

**Sherwood Upchurch**  
**Colonial Upchurch – 5<sup>th</sup> Generation**

**XID – 166**  
**Head of Clan 10**

**Commentary:** Sherwood Upchurch was born in 1771 in Brunswick County, VA. He was the head of Upchurch Clan #10 and the son of Michael Upchurch III. Sherwood appears to have moved to NC as a young, single person prior to the 1790 census. In 1790 he headed one of the 12 Upchurch households found on this census. Confusion arises because he is recorded as Sherwood Upkirch. He married for the first time in 1790 and a second marriage occurred in 1804. Both marriages occurred in Rutherford County, NC. He resided there until 1840, but in 1850 he is found in Campbell County, GA, where he died.

Although Sherwood Upchurch moved to Georgia, his earlier presence in Rutherford County is of special interest for two reasons. One is that he left Upchurch family members in Rutherford for us to fully document going beyond 1830. Secondly, in the records of Rutherford County, we find the 1800s copious records on the elusive Joseph Upchurch (born 1775 NC). Our suspicion is that Joseph and Sherwood were close kin, perhaps brothers or cousins. A further tempting fact is that Sherwood had a grandson named Joseph.

Much research remains to be done on the Sherwood Upchurch clan.

RPU – 12 Oct 2019

Acknowledgements: This Biofile was transcribed by Carla Michaels, an outstanding researcher and history buff residing in Cary, NC.

**(1)** Sherwood Upchurch first appeared on Brunswick Co VA Personal Property Tax List in 1786 and 1787. He next appeared in Marriage Records of Rutherford County, NC when he married Elizabeth Tomberlinson on the 21<sup>st</sup> of Oct 1790.

On 15 Jan 1802 Sherwood Upchurch applied for a land grant which was issued to him 27 Nov 1802 for 75 acres at the head of Long Branch of Second Broad River, in Rutherford County. (NC Land Grants Book 116/399). Elizabeth is presumed to have died before 1804 as marriage records of Rutherford show that Sherwood Upchurch of Rutherford married Polly Pell on 2 Jan 1804. (From Upchurch Family by Bell West, page 25)

**(2)** See 20 Jul 1979 letter Julia Frances Upchurch to RPU  
 Sherwood Upchurch, son of Michael Upchurch (born 1795 – XID – 159) was born 1771 died 1850 – married 1790 Elizabeth Tomberlinson  
 married 1804 Polly Pell

**(3)** See letter Grace Williamson to RPU 10 Jan 1983  
 May 1982 issue of the Bulletin of the Genealogical Society of Old Tryon Co shows:  
 1810 Census Rutherford Co, NC

Sherwood Upchurch:

0	1	1	1	0/	1	2	1	1	0/	0	0
A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	D	E		

A = <10

B = 10 – 16

C = 16 – 26

D = 26 – 45

E = >45

**(4)** See letter John Kim Upchurch 11 Nov 1987 to RPU

1804 Marriages of 3 Upchurch males in Rutherford Co, NC

1. 2 Jan 1804                **Sherwood Upchurch** married Polly Pell
2. 21 Jul 1804            Joseph Upchurch to Patsy Bradley
3. 29 Dec 1804           James Upchurch to Nancy Bradley  
with Joseph Upchurch as Bondsman

**(5)** From Upchurch Story by Olive Morgan, page 42

No contact has been made with the present-day descendants of Sherwood Upchurch. All information has been gathered from census and court records of Rutherford County, NC and from the 1850 census of Campbell Co, GA, 10<sup>th</sup> District. Surmises were made concerning in what household belonged which children. Errors may have been made. The assistance of Ervin Upchurch in compiling the data on the Sherwood Upchurch family is very much appreciated.

