

Boone-Mayfield Family in Indiana

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Nine miles west of Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana, on Indian Creek, there is a natural bridge at the Dry Ford where the creek, one hundred feet wide, runs under the bluff four hundred feet high, and forms a natural bridge, eight hundred feet wide and a half mile long.

As one goes south towards the Dry Ford, he will see on the right a high, almost perpendicular bluff, which is the north face of the Natural Bridge. At the old Dry Ford Crossing, to the left he will see no water (except after a freshet) in the channel. When one crosses, at the right, he will see the approach to the Natural Bridge.

The Pioneers built a fairly good road over the top of the bridge to the Boone-Mayfield settlement on the West side. This road is not now in use. The south side of the Natural Bridge is not as precipitous as the north side.

A half mile farther south at the Mayfield Crossing, where the author was born, there is very little water in the creek. This water comes from Big Blue Spring, and when there is high water for a few days, pedestrians have trouble in crossing until the water "runs down" when they can easily cross. At the present time, there are three bridges across Indian Creek within a distance of three quarters of a mile—one at the old bridge, one at the Dry Ford, and one at the Mayfield Crossing.

Our ancestors, Jeremiah and Joyce (Neville) Boone, came more than a hundred years ago (1817) and settled three miles north of this freak of nature. (Twp. 5 N., R. 2 W., Lawrence Co., Ind.) The ancestry of Jeremiah Boone follows:

George Boone, III—b. 1666, father of
George Boone, IV—b. 1690 (in England) father of
Josiah Boone—b. 1726 or 1727; d. 1814 at Glenn Creek (five miles south of Frankfort), Ky.; m. Hannah Hite 1750.

Children of Josiah and Hannah (Hite) Boone: George, b. 1751; Noah, died young; Josiah, Jr., b. 1758; Jeremiah, b. Feb. 1760; Allison, died young; Ruth, b. 1770 and m. Pluright Sisk, 1790; Deborah (twin of Ruth), never married; Ruhema, m. William Thompson. Heirs of Josiah, Sr., given in legal document: George, Josiah, Jr., Jeremiah, Ruth, Deborah, Ruhemah.

Jeremiah Boone (listed above) died in 1832. He married Joyce Nevil on May 9, 1787, at Stanford, Kentucky. She was

born in 1768 and died in 1861. She was the daughter of James and Sarah Joyce Nevil. James Nevil was born in Prince William County, Virginia, in 1741. He served in the Revolutionary War under Col. Edmonds and Capt. Martin Pickett as shown by the records of the Pension Bureau and other records. In 1779, James Nevil went to Lincoln County, Kentucky. Here he learned that the British and Indians were on the warpath. The settlers were preparing for their first invasion into what is now Ohio. After the invasion into the Indian country, the troops returned to Harrodsburg, Kentucky. The Indians came into Kentucky and, in the fighting, a number of Kentucky soldiers were killed, including Colonels Todd and Trigg. This left Col. Daniel Boone in command of the local troops. He retreated, then rallied his troops and called for volunteers. Many responded, among them Capt. Sam Kirkham and Jeremiah Boone.

When James Nevil (or Neville) and family arrived at the little place Asaphs (afterwards changed to Stanford), they began to see familiar names: Col. Daniel Boone, the surveyor, Sam Kirkham on the Grand Jury, and the name of Abraham Lincoln on the court record. Jeremiah Boone made visits to the Nevil home often. Capt. George Mayfield and Lieut. Isaac Mayfield were also with the troops. James Nevil and wife and Jeremiah Boone and family lived neighbors on Dix River from 1789 to 1796. Jeremiah bought three farms on Pitman Creek, Northeast of Somerset, Kentucky, in 1800. The children of Jeremiah and Joyce (Nevil) Boone were:

Sarah Boone—m. Isaac Wagner, at Somerset, Ky. (A descendant of this line is Mrs. Arthur P. McGee of Charleston, S. C.)

Elijah Boone—m. Jennie Wagner. (Children: William, Jeremiah, Bethuel, Artemacy, Isaac, Joyce, John.)

Simon—(no data).

Charlotte Boone—m. Reuben Mayfield at Somerset, Ky., Oct. 27, 1814. Charlotte—b. 1794; d. 1883.

Mahala—m. John Dishman. (A descendant is Mrs. Pearl Brown Thomas of Jasonville, Ind.)

Hannah Boone—m. (1) Adam Morrow (Mrs. F. P. Lemon, Shoals, Ind., is a daughter) and (2) John Beaty, Owensburg, Ind. (Children: Dr. Marshall Beaty; Luther—m. Victoria Short Owens; Ella, m. Charles Whitted.)

Noah Boone—m. Jane Rhoads. (Children: Clementine, m. Wesley Armstrong; Jeanette, m. Abner Armstrong (brother of Wesley); Louise, m. John Short, son of Ezekiel Short; Daniel, m. Nannie M. Huston; Virgil, m. Luicinda Rector).

THE MAYFIELD FAMILY

Reuben Mayfield (1792-1861) married Charlotte Boone (above). He was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving with Capt. Sam Tate, Maj. Taul, Gen. John E. King, and Governor Shelby at the Battle of the Thames. He was the son of John Mayfield, Jr. (1768-1813) and, in 1790, married Mary Wolfe (1770-1848). John Mayfield was a pioneer doctor. Mary's father Henry, and his father Henry, Sr., fought at Fort Washington, New York, where Henry Wolf, Sr., was killed. John Mayfield, Jr., son of John Mayfield, Sr., was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, in 1745, and died in Pulaski County, Kentucky, in 1816. He served during the entire Revolutionary War. His last service was with Gen. Daniel Morgan at Buckingham, Virginia. John Mayfield married Clarinda Pleasants (1749-1821) in 1767. The Mayfield Coat-of-Arms was granted to Owen Mayfield, Mayor and Alderman of Cambridge, England, in 1684.

