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The Septs

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2017 Irish Days at the MGS Library South St. Paul, MN

Second Saturday of the Month

JANUARY 14, 2017

FEBRUARY 11, 2017

MARCH 11, 2017

APRIL 8, 2017

MAY 13, 2017

JUNE 10, 2017

JULY 8, 2017

AUGUST 12, 2017

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

OCTOBER 14, 2017

NOVEMBER 11, 2017

DECEMBER 9, 2017

(These dates are subject to change so check
before you come.)

Irish research volunteers are available
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to assist with
using the library and Irish resources.
If you have questions, email Librarian@
IrishGenealogical.org.

Classes are offered throughout the year.
Information can be found on our website
<irishgenealogical.org>, in our e-news-
letter *Ginealas*, or in this journal.

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The Septs, the quarterly journal of the Irish Genealogical Society International, Inc. is one of the primary benefits of IGSI membership and is published in January, April, July and October. U.S. and International members receive a print copy of the journal through the mail. Those with Electronic memberships receive the journal electronically.

Contributions and article ideas are welcome. Material intended for publication should be submitted before the first of February, May, August and November. Contributors should email articles or materials to the Managing Editor at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org or to the Editor at SeptsEditor@IrishGenealogical.org. Decisions to publish and/or edit materials are at the discretion of the journal staff.

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Write for *The Septs*

Each issue of *The Septs* has at its core a specific theme with related research articles. Issues may also include articles on topics unrelated to the theme, e.g. family stories submitted by IGSI members.

Research articles on the theme of the issue should be 1500 - 3000 words. If writing on a theme, please contact the Managing Editor of *The Septs* at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org in advance of deadline dates to ensure that your article is considered for the proper issue.

Members who wish to share family research stories, articles on genealogy sources and resources, or writings on general Irish culture and history should contact the Managing Editor of *The Septs* at SeptsMnged@IrishGenealogical.org. The recommended length for articles unrelated to the theme is 750 – 1500 words.

Themes of Upcoming Issues

2017 | April | Case Studies

Learn by example. A key technique for learning how to be an effective genealogist is to see how others have solved their problems. Send us write-ups of your success stories using different Irish genealogy resources and tell us how you solved the problem. Deadline for articles: February 1, 2017.

2017 | July | Technology for Sharing Genealogy (Social Media)

What are the tools, how do they differ, how are they used; examples; the good and bad of posted genealogies, comparison of pedigree posting sites. Deadline for articles: May 1, 2017.

2017 | October | Writing Family History

What approaches can be used; what tools can help, such as Scrivener and mind-mapping; examples of going from raw data to finished product; how to find materials to fill in the story. Deadline for articles: August 1, 2017.

2018 | January | Special Collections of Irish Materials

Identify unique collections of Irish materials in libraries and other repositories that may be helpful to family historians. How to find such collections, how to learn what is in them and how to access them. Deadline for articles: November 1, 2017.

Cover Photo: *Molecular DNA*. © PROUniversity of Michigan School of Natural Resources & Environment.

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As the Year Changes

By Audrey Leonard

I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Holiday Season! Minnesota has already had some sub-zero temperatures and you would think we would be used to them. But the first few are always the hardest to get through. Now we can look forward to Spring.

We ended 2016 with the elimination of the IGSi Bookstore. Throughout the year we made many efforts to sell off our inventory. We will no longer purchase multiple copies of books, maps, etc. to sell to members. As the year ended, the Minnesota Genealogical Society, where we house our collection, went through some personnel changes. MGS also has enlisted the help of a library consultant to evaluate the library and suggest possible changes ranging from the labeling of materials, material retention, updating various procedures, etc. All of the Branches and Affiliates of MGS are involved in this process to bring the library up-to-date.

IGSi Update

The terms of three IGSi Board members have been completed and they have stepped down from the Board of Directors at the end of 2016: Gigi Hickey, Fern Wilcox, and

Greg Winters. Mark Hartnett also stepped off the Board in December. While their terms of service may have ended they remain active with the Society. We will add five directors in January 2017: Randi Mary Helgesen, Kim and Tim Scanlan, and Pat Schoenfeld are new to the board; Kay Swanson returns to the board.

We look forward to a new year with new members, new visitors to the library, and welcoming back many friends. Fern Wilcox, our Education coordinator, has planned ten very interesting classes during the coming months. We hope you will take the opportunity to learn new techniques, visit new websites, expand your expertise, and enjoy meeting the instructors and other attendees. If you have a particular topic you would like us to include in a future class schedule, please send Fern an email: education@irishgenealogical.org.

IGSi 2016 Activities

The highlight of the year, of course, was the Celtic Connections Conference, which we co-sponsored with TIARA. The friendly attitude of our members made those attending feel very welcome. The speakers and attendees had glowing reports of their experiences.

We had our "table" at several public activities last year. If you spotted us, we hope you stopped and chatted a bit with our members who were manning the table. We love to hear from anyone who has information on any genealogy fairs, family history fairs, etc., throughout the year. Let us hear from you if you know of any genealogy fairs, etc., in your area that we may be able to take part in the activities.

Our Fall Gathering was December 10th with a potluck and a video, "Irish Pubs". The potluck, the video, some door prizes and chatting with everyone made for a very pleasant afternoon!

I've mentioned several times about contacting IGSi. Please feel free to send us comments, suggestions, inquiries, etc. We want to hear from you in 2017!

Audrey Leonard joined the IGSi Board of Directors in 2014 and is serving her third term as President. She also chairs the Research and Library committees and helps with Technology issues. She lives in the St. Paul area.



Updating Our Research Techniques

By Ann Eccles

Genealogy has adopted and adapted the newest technologies to help us to trace our ancestors. It's been a long march in just a few short years from the old-school methods of research – in-person, on-site or letter-writing and waiting. In the last two decades, we've added the use of computer databases, pedigree programs and social media to search, trace, track and connect our families. The advances with DNA are another 21st century option for furthering our knowledge of ancestral connections and finding modern-day cousins.

I've seen recent TV 'real-life' documentaries that help or follow adoptees searching for parents or missing siblings. A common element of all the stories is the role that DNA plays in the success of the searches. So we see the importance of DNA in determining or confirming family linkages.

The importance of DNA in genealogy is further evident in that every genealogy conference must have at least a couple of programs addressing the topic – if not an entire day given to lectures on explaining the elements and use of DNA.

We first devoted an issue of *The Septs* to the DNA theme in October 2015, realizing even then that there was much more information we could offer to our readers. Even within one year, more and more family genealogists are using testing as one of their research tools.

In this issue, we offer three articles on the topic. Alice Eichholz provides a general overview of the topic: the basics of DNA, the three types of DNA for testing, and the main companies that provide genealogy-related DNA testing. It's a good introduction or review of the information. Jay Fonkert and Lois Mackin take the topic a step further, looking at how DNA can predict relationships. Jay explains the use of DNA when exploring and verifying relationships, while Lois uses a case study to explain its use in a specific situation. Both authors offer great tips on using comparison data provided by the testing companies.

Dwight Radford provides a review of search strategies and resources when seeking information about Scots-Irish ancestors. He includes lesser-known resources, suggests avenues of exploration

beyond the ordinary, and opens up new connections or possibilities for research.

Tom Rice recommends the learning tools/opportunities to be found on *FamilySearch* for researchers who need a bit more help – either when getting started, as a review, or when looking at a brickwall.

And the tidbits of history to be found in 100 Years Ago and More continue to amaze.

It's the start of a new year. If you haven't had the time for research over the holidays, now is the time to sit down and plan or start your research for 2017. DNA may play a role in the next steps you take. So, sit down with a cup of tea or other warm beverage to look through the information in this issue. Happy reading – and researching!

Ann Eccles is a retired librarian who has re-focused her research skills to family history and Irish genealogy. Ann has several Irish ancestral lines to trace as both of her parents descended from



Irish families. A former Board member and officer, she remains active in the Society, is the editor of The Septs and an Irish Saturday volunteer.



