

**"No Leaf Unturned, Revisited and Revised":**  
**The Ancestry of Rachel Allred (1773-1856),**  
**Wife of Joseph Allred of Randolph County, North Carolina,**  
**Along With Other Descendants of James Allred, Sr., son of Thomas Allred, Sr.**  
*(Updated last, 30 Sep 2023)*

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It is certainly the case that, at any given moment in time, we can never hope to have all the evidence to hand that would help to clarify a genealogical question. No one can be blamed for doing the best they can with what is available. The Genealogical Proof Standard encourages a reasonably exhaustive search before drawing up and disseminating our conclusions. But, actually, it is not always possible to know where to look or how to judge what is relevant without time and perspective. Sometimes, accumulated accretions of interpretation drafted and canonized by others contain numerous errors which tend to cloud judgment. But as the years pass, invariably, unlooked-for sources come to light that help us clarify our thinking. Holes appear in interpretations of long standing. New tools arise that could scarcely have been imagined when a given question first emerged.

Such is the case with an article that I wrote almost nineteen years ago entitled "'No Leaf Unturned': Clues to the Identity of an Allred Bride." It was published in the Fall 2002 edition of the *Journal* of the Randolph County Genealogical Society, and then subsequently republished on the website and in the newsletter of the Allred Family Organization. The time has come to reassess the conclusions reached in that article, and in the process, to reveal details on a family scarcely documented in the work of previous researchers. It is also time to expose some errors in interpretation which have heretofore hampered progress on this particular Allred family and one or two others.

## **I. Recapping the Earlier Argument.**

Rachel Allred (1773-1856) was the wife of Joseph Allred, one of the more prosperous members of the Randolph County, North Carolina clan, who lived in the northeast section of the county and is buried at Patterson Grove Christian Church. The family owned a dozen or so slaves and dabbled in land speculation and goldmining activities. A few private papers survive at Duke University and do much to illuminate their lives and attitudes. Rachel was apparently highly revered by her offspring. They commemorated her

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in the naming of several grandchildren. In my original piece,<sup>1</sup> I argued that Rachel Allred's parentage, as identified in Rulon C. Allred's book *The Allred Family in America*, was misplaced. He had claimed that she was identical to the daughter "Rachel Brown" mentioned by Thomas Allred in his 1809 will recorded in Randolph County. This would mean that Joseph Allred, who was already married when Thomas Allred died, and had seen the births of all but four of his eleven known children, could not have been the husband of Thomas's daughter Rachel on 8 Nov 1809 when the will was written.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, there is strong evidence that Rachel Brown and her children were living in Franklin County, Georgia as late as 1805.<sup>3</sup> The idea that she came back to North Carolina and became the second wife of Joseph Allred seems a bit far-fetched.

Once an idea appears in print, however, it is often difficult to dispel. There are those who continue to cling to Rulon Allred's conclusions in a literal manner, in spite of all the evidence against them.<sup>4</sup> There are no discernable gaps in the succession of children born to Rachel and Joseph Allred from 1795 to 1816.<sup>5</sup> The older children used Rachel's name when their own children were born. Also, the census descriptions of Joseph's wife from year to year (excepting 1820, which is missing for Randolph County), though only assigning her an age category not a specific age, are compatible though not absolutely consistent. There remains no particular reason to think there was more than one wife.

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<sup>1</sup> I will not repeat all the references I made in the original piece. I direct interested parties to Larry W. Cates, "'No Leaf Unturned': Clues to the Identity of an Allred Bride," *Journal of the Randolph County Genealogical Society* (hereafter referred to as *RCGSJ*) Vol. 26, No. 3 (Fall, 2002), 2-15.

<sup>2</sup> The will wasn't probated until May 1810, suggesting Thomas died in that year.

<sup>3</sup> Dawnell H. Griffin, *From England to America: Our Allred Family* (2015), 220. Rachel Brown joined her husband in a deed dated 7 Aug 1804 in Franklin Co (Franklin Co., GA Deed Book 000/81). His next deed, dated 1 May 1805, does not mention Rachel but was witnessed by John Allred (Book 000/92). Prior to this, William Allred had witnessed a deed by which Brown acquired land in 1802 (Book 000/48). Dawnell also states that Robert Brown, Rachel's husband, was mentioned in Franklin Co., GA tax lists as late as 1818 in Capt. Wofford's District. If this is the correct Robert Brown, there is no way his widow Rachel could have married her cousin Joseph in time to be the mother of any of his children. In fact, given the ages of Brown's children, she would have been too aged to give birth to any of Joseph's children after 1809.

<sup>4</sup> One notable example is Richard Hayes Phillips in his "Allred Family History" found at <http://web.northnet.org/minstrel/allred.01.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Phillips claims that there is no explicit evidence that any of Joseph Allred's children were born between 1801 and 1807, suggesting the gap might represent a change in wives, the second being Rachel. In fact, Mr. Phillips fails to address the presence of four females and two males under ten years of age in Joseph's household in 1810. It seems highly unlikely that all six of these children were either born before 1801 or after 1807. He completely discounts Balaam Allred's birthdate of 20 Jun 1803, claiming that his original tombstone does not give this date of birth. It is true that Balaam's 1850 census entry gives his age as 43, but the original tombstone most definitely did place his birth earlier in the decade. The newer marker set up by the Allred Family Organization follows earlier readings of the original stone. In 1986, the original marker was read as stating b. 20 Jun 1803, d. 2 Oct 1857, aged 54y. 3 m. 12d. The age at death, which was read from the original inscription along with the date of birth, is precisely correct for the birthdate. See *RCGSJ* vol. 10, no. 1 (Winter, 1986), 41. I believe the 1850 census taker may have mistaken his own handwriting of perhaps "58" for "53" when making a fair copy from his field copy.

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*This photograph of Jonathan Allred shows him at some time prior to his death aged no more than 60.*

Rulon Allred seems to have been working from the assumption that Joseph Allred and his wife were cousins. I do not know what the source of that belief was. I suspect that there was some family tradition to that effect, but he does not reveal what evidence impelled him to make that claim. I believe that he was correct, in fact, because of the numerous issues with health among children and grandchildren of the couple, which I cite in detail in the original article. A web commentator on my conclusions, in fact, accepted the unusual number of health problems among Joseph's descendants (a daughter who committed suicide, another who is described as "afflicted" in a personal letter, children and grandchildren who married late or not at all, a photograph of Jonathan Allred which reveals a particularly unhealthy aspect), but claimed that there must have been an unrelated first wife in the mix, because none of the older children had offspring with these health issues. In fact, in my original article, I explicitly cite the fact that John Allred, the oldest son, had a daughter,

Mary Ann, who is identified as insane in an early census record. In addition, the obituary of another daughter of this same John, Elizabeth D. Allred, who died in 1859 aged twenty-four, speaks explicitly of her afflictions.<sup>6</sup> Mary Allred Chisholm had a daughter Rachel who died in 1858 unmarried at age twenty-six. The claim that there was no aberrant behavior or health complication among the older children because Joseph had two wives, the first unrelated to him and the second related, is unsupported by the evidence.

If Rachel Allred was related to her husband, however, but not the daughter of Thomas Allred (d. c. 1810), who in fact, was her father? In the first article, I put forward a proposal that she was somehow connected to the family of Solomon Allred (d. 1782), uncle<sup>7</sup> of Joseph's father John. This Solomon's ill-documented family resided in the northwestern portion of Richmond County, North Carolina from the mid-1770s until the first decade of the nineteenth century. I suggested that she might be his daughter or granddaughter, but did not attempt to say precisely how. After all, didn't Joseph's son

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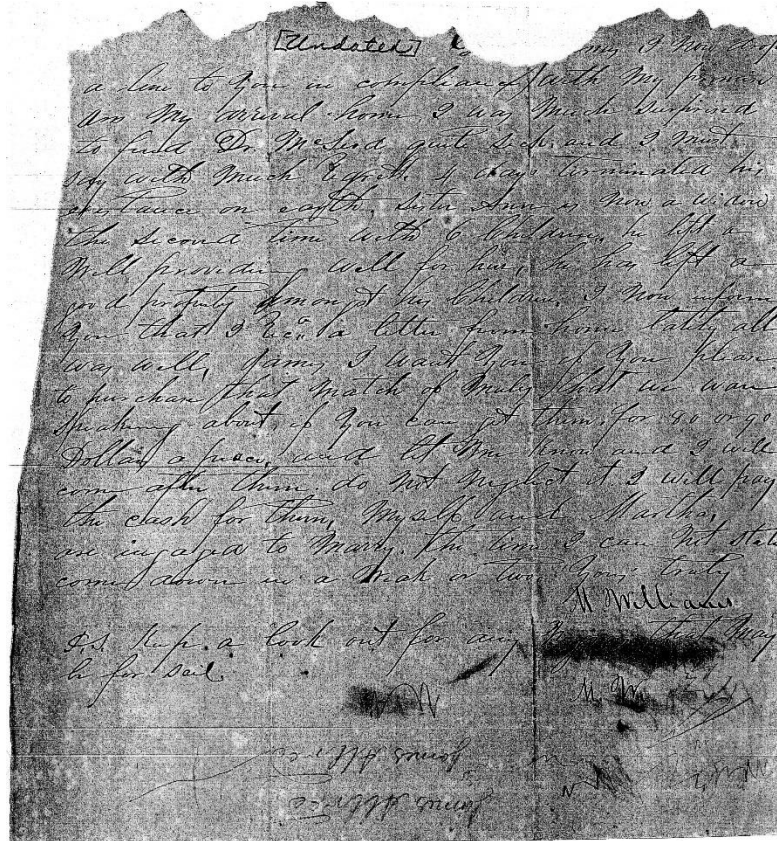
<sup>6</sup> The obituary is taken from 16 Jan 1860 edition of the *Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer* and states, "She bore her afflictions with great patience."

<sup>7</sup> John's mother was Solomon's sister, but his father we now know was Samuel Findley of Cecil and Prince George Co., MD.



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John Allred resettle in that precise part of Richmond County in the 1810s or 1820s, very close to the lands of Solomon's sons? In addition, two others among Joseph's children, married in nearby Montgomery County, North Carolina, far from their place of birth in Randolph.



