

Timeline for Hamilton Reynolds Family in Arkansas

- **1812**
Birth date of Hamilton Reynolds as recorded on marriage record to 2nd wife. Location unknown.¹
- **Before 1837**
John Reynolds and Hamilton Reynolds arrive in Arkansas.²
- **September 3, 1837**
Marriage Hamilton Reynolds to Maria Gray, widow of Samson Gray with three children, in Pulaski County, Arkansas.³ Her maiden name was also Gray, father unknown. She was probably Samson cousin.
- **3 Mar 1843** Hamilton Reynolds purchases 40 acres in Prairie County, Arkansas. This land later became part of Lonoke County which Hamilton helped found.
- **Dec. 15, 1845** Stephen Marion Reynolds born.⁴
- **1848-1852**
Hamilton Reynolds served as a judge in Prairie County.⁵
- **1850 Census:**
The Hamilton Reynolds family is located in Hamilton Township, Prairie County Arkansas. Hamilton is listed as the owner of several slaves. Listed in their household is Hamilton, Maria, Thomas Gray (youngest son of Maria and Samson) and a five-year old boy named Stephen Bales. This may be a clerical error or Stephen may be adopted. There was is an adult Stephen Bales listed in the same census as a widower with 7 children. It is possible that he had another son who was “bound” out to the Reynolds family and no formal adoption papers filed. It is also possible that a clerk accidentally added “Bales” to Stephen’s name.

¹ Birth date found in 1866 marriage record; .

² Listed as an early settler of Prairie/Lonoke County on <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arlonoke/>. Family history says came from North Carolina.

³ Pulaski County, Arkansas marriage record and notice in Arkansas Gazette newspaper. Also in Pulaski county records marriage of Maria to first husband Samson Gray in 1824 . They had 3 children. Maria was listed on that marriage record with the maiden name of Gray, so she may have been Samson’s cousin. Samson was son of revolutionary war hero Jacob Gray, who helped settle Prairie County, coming to Arkansas 1820. For more info on Jacob and Samson Gray see <http://www.couchgenweb.com/arkansas/prairie/biog-pra.htm>; <http://arcourts.ualr.edu/Personal-Names/names-g.htm>; <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=969>; and <http://jklgate.com/GEDPage/html/nti01207.htm>.

⁴ Date on grave stone and in Family Bible belonging to grandson C.V. Reynolds and fits with age on 1850 Census. Other dates found for his birth include: 1844, listed on marriage record and 1843 on family history passed down from daughter Lula Reynolds;

⁵ Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas; <http://www.couchgenweb.com/arkansas/prairie/biog-pra.htm>

- **1855** Hiram Reynolds is born⁶
- **1858-1860**
Hamilton served in the Arkansas General Assembly as representative for Prairie County⁷
- **1860 census:**
Stephen Reynolds is listed as 16 year-old, but not in household with Hamilton & Maria. Possibly he is in a boarding house. Hamilton Reynolds is listed as owner of 10 male slaves and 5 female slaves. Hamilton is listed as age 48, birth state N.C. Maria (spelled Mariah) is listed as 57, place of birth, Arkansas (which is unlikely). There is no listing for son Hiram who appears in 1870 census with birth 1855.
- **1861**
Hamilton helps found the Hamilton Home Guard and is listed as Captain. Stephen is listed as serving in the Second Arkansas Mounted Rifles Company C, CSA. ⁸
- **About 1865**
Maria Reynolds dies from T.B. According to family history passed down from Stephen's daughter Lula. Maria was carried out and laid under apple tree by Yankee soldiers, where she watched them burn her home.
- **15 Feb 1866**
Marriage of Hamilton Reynolds to Martha Ann Legate.⁹
- **16 Aug 1866**
Marriage Stephen Marion Reynolds and Eliza Evans¹⁰
- **Abt 1868** Sallie C. Reynolds born
- **1869**

⁶ Hiram is not listed with the family in the 1860 census, but is in 1870. It is possible that he was adopted, especially considering Maria's age, but it could have just been a census oversight. One researcher speculated that he was a nephew, and related to the Hiram Reynolds family of Hot Spring Co. But the Hiram of that family in that generation is listed in a census record for that family. For now, I'm listing Hiram as the biological son of Hamilton and Maria per the 1870 census.

⁷ Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas; <http://www.couchgenweb.com/arkansas/prairie/biog-pra.htm>

⁸ Hamilton listed on Home Guard Roster at <http://www.couchgenweb.com/civilwar/prairihg.html>.

See Stephen is listed on <http://www.reynoldsfamilycircle.com/civilwar.htm> and although he isn't mentioned his unit is on http://asms.k12.ar.us/armem/welch/AR_cav.htm

⁹ Record in Prairie County, Arkansas. His birth date is listed as 1812, no place named. His age listed as 54. Her birth date is listed as 1846 and her age as 20. In the death record of her daughter her birth place is listed as Lonoke County, but since Lonoke County hadn't been formed, she was probably born in Hamilton Township Prairie County. However, Lonoke was formed from a large portion of Prairie County.

¹⁰ Both are listed as living in Hamilton Twp, Prairie County. His birthday is listed as 1844 and age as 22. Her birth date is listed as 1846 and age 20. Eliza is listed in some family records as Louisa Jane and on grave as L.J.

Hamilton Reynolds helps survey land and layout town plot in Lonoke County Arkansas and moves family there.¹¹

- **31 Mar 1870** Maria Elizabeth Reynolds born.¹²
- **1870 Census** Household members listed: Hamilton Reynolds, age 55, birth year listed as 1815 instead of 1812 as on marriage record, birthplace, N.C.; M.A. (Martha Ann) Reynolds, age 24, birthplace, AR; S.C. Reynolds, age 2, birthplace, AR; M.E. Reynolds, age 3 mos., birthplace AR; Hiram Reynolds, age 15, birthplace, AR.
- **1871** Hamilton Reynolds writes will leaving estate to wife and two daughters, doesn't mention Stephen or Hiram at all.¹³

¹¹ Lonoke County history <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=787>

¹² She is listed as Elizabeth M. in his will and M. Elizabeth on her death record, which lists Lonoke Arkansas as place of birth and date 31 Mar 1870 and lists parents, so we know this is the right record. She died 12 Oct 1946 in Port Arthur Texas and is buried in Little Rock AR.

¹³ Will currently in possession of Lynda Fowler, descendant of Hamilton's first wife, Maria Gray.