# John Alford of Frederick Co., VA Ruth Eager Moran AAFA #0622

In the last issue we had an article by Ruth written specifically for the quarterly about doing tax research. The following was not written just for the quarterly or even written lately. It is one of six computer files that Ruth has provided on Alford research. There is no particular type of record emphasized. John Alford's will is included but this is not about the will and Janice Smith did publish the will in AAFA ACTION Spring 1995, p 44.

The text is just as submitted by Ruth. Some formatting was changed to adapt it to the two column arrangement that follows. In an effort to differentiate between types of information, sources or references are in italics and Ruth's notes are in a smaller print.

This is printed as both information and example of how to record research notes. Ruth has made a number of trips to Virginia and other states looking for Alfords and other ancestors. Note how she has arranged the information in chronological order and each segment tells not only when but also what, who, where and of course her source. At this stage there is no effort to analyze the data or draw conclusions.



John Alford may have been first in Orange Co., Virginia.

In 1734, an expansion to the northwest took place in the creation of Orange County..... Part of this expansion was due to the natural increase of population, the allure of new settlements where there was greater opportunity for advancement of fortunes, and part to the tide of immigration. Many followed in the steps of John Van Metre, Adam Miller, Jacob Stover and Jost Hite who had come to the Valley of Virginia between 1725 and 1731. Many immigrants, finding land cheaper in Virginia, left Pennsylvania, and took up residence in Virginia.

By 1738, people living across the Blue Ridge Mountains found them a barrier to frequent attendance at Orange County Court. For their convenience, a division was ordered. All territory lying on the northwest side of the Blue Ridge Mountains shall be divided into two districts; the territory to the northeast was to become Frederick County; the rest shall be Augusta County.

However, not until 1743 did Frederick have sufficient tithables to begin to hold court.

From: How Justice Grew, Virginia Counties - An Abstract of their Formation, pages 24 & 25, by Martha W. Hiden, 1957.

1737, 1740, & 1740 - Orange Co., Va.

[p. 6] 27 October 1737 Tithables: Jno Alford. *Order Book I* page 233.

[p. 163] 1740 January 23 John Alford is hereby appointed Constable in the room of Leonard Helms. *Order Book 3* 

page 7.

[p. 165] 1741 September 25 - John Nation is hereby appointed constable in John Alford's precinct ...

[p. 220] Those living on the Sharendore (Gerundo) - Scott's Mill to Chester:

1740: Leonard Helms

1741: John Alford

1742: John Nation

From Orange County, Virginia, Tithables 1734-1782 Part One by Barbara Vines Little.

[Note: I suspect that the person appointed constable was not a constable as we know it today, but rather the temporary overseer of the tithes that were assigned to work on the roads. A check of the court orders which shows many men appointed constable, seems to support this assumption. Every able bodied man ages 21 to 50, with certain exceptions, had to work on the county road two days each year. REM]

1744 Frederick County.

[p. 23] members of the second Jury in Frederick County-among them is John Olford, James Hoge, and John Hite; they were all land owners.

From: Shenandoah Valley Pioneers by T. K. Cartmell

1748 November 13 - Frederick Co., VA - John Alford's will In the name of God Amen I John Alford of Frederick County being a very sick and weak of body but in perfect health of mind & Memory Do make constitute & appoint this my last will & Testament in manner & form Following. First & principally I give my Soul to Almighty God, my Body I give to he Earth to be decently Buried at the Direction of my Executrix hereafter mentioned and for what

Worldly Estate it hath pleased God to bless me with my Will is that it may be Disposed of in the following Manner.

Imprimis I Give to my beloved wife Mary Alford the use & benefit of all my Estate during her Natural Life except as is hereafter Excepted and after her Deceased to be equally Divided amongst all my Children Male & female except also the Specifick; Legacys hereafter mentioned.

