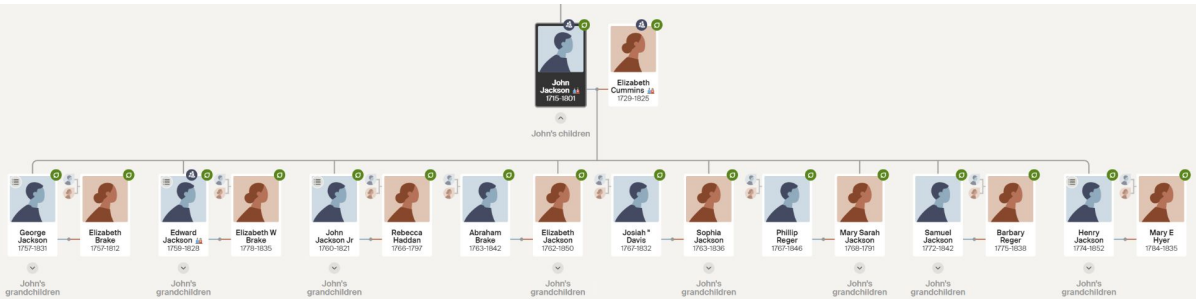


Using DNA to solve Jackson Family Mysteries



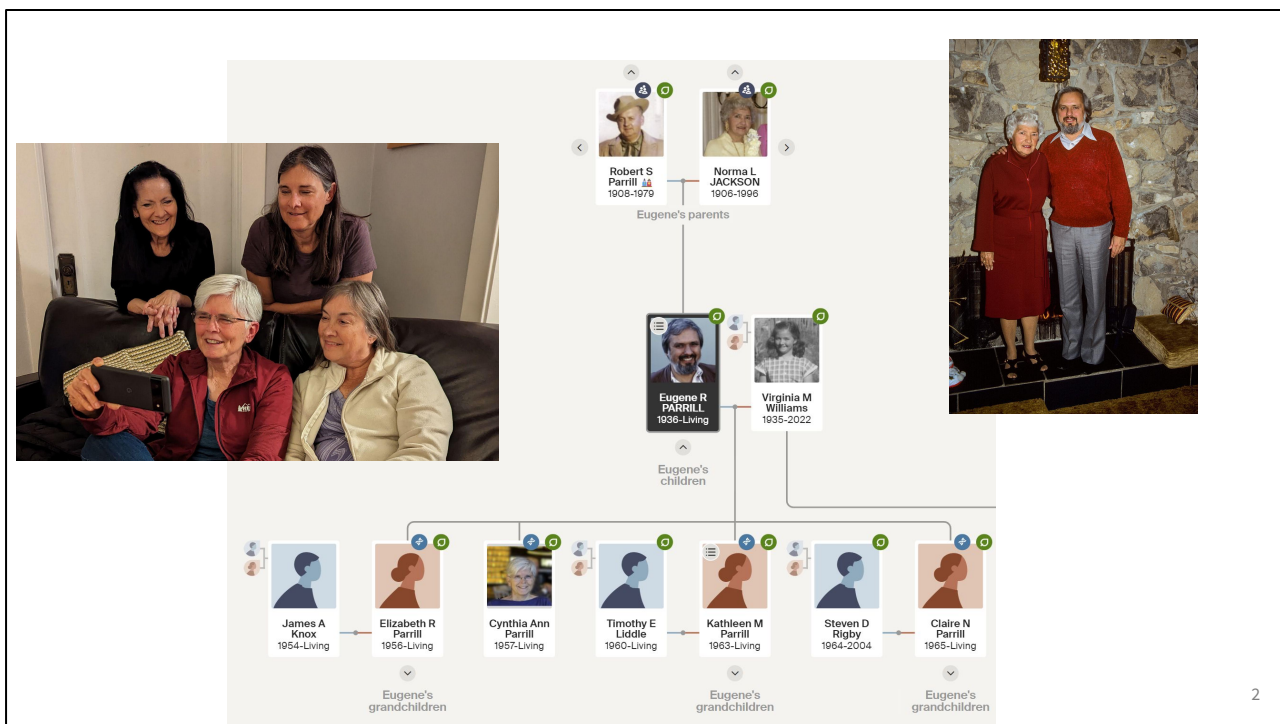
an introduction to genetic genealogy

17 August 2024
Jackson Brigade reunion, Weston WV
Cynthia Parrill
CAParrill@gmail.com

By a show of hands, How many people

- have taken a DNA test?
- have a family tree online
- discovered the identity of a unknown shared match
- solved a family mystery

Today I will be using some research in my own line to illustrate how to use DNA to solve family mysteries



The top left photo is me and my sisters on a video call with our father Eugene Parrill in 2023

We are Eugene Parrill's four children - and we are all here tonight along with some of our children and grandchildren!

Dad (in the middle of the tree) is the only child of Norma Lucille Jackson (who like most children in her family goes by her middle name) and Robert Parrill.

The photo on the right is Dad and his mother Lucille. Dad is still living but was unable to make the trip from California.

Our dad and his parents were all three born in West Virginia My grandfather and father here in Clarksburg and my grandmother Lucille in Ritchie County.

Johnson and Sarah Jackson descendants have previously been participants in Jackson Reunions

Today's reunion participants come from the lines of Lydia "Jenny" and George T "Tom" Jackson

My grandmother Lucille Jackson was the daughter of George Thomas "Tom" Jackson and Bertha Arnold. Tom is one of 8 children of Johnson Jackson and Sarah Margaret Murphy of Chevaux de frise creek in Ritchie County WV.

This is where the certainty in our Jackson line ends. Our family mysteries start with Johnson Jackson's parents so we are the "dotted line" branch of the Jackson Brigade. ... click

But this is not the first Jackson Brigade reunion we have attended.

In an article in the Jackson Brigade Quarterly about early Jackson Reunions John M Jackson wrote: **"Also listed among the guests [in 1940] is one Newton J. Jackson. Newton belonged to a line of Jacksons who claim descent through an illegitimate child of Jonathan Jackson. While family historians have hesitated to include this branch with the Jackson / Cummins heirs, it is interesting to note that among his contemporaries, at least, Newton and his family were considered welcomed members of the family."** [Jackson, "Records of the Jackson Family Association 1922-1941."](#)

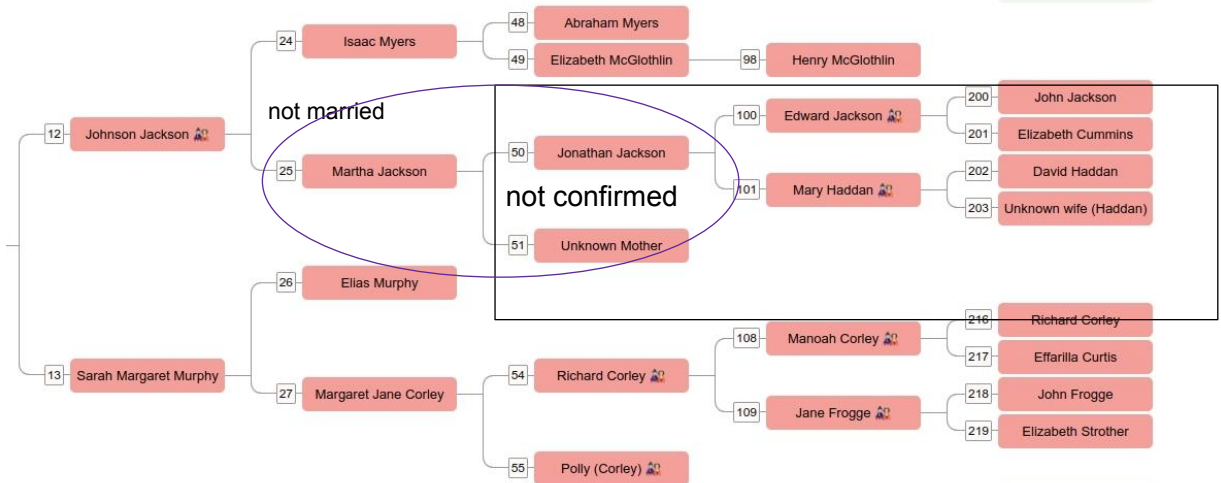
... click

Attending the reunion this year are other descendants of Johnson Jackson.