*Upper Canada Village heritage park,
© Jazmin Million @Flickr.com.*

DNA Evidence in the Case of Christopher and James Mackin of Dane County, Wisconsin

by Lois Abromitis Mackin, Ph.D.

My husband's most distant known Mackin ancestor is Christopher Mackin (1821-1867) of the Town of Vermont, Dane County, Wisconsin, just west of Madison. Although we know that Christopher was born in Ireland¹⁰ August 1821,² no Irish place of origin has been documented. Family tradition says that Christopher came from Armagh.³

Christopher first appears in American records in Madison, Wisconsin, where he filed a declaration of intention in December 1854 stating that he emigrated from Ireland to New York in June 1851.⁴ Census records show that he had two children, James, born about 1851, and Anna, born about 1854, in New York,⁵ but no New York locality has been identified for their births.

In 1855 Christopher purchased land⁶ and appeared in the Wisconsin census in the Town of Blue Mounds.⁷ The following year he had a son John,⁸ who later settled in Mitchell County, Iowa. John's birth was followed by the births of brothers Christopher (born in either 1858 or 1860),⁹ Stephen (born in 1862),¹⁰ Patrick (born in 1864),¹¹ and Michael (born about 1866).¹²

Christopher died 14 January 1867, aged 46 years,¹³ leaving a widow Mary and seven minor children. Christopher's probate record names a second man named Mackin: James McKin of Madison posted \$1,500 surety for Mary McKin of Vermont, administratrix of the estate of Christopher Mackin deceased.¹⁴ Bondsmen, particularly those posting substantial sureties, are typically related to the parties in a probate case, so investigation turned to James Mackin.

Identifying James Mackin

In 1870, three years after Christopher's death, three men named James McCan/McKin/McCann lived in Madison:

- James McCann, age 40, laborer, lived in Madison Ward 1 with apparent wife Julia, also age 40, and apparent children John, Mary, James, Katie, and Fidelia.¹⁵
- James McCan, age 37, tin smith, lived in Madison Ward 4 with apparent wife Mary, age 35, and apparent children James, Frank, Peter, John, Mary Ann, and Thomas.¹⁶
- James McKin, age 42, laborer, lived in Madison Ward 4 with apparent wife Kate, age 40, and apparent children Mary, Anne, Coleman, Anna, James, and Christopher.¹⁷

Of the three James Mackins living in Madison, James with apparent wife Kate appears most likely to be the James who provided bond for Christopher's widow, since he named a son Christopher the year after the death of Christopher Mackin of the Town of Vermont, and is the only one of the three James Mackin who had a child named Christopher. He is also the only one of the three James who had children named James and Anne/Anna, the names of Christopher's oldest children. In Irish naming patterns, the oldest son and daughter are often named after the father's parents.

Documentary records provide no further clues to the nature of the relationship between James Mackin of Ward 4, married to Kate, and Christopher Mackin of the

Town of Vermont. James died 21 April 1890 in Madison and was buried in Resurrection Cemetery. His death certificate lists his parents as James and Ann, and his place of birth as Ireland.¹⁸

DNA Evidence

Can DNA testing provide evidence about the relationship between Christopher and James? Both men left living descendants, including male descendants. As a result, both autosomal and Y-DNA tests could provide relevant information.

To date, nine descendants of Christopher Mackin of the Town of Vermont are known to have taken autosomal DNA tests; two of those males have also submitted Y-DNA. Five of the Christopher Mackin testers are descended from Christopher's son John, who settled in Mitchell County, Iowa, through two different children, Charles George Mackin of Rock Township and Stacyville, and John Lawrence Mackin of Rock Township and Mason City, Cerro Gordo County. The remaining four testers are descended from Christopher's youngest son Michael, who settled in Milwaukee, through his daughter Mary Gertrude Mackin.

All but one of the Christopher descendants tested at *Ancestry*. Four Christopher descendants either tested or uploaded test kits to *Family Tree DNA*, and five have uploaded kits to *GEDmatch.com*, a third-party site that provides segment-level matching and analysis tools. (Segment-level analysis allows us to identify which chromosomes have matching segments, and where on the chromosome the matching segments start

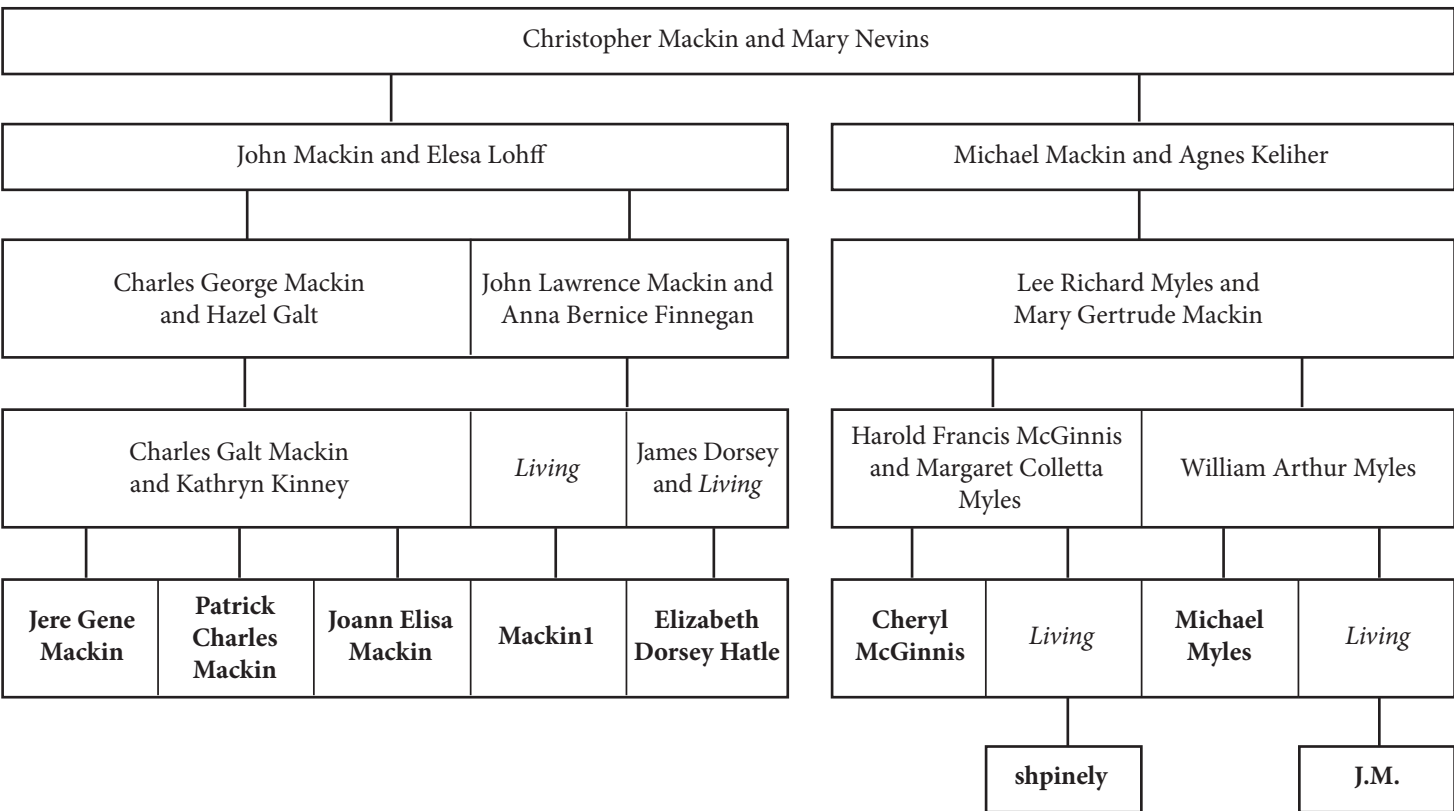
and stop. Establishing that multiple testers match each other on the same segment of autosomal DNA is the gold standard for establishing descent from a common ancestor.¹⁹⁾ The fact that not all test kits are available for comparison at all three sites introduces complication into the analysis and display of the results, but does not prevent conclusions from being drawn.

