

## Elizabeth Albritton Moyer

**Daughter of Peter Albritton Sr. and granddaughter of James Albritton Sr.**

**by Timothy Dean Hudson**

Elizabeth Albritton [Betsy] (2 Mar 1763–aft. Jan 1824) married Gardner Moyer (1755–1821) [1]. Betsy Albritton was already married to Moyer by 1799 [2]. Assuming it was their first marriage, they probably married no later than the early 1780s, as Gardner's 1790 household included one young male and two young females, presumably his and Betsy's children. Besides one slave, two other free people lived in Gardner's household that year, probably free blacks or Indians who worked on their farm [3].

Gardner Moyer was the son of John Moyer Sr., an early Pitt County settler who obtained extensive land holdings on Little Run and Laurel Swamp, in southwestern Pitt County near Little Contentnea Creek [4]. On 22 May 1777, at the age of about twenty-two years, Gardner Moyer enlisted in Pitt County as a private for three years in Captain Armwell Herron's Company, 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment North Carolina Continental Line. He served until the winter at Valley Forge, when he was transferred to Captain Benjamin Coleman's Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> North Carolina Regiment. Just prior to the expiration of his enlistment, he was taken prisoner at King's Ferry on the North River (Hudson River) near New York City, and he remained in captivity for more than eleven months. Gardner Moyer saw military action at the Battle of Monmouth on 28 June 1778, the Siege of Fort Lafayette, and at Kings Ferry on the North River [5].

In 1782, *"for love and affection,"* John Moyer Sr. gave his son, Gardner Moyer, a 180-acre tract of land on Little Run near Little Contentnea Creek [6]. John Moyer Sr. had applied for a land grant that included this tract in 1778 [7]. Betsy and Gardner may have lived there during the early years of their marriage, but if so, they did not remain for long. On 22 October 1789, for £150, Gardner sold the tract to his brother, Gideon Moyer [8].

By the 1780s, the lands surrounding Grindle Creek, Cannon Swamp, Briery Creek, and Moyes Run on the north side of the Tar River seemingly held quite an allure, enticing many young families from the south side of the river to leave their family plantations and settle there. Although we have no direct knowledge of the precise motivation behind this migration to the north side of the river, we surmise that depletion of the soils after more than a half-century of continual farming of the more populated lands on the south side of the river may have led to reduced crop yields. If correct, this would have drawn many young families to the more fertile and less populated lands on the north side of the river.

Betsy Albritton and Gardner Moye both grew up south of the Tar River on the plantations of their fathers, Peter Albritton Sr. and John Moye Sr., but in the 1780s, they joined the migration to the north side of the river. By the latter 1780s, Gardner and Betsy had moved to the Cannon's Swamp and Grindle Creek region there, near where her uncle, James Albritton Jr., had settled by 1760. They joined Betsy's brother, James Albritton, and her sister, Mary Albritton James, both of whom had settled on Grindle Creek in the 1780s [9]. Betsy's brothers, Adam, Jonathan, and Joel, all soon joined them on Grindle Creek [10].

On 28 April 1788, Gardner Moye, together with William Eastwood, a neighbor of his from southern Pitt County on Little Run and Laurel Swamp, and two other men paid £15 to John Salter Jr. for one acre of land on the south side of the Tar River about one-quarter mile downstream from Red Banks Ferry. The spot was referred to as a "*seine-haul*," a fishing technique in a riverbend that utilizes a net, called a "*seine*," designed to remain vertical in the river, with floats to hold up the top and weights to keep the bottom of the seine along the riverbed [11]. Red Banks Ferry on the Tar River lay fairly close to the Grindle Creek location of Betsy's relatives, putting Gardner in a close proximity to his seine-haul.

Sometime after their arrival north of the river, Betsy and Gardner moved onto a 100-acre plantation owned by Colson Adams, a son-in-law of John Cason, her uncle's long-time neighbor, and the father-in-law of Betsy's brother, Adam Albritton [12]. On 12 November 1791, Colson Adams sold this land, "*including the Plantation whereon Gardiner Moye now lives*," with Gardner and Joel Albritton, Betsy's younger brother, witnessing the transaction [13].

It is unclear how long after November 1791 Betsy and Gardner Moye remained near her relatives north of the Tar River, but they soon returned to southwestern Pitt County where the extended Moye family lived. Even while he and Betsy lived north of the river on Colson Adams' plantation, Gardner remained active in legal affairs related to land on Laurel Swamp, near his father's land holdings south of the river. On 16 December 1788, he witnessed the sale by David Williams Sr. of a 330-acre tract of land in Pitt County on the east side of Laurel Swamp to Henry Wrotten [14], and on 20 December 1790, Gardner and Gideon Moye witnessed the sale of a 45-acre tract from George Falconer to William Eastwood [15]. Then on 31 December 1792, Gardner Moye and his father, John Moye Sr., sold a tract of land on Laurel Swamp, south of the Tar River [16]. Gardner Moye witnessed the sale of a thirty-seven-year-old enslaved man, Noroe (or Nosoe), from Frederick Mills to John Holland on 4 January 1793 [17], and Gardner and his father witnessed the purchase of "*a certain Negro Girl named Suse*" by Gideon Moye for £100 on 25 May 1795 [18].