Tom Jackson son of my great uncle Dale Jackson.

and Valerie Feldman is the granddaughter of Paul Edgar Thomas who is son of Lydia Jackson.

Anna Mae Goff 1936: "My father [Johnson Jackson] was an illegitimate son of Martha Jackson who was an illegitimate daughter of Jonathan Jackson, Father of "Stonewall Jackson."



Who are the parents of Martha "Patsy" Jackson b: abt 1818, VA and d: abt 1867 most likely in Harrison County WV?

The family story that John M Jackson was alluding to was captured by West Virginia researcher Guy Tetrick Jr in 1936.

Anna Mae Goff (a daughter of Johnson Jackson) on a Tetrick questionnaire responded. **"My father [Johnson Jackson] was an illegitimate son of Martha Jackson who was an illegitimate daughter of Jonathan Jackson, father of 'Stonewall' Jackson."** Marr, Thomas. "Johnson Jackson of Shiverdy Freeze Creek." Jackson Brigade Quarterly, 14, 2, 2006, 3-13.

The Illegitimate son mystery has been solved and we will talk about how in a few moments.

That leaves the Jackson mystery we are trying to solve as:

... click

Who are the parents of Martha "Patsy" Jackson b: abt 1818, VA and d: abt 1867 most likely in Harrison County WV?

Using DNA for genealogy = “Genetic genealogy”

Genetic

- Types of DNA
- DNA inheritance
- DNA testing
- Analyzing results
 - Ethnicity, communities
 - DNA matches
 - Shared matches
- Advanced topics
 - Proof
 - Chromosome browser

Genealogy

- Family stories
- Records research
- Building robust trees - backed by records
- Analyzing trees

Getting Started

Today we are going to talk about using DNA as a helper to confirm your existing family trees or to break through brick walls or discover previously unknown relative
This is known as genetic genealogy

we are going to talk about Genetic list
but

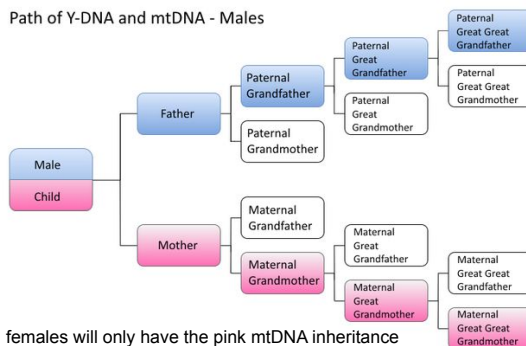
But, you can't solve any mystery with DNA alone, you also need ... Genealogy list

We will wrap up with some suggestions for getting started

Types of DNA

- **Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)**
 - Y-DNA points to the deep paternal line and gives a strong clue to a surname
 - mtDNA points to the deep maternal line
 - Both Y and mtDNA can point to an ancestor from thousands of years ago!
 - Males have both Y-DNA and mtDNA
 - but they can't pass on their mtDNA
 - Females only have mtDNA
 - The test is available from FTDNA
- Autosomal DNA

Path of Y-DNA and mtDNA - Males



Let's start with the three types of DNA testing available to us.

Y-DNA and the Jackson Brigade

Four Y-DNA test takers from the five sons of John Jackson and Elizabeth Cummins

John M Jackson	Henry line	Y-67	R-M269 haplogroup
Robert Lee Jackson	John Jr line	Y-67	R-M269 haplogroup
Lowell Wayne Jackson	Samuel line	Y-67	R-M269 haplogroup
Frank Jackson	Edward line	Big-Y (700 markers)	R-BY41552 haplogroup

If the R-M269 tester hasn't yet upgraded to Big Y, further testing may reveal that your paternal connection is more recent than currently identified.

The more Jackson men who take the Big-Y test the more precise will be all of their results and will bring their Haplogroup forward in time. With enough testers we should be able to confirm all our John Jackson descendant test takers.

Timeline



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It would be helpful if these test takers would upgrade to the Big-Y with 700 markers and if we added someone from the George line. Additionally the more test takers the better.

An analogy of how a Big-Y test at 700 markers can better pinpoint your Jackson Family lineage - like addressing a letter to your ancestors: 67 markers says the ancestor lives in West Virginia. At 700 markers the address says the Ancestor lives in Jane Lew, on Main street!

<https://blog.familytreedna.com/classic-tree-for-y-dna/>

Sidebar on Y-DNA for the Jackson Project

- There are 4 male descendants of John Jackson (1715-1801) who have taken a Y-DNA test on FamilyTreeDNA and who have joined the [Jackson Y-DNA Project](#).
- John M. Jackson (Henry line) and Robert Lee Jackson (John Jr line) and Lowell Wayne Jackson (Samuel line) took a Y-67 test in 2011
- Frank Jackson joined them with a Big-Y test (700 markers) (Edward line)
- <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/jackson>
- <https://www.jacksonbrigade.com/dna-project/>
- See screenshots comparing R-M269 and R-BY41552

- <https://discover.familytreedna.com/y-dna/R-M269/story> and <https://discover.familytreedna.com/y-dna/R-BY41552/story>
- For current testers, upgrades to the Big-Y is available at a discounted rate and a new test is not required. For new testers the price is \$450 and sales come around a few times a year (Father's day, DNA day on the 25th of April, NOW!)
- **Ideally we would have at least one Big-Y tester from each line of the sons of John Jackson**

Private Variants: SNPs that are newer mutations and have not been named yet. ○ Personal, family, or clan mutations, which can be used similarly to STRs. ○ When found in high confidence in at least 2 or more individuals, SNP is named and placed on the Y-DNA haplotree.

Y-DNA solved our first mystery

“[Johnson Jackson’s] father was possibly Isaac (or perhaps Isaal?) “Ike” Meyers (b. 1818)” Margaret Thomas Marr genealogy charts and notes.

- Robert Thomas Jackson, great grandson of Johnson Jackson took a Y-DNA test at FTDNA with only 37 markers (Y-37) and MOST of his matches were Myers!
- This and further autosomal matches corroborated the family story
- more about this later when we talk about “proof”
- Unfortunately there is no descendant who carries the mtDNA from Martha “Patsy” Jackson

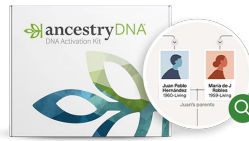
Another family story pointed us in the right direction to solve the mystery of who Johnson Jackson’s father was. Margaret Thomas Marr, a granddaughter of Johnson Jackson had the following recorded in her genealogical notes...

“Johnson Jackson of Shiverdy Freeze Creek.” Jackson Brigade Quarterly, 14, 2, 2006, 3-13.