Letter from Martin Williams to James Allred (of Joseph), c. 1848

What clinched the idea for me was the discovery of a letter in the Joseph Allred Papers at Duke University written by Martin Williams of Richmond County, NC, apparently to James Allred, son of Joseph and Rachel. The letter's partially destroyed greeting seemed to read "Co[usin Ja]mes," thus addressing James Allred as Martin's cousin. I found out that Martin Williams was the son of Stephen (4 May 1774-1 Jun 1830) and Delilah Williams of that same area of Richmond County. In the letter, Martin refers to the death of his brother-in-law Dr. John McLeod (d. 1848; second wife was Ann T.

Williams), whose daughter by a first wife Martin would soon marry. Since Martin could not have been the son of one of Joseph Allred's sisters, it follows that he must have been related through Rachel Allred. Stephen Williams had, in fact, purchased the land that Jonathan Allred, son of Solomon, owned before Jonathan moved to Barnwell District, South Carolina.<sup>8</sup> Both Stephen Williams and Joseph Allred had a brace of daughters named Rachel and Delilah. It seemed likely to me that Delilah was the sister of Rachel Allred, wife of Joseph. I reached this conclusion in spite of widespread claims on the Internet that Delilah Williams was the daughter of Caleb Touchstone, a long-time resident of this border area between Richmond and Montgomery counties. To my knowledge, there is no primary evidence whatsoever to support that claim.

<sup>8</sup> Deed from Jonathan Allred of Barnwell Dist, SC to Stephen Williams of Richmond Co., NC (8 Mar 1809) Richmond County, N.C. Deed Book L, p. 219.

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At the same time, the author of the most recent and authoritative Allred family history to date has alleged that Robert Allison (wife Jane Moore) was the father of Rachel Allred.<sup>9</sup> No evidence was given within that volume to support this claim. It appeared to me initially that a long-standing assumption that Rachel Allred, wife of Francis Allred of Overton Co., TN, was an Allison by birth had somehow affected the identification of Joseph Allred's wife. But then, this same author and researcher, whom I deeply respect, provided an updated report a couple of years ago on the Joseph Allred family, published on the My Allred Family website,<sup>10</sup> which specifically identified the Robert Allison she intended.

Joseph [Allred] married in 1794, when he was twenty-two years old, to Rachel whose surname was probably Allison. Robert Allison who died in 1818 in Washington County, Tennessee and his wife Jane Moore had a daughter Rachel who was married to an Allred. I located one reference stating she was married to Francis Allred, but [it] is more likely, that she was the wife of Joseph Allred. Robert and Jane Moore Allison had at least four children Robert, Hannah, Rachel, Anna and possibly a son named Archibald.

The author goes on to mention a land transaction between Archibald Allison and John Allred in 1820 on Deep River. This John Allred is not the father of our Joseph Allred, who died in 1792, or his son John, but from a different branch of the family entirely. She also brings in the sale of an enslaved woman Judy by Hannah Allison and Nicholas Nichols to Joseph Allred in 1813. But no connection is drawn between Hannah Allison and the group who removed to Tennessee.

I find two Robert Allisons who died in Washington Co., TN within this period of time. Two of them had wives named Jane. One of these Roberts wrote his will 18 July 1812. It was probated in November of that year. He mentions his father Robert Allison, who was still alive, his wife Jane, and unmarried, minor daughters Nancy, Rachel, Polly Anna and Hannah Eliza.<sup>11</sup> The second Robert Allison was the father of this former Robert. His will is dated 19 Mar 1819 and was probated in April of that year.<sup>12</sup> He does not mention a wife, but lists his daughters as Hannah Carmichael, Rachel Thompson, Ann Thompson and Polly Duncan. His son-in-law Joseph Duncan is also mentioned. Though the description of this individual is not an exact match to Dawnell Griffin's Robert Allison, he is almost certainly the person she was referring to. Clearly, neither Robert Allison, Sr.'s daughter Rachel (who was married to a Thompson in 1819) or Robert Allison, Jr's daughter Rachel

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<sup>9</sup> Griffin, 141.

<sup>10</sup> See Dawnell Griffin's report, "Joseph Allred 1772-1856, Part I" at [myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Joseph-Allred-by-Dawnell.pdf](http://myallredfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Joseph-Allred-by-Dawnell.pdf) (viewed 16 June 2021).

<sup>11</sup> Washington Co., TN Will Book 1:91. Per the widow Jane Allison's later will, written in 1838, this Rachel was later married to a Russell. See Washington Co., TN Will Book 1:269.

<sup>12</sup> Washington Co., TN Will Book 1:120.

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(who was a minor in 1812) could be the same person as Rachel Allred, wife of Joseph Allred, back in Randolph County, North Carolina.

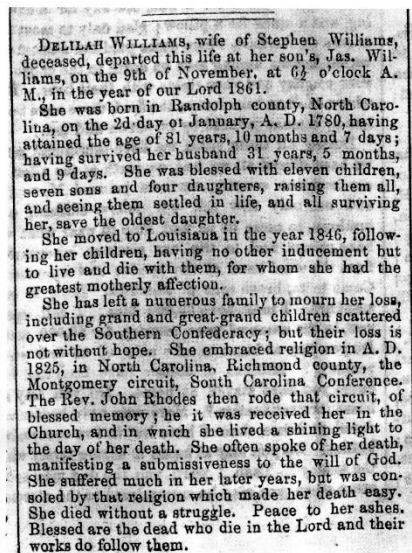
A third Robert Allison's will was written and recorded in Washington County in 1792.<sup>13</sup> He mentions his wife Jane, youngest son Robert and two youngest daughters Jane and Polly. He might have been father and grandfather to the Roberts above, or perhaps unrelated. Though he probably had older daughters who are unnamed in the will, this Robert would have left Rachel Allred behind in North Carolina only twenty years of age and probably still unmarried. Not a likely scenario.

### II. A New Perspective

Subsequently, after writing my initial article, I discovered additional details concerning an Allred family resident in southwestern Montgomery County, North Carolina and neighboring parts of Richmond which has hitherto been grossly overlooked and which may provide the answer to the conundrum of the origins of both Rachel Allred and her assumed sister, Delilah Williams. When it comes down to it, in the final analysis, I cannot absolutely prove the relationships I propose below. But I will assert that they are firmly grounded in the evidence we have and merit serious consideration. My argument also challenges some previous assumptions about other Allred families which will now need to be reexamined and re-evaluated.

Probably, the most exciting discovery I have made is the obituary of Delilah Williams, widow of Stephen, who accompanied her children from Richmond County, NC, to Ouachita and Jackson parishes, Louisiana, in the 1850s. It was published in the 19 Dec 1861 edition of *The Nashville Christian Advocate*. In it, Delilah Williams is described as the widow of Stephen Williams. The obituary states that she was born in Randolph County, North Carolina 2 January 1780 and died 9 Nov 1861. She survived her husband by thirty-one years, five months and nine days, had seven sons and four daughters, all except the eldest son surviving her. She joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in Richmond County in 1825.

The explicit identification of Delilah Williams's birthplace is monumental. It undergirds the evidence of the letter from Martin Williams to James Allred and makes it



DELILAH WILLIAMS, wife of Stephen Williams, deceased, departed this life at her son's, Jas. Williams, on the 9th of November, at 6 1/2 o'clock A. M., in the year of our Lord 1861.

She was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, on the 2d day of January, A. D. 1780, having attained the age of 81 years, 10 months and 7 days; having survived her husband 31 years, 5 months, and 9 days. She was blessed with eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, raising them all, and seeing them settled in life, and all surviving her, save the oldest daughter.

She moved to Louisiana in the year 1846, following her children, having no other inducement but to live and die with them, for whom she had the greatest motherly affection.

She has left a numerous family to mourn her loss, including grand and great-grand children scattered over the Southern Confederacy; but their loss is not without hope. She embraced religion in A. D. 1825, in North Carolina, Richmond county, the Montgomery circuit, South Carolina Conference. The Rev. John Rhodes then rode that circuit, of blessed memory; he it was received her in the Church, and in which she lived a shining light to the day of her death. She often spoke of her death, manifesting a submissiveness to the will of God. She suffered much in her later years, but was consoled by that religion which made her death easy. She died without a struggle. Peace to her ashes. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord and their works do follow them.

*Obituary of Delilah Williams (1860)*

<sup>13</sup> Washington Co., TN Will Book 1:26.

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extremely plausible that Rachel, James Allred's mother, and Delilah, Martin Williams's mother, were sisters. So if their father was an Allred, who was he?

It helped me to think about a timeline in this situation. Very simply, Rachel Allred was married in Randolph County, one would assume, in the early to mid-1790s. Her oldest son John was born about 1795. There is no evidence that she ever lived elsewhere. Her alleged sister Delilah would have married Stephen Williams, who always lived in Montgomery or Richmond County, shortly after 1800, because her oldest child Henry was born about 1804. A plausible idea is that their father was resident in Randolph County until at least the mid-1790s, but then moved into the vicinity of Stephen Williams, allowing Delilah to meet and marry him there by 1802 or 1803 at the latest. Was there any Allred man who fit that bill? As it turned out, there was a perfect fit, and I found him by trying to discover more evidence of Solomon Allred's family in Richmond County, documenting every relevant land record.

On 11 April 1801, James Allred sold to Jabez York, his 116 acres in Randolph County on Mt. Pleasant Creek.<sup>14</sup> Per the 1799 tax list of Randolph County, this was all the land James claimed.<sup>15</sup> The deed specifies that it was part of a tract that James had acquired from Thomas Allred, who in turn had purchased from John Allred, the original recipient of a 1756 Granville grant. It was witnessed by Jeremiah York. Less than one month later, on 19 May 1801, Moses Grantham of Richmond County sold James Allred "of Randolph County" 215 acres, part of 275 acres between Great Pee Dee and Great Buffalo Creek of Little River adjacent William Pelham, John McHenry, and McPherson. It was a tract originally granted Ezra Bostick by the King (1770). The deed was witnessed by Thomas Bostick and James Bostick.<sup>16</sup> Just three years later, on 10 Dec 1804, James Allred sold 137 acres of this tract, said to be adjacent William Pelham, John Ussery, and Chunn McPherson, to James Bostick. At that time, James Allred was residing in Montgomery County, NC.<sup>17</sup> Although the records of Montgomery County were decimated in several, successive courthouse fires up to 1843, we know that a James Allred continued to live there as late as 1810. On 24 Jul 1805, James Allred and Phillip Mask were chain bearers on a survey of Phillip Mask for 350 acres on the west side of Little River and the waters of Little Town Creek. In Nov 1810, James Auldred and John Christian were chain carriers on a ten-acre survey for John Christian adjacent Sarah Sexton and Alexander McCarter in Montgomery County.<sup>18</sup> These state land grants survived the fires because they were housed in Raleigh. So clearly, a James Allred removed from Randolph County to Richmond County, NC, eventually living in Montgomery County, but continued to own land on both sides of the line.

