

Mayes Family
Roy Wince Mayes

Mayes family history from Roy Wince Mayes – 82 years old – lives in Florida- April 2, 2011, as told to Janelle Layne Taylor in Pelham, TN, via phone conversation

This Mayes family is from Payne's Cove, but Roy Mayes, Wince's father married Veola Patrick and moved to Tracy City. Wince grew up in Tracy City.

Wince said that his father Roy told him this information about the Mayes family.

Our ancestors were from Bristol, England. Benjamin Mayes was in debtors' prison, so he came to Georgia in 1733 with Oglethorpe for a chance at a new life. Benjamin immediately began trading with the Indians to get furs which Oglethorpe took back to the mother country.

When Oglethorpe left for England laden with pelts, Benjamin Mayes left for parts unknown away from the Georgia colony. He eventually ended up in the Sequatchie Valley where he began living with the Indians taking one of their own as his "woman".

He and the Indian woman had sons who were to eventually establish Mayes Tool Company in Johnson City, TN.

Benjamin lived in Whiteside near the Sequatchie River. Once when he visited there he talked with some people who showed him the ruins of a chimney that was built by Benjamin Mayes.

Wince related that later he was able to visit Bristol England. When he arrived, he checked the phone book for people with the surname Mayes and found one whom he contacted. They man was 90-years-old, and guess what his name was?

Roy Wince Mayes, just the same as Wince's name! The two concluded that they must be kin. The man told him that he had a relative who worked at the Pentagon who had all the family research and suggested Wince get in touch, but he never found the time.