About 1796, Betsy Albritton Moye's brother, Jonathan Albritton, joined them on Laurel Swamp near Little Contentnea Creek in southwestern Pitt County. For a total of £140 in two transactions made on 12 September 1796, Gardner sold his brother-in-law four separate tracts of land on Laurel Swamp totaling 250 acres, with Gardner's brother, Gideon, witnessing one of the deeds [19]. In 1800, Jonathan Albritton lived there near Betsy and Gardner Moye, clearly at a distinct location from their relatives along Grindle Creek north of the Tar River [20].

Gardner Moye participated in a number of other transactions in the latter 1790s and early 1800s. On 2 March 1798, he witnessed a transaction between his brothers in which John Moye Jr. sold Gideon Moye a 25-acre tract of land adjoining their father's plantation on Little Run south of the Tar River [21]. Then on 14 May 1798, for £50, Gardner purchased a 100-acre tract of land south of the Tar River in the fork of Swift Creek Swamp from William Hardee Sr. [22]. Some eight months later, on 21 January 1799, Gardner sold this tract to Abraham Cannon for the same price he paid for it [23].

On 13 November 1802, for £12, 10s, Gardner sold his interest the one-acre of land below the Red Banks Ferry used as a "*seine-haul*;" the transaction was witnessed by Rachel Moye, possibly an elder daughter of Betsy and Gardner Moye [24]. The next month, on December 30<sup>th</sup>, Gardner witnessed a legal document in Greenville in which his brother, Pitt County High Sheriff Gideon Moye, sold property at an auction to satisfy a court order; in February 1806, several years after witnessing that transaction, Gardner Moye appeared in court to attest to his signature [25]. Gardner Moye witnessed another slave deed on 12 October 1803, this one a private sale of a twenty-one-year-old enslaved woman and her two young children from Lewis Davis to Joshua Barns. The following month, Gardner appeared in court to attest to his signature [26].

On 2 August 1806, Gardner Moye and his brother-in-law, Enoch Albritton, witnessed the sale by Pitt County High Sheriff Cannon Smith of a tract of land seized sold at auction to satisfy a court judgement; Gardner appeared before the Pitt County Court in February 1807 to make oath to his signature [27]. Several years later, on 20 March 1811, Gardner Moye witnessed the sale by George and Patten Knox of their town lot in Greenville to Benjamin H. Martin [28].

On 22 July 1799, Betsy and Gardner joined four of her siblings in selling the 141 acres left to them by their father's will to their brother, Joel Albritton [29]. We have few later records of Betsy, as life in North Carolina during that era appears even more male-dominated than in other states. None of Gardner Moye's later land transactions mention her, although church records suggest that Betsy Albritton Moye lived into the mid-1820s. Gardner's 1800 and 1810 households implies that he had a wife, and his 1820 household included a couple both over forty-five, several older

children, and seven slaves. While the possibility exists that that Betsy Albritton Moye died shortly after July 1799 and Gardner remarried to another woman with the first name of “*Elizabeth*,” the more likely scenario is that she lived until after January 1824 [30].

The few records that document Betsy’s existence give us a glimpse into the standards of her day and the differences in how men of that era treated their children of differing genders. Despite living in a veritable isolated wilderness, Betsy’s grandfather, James Albritton Sr., managed to provide an education for his younger six sons, for all except the eldest could sign their names. Peter Albritton Sr. did the same, ensuring that each of his eight sons had sufficient education to enable them to sign their own names, with Enoch and Peter Albritton Jr. sufficiently educated to justify their election to local offices, while Luke Albritton serving as Pitt County Representative and State Senator. Betsy’s father did not educate his daughters like he did his sons, as neither Betsy nor her sister, Mary, could sign their own names as young adults. In 1799, both made their marks to legal records [31].