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<sup>14</sup> Deed, James Allred to Jabez York (11 Apr 1801), Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 9, p. 366.

<sup>15</sup> "Randolph County Tax Lists: 1799," in *RCGSJ* Vol. I, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 1977), 16.

<sup>16</sup> Deed, Moses Grantham to James Allred (19 May 1801), Richmond Co., NC Deed Book F, p. 231.

<sup>17</sup> Deed, James Allred to James Bostick (10 Dec 1804), Richmond Co., NC Deed Book H, p. 16.

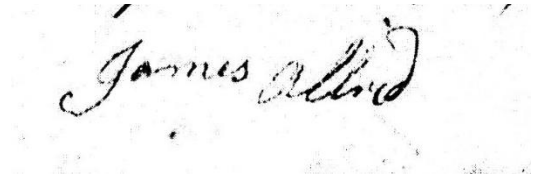
<sup>18</sup> See A. Bruce Pruitt, *Land Warrants and Surveys, Montgomery Co., NC, 1778-1833* (2006), entries 1746, 1880.



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His death would have been masked by the destruction of probate records in Montgomery County, but some evidence remains of likely children - children who don't seem to belong to the Solomon Allred clan directly which had cleared out of this region almost entirely by 1810.

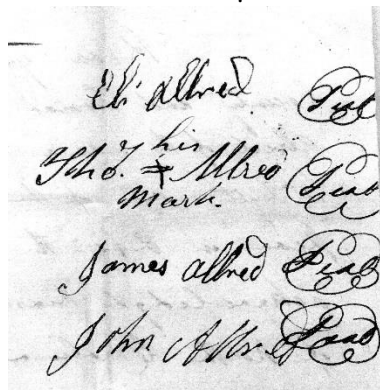
But which of the several James Allreds is this? Well, as the deeds show, he is certainly the same person who obtained land from Thomas and Elizabeth Allred 1 Sep



*James Allred, Sr.'s 1786 Signature*

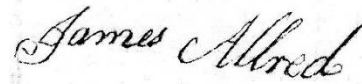
1788, 116 acres in Randolph County on Mt. Pleasant Creek.<sup>19</sup> Likewise, he is the one who appears in the 1790 census of Randolph, with one male over 16, one male under 16, and eight females. In Jun 1789, he was first exempted from paying his poll tax, and in June of 1790, his exempt status was made

permanent. The 1800 census shows him with two males under 10, one male 10 to 16, one male over 45, one female under 10, three females 10 to 16, three females 16 to 26, and one female over 45 (p. 300). The 1799 tax list of Randolph only shows one other male over the



*James Allred, Sr.'s 1797 Signature on the Appearance Bond of His Brother Eli*

age of 16 and that is James Allred, son of John, who had no land to his credit.<sup>20</sup> To be Delilah and Rachel's father, both of whom named sons James, by the way, it seems plausible that he would have been born prior to 1755 as the 1800 census alleges. In fact, he has to be the same James



*James Allred, Sr.'s 1796 Signature*

who along with brothers Elias and William Allred, was listed in the muster roll of Capt. John Hinds's militia unit in Randolph County,<sup>21</sup> and the one who appears in the 1779 tax list with 15 acres of 30 total improved, 5 cattle and 3 horses (Capt.

Joseph Hinds's district).<sup>22</sup> He is also likely the James Allred to whom a 1778 land grant for 300 acres was originally issued on Solomon's Branch. In 1786, he sold that improvement to John Allred, son of Thomas, and served as chain bearer on his brother's grant. In 1796, he signed away another 68-acre warrant (otherwise noted as 50 acres) to Eli Allred, who in turn assigned it to Isaac Lane. Joseph Allred, by the way, ended up being a chain bearer on this survey.<sup>23</sup> The two signatures on these assignments

<sup>19</sup> Deed, Thomas and Elizabeth Allred to James Allred (1 Sep 1788), Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 4, p. 15.

<sup>20</sup> "Randolph County Tax Lists: 1799," in *RCGSJ* Vol. I, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 1977), 16.

<sup>21</sup> "Selections From the Hinds Papers," *Journal of the Randolph County Genealogical Society* (hereafter *RCGSJ*) Vol. 31, No. 3 (Fall, 2007), 22.

<sup>22</sup> "Randolph County's First Tax List," *RCGSJ* Vol. 24, No. 1 (Spring 2000), 18.

<sup>23</sup> The signatures discussed here are represented as illustrations in this article. They were taken from North Carolina Land Records database at Ancestry.com. I am also indebted to A. Bruce Pruitt's *Abstracts of Land Warrants: Randolph County, NC 1778-1948* (2001), entries 413, 1625.



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ten years apart are consistent with one another. It is extremely likely that he is the son of Thomas Allred, Sr. by his first wife. After all, he purchased his land from them, he had land interactions with his brothers John and Eli. And furthermore, comparing his signature a third time with one he signed with his father and brother John for the appearance of Eli Allred to answer charges of horse stealing at Hillsborough District Superior Court, in 1797, the consistency is again apparent.<sup>24</sup>

I will also point out that Joseph Allred, husband of Rachel, served as a chain bearer on a 100-acre grant to a Thomas Allred, adjacent James Allred and John Jones, which was surveyed 20 Aug 1801.<sup>25</sup> He then witnessed the will of Thomas Allred, Sr. in 1809. Thomas, in my estimation, would have been his wife's paternal grandfather. She was likely named for her aunt Rachel Allred Brown. Joseph Allred also witnessed the will of John Jones (1822) who married Elizabeth Allred, daughter of Thomas Allred, his wife's aunt in my estimation. Both Joseph and Rachel Allred, along with Eli Allred, were present at the estate sale of Elizabeth (Allred) Jones in 1833. By my calculation, Rachel would have been a niece to both Elizabeth Jones and Eli Allred.<sup>26</sup> Finally, in a case in which Aaron York (a relative of Thomas York) was accused of stealing leather from Hezekiah Clarke in August of 1834, the witnesses summoned included two Allred couples: Joseph and Rachel Allred and Eli and Susannah Allred. Kingsberry Allred was also a witness.<sup>27</sup> It is interesting that both Rachel and her alleged uncle and aunt, Eli and Susannah Allred, were involved in this situation. So, in the end, it would seem that Rulon Allred was more correct than I had originally thought. It was not Thomas Allred's daughter, but more than likely his granddaughter by an elder son, who married Joseph Allred.

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<sup>24</sup> See appearance bond (25 Apr 1797) of Eli Allred in the case State v. Eli Allred, Hillsborough District Superior Court, Criminal Action Papers, DSCR 204.326.12 (fourth folder marked 1797) at NC State Archives, Raleigh, NC.

<sup>25</sup> See Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Warrants, Randolph County, NC*, entry 1865. This Thomas Allred sold his grant adjoining John Jones, Spoon, and James Allred to Isaac Hobson, 22 Sep 1810, with Charles Duncan and Tobias York, witnesses. We know he cannot be Thomas, Sr., for the latter died between 8 Nov 1809 (the date of his will) and May 1810 (when his will was proven). The 1803 Tax List of Randolph County identifies him as Thomas Allred of Elias and assigns him the 100 acres he acquired in 1801.

A different Thomas Allred in this same neighborhood sold 77 acres to Joshua Hobson, for \$175, adjacent Brower and Robert Fields (witnesses, William York, Allen Herbert, and Adam Brower) on 24 Dec 1810 (Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 12:36). Much of this was land he had previously purchased from John Allred, 14 Mar 1803, 65 1/2 acres on Sandy Creek adj. Robert Field and Adam Brower (witness Adam Brower). This Thomas purchased the rest of the tract he sold to Joshua Hobson, 11 1/2 acres on Sandy Creek, from Adam Brower 7 Nov 1810 (Deed Book 12:27, witnesses James Cude, W. Ward, David Brower). The second Thomas is also identified in the 1803 tax list of Randolph County (Capt. Duncan's district) declaring 67 acres as Thomas Allred (of John). This is almost certainly Thomas Allred, son of John Allred, Jr. and Lilly Ann, who married Margaret Allred and moved to Indiana.

<sup>26</sup> The sale was conducted by the administrator, H. York. Rachel, Joseph and Eli were the only persons named Allred who purchased at the sale.

<sup>27</sup> Taken from Randolph County Criminal Action papers, C.R. 081.326.28, first file marked 1835.

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### **III. The Other Jameses**

There still remain some troubling questions to resolve. Over the years, other people have tried to define James, son of Thomas, in different ways. No one assumed that he went to Richmond and Montgomery counties and died there. No one I have ever encountered addressed the deeds that reveal this migration. And there are other Jameses in early Randolph County who confuse the matter somewhat. These alternative individuals need more explanation. I believe the first of them was a cousin of the James I've just defined.

First, we know per the 1799 tax list of Randolph County that a John Allred resident in Randolph had a son named James who was of age in that year.<sup>28</sup> This James is almost certainly the one referenced in a criminal action from Nov 1797 in which Jane Allred, wife of James, an unmarried woman named Miriam Allred, and Martha Curtis, wife of John, were accused of assaulting Mary Crabtree at Sandy Creek Meetinghouse. Interestingly, John Allred posted security for the appearance of his daughter Miriam in court after this incident, suggesting perhaps that Miriam was this James Allred's sister.<sup>29</sup> This is almost certainly the same James Allred who appears in the 1800 Census of Randolph County, aged 16 to 26 years of age. His only child is a son under 10 years old. His wife falls into the same 16 to 26 age category. "James Allred of John" appears again in the 1803 tax list of Randolph County with 294 acres.<sup>30</sup> In 1801, he was granted 22 acres on Solomon's Branch adjacent Thomas Allred, John Allred, and Isaac Lane. Christian Spoon and John Allred were his chain bearers. He served as chain bearer, along with Levi Allred (son of Thomas), on two separate surveys for John Jones (who married Elizabeth Allred, daughter of Thomas) in 1802 and 1806.<sup>31</sup> But he quickly moved away to Guilford County.

