

# Allred Family Newsletter

Official Publication of the "Allred Family Organization, Inc."

## **Mission Statement:**

**Identify and Unite the Allred Family through Gathering,  
Storing and Sharing Information**



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## On The Trail of Allred Ancestry – How Can DNA Analysis Help?

John Allred, Dublin, Ohio

*Cleveland R., William R., Coleman S., Samuel, Elias, Thomas*

It seems safe to assume that readers of this newsletter are somewhere between mildly interested and wildly passionate about connecting with past generations. In the not so distant past, any connection had to be made by interviewing older members of the family, if they were available, and doing a lot of "courthouse and cemetery hopping." Then along came the internet where an abundance of information – or in some cases misinformation – is available with the click of a mouse. Now a relatively new technology is available: DNA analysis. It is important to note that this new technology does not replace the need for a paper trail but rather supplements it.

The purpose of this article is to illustrate how traditional genealogical information can be combined with knowledge of DNA to provide a greater understanding of our ancestry than either technique alone. The vehicle for this is to follow the genealogical and DNA record of two families: Warren Montgomery Aldred, and William James Allred, both currently living in Michigan. The paper trail indicates that the two families do not have a common ancestor for the past 300 years but the DNA record shows that they did have a common ancestor sometime before that.

### **The Warren M. Aldred Family**

On August 26, 1794, William Aldred, formerly of Manchester, England, set sail from Liverpool on the ship *HMS Philadelphia*. The ship arrived in the Port of Philadelphia almost two months later on October 17. On board with William were his wife, Catherine Robinson Aldred, and four children: John, Lydia, Mary and Helen.

William Aldred<sup>1</sup> was born in Manchester, Lancashire, England on May 16, 1760. He was the twelfth of thirteen children born to William (b. 1709) and Sarah Ashcroft Aldred. By the time that young William was married to Catherine Robinson<sup>2</sup> on July 5, 1783, he was a member of the ancient guild of dyers, a profession that was of critical importance to England at the time because this was the beginning of the industrial revolution in that country. In fact, throughout the eighteenth century the English parliament passed laws<sup>3</sup> first discouraging and, by the end of the century, forbidding the emigration of skilled craftsmen, including those in the textile field. In addition to what he may have considered stifling government control,

William Aldred may have had another problem: it is reported that he was a Methodist and resented having to pay taxes to support the Church of England. For whatever reason or reasons, William ignored the laws against emigration and proceeded to America to ply his trade in his own dye shop:

*Delaware & Eastern Shore Advertiser: Dying - William Aldred - Silk, Linen &c. Dyer on the Kennet Road, at the end of Mr. Dauphin's lot, adjoining the Rope-Walk, continues to dye all colours, viz - Black, blue, red, yellow, brown, green, olive, drab, dove, violet, buff, &c. and hopes from his experience and practical knowledge in the above business, to give satisfaction to those who please to employ him. Silk gowns, bonnets, &c. dyed and finished the same as in Philadelphia. Price of dying Flax and Tow Yarn deep blue, 2s 6d per lb. Cotton yarn do. 2s. 9d per lb.*

Life must have been good for William and Catherine in this new country: they had three more children here. William Aston Aldred was born January 11, 1797, Sarah Aldred was born September 17, 1801, and Thomas Jefferson Aldred was born October 3, 1803. William died in Wilmington, New Castle County, Delaware, on March 13, 1835, at the age of 74. Catherine died a few months later on October 25, 1835, at the age of 75.

Warren Aldred is a descendent of Thomas Jefferson Aldred and Hannah Bonsall Fisher who were married on February 23, 1826, in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Their son, Thomas Cooper Aldred (b. December 13, 1838), was born in Chester County and served in the Union Army in the Civil War from November 27, 1861, to September 14, 1864, as a Second Lieutenant in Company A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Delaware Infantry. Thomas married Elizabeth Boyer (b. July 26, 1840) on March 20, 1866, in Philadelphia. The 1870 census showed Thomas and Elizabeth living with their two children Northeast of Kansas City, Missouri, but they were back near Philadelphia in Montgomery County by the time their son, Charles Boyer Aldred, was born on October 25, 1871.

Charles Boyer and Margaret Butler (b. September 20, 1872) Aldred had a son, Warren Montgomery Aldred, born June 27, 1899, in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Warren married Elizabeth Josephine Dean (b. 1906) on May 18, 1924. Elizabeth died only three years later but not before their son, Warren Montgomery Aldred, Junior, was born on February 25, 1925 in Pennsylvania.

#### **Summary, Warren Aldred Male line**

**William Aldred b. 1709, Lancashire, England**

**William Aldred b. 1760, Lancashire, England**

**Thomas Jefferson Aldred b. 1803, New Castle Co., Delaware**

**Thomas Cooper Aldred b. 1838, Chester Co. Pennsylvania**

**Charles Boyer Aldred b. 1871, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania**

**Warren Montgomery Aldred b. 1899, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania**

**Warren Montgomery Aldred, Junior, b. 1925, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania**

The Allred Family Newsletter is a member benefit of the Allred Family Organization.

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## **The William James Allred Family**

Elias Allred was born on May 6, 1758, in what is today Randolph County, North Carolina, two years before William Aldred was born in Lancashire, England. The environments of the two boys were very different. Lancashire had entered the industrial age while central North Carolina must have been a relatively pristine wilderness. Perhaps that is why William Aldred became a tradesman by learning to dye fabrics and Elias became a farmer like a long line of his ancestors.

Elias was the third son of Thomas Allred. Thomas was likely born about 1730 in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Thomas' presumed father, Solomon Allred, born in 1680 in Lancashire, England, was listed on the tax roles in Chester County in 1724 and 1730.

It was most likely land grants that brought the Allred brothers from the Pennsylvania – Maryland area to North Carolina in the middle of the eighteenth century. Several Allreds fought in the Revolutionary War<sup>4</sup> and Elias left a very prominent record. He participated in at least two campaigns<sup>5</sup> which was sufficient for him to receive a pension, starting March 4, 1831, until his death on September 4, 1844. Elias was married to Mary (Polly) Rigby in 1778 and lived in Randolph County, North Carolina, until he moved to Pendleton District, South Carolina in 1815. In 1827, he moved his family to Hall County, Georgia.

