

Hall County history

Moss family of Hall County

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At least one family by name of Moss was living in Hall County in the late 1820s and early 1830s, as evidenced by marriages recorded in the courthouse during these years.

Jane Moss was married to James Norris in February of 1829; Eliza G. Moss married Jeremiah Hubbard, March 19, 1829; Hiram Moss was married to Alvina Carr Dec. 20, 1832, and James H. Moss married Elizabeth Green February 27, 1834. These particular couples and their descendants have not been traced, but it is likely that some of these people moved from Hall County to other sections of Georgia or points west.

One Moss family migrated to Hall County around 1845. James Moss, born in 1807, and his wife, Mary Frick, were married about 1830 probably in Newton County. Nothing is known of the father of James Moss except that he was a nephew of Hudson Moss, married Mary Nelms, was father of several children and died young. The widow remarried and the second husband, Danile Tucker Jr., son of the Revolutionary Soldier of Lincoln County, was a kind stepfather and the Moss children loved him deeply. The Daniel Tucker Family is enumerated in the 1830 U.S. Census Jasper County but was not living in the county in 1840 and 1850.

Ralph M. Buffington, Houston, Tex., a descendant of James Moss gives the following description of the ancestor:

"James Moss was a happy young man, working hard as an overseer of slaves on the large plantation in the vicinity of Covington, Ga. After his marriage and birth of his children he underwent a deep spiritual experience and developed an austere puritanical attitude toward life and Christian principles. He grew to loathe slavery and wanted to move to a place where he and his family could avoid any contact with the practice. He located a place for a retreat in a wilderness tract of 640 acres north of the Chattahoochee River, west of the present town of Lula.

"James Moss was an excellent craftsman. He was skilled as a carpenter, furniture maker, blacksmith, and cobbler and made the family shoes, built the furniture and even put together spinning wheels.

"The beautiful log cabin which he built was in recent years destroyed by fire. Only a rock-lined spring at the foot of a hill gives evidence to the joy and sorrows of a family who lived on the isolated farm for almost 80 years.

James and Mary Frick Moss were parents of eight children:

1. Ephraim Moss, born about 1832, married the adopted daughter of an aunt. He and his wife were parents of two sons, James II and John. One daughter married Ben Barrett, ano-

ther daughter, Molly, married late in life and the other daughter did not marry. Ephraim served in the Home Guard during the Civil War and later lost his eye sight.

2. Daniel Tucker Moss, born 1834, married Mary Frances Reynolds, daughter of John W. Reynolds and Frances Harrington. Mary Reynolds was engaged to another young man and became seriously ill with typhoid fever. The intended husband to be mortally feared contact with disease, but Dan Moss did not and visited Mary while she was ill which resulted in the Moss-Reynolds marriage. Dan and Mary Moss are buried in the Hopewell Baptist Church Cemetery near Candler. Their

children were: John, Amanda, Frances Louvinia, Clair, Sarah Elizabeth (Sally), d'Ella Adairine, Emma, and Young Oliver.

3. Frances Moss married Benton Green and the family moved to Cleveland, Alabama shortly after the Civil War. The names of their five children are unknown.

4. Mary Moss, died unmarried.

5. Martha Moss, died unmarried.

6. Eliza Moss, died unmarried.

7. James Moss, Jr. He was the fun loving, happy, practical joker in this most serious minded family. He enlisted in the Confederate Army, was captured at the Battle of Cumberland Gap,

Tenn. He died in a Yankee Prison in Chicago and is buried in a numbered grave in the Federal Cemetery in the city.

8. Nancy Moss died at age 13.

Mary Moss, daughter of James and Mary Moss, died 1923. She remembered a visit to the great-uncle, Hudson Moss, in Habersham County before the Civil War. The uncle was quite old, composed sacred music, one of which was the "Sacred Harp Song Book." He was called "Uncle Huts" by the children and evidently was quite talented and entertaining.

Hudson Moss married Nancy Greenwood and they both are buried in the Line Baptist Church cemetery Banks County.