

Whitley County, Family History from the More Family Papers, 1714-1816

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The More Family Papers, held at the Indiana Historical Society William Henry Smith Memorial Library, is a collection that is filled with a plethora of information on three generations of the family of John W. More of Whitley County, Indiana. These items include: More's tax receipts, deeds, agreements, funeral orations, pension, and even correspondence with American Indian tribes.¹

According to the collection guide, More moved to Whitley County in 1836, settling in Smith Township. A prominent figure in Whitley County, he was the first justice of the peace and first county assessor. In 1858 he and his wife Margaret left Whitley County for Missouri, only to return a year later, settling in Union Township.

John and Margaret's son, William C. More, was a Civil War veteran who served in the Seventy-fourth Indiana Volunteers that fought with General William T. Sherman in Tennessee. William served in the war until its end in 1865. He settled in Whitley County with his wife, Martha Compton, whom he married 1867. They resided for a short time in Smith Township and then Union Township.²

The More Family Papers are among hundreds of family papers held in the general collection at the Indiana Historical Society. If you are interested in searching for your family or information on families in your county, you can visit the IHS online catalog at, <https://indianahistorylibrary.on.worldcat.org/discovery>.

The following excerpt is a direct transcription of a brief history of the More family in America, from the family papers. The original was handwritten apparently by an unnamed ancestor of the More family.

Notes

1. Charles Latham, Collection Guide to "More Family Papers, 1836-1953," William Henry Smith Memorial Library, Indiana Historical Society, January 8, 1996, <https://www.indianahistory.org/wp-content/uploads/more-family-papers-1836-1953.pdf>.
2. Ibid.

More Family

John More I a native of Germany (born about 1714) Came to America probably landing at New York, when he was quite a young man. He married Sophia [Cake?] – a native of New Jersey (1744) They settled in what is now West Virginia, near Stanton where they established a home. Fourteen (14) children were born to them. There was but one girl she married an army officer and settled in Kentucky exact date not known. But they must have been among the first Settlers. My reason for believing this I will explain further along. We only have the names of two of the boys Henry + John (II).

John More (II) (Our Great Grand Father) was the youngest of fourteen (14) children born (1772) and when very young was bound out to [a] man in New Jersey after serving his time he probably returned to his home which would have been about 1793 or the year Gen [Anthony] Wayne was recruiting his army. He enlisted in Gen Wayne army and was with him on his expedition against the North West Indians and was at the battle of Fallen Timbers (1794.) This battle took place just east of the Grand Glase where [- - -] More was held [prosiner ?] (1792) an account of which can be found in Captivity of (W.O. Spencer) After John More (II) received his discharge from the Army he returned to the Gaudy neighbor hood in Virginia. Wher he married Sarah Gandy about 1797.

There were ten (10) children born to this couple Samuel – Eli – Sophia – Sarah, Rachel – Huldah – John (III) – William Gandy (two children died in infancy). Our record says that after the first two children were born The family boarded a flat boat, Takeing with them a muley Cow their only domestic animal, They floated down the Ohio River to Montgomery Co Ohio and later moved to Miami Co wher they improved a farm later building a brick house and were quite comfortable in their old days I think we located their old brick house from a description our Grand Mother More gave I found a date scratched in one of the bricks (1815). Just east of this old house in a small cemetery we found the grave of our great Granfather Robt Spear died (1816)