

Biography – Somerset Moore (17XX – 1814)

Tennessee became a state in 1796. In the known records, Somerset Moore is usually associated with James Buford Sr. and family who came from Lunenburg County Virginia to the Tennessee Territory in the late 1790's. The assumption is that Moore arrived with the Buford's and probably originated from Lunenburg as well.

Somerset Moore married Charlotte Buford, daughter of James Buford Sr., on 15 March, 1799, Davidson County, Tennessee. Somerset Moore has not been found in any records anywhere prior to this marriage date, and his age during his short life is unknown.

Note: I have speculated he was born about 1780, although it may have been earlier. His father-in-law was born in 1746, obviously quite senior to him, but the evidence shows his wife and brother-in-law both born in 1782, and 1780 respectively, and an associate, Sam Jones in 1776, gives credence to an early 1780's birth date for him.

On October 26, 1799, Williamson County was created from Davidson County and included the area where Moore and Buford lived near Thompson's Station. By 1807, Moore and Buford traveled 50 miles south to an area of Williamson County, making improvements to the land; at that time the area became Maury County. In 1808, they went back to Williamson County and moved their families. In 1809, a new county, Giles, and a new county seat, Pulaski, were formed where the Buford's and Somerset Moore had settled.

November 22, 1809, the Tennessee Legislature selected Somerset Moore as one of 11 magistrates for Giles County. At the time he lived on Moore's Creek, two miles southwest of Pulaski.

November 23, 1809, the Tennessee Legislature chartered an Academy for Giles County, called Pulaski Academy, and appointed Somerset Moore, Charles Buford (his brother-in-law) and Samuel Jones (a future in-law) as three of seven trustees. The school's name was changed in 1812 to the Wurttemberg Academy.

Somerset and Charlotte's six children were probably all born during the first decade of their marriage, although actual dates are only known for two as shown below. Other dates are guesses:

Mary 1800 (no record)

Larkin Buford 1801

Martha 1803

Keziah P. 1805 (no record)

James 1807 (no record)

Catherine 1810 (no record)

Giles County Records

November 15, 1813 County Court Record - Ordered Somerset MOORE, Nathaniel MOODY and Ralph GRAVES, or any 2 of them be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to let to the lowest bidder the building of a bridge across Moore's Creek where the Weakley Creek road crosses the same and that they report to next court. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p. 4.

November 16, 1813 County Court record - met according to adjournment. Present Somerset MOORE, Nathaniel MOODY & Pleasant MOORE, Esq'rs. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes.

Above record was the last found of Somerset Moore alive. He died young sometime before June 10, 1814 leaving his wife and six children.

June 10, 1814 Letters of Adm. on estate of Somerset MOORE dec'd issue to Charlotte MOORE & James BUFORD. Next Item: Adm. of Somerset MOORE returned an inventory of estate. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p 181.

June 10, 1814 Charles H. MOORE & James BUFORD, adm. of est. of Somerset MOORE dec'd returned additional inventory. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p. 193

Order sale issue to Charlotte MOORE and James BUFORD to sell the perishable part of est. of Somerset MOORE, dec'd. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p 193.

Ordered Charles BUFORD, Joseph ANTHONY & German LEST allot to Charlotte MOORE, widow of Somerset MOORE sufficient portion of stock corn and dead victuals of the goods and chattels of said decedent as will be sufficient to maintain her and her children for one year. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p. 193.

September 1814 Ordered sale of issue to Charlotte MOORE and James BUFORD to sell perishable part of est. of Somersett MOORE, dec'd, negros excepted. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p 219.

Gernan LESTER, Henry HAGAN & Nathaniel MOODY to allot to Charlotte MOORE, widow Somersett MOORE, dec'd a sufficient portion of the stock corn and dead victuals of goods and chattels of decedent to maintain her and her children for 1 year. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p 220.

December 9, 1814 Petition of Charlotte MOORE, widow of late Somerset MOORE, dec'd, adm. had notice of this motion. Ordered that a writ issue to Sheriff commanding him to summon 12 freeholders connected with the parties neither by affinity ... to set off to Charlotte MOORE 1/3 part of tract of land with 1/3 of the crop on hand, including the mansion house in which said Somerset MOORE most usually dwelt before his death together with outhouses, etc...make return to next court. Giles County Tennessee Court Minutes, p 319.

The following record is a deed transfer linking all of the children of Somerset Moore and Charlotte Buford to them. It also shows the married names of Martha, Mary and Keziah along with Charlotte's new (3) husband.