Table 1 shows the descents of the nine Christopher testers, along with the DNA testing companies and third-party sites where their kits can be found.

For matching test kits, *Ancestry*, *FTDNA*, and *GEDmatch* show the total amount of autosomal DNA shared by the two kits, in centiMorgans (cM).²⁰ *Ancestry* and *FTDNA* also predict a relationship or range of relationships between the matching testers—e.g., immediate family, second to third cousins. *Ancestry* assigns a confidence level—e.g., extremely high, good—to its relationship prediction. Instead of predicting a relationship, *GEDmatch* provides an estimated number of generations to the common ancestor.

In interpreting autosomal matching results, it is recommended that genetic genealogists augment the testing sites' predictions by referring to documented averages and ranges of DNA shared in various relationships, and consider the likelihood that genealogical relatives of various degrees will share detectable amounts of DNA. The *ISOGG Wiki* article "Autosomal DNA Statistics"²¹ is a useful reference for thresholds of DNA that might be shared in various relationships. A second data source for evaluating testing company relationship predic-

Table 1. Christopher Mackin descendants, with DNA testers shown in bold type.



Ancestry FTDNA	Ancestry FTDNA	Ancestry FTDNA	Ancestry FTDNA	Ancestry FTDNA
GEDmatch A531646	GEDmatch A101361	GEDmatch A735125	GEDmatch T945931	GEDmatch A202316

Ancestry Ancestry Ancestry Ancestry

GEDmatch
A641955

tions is Blaine T. Bettinger's Shared cM Project, a crowd-sourced "data collection and analysis project created to understand the ranges of shared centimorgans associated with various known relationships," based on data for more than 10,000 known relationships.²² Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne, CG, provide tables showing the likelihood that various degrees of genealogical relatives will share detectable amounts of autosomal DNA and the likelihood that testing a close relative will identify matches with third through seventh cousins the original tester does not match.²³

Using these tools, in the case of the Mackin DNA study, DNA comparisons from *Ancestry*, *FTDNA*, and *GEDmatch* confirm that

- Jere, Patrick, and Joann are siblings.
 - Jere and Patrick share 2,842 cM of autosomal DNA (*Ancestry*).²⁴
 - Jere and Joann share 2,722 cM (*Ancestry*). Patrick and Joann share 2,685 cM (*Ancestry*).
- Mackin1 and Elizabeth are first cousins. They share 913.2 cM of autosomal DNA (*GEDmatch*).²⁵
- Jere, Patrick, and Joann are second cousins to Mackin1 and Elizabeth.
 - Jere shares 176 cM of autosomal DNA with Mackin1 (*FTDNA*) and 248 cM with Elizabeth (*Ancestry*).²⁶
 - Patrick shares 103.4 cM of autosomal DNA with Mackin1 (*GEDmatch*) and 182 cM with Elizabeth (*Ancestry*).²⁷
 - Joann shares 189 cM of autosomal DNA with Mackin1 (*FTDNA*) and 152 cM with Elizabeth (*Ancestry*).²⁸

- Jere, Patrick, and Joann are third cousins to Cheryl and Michael, and third cousins once removed to shpinely and J.M. (administered by Michael Myles).

- Jere shares 38 cM of autosomal DNA with Cheryl (*Ancestry*), 34 cM with Michael (*Ancestry*), 21.2 cM with shpinely (*Ancestry*), and 7.3 cM with J.M. (*Ancestry*).²⁹
- Patrick shares 37 cM of autosomal DNA with Cheryl (*Ancestry*), 31 cM with Michael (*Ancestry*), 26.6 cM with shpinely (*Ancestry*), and 33 cM with J.M. (*Ancestry*).³⁰
- Joann shows no match on *Ancestry* with any of the Michael Mackin descendants.³¹
- Mackin1 shares 95.9 cM of autosomal DNA with Cheryl (*GEDmatch*).³² No comparisons of Mackin1's results are available for Michael Myles, shpinely, or J.M., since Mackin1 did not test on *Ancestry* and the other Michael Mackin descendants did not upload test results to *FTDNA* or *GEDmatch*.
- Elizabeth shares 58 cM of autosomal DNA with Cheryl (*Ancestry*), 104 cM with Michael Myles (*Ancestry*), 24.1 cM with shpinely (*Ancestry*), and 94 cM with J.M. (*Ancestry*).³³

Of the Christopher Mackin descendants who have tested, Joann and Patrick, descended from Christopher via John, and Cheryl and Michael, descended from Christopher via John's brother Michael, have *Ancestry* DNA matches with two descendants of James Mackin of Madison, Kathleen Wight and Joe Baillie. If Christopher and James were brothers, the

older generation of Christopher descendants and the James descendants would be fourth cousins. According to Bettinger and Wayne, the likelihood that fourth cousins will share a detectable amount of shared DNA testing at *Ancestry* is 71%.³⁴

While neither James Mackin descendant has uploaded their *Ancestry* test results to *GEDmatch*, which would enable segment comparisons, *Ancestry*'s shared matches indicate significant overlaps in the DNA matching between the Christopher descendants and the James descendants.

- Patrick shares 22.3 cM of autosomal DNA with Kathleen Wight.³⁵ This amount of DNA is between the amount of DNA shared by fourth cousins and third cousins once removed in the *ISOGG Wiki*'s autosomal DNA statistics table and within the range for fourth cousins in the Shared cM Project 2.0. Although *AncestryDNA* does not provide segment-level data, this match is shared with Cheryl McGinnis.
- Joann shares 19.2 cM of autosomal DNA with Kathleen Wight.³⁶ This amount of DNA falls between the values for third cousins once removed, fourth cousins, and third cousins twice removed in the *ISOGG Wiki* autosomal DNA statistics table and within the range for fourth cousins in the Shared cM Project 2.0. This match is shared with Patrick Mackin. If Christopher Mackin and James Mackin were brothers, Joann and Kathleen Wight would be fourth cousins.
- Cheryl shares 21.1 cM of autosomal DNA with Kathleen Wight and 13.9 cM with Kathleen's first cousin Joe Baillie.³⁷ Like the amount of DNA

shared by Joann and Kathleen, these amounts of DNA fall between the values for third cousins once

Table 2 shows the line of descent of Joann and Cheryl's two DNA matches from James Mackin of Madison.

James provided surety for Christopher's widow after Christopher's death, and named his next-born son Christopher.

Table 2. James Mackin descendants, with DNA testers shown in bold type.³⁹

James Mackin and Catherine Madden	
James Henry Mackin and Mary E. Moran	
Joseph Michael Baillie and Catherine Mary Mackin	
Douglass D. Hearne and Janet Anne Baillie	Joseph M. Baillie and Loretta Anderlohr
Kathleen Wight	Joe Baillie

removed, fourth cousins, and third cousins twice removed in the *ISOGG Wiki* autosomal DNA statistics table and within the range for fourth cousins in the Shared cM Project 2.0. This match is shared with Patrick Mackin. If Christopher Mackin and James Mackin were brothers, Cheryl, Kathleen, and Joe would be fourth cousins.

- Michael shares 17.6 cM of autosomal DNA with Kathleen.³⁸ This match is shared with Patrick Mackin and Cheryl McGinnis. This amount of shared DNA is slightly higher than the value for fourth cousins in the *ISOGG Wiki's* autosomal DNA statistics table but within the range for fourth cousins in the Shared cM Project 2.0.

Conclusion

The documentary evidence of a close relationship between Christopher Mackin of the Town of Vermont and James Mackin of Madison can be summarized as follows:

The two men were contemporaries, with a common birthplace of Ireland, living within a few miles of each other in Dane County, Wisconsin, during the 1860s.

Both men named children James and Ann, suggesting that, if they were following Irish naming patterns, their parents might have those names. Christopher Mackin died before deaths were recorded, so there is no evidence of his parents' names; James Mackin's death certificate names his parents James and Ann.

