of the American Indian."

The children of James Alford and Katrain Mactyer were:

(1.) Catherine ,(2). Patience/Agnes, born 1787, (3). Jacob b. 1789 (4) Sarah Ann b. 1791 (5) Mary b. 1796 (6) Charity b. 1797 (7) Kytice/Kitsey b. 1798 (8) Winifred b. 1804 (9) Elias b. Dec. 15, 1806 (10) Julius Caesar b. Dec 15, 1808 (11) Jenerre b. March 14,1811 (12) Miranda Lorettab. June 13, 1815.

WILL OF JAMES ALFORD

Mississippi State

Copiah County

I James Alford make no preamble about Soul or Body As to my Soul having made it My Great business to Reenstamp on it The Image of God I Doubt not But it Will Be Remembered when Christ shall Come to make up his Jewels and as to My Body that admirable peice of Devine Mechanism that So Long have Been the honored Servant of duty to God and my Country I trust That though sown in dishonour it will Be One day Raised in Glory.

Ist I Bequeth to my Beloved Wife the tract of Land whare I now live and after her Death To my Son Elias and to her one negro girl Named Milbra and one Boy Named Dublin And after her Deth the Girl to Mary & Maranda and Dublin to my Son Julias and one Negro Named Harriet to my three Granddaughters Namely Matilda Winna and Mariann Thompson and for the Sd Girl to Live with my Wife till Ally the youngest Child is ten years old then to be Hired out and the money to Be devided Between the three Children when they Become of Age. And all the Rest of my property to be sold and Equally devided Between my daughter Sarah Ann Pierce and Charrity Legan and Kytice.

And after all my debts is payed to Equally Devided Between the three I do now Leve my Son Julias and Elias my Executors of the above Will this the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty five as witness my hand and Seal this the 13 of April 1835.

James Alford (Seal)

Witness

John Manning

Thomas Cammack

Wiley Everett

Jacob Alford, son of the above named James Alford, was born in Robeson Co., NC, in 1789, married Katherine MacRae ca. 1825, and died Feb 6, 1861, in Robeson Co., NC.

Jacob Alford served in the following:

NC Assembly House of Commons, 1821, 1822, for Robeson Co., NC
 NC Assembly House of Commons, 1852, Robeson Co., NC

Married three times.

Jacob Alford, son of James, (b. 1789 d. Feb. 1861) was an Elder in the Ashpole Presbyterian Church and clerk of the session. He was a plantation owner with many slaves. Married 1st in 1819 Mary McKay b. abt. 1783 d. Feb. 2, 1824, 2nd in 1825 Katherine McRae (b.? d. May 14, 1838) then 3rd in 1842 Patience C. L. Thompson (b. abt 1800-d. 1860).

According to "Kinfolks", Mrs. Edward M. Hines has Jacob Alford's bible with family records. Mary Mackay was the first wife of Jacob Alford. Their son, John , became a doctor. John Mackay Alford, b. June 06, 1821; d. November 28, 1874; m. (1) Elizabeth Mackay; m. (2) Charlotte Bethea, January 1845, Dillon, SC.

The children of Jacob and his second wife, Katherine MacRae Alford were

- 1). Malcolm McNeill Alford, b. November 24, 1826, Robeson Co., NC; d. November 1864, Tenn. Wounded in Civil War, died Nov. 1864.

Mentioned in Suzanne Lander's book, "*Medicine in Marlboro County*" page 92 as Malcolm McNair Alford. "The Civil War cut short the career of Malcolm McNair Alford. He was wounded November 18, 1864, at Knoxville, Tennessee, and died in a U.S. military prison. The son of Jacob and Katherine McRae Alford of Robeson Co., NC, Dr. Alford was born Nov 24, 1826. He studied medicine with Dr. J. McK. Alford of Robeson County, his half-brother, and received his degree from the Medical College of the State of SC in 1855. His thesis was on nephritis. In 1860, he was practicing in Marlboro Co. He owned four slaves and real estate worth \$8104.00".

- 2). James McLean Alford, b. April 08, 1828; d. December 06, 1868. The 8th South Carolina Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Co. K, Civil War: "*Alford, James McClean, Private to Lieutenant 09 DEC 1861. Co. K. Died 06 DEC 1868*"
- 3). Mary Ann Alford, b. April 24, 1830, Robeson Co., NC; d. 1903, Cleburne, Texas; m. William Alexander MacLeod, about 1848, Marlboro Co., SC. She and her husband moved to Texas.

