

Letter From the Editors

Our first newsletter was published in September of 2005 at which time we wrote that the newsletter was a project that Joyce and I had discussed for some time. The newsletter was to be a forum and resource for Armfield family researchers to aid in the tracing of our ancestors and in the process learn more about our earliest ancestor(s). We wanted to encourage others to look at the research already done more closely, such as Sallie Stockards "Sketch of the Armfield Family" in the History of Guilford County, NC (1902), and to correct any erroneous information. It was a goal that all of us would work together to produce an updated, genealogically sound and accurate Armfield family historical record.

Over the years several topics and family lines were discussed and resource materials and documents were shared. Connections were made with relatives that we may not have made without this newsletter and assistance was given to connect families with each other. So many of our readers contributed their research, ideas, resources and much more, all of which contributed to make this newsletter as successful as it was. We are now at a point in time that we feel we have accomplished what we set out to do, including focusing on primary sources to prove who our earliest Armfield ancestor was.

After much consideration Joyce and I have come to the conclusion that it is time to "put the newsletter to bed". We have exhausted much of what we have collected and compiled and have gone as far as we can in pursuing our earliest Isaac Armfield and those that came before him. Our private research will continue and if ever there is a breakthrough or we have significant information to share, you all will be the first to know. We hope you will return the favor if you make inroads in your research! It is our hope that other researchers will carry this body of research forward; research/facts based on documentation and provable sources. We also wouldn't mind if you kept in contact with us and if we can aid you in your research, please let us know. *Connie & Joyce*

Joab Armfield 1812-1872

Joab Armfield, son of Isaac & Mary (Stephenson) Armfield; grandson of William Armfield Jr and Elizabeth Green has been a research project of Mark and Suzanne Troemner. This past July Mark and Suzanne sent us a synopsis of some of their work on this line.

Mark had the chance to visit two cemetery locations in western Indiana where Armfields are buried. They had noted a while back that someone had located the grave of Joab Armfield b.1812; husband of Susannah Murphey (1812-1866) and emigrants in the 1830"s from Guilford County, NC to Rush County, IN. He wanted to substantiate that and did find Joab's gravesite. Subsequent research revealed that Joab was in Montgomery County in 1870. The census indexer recorded Joab Armfield as "Joal Arnfield" which made it difficult to discover where Joab had been and where he was after his wife Susannah died in 1866 and buried in Stockwell, Tippecanoe, IN.

After Susannah's death, Joab had married Lydia / Lidie / Lidia (F or T) Wingert (1834-1916) daughter of Henry and Magadalina Wingert. The Wingert's resided in Ladoga, Montgomery, IN having settled there from Virginia. Lydia's brother Christopher Columbus Wingert had served in the 57th Virginia Infantry and was shown as being mustered out July 3rd, 1863 at Gettysburg, PA. Other sources state he was KIA, but this is obviously false as he continued living in Indiana and Kansas. The 1869 and the 1880 Ladoga census shows his occupation as Postmaster. In the Find-A-Grave listing for Christopher Columbus Wingert in the Ladoga Cemetery, you can see the gravestone of Joab Armfield a couple of rows back and to the right of the large Wingert stone. Various sources, including an obituary from Lydia's Find-A-Grave listing, note that Joab Armfield went to Roanoke to marry her "about 6 years before he died". More likely the entry from the "Indiana, Marriage Index, 1800 - 1941" on Ancestry.com that lists Liddie Wingert & "Joal Harfield" 29 April 1869 - Montgomery County is their correct marriage date and place.

After Joab died 13 Nov 1872 Lydia cared for her parents Henry and Maggie Wingert and are found in the 1880 Ladoga census. She is listed as "Lidia Armfield" and her marital status given as "widowed". Her parents both died before 1882, when she married one Jacob Wine on 14 Sep 1882 in Montgomery County. This entry can be found in the same Indiana marriage index stated above. They subsequently went to Kansas where Jacob Wine died. Lydia then went to live with a sister Maggie (Wingert) Brown and can be found running a boarding house or hotel with her in Nevada, Center Twsp., Vernon County, MO in the 1900 census. Her Find-A-Grave entry shows "Lydia T. Wingert Wine" buried in Park Cemetery, Carthage, Jasper, Missouri. It includes her obituary which mentions Joab and Jacob although the time references are somewhat inaccurate.

