

# MOORESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## Questions From 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders at Newby Elementary School About Mooreville History (Fall 2009)

### 1. Why was the old high school torn down?

*Old Mooreville High School was torn down during the Summer of 1971. The building was old, and it would have cost too much money to make all of the necessary repairs. The school board felt that the structure would eventually become unsafe to use as a school because of its age.*

*The old high school was built between 1907-1910. Construction was near enough to completion in the Winter of 1909 that classes were held inside. The building cost \$26,000 to build.*

[Source: Hardin, Becky. "Old Mooreville High School Building to Fall This Summer; Memories Stand," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 4, 1971, p. 6.]

### 2. Questions about Samuel Moore

#### a. When and where was he born?

*Samuel Moore was born January 21, 1799 near Albermarle Sound in Perquimons County, North Carolina.*

#### b. When and where did he die? How old was he when he died?

*Samuel Moore died March 1, 1889 in his home just outside of Mooreville in Madison Township, Indiana, at the age of 90. He is buried in the Old Methodist Episcopal (M.E.) Cemetery on West Washington Street in Mooreville.*

**c. Where did he come from? Why did he move here?**

*Samuel Moore lived in Perquimons County, North Carolina for the first 19 years of his life. His parents, Joseph and Mary Moore, were farmers who also had a fishery. Most of the fish they caught were herring and shad fish. In 1818, Joseph Moore and his family, including Samuel, moved to a farm near Salem, Indiana, in Washington County. Samuel remained to help with the family farming until August, 1822, when Samuel decided to move out “on his own.” He settled here in Brown Township, Morgan County, and, in 1824, he founded the Town of Mooresville.*

**d. Did Samuel Moore have any children?**

*On April 15, 1828, Samuel Moore married Eliza Worthington (born June 18, 1808; died Dec. 10, 1873), who lived in Madison, Indiana, along the Ohio River. Samuel visited Madison while trading with riverboats that brought goods up the Mississippi River from New Orleans and then up the Ohio River to Madison. Samuel also sold goods that were shipped down river to the eastern states.*

*Samuel and Eliza had four daughters and one son:*

- *Jane Moore (born Aug. 24, 1829; died Aug. 24, 1852), who married Robert Newby;*
- *Mary M. Moore (born Jan. 15, 1831; died Oct. 13, 1853), who married Washington Conduitt.*
- *Margaret Worthington Moore (born May 22, 1833; died Aug. 12, 1907), who married David Fogleman on Dec. 30, 1869;*
- *Joseph W. Moore (born Aug. 16, 1835; died July 24, 1836); and*
- *Elizabeth (“Lizzie”) Moore (born Jan. 10, 1839; died Nov. 10, 1843).*

**e. Where did Samuel Moore live in Mooresville?**

*During his life, Samuel Moore owned several houses in Mooresville and in Brown and Madison Townships. There is one home still standing, at 35 West High Street.*

**f. Is there a statue of Samuel Moore in town?**

*There is no statue, but there is a plaque commemorating the location of Samuel Moore’s general store, which was located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Main and Indiana Streets in downtown Mooresville. This store, which was built in 1824, was the first wooden frame building constructed in town. Prior to that time, Samuel had a log cabin trading post located “on the brow of the hill” (where Kroger Grocery and the Village Shopping Center now stand).*

[Sources: (1) Legacy Links Obituary Database, Mooresville Public Library ([http://www.mooresvillelib.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=7](http://www.mooresvillelib.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=7)); (2) Obituary Card Files, Mooresville Public Library; (3) Vertical Files, Mooresville Public Library; (4) Hadley, Almira Harvey. *A Brief History of Mooresville and Vicinity* (1918), pp. 10-11. Mooresville, Ind.: A. H. Hadley; (5) Fogleman, Margaret W. *Early Mooresville: Centennial Souvenir Edition* (1924), pp. 1-2. Mooresville, Ind.: Mooresville Civic Association; (6) Kyle-Lee, Julie, "History of Mooresville." *Morgan County History & Genealogy* (7), 6-8 (2001). Martinsville, Ind.: Morgan County History & Genealogy Association.].