In late 1802, a criminal incident occurred on Betsy and Gardner Moye’s plantation in Pitt County involving Tony, a slave formerly owned by Betsy’s deceased brother, James Albritton. On 21 November 1802, someone came onto the Moye farm, and using

*...force & arms...feloniously did steal take & carry away contrary to the Act of the General Assembly in such case made & provided & against the peace & dignity of the State...one negro man Slave named Tony of the price of one hundred pounds...*

Adam Albritton, as Executor of the last will and testament of James Albritton, legally had control of Tony, and he had apparently loaned or rented him to his brother-in-law, with Tony then “*...being lawfully & peaceably in the possession of one Gardner Moye.*” The villain

*...feloniously & by seduction did take & convey away out of the possession of him the said Gardner Moye with an intention feloniously to appropriate the said negro Toney [sic] to his own use, contrary to the Act of the General Assembly in such case...*

The Attorney General charged James Hopkins for the theft of the slave, and the arrest warrant required Gardner Moye to apprehend Hopkins and take him to local officials, who lodged him in the Pitt County jail in Greenville. As he turned over custody of Hopkins, Moye assured officials that “*said Hopkins was innocent of the charge and that he [Gardner Moye] would attend at court in order to clear and discharge him.*” At an inquest held on 27 January 1803, two witnesses, Edward Graham and Thomas A. Green, swore that James Hopkins, a “*Yeoman*” resident of Pitt County, was at least sixty years of age and had served as a soldier during the entire Revolutionary War, seeing action at the Battle of Eutaw Spring where he

*...recd several wounds which have rendered him a cripple for the rest of his life and that at this time two of his wounds were running issues...*

Graham and Green swore that they were

*...residing with their families in the neighbourhood [sic] of the goal [jail] in which said Hopkins was confined during the late cold spell of weather in the first of December last, and learning that a person of the above description was there in a very suffering condition, they thought it their duty to inquire into the circumstances of the charge against the prisoner then his character and situation, that they were informed by several respectable persons that the charge against the man was groundless, that no one was bound to prosecute him and that Mr. Moye the person who brought him down and whose slave he was said to have seduced had repeatedly declared him innocent, and though it was hard he should be compelled to bring him to goal [sic]—these deponants [sic] were also under a strong conviction that the said Hopkins was a good and moral man, and that his longer confinement would in all probability terminate his existence—these deponants [sic] say that they never saw or heard of said Hopkins untill [sic] they heard of him in goal [sic] and that they were induced to interfere to procure his discharge from motive of compassion only...*

Unfortunately, records only describe the charges against Hopkins and the inquest testimony, with no indication of the final outcome of the case. It is unclear if officials dropped the charges against James Hopkins, or if they ever determined who actually stole Tony from Gardner Moye's plantation on that day in November 1802 [32].

Organized in 1758, the Red Banks Baptist Church proved one of the most active Baptist churches in the region over the next century. On 25 October 1802, Betsy Albritton Moye's brother-in-law, Gideon Moye, joined Red Banks Church. The following day, as the church held a conference "at the water" as they prepared to baptize Gideon and a few other new members, Gardner Moye expressed his desire to join. The church accepted him as a member and baptized the Moye brothers that day. On 10 May 1803, the church chose Gideon Moye as a deacon, and the following August 1<sup>st</sup>, after the church held services at the Red Banks Meeting House with preaching by Elder Biggs, the church received Elizabeth Moye and Tabitha Bell as members, baptizing them that same day. Exactly one month after she joined the church, Tabitha Bell married Samuel Albritton, the nephew of Betsy Albritton Moye. It appears that this Elizabeth Moye was the wife of Gardner and the daughter of Peter Albritton Sr. [33].

Later that year, the Red Banks Church minutes record two Moye deaths: John, who died on 26 September 1804, and Asha, who died on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Although Asha is unidentified, John Moye appears to have been Gardner's father, John Moye Sr. [34].

On 11 October 1805, the Red Banks Church agreed to cite "Br. Gardner Moye" to attend their next conference. At the conference held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, some members expressed dissatisfaction over a few other members "attending or Going to a Race." The church left the matter unresolved,

with the clerk recording, *"But not being reconcoiled [sic] it was let to lie so & No Communion Next day on that account."* At the conference held on 11 January 1806, *"Brethren who were at the Race being Called over one by one to wit...Br. Gideon Moye...Br. Gardner Moye were acknowledged in full Communion"* [35].

At the church conference on 9 July 1808, a member made *"an accusation against Gideon Moye for wanting To fight."* The church postponed consideration of the charge against Gideon Moye in August, September, October, and November. On 8 October 1808, the church chose Gardner Moye as a deacon, while at the conference held on the following December 10<sup>th</sup>, Gideon Moye answered charge against him to the satisfaction of the church. The clerk recorded, *"The accusation against Br. Moye came on he restord [sic]"* [36]. It is unclear if Gardner replaced his brother as deacon, or if the church added Gardner as another deacon in addition to Gideon. Regardless, the incident appears to have created hard feelings in Gideon Moye, for he thereafter dissociated himself from Red Banks Church by ceasing to attend services. In response, the church excluded him for nonattendance on 10 March 1810 [37].

