

NEWSLETTER OF THE DESCENDANTS OF  
JOHN MOORE  
OF NEW KENT, HANOVER, LOUISA AND ALBEMARLE COUNTIES, VIRGINIA (d. 1777)

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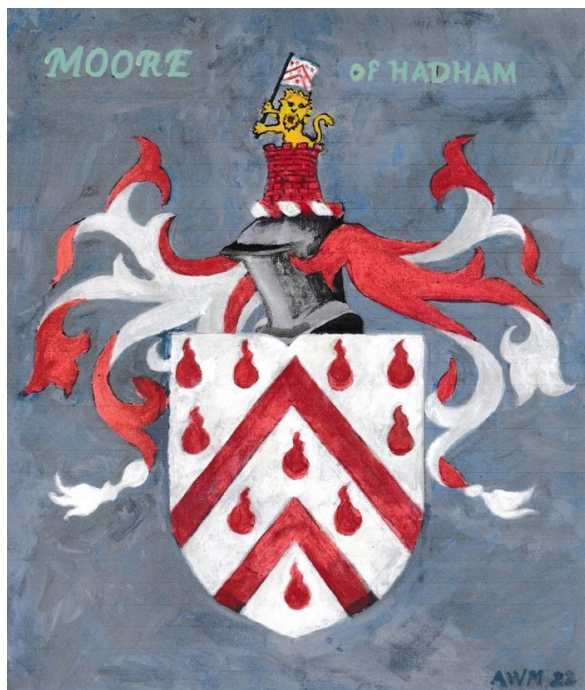
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## HOME AT LAST

By the Editor

After thirty issues of this newsletter, in which we undauntedly attempted to find the English origin of John Moore of Albemarle, we can finally say that we are satisfied that we have found that origin. It is Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, England. This issue will provide our reasons for this attribution.



Arms of Moore of Much Hadham:  
*Argent gutty de sang, two chevronels gules*

### *The name Robert Moore*

There were four male Moores on the Virginia-bound ship *Bona Nova* in 1619, all of them stating their occupation to be “gentleman”: John, William, Leonard, and Gerard. We can be fairly certain that John is the John Moore b. 1586 in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire (one county north of London), because of four factors: 1) his age, 2) the fact that in the church record his father is shown as Robert, 3) the fact that he gives his county of origin as Hertfordshire, and 4) the fact that the muster (census) of Elizabeth City, Virginia in 1624/25 states that an

older man named Robert is living in the house with John Moore.

### *The Berkshire fallacy*

Lucy Henderson Horton, in her 1920 book *Family History*, gives the Moores of Burghfield, Berkshire as our family of origin, but what this is based on is anyone’s guess. Mrs. Horton provides, as Fleming Moore once said, “not a shred of proof.” One of our research group members states that she had heard that Mrs. Horton paid to have the family tree researched. We hope she did not pay a great deal. The farther back we go in looking into our Moores, the less likely it becomes that we have anything whatsoever to do with Berkshire.

### *The given name Epaphroditus*

The records show that besides John there is also in Cheshunt an Epaphroditus Moore. This highly unusual given name (which is apparently Greek for “handsome”) connects these Moores to a Moore family farther west in Hertfordshire, at Hemel Hempstead, which also has Epaphrodituses. One of their marriages is to Rawline, and we find several persons by that name (and spelling) in the Much Hadham church records.

Supporting our discoveries in Hertfordshire is the tradition in Virginia that our John Moore of Albemarle had a brother named Epaphroditus who moved from New Kent County, Virginia, to North Carolina, settling in Bertie County, where many in his family were wiped out in an Indian raid in 1757. We are further supported in our acceptance of this family account by the fact that both the John and the Epaphroditus lines connect to a House family.

As can be seen on the visitation pedigree of the Moore family of Much Hadham (see page five of this newsletter), they have our needed Robert (whereas there are no Roberts among the Berkshire Moores).

