

Yes, Everyone . . .

there really were 2 different

Simon Moons !

My attempt at setting history straight . . .

By: R. L. Moon

(a 4th great grandson of Simon and Lydia)

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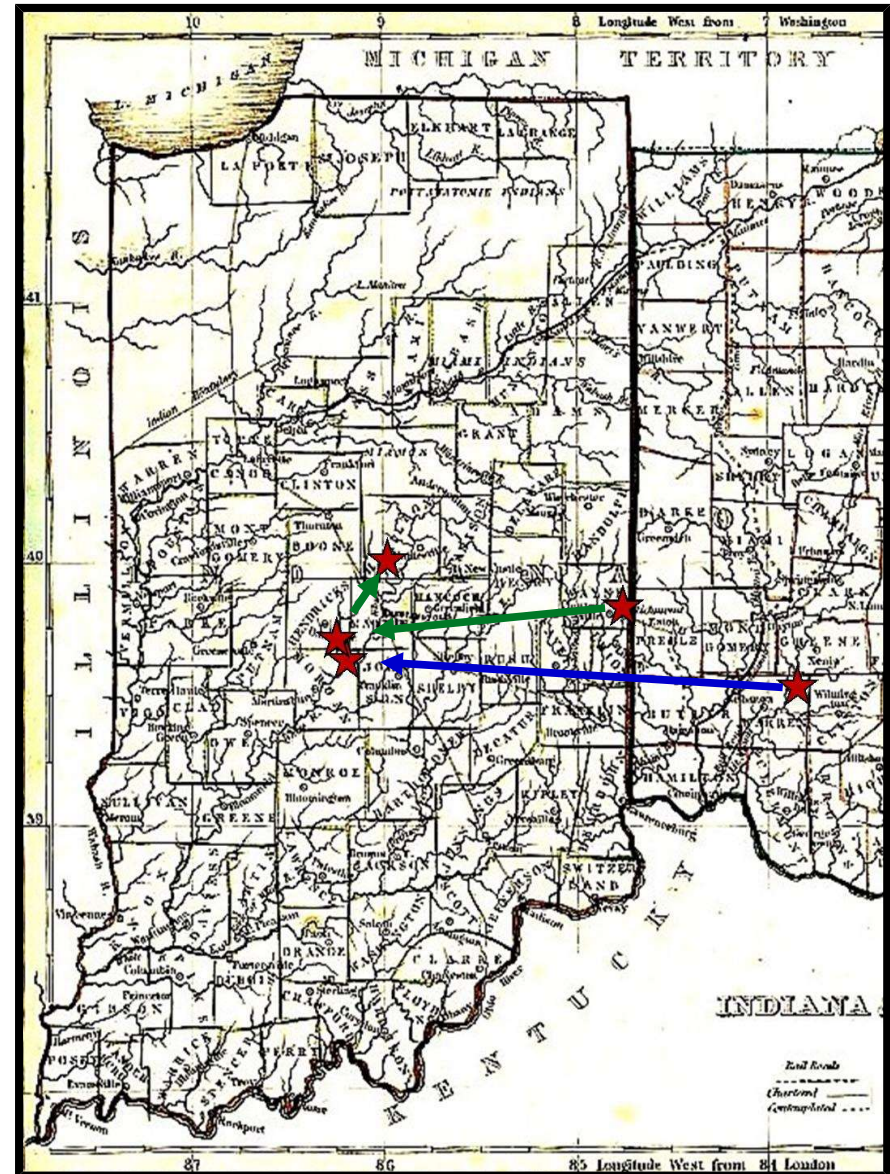
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On the right: An Indiana – Ohio State map of 1835. Notice the area north of the Wabash River – it hasn't been surveyed or made into Counties yet - because most of it was swampland. THIS – is what our 2 Simons moved into, 6 or so years before this map was drawn up. (The red stars mark locations mentioned later in this booklet.)

Introduction

This booklet I've written is only meant to be my attempt, at showing how two important men of their time can get mixed up in history, *simply by having the same name*. Genealogy and historical research (even at best) can be very confusing and hard to decipher. Fortunately, the Quakers of olden days ended up being very helpful in keeping things straight with good record keeping. But still, with so many Simons (and other namesakes) running around in the mid 1800s, we can still end up with the old "Quaker shuffle" (see lower right, page 26). And that's what we have here – a case of too many Simons running around. And this is why I'm trying to explain here, why *careful* research can make all the difference.

I'm using several different methods of explaining how to tell these two Simons apart: 1. The local historical knowledge of each Simon. 2. Their Quaker abstract records. 3. Both of their resting places. 4. Government land Patent deeds. 5. State and County maps. 6. And there also happens to be a wonderful children's book written by an Indiana author, where one of these Simons is a main character. This book helps to explain the difference – and – *confuse* the difference – both at the same time. So I'll try to straighten this out as well.

Generally, when Quaker families at this time moved from place to place, they not only moved from one piece of land to another piece of land to live on – their church "*membership*" was also moved from one Meeting House to another Meeting House for record keeping, as well as worship. A "certificate" (an actual piece of paper) was given to the family to take with them to show this change of Meeting Houses when they arrived to where they were going. They would have this certificate for being "granted out" of one Monthly Meeting, and also to be "received into" the next Monthly Meeting. Their moving around and other family information, was written down in the records that each of the Monthly Meeting locations kept. But it could take *months* (in most cases) to actually get something written down in the record books. Quaker church "committees" would need the time to first *verify* the family to make it official. This is why you need to pay close attention to the dates of the listings, and compare them to when they *actually physically moved* (if that time is known) and when the *information is entered* in the records. Sometimes, these old records are the only way for someone to trace the history of a family.

A family might have always attended a "Monthly Meeting" church close by, and be recorded there. Or, they might have attended some other subordinate and smaller "Meeting for Worship" or "Preparative Meeting" church closer to where they lived – and – at the same time be recorded at some other more distant Monthly Meeting (as both of our Simons did). Also, during the old Meeting services – the males and females sat separated on each side of the Meeting House (see page 23) – and – the Monthly Meeting records listed the males and females separately in the books as well. This separation in the records can cause a lot of mix up when trying to keep a family's history together. So, when you're doing research like this, you need to look for the *whole family*, because the wife and children are usually listed separately, or not at all.

And there you have it – 2 different Simons getting mixed up, because in the early 1800s, their names are listed in the records, on deeds, on maps and business dealings, without any other *references* to help with their identification.

Both of our Simons left the region around Richmond, Indiana, and western Ohio, at *about the same time* in the late 1820s. And their moving may simply have been because of the opportunity of new land being sold and settled in a new State. But another reason may have been, that the “Church” wanted members to go and help establish new Monthly Meetings in the new State (as 1 of our Simons may have done). The U.S. government began selling land in the new State of Indiana in the early 1820s, after 4 years of surveying. This began a lot of migration into our new State from the Ohio and Kentucky areas. Indiana was primarily first settled by Quakers and Methodists.

And here’s a short explanation (*in a nut shell, and generally correct*) of the U. S. Government Patent Deeds discussed here. These “Patents” deeds, *represent* the **first time** that land was **sold** and **brought** in the new State of Indiana. These deeds were purchased at \$1.25 an acre, and were sold *mostly* in acre lots of [(640 acres, a full 1-mile square Section, \$800) (320 acres, ½ of a full Section, \$400) (160 acres, a ¼ of a full Section, \$200) (80 acres, ½ of a ¼ Section, \$100) (and sometimes, 40 acre lots were sold, but not often)]. This made it easier for the U.S. government to divide up these full sections of land. For \$800, a settler could own a full square mile of Indiana – so naturally, at first – there was a *lot* of land speculation going on.

The State of Indiana was *first*, surveyed and marked into a giant grid of 1-mile square “Sections,” covering the *entire* State like a giant checker board, from the Ohio River up to the Wabash River. The land north of the Wabash River was mostly swamp and was surveyed later. (see bottom of page 3) This grid was then organized into larger 6-mile “blocks,” of 36 1-mile square Sections each. These “blocks” (called Townships), were identified by using numbered “*Township Lines*” (lines running east and west) - and by numbered “*Range Lines*” (lines running north and south). Then, each of the 36 Sections, were individually numbered *within* these larger 6 mile “blocks” – and each of these 6 mile Townships had it’s 36 Sections numbered in the same order. So - a deed would only need to describe (by Township line and Range line) which *Section* it’s referring to, within the *entire State*. By doing this, there isn’t any real need to list the name of a County on the deeds. Counties and Civil Townships were formed and named later, based on population and voters. And when the first lands were brought, some of the Counties didn’t exist yet (see map on page 3). Then – the “district of lands,” refers to which government land office and state, the deeded land is in. But – a patent deed *does* list at the top, which state and county the buyer was *living in*, when the deed was *applied for*.

There’s also the statement printed (not hand written) on the deed – “*it appears that full payment has been made by the said.*” This means - (You don’t get the deed – till you *pay* for it!) And this is why the date on the deed - IS NOT - the date when the buyer APPLIED for the deed. As with our two Simons, it took many months to pay off their deeds – and months to get the copy of their paid off deeds – that’s dated months later from when they *first applied* to buy the land. The “*applied for date*” - which is *not* written on these deeds, is a much better “indication” as to when they actually physically

moved to their new property. Both Simons were living on land in different parts of central Indiana, way before they fully paid off and finally owned the land on which they were living.

(Figure 1) (below) – is the top half of page 296, of the **Terra Haute - Crawfordsville Land Office, Tract Book**, of the early 1820s and on. This book was used in the U.S. Land Office in Crawfordsville, to record land purchases when people came into the office to buy some land. The records shown here (the top part of the page) is for the 1st time when Simon (of Westfield) walked into the office to buy some land in central Indiana. Specifically – this is the page showing his first Patent deed purchase of 80 acres, that he brought in Indiana, 2 ½ miles due south of Plainfield, in Guilford Township. You can see this Patent deed in **(Figure 9)** and it's location in **(Figure 11)**.

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Dr. Simon Moon of Ind. for 1/2 Sec. N^o 15 of Township N^o 14 of Range N^o 1 cont^g 80 Acres at \$12 per Acre, Cr.

		No. of Acc't.	No. of Rec't.	Dollars.	Cents.
Dec. 24.					
1828	To amount of purchase money of said 1/2 sect.			\$100	
Cont. No. 7826.					
Pat. dat. April 23 rd 1829.					
Dr. Solomon Blair of Ind. for 1/2 Sec. N ^o 15 of Township N ^o 14 of Range N ^o 1 cont ^g 80 Acres at \$12 per Acre, Cr.					
1828.					
Dec. 24.	To purchase money			\$100	
Cont. No. 7830.					
Pat. dat. April 23 rd 1829.					