Gardner Moye remained very active in the affairs of Red Banks Baptist Church over the next several years. On 9 June 1809, the church appointed him, together with the church's pastor, *"Br. Joiner,"* as members of a committee to attempt to *"settle a difference Between Sisters Sarah Smith & Mary Corah."* The committee managed to successfully convince the two women to resolve their conflict, for at the church conference the following July 8<sup>th</sup>, the clerk recorded

*The Committee Reported There was hopes of a Reconciliation [sic] agreed to Commune tomorrow & if the said Sisters Sit down to Commune it is a Sign of Their Reconciliation [sic] which they Did to our Joy & Thus the Church thro the Great Goodness of God & the help of our Beloved Br. Joiner is restord [sic] to perfect Union after Long Dissatisfaction.*

At the Red Banks Church conferences held on 6 September 1811, 10 September 1813, and 6 September 1816, the church appointed Gardner Moye as a delegate to the upcoming Associational meetings [38].

Although the Pitt County deeds only show him purchasing a few small tracts of land, over the course of his adult life, Gardner Moye amassed considerable land holdings on Little Run and Laurel Swamp near Little Contentnea Creek, near where his father and brothers lived in southwestern Pitt County. Between 1764 and 1790, Gardner's father, John Moye Sr., acquired a total of 1752 acres of grants from North Carolina, plus tracts he purchased from private individuals [39]. It seems likely that in his will, the elder Moye left his land to his sons, including Gardner, Gideon, and John Moye Jr. By 1 December 1802, John Moye Sr. had sold or given Gardner a tract of land on Little Run that adjoined the elder Moye's line and that of James Quatermas, with legal documents

referring to a specified "*contract corner*" between John Moye and Gardner Moye [40]. On 8 December 1807, Gideon Moye sold a total of 498 acres of land on Little Run that his father, John Moye Sr., had willed to him, with the land lying along the "*Contract corner between John Moye Junr and Gardner Moye*" [41]. In 1815, Gardner Moye owned 725 acres of land valued at \$1077, plus four taxable slaves. His brother, Gideon, lived near him in Capt. Cherry's District, owning 354 acres of land valued at \$995 [42].

In 1817 when he had reached the age of sixty-two years, apparent financial difficulties prompted Gardner Moye to begin disposing of his property. On 22 September 1817, he sold a "*negro woman*" named Caty and a "*a negro boy child*" named Francis to David Sutton for an unspecified amount [43]. The following year on 10 August 1818, Moye sold four tracts of land totaling 500 acres on Laurel Swamp and Piney Pocosin to Walter Hanrahan for \$800 [44]. On 28 July 1819, for \$500, Gardner Moye sold a young male slave, Lenox, who he listed as born on 22 October 1803, to Wyatt Moye for \$500. Macon and Starling Moye witnessed this transaction [45].

A month after selling his 500-acre tract of land on Lauren Swamp and Piney Pocosin, Gardner Moye and two of his old comrades, John Stephens and Gideon Petit, made the journey from Pitt County to Raleigh, North Carolina. On 22 September 1818, they appeared before a United States District Judge and made affidavits to apply for pensions based upon their military service. Moye stated that, "*he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country for support.*" John Stephens and Gideon Petit made sworn statements before the judge, both stating that they served with Moye "*against the common enemy,*" and Stephens "*saith that the said Gardner is a poor man, is in reduced circumstances & needs the assistance of his country for support.*" The government awarded Moye a pension of \$8 per month beginning 22 September 1818 based upon his service in the North Carolina Continental Line [46].

Gardner Moye's petition to the District Judge of being in "*reduced circumstances*" in September 1818 appear to have been accurate, for his financial situation continued to deteriorate over the next few years. By early 1820, Gardner owed a debt of \$200 to Walter Hanrahan, the same man who paid Gardner \$800 in exchange for land eighteen month earlier. To indemnify his debt to Hanrahan, on April 19<sup>th</sup>, Gardner mortgaged three enslaved females, Violet, aged fifteen, Gilly, aged fourteen, and Sabrina, twelve years [47]. In June 1820, Gardner signed a note to the Bank of New Bern for \$150, with his brother, Gideon, signing as his security. To indemnify his brother, on June 28<sup>th</sup>, Gardner mortgaged three slaves, Silva, Ealox, and Fanny, to Gideon. The mortgage allowed the slaves to remain in Gardner's possession for three months, but if he failed to pay his debt during that time, then Gardner had to deliver the slaves to Gideon [48].

Gardner Moye presumably paid his debt to the Bank of New Bern, for he retained ownership of Silva (or Silvy). On 14 April 1821, he sold her and her daughter, Rose, to Warren Wallace for \$325. Since Gardner had mortgaged Silva to his brother the previous year, Gideon Moye had to sign the transaction relinquishing any claim he had to her [49]. Gardner also paid his debt to Walter Hanrahan, for he kept ownership of the slaves he mortgaged in April 1820 to secure that debt. On 1 July 1821, Gardner sold Violet, now seventeen years old, plus her one-year-old child, Hetty, as well as Gilly, fifteen years, and Sabry, thirteen years, to Elias and Arnold Taft for \$800. Gardner appeared before the Pitt County Court in August 1821 to attest to his signature [50].