Item I Give to my Son John Alford one Negro Boy named Ceasor, my Stile with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, my young Dark Bay horse called Prince & young Natural pacing Mare with a Blaize in her face to be delivered to him when he shall arrive to the age of Nineteen Years unless his Mother Marry before he arrives to that Age & then my Will is that my Said Son Shall be possesed of the above Legacies Directly on her Said Marriage: always provided that my Said Wife Mary shall have & enjoy half the profit arising & acruing by the Said Will During all the time that she shall remain a Widow, my will further is that if my Said Son John Should Die without Heirs & before his Mother that then the before Bequeathed Legacies Shall be equally Divided amongst all the rest of my Children - Male & female & further it is my Will that Sd son John Shall not Enjoy or have any other part of my Estate or any Share with my other Children than what is above given & bequeathed to him and further it is my Will that if my wife Marry before or after my Said Son John Arrives to the Age of Nineteen years that he after his Arrival to that Age & such her Marriage shall have & take the Estate belonging to my other Children into his hands.

Item I give to my Daughter Mary Alford one Natural Pacing Young Bay Mare commonly called hers to be Delivered to her at the Day of her Marriage.

Item I Give to my son Thomas Alford a Young black pacing Mare commonly Called his to be Delivered to him at the Day of his Marrying.

Item I Give to my Son William Alford a Young Dark Bay Yearling pacing horse Commonly called his to be Delivered to him at the Day of his Marrying.

Item I Give to my Daughter Priscilla Alford one Negro Girl called Licia to be Delivered to her after the Deceased of my Wife. Also one Mare Colt that came of a black Mare called Flower to be Delivered to her at the Day of her Marriage.

Item I Give to my Daughter Aquilla Alford a young horse which Came of my Roan Mare to be Delivered to her at the Day of her marriage.

Lastly I Nominate & appoint my Loving Wife Mary Alford my Sole Executrix of this my Last Will & Testament hereby Revoking all other Wills before me made. In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal the 13 day of November 1748.

Sig'd Seal'd & published
{Seal} in the presence of
Jno Hurman
John Paverly
his
Richard >< Robason
mark

John Alford

At a Court continued & held for Frederick County on Wednesday the 4th day of January 1748. This Will of John Alford Deceased was presented into Court by Mary Alford the Executrix therein named who in open Court refused to abide by the S'd Will. John Harman & John Peverley two of the witnesses thereto having on Oath proved the Same & John Peverley on his Oath Declared that he saw Richard Robinson the other witness Sign the Same then & Will is admitted to Record.

#### Test J Woods

Alford Adm'r Bond

Know all men by these presents that we Mary Alford, John Hurman Isaac Pennington & Edward Sniggers are held & firmly bound unto Marques Calmes Gent The first Justice in the Commission of the peace for Frederick County for & in behalf & the Sole Use & behoof of the Justices of the s'd County and their Successors in the Sum of Five Hundred pounds Current Money, to be paid to the Said Marques Calmes his Ex'r Adm'r & assigns; To the which payment will and truly to be made we Bind ourselves & every of us our & every of our Heirs, Ex'r & Administrat'd: Jointly & severally firmly by these presents. Sealed with our Seal Dated this 4th day of Jan'ry 1748.

The Condition of this Obligation is such that if the above bound Mary Alford Administratrix of all the Goods Chattels & Credits of John Alford Deceased with the Will annexed Do make or cause to be made a true & perfect Inventory of all & singular the Goods Chattels & Credits of the said Dec'd which have or shall come to the hands possession or knowledge of her the Said Mary or into the hands of possession of any other person or persons for her: and the Same so made Do Exhibit or cause to be Exhibited into the County Court of Frederick at Such Time as she shall be thereunto required by the Said Court and the same Goods Chattels & Credits and all other the Goods Chattels & Credits of the Said Deceased the Time of his Death which at any time after Shall come to the hands of possession of the said Mary or into the hands & possession of any other person or persons for her Do well & truly administer according to Law. And further Do make a just & true account of her actings & Doings therein where thereto required by the Said Court and all the rest & residue of the Said Goods Chattels and Credits which shall be found

remaining upon the sd administratrix account the Same being first examined & allowed by the Justice of the Court for the Time being Shall Deliver & pay to such person or persons respectively as the said Justice of thereby Order of Judgment shall Direct pursuant to the Laws in that Case made & provided: And if it shall hereafter appear that any other last Will & Testament was made by the Deceased and the Executor or Executors therein named do exhibit the Same into the said Court making Requests to have it allowed and approved accordingly. If the said Mary Alford being thereunto required Do Render & Deliver up her Letters of Administraton Approbatin of such Testament being first had & made in the said Court. Then this obligation to be void & of none Effect or else to remain in full force & Virtue her