In Guilford, James shows up in the 1810 census (p. 923) with 1 male under 10, 1 male 10 to 16, 1 male 26 to 45, 3 females under 10, 1 female 26 to 45. In 1830, he was still in Guilford County (p. 122) aged 50 to 60. His wife was 40 to 50. He had one male 5 to 10 years of age, 1 male 10 to 15 years old and 1 male 15 to 20, along with 1 younger female aged 10 to 15. In 1811, this James Allred sold his 21 acres on Solomon's Branch to Isaac Hobson of Chatham County for \$50.<sup>32</sup> In 1817, this time as "James Allred of Guilford County, North Carolina," he sold 75 acres on Solomon's Branch adjacent Lewis and George Wright to John Hayes.<sup>33</sup> He had purchased this tract in 1815 from Levi Allred (b.

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<sup>28</sup> The list references a younger unpropertied male named "James Allred of John. See "Randolph County Tax Lists: 1799," in *RCGSJ* Vol. I, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 1977), 16.

<sup>29</sup> See *RCGSJ* Vol. 24, No. 3 (Fall, 2000), 46.

<sup>30</sup> "1803 Tax List, Randolph Co., NC," *RCGSJ* Vol. XI, No. 1 (Winter 1987), 6. The acreage is probably a clerical error.

<sup>31</sup> See Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Warrants, Randolph County, NC*, entries 2117, 2219.

<sup>32</sup> Deed, James Allred to Isaac Hobson (16 Mar 1811), Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 12, p. 12.

<sup>33</sup> Deed, James Allred to John Hayes (22 Jan 1817), Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 14, p. 25.

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1770/1780).<sup>34</sup> To solidify this identification further, I appeal to a deed in Guilford County dated 3 Mar 1813 from Zebulon Causey to Enoch Davis for land on the Brushy Fork of Alamance Creek, which was witnessed by both James Allred and Jane Allred, the same wife identified in the 1798 Randolph County criminal action.<sup>35</sup> In Feb 1813, James Allred was appointed constable in Guilford with Joseph Phipps, John Hardin, and Levi Tucker, his securities.<sup>36</sup> In Feb 1826, Jesse Hinshaw was appointed overseer of the road from Absalom Fields's Creek to Jarrell's Branch in the room of Gideon Alexander. James Allred was assigned to work this stretch of road.<sup>37</sup> This James was almost certainly the son of John, Jr. (wife Lilly Ann) and grandson of John Allred, Sr. (d. 1792). John, Sr. was probably the son of a sister of Thomas Allred, Sr. by Samuel Finley.<sup>38</sup>

A second James Allred to reckon with appears in the 1810 census of Randolph County. He and his wife are both over 45 years of age and there is only one young man in the household aged 10 to 16. It is unclear who this James is, but it is possible he is the same as the James who moved to Montgomery and then returned to spend his later years in his home county. If so, there is no evidence he acquired additional land in Randolph. Perhaps he decided to take up residence on the land of a son-in-law. But, in any case, he does not appear in the subsequent 1820 tax list or elsewhere to my knowledge. He, indeed, may have been a different person altogether.

A third James Allred was referenced in a letter from Solomon Allred of Blount Co., AL, to his cousins John and Isaac Key(s), 19 Apr 1847. This Solomon Allred died in Sept. 1849 (per the 1850 mortality schedule) and it is very likely that he was the grandson of Solomon Allred (c. 1778 – aft. 1860, Carroll Co., AR) who was then residing in Anderson County, TN at the time the letter was written. The mortality schedule reveals that he was born about 1810 in Tennessee. I must address the James of his letter because he has frequently been identified as the son of Thomas Allred (d. 1810).<sup>39</sup> "I will inform you that old Uncle Thomas Allred's son, James, is dead and we cannot account for his death unless he took a fit and fell on the end of a log that lay near him and I suppose that he went out and staid so long that his wife became so uneasy that she went out to hunt for him and I suppose that she found him lying on his breast dead."

Even on the face of it, the claim that the James referenced in this letter was the son of Thomas Allred (d. c. 1810) of Randolph County is questionable. Per the 1800 census,

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<sup>34</sup> Deed, Levi Allred to James Allred (28 Oct 1815), Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 13, p. 96.

<sup>35</sup> Deed, Zebulon Causey to Enoch Davis (3 Mar 1813), Guilford Co., NC Deed Book 11, p. 284.

<sup>36</sup> Judy Bryant Millikan, *Guilford County, North Carolina Records of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions: 1811-1815*, p. 91.

<sup>37</sup> Guilford County Road Docket, Feb 1824-Nov 1827, *The Guilford Genealogist* Vol. 44, No. 2 (Summer-Fall, 2017), 37.

<sup>38</sup> See a subsequent article on John Allred, Jr. and Lilly Ann Allred for a deeper exploration of that family. This James (son of John, Jr.) later moved to Henry Co., Iowa where he is to be found in the 1850 and 1860 censuses.

<sup>39</sup> See Griffin, *From England to America*, 221.

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we know that Thomas, Sr.'s son James was born before 1755. In the year 1847, he would have been at least ninety-two years old and probably much older. No one would have been surprised to discover that a man of his age had fallen dead. Furthermore, no intervening census records show his presence after 1810 at the latest. It stands to reason that the "old uncle Thomas" that Solomon Allred is referring to is actually someone who had children living locally in and around Blount County. And if you look at the 1850 census of Blount County, there is indeed an old Thomas living on the very same page as Nancy, the widow of the letter writer, Solomon Allred (Jr.) who had died the previous fall. This is the very same Thomas Allred (2 Apr 1771-28 Apr 1858) who later moved back to Knox Co., Tennessee, probably to live with his daughter Sylvania Allred Wood (1839-1885).<sup>40</sup> Some others of his descendants were doubtless living in Blount Co. in 1850. He was living there with Elizabeth Gunter, perhaps his daughter. He is buried in Knox County with a contemporary tombstone at Glenwood Cemetery near Powell, TN. It seems very likely that Solomon Allred's letter refers to a son of this Thomas Allred named James who lived somewhere near Blount County. In fact, it may very well be the James Alred who married Eliza Watts 12 Sep 1833 in neighboring Jefferson County. This particular Thomas, presumably, was the brother of Solomon Allred, Sr. back in Anderson Co., TN. Clearly, they were of an age.

In the same collection were letters from Isaac Allred of Greene County, MO, directed to Solomon Allred of Anderson Co., TN (addressing him as father) and from Isaac's son William C. Allred to the Keys (addressing them as cousins). They are dated 1849 and 1850 respectively. Isaac was definitely the son, then, of the senior Solomon living in Anderson Co., TN at the time. His statements suggest something about where the elder Solomon in Anderson Co. fits into the larger Allred family. Speaking to his father, he says he currently has a clock repairman at his home named Jesse L. Allred from Indiana. Jesse, he states, is the youngest son of Elias Allred, Sr. from Randolph Co., NC. Jesse's grandfather was Thomas Allred, "your uncle."<sup>41</sup> So that statement implies that the senior Solomon in Anderson County was not of the Thomas branch of the greater Allred clan at all. He must either come from the Solomon Allred branch or the William Allred branch. Likewise, Thomas Allred's son James who died in Blount Co. unexpectedly most likely fits into either the William or the Solomon Branch, not the Thomas Branch.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Griffin, *From England to America*, 250-251..

<sup>41</sup> I think he probably means "great-uncle" in this case.

<sup>42</sup> For a lengthy explication of this set of letters, see Dawnell H. Griffin, "Solomon and Mary Aldridge Allred," in *Allred Family Newsletter* No. 98 (Spring 2014), 1-6. In fact, I think the brothers Solomon and Thomas Allred of Anderson Co., TN (Thomas later removing to Blount Co., AL before returning to Knox Co., TN) were the children of a Betty Allred who was head of household in the 1800 census of Randolph Co., NC. Solomon and Thomas went with their father-in-law Nathan Aldridge to Tennessee before 1802. I believe they were brothers of Catherine Allred Odell, Diana Allred, and Isaac Allred, and uncles of John C. Allred—all of whom remained in Randolph Co., NC. They were closely associated with Deep River and the William Allred, Sr. connection, but they may also have



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### **IV. Descendants of James Allred (b. bef. 1755 - aft. 1810, Montgomery or Randolph Co., NC?)**

So if James Allred of Thomas the Elder is not to be equated with the Blount County, AL reference, his children must be sought in the place to which he actually relocated after selling his land on Mt. Pleasant Creek in Randolph. The 1790 and 1800 censuses suggest that he had many daughters, likely eight in all, and at least three sons. James's wife's name is unknown, but I suspect she was a daughter of Solomon Allred. Some of the daughters, like Rachel, may have married prior to his departure from Randolph County. A few additional ones, like Delilah, may have married in his new location.

Not everyone in the family, particularly the daughters, can be identified in the absence of probate records, but happily, James's presence in the region long after the Solomon Allred family departed, explains the appearance of other Allreds in the Richmond/Montgomery county borderlands - several of whom have rarely if ever been acknowledged by previous researchers. In fact, in my earlier effort, I mistook some of them as belonging to the family of his probable grandson John Allred (1795-1891; wife Amelia Armstrong), in particular Martin J. Allred. It turns out that John Allred, son of Joseph and Rachel Allred, did not have a will or estate file. He deeded his land to his unmarried daughter Rachel J. Allred, probably for caring for himself and his wife in their declining years. Rachel, in turn, gave this land to her sister Martha Little Allred Chappell.<sup>43</sup> So there is no master list of his heirs.<sup>44</sup> A careful look at all of John's census records clarifies that he only had one son, born in the early 1820s. That individual was definitely Isaac Allred (1821-1879; m. Eliza Jane Bostick). Isaac was named after his maternal grandfather, Isaac Armstrong, and he wrote a letter from Richmond County to his uncle James Allred in Randolph which survives in the Joseph Allred Papers at Duke University. Martin belongs elsewhere. (See my paper on Solomon Allred, Sr., particularly his son John.)

Here follow records that I have accumulated on these families. The absence of early Montgomery County documentation means proofs are spotty and a lot of cross referencing is necessary. But note that there are interlocking connections among the persons posited as children and grandchildren here. They were clearly associated with one another. Joseph and Rachel Allred are linked to them by the letter from Martin Williams to James Allred (of Joseph) and by the removal of Joseph's son John to this same border

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been related to the Solomon Allred branch. Their father's name is unknown. It is very likely he died during or just after the Revolutionary War. But it is also possible both their father and their mother could have been Allreds and first cousins to one another.

<sup>43</sup> See Richmond Co., NC Deed Books TT/333 (1888) and BBB/532 (1893).

<sup>44</sup> That is, aside from the will of James Armstrong (1849) in Richmond Co., NC, which gives the heirs of John Allred by Millie Armstrong his sister.

