

Note From the Editors

This edition of the Armfield Family Newsletter is the start of our sixth volume. At the beginning we were unsure how long we could produce this letter and keep it relevant and interesting, but it seems we'll be in business for year. We want to thank all of you over the past five years for your words of encouragement and your many contributions. Please keep both coming!

In continuing to provide transcriptions of records we have collected on the children of William Armfield, Sr. and his wife Jane/Jean Hamilton, we now turn our attention to Jonathan. The focus of the next two issues will be on legal documents of Jonathan Armfield (1774 - 1801) who married Elizabeth Dillon in 1800 in Guilford County, NC. Joyce & Connie

Jonathan Armfield

Jonathan was the youngest son of William, Sr. and Jane/Jean Armfield. He was born about 1774 in Guilford County, NC and died 24 Jan 1801 in the same county. Jonathan did not die in Indiana of Cholera as was written the The History of Guilford County, by Sallie Stockard. As Jonathan predeceased his father William and left no legitimate issue, he was not mentioned in his father's will. Jonathan left a will and a long estate settlement that stayed in the courts for a number of years before it was resolved in 1813. North Carolina Marriage Bonds, 1741 - 1868 (ancestry database on-line) has a record for Jonathan Armfield with bride Elizabeth Dillon, dated 17 Oct 1800 in Guilford County, NC, Bond # 000053181 and Bondsman Hance Hamilton. Jonathan's will of 1801 named his wife Elizabeth Armfield and his brother Solomon. In his will he also named Sarah Standley's son Jonathan "Standly". Jonathan Armfield and Sarah, mother of Jonathan Stanley, did not marry. In Guilford County Court Minutes, February Term, 1813, V. 3, p. 98 there is an entry regarding the name change of Jonathan Stanley to Jonathan Armfield; "The name of Jonathan 'Stanly', a natural born child to be altered to that of Jonathan Armfield". Jonathan Stanley Armfield (1794 - 1833), son of Jonathan Armfield and Sarah Stanley was a grandson of William Armfield, Sr. and his wife Jane/Jean.

The younger Jonathan was enumerated in the 1820 census of Washington County, IN. In the History of Washington County, IN, p. 769, Jonathan was listed as one of several people who died of Cholera on 1 Jan 1833. He was buried in the Crown Hill Cemetery, Washington County, IN

Following are the transcription of the documents relating to the Last Will and Testament of Jonathan Armfield (1774 - 1801). NOTE: The quality of the original documents and subsequent electronic (image) copy were poor, which made the transcription of the electronic copies especially challenging. These situations are noted throughout the transcription of the documents.

**JONATHAN ARMFIELD
ESTATE RECORDS**

North Carolina, Guilford County. Guilford County Estate Records. Image copy. Transcribed by Joyce Agerton, 2009.

January 24, 1801

In the Name of god Amen, I Jonathan Armfield of Guilford County & State of North Carolina being sick in body but of perfect mind & memory; Do constitute & ordain this my Last will & Testament in form & manner following. To wit, I give & bequeath to my well beloved wife Elisabeth Armfield one Negro girl Name'd Lier, one Negro man Name'd Corg - Two Other Negros one woman nam'd Hannah one Child Named Sarah To be sold to the highest bidder & money put to Interest During her Life or widowhood, to be appropriate to her use & all but one Tract of my land to be sold.

Item - I give & bequeath to my brother Solomon that tract I purchased of John McBride all my other property to be sold & my Just Debts paid & the money to be put to Interest seven years, & the Interest Arriving therefrom During that time with One hundred pounds of the principles I give and bequeath to Sarah Standly son Jonathan Standley & if my wife should be pregnant at the time to Heir to all my rest of my property - I also constitute & appoint my well beloved wife Elisabeth & Solomon Armfield Executors to this my Last will & testament.

Wit:

John Rossen (Jurat)

Henry Stuart

Thomas Newlin (Jurat)

Jonathan Armfield [signed]

N.C. Guilford County February Court 1801

John Rossen & Thomas Newlin proved the Execution of the Within Will in open Court let it be recorded then came in Solomon Armfield one of the Execs. In said Will appointed and qualified as such agreeable to law and Elizabeth Armfield the Executrix therein appointed declined qualifying as such entered her decent to the said Will.