Samuel Allred (b. 1791), who is an ancestor of William James Allred, was the seventh child and the seventh son of Polly and Elias Allred. He was born in Randolph County, North Carolina, and very likely migrated to South Carolina and on to Georgia with his parents. He married a woman named Elizabeth (b. about 1799 in Georgia) and they had a son named Coleman Scott Allred, born July 16, 1817, most likely in Georgia. Coleman married Alcy McClain on November 3, 1840, in Jefferson County, Missouri. Coleman and Alcy Allred had eight children, the seventh of which was William Russell Allred, born on February 13, 1855, in Jefferson County, Missouri, where all of his siblings were also born.

Coleman and most of his family, including William Russell, moved to Lamar County, Texas, in 1878 looking for new opportunities. William married Mary Emma Ashley (b. July, 1859) on February 22, 1880 in Paris, Lamar County, Texas. They had nine children, the third of which was Cleveland Russell Allred who was born in Paris, Texas, on October 9, 1884.

Cleveland married Viola Snell (b. April 19, 1892) and they had nine children, the oldest of which was William (Bill) Merle Allred who was born June 24, 1917. The family migrated to Oklahoma where Bill married Claudia Wells and they became the parents of William James Allred on October 24, 1944, in Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois. His father, William Merle Allred, was in the Navy, stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Base, North Chicago, Lake County, Illinois, at the time.

### **Summary, William James Allred Male line**

**Solomon Allred b. 1680, Lancashire, England**

**Thomas Allred b. 1730, Chester Co., Pennsylvania**

**Elias Allred b. 1758, Randolph Co., North Carolina**

**Samuel Allred b. 1791, Randolph Co., North Carolina**

**Coleman Scott Allred, b. 1817, Georgia (?)**

**William Russell Allred, b. 1855, Jefferson Co., Missouri**

**Cleveland Russell Allred, b. 1884, Lamar Co., Texas**

**William Merle Allred, b. 1917, Wichita Co., Texas**

**William James Allred, b. 1944, Lake Co., Illinois**

## Are the Warren M. Aldred and the William J. Allred families related?

On the basis of this brief account of the history of Warren Aldred and William Allred, it seems very unlikely that even the most optimistic genealogist would find sufficient evidence to conclude that the two families are related. The only things they seem to have in common are both have an ancestral home of Lancashire, England and they have a similar, although not identical, surname. While each family had ancestors living in Chester County, Pennsylvania, they missed each other by over half a century. The paper trail is not very promising.

However, both Warren Aldred and William Allred had a 25 marker Y chromosome DNA analysis done by Family Tree DNA. The results show that the two families are indeed related! Let's look at the numbers:

### DNA Marker on the Y chromosome. 1. is Warren Allred and 2. is William Allred

	393	390	19	391	385a	385b	426	388	439	389-1	392	389-2	<b>458</b>	459a	459b	455	454	447	437	448	449	464a	464b	464c	464d
1.	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	11	14	13	30	<b>18</b>	9	10	11	11	25	15	19	28	15	15	16	18
2.	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	11	14	13	30	<b>19</b>	9	10	11	11	25	15	19	28	15	15	16	18

Out of 25 markers, 24 match exactly and the marker which does not match (in bold, marker 458) is known to be one of the fast mutation sites. The result means that the Warren Aldred and William Allred families almost certainly share a common ancestor. To find out how long it has been since their most recent common ancestor, it is necessary to understand what the numbers actually mean.

### How is Y chromosomal DNA analysis used for genealogical research?

The double ribbon-like structure of DNA, familiar to most of us, carries genetic information from one generation

to the next<sup>6</sup>. Most<sup>7</sup> of the DNA within cells is located in organelles called chromosomes, found in the nucleus of every cell. Chromosomes come in pairs and humans have twenty three pairs, including one pair called the "sex chromosomes, labeled XX, while males have one X and one Y chromosome. The X chromosomes are not identical, labeled XY. Although the human reproductive process is complicated, the basics include the facts that the egg contains one of the X chromosomes from the mother and the sperm contains either an X or Y chromosome from the father. If a sperm carrying the X chromosome is successful in fertilizing the egg, the resulting embryo will be female (XX) but if the sperm carrying the Y chromosome is successful, the resulting embryo will be male (XY). Thus, the Y chromosomal DNA is transmitted directly and intact from the father to the male offspring with no contribution of the mother. And the composition of the Y chromosome would never change unless there is a mutation.

The Y chromosome DNA must be copied during the reproductive process. Almost all of the time, it is copied exactly but sometimes a mistake is made during copying; it is called a mutation. The "DNA alphabet" is very simple, primarily consisting of four chemicals whose scientific names are abbreviated A, T, G and C. Just as it is the combination and sequence of letters of our alphabet that form the words in this article, it is the sequence of the "DNA letters" (chemicals) that provide the blueprint (a "gene") for various proteins. Y chromosome DNA contains sequences of A, T, G, and C coding for proteins which result in male characteristics. Fortunately for genealogists, there are also long stretches of DNA on the Y chromosome in between these genes which are not used for making proteins. They have no known function except to act as "spacers" analogous to the space between letters in a sentence. Literally hundreds of these sites have been identified. These sites, called mark-

ers, contain short segments of DNA composed of repeats, that is, a sequence of A, T, G, and/or C will be repeated. For example, marker 393 has 13 repeats of the sequence AGAT<sup>8</sup> for both Aldred and Allred:

/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/AGAT/

or abbreviated as (AGAT)<sub>13</sub>. But in the one marker that is different (site 458), Warren Aldred had a sequence of GAAA repeated 18 times [(GAAA)<sub>18</sub>] while William Allred had 19 repeats [(GAAA)<sub>19</sub>]. Why are they different? They are different because an error, also known as a mutation, occurred when the Y chromosome DNA was copied during the reproductive process after their most recent common ancestor was born.