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region where the individuals below resided. Some were intimately associated with him, for they were his maternal relations. And the connection was indeed through Thomas Allred, Sr., just as Rulon Allred claimed so many years ago, but not in the exact manner that he thought.

One final comment is in order. The network of families clustering along the southwest border of Ohio in Preble, Butler, and Darke counties and in neighboring Wayne County, Indiana are clearly linked to this group through their long-distance association with Elizabeth Allred Armstrong, who was almost certainly the youngest daughter in the family. (See her description below for further particulars.) One Midwestern candidate, James Allred (who married in Richmond Co., NC), was born in 1784, so it may have been he who was in the James Sr. household at 10 to 16 years of age in 1800. It is possible that some of these individuals were not children of James Allred, Sr. at all, but other near relations. The ones I feel least certain of are prefaced by a question mark.

- (1) **Rachel Allred** (c. 1773-3 Mar 1856) m. Joseph Allred (15 Sep 1772—27 Feb 1856) of Randolph Co., NC. Children: John Allred (1795-1890, Richmond Co., NC) m. Amelia Armstrong; Mary Allred (1797-1858) m. Daniel Chisholm; Martha Allred (1799-1881) m. James Patterson; Delilah Allred (b. c. 1801) m. Stephen Phillips; Balaam Allred (1803-1857); Peggy Allred (1806-30 Nov 1830); Anna Allred (b. c. 1808) m. Lewis Hayes; James Allred (b. c. 1810 d. aft. 1882); Jonathan Allred (1812-1872) m. Nancy Allen; Rachel Allred (c. 1814-1885) m. Riley Miller; Elvina Allred (c. 1816-c. 1845).
- (2) **Martha Allred** (28 May 1776, NC-12 Aug 1846, Henry Co., IN) m. Joab Raines (12 Mar 1771, NC -15 Jul 1856, Henry Co., IN). They are both buried at old Knightstown Cemetery in Henry County (better known as Old Pioneer Cemetery or Glen Cove Cemetery). Martha's maiden name is known from the biography of a grandson, Hiram Raines, where it is written "Aldred."<sup>45</sup> The family resided variously in Randolph County, NC (1800 Census, p. 339, just after marriage), Wayne Co., IN (1820, p. 226, 1830, p. 81, and 1840, p. 360) and afterwards in Henry County. Joab left a will dated 7 Aug 1849 in Henry County which names only one son, Henry W. Raines, but alludes to other children. Henry Shinn was executor. Children: James Alfred [Allred?] Raines (12 Aug 1800, Guilford Co., NC--10 Feb 1856) m. (1) Catherine DeMoss, (2) 1823 (Wayne Co., IN) Elizabeth Wright; William Raines (21 May 1802--31 Jul 1843, Marion County, IN); Joab Raines (17 Mar 1808, NC--20 Apr

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<sup>45</sup> See *A Portrait and Biographical History of Hendricks County* (Chicago: A. W. Bowen & Co., 1895), 1021-1022. The full name of Hiram's father James Alfred Raines suggests to me that his name might actually have been James Allred Raines, in honor of his maternal grandfather.

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1866, Sullivan Co., MO) m. Nancy Clevenger; Levi Raines (1810 Preble Co., OH-10 Jul 1835, Wayne Co., IN) m. Phebe Reynolds; Martha Raines (31 Oct 1814--27 Apr 1877, Madison Co., IN) m. William W. Williams; Anasuel Joel "Zail" Raines (15 Jun 1817--16 Jan 1879, Madison Co., IN) m. (1) Mary Toms Elliott (2) Cynthia Anne Lower; Henry W. Raines (1820--1868, Madison Co., IN) m. Emily Frederick.

- (3) **Margaret Allred** (b. 11 May 1778, NC -18 Mar 1855, Wayne Co., IN) m. **Thomas Allred** (24 Feb 1781, NC-27 Sep 1860, NC) a bricklayer, according to the 1850 census. Margaret and her husband are buried at the King Cemetery in Richmond, IN. Wayne County is just across the border from Preble, Darke and Butler counties in OH.<sup>46</sup> The biography of a grandson "Thomas A. Hoover," as published in *A Standard History of Kosciusko County, Indiana* (1919), p. 651, states that subject's father, "Andrew Hoover... On February 9, 1837...married Miss Mary Allred, a native of Ohio, though married in Wayne County, Indiana, where her parents were pioneers. She was the daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Allred) Allred, who came from North Carolina to Ohio about 1808, and her father subsequently served in the War of 1812." This statement is important, because it shows that Thomas Allred was originally settled in Ohio and that his wife's maiden name was also Allred. I think it very likely that the connection to James Allred's family is through Margaret and not Thomas.<sup>47</sup> Thomas, I believe, per his early land transactions and the naming of his daughter Lilly Ann, to be a son of John Allred, Jr. and wife Lilly Ann. Thomas did sell property in Butler Co., OH from Wayne Co., IN, where he later

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<sup>46</sup> In fact, both Thomas and Isaac Allred were resident in Wayne Co., IN in 1820. Henry Allred resided there by 1822, when he bought land from Thomas. The common residence of these three heads of household around this time links them closely together. It is possible that Isaac Allred was among the youngest sons of James Allred (he had two born between 1790 and 1800 per the 1800 census) and Thomas's brother-in-law. Henry was possibly Thomas's brother. It is important to note that male Allred descendants in the direct male line of John Allred, Jr. and Lilly Ann (Thomas Allred's parents) should bear the Finley DNA signature, rather than the Allred signature. That is because John Allred, Sr. was a natural son of Samuel Finley. All or nearly all male Allreds who match Finley and cannot prove their descent from John Allred, Sr.'s (d. 1792) younger sons Jonathan and Joseph (whose families are clearly documented) must be descended from John Allred, Jr. and Lilly Ann. Isaac Allred of Wayne Co., IN and his male Allred descendants match the Allred signature, not the Finley signature.

<sup>47</sup> I believe this Thomas was a son of John Allred, Jr. and wife Lilly Ann. See subsequent article on that topic "Which John Was That?." It is important to note that some Ohio descendants believe that this Thomas was Elias's son and that Margaret was actually an Aldridge, rather than an Allred, but that could be because they are confusing her with a different Thomas Allred who accompanied the Nathan Aldridge family to Anderson Co., Tennessee. His wife was Margaret Aldridge, daughter of Nathan. He was never in the Midwest, though he later lived for a while in Blount Co., AL and Knox Co., TN.

Elias Allred's son Thomas was probably the individual born about 1779 who settled in Chatham Co., NC, near Mudlick P.O. He was a veteran of the War of 1812 and a brick mason. His wife was Sally York, whom he married about 15 Apr 1804, according to his pension file. He committed suicide 11 Jan 1860. See "Suicide," *Fayetteville Weekly Observer* (23 Jan 1860), 2.

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settled permanently.<sup>48</sup> He claimed service in the Ohio Militia during the War of 1812 under Capt. John Fleming and Major Lanier. He made an application under warrant number 55-80-8769, although it was rejected. Children (per Thomas's estate settlement<sup>49</sup>) were: William Allred (b. 11 Sep 1806 d. 1839, Wayne Co., IN)<sup>50</sup> m. 5 Mar 1829 (Wayne Co., IN) Rebecca Spivy; Zebedee Allred (15 Nov 1808--2 Dec 1827); Lilly Ann Allred (22 Aug 1821--9 Aug 1873) m. Landon R. Thomas; Louvisa Allred (18 Oct 1813--2 Mar 1848) m. James E. Bryant (1809-1871) (grandchildren, James Bryant, Robert Bryant, John Bryant, Frances Bryant, Lucady Bryant m. Joseph Lacy); Mary or Polly Allred (b. 19 Jan 1818) m. 9 Feb 1837, Alfred Hoover; Miriam Allred (b. 22 Nov 1816) m. John Duke; Lusada Allred (b. 6 Jan 1811 d. 3 Dec 1902, Sherrad, IL) m. 5 Mar 1829 (Wayne Co., IN) John Spivey.

- (4) **Delilah Allred** (2 Jan 1780-9 Nov 1861) m. Stephen Williams (4 May 1774-1 Jun 1830) of Richmond Co., NC. Her obituary in the *Nashville Christian Advocate*, 19 Dec 1861, states she was born in Randolph Co., NC. Had seven sons, four daughters. Henry Williams (28 Jan 1804--30 Jun 1865, Ouachita Pa., LA) m. 12 Oct 1826, Sarah T. Harris; Elizabeth Williams (b. 16 Oct 1805) m. Moses Baldwin (b. 5 Jun 1803)<sup>51</sup>; Wilson Williams (13 Sep 1807-24 Jan 1877, Jackson Parish, LA) m. Ann Crawford; James Williams (b. c. 1810) m. Ann M. ----; Ann T. Williams (b. 27 Aug 1811) m. (1) ---- Harris, (2) Dr. John McLeod, to Jackson Parish, LA; Stephen Williams (29 Jul 1813--10 Jan 1873, Ouachita Pa, LA) m. (1) Jane Thomas, (2) Phebe Faulk; Robert T. Williams (b. c. 1816) m. Nancy ----; Rachel Williams (10 Dec 1816-14 Dec 1861, Holmes Co., MS) m. 1835, Stephen Pankey, Jr. (1815-1857); Lewis C. Williams (b. c. 1820); Martin Williams (b. c. 1821) m. Martha E. McLeod; Delilah Williams (3 Jan 1824--10 May 1894, Lincoln Pa, LA) m. 1849, Martin McLeroy (15 Apr 1798--5 Dec 1876) . Most of these children moved to Jackson and Ouachita parishes, LA.

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<sup>48</sup> This was 33 3/4 acres, part of section 5, township 5, range 2 which he and Margaret sold 15 Dec 1827 (Butler Co., OH Deed Book N, p. 547.) The witnesses were Elijah Lacy and Samuel Butler.

<sup>49</sup> It was filed in the complete record of estates for Wayne County at January Term 1863, beginning p. 587 of that volume. Deceased's land was in the town of Richmond. Zebedee was not mentioned but is buried in the same cemetery with his father and mother and predeceased them.

<sup>50</sup> This is almost certainly the father of two young Allred men, Levi (b. 20 Sep 1829) and Thomas Allred (b. c. 1833), whose mother remarried. The story is that they did not get along with their stepfather and ran away from home. Thomas and Levi both ended up in Winona and Mower counties, MN, though Levi spent a brief time in the Dakota Territory. Levi is buried at Warren Township Cemetery in Winona Co.

