

The WOLFE Line

The purpose of this report is to collect, organize and share my present knowledge about one line of descent in the family of my daughter-in-law. For this reason, collateral lines are not emphasized. I'm sharing this information in the hope of encouraging further research, yielding additions, corrections and more accurate genealogy. Please help me improve this.

1. **GEORGE WOLF.** Letters of Administration were granted to John Clement on the estate of George Wolf on 16 Sept. 1833.¹ A detailed inventory is given. The estate was not settled until 11 [Aug?] 1855. The widow is mentioned and a John Wolf but there is no list of heirs or distribution.

This name appears as Lemuel Wolf in Horace Gilbert's unpublished study of the Spartanburg County census records.. Each other Wolfe household in this census is headed by a male marked by Gilbert as son of Lemuel. These include Noah and Adeline, below; Leland, age 20 (1830 - 186?, Civil War) and Elizabeth, age 20; Henry, age 32, and Martha, age 30; John F., age 24 and Susanna, age 24. Although, at the time of his compilation, Gilbert felt the father of this family was named Lemuel, he has later corrected that identification in e-mail to me (4 Aug. 1999) and agrees that the name should be George. The microfilm of the 1850 census shows:

978	L. P. Wolf	26 m.
	Widow Wolf	54 f..
	Sally Wolf	18 f
	P. K. Wolf	20 f. [!]
	Elizabeth	½ f..
	E. C. Wolf	17 f.
	J. F. Wolf	16 m.
	Elizabeth Wolfe	1/2 f wd. of Lemuel

The comment about being the widow of Lemuel should be with the older Elizabeth.

Dill has abstracted certain Spartanburg County deeds which show some of the relationships in this family. In Deed Book AA, p. 227-230, date 6 Oct. 1846, is the record of a sale by Caleb Kimbrell and wife Mahala to Henry Wolf of their interest in two tracts of land which had belonged to George Wolf, late of Spartanburg County, decd. His widow still resided on the 250 acre tract and the other was 152 acres. They sold "our right and interest being that to which we are Entitled as one of the Eight children of George Wolf" to Henry Wolf in exchange for 60 acres they had

¹ Spartanburg County Probate Judge Estate Papers, no. 2189. (Microfilm, Spartanburg County Library)

obtained from Henry Wolf. Noah Wolf and L. P. Wolf were witnesses and Zachariah Wolf was a neighbor. Mahala Kimbrell released her dower on 22 Oct. 1847.

In Deed Book BB, pp. 57-58, dated 9 Oct. 1847, is the record of a deed from Noah Wolf of Spartanburgh Dist. to Leml. P. Wolf, for \$1 50, describing the same two lots, “my interest being that to which I am entitled as one of the children or heirs at law of George Wolf deceased.” Dower was released by Jane Wolf on 4 Oct. 1850.

In Deed Book BB, pp. 131-133, dated 25 Oct. 1850, is the record of a deed from Perry D. Gilbert and wife Emaline Gilbert of Spartanburg District, for \$150, to Lemuel Pinckney Wolf of Spartanburg Dist, “all of our interest and title of, in or to all the lands of which belonged to George Wolf late of Spartanburg Dist.” describing the same two tracts and stating “Emeline Gilbert formerly Emaline Wolf, being one of the eight children of George Wolf.” She released her dower on 6 Jan. 1851. John F. Wolf and Leland Wolf were witnesses.

John F. Wolf filed petition to settle the estate of Elizabeth Wolf “lately departed this life” on 14 April 1863. She had “died on or about the 13th day of April last” according to a petition for sale filed 15 May 1863. John F. Wolfe named the heirs as Noah Wolf, Leland Wolf, Henry Wolf, Pinckney Wolf, Emeline Gilbert, Sarah Coggins and husband Stephen Coggins, and Mahala Kimbrell with husband Caleb Kimbrell. On 30 Jan 1864, Noah Wolf, S. E. Copggen and Caleb Kimbrell each received \$215 from the estate.²