Types of DNA continued

- Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
- **Autosomal DNA**
 - inherited equally by males and females
 - shows both male and female matches
 - can be useful through many generations (up to 7th-8th cousins)
 - many testing companies to choose from

Autosomal DNA Testing



Testing companies include:

- **Ancestry DNA** - excellent support for family trees, by far the biggest database and recommended company for solving Jackson family mysteries
- **Family Tree DNA** - limited family trees (but can add-on to your Y-DNA or mtDNA test)

 - you can transfer your DNA here from Ancestry for free
- **MyHeritage** - good family trees but smaller match database

 - you can transfer your DNA here from Ancestry for free
- **23andme** - used mostly for health and lifestyle traits, no family trees


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Let's talk about Autosomal DNA testing companies

Ancestry has 25,000,000 people in the database

myHeritage has 8,000,000

FTDNA has 1,600,000

23andme has 14,000,000 but very limited genealogy features

https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_testing_comparison_chart

What do your results look like?

The screenshot displays the profile for Eugene Parrill. At the top, it says "Eugene Parrill" and "This test is shown to matches as Eugene Parrill" with a link to "Eugene Robert PARRILL". Below this is a section for "AncestryDNA® Traits" with a green "Explore your traits" button. The "Origins" section shows a pie chart for "Ethnicity Estimate": 43% England & Northwestern Europe, 21% Ireland, and 4 Other regions. The "DNA Matches" section shows a grid of match photos, a purple star icon, and statistics: "★ 126 Starred matches" and "👤 1000+ 4th cousins or closer". The "ThruLines®" section shows a family tree diagram with a purple star icon and text: "ThruLines uses Ancestry trees to suggest how Eugene Parrill may be related to their DNA matches through common ancestors."

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There are many different types of results from DNA testing companies including Ethnicity, Traits, and of course the DNA Matches also called “In Common With” on FamilyTreeDNA and Common ancestor hints known as ThruLines on Ancestry or the Theory of Family Relativity on MyHeritage

The most helpful way to solve Family Mysteries is through the DNA Matches and that is what we will focus on now.





Eugene Parrill's DNA Matches

View Parrill-Williams 2021

All matches By parent By ancestor By location

Filter by: Unviewed Common ancestors Notes Trees Shared DNA 2 groups Reset filters Search | Sort

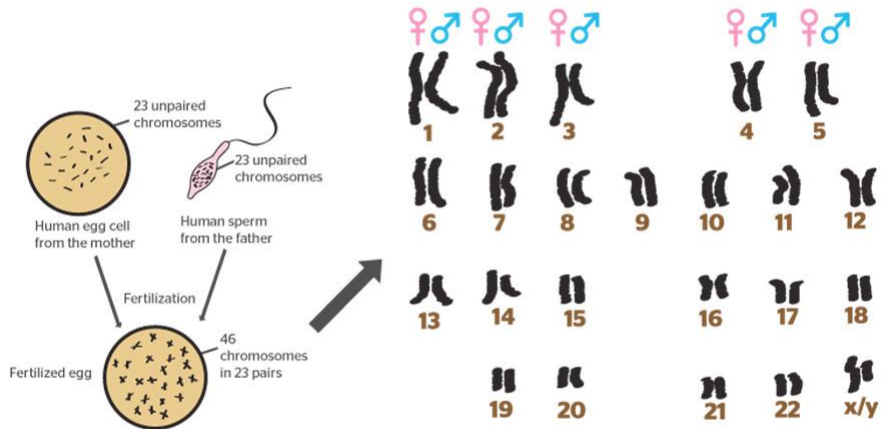
Close Family

	Bob Jackson Half 1st cousin 505 cM 7% shared DNA Maternal side	Private linked tree 535 People Common ancestor	View in tree View match
CA 0012M/H1C Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson > Robert Thomas Jackson Also on MH			
	Jacqueline Lee Cleveland Half 1st cousin 464 cM 7% shared DNA Maternal side	No Trees	View in tree View match
CA 0012M/H1C Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson > Jacqueline Lee Jackson			
Extended Family			
	N.M. Managed by roy marr 2nd - 3rd Cousin 190 cM 3% shared DNA Maternal side	Unlinked Tree	View in tree View match
CA 0012M/2C: Jackson/Murphy > Lydia > Margaret Thomas < Norval M Marr Jr			
	Robert Thomas Managed by searcher 2nd cousin 1x removed 176 cM 3% shared DNA Maternal side	Private linked tree 1,354 People	View in tree View match
CA 0012M/2C1R: Jackson/Murphy > Lydia Valerie's brother			

But how does this work?
a few concepts first

This list is for Dad's closest matches on his maternal (the Jackson) side but not including his children and grandchildren.
I recognized most of them when I first saw this list but not all.

The 23 chromosomes in the human genome



b4fa.org

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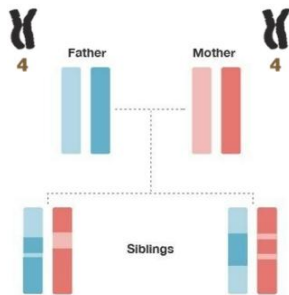
- The 23 chromosomes of the human genome. -
- Every human has these chromosomes and they hold our DNA.
- we have 22 pairs one from the father and one from the mother
- the 23rd chromosome is always an X Chromosome from the mother and either X or Y from the the father
- note: the x chromosome is not the same as mtDNA
- most autosomal testing companies focus on the first 22 chromosomes

(The father creates two types of sperm with half passing his X Chromosome he inherited from his mother and the other half passing along his Y chromosome he inherited from his father.)

What does it mean to be a DNA Match?

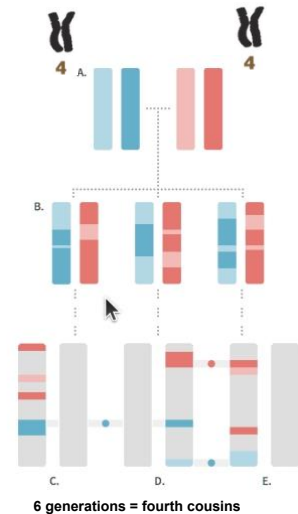
In a simplified example looking at **one** of your 22 pairs of chromosomes

- A father inherited his DNA from his two parents (two colors of blue)
- A mother inherited her DNA from her parents (two colors of red)
- Their children each have their own mixture of 50% of their father and 50% of their mother's DNA
- Each child gets a **random** 50% from each of their parents



Now moving forward another three generations, the bottom row shows what these 4th cousins inherited from the original couple.

- Cousin C matches cousin D (left blue dot)
- Cousin D matches cousin E (right blue and red dots)



6 generations = fourth cousins

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Let's take a closer look at an example chromosome 4 from the previous page ...
 ...CLICK for right side of chart

the segments are smaller because you now have segments from 32 3x great grandparents instead of just your two parents
the grey areas represent the segments from the other ancestors

backup:

The chromosomes are shown in four colors—two shades of blue inherited from the father and two shades of red inherited from the mother. Observe that each child inherits an equal amount of DNA (50%) from the mother (red) and the father (blue), since the child inherits one copy of each chromosome from each parent. Also, observe that each of the child's chromosomes is a mixture of each parent's two chromosome copies. Each child has one light and dark blue mixture from the father and one light and dark red mixture from the mother. This mixture is different in each child. The biological process responsible for the transmission of chromosomes from parents to child in this way is what is called meiosis. The random assortment of these chromosome fragments during meiosis is called recombination. The end result is that each child's DNA is a random mixture of DNA from his or her two parents.

