

## A Brief History of the Moorefield Family in the United States

### Spelling the Name

Many family members believe that Morefields and Moorefields (and other spellings) genealogically are different families. This is not the case. In the early days of this country, few people were literate. When they married, bought property, were enumerated in a census, or for other reasons had their name entered in an official record, it was written by the official the way it sounded. In many early records, the name was spelled various ways: Marfield, Merefield, Mirfield, Murfield, Morefield, Moorfield, Mofield, Moefield, Morefeal, and others.

By the late 1700's, the most common spelling in Halifax County, Virginia, court records was Morefield. By 1810-1820, the most common spelling had evolved to Moorefield due to a court official who added the extra "o". However, even then the name was found as Merrifield and Moorfield in certain census records.

Many Kentucky, Tennessee, and Illinois Morefields, whose families can be traced back to Halifax County, Virginia, simply had their name spelled that way by public officials. Many of the Mofields, Moefields, and Morefields in this country descend from ancestors who had moved from Halifax County, Virginia, by the early 1800's. And, many of the Moorefields descend from those who later migrated from Halifax County. In some areas, such as Forsyth County and Stokes County, North Carolina, most of the Moorefields had grandparents and great grandparents who spelled their name Morefield in the late 1800's.

While it would be difficult to determine the exact number of people with the Moorefield surname (all spellings) living in the United States today, this number easily could be 1,000. From research by those interested in the Moorefield name it appears that at a large majority of these people descend from the early Morefields of Halifax County, Virginia. A few colonial-era Morefield records were found in locations other than Halifax County. However, most of those people disappeared leaving no record of descendants.

### Generation 1                  John Morefield<sup>1</sup>

While substantiating documentation is scarce, it appears that the first North American Morefield ancestor was a John Morefield<sup>1</sup> who came to Virginia from England under England's Headright Program. This name is mentioned several times in *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, which can be found in most major libraries. Under the Headright Program, the King of England granted fifty acres of land in Virginia to anyone who would move to

the colony. A sponsor could be arranged for those not having funds to pay passage. The person wanting to immigrate to Virginia would agree to give the sponsor his fifty acres and to work as an indentured servant for a period of time in exchange for his passage.

Thomas Riding is named in *Cavaliers and Pioneers* as paying the passage for John Morefield<sup>1</sup> and nineteen others, who arrived on Virginia's Eastern Shore April 1666. John Morefield<sup>1</sup> was the only person in this group with the surname Morefield. Some researchers believe three or four Morefield brothers came to Virginia together around this time. However, no documentation has been offered to substantiate this theory.

The church registry of St. Peter's Parish (New Kent County, Virginia) records the death of John Morefield<sup>1</sup> on February 18, 1688.<sup>a</sup> While additional documentation would be helpful, none has been found. Unfortunately, the courthouse in New Kent County burned three times since 1688 (the last time being the final months of the Civil War). Thus, there are no records in the courthouse older than 1865. Therefore, no records exist to prove that the John Morefield<sup>1</sup> who arrived in Virginia in April 1666 was the John Morefield<sup>1</sup> whose death was recorded in 1688. However, no other references to a John Morefield<sup>1</sup> have been found during the relevant time period. Thus, it is possible that these two records refer to the same person.

## Generation 2                  John Morefield<sup>2</sup>

The next reference to a Morefield in Virginia is the inclusion of John Merefield<sup>2</sup> on the 1704 Rent Roll in New Kent County, Virginia.<sup>b</sup> No record has been found of any other Morefield family living in Colonial America at this time. Thus, it is possible (even likely) that this second John Morefield<sup>2</sup> was a son of the first. It is possible that the first John Morefield<sup>1</sup> arrived in Colonial Virginia as a young man, married, settled in New Kent County, Virginia, and raised a family (at least a son). It further is possible that the John Morefield<sup>2</sup> found in the 1794 Rent Roll was this son who had reached adulthood and become a landowner.