		No. of Acc't.	No. of Rec't.	Dollars.	Cents.
Dec. 24.					
1828	By amount of deposit, - -				
	By residuary of first instalment				
	By Cash			\$82	100
15. 14. 1. cont ^g 80 acres at \$12 per Acre, Cr.					
1828.					
Dec. 24.	By Cash			\$82	100

(Figure 1) Terra Haute – Crawfordsville Land Office, Tract Book c. 1820s

And here it is – his “applied for date” of October 24, 1828 (in the upper left hand corner) for the Patent deed number 7826 – for 80 acres - which will cost him \$100. On other pages throughout the book are the written words, “paid in full” with a receipt number, to tell that that person paid off their deed up front. But Simon doesn’t have that written here, which means he’ll be paying this deed off over time. And it’s also important to note, that at the very top of the page, it reads -

“Simon Moon of Ind.” And we still can’t tell from this, if he’s *living* near Richmond or Plainfield on this date. But it’s still a closer indication as to when he *did* move. (He was more than likely living south of Plainfield at this time. See page 15.)

So - - even though the 2 Simon Moons we are discussing here, were of the same religious ideology (*they were*) – and were related to each other (*they were*) – and may have known each other (*they did*) – and sometimes may have attended the same Monthly Meeting (*as we will see*) – owned property having deeds which read *very closely* the same (*as we will see*) - and for 3 years they lived way too close to each other (*5.5 miles apart, but not in the same County*) - - both were still part of the same Society of Friends, knowing, working and living together under one faith, becoming important and *outstanding* Quakers of their day.

~ ~ ~

I’ve chosen to start this little booklet of explanation from where and about when, both of the Simons came into central Indiana. All maps used here are of areas in Indiana, (except for page 3, which also shows Ohio). All locations mentioned here are in Indiana (except where indicated to be in other states). I was the one who took *all* of the outside photographs. I researched and drew up the Moon Family Tree used here, which is based on *many* other examples of family tree sources found at Earlham College. This tree listing of the “line of fathers” is correct, and agrees with all of the other sources at Earlham College. But as always with genealogy and family trees, some information may be questionable, especially with the dates and listing of the children.

So I apologize now, for any missed, misleading, or flat out wrong, information written here. Anyone who ventures into doing research like this knows of the mountain of facts and questions involved in getting it all straight and complete. And this is why it is important to ALWAYS show your sources – and make it available to the public.

I sincerely hope that my efforts here will be helpful to everyone who needs to know this information. Research like this may seem frivolous to some, but it can be invaluable to other. Everyone likes to have the facts straight - and so do I.

Thank you,
RICHARD L. MOON



Part 1 Simon and Hannah of Westfield, Indiana

Sometime during the 1800s – while living east of Richmond, near the Ohio State line – Simon Moon and his family moved from Wayne County, to 2 ½ miles due south of old downtown Plainfield, in Guilford Township of Hendricks County. The family lived south of Plainfield for around 3 years. (Simon is listed in the 1830, Federal Census, and he is also a registered county voter on August 3, 1829, both *in* Hendricks County.) Then sometime before September 29, 1832, they moved up to Washington Township in Hamilton County. After living in Washington Township for almost 2 years, Simon donated some of his land to become part of the newly formed town of Westfield in 1834, which made him one of the 3 founding fathers of the town. And then, 1 ½ years later, he (posthumously, having died 3 months before) became a charter member of the newly “set off” Westfield “meeting of worship” in 1835. After moving there, Simon and Hannah would live the rest of their lives near Westfield. He was the first person to be buried on 1 acre of land, that was donated to the Friends church, for a “hitching ground,” which (after his death) became a new Quaker Cemetery. And Hannah would join him there 9 years later. Both, Simon and Hanna did not have a grave marker. During this time, most Quakers felt that grave markers were a sign of vanity and didn’t use them. *(If Simon and Hannah did have a marker, it would have helped to clear up some of the confusion discussed here.)*

It is said, that Simon (among other things) worked as a Tanner during his time in Westfield. In **(Figure 13)** there’s an unidentified Tannery just west of the edge of town, that’s *on* what was once Simon’s property – so – Simon *may* have started this Tannery. *(I have not tried to find any other information about this Tannery.)* As with most Quakers during the early 1800s, Simon is said to have been involved in the Underground Railroad as a “Conductor.” As well as his own house that he used for hiding slaves, he also lived close to other houses in town used for hiding slaves. It’s also “remembered” in the book mentioned in **Part 4** – that slaves were taken up to Westfield *during* the Civil War, *presumably* taken to Simon. But this mention in the book isn’t quite true, because Simon died 25 years *before* the Civil War started. It was one of his sons, Riley, who would later become a more well-known and important “Conductor” in the town - and helped Westfield to become a very important “Station” on a main line of the Underground Railroad going through central Indiana - *during* the Civil War.

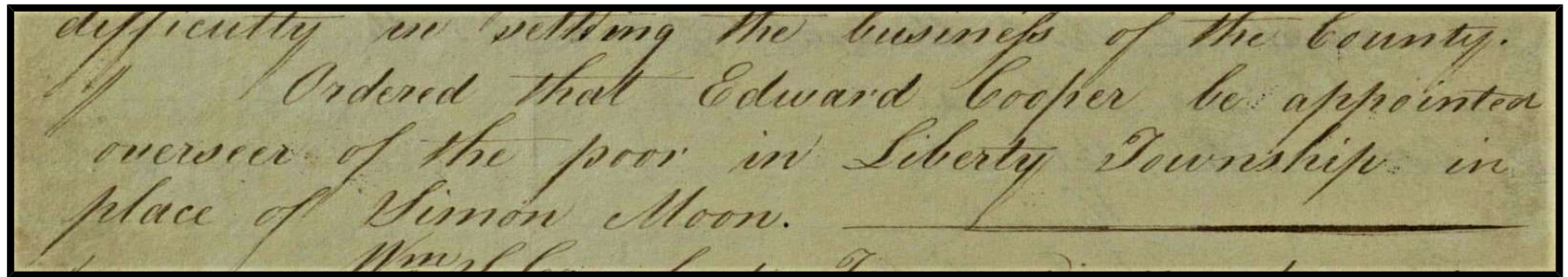
Something else I found out that is worth mentioning about Simon, was when I was doing research at the Indiana Room, of the Hendricks County, Danville Public Library. They have there, the County Commissioner’s Book, number 2, of Hendricks County – (Sep,1831 thru Nov,1835). See **(Figure 2)**. This is a big, hand written ledger book, listing all kinds of County business. It mostly shows money being paid out and collected in, for taxes, fines, permits, fees, road building, etc., and the names of the many people who were in service to, or employed by the County.

This book has a listing on page 16 - where Edward Cooper, is being appointed in place of Simon Moon, as a new “overseer of the poor,” in Liberty Township. Each County Civil Township at this time, was to have at least 2 Overseers.

They were men or women living within the County, who were given money by the County, to help feed, clothe, and take care of people who were sick or poor (paupers). This listing also shows, that this appointment is in Liberty Township – but Simon lived in Guilford Township, the Civil Township next to and east of Liberty. He must have had to give up some time and traveling expense to do this appointment. So why are we getting a new Overseer at this time? Because Hendricks County simply needed a new replacement. *(Could it be, that Simon is getting ready to leave the County?)*

Now, it is known that Simon and family moved up to Hamilton County, by September 29, 1832. But, this listing is written *within* the “January Term” of the County Commissioner's business meetings, of 1832. The nearest *real date* in this book is January 3, 1832, written on the page before. So - maybe - in January - Simon was already - getting ready - to leave the County - sometime later this same year.

But without a doubt - Simon was an outstanding Quaker and generous man, to be doing this kind of humanitarian work, to aid and take care of the poor in another Civil Township.



(Figure 2) Commissioner's Book, #2, of Hendricks County - (1831 thru 1835).

And most importantly – it is very fitting that the town of Westfield has dedicated a Town Park to the memory of Simon Moon – who was such an important and generous man during his short but productive time in central Indiana, - which is something that should not be forgotten.

(Figure 3) Simon Moon Park at the corner of East 171st Street and Futch Way – on the southeast side of Westfield.



Simon and Hannah's – Quaker Meeting Records

All these listings are from : Abstracts of the Records of the Society of Friends in Indiana

In a nut shell – Simon & Hannah (with family) – changed Monthly Meetings (MM) in this way: starting around 1820, in Cane Creek MM, NC – they changed to Whitewater MM, IN – then to Milford MM, IN – to White Lick MM – to Fairfield MM – and then on to help start up the Westfield “meeting for worship.”

I'll start at the point when they were living in Indiana, east of Richmond, in the 1820s (see page 3, green arrows).

143	WHITEWATER
MOON	
10-18-1823	Simon & s, Joseph, William, John & Riley, rocf Cane Creek MM, N C
10-18-1823	Hannah rocf Cane Creek MM, N C
4-25-1826	Simon, w Hannah & ch Joseph, Mary, William, John, Riley, Sibbinah & Simon gct Milford MM
9-22-1869	Hiram E & w, Almira, & ch, Louisa, Oscian & Margery rocf Newberry MM, O
7-25-1873	Mary T rocf Cane Creek MM, N C

(Figure 4) Vol. 1 – Whitewater Monthly Meeting MM listing – page 143.

This listing of the Whitewater Monthly Meeting MM records of Wayne County, shows that on 10-18-1823 – Simon & Hannah [and sons (s)] – were [(rocf) received on certificate from] Cane Creek MM, in NC. Which means – that their *membership* has been moved from Cane Creek MM in NC, and are accepted into their new Meeting, the Whitewater MM in Wayne County, IN. (The males and females are here listed separately.)

And then: on 4-25-1826 – Simon [and wife (w) Hannah] [and children (ch)] is [(gct) – granted a certificate to] the Milford MM, also in Wayne County. Which means – that even though they still live in eastern Wayne County, their *membership* has been switched to another (MM) within the same county.

(Figure 5) Vol. 4 – Milford MM listing – page 80.

This listing of the Milford MM records of Wayne County, shows that on 10-22-1826 – Simon [and wife (w) Hannah] [and children (ch)] – were [(rocf) received on certificate from] Whitewater MM. Which means – that their *membership* is moved from Whitewater MM, and are accepted into the Milford MM, within the *same* County. (The family is listed here all together this time.)

And then: it shows that on 2-28-1829 – Simon [and wife (w) Hannah] [and children (ch)], (plus daughter Hannah, born between 1826

MOON	
3-31-1825	Samuel of Clinton Co, Ohio, -s Daniel & Ruth of same place, w Mary Presnall at Duck Creek MH
4-22-1826	Samuel rocf Whitewater MM, Ind
10-22-1826	Simon & w Hannah & ch Joseph, Mary, William, John Riley, Sibina & Simon rocf Whitewater MM, Ind
2-28-1829	Simon & w Hannah & ch Joseph, Mary, John, William Riley, Sibina, Simon & Hannah gct White Lick MM, Ind
3-28-1840	Samuel rpt telling a willful untruth & jMeth; dis

and 1829) is [(gct) – granted a certificate to] the White Lick MM in Morgan County. Which means – that their *membership* is moved from Milford MM in Wayne County, and is moved to White Lick MM in Morgan County. Now – they get out the horse and wagon and leave Wayne County altogether to move to Hendricks County (*not* Morgan County). See **(Figure 11)**.

