

Joshua Meek & Martha Holman

Who was the father of Joshua Meek who married Martha Holman?

What is known

A. John Meek born 1754 had a son named Joshua Meek

Joshua owned 100 acres in Henry Co., KY in 1800 (deed concerning four sons of John Meek)

B. Jacob Meek born 1755 had a son named Joshua Meek

Joshua is deceased by 1835 (Will of Jacob Meek)

#1) a man named Joshua Meek married Martha Holman and was alive in 1810 living in Indiana.

“After these two youngest daughters married they gave power of attorney to their lawyer brother Jesse Lynch Holman. “Jane Holman and husband John Collins, Patsy (Martha) Holman and husband Joshua Meeks of Dearborn County, Indiana Territory appointed Jesse L. Holman, of Gallatin county, Kentucky, the power of attorney to settle Henry Holman’s estate matters in Kentucky.” (Woodford County, Kentucky land & Property Deed Book E. p. 110 dated July 2, 1810)”

#2) a man named Joshua Meek married Jane Galbreath 21 Sep 1818 in Henry Co., KY.

24 Sep 1830 Henry Co., KY deed: Joshua Meek and Jane Meek “**of Wayne Co., IN.**

1830 Wayne Co., IN census **Joshua Meek age 40 to 50** (only one Joshua Meek listed)

They are probably the same people in the 1850 census of Boston TWP, Wayne Co., IN (**Joshua Meek age 65**, Jane age 56 and Martha age 20).

General facts

Brothers John Meek born 1754 and Jacob Meek born 1755 go to Henry Co., KY.

Both have younger sons named Joshua born in the 1780’s.

The name Joshua Meek **first appears in tax records in 1799.**

15 Nov 1800 **Joshua** son of John Meek is deeded 100 acres of father’s land

The name Joshua Meek was not listed in the 1800 tax list of Henry Co., KY but the name

Joshua Meek is listed in the 1801 to 1804 plus the 1806 tax list.

Beginning in 1804 he is listed with 100 acres.

The name Joshua Meek does not appear twice in any tax record of Henry Co., KY.

12 Jan 1807 **Joshua Meek** sells 100 acres

1807 Jacob Meek goes to Wayne Co., IN with his sons and three of John’s sons.

1807 Territorial census: Isaac Meek, Jacob Meek, Jeremiah Meek, John Meek, John Meek Jr., & Joshua Meek.

1810 & 1820 censuses are inconclusive

Wayne Co., IN deed records not reviewed.

1830 census of Wayne Co., IN **Joshua Meek** age 40-50 (1-0-0-1-0-0-1//1-2-1-0-1-0-1-1)

1830 census of Wayne Co., IN **Patsy Meek** age 30-40 with children

Discussion

There were two men named Joshua Meek born in the 1780’s living in Henry Co., KY.

By the time that the name Joshua Meek appears in any record in 1799 neither man is 21 years of age. The son of John becomes a land owner by virtue of the fact that John is infirmed and gives his land to his four sons. Up to the point that most of the family leaves Henry County in 1807 it

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appears that only Joshua son of John Meek owned land. It also appears that he sold that land in 1807.

To complicate matters only one Joshua Meek is listed in the 1807 Indiana Territorial census with Jacob Meek. It cannot be assumed that this was Jacob's sons because it is known that some of John's sons were with Jacob. The situation is also difficult because one of them is still leaving a footprint back in Henry County.

Joshua Meek married Jane Galbreath 21 Sep 1818 in Henry Co., KY. It is noted that John's son Bazil born 1774 also had a son named Joshua who is by this time appearing in the Henry Co., KY records. Most of Bazil's sons stayed in Henry County. Joshua born 1801 son of Bazil married Sally Stewart in 1821. It is not believed that the man who married Jane Galbreath was the son of Bazil because a 24 Sep 1830 Henry County deed says Joshua Meek and Jane Meek "of Wayne Co., IN". In addition Joshua and Jane are listed in the 1850 census of Wayne Co., IN.

The evidence does seem to indicate that Joshua son of Jacob could not be the man who married Jane Galbreath. Joshua son of Jacob was dead by 1835 according to Jacob's will. Joshua who married Jane Galbreath was still alive in 1850 according to the census record. Therefore this Joshua must be the son of John Meek. By the way, my overall Meek research indicates that the universe of men named Joshua Meek born before 1800 was very small. In fact I can probably identify most if not all of them.

This does not prove the Joshua who married Martha Holman was the son of Jacob Meek. It is only known that this Joshua was alive and living in Indiana in 1810 according to the Holman probate. It appears that this Joshua was dead before 1830 as Patsy Meek age 30 to 40 is listed in the 1830 census with children and was apparently a widow. All of the other sons of John and Jacob are alive at that point in time.

Jacob Meek certainly was associated with the Holman family. Son William married Patsy Holman (daughter of George Holman and Elizabeth Fisher) on 5 Jun 1811. Daughter Rue married William Holman (son of George Holman and Elizabeth Fisher) about 1810. But this also does not prove that Joshua who married Martha Holman was a son of Jacob.

Conclusion

The question is "who was the father of Joshua Meek who married Martha Holman". There is no **conclusive** way to distinguish between the two men as the records are incomplete and the two families largely traveled together. However, my hypothesis is that Martha Holman married the son of Jacob Meek born 1755.

I assume that the Joshua Meek in the Henry Co., KY records prior to 1807 was the son of John based on the fact that he owned 100 acres of land.

I assume both men named Joshua went to Indiana in 1807 and of course only one was listed in the 1807 Territorial census.

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I assume that Joshua Meek and Martha Holman had not been married long before the 1810 Holman probate record.

I don't know where Joshua Meek and Martha Holman were married. However, if that marriage occurred after the Meeks moved to Wayne Co., IN it would explain why Jacob's son was not appearing in the records as he would still be part of Jacob's household.

But the marriage between Joshua Meek and Jane Galbreath and Jacob Meek's will are the keys answering the question. Joshua Meek son of Jacob was deceased by 1835. Joshua Meek who married Jane Galbreath lived in Wayne Co., IN on 24 Sep 1830 according to a Henry Co., KY deed. Joshua Meek son of John had been a land holder in Henry Co., KY and may have had residual business in Henry Co., KY. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that Joshua Meek in the 1830 census of Wayne County was the same person who married Jane Galbreath.

This is supported by the fact that there was a widow Patsy Meek was also listed in the 1830 census of Wayne County. But even if Joshua Meek who married Martha Holman was alive in 1830 he died before 1835. Joshua Meek with a wife named Jane, both of the correct age range, are listed in the 1850 census of Wayne County.

It is understandable why people might think that Joshua Meek who married Martha Holman was a son of Jacob Meek born 1755. John Meek had died in 1803, Joshua son of Jacob died before 1850 and Jacob Meek was such a prominent person in Wayne County. Both sets of sons had similar names which has caused no end of confusion. It does not get any better with the grandchildren of John and Jacob. Many genealogies on Joshua Meek combine fact on three if not four men named Joshua Meek.

Again there is no conclusive proof to prove my hypothesis. If additional facts are uncovered it might alter my conclusions.

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Patsy Holman was single on 15 Sept 1806 according to probate records.

She was married before 2 July 1810

1830 Patrey Meek (0-2-2-0-0-0-0-0-0//1-1-0-1-0-1-0-0-0)

30-40

Males

5-10 2 ea

10-15 2 ea

Female

0-5 1 ea

5-10 1 ea

15-20 1 ea

30-40 1 ea

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