This documentary evidence is corroborated by autosomal DNA evidence supporting a fourth-cousin relationship between four descendants of Christopher Mackin and two descendants of James Mackin.

It would be desirable to upload autosomal test results for all Christopher and James descendants to *GEDmatch* so that shared segments could be identified, and to augment the autosomal DNA evidence of the relationship between Christopher Mackin and James Mackin with evidence from Y-DNA testing. However, to date, not all testers have uploaded results to *GEDmatch*, and no male-line descendant of James Mackin has come forward to test.

Endnotes

¹ 1860 U.S. census, Dane County, Wisconsin, population schedule, Town of Vermont, p. 126 (penned), dwelling 760, family 802, Christopher Macan; National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) microfilm publication M653, roll 1404.

² St. James Cemetery (Town of Vermont, Dane County, Wisconsin; County Road F, south of Black Earth), Christopher Mackin marker; personally read and photographed by author, 2005.

³ Mackin family traditions; orally reported to the author by Jere Gene Mackin, grandson of Charles George Mackin of Mitchell County, Iowa, and Elizabeth (Dorsey) Hatle, granddaughter of John Lawrence Mackin of Mason City, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, various dates in 2016.

⁴ Wisconsin, Supreme Court, Declarations of Intention to Become a U.S. Citizen, 1840-1893, loose items arranged by year and thereunder alphabetical by name; series 1729, box 3, folder 2, 21 December 1854 declaration of Christopher Mackin; Wisconsin Historical Society Archives, Madison.

⁵ 1860 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Town of Vermont, p. 126 (penned), dwell. 760, fam. 802, James and Ann Macan.

⁶ Christopher McCann (Iowa County) cash entry file, certificate no. 25173, Mineral Point, Wisconsin, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800-1908; Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁷ 1855 Wisconsin state census, Dane Co., pop. sch., Town of Blue Mounds, n.p., n. dwell., n. fam., Chris Maklun; digital image, “Wisconsin, State Census, 1855,” *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-267-11865-144499-38?cc=1443825&wc=M6P-B-DZS:37189401,37189402> : accessed 18 April 2015), Dane > Dane county > image 76 of 180; State Historical Society, Madison.

⁸ 1860 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Town of Vermont, p. 126 (penned), dwell. 760, fam. 802, John Macan. Mitchell County, Iowa, extracted certificate from “Deaths,” book 1: 41, for John Mackin, died 6 October 1938; Register’s Office, Osage.

⁹ 1860 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Town of Vermont, p. 126 (penned), dwell. 760, fam. 802, Christopher Macan. The 1860 census records Christopher’s age as 2, supporting a birth date of 1858. Subsequent censuses, along with

Christopher’s death certificate, support a birth date of 1860. It is possible that the 1860 census entry for Christopher should have read 2/12, or that the child born two years after John died, and another child, born in 1860, received the same name. 1880 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Town of Vermont, enumeration district (ED) 92, p. 365D (penned), dwell. 79, fam. 72, Christopher Daneen; NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1422. Minnesota, Division of Vital Statistics, death certificate 1934-MN-17098 (1934), Christopher Macken; Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

¹⁰ Wisconsin, Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate (1938), Stephen Mackin; Dane County Register, Madison.

¹¹ Wisconsin, Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate (1945), Patrick Mackin; Dane County Register, Madison.

¹² Various ages/dates of birth are recorded for Michael. He was listed as 14 in the 1880 census, 33 in the 1900 census, 38 in the 1905 Wisconsin census, 42 in the 1910 census, 52 in the 1920 census, 65 in the 1930 census. His death certificate says that he was born about 1868, while his cemetery marker shows a birth date of 1865. 1880 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Town of Vermont, ED 92, p. 365D (penned), dwelling 79, family 72, Michael Daneen [sic]. 1900 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Milwaukee Ward 15, ED 132, sheet 12B (penned and stamped), dwell. 1308, fam. 263, Michael Mackin; NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 1804. 1905 Wisconsin state census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., 3 Pr. 17 Ward, sheet 11 (penned), fam. 207, Michael Mackin; image, “Wisconsin,

State Censuses 1895 and 1905,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 November 2016), citing Wisconsin State Census, 1905, microfilm, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison. 1910 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Milwaukee Ward 17, ED 178, p. 8B (penned and stamped), dwell. 148, fam. 163, Michael Mechian; NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 1722. 1920 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Milwaukee Ward 17, ED 200, p. 1B (penned and stamped), dwell. 18, fam. 21, Michael Mackin; NARA microfilm publication T625, roll 2002. 1930 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, pop. sch., Milwaukee Ward 17, ED 213, p. 6A (penned and stamped), dwell. 10, fam. 10, Michael Mackin; NARA microfilm publication T626, roll 2592. Wisconsin, Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate (1945), Michael Mackin; Milwaukee County Register, Milwaukee. *Find A Grave*, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=134368293&ref=acom> : accessed 5 November 2016), image gravestone for Michael Mackin Sr., Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, *Find A Grave* memorial #134368293.

¹³ St. James Cemetery (Dane Co., Wis.), Christopher Mackin marker.

¹⁴ Dane County, Wisconsin, probate case files, box 28, McKin or Macken Christopher (d 1867), bond of administrator filed 18 February 1867; Wisconsin Historical Society Archives, Madison.

¹⁵ 1870 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Madison Ward 1, p. 35 (penned), dwell. 266, fam. 266, James McCann household; NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 1708.

¹⁶ 1870 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Madison Ward 4, p. 29 (penned), dwell. 206, fam. 211, James McCan household; NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 1708.

¹⁷ 1870 U.S. census, Dane Co., Wis., pop. sch., Madison Ward 4, p. 30 (penned), dwell. 212, fam. 217, James McKin household; NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 1708.

¹⁸ Dane County, Wisconsin, deaths 1: 307, James Mackin; Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison. *Find A Grave*, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=131087407&ref=acom>: accessed 5 November 2016), image gravestone for James Mackin, Resurrection Cemetery, Madison, Wisconsin, *Find A Grave* memorial #131087407. The death certificate states that James was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, but his gravestone is in Resurrection Cemetery.

¹⁹ For further explanation, see the *International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) Wiki* articles “Chromosome Mapping” (http://isogg.org/wiki/Chromosome_mapping) and “Triangulation [autosomal DNA portion]” (<http://isogg.org/wiki/Triangulation>). Both were accessed 15 November 2016.

²⁰ For an explanation of this unit, see “CentiMorgan,” *ISOGG Wiki* (<http://isogg.org/wiki/CentiMorgan> : accessed 15 November 2016).

²¹ “Autosomal DNA Statistics,” *ISOGG Wiki* (http://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics : accessed 15 November 2016).

²² Blaine Bettinger, “Update to the Shared cM Project,” 26 June 2016, *The Genetic*

Genealogist (<http://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2016/06/26/update-to-the-shared-cm-project/>: accessed 15 November 2016).

²³ Blaine T. Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice* (Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2016), 74 and 82.

²⁴ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA* <<http://www.ancestry.com/dna>> for Jere Gene Mackin, Patrick Mackin (administered by LoisMackin), and Joann Elisa Mackin, predicted immediate family-close family with extremely high confidence; documented relationship siblings. This and all following *AncestryDNA*, *Family Tree DNA*, and *GEDmatch* reports were accessed 5 November 2016.

²⁵ *GEDmatch*, “One-to-Many Comparison,” database report, *GEDmatch* <<https://www.gedmatch.com>>, kit nos. T945931 and A202316, 913.2 cM total; longest block 83.2 cM. This is in the range of first cousins in “Autosomal DNA Statistics,” *ISOGG Wiki*, which shows a value of 850 cM for first cousins, and the Shared cM Project, Version 2.0, which shows an average of 869 cM and a range of 533–1,379 cM for first cousins.

²⁶ “Family Finder,” database report *Family Tree DNA* (<https://familytreedna.com>), for Jere Mackin and Mackin1, predicted 2nd cousin-3rd cousin; documented relationship second cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Jere Gene Mackin, and Elizabeth Hatle, predicted 2nd-3rd cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship second cousins.