<sup>51</sup> According to the Henry T. Williams family Bible, the Baldwins had three children, Gaston Baldwin born 21 Mar 1829 (to Arkansas), Mary Jane Baldwin, b. 1 Sep 1831, and Delilah Baldwin b. 8 Jan 1834 (d. 16 Oct 1884, Jefferson Co., AL; m. Thomas Irion).



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- (5) **James Allred, Jr.** (c. 1784—Nov 1863, Marion Co., IN) m. 6 Nov 1801 (bond, in Richmond Co., NC, bondsman Thomas Bostick) Anne Grantham (b. c. 1785). Note that Moses Grantham sold the land acquired by James Allred, Sr. in 1801, and Anne Grantham almost certainly comes from that family. It is just possible that this younger James is the individual who is actually being referenced in some of the Montgomery and Richmond County, NC records before 1810. This family moved to Preble Co., OH, then to Marion Co., IN. James served allegedly in the War of 1812 from Ohio in Capt. Hawkins's Ohio Militia. He made claim for a bounty land warrant (warrant 55-16-58817), but it was rejected,<sup>52</sup> His first land acquisition in Preble was granted 2 Feb 1816 in Range 2, Township 6, Section 31.<sup>53</sup> His administrator at his death was son Garrison W. Allred who made bond 7 Dec 1863 with George F. Meyers, surety in Marion Co., IN. Children:<sup>54</sup> Charity Allred (26 Dec 1802-13 Oct 1883, Chariton Co., MO) m. 3 Sep 1818 (Preble Co., OH) Isaac Messick; James Grantham Allred (c. 1805, NC - aft 1860, Tippecanoe Co., IN) m. (1) 23 Oct 1828 (Wayne Co., IN) Rebecca Walter, (2) Patsy Runkle Oler; Mary Allred (b. c. 1806-aft 1870, Marion Co., IN) m. 2 Feb 1830 (Preble Co., OH), John Vaneman Hopkins; Ruhama Allred (22 Jun 1810, Montgomery Co., OH-12 Jan 1890), m. 3 Jan 1831 (Butler Co., OH), Henry C. Coleman; Garrison W. Allred (c. 1824-10 Jun 1879, Marion Co., IN) m. Frances Jane Brown; Jane Allred (b. c. 1830, Ohio). There were likely other children, as yet unidentified.<sup>55</sup>
- (6) **Eve Allred** (3 Apr 1788, NC—13 May 1847, Darke Co., OH) m. 2 Jun 1807 (Butler Co., OH), James Emerson (17 Jul 1783, Windsor Co., VT—31 Jan 1853, Darke Co., OH), son of Kendall and Elizabeth Pratt Emerson. Eve's husband was the brother of

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<sup>52</sup> See Bounty Land Warrants Application Index at [Fold3.com](http://Fold3.com).

<sup>53</sup> Ellen T. Berry and David A. Berry, *Early Ohio Settlers: Purchasers of Land in Southwestern Ohio, 1800-1840* (1986), 5.

<sup>54</sup> Possibly, another child might have been Andrew Jackson Allred of Tazewell and later Warren Co., IL. He was born about 1813 in Ohio and married Hannah Gibson, 15 May 1836 in Crawfordsville, Montgomery Co., IN. James lived in Marion Co., just a few miles east of Crawfordsville. Their marriage is mentioned in the Crawfordsville, IN newspaper.

<sup>55</sup> No definitive list of his heirs, has been found, though I have searched through the probate records of Marion County and the deeds. There is clearly a big gap in the list we have. His census record in 1820 (Summers Twp, Preble Co., OH, p. 98) shows one male under 10, one male 10 to 15, 3 females under 10 and two females 10 to 16. His 1830 census record (Summers Twp, Preble Co., OH, p. 343) shows one male under 5, one male 5 to 10, one male 15 to 20, two females 5 to 10, one female 10 to 15, one female 15 to 20. He is described as aged 40 to 50 and his wife, 30 to 40. It is interesting that Hiram and Darius (Arris?) Lunsford appear in the 1820 census very close to James Allred. This is a name I readily recognize from Richmond Co., NC. There was also an Elias Lunsford resident in Randolph County in 1800.

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Isaac Allred's wife (see below). Eve and her husband are buried at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Hollansburg, OH. From the 1880 census records of some of her children, we can be certain she was born in North Carolina. It is likely she came with her potential brother James Allred and her brother-in-law, Thomas Allred, along with several cousins. Eve is an important link in the argument connecting these siblings because her son John Pratt Emerson went back to North Carolina before 1850 to live with Elizabeth Allred Armstrong, after the latter's husband died in 1849. Elizabeth was still living with his family in 1870. The only likely reason I believe this could have happened is that Eve and Elizabeth were probably sisters.

Her children were: Edward Emerson; John Pratt Emerson (1827, OH—1910, Montgomery Co., NC) m. Flora Alice Phillips; Annie Emerson m. Eli Hunt; George Washington Emerson; William Henry Emerson (1808—1877, Darke Co., OH) m. Catherine Buckingham; Elizabeth Emerson (1816-1903) m. Thomas Stapleton; Diadem Emerson (b. c. 1821) m. Samuel J. Rich; James Emerson (c. 1823-1874, Madison Co., OH) m. Mary Ann Conway; Winthrop Milton Emerson (b. 6 Apr 1829) m. Elizabeth Jane Cook.

- (7) **Elizabeth Allred** (c. 1790 - aft 1870, Montgomery Co., NC) m. James Armstrong (d. 19 Mar 1849), son of Isaac Armstrong of Richmond Co., NC. Her identity as an Allred is based on the testimony of Lively Ussery, (b. c. 1770) widow of Peter Ussery, of Marshall Co., TN in Jan 1854. When asked if she remembered whom Armstrong married, she stated, "Yes, perfectly well, he married Elizabeth Allread." William Ussery of McNairy Co., TN made a similar statement when deposed in this case.<sup>56</sup> Note that one John Ussery was a neighbor to the land James Allred purchased in Richmond Co. in 1801. The Armstrongs were not likely married until the 1820s, for James Armstrong appears single in the Richmond County census taken that year (p. 198). Ann T. McLeod, daughter of Stephen Williams and wife Delilah (nee Allred?) also gave testimony, stating that she (Ann) frequented the Armstrong home and was there around the time he made his will.

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<sup>56</sup> See the statements of these two witnesses along with many others in James Armstrong's estate file, Richmond Co, N.C. Partially abstracted by Myrtle Bridges in *Estate Records, Richmond County, North Carolina, 1772-1933. Vol. 1: Adams through Harbert* (2001), 14-19. They were taken in the case *Richard Jones et al v. Elizabeth Armstrong et al*. I also examined the minute docket of Richmond County Superior Court for the years during which the case was heard from 1853 to 1856 (several notations appeared) and looked through corresponding civil action papers (which contained no additional relevant documents).

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Of considerable interest is a deed which directly connects James Armstrong to Joseph Allred, husband of Rachel Allred. One of the early land acquisitions made by John Allred, son of Joseph, when he first came to the Pee Dee was preserved in the family and finally recorded (or perhaps re-recorded due to the loss of deed books in the courthouse fires) in September of 1890.<sup>57</sup> It is dated 2 Jan 1836 and involves 300 acres in Richmond and Montgomery counties on Christopher Chappell's Spring Branch, conveyed by Brittain Chappell, executor of Christopher Chappell, to John Allred, adjoining John Chappell, Brittain Chappell, James Armstrong, John Crouch, and Joseph Gad. It was witnessed by James Armstrong and Joseph Allred. Joseph was, of course, resident in Randolph County, but apparently visiting his son and possible other kin in that community at the time.

Elizabeth Armstrong and her husband had no children, and there seems to have been a struggle over James's estate (which was sizeable), based on the terms of his will.<sup>58</sup> It provided his widow with absolute title (as opposed to a mere life estate) to a portion of his property. The aforementioned testimony was gathered as part of that case. James's natural heirs, including John Allred, son of Joseph and Rachel Allred, who had married James Armstrong's sister Amelia Armstrong, sued jointly, contesting the validity of the will.<sup>59</sup> Although the courts repeatedly reaffirmed the document, the matter was not resolved until c. 1858 in the Richmond County Court of Equity. One of the people summoned to give testimony was Jane Allred, almost certainly the widow of John Allred (of John of Solomon). The details of her testimony are not contained in James Armstrong's estate file.

That estate also reflects James Armstrong's business dealings with other Allreds in this neighborhood. He had an old book account on John Allred, Sr. (of John of Solomon) and notes on John's sons C. J. Allred and Duncan Allred among his papers.

In 1850, Elizabeth Armstrong lived in Richmond County with a young man named John Emerson, born in Ohio. By 1860, Elizabeth Armstrong had removed from Richmond County to nearby Rush's Mills in neighboring Montgomery Co., NC. With her lived an overseer J. J. Richardson and Bartlett Davis (aged 40) and his wife Mary (aged 35), with their son Thomas (aged 8). It is not known whether the

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<sup>57</sup> See Montgomery Co., NC Deed Book 32, p. 444.

<sup>58</sup> The will is given in Myrtle N. Bridges, *Final Words: 772 Original Wills by Richmond County, North Carolina Testators, 1779-1915* (2005), 5-6. The wills specifies the children of John Allred (b. 1795), son of Joseph as Isaac, Rachel, Elizabeth, and Martha Little Allred. These seem to be the only surviving children of John and Amelia (Armstrong) Allred.

<sup>59</sup> The John Allred family actually lived next door to James Armstrong and wife per the 1850 census of Richmond Co., NC.

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Davises were related to Elizabeth, but it is possible. Elizabeth's estate is valued at \$3,000 in land and \$25,000 in personal property (probably slaves).

By 1870, Elizabeth is living with John Pratt Emerson (2 Feb 1827, OH—13 May 1910) and his wife Flora Alice Phillips (1831-1917), daughter of the Rev. Eli Phillips, in Rocky Springs Township, Montgomery Co., NC. Elizabeth's age is grossly exaggerated at 96. But John is the same person who resided with her in 1850. Former Allred and Armstrong slaves live nearby, and Emerson appears with \$3500 worth of real estate. The Emersons are buried at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church in Richmond Co., NC.