In the 1870 Clark, Montgomery, Indiana census listing for Joal and Lydia F Arnfield they have an 11 year old William E. Styers living with them. He is Joab's orphaned grandson; son of his daughter Caroline (Armfield) Stiers (1841-1870) and her husband Andrew G. Stiers (1839-1863). William appears to have been their only child. Andrew died as a result of military service in Mar of 1863. Caroline died in Mar 1870. The Troemners have identified their son William Edward Stiers, his wife and children with events and residences for most of his life including his death and burial. They are now in the process of tracking all of the children of Joab and Susannah Armfield and their progeny through to modern times as best as they can.

The second cemetery Mark visited was at New Richmond, Montgomery, Indiana where Robert Lister Armfield, Joab and Susannah's only son and his wife Ida Mae (Miller) Armfield and at least two of their children are buried. He wrote; "That little town on a very "back road" is quite proud that much of the street scenes in the 1985/86 movie 'Hoosiers' was filmed there. Yes, it is the 'Hickory' of the movie." Later this year the Troemners hope to return to Montgomery County and the courthouse and library at Crawfordville to look for hard documentation.

They will be updating us on their research on Joab and Susannah's children: Elizabeth Jane (1833-1907); Mary (1836-1839); Rebecca Ellen (c1836-); Caroline (1841-1870); Louisa (1843-1871); Phebe M (1846-1904); Robert Lister (1850-1928). Suzanne Troemner's line is down from Elizabeth Jane Armfield who married William Connor Lambert. Their Lambert

/ Armfield family went from Tippecanoe County, IN to Dallas County, IA c1880. Louisa Armfield married George Washington Goldsberry and they had four children before she died in 1871. He remarried at least twice more and moved on to Kansas so there are at least two maybe three G. W. Goldsberry branches.

Thank-you both for your research and contributions over the years. We hope you continue the search that will add to our rich Armfield family history.

African American Connections

In October we were contacted by Eden Golshani (Edengol5@gmail.com) who saw some notes on David Armfield (c1766-1845) son of William Armfield, Sr and Jean/Jane Hamilton that interested him. Rosa is his wife's 2nd great-grandmother who was born in 1845 (almost certainly into slavery). The 1880 census lists her race as "mulatto", born in North Carolina and her parents' birthplaces recorded as "not known". The 1900 census says she and her parents were all born in Virginia. The 1910 census says she was born in New York and in 1920, she and her parents recorded as all born in North Carolina. It is only on Rosa's death certificate that gives her father's name as David Armfield, born in Virginia with no mother recorded. All these censuses are in Anson County, NC. Eden is looking for a white David Armfield that might somehow fit. Since his inquiry, we have been looking for possible connections. The David he was referring to did own slaves and did leave them to his children when he died. His will dated 26 Nov 1842 in Guilford County, NC; Probated August Term 1845 states; "he leaves 'one negro girl named "***sa" to his Daughter Elisabeth. The name clearly ends in 'sa', but the first two letters are difficult to read."

David Armfield who married Elizabeth Trotter and who died in 1845 seems a little close to be the father of the slave given to daughter Elizabeth. Joyce has a copy of these documents and especially looked at the name of the slave. She believes her name reads Alsa, however that being said, Alsa seems like an unusual name. So was this a mistake and her name should be Rosa? Some facts that Eden has shared fit nicely, but others don't seem to fit as well as they should. If Rosa was born in 1845, that seems close to the time David died. It could be possible that her mother was pregnant in 1844 and Rosa was born near the time of David's death, however, if she was born in 1845 that would have been after David had written his will so either this isn't her correct birth year or she isn't the daughter of David as he wouldn't have known of her.

Another thing that is bothersome is Rosa's home in Wadesboro, Anson County. We don't have any records that place this David in Anson County. The only other David that Joyce has a will for is David Franklin who married Ellen and died c1866. Most of the Armfields that were born in VA were the descendants of Daniel Armfield born c 1715 in VA and a "Mullatto" servant of Robert Stubblefield in Essex County, VA.

County lines changed and we have not proven where / when David was born. Based on the 1800 census he was born bet 1766-1774. "Like its parent county Bladen, Anson County was originally a vast territory with indefinite northern and western boundaries. Reductions in its extent began in 1753, when the northern part of it became Rowan County." Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. We do find David's father in Rowan County in 1755. Death certificates don't always reflect accurate information either. It depends on what the reporting person knew or understood.

The noun mulatto is an old-fashioned way to refer to someone with one black parent and one white parent. It was common to describe a mixed race person as a mulatto during the period of slavery in the United States. mulatto - Dictionary Definition: Vocabulary.com <https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/mulatto> It can also mean Native American of mixed parentage. Gay Carroll sent copies of descriptions of some fairly early former slaves. Several were described as having straight black hair. Maybe one day DNA can help resolve these brick walls.