Alexander Campbell Mayfield, son of Reuben and Charlotte (Boone) Mayfield was born on May 6, 1831, in Linton, Indiana. He was the ninth child in a family of twelve children and was reared on his father's farm in Lawrence County, Indiana. He married Winnie Short on Jan. 12, 1854, in the Short Home in Springville, Indiana (Lawrence Co.). She was the daughter of Milton and Mary (Tate) Short. Mary Tate was the daughter of Robert and Winnie (Atkinson) Tate, and granddaughter of John and Mary (Bracken) Tate. John Tate, Revolutionary soldier and sheriff of Russell County, Virginia, died in 1828. All of his children migrated to Kentucky, except Joseph. Milton Short, father of Winnie (who married Alexander Campbell Mayfield), was the son of Wesley and Rebecca (Owens) Short. Wesley was the son of John and Mary (Hansford) Short. John Short was born in 1756 in Tigart Valley, Virginia (now W.Va.). He was also a Revolutionary soldier. He is buried near Springville.

Children of Alexander Campbell and Winnie (Short) Mayfields
 Ila Mayfield—b. 1854; m. John Evans.

Mary Charlotte Mayfield—b. 1857; m. Buenos Wheat Bailey.

Reuben Newton Mayfield—b. June 13, 1859; m. Patti Ayres,
 Feb. 27, 1908.

Inda Mayfield—b. 1868; m. John Slater.

Patti Ayres, who married Dr. Reuben Newton Mayfield, was a daughter of John Ayres and Alice (Boyd) Ayres. Patti was born in England on June 8, 1876, and died January 14,

1821. The maiden name of the mother of Alice Boyd was O'Neil. She was descended from the Earl of Tyrone. Patti Ayres Mayfield was a noted concert singer, who toured extensively in the United States, Mexico and elsewhere.

Alexander Campbell Mayfield, was a farmer, and during his lifetime, owned several farms in Lawrence County, Indiana. A ninety acre farm was given to him by his father Reuben Mayfield, and the last two farms owned by him were near Springville, Indiana. He resided with his family many years on the farm one mile east of this town, and his children usually walked to and from the school in Springville, even during the cold winter weather. In 1861, he moved to Springville, and lived for about twenty-three years, either here, or on the old Mayfield farm. In 1884, he migrated with his son-in-law Buenos Wheat Bailey to Ferndale, Washington, and died there in 1885. His wife, Winnie Short Mayfield was born on December 10, 1836, in Lawrence County, Indiana. She died in 1919 in Ferndale, Whatcomb County, Washington.

All my ancestors had an English Coat-of-Arms. Solomon Boone recorded the Boone Arms in the records of Bristol, Pennsylvania, in 1690. The name *Bohun* is of Norman origin. The first family from Normandy settled in Lincolnshire, England, and afterwards some of the name settled in Devonshire. It is from this latter family that the American Boones are directly descended. The Bohun coat of arms, used before the fourteenth century, was probably granted by a Norman-English King. It is not until the middle of the sixteenth century that we find the names *Bohun* and *Boone* spelled both ways in the same document.¹

¹The Mayfield Coat-of-Arms was granted to Owen Mayfield, Mayor and Alderman of Cambridge, England, in 1684. John and Robert Tate had been Lord Mayors of London in early days. The Boones, the Shorts and de Nevilles (French), were followers of William the Conqueror. George Boone III, was the grandfather of Josiah Boone, Sr., and also of Daniel Boone. A short history of my ancestor, I filed in the Library of Congress in 1901. In 1931-2-3, I wrote fifty chapters for the *Mountain Branch Vest*, published at Johnson City, Tenn., on the Life of Daniel Boone. These are on file in the Astor and Congressional Libraries. In 1934, I had made ten dozen portraits of Daniel Boone, taken from the only life painting ever made of him. They were placed in all the large libraries of the country and in all the libraries along the Wilderness Road.—Reuben N. Mayfield.

Editor's Note: Dr. Reuben Newton Mayfield was born in Lawrence Co., Ind., and educated in the local schools. He taught eight years in high school. He was graduated with the degree of M.D., in 1880, from Long Island College Hospital, N.Y., and from the Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1883, devoting his life to medicine and surgery. In 1885, he went to Colorado, where he enlisted in the Colorado State Militia, in 1886. On June 1, 1889, he was appointed Major and Surgeon. He was placed on the retired list, May 6, 1912, at his own request. He was in active service during many of the long series of mining strikes in Colorado. He was a professor of Pathology, Hygiene and Clinical Medicine at the University of Colorado for some time, and Surgeon for the Union Pacific R.R. from 1886-1891. He traveled extensively in Europe and Mexico. While in England, he visited the old town of Mayfield, England, and many of the historical places in that country, where his ancestors once resided. He has spent many years in careful research, proving his family lines, and we are fortunate in having the privilege of recording from his many notes and research this Indiana family ancestry. Dr. Mayfield has resided in Seattle, Washington, for the last twenty-five years.—Martha Tucker Morris.