Mary >< Alford

{seal} mark

Sealed & Delivered in presence of

Jno Harman

{seal}

The Court

Isaac Pennington

 $\{seal\}$ 

**Edward Sniggers** 

{seal}

At Court continued & held for Frederick County on Wednesday the 4th day of January 1748 --- Mary Alford Administratrix of John Alford Deceased together with Jno Harman, Isaac Pennington & Edward Sniggers her security & Acknowledged in open Court this their Bond for the Sd Mary her true & faithful Adm'on of said Deceased Estate w'ch was admitted to Record.

Test J Woods

C.C.

At Court continued elictd for Frederick County on Wednesday the 4th day of January 1748 Mary Alford admnistratrix of John Alford Dec'd together with Jno Sharman, Isaac Pennington & Edward Sniggers her Securitys adknowledged in open Court this their Bond for the Sd Mary her true & faithful adm'rs of said Deceased & Estate W'ch was admitted to Record.

Test Woods C.C.

1748 February 16 The Inventory of the Goods & Chattels of the Estate of John Alford Deceased are as follows viz----

are as	tol.	lows	V
2	9	0	
3	17	0	
0	15	0	
	2	2 9	3 17 0

T 40 1 10	_	_	_	
To 4 Cows and calf	3	- 5	0	_
To 2 Mares & 2 Colts		3		0
To 2 Mares & Colt		2		-
To 5 Horses			15	
To a parcel of young Hogs		3	0	•
To a parcel of Shoats at		1	0	-
To a parcel of Sheep at		7	_	0
To 1 Mulatto Girl called List at		5		-
To 1 Bed & furniture at		2		•
To 1 Bed & furniture at		1	15	-
To 1 old Cattail Bed & Rug & Bedstead		0	10	-
To 2 Dozen of Spoons		0	4	0
To a parcel old pewter & Spoon Molds		0	10	0
To Gold pewter Basons at		1	0	0
To 2 Dishes & parcel of old pewter		1	5	0
To 4 Iron pots & 1 Skillett at		2	2	6
To 1 Gun at		2	5	0
To 2 old frying pans & as flash fork		2	5	0
To 1 Trunk		0	2	6
To Wearing Cloaths		3	5	0
To 2 old Box Irons & Heaters		0	8	0
To 3 old Books		0	5	0
To Some Small Lumbar at		0	6	0
To a parcel of old Lumber at		1	0	0
To a parcel of old Tools at		0	12	0
To Some old Iron		0	10	0
To 1 old Saddle & Bridle		0	10	0
To a parcel of Leather at		1	5	0
To a Water Mill at		7	0	0
To a young Negro fellow at		27	0	0
To 2 old canoes at		0	10	0
To 2 old Wheels at		0	16	0
To a Parcel of old Casks at		0	13	0
To a Parcel of old lumber at		0	18	0
To Some Tubs at		0	4	0
To Some Wool & a Deer Skins at		0	3	0
		-	-	-

**Exc'ors Excepted** 

Sum Total

his

Tho's >< Ashby

mark

Samuel Timmons

Samuel Isaac

At a Court held for Frederick County on Tuesday the 7th day of March 1748 . . . . . . .

126 2

This appraisament of the Estate of John Alford Deceased being presented into Court by Mary Alford the Administatrix the Same is Admitted to Records Teste Woods C. C.

(Copied from microfilm of Frederick County, Va., Wills, which is in the Oklahoma Historical Society Library, Oklahoma City, OK.)

1754 August 7 - Frederick Co., Va

[p.123] 7 Aug 1754 - [Lease] between Thomas Helms and Margret his wife of Parish and County of Frederick [to] Mary Allford of same place .... consideration of forth five Pounds .... All that tract of land containing one hundred and twenty six acres ... being a part of a greater tract granted to said Fairfax the 5th of December 1750 ...

Wit: Thos Wood

Thos. Helm

Rutherford Jun.