If mistakes never occurred during the copying of the Y chromosome DNA, all males would have identical Y chromosome DNA which would be the same as Adam (whether that means the biblical Adam or a theoretical Adam that scientists discuss) who is a common ancestor of all of us. But mistakes do and have occurred. The most common mistake in copying Y chromosomal DNA is for “slippage” to occur. That is, during copying, the two ribbons of the DNA like that shown above separate into two strands and each are reproduced. In long stretches of similar chemicals, such as the GAAA sequence above, the copying “machinery” can literally slip, in either direction, on the ribbon causing either one additional or one less GAAA set than the original DNA being copied. If a mistake producing a Y chromosome with an altered number of the GAAA sequence is in a sperm that successfully fertilizes an egg, the resultant embryo as well as all of the descendants of that person will have the altered number. In the present case, the DNA results show that such a mistake (mutation) occurred sometime after the birth of the most recent common ancestor of Warren Aldred and William Allred.

### **Do the DNA results tell us when to look for a common ancestor?**

The answer to this question is yes, within limits. Since the kind of mutations described here happen at random, it is not possible to determine an exact time but there are a number of ways to calculate a time-frame, based on probabilities. For example, the Family Tree DNA web site shows the probability that Warren Aldred and William James Allred shared a common ancestor within the last...

- ...8 generations is 25%.
- ...12 generations is 60%.
- ...16 generations is 80%.
- ...20 generations is 91%.
- ...24 generations is 96%.

These numbers are based on the 25 marker results with one mismatch at site 458 and the fact that we know that the common ancestor had to be more than seven generations back since William James Allred (b. 1944) was the seventh generation since the birth of Thomas Allred (b. 1724). Neither Thomas nor any of his descendants could have possibly been an ancestor of Warren Aldred.

Another method of calculating the relationship is that of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation<sup>9</sup> which shows that when 19 of 20 markers match (and the mismatch is at marker 458 as in the present case), the most likely number of generations to the most recent common ancestor was 12. Since seven generations of Allreds have occurred in America, this would mean 5 generations in England. Assuming 25 years per generation in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century, this means that their most recent common ancestor was most likely born after 1575.

Finally, a third method of calculating the number of generations to the most recent common ancestor depends on the formula:

$$(mutation\ rate) \times (number\ of\ markers) \times (number\ of\ generations) = expected\ mutations$$

The mutation rate for markers known to have more frequent copying errors may be as high<sup>10</sup> as 0.004, in which case, the expected number of generations to the most recent common ancestor using 25 marker analysis would be 10. Again assuming 25 years per generation in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the common ancestor was after 1625.

The genealogical evidence indicates that the common ancestor lived in the Lancashire region of England before Solomon came to the Colonies in the early 1700s. Calculations based on DNA analysis indicate that there is a high probability that Warren Aldred and William James Allred had a common ancestor after record keeping began in the Church of England in the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century<sup>11</sup>. Thus, the common ancestor was most likely in the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Did DNA analysis make the connection?**

While the genealogical record over the past 300 years gave no indication that Warren Aldred and William James Allred are related, DNA analysis provides very credible evidence that they share a common ancestor but it does not show *how* they are related. For this, we still need a paper trail but where do we start? Note from the table above that there is a 25% chance that Solomon Allred (b. 1680) is the common ancestor since he is the eighth generation back from William James Allred. Warren Aldred has been able to trace his ancestry back to William Aldred (born in 1709 in Manchester) and no further. Did the trail “grow cold” because 1700 was about the time that the name was changed from Allred to Aldred? Was the name change due simply to a clerical error (most people at the time did not know how to spell their name) or was the change deliberate?

If not Solomon Allred, who and when? The answer will require diligent searches of church and government records in Lancashire, England, starting about 1700 and going back in time. DNA analysis did not give us a specific date that a connection between the ancestors of Warren Aldred and William James Allred occurred but it did provide strong evidence that there is a common ancestor within the period of time that records were kept. That is all the incentive a dedicated genealogist needs to keep on searching!



*Warren Montgomery Aldred, Junior*



*William James Allred*

<sup>2</sup> Catherine Robinson was born February 13, 1760, in Salford, Lancashire. Salford is the city where the Eccles Parish Church, Saint Mary the Virgin, is located. This was the home church of many members of the Allred family in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>3</sup> Richard B. Morris, *Government and Labor in Early America*, 1946 <http://www.ditext.com/morris/1e.html>

<sup>4</sup> “*Allreds in the American Revolution*” Linda Allred Cooper. Allred Family Newsletter Issue Number 58, Spring 2004, page 5.

<sup>5</sup> <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~leebrick/d11.htm>

<sup>6</sup> An excellent web site describing molecular biology, including animated explanations is available at:

<http://www.smgf.org/pages/animations.jsp>

<sup>7</sup> A small amount of DNA occurs in small organelles, called mitochondria, found in most cells. It is this mitochondrial DNA that can be used to follow the female line in genealogy, the details of which are beyond the scope of this article.

<sup>8</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Y-STR\\_markers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Y-STR_markers)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.smgf.org/ychromosome/search.jsp>

<sup>10</sup> <http://nitro.biosci.arizona.edu/ftdna/24-1-0.html> gives a value of 0.004 for high mutation rate but indicates that this may underestimate the number of generations to the most recent common ancestor.

<sup>11</sup> In 1538, Thomas Cromwell, chief minister of King Henry VIII, ordered all parish ministers to keep a record of christenings, marriages, and burials. [https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/England\\_Church\\_History](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/England_Church_History)

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## Atherton Cemetery, Lancashire County, England

In the AFO Newsletter, No. 59, p. 3, Summer 2004, Peter Wood, Rotoura, New Zealand, wrote explaining the Allred/Alldred in his family:

“I thought you might like to see a photo I took in December 2003 when I was back in Atherton, England, for my mother’s funeral. I have never looked around Atherton Cemetery before. I was quite surprised to see this memorial for my great great grandparents, John and Ann (nee Fairbrother) Allred. My great grandmother, Sarah, was their daughter.

“Note the spelling! John was both baptized and married (I have the marriage certificate) as Allred, but the “d” crept into the name over the years, though the family did keep the double L. But not so in the General Register Office death index which has him as John Aldred.