It turns out that John P. Emerson is a very important element in this story. He is widely believed to have been the son of James Emerson (17 Jul 1783, Reading, MA -- 31 Mar 1853, Hollansburg, Darke Co., OH) and Eve Allred (3 Apr 1788, N.C.<sup>60</sup> -- 13 May 1847, Darke Co., OH) who were married 2 Jun 1807 in Butler Co., OH. Their tombstones are legible at Cedar Grove Cemetery near Hollansburg. I believe this to be correct, and I believe that Eve was almost certainly a member of this Allred family. It is likely she went to Ohio with a number of her siblings and other close relatives, particularly James Allred who settled in nearby Preble Co. initially and Isaac Allred who married James Emerson's sister in Butler County. It is likely the family sent John P. Emerson back to North Carolina to care for his aunt and that, in return, she allowed him to become her heir. The Civil War may have interrupted this arrangement temporarily. But Emerson did buy 500 acres of land in his own right in Montgomery Co. on Silver Run from Murdock B. McRae (who, by the way drew up the will of James Armstrong) in 1855. The land is described as adjoining John Allred's patent (evidently land patented by John Allred son of Solomon Allred, Sr. in 1773). Emerson sold a small portion of this land to J. T. Allred, son of Isaac Allred and grandson of John Allred (of Joseph) and Amelia Armstrong (Montgomery Co., NC Deed Book 47, p. 383).

There are no deed records in either Richmond or Montgomery Counties which show Elizabeth Allred conveying property. Neither is there any indication that she died with a will or an estate. If such could be found, her heirs would have been her siblings and their children or grandchildren. We could then potentially solidify this family further. Perhaps further litigation needs to be investigated in either Montgomery or Richmond County to discover whether she was dispossessed of her property and, possibly, who her natural heirs were. It may be, however, that

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<sup>60</sup> Eve Allred's birthplace cannot be directly observed in the census, since she died in 1847, but several of her children, including John Pratt Emerson, in the 1880 census, identify their mother's place of birth as North Carolina.



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John D. Emerson obtained her property in exchange for caring for her in her later years, either with her consent or through a legal maneuver.

- (8) **Mary Allred** (c. 1788/1790, NC – abt. 1874, Morgan Co., IN) m. Allen Harbert (23 Jul 1786, Culpeper Co., VA—3 Sep 1865 Marion Co., IN; bur. Bethel Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN).<sup>61</sup> Her position here is suggested by two genetic matches to descendants discovered in an Allred genetic cluster within my paternal uncle's DNA results. Those matches are associated with many descendants of Thomas Allred, Sr.'s brother William, who mostly ended up in Utah and surrounding states. There is also a shared match with a descendant of Martha Allred Raines. Furthermore, I quickly discovered that the earliest appearance of Allen Harbert as a head of household was in the northern section of Richmond Co., NC. His marriage to Mary would have taken place around 1805 in that county, about the same time James Allred was present there. Here follows a sequence of records for this family:

1810 Census, Richmond Co., NC, p. 201 (next to Charles Harbert, Enoch Stringfellow, and William Stringfellow)—*There are no deeds relating to Allen Harbert, just to Charles, who lived on Mountain Creek near Stringfellow, Leverett, and the Baldwin family.*

Allan Harbert

1 M 26/45

1 F 16/26

1 M < 10

24 Dec 1810 (Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 12:36) Allen Herbert witnessed a deed by which his brother-in-law, Thomas Allred, was selling land on Sandy Creek to Joshua Hobson adj. Brower and Robert Field, along with William York and Adam Brower. [This must have been the Allred family rendezvous just before heading west together, as Herbert was living in Richmond Co. earlier that year.]

11 May 1829—General Land Office issued a warrant to Allen Harbert of Fayette Co., IN for 80 acres in the W half of the SE quarter of Section 1 in Twp 16 of Range 2 in the lands offered at Indanapolis District.

1830 Census, Washington Twp, Wayne Co., IN, p. 77

Allen Herbert [There was also an older Allen Herbert in this district.]

1 M 40/50	[Allen]	1 F 30/40	[Mary, Sr.]
1 M 15/20	[William H.]	1 F 15/20	[Annis]
1 M 10/15	[James]	1 F 10/15	[Esther]
1 M 5/10	[John]	1 F 5/10	[Anna]

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<sup>61</sup> Mary is noted on her husband's tombstone as having died in the 84th year of her age, but no date of death is given.

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1 M <5                      [Daniel]                      1 F < 5                      [Mary]

30 Mar 1837—General Land Office issued a warrant to Allen Harbert of Marion Co., IN 40 acres, the SE quarter of the NE quarter of Section 17 in Twp 18N of Range 1 W in the Crawfordsville District.

1840 Census, Pike Twp, Marion Co., IN, p. 261, p. 261

Allen Herbert

1 M 50/60	[Allen]	1 F 50/60	[Mary, Sr.]
1 M 20/30	[James?] <sup>62</sup>	1 F 20/30	[Esther or Anna?]
1 M 15/20	[John]	1 F 10/15	[Mary]
1 M 10/15	[Daniel or Franklin?]	1 F 5/10	[Elizabeth J.?]
1 M 5/10	[James, Jr.]		

1850 Census of Jackson Twp, Cass Co., IN, p. 483a

85/76	Allen Hurbert	63	farmer \$500RE	VA
	Mary	40		NC
	Mary	23		IN
	Daniel	20		IN
	James	16		IN

1860 Census of Jackson Twp, Cass Co., IN, p.

1114/1098	Allen Harbert	73	ret. Farmer \$600 RE/	Culpeper Co, VA
	Mary	70	\$700 PE	Randolph Co., NC
	Mary	33		Wayne Co., IN
	Elizabeth Jane	24		Marion Co., IN

1870 Census of Pike Twp, Marion Co., IN, p. 465A

23/23	John Harbert	48	Farmer 16,000RE	Indiana
	Jane	49	keeping house	Ohio
	Rolly	24 fe		Indiana
	Marion	23 m	farmer	Indiana
	Mary	78		NC

Mary Allred's maiden name is proven by her son Franklin Harbert's second marriage license in Indiana in 1901 ("Aldred") and also by her daughter Anna Rodibaugh's death certificate ("Alread") in 1905. Furthermore, even though she was living with her husband in Richmond Co., NC in 1810, the 1860 census specifies that Mary was born specifically in Randolph Co., NC. Allen and Mary's children included: William H. Harbert (10 Sep 1810, NC—21 Apr 1869, Jefferson Co., KS) m. (1) 8 Jan 1835 (Marion Co., IN), Mary Jane Chapman, (2) 30 Dec 1845 (Miami Co., IN), Sarah

<sup>62</sup> James was married first in 1835, and then a second time in 1845. Was the younger James a child by his first wife?

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McHenry (1825–1915); Annis Harbert (b. c. 1814, OH) m. 10 May 1832 (Marion Co., IN) John Ramsey (b. c. 1811), later of Cass Co.; James Harbert (b. c. 1818, Ohio) m. 13 Nov 1834 (Marion Co., IN) Sarah Rodebaugh (children, Seth, b. 1837; Mary A. b. 1839); John Harbert (b. 27 Oct 1820 d. 2 Oct 1878, Marion Co., IN) m. 23 Nov 1843 (Marion Co., IN), Jane Hollingsworth; Esther Harbert (b. c. 14 Apr 1818/1820—d. 23 May 1898, bur. Bethel Cem., Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN) m. 24 Nov 1842 (Marion Co., IN) Reuben Staton (13 Sep 1822—30 Aug 1889); Anna Harbert (13 Feb 1824, Wayne Co., IN—13 Feb 1905, Galveston, Cass Co., IN) m. 1845 (Marion Co., IN) Joseph Rodibaugh (1826—1865); Enoch D. Harbert [?; was living with John Harbert in 1850] (b. c. 1828 d. 1899, Indianapolis, IN; a butcher) m. 17 May 1856 (Marion Co., IN), Mary Archer; Franklin Harbert (c. 1831, Wayne Co., IN--2 Jun 1904, Washington, Starke Co., IN) m. (1) Amanda ---- ; (2) 21 Jan 1901 (Donaldson, IN), Mary Miller.

- (9) (?) **Isaac Allred** (c. 1793--28 Sep 1834, buried along Big Miami River, Hamilton Co., OH) m. 26 Sep 1815 (Butler Co., OH), Lucy Emerson (1797--25 Jul 1862, Butler Co., OH), daughter of Kendall and Elizabeth Pratt Emerson. Isaac is connected to Eve Allred because they married into the same Emerson family. I suspect he belongs in the James Allred family because of that fact, because of their joint migration to Ohio, and because James Allred, Sr. did have two males born between 1790 and 1800 in his 1800 census entry. There are also relevant atDNA matches between Isaac's descendants and my family in a broader Allred context. Isaac reportedly served in the War of 1812 under Captains John Fleming and Nesbit, and Major Rice of the Ohio volunteers and filed an application for a bounty land warrant (Warrant 55-160-37280) which was rejected.<sup>63</sup> Isaac is recorded as living in Wayne Co., IN in 1820.<sup>64</sup> By 1830, he was in Darke Co., OH.<sup>65</sup> Children: Stephen William<sup>66</sup> Allred (b. 12 Jan 1817 d. 27 Oct 1892, Darke Co. OH) m. 13 Jul 1843 (Butler Co., OH), Martha A. Vanliew (1822-1898); Frederick Allred (25 Jan 1819--11 Mar 1893, Darke Co.,

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<sup>63</sup> The "S.W. Allread" entry in Beers's *History of Darke County Ohio* (1880), p. 727 states subject's father Isaac was born in Maryland but came to North Carolina with his parents and remained there until he was 18, whereupon he moved to Butler Co., served in the War of 1812, and had a family of three sons and four daughters. Most of this information, except the birthplace in Maryland conforms to what we know.

<sup>64</sup> In that year, he is shown as having two males under 10 years of age and one female under 10 in his household (p. 178).

<sup>65</sup> In 1830, Isaac's census entry shows one male under 5, two males 10 to 15, one female under 5, two females 5 to 10. Both he and his wife are 30 to 40 years of age (p. 28). These two census entries accord relatively well with the list of children generally ascribed to him.

<sup>66</sup> It is a bit of a wild thought, but is there any chance this child was named for Stephen Williams, husband of Delilah Allred?

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OH) m. Nancy Cates (1824-1890); Elizabeth Allred (c. 1820-aft 1880, Butler Co., OH) m. 5 Apr 1840 (Butler Co., OH), George Yeargan; Isaac C. Allred (20 Jul 1826, d. 2 Jul 1876)<sup>67</sup> m. 11 Oct 1855 (Darke Co., OH) Christina Howk (1836-1867); Elzina Allred (1828-1910) m. 9 Nov 1848 (Butler Co., OH), William Morton; Emerson Allred (b. 1833 d. 31 Jan 1862) m. 14 Aug 1857 (Darke Co., OH), Esther Brown.

