

## **Naaman Mills and his Family of Wake County, NC UAFA Enrolled Family AFEF No. 7**

### **I. Introduction**

This compendium for the descendants of Naaman Mills is being created, maintained, and updated by the Upchurch and Allied Families Association and cooperators with the purpose of having at one online site details about this UAFA “enrolled” family. Today, thousands can trace their heritage back to Harmon.

Each UAFA enrolled family is served by a coordinator. Initially, the default coordinator of all enrolled families is Phil Upchurch, the founder of UAFA. Financial support is required to enroll and augment records for an enrolled family and to keep it online for the long term. The financial co-sponsors of the Naaman Mills family and active supporters will be reported in periodic e-newsletters to the Naaman Mills family. The ultimate goal is to have a minimal endowment of \$10,000 for this family, the earnings of which will support the records of this particular family and UAFA.

Historically, the records for the Naaman Mills family have been found in a great many places. By “enrolling” this family under the auspices of UAFA, the intent is to have a central portal which will readily allow a member of this family to see and understand reference materials about their heritage. Much of this material exists in the Allied Family Archives amassed by Phil Upchurch over a forty-year period. This and other resources will set the stage for further research, or for the creation of a comprehensive family history. Progress will depend on collaboration.

Readers are aware of the large amount of conflicting data for any given family on Ancestry.com and other sites. It is difficult and essentially impossible to get these conflicts resolved online. Furthermore, some of these sites fade from view over time. The plan and intent of UAFA is to resolve both of those issues. It is our intent that content portrayed by UAFA for an enrolled family will be factual and subject to ongoing validation and that the content will remain online for the long term under the auspices of UAFA. To make this a reality, UAFA must be sustained by an active volunteer Board of Directors, volunteer cooperators must be active participants, and some hired help must be available. Tax-deductible financial contributions will be important to allow all of this to happen. You may go to the [Home Page](#) of this website to find a membership/contribution form.

The family of Naaman Mills (1757 – 1835) is ideal for inclusion as an enrolled family under the banner of Upchurch and Allied Families Association, Inc. Naaman qualifies being a patriarch who experienced first-hand the American Revolution by actively serving in that war. Additionally, his family evolved in the enclave of western Wake County, NC in the early 1800s where two Upchurch patriarchs also settled. A brief recap of how these three families came to co-exist is in order.

The Upchurch patriarchs were the brothers, Moses and Nathan Upchurch, I, both of whom also served in the Revolutionary War. Both families are enrolled on this website as AFEF

# 3 and # 1 respectively. These brothers had grown to adulthood, married and raised their families in Franklin County, NC. About 1803 both families, including all of their children, moved to the border of Wake and Chatham Counties in North Carolina. Nathan settled at Green Level in Wake and Moses a couple of miles west, just inside Chatham County. In the next several decades their offspring populated the local and nearby areas.

Reliable information indicates that Naaman Mills was born in Northampton County, NC, where he would grow to manhood and start a family. Later he lived for a short time in Edgecombe County, NC. About 1812 family lore holds that Naaman and his family were in the process of moving to Tennessee. It was our good fortune that the family passed through western Wake County, NC and elected to settle there instead. The Mills enclave was between properties settled by the Upchurch brothers. Over the decades ahead many, many marriages among the descendants of the three patriarchs took place. An early one involved the union of Naaman's only daughter Lucretia with Nathan Upchurch's son Gilbert Upchurch about 1823. They are the great grandparents of the writer, Phil Upchurch.

The father of Naaman Mills is believed to be Abraham Mills. The names of the wives Naaman and Abraham have not been learned.

Circumstances lead us to believe that Richard Smith of Northampton County, NC could have been the grandfather of Naaman. It appears the wife of Naaman may have died before the 1812 trek was launched. This is about all we know of the heritage of Naaman Mills. It is a fact that a huge number of Mills family members live and have lived in America. The place of the Naaman Mills Family in the broader Mills array has not been established.

We do know that the vast majority of the Mills Family members that have lived in central North Carolina since the early 1800's are descendants of Naaman Mills.

Details for this sketch of the Naaman Mills family have been freely drawn from the excellent book "*The Naaman Mills Family of North Carolina 1757-1966*" published in 1996 by William A. Mills of Perry, GA. He generously shares access to his books and as of 2016, expresses hopes of someday providing a revision. In the meantime, it may be easily accessed by using this [link](#).