“Thomas was John and Ann’s son. John Alldred’s birth and baptism are recorded in the LDS IGI, incorrectly located at “Newbent Chapel Presbyterian, Chowbent, Lancashire, England.” There is no such place as Newbent Chapel. It is properly Chowbent Chapel, or the New Bent Chapel, which was not its proper name, but a name used by locals to distinguish it from the Old Bent Chapel; Bent=Chowbent=Atherton. All the same place.”

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*John Allred, the author of the DNA article, is Coordinator and Manager Allred DNA Project, if you are interested in participating in the DNA project or have other questions, the contact information for John Allred is on page 19.*

In Loving Memory  
of  
John Alldred  
Who died February 1th 1888  
Aged 76 years  
Also Ann wife of the above John Alldred  
Who died January 24th 1905  
Aged 88 years  
Also  
Ann wife of Thomas Alldred  
Who died December 9th 1885  
Aged 31 years  
Also Thomas Alldred  
Who died September 16th 1927  
Aged 79 years



# Middle River Volunteers Company “D” Georgia 43rd Infantry

The Georgia 43rd Infantry Regiment organized at Big Shanty, Georgia, in April, 1862, and contained men recruited from Cherokee, Pickens, Cobb, Hall, Forsyth, Jefferson, and Jackson counties. They were mustered into Confederate Service at Camp McDonald near Big Shanty, GA from March 10, 1862 to April 10, 1862. The unit then moved to Tennessee, then Mississippi where it was placed under the command of General Barton.

The 43rd took an active part in the conflicts at Chickasaw Bayou and Champion’s Hill, and was captured when Vicksburg fell. After being exchanged, the 43rd was assigned to General Stovall’s Brigade, Army of Tennessee. It was prominent in the numerous campaigns from Missionary Ridge to Nashville and ended the war in North Carolina. The 43rd suffered many losses during the War. In December 1863, the 43rd totaled 283 men and 251 arms but by November 1864, there were only 130 men fit for duty. On April 26, 1865, the unit surrendered.

Two Allred brothers from Hall County, Georgia, fought in Company D and survived the War. They both enlisted on March 4, 1862.

**William Brantley Allred - 2nd Corporal.** He was appointed 4th Corporal in November 1863.



He was paroled at the end of the War at Augusta, Georgia, on May 25, 1865. Lineage: William Brantley (Reverend), Miranda, Margaret, Elias, Thomas.

**John Calvin Allred, Sr.- Private.** John was appointed 2nd Sergeant in 1862. He was captured at Atlanta, Georgia, on August 13, 1864, and released at Point Lookout Prisoner of War Camp on June 22, 1865. Lineage: John Calvin, Miranda, Margaret, Elias, Thomas

A Historical Marker was erected in 1980 by some of the descendants of these soldiers. The inscription reads: “This marker is a memorial to the Middle River Volunteers, March 4, 1862, who drilled on this road for service before entering Civil War.”

Directions to the Historical Marker: 34° 27.9672 N, 83° 27.8832 W. Marker is near Baldwin, Georgia, in Banks County. Marker is at the intersection of Georgia Route 105 and Carnes Circle, on the right when traveling east on State Route 105.





# 2011 Allred Reunion in Randolph County, North Carolina

September 10, 2011

Grays Chapel United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall

Intersection of Hwy 22 and Old Liberty Road in Northeast Randolph County, NC.

## Early Bird Activity - Friday, September 9

8am to 7pm leaving from Linda's house, 214 Oakwood Drive, Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 8 am: Remembering the 150th Anniversary of North Carolina's Secession and the Beginning of the War Between The States.

We will visit Bennett Place where General Sherman and General Johnston discussed the South's Surrender; Stagville Plantation, North Carolina's largest Pre-Civil War Plantation; and the North Carolina Museum's exhibit: *North Carolina and the Civil War: The Breaking Storm, 1861-1862*. All activities FREE. We will stop for lunch and supper along the way. All activities have gift shops if you want to buy souvenirs. Wear comfortable shoes and bring your camera! Donations accepted to help pay for transportation.

**Reservations Required! Reservation Deadline August 15**

## Reunion Day - Saturday, September 10

Doors Open at 9am

Covered Dish/Pot Luck Lunch at Noon

Enjoy a laid back, relaxing day visiting with cousins.

At 11am, Linda Allred Cooper will give a short presentation on the current pre-1750 research on our Allred ancestors in America and England.

At 2:30pm climb aboard the van for the **Tour of Allred and Historic Sites** in Randolph County. The tour will wrap up around dark.



**First time attending? Let us know if you need help/suggestions for motels or directions.**

**For more information, contact:**

**Harlan Sexton: hsexton@triad.rr.com or (336) 625-6901**

**Linda Allred Cooper: lacooper@mindspring.com or (919) 548-7099**

**Alice Allred Pottmyer: pottmyera@aol.com or (703) 536-2398**

# Report from Rocky Mountain Allred Reunion

Lines From Highway 89S

by David Mackey

taken from the Mt. Pleasant, Utah, *Pyramid*,  
June 30, 2011, page 2.

## Family Reunion Time!

As June rapidly draws to a close and we move into July, a tradition becomes increasingly apparent, unfolding along the Highway 89 corridor. Like seasonal clockwork, the much anticipated family reunion will be held. Groups consisting of ten, fifteen, thirty to over one hundred individuals are not uncommon and comprise the thousands of people who will gather from far and wide for what is a perennial summer event.

This past weekend the Allred clan gathered in Spring City for their annual get-together. Allred signs were posted all over the place, directing people to the point of convergence from the main highway immediately south of Mt. Pleasant, at Strate's Crossing, and on the road through Pigeon Hollow at the main junction farther south. And if the temporary roadway signage was not sufficient, you could Google the event. Alas, there would be no more puzzled looks, dumb questions or lingering doubts. The Allreds have to be one of the most organized of Family Organizations, and their website proves it.

Folks came from as far away as Virginia in the East and all over the western states. And they do this year after year. Nevertheless, many of those in attendance at this year's Allred gathering were there for the very first time. Spring City is recognized as the cradle to Allreds whose ancestors settled in the West. Ask descendants and many of them will tell you when they come to Sanpete County they feel like they have returned home. So, for a weekend at least, a group of people consider Spring City to be the center of the universe.