### **3. When was the Academy School built?**

*The Mooresville Friends Academy School was built in 1860-1861 at a cost of \$1,625, which was funded through private donations. Initial enrollment was 78 pupils, but by 1867, 150 students attended. High school students began attending there in 1869, making the Academy one of the first secondary schools in Central Indiana. Students travelled from across the center of the state to attend classes there. In 1883, the Town of Mooresville assumed responsibility for the school. It was used for classes from 1861 through 1971. Until 1908, both elementary and high school students attended classes there. Many famous local citizens, including artist Robert Indiana, took classes at the Academy. Today, the building houses the Academy of Hoosier Heritage, a museum showcasing state and local 19th century history.*

### **4. I'm interested in learning more about the designers of the Indiana State Flag and the Mooresville Town Banner.**

#### Paul Hadley

*Paul Hadley of Mooresville designed the Indiana State Banner for the state's Centennial Celebration (1916), and the Indiana General Assembly adopted it in 1917, choosing Hadley's design out of 200 proposals. It was renamed the Indiana State Flag in 1955. The flag's flaming torch and six radiating beams symbolized the expansion of liberty and enlightenment. The 13 stars represent the original 13 American colonies; the five inner stars represent the next five states admitted to the Union. Indiana is the largest star atop the torch.*

*Modest ... Soft-spoken ... Dignified ... Witty ... These descriptions of Paul Hadley, designer of the Indiana State Flag, reflected the community and state in which he was raised. Born in Indianapolis on Aug. 6, 1880, Paul was one of four sons of Dr. Evan Hadley, M.D., and Ella Quinn Hadley. In high school, he switched from Shortridge to Manual to study art under Otto Stark. Paul then studied at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts & the PA Museum & Industrial Arts School. He first specialized in stained glass and interior designs, working for Philadelphia and Chicago firms. Paul helped design the Kennebunkport, Maine residence of Hoosier writer Booth Tarkington. Paul was named "most popular artist" at the 1922 Indiana State Fair. He did not drive a car; instead, he hiked cross-country to paint the scenic views. His ability to capture the essence of his subjects was matched by superb use of color and realism, softened with impressionistic tones.*

*As an art instructor at the Herron School of Art (1922-1933), he specialized in watercolors and outdoor sketches. Paul became Assistant Curator of the Art Association (1935-36). He travelled the country, capturing distinctively local scenes that defined mid-20<sup>th</sup> century Hoosier and American culture. He lived in Mooresville, Plainfield, and, finally, Richmond, Indiana, where he died on Jan. 31, 1971.*

*Bonita C. Marley*

*Bonita C. Marley (1906-2002) designed Mooresville's emblem and banner to commemorate the town's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1974. The date (1824) commemorates the year that Samuel Moore founded Mooresville. The cross represents Indiana's role as the Crossroads of America. The large star in the southwest quadrant of the cross represents Mooresville's position relative to Indianapolis, the state capitol. The 19 stars, which are also included in Paul Hadley's design of the Indiana State Flag (1916), represents the 19 states of the Union in 1816, with the largest star at the top representing the 19<sup>th</sup> state, Indiana.*

*Bonita Conduitt was born in Mooresville on Feb. 11, 1906. Her parents, Henry C. and Florence Shepherd Conduitt, lived at 130 North Indiana Street, in what was commonly known as the Henry Conduitt House. The home became Comer Sanitarium in 1936, which later became Kendrick Hospital (1962-1971). The structure was demolished in 1981 following a fire.*

*There was quite an age difference between Bonita's parents. Henry Conduitt (age 53) and Florence Shepherd (age 19) married on April 27, 1898. Florence developed tuberculosis. Both parents died in 1919. In 1922, Bonita, at age 16, married Justin "Jud" Marley, a real estate developer, who passed away in 1963. The couple had two children, Suzanne and Bruce.*

