

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Marie Elizabeth Michalec Armstrong**

This interview began with Jean Wunderlich, who provided background information on her Armstrong family based on research. Marie Armstrong provided various stories and historical information on her mother's Polish family, Wesnewski, and her father's Texas family, Michalec. Both families were farmers in the area raising cotton, corn, cattle, pigs and chickens.

Much of the original Armstrong Plantation, over 1,100 acres, obtained through a Mexican land grant, was stolen through illegally obtained deeds. Marie and her husband, Jimmy, were invited by the Queen of England to attend the Armstrong Clan Society reunion but declined.

Marie and Jean tell about the Armstrongs in England, fighting with George Washington at Valley Forge, involvement in the Texas Revolution, and owning slaves in Fort Bend County.

11 Pages

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Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

David White Armstrong – ancestor
 James Armstrong – Marie’s son
 Jimmy Armstrong – Marie’s husband
 John Armstrong – US General during the American Revolution
 Aiden, Avery, and Aaren Armstrong – grandchildren
 John Armstrong – US General during American Revolution
 Maria Armstrong – great grandmother
 Thomas Armstrong – plantation owner
 Olivia Brower – Jean’s sister
 Henry Robert Farmer – Jean’s father
 Dr. Robert Allen Farmer – Jean’s grandfather
 Craig McCool – son-in-law
 Christian McCool – grandson
 Tammy McCool – Marie’s daughter
 Elsie Hluchan Michalec – Marie’s grandmother
 George Michalec – brother
 Gertrude Jankowski Michalec – Marie’s mother
 Joseph Michalec – Marie’s grandfather
 Odell J. Michalec – Marie’s father

Hilmar Moore – prominent mayor & rancher
 Queen Elizabeth II of England
 George Washington – first US president
 Josephine Wesnewski – Marie’s great-grandmother

Places / Businesses

Armstrong Clan Society
 Chappell Hill
 Disabled American Veterans
 England
 Fairchild
 Galveston
 Guy
 Brazoria County
 Jefferson Lake Sulphur Company
 Needville
 Poland
 Rosenberg
 RVOS Insurance
 Ursuline Convent School
 Vietnam

Events

Marie Armstrong married her second husband Jimmy Armstrong in 1977, and has one son, James. She also has a daughter, Tammy, from a previous marriage.

Marie’s husband came from a long line of fame and wealth from England. Some owned castles, one fought with General George Washington in the American Revolution and some fought in the Texas Revolution.

Jean Wunderlich, from the Armstrong clan, provided some historical information about the family. She tells a story about how Thomas Armstrong received a Mexican land grant of thousands of acres of land in the county and owned slaves. She researched land records to determine how much of the land was lost and/or stolen after his death. She also researched the probate records and found numerous receipts for the support and education for Thomas Armstrong's 6 minor children upon his death.