*Leonard Moore of the Bona Nova*

Leonard Moore of the *Bona Nova*, per the church record, appears to have been born in 1599 in Ware, Hertfordshire, although on the passenger list he gives his origin as London. (Burke says there is a branch of the Much Hadham Moores in London.) Ware lies four miles southwest of Much Hadham and five miles north of Cheshunt. As can be seen on the pedigree, the Moores of Much Hadham have a Leonard. The Virginia records show that Leonard went farther west in Virginia than did his presumed relative John, apparently moving up the James rather than the York and settling in Henrico County, where he obtained a lease on land.



*Moore Place in Much Hadham*

#### *Gerard and William Moore of the Bona Nova*

It's a simple matter to discover the origin of Gerard, as he appears in the church records in Stoke Newington in County Middlesex (now part of northern London) as being born in 1587, father Thomas. Since Gerard and William were both killed in the Indian massacre of 1624 on the College lands on the James, we can speculate that they were possibly related to each other and possibly not to John and Leonard. The Moores of Stoke Newington, like the Moores of Much Hadham, were gentry, i.e., they had a coat of arms and bore the title gentleman although their arms had only recently been granted. It is not impossible that the both families go back to the same origin in Hertfordshire, the Stoke Newington Moores, for some unknown reason, conceivably having applied for and obtained from the herald (for a high price) a new coat of arms, one which possibly alluded to the trade by which they had earned their fortune, in this case perhaps tanning (represented by the bull), which was an important and lucrative industry at this period.



*Moore of Stoke Newington*

It is also possible, of course, that the two Moore groups on the *Bona Nova* (if they were separate groups) had no previous knowledge of each other.



*St. Andrew's Church, Much Hadham  
Begun in about 1220*

#### *Early Moores in Sandon, Hertfordshire*

The earliest Moores in the Hertfordshire Visitation pedigree are shown to be in Sandon, which is a town about 15 miles northwest of Much Hadham. Here is what the *Victoria History of the Counties of England* has to say about the manor of LaMore in Sandon:

*The manor of LA MORE was held of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. Walter and William 'de Mora' were freehold tenants in Sandon early in the 13th century. Robert 'atte More' was a tenant there about 1301. The earliest known record of the manor is a conveyance by Robert Basset of Rushden and his wife Margaret to John de Preston and Thomas Semelegh. In 1261 William Basset had been among the witnesses of a*



surrender to the dean and chapter by William son of James de Sandon of 1d. rent due from Theobald 'de la Mor' for land in Wodewellfeld. Robert Basset also witnessed the surrender by Warin de Bassingbourn of his lands in Sandon in 1316. Evidently the manor alienated by Robert Basset in 1384 was identical with the messuage and lands in Sandon held by the trustees of Sir Robert Belknap, kt., in 1390. He had succeeded the Bassets as lord of Rushden (q.v.). With that manor Sir John Fray, kt., baron of the Exchequer, also acquired the manor of La More in Sandon. He settled it upon his wife Agnes with remainder to their daughters Agnes and Katherine in succession. The latter married Humphrey Stafford and succeeded her sister, who died without issue. Possibly La More was accounted an appurtenance of her manor of Rushden. It is not specifically mentioned among the lands of which she died seised in 1482, but in 1654 it was in the possession of Francis Vernon of Gannock, whose predecessor, Robert Newport, purchased Rushden in 1574. Nevertheless, the house and land called 'the Moore' in Sandon was the property of Ralph Parker about 1600. From 1654 onwards the manorial rights seem to have descended with Gannock (q.v.).



*The Moore House in Yorktown, Virginia.*

*Site of the British surrender in the Revolution in 1781.*

*Built by Lawrence Smith II and purchased by his brother-in-law Augustine Moore.*

### *The Dalton connection*

According to the *Victoria History*, sometime in the 1500s the manor called Moore Place in Much Hadham came into the hands of a Dalton family. The usual way this happens, of course, is that a generation of the property-owning family produces only female children and so the husband of the eldest female comes into possession of the property. The *Visitation of Hertfordshire (1572 and 1634)* does not list any Daltons. We can therefore assume that they were members of one of the several old gentry Dalton families elsewhere in England. The most likely is very clearly Dalton of Kingston-upon-Hull in Yorkshire. We know from their published pedigree

that they had a marriage to a South, a name which also appears as a marriage in the Moore of Much Hadham pedigree.