3. Sherwood Upchurch son of Michael 3

[Copied from (29) for Sherwood XIX – 166 page 39, 40, 42]

Sherwood seems to be the third son of Michael Upchurch. He was born in Virginia about 1771; he states his age as 79 on the Census of Campbell Co, GA in 1850. Public record was made in his name before he was 21 years old, a running record of his life for his lifetime. In 1787, he is listed on the Personal Property Tax List for Brunswick Co VA. Other Upchurches nearby on the tax list were Harmon, George, Michael and William. The requirements varied of each taxable year according to the information sought. In 1787 the information wanted was the names of those in the household who were under the age of 21 years. Sherwood listed his name under that heading. Of course he was not 21 on the earlier list also, but that information was not required until 1787. By the year 1790 Sherwood was in Rutherford Co NC. He married Elizabeth Tomberlinson on 10-21-1790 in time for them to be listed on the census that year. Elizabeth was probably a daughter of Lewis Tomberlinson-Tomlinson-Tomlin. There was a deed of conveyance made to Sherwood on 1-13-1798 from Lewis Tomberlinson...land on Bell's Branch of Cathy's Creek of Second Broad River, computed to be 50 acres more or less, for the sum of £50. Being part of a tract of 200 acres surveyed the one granted originally by patent 25 Jan 1773 to James Bell... Vol 7-9 pp 393-4 Signed Lewis Tomberlinson. In 1802 Sherwood received a land grant No 2200 Vol 20 – 21 pages 156-7 for 50 S to every 100 acres, 75 acres in Rutherford Co at head of Long Branch of Second Broad River, joining survey where he now lives and Francis Logans. Enloe's line... to an ashe, Cockran's corner, Enloe's line, Logan's

line...Solomon G...’s corner...Spanish Oak... white ash.. to a pine on sd Upchurch’s corner..to beginning. Entered 1-15-1802 B Williams.

Elizabeth, wife of Sherwood, must have died early for he married secondly Mary (Polly) Pell on 1-2-1804. The 1850 Census of Campbell Co GA lists Mary and Sherwood with the household of John and Elizabeth Tomlin. A son, Joseph, is with them on the census.

#### Children of Sherwood and Elizabeth Upchurch:

- 1 Elias Upchurch born 1791 married 2-4-1821 Anne Campbell born 1802.  
Witness: John Tomberlin. Isaac Craton, CC. Elias died 1844 in Rutherford Co, NC  
(Abstract of Wills 1823 – 1868 page 57. Proved 22 Jul 1844.
  - 2 Lucy Upchurch born 1791 married 12-15-1817 James Wells  
Witness: Elias Upchurch
  - 3 Mildred Upchurch born 1795 married 2-22-1823 Valentine Burnett  
Witness: Adam Upchurch
  - 4 Elizabeth Upchurch born 176 married John Tomlin.
  - 5 Adam Upchurch born 1797 married 4-17-1824 Elizabeth Freeman (Betsy)  
Witness: Dr. John McFarland
  - 6 Nancy Freeman born 1799 married 4-17-1813 Michael Painter  
Witness: John Freeman
- [\* - 7, 8, 9 may not be children of Sherwood Upchurch – RPU]
- \*7 John Upchurch born 1824 married 2-27-1849 Arrena Bridges  
Witness: W O Wallace, C W Logan
  - \*8 Joseph Upchurch born 1827 married 1-10-161 Mary Moode.  
Witness: Daniel Upchurch, M O Duncan. Married by T G Hawkins, JP
  - \*9 James Upchurch born 1828. James was in Campbell Co, GA with the S H Neal family.  
Mary E Neal age 26 in 1850 may be a sister of James. S H Neal born 1807. Unless there is a mistake in ages, she and John Upchurch are the same age.

#### (6) See letter 8 Jan 1983 Rou White Jr to RPU

- A. Grantee Index – Deeds – 1779 – 1916 – Rutherford Co, NC [427291]  
Sherwood Upchurch from Lewis Tomerlinson 1798 Book 7 – 9; page 393  
Sherwood Upchurch from State of NC (Grant) 1803 Book 20 – 21; page 156
- B. Rutherford Co, NC – Deed Book 7 – 9; page 393, 4 [019913]  
(Detail on A) – 13 Jan 1798 Lewis Tommerlison (also Tommerlinson) to Sherwood Upchurch both of Rutherford Co, NC for £50 – 50 acres on Bells Branch of Cathy’s Creek of Second broad River – part of two surveys – one granted 25 Jan 1773 to James Bell, the other to Andrew Hempton 20 Nov 1790 (no neighbor named) – Witness: William Porter, Hugh Watson – signed Lewis Tommerlinson
- C. Rutherford Co, NC – Deed Book 20 – 21 [019915] Detail on A. 20 Nov 1802 – State of North Carolina No 2200) to Sherwood Upchurch – 75 acres in Rutherford Co, NC on head of Long Branch of Second Broad Riber joining the survey where he now lived & Frances

Logan's & Enloe's land; Cockran's Corner; Solomon GA (xxx) Cordy, James Holland's corner; said Upchurch line. Entered 15 Jan 1802.