David Armfield's Last Will & Testament and Probate Records

"In the name of God Amen. This the twenty six Day of November one thousand Eight hundred and forty two. I David Armfield of the County of Guilford and state of north Carolina. Being in Heath of body and of sound mind and Memory Do make this my last will and testament at the same time revoking all former wills made by me Declaring this to be my last will and testament.

In the first place I gave and bequeath to my beloved wife Elisabeth armfield all the household and kitchen furniture an choice of my horses, three head of Cattle to have choice of all my Cattle, all my hogs, also all the blacks that I owne During her lifetime and to have a good Maintaince of my land During her lifetime. Secondly I gave and bequeath to my son Emsley armfield all the Land that am seid and posses of. I also gave to my son Emsley armfield my Negro man Dick by paying to my three grand children Jane widos and Elizabeth widos one hundred Dollars each. To David widos one hundred and fifty Dollars.. I also gave to my son hambleton armfield my Negro buoy george I gave to my son Abner armfield by negro bouoy sandy. I gave to my Dauter Elisabeth Millis one negro girl named Alsa to her and to the heirs of her body. I gave to my three sons Solomon, Jonathan and nedom three negros named beck, Jesse and saraugh. Solomon to have choice of the three, the other to be equally Divided between Jonathan and nedom if there should be any increase of beck for my wife to Dispose of them as she may see proper also for my wife to have and hold all the above named negros During her lifetime and my son Emsley to pay the money above will to my three grand Children at the Death of his mother. All my house hold property to be Equally Divided at the Death of my wife between my two granddaughters, Jane and Elisabeth widos and my Daughter Elisabeth millis.

I also gave to my son Emsley my black smith tools. Lastly I do hear by Constitute and appoint my wife and Emsley armfield my lawful Executor to all intents and purposes to Execut this my last will and testament according to the true intent of the same and evry part and Claus. Where off hear by I the said David armfield do hear unto set my hand and seal the day and date above written.

Sined in the presence of

David arm field (seal)

Shannon Wiley Jur

Abel Gardner Jur

*State of North Carolina
Guilford County*

*August
Term 1845*

The Executors of the for going Last Will and Testament of David Armfield was proven in open Court by the oath of Shannon Wiley & Abel Gardner the Subscribing Witnesses thereto Ordered by the Court that it be Received. When and where came Emsley Armfield one of the Executors therein appears? ____? And was duly qualified as Such, the other Executor Elizabeth Armfield renouncing her right of Executorship. Test

John M. Logan

State of North Carolina Guilford County

To the Sheriff of Guilford County Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to Summon Jonathan Armfield if to be found in your County, leaving all matters and things aside, personally to be and appear before the Justices of our County Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held at the Courthouse in the Town of Greensboro on the third Monday of May next, then and there to pleas answer or demur to the Petitioners Petition in a certain matter of controvsey pending, wherin Elizabeth Armfield, Emsly Armfield, Hamilton Armfield & James N. Millis & wife Elizabeth Petitioners are Plaintiffs, and Solomon Armfield, Jonathan Armfield & Needom Armfield, Abner Armfield, Jane Widows, David Widows & Elizabeth Widows are Defts. And this you shall in no wise omit, under the penalty prescribed by law.

Witness John H. Logan Clerk of our said Court at office the third Monday of Febry. A.D. 1846. Issued the 20th day of April 1846.

John H. Logan CCC

By R.N McCulloch D.C.

North Carolina

Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions

Guilford County

Febry. Term 1846

To the worshipfull the Court of pleas and quarter sessions for the County aforesaid.

The Petition of Elisabeth Armfield, Emsley Armfield, Hamilton Armfield, Needom Armfield and James N. Millis & wife Elisabeth Against Solomon Armfield, Jonathan Armfield, Abner Armfield, Jane Widows, David Widos & Elisabeth Widows.

Humbly Complaining shewth unto your worships your petitioners aforesaid that David Armfield late of the County of Guilford departed this life in the year 1845 after, having made a last will and testament duely executed to pass both real and personal estate which was duly admitted to probate by the Court of pleas and quarter sessions for said County – That said will was executed some considerable time before the death of said testator and was intended to pass all the estate which he then owned & possessed - Your Petitioners shew unto your worship, that among other diveses and bequeathed to your petitioner Elisabeth Millis a Negro girl who was at that time and for some time before in the possession of your

petitioners J.N. Millis and his wife the said Elisabeth – that between the execution of said will and the death of said testator the said Negro girl whose name is Alce was delivered of a male child, which has been named Isaac & who was born at the house of your petitioner the aforesaid Millis.