This year's Allred Reunion, however, was unique from all the rest. A special service was held at Ephraim's Pioneer Cemetery on Friday,



*The violin of Isaac Allred (1813-1859) on the stone dedicated in his honor in the Ephraim, Utah, Pioneer Cemetery.*

June 24. Linda Isom and her sister Bonnie Hughes of Las Vegas, Nevada, spearheaded an effort to place a marker at the gravesite of Isaac Allred, the son of James and Elizabeth Warren Allred. Isaac was born in 1813 in Bedford County, Tennessee, and was a pioneer settler in Missouri, Illinois and Iowa prior to moving to Utah. Isaac was killed in a dispute involving sheep in May of 1859 near Mt. Pleasant.

Isaac's final resting place was shrouded in mystery until the family began doing some detective work. Linda said that due to some major flooding of the cemetery over the years many of the markers were destroyed—especially the wooden ones. Checking early county records regarding burials, the Allreds were able to confirm that Isaac was interred in the original Ephraim Cemetery. They also gained important insight through interviews with older family members who lived in the area. One man remembered how his relatives always placed flowers on an unmarked grave said to be Isaac's within the cemetery's Allred section.

Beyond the new headstone, Linda Isom was also responsible for bringing something old to the reunion which had a direct connection to Isaac: his fiddle. Linda explained that this Allred family artifact bearing the date 1724 goes back to the shop of Antonius Stradavarius in Cremona, Italy. After it was completed by an apprentice in the famous violin maker's shop it



*David Mackey told the Spring City Allred Reunion attendees about his book on pioneer families in Sanpete County, Utah, and his plans for future writings.*

was shipped to England as a “Conservatory Violin.” The violin came into Allred hands prior to their leaving England or perhaps after their arrival in North Carolina. Eventually, the musical instrument became Isaac’s, most likely after he had demonstrated unusual dedication and skill. He was popular in Nauvoo where he played for prominent residents of that community, and Isaac’s musical talent was much appreciated at dances while crossing the plains and in early Sanpete.

After Isaac’s death in 1859, his son Sidney acquired the instrument and took it with him when he relocated to the Boise, Idaho, area by 1900. Remarkably two of Sidney’s daughters were impressed to remove the violin from the family barn just two weeks before the structure was destroyed by fire in 1905. Moreover, the girls buried the wooden box holding the musical



*Linda Isom played the Isaac Allred violin and Larry C. Allred gave a dedicatory prayer during the ceremony for the Isaac stone.*

relic beneath the floor of their bedroom where it would remain for fifty years. One of the girls became Linda Isom’s grandmother, who entrusted the instrument into her care when she was twelve-years-old and had proved that she was a serious violinist. True to her grandmother’s wishes, the girl grew up to be a very accomplished violinist. In fact, Linda played the legendary Allred fiddle at Isaac’s gravesite and at various places in Spring City Friday evening and Saturday morning. And so it was appropriate that Linda should have a violin etched on Isaac’s headstone.

*(For more information on the pioneer families of south-central Utah see Mackey’s new book, Rattlesnakes and Axe-heads: The Almost Forgotten History and Lore of Sanpete, available in Utah stores, online at [Sanpetelegacyresearch.com](http://Sanpetelegacyresearch.com) or by calling (435) 851-6646.)*

Mark your calendar for the next Allred Family Reunion in Spring City, Utah, Saturday, June 30, 2012.



*The group of Allreds in attendance for the dedication of the new gravestone for Isaac Allred. A freelance television crew was in attendance.*

# Who Was Thomas Allred's Wife?

by Linda Allred Cooper

Over half of the current Allred Family Organization members descend from Thomas Allred who first showed up in North Carolina records in 1755 and died in Randolph County, North Carolina, in 1809. But, who was his wife? Who was the mother of his children? You are probably thinking, "Well, that's easy. Her name was Elizabeth." But, was it? After seeing countless family stories and family trees that contain information proven wrong upon closer inspection, I have learned to ask "Where is the documentation?"

Again, you are probably thinking "Easy again, Thomas named his wife Elizabeth in his will." (Randolph County, NC, Will Book 3, page 188) True, but was that Elizabeth his only wife and the mother of his children? Let's take a closer look.

The first known documentation that Thomas Allred was in North Carolina is the March 15, 1755 Land Warrant for a Granville Grant purchased by John Allrid (SSLG 83-C and NC Patent Book 4, Page 332). The land description was "640 acres on east side Deep River, on mouth of Mount Pleasant Run of Sandy Run; includes his and Thomas Allrid's improvements." The land was surveyed May 2, 1755, and deed filed March 5, 1756. Thomas Allred and Harmon (sic) Husbands were the Chain Carriers for the survey. James Hunter and John McGee signed as witnesses.

"Improvements" was a catch-all word meaning any type of building(s) (house, barn, etc.), clearing and/or farming that had been done/built on the land. This documents John and Thomas Allred had already been living on the land for some time prior to filing the actual paperwork for the Grant although how long they had been there is anyone's guess at this time.

*Note: These land records give us our first proof of the close relationship between John Allred, Thomas Allred and the American Patriots who lived in central North Carolina in the 1700s. James Hunter was prominent in the Regulator*

*Movement and Herman Husband was considered the Leader of the Regulators, a group of mostly Quaker men who protested against unlawful taxes and tax collectors in the 1760s and early 1770s; culminating in the Battle of Alamance on May 16, 1771. John McGee was also an active Regulator, but more significantly, he married Martha McFarland in 1759. Martha was a true American Patriot who allowed British General Cornwallis and his staff to stay in her home and listened in on their conversations, then passed along the information to the Americans during the American Revolution after the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in March of 1781.*

Unfortunately, some deeds have been "lost to time" so we do not have documentation of Thomas' first land grants or deeds. However, there is a Randolph County, NC, deed (Deed Book 4, Page 56) dated April 10, 1788, which gives us some information. Per this deed, Thomas and his wife, Elizabeth, sold 144 acres to Jeremiah York. This land was described as "a certain piece or parcel of land lying and being on both sides of Mount Pleasant Creek, Sandy Creek waters" and was "part of a tract of land said Thomas purchased of John Allred for which land said John obtained a grant of the Earl of Granville March 1756." Thus we have documentation that Thomas was married in 1788, his wife's name was Elizabeth, he was selling land to Jeremiah York and he had originally purchased the land from John Allred.