²⁷ *GEDmatch*, “One-to-Many Comparison,” database report, *GEDmatch*, kit nos.

T945931 and A101361, 103.4 cM total; longest block 35.2 cM. This is in the range of second cousins once removed shown in “Autosomal DNA Statistics,” *ISOGG Wiki*, which shows a value of 106.25 cM for second cousins once removed, however, it is within the range of values for second cousins in the Shared cM Project, V 2.0, which shows an average of 238 cM and a range of 43–504 cM for second cousins.

“AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA* for Patrick Mackin (administered by LoisMackin) and Elizabeth Hatle, predicted 3rd-4th cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship second cousins.

²⁸ “Family Finder,” database report, *Family Tree DNA*, for Joann Mackin and Mackin1, predicted 2nd cousin-3rd cousin; documented relationship second cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Joann Mackin, and Elizabeth Hatle, predicted 3rd-4th cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship second cousins. The amount of DNA Joann shares with Mackin1 and Elizabeth is lower than the value for second cousins in the *ISOGG Wiki*’s “Autosomal DNA Statistics” table, but within the range of values from the Shared cM Project V 2.0.

²⁹ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA* for Jere Gene Mackin, and Cheryl McGinnis, predicted 4th-6th cousins with high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA* for Jere Gene Mackin, and Michael Myles, predicted 4th-6th cousins with high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. The amounts of shared DNA are below the value for third cousins in the *ISOGG*

Wiki autosomal DNA statistics but within the third cousin range in the Shared cM Project.

“AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Jere Gene Mackin, and shpinely, predicted 4th-6th cousins with good confidence; documented relationship third cousins once removed. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Jere Gene Mackin, and J.M. (administered by Michael Myles), predicted 5th-8th cousins with moderate confidence; documented relationship third cousins once removed. The amount of DNA shared with shpinely is only slightly below the value for third cousins once removed in the *ISOGG Wiki* autosomal DNA statistics; both the amount of DNA shared with shpinely and the amount shared with J.M. fall within the Shared CM Project’s range for third cousins once removed.

³⁰ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Patrick Mackin, and Cheryl McGinnis, predicted 4th cousins with high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Patrick Mackin, and Michael Myles, predicted 4th-6th cousins with high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. Like the amounts of DNA shared by Jere and these Michael Mackin descendants, the amounts of shared DNA are below the value for third cousins in the *ISOGG Wiki* autosomal DNA statistics but within the third cousin range in the Shared cM Project.

“AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Patrick Mackin, and shpinely, predicted 4th-6th cousins with good confidence;

documented relationship third cousins once removed. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Patrick Mackin, and J.M. (administered by Michael Myles), predicted 4th-6th cousins with high confidence; documented relationship third cousins once removed. The amount of DNA shared with shpinely is above the value for third cousins once removed in the *ISOGG Wiki* autosomal DNA statistics; both the amount of DNA shared with shpinely is slightly below the value shown for third cousins once removed in the *ISOGG Wiki*’s autosomal statistics table and the amount shared with J.M. is slightly above it. Both values fall within the Shared CM Project’s range for third cousins once removed.

³¹ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Joann Elisa Mackin. The Shared cM project data shows that third cousins and third cousins once removed may share no DNA at all. While Bettinger and Wayne indicate that there is a 98% chance that third cousins will share detectable amounts of shared DNA on *Ancestry* (Bettinger and Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, 74), Joann apparently did not inherit the DNA segments her siblings Jere and Patrick share with the Michael Mackin descendants.

³² *GEDmatch*, “One-to-Many Comparison,” database report, *GEDmatch*, kit nos. T945931 and A622192, 95.9 cM total; longest block 52.2 cM.

³³ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA* for Elizabeth Hatle, and Cheryl McGinnis, predicted 4th cousins with very high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Elizabeth Hatle, and Michael Myles, predicted 3rd

cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship third cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Elizabeth Hatle, and shpinely, predicted 4th-6th cousins with good confidence; documented relationship third cousins once removed. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Elizabeth Hatle, and J.M., predicted 3rd-4th cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship third cousins once removed. Elizabeth shares more autosomal DNA than the *ISOGG Wiki*’s shared autosomal statistics indicates, but the values are within the ranges shown in the Shared cM Project. Interestingly, even though the amounts of DNA Elizabeth shares with Cheryl and Michael are relatively high, the amount of DNA she shares with shpinely is below the *ISOGG Wiki* value, while the amount of DNA she shares with J.M. is well above that value. The amounts of DNA Elizabeth shares with both third cousins once removed is within the range shown by the Shared cM Project.

³⁴ Bettinger and Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, 74.

³⁵ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Kathleen Wight, and Patrick Mackin, predicted 4th-6th cousins with good confidence; documented relationship fourth cousins.

³⁶ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Joann Elisa Mackin, and Kathleen Wight, predicted 5th-8th cousins with good confidence; documented relationship fourth cousins.

³⁷ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Kathleen Wight and Cheryl McGinnis, predicted 4th cousins with good confidence;

documented relationship fourth cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Kathleen Wight and Joseph Baillie, predicted 1st-2nd cousins with extremely high confidence; documented relationship first cousins. “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Joseph Baillie and Cheryl McGinnis, predicted distant cousins with moderate confidence; documented relationship fourth cousins.

³⁸ “AncestryDNA Member Matches,” database report, *AncestryDNA*, for Kathleen Wight and Michael Myles, predicted

5th-8th cousins with good confidence; documented relationship fourth cousins.

³⁹ Genealogical relationships within the James Mackin family are documented in “Public Member Trees,” database, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 November 2016), “Baillie Family Tree,” submitted by Joe Baillie (jobojaillienet); “Mackin James,” submitted by the author (LoisMackin); and “Wight Family Tree,” submitted by Kathlelen Wight (khwright).

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IGSI Classes

Are you searching for an Irish ancestor? In addition to getting help from volunteer researchers at the library on Irish Saturdays, you can learn more about research strategies, sources and more by attending one or more of the IGSI classes offered throughout the year.

January 14, 2017 | Finding and Using Private Land Transactions | Tom Rice

Often the solution to a genealogical puzzle lies in land records. There are many records created around the transfer of land between individuals. These include deeds, leases, mortgages, dower rights records, and probate records. Private land ownership is also the basis of tax records and plat.

February 11, 2017 | Beginning Irish Research | Audrey Leonard

Are you a “newbie” – just starting your search for those elusive Irish ancestors? Join Audrey for a great introduction into searching for your Irish ancestors’ roots. You can do it!

March 11, 2017 | Getting the Most out of *Ancestry.com* | Mary Wickersham

There’s more to *Ancestry* than you think, including FREE records! Come out for this great class with Mary.

IGSI classes are held at William J Hofmann (MGS) library in the classroom from 10:30 AM to 12:00 noon. Cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Register/pay online at www.irishgenealogical.org or at the door on the day of the class.

Scots-Irish Research: Getting Them Over the Water

by Dwight Radford

A successful strategy from which to approach Scots-Irish immigrant research depends on what you already know. If you do not know a place in Ulster, especially for ancestors from the 1600s and 1700s, then this is a United States research problem. If you only know a county in Ireland, this still may not be enough to approach Ulster records. When the records in Ireland do not go back far enough, it may bring you back to United States research for answers.

Ulster is the northern province of the island and is similar to saying “New England” or the “Mid-West.” So while it does provide a reference point, it’s typically not enough to help. Therefore, it remains an American research problem first.

The typical assumption for a Scots-Irish family is they were from Ulster, Presbyterian and a tenant farmer. While this may be true, don’t get so locked into this you miss some important information, such as they lived in Dublin as Quakers! This is complex research.

Migration Patterns

Why did your ancestors settle where they did? This may be the most important question you can ask, especially for the colonial and frontier periods of American history. Addressing settlement patterns can assist in identifying where your family came from in Ulster. Main migration patterns were as follows:

A **group migration** was common in the 1700s as families settled in an area together. Chances are that at least part of the community had Ulster connections, perhaps even traveling together. The frontier areas were hostile and people

would band together for travel. Group migrations were religiously based among Moravians, Mormons, Presbyterians and Quakers.