Figure 1.1: Illustration of inheritance of DNA from parents to children. Each family member is represented by a pair of chromosomes inherited from their two parents. The chromosomes are colored to indicate DNA inherited from the same grandparent. The chromosomes of each child are a mixture of the chromosomes of his or her parents.

Figure 1.2: Illustration of DNA that is identical-by-descent between distant cousins (C, D, E). Chromosomes of the common ancestors (A) and their children (B) are shown. Chromosomes of other intermediate generations are not shown in the diagram. The blue and red circles indicate chromosome segments that are IBD between the indicated chromosomes

half 50% your DNA comes from your mother and half from your father. That is because you get a full chromosome from each of them. You can't say though that you get 25% of each of your grandparents etc because of how the recombination works. see Cousin Statistics for the probability of matching cousins

https://isogg.org/wiki/Cousin_statistics

What is the likelihood that a cousin will match?

Cousin level	Probability of matching if testing at AncestryDNA
first cousins	100%
second cousins	100%
third cousins	98%
fourth cousins	71%
fifth cousins	32%
sixth cousins	11%
seventh cousins	3.2%
eighth cousins	.91%

← level needed for Eugene Parrill to reach **Edward Jackson and Mary Haddan**

← level needed for Eugene Parrill to reach **John Jackson and Elizabeth Cummins**

Source: International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) wiki
https://isogg.org/wiki/Cousin_statistics

15

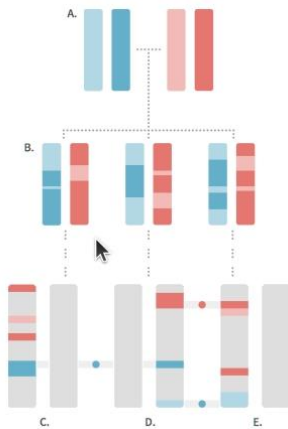
This brings us to the question of ...
Ancestry has reported these probabilities

My Dad needs to match sixth cousins to suggest a relationship through John Jackson and Elizabeth Cummins. and 11% is not a large probability so that is why we need more descendants of John Jackson and Elizabeth Cummins to take DNA tests. The oldest generation testing today will match one out of 10 descendant test takers.

see Cousin Statistics for the probability of matching cousins
https://isogg.org/wiki/Cousin_statistics

The closeness of a DNA match is measured in CentiMorgans (cM)

In genetic genealogy, a centiMorgan (cM) is a unit of recombinant frequency which is used to measure genetic distance. ISOGG Wiki



- Some takeaways:
 - Closer cousins have larger segments
 - Larger segments have more cMs
 - DNA companies add up all the cMs of all the segments on all the chromosomes and report the result
 - The larger the number of shared cM the closer the cousin
 - Parent shares ~3,480 cM with a child
 - 2nd cousin shares on average 233 cM but can range from 41-592 cM

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Another concept and term you will hear is that of a CentiMorgan - “a measure of DNA closeness”

- Some takeaways:
 - Closer cousins have larger segments refer to the B row in the diagram
 - Larger segments have more cMs
 - DNA companies add up all the cMs for each chromosome and report the result
 - The larger the number of shared cM the closer the cousin
 - Parent shares ~3,480 cM
 - 2nd cousin shares on average 233 cM but can range from 41-592 cM

<https://isogg.org/wiki/CentiMorgan>

Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA)

A Common ancestor is a parent **couple in your pedigree chart** that is common to two or more DNA cousins (“match”).

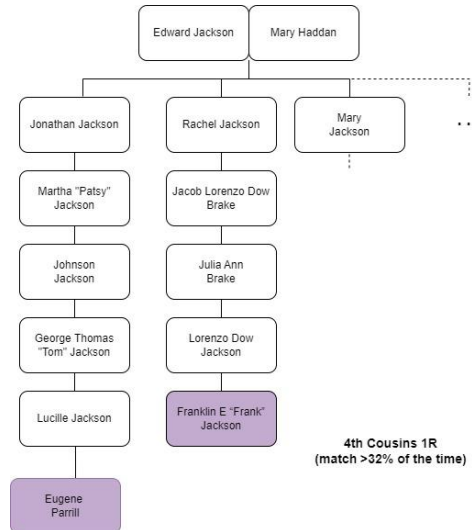
The DNA cousins will each be descendants of a different child of their shared ancestor couple

The Most Recent common ancestor is the closest common ancestor to the DNA cousins

The MRCA couple will be the most recent source of that matching DNA segment(s)

- Proposed 4th cousins 1R Eugene Parrill and Frank Jackson have a MRCA of Edward Jackson and Mary Haddan
- Their shared 16 cM DNA segment would have been inherited from this couple

note: DNA charts often show only the intermediate ancestors in the direct genetic line relative to the MRCA - like this example



When looking for DNA relatives you are always trying to identify the Most Recent Common Ancestor Couple (MRCA)

from the slide ...

A Common ancestor couple is a parent couple in your pedigree chart that is common to two or more DNA cousins (“match”).

The DNA cousins will each be descendants of a different child of their shared ancestor couple

The Most Recent common ancestor is the closest common ancestor to the DNA cousins

The MRCA couple will be the most recent source of that matching DNA segment(s)

- Proposed 4th cousins 1R Eugene Parrill and Frank Jackson have a MRCA of Edward Jackson and Mary Haddan
- Their shared **16 cM DNA segment** would have been inherited from this couple

This simple chart shows how the path for both Eugene and Frank’s DNA “Flows” from their common ancestors, Edward Jackson and Mary Haddan

This is a key concept for Genetic Genealogy - Genetic cousins share a common ancestor [one or more?]


Eugene Parrill's DNA Matches

View Parrill-Williams 2021

[All matches](#)
[By parent](#)
[By ancestor](#)
[By location](#)

Filter by: [Unviewed](#) [Common ancestors](#) [Notes](#) [Trees](#) [Shared DNA](#) [2 groups](#) [Reset filters](#) [Search](#) | [Sort](#)

Close Family




Bob Jackson Half 1st cousin
505 cM | 7% shared DNA
Maternal side

Private linked tree
535 People
Common ancestor

[View in tree](#)
[View match](#)

CA 0012M/HIC Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson > Robert Thomas Jackson Also on MH




Jacqueline Lee Cleveland Half 1st cousin
464 cM | 7% shared DNA
Maternal side

No Trees

[View in tree](#)
[View match](#)

CA 0012M/HIC Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson > Jacqueline Lee Jackson

Extended Family




N.M. 2nd - 3rd Cousin
190 cM | 3% shared DNA
Maternal side

Unlinked Tree

[View in tree](#)
[View match](#)

CA 0012M/2C: Jackson/Murphy > Lydia > Margaret Thomas < Norval M Marr Jr.



Robert Thomas 2nd cousin 1x removed
176 cM | 3% shared DNA
Maternal side

Private linked tree
1,354 People

[View in tree](#)
[View match](#)

CA 0012M/2C1R: Jackson/Murphy > Lydia Valerie's brother

Who is this N.M. match?
Whose DNA do we share?
Who is the MRCA?

Let's look at his match details and see what we can discover...

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So back to Eugene Parrill's DNA matches at Ancestry. The first two we know as his first cousins.

... click

but who is this N.M. match?

Whose DNA do they share?

WHO is the MRCA?

Let's look more closely at the clues that Ancestry provides.

What are the Clues for N.M.?