## **II. An Overview of Naaman Mills and his Family**

### **A. A Brief Review of the Life of Naaman Mills** (taken from the William A. Mills book)

Naaman Mills, son of Abraham Mills and \_\_\_\_\_, was born 18 Jul 1757 in Northampton Co., NC, and died 2 Sep 1835. He married ca 1778 \_\_\_\_\_ (b ca 1758, d 1810-1830). Naaman is buried at Mills Family Cemetery, Apex, NC. His gravesite is marked with a government military service marker - an upright white marble headstone in honor of his Revolutionary War military service. The author obtained this headstone, which was installed 23 Mar 1994.

Very little is currently known about the early years of Naaman's life, but it is presumed that he resided in Northampton Co., NC prior to marrying. In Jul 1761, when Naaman was four years old, Richard Smith granted him a Deed of Gift for 100 acres of land in Northampton Co., NC. This tract of land was part of Richard Smith's homeplace. This transaction is recorded in Northampton Co., NC Deed Book 3, pg. 135. A

Richard Smith may have been Naaman's grandfather or a close relative. In Jul 1778, when Naaman was 21 years old, he sold his 100 acres back to Richard Smith for 15 pounds, 10 shillings. This transaction is recorded in Northampton Co., NC Deed Book 6, pg. 268. A

The location of the above mentioned 100 acres can be traced as follows: On 7 Feb 1757, Richard Smith purchased a 300 acre tract of land from John Smelly for 12 pounds - described as "300 acres in the fork of Hunting Quarter Branch, joining Derberry, Robert Monger, John Smith, and the branch. Part of a patent to Robert Smelly for 1600 acres". This deed is recorded in Northampton Co., NC Deed Book 2, pg. 394. On 22 Jun 1749, Robert Smelly was granted a 1600 acre tract in Northampton Co., NC by Lord Granville - described as "1600 acres in Northampton Co. in the fork of Kirby's Creek and Coyaroy, joining John Smelly, Joseph Cobb, William Carter, Matthew Strickling, Robert Mongar, Smelly's corner, and the two creeks". This is recorded in Patent Book 14, pg. 314. This property is located in Northampton Co., NC, just north of Conway, NC.

About 1778, Naaman married \_\_\_\_\_ (b ca 1758, d 1810-1830). Naaman was drafted into the NC Militia on two occasions during the American Revolution. He served 1 Apr 1779 to 1 Sep 1779, and 1 Jul 1781 to 1 Oct 1781 - total service was eight months. Naaman served when he was 21 to 24 years old. His highest rank attained was Private. On 3 Oct 1785, he was paid 13 pounds, 8 shillings for his military service.

Richard Smith made his will 4 Nov 1780, which is recorded in Northampton Co., NC Will Book 1, pg. 235.

On 26 Oct 1784, Naaman served as witness to Benjamin Futrall's will, which is recorded in Northampton Co., NC Will Book 1, pg. 394. Naaman may have been married to a FUTRALL lady. Consider this: during the State census of NC (1784-1787), Naaman and his family are listed on a page of 38 households, of which 11 are named FUTRAL. Also, "Shadrack Futrell" (b 1763) and "Nathan Futrell" (b 1773) were born in Northampton Co., NC. Naaman named one of his sons "Nathan", and another "Shadrack".

About 1788, Naaman and his family moved to Edgecombe Co., NC, and resided in Halifax District on FC/1790. On 10 Nov 1791, Naaman purchased a 50 acre tract of land from Hartwell Williford for 20 pounds. This deed was recorded in 1801 in Edgecombe Co., NC Deed Book 10, pgs. 25-26.

Naaman later sold his 50 acre tract to Jerrey Bateman for \$35. This deed was recorded in 1801 in Edgecombe Co., NC Deed Book 10, pg. 30. Naaman was a farmer, and they continued to reside in Edgecombe Co., NC on FC/1800-1810.