A **congregational migration** occurred when all or part of a Presbyterian congregation followed their minister to America. If you find where the minister pastored in Ulster, you can assume that the congregants lived in the same geographic area. There are Fasti books which provide biographical sketches on Irish ministers and a Fasti book for American ministers. You may want to check both as, a minister may have been born in Ulster, but trained in America. The Fasti books are held at the Presbyterian Historical Society in Belfast <www.presbyterianhistoryireland.com>. For further information, see Dwight Radford’s article “Tracing Presbyterian Ministers as an Emigration Strategy,” in *The Septs*, 36, #2 (April 2015), pp. 67-69. A partial list of emigrating ministers can be found at the Irish Genealogical Society International website <www.irishgenealogical.org/page/irish-presbyterian-ministers-emigrated-america>.

A **chain migration** was common in the 19th century. In this case, your ancestor may have followed a friend or family member to America and then been followed by another relative or friend. A chain migration can stretch out for years, if not decades, from the same area of Ireland to a particular community in North America.

The earlier your immigrant family arrived in America, the more you need to look at with whom they may have arrived because the status of early records in Ireland for the 1600s and 1700s is incomplete. To find

the origins of one family in the migration involving your ancestors is to indirectly find your ancestors’ origins.

Passenger Lists

While passenger lists for the 1700s and early 1800s generally do not exist, there are some noteworthy exceptions. During the 1700s, the passengers on ships from Ulster customarily signed a “letter of thanks” to the ship’s captain for a good trip. These letters with the names of the passengers were published in Ulster newspapers to encourage others to sign up for passage with the captain – in other words, free advertising. However, not every ship did this.

Between 1737 and 1772 the major newspaper in Ulster was the *Belfast Newsletter*, which published notices regarding ships (including the “letters of thanks”) from Ulster ports. A detailed index to this paper, *Belfast Newsletter Index, 1737-1800*, is online at the University of Louisiana Lafayette website <www.ucl.louisiana.edu/bnl/>.

The same type of emigration material may be found in the *Londonderry Journal*, which began publication in 1772. This material and other items dating 1772 to 1784 were abstracted in Donald M. Schlegel’s *Irish Genealogical Abstracts From the Londonderry Journal, 1772-1784* (Baltimore, Maryland: Clearfield Co., 1990).

Branches of the Family Worldwide

If you cannot discover from a United States record the Ulster origin of your ancestor, then trace out his or her siblings.

If you find where one of the siblings was born, you have identified where your ancestor lived at one time. The Scots-Irish, who dispersed around the globe, were among the early settlers in many communities. These average families typically became active in local government and/or prominent church leaders, which generated records.

For example, because of the strong Scots-Irish involvement in the Revolutionary War, generations have grown up with military stories – from the American perspective. However, there was another perspective. Not all were American patriots. You may find a branch of your patriot American family fleeing to what is now Canada. These were the Loyalists. Records for the Loyalist branch of a family may hold the answer to where in Ulster the family originated. Canadians have their own society, the United Empire Loyalists Association (UEL).

Other prime areas of Scots-Irish immigration besides Canada, depending on the time period, would include Australia, Chile, England, New Zealand, The Netherlands (Scottish Regiments), Scotland and South Africa. Also, do not neglect the British Army or the Royal Navy. The availability of indexed records for these areas make tracing various branches of a family easier than ever! Begin with *Ancestry*, *FamilySearch*, *Findmypast* and then move to the websites for national archives and genealogy societies of the specific area.

Published and Online Genealogies

Always check for the source of compiled genealogies that you find online and in

published histories. You cannot take the information as fact if the author does not list a source. It may be correct; however, until it is documented the information should be considered fiction. Online pedigree charts can be the worst sources for erroneous, undocumented pedigrees. The Library of Congress, the Family History Library, state libraries, genealogy societies and local public libraries all have their share of published family histories. County histories published in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries also hold their share of Scots-Irish genealogies. But again, is there documentation?

One little known repository for Scots-Irish lineages is the Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library in Moultrie, Georgia. While, technically, this is a repository for the Scottish Clans, the collections also include Scots-Irish <http://mccls.org/odom_gen.htm>.

While online and published histories may be one of the first places you want to begin your search – as with any genealogy you discover – prove, correct and build upon it.

Land Records

As land opened up on the frontier, tens of thousands of land grants were given by the state or federal government. This opens up new sources for providing a link to Ulster.

The Bureau of Land Management website <www.glorerecords.blm.gov> has land records for the Federal Land States. The search capability allows for the grants of the neighbors to be identified, any of whom may have known the ancestor in Ulster. However, the site does not contain the actual case file for a grant.

For State-Land States, the grant process went through the state government. These are usually indexed either on microfilm or an online database. In the case of land grants, your goal is to identify the group of Scots-Irish who may have migrated together. You will recognize them, because they would have received grants geographically close to your ancestor's grant.

Military Records

Military records, especially for the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, are very important in Scots-Irish research. They may reveal the Ulster birth location of an ancestor. If you do not find that, then study the makeup of the ancestor's regiment. Following the war these men may have settled as a group in another state. It is possible that they or their parents may have known each other in Ulster.

Because the Revolutionary War was such a pivotal event in United States history, there is much potential to find extracted records and written articles about the soldiers and their regiments. Often within these documents there will be birthplaces noted in Ireland. Start your search into military records through the databases online at *Ancestry*, *FamilySearch* and *Fold3*.

Church Records

Many researchers tend to skip church records, a source which can document people found in no other record. However, do not assume your ancestors attended church. This was especially true for ancestors who lived on the frontier, where there were few churches and fewer ministers.

Prior to the 1800s, when religious revivals brought religion to the frontiers,

families may have been unchurched for a couple of generations. The Second Great Awakening erupted on the frontiers of Kentucky in 1801 and ignited again in Upstate New York, birthing Mormons (1830), Adventists (1844) and Spiritualists (1848). This time also saw the creation of a uniquely American Christianity, such as the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Christians/Disciples, both of which were heavily Scots-Irish. So a Scots-Irish family might join the Presbyterians, the Baptists, the Methodists – or any of these other faiths.

When approaching American church registers, do a little research into the theology of the group as theology affects what you actually see in the records. What kind of records would a group professing a particular theology have kept? How important was baptism? What was the view on church discipline? Did the church accept transfers in from other denominations? All left records based upon attitudes and theology.

Many old church registers have been published in books or as articles. You can locate such articles by using the *Periodical Source Index* (PERSI), a database created by the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, which inventories article titles and subjects from journals worldwide and is hosted by *findmypast.com*.

An unusual alternative strategy to searching church registers concerns the Mormons (LDS) who established missions to Ireland in 1840. How do you know if you have an LDS branch of the family? Usually the discovery is by happenstance on the Internet or through an LDS database. At times, the information may come through one member of a family who may have converted to Mormonism and emigrated,

while the other siblings did not. This means the knowledge of Ulster family origins and genealogy could have been preserved by the convert in an LDS record upon arrival in Utah. This may be the only place that information is preserved. Such family documents are typically found at the Family History Library <www.familysearch.org> or at the Church History Library <<https://history.lds.org>>. A non-church lineage society to check is the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers <www.dupinternational.org> that has collections of lineages for early Utah families. These libraries are in Salt Lake City.

For additional information on this strategy, see Dwight Radford's article "Mormons, Moravians, Quakers and Why Should I Even Care?" in *The Septs*, 36, #1 (October 2015), pp. 133-138. His article "Irish Immigrants Among Three Minority Religions," in *The Septs* 28, #4 (October 2007), pp. 169-176, lists sources for Moravians, Mormons and Shakers.