Eugene Parrill and N.M.
N.M.'s test is managed by: roy marr
2nd - 3rd Cousin | Maternal side
3% shared DNA: 190 cM across 12 segments
View in tree Message Edit Relationship

Tree View

- Maternal side
- 2nd - 3rd Cousin
- managed by roy marr
- 2 person tree not linked 😞

How are Eugene Parrill and N.M. related?
Common Ancestors
We can't find any common ancestors for Eugene Parrill and N.M. This can happen if their Ancestry family trees aren't linked to their DNA results, or if they don't have the same people in their trees. If we find any common ancestors for Eugene Parrill and N.M., you'll be able to see them here.

Trees Ethnicity Shared Matches PRO

Unlinked Tree
N.M. has an unlinked public tree.
roy marr is the manager of N.M.'s DNA test. You can view any of their unlinked public trees, but N.M. may not appear in any of them. Invite roy marr to link a tree to N.M.'s DNA results.
Contact roy marr

Select a tree to view

Public Tree

marr Family Tree
2 People

19

What are the clues for N.M. ?

...click

Tree View

- Maternal side - how do they know that? Unique "sideview" feature at Ancestry can distinguish matches from each of your parents. Once you see the results you can rename them to Maternal and Paternal
- 2nd - 3rd Cousin - mostly comes from the number of centiMorgans - second cousins share a great grandparent couple
- managed by roy marr

..click

- 2 person tree not linked :>(

What are the Clues for N.M?

Tree View

- Maternal side
- 2nd - 3rd Cousin
- managed by roy marr
- 2 person tree not linked 😞

Shared Matches view

- male
- top 3 are known 1st cousins
- Robert Thomas is the son of a known second cousin
- N.M is a suggested 1st cousin 1x removed of Robert Thomas

Eugene Parrill and n.m.
n.m.'s test is managed by: roy marr

2nd cousin | Maternal side
3% shared DNA: 190 cM across 12 segments

View in tree Message Edit Relationship

Trees Ethnicity **Shared Matches PRO**

Filter shared matches 1 Clear all + Group Q Search ↕ Sort

Shared match:	Eugene Parrill's:	n.m.'s:
Bob Jackson CA 0012M/H1C Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson...	Eugene Parrill's: Half 1st cousin 505 cM Maternal side	n.m.'s: 2nd cousin 1x removed 184 cM
Jacqueline Lee Cleveland CA 0012M/H1C Jackson/Murphy > George Thomas "Tom" Jackson > William Lewis Jackson...	Eugene Parrill's: Half 1st cousin 464 cM Maternal side	n.m.'s: 2nd cousin 1x removed 128 cM
Robert Thomas Managed by searcherg CA 0012M/2C1R: Jackson/Murphy > Lydia Valerie's brother	Eugene Parrill's: 2nd cousin 1x removed 176 cM Maternal side	n.m. 1st cousin 1x removed 583 cM

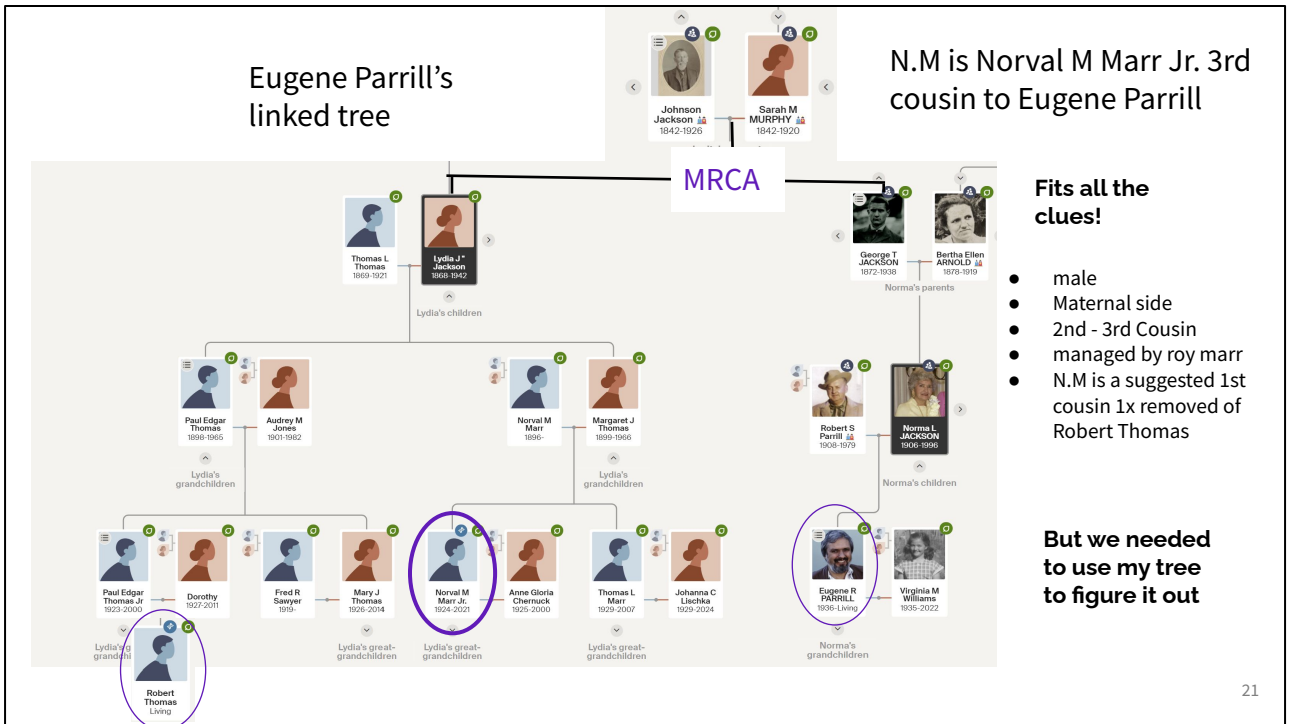
Now let's look at the Shared Matches tab (note I am using the new Enhanced Shared matches view here)

A shared match is another DNA match who also shares DNA with n.m. Shared matches are a strong pointer to your common ancestor couple

- top 2 are known 1st cousins on my Dad's maternal side so nothing new there
- Robert Thomas is the son of a known second cousin - Valerie's brother!

...click

- N.M is a suggested 1st cousin 1x removed of Robert Thomas -



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So looking at my tree I was able to figure out that Norval Marr Jr fit all the clues.
Norval Marr = N.M.

- male
- Maternal side
- 2nd - 3rd Cousin
- managed by roy marr
- N.M is a suggested 1st cousin 1x removed of Robert Thomas

The key to solving this match was for me to have a good tree for the descendants of Johnson Jackson and Sarah Margaret Murphy

... click

Who is the MRCA for Eugene Parrill and Norval Marr Jr? Johnson Jackson and Sarah Margaret Murphy

Who is the MRCA for Robert Thomas and Norval Marr Jr? Thomas Thomas and Lydia "Jennie" Jackson

Another mystery match .. who is B.H.? MRCA?

Eugene Parrill's DNA Matches

[View Parrill-Williams 2021](#)

All matches [By parent](#) [By ancestor](#) [By location](#)

Filter by: [Unviewed](#) [Common ancestors](#) [Notes](#) [Trees](#) [Shared DNA](#) [Groups](#) [Reset filters](#) [Search](#) | [Sort](#)

Distant Family



B.H.
Managed by Theodore
R Wieber

4th - 6th Cousin
23 cM | < 1% shared DNA
Maternal side

[Public linked tree](#)
5,503 People
[Common ancestor](#)

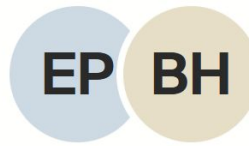
[View in tree](#)

[View match](#)

Let's look at one more example of another DNA match who was initially a mystery because she was only known by her initials and women often use their married names as their match names which adds another layer of complexity.