In 1807, Naaman was a customer of Captain William White's store, which was situated on the south side of present-day Tarboro St. in Wilson, NC. The last two of the surviving account books of the store are now at the NC State Archives. Naaman is listed on an entry on 29 Jan 1807. After reviewing the books, an idea of what customers purchased and what the costs were are very interesting: Pair of stockings - \$1.12 1/2. Pot - 18 shillings. Candlemolds - 75 cents. Chair - 46 cents. Hat - \$1. Shawl - \$1.50. Axe - 8 shillings. Cart and wheels - \$8. One gallon of molasses - 70 cents. A sorrell mare - 6 pounds, 6 shillings, 8 pence. A bay horse - \$100. Most entries refer to "goods and sundries" such as: bacon, tobacco, meal, corn, pork, coffee, tea, fodder, sugar, molasses, cottonseed, shoes, buttons, pipes, powder, umbrellas, and almanacs. It is very likely that Naaman lived a short distance from present-day Wilson, NC during 1807.

Allegedly, Naaman's Bible was passed down to his daughter, Lucretia's descendants. According to family lore, "Naaman and his family started to move to Tennessee in 1812, but they stopped in Green Level, NC and liked it so well, that they decided to settle there". After living in Edgecombe Co., NC for about 25 years, they moved to Green Level. in Wake Co., NC.

Naaman's son, Britain is listed on *MUSTER ROLLS OF THE SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812, DETACHED FROM THE MILITIA OF NC IN 1812 AND 1814*. He served in the 4th Regiment NC Militia and is listed as # 21 of the 2nd Regiment of Wake Co., NC.

Naaman is listed on the 1815 Wake Co., NC tax list. The FC/1820 for Wake Co., NC is missing, but the 1820 Wake Co., NC tax list includes Naaman's sons, John, Britain, Matthew, and Nathan Mills. Naaman resided in Wake Co., NC on FC/1830.

On 21 Aug 1832, Naaman started the extensive process of obtaining his Revolutionary War pension. He made several visits to court to make many statements under oath. Naaman was in his mid-seventies during this procedure. The lengthy, aggravating process that Naaman had to endure, may have shortened his life.

On 2 Sep 1835, Naaman died at the age of 78. He died intestate (without a will), as documented by Wake Co., NC CPQS (Nov 1836-pg. 511): "Ordered that John Mills be appointed administrator on the estate of Naaman Mills, deceased, who enters into bond in the sum of one hundred dollars, with Seth Jinks and Nathan Mills as securities, and comes into open court & qualified according to law".

The only current documented proof that Naaman Mills was the father of John, Britain, Matthew, Nathan, Shadrack, and Lucretia Mills, is found in Wake Co., NC CPQS (Feb 1837-pg. 536). A transcript follows;



---

"Gilbert Upchurch comes into open court and maketh oath in due form of law that Naman Mills, late, a pensioner of the United States died on the 2nd day of September 1835 and that he saw him expire, and that he resided in his neighborhood in the County of Wake at the time of his death. That said Mills left no widow, but six children surviving him to wit: John, who was administrator on his estate, Matthew, Nathan, Shadrack, Lucretia & Britain Mills, his children & heirs at law. That he knew said Mills was a pensioner and drew his pension frequently at Fayetteville".

---

This entry was *discovered* 23 Sep 1993 while the author was reading the original Wake Co., NC CPQS minutes at the NC State Archives. Until this document was found, no one had successfully become a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) under Naaman Mills' lineage. He is now listed in the D.A.R. *PATRIOT INDEX*.

( Note: author above refers to William A. Mills)

Naaman's wife died between 1810 and 1830. It is not known if she was alive when Naaman and his family moved to Wake Co., NC about 1812. Perhaps she may have died about 1811 and this is what triggered Naaman to move away from Edgecombe Co., NC.

#### B. A Presentation of Naaman Mills, his children and grandchildren

I. Naaman Mills was born July 18, 1737 in Northampton County, NC and died September 2, 1835 in Wake County, NC. He is buried in the Mills Family Cemetery just west of Green Level in western Wake County. The name of his wife has not been learned, but there is speculation that she was nee Futrell. She is believed to have died before 1812.

