

631 S. Echo Drive
Brandon, Fla. 33511
June 13, 1987

Mr. Ralph W. Hill
Rt. 1 Box 348
Prattsburg, N.Y. 14873

Dear Mr. Hill:

Mrs. Jacob of Beaverton Oregon provided me with your name and address and suggested that I write to you in regard to the research of a Spencer Hill Jr, son of Spencer Hill Sr., of Maryland. She stated that your people migrated into N.C. and Tennessee...Did any go into S.C. or do you know?

My reason for asking is this... I am researching my 4th great grandfather, MOSES HILL, born ca. 1758, and who resided in Fairfield District (County) S.C. Now Due to a lot of circumstantial evidence, I suspect he or his parents were originally from Maryland, coming to S.C. ca. 1760-65.

The first information of him is his signing a deed as a witness in 1777 in S.C. He fought in the Revolution and I am a SAR member through him. He died 1 st July 1821, in Fairfield County and married Savilla Roden, who's family was originally from Maryland.

Moses Hill's first child was named Thomas Hill, and thus a suspicion that his father was named Thomas Hill. In Fairfield County, in the 1790 Census (and other records), we know of 3 Thomas Hills and one might be of interest to you (and perhaps me too). That is one of the three Thomas Hills had a wife named Diana and it might be DIANA SPENCER.

CHRIST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, VOL. 8, SER. 2, PAGE 412,
Swedish Church.
1735 WILLIAM HILL MARRIED MARY CRAS (CROP or CROSS).
1755 THOMAS HILL MARRIED DIANNA SPENCER.
1760 JOHN HILL MARRIED MARY GIBBONS.
This was abstracted by a Dr. Gertrude Foster (genealogist).

In S.C.....in Fairfield County S.C. Deed Book L, page 77 &
78, dated March 28, 1796, to Thomas Hill, 25 pounds paid by
Arthur Clark for 150 acres on Cedar Creek-Original grant to
Thomas Hill on 25th January 1785.

/s/ Thomas Hill
/s/ Diana (x) Hill (his wife)
her mark

Another interesting thing is the following:

A Witch Hunt took place in Fairfield County in 1792..."The accused were old man Henning and his wife, Sally Smith and Mary Ingleman. The Hennings and Sally Smith were charged with laying hands on Rosy Henly and her sister and damaging many cattle in the eastern parts of the county. Rosy was more tormented than her sister, but both suffered greatly. Rosy lying in her bed, could not be restrained by four strong men from rising and clinging to the ceiling. Both sisters were bitten on the neck and shoulders and stuck with pins and splinters." (Sent to me by a genealogist in SC).

This testimony was taken and given to those appointed to preside over the Witch Trial, which was held at the THOMAS HILL plantation, located 5 miles south of Winnsboro, the county seat.

Based on land deeds and other information that I have, there is absolutely no doubt that it was the same Thomas Hill with a wife Diana. His land was located about 5 miles "below Winnsboro" on the Old Road from Winnsboro to Charleston. (Taken from a land deed by me).

Now I have no proof that this is the same Diana Spencer that married a Thomas Hill in 1755 in Philadelphia BUT it sure might offer YOU a potential for the Spencer Hill line...Maybe they were the parents of Spencer Hill Sr....I admit I have no dates but their marriage was in 1755.

My reason and concern are to see if you have ever run into a Moses or Leonard Hill in your research and to see if this Thomas Hill (wife Diana) is connected to my line, and maybe to offer you some assistance. I know a Spencer Hill was said to have been born in eastern Virginia but resided in the western areas of that state. I have that data but for the life of me cannot put my hand on it now.

I do not know how familiar you are with S.C. history but the area of northern S.C. (referred to often as the "Up Country") was heavily settled by immigrant settlers from Pennsylvania, Maryland and northern Virginia. (This included the counties of Lancaster, York, Chester, Union, Fairfield, Kershaw). Note the names of Lancaster, Chester, York & Union are of Pennsylvania origin.

Since my research leads me to suspect a Maryland connection, I have need to establish connections up your part of the

country and this (possible) tips on Thomas Hill-Diana Spencer marriage) offered me the opportunity to write to you.

Any information that you can offer me on ANY Hill lines from Maryland and North (into New England) will be appreciated. It will give me kind of a start. I just cannot afford professional help without some type of lead.

I trust you will reply and give me what data you may have on the Spencer Hill Family, and tell me of their migrations and if any came to S.C. A SASE is enclosed for your use. If I can find that data on Spencer Hill (it is a brief statement by an individual) I will send it to you.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Hill