Click on B.H to see her match page

What are the Clues for B.H?



Eugene Parrill and B.H.

B.H.'s test is managed by: Theodore R Wieber

4th - 6th Cousin | Maternal side

< 1% shared DNA: 23 cM across 1 segments

View in tree

Message

Edit Relationship

Tree View

- Maternal side
- female
- 4th to 6th Cousin
- managed by Theodore R Wieber
- Complete tree - on every line
- Recognizable names and family names
- B's last name is Hickerson

How are Eugene Parrill and B.H. related?

Common Ancestors

According to Ancestry member trees, these are the common ancestors that connect Eugene Parrill and B.H.. View a common ancestor to see the relationship path that connects them.

Eugene Parrill and B.H. could be 4th cousin 1x removed through:

- Edward Jackson**
4th great-grandfather
1759-1828
View Relationship
- Mary Haddan**
4th great-grandmother
1764-1796
View Relationship

Wieber-Hickerson Family Tree

B.H.'s Linked Tree

5,503 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to B.H.'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both Eugene Parrill's tree and B.H.'s tree are marked in green.

Errett Braden Hicker... 1896-1973	William Henry Hicke... 1891-1904	David Lang Hickerson 1871-1931
Marion William Hick... 1918-2005	Harriet "Hattie" Perm... 1865-1944	Mary Jane Carman 1871-1931
Ada Maude Banks 1889-1973	Cyrus Marion Banks 1866-1951	Mary Frances Sullivan 1871-1931
Private	Laura Elizabeth Dunl... 1876-1886	Peter Banks 1866-1951
Lorenzo Dow "Dow" ... 1877-1944	Edward Thomas Jac... 1848-1936	Lucinda Appleman 1866-1951
Mae Jackson 1918-1987	Julia Ann Brake 1854-1930	Alexander Dunlap 1866-1951
Susan Ellen "Susie" ... 1892-1971	Burrell Lee "Burrey" G... 1892-1949	Elizabeth "Sletzy" Bing... 1866-1951
	Nancy "Nannie" Cath... 1890-1917	James Madison Jacks... 1866-1951
		Margaret Mary Eleanor... 1866-1951
		Jacob Lorenzo Dow Br... 1866-1951
		Lydia Ann Queen 1866-1951
		John Allen Ganthrop 1866-1951
		Martha Ellen Knight 1866-1951
		Benjamin Franklin Heflin 1866-1951
		Susan Holiva Smith 1866-1951

This is a match page we love to see! We can quickly find possible MRCA's (Common ancestors)

Tree View

- Maternal side
- female
- 4th to 6th Cousin
- managed by Theodore R Wieber
- Complete tree - on every line !!!!
- Recognizable names and family names
- B's last name is Hickerson

Let's look a little closer at this tree by clicking on the B.H's linked tree of 5,509 people

ancestry Home Trees Search Memories DNA

Wieber - Hickerson Family Tree Theodore R Wieber

Private Living

Spouse & Children ^

Private

Private

Siblings v

Errett B Hickerson 1886-1973

Marion W Hickerson 1918-2005

Ada Maude Banks 1889-1973

Lorenzo Dow * Jackson 1877-1944

Mae Jackson 1915-1987

Susan E * Gawthrop 1892-1971

William H Hickerson 1861-1904

H Power 1865-1944

Cyrus Marion Banks 1866-1951

Laura Elizabeth Dunlap 1870-1936

Edward T Jackson 1848-1936

Julia Ann Brake 1854-1930

Burrel Lee * Gawthrop 1862-1943

Nancy * C Hettlin 1860-1917

David Lang Hickerson

Mary Jane Carman

Burr William Power

Mary Frances Sullivan

Peter Banks

Lucinda Appelman

Alexander Dunlap

E Bingham

John Jackson 1719-1804

Edward Jackson 1759-1828

Elizabeth Cummins 1724-1826

James M Jackson

Margaret Mary E Law

Jacob Lorenzo D Brake

Lydia Ann Queen

John Allen Gawthrop

Martha Ellen Knight

Benjamin F Hettlin Sr

Susan Hoiva Smith

Elizabeth W Brake 1772-1835

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- Tree is owned by Theodore Wieber
- note that LIVING PEOPLE are marked Private
- You can expand the pedigree by clicking the > signs
- we see that she is a descendant of JJ and EC through the Edward line with Elizabeth Brake and their son James.

...click

- BUT we see a potential complication in this line ... Jacob Lorenzo Dow Brake

ancestry Home Trees Search Memories DNA

Wieber - Hickerson Family Tree Theodore R Wieber

Implication of these two connections: It muddies the water but still strong clue that shared DNA comes from Edward Jackson's line

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We now have two lines that are descended from Edward Jackson one with his first wife Mary Haddan and one with his second wife Elizabeth Brake.

So B Hickerson is both a 4th great granddaughter of Edward Jackson as well as a 5th great granddaughter.

At this point we can't tell for sure our relationship with B Hickerson.

- since we don't KNOW if Edward Jackson is the Grandfather of our Martha "Patsy" Jackson
- This is a strong clue that we are a descendant on Edward Jackson's line

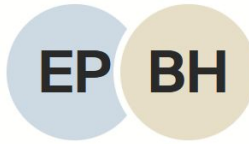
Ted's complete tree for B Hickerson allows us to eliminate the possibility that the shared DNA is coming from another ancestor on a different line

We can be related to our cousins in several ways. In colonial West Virginia in the small settler population this was common.

That doesn't matter at all for genealogy alone, if we are related two lines! Great! But for DNA matching we should always take the extra steps to understand where our matching DNA came from. We can do that by

- exhausting other possibilities on other lines of our match
- investigating our shared matches
- using advanced segment analysis available on other DNA platforms.

One more big clue for B.H.



Eugene Parrill and B.H.

B.H.'s test is managed by: Theodore R Wieber

4th - 6th Cousin | Maternal side

< 1% shared DNA: 23 cM across 1 segments

[View in tree](#)

[Message](#)

[Edit Relationship](#)

MRCA

How are Eugene Parrill and B.H. related?

Common Ancestors

According to Ancestry member trees, these are the common ancestors that connect Eugene Parrill and B.H.. View a common ancestor to see the relationship path that connects them.

Eugene Parrill and B.H. could be 4th cousin 1x removed through:

- 
Edward Jackson
 4th great-grandfather
 1759-1828
[View Relationship](#)
- 
Mary Haddan
 4th great-grandmother
 1764-1796
[View Relationship](#)

Trees Ethnicity Shared Matches **PSO**

Wieber - Hickerson Family Tree

[Expand tree](#)

B.H.'s Linked Tree

5,503 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to B.H.'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both Eugene Parrill's tree and B.H.'s tree are marked in green.



Ancestry's Common Ancestors feature

Common Ancestor HINT

This comes from the ThruLines feature from Ancestry

How it works

- Ancestry looks at your tree and other trees and tries to figure out an MRCA
- You need to build your tree back 4 generations
- Your tree must be linked to your DNA result

How are Eugene Parrill and B.H. related?