The records also show a Daniel Murfield<sup>2</sup> who married Rachel Coker in New Kent County, Virginia, in 1709. John Morefield<sup>2</sup> and Daniel Murfiel<sup>2</sup> could have been brothers, and that is the assumption made for purposes of this analysis. There are a number of Murfield families who trace their ancestry back to Daniel Murfield<sup>2</sup> and Rachel Coker.

From a comparison of names found in New Kent County and Hanover County, Virginia, records, with those found in Lunenburg County, Virginia, records, it appears that John Morefield<sup>2</sup> and a friend named Jonathan Ashworth migrated from eastern

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<sup>a</sup> Today, this church is known as St. Peter's Episcopal Church and is located in Talleysville, Virginia (New Kent County). Before the Revolutionary War, the Church of England (Anglican Church) was the official church in colonial Virginia. After independence from England, the former Anglican Church in this country became the Episcopal Church.

<sup>b</sup> The Rent Roll was a list of those who paid an annual property tax to the King of England.

Virginia to Lunenburg County, Virginia, in the 1740's. In Hanover County, which is adjacent to New Kent County, Thomas Partridge operated a general store in the early 1700's. The Partridge store records contain entries for Jonathan Ashworth and Edward "Murfil"<sup>3</sup>. One entry shows that Jonathan Ashworth bought Edward Murfil<sup>3</sup> a hymnal. Also, a registry book for St. Peter's Parish (New Kent County, Virginia), shows property of John Morefield<sup>2</sup> and property of Jonathan Ashworth being surveyed, up to the mid 1740's.

Several records found in the Lunenburg County, Virginia, court house refer to John Morefield<sup>2</sup>, Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup> (named constable in 1749), and Jonathan Ashworth. John Morefield's<sup>2</sup> will was recorded there in 1751, and Jonathan Ashworth's will was recorded in 1759. After the 1751 death of John Morefield<sup>2</sup> in Lunenburg County, a Jean Morefield married John Ashworth, son of Jonathan Ashworth. The couple moved to what is now Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Thus, it certainly is possible (and may be likely) that the Morefield and Ashworth individuals found in Lunenburg County, Virginia, were the same people found earlier in the New Kent/Hanover County, Virginia, area.

Generations 3 and 4                      Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup> and John Morefield, Sr.<sup>4</sup>

No record has been found establishing a relationship between John Morefield<sup>2</sup> and Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup>, and there are varying opinions among Moorefield researchers as to their kinship. One possibility is that Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup> was a son (but not necessarily the only son) of John<sup>2</sup>. John's<sup>2</sup> 1751 will mentions daughters Jane<sup>3</sup>, Elizabeth<sup>3</sup>, and "grandson" John<sup>4</sup>. Jean Morefield, who married John Ashworth, may have been this same Jane<sup>3</sup>, or perhaps a daughter of Edward<sup>3</sup>. Edward<sup>3</sup> and a third John<sup>4</sup>, who could well be the "grandson John<sup>4</sup>," moved into Halifax County about 1755. Thus, it is possible (and may be likely) that the "grandson John<sup>4</sup>", was a son of Edward<sup>3</sup>, and that Edward<sup>3</sup> was a son of John<sup>2</sup> who died in 1751.

Thus, a possible generational sequence is as follows:

John Morefield <sup>1</sup>	Arrived in Virginia 1666; died 1688
John Morefield <sup>2</sup>	1751 Will
Edward Morefield <sup>3</sup>	
John Morefield <sup>4</sup>	Also referred to as John Morefield, Sr.

Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup> and John Morefield<sup>4</sup> are mentioned in Halifax County court records several 1756 through 1785. In 1756, Edward Morefield<sup>3</sup> "of Halifax County" sold property he owned in Lunenburg County. This fact negates the theory offered by some that Edward<sup>3</sup> and John<sup>4</sup> actually lived in the part of Lunenburg County that became Halifax County in 1751. It also supports the conclusion that they moved from Lunenburg County to Halifax County. Edward<sup>3</sup> bought a 220-acre farm in Halifax County on February 9, 1765. This property is located about four miles east of current day Scottsburg on Allen's Mill Road.. On August, 21, 1777, Edward<sup>3</sup>, sold 50 acres of this property to Stephen Jones. On October 16, 1777, Edward<sup>3</sup> sold the remaining 170 acres to Phillip Major.