1826 Giles CO TN Deed Book-G, p.90-91

Mary M McCormack Conveyance for land to George Brown for a moiety in a certain tract of land in Giles CO as Legatee of Somersett Moore dec.s Registered the 2nd day of November 1826. Mary M McCormack of the county of Giles TN. \$30.to me in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby ack. by George Brown of the sd CO & state , granted bargained sold and convey. interest either legal or equitable that sd Mary M McCormack as one of the Legatees of Somersett More deceased has in and to a certain tract of parcel of land which descended to Charlotte Moore now Charlotte Brown a widow of the sd Somerset Moore during her lifetime and which after her death will descend to Mary M McCormack formerly Mary M Moore Martha Flournoy formerly Martha Moore Larkin B. Moore Kissiah P. Jones formerly Keziah P. Moore James Moore and Catherine Moore children and Legatees of the sd Somersett Moore deceased it being an equal and undivided interest with the above Legatees in and to the above described and to the sd Charlotte Moore now Charlotte Brown. it is expressly understood that the sd Mary M McCormack , hath conveyed to the sd George Brown all the interest this I have in and to the above land.70ac however be the same more or less descended as aforesaid after the death of sd Charlotte Brown formerly the widow of the sd Somersett Moore it lying and being in Giles County on Richland Creek in Equal part and share with the above Legatees.

18 April 1826 Sig: Mary M McCormack (seal).

Wit: Priscilla

R Judkins, Elizabeth C M Moore, Wm W Fogg, G H Edwards ACK: Aug term
1826 Giles CO Crt

Compiled by:
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Sources:

Giles County TN Rootsweb.com Website

A Brief Sketch of the Settlement and Early History of Giles County, TN; by James McCallum, 1876, published by The Pulaski Citizen, 1928

Family Group Sheet

Subject* **Somerset Moore (2195)**

Birth* circa ____ 1780 Probably Virginia.
 Marriage* 15 Mar 1799 Davidson County, Tennessee.
 Death* circa __ May 1814 Giles County, Tennessee.
 Father*
 Mother*

Spouse* **Charlotte Buford (2196)**

Birth* 26 Oct 1782 Lunenburg County, Virginia.
 Name-Marr: 15 Mar 1799 Moore
 Name-Marr: circa ____ 1815 Hicks
 Marriage* circa ____ 1815 John Hicks (2203) (b. circa 1780,); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Name-Marr: before ____ 1826 Brown
 Marriage* before ____ 1826 George Brown (4188) (b. circa 1785, d. after 1830)
 Death* after ____ 1830 Giles County, Tennessee.
 Father* James Buford (2201) (b. 5 Jul 1746, d. before Jul 1811)
 Mother* Priscilla Ragsdale (2202) (b. 25 Nov 1746,)

Six Known Children

F **Mary Moore (2198)**

Birth* circa ____ 1800 Probably Williamson County, Tennessee.
 Marriage* ____ 1819 Masterson Coleman McCormack (2199) (b. circa 1786, d. circa 15 Oct 1824)
 Name-Marr: McCormack
 Daughter: 15 Oct 1824 Martha Louisa McCormack (2200); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Death* after 18 Apr 1826

M **Larkin Buford Moore (4186)**

Birth* 29 Dec 1801 Probably Williamson County, Tennessee.
 Marriage* ____ 1829 Judith Haynie (4189) (b. 1809, d. 18 Feb 1856); Probably Giles County, Tennessee.
 Daughter: ____ 1835 Elizabeth Moore (4488); Arkansas.
 Son: ____ 1841 Albert Moore (4489); Arkansas.
 Son: ____ 1844 Robert Moore (4490); Arkansas.
 Daughter: ____ 1846 Charlotte Moore (4491); Arkansas.
 Daughter: ____ 1848 Paralee Moore (4492); Texas.
 Death* ____ Apr 1880 Travis County, Texas.

F **Martha Moore (3276)**

Birth* 25 Dec 1803 Probably Williamson County, Tennessee.
 Name-Marr: ____ 1819 Flourmoy
 Marriage* ____ 1819 Alfred Flourmoy (3277) (b. 3 Dec 1796, d. 29 Oct 1873)
 Son: 24 Dec 1820 Alonzo Flourmoy (3283); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Son: 10 Oct 1822 William Flourmoy (3284); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Daughter: ____ 1824 Rachel Flourmoy (3285); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Daughter: 22 Jul 1826 Martha Moore Flourmoy (3286); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Daughter: 29 May 1829 Eliza Flourmoy (3287); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Son: 1 Sep 1830 James Silas Flourmoy (3288); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Son: 21 Sep 1832 Alfred Flourmoy (3289); Giles County, Tennessee.
 Death* 13 Sep 1834 Giles County, Tennessee.

F **Keziah (Hezakiah) P. Moore (33)**

Name-Marr: Jones
 Birth* circa ____ 1805 Probably Williamson County, Tennessee.
 Marriage* circa ____ 1823 Alexander S. [Sidney] Jones (32) (b. circa 1803, d. before 10 Jun 1834), son of John Jones (38) and Rebecca Brevard (39); Tennessee.
 Name-Marr: Jones
 Daughter: 10 Oct 1826 Euziede Celeste Jones (27); Louisiana.
 Son: ____ 1828 John S. Jones (142); Tennessee.
 Daughter: ____ 1831 Mary K. Jones (143); Louisiana.
 Death* after ____ 1834

M

James Moore (2197)

Birth* circa ____ 1807 Probably Maury County, Tennessee.

F

Catherine Moore (4187)

Birth* circa ____ 1810 Probably Giles County, Tennessee.

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