Margret (X) Helm

Joseph Carroll

Recorded: 4 Feb 1755, Bk 3 p 1754

[p. 123] - 7 Aug 1754 [release] Between Thomas Helms of Parish & County of Frederick [to] Mary [Allford] of the same place .... consideration of Five Shillings .... 126 acres (same as above) .... Yielding and paying the rent of one Ear of Indian Corn on Lady day nest ....

Wit: Thos Wood

Thos. Helm

Rutherford Jun.
Joseph Carroll

Recorded: 7 Aug. 1754 - Bk 3 p. 339

From: Page 123 of Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book Series, Volume 1, (Deed Books 1, 2, 3, 4, 1743-1758), by Gilreath.

### 1754 November 8

8 Nov 1754 Between George Neavill of Hamilton Parish in Prince William County to John Alford of Frederick County.... consideration of rents and covenants .... grant to Farm Letts to said John Alford ... tract and tenement of land containing one hundred acres being part of a greater tract belonging to said Neavill lying in Frederick Co... during the natural lives of said John Alford, William Alford and Aqulah Alford, his brother and sister....yielding and paying the first year 500 lbs tobacco / or fifty shillings ... then pay yearly at the feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist being the 18th of October five hundred pounds tobacco or fifty shillings.

Wit: Thomas Rutherford

George Neavill

Thomas Hamton

John (X) Alford

From: Page 127 of Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book Series, Volume 1, (Deed Books 1,2,3,4, 1743-1758) by Amelia C. Gilreath)

1758 April 4 - Frederick Co., Va.

[Lease] Between Mary Alford, widow of County of Frederick [to] Lewis Neill of said County, Gentlemen..... consideration of Five Shillings .... Parsell of Land .. being part of a greater Tract agranted by Deed from the Proprietor to Thomas Holm the 5th Dec 1750 containing 126 acres which said tract Mary purchased from the said Thomas Holm ... one the east side of Opechon Creek ..... yielding and paying one Ear of Indian Corn on the Last Day of said Term

Wit: (None)

Mary (X) Alford

Recorded 6 April 1758 - Bk 4 p. 332

1758 April 5 - Frederick Co., Va.

[Release] Between Mary Alford, widow of County of Frederick [to] Lewis Neill of said County Gentlemen ... consideration of Forty five Pounds .... 126 acres (same as above)

Wit: (None)

Mary (X) Alford

Recorded 6 April 1758 - Bk 4 p. 333

From: Page 164 of Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book Series, Volume 1, (Deed Books 1,2,3,4, 1743-1758 by Amelia C. Gilreath)

1758 Sept 14 - Frederick Co., Va.

The following are from Hening's Laws of Virginia. During the French and Indian War, the House of Burgess passed an act for the defense of the frontier of the colony on 14 Sept 1758. One of the soldiers mentioned in the schedule is:

Frederick County - Thomas Alfort paid 0.4.0.

From: Pages 201 & 211 of *Virginia Colonial Soldier*, Bockstruck.

1758 September - Frederick County, Va Virginia Colonial Malitia 1651-1776, Crozier 1905 Alfort, Thomas listed in Henning Statutes Vol. 7 page 215.

1758 October 27 - Frederick Co., Va.

At a Court Martial held for Frederick Co., on Fryday the 27 Oct 1758 .... Ordered that Thomas Allford of the Company Commanded by Capt Robert Parris be fined ten Shillings for absenting himself from one General Muster within Twelve months last past ....

From: Page 182 of Frederick Co., Va, - Deed Books 17 & 18, 1775-1780 plus Early Troop Records 1755-1761 by Gilreath, 1993.

1760 May 8 - Frederick Co., Va.

John Alford's [s/o William] birthdate; John died Apr 24, 1837 in Davidson Co. Tenn; he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and served from Amherst Co., Va.

From: Virgnia/West Virginia Genealogical Data from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrants Records, compiled by Patrick G. Wardell, 1988., page 8.

1761 May 18 - Frederick Co., Va.

William Alford is named as one of the voters in an election for Burgesses from Frederick County which was held in Winchester.

From: George Washington and Winchester, Virginia

1748-1758, by Garland R. Quarles.