Gardner Moye died sometime after he appeared in Court in August 1821 and the end of the year, for by 2 January 1822, his heirs had filed his will with the Pitt County Court, which approved Simon Nobles as Moye's executor. The Court must have ruled the July 1821 transaction from Gardner Moye to Elias and Arnold Taft invalid, for on 2 January 1822, Simon Nobles sold Moye's slave, Sabrina, to Elias Taft for \$305 [51]. Some five months later, on June 8<sup>th</sup>, again acting as the Executor of Gardner Moye's Estate, Nobles sold "*a negro Girl Slave Gilley of the Goods and Chattles of said Gardner Moye deceased*" to Absalom Sanders for \$410.25 [52].

On 8 November 1823, the Red Banks Church appointed James Griffin to summon "*Sister Moye to attend the next conference*." At the conference on December 14<sup>th</sup>, the church clerk recorded that "*Sister Moye was cited to the Church and laid over until next Meating* [sic]." On 11 January 1824, the clerk recorded that

*Elizabeth Moye Excluded for keeping a bad house and acting disorderly.*

Presumably, this is Elizabeth Albritton Moye, as there is no record of a woman by this name belonging to the church other than Gardner Moye's wife. If accurate, this indicates that Elizabeth Albritton Moye died sometime after January 1824 [53].

Although census records suggest that Gardner Moye and Betsy Albritton had children, no known documentation survives to prove their names. Although one might infer a close familial relationship between Gardner and Wyatt Moye based upon Gardner's July 1819 sale of slaves to Wyatt, other records prove that Wyatt was a son of William Moye, whose connection to Gardner is unclear [54].

The Rachel Moye who witnessed Gardner's sale of his seine-haul in 1802 is possibly his daughter, but what became of her after that year is unknown [55]. Several Pitt County residents moved to Muscogee County, Georgia in the 1830s, and in 1860, two men by the name of "*Gardner Moye*" lived there, both presumably single and natives of North Carolina, each living alone, one born about 1810 and the other about 1822. Some have speculated that these are grandsons of



Gardner and Elizabeth Albritton Moye, which is a possibility, although they could just as easily be Gardner's grandnephews, grandsons of his brothers Gideon or John Moye Jr. [56].