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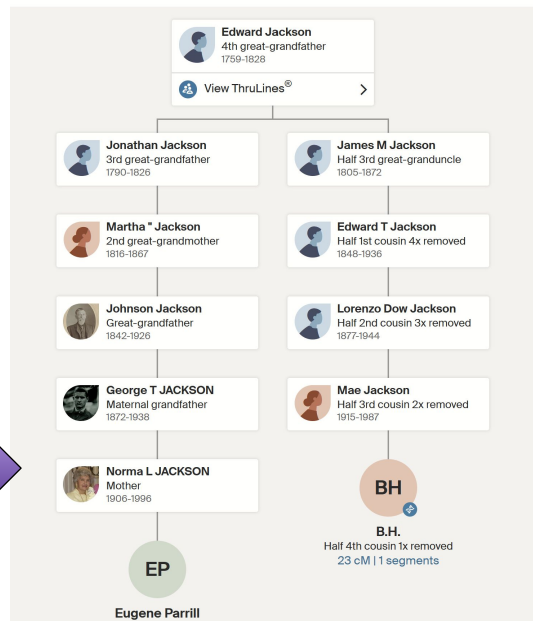
Eugene Parrill and B.H. could be 4th cousin 1x removed through:

Edward Jackson
4th great-grandfather
1759-1828
View Relationship

Mary Haddan
4th great-grandmother
1764-1796
View Relationship

Relationship to B.H.

Eugene Parrill may be related to B.H. through Edward Jackson



The ThruLines feature will give you ****HINTS**** if it can figure out an MRCA

How do we “prove” we’ve got it right?

We often can’t but on the weight of evidence we can make a call

- Do the records show it is feasible?
 - Census
 - Births, Deaths, Marriages
- Are there family stories that point to this?
 - Is the storyteller reliable?
 - Are there other reasons to make this claim?
- Does the DNA match the hypothesis?
 - Does the amount of DNA fit the relationship?
 - Does the DNA flow correctly? Is there a genealogy to support it?
- Can we use Y-DNA, X DNA, or mtDNA to corroborate?
- Is it feasible and plausible?
 - Place, time, age of the participants
 - Consider social norms for the time and place
- Have we done reasonably exhaustive research to eliminate the alternatives?

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example of other reasons to make a claim

Inheritance

Famous person (Stonewall Jackson)

Proof for Isaac Myer as the father of Johnson Jackson who was born in Harrison county 1842

Family Stories



Records



Feasible & plausible



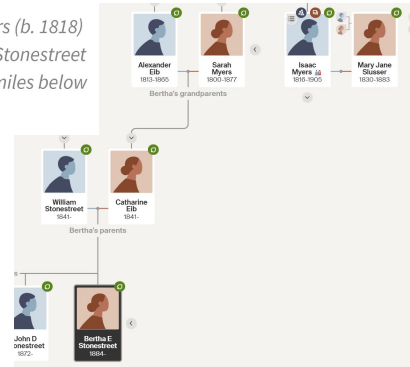
DNA

"[Johnson Jackson's] father was possibly Isaac (or perhaps Isaal?) "Ike" Meyers (b. 1818) "half brother to Miss Stonestreet grandmother (of?) B.?.ttie (perhaps Berttie) Stonestreet (the?) daughter of ?---illian & Catherine (in?) Good Hope Community 10 or 12 miles below Clarksburg." endnote:Margaret Thomas Marr genealogy charts and notes.

- Deeds and Census records place the Myer family at Coburn's Creek
- Isaac Myers born 1816, Patsy abt 1816
- Isaac Myers married 1854 after Johnson born
- Johnson Jackson in Harrison Co Birth register with no father identified (1842)



- Does the DNA match the hypothesis?
- Can we use Y-DNA, X DNA, or mtDNA to corroborate?

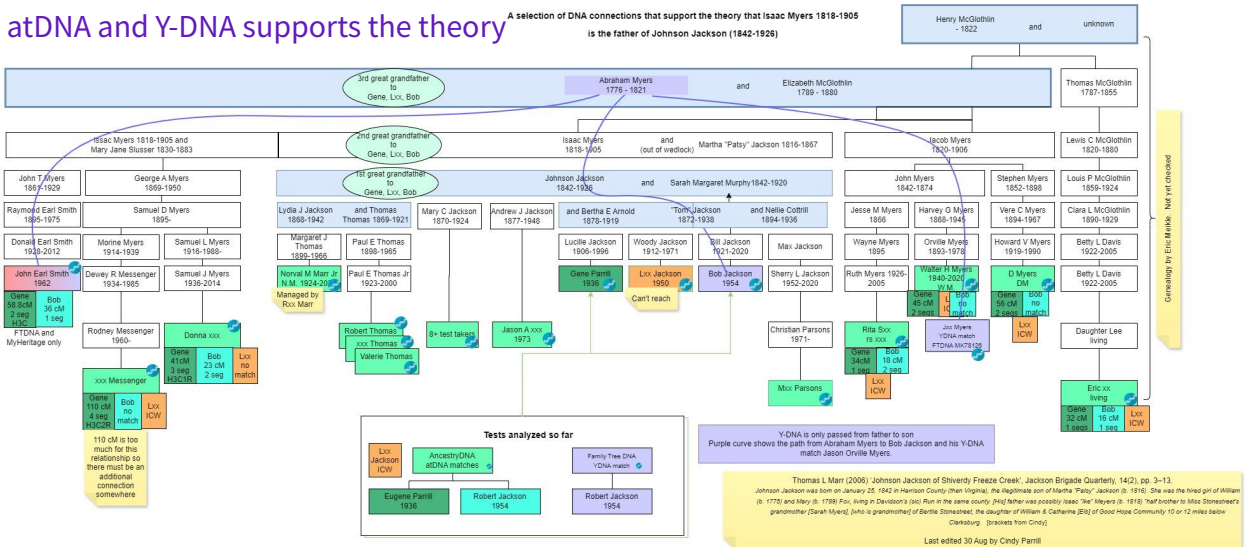


Let's go back to our first mystery solved with Y and autosomal DNA and see what "Proof" we have.

Proof for Isaac Myers as the father of Johnson Jackson who was born in Harrison county 1842

atDNA and Y-DNA supports the theory

A selection of DNA connections that support the theory that Isaac Myers 1818-1905 is the father of Johnson Jackson (1842-1926)



This chart when studied closer shows the Y-DNA and autosomal DNA matches to many different DNA test takers who are descendants of Johnson Jackson - not just my Dad but also other first and second cousins. This is the type of analysis that can support a conclusion

Proof for Isaac Myer as the father of Johnson Jackson who was born in Harrison county 1842

Family Stories



"[Johnson Jackson's] father was possibly Isaac (or perhaps Isaal?) "Ike" Meyers (b. 1818) "half brother to Miss Stonestreet grandmother (of?) B.?.ttie (perhaps Berttie) Stonestreet (the?) daughter of ?---illian & Catherine (in?) Good Hope Community 10 or 12 miles below Clarksburg." endnote:Margaret Thomas Marr genealogy charts and notes.

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- Isaac Myers married 1854 after Johnson born
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Feasible & plausible

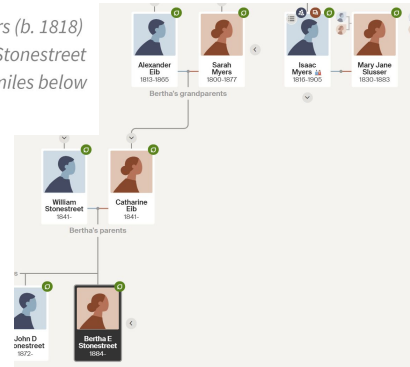


DNA



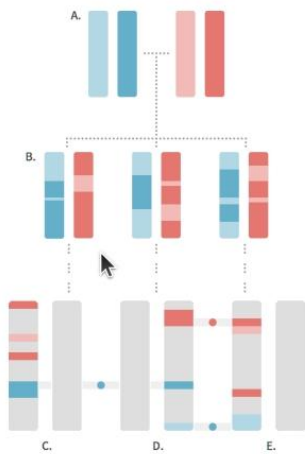
- Does the DNA match the hypothesis?
- Can we use Y-DNA, X DNA, or mtDNA to corroborate?