**(7)** See letter 22 May 1987 Oliver Wingate Upchurch to RPU – Coy Tillman Upchurch Section

A. Brunswick Co, VA Personal Tax List

1782, 1783, 1784, 1784, - No Sherwood

1786 Sherod Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**]

1787 Sherod Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**]

**(8)** See letter 27 Mar 190 Martha Powell Ray to RPU

A. **Sherwood Upchurch** married 21 Oct 1790 Elizabeth Tomberlinson. G C Poindexter was the bondsman.

B. William Pell married 2 Dec 1795 Polly Smith. James Hampton was the bondsman. [This is the Polly that **Sherwood Upchurch** married 1804. – RPU]

C. **Sherwood Upchurch** married 2 Jan 1804 Polly Pell (nee ---Smith).

D. "Sherrod" Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**] was bondsman for Jonathan Pell who married 26 Jan 1790 Pheby Beazel and for Adam Hampton who married 7 Jan 1821 Lucy Bradley.

E. In Oct 1831, a letter to "Sherrod" Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**] went unclaimed in the Rutherfordton, NC Post Office. Chances are that **Sherwood Upchurch** was already in GA and that at the time of the 1830 Census, he was enroute since he is not found on the GA or NC Census records for 1830.

**(9)** Recap of 1819 Census – Rutherford Co, NC – Item (3)

Male 10 – 16	(born 1794 – 1800)	Adam Upchurch	born ca 1797
Male 16 – 26	(born 1784 – 1794)	Elias Upchurch	born ca 1791
Male 26 – 45	(born 1765 – 1784)	<b><u>Sherwood Upchurch</u></b>	born ca 1771
Female <10	(born 1800 – 1810)	Nancy Upchurch	born ca 1799
Female 10 – 16	(born 1794 – 1800)	Elizabeth Upchurch	born ca 1796
Female 10 – 16	(born 1794 – 1800)	Mildred Upchurch	born ca 1795
Female 16 – 26	(born 1784 – 1794)	Lucy Upchurch	born ca 1791
Female 26 – 45	(born 1765 – 1784)	Polly (Smith) Pell	born ca 1796
		[Mary Smith]	

**(10)** 1820 Census – Rutherford Co, NC – For "Sherard" Upchurch Family

Male 18 – 26	(born 1794 – 1802)	Adam Upchurch	born ca 1797
Male 45+	(born < 1775)	<b><u>Sherwood Upchurch</u></b>	born ca 1771
Female 16 – 26	(born 1794 – 1804)	Elizabeth Upchurch	born ca 1796
Female 16 – 26	(born 1794 – 1804)	Mildred Upchurch	born ca 1795
Female 26 – 45	(born 1775 – 174)	Polly (Smith) Pell	
		[Mary Smith]	

**(11)** See 1790 Census Record – Morgan District, Rutherford Co, NC. First Company

Sherwood Upkirsch [**Sherwood Upchurch**] Age 16+  
 Female Age 16+ [wife – Elizabeth Tomberlinson]

**(12)** 1820 NC Census Index & Tax Lists by Potter – 174

Sherard Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**] appears as the only Upchurch on lists in Rutherford Co, NC

**(13)** See letter 4 May 1995 Aneta NMN Snyder to RPU

From BGSOTC Feb 15 – An abstract from some historic record page 110, 4 Feb 1795 Thomas Walker of RC, NC to Marenal Mark) Raws; 80 pounds, 80 acres on the north side of Main Broad River on Thompsons road. Witness: Isham Raws; Shered Upchurch [**Sherwood Upchurch**] #1879, 7 Dec 1796. [Note: I guess this is in Rutherford Co, NC – RPU; RCNC = ? – RPU]

**(14)** From: Upchurch – Bright Family Newsletters (Vol 4 No 3 Sep 1993; page44)

I. **Sherwood Upchurch** – Head of Clan

A. Mildred Upchurch married\* Valentine Burnett

1. Mary Elizabeth Burnett only child of this couple)

\*Adam Upchurch bondsman, Isaac Craton Clerk and Witness – marriage 22 Feb 1823 (Rutherford Co, NC) Book 1 page 38.