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## Notes

1. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, p. 469 (Pitt County Commissioners divide lands of *"Peter Albritton, Dec<sup>d</sup>,"* 1 July 1799). Revolutionary War Pension Applications #S41915, Gardner Moy (Moye). 1820 Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 526/568, line #4: Gardner Moye. When he applied for a pension based upon his military service during the Revolutionary War on 22 September 1818, Gardner Moye stated that he was *"age 63 years, or thereabout."* In 1820, Gardner Moye's household included adult males aged 16–26, 26–45, and 45 and over. Other records described below indicate that Gardner Moye remained active in legal affairs through 1820, so he is presumably the older man in this household. He never applied for any of the later pensions that Congress made available to veterans, and it appears he died in the early 1820s.
2. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, pp. 335–336 (Adam, Jonathan, and Luke Albritton, Betsy and Gardner Moye, and Mary and Matthew James to Joel Albritton, 22 July 1799). The division of Peter Albritton's lands filed in Court on 1 July 1799 referred to her as *"Elizabeth Moye (wife of Gardner Moye),"* while the sale of her interest in her father's lands on July 22<sup>nd</sup> referred to her as *"Gardner Moye and his wife, Betsey Moye."* No known record verifies her existence after this date.
3. 1790 Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 452/29, column 2, line #66: Gardner Moye. While Betsy Albritton probably married Gardner Moye in the early 1780s, given the frequent deaths in childbirth of women in this era, it seems premature to conclude she was Gardner's first wife without more documentation. Despite the numerous land transactions in which Moye participated during his lifetime, none of them mention his wife.
4. Pitt County NC Deed Book H, p. 174 (John Moye to his son, Gardner Moye, 1782). This portion of Deed Book H is nearly illegible, but it can be read that for *"love & affection,"* John Moye gave his son, Gardner Moye, a 180-acre tract of land.
5. Revolutionary War Pension Application #S41915, Gardner Moy (Moye).
6. Pitt County NC Deed Book H, p. 174 (John Moye to his son, Gardner Moye, 1782).
7. North Carolina Grant Book 71, p. 382. Entry #85, Grant #867, File #990; entered 28 January 1778; warrant issued 4 May 1778; surveyed 15 June 1778; granted 26 November 1789 (State of North Carolina to John Moye, 640 acres).
8. Pitt County NC Deed Book M, p. 657 (Gardner Moye to Gideon Moye, 22 October 1789). Gardner Moye sold 180 acres on the south side of Tar River on Little Run, land that adjoined the lines of John Moye, Jun<sup>r</sup> and James Quatermus, it *"being part of a tract of Land that was Patened [sic] by John Moye bearing Date of..."* 1779. The grant showed that while John Moye filed an entry for the land in 1778, and the county surveyor prepared a survey in June 1778, the State did not officially issue him a grant for it until November 1789, after Gardner had already sold this land to Gideon Moye. Gideon Moye's relationship to John Moye Sr. and Gardner Moye is verified by Pitt County NC Deed Book R, pp. 60–62. In that document made on 8 December 1807, Gideon sells a tract of land *"granted to John Moye by patent conveyed to me the said Gideon by will..."*
9. 1790 Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 452/29, column 2, #18: James Albritton; #33: James Albritton; #61: Matthew James; #66: Gardner Moye; p. 453/30, column 1, #17: Adam Albritton.
10. For documentation showing that Betsy's younger brothers, Adam, Jonathan, and Joel Albritton joined them on Grindle Creek, see that discussion in the biographies of Peter Albritton Sr., and Betsy's brothers. While Adam settled there by about 1788, Jonathan and Joel probably remained on their father's plantation south of the river until after 1790, possibly after Betsy and Gardner Moye had returned to the south side of the river.
11. Pitt County NC Deed Book M, p. 54 (John Salter, Ju<sup>r</sup> to William Eastwood, John King, *"Guardner Moye,"* and Isaac Carrell, 28 April 1788; witnesses: Geo. Falconer, Redding Blount).
12. For documentation on these relationships, see the biographies of Betsy's uncle, James Albritton Jr., and her brother, Adam Albritton.
13. Pitt County NC Deed Book M, pp. 599–600 (Colson Adams to Obediah Moore, 12 November 1791; witnesses: Thomas Davis, Joel Albritton, Gardner Moye).
14. Pitt County NC Deed Book M, pp. 442–443 (David Williams, Sen<sup>r</sup> to Henry Wrotten, 16 December 1788; witnesses: Stuart Gordan, Gardner Moye, Simon Williams).
15. Pitt County NC Deed Book N, p. 249 (George Falconer to William Eastwood, 20 December 1790; witnesses: James Nelson, Frederick Porter, Gideon Moye, Gardner Moye).
16. Pitt County NC Deed Book N, p. 59 (John Moye Sen<sup>r</sup>, Gardner Moye, and Jesse Ennis to John Holland, 31 December 1792).
17. Pitt County NC Deed Book N, p. 8 (Frederick Mills to John Holland, 4 January 1793; witnesses: Redick Moore, Gardner Moye).
18. Pitt County NC Deed Book N, pp. 315–316 (Christopher Leaden to Gideon Moye, 25 May 1795; witnesses: John Moye, Gardner Moye).
19. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, pp. 434–435 (Gardner Moye to Jonathan Albritton, 12 September 1796); Deed Book O, p. 432 (Gardner Moye to Jonathan Albritton, 12 September 1796; witnesses: William Eastwood, Gideon Moye).

20. Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 250, line #7: Gardner Moye; #8: Gideon Moye; p. 251, line #3: William Eastwood; #4: Jonathan Albritton. Jonathan Albritton was listed just a few households away from Gardner and Gideon Moye, and next to William Eastwood, a man who lived near the Moyes.
21. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, p. 171 (John Moye Jun<sup>r</sup> to Gideon Moye, 2 March 1798; witnesses: Gardner Moye, George Magons).
22. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, p. 292 ("*William Hardee Senior*" to "*Gardiner Moye*," 14 May 1798).
23. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, p. 297 ("*Gardiner Moye*" to "*Abraham Canon*," 21 January 1799).
24. Pitt County NC Deed Book P, pp. 267–268 (Gardner Moye to John Anderson, 13 November 1802; witnesses: James Herenton, Rachel Moye).
25. Pitt County NC Deed Book Q, p. 132 (High Sheriff Gideon Moye to Lamuel Cherry, 30 December 1802; witness: "*Gardener Moye*"). Sheriff Gideon Moye seized "*one negro boy named Dick*" as the property to Tubman Woolford to satisfy a judgement in favor of Joseph Brickle.
26. Pitt County NC Deed Book P, pp. 409–410 (Lewis Davis to Joshua Barns, 12 October 1803; witnesses: "*Gardener*" Moye, Gilead Thigpen). Davis sold Lewis a female slave, Rose, aged twenty-one, a "*Negro boy*," Peter, aged four years, and "*one Negro Boy*," Daniel, aged three years.
27. Pitt County NC Deed Book Q, pp. 341–342 (Sheriff Cannon Smith to Peter Cannon, 2 August 1806; witnesses: "*Enuck*" Albritton, Gardner Moye). Enoch Albritton is a son of Peter Albritton Sr., making him a brother of Elizabeth Albritton Moye.
28. Pitt County NC Deed Book T, pp. 209–210 (George Know and Patten Knox to Benjamin H. Martin, 20 March 1811; witness: "*Gardener*" Moye).
29. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, pp. 335–336 (Adam, Jonathan, and Luke Albritton, Betsy and Gardner Moye, and Mary and Matthew James to Joel Albritton, 22 July 1799).
30. 1800 Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 250, line #7: Gardner Moye; line #8: Gideon Moye. 1810 Pitt County NC Federal Census, p. 238a, line #15: Gardner Moye. 1820 Pitt County NC Federal Census, Capt. Moye's District, p. 526, line #4: Gardner Moye. The adult female in Gardner's household in 1800 is most likely Betsy Albritton Moye, for we know she was alive in July 1799. We have no indication if the adult woman in his 1810 and 1820 households, presumably Gardner's wife, is Betsy or a potential second wife. Evidence that Elizabeth Moye alive in January 1824 comes from the Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church minutes, described below.
31. Pitt County NC Deed Book O, pp. 335–336 (Adam, Jonathan, and Luke Albritton, Betsy and Gardner Moye, and Mary and Matthew James to Joel Albritton, 22 July 1799); Deed Book O, p. 469 (Pitt County Commissioners divide lands of "*Peter Albritton, Dec<sup>d</sup>*," 1 July 1799).
32. Secretary of State Records, State Archives of North Carolina, New Bern District Criminal Action Papers, DSCR 206.326.5 (State of North Carolina vs. James Hopkins, 1803). This case involved James Hopkins' alleged theft of a slave, Tony, who belonged to "*Adam Albritton Executor of the last Will & Testament of James Albritton, deceased*."
33. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes (Greenville, NC), Z. Smith Reynolds Library Special Collections and Archives, Wake Forrest University, Winston-Salem, NC; LDS Film #007419989, Images #29–31. The minutes contain this entry regarding the marriage of Samuel Albritton to Tabitha Bell: "*1803 Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. Samuel Albritton & Tabitha Bell was Married [sic]*." Samuel was the eldest son of James Albritton, Elizabeth Albritton Moye's older brother. Records show that Gideon Moye's wife was Nancy Moye [Pitt County NC Deed Book CC, p. 464 (Simon Nobles, "*Executor of Gideon Moye Dec<sup>d</sup>*," to Nancy Moye, 3 November 1823)]. It appears that Elizabeth Moye was Gardner's wife, meaning she was Elizabeth Albritton Moye.
34. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Image #35. The Red Banks Church Clerk made these somewhat dispassionate entries: "*Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 1804 John Moye Died; Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1804 Asha Moye Died*."
35. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Image #37.
36. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Images #41–42.
37. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Image #44.
38. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Images #43, 45–47.
39. John Moye Sr. obtained a total of 1752 acres in Pitt County in these North Carolina land grants:
  - 297 acres "*in the fork of Swift Creek*" (NC Grant Book 17, p. 145. Grant #332, File #106; granted 16 November 1764)
  - 640 acres on Laurel Branch and Little Run and "*east side of Little Contentnea Creek*" (NC Grant Book 71, p. 382. Entry #85, Grant #867, File #990; entered 28 January 1778; warrant issued 4 May 1778; surveyed 15 June 1778; granted 26 November 1789)
  - 640 acres on east side of Little Contentnea Creek on Beaver Dam Swamp (Pitt County NC Warrant #79, entered 15 June 1785, surveyed 12 September 1788)
  - 150 acres north of Little Contentnea on Piney Branch (NC Grant Book 71, p. 382. Entry #134, Grant #868, File #991; entered 10 May 1788; warrant issued 10 May 1788 [date error]; surveyed 15 October 1787; granted 26 November 1789)