John Hamilton CC

The Petition of Wm Armfield
David Armfield and Jacob Brown
& Mary his wife

vs

Solomon Armfield Exec.
of Jonathan Armfield Decd.

a copy to Issue to Sol.
Armfield returnable to
February Sessions 1813
T.L. Sol. pro petitioners

State of North Carolina
Guilford County

To the Worshipful Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for
Guilford County
The Petition of William Armfield, David Armfield and Jacob Brown and
Mary his Wife Humbly Shewith 37

That Jonathan Armfield late of the County of Guilford and State
aforesaid departed this life some time about or shortly after the 24th of
January one thousand eight hundred and one having previously
published in writing his last will and testament and therein appointed
his wife Elizabeth Armfield and his brother Solomon Armfield his
Executor of his last will and testament his wife Elizabeth renonced all
right or claim in the executorship and his Brother Solomon Armfield took
upon himself the [illegible] and [illegible] burdthen of administring the
same. That the said Jonathan Armfield left his widow Elizabeth Armfield
the following brothers and Sisters, Your petitioners William Armfield,
David Armfield, also Nathan Armfield Solomon Armfield Joseph Armfield
Mary Armfield who has intermarried with Jacob Brown and Nancy
Armfield who has intermarried with William Fields. That the testator
Jonathan Armfield in his last will which your petitioner Pray may be
taken as part of this their petition [illegible] and bequeathed his estate as
follows. I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife Elizabeth Armfield
one negro girl named Suie, one negro man named Cug, two other negroes,
one woman named hannah and one Child named Sarah. [illegible] to be
sold to the highest bidder and the money put to interest During her life
or widowhood to be appropriated to her use and all but one tract of my
land to be sold. Item I give to my brother Solomon Armfield that tract I
purchased of John Mc Bride all my other property sold and my Just debts
paid and the money put to interest seven Years and the interest arising

therefrom During that time with one hundred pounds of the principal. I give and bequeath to Sarah Standley's son Jonathan Standly, and if my wife should be pregnant at this time to her to all the rest of my property. Your petitioners state and sheweth to your worship that his wife was not at that time or at the time of his death pregnant nor had she any heir to inherit the residue of his property so as to the residue he died [illegible] and it remains and [illegible] of and your petitioners sheweth to your worship that according to the laws of this state they are entitled to the [illegible] [illegible] part of the estate as brothers & sisters, that is the said William Armfield, David Armfield, Nathan Armfield, Solomon Armfield, Joseph Armfield, Mary Armfield who has intermarried with Jacob Brown and Nancy Armfield who has intermarried with William Fields. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that it has been more than two years since the death of the testator or since the [illegible] of seven years which was the term of time for which the money was to be put to interest. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that Solomon Armfield the executor has failed and still fails to account for the interest due upon all the notes and bonds that were given to Jonathan Armfield in his life time that had acurred before his death your petitioners also sheweth to your worship that a bond was given by Benjamin Heath? to make title to one hundred and three acres of land to Jonathan Armfield which Solomon Armfield the executor hath Failed to inventory or account for your petitioners pray that he be compelled and state in what manner he has [illegible] Of it. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that sometime in April one thousand seven hundred and niney eight that several notes were given by James Smith[?] to Patrick Mc Gabboney and Jonathan Armfield that a mistake was made in giving one of the notes in not making it carry interest when it was the contract and intention of the parties for it to carry interest. Your petitioners pray that Solomon Armfield be made to answer whether he as executor of Jonathan Armfield Decd. has not Recovered this interest and to what amount your petitioners sheweth to your worship that there was a Judgment due the estate of Jonathan Armfield Decd. on James Camplain for the sum of nine pounds ten shillings your petitioners pray that the executor be made to answer whether he has received the money due on that Judgment and to what amount. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that Robert Gorrell was indebted to Jonathan Armfield Decd. in several sums which Solomon the executor has returned not collected and the Deft. Gorrell insolvent. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that the whole or the greater part of the money has been collected out of Gorrell and pray that Solomon the Executor show to what amount he has collected from Gorrell and to what amount Gorrell was or now is due the Estate of Jonathan Armfield Decd. Your petitioners sheweth to your worship that Solomon Armfield the executor hath heretofore failed an ample an proper Settlement of his

executorship Your petitioners William Armfield, David Armfield, Jacob Brown and Mary his wife, and Nathan Armfield, Joseph Armfield, Solomon Armfield, William Fields and Nancy his wife were entitled by law to the condissoned[?] part of Jonathan Armfield Estate.