- 4.) Margaret Catherine Alford, b. March 11, 1832, Robeson Co., N.C.; d. August 18, 1900, Marlboro Co., S.C.; m. Donald MacDiarmid MacLeod, in Marlboro Co., S.C.. She was probably raised in Robeson Co., in the Alfordsville area. After her mother died, she was sent to live in Bennettsville, Marlboro Co., SC with her mother's sister, Margaret MacRae Spears (called "Aunt Peggy") who ran a boarding house. There she met her future husband, Donald MacDiarmid MacLeod, who was boarding with her Aunt Peggy and teaching school. Years later, I was told that it was a real love story involving these two. Unfortunately, Margaret Catherine's husband was killed during the Civil War and Bill Rials, who had accompanied her husband during the war, came back to Marlboro Co. and went to the home of John MacLeod, D.McD's brother, and asked him to break the news to the widow.
- 5.) Duncan MacRae Alford, b. March 12, 1834, NC; d. January 09, 1855.
- 6.) Roderick F. McTyer Alford, b. January 01, 1836, Alfordsville, Robeson Co., NC; d. September 14, 1863, Battle of Sharpsburg, VA.
- 7.) Jacob C.B. Alford, b. May 04, 1838. Jacob had one leg shorter than the other. Played the violin. His mother, Katherine, died within ten days of his birth.

Katherine MacRae was the daughter of "Roderic" MacRae, spelled McRae in J.A.W. Thomas* book, *HISTORY OF MARLBORO CO., SC* and on page 152 he gives some history of the Scottish settlers which included the McRaes.

Children of Jacob Alford and his third wife, Patience Thompson are:

1.) Nathan T. Alford, b. September 17, 1843; d. February 06, 1911; m. Diana McCallum in 1867. She was born July 29, 1842 d. December 4, 1898. He fought in the Civil War as a Non-Commissioned Officer with the 8th SC Volunteer Infantry. Family moved to Florida and back to Robeson Co., NC. Buried at Ashpole Church.

Nathan's children:

- a.) Dugald McCallum b. Mar. 20, 1868 in FL, married Josephine Harrell.
- b.) Mary McTier b. July 10, 1869, married Malcolm McGoogan.
- c.) Caroline Patience b. April 20, 1871 in Waycross, GA, married Hasley Pittman.
- d.) Charlotte O'Dair, b. June 6, 1873 in FL, d. February 25, 1950, never married.
- e.) Katherine "Katie" Dian Alford b. Nov. 17, 1877, married John Calvin McGoogan.
- f.) Jacob Wiley b. Sept. 12, 1875, married Flora McCormick.
- g.) Margaret Jane b. Nov. 1880, married Halley Smith.
- h.) Rowena Ellen b. May 8, 1882, in FL, married Hector McCormick.
- i.) Nathan Earnest b. Dec. 1883, never married.
- j.) Florence Virginia b. Sept. 8, 1885, married Dan Thompson Adair b. 1887 d.?

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His family of boys and girls and my family of two girls were very close. My Dad and his Dad were together a lot as they lived fairly close to each other and all of us kids had a lot of fun and good times together. He is really missed by all of us kin-folks and his many friends. We thought perhaps God needed a guitar or fiddle player in his band in heaven so he called Sam home. Also, he might have needed some one to preach to some unruly ones. Sam would be very good at both.

May God Bless you Sam and remember the ones left behind, Hope to be with you at the parties in heaven. Be sure to be at the pearly gates to greet us and get us acquainted with everyone.

Written by his first cousin, Ruby Alford Heard, AAFA #0137.

(Continued from page 63, Jacob Alford Family History)

This is when my line, through Margaret Catherine Alford, daughter of Katherine MacRae, the second wife, leaves Robeson Co., NC. Margaret Catherine met and married Donald MacDiarmid Macleod who she met when he came to board at her Aunt Margaret Spears boarding house in Bennettsville, Marlboro Co., SC.

SOURCES:

W.C. Harlee's *KINFOLKS*

AWAY DOWN HOME, by Maud Thomas

AAFA ACTION, The Official Publication of the Alford American Family Association

Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Vol.1, Northumberland Co. Record of Births, 1661-1810, page 405.

MEDICINE IN MARLBORO CO. by Suzanne C. Lander, page 92

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