John Morefield<sup>4</sup> bought a 140-acre farm on November 22, 1777. This property is located near the intersection of Route 360 and the Scottsburg Road, somewhere along Long Branch Creek, and northwest of this intersection. On September 2, 1806, John Morefield<sup>4</sup> and Martha (his wife) sold this farm. On October 27, 1806, they bought another 100-acre tract about two miles northeast of Scottsburg east of the Hazelnut Branch of the Difficult Creek (near, if not adjoining, the west border of the property owned earlier by Edward<sup>3</sup>). The last property owned by John Morefield, Sr.<sup>4</sup> apparently was south of Green Level Road and to the east of Hazelnut Branch.<sup>c</sup>

The first census of the United States was taken in 1782. This was not actually named a census, but a Head of Household count in preparation for the first formal United States census planned for 1790. For the year 1782, there are records of only two Morefield households in Virginia, Edward's<sup>3</sup> and John's<sup>4</sup>. Edward's<sup>3</sup> household had three members, and John's<sup>4</sup> had ten. At that time, the only names taken were the head of household; other members were not named, and no ages were given. Only a count was given of the remaining members of the household. For this reason, it is not possible to name the members of each household with absolute certainty. Edward<sup>3</sup> had a wife, as the Halifax County record of his estate sale in 1785 mentions "the widow Morefield". It also mentioned John Morefield<sup>4</sup>, who was named administrator of Edward's<sup>3</sup> estate.

John's<sup>4</sup> wife was referred to as Martha and Patsy in different real estate documents in the Halifax County courthouse. In other records and for other families, it is seen that Patsy was a common nickname for Martha. The name of the third member in Edward's<sup>3</sup> household is not known, nor has it been determined if this was a child, other family member, or someone outside the family. The household count was done again in early 1785, before Edward's<sup>3</sup> death. At this time Edward's<sup>3</sup> household still had three members, but John's<sup>4</sup> had only nine. John's<sup>4</sup> daughter Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> married Howard Cain on April 4, 1782. John Morefield<sup>4</sup> signed the marriage bond. It may be that the 1782 count was taken before her marriage in April, explaining the drop from ten to nine members by the time of the 1785 count.

In the 1787 count, the only Morefield households in Virginia were those of John Morefield<sup>4</sup> and Wright Morefield<sup>5</sup>. Because Wright<sup>5</sup> was listed as living in John's<sup>4</sup> household in the 1784 Personal Property Tax for Halifax County, it is reasonable to assume that John<sup>4</sup> was his father, and that Wright<sup>5</sup> was probably his oldest son. In summary, it is reasonable to conclude that Edward<sup>3</sup> was a son of John<sup>2</sup> who died in 1751, and that "grandson John<sup>4</sup>" was Edward's<sup>3</sup> son. Other researchers feel it possible that Edward<sup>3</sup> and John<sup>2</sup> were either brothers or uncle/nephew. The 1790 and 1800 census records for Virginia were destroyed in the War of 1812 when the British burned Washington.

It is possible that John<sup>2</sup> who died in 1751 had other children. In 1754 and 1755 there was a James Morefield in Granville County, North Carolina, (mentioned along with a John Blackman in a militia roster). Granville County, North Carolina is due south of Lunenburg County, Virginia, and its northwest corner borders the southeast corner of Halifax County. There is a 1765 Halifax county deed book record of a James Moorefield

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<sup>c</sup> Note that John Morefield<sup>4</sup> is referred in many documents as John Morefield, Sr., to differentiate him from a later John Morefield. He also is referred to as "grandson John."

living on land being sold to Thomas Hilton, and in 1766 there is a Halifax court case naming James Morefield and Elizabeth Morefield as defendants. Research by others has uncovered a Thomas Hilton living in New Kent County in the 1720's and a Thomas Hilton who bought 270 acres of land in Lunenburg County in 1748. In 1760, Thomas Hilton and Beacham Hilton are shown in Halifax records. Neither James Morefield nor Elizabeth Morefield is mentioned again in the records of Granville County, North Carolina, or Halifax County, Virginia.

