

## Henry Woolf (248) and Polly Seaburn (249)

Henry Woolf (248), Senior, was born say 1724,<sup>1</sup> most probably in the Holy Roman Empire in Europe.

Generation 8	Henry Woolf and Polly Seaburn
Generation 7	Henry Woolf and Elizabeth Mitchell
Generation 6	Fielding Woolf and Theodocia Jennings
Generation 5	George Gehon and Elizabeth Woolf
Generation 4	John R. Ewing and Serena Gehon
Generation 3	Thomas Hughes and Mary Elizabeth Ewing
Generation 2	Clarence Ellis French and Mary Elizabeth Hughes
Generation 1	John Alexander Heisler and Dorothy Mae French

### Ancestry:

Henry Woolf probably immigrated to the United States from the Holy Roman Empire. Nothing is now known of his life until July 1776, when he, his son Henry Woolf junior, and a John Woolf enlisted in a militia unit raised by Captain John Arndt in Forks Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.<sup>2</sup> However, the *Palatine Project* identified a few early Woolf immigrants to Pennsylvania:<sup>3</sup>

On the pink<sup>4</sup> *Plaisance*, John Parrett, captain, from Rotterdam by way of Cowes, arrived at Philadelphia 21 September 1732:

Andreas Wolff	25	(1707)	From Ittlingen, Baden; brother-in-law of Hans Jacob Weiss of Steinsfurt; to Lancaster & Philadelphia Co., PA
Anna Dority Wolff	30	(1702)	
Andreas Heinrich Wolff	2	(1730)	

On the *Loyal Judith*, Robert Turpin, captain, from Rotterdam by way of Cowes, arrived in Philadelphia 25 Sep 1732:

Jonas Wolff	40	(1692)	From Bayern-Pfalz; to Lancaster & Lebanon Co., PA
Anna Steinwenden	30	(1602)	

On the *Samuel*, Captain Hugh Percy, from Rotterdam, arrived in Philadelphia 27 August 1739:

Jacob Wolff	20	(1719)	From Ronnenberg, Bayern-Pfalz
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On the *Friendship*, Captain William Vittery, from Rotterdam by way of Deal, arriving in Philadelphia 3 September 1739:

George Michael Wolff	44	(1695)	From Oberhochstadt, Bayern-Pfalz.
Juliana Maria			Her surname was "Engelhart."
Jo. Bernhard Conrad Woolff	20	(1719)	From Oberhochstadt, Bayern-Pfalz; to Lancaster Co., PA

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<sup>1</sup> DAR Patriot Index 727.

<sup>2</sup> Roberts, Charles Rhodes, *History of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania* (Allentown, Penn.: Lehigh Valley Publishing Co., 1914).

<sup>3</sup> The Palatine Project, "Reconstructed Passenger Lists, 1683-1819," <<http://progenealogists.com/palproject/>>

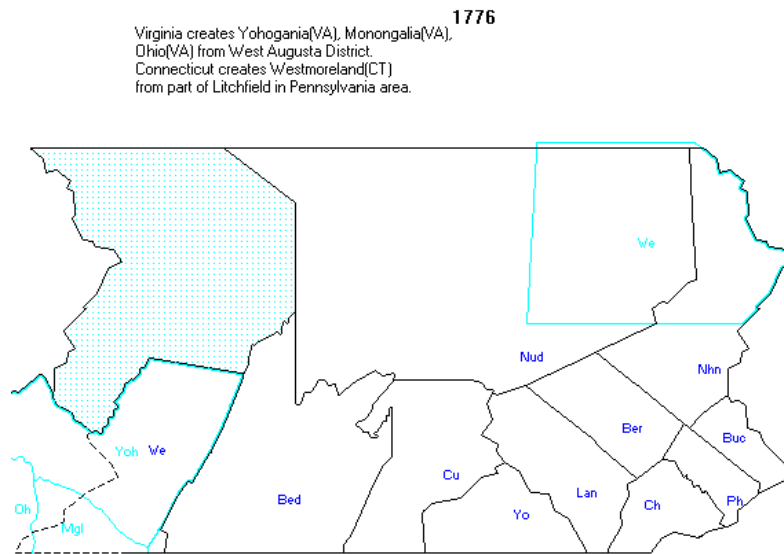
<sup>4</sup> A pink, from the Dutch *pincke*, was a relatively small, shallow draft, square rigged merchant ship.