MOON	
2-26-1822	Margaret rocf Cane Creek MM, NC
4-11-1829	Simeon & s Joseph, John, William, Riley & Simon rocf Milford MM
4-11-1829	Hannah & dts Mary, Sabrina & Hannah rocf Milford MM
4-10-1830	Lydia dis for jas, Separatists, mbr at Miami MM, OH
8-28-1830	Simon dis by req of Miami MM, OH
12-14-1831	Joseph & Lydia Hinshaw altm
5-15-1833	Simon & w Hannah & ch Mary, William, John, Riley, Sabrina, Simon, Hannah & Elihu gct

339	WHITE LICK
	Fairfield MM
4-15-1835	Lorenzo D. Milo W. Eli C. William Riley

(Figure 6) Vol. 5 – White Lick MM listings, page 339, (the bottom of the left column and the top of the right column).

This listing of the White Lick MM records – shows that on 4-11-1829 – Simon & Hannah & children – were [(rocf) received on certificate from] the Milford MM. (Males and females are listed separately.) (s) - sons. (dts) - daughters.

Which means - that their *membership* is moved from Milford MM in Wayne County, and are accepted into the

White Lick MM in Morgan County. (Even though - they are physically living due south of Plainfield, in Hendricks County, by this date.)

And then: on 5-15-1833 – Simon & Hannah & children (plus a son ELihu, born between 1829 and 1833) is [(gct) granted a certificate to] the Fairfield MM in Friendswood, in Hendricks County. (Here, all the family is listed together.) Which means – that their *membership* is removed from White Lick MM in Morgan County, and is accepted into the Fairfield MM in Hendricks County, only 4 ½ miles away. The important thing to note here is: at the time of this listing, it's known that the family already moved up to Hamilton County in late 1832. (*I told you it took time to do these records.*)

Confusion alert! Here – we have 3 *different* Simons listed together in the *same* Meeting records 1. Simon & Hannah (with their family listed twice – once separately and then again together) 2. Simon & Lydia (without a family and listed separately) 3. The *son* of Simon & Hannah, also named Simon, listed twice. And who's that "Simeon?" Why that's our Simon (& Hannah) with his sons of course. (Could this just be a spelling error?) Oh yea – and there are 2 different Lydia's listed here as well. **This listing** - could be the cause of some *big* mix-ups, to say the least.

(Figure 7) Vol. 6 – Fairfield MM listings, page 33.

This listing of the Fairfield MM records – shows that on 6-15-1833 – Simon & Hannah [and children (ch)] – were [(rocf) received on certificate from] the White Lick MM in Morgan County. Which means – that their *membership* is removed from White Lick MM of Morgan County, and is accepted into the Fairfield MM of Hendricks County. (Again, they have already moved up to Hamilton County at this time.)

MOON	
6-15-1833	Simon & w Hannah & ch Mary, William, John, Riley, Sabina, Simon, Hannah & Elisha rocf White Lick MM
7-24-1833	Mary, dt Simon & Hannah Moon, m William Hiatt, s Stephen & Rachel of Richland MM, at Richland
11-25-1833	John, s Simon & Hannah, m Lovina Burnside, dt J H & Asenath, at Richland MH
10-17-1834	Judith & ch Vachti, Abigail, Esther, Elwood & Levi rocf Newberry MM, OH
1-19-1837	Judith & ch Vashti, Abigail, Esther, Levi, Elwood & Susannah gct Duck Creek MM

Here's a side note: this listing also shows that Simon & Hannah's daughter [(dt) Mary, and son (s) John], both have gotten married (m) at Richland MM in Hamilton County, in 1833. At the time of this marriage listing, the family has already physically moved up to Washington Township in Hamilton County. It's well known that they were one of the very first families to move into Washington Township, in September of 1832. These listings are dated *after* the church committee verified it, and the family had already moved. (An example of how you have to know how to read the dates of Quaker records.) And – the Richland Meeting didn't get started until 1841. *(Go ahead – figure this all out.)*

Now – at this point the Fairfield MM records do not show any listing for Simon and family leaving Fairfield MM and moving on to the Westfield “meeting for worship”. That's because Westfield meeting doesn't exist yet. *(I guess.)*

Confusion alert again! Look at the dates of the deed in **(Figure 9)** – April 22, 1829. When the family left Wayne County, they physically moved to Hendricks County due south of old downtown Plainfield. They were living on the same piece of land in Guilford Township, in Hendricks County, from sometime around 1829 until late 1832 – even though they're *membership* is moving from one MM to another MM between Hendricks and Morgan Counties. The Sugar Grove Meeting House, due south of Plainfield, was the closest Meeting House (only a mile) from where they lived, and they *may* have attended that “meeting for worship” for most of the time that they lived in Hendricks County. (I have not bothered to find any accounts of their attending Sugar Grove. And the Sugar Grove Meeting House of today, was built well after the time they left Hendricks County.)

WESTFIELD MONTHLY MEETING

Hamilton County, Indiana

Westfield Monthly Meeting was set-off from Fairfield Monthly Meeting and first held on the 10th of Twelfth month 1835. It is located in Westfield.

“Friends from the South and from Ohio and eastern Indiana began to form settlements a little west of the center of Hamilton county as early as 1820.

“Asa Bales was the first to enter land in that year. Ambrose Osborn, Simon Moon, Nathan Parker and others followed, calling the settlement **Westfield** A meeting for worship and a Preparative was organized at Westfield in 1835. Their first house of worship was a log cabin.”

(Figure 8) Vol. 6 – Westfield MM listings, page 291.

This is a short introductory history of the Westfield MM that's written before the listings in volume 6. It tells of the beginnings of the Westfield MM and that it was “set-off” from the Fairfield MM. This could explain why Simon and family were not listed in the Fairfield MM as [(gct) granted a certificate to] the new Westfield meeting for worship. It's well known that they physically moved up to Washington Township in Hamilton County, in September of 1832, to an area that didn't have a close by Meeting House, or even a town yet. Two of the men listed here (along with one other) chartered the new town of Westfield on May 6, 1834, and then, 1 year and 7 months later, on December 10, 1835, they (along with others) were also charter members of the newly formed Westfield meeting for worship. So – being *charter members*, it may have been assumed (*by birth rite*) that Simon's family was *already* members of this Meeting, and not needed to be listed as [(rocf) received on certificate from], members in the Westfield records. This may be - because the Westfield Meeting started out as a “meeting for worship” and didn't become a MM with record keeping, until later. And this kind of record would have been recorded at Fairfield MM anyway.

Confusing dates alert! Simon and family physically moved up to Washington Township in Hamilton County on **September 29, 1832**. The founding of the town of Westfield was on **May 6, 1834**. The date of the deed of **(Figure 10)** is **October 23, 1834**. At some point, 1 acre of land was donated for what would later become the new Friends Cemetery after Simon died. The Moon Family Tree of **Part 3** shows Simon's death date as **August 11, 1835**. The founding of the Westfield meeting for worship was on **December 10, 1835**.

(See it? . . . I'll give you a moment . . .)

(I had to draw a time-line to figure this one out.)

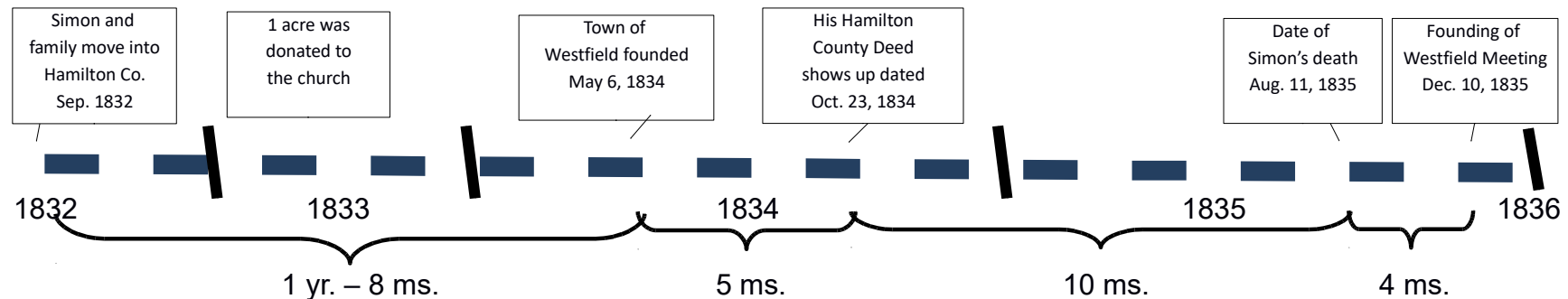
Simon and family moved up to Hamilton County, before there was a Meeting House or a town nearby – then, (1 year and 8 months later), Simon donated some of his land to help found the new town – and then (1 more year and 7 months later), Simon is a charter member of the new Westfield meeting for worship – even though he died (4 months) before the meeting started. And – the deed shows up dated *2 years after* they moved up to Hamilton County, where they've been living on deeded land without a deed to show for it. (Did he donate land to start up the town, *before* he paid off the deed for the land he donated? See page 16. *(Figure that one out.)*) The Westfield MM records have no listings for Simon because he died before the records were started (*I guess*). And Hannah isn't listed in the Westfield MM records either (*why, I don't know*), even though she lived on for another 9 years after Simon. And also – Simon donated land (which is *across the street* from his original 80 acre Patent deed purchase, see **(Figure 13)**, to the Friends church, where it wasn't used as a Cemetery until after his death.

This guy was busy!
lived in Hamilton County

He got a lot done in the relatively short time of the 2 years and 11 months that he
Good for him!

(The time line I mentioned.)