Reasonably exhaustive research to eliminate alternatives?



It COULD be one of Isaac's brothers but our DNA evidence points to Isaac and so do the Family stories.

Sifting the multiple and unknown connections with segment analysis



This feature is not available on Ancestry

Free transfers to:

- MyHeritage
- FTDNA
- GEDmatch

We talked about segments of DNA that we inherited from our ancestors, every chromosome gets recombined to create smaller and smaller segments through the generations and some segments are dropped all together

There are ways to analyze those segments and assign specific segments to specific MRCAs

... click

But not on Ancestry

MyHeritage, FamilyTreeDNA and GEDMatch give you additional information to pinpoint which chromosomes and where on the chromosome. This is an example of my Dad's match with his half first cousin Bob Jackson.

... click

With this information we can then associate specific ancestors with specific segments of your DNA

You don't have to take another test to get this information you only have to transfer your DNA to MyHeritage and/or GEDmatch. GEDmatch is a DNA analysis site and does not do tests themselves.

How you can get started for your own research or to just help your cousins who are doing DNA research

- [Take a DNA test at Ancestry](#)
- At Ancestry
 - [Build a family tree](#) at least to your grandparents and great-grandparents for ThruLines
 - [Make your tree public](#) if it's not already
 - [Link your tree to your DNA results](#)
- Transfer your DNA (free) for advanced segment analysis to:
 - MyHeritage
 - FamilyTreeDNA
 - GEDmatch
- Consider giving **collaboration access to a cousin researcher** who is working on Jackson mysteries
- Look at your match list and make notes of who the matches are as you discover them
- Consider adding your matches to your tree
- Will Y-DNA or mtDNA help? If so test at FTDNA and **join a project**
- **Men with Jackson surnames consider taking the Big-Y test at FTDNA**

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<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Getting-Started-Lesson-1-Starting-Your-Tree>
<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Family-Tree-Privacy>
<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Linking-an-AncestryDNA-Test-to-a-Tree>

How to download your DNA data from Ancestry:

<https://www.ancestry.com/dna/en/legal/us/faq#raw-3>

How to upload your DNA data to MyHeritage:

<https://education.myheritage.com/article/how-to-upload-your-dna-data-to-myheritage/>

How to transfer your DNA to FamilyTreeDNA (FTDNA)

<https://www.familytreedna.com/autosomal-transfer>

How to upload your DNA to GEDmatch

<https://www.gedmatch.com/education/ancestry/>

Words of advice for genetic genealogy

- Be prepared for something unexpected - this might lead to a breakthrough!
- Test your oldest relatives
- Figure out your closest matches first
- Fish in all the ponds (test at Ancestry then transfer to MyHeritage, and/or FTDNA and GEDmatch)
- Have the best family tree you can online where your tests are
 - minimum is a pedigree chart as far back as possible
 - bonus if you have all parents, siblings, spouses, and children at each pedigree level
 - be wary of free “hints” either via Ancestry ThruLines or record hints - always find one or more source documents to substantiate a hint
 - Most DNA testing sites will allow you to upload a GEDCOM family tree file built elsewhere
- Introduce yourself to your relatives and tell them what you are doing
- Use the Ancestry messaging system and always answer questions from cousins

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- (my DNA test is irrelevant for finding my Dad’s 3rd great grandmother because his results are twice as powerful)

coda ... how are we progressing in our search for Martha Patsy Jackson's mother?

Family Stories - "illegitimate daughter of Jonathan Jackson"

Records

- no records that show either of Patsy's parents
- no birth and no death records for Patsy

Feasible/Plausible

- Jonathan Jackson - lived in the area where Patsy lived
- no hypothesis formed yet for Patsy's mother

DNA

- Eugene Parrill has Ancestry matches to 5 of the 8 children of Jackson/Cummins
- ⇒ we are fairly sure we are Jacksons somehow!

Jackson Matches on Ancestry	
Line	# of matches to Eugene
George	3
Edward (both wives)	14
John Jr	
Elizabeth	5
Sophia	7
Mary	
Samuel	
Henry	7

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We have similar results with the Thomas family - Valerie and her brothers

Questions? Panel Discussion ...

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Have I interested anyone in taking a DNA test or might have an older generation at home who would be willing to take a test? - Please see me afterwards.

some references and resources

Education - Many ways to learn

- Ancestry.com support center - very good help for their site https://support.ancestry.com/s/?language=en_US
- Diahn Southard's Your DNA Guide www.yourdnaguide.com
- Family History Fanatics - excellent Youtube videos www.familyhistoryfanatics.com
- Facebook groups
 - [The Genealogy Squad](#) - The Genealogy Guys, Cindi's List, Genealogy Pants
 - [Genetic Genealogy Tips & Techniques](#) - Blaine Bettinger

Tools and websites

- Ancestry.com
 - <https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Making-the-Most-of-AncestryDNA-Matches>
- DNA painter - home of the Shared Centimorgan Project (SCP) and many more tools www.dnapainter.com
- ISOGG Wiki - The International Society of Genetic Genealogists isogg.org/wiki

DNA experts I follow

- Jim Bartlett - Segmentology blog <https://segmentology.org/> (member of Hackers Creek Pioneer Descendants)
- Jonny Perl - maker of DNA Painter above writes a great monthly newsletter <https://dnapainter.com/subscribe/landing>
- Roberta Estes - DNA Explained blog <https://dna-explained.com/>
- Diahn Southard - www.yourdnaguide.com
- Leah Larkin - The DNA Geek - <https://thednageek.com/blog/>

AncestryDNA Matching White Paper <https://www.ancestrycdn.com/support/us/2020/08/matchingwhitepaper.pdf>

Ancestry.com pricing and features

as of 29 Jul 2024 check website for latest	Free	Included with DNA test \$99 one time fee - often discounted	U.S. Discovery \$24.99/mo	World Explorer \$39.99/mo	All Access \$59.99/mo	AncestryDNA Plus \$4.99/mo	Pro Tools \$10/mo add-on
Build Tree, view trees shared with you, access free databases (1940_1950 census), register DNA kit, share DNA results	x	x	x	x	x		
Access US records, access Public Member Trees			x	x	x		
Access international records				x	x		
Newspapers.com + Fold3 military records					x		
All features for up to 5 users as part of a "Family Plan"					x		
DNA matches by side, ethnicity, communities, basic grouping tools, share results		x	x	x	x		
Premium DNA tools including ThruLines, shared match details, enhanced grouping tools			x	x	x	x	
DNA enhanced shared matches: see how your shared matches relate to each other							x

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Recommendations:

If you just want to take a test to help out your cousins. Buy the DNA test, build a basic tree, consider sharing your results with a cousin who is actively using DNA for research. \$39 on sale one time cost.

If you want to take a DNA test, and build a more extensive tree - \$39 DNA test on sale + US or World explorer membership as appropriate (\$24.99 or 39.99 / mo)

If you want to take a DNA test, build a more extensive tree and actively research your matches - same as just above but add the Pro-Tools add on for \$10/mo while you are doing that research

If you have other family members (including cousins) who want to do records research and research their DNA matches then consider the All Access membership for \$59.99 per month and share the cost amongst 5 family members. - Each user will need to add \$10/mo pro tools as required.