[Note: No Alfords on lists of those voting 1755 or 1758 - LS]

### 1762 September 5 - Amherst Co., Va

George The Third, etc; To all etc., Know ye that for diverse good causes and consideration but more especially for and in consideration of the Sum of Fifteen Shillings good and lawful Money for our use paid to our Receiver General of our Revenues in this our Colony and Dominion of Virginia, We have given, granted and confirmed and by these presence for us our Heirs and Successors Do Give Grant and Confirm Unto Thomas Alford One Certain Tract or parcel of Land containing one hundred and Forty Acres and lying in the County of Amherst on the South side of a mountain at the head of Ruckers Run and Bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at Daniel Aarons corner Red Oak on John Harmers Line then on Harmer South twenty eight Degrees West fifty-nine poles to a White Oak then South Sixty Degrees West two hundred and fifty-two poles to a hiccory then new line north thirty degrees west twenty-six poles to Pointors then on the side of the said Mountain North forty-two degrees East three hundred and nineteen poles to pointers then on the said Aarons line South twenty-nine Degrees East ninety-eight Poles to the first Station With all etc. To have hold etc. To be held etc. Yielding and Paying etc. Provided etc. In Witnesses etc. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Colony and Dominion at Williamsburgh under the Seal of our said Colony this Twenty fifth day of September One Thouseand and Seven Hundred and sixty two. In the Second Year of our Reign.

Fran's Fauquier

## 1766-1769 - Amherst County, Va.

Henry Key, John Loving Junr, William Loving and William Alford who were bound by a recognizance to appear this day at Court, appeared according by; and by consent of parties tis agreed, to wave all errors in a Prosecution entered against them, by Zacharias Taliaferro, Gent., who as will for our Sovereign lord lord the King as for himself in this behalf prosecutes for stealing three hogs the property of Lunsford Lomas, Gent. This day came to Defendants by Dabney Carr their Attorney etc. and say, that they are not

guilty in manner & Form as in the Prosections against them is alleged, and of this they put themselves on the County and the Attorney of our lord the King does likewise the same, and the trial of the Issue is rejoned till tomorrow.

Amherst County Court Order Book (1766-1768) page 266.

1767 - Amherst County, Va.

First evidence of William Alford being in Amherst County is in 1767.

From: Article entitled "George Key, Virginia Soldier and Missouri Pioneer, \_\_\_\_\_\_, Vol 18 No 2 (April-June 1974).

1772/3/4/5 - Frederick Co., Va.

Frederick County, Va - Deed Book Series, Volume 6 - Deed Books 17 & 18, 1775-180 plus Early Troop Records 1755-1761 by Amelia C. Gilreath, 1993.

[p. 134/5 - Indentured Servants Imported Into The State of Virginia.

[p. 135] William Alford

From: Virginia Colonial Soldiers by Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck

Page 137 - Dunmore's War 1774 Lord Dunsmore came to the frontier and called on the neighboring militia to join in the expedition again the hostiles. Before his forces could join those of Gen. Lewis, the Indians attached the latter on 10 October. The Indians were soundly defeated at the battle of Point Pleasant.

The following abstracts are taken from the records housed in the Archives Division of the Virginia State Library and in the Draper Manuscripts in the Wisconsin State Historical Society:

The Names of the Soldiers on the pay rolls at Romney and Winchester.

p. 139 Capt George Wall's roll: James Alford, died.

{Period of the Revolutionary War}

1782 - Amherst Co., Va. William Alford (Head of Family) - 8 whites

1785 - Amherst Co., Va

Head of Family<br/>William AlfordWhite Souls<br/>10Dwellings<br/>2Other BuildingsJohn Alford1023John Alford315

From: Heads of Families - At the First Census of the United States, 1790, Records of the State Enumerations: 1782-1785, Virginia, pages 47 & 83.

1783 & 1787 - Amherst Co., Va.

John Alford, bachelor, and Elizabeth Bibb, Spinster, March 2, 1783, William Bibb, surety.

James Landrum, bachelor and Mary Clark Alford, spinster, December 13, 1787, William Alford, surety.

From: Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763-1800, by Sweeny pages 1 & 45.

1787 Tax List - Amherst Co., Va

Name Charged Tax 16/21 Black Black Horses Cattle Willaim Alford self 1 0 0 3 14 Thomas Alford William Alford [age 16 to 21]

John Alford self 0 1 1 2 11 The 1787 Census of Virginia by Schriener-Yantis & Love, page 168.