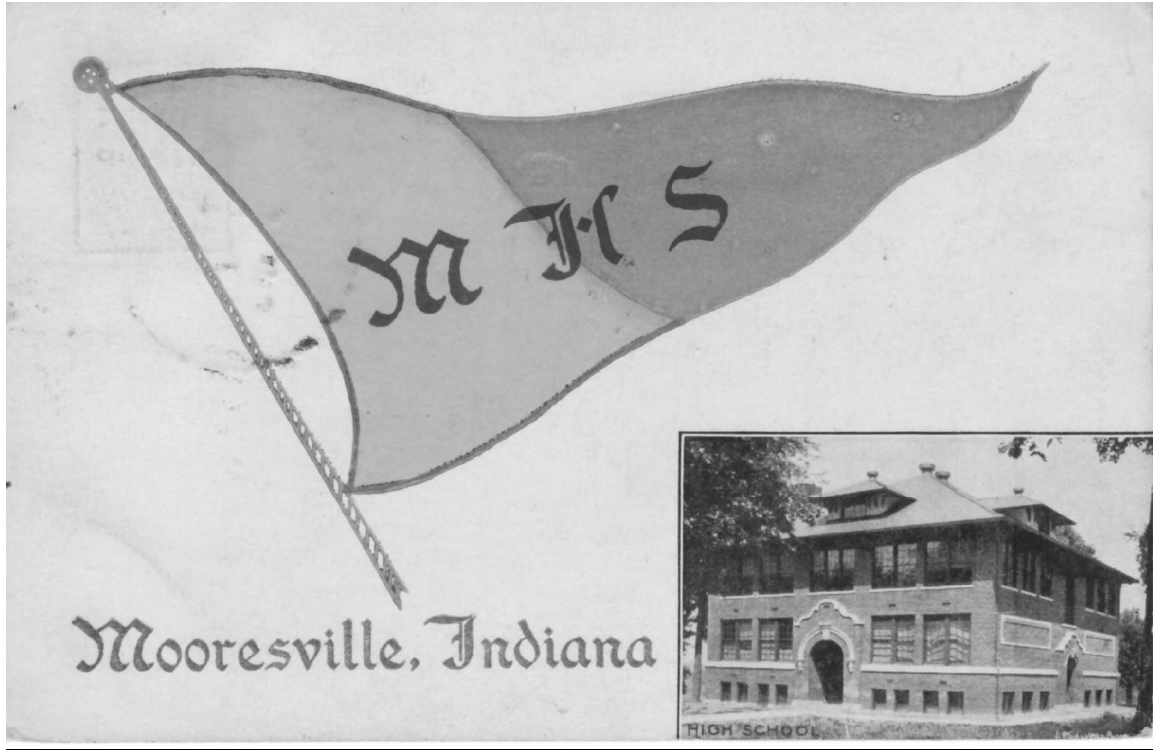
*When Bonita was young, her family moved to a farm just east of town where she grew up. She began driving motor vehicles at age 11, because her father chose not to drive. Her uncle, who owned Conduitt Motors in Indianapolis, sold the family a 1914 Chalmers car, which could reach speeds of 25 m.p.h.*

*Bonita obtained her first library card in 1912 or 1913 when the town's public library operated in a second-story room in a building on East Main Street. In 1916, thanks to a \$10,000 Carnegie Foundation grant, Mooresville Public Library constructed the building that still stands at 30 West Main Street. Bonita became assistant librarian there in 1957 and was promoted to director in 1961. In 1968, she was named "Mooresvillian of the Year." She retired in 1984 but continued to volunteer her time to help at the library.*

[Sources: (1) Mooresville Public Library bibliographic materials and vertical files for Paul Hadley and Bonita C. Marley; (2) Perry, Rachel Berenson. "Paul Hadley: Artist and Designer of the Indiana Flag." *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History* 15, (1), pp. 20-29 (2003); (3) Asher, Jim. "Bonita Marley's Life at the Library Only Part of the Story," *The Mooresville Times*, June 29, 1988.]

