

5001 Brettshire Way
Oklahoma City, OK 73142
January 10, 1994

Mr. Gil Alford
P. O. Box 1586
Florissant, MO 63031-1586

Dear Gil,

This letter is in relation to the research on John Alford (ca 1740-1796/1809) to use your dates.

To begin with, I am inclosing the research that I have been able to do using the books in my personal library + the research that I did about seven years ago. Much of this information is what you already have, but thought that maybe there is some information in that you do not have, and might be of some help in solving the Alford from Rockingham County problem.

Here is also some additional information. This is just my opinion, but I fear that we are not going to be able to tie this group of Alford's in to the John and Mary Alford of Frederick County. For one thing if the William and John in Amherst County are the son of John and Mary; they are still there in 1787 together with William's son Thomas who is between 16 and 21. [1787 Census of Virginia by Nettie Schriver Yantis and Florence Speakman Love, pg 168, which in essence the 1797 tax rolls of Virginia; and pg 168 is part of Amherst County.

In 1784 in Rockingham Co. is John with 9 white souls and John with 10 white souls. These two John are probably relate, probably cousins, for it seems that their children are named somewhat the same. Probably one John had 7 children and the other one had 8 children. Our John must have been the one without the land since he moved west to Greenbrier County.

As I am sure that you know and as you mentioned in your letter, the people moved down the old waggon road; and those going to West Virginia, went to Staunton in Augusta County, and ~~from~~ went west following the rivers into West Virginia.

Well back to the two Johns in Rockingham County in 1784; in 1787 there were still two Johns there plus William. One John had one son 21 or over; the other one had no sons over 21. William probably belonged to the first John (however, this is just a guess). (Information from 1787 Virginia Census). So, you see if John and William are still in Amherst in 1787; the John who is in Rockingham in 1787 cannot be the same.

In 1788 one John was still in Rockingham with 180 acres of land. The second John has moved to Greenbrier County.

In 1788 in Greenbrier on the personal property tax rolls there are two white males in the household ages 16 or older. One would be John. Also on the rolls is Joseph with one male over 21 and 1 horse; John Boone is also there with 1 male in the household 16 or over plus 1 horse. (John had 3 horses. [From Tax personal property tax rolls which I copied for Greenbrier Co., from the Virginia State Archives about 8 years ago).

In 1791 on List 2 taken Dec. 24 is John Alford - 1 white males 3 horses
List 2 taken June 17 is Joseph Alford - 1 White male 1 horse
List 1 no date given when taken is John Boon - 1 white male 2 horses.

To continue with the Personal Property Tax List for Greenbrier County

Year	- date taken	- list number	- name of taxpayer	- white males	horses
1792		List # 1	Joseph alford	1	3
1792	June 5	List # 2	John Alford Sr.	2	2
"	June 5	List # 2	Thos Alford	1	2
[Thomas was 21 by June 5 1792; b. 1770/1771.]					
1793	April 8	List # 1	Thos Alford (Taylor)	2	4
"	May 8	List # 2	John Alford Sr.	(Imust have neglected	
"	May 8	List # 2	Thos Alford	to record this)	
"	May 8	List # 2	John Alford Jr.	1	0

[This is all the tax list I recorded for Greenbrier County]

[However, from Greenbrier County Tax List by Larry Shucks]

1796	May 19		George Alford	1	2
"	May 31		Jean Alford	0	1
"	May 31		John Alford	1	2
"	May 31		Thomas Alford	1	3
"	May 18		Joseph Alford	1	1
"	June 29		John Boon	1	2

You can see from this that John died sometime between May 8 1793 when his taxes were levied and May 31 when the taxes were levied on his widow for the year 1796.

If someone has access to the Virginia Archives and could do the tax rolls for Greenbrier County for the years 1794 and 1795, we would be able to tell within a years time when John Alford, Sr. died.

I also want to call you attention to the fact that Thomas was first put on the tax rolls in 1792, which wouldmean he was born in either 1770 or 1771. John was on the rolls for the first time in 1793, so he would be born 1792 but before May 8 1793.

I will type the tax rolls for Monroe County and sent them to you later; but I have found this information.

1799 list George, Jean, John, James, Thomas, and Joseph. If this Joseph is a son of John Sr. and Jane (or Jean) he would have been older than John and Thomas. Apparently some Joseph was because of the estate settlement. Joseph was on the Greenbrier Tax rolls for 1792; this would make him born no later than 1770.

1800 Monroe County tax list has George, John, James, Thomas, Joseph and Henry. George and Henry must belong to the other John. Jean (or Jane) is not on the rolls for this year, but must have been living all the time with one of her sons. James, John, and Thomas, and Jean (when she is on the rolls) are visited by the commissioner the same day, so must be living in the same area. I figure that Jane/Jean is living with son James, because in 1799 she had one horse and so did James, in 1800 when she was not listed, James had two horses. In 1801, again she is listed with one horse and James has one; the next year 1802, she is not longer listed and James has two horses again. So from that I figure that she is living with James. Also the horses owned by John and Thomas do not change that way.

