

Abigail Jeffers Sprague

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Abigail Sprague

Age: 74y; 6m; 14d

Wife of Hesikiah Sprague

Deceased: Jan. 22, 1847

Disease: Oldage

Birth Place: Sheffield, State of Conneticut

Birth Date: July 8, 1772

No. of Grave: 58

Birth Date: July 8 or 18, 1772

Death Date: Jan. 22, 1847

Cause of Death: Old Age

Burial Place: Winter Quarters grave #58

Spouse's Name: Hezekiah Sprague

Father's Name: David Jeffers

Mother's Maiden Name: Susan Bolton

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

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Hezekiah died in 1847 or 1848.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Hezekiah came with the Edward Hunter – Joseph Horn Co. which left the Elkhorn River June 17, 1847 and arrived Sep. 29, 1847. Ithamar (son), and Abigail Bradford with her 5 children came with the Edward Hunter – Jacob Foutz Co which left Elkhorn river June 19, 1847 and arrived Oct. 1, 1847.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

- Abigail was baptized in 1838. (emailed doc, p. 355)

-Abigail and Hezekiah were married in Oxford, NY in 1793. (emailed doc, p. 354)

-Together the couple had Ira, Statira, Abraham, Lectie, Lois, Rawsell, Ithamer, Gad, Abigail, and Henry. (emailed doc, p.21)

-While the family was living in Switzerland Co., Indiana the LDS missionaries visited. After discussing the gospel all night Hezekiah wanted to be baptized the next morning. His wife, two

sons and their wives, and daughter Abigail were also baptized.
(<https://familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/2907699>)

-Hezekiah was promised by Joseph Smith that they would be neighbors in the Hereafter.
(<https://familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/2907699>)

-Abigail, the daughter, wrote that her mother was in good health up until the day before she died.
(<https://familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/2907699>)

-Ithamer's wife and five children all died at Mt. Pisgah when the family stopped there for the winter. An anti-Mormon mob overran the town and killed Ithamer's wife Betsey and their 5 children while the men were away from town. (Journals & Biographies, <http://www.orsonprattbrown.com/CJB/04Steadwell/ithamer-sprague.html>, cites to Paula Rigano-Murray, correspondent, note of August 24th, 2004
<http://sprague-database.org/genealogy/getperson.php?personID=I63588&tree=SpragueProject>)

-Another son, Henry, started west but stopped to find his cattle when they got lost. Once they were found he was too far behind his company and permanently settled where he was at, down the river from Burlington. (<https://familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/2907699>)

-Abigail's daughter, Abigail, helped her father Hezekiah to Utah. When one of her oxen died on the trek she had the family milk cow help pull the wagon. Her first husband died from a sudden illness while looking for a doctor to help Abigail. About the same time her 8-year-old son Grandville died. She also brought a cannon from the war of 1812 to Utah. It was named Old Sow. Archibald Gardner, age 34, proposed to Abigail's 17-year-old daughter Mary Ann as a second wife under plural marriage. Right before Brigham Young performed the ceremony he asked where her mother was and told Archibald to marry her as well. Mother and daughter gave birth to Archibald's children within a couple months of each other. (By Common Consent, Sister Wives Series #3: Abigail Sprague, <https://bycommonconsent.com/2016/07/05/sister-wives-series-3-abigail-sprague-the-2nd-wife/>)

-Abigail (daughter) made good friends with the Indians in Utah and even learned their language. She adopted a native child who had been stolen from a warring tribe and named her Fanny. Abigail often smoked peace pipes in Native American circles. It was said that she kept a thimble and spool of thread in her fat rolls. She also enjoyed smoking her corncob pipe. (By Common Consent, Sister Wives Series #3: Abigail Sprague, <https://bycommonconsent.com/2016/07/05/sister-wives-series-3-abigail-sprague-the-2nd-wife/>)