However, a James Morefield appears in tax records in Rowan County, North Carolina in 1768. This is the Salisbury area today, but in the 1760's, Rowan County also encompassed present Davidson County, and it appears that James lived in the part of Rowan that became Davidson County. Davidson County lies south of Guilford County, North Carolina. On October 16, 1789 in Rowan County, North Carolina, a Mary Morefield married Mark Sluider, and the bondsman was "Peachum Helton", likely the same Beacham Hilton of Halifax County. Also, on November 5, 1792, Milly Morefield married Lifas Helton in Rowan County. Thus, it is likely that between 1755 and 1765, James Morefield moved from Granville County, North Carolina, to Halifax County, Virginia, then further west to Rowan County, North Carolina by 1768. Also likely is that Mary and Milly were his daughters, and that John Blackman Morefield, probably named after his friend John Blackman of the Granville County militia roster was his son. Clearly, there was some family connection among the Morefield, Ashworth, and Hilton families of New Kent, and other counties of Virginia and North Carolina.

One of the earliest Morefield marriages recorded outside Virginia or North Carolina was that of Vincent Morefield to Peggy (aka Margaret) Neatherly in 1819 in Carter County, Tennessee. Peggy's grandfather was Thomas Neatherly of Mecklenburg County, Virginia. In the 1850 census, Vincent's place of birth was given as North Carolina, and he was possibly a son of John Morefield who married Lydia Collins in Stokes County, North Carolina in 1799. It is possible that this John Morefield was a son or grandson of James and Elizabeth Morefield. At this time, only circumstantial data has been uncovered, but it is unlikely that John Morefield who married Lydia Collins in Stokes County, or Vincent Morefield who married Peggy Neatherly in Carter County, descended from any Morefield ancestor unrelated to John and Edward who first moved into Lunenburg County. Vincent and Peggy have many descendants today in eastern Tennessee and western Virginia.

#### Generation 5                      Children of John Morefield<sup>4</sup> and Martha (Patsy)

John Morefield's<sup>4</sup> will was recorded in Halifax in May, 1812, and probated the following November, naming both his wife Patsy and his "beloved son John"<sup>5</sup>. It is not known for sure why he named no other children and singled out John<sup>5</sup>, except laws and customs were different then. In several court records in Halifax County, the senior John<sup>4</sup> is listed as John, Sr.<sup>4</sup>, and the "beloved son John"<sup>5</sup> as John, Jr.<sup>5</sup> Remember that John, Sr.<sup>4</sup> is not the same John<sup>1</sup> who first came to this country, but is believed to be the grandson John<sup>4</sup> named in the 1751 Lunenburg will of John<sup>2</sup>. Following, in order of marriage date, are the likely children of John<sup>4</sup> and Martha (Patsy).

1. Elizabeth Morefield<sup>5</sup> married Howard Cain on 4 Apr 1782.
2. Wright Morefield<sup>5</sup> married Nancy Stevens on 22 Dec 1785.
3. John Morefield, Jr.<sup>5</sup> married Winifred Bruce on 17 May 1787.  
John<sup>5</sup> and "Winnie" have numerous descendants in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and in North Carolina (Caswell, Rockingham, and Guilford Counties).
4. Moore Morefield<sup>5</sup> married Virginia Reitey (Henrietta?) Strange on 7 Jun 1798.
5. William Morefield, Sr.<sup>5</sup> married Rebecca Stevens on 21 Jun 1801.  
They moved to Patrick County, Virginia, about 1823. Many of their descendants live in (a) Patrick and Pulaski counties of Virginia, (b) Rockingham, Forsyth, and Surry counties of North Carolina, and (c) the eastern counties of Tennessee.
6. Mastin (or Marstin) Morefield<sup>5</sup> married Wilmouth Stokes on 21 May 1804.
7. Edward Morefield<sup>5</sup>. This second Edward Morefield<sup>5</sup>, for whom no marriage record has been found, began having children with his wife about 1798. He is named in a couple of documents with John, Sr.<sup>4</sup> and John, Jr.<sup>5</sup> in Halifax County, Virginia.