In 1801 on the rolls is George, Jean, John, James & Thomas, Joseph and Henry also another John and Joseph. So this would make George, Henry, John, and Joseph who belonged to another family. John and Joseph (the second set, go west before the tax commissioner visits them for 1802. Any idea where they might have gone.

In 1803 George, John, James, Thomas, and Joseph are there. Henry is gone, but he seems to move back and forth between Monroe and Greenbrier.

1804 George, John, James Thomas are there ---both Thomas and Henry are not in Monroe

1805 & 1806 we again have George, John, James Thomas and again Joseph & Henry and in Monroe County

1807 Besides the above Benjamin has moved to Monroe. 1 white male and no horses/

1808 the rolls are missing

1809 the same as 1805 & 1806; no Benjamin. I believe in your letter you state, he enlisted from Greenbrier County and was killed. He does seem to belong to the other John of Rockingham County.

1810 I am wrong, please ignore the remark about Benjamin; he is again in Monroe in 1810 with the ones that are there in 1805 & 1806 and a William.

So to recap 1810: George, John, James, Thomas, Joseph, Henry, Benjamin, and William. Why aren't they on the Census, I don't know. The census taker also forgot to enumerate James and family.

1811 - Benjamin is gone after 1810; the others plus William are on the rolls for 1811, 1812, 1813 (William is gone for that year only), 1814, 1815, 1816. William is missing from the rolls after 1817; however, there is a William Alford in Tazewell County in 1817-1820 and maybe later, which could be he.

Some other information gleaned from the rolls---my interpretation. Joseph wife is named Jean or Jane (the census have Jane; the tax lists have Jean) and also sons James, John, and Robert.

John, the son of James and Jane, has sons Joseph, John (referred in the rolls as L. John (which probably is Little John) James, and Thomas. Joseph died in the mid 1850; he is the one that married Catherine Hanley who marries Thomas Shires April 4, 1846. James is living in Monroe County in 1850 and so is Thomas who is living in his father's household. John must have left around 1830.

Thomas has two sons. One is named Robert who is born about 1800.

The Robert on the 1850 census is a son of Joseph. *CENSUS of MONROE Co.*

Another thing, I am not sure whether John s/o John & Jane, had four or five sons. There may have been another son. The census shows five males for 1820; however, you know, you are never sure whether the male marked 16 to 18 is also not one marked 16 to 26.

Next question. Where do the Indiana Alfords fit in? From your letter it looks as though James' children went to Missouri; would this make the Indiana Alfords descend either from Joseph Alford or John's son Little John and maybe another brother.

Do you have copies of the will of John of Frederick County? I would much rather see a copy of the will than an abstract. Just don't trust abstracts. Too much is left out. However, an abstract is better than nothing.

To another Alford; that is John Alford of Randolph County, West Virginia, who migrated to Madison County, Kentucky, and married Nancy Allembaugh. How does he fit in? He was in the Tygert Valley with my other West Virginia bunch ---Wm. & Patrick Hamilton, the Lackeys, Benjamin Abbott & James Moore. They all went from Randolph County about 1787/88 to Madison County, and settled on Muddy Creek. Peter Allumbaugh, father of Nancy also moved there about 1792 and so did William Tincher who is also an ancestor. Peter Allumbaugh and William Tincher came from Greenbrier County. It just seems we have too many Johns to try to work him in. I always figured he came from Pennsylvania since Fielding Alford, his oldest child went to Pennsylvania when he left Kentucky following an unhappy marriage. I guess it was

unhappy since, his wife left him. From: The Kentucky Gazette 1801-1820, by Green p. 131. "Vol XXII Number 1245, 5 September 1809: "Fielding Alfred of Lexington says his wife, Sarah Alfred, left him and he won't pay her bills." Fielding Alfred married Sarah Barker.

Again where does he fit in or how does he fit in???

And another question; how does my Thomas Alford of Montgomery/Wythe County fit in. Or does he?

Incidentally, in one of the membership letters, they have my Alford heritage incorrect. I am a descendant of John Wesley Eager, Sr. & Lavina Alford who is a daughter of John Alford and Eleanor Hogg. John is the son of Thomas Alford of Wythe and Montgomery County, Virginia.

Another question that has nothing to do with any of the above. Thomas Alford b. c. 1822 son of Moses Alford and his wife Mary "Polly" Lavender Alford moved to Ohio where he died about 1782. His wife is named Delia/Delila. Do you have any information on them?

If Linn wants what I have on the John Alford from Randolph County, let me know and I shall send what I have.

Sincerely,



Ruth Eager Moran

P.S. The typing isn't so good. I have been trying to learn to use a computer and the computer keyboard messes up my typing on the typewriter. Why don't you just use the computer for your letters, you ask. Well, I reply, I just think better using a typewriter than when I use a computer. However, she says contritely, I fear that the above is not a good example of thinking better. This P.S. was brought on by the fact it is 1:00 A.M., and my mind went to sleep about the time I started on the Monroe County Tax Lists. Shall send a composite of the list later. It will be much better organized.

PAULERS

BT

THE VICKS MAP

THE VICKS MAP

THE VICKS MAP