It has been suggested by Norma Golightly Wilson, merely as a possibility, that this George Wolfe was a son of a George Wolf, the elder, who wrote his will in Laurens County, SC, in 1806. The will was probated in 1816 and there are some 80 pages in the estate record. The children of George Wolf and his wife Nancy were George, Mary R., Caroline, Sarah, Robert and John. Caroline, John, Robert and Sarah were minors when their father died. Mary R. Wolf married Ransom Golightly before July, 1817, and they are the great-great grandparents of Norma Golightly Wilson. Ransom Golightly was born in Spartanburg County and lived near Fairforest before he married and lived in Laurens County.³ A query by Shirley Wagstaff, of Bandon, OR, says that George Gottlieb Wolf was born in Germany, left a 100 page estate settlement in Laurens County in 1816, and was married twice with a first wife named Sarah.⁴

Elizabeth Wolf, age 65, is listed with Leland, age 30, Sarah J., age 8, Eliza A., 5, and William P., age 3, in the 1860 census of Spartanburg County.⁵ Some members of this family attended the New Prospect Baptist Church. Emaline, Noah and

² Spartanburg County Probate Judge Estate Papers, no. 2 189 [Microfilm, Spartanburg County Library]

³ Wilson, Norma Golightly, gwilson@our-town.com, two posts on genforum.com, 3 July and 19 Nov. 1999.

⁴ Pinckney District Chapter, SCGS, Quarterly, Vol. 19, No. 3 (Sept. 1995), p. 111.

⁵ Compiled by Mary Mills Emory and Lorene Burton Ambrose.

Henry joined in Feb. 1840. Elizabeth Wolf joined in July, 1840. Pinkney joined in Oct. 1843 and Lemuel was baptized at that time. In Jan., 1848, there was a church case against N. Wolf for fighting and he was “unfellowshipped”.⁶

The presumed family looks like this: (Gilbert, e-mail, 4 Aug. 1999, gives the maiden surname Burnette, but no source. Since this is also the name given below for the wife of Leland Wolfe, below, the possibility of confusion must be considered):

Children of George and Elizabeth Wolfe

- i. Noah Wolfe, b. ca. 1815
- ii. Henry Wolfe, b. ca. 1818
- iii. Elizabeth Wolfe, b. 9 Feb. 1819, d. 12 Feb. 1910
[She is listed, with these dates, by Horace Gilbert in his History of the Gilbert Family where she is said to be the daughter of Lemuel and Elizabeth Wolfe, and wife of (1) Perry Duncan Gilbert and (2) Edmond Cooley, Jr.
- iv. John F. Wolfe, b. ca. 1826⁷
- v. Leland Wolfe, b. 21 Oct. 1829, d. 24 Nov. 1863, m. Elizabeth Ann Burnette, b. 26 May 1833.⁸

2. **NOAH WOLFE** is suggested as the father of Emily Harriet Wolfe, wife of James Matthew Seay, on a pedigree chart of Shirley Grace Settle which was prepared for me by Lorene Barnett. The family of Noah Wolf is listed in the 1840 census of Spartanburg County as 00001 10001 [Gilbert, 1974]. The connection to Noah Wolfe appears to be supported by the following census records.

The 1850 census of Spartanburg County lists the family (#978) of Noah Wolfe as: [I have verified the order of the names and ages on the microfilm]

Noah Wolfe	35, male, farmer
Jane	13, female
Adeline	33, female
Harriet	11, female
Margaret Ann	9, female

This census transcription may be in error because the deed quoted earlier indicates that his wife was Jane.

⁶ Vehorn, Larry, New Prospect (SC) Baptist Church Minutes, 1820-1855, & Cemetery Survey (Southern Historical Press, Greenville, SC, 1999).

⁷ He is listed as age 32 in the 1860 census of Spartanburg County, SC, (compiled by Mary Mills Emory and Lorene Burton Ambrose)

⁸ The information on Leland Wolfe is from a pedigree chart compiled by Shirley Wagstaff, P. O. Box Bandon, Oregon, printed in Pinckney District Chapter, SCGS, Quarterly, Vol. 17, No. 2, (Fall 1993), p. 103.