The above list is compiled mostly from Halifax County, Virginia, tax and marriage records. Due to the belief that Edward<sup>3</sup> and his wife were beyond childbearing years when each child on the list would have been born, and that John<sup>4</sup> and Martha (Patsy) had the only other Morefield family in Virginia at the time, each Morefield on this list is believed to have been a child of John<sup>4</sup> and Martha (Patsy). It is very probable that John<sup>1</sup>, Edward<sup>2</sup>, and John<sup>3</sup> had other children who moved westward from eastern and central Virginia, perhaps to North Carolina, and to what is now West Virginia.

Following is a brief summary of information about those believed to have been children of John<sup>4</sup> and Martha (Patsy) Moorefield:

1. Elizabeth Morefield<sup>5</sup> married Howard Cain in Halifax County on 4 Apr 1782. The only clue to Elizabeth's<sup>5</sup> age is that John<sup>4</sup> gave his consent by signature. Statute required consent of a parent or legal guardian if under age 21, so it is believed that Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> was born later than 1861. No further research has been done on Elizabeth<sup>5</sup>, but Howard is shown in later records in Halifax County, living near John, Sr.<sup>4</sup>

2. Wright Morefield's<sup>5</sup> name first appeared on the 1784 Halifax County, Virginia, personal property tax list, and was listed in the household of John Morefield<sup>4</sup>. This indicates that Wright<sup>5</sup> was age 21 or older, and that he was likely the son of John<sup>4</sup>. Given this premise, he would have been born by 1763. Wright<sup>5</sup> and Nancy Stephens were married on 22 Dec 1785. Following are the likely children of Wright<sup>5</sup> and Nancy:
  - (a) John W.<sup>6</sup>, born c.1790, married Sally Powell on 12 Dec 1810. Numerous descendants live in Halifax, Pittsylvania, Charlotte, and Amherst counties. Raleigh Carrington Moorefield, former Halifax County school board member is a descendant. For some reason John W.<sup>6</sup> and Sally moved to Henry County, Tennessee in the 1840's. Their son William T.<sup>7</sup> and his wife Elizabeth remained in this area of Tennessee.
  - (b) Henry<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1791, married Nancy Powell, (sister of Sally, above), on 10 May 1814. Henry<sup>6</sup> last appeared on the Halifax County personal property tax list in 1822, and was on the 1830 and 1840 census records for Stokes County, North Carolina. For the 1850 census, Henry<sup>6</sup>, Elizabeth, and their children are shown in Pulaski County, Kentucky. Most of their descendants spell their name Mofield or Moefield.
  - (c) James Harding<sup>6</sup>, born ca. 1794 married Polly Powell, (sister to the above two), on 13 Sep 1816 in Caswell County, North Carolina. James<sup>6</sup> last appeared on the Halifax County, Virginia personal property tax list in 1822, and James<sup>6</sup> and Polly were living in Rowan County, North Carolina at the time of the 1830 census. From there, they had moved to Clark County, Illinois by 1840 and to St. Claire, Illinois by 1850.
  - (d) Armistead<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1798 married Anna Thomas on 14 Feb 1822 and they moved to Iredell County, North Carolina by 1840, when they first appeared on the census there. They have numerous descendants in surrounding counties.
  - (e) No marriage record has been found for Wiley Morefield<sup>6</sup> and Cary Vaughn, but they lived in the Birch Creek area of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, on a farm Cary inherited from her grandfather, and began having children about 1828-30. This farm borders the south side of the Keeling Road, just inside Pittsylvania County, Virginia coming along River Road from the town of South Boston, Virginia. Much of their farm is still owned by descendants, although not named Moorefield. A number of descendants of Wiley<sup>6</sup> and Cary still live in Pittsylvania, Halifax, and Campbell Counties, Virginia. Wiley<sup>6</sup> was born c. 1801, Cary c. 1804. She

died in 1876, and Wiley<sup>6</sup> in 1877. They are believed to be buried near their son James R.<sup>7</sup> on his farm, just north of theirs on Route 360, about a mile inside the Pittsylvania County line from Halifax County.