## SOME RELATED PICTURES

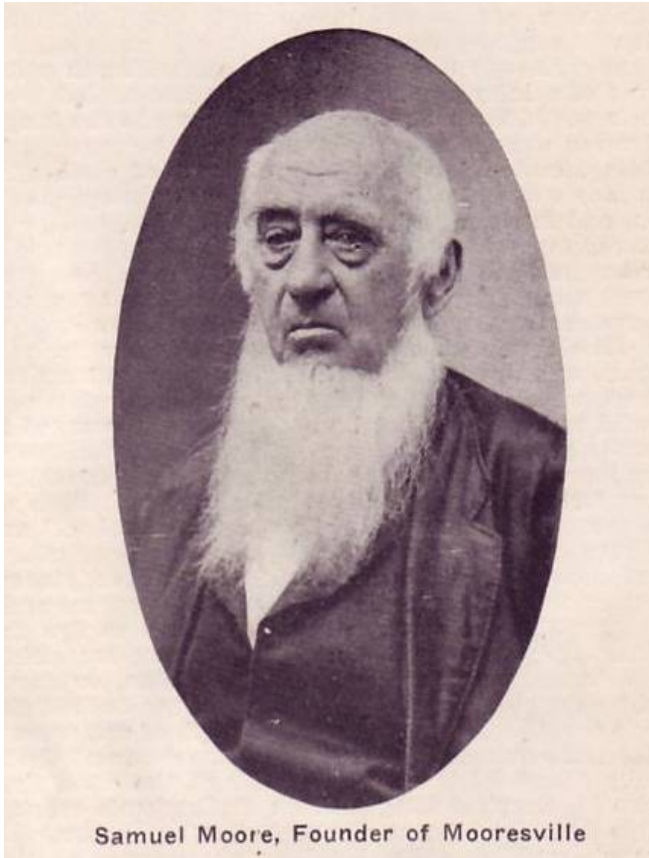
A 1909 picture postcard shows the newly constructed Mooresville High School (completed in 1910; demolished in 1971), which was situated next to the Academy School building. Later, a gymnasium (1920) and William & Milton Newby Memorial Elementary School (1936) would be constructed nearby.



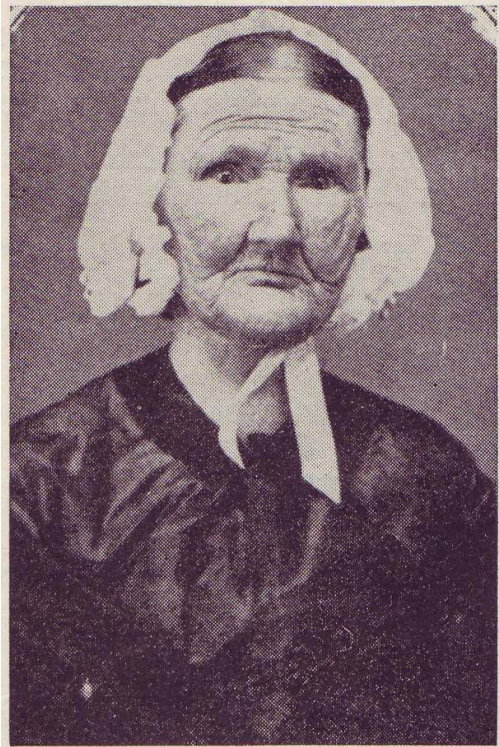
[SOURCE: Stuttgen, Joanne Raetz & Tomak, Curtis. *Morgan County (Postcard History Series)*. (2007), p. 44. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing.]

“Old” Mooresville High School building (1910-1971), which was used as the high school until 1959; thereafter, it was used as the junior high school and as “overflow” for Newby classes, due to an increasing student population in the 1960s. (ca. 1912 photo by J. P. Calvert.)



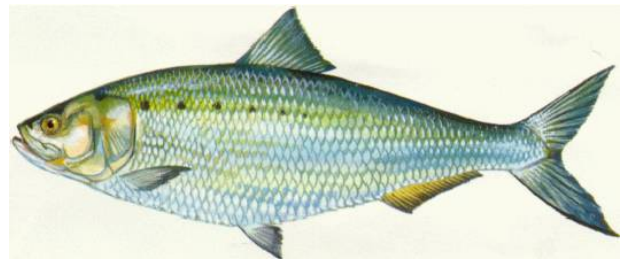
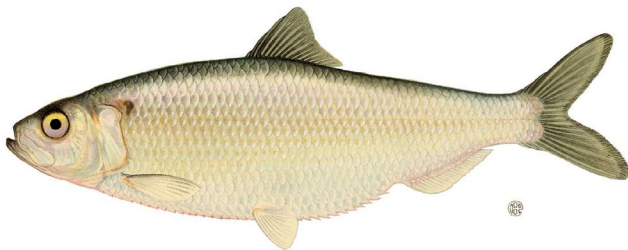


Samuel Moore, Founder of Mooresville



MRS. ELIZA WORTHINGTON  
MOORE  
Founder of Mooresville Methodist  
Church

Types of Fish that Samuel Moore caught as a boy in North Carolina: herring (left) and shad (right).