*Note: The Jeremiah York who purchased this land was married to Sarah who some have theorized was another daughter of Thomas Allred. Perhaps this is true and she was not named in Thomas' will because she had already received her inheritance. Perhaps, as you will see later in this report, she was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Julian. Hopefully future research will prove these theories accurate or false.*

*This Jeremiah York was the son of Semore York and wife Sylvania Aldridge. Semore York was the son of Jeremiah York whose connection to the Allred family has been well established by*

*documentation including the 1724 Chester County, Pennsylvania, Tax List showing Jeremiah York and Solomon Allred listed together. Once in North Carolina, Solomon Allred and Jeremiah York's land bordered each other, so they remained neighbors and friends.*

Thus we have established Thomas Allred was living on land that eventually became part of Randolph County, North Carolina and this land was part of a Grant purchased by John Allred in 1755. The next question is when were Thomas' children born?

Thomas Allred wrote his will on November 8, 1809, and named his wife Elizabeth and nine children:

James  
William  
Elias  
John  
Moses  
Eli  
Rachel Brown  
Elizabeth Jones  
Levi

Thomas also named his grandson, William, son of Elias. Levi was named Executor. Joseph and Enoch Davis signed as witnesses.

Birth Certificates were not required by North Carolina State Law until 1913 so exact birthdates of people born in the 1700s are very hard to document. However, some of Thomas' grandchildren and great grandchildren left behind journals and/or family histories that give us some birthdates. One of these is a family history that begins:

*Andrew Jackson Allred was born 12 Feb 1831 in Monroe Co., Missouri. He was the eighth son and the twelfth child of James Allred and Elizabeth Warren. His father was born in Randolph Co., North Carolina on 22 Jan 1784 to William Allred and Elizabeth Thrasher.*

This gives us the date of birth, 22 Jan 1784, for one of Thomas' grandchildren, James Allred, son of William. William was the 3<sup>rd</sup> child born to Thomas's son, William, the first two children being daughters Sarah and Mary. Assuming William was probably at least 20 or at least in his early 20s when his first child was born, this gives us a time frame for William's possible birth 1750-1760.

Another clue is the Revolutionary War Pension Application filed by Thomas' son, Elias, which begins:

*On this the 7th day of June eighteen hundred and thirty three personally appeared before John Baty John, M McAper, & Meley E. Wood, Justices of the Inferior Court of Said County Elias Allred Senr. a resident of Hall 'County & State of Georgia and Seventy five years the 6th day of May last agreeable to a record of his age Kept by his parents who being first duly Sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.*

As Elias testified that he turned 75 years old on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 1833, this tells us his birthday was May 6, 1758.

Another clue about the birthdates of Thomas' children is the 1850 Federal Census for Northern Division, Randolph County, NC, page 243B, Family Number 1185, which is the entry for Joseph Allred, another grandson of Thomas. Joseph's father was Thomas' son, John. Joseph's age is listed as 74 years old telling us he was born 1776. Assuming John was at least 20 years old or at least in his early 20's when his first child was born, we now have a range of 1745-1755 for John's birth year.

By these documents we now have circumstantial evidence that some of Thomas' children were born within the range of 1745-1760. Thomas' "improvements" was mentioned in John Allred's 1755 Grant Warrant so we know he was living on the land prior to 1755. Taking this into consideration, we can surmise some, if not all, of Thomas' children were born in North Carolina.

Who was their mother? Many family histories state her name was Elizabeth Twiggs but, to my knowledge, there is no documentation to prove this. Dr. Rulon C. Allred stated the same in his book *The Allred Family in America*, but again, no documentation. So, let's look at what is documented.

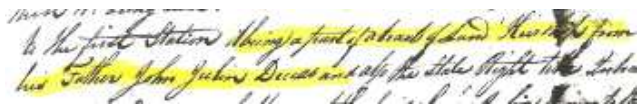
A man named Thomas Allred is mentioned in Court Documents filed in Orange County, NC, 1752-1766. Orange County was formed in 1752 and included the land that later became Randolph County. Current research leads me to

believe this is the same Thomas Allred, subject of this report. However, Thomas' wife is not mentioned in these records.

On November 9, 1786, the Randolph County Court ordered the Sheriff search for John Davis who had apparently disappeared along with "a negro woman" not belonging to him (NC Archives CR 081.325.4). Thomas Allred and Elias Allred are listed as possible witnesses but apparently discounted later as their names were crossed out. William Allred was interviewed about the matter on November 16, 1786. No wives were listed.

On March 15, 1787 the Randolph County Court ordered the Sheriff to "*take the body of Thomas Alred if to be found in your bailiwick and him safely keep....to answer Silvania York administratrix of Semore (York) dec'd of a plea of trespass.*" Bond to guarantee Thomas' appearance in Court for the trial was posted on June 5, 1787 by Thomas Allred and William Allred. On September 14, 1787, in this same matter (NC Archives CR 081.325.5), Elias Allred was summoned to appear in Court during the December Term 1787 to testify on the behalf of Thomas Allred. No wives were mentioned.

However on April 10, 1788, the Deed mentioned at the start of this report was filed in Randolph County (Deed Book 4, Page 56) that did mention Thomas' wife Elizabeth. Therefore



this appears to be the first documented mention of the name of Thomas' wife. So, who was she?

A Virginia Land Grant dated December 7, 1779 (Northern Neck Grants 1690-1874, Land Office Record Group 4, Archives Branch, Virginia State Library, Book R, Page 342) gives us our first documentation of who Elizabeth was. This Grant details the land division and Widow's Dower for the Estate of John Julian. The widow is named Elizabeth Aldred. The land was bordered by land owned by George Julian, Sarah Thomas and James Odell.