- 25 acres “on both sides of Little Run” (NC Grant Book 73, p. 367. Entry #14, Grant #894, File #1018; entered 20 September 1788, surveyed 28 September 1789, granted 16 November 1790)
- 40. Pitt County NC Deed Book P, pp. 270–271 (Newton Moore to Isaac Knox, 1 December 1802). The document states that the land was originally granted to John Moyer Sr.
- 41. Pitt County NC Deed Book R, pp. 60–62 (Gideon Moyer to Jordan Anderson, 8 December 1807).
- 42. Treasurer and Comptroller, State Archives of North Carolina. Box 7, 1815 Pitt County NC Tax List, Capt. Cherry’s District, p. 1, #8: Gideon Moyer; #10: Gardner Moyer. Gideon Moyer also paid taxes on one white poll and seven slaves. Gardner did not pay a white poll, presumably due to his age. This indicates that Gideon was younger than his brother.
- 43. Pitt County NC Deed Book HH, p. 482 (Gardner Moyer to David Sutton Sr., 22 September 1817). This transaction was witnessed by Simon Nobles, the man who Moyer named as his Executor in his will.
- 44. Pitt County NC Deed Book AA, pp. 403–404 (Gardner Moyer to Walter Hanrahan Jr., 10 August 1818).
- 45. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, p. 414 (Gardner Moyer to Wyatt Moyer, 28 July 1819; witnesses: Macon Moyer, Starling Moyer). The connection of Wyatt, Macon, and Starling Moyer to Gardner Moyer is unknown.
- 46. Revolutionary War Pension Applications #S41915, Gardner Moyer (Moyer); #S41950, Gideon Petit; #S42025, John Stephens.
- 47. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, pp. 139–141 (Gardner Moyer to Josiah Griffin, Walter Hanrahan Jr., 19 April 1820). Gardner Moyer mortgages three young female slaves, Violet (aged 15), Gilly (aged 14), and Sabrina (aged 12) to secure payment of his \$200 debt to Hanrahan.
- 48. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, pp. 162–163 (Gardner Moyer to Gideon Moyer, 28 June 1820).
- 49. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, p. 301 (Gardner Moyer and Gideon Moyer to Warren Wallace, 14 April 1821). Gardner sold slaves Silvy and her daughter, Rose. The previous year, Silvy was one of the slaves he had mortgaged to his brother, Gideon.
- 50. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, p. 331 (Gardner Moyer to Elias and Arnold Taft, 1 July 1821). Gardner sells slaves Violet (aged 17) and her daughter, Hetty (1 year), Gilly (aged 15), and Sabry (aged 13), slaves that he had mortgaged the previous year to secure payment of his \$200 debt. This indicates that he paid the debt and retained possession of the slaves.
- 51. Pitt County NC Deed Book CC, p. 1 (Simon Nobles, Executor of Gardner Moyer, dec<sup>d</sup> to Elias Taft, 2 January 1822). Nobles sells Sabra to Taft, the same slave he purchased from Gardner Moyer the previous July.
- 52. Pitt County NC Deed Book CC, p. 386 (Simon Nobles, Executor of Gardner Moyer, dec<sup>d</sup> to Absolom Sanders, 8 June 1822). Nobles sells Gilly to Sanders, even though Gardner Moyer had sold Gilly to Elias and Arnold Taft the previous July, prior to his death.
- 53. Red Banks Primitive Baptist Church Minutes, LDS Film #007419989, Image #50. The only known Elizabeth Moyer who belonged to Red Banks Church was Gardner Moyer’s wife, Elizabeth Albritton Moyer. Gideon Moyer belonged to the church, but there is no record that his wife, Nancy, joined (for documentation of Gideon’s wife, see Pitt County NC Deed Book CC, p. 464 [Simon Nobles, Executor of Gideon Moyer, to Nancy Moyer, 3 November 1824]). There is a gap in the Red Banks minutes from 1817 through 1822/1823. During this time, Irwin Moyer joined the church, and by 1822, he served as church pastor. His wife could have also joined the church, but the wording of the entry describing the exclusion of Elizabeth Moyer from the church implies that she managed her own household. This all implies that woman excluded in January 1824 was Gardner’s widow, i.e., Elizabeth Albritton Moyer.
- 54. Pitt County NC Deed Book BB, p. 414 (Gardner Moyer to Wyatt Moyer, 28 July 1819; witnesses: Macon Moyer, Starling Moyer); Deed Book AA, p. 182 (William Moyer to “Wyott” Moyer, 8 March 1818; witnesses: Irwin Moyer, Macon Moyer); Deed Book BB, p. 110 (William Moyer to “Wyott” Moyer, 1 May 1820; witness: Irwin Moyer); Deed Book BB, p. 111 (William Moyer to Irwin Moyer, 1 May 1820; witness: “Wyott” Moyer); Deed Book DD, p. 81 (William Moyer to Macon Moyer, 6 April 1825; witness: Alfred Moyer, Elbert Moyer). These records prove that Wyatt, Macon, and Irwin Moyer are all sons of William Moyer. It is not known what connection William Moyer has to them. It is possible that William was either a son or brother of Gardner’s, but we have no proof of this possible connection. Moyer family information seems contradictory and unclear regarding the precise identity of this William Moyer, including the dates of his birth.
- 55. Pitt County NC Deed Book P, pp. 267–268 (Gardner Moyer to John Anderson, 13 November 1802; witnesses: James Herenton, Rachel Moyer).
- 56. 1860 Muscogee County GA Federal Census, Columbus, p. 204/56, Household #417: Gardner Moyer (age 38); 8<sup>th</sup> District, P.O. Columbus, p. 358/58, Household #455: Gardner Moyer (age 50). The elder Gardner worked as a laborer and had a personal estate of \$1000, whereas the younger man lived in Columbus and worked as a farmer, with a personal estate of \$400. Oddly, no trace of either man can be identified in either the 1840 or 1850 federal censuses.

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