Your petitioners show unto your worship that they have been advised that said boy Isaac does not pass under the will of the said David, but that he died intestate as to said Negro boy Isaac and that your petitioners and the defendants are entitled to have said Negro divided among them as the next of kin of the said David Armfield as tenants in common.

Your petitioners show unto your worship that as partition of said slave can be made among the next of kin as must be obvious to your worship on account of the large Number of said tenants and they therefore pray your worship for a share of this worshipfull court directing said slave to be sold by the clerk of this Court and for the money arising from said sale to be divided among your petitioners and the defendants, according to the provisions of an act of assembly in such cases made and from de[ci]de– and they pray for all other and further relief and for all other and further orders and decrees as the nature of their case may from time to time require.

They further show that your petitioner Elisabeth is the widow of the said David Armfield and that your petitioners Elisabeth Millis, Emsley & Hamilton and the defendants Solomon, Jonathan, Needham and abner are children of the said testator and the defendants Jane, David & Elisabeth Widows are children of a deceased daughter, named Mary who married and died in the life time of her father.

Your petitioners James N. Millis further sheweth unto your worship that he has purchased for a valuable consideration the respective interest of your petitioners Elisabeth, Emsley, Needham & Hamilton and of which he is ready to prove to the satisfaction of this worshipfull court when called upon to do so – and he prays for an order that the share of the said Elisabeth, Emsley, Needham & Hamilton may be paid over to him when said sale is made and the money arising therefrom (sic) collected.

Your petitioners pray that a copy (torn) petition and a subpoena issue against each of the defendants commanding them to appear at the next term of this worshipfull court to be held for the county of Guilford at the courthouse in the town of Greensboro on the 3rd Monday of May next then and there to plead, answer or demur to this petition and then and there stand to abide and perform the judgement order and decree of the court. p_____?

Torn your petitioner as in duty bound will ever have etc.

Ralph Gorrell ate

For petitioners

Guilford to wit

North Carolina

Court of pleas & quarter sessions

May Term 1846

James N. Millis & wife & others

Solomon Armfield & others

In this case judgt. Pro confesso is entered against the defendants and the case coming on to be upon the petition and the suggesteory of Counsel it is ordered adjudged & decried by the Court that the Negro mentioned in the petition be sold to the highest bidder on a credit of twelve months, by the Clerk of this Court after giving thirty days notice at the time and place of sale.

That the Clerk make said sale at the house of J.N. Millis – take bond & good surety for the purchase money & report to next term.

Amount of Note for Sale of Negro child	\$50.00
Amount of Bill of Costs etc.	24.20
	\$25.80

The above Amount to be Divided into nine Equal parts according to Decree of the Court

paid to with Elizabeth Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Solomon Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Jonathan Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Hamilton Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Needham Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Abner Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid Emsley Armfield	2.86 2/4	
paid J.N. Millis & his wife	2.86 2/4	
paid Jane Widows	.95 1/2	(paid
paid David Widows	.95 1/2	(
paid Elisabeth Widows	.95 1/2	(Ison? Widdows
	\$25.78	

State of North Carolina Guilford County

To the Sheriff Rockingham County Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to summon David Widows, if to be found in your County leaving all matters and things aside, personally to be and appear before the Justices of our County Court of common Pleas and quarter Sessions to be held at the Court house in the Town of Greensborough on the 3rd Monday of May 1846, then and there to pleas answer or demur to the petitioners petition in a certain matter of controversy pending wherein Elizabeth Armfield, Emsley Armfield, Hamilton Armfield, James N. Millis & wife Elizabeth are Plaintiffs, and Solomon Armfield, Jonathan Armfield, Needham Armfield, Abner Armfield, Jane Widows, David Widows, and Elizabeth Widows are defendants, and this you shall in no wise omit under penalty prescribed by law.