Simon lived in Hamilton County for - **2 years and 11 months.**



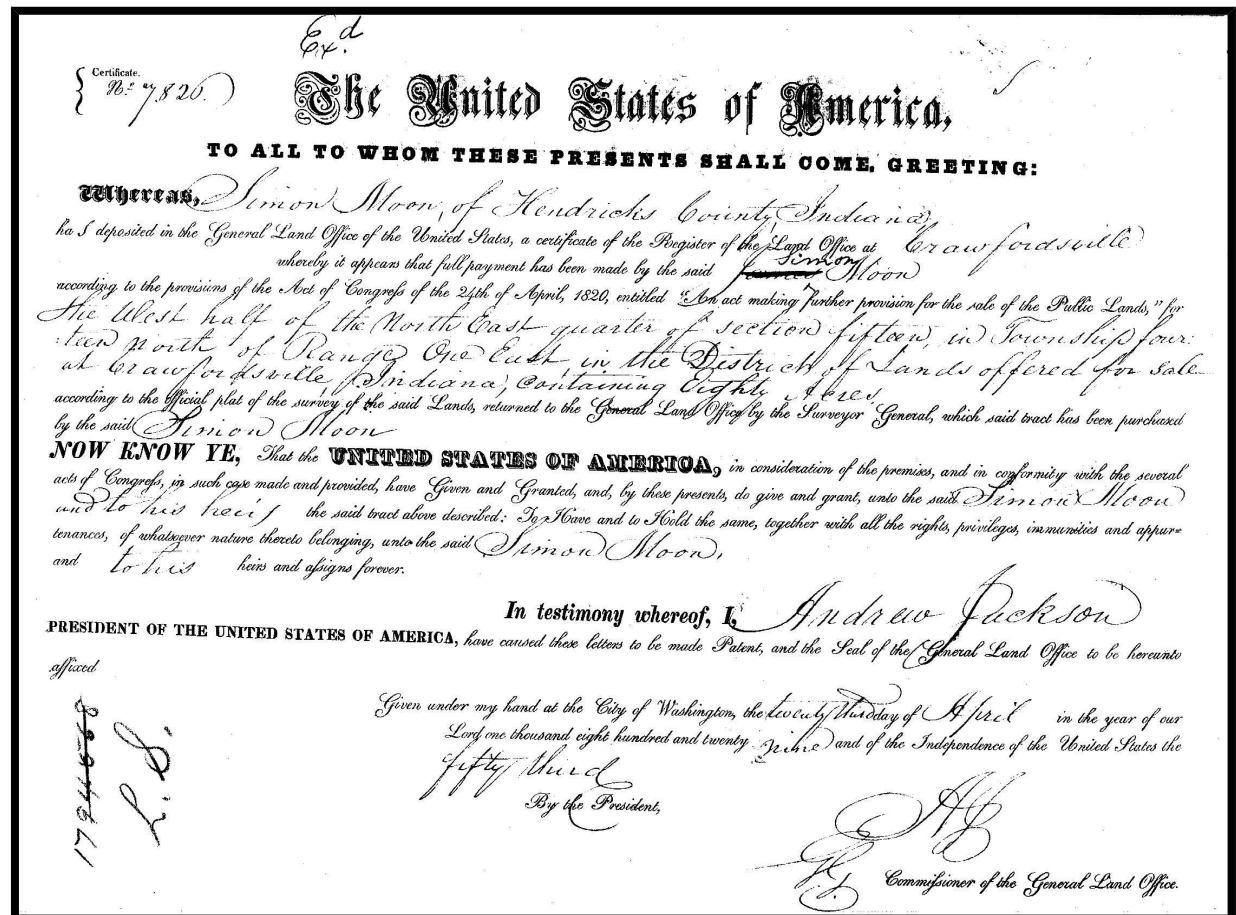
Simon and Hannah's – Deeds and Township Maps

(All deeds are from the U. S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management.)

(Figure 9) A deed of land brought by Simon (& Hannah), for land in Indiana, in Hendricks County – Guilford Township.

It's for: “the West half of the North East quarter, of Section 15 in Township 14 North of Range 1 – “containing 80 Acres” – “the 22nd day of April, 1829.” Patent deed number 7826 (see page 6 and 17).

This deed is for the 80 acres of land that Simon and family moved to in Hendricks County **due south of Plainfield**, after leaving Wayne County to move into central Indiana. See Township Map **(Figure 11)**. Simon and family could have already been living on the 80 acres before the deed was drawn up on its date of 4-22-1829. The White Lick MM records **(Figure 6)** shows the family as being “roc” from Milford MM on 4-11-1829 (12 days before this deed's date). This could explain why (at the top of this deed), Hendricks County is shown as where they are “from” and living at the time of purchase – instead of where they came from. The applied for date is a better indication as to when they actually left Wayne County, see **(Figure 2)**.



(Figure 10) The Patent deed of land brought by Simon (& Hannah) for land in Indiana, in Hamilton county – Washington Township. Patent deed number 14979, see **(Figure 12)**.

It's for: “the North half of the North East quarter, of Section 1 in Township 18 North of Range 3 East” – “containing 70.08 Acres” – “the 23rd day of October, 1834.”

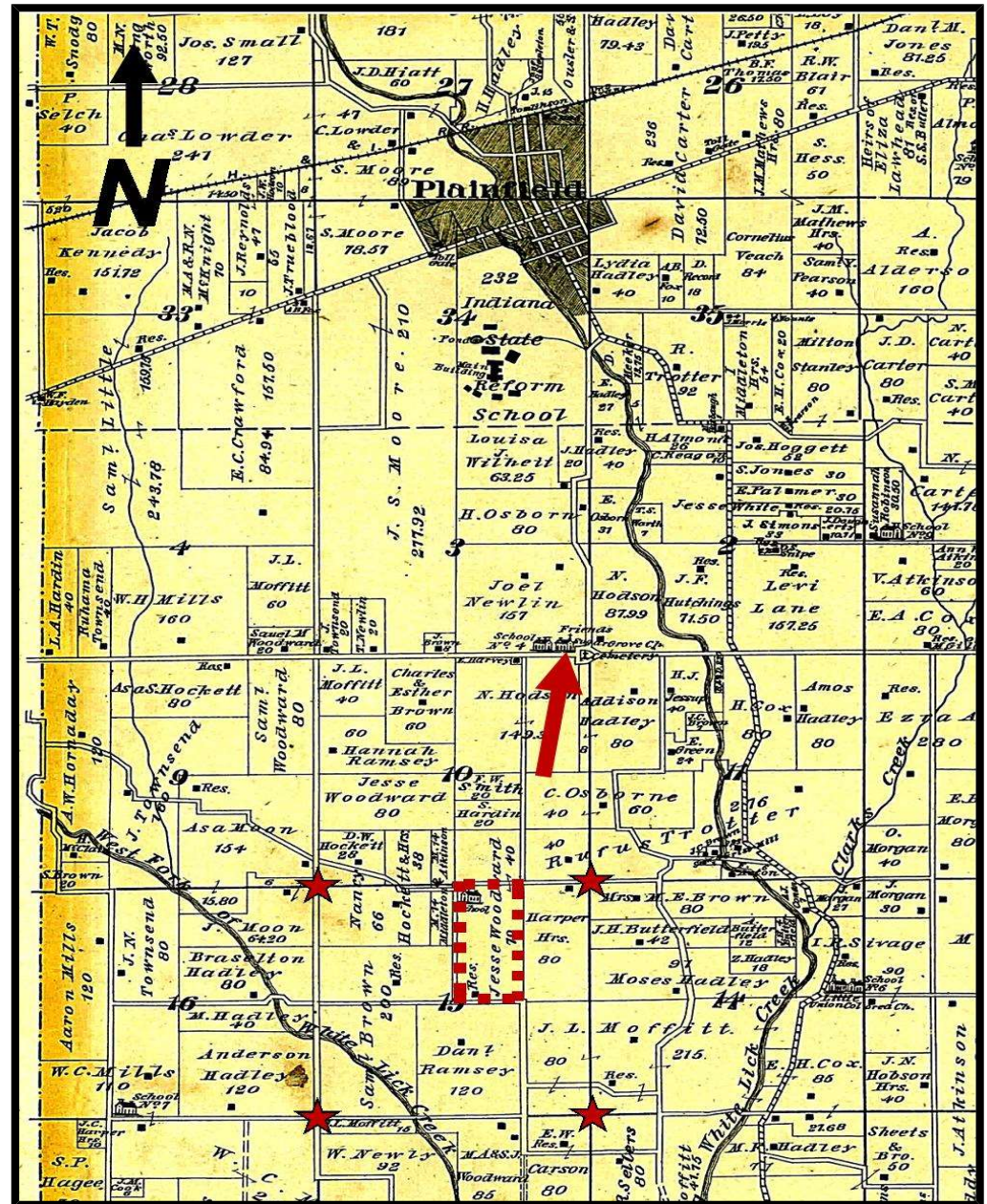
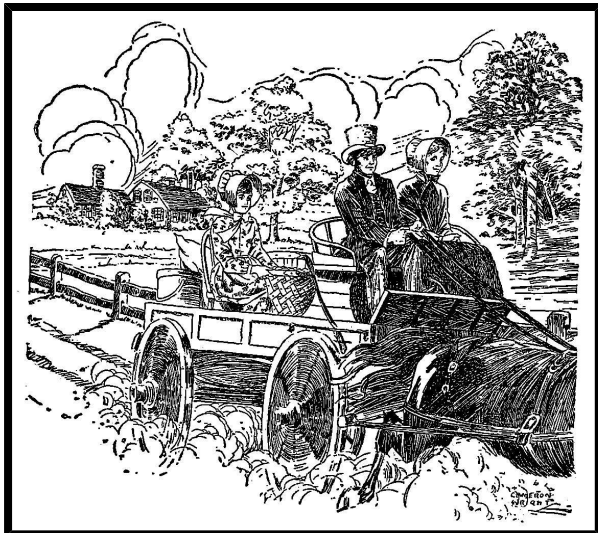
This Patent deed is for the 70.08 acres of land that Simon and family moved to, after leaving Hendricks County and moving up to Washington Township in Hamilton County. When Simon donated part of his land to found the new town of Westfield, he gave a part of the very northeast corner of this deeded land. The donation to the town may explain why this Patent deed is for 70.08 acres, instead of a full 80 acres, as what most deeds were sold.



(Figure 11) A Plat Map of Guilford Township, in Hendricks County, 1878.

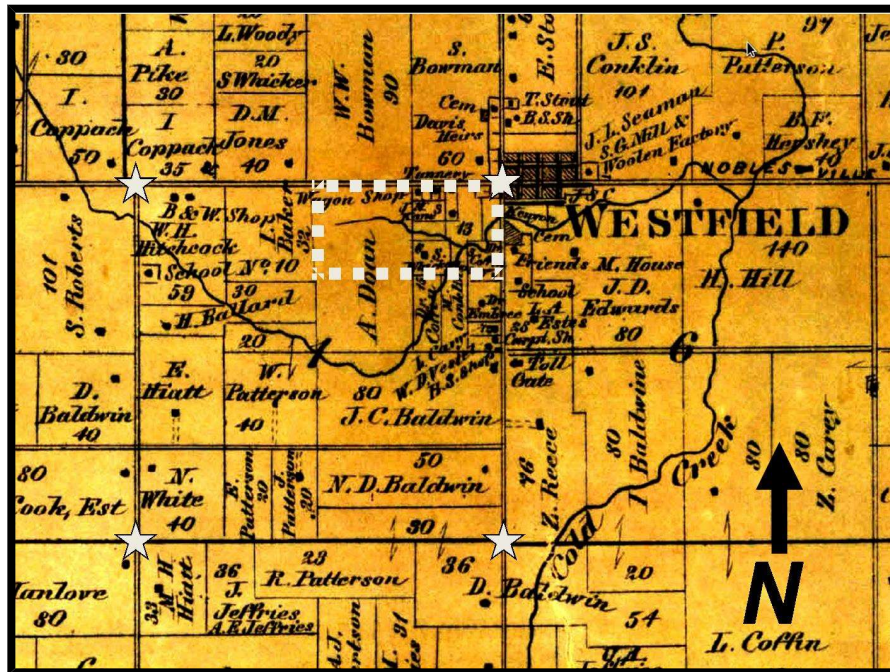
What is shown here is only part of the western half of Guilford Township.