The eldest son of John Moore of Albemarle is Matthew Moore (b. 1738), who in 1757 marries Letitia, daughter of Samuel Dalton. The Dalton-South marriage in Yorkshire produces a Samuel Dalton. We can therefore assume (if these two Samuels are not actually one person) that there is a close relationship to our North Carolina Samuel, "the richest man in the Piedmont," who was famous for having lived in three centuries (1699-1805). It thus appears that Matthew Moore and Letitia Dalton were at least distant if not second cousins.



*Matthew and Letitia Dalton Moore's house in Stokes County, N.C.*

*Built in about 1786*

Regarding Dalton, we find the following on the internet:

*The Dalton family emerged as prominent wool traders in the port city of Kingston upon Hull, Yorkshire, in the 15th century, becoming players in the local political scene (and serial holders of the mayoralty over a period of more than one hundred years). It was merchant adventurer Thomas Dalton (d. 1591) who would take the family's fortunes to the next level through trading links with the Netherlands, being twice elected member of parliament for Hull and using 'much of his considerable wealth to buy land' around and about. Dalton's substance now enabled his own children to broaden their horizons, with son William moving away from trade to practice law, becoming in time recorder of both Hull and the city of York. (From : <https://handedon.wordpress.com/2022/03/16/hauxwell-hall-yorkshire/>)*



*Crest of Dalton of Kingston-upon-Hull*

The cathedral in Kingston-upon-Hull in which these Daltons attended services can be viewed at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hull\\_Minster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hull_Minster).

*The Registers of Charles Parish  
in York County, Virginia*

There are 38 Moore entries in the Registers. The following births/christenings occur before Albemarle John's birth in New Kent in 1706:

1678 Elizabeth, dau. of John by A[illegible].

1693 Griggs, son of John by Elizabeth.

1695 Ann and John, twins, children of John by Amee.

1697 John, son of John by Amee.

1697 Ann, dau of James by Elizabeth.

1699 James, son of Alexander, of Old Poquoson.

This settlement lies on the south bank of the York about five miles northwest of the 250 acres held by John Moore of 1619. John's land was where Langley Air Force Base is now.

1699 Amee, dau. of John by Amee.

*Two unrelated Moore families  
migrated up the York River.*

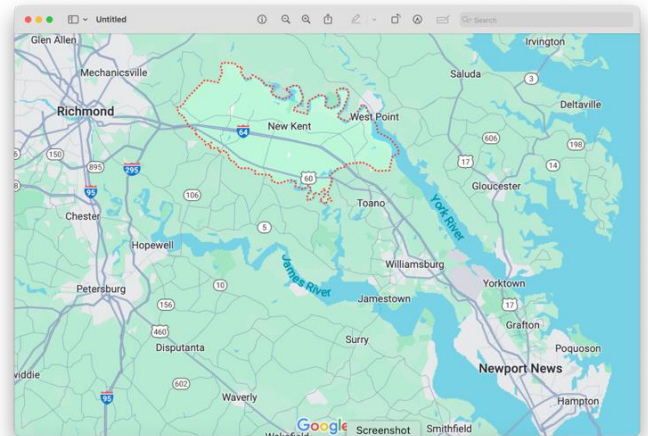
Another error that Mrs. Horton makes in her *Family History* is to confuse two unrelated Moore families in the York River basin. One is our Hertfordshire-based line, and the other is the Moore group at Chelsea Plantation on the Mattaponi River, about four miles north of the point where that river flows into the York. We know this is an unrelated line because at some point a much-weathered gravestone was found on the property on which one could still make out three greyhounds. These are the arms of Moore of Lancashire and Leicestershire. The proprietor of Chelsea was Augustine Moore, a wealthy and prominent slave-trader.