Ancestors in Bondage

Especially in the pre-1776 Period, a Scots-Irish ancestor may have come over an indentured servant (a.k.a. white slave), a prisoner, an undesirable or in exile. This sub-class of people can be difficult to trace as they came early without a group or family connection. Virginia, Maryland, Barbados, and Jamaica were the rich powerhouse colonies where fortunes were made on the backs of both black and white bondage.

One website is striving to document Europeans arriving in some sort of bondage. "Immigrant Servants Database" currently has documented over 20,000 of the projected 100,000 in the records between 1607 and 1820. As an ongoing project, this database <www.pricegen.com/immigrantservants/search/simple.php> will need to be referenced often.

com/immigrantservants/search/simple.php> will need to be referenced often.

Native American and Tri-Racial Isolate Research

The Southeastern Indian tribes, the Catawba, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Muscogee (Creek), among others by the 1830s had become very mixed-blood. It was common for intermarriage to occur between natives and incoming Scots-Irish. This means a record of Ulster origins may be preserved in a record or published family history emphasizing the Native American side of the family. This affects millions of Americans from two perspectives.

First, many mixed-bloods did not remove with a tribe, but rather stayed in the East and either "passed for white" or blended into the free or slave African American community. This resulted in what has been termed Tri-Racial Isolates. Descendants of those who stayed in the Eastern United States are reconstructing their tribes and applying for state or federal acknowledgment. Genealogies have been generated to prove, at least, the native heritage. Other families may have continued the genealogy back to the European ancestors. These reconstructed tribes can be found throughout the Mid-South with the largest concentrations in North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama.

Second, families who remained part of the tribe and were removed to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) also generated histories and genealogies. While they are not reconstructing their tribe, their citizenship in the tribe is based upon history and genealogy. All the Oklahoma tribes have libraries, and the Oklahoma Historical Society <www.okhistory.org/> is second to none.

Whether removed or not, both branches share the same Scots-Irish ancestors from before the removals. If you are researching a southern bound family member and they are in the tribal nations prior to the removal of the 1830s, take a close look at tribal histories and genealogies for Ulster origins. An excellent source is Rachel Mills Lennon's *Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes* (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2002), which concentrates on the colonial period through the primary tribal rolls of the nineteenth century.

Tri-Racial Isolates is an academic term for mixed African, European and Native families. These families can usually be documented in the 1790-1860 censuses as free color, mulattos or Indians. Many have been traced back to an indentured servant in the 1600s.

Two standard articles on this topic by Virginia Easley DeMarce are published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*: "Verry Slitly Mixt": Tri-Racial Isolate Families of the Upper South – A Genealogical Study," 80 (March 1992): 5-35; and "Looking at Legends – Lumbee and Melungeon: Applied Genealogy and the Origins of Tri-Racial Isolates," 81 (March 1993): 24-45.

The colonial roots for these families have also been explored in Paul Heinegg's monumental two volume work, *Free African Americans of North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina: From the Colonial Period to About 1820* (2005); and *Free African Americans of Maryland and*

Delaware from the Colonial Period to 1810 (2000), online at <www.freeafricanamericans.com>.

Even if your ancestors never associated with Native Americans or African Americans, a sibling may have. For additional information see Dwight Radford's article "Irish Does Not Always Equal White in America," in *The Septs* 36, #3 (July 2015), pp. 78-83.

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DNA and Genealogy Basics: What Test to Use and Who to Test

by Alice Eichholz, Ph.D., CG

Maybe you have ancestors whom you have been trying to identify – people on your family tree who you don't know are part of your ancestry. These days, the genealogist's toolkit has the option of using DNA results to test various hypotheses about ancestral relationships or just to find your closest relatives who may have not been known because of distance, cutoff, or family secrets. As with other parts of the genealogist's toolkit, there are basic aspects about DNA that are important to understand in order to decide on what test to use and who to test.

DNA Basics

First a few basics: Every human on earth shares about 99.9% of their DNA with every other human. It is in that .1% of difference where DNA can help you learn about near relatives and ancestors in a few different ways – distant ethnic background, migratory groups, and people within a half dozen generations or so who share DNA because of a most recent common ancestor (MRCA). DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid – a double, twisted strand of four nucleic acid pairs, adenine (A), guanine (G), thymine (T), cytosine (C) – that provide the instructions in the cell for how to replicate itself and how to function as the kind of cell it is – skin, bone, organ, etc. DNA in the nucleus of every cell contains 23 pairs of chromosomes for a total of 46 – in every cell of your body – about 37.5 trillion cells. These pairs of chromosomes in the cell's nucleus were combined at conception with half of the 46 coming from the mother and half from the father. The 23rd pair is known as the sex chromosomes – Y and

X – with females getting an X from both parents and males getting a Y only from the father and an X from the mother. You won't really need to understand how these acids work with each other to use DNA for genealogical purposes. But you do need to know how the DNA is measured to establish guidelines for how and where you “match” others. Here are a few basics:

cM stands for centiMorgan – a unit of measure of a specific length along that chain of nucleic acids along each chromosome – imagine a measure along a ruler. Minimum sharing for likely matches is about 7cM; but parents and their children share 3400 cM, full siblings about 2550, down to cousins by descent at about 7cM. Smaller than 7cM may be related but more likely are evidence that you both are human instead of also recently related (see http://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics).

SNP (pronounced “snip”) is a single (S) nucleotide (N) polymorphism (P) – a genetic variation in the nucleic acids. If you imagine the cM as a ruler measurement, think about SNPs as what is piled up within that length on the ruler. These variations in the nucleic acids vary in both number and density of them depending on where they are in the chromosome. The minimum number threshold of SNPs that suggests a genetic relationship is about 700.

STR (“strings”) means single (S) tandem (T) repeat (R) – or the number of times at a specific place (marker) on the Y-chromosome that the pattern of the four nucleic acids (A G C T) is repeated. More is explained in the Y-DNA testing below.

Two Family Trees

A second set of basics is in how DNA works to determine relationships between two people. Each person has two family trees. The first is the genealogical tree – the one with which you are trying to identify your specific sets of grandparents and relatives in each generation. When well-documented using Genealogical Proof Standards (GPS), you can be reasonably assured that they are your ancestors. But there is a second tree that you have – a genetic tree, or what Blaine Bettinger refers to as the “porcupine tree” in his new book on genetic genealogy (*The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, 2016). For each generation, the DNA from one parent provides segments from 23, or half, of their 46 chromosomes to recombine with segments from the 23 of the other parents 46 chromosome. That means that in every generation some segments drop away to make room for others from the other parent's side of the family. For this reason, even a DNA test cannot find ALL of your genealogical relatives. Back far enough – 5-6 generations, they may be your ancestors or relatives, but DNA cannot help you find them.

The longer the cM and the more SNPs on the chromosomes there are between two people in the 46 newly combined chromosomes that create a new person, the closer the relationship. It is that simple. Those who share a minimum 7 cM and 700 SNPs are likely to be genetically related. You share the most DNA with your parents, the next most with your siblings, then aunts and uncles, grandparents, cousins, etc.

How to Use the Three DNA Tests

Now that you have a few basics, let's look at the different types of DNA tests and what to use and who to test to provide information about those on your family tree. There are three different types of DNA tests—autosomal or atDNA, Y-DNA, and mitochondrial DNA or mtDNA—all done with either a swab from inside a person's cheek or by having someone spit into a small tube. Each type of DNA test can address a different kind of genealogy question. Each provides different information/clues as to your ancestors or relatives and not all tests can be used for both males and females.