The red dotted rectangle indicates the 80 acres (deed of **(Figure 9)**, where they lived due south of old downtown **Plainfield**, on (“the West half of the North East quarter, of Section 15). The red stars indicate the 4 corners of Section 15. And because this is an 1878 map, Simon’s name is not on this map. The family has already moved up to Hamilton County by the time of this map. The red arrow also shows where the Sugar Grove “meeting for worship” is located. This meeting was the closest Meeting House to where they lived, so they *may* have attended there. Also, the Fairfield MM is not shown here, it’s located 3 ½ miles to the east from Simon’s land.

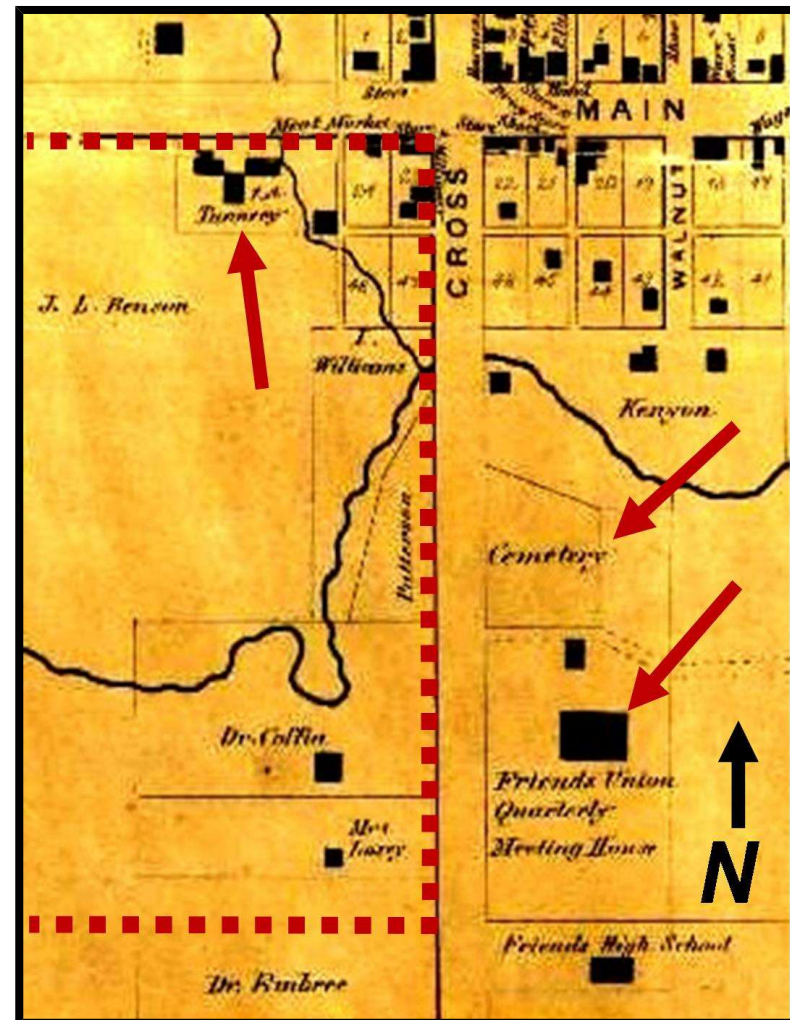


(Figure 12) and **(Figure 13)** Both are from the same Plat Map of Washington Township, in Hamilton County, of **1866**. What is shown in these two figures is only part of Washington township and part of downtown Westfield.

(Figure 12) (bellow left) The white dotted rectangle indicates the 70.08 acres where Simon and family lived (“the North half of the North East quarter, of Section 1”), see **(Figure 10)**. The white stars indicate the 4 corners of Section 1. And because this is an 1866 map, Simon’s name is not on the map, because he died in 1835. And you can see that the northeast corner of Simon’s land became part of the southwest corner of the new town of Westfield.



(Figure 13) (to the right) This same map of downtown Westfield, a closer look. The red arrows show where - a Tannery - the Friends Meeting House - and the Friends Cemetery - are located. Again, the red dotted line indicates Simon’s 70.08 acres. (Sorry, I accidentally included the corner of the town, as part of Simon's land. The red dotted line should come down and over, around Lots 24 and 48.)



Part 2 Simon and Lydia of Mooresville, Indiana

Before April of 1829 – while living in Waynesville, OH – Simon Moon and his wife Lydia, (along with their children) – moved from Warren County, OH – to 2 ½ miles southwest of old downtown Mooresville, in Brown Township, in Morgan County, IN. And this Simon is also listed in the 1830, Federal Census, *in* Brown Township. The family lived in a valley area known as the “Bethel area” – where Simon & Lydia spent the rest of their lives there in Morgan County. They lived on Bunker Hill Road, on top of a hill with a beautiful view of the valley (**Figures 14 & 15**). And they called their home – “Moon Hill Farm.”

After living on Moon Hill Farm since 1829, Simon brought and sold more land *many times*, in and around the Bethel area. Around 1837, he purchased land in Gregg Township in Morgan County, and also in Franklin and Liberty Townships of Hendricks County to name a few. He might have been doing some land speculating to make some money.

Simon (among other things) was well known to have worked as a Tanner, Herb Doctor and a Shoe Cobbler. He was also well known in the Bethel area as an Underground Railroad Conductor. During the early 1800s up through the Civil War, slaves would sometimes get lost going north up through central Indiana, and the Quakers of the Bethel area knew to take lost slaves to Moon Hill Farm. Simon would hide the slaves in his house and the other out buildings on his farm, then take them up to Indianapolis and Westfield. Much of what he did while living in the Bethel valley during the Civil War, is written about in the book in Part 4.

Another Hoosier, Paul Hadley, is well known as the designer of the Indiana State Flag, but he is also known for being a quality watercolor painting artist. (**Figure 16**) is one of his paintings he titled “**Simon Moon’s Cabin**,” which is on display at the Mooresville Public Library. He painted this watercolor sometime in the late 1920s, and it shows pretty much what Moon Hill Farm looked like when Simon and family lived there. (**Figure 17**) is a photograph of Moon Hill of today, which closely matches the same position of the Paul Hadley painting. Over the years, the hill has become very overgrown, but some of the foundation of the house still remains.

I’ve been told that Simon’s home on top of the hill was torn down sometime in the 1950s. And while doing so, it was discovered that there were 2 closed hiding spaces on either side of the big fireplace - *and* - *another* space underneath the stairway. These spaces were only large enough to hide up to 3 people, one in each. It’s assumed that Simon used these spaces to hide the runaway slaves in them. I was also told by some of today’s valley area residents, that when they were kids, they would use these 3 hiding places for Hid-and-Speak, when playing in and around the old empty house.

The Bethel Friends Church (which this area is named for) sits in a lovely location on the rise of another hill in the valley due east of Moon Hill Farm, where *Bethel Church Road* makes a bend (**Figure 18**). The Meeting House was built

in the 1820s, and has its own burying ground on the west side behind the building **(Figure 19)**. Simon and family attended this Bethel meeting for worship and are resting there. I don't know why Simon and Lydia have a grave marker. Most of the Quakers of the early 1800s thought that having a grave marker would have been a show of vanity, so many of them were opposed to having a marker. But then again, Simon and Lydia were a very well-known and prominent members of this community, and they both died after this way of thinking gave way.

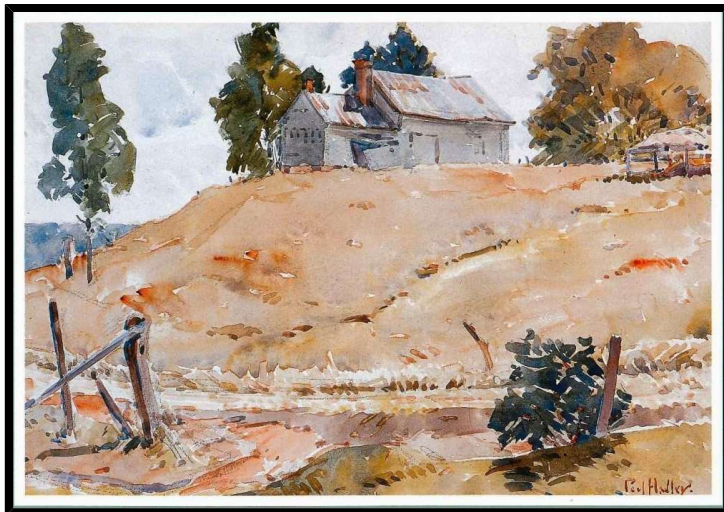


(Figure 14) Looking east from (the top of) Moon Hill.



(Figure 15) Looking southeast from Moon Hill.

(Figure 16) Paul Hadley's "*Simon Moon's Cabin*"



(Figure 17) Moon Hill Farm (as it is today)



(Figure 18) Bethel Friends Church

(Looking towards the west)

Sitting in a beautiful location on a hill, in the bend of the road, is the Quaker Church that Simon and his family attended. The Church was built in the 1820s. The Church building and Moon Hill Farm, are due east and west from each other about a ½ mile apart. Directly behind the building is the Church Cemetery where both Simon and Lydia rest together. During the mid 1800s, there was also a Quaker Schoolhouse just across the road where a newer Cemetery is now.

(see **(Figure 25).**



(Figure 19) The Church Cemetery

(Looking towards the east)

This is the Church Cemetery behind the church building where both Simon and Lydia rest together. Their marker is the tall stone in the right foreground of this photograph. We can just make out his name ½ way down the side of the stone. Lydia's information is on the opposite side of the stone facing the building. The very top of the stone is a "book" which more than likely represents the Bible.

Simon and Lydia's – Quaker Meeting Records

All these listings are from : Abstracts of the Records of the Society of Friends in Indiana and Ohio

In a nut shell – Simon – changed Monthly Meetings (MM) this way: starting around 1813, in New Garden MM, NC - he went to Center MM, OH – to Miami MM, OH – (and then with wife Lydia and family) to White Lick MM, IN. I'll start at the point when they were living in Waynesville, OH, in the 1820's. (See page 3, blue arrow).

