

Excerpt of Relevant Facts from Wansley Report

by

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Proof that John's wife was named Mildred comes from the Albemarle County Chancery Court suit of Walter Goldsmith v John Dowell, in which John Wansley and his wife Mildred Wansley testify on behalf of Goldsmith. [Albemarle Chancery Court Case (ACC) ID 1801-004, Library of Virginia (LVA)] In her 1798 deposition, Mildred Wansley testifies to events concerning her husband John Wansley, including a conversation that took place in their home Feb 1780.

In her 1798 deposition, Mildred Wansley testifies to events concerning her husband John Wansley, including a conversation that took place in their home in February of 1780. There has never been any doubt or question that Sarah Wansley, born 6 Mar 1765, [Beck Family Record, R692, NARA] and Martha/Patsy Wansley were both daughters of the same mother, who was **called "Amelia"** in publications in the 1970's. Patsy herself reportedly said that she was the "youngest and Sarah the eldest." [Katharine W. Otto, Genealogy of Martin-Price (1978), p. 2] (The context implies youngest/eldest daughter not child. This interpretation is supported as true to the extent that primary records, such as marriage records and censuses, still exist.) According to her grave marker, Martha/Patsy Wansley was born 1 March 1781. [Mt. Hope Cemetery, Lumpkin Co., GA] Thus, Patsy was born 13 months after the events of February 1780 in which Mildred Wansley testified she participated as John Wansley's wife. This would mean Patsy and by extension Sarah and all children in between were children of John's wife named Mildred Wansley. Wansley children following Patsy were Thomas, born 29 Apr 1783 according to his family Bible records, [Wansley, p.38] and Larkin, born 1785 according to the 1860 Elbert County, GA census. Since Mildred Wansley's deposition as John Wansley's wife was dated 3 October

1798, she was also mother of Thomas and Larkin. **Thus all of John Wansley's children were Mildred's.** John Wansley and his family moved from Albemarle County, Virginia, to Elbert County, Georgia in 1800. [John Wansley Revolutionary War Pension Application, S32045, National Archives & Records Admin. (NARA)]. **In 1801 or 1802 John's wife Milly as well as other family members joined Vans Creek Church.** [Vans Creek Church records, Ordinary's Office, Elberton, GA] (One date is for wife Milly and the other is for daughter Milly who married and left the church in 1803, with John's wife Milly remaining in 1804 church records.) Since Milly was the commonly used nickname for Mildred, there is no reason, and no evidence, to suggest this was anyone other than John's wife Mildred in Virginia 3 to 4 years previously. Mildred "Milly" Wansley's death was recorded in Thomas Wansley/Wanslow's family Bible as Milly Wanslow. [Frank N. Wansley, *From Rome to Ruckersville* (1975), p. 41] She died 9 January 1829, six years almost to the day before her husband John died 13 January 1835. Both died in Elbert County, Georgia

First, in many years of researching primary records from the 1700's in and around counties where John Wansley lived, I do not remember ever seeing the name Amelia. However, Mildred was a name that did appear in the records, many of whom were shown to be called Milly. Secondly, I did not find any descendants of John Wansley named Amelia, but at least two grandchildren carried the name Mildred. Son Thomas Wansley had a daughter Martha with a middle name of Mildred [Doris Steed Smith, *Wansley Line* (undated), p. 4] Daughter Sarah Wansley Beck had a daughter with the first name of Mildred. [Smith, *Wansley Line*, p. 3] Significantly, Mildred Beck went by the name of "Milly." [Smith, *Wansley Line*, p. 3; confirmed by 1870 census, Elbert County, GA, as "Milly Gray."] This seemed a good indication that John Wansley's wife Milly was also Mildred, rather than Amelia.