

This 1900 census record shows Moses Love “Jr.” at age 21 married for 1 year to “Beula”. There is no question that this is the correct couple, but their marriage was apparently not actually recorded at the courthouse until 1914, several years after their “common-law” marriage. Their household included a child, Mary A., living with them in Whitesburg Precinct / Beat 6. That area included Green Grove and Pond Beat communities. Beula had borne 2 children, but only 1 was living, per the data recorded above.

It should be noted that a nearby household was headed by Henry J. Love. At first glance, it would be logical to assume that Henry was the father of Moses, but the “Jr.” on Moses’ name indicates that there may be a Moses Sr. While Henry is the right age (49) to be Jr.’s father, it is believed that Henry was an uncle to Moses Jr., but census records to prove that would have to pre-date the Civil War, covering 1850 and 1860 to have the names of family members other than the head of household. Accordingly, that avenue of investigation would not be productive for slaves, who were not named in those censuses. As a remote possibility of finding free blacks named Love before the Civil War, the 1860 census was checked for black Love families, but none were found.

Since the 1890 census records were accidentally burned in the Federal warehouse in Maryland in the early 1900s, they cannot be checked for earlier entries of Moses Jr. in a household headed by a Moses Sr. However, Moses Jr. was born before 1880, per the 1900 census age shown as 21 for him. Therefore, the 1880 census was checked:

1014	Love, Moses	B M 46		1	Farmer
	" Martha	B W 40	Wife	1	Housekeeper
	" Rufus	B M 19	son	1	Farmer
	" Nealey	B M 16	"	1	"
	" Caroline	B W 13	Daughter	1	"
	" Davy	B M 11	son	1	"
	" Peter	B M 7	"	1	"
	" Ellen	B W 4	Daughter	1	"
	" Moses	B M 1	son	1	"
1015	Warner, William	B M 35		1	Farmer
	" Fanny	B W 36	Wife	1	Housekeeper

1880 Madison County, (AL) census: T4-R1W