

## Maria Louisa Pond

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Almira Pond (this was Stillman's first wife)

Age: 34y

Relationship: Wife of Stilman Pond

Deceased: May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1847

Disease: Consumption

Birth Place: Worstr Co., Massa

Birth Date: 1813

Grave No. 154

Birth Date: May 2, 1812

Birth Place: Huddardston, Worcester, Massachusetts

Death Date: May 17, 1847

Cause of Death: Consumption

Burial Place: Winter Quarters Grave #154

Father's Name: James Davis

Mother's Maiden Name: Miranda Jones

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Unknown

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Listed as family #190 in Great Salt Lake, Utah Territory.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Came west with the Abraham O. Smoot/George B. Wallace Company in 1847. 223 individuals were in the company when it began its journey from the outfitting post on the Elkhorn River about 27 miles west of Winter Quarters, Nebraska.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

Maria Louisa Davis was born to James Davis and Mary Miranda Jones Davis, at Princeton, Massachusetts. She was reared in Hubbardston, Massachusetts. Maria was the third child in the family. On February 4, 1834, she married Stillman Pond, a widower with four small daughters. During the early part of their marriage, she, with her husband and children moved to New Salem, Massachusetts, where two of her own children were born, here she made a good home for the entire family and the four children of the first wife learned to revere her and really call her "Mother". On December 28, 1841, under the hands of Elder Elias Harris, she and her husband with the family were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and in the

fall of 1843, they moved to Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois, where her fourth child was born on October 28, 1844 but died on January 5, 1845. She and her husband were endowed in the Nauvoo Temple, December 30, 1845 and on February 4, 1846, she was sealed to her husband, Stillman Pond, and at the same time acted as proxy in the sealing of Stillman to his first wife, Elmyra Whittemore, whom he married December 22, 1825 at Hubbardston, Massachusetts. During the winter of 1845-1846, persecution against the Mormons became very severe and the Pond family was forced at the point of bayonet to leave Nauvoo during September 1846. The weather was very inclement and without proper food, clothing and shelter, the family suffered untold hardships. It was under such conditions as these that Maria Pond gave birth to twins on the plains of Iowa. The twins died a few days later and were buried on the plains of Iowa. As was their brother, Lowell Anson Pond, who died of undernourishment or starvation and exposure. She arrived at Winter Quarters, together with the remaining children and husband, but had contracted tuberculosis, and was very ill when she arrived on October 16, 1846. The family lived in tents until January of 1847. She died at Winter Quarters, May 17, 1847. Her children had all died prior to her death.

([https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/6394603?p=17297346&returnLabel=Maria%20Louisiana%20Davis%20\(LC2J-PLC\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FLC2J-PLC](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/6394603?p=17297346&returnLabel=Maria%20Louisiana%20Davis%20(LC2J-PLC)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FLC2J-PLC))