John Julian was the son of Rene Julian who arrived in America via the Port of Charleston, South Carolina, about 1695. About 1716, after two of their small children died (malaria?), Rene

and wife Mary Bullock Julian moved to Bohemia Manor, Cecil County, Maryland. John Julian was born circa 1720 while the family was living in Cecil County. Circa 1736, the family moved to Old Orange County, Virginia, on land that eventually became part of Frederick County, Virginia. John Julian first shows up in Frederick County records in January 1743 when he was summoned to be a Constable. John was replaced as Constable by his brother, George Julian, documented by the February 11, 1743. John Julian also appears as one of the petitioners to Lord Fairfax c.1750 when the process of settling new land involved surveying activities in the Northern Neck region of Virginia. John and his brothers, Isaac and Peter, served as chain bearers for a number of land warrants in the 1750s. John's last documented appearance in Court and/or Land Records is the 1779 deed mentioned above (Northern Neck Grants 1690-1874, Land Office Record Group 4, Archives Branch, Virginia State Library, Book R, Page 342) which details the Widow Dower for Elizabeth Julian Allred.

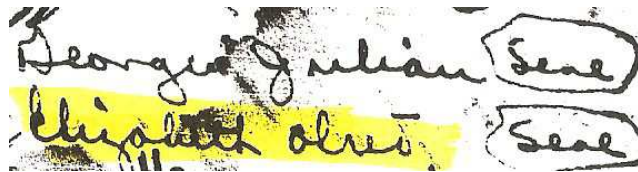
Did Elizabeth Julian Allred have any children prior to her marriage to Thomas Allred? The answer is yes:

George Julian	1752 – 1822
Benjamin Julian	c.1758 – 1852
Jesse Julian	c.1757 – 1846

The birth and death dates come from Julian documents, family histories and genealogies and are estimates based on a variety of records similar to how I figured the birthdays of Thomas Allred's children. Providing these birthdates are correct, they explain why only George was listed as an "heir at law" of John Julian on the 1779 land record listed above. By law you had to be at least 21 years old to own land and/or appear as a legatee in Court and/or Land records. George, born 1752, was about 27 years old in 1779. The other two sons, Benjamin and Jesse, may have been in their late teens or just 20 years old in 1779, too young to appear in the record as legal adults.

In the early 1760s, several members of the Julian family moved to central North Carolina to escape the escalating Indian violence and murders which occurred during the French and Indian War. John Julian purchased a land grant in

1762 and this land was located on what later became part of Randolph County, North Carolina. We know this is the same John Julian by a Randolph County, NC, deed: Deed Book 7, Page 69, (date September 9, 1796) which proves George Julian sold land that came to him as “*heir at law of John Julian, dec’d.*” Elizabeth Allred signed the deed with her son, George.



Another deed (Randolph County, NC, Deed Book 8, Page 86, date September 9, 1796) proves George Julian sold another tract of land which was also inherited from his deceased father, John Julian.

Was Elizabeth Julian Allred the mother of any of Thomas Allred’s children? The answer is No. Refer back to the portion of this report that details the ages of some of Thomas Allred’s children. As you will see, Thomas’ children were born during the same time period that John Julian’s children were born. This clarifies Elizabeth Julian Allred, widow of John Julian, was not the mother of any of Thomas Allred’s children – as least not the older children.

When did Thomas Allred marry Elizabeth Julian? As documented above, John Julian was alive in 1762 when he received that North Carolina land grant. John does not appear in any known court and/or land records between 1762 and 1779 with the exception of a 1778 deed proving a man named John Julian purchased land in Burke County, North Carolina. However, I was unable to definitively prove this was the same John Julian. Traditionally, a widow would remain in mourning at least one year before remarrying, but factors such as economics, needing help tending to a farm, needing help raising children, etc., could cause this mourning period to change.

Traditionally, the Widow/Heirs would go to Court to begin the process of settling the Estate soon after the death so they could retain ownership of the family property. The Widow would need money to support herself and her family, so would petition the Court for her

Widow’s Dower as soon as possible; the longer she waited, the longer it would be before she had any money coming in. Taking all of this into consideration, my theory is that John Julian died sometime in 1778, giving Elizabeth time to remarry and the family time to appear in court to begin settling the Estate and petition for the Widow’s Dower. Of course, this is just a theory and there is no way to really know when he died unless a will, estate record, tombstone, family Bible record, etc., turns up. Currently none of these documents are in existence to the best of my knowledge.

So we have evidence that Elizabeth Julian, widow of John Julian, married Thomas Allred, most likely, in 1778. Elizabeth was the mother of three sons by John Julian: George, Benjamin and Jesse; but she was not the mother of any of Thomas Allred’s children. So, who was the mother of Thomas Allred’s children?

Earlier in this report we established there were no court/land documents to prove who Thomas’ first wife was, so let’s take a look at some of the journals and biographies written by Thomas’ descendants.

In 1888, William Hackley Allred (1804-1890) was sitting in Spring City, Utah, writing in his journal. This journal contained, among other things, a list of his family members and ancestors. At the top of page 3 he wrote:

*Great Grandfather  
Thomas Allred      his wife Elizabeth Allred*

Isaac Allred (1813-1859), a great grandson of Thomas Allred, wrote his autobiography in 1847. Sadly, he did not include any information on Thomas or his wife.

In 1885 another great grandson of Thomas Allred, William Moore Allred (1819-1901), wrote his biography. Unfortunately he did not include any information on his great grandparents.

So the only information we have is that journal entry from William Hackley Allred who stated his Great Grandmother was named Elizabeth. But Elizabeth who? Lots of Allred family histories list her as Elizabeth Twiggs, but where did that information originate and how was it documented? To my knowledge, no one has

*continued on page 17*

# AFO Candidates for Office

*Nominees for office in the Allred Family Organization. The ballot is inserted in the center of this newsletter. Please return to Larry Allred by October 15, 2011.*

## **Melvin Alred**

*Candidate for President*

It would be an honor to continue as AFO president. My interest in the Allred Family history goes back to my childhood from listening to stories told by my Allred ancestors. They told of the brothers living in North Carolina and migrating into Georgia and Alabama. It wasn't too many years later that I researched and documented those oral stories. My goal as the AFO president would be to support the mission and continue the growth and expansion of the organization. My education includes: U. S. Air Force-Law Enforcement, Carroll Lynn College-Business, Floyd College-Real Estate, and North Georgia School of Auctioneers - Auctioneer. My work experience includes four years of law enforcement in the military; 14 years with Standard Oil Company which included working in management and internal auditing. For the past 39 years, I have owned and operated my own businesses, which include: Alred Oil Company, Alred Real Estate Company, and Auctions United, Inc.

