

## Beaumont–Poignant marriage

A search with Findmypast for Prudence Beaumont's marriage yielded a plausible candidate: an application in 1790 by a man whose surname was Beaumont for a licence to marry a woman whose surname was Poignant. We know from Prudence's death certificate that she was the widow of George Beaumont, a carpenter, and of course we know her forename, but we still don't know her maiden name.

Because the information returned by Findmypast did not include either party's forename or any other information that could further identify the couple, I examined a microfilm copy made by the Latter Day Saints of the original record in the Vicar General Marriage Licence Allegations 1694–1850 (LDS volume number 177-178, Jan 1788 through Dec 1790). Sadly, neither of the people in the record turned up by Findmypast were Prudence Beaumont or her husband George.

A transcript of the original handwritten record follows. In it the letter 's' is often—but perhaps not always—rendered like our 'f'. I tried to make a verbatim copy but to do so I had to remember when I had mentally substituted 's' for 'f'. That wasn't as easy as it sounds and I may have got some of them wrong. The microfilm reader I was using had no facility for making a photographic copy.

Vicar General's Office, 21st Oct 1790.

Which day appeared personally Albanas Beaumont and made oath, that he is of the Parish of Saint George in the County of Middlesex Aged Thirty Years and upwards and a Bachelor and intendeth to intermarry with Luisa Poignant of the Parish of Saint Margaret Westminster in the Same County Aged Thirty Years and upwards and a Spinster and that he knoweth of no lawful Impediment, by Reafon of any Pre-contract, Confanguinity, Affinity, or any other lawful Cause whatsoever, to hinder the faid intended Marriage, and prayed a Licence to folemnize the fame in Parish Church of Saint George Hanover Square in the County of Middlesex aforesaid and further made Oath that the Ufual Place of Abode of Him this appearer hath been in the faid Parifh of Saint George Hanover Square for upwards of four weeks laft paft.

[signed] Albanis Beaumont

Sworn before me

[signed] William Ballini  
Surrogate