Langdon reports an implication of the marriage of Harriet or E. H. Wolf to a Seay from Spartanburg County estate record 2165 and, from the same estate record, that Adeline L. Wolf m. a Bishop, Margaret A. Wolf m. a Bishop, and Martha Elizabeth Wolf m. a Cantrell by about 1870.

Horace Gilbert (e-mail to Dan W. Olds, 4 Aug. 1999) reports the following : “Noah Wolfe, b. 1815, Sptbg Co., SC, (son of George Wolfe and Elizabeth Burnett) m. Nov. 9, 1862, in Spbtg. Co., SC, by Elias Wall, Esq., Lucinda Gilbert, b. Aug. 1831, Sptbg. Co., SC, (daughter of Isaac Gilbert and Sarah “Bethsheba” Horton) d. after 1900, Campobello Twp, Sptbg. Co., SC. Noah died 1880-1900, Sptbg. Co., SC. Carolina Spartan, dated, Nov. 15, 1849, states that ‘Tract of land whereon Noah Wolf now lives, by lands of David Ramsy & others, sold as property of Noah Wolf at the suit of W. W. Harris & others.’”

The 1870 census of Campobello township, page 9, lists:

Noah Wolf	54, miller, Grist miller
Lucinda	37
William	19
Nancy	7
George	4
Isaac	3
Maria	1

The 1880 census of Campobello township, page 9, lists:

Noah Wolf	63	b. SC, parents b. SC
Lousinda	47,	wife
Nancy E.	16,	dau
George W.	14,	son
Isaac P.	12,	son
Louisa W.	10,	dau
Rosella	6,	dau
Noah W.	3,	son

In the 1900 census of Campobello township (enumeration district 82, sheet 6) is the following family:

Lucy Wolfe,	b. Aug. 1831,	age 68,	widow,	7 chn,	6 liv.
Rosa E.	, dau,	b. Dec. 1875,	age 21,	single	
Alice M.,	grandau,	b. Apr. 1890,	age 10,	single	
Robert E.,	grandson,	b. Feb. 1893,	age 7		
Charles C.,	s in law,	b. Aug. 1895,	age 4		
Eva J.,	d in law,	b. June 1898,	age 1		

The estate of Noah Wolfe, who died 11 Sept. 1884, intestate, contains no list of heirs or record of distribution. D. M Cantrell petitioned that he be appointed administrator for his father-in-law, but Lucinda Wolf was appointed on 22 Oct. 1884.⁹

His first wife was Jane McDowell as can be seen from the estate records of her father, David McDowell. See the MCDOWELL line.

Children of Noah and Jane (McDowell) Wolfe

- i. Adeline Wolfe, presumed from 1850 census
- ii. Harriet Wolfe, b. ca. 1839, per 1850 census
- iii. Margaret Ann Wolfe, b. ca. 1841, per 1850 census
- iv. William Wolfe, b. ca. 1851, per 1870 census

Children of Noah and Lucinda (Gilbert) Wolfe

- v. Nancy E. Wolfe, b. ca. 1863, per 1870 census
- vi. George W. Wolfe, b. ca. 1866, per 1870 census¹⁰
- vii. Isaac P. Wolfe, b. ca. 1867, per 1870 census
- viii. Louisa Maria Wolfe, b. ca 1869, per 1870 and 1880 census
- ix. Rosella Wolfe, b. Dec. 1875, per 1900 census
- x. Noah W. Wolfe, b. ca. 1877, per 1880 census

2. EMILY HARRIET WOLFE, whose name is taken from the pedigree chart mentioned above, is buried in the cemetery of the First Baptist Church of Boiling Springs, SC, where her tombstone reads "Harriet, wife of James Seay, May 18, 1844, June 8, 1910". I have been unable to locate an obituary for her in the micro films of the Spartanburg Herald or Journal at Wofford College. She married "Doc" Seay on 15 Oct. 1865 (Emory, issue of 16 Feb. 1866).

⁹ Spartanburg County Probate Judge Estate Papers, no. 2 189. [Microfilm, Spartanburg County Library]

¹⁰ Gilbert, e-mail 4 Aug. 1999, says George Washington Wolfe was born 2 May 1866 and died 19 Aug. 1939 and is buried at Inman, SC.