*Arms of Moore of Chelsea, King William County*

*A seal ring*

In his will of 1793 (proved 1795) Augustine Moore leaves "my seal ring and snuff box and thirteen silver spoons" to his nephew Augustine, son of his brother William. This ring would have borne the image of the Moore coat of arms.



*Moore DNA*

*By Phillip Moore*

The Y-DNA of six genealogy groups converge in R-Haplotree at Haplogroup R-BY99680. As the surname "Moore" is noted in both major divisions R-FT214236 and R-BY137351 "Moore" is the earlier surname of these folks. The surname "Moore" in this case is apparently locational, a "moor" is a field similar to a heath or prairie in the modern sense. In other words, there are several distinctly separated and unrelated groups today with the surname "Moore". In this particular haplogroup there are 25 distinct and unique SNR mutations just in Haplogroup R-BY99680 distinct from all other

folks, quite enough to separate the line from other “Moore” families well before surnames became commonplace.

Perhaps of more general interest is that all the genealogy groups converge in Colonial Virginia.

Only one of the six genealogies isn’t quite certain of their way to Colonial Virginia. Today’s most recent common ancestor estimates (MRCA) predict that it was likely brothers and close cousins who immigrated to Colonial Virginia.

*Pedigree of Moore of Much Hadham  
from the Visitation of Hertfordshire, 1572*

**Moore of Hadham** [with emendations drawn from related pedigrees in the Visitation].

Arms.—*Argent, guttée de sang and two chevrons Gules* [Silver spattered with blood, two narrow red chevrons].

Crest.—*Out of the top of a mural tower Gules, a lion rampant-gardant Or, supporting a banner Argent guttée de sang, thereon the arms, the staff Sable.* (Translation: Out of the top of a red tower whose stones are apparent, as in a wall, is a gold lion rearing up and looking at the viewer, supporting a banner on which are the arms as on the shield.)

(Ux means “wife of”; = means “married.”)

William Moore of co. Hertf.=....

Richard Moore of Sandon.=....

William Moore.=....

William Moore.=Elizabeth, da. of Sir Roger Woodhouse, of Norf., Kt.

.... [Moore.] ux. .... **South** of co. Hertf.

Leonard Moore of Sandon.=Anne, da. of John Hanchett, of Gadesbury who m. Grace, da. of Robert Newport [son of] Robert Newport who m. Mary, da. of [John] Allington. Anne Hanchett had siblings John who had a da.[...], Thomas, & Grace, [who was] 1 ux. ....Gray of Hays, 2 to B....

Elizabeth, ux Oliver Warner [possibly related to the prominent Warners of Va., who it has been conjectured might be the source of the name Augustine among our Moores].

Margery, ux. John Buck of Essex [who had connections in Cheshunt, birthplace of John Moore of Elizabeth City].

Jone, ux. John Percivall [who had connections in Cheshunt].

Bridgett and Alice, ob. sp. [died without children].

Mary, ux .... Fossett of London.

William Moore of Haddam=Sarah, da. of Clement Newce of co. Hertf. [the same Newces as those who held important positions in early Virginia.]

Frances, ux William Roberts of London.

Adelina, ux. William Billingsley of co. Rutland.

Mary, ux. Clement Pagenham of co. Linc.

Thomas Moore.=....

Andrew Moore.

William Moore, a captain in the Low Countries=Margarett, da. of Coun.... Torse of Utrick [Utrecht], 1 ux.; Hester, 2 ux., da. of Claus la Meere of Dunhage [The Hague], widow of Samwell Marlese.

John Moore.

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*Some prominent Moores of our line*

Gabriel Moore, governor of Alabama 1829-1831.

George Fleming Moore, Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court 1878-1881.

Major General George Fleming Moore, commander of the Harbor Defenses of Manila and Subic Bays and the Philippine Coast Artillery during the Battle of Bataan, World War II.