

Isham Alford, Part 1

By Lynn Davidson Shelley, AAFA #484

Who was Isham Alford, born 1749/1755, NC? Because of his presence in Franklin Co. NC and his close association with several known sons of Lodwick Alford, Sr., he has been included as one of Lodwick's numerous offspring. Up until early 1992, the only known child of Isham was Brittain Alford who married Barsheba Brassell, 1805, in Greene Co. GA. Brittain's tombstone states "son of Isham and Anna Alford". He and Barsheba are both buried in the Alford Family Cemetery, Molena, GA (Pike County).

In the fall of 1991, I discovered the marriage of my 3rd great-grandparents—Elijah Davidson and Ann/Alice Alfred/Alford—in Jasper Co. GA, on 29 July 1812. Further investigation showed that Elijah Davidson was the administrator of the estate of Isham Alford in Troup Co. GA from Sept. 1832 to April 1833. From this and the 1830 Monroe Co. GA census, I decided that Isham was living with Ann and Elijah in 1830 and that Isham was more than likely Ann's father.

The most significant finding since that time was a "Bible" record obtained by W. Dean Steward, AAFA member #387, from a cousin John Alford of Redan, GA. Dean is a descendant of Bynum Alford. The letter from Dean dated 28 Sept 1992 contained the following information:

"Thom Alford was born 30 Oct 1755 [ISHAM ALFORD]
Anne Funnel was born 15 May 1755 [ANNE FERRELL]
[date and place of marriage unknown]"

Issue:

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| Elizabeth Allen Alford | born 4 Oct 1774 |
| Jesse Allen Alford | born 28 Mar 1775* |
| Britton Alford | born 8 Apr 1782** |
| Baulday Alford | born 23 Oct 1784 |
| Binam Alford | born 31 Dec 1787 |
| Anne Alford | born 9 Oct 1790" |

*impossible date, when compared to previous birth;

**birthdate on Brittain's tombstone is 4 Feb 1781

Additional information had indicated that Anne Ferrell, daughter of John Ferrell and Ann Fish, was the probable wife of Isham. That combined with possible misinterpretations of Colonial handwriting seems to indicate that the preceding record is a listing of the family of Isham and Anne Ferrell Alford. The first two children are Anne's children by her first husband, John Allen, who was deceased by 1778 in Bute Co. NC.

Where did the names Isham, Brittain, Bauldy, and Binum/Bynum originate? All are surnames (if Bauldy is a derivative of Archibald and this is not known to be true—it is always listed as Baldy in descendant names, too). These names as well as John Allen, Jesse Allen and Elizabeth all appear in descendants of Isham Alford. ❖