1790 - Amherst County, Va.

William Waller Key, bachelor, and Elizabeth Alford, spinster, Dec. 20, 1790. John Alford, surety. Consent of William Alford.

From: Amherst Co. Va marriage Bonds etc by Sweeny page 45.

William Alford had previously lived in Frederick Co., Va. From: *The Virginia Genealogist, Vol.* page 199.

1793 January 21 - Amherst Co., Va.

Indenture between Wm. Alford & ux., Lettis, Amherst Co., and Thos. Key, Amherst Co., Lb 22.10.0l, 60 acs., S. Branch Rockfish. Lines: Jas. Nelil, dec'd, Jno Boush; James Matthews. Part of a tr. conveyed to Wm. Alford by Henry Key. Wits. Willam Walton & Tilman Walton.

Indenture between Wm. Alford & ux. Lettis, Amherst Co., and Wm. W. Key, Amherst Co., Lb. 36, 140 acs., S. Br. Rockfish. Lines: Thos. Key; Jesse Martin, Joe's Ch.; Jas Matthews, Jno Boush. Title drived as above from Henry Key.

From: Amherst Co., Deed Book G, page 214 & 215.

1792, 1794, 1795, 1799 - Amherst County, Va. Delinquent tax land sales sold under Act of Assembly, 9 Feb 1814 (all were sold without description as to location.) Mary Alford 372 acres for 1793, 1794, 1795 & 1799; also 174 acres. William Hall paid \$6.48 taxes due. (Abstract of Deed Book N.)

From: The Deeds of Amherst Co., Va., 1807-1827, Books L to R by Rev Bailey Fulton Davis, page 145.

1795, 1799, & 1800 - Amherst Co., Va Thomas Alford and Frances Crisp, October 10, 1795. John Crisp, surety, who made oath that Frances Crisp (his sister) was 21 years of age. Certificate of marriage by the Rev. John Bonner, October 13, 1795. (Minister's Return) John Crisp and Milly Alford, spinster, December 16, 1799.

John Camm, surety. Consent of William Crisp and William Alford. Certificate of marriage by the Rev. Joseph Ballinger, January 16, 1784. (Order Book 1782-1784, p. 210)

Joseph Austin and Jenny Alford, spinster, June 3, 1800. Benjamin Austin, ssurety. Consent of William Alford, father of Jenny. Certificate of marriage by the Rev. James Boyd, June 3, 1800. (Minister's Return)
From: Amherst County, Virginia; Marriage Bonds 1763-1800, by Sweeny, pages 5, 23, & 6.

1799 April 15 - Amherst Co., Va. Indenture between Wm. Alford, Amherst Co., and Wm. Key, Amherst Co., Lb 80, 81 acres Tye R. Lines: Jos. Loving; grantor; grantee; Wm. Hollihngsworth. From Amherst Co., Va., Deed Book H. P. 164.

1800 October 20 - Amherst Co., Va.

Priscilla Alford - Inventory recorded October 20, 1800.

Totals: Lb 54.9.1; Commissioners: Joseph Loving, Chas. Edmonds, David Proffitt. Book 3 p. 583

Administration Bond, Sept 15, 1800; Administrator

William Alford; Bondsman, David Profitt. Book 4 p. 323.

From: Wills of Amherst Co., Va., 1761-1765, page 3, by Rev Davis.

Nelson County formed from Amherst Co. in 1808. The lower or more eastern part of Amherst County became Nelson County.

1805 - Amherst Co., Va.

William Waller Key and his wife Elizabeth (Alford) Key last paid tax in Amherst County in 1805 and subsequently moved to Davidson County, Tennessee. He died in Davidson County, in 1820; Elizabeth (Alford) Key died also in Davidson County in 1830.

From: The Virginia Genealogist by Dorman Vol. page 200.

1809 May 4 - Nelson County, Va

Indenture between Wm W. Key and ux., Elizabeth and Eddy Fortune, 80, 81 acs., Tye. Lines: Wm Alford, Wm Hollandsworth; Jos Loving.

From: Nelson Co., Va., Deed Book 1 page 95.