- A. John Mills b 1780 (Northampton Co, NC) (Bur – as Father) Not known to have married or to have had children
- B. Female Mills b 1782 ( ) d after 1800, no further information
- C. Female Mills b 1785 ( ) d after 1800, no further information
- D. Male Mills b 1787 ( ) d after 1790, no further information
- E. Britton Mills (Brittan Mills) (Twin) b 1789 ( ) d 1856; md August 21, 1816 Catherine Jinks
  - 1. Penninah Mills b 1820 (NC) d 19—md ( ) – Johnson?
  - 2. Charity Mills be 1825 (NC) d after 1851, no further information
  - 3. Seth A. Mills b 1828 (NC) d 1889 – 1900, md July 22, 1851 (Cumberland County, NC) Eliza Jane McKenzie b Mar 1832 d 19—

4. David Mills b 1835 (NC) d after 1850, no further information

F. Matthew Mills b 1789 (Twin) (Edgecombe Co. NC) d 1854 (Buried Mills Family Cemetery) md. Jan 3, 1822 (Wake Co. NC) Piety Wade b 1800 ( ) d 1854 (buried as husband)

1. ELIJAH L. MILLS (b Nov 1822, d 14 Jan 1882) m 23 Dec 1841 Phereby Lawrence.
2. JOHN ADDISON MILLS (b 21 Jun 1824, d 17 Sep 1884) m 24 Apr 1844 Diza W. M. Holloman.
3. TEMPY MILLS (b ca 1826, d aft 1860) m 22 Oct 1842 Robert Johnson.
4. PERRY MILLS (b ca 1827, d aft 1860) m 6 Mar 1849 Minerva Ann Lee.
5. PENELOPE G. MILLS (b ca 1829, d aft 1880) m 8 Jan 1849 Britton T. Mills.
6. THOMAS MILLS (b ca 1832, d aft 1850).
7. WILEY JOSEPH MILLS (b 26 Aug 1834, d 17 Mar 1897) m 3 Jul 1856 Charity Elizabeth Wilborn.
8. ELIZABETH MILLS (b ca 1838, d aft 1850).
9. FRANCES A. "FANNIE" MILLS (b May 1841, d 19\_\_) m 26 Nov 1890 Hinton Hobby.

G. Nathan Mills b 1792 (Edgecombe Co. NC) d Aug 10, 1875 (Wake Co. NC); md (1<sup>st</sup>) Dec 19, 1817 (Wake Co. NC) Celia Morgan b 1798 d 1834 (buried as husband) ; md (2<sup>nd</sup>) May 20, 1835 (Wake Co. NC) Candis Wilson b 1810 ( ) d 1894 (buried as husband)

*NATHAN AND CELIA'S FOUR CHILDREN:*

1. JAMES MILLS (b 4 Oct 1818, d ca 1856) m 12 May 1841 Elizabeth Pittman.
2. GREEN CLEMMONS MILLS (b 20 Mar 1820, d 5 Jun 1914) m 8 Mar 1845 Cynthia Olive. He m 2ndly 7 Jan 1866 Eveline Broadwell.
3. BRITTON T. MILLS (b 10 Apr 1822, d 23 May 1908) m 8 Jan 1849 Penelope G. Mills.
4. MARTHA L. MILLS (b 15 Jun 1828, d ca 1883) m 1 Mar 1859 Abather Bithe Babb.

*NATHAN AND CANDIS' EIGHT CHILDREN:*

5. SARAH MILLS (b 25 Nov 1837, d ca 1855).
6. JULIA ANN MILLS (b 8 Oct 1839, d ca 1897).

7. JOSEPH HINTON MILLS (b 22 Aug 1841, d 20 Mar 1904) m 3 Nov 1866 Hawkins Harriett (Broadwell) Upchurch. He m 2ndly 29 May 1870 Mary Frances Whitehead.
8. ANN ELIZA MILLS (b 20 Dec 1843, d 16 Oct 1908) m 3 Oct 1866 William Jackson Sears.
9. NATHAN MANLY MILLS (b 18 May 1845, d 22 Dec 1924) m 18 Jan 1872 Martha Ann Womble.
10. JOHN HAYWOOD MILLS (b 24 Sep 1847, d 27 Jul 1905) m 1 Mar 1877 Claranda F. Sears.
11. WILLIAM HENRY MILLS (b 30 Sep 1849, d 18 Dec 1926) m 2 Jan 1883 Theodocia Corina Jackson Pope.
12. ISLEY JANE MILLS (b 7 Jun 1851, d 7 Feb 1907) m 1 Feb 1874 Thomas S. Sears.