16 1817, 2, 26. Simon & w, Lydia, rocf Centre MM, dtd 1816,8,15 1829, 5, 27. Mary Ann dis jH

(Figure 20) Vol. 5 – Miami MM, OH, listings – page 101.

This listing of the Miami MM records of Warren County, OH, - shows that on 2-26-1817 – Simon & Lydia (no children yet) – were [(rocf) received on certificate from] Center MM, OH. Which means – that their *membership* has been removed from Center MM in Clinton County, OH, and are accepted to the Miami MM, in Waynesville, Warren County, OH (a little south of Dayton). This listing also shows that they had a daughter who [(dtd) daughter died] on 8-15-1816. I also *do* know, that Simon & Lydia were married a year earlier in Springfield MM, OH, on 9-28-1815.

(Figure 21) Vol. 5 – Miami MM, OH, listings – page 102.

This listing of the Miami MM records of Warren County, OH – shows that on 10-28-1829 and 1-27-1830 – Simon & Lydia – were [(dis jH) “disowned” for joining the Hicksite Friends]. Which means – that their membership is removed from the Miami MM by their own choosing of joining the Hicksites. (But this does not mean, that they physically moved anywhere else – yet.)

And then: on 6-26-1833 – Simon and minor children (ch) (7 of them at this time that I know of), are [(gct) – granted a certificate to] White Lick MM, IN. (But where's Lydia listed?) Which means – the family, at around 1829, does up and get Ole Bossy out with the wagon, and physically move into central Indiana.

102		MIAMI MONTHLY MEETING
MOON, continued		1879, 1, 1
1829, 10, 28. Lydia dis jH		field
1829, 10, 28. Mary rocf Falls MM, Pa., dtd		1885, 1, 1
1829, 8, 8 (H)		1908, 9, 1
1830, 1, 27. Simon dis jH		
1830, 2, 24. Mary rocf Falls MM, Pa.; not		MOORMAN
accepted		1810, 11,
1832, 2, 29. Mary Ann Middleton (form Moon)		beth,
dis mou (H)		Doroth
1833, 4, 24. Asenath (form Grey) dis mou (H)		pain C
1833, 6, 26. Simon & minor ch gct White Lick		1810, 11,
MM, Ind.		
1838, 5, 23. Asenith dis mou		1807, 4,
1838, 1, 25. Judith & Asenath dropped from		& ch.

MOON

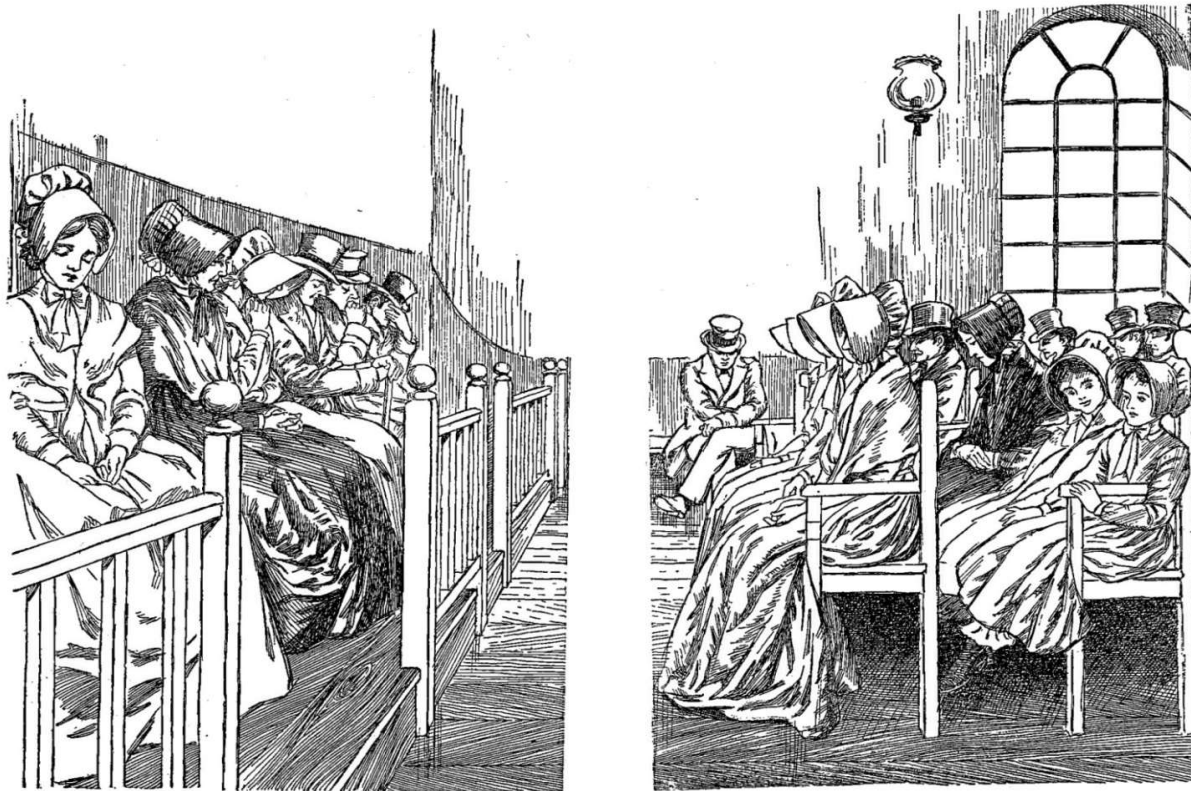
2-26-1822 Margaret rocf Cane Creek MM, NC
4-11-1829 Simeon & s Joseph, John, William, Riley &
Simon rocf Milford MM
4-11-1829 Hannah & dts Mary, Sabrina & Hannah rocf
Milford MM
4-10-1830 Lydia dis for jas, Separatists, mbr at Miami
MM, OH
8-28-1830 Simon dis by req of Miami MM, OH
12-14-1831 Joseph & Lydia Hinshaw altm
5-15-1833 Simon & w Hannah & ch Mary, William, John,
Riley, Sabrina, Simon, Hannah & Elihu

(Figure 22) Vol. 5 – White Lick MM, IN, listings – page 339
(bottom of left column only). **Same listing as (Figure 6).**

This listing of the White Lick MM records of Morgan County, IN – shows that on 4-10-1830 and 8-28-1830 – Simon & Lydia (family not listed here) – were [(dis for jas, Separatists), (mbr – “member”) and (dis by req)] – of Miami MM, OH. Which means – that both were disowned from Miami MM for joining the Separatists (Hicksite) by their own choosing. And again, this does not mean that they physically moved anywhere – yet. *(I will*

venture to guess, that this is just another way of saying that their membership has been accepted into White Lick MM.)

Confusing alert again! 3 different Simons, a Simeon, and 2 different Lydia’s. See **(Figure 6).**



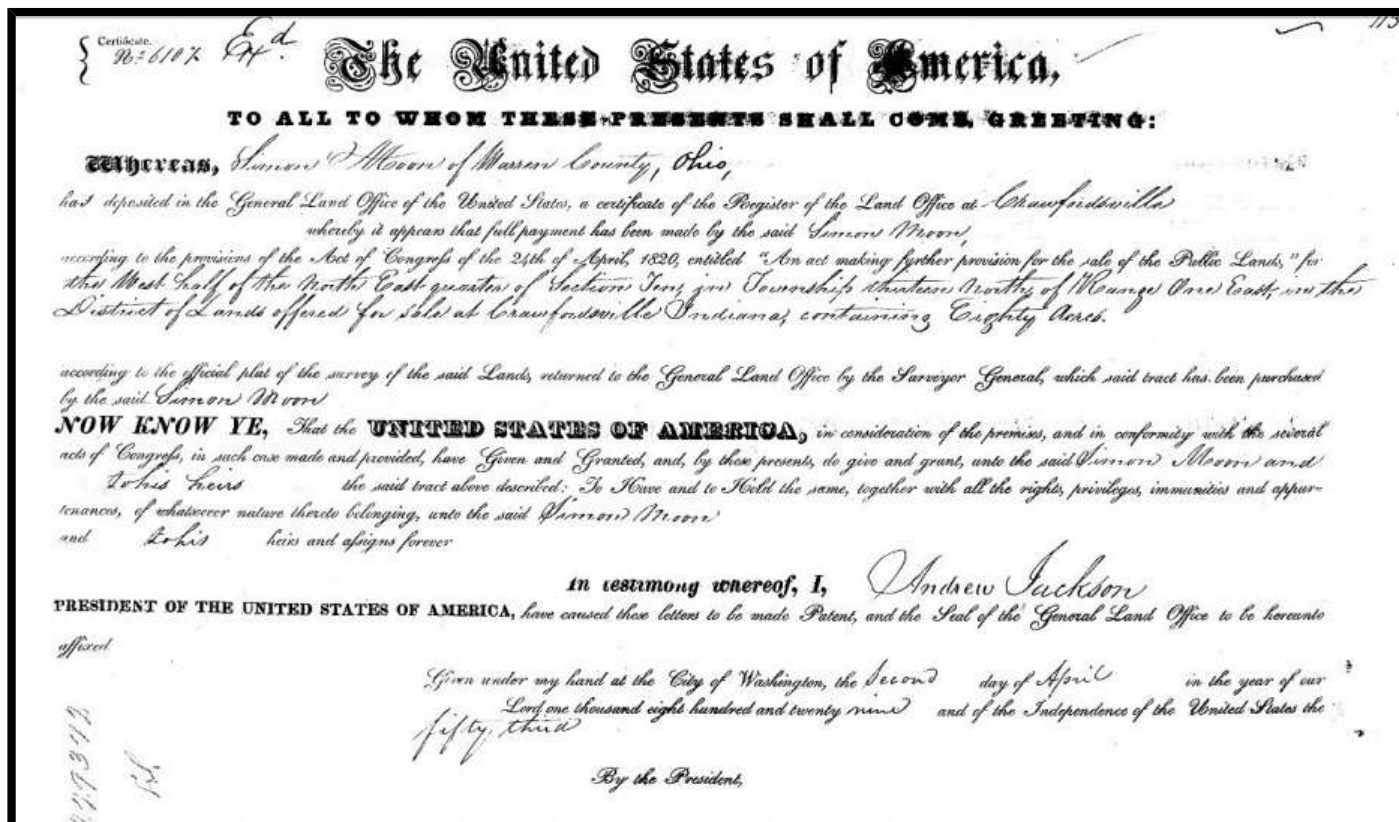
Simon and Lydia's – Deed and Township Map

(This deed is from the U. S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management.)

(Figure 23) A Patent deed of land brought by Simon (& Lydia), for land in Indiana, in Morgan county – Brown Township.

