

Name: _____

Date: _____

Family History (Handout #15)

Read the family history written by Charlotte Moulton Mathis, daughter of Lewis Moulton. Interview a family member of your own (mother, father, grandfather, grandmother, cousin, etc.) and write a short family history about them.

Short Family History
Written by
Charlotte Moulton Mathis
July 23, 1984

My father, Lewis Fenno Moulton, came from Boston, Massachusetts to California in 1874. He was twenty years of age. He came by ship to Panama, crossed the Isthmus of Panama by train, and thence to San Francisco by ship.

For a number of years he was in the sheep business on leased lands in Southern California. In the early nineties of the nineteenth century he purchased "Rancho Niguel", an old Spanish land grant, which came to be known as the "Moulton Ranch." It comprised slightly more than 21,700 acres. During the first decade of the twentieth century Jean Pierre Daguerre acquired a one-third interest in the Moulton Ranch.

In 1908 Lewis Moulton married Nellie Gail. They had two daughters, Charlotte and Louise, in that order. In 1911 Mr. Daguerre was fatally injured when his team of horses, frightened by an automobile, bolted and over turned the wagon. He left his widow, a son, and three daughters. The son Domingo, a bachelor, died of pneumonia in 1919. He was thirty-two years of age. One daughter, Juanita, married Frank Seidel. They had no children. Grace and Josephine did not marry. Mrs. Daguerre died in 1931.

Lewis Moulton died in 1938, within two weeks of his eighty-fifth birthday. In 1950 the Moulton-Daguerre partnership was terminated and the Moulton Ranch divided. The Daguerre daughters' one-third interest was what is now known as "Laguna Niguel."

My mother, Nellie Gail Moulton, died in 1972, as she was nearing her ninety-fourth birthday. Louise Moulton Hanson (Mrs. Ivar Hanson), has not had children. My husband, Glenn E. Mathis, and I have two sons, one daughter, seven grandsons, and one granddaughter. As the Moulton Family's two-thirds portion of the Moulton Ranch was disposed of, parts of it were traded for cattle ranches in other areas.