Mildred Upchurch died with the birth of Mary Elizabeth Burnett who was then placed with her grandfather **Sherwood Upchurch**. Valentine moved to Henry Co, GA before 1827 & married two more times.

**(15)** From letter 9 Dec 1997 Glenn A Anderson to RPU

3. With reference to page 2 of your letter and profile sheet “X” regarding the marriage of Nancy Upchurch to Michael Panter. Our information differs only slightly. My documented resource was Rutherford North Carolina Marriage bonds, which shows Nancy Upchurch married on 4 September 1813 to Michael Panter. Bondsman for the marriage was John Freeman, Witness was O Lewis, DC.

4. You list Nancy’s date of birth as 1799 – the data sent to me by James Panter [James F Panter] lists her as being born in 1795 in Rutherford Co, North Carolina. This birth date of 1795 agrees with Karen Patterson on your profile “Y” item C.

5. While the Panter name has been both spelled and pronounced in many various ways, by their descendants, the data James Panter provided me shows the exclusive usage of Panter for Michael Panter, his father Johann George Panter, Sr and his grandfather Johann Panter/Bender. Jim can undoubtedly further explain the change from “Bender” to Panter.

6. The children of Michael and Nancy Upchurch) Panter are exactly as given to me by James F Panter. This more or less checks out with Karen Pattersons information in your profile

”Y”, item C, in that Nancy had her first child about 1814 or 1815. So once again I’m afraid you will do better to go back to them as “the source” in order to work out any differences.

7. Let me just finish up commenting on profile sheet “Y” item C, while I’m at it: (a) I have had prior contact with Karen Patterson. (b) somebody was sure home at least part-time between 1814 and 1828 in order for Nancy to have the five children I previously listed. (c) What circumstances kept Michael away from home between the 1820 and 1830 census I do not know – but he supposedly died sometime between 1837 and 1840 which would account for his absence on the 1840 census and thereafter (d) Karen probably missed the Rutherford County NC marriage bond for males, showing the marriage of Michael Panter and Nancy Upchurch. I’ll send Karen a letter with this same information.

Item A – I do not show either a George Panther or an Mary (Polly Ann) Nanney anywhere in my computerized files. No help here.

Item B – First this looks suspiciously like an LDS PAF Descendancy Chart which need to be more fully documented before you can take anything for granted.

Second, about the only thing I find correct in Item B is Michaels birthday, their marriage date and place of marriage. My frank opinion is that somebody took liberties with the spelling of Michael Panters name, changing it to Painter to make it fit and then shoved the other Painter names under it as they seemed to work with the first childs 1814 birth date. Could be wrong but I find absolutely no Painters in my files, no George or Elizabeth Panters, and no Bradley family names appended to any Panters. Likewise, I show no Eva, Barbara, Sherod, or Nancy Panters of either the same or different birth dates as shown in item B. Unless you have absolutely positive documentation to the contrary, I would say this line is quite possibly in error. Especially so if it is an unproven LDS Descendancy Chart.

Third, the worst part of Item B is that if what you show therein is correct, then nothing either Jim Panter or I might add will make any difference as it automatically takes us out of the Michael Panter-Nancy Upchurch loop, in that we believe firmly we are descended from William M Panter whom I absolutely know to be married to Angeline Clementine Gee, my great great grandmother. A great aunt of mine, Josephine Panter, a sister of Jim Panters father, personally vouched for the Gee family connection to the Panters before she passed away. So I’m sticking with what I have for children of Michael and Nancy until documented otherwise beyond a shadow of a doubt.

Item E – Again I show no Painters in my files, nor do I have a Rose Ann Shope or a Jane Ratcliff. No idea if items “C” and “E” belong together. No help here.

10. I noted on your 11x17” master chart that Nancy’s father, **Sherwood Upchurch** has a second wife named Mary “Polly” (Smith) Pell. It may be coincidence, but Michael Panter’s brother George Panter Jr married a Sarah Pell. I don’t have any other data on her.