H. Shadrack Mills b 1795 (Edgecombe Co. NC) d 1865 (Wake Co. NC) (buried – Mills Family Cemetery) md. (1<sup>st</sup>) 1820 ( ) Martha Wilson “Patsy” b 1802 ( ) d 1859 ( ) (buried as husband); md (2<sup>nd</sup>) Nov 24, 1859 (Wake Co. NC) Catherine Holland b 1836 ( ) d after 1862

Shadrack lived to about age 68. The balance of this chapter will list the children and descendants of Shadrack Mills and Patsy Wilson; and Shadrack Mills and Catherine Holland. These sixteen children are:

*SHADRACK AND PATSY'S FOURTEEN CHILDREN:*

1. WILSON MILLS (b ca 1821, d 1864-1870) m 15 Dec 1853 Penninah Champian.
2. CATHARINE MILLS (b ca 1823, d aft 1850) m 23 Sep 1844 Abather Bithe Babb.
3. OLIVER PERRY MILLS (b ca 1825, d ca 1854).
4. MARY J. MILLS (b ca 1827, d aft 1860).
5. MARTHA EMILY C. MILLS (b ca 1829, d aft 1860) m 16 Dec 1848 Henry Babb.
6. WILLIAM H. MILLS (b ca 1830, d aft 1857).
7. WESLEY FLOWERS MILLS (b ca 1831, d 19\_\_) m 29 Jul 1851 Delaney Harwood.
8. JAMES C. MILLS (b ca 1834, d aft 1880) m ca 1859 Emaline E. \_\_\_\_.
9. M\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_ MILLS (MALE) (b ca 1835, d aft 1850).
10. CANDIS M. MILLS (b ca 1837, d aft 1860).
11. MARGARET I. MILLS (b ca 1839, d aft 1857).
12. L\_\_\_\_ JOHN MILLS (b ca 1841, d aft 1860).
13. JOSEPH D. MILLS (b 4 Jul 1842, d 13 Dec 1862).
14. HILLIARD JACKSON MILLS (b 1 Jul 1845, d 25 May 1920) m 29 Jun 1873 Mary Hellen Yates. He m 2ndly 10 Nov 1910 Kiddie Holt.

*SHADRACK AND CATHERINE'S TWO CHILDREN:*

15. ALFRED FENNER MILLS (b Aug ca 1860, d 1936) m 27 Nov 1881 Mary Pearson. He m 2ndly 26 Nov 1891 Isadora Lynch.
16. THOMAS H. MILLS (b Apr 1862, d 19\_\_).

I. Lucretia Mills b May 3, 1802 (Edgecombe Co. NC) d Sept 26, 1877 (Wake Co. NC) (Buried – Inwood Baptist Church Cemetery, Wake Co. NC); md after May 1823 ( ) Gilbert Upchurch b 1792 (Franklin County, NC) d 1845 (Wake Co. NC); (buried – Area of Green Level, Wake Co. NC). Gilbert was a son of



Nathan Upchurch I. Gilbert had married earlier Elizabeth Upchurch, presumed daughter of John Upchurch, III. From this marriage one child resulted. The children of Gilbert's two marriages are as follows:

Gilbert and Elizabeth Upchurch's child

- 
1. MARIAH ELIZABETH UPCHURCH (b 19 Jul 1820, d 30 Dec 1900).

*GILBERT AND LUCRETIA'S NINE CHILDREN:*

1. NATHANIEL SMITH UPCHURCH (b Aug 1824, d 15 Jul 1913) m 1858 Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker.
2. FEMALE UPCHURCH (b ca 1825, d aft 1840).
3. FEMALE UPCHURCH (b ca 1825, d aft 1840)).
4. NATHAN UPCHURCH (b ca 1827, d ca 1855).
5. LAMBERTH LASSITER UPCHURCH (b 26 Jul 1830, d 31 Dec 1905).
6. FEMALE UPCHURCH (b ca 1830-1835, d aft 1840).
7. WILLIAM GEORGE UPCHURCH (b 22 Dec 1837, d 13 Oct 1895) m 24 Dec 1863 Eleanor Marks Upchurch.
8. HASELTINE UPCHURCH (b ca 1839, d 5 Mar 1862).
9. BARTLEY JEFFERSON UPCHURCH (b 11 May 1841, d 23 Jan 1929) m 30 Sep 1869 Aurora O. Ray.