*Witness John H. Logan Clerk of our said Court at office, the third Monday of Feby. 1846.
Issued the 18th day of April 1846.*

John H. Logan CCC

By R.N. McCulloch DC

North Carolina, Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998

North Carolina, Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998

1830 United States Federal Census

Contributions, Comments & Queries

James Armfield has been doing extensive family research for the past year and is looking for information and to make connections with others. He descends from Jacob Armfield (c1775-c1850) and Ann Stephenson of NC and IN. James Edward Armfield II > James Edward Armfield > William Edward Armfield > Stewart Armfield > Hiram Armfield > Jacob Armfield and on back to our original Isaac Armfield. His mother is Vivian Lucille Hunsaker, James Edward (the first) Armfield's second wife. His father met his mother in Kansas and for both it was their second marriage. When father James Edward came back from Italy after WWII, they settled down in Long Beach, CA where son James grew up. He knows very little about his father's first wife, Jessie and has two half brothers from his mother's first marriage. His father is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Cypress, CA. fieldarm@yahoo.com

Sara Armfield descends down from James Elliott Armfield (1928-2010) and Margaret Jane Thompson (1924-). James married Margaret Thompson on 12 May 1956 in Los Angeles County, CA. They have three sons: James G; Duane L; Daryl C. James line back goes through James Hamilton Armfield (1905-1988) and Glendine Marie Elliott (1905-1931) > James Matthew Armfield (1859-1940) and Mary Edith Storm (1869-1963) > Hamilton Armfield (c1823-) and Martha Louisa Gray (c1830-) > Solomon Armfield (1800-1852) and Diannah Shelley (1817-1880) > David Armfield (c1766-1845) and Elizabeth Trotter (c1763-) > William Armfield Sr (c1720- 1812) and Jean/Jane Hamilton (c1722-c1780) > Isaac Armfield Sr (c1695-bet 1781-1792). armfieldsara17@gmail.com

Jim Bartlett teaches DNA to many genealogy groups in the states around Washington DC. He also has a blog that is for anyone interested in DNA. He occasionally writes about segments and autosomal DNA and has a recent post about AncestryDNA. <http://www.segmentology.org>

Lorita Willard-Cushman is an Armfield descendant down from her 4X great grandfather Isaac Armfield (1814-1886) who married Margaret Ann Riley (1813-c1851) and their daughter Nancy Ann (1838-1885) who married Jedidiah Lyman Fox (1830-1916). Lorita loves working with DNA genealogy and facilitates/teaches two different DNA genealogy groups and genealogy in general.

Hello cousins! I know some of you besides me have had their DNA done. I am willing to put together a spreadsheet of all the Armfield descendants who have had their DNA done then share it in the next newsletter. If you would send the following: Name; Email; Phone #; Company you tested through; Autosomal, Y-DNA or mtDNA test (Ancestry and 23andme

are autosomal); Paternal haplogroup; Maternal haplogroup; GEDmatch # (GEDmatch.com (free) is a way to compare with others who had their autosomal DNA done with other companies.) Please provide your direct Armfield line; Add first and middle name. SURNAME added in caps only when there is a change in surname. Oldest generation is 1. You are listed on far left. Email me this information. It will be interesting to see who shares DNA with who. EXAMPLE: Lorita Jean WILLARD11, Velita Mae BATTY10, Venita Bell9, Howard Ray8, Isaac DeWitt FOX7, Nancy Ann6, Isaac5, Jacob4, William3, William2, Isaac ARMFIELD1"

Lorita has offered to put together a website for those who have had their DNA done if she has a few others who are willing to assist her with it and at least one person who is tech savvy. It could be linked to the Armfield Facebook family page. This is a project many of us have hoped for and needed in order for our Armfield family to go forward. We know we have readers who are very versed in DNA and their assistance would be invaluable. If you would like to work with Lorita, please contact her at LoritaDNAgenealogy@gmail.com

Resources

Joyce has compiled a list of Armfield Wills, Estate, Inventories that she has copies of and would share with interested readers. We will post this list on our website at <http://www.armfieldnewsletter.com> Also, remember to check the website for past issues or anything we may post in the future. Remember there are two Armfield groups on Facebook that you can request to join. The book Thomas the Melungeon: His Locust Family of Free Persons of Color Civil and Revolutionary War Patriots by Gigi Best is worth reading.

Once again we thank all of you for your contributions, comments and support over the past eleven years. We hope you found them interesting, informative and possibly helpful in your own personal research. We do believe the future progress of the Armfield Family history lies in DNA and encourage you to take a test if you have not done so. The more tested, the better our chances of discovering our early ancestors. Rodney Williams wrote that testing the oldest family member on a line is best as it reduces the number of generations separating the person testing from potential matches and also makes it easier to narrow down which branch of the tree the match is on. Testing multiple people strategically gives the best results, but if you're choosing one, it should be the oldest person you can find on the branch you're interested in. DNA matches require many hours of analysis and lots of waiting for new matches to trickle in, but every once in a while, someone gets lucky and finds the results they're looking for. Lorita Willard-Cushman's offer is just what is needed and we wish her and those that she finds to assist her much success. If Joyce and I can be of any assistance, let us know.

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