

Ashford Gore From Trigg County, KY

"Parentage Discussion"

In 1840, at the age of 20, Ashford Gore left Trigg County¹ and settled in Ralls Missouri. It was here that he put down his roots, got married and raised his family. Not much information is known by his descendants regarding his life before he moved to Missouri. The family members that moved to Trigg County originally came from South Carolina. The naming structure of the family makes it difficult to determine parentage. Each son named their children after their brothers and sisters. Besides Kentucky, the family also migrated to Alabama, Illinois and Tennessee. Despite these roadblocks and based on information from family members, Census² records, Illinois records and Trigg County records, a reasonable assumption can be made as a basis for further research.

Known Information

This information is known about Ashford Gore.

1. A family bible, purchased by Mary Jane Onstott Gore in which she recorded Ashford's birthday as July 09, 1820.
2. The following pieces of information passed down by Ernest Price Gore to his daughter Maxine Gore Karr:
 - Ashford Gore was born in Trigg County.
 - He left Trigg County in 1840 when he was 20 years old.
 - He had a brother with a club foot. His brother left Trigg County at the same time. When they came to the fork in the Cumberland River, his brother went south and he went north.
 - There were never any visits to or from relatives of Ashford.
3. Through internet research it was determined the Gore's of Trigg County were originally from Chester County, South Carolina. This could be traced using the unusual name given one of the Gore children, Eleazar.

Census Records

Research of the Census records for 1820-1840 for Trigg County is the major source of information for determining the parentage of Ashford Gore.

1820 US Census Findings³

The following Gore families were living in Trigg County in 1820⁴. This Trigg County Census was taken on December 2, 1820, so it is safe to assume that Ashford Gore is included as a male under 10 years old.

¹ Trigg County is located in Kentucky

² Census refers to the Federal United States Census unless otherwise noted

³ Jackson, Ronald V., Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp. *1820 United States Federal Census*. [database on-line] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 1999-. Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the 1820 U.S. Federal Decennial Census. *1820 United States Federal Census*. [database online] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 2001. Data imaged from National Archives and Records Administration. 1840 Federal Population Census. M704, 580 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.

⁴ Prior to 1850, all Census records list only the head of household

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Head of Household	Males Under 10 Years Old	Fits Profile
Michael Gore	None	No
John Gore	2	Yes
Eleazar Gore	None	No
Ashford D. Gore	2	Yes
Jesse Gore	1	Yes

Michael Gore and Eleazar Gore are eliminated as a potential parent because their household does not have a male in the right age bracket. This leaves Jesse, John, or Ashford D. Gore as a potential parent.

1830 US Census Findings⁵

The following Gore families were living in Trigg County at the time of the 1830 Census. There is no date on the Census. Ashford Gore would be 10-11 years old. This would put him in the 10 to 15 age bracket; however, because the date the census was taken is unknown, he might possibly be categorized as 5-9 years old.

Head of Household	Males 5 to 9 or 10 to 15	Fits Profile
Elizabeth Gore	None	No
John Gore	1-5 to 9; 1-10 to 15	Yes
Ashford D. Gore	1-5 to 9; 2-10 to 14	Yes

Jesse, Michael and Eleazar Gore are no longer living in Trigg County or died by 1830. Elizabeth Gore⁶ is eliminated as a potential parent because her household does not have a male in the right age bracket. This leaves John or Ashford D. Gore as a potential parent.

1840 US Census Findings⁷

The following Gore families were living in Trigg County at the time of the 1840 Census. This Census has no discernable date. Ashford Gore would be 19-20 years old. This would put him in the 20 to 29 age bracket; however, because the date the census was taken is unknown, he might possibly be categorized as 15-19 years old.

Head of Household	Males 15 to 19 or 20 to 29	Fits Profile
Elizabeth Gore	None	No
Ashford D. Gore	1-15 to 19	Yes

⁵ Jackson, Ronald V., Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp. *1830 United States Federal Census*. [database on-line] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 1999-. Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the 1830 U.S. Federal Decennial Census. *1830 United States Federal Census*. [database online] Provo, UT.

⁶ Elizabeth Gore is most likely the widow of either Jesse or Michael Gore

⁷ Jackson, Ronald V., Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp. *1840 United States Federal Census*. [database on-line] Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 1999-. Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the 1840 U.S. Federal Decennial Census. *1840 United States Federal Census*. [database online] Provo, UT.

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John Gore is no longer in Trigg County. He migrated to Sangamon, Illinois in 1830. From the publication *Portrait and Biographical Record of Christian County, Illinois*. Chicago: Lake City Publishing, 1893, I was able to determine that Ashford Gore was not a son of John Gore. This publication had two biographical sketches, one on John Gore Jr. and one on William F. Gore, both born in Trigg County, Kentucky and both sons of John Gore and Sophia Barton. Neither biographical sketch lists Ashford Gore as a son of John Gore.

Trigg County Records

Searching the records of Trigg County provided a lot of information on John Gore and Ashford D. Gore. Only one record mentioned the name of Ashford Gore JR who bought 8 bushels of corn from the estate of Hampton Wade in 1840.

Will Book B, Page 171⁸

Sale of the Estate of Hampton Wade, deceased

Buyers were:

Jane Wade, George Grace, John Craig, D.S. Campbell, Absalom Holland, Evins Hendricks, Thomas Hendricks, Alfred Boyd, John E. Chambers, Joshua Bridgemen, Harley Thomas, Edwin G. Noel, Archey Boyd, Washington Watkins, Allen Montgomery, Dr. R. B. Claussel, John Fuqua, **Ashford Gore, JR.**, Joseph Bishop, Daniel Sanders, C.S. Noel, Lewis Davis, Josh Hopson

Joshua Hopson, Executor

Conclusion

The census evidence along with the notice of Ashford Gore JR purchasing corn from the estate of Hampton Wade, a preliminary deduction that Ashford D. Gore is the father of Ashford Gore of Ralls, Missouri is reasonable. Although this cannot be considered proven, it is a solid basis to start for finding corroborating information.

⁸ From the Will Book located in the Trigg County Courthouse, Cadiz, KY