11. Last thought – I would love to add the Upchurch family history to my own but it is so extremely extensive that I hesitate to do so without firm documentation that your Nancy Upchurch 8312, daughter of **Sherwood Upchurch** is without any doubt, my Nancy Upchurch born 1795, Rutherford Co, NC married to my Michael Panter born 1781, Rutherford Co, NC in Rutherford County North Carolina on Sept 4, 1813 with Bondsman John Freeman and witness O Lewis DC attending according to the Rutherford NC Marriage Bonds.



**(16)** See letter 20 Jun 2000 Marjorie Juanita Dover to RPU

RPU & MJD have a common interest in Upchurch – Pell interactions – she being descended from the Pells – See her attachments re the Pell Family, some excerpts from her letter:

\* = Mary Smith “Polly” may have been sister of Lucy Smith who married 22 Jun 1807 (Rutherford Co, NC) Leonard Painter. Bondsman: James Truelove

I. --- --- Pell

A. Jonathan Pell born about 1770

Married 26 Jan 1790 (Rutherford Co, NC) Pheby Beazel. Witness: **Sherwood Upchurch**

B. William Pell born about 1770

Married 2 Dec 1795 (Rutherford Co, NC) Polly Smith\*. Witness: Jonathan Hampton [William Pell appears to have died whereupon his widow nee Polly Smith married **Sherwood Upchurch**. **Sherwood** had been married to Elizabeth Tomlinson who died leaving **Sherwood** to marry again.]

1. William Pell born 1797 (NC) died 1860 (fell from tree) (Winston Co, AL)  
Married ( ) Catherine --- --- (She is widow and head of household in Winston Co, AL 1860) William Pell had married another Catherine earlier and 16 children are listed of the two marriages including:

a. John Pell born 1822 (NC)

Married ( ) Rachel Elizabeth Craig

i. William Edward Pell born 25 Nov 1854 (Rabon Co, GA) died 28 Apr 1929 (Jacksonville, Calhoun Co, AL)

Married 1874 ( ) Marjorie Jane Oliver (Both buried Albertsville, AL)

(I) Elijah Leander Pell born 15 Sep 1883 (Dawson Co, GA) died 7 Jun 1975 (Buried – Taylorsville, GA)

(A) Ruby Lee Pell born 31 Dec 1813 (GA)

(1) Marjorie Juanita Dover born 18 Sep 1944 (Cartersville, GA)

Married Leon Douglas Stansel

[Note: Other records show Sherwood Upchurch married (2<sup>nd</sup>) 2 Jan 1804 (Rutherford Co, NC) Mary “Polly” (Smith) Pell – hence William Pell born 1797 would have been a stepson of Sherwood Upchurch and should have been about age 13 in the household of Sherwood Upchurch on the 1810 census – need to explore – RPU]

**(17)** Records for the Sherwood Upchurch Family – RPU – 20 Mar 2013

1790 Census – listed as Sherwood Upchurch – NC Morgan District – Rutherford Co, NC [vs Lincoln Co]

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	
M	16+	[Sherwood Upchurch]
F	16+	[Elizabeth Tomblinson]

1800 Census – Sherwood Upchurch not found but he was in Rutherford Co, NC – RPU

1810 Census – Rutherford Co, NC

No	Sex	Age	Born		
1	M	26 – 44	1766 – 1784	Sherwood Upchurch	1771
2	F	26 – 44	1766 – 1784	Mary (Smith) Pell	
3	M	16 – 25	1785 – 1794	Elias Upchurch	1791
4	F	16 – 25	1785 – 1794	Lucy Upchurch	1792
5	M	10 – 15	1795 – 1800	Adam Upchurch	1797
6	F	10 – 15	1795 – 1800	Mildred Upchurch	1795
7	F	10 – 15	1795 – 1800	Elizabeth Upchurch	1796
8	F	0 – 10	1800 – 1810	Nancy Upchurch	1800
9*	F	26 – 44	1766 – 1784		
10*	F	26 – 44	1766 – 1784		
11*	F	26 – 44	1766 – 1784		