It's for: “the West half of the North East quarter of Section 10, in Township 13 North of Range 1 East,” See **(Figure 25)**. – “containing 80 Acres” – “the 2nd day of April, 1829.” This deed reads “Warren County, Ohio,” at the top, because that's *where he lived*, when he *applied* for this purchase – even though this deeded land is in Indiana.

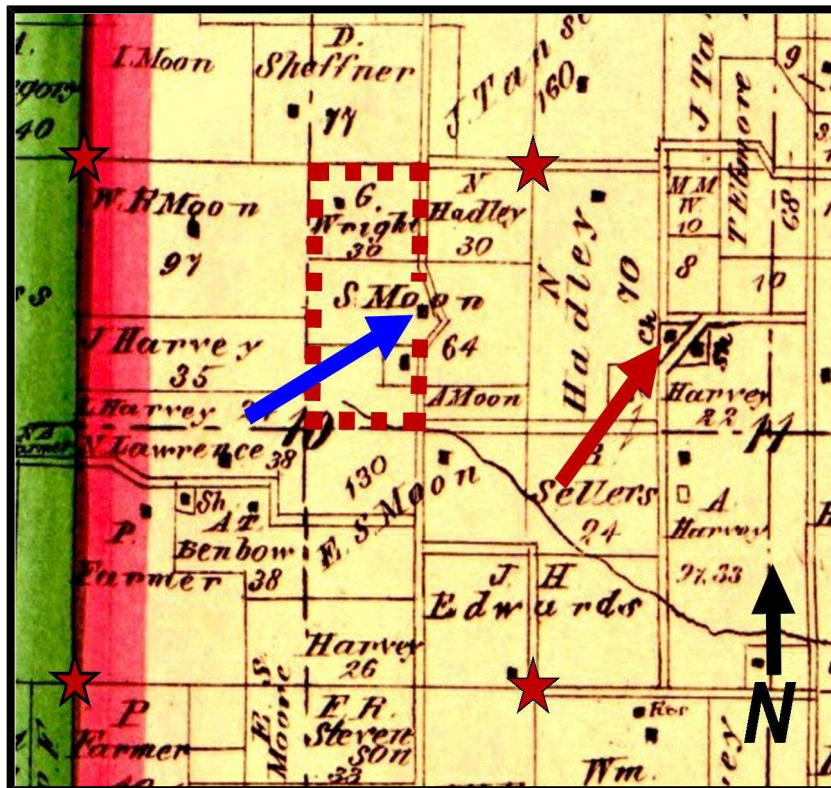
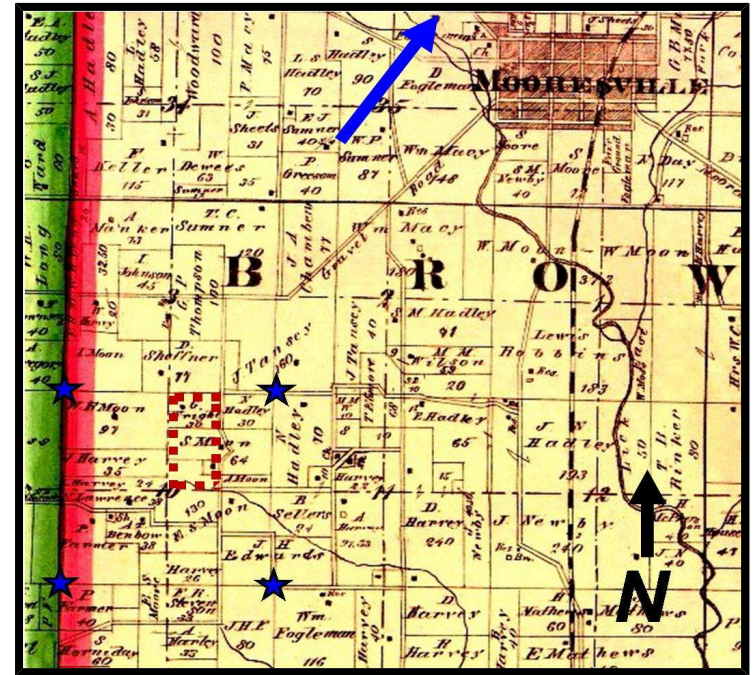
Confusing alert again! Look at the other Simon's deed in **(Figure 9)**. These 2 deeds are dated only 10 days apart. And – the descriptions of the land are exactly the same, except for only the [Section numbers (10 & 15) and the Township numbers (13 & 14)]. Same amount of 80 acres too. It would be **VERY** easy to get these 2 deeds mixed up. *(What a difference it would have made, if the wife's name would also appear on these deeds when the land was purchased!)*



(Figure 24) and (Figure 25) Both – are a Plat Map of Brown Township, in Morgan County, of 1875.

What is shown in these two Figures is only part of the western half of Brown Township.

(Figure 24) (to the right) The red dotted rectangle indicates the 80 acres where Simon & Lydia lived (“the West half of the North East quarter, of Section 10). The blue stars indicate the 4 corners of Section 10. The blue arrow shows close to where the White Lick MM was located in 1827, about 1 mile northwest of Mooresville, south of the County line.

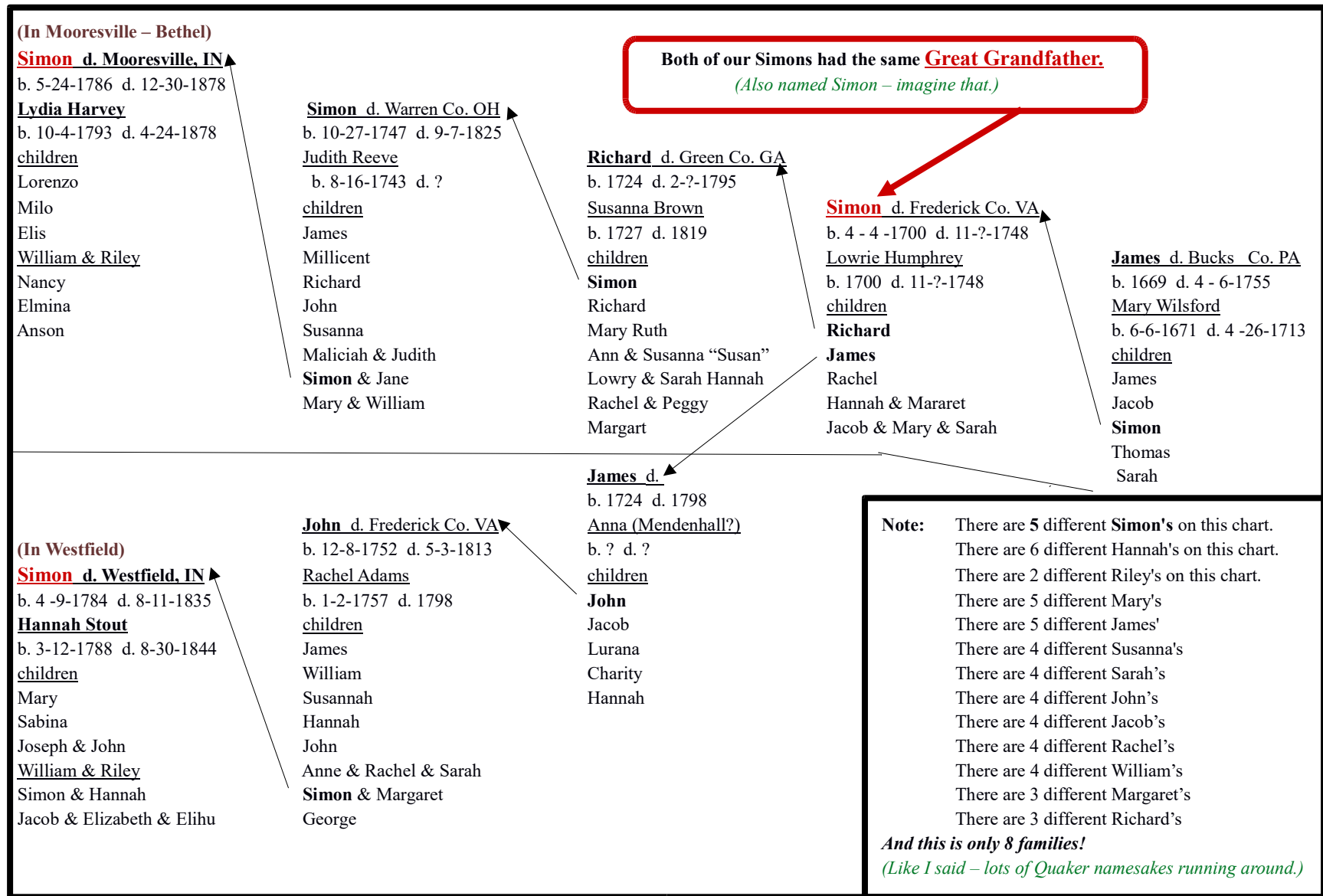


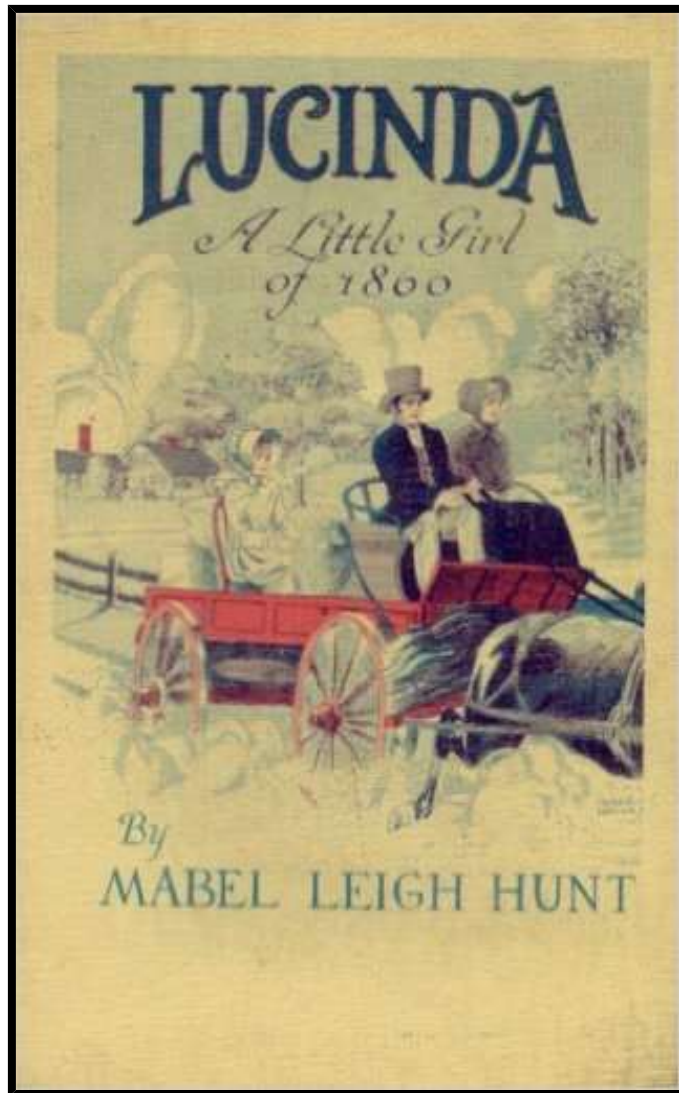
(Figure 25) (to the left) What is shown here is a closer look at the Figure above.

