

Stanfill Family Surname History

The Stanfill's originally came from France and in the 1066 A.D. Battle of Hastings when Normandy (France) captured Brittany (England). They were granted Stansfield England which is still there today (2014), and is where our name and other variants come from.

The documented history of the STANSFIELD family begins in the 11th century Normandy. Sometime before 1030, Robert Duke of Normandy and father of William the Conqueror, built a castle at Cheruel, on the River Couesnon, which divided the provinces of Normandy and Brittany.

He installed his confidant, **Marion as Seigneur de Cheruel** to keep the peace in the vicinity of Pays de Dol (modern day Dol-de-Bretagne).

Wyon, son of Marion (known as Wyon Marion) accompanied William the Conqueror on the invasion of 1066. For his services, he was granted the lordship of what is now the border between Yorkshire and Lancashire.

He took up residence in the existing Stansfield Hall and took his surname from there. He was known as: Wyon Marion De Stansfield 1st Lord of Stansfield. The Manor Stansfield is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. The following pedigree is on file at Heralds' College London and from Harleian Manuscript 4630, folio 382, in the British Museum under the title "Stansfield of Stansfield, near Halifax, in the Wapentake of Agnrig and Morley."

The following information is taken from introductory material in History of a Stanfield Family, by Oscar C Stanfield, Cheyenne, WY, 1961:

"Wyon Marion, Lord of Stansfield, a descendent of the noble lines of Normandy and Brittany, accompanied Earl Warrene, a companion of William the Conqueror in 1066. He obtained from his royal master, the grant of an extensive township called Stansfield, comprising nearly 7,000 acres, in Yorkshire. Wyon Marion, assuming there from his surname, was the founder of the Stansfield family in England.

A history of the County confirms that Stansfield is an extensive township in Yorkshire. Stansfield Hall is situated in a very beautiful part of the valley of Todmorden. The original estate lies for six miles along the River Calder, and extends far beyond its banks. A part of the original Manor House, built in 1300, still stands, and there are remains of the ancient coat of arms of the family, over the mantel piece along with those of the Lascelles family. [The mantel piece of the coat of arms for the Stansfield family was placed there when Thomas Stansfield (1350 – 1436) (9th Generation of Stansfield) and Barbara Lacelles (1352 – 1452), his wife commissioned to have it placed it there.]

Stansfield bears for arms, Sable, Three Goats Trippant, Argent. Burke's General Armory gives the arms for these Lines: Stansfield, of Stansfield in Yorkshire; represented by Stansfeld of New Cross, County of Surry, bears for arms, Sable, Three Goats Trippant, Argent. Crest: A Demi Lion Rampant Argent."

The phrase "Nosce Te Ipsum" means, "Know Thyself".

From what I can find through my own surname research and a little common sense, the main family lived in Stansfield as Lords until the 13th generation of Stansfield with Thomas Stansfield (1481 – 1509) and his wife Blanch when they moved to Heptonstall, Yorkshire, England.

His great great grandson, Lawrence Stanfield (1540 – 1591) lived in Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire, England with his wife Elizabeth (1544 – 1591).

The Stanfields line then scatters through England from there on out until Robert Stanfield Sr. (1676 - ?) of Old Swinford, England, moved to Essex, Virginia, United States with his son Robert Stanfield Jr. sometime after his wife, Ester Sandiford (1671 - ?) died.

The last “Stansfield” in my succession ends with Gideon Stansfield (1601 – 1658) and his wife Grace Eastwood (1603 – 1682). His son, Samuel is listed as being “Samuel Stanfield” without the “s”.

The last “Stanfield” in this succession ends with Jacob Stanfield (1761 – 1830). His son spelled his name “Thomas Stanfill” (1790 S.C. – 1850 T.N), most likely a change having to do with the Revolutionary War.

After Thomas Stanfill (1790 – 1850) comes the following line:

William Green Stanfill (1811 – 1896) Wife Elizabeth Simmons (1810 – 1879) of Missouri.

William Alexander Stanfill (1837 – 1915) Wife Elisabeth Mckinzey (1841 - ?) of Missouri.

John Wesley Stanfill (1861 – 1916) Wife Caroline Best (1862 - ?) of Missouri.

Joseph Franklin Stanfill (1898 – 1975) Wife Shirley Pauline Perkins (1900 – 1984) of Missouri.

John Finis Stanfill (1925 – 2001) Wife Eugenia Marie Jilek (1922 – 1995) of Missouri.

Father David John Stanfill Sr. (1949 – Living) Wife Jamie Franklin Stanfill (1950 – 2004) of Roanoke, VA

David John Stanfill Jr. (1970 – Living) Wife Angela Diane Thomas (1967 – Living) of Roanoke, VA

Here is how my personal genealogy goes:

Seigneur De Cheruel (A Descendant of Noble Lines in France)

1. Wyon Marion De Stansfield – 1st Lord of Stansfield 1030 – 1066 (Died after the Battle of Hastings)
2. Jordan De Stansfield – 2nd Lord of Stansfield 1055 – 1140
3. John De Stansfield – 3rd Lord of Stansfield 1176 – 1276
4. Richard Stansfield – 4th Lord of Stansfield 1203 – 1303
5. Edmund Stansfield 5th Lord of Stansfield 1230 – 1330
6. Ralph (Rafe) Stansfield 6th Lord of Stansfield 1260 – 1360
7. William Stansfield 7th Lord of Stansfield 1320 – 1372
8. Thomas Stansfield 8th Lord of Stansfield 1350 – 1436
9. John Stansfield 9th Lord of Stansfield 1380 – 1452
10. Thomas Stansfield 10th Lord of Stansfield 1410 – 1482
11. William Stansfield 11th Lord of Stansfield 1450 – 1538
12. Thomas Stansfield 12th Lord of Stansfield 1481 – 1509 (Moved to Heptonstall, Yorkshire, England)
13. Lawrence Stansfield 1507 – 1534
14. Thomas Stansfield 1529 – 1564
15. Lawrence Stansfield 1540 – 1591
16. Abraham Stansfield 1574 – 1642
17. Gideon Stansfield 1601 – 1658
18. Samuel Stanfield Sr. 1625 – 1687 (Notice the surname alteration in spelling.)
19. Samuel Stanfield Jr. 1644 – 1699
20. Robert Stanfield Sr. 1676 - ? (Migrated from England to the United States)
21. Robert Stanfield Jr. 1702 – 1760
22. John Franklin Stanfield Sr. 1733 – 1784
23. Jacob Stanfield 1760 – 1830
24. Thomas Stanfill 1790 – 1850 (Notice the surname alteration in spelling.)
25. William Green Stanfill 1811 – 1896
26. William Alexander Stanfill 1837 – 1915
27. John Wesley Stanfill 1861 – 1916
28. Joseph Franklin Stanfill 1898 – 1975
29. John Finis Stanfill 1925 – 2001
30. Father David J. Stanfill Sr. 1949 – Living
31. David John Stanfill Jr. 1970 - Living

I am the 31st generation of Stansfield.

My Daughter, Olivia Jane Stanfill (2005 – Living) is the 32nd Generation of Stansfield.

Maps of the origin place of Stanfill:











Written by David John Stanfill, Jr., 2014.
With special thanks to Ancestry.com and Google Maps.