\* Probably sisters of Sherwood or Mary

1820 Census Rutherford Co, NC

1	M	45+	<1775	Sherwood Upchurch	1771
2	F	26 – 44	1776 – 1794	Mary (Smith) Pell	
3	M	16 – 25	1795 – 1804	Adam Upchurch	1797
4	F	16 – 25	1795 – 1804	Mildred Upchurch	1795
5	F	16 – 25	1795 – 1804	Elizabeth Upchurch	176

1830 Census – Rutherford Co, NC

1	M	50 – 59	1771 – 1780	Sherwood Upchurch	1771
2	F	50 – 59	1771 – 1780	Mary (Smith) Pell	
3	M	15 – 19	1811 – 1815**		
4	F	5 – 9	1821 – 1825**		
5	F	0 – 10	1820 – 1830**		

\*\* Possibly grandchildren of Sherwood

1840 Census – Rutherford Co, NC

1	M	70 – 79	1761 – 1770	Sherwood Upchurch	1771
2	F	60 – 69	1771 – 1780	Mary (Smith) Pell	
3	F	15 – 19	1821 – 1825		

1850 Census – GA – Campbell Co – District 10



John Tomlin	1815	35	NC
Elizabeth Tomlin	1796	54	NC
nee Elizabeth Upchurch, daughter of Shewood Upchurch			
Sherod Upchurch	1771	79	VA
Mary Upchurch	1776	74	NC
Joseph Upchurch	1828	22	NC

#### I. Sherwood Upchurch – Head of Clan

Born 1771 (Brunswick Co, VA) died 1850+ (Campbell Co, GA)

Married (1<sup>st</sup>) 21 Oct 1790 (Rutherford Co, NC) Elizabeth Tomberlinson<sup>1</sup> born about 1771 ( )  
died 180? (Rutherford Co, NC)

Married (2<sup>nd</sup>) 2 Jan 1804 (Rutherford Co, NC) Mary (Smith) Pell “Polly” born about 1776 (N)  
died after 1850 (GA) [Did she have issue by 1<sup>st</sup> husband or by Sherwood? – RPU

A.<sup>1</sup> Elias Upchurch born 1791

B.<sup>1</sup> Lucy Upchurch born 173

C.<sup>1</sup> Mildred Upchurch born 1795

D.<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Upchurch born 1796

E.<sup>1</sup> Adam Upchurch born 1797

F.<sup>1</sup> Nancy Upchurch born 1799

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Possible grandchildren of Sherwood Upchurch:

1. John Upchurch born 1824 married 1849 A. Bridges
2. Joseph Upchurch born 1827 married 1861 M. Moode; Witness: Daniel Upchurch
3. James Upchurch born 1828 – in Campbell Co, GA in 1850

#### Cline Family Tree

Sherwood Upchurch

Birth 1771 in Brunswick, Virginia

Death 1850 in Campbell, Georgia

1790 Marriage to Elizabeth Tomerlin

21 Oct

Age: 19

1804 Marriage to Mary Polly Smith Pell

2 Jan Age: 33

Rutherford, North Carolina

**(18)** RPU Download – 20 Mar 2013

A. North Carolina Marriage Collection, 1741 – 2004

Name: **Sherwood Upchurch**

Spouse: Elizabeth Tomberlinson

Marriage Date: 21 Oct 1790

Marriage County: Rutherford  
Marriage State: North Carolina  
Source: County Court Records at Rutherfordton, NC & Family

B. North Carolina Marriage Collection, 1741 – 2004

Name: **Sherwood Upchurch**

Spouse: Polly Pell

Marriage Date: 2 Jan 1804

Marriage County: Rutherford

Marriage State: North Carolina

Source: County Court Records at Rutherfordton, NC & Family

(19) RPU Entry 20 Jun 2016

1790 United States Federal Census

Name: **Sherwood Upkirch**

Home in 1790 (City, County State: Lincoln, North Carolina

Free White Persons – Males – 16 and over: 1

Free White Persons- Females: 1

Number of Household Members: 2

[Note: A search for Upchurch households on the 1790 census brings up 11, and minus Sherwood as he is lodged as Upkirch, so we have 12. An inspecting of the original shows Sherwood in Rutherford not Lincoln which is on the same page.]