

**Martha Pearce****no XID**

**Commentary:** Martha Pearce (Pierce) was the daughter of Clara Upchurch and John Pearce (Pierce). In turn, she was granddaughter of Richard Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan 4.

Acknowledgements: The following Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, a volunteer and tireless contributor, who administers the UAFA center in Cary, NC

(no number) Added inputs from Janet (Morgan) Ross re: the 2 Franklin Co, NC couples who moved from Franklin Co, NC to Indiana – email to RPU 14 Mar 2017

A = 8:55am

B = 10:39am

A. The mystery of John Pearce is still fairly unsolved. We know that Elizabeth had a brother John, who is buried next to her in Indiana (and so we know his death date). We know his approximate birth date from his deposition for Elizabeth's Revolutionary War Pension Application, and we know he had a daughter Martha who married Zebedee Ray, son of Hutson Ray and grandson of Elizabeth Pearce and Thomas Ray. Other information is softer.

B. As for John Pearce, there is a possibly good candidate for a or the son of John Pearce who lived in a nearby county to Shelby Co, IN. One problem with that that man is that Y-DNA from one of his descendants does not match that of men from the Phillip Pearce family. Also, his mother was named Clarissa and Find-A-Grave post says her maiden name was Jones. So, more work needs to be done there to connect dots, and I've not been interested in researching that family. I've tried to get descendants of Zebedee Ray and Martha Pearce to take the Family Finder test, and will keep nudging them. If they have more matches with Upchurch families than others in the Nail-Ray family have, I think that would be supportive evidence that Martha's mother was an Upchurch. Sign

I. Nathan Pearce 1725 – 1796

A. Elizabeth Pearce

married Thomas Ray

1. Hudson Ray

a. Zebedee Ray

B. John Pearce

married ( ) Clara/Clarissa Upchurch – presumptive, daughter of Richard Upchurch, III

1. Martha Pearce

married ( ) Zebedee Ray

a. A candidate son lived near Shelby Co, IN and his mother was Clarissa and she was nee Jones

**(no number)** Upchurch – Ray – Pearce Relationships – From Pages 926, 927, Nail & Ray Families, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1997 by RPU 26 Jul 2010 [ ] = per RPU

[X. Nathan Pearce born 9 Jul 1735 (VA) He and wife and children to Moccasin Creel area of NC 1771)

P111 Nathan Pearce

D before 26 March 1796 (when Nancy Peirce, widow of Nathan Peirce, was granted her 62 and 1/2 acres of the land to be decided [Franklin Co, NC Will Book B, page 36 (ref 3)])

M to Nancy --- (maybe Weston) [Nancy Sarah Wester]  
(family outline continues below)

Parents of ?, record of 6 children

P1111 Stephen Pearce

B 1756 – 1765 (less than 45 in 1800 Census and more than 45 in 1810 Census for Franklin Co, NC)

D in Wake Co, NC

M to Elizabeth ---

Parents of 4 children

P11111 Charlotte Pearce

M to --- Upchurch [Jubal Upchurch, I]

P11112 Elizabeth Pearce

M 19 March 1808 Franklin Co, NC

To Simion Carpenter

P11113 Mary Pearce

M to --- Perry [James Perry, Jr]

P11114 Cherry Pearce

M 09 October 1815 Franklin Co, NC

To Drewry Denton

P1112 Arthur Pearce

D before 26 March 1796 (when Nancy Peirce, widow of Arthur Peirce, was granted 41 acres for her dower land [Franklin Co, NC Will Book B, page 36 (ref 3)])

M to Nancy --- (see above)

Parents of 2 children (Philip Pearce was named guardian for these children after Arthur's death)

P11121 Cordy Pearce

P11122 Willie Pearce

[Moses Upchurch took over as guardian 179]

P1113 Phillip Pearce (fought in the American Revolutionary War) <sup>2,3</sup>

B 1756 – 1765 (younger than 45 in 1800 Census and more than 45 in 1810 Census for Franklin Co, NC)

D ? buried old Bryant Stallings Graveyard, near Moccasin Creek in Franklin Co, NC

M 1778

To Nancy Bunn

Parents of 6 children

P1114 Elizabeth Pearce [Elizabeth Pearce and her husband Thomas Ray had a Moccasin Creek, NC heritage but no Upchurch ancestors but her brother married an Upchurch]

B ca 1766 North Carolina

D 13 November 1844 Shelby Co, IN buried Ray/ Center Cemetery, Shelby Co, IN

M Bond dated 29 March 1783 Franklin Co, NC (Bondsman, Charles Upchurch; Witness, J Rice

To Thomas Ray [R12] (son of William Ray, Sr)

Parents of 7 children

For record, see Thomas Ray [R12]

P1115 John Pearce

B ca 1768

D 03 January 1845 (age 77) buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co, IN

M to Clarissa [tentatively Clara, daughter of Richard Upchurch, III]

Parents of ?, record of 1 child

P11151 **Martha Pierce**

B 27 Feb 1812 North Carolina

D 30 January 1896

M 25 Dec 1832 (Bible record) Shelby Co, IN

To Zebedee Ray [R1213] [Son of Hutson [R121] and Margaret (Byerly) Ray]

Parents of 12 children

For records, see Zebedee Ray [R1213]<sup>1</sup>

P1116 James Pearce [born about 1758]

D before 1795 Franklin Co, NC (Guardian account for his children was assumed by Phillip Pearce from the former guardian John Martin [Franklin Co, NC Will Book C, Page 40] Thomas Ray [R12] was the administrator for James Pearce's estate [Franklin Co, NC Will Book B, Page 19])

M to Mary --- (because she received one third of the estate of James Pearce)  
Parents of 5 children (named as orphans, would have been minors in 1795 when their father died)

P11161 Willie (Willis) Pearce

M 12 November 1823 Wake Co, NC

To Sally Hoggwood (Bondsman, **John Pierce**)

P11162 Beedy Pearce

M 27 Aug 1816 Wake Co, NC

To George Bell (Bondsman, Littleberry Horton)

P11163 Betsy Pearce

P11164 Penny Pearce

M 21 March 1811 Wake Co, NC

To Littleberry Horton (Bondsman, William Horton)

P11165 Patsy Pearce [RPU shows she married 10 Sep 1816 (Franklin Co, NC) Haley Pearce]

M 19 December 1821 Wake Co, NC  
 To Calvin Nowell (Bondsman, John Nowell)

<sup>1</sup>I. William Ray, Sr – had Moccasin Creek land in mid-1700s

A. William Ray, Jr

1. John Ray – lived in Chatham Co, NC then in Randolph Co.

B. Hudson Ray – died in Revolutionary War

1. Zebedee Ray

married ( ) **Martha Pearce**, granddaughter of Richard Upchurch, III

C. Charles Ray died in Revolutionary War

D. Thomas Ray – Revolutionary War

<sup>2</sup>His son Nathan Pearce, II born 23 May 1787 married (2<sup>nd</sup>) Susan Upchurch, possible daughter of Benjamin Upchurch.

<sup>3</sup>His son John Pearce, II born 10 Nov 1787 could be the one who married 1 Dec 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) Frances Upchurch.