On the galley *Mary*, Captain George Lawson, arriving in Philadelphia 7 September 1748:  
Nicholaus Wolff

It is not known if Henry Woolf was related to any of these Woolfs.

### Northampton County, Pennsylvania:

The land that became Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was originally part of Bucks County, organized in 1682. By 1728, Scotch-Irish Presbyterians were settled in what became Allen Township, Northampton County. In 1740, George Whitefield, a Moravian brethren missionary, and a number of Moravians from Georgia founded the settlement of Nazareth. In 1741, Moravians founded the town of Bethlehem. Northampton County was formed in 1752 when Easton was declared the county seat.



Pennsylvania Counties in 1776 showing Northampton (Nhn) and Bucks (Buc).<sup>5</sup>

### Forks Township:

Forks Township was one of the original townships of Northampton County. It was first settled in the 1740s. In the later 1700s, its principal towns were Chestnut Hill, Churchville, Coilton, Uhlers Crossing and Zuchsville.

The baptismal records of the Dryland Union Church in Hecktown, Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County, include the baptism of Juliana Maria Schmidt, born 10 March and baptized 27 March 1763, daughter of Georg and Maria Salome Schmidt. Her sponsors were "Heinrich Wolff and wife Juliana Maria."<sup>6</sup> "Heinrich Wolff" could have been Henry Woolf or his son. "Polly" was a common nickname for Mary.

### Captain John Arndt's Militia:

The *History of Northampton County, Pennsylvania* described the formation of John Arndt's militia:

<sup>5</sup> negenealogy.com, Penn Co Formation Maps1 May 2005, <[http://www.mypennsylvaniahistory.com/pa\\_maps.htm](http://www.mypennsylvaniahistory.com/pa_maps.htm)>

<sup>6</sup> Records of Dryland Union Church, Hecktown, Bethlehem (now Lower Nazareth) Twp, Northampton, PA. (FHL film #941099)

“Towards the formation of the ‘flying camp,’ the quota of men to be furnished by Northampton county, was three hundred and forty-six. There was no hesitation in the business of recruiting these; for the patriotic spirit, which had already been kindled, became intensified four-fold when the announcement at last came that Congress had, on the Fourth of July, snapped asunder the last bond which held Pennsylvania a colony, of the crown of English and the people felt that they were no longer subjects, but citizens, clothed with the attribute of self-government. ... Recruits came in freely to the Northampton battalion of Colonel Baxter. A transcript from a journal kept at Bethlehem, at that time, is given in the Bethlehem Souvenir, page 166, as follows:

‘July 30. One hundred and twenty recruits from Allentown and vicinity, passed through, on their way to the Flying Camp do the Jerseys, to which our county has been called on to contribute three hundred and forty-six men. Every volunteer is entitled to a bounty of three pounds.

‘August. Many recruits passed through our place during the month principally militia, from Lebanon, Tulpehocken, Reading, and Oley. Most of the companies wished to have divine worship held – a wish which was cheerfully complied with.

‘August 18. Five companies of Lebanon militia, who arrived last evening, with flying colors and martial music, on their way to the Camp, attended the Sunday services of to-day.

‘August 19. Our watch reported having heard heavy cannonading towards the east, at daybreak. We later ascertained it had been at New York.

So rapidly had the recruiting progressed, since the Act of the fourth July became known, that, early in August, the Northampton troops joined Washington's army on Long Island. ...

In the battle which occurred there, on the twenty-seventh of that month which resulted so disastrously to the Americans, the [troops] from the Forks of the Delaware behaved most gallantly, and suffered severe loss. In the journal above mentioned is the following entry, referring to that engagement:

‘September 26. In these days, parties of militia on their return from New York, passed, bringing the intelligence that a battalion from the county had suffered severely at the engagement with the British, on Long Island, on the 27th of August last, having left most of its men either dead or wounded.’ And at, the Fort Washington fight, November 16th, 1776, their list of casualties was still greater.”<sup>7</sup>

The roll taken of Captain John Arndt’s company “of Colonel Baxter's battalion of the Flying Camp at Elizabeth Town, November 17th, 1776,” named, as living, Henry Wolf Jr. In the list of the “Names and rank of those killed or taken at Fort Washington, 16th November, 1776,” were named privates John Wolf and Henry Wolf, Sr.<sup>8</sup>

“After the ill-starred fight at Harlem Heights, Washington withdrew across the North River, and retreated through the State of New Jersey, by way of Newark, New Brunswick, Princeton, and Trenton, and never drew rein until he reached Pennsylvania soil, with the Delaware between him and his pursuing enemy Cornwallis.”<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Davis, Ed. *History of Northampton County, Pennsylvania Illustrated, 1887* (Philadelphia & Reading, Penn.: Peter Fritts, 1877), Chapter XXII, p. 58-9.