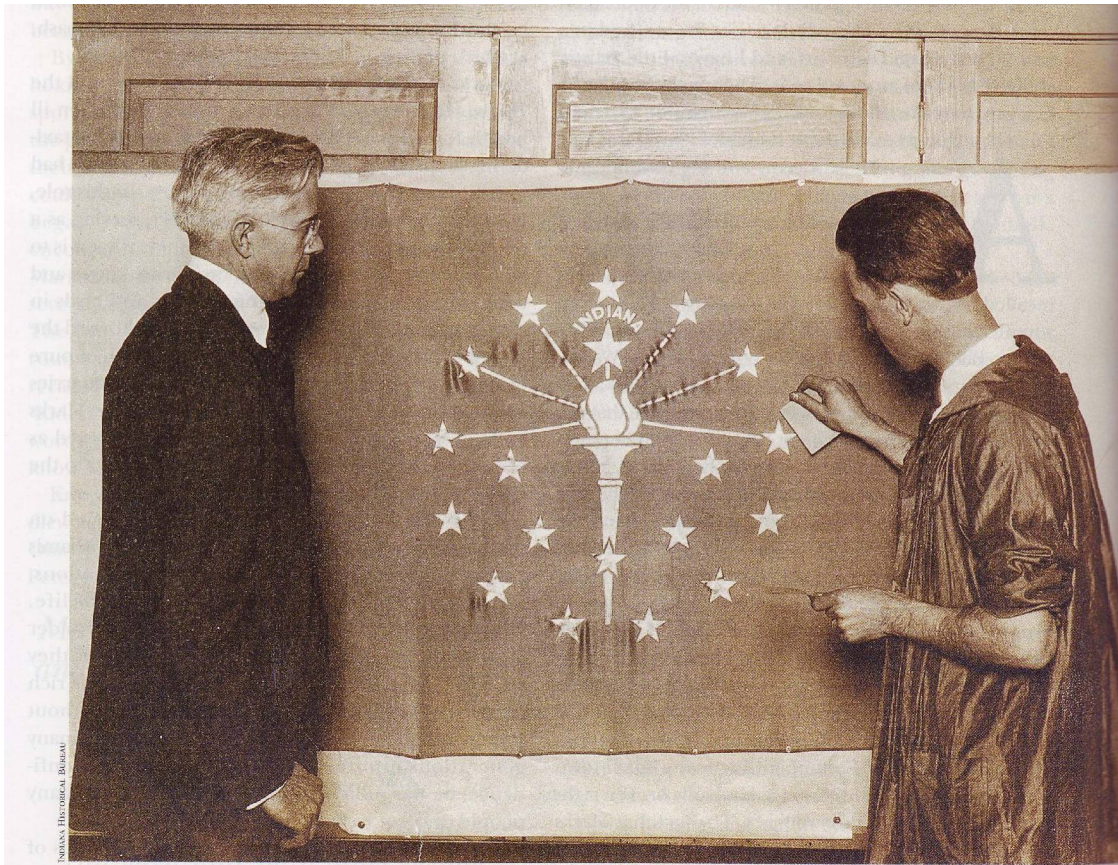
Plaque commemorating Samuel Moore's general store (built in 1824) on the northeast corner of the intersection of Main and Indiana Streets in downtown Mooresville.



Samuel Moore's house at 35 West High Street, Mooresville, Indiana, built by his son-in-law, Washington Conduitt, around 1852.



Paul Hadley (left) and art student Ralph E. Priest (right) create a replica of the original Indiana State Flag for display at the Indiana State House (ca. 1923) [reprinted from *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*, p. 20 (Winter 2003)].



Paul Hadley looks on as Ralph E. Priest, a student at the John Herron Art Institute in Indianapolis, applies gold leaf to an Indiana state flag, circa 1923. When faculty and students at Herron learned that no state flag was on display in the Hoosier capitol, they created the one seen here and presented it to the state. The Indiana Historical Bureau now safeguards the flag, also pictured on the opposite page in a current photograph.



Bonita C. Marley (left) and Wanda Potts (right) are shown working at the circulation desk of the “new” Mooresville Public Library (built in 1987 and opened Jan. 27, 1988). Mrs. Marley was MPL Director (1961-1984), and Mrs. Potts, the town’s historian, was Indiana Room Librarian (1966-2002).



Students and staff pose outside the Friend's Academy School during the 1880s. Notice the school bell on the roof.



The Academy Building as it appeared in the 1959 Mooresville High School yearbook, *Wagon Trails*.