- (10) **Male Allred** (b. 1790/1800). Appears in the 1800 census. I have a suspicion he might be the **Thomas Allred** (b. 1798, NC d. 1850/60) who m. c. 1823, Lavinia Morris (b. c. 1805 d. aft. 1860, Madison Co., IL)<sup>68</sup> and settled in Bond Co., IL. They were apparently in Tennessee around 1830, but by 1840 they were in Bond Co. and remained ever after. If the James Allred who is in Randolph Co. again in 1810 is the same as the James who had spent time in Richmond and Montgomery counties the preceding decade, there is a young man 10 to 16 in his household who could be this Thomas. A Thomas Allred does appear in the 1815 tax list of Randolph County as a single male without land. In 1816, Thomas Allred was accused of an assault upon John Amick in criminal action papers. It is not certain which Thomas this is. While this could not be James Allred's son Thomas, who had already moved to Ohio, it could be the Thomas Allred who served in the War of 1812 from Chatham Co. (of Elias; wife Sally York [m. 1804]) as a substitute and later settled there. It could also be this Thomas. Some atDNA matching lends credence to the supposition. And it would make sense for James to honor his father in the naming of at least one of his sons. These records have been found specifically for Thomas Allred:

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<sup>67</sup> The "James I. Allred" entry in *The Biographical History of Darke Co., OH* (1900), p. 382-383 identifies its subject's father as Isaac C. Allred (1826-1876). It names his grandfather Henry Allred and calls him one of the early settlers of Butler County where he located about 1820. I have found nothing specific to corroborate the claim. Most genealogists seem to place Isaac C. Allred with Isaac, Sr, but it could be that he does belong with Henry Allred of this list instead. James I. Allred's great-grandfather is pegged by the biography as William Allred, a hero of the Revolution who fought with General Wayne -- seemingly connecting this family with a key figure in the early history of Ohio, "Mad" Anthony Wayne. This seems ludicrous.

<sup>68</sup> Her mother or grandmother Sarah Morris (b. c. 1754, VA) lived with this family in 1850. An Edward Morris (b. c. 1784, VA d. 17 Sep 1858, Madison Co., IL) and wife Margery G. (b. 1790, VA d. 2 Apr 1855) whose younger children were born in Tennessee also lived in this county in 1850. A son, Rodney C. Morris (b. c. 1822, TN) is nearby. His name was actually Rodiville Clinton Morris (12 Jun 1820—14 Aug 1902, Madison Co., VA; m. Arminda Hamilton). Edward Morris may have lived in Carter Co., TN before he came to Illinois, and that Edward did have an older woman in his household in 1830 aged 70/80 who could have been Sarah. In 1840, he lived in St. Clair Co., IL. In 1850, he was in Bond Co. But by 1860, like many of the Allreds, his family had removed to Madison Co. These census records are all consistent with one another, which begs the question whether Thomas Allred was also in Carter Co. around 1830.

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8 Nov 1837 (Bond Co., IL Deed Book D:322) Seth Blanchard and wife Susan Elizabeth to Thomas Allred, all of Bond Co., for \$25, Lot 31 in Greenville<sup>69</sup> per the new survey of the old town of Greenville. Acknowledged.

1840 Census of Bond Co., IL, p. 115

Thomas Allred

1 M < 5	2 F < 5
2 M 5/10	1 F 5/10
2 M 10/15	1 F 10/15
1 M 40/50	1 F 15/20
	1 F 30/40

4 Mar 1854 (Bond Co., IL Deed Book N:578) Thomas Alred and his wife Levina Alred to William H. McEntire, for \$100, Lot 31 in the twon of Greenville. w/ Sarah Allred.

His children were: **Thomas T. Allred** (b. c. 1828, TN) m. 10 May 1866 (Montgomery Co., IL), Hannah E. Jenkins; **Elizabeth Allred** (30 Apr 1831, TN—18 Mar 1909, Louisville, KY) m. James Bozza, Sr. (1827-1903); **Aaron William Allred** (14 Feb 1832, Bond Co., IL—31 Aug 1921, Madison Co., IL) m. Sarah J. McKenzie; **Elijah M. Allred** (b. 17 May 1833—d. 16 Mar 1906, Bond CO., IL); **Andrew Jackson Allred** (Feb 1834, IL—18 Aug 1902, Bond Co., IL) m. 19 May 1851 (Bond Co., IL) Sarah Hopton, (2) 24 Apr 1866 (Bond Co., IL) Julia A. Reavis, (3) Sarah Louise Ellis; **Mary Ann Allred** (b. c. 1836, IL) m. 19 Jan 1854, Madison Co., IL, Nathaniel D. Smith; **Margaret Allred** (b. c. 1837, IL d. 19 Sep 1922, Alton, Madison Co., IL) m. (1) 13 Aug 1857 (Madison Co., IL), John T. Baird, (2) John R. Burnett, (3) 9 Sep 1895 (Madison Co., IL), Frederick Koy.

### IV. atDNA Evidence

I end with a brief discussion of how genetic information may inform the questions explored in this piece. When I first began to study my Allred ancestors, I came into contact with a cousin, descended from William Manly Routh and Martha J. Allred Routh, who had several photographs of our common forebears. They had been kept over the decades in Martha's old Bible. Martha was a daughter of Jonathan Allred and granddaughter of Joseph and Rachel Allred. Folks had always pointed out how much my father and I resembled one another and also my great-uncle William Mitchell Cates, Jr.

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<sup>69</sup> The Allreds may have operated a business out of their Greenville home. An old history of Bond County refers to the delicious ginger cakes that "Old Mother Allred" used to prepare and many older people remembered.

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who was a grandson of Martha Allred Routh. I noticed a lot of Allred tendencies in our family's appearance, particularly the long face, broad and flattened chin, prominent ears, and deep-set eyes. They are evident, for example, in the picture of my great-great aunt Virginia Routh Underwood, also from that collection of photos. There was also a photo of Jonathan Allred and his wife Nancy Allen and one of a family group, likely to be the Jonathan Allred children. I was not surprised, then, to learn from my father's atDNA results at FamilyTreeDNA and Ancestry.com, that he had many Allred genetic cousins. A few of them descend from the sisters of Joseph Allred in Tennessee: Elizabeth Allred Horner, Barbara Allred York, and Susannah Allred Geren. That was expected.

But there was a second group of matches as well, and they were interlocking or triangulated. That is to say, they not only matched my father but also one another, or at least had matches in common with one another. To date, I have found eight of them on Ancestry and two on FamilyTreeDNA. They all descend from Allreds who affiliated with the Mormon Church and later moved to Utah. All claim descent from William Allred and Elizabeth Thrasher, and thence to Thomas Allred, Sr. (d. 1810). Until now, I didn't know how to explain them. The connection to Thomas Allred through John Allred (d. 1792) would not be very strong. After all, Thomas Allred was John's maternal uncle. John's father was apparently Samuel Finley. Yet these matches were every bit as prominent as the ones through John Allred's (d. 1792) daughters.<sup>70</sup>

There is yet another, so far unexplained, set of Allred atDNA matches. I have found six or seven individuals with specified connections to Allreds through AncestryDNA, and a much larger number within the same circle who have not posted family trees or developed their trees sufficiently to show a lineage back to an Allred forebear. Once again, they are all triangulated, that is, they match one another or have a significant number of other matches-in-common, but there is minimal overlap with the other clusters I have mentioned above. At least six of them go back either to Rachel Allred Loooper (1795-1874) of Overton Co., TN, or to John Allred (b. c. 1772; m. 1806 in Grainger Co., TN, Phoebe Thompson) of Overton Co., TN and Newton Co., AR. A fifth match who fits into this cluster genetically descends from Ruhama Clark Allred (1806-1865) m. William Buck Phillips. She is generally said to be a daughter of Francis Allred who married Rachel, also

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<sup>70</sup> I should note here that this particular cluster of matches triangulate with a set of descendants of the Tobias Long family of Randolph County, NC, who also match one another. I have no known Long ancestors. So these strong matches suggest to me that perhaps Thomas Allred, Sr.'s first wife may have been a Long. It is understood now that his second wife, Elizabeth, was almost certainly a Julian widow and not a Twiggs. She was not the mother of his older children, such as James, Sr., who may have been among the very oldest. Though I doubt that Tobias Long himself was the father of Thomas Allred's wife, it may be that he had a sister who married Thomas or that one of Tobias's nieces, daughter of his brother John Long of Cecil Co., MD, married Thomas Allred, Sr. as his first wife. John Long did have a daughter named Rachel, for example.

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*Various members of my Allred family. Top, left to right: Martha Jane Allred Routh, daughter of Jonathan (author's great-great grandmother); probable group portrait of children of Jonathan and Nancy Allred; John C. Chisholm, son of Mary Allred Chisholm (note resemblance to his uncle Jonathan Allred). Bottom, left to right: Virginia Routh Underwood (author's great-great aunt); Ednora Routh Cates (author's great-grandmother); William Mitchell Cates, Jr. (author's great-uncle).*



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of Overton Co. This Francis was almost certainly a son of Theophilus Allred, named for his maternal grandfather, Francis Cheney. The current standard history of the Allred clan places these individuals under Solomon Allred (d. 1782) of Richmond Co., NC. The John who married Phebe Thompson is generally identified as his son. However, as I have shown, there was a much older John Allred associated with Solomon's first years in Anson (later Richmond) Co., NC, who I believe to be his son. John who married Phebe Thompson must be a grandson, if he is descended from Solomon, which I think very likely.<sup>71</sup>

I have yet to figure out what is going on with this group of matches. Do I actually have a closer connection through Rachel with the Solomon group? Or are the matches explicable merely through the more distant relationship between Thomas and his brother Solomon, or between John (d. 1792) and his uncle Solomon? Or is it possible that the wife of James Allred, Sr. was a daughter of Solomon Allred, Sr.? The Christian name Rachel, for example, is deeply associated with the descendants of Solomon. Such an early cousin marriage would also explain James's move toward Richmond County around 1800, where Solomon's family was then living. Furthermore, a sequence of cousin marriages (rather than just one) would go far toward explaining the issues with physical and mental health in the Joseph Allred clan. Only time and further research (particularly genetic research, given the dearth of Overton County records) will sort out these questions.

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<sup>71</sup> In fact, he is probably the son of Solomon Allred, Jr. (1740/50-c. 1835, Overton Co., TN).