<sup>8</sup> Davis, *op cit.*

<sup>9</sup> Davis, *op cit.*

The Pennsylvania Archives include a record of "Wolff, Henry, private, Captain Henry Christ, Jr., Pa. Rifle Regiment, Enlisted 8 April deserted 20 April. M/R apt. Christ's Co., Marcus Hook, 1 June 1776."

**Other Wo(o)lf(e)s of Northampton County:**

There were a number of other Wolf, Wolfe, Woolf, Woolfe, etc., families living in Northampton County. The 1790 United States Census for Northampton County enumerated the following Woolf families:

Jacob Woolf of Delaware Township. He was over 16, and head of a household of two males under 16 and four females.

Michael Woolf of Nazareth Township. He was over 16, and head of a household of six males under 16 and 2 females.

Christian Woolf of Plainfield Township. He was head of a household of one male under 16 and Christian Woolf may have been the Christian Wolff born 3 August and baptized 8 September 1765,<sup>10</sup> a son of Jacob and Maria Elizabeth Wolff. Christian and Elizabeth Wolf were the parents of Catharine Wolff, born and baptized 30 July 1776 at the Reformed Church, Plainfield Twp.<sup>11</sup>

The records of the Dryland Church, near Hecktown in Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County identify a number of other Woolfs:<sup>12</sup>

Philip and Elizabeth Wolf were the parents of: i) an unnamed child, baptized 11 January 1774 at Dryland Church; ii) John Wolf, baptized 16 February 1769; iii) John Philip Wolf, born and baptized say 1770; iv) Juliana Wolf, born and baptized 28 February 1773; and v) Elizabeth Wolff, born and baptized 3 April 1777.

Johan George Wolff and Maria Margaretha Hering were the parents of i) Maria Catherina Wolff, born 3 September 1764 and baptized 8 October 1764, with sponsors Jacob Wilhelm and wife Christina; ii) Maria Catharine Wolff, born and baptized 3 September 1769; and iii) Elizabeth Wolff, born and baptized 27 June 1771.

Peter and Anna Catharine Wolf were the parents of i) Elizabeth Wolf, baptized 2 September 1772; ii) John Jacob Wolff, born and baptized 20 February 1778; iii) Henry Wolff, baptized 20 March 1779; and iv) John Nicholas Wolff, born and baptized 6 June 1780.

Michael and Elizabeth Wolf were the parents of i) Jacob Wolff, born and baptized 4 April 1780; ii) Susanna Wolf, born and baptized 17 October 1781; iii) John Paul Wolf, born and baptized 25 January 1784; iv) John Wolff, born and baptized 16 April 1787; and v) Abraham Wolff, born and baptized say 1789.

Philip and Gertraut Wolff were the parents of i) Elisabeth Wolff, born and baptized 11 July 1785.

George and Susanna Wolff were the parents of i) Susanna Wolff, baptized 21 July 1777.

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<sup>10</sup> Records of Dryland Union Church, Hecktown.

<sup>11</sup> Records of Reformed Church, Plainfield Twp., Northampton Co., Pa.

<sup>12</sup> Records of Dryland Union Church, Hecktown.

**Children:**

Henry Woolf and his wife<sup>13</sup> *Mary* or *Polly SEABURN (249)* (born say 1727) Woolf are said to have been the parents of:

- q.v. i. *Henry WOOLF Jr.*
- ii. *William WOOLF.*
- iii. *Francis WOOLF.*
- iv. *Mary WOOLF.*
- v. *Elizabeth WOOLF.*
- vi. *George G. WOOLF.*

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<sup>13</sup> DAR Patriot Index, p. 757. "Wolf, Henry, Sr. b. 1724 d 11-16-1776 m Polly Seaburn Pvt PA."