

## MC.006 THE CONNECTIONS OF MOSES HILL & LEONARD HILL OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

Researched & Entered by Robert R. Hill Sr. of Brandon,  
Florida in 1985 through 1988. Updated again in December of  
1991.

Sources: My own research based on many various sources.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the enclosed information on this computer  
disk, is to provide information that (in my opinion) seems to  
show a connection of Moses Hill to other various members of  
the Hill Family in old Craven County (Camden District South  
Carolina) and known today as Fairfield County as of 1785.

### INTRODUCTION

The following data on the Hill Families concerns itself of  
the early times of South Carolina, from ca. 1740 until about  
1800. All of these Hill families lived in South Carolina, in  
what was once called CRAVEN COUNTY. It was part of ST.  
MARK'S PARISH, which was organized in 1757 and whose parent  
county was PRINCE FREDERICK'S PARISH.

In 1682, CRAVEN COUNTY was organized and the area that these  
Hills lived became part of that county. It was short lived  
because in 1768 it was abolished and redistributed into  
CAMDEN DISTRICT.

On 12th March 1785, Camden District was abolished and  
separated into different counties, and FAIRFIELD DISTRICT  
(COUNTY) was one of the counties that was officially  
recognized, as was Chester & Kershaw Counties.

For some time quite a few of these various Hill Families have  
been suspected to have been related one way or another by  
different researchers, but to my knowledge, no one has put  
together the following information or has come up with the  
following conclusions. For this reason I hereby submit these  
conclusions, some not proven, but supported by very strong  
genealogical evidence and are a result of my own research.

For several years it has been believed by different  
individual researchers that Moses Hill and Leonard Hill, both  
of Fairfield County, South Carolina, were brothers. It is  
also suspected that one of the three Thomas Hills that was  
living in the same general area, was also a brother. Thus we  
are talking about three suspected brothers, Moses, Leonard &  
a Thomas Hill.

After years of investigating both the Moses and Leonard Hill families, I tend to agree with others when they say that the three (Moses, Leonard & Thomas) were related, either as cousins or brothers.

No actual documentation or proof of this has yet been found but the fact that there exists documents with the signatures of Moses, Thomas & Leonard Hill (a combination of Moses and Thomas signing the same document together, and another document where Moses and Leonard signed together and still a third showing Leonard and Thomas signing together) strongly suggest that the three were related and I am of the opinion that they were brothers.

All three fought in the Revolutionary War, lived as neighbors on or near Little River in Fairfield County, South Carolina and both (Moses and Leonard) received their land grants on the same date. Thomas received his a year later.

#### DISCUSSION OF SOME FACTS

A John Hill Sr. (b. 1710 in Middlesex County) left a will in Amelia County, Virginia (Will dated 11th Feb. 1777 & 15th Sept. 1779 in WILL BOOK 3, PAGES 28-30) naming among four children, John, MOSES, Isaac & a daughter Priscilla Bell. There was no son Thomas or Leonard.

This family was once suspected to have been the origins of both Leonard Hill & Moses Hill of Fairfield County, South Carolina but it has since been disclaimed and has proven to have originated in Maryland by the fact that a William Hill was born in Maryland, moved and married in Virginia to Anne-- --? (REF. Christ Church Records, Middlesex Co., Va. 1653-1812). John Hill Sr. was a son of this William & Anne Hill.

Since it is known that in the Colonial times, men often named their first born male after their own father and their other children were named after brothers and sisters, a closer look at the families of Moses Hill & Leonard Hill of Fairfield County, South Carolina seems necessary.

Leonard Hill of South Carolina, named a son John Hill but Moses Hill (of Fairfield County, S.C.) did not. Both Leonard & Moses named a son Moses Hill, and since this is the only COMMON named sons that BOTH had, could indicate that the father of Moses Hill & Leonard Hill of Fairfield County South Carolina may also have been named Moses Hill.

Moses Hill named his daughters (in order of birth) Sarah, Elizabeth, Harriett & Rebecca Hill.

Leonard Hill named his first daughter Mary and his other two daughters Elizabeth & Sarah thus the two (Moses & Leonard) have daughters with the same common given names....Sarah and

Elizabeth.

Speaking in theory only but in genealogical terms this could offer a clue to their parents BUT again no documentation to base any claim of a connection to any individual Hill as their parents for either has yet been found.

In Fairfield County, South Carolina, on 8th August 1785, Leonard Hill purchased land (100 acres) from Henry Land, (Fairfield Deed Book B, Page 55) and Moses Hill, Burr Harrison and Susannah Dunford (Dunsford) were the three witnesses. Some sources say the Land Family was from Maryland. Burr Harrison was from the area of Stafford and Fauquier County in Northern Virginia.