3. John Morefield, Jr.<sup>5</sup> married Winifred Bruce on 17 May 1787. John<sup>5</sup> last appeared on the personal property tax list, and his wife Winifred is listed in 1817, indicating her to be head of household. Winifred died in late 1848 or early 1849. John<sup>5</sup> and Winifred's daughter-in-law, Sally had a sister Tabitha who was married in their home. However, the minister failed to return marriage record to the courthouse, so it was not recorded. Years later, Tabitha Mundy Dunkley, filed for a widow's pension (presumably for the War of 1812), and Winifred presented her own family register as part of her affidavit to help establish that Sally and Mr. Dunkley were indeed married. Winifred apparently also gave oral testimony. In this record, Winifred named the following children:

- (a) William, Jr.<sup>6</sup>, apparently named after his uncle, William, Sr. was born 27 March 1888, married Nancy Canada on 25 Sep 1809. They lived in Halifax until the mid 1840's, after which William, Jr.<sup>6</sup> migrated to Troup County, Georgia., probably with his son Willis<sup>7</sup>.
- (b) Polly<sup>6</sup>, born 6 Apr 1789, married Nevin McKinney 15 Sep 1817
- (c) John Royal<sup>6</sup>, born 16 May 1791 married Sally Monday on 6-13 June 1813. They have numerous descendants in Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, and Cumberland Counties in Virginia, and Rockingham, Guilford, and Caswell Counties in North Carolina. John Royal<sup>6</sup> died of typhoid in Danville, Virginia (Pittsylvania County) in 1856, and Sally moved to Prince Edward County with their son James<sup>7</sup>.
- (d) Edmund<sup>6</sup>, born 19 Apr 1793 married Rachel Crews on 9-24 Sep 1816. They had one daughter, Elizabeth Ann<sup>7</sup>, and Edmund<sup>6</sup> died in 1822, cause unknown.
- (e) Coleman<sup>6</sup>, born 31 Aug 1795
- (f) Dickerson<sup>6</sup>, born 7 Apr 1798. A Richard Moorefield married Nancy McKinney on 12 Nov 1819. Richard lived next to Winifred in the 1830 census, and his children were named in a settlement of her estate. It is believed he was either Richard Coleman Moorefield or Richard Dickerson Moorefield. Richard<sup>6</sup> died in 1843. Richard<sup>6</sup> has descendants in the Richmond, Virginia, area.



- (g) In records related to Winifred's death, Sarah Moorefield<sup>6</sup> who married William Coates on 11 Dec 1818 is also named as a daughter. She died sometime after her marriage, as William remarried shortly thereafter. She would have been born by 1796.
- 4. Moore<sup>5</sup> was born c. 1775 and married Virginia R. Strange on 6 Jun 1798. They had at least three daughters and one son (Joseph, who moved to South Carolina, then to Georgia). Moore<sup>5</sup> apparently died between 1830 and 1840.
- 5. William, Sr.<sup>5</sup>, born c. 1777 and married Nancy Stevens on 24 Jun 1801. They moved from Halifax to Patrick County about 1822. William, Sr.<sup>5</sup> apparently died in the late 1820's. Children that can be identified are:
  - (a) Nancy<sup>6</sup> born c. 1802, married Joseph Harris on 9 Dec 1824, moved to Tennessee.
  - (b) Allen<sup>6</sup> born c. 1802, married Martha Harris on 2 Mar 1825, moved to Stokes County, North Carolina, then to Scott County, Virginia, then to Hawkins County, Tennessee.
  - (c) Josiah<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1805, married Ruth Keaton on 8 Mar 1830. They moved to Illinois by 1840. Their son, Josiah James<sup>7</sup> fought for the Union Army.
  - (d) Wright<sup>6</sup>, born 20 Oct 1812, married Jane Martin on 25 Dec 1831. Died on 26 Mar 1882 and is buried in Stokes County, North Carolina in the Moorefield – Gibson family cemetery.
  - (e) Mary<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1817, married Sampson Keaton on 3 Jun 1841, later moved to Tennessee.
  - (f) William, Jr.<sup>6</sup>, born 1822, married Mary Ann Kasey on 25 Mar 1847. Died in 1899 and is buried with brother Wright<sup>6</sup> in Stokes County, North Carolina.
  - (g) Martha J.<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1826, married Lewis Martin on 11 May 1848.
  - (h) Rebecca<sup>6</sup>, born 1827, married Alexander Bryant on 8 Aug 1848.