May it please your worship to grant to your Petitioners the Status of writ of Subpoena commanding the Said Solomon Armfield Executor of the Last will and testament of Jonathan Armfield Decd. personally to be and appear before the Justices of the County court of pleas and Quarter Sessions of Guilford to be held at the court house in Greensborough on the third monday of February next then and there full true and perfect in our answers make upon oath to all and singular the business[?] in as full and ample a manner as if the Same were Swearing again repeated[?] and he there unto [illegible] and in what manner he has managed that part of the estate in which your petitioners are in [illegible] and to account for all that part of the estate that remain unaccounted for and that your worship will make such order and decree thereupon as may seem agreeable to Equity and good conscience and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

Thos Little Sol pro petitioners

State of North Carolina

To the Sheriff of Guilford County, Greeting:
WE commend you that of the Goods and Chattels, Lands and Tenements of Solomon Armfield Executor of Johathan Armfield Decd if to be found in your Baliwick, you cause to be made the sum of one thousand five hundred and ninety pounds, which lately in our County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, held for Guilford County, at the Court House in Greenboro were adjudged against him in favour of William Armfield & others for debt besides the sum of the endorsed fees for Costs and Charges in the said Suit expended, whereof the said Solomon Armfield is liable, as appears to us of record. And have you the said monies, besides your fees for this service, before our said Court on the 3 Monday in May next, then and there to render the said Court the Debt, Costs and Charges aforesaid. Herein fail not, and have you then and there this Writ. Witness John Hamilton Clerk of our said Court, the 3rd Monday of Feby A.D. 1813

J Hamilton

William Armfield & others
 Vs
 Solomon Armfield
 Executor for Johathan Armfield Decd

--Petition--

William Armfield-----	£	265.0.0
Nathan Armfield-----		265.0.0
Joseph Armfield-----		265.0.0
David Armfield-----		265.0.0
Jacob Brown & wife-----		265.0.0
Wm Field & wife-----		<u>265.0.0</u>
	£	1590

Clerk 21,90 words at 2.4
 For Every 90 ----- £ 2.2.0
 [illegible] Of [illegible] ----- 0.10.0
 Dismision----- 0.7.6
 This fifa[?]----- 0.3.9
 £ 3.3.3
 T.L. atto----- 5.0.0
 Adm & TS
 For their allowance----- 15.0.0
 Be paid by Each of the party

Satisfide Debt paid Plantif
 By [illegible] Attorney [illegible] For their fees
 Clerk his fee Paid. [illegible] Only
 By L. Green[?] Shff.

Comments & Contributions



Last August we received an interesting photo and story from Marlene Armfield about Harry "Hap" Armfield that they happened upon on one of their geocaching trips in Colorado. For those of you who do not know what geocaching is, it is like treasure hunting with a gps and lots of fun. More information can be found at www.geocaching.com

Marlene wrote this accounting of their find. "We were doing a Spirit Quest geocache, which are special hunts in cemeteries. You learn a lot about the cemetery, and often about an individual if the geocache container is near a grave. Being a historian and genealogist, you can

imagine how much fun this is for me. After finding the geocache we were looking for last summer in Central City, we were just walking around reading the stones, when suddenly we saw Armfield from a distance; so we went over to it, and took photos, and then I came home to see if Harry was related to Neal. Harry and Addie did not have any children; so their line ended with them, but it was fun finding out about him. He is Neal's 2nd cousin, 3 times removed! Central City was booming when Harry was alive. The opera house is very famous, and it is still going strong. I wonder if Harry 'called' to us that day to get a little more notoriety!"