Melvin Alred

alredco@aol.com

## **Linda Allred Cooper**

*Candidate for Vice President*

I hope you will re-elect me as your AFO Vice President. The Executive Vice President and Vice President positions were combined allowing me to concentrate on the AFO Web site ([www.allredfamily.com](http://www.allredfamily.com)). I now have more time to update and maintain the Web site and add new information to it in a much quicker manner. I strongly feel the AFO Web site should be the place for all AFO members to quickly and easily access Allred genealogy information. Currently we have over 3,000 web files and/or pages on the Web site and it is growing - so re-elect me so I can continue this valuable service. I received my M.A. in Journalism and edited and audited journalism at the University of North

Carolina, Chapel Hill. More recently I worked as an office manager in a law firm.

Linda Allred Cooper

lacooper@mindspring.com

## **Alice Allred Pottmyer**

*Candidate for Secretary*

My father instilled a love of Allred family history in me as a young girl. I have traveled extensively to Allred locations on the East Coast as well as the Western states and our Allred locations in Lancashire County, England. I would like to continue to work more closely with the AFO Board of Directors to continue to enhance this organization for the betterment of all our family. My degree field is journalism. I have worked for four different Washington, DC, based trade and professional organizations in the areas of publications and more recently conference management.

Alice Allred Pottmyer

pottmyera@aol.com

## **Joyce Allred**

*Candidate for Treasurer*

I strongly support the AFO Mission and volunteer to serve again as treasurer. My experience includes:

A. 30 years administering youth sports organizations (memberships, finances),

B. 29 years as financial officer for a private school (income, payroll, taxes),

C. Finance consultant for a Title and Escrow company, and

D. Appointed AFO Treasurer in 2000 and established a financial management system (budget, income, investments). A financial report and budget are published each year in the AFO Newsletter.

Joyce Allred

jagentree@aol.com



# Who was Thomas Allred's Wife?

*continued from page 15*

found documentation (marriage record, Bible record, court document, etc.) to prove a woman named Elizabeth Twiggs ever existed or married Thomas Allred. This is what we need. The research never ends!

If you have additional documentation, biographies, or info about Thomas' wives, I would love to hear from you. My contact information is found on page 19 of this newsletter.

## Newsletter Online and "Members Only" Section on Web site

The Allred Family Organization is looking for ways to reduce costs and move into the modern, digital world. How would you like to receive your next newsletter online? If this interests you, please let us know by sending an email to

1. pottmyera@aol.com or
2. lacooper@mindspring.com.

Those of you who enjoy receiving paper copies of the newsletter delivered by mail can still do so. If enough members are interested in reading the newsletter online, we will work to make that available, possibly via a members only section on the AFO Web site. Send us an email and let us know your thoughts. Thanks!

## Send Change of Address and Phone and Email Changes

If you are moving, please forward a Change of Address to the Allred Family Organization, 11707 Indian Ridge Road, Reston, VA 20191. Also, if you have a new phone or e-mail, please let Joyce Allred know at the above address or via e-mail: jagentree@aol.com.

This is also the address to send new memberships and membership renewals. Please check your membership expiration date on the mail label.

## AFO is on Facebook

We're now on Facebook! Come join the "Allred Family Organization" group, where we will share information on upcoming events, projects we're working on, photos, stories, and much more.

Spread the word to your children, grandchildren, and other family members. We're hoping to bridge the generations and get everyone interested in sharing family history, from ages 9 to 99! If you have questions, please contact the group administrator, Karisa Walker at [fourinohio@att.net](mailto:fourinohio@att.net).

## Free Live Web Conference

Have you ever wished you could spend time with some of the Allred Family Organization researchers? Have you wanted to go to an Allred reunion, but time/family/money kept you home? Here is your chance!

Linda Allred Cooper is planning a Live Web Conference. If it goes over well, more conferences will be planned. The first conference is in the planning stage and is scheduled for Tuesday, August 30, 2011, beginning at 9 p.m. EDT. The date and time will be posted on the AFO Web site and our new AFO Face Book Page. If you are interested, follow the link to sign up. On the day and time specified, simply follow the link that will be sent to you and join in on the conversation. The topic for the first conference is "Debunking the Bad Information."

The conference is open to anyone with a computer and Internet access. You will need a headset and microphone (time to go to your office supply or big box store) to listen in and join in the conversation.

For more information and to keep up with the plans visit the AFO Web site at [www.AllredFamily.com](http://www.AllredFamily.com) and/or the AFO Face Book Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/251626831520359?ap=1>

Linda's contact information is on page 19.

# Join the Allred Family Organization or Give an AFO Membership Gift



- Yes I want to join the AFO!       Gift Membership  
 Renewal (check expiration date on mailing label)

Membership in the AFO includes the following:

- ❖ One-year subscription to the Allred Family Newsletter
- ❖ A Membership Certificate suitable for framing
- ❖ A New Member Kit
- ❖ Voting privileges for the Board of Directors
- ❖ Special notice of letters and reports when they become available

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Please list your Allred line for the family data input as far as you know it.

For example: My Allred line is Clement, Ephraim L., Reuben W., James, William, Thomas

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Grandparent \_\_\_\_\_

Great Grandparent \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$20 per year

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- Check       Money Order

Send your check or money order made payable to the Allred Family Organization:

**Allred Family Organization  
11707 Indian Ridge Road  
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The AFO publishes a quarterly newsletter containing the latest family research news, family stories, photos and reunion information. It is a great way to keep up with your Allred family.

# President's Message

I thought it would be interesting to do research on the criminal court records of Floyd County, Georgia, to see how many Allred's were brought before the court.

From the early eighteen hundreds to date about a dozen Allred's had their day in court. The charges ranged from disturbing the peace to murder. To my surprise only one was found guilty on any crime.

At the age of seventy-six the brother of my grandfather (name withheld), pleaded guilty to a charge of adultery. The next week he was back in court for pointing a pistol at the other guilty party's husband.

If you have an interesting find in your research send it to the Allred Family Newsletter. See below for the contact information for the newsletter editor, Alice Allred Pottmyer.



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