The red dotted rectangle indicates the 80 acres that Simon purchased and lived on the rest of his life. The red stars indicate the 4 corners of Section 10. The red arrow shows where the Bethel Meeting House is located that Simon and

family attended – (which is indicated by the **ch** on the map). And the blue arrow is pointing at Simon & Lydia's house, which is the small black square on the map – Moon Hill Farm. And here's a side note: since this is a map of 1875 – all of the other “Moons” you see on the map, are the sons of Simon, who are old enough by now to own their own land, (Lorenzo, William R., Anson and Elis S.).

Part 3 A partial – Moon Family Tree





Part 4

Lucinda A Little Girl of 1860

By: Mabel Leigh Hunt

Pub. by: J. B. Lippincott Co. Philadelphia - New York © 1934

This book was written by Mabel Leigh Hunt during the early 1930s. She came up with the story line of the book by interviewing her mother. Her mother could still vividly remember, and told stories of her lifetime as a little Quaker girl (age 10 to 15 years old) growing up during the Civil War, while living in the “Bethel area” of Morgan county. So – *all* of the story line is *true*. The people, places and events written about in the book are *true*. That is, except for one fictional character, and the last chapter, where Mabel Leigh wanted to write a made up happy ending for the book. And also - “Sallowford” - is the name used for Mooresville in the book.

The location setting of the book is in a valley area in Morgan County still known today as the “Bethel area.” This area is just southwest of Mooresville in and around Sections 10 & 11 in Brown Township. The “Bethel area” is named for the Bethel Friends Church located on a bend of *Old Bethel Road*. This church was built in the early 1820s, and then a Quaker Schoolhouse was built right across the road to the east, soon after, see **(Figures 18 & 25)**.

The time setting of this book is *only* during the 5 years of the Civil War (1860 – 1865). The “Uncle Simon Moon” character mentioned in the book – *was in real life* – Simon Moon – who really did live in the Bethel area, is buried there, and was married to Lydia (Harvey) Moon. Simon (among other things) really did work as a Tanner, Herb Doctor, a Shoe Cobbler and was an active “Conductor” of the Underground Railroad.

In this book – the “Uncle Simon Moon” character is speaking of taking tanned hides and runaway slaves up to Indianapolis and Westfield, (which really did happen), by hiding the slaves underneath some stacked up tanned hides in the back of his wagon.

“Uncle Simon Moon” – as quoted in this book:

Pg. 15 “Some of them (the slaves) we haul to Indianapolis, and I have even gone with them as far as Westfield, where a cousin of mine has a tannery. He and I combine our lots and ship them East.”

Pg. 108-109 “Well, Jonah (a runaway slave) and I and the hides will go to Westfield to my cousin’s tannery, which is also a regular station on the main line of the Underground Railroad.”

The “cousin of mine” that Uncle Simon refers to in this book - could **NOT** have been - our other Simon Moon – who was married to Hannah (Stout) Moon, who lived in Westfield, who was one of the founders of Westfield, a charter member of the Westfield MM, who died in 1835, is buried in Westfield, and has a town Park in Westfield named after him.

Both of our Simons could have been active in helping escaped slaves way before the Civil War started. So - more than likely - our Westfield Simon Moon, would have been the “cousin of mine” *before* his death on October 11, 1835. *After* his death in 1835, Simon’s son, Riley Moon, became the more well-known and important Conductor in Westfield *during* the Civil War. So - during the time frame of the setting of this book (1860 – 1865), slaves taken up to Westfield would more than likely have gone to Riley – another “cousin of mine” relative in Westfield - OR - it may have been some other person who was also a relative in Westfield. In those days, all Quakers everywhere called each other “cousin,” or some other kind of relation (Uncle, Aunts, etc.), because just about all of them were related to each other in some way (see Family Tree, page 26).

Now think about these 2 sentences. See how easy it is to get these 2 guys mixed up – *if* – you didn’t take in account the way that Uncle Simon is referring to *someone else* (2 different men here) - an 1835 death date - and *who* was a conductor of the Railroad *during* the Civil War. This all happens because in the book, the “cousin of mine” isn’t given a name. So actually - there’s no way of knowing *who* the “cousin of mine” is, from the book.



Part 5 Confused yet?! – I Should Say So!

To say the least – it would be **very** easy to mix up these 2 Simons. *(And here are only a few of the reasons why.)*

- ~ The name Simon, is a biblical name. The Quakers used this name A LOT! And many different Quaker family trees are filled with a string of Simons and other biblical namesakes. *(see page 26)*
- ~ Both our Simons moved into central Indiana at about the same time in the late 1820's (give or take). *("Go west young Quaker!")*
- ~ Both our Simons left from the same region around Richmond and Waynesville, OH. *(Only 47.5 miles apart from each other.)*
- ~ Each of them moved into central Indiana – to 2 different places – but also too close to one another. *(Only 5.5 miles apart.)*
- ~ Both of them were listed in the same records at White Lick MM. *(A real source of confusion.)*
- ~ All their deeds are dated and read very closely alike in description, with only their *names* to identify them. *(Same President too!)*
- ~ There's a big difference between – (2 ½ miles "**due south of**") and (2 ½ miles "**southwest of**") - (2 different towns).
- ~ If you don't know how to understand these deeds, it can be hard to know where they're living, where they're going, and when.
- ~ In the 1800s, it would have made a big difference if the wives names would have shown up a little more often *with* their husband's.
- ~ One Simon had a grave marker, the other one didn't. *(This would have helped to tell them apart, their locations and confirm their death dates.)*
- ~ "Splitting up is hard to do" – *and also to keep track of. (i.e. – separating the males and females in the MM records.)*
- ~ They both had sons named Riley and William. *(see page 26)*
- ~ Also lots of Hannah's, and Lydia's running around. *(see page 26)*
- ~ Both Simons were involved in the Underground Railroad – and hid slaves on their property.
- ~ Both Simons were Tanners. *(And they knew each other - by combining their work to ship east.)*
- ~ How can you keep any family tree straight, when there are so many people running around with the same names? *(see page 26)*
- ~ And with so many different Simons running around – it's no wonder they got mixed up! *(see page 26)*
- ~ And even though "**Lucinda A Little Girl of 1860**" – is a very good read, full of lots of enjoyable and helpful Indiana historical information about Quaker life in Indiana of the mid 1800s – **it only took 2 sentences - to really mix things up!**

- ~ Oh yea – *everyone was Quaker!*

Conclusion:

For this writing, I did not take the *time and space here*, to thoroughly research a lot of the information mentioned in this booklet. Some of this information was *told* to me by others, based on local history. And for some of this information, there's really no need for me to spend the time and space here, to mention it in detail for this booklet. Which means - I'll leave that information to other historians to research. I've only tried to use here, what information and space I needed, to tell these 2 guys apart. *(I hope.)*

So, again – I sincerely hope that my efforts here will be helpful to everyone who needs to know this information. Research like this may seem frivolous to some, but it can be invaluable to others. Everyone likes to have the facts straight - and so do I. Therefore . . . maybe I've missed a few things – and then again – maybe I've corrected a few. And remember everyone – “I'm only trying to tell them apart.”

You're welcome . . . R. L. MOON *(a 4th great grandson of Simon & Lydia)*

Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank Thomas D. Hamm, Professor of History, Earlham College, for helping me with questions about Quaker history, and helping me with figuring out the Moon Family Tree used here. Earlham College Library is a wonderful resource of historical information, and among the very best sources of Quaker history that can be found anywhere.

I would like to give a big “thank you” to all the staff members of the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library – for many enduring hours of being very helpful and patience with me (with all of the “rooting around” and “Quaker shuffling” I was doing). They even suffered through proof reading this booklet for me. Thank you!

I would also like to thank all of the staff members of the History Rooms – of the Libraries of – Mooresville Public Library, Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library and the Hamilton East Public Library. These rooms are well equipped with helpful and knowledgeable staff members and information. Without History Rooms as these, research like this would be nearly impossible to do, so facilities like these should always be available and well staffed for everyone to use.

My thanks to the Mooresville Public Library, for giving me permission to use the Paul Hadley watercolor painting of **(Figure 16)**.

I would also like to thank the wonderful couple (and their memories of Moon Hill) that let me tromp around on their private property – which was once, Moon Hill Farm. And for letting me bother their cows just a little **(Figure 14)**, to be able to take the picture of Moon Hill Farm **(Figure 17)** from inside the cow's field from across the road. (The cows snuck up behind me while I was busy, and were *very interested* in what I was doing out in *their* field.) *(Outstanding!)*

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Pub. By: Image Builders/Rowland Printing Co., Noblesville, IN
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By: Hess
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Author and Editor: T. B. Holm
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The Noblesville Daily Ledger

Moon Family History Gevin At Reunion

Read by: Clackson H. Moon at Forest Park
Tuesday, August 14, 1928

Earlham College Library, Quaker History Section

801 National Road West, Richmond, Indiana
Thomas D. Hamm, Professor of History, Director of Special Collections

Hamilton East Public Library, History Room

The “Moon Family file”

1 Library Plaza, Westfield, IN

Mooreville Public Library, Indiana Room

220 W. Harrison Street, Mooreville, IN

Danville Public Library, Indiana Room

101 south Indiana Street, Danville, IN

Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library, Indiana Room

1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

www.glorerecords.blm.gov

Indiana-Ohio State Map – 1835

www.usgwarchives.net/maps/ohio/statemap/inoh1835jpg

W. W. Rich’s Map of Morgan county, IN 1875

Library of congress
www.loc.gov/item/2006636761/

Map of Hamilton County, IN 1866

www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/5691

Map of Guilford Township, IN 1878

hcapps.co.hendricks.in.us/webview2/Archive2/Maps/1878/Guilford.jpg

Illustrations:

~ (My tribute to Mabel Leigh Hunt) ~

All illustrations are from pages of the book: Lucinda A Little girl of 1860

All illustrations were drawn by: **Cameron Wright**

From the book	Title	This booklet page
Page 44	“Uncle Simon knelt down”	Page 2
Page 90	The “Spencerian Bird” signature	Page 7
Page 72	“Now they were off.”	Page 17
Page 114 & 115	“Her heart thumped guiltily.”	Page 23
Book Cover	“Now they were off.”	Page 27
Facing page	“Lucinda”	Page 28