Harry Armfield was the son of Caswell Henry Armfield (1843 - 1910) and his first wife Elizabeth Jane McColgan (1846 - 1908). After his parent's divorced, his mother married John Sparks in 1869. In the 1870 census the Sparks family were living in Nevadaville, Gilpin, CO. John Sparks raised Harry who went by the name of Harry Sparks for a time. After Harry's marriage he returned to using the Armfield surname. Harry remarried Adelaide "Addie" Stevens (1862 - 1947) and both were buried in the Bald Mountain Cemetery in Gilpin County, Colorado.

This photograph was found at the Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library.

<http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/S?ammem/hawp:@field%28SUBJ+@od1%28Armfield,+Harry+%29%29>



Central City Opera House First Ushers 1932:

Five men, all ushers at the Central City Opera House's first opening in 1878, pose in front of the stone opera house in Central City, Colorado. Standing, from left, are Bud Johnson and Morgan Laird, who was a member of the Central City school board and the editor of the Central City Register-Call Newspaper; seated below them are, from left, Harry Armfield, a miner and clerk of the Gilpin County District Court for about eight years, (?) Morgan and Harry H. Lake, who worked at the First National Bank in Central City for 47 years and was also an avid photographer. The men, all wearing suits, are gathered as part of the

celebration for the reopening of the building in 1932. The building was owned by the McFarlane family, who under the suggestion of Ida Kruse McFarlane, donated the historic building to the University of Denver to serve as a theater. The building was completely restored and reopened for a production of "Camill starring Lillian Gish on July 16, 1932. Residents and visitors attended the event in costumes from the mining era and after the production attended a grand ball at the Teller House. The event was a huge success and kicked off the Central City Opera House Association's annual opera festivals.

Links

Rodney Williams sent information on a website that talks about the Quaker migration to America. Apparently the Quakers came primarily from the North Midlands of England so it would make sense that Armfields would share DNA with people from that same gene pool.

There's also an interesting passage about naming patterns that might assist in figuring out probable given names for ancestors' parents, grandparents, etc. The link is <http://www.genealogytoday.com/columns/recipes/tip13c.html>

Another interesting link is to the ProGenealogists site at <http://www.progenealogists.com/top50genealogy2010.htm>

Bob Armfield sent the following link to a Wirksworth Parish records website. He has found many Armfields in Wirksworth Parish in Derbyshire, but has made no connections with our original English Armfield. It has some interesting information and we hope some of you will explore the site and let us know if you find something of interest.

<http://www.wirksworth.org.uk>

Queries

Bob Armfield responded to a query initially submitted by Aimee Green that appeared in our September 2007 issue regarding John Armfield Green. He wrote that he noticed in a 2007 issue that Aimee Green could not find Langston County, SC where her great grandfather John was born. Langston County is in all likelihood Lancaster County where his grandfather was born and where his great-grandfather lived and practiced medicine. Bob would be glad to help with what little he knows about the Armfields in Lancaster County. You can reach Bob at rarmfield1@nc.rr.com

Thomas Elliott wrote that he is attempting to locate any Armfield's that would have information about his aunt Glendine Marie Elliott Armfield born 14 Dec 1905 in Independence, Kansas. She married James "Bud" Armfield on 14 Apr 1927 and they had one child James Elliott Armfield. On 28 Jun 1931 Glendine died at the young age of 25. James Elliott Armfield grew up in Orange County, California, went to junior college and then went into the Navy for 20 years. He was in the Korean War and the Vietnam War. James was married and had three boys. He spent his retirement in the Topeka, Kansas area and he believes his sons live in that area. James Elliott Armfield died this past Jan 2010. He has attempted to locate his family, but so far having no luck. He is looking for any information about Glendine Marie Elliott Armfield. She was the daughter of Thomas Birchfield Elliott and Lora May Joyce. She married James Hamilton "Bud" Armfield in Glendale, California. The couple was residing in Orange, Orange, California in the 1930 census. Glendine died on 28 Jun 1931 at the age of 25 in California. He would like to know what she died from and if anyone happens to have a photo of her taken in her adult life. He only has one photo of her with her father, his grandfather, that was taken at the Elliott farm near Furley, Kansas. She was a small child. Thomas asked if anyone could help him or know of any living Armfield that might be able to help him? He would be very appreciative. olde89@hotmail.com

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