The next year, on the 11th of May 1786 Moses Hill made his first land purchase, which also was in the same general area of Fairfield County South Carolina (Deed Book A, Page 258) when he bought 100 acres of land from Zacahariah Estaes and his wife Martha.

Zacahariah Estes was born in Virginia, son of Robert Estes. This land was on the Northeast side of the Broad River and on branches of Little River, adjoining Richard Gwinn's land and in the same general area that Leonard Hill had purchased his land. In other words, both Leonard and Moses Hill had purchased land (nearby), Leonard in 1785 and Moses in May of 1786.

On the 5th of June 1786, (a month after Moses made his land purchase) BOTH Moses and Leonard Hill received land grants in the same general area. Regarding the grant to Leonard Hill, his 82 acres was adjacent to land he already owned and which probably was the 100 acres that he had purchased from Henry Land on 8th August 1785 & witnessed by Moses Hill.

As stated, Leonard Hill was granted 82 acres of land, while Moses Hill was granted 315 acres in Fairfield County, on Little River (State Grants, Vol. 12, Page 265).

On the 27th of March 1787, a Thomas Hill had endorsed the indent of Samuel Biggerstaff and Moses Hill witnessed the document. (Reference S.C. Historical Records in Charleston).

Since both Thomas and Moses Hill had signed the above indent, it seems to suggest that too they were related, probably as cousins or brothers. I suspect they were brothers, thus the thinking that Moses, Leonard and Thomas were probably all brother..

#### CONNECTING THOMAS HILL TO LEONARD HILL

On 26th May 1788, Leonard Hill sold his 82 acres of land to a Thomas Hill, the land being originally granted to Leonard

Hill on 5th June 1786. Elizabeth Hill, wife of Leonard, also signed this deed.

Sometime after this sale, probably late 1788 or 1789 and BEFORE the time of the 1790 Census, Leonard Hill moved to Clark County, Kentucky and is found there in the 1790 Census. He died there in 1825.

On the 5th January of 1792 Thomas Hill, of Fairfield County, South Carolina, resold the same 82 acres that he purchased from Leonard Hill, to Andrew Allen Sr.

In these times, in order to protect dower rights, South Carolina law required that when a man sold land, his wife also had to sign the bill of sale or deed and in this case the wife of Thomas Hill signed as "JUDITH HILL."

This signature is very important as we are now able to separate this Thomas Hill from the two others known to have been living in the same area of South Carolina during the same time.

Moses and Leonard Hill received their grants on the same date (5 June 1786) while Thomas Hill received his grant about 2 years later, on 2nd June 1788.

I have discussed this with several researchers in South Carolina, and was told by the South Carolina Archives Department, and Mr. George Hill confirms in his book (Hill-Hill Mobley Connections of Fairfield County S.C.) that in these times a male had to have been 21 years of age to receive a land grant in South Carolina.

A woman could receive a grant only if widowed. Since Thomas Hill's grant was about 2 years later than the grants received by Moses and Leonard, I am of the opinion that Thomas Hill was the younger of the three men, and whom I suspect may be brothers. I feel Moses Hill was the eldest. Let me explain.

A story has been passed on to us through a family member of Mrs. Jeannette Christopher (ancestor of Moses Hill). It states that Moses Hill's grandmother (name unknown) gave him a "stock pin," about the size of a postage stamp, with instructions to pass the pin on to his eldest son, and requested that THIS son do the same, with the same instructions to be passed on down to future generations.

Moses did just that, giving the pin to his first child and son, Thomas Hill, my 3rd great grandfather. Thomas Hill then passed it on to his 4th child but first son, Nathan Barrett Hill (my 2nd great grandfather).

Assuming this information to be true, it would then appear that Moses Hill was the eldest son. As stated above, of the

three suspected brothers, Thomas Hill was probably the youngest, and with Moses probably the eldest, which would leave Leonard Hill as being the son born in between Moses and Thomas Hill.

Moses was born in late 1757 (after 1st July or in 1758 before 1st July. Leonard was probably born ca. 1760-1762 and Thomas ca. 1765. (Again no documentation of this has been found except that Moses Hill was 63 years old when he died on the 1st of July 1821).

The location of the births or the names of the parents of the three suspected brothers (Moses, Leonard & Thomas) remains unknown but due to a few scanty clues, I am of the opinion that this family had it's origins in Pennsylvania and may have come to South Carolina via way of Virginia.

I submit the following information, for the purpose of others to consider, investigate and perhaps bring forth some new and valuable data. I feel certain that the Charles Hill families in and around Greenville County, South Carolina with such given names as Charles, Asaph, Abel, George and Burrill Hill of Rutherford County, N.C. are all related to Moses, Leonard & Thomas Hill of S.C., as I will explain later.

Robert R. Hill Sr.  
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