Many descendants of William, Jr.<sup>6</sup> and Rebecca<sup>6</sup> live in Forsyth, Stokes, and Surry counties, North Carolina, in Patrick and Pulaski Counties, Virginia, and in eastern Tennessee. The Morefields of Pulaski County spell their names with one "o".

6. Mastin (or Marstin)<sup>5</sup> was born c. 1780 and married Wilmouth Stokes on 21 May 1804. Mastin<sup>5</sup> died in 1815, and although there are no records that explicitly name their children, there were six children living with Wilmouth in the 1820 census. From a study

of various records, such as later personal property tax lists, census and marriage records of probable children, and where they lived in relation to each other, following are names of six Moorefields believed to be children of Mastin<sup>5</sup> and Wilmouth:

- (a) Banister<sup>6</sup> born c.1805 married Susan M. Comer on 28 Jun 1824
  - (b) Mary<sup>6</sup> born c. 1806 married Asa Moore on 7 Mar 1821.
  - (c) Leroy<sup>6</sup> born c. 1809, married Susannah Throckmorton on 31 Oct 1827
  - (d) Elijah<sup>6</sup> born c. 1810, no marriage record found, but wife was Martha Cheatham
  - (e) Charles<sup>6</sup> born c. 1813, married Mary Shaw on Mar 1849, may have been married before
  - (f) Stephen<sup>6</sup> born c 1815, married Eliza Wilmouth on 11 Feb 1834 in Person County, North Carolina.
7. Edward<sup>5</sup>, born c. 1768, no marriage record found, but believed to have been the father of:
- (a) Martin<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1795, married Sarah Weaver on 1 Sep 1813 in Person County, North Carolina. Also, a Martin Moorefield<sup>6</sup> married Polly Weaver on 24 Sep 1817 in Blount County, Tennessee. They were living in Smith County, Tennessee at the time of the 1840 and 1850 censuses and in Williamson County, Illinois, in 1860.
  - (b) John F.<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1797, married Cintha Estes on 23 Jan 1817, later moved to Clay County, Illinois.
  - (c) Green<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1799, wife was Elizabeth Nelson from Pittsylvania County, Virginia. They were shown living in Stewart County, Tennessee in 1820, in Calloway County, Kentucky, in 1830 and 1840, and in Marshall County, Kentucky, in 1850.
  - (d) Frances<sup>6</sup>, born c. 1808, married Gabriel Adams on 21 Nov 1824. They moved to Clay County, Illinois; brother John F.<sup>6</sup> lived with them by 1860.

The foregoing is an overview of the origins of the Moorefield family in the United States. Please send and Moorefield (all spellings) information that you would like to share to the undersigned at the given address.

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Please note that many of the assumptions and conclusions reached in the foregoing analysis are based upon thin evidence. What are hoped to be reasonable assumptions using circumstantial evidence were made in an effort to provide some structure to the Moorefield genealogy in the United States. Undoubtedly, further research will result in changes to this document.

Summary of First Five Generations

John Morefield <sup>1</sup>	Arrived in Virginia 1666; died 1688
John Morefield <sup>2</sup>	1751 Will
Edward Morefield <sup>3</sup>	
John Morefield <sup>4</sup>	Also referred to as John Morefield, Sr.
Elizabeth <sup>5</sup>	
Wright <sup>5</sup>	
John, Jr. <sup>5</sup>	
Moore <sup>5</sup>	
William, Sr. <sup>5</sup>	
Mastin (or Marstin) <sup>5</sup>	
Edward <sup>5</sup>	

October 10, 2005