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) for All

The newest and most popular is the autosomal test – atDNA – marketed by *Family Tree DNA* as Family Finder; by *Ancestry* as AncestryDNA; by *23andMe* as DNA Relatives, and most recently by *MyHeritage* as MyHeritage DNA. There are about 3 million people who have tested to date (see <http://cruwys.blogspot.com/2015/01/what-is-current-size-of-consumer.html>) and anyone can take the test – male or female. For atDNA, see the “a” and think “all.” It is for all and it includes “all” 22 pairs of chromosomes plus the X chromosome in the 23rd pair and “all” people can take and make use of the test, though females will have the full 23rd chromosome pair in their results; males will only have the one they got from their mother (See Y-DNA discussion below). The principal uses of atDNA are to

ancestry. You will need to then figure out with your matches who is your most recent common ancestor (MRCA). The results are most reliable within 5-6 generations on any branch of your family tree. For example, your matches could provide clues to a great grandparent you haven't been able to identify on your mother's side or a 3rd great grandparent on your father's side,

- confirm shared close relatives, such as a grandparent, a previously unknown sibling or a cousin—useful for those who are adopted or missing close relatives,
- provide ethnic percentage **estimates** related to all of your lines (not just one) across historical times (not just the last 200 years). The ethnicity estimates are one of the popular reasons for taking an atDNA test, but they are the least reliable because they are compared against very limited (although growing) samples from historic reference groups. But they will give you a good idea of what continents your ancestors were from before genealogical time, and
- suggest, in the case of the 23rd or X chromosome, the path that the segments traveled from previous generations. Females get a recombined X from their mother and an unaltered X from their father for the full 23rd chromosome. Males get only one recombined X from their mother for half of the 23rd chromosome (see Y-DNA below). Because of this inheritance pattern, there are only specific genetic ancestors you could have gotten the X from (see [\[icgenealogist.com/2008/12/21/unlocking-the-genealogical-secrets-of-the-x-chromosome/\]\(http://icgenealogist.com/2008/12/21/unlocking-the-genealogical-secrets-of-the-x-chromosome/\) for more information\).](http://thegenet-

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To get the most out of atDNA testing, you want to test yourself, your closest and (preferably) oldest relatives first. Once you get some results and begin seeing how it works, you can take a more advanced approach by targeting those you need to test in order to potentially answer genealogical questions. And because you are likely to still share a good portion of DNA with your second cousins with whom you share great-grandparents, testing them can help you distinguish what DNA segments you got from each of the eight lines in your great-grandparents' generation.

Y-DNA for Males Only

The second most popular is the Y-DNA test – and only males have Y-DNA. He gets it as half of the pair of 23rd chromosomes from his father. Of the major testing companies, this test is only offered through *Family Tree DNA*. If you don't know anything about your direct male line, or if you want to prove a relationship to a particular surname group, you would want to test a male who is related to you in that direct male line or surname group. The Y-DNA test is used to

- find males who share a common male ancestor on the direct male line (father's, father's father),
- discover whether a man with a particular surname is related by birth to others with that surname, and
- determine Y haplogroup – the historical, migratory group from the beginning of human life.

Although only males have the Y chromosome, females can determine their direct male line by testing a father, brother, paternal uncle or grandfather or their direct male descendants. For the Y-DNA you can use any of the males in a direct male line. If you want to know what the Y-DNA result is for your maternal grandmother, for example, you want to test her brothers or brothers' sons.

Rather than cMs and SNPs, the Y-DNA test is reported in STRs ("strings"). The Y chromosome is divided up by geneticists into different locations—DYS (or DNA Y Segments) along the Y. For each of these locations, the number of times the A G C Ts are repeated in a particular pattern at that location is counted and recorded for that location (for example, the location at DYS 458 along the Y has the pattern of A G C Ts repeated 16 times). You can test between 12 and 111 markers on the Y (depending on cost and reason for testing). This process makes it possible to determine how closely two different males are related. The fewer differences in the STR markers between two men, the more likely they are closely related.

There is definitely the possibility of surprise in the results. Who you thought was the father might not have been the father at any generation along the genealogical tree. Two men with no difference between their Y markers are going to descend from the same father at some point in their direct male line. It may be one generation back or many generations back. It is for this reason the surname projects have been developed to assist testers in learning more.

There are hundreds of surname projects through *Family Tree DNA* and World Family Trees that are dedicated to straightening out the lines of descent and trying to

take them back to times before surnames were used. Unlike atDNA, the Y-DNA can extend a person's direct male line back along that direct male line of the tree for thousands of years, not just the 5 or 6 generations of atDNA. But it is only for that ONE male direct line.

mtDNA – The Direct Maternal

The third test is the mitochondrial or mtDNA test. Unlike atDNA and Y-DNA it is not in the nucleus of the cell. Mitochondria are in abundance in each cell outside of the nucleus for both males and females. It was actually the first test available to the general public, primarily because over time, also unlike atDNA and Y-DNA it mutates extremely slowly – with one change occurring over even hundreds, if not thousands of years. That made mtDNA the focus of archeology and anthropology. But it has use for genealogy as well.

Both males and females inherit their mtDNA only from their mothers. Daughters pass it on, but sons do not. A boy gets his mtDNA from his mother. Therefore, the mtDNA test will provide matches to people who descend from the same mother's, mother's, mother's line all the way back to hypothetical Eve. But because it changes so slowly, someone who has the same mtDNA as you may not have a close relative with you for five or more generations. As with Y-DNA geneticists have identified markers around the mtDNA and given them location numbers. The test, then, tells you at which markers you have two of the four nucleic acids – A, G, T, C. Similarly to Y-DNA, there are levels of testing related to the number of markers tested. But here there are only three levels – HVR1, HVR2, and the Full Sequence mtDNA (FSM). Of the major

testing companies, only *Family Tree DNA* has access to all three. The mtDNA test is used to

- find and confirm that you share a common female ancestor on your mother's, mother's, mother's line, and
- determine the maternal line haplogroup.

As with Y-DNA, a haplogroup associated with your mtDNA is a genetically related migratory group that emerged through the process of evolution over thousands of years. There are different haplogroups for Y-DNA and mtDNA. In some ways, the haplogroup is the most interesting result from DNA testing because you can trace that particular line back over time before surnames and gain a sense about where that line predominately lived at different periods of history for thousands of years. For genealogical purposes, though, mtDNA can help determine, for example, whether two women were sisters six generations ago. If you have a missing 5th great grandmother, but you suspect she was a sister of another woman whose ancestry you can document on paper, testing a direct line female descendant in both lines with mtDNA could let you know whether they shared the same maternal line. With mtDNA you don't need to test a lot of people in the family because all the children from one woman have the same mtDNA, as would the children from that mother's sister.

Since a haplogroup result is given for mtDNA tests, it provides some ethnic information, too. Haplogroups – both Y-DNA and mtDNA – are associated with specific groups of people across time. Someone who has a direct line descent from the early Americas, for example, has a completely different haplogroup from

someone who has a direct line descent from Africa or the Middle East.

Summary

Despite the great opportunity of DNA testing for genealogy, and the fact that DNA “doesn’t lie,” many people expect DNA to provide direct answers. “Fact” is one thing; attaching that fact to the “correct line” is an entirely different process, and one you will learn along the way. The way to get started is to get your family tree in order, decide what you want to focus on with DNA, and reach out to others in your immediate family to encourage them to test. You will learn how it works best by trying and, then, sharing with others.

Regardless of which test you start with, using DNA in genealogy can be a very exciting and frustrating experience! Sometimes the people you would match

haven’t tested yet, or don’t respond to emails when you contact them to share what you know about why you share the DNA. Be patient! Only a small fraction of the human population has tested and is in the various testing databases, although the databases are growing every day with new testers.

Below is a summary of the three tests and their uses. Test as many of the older generation as possible because they are closer to your ancestors of the past. Next test as many of your siblings, first, and second cousins as your budget allows. This will help you determine which of your great-grandparents’ lines the DNA might be shared with others. Then, target genealogical problems you want to solve and try to determine which living relatives in your extended family could be tested to help determine the missing genetic members of your family tree.

Most of all have fun with it! It is exciting to realize that your ancestors left these clues to determine who they were.

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DNA TESTS	Who Can Take?	Ancestral lines?	Ethnic Evidence?	Testing Companies who Report Results
atDNA	Males & Females	Covers all 23 chromosomes with exception of Y. Evidence for all ancestral lines to about 5-6 generations	Ethnic Admixture	FTDNA 23andMe AncestryDNA MyHeritage DNA
X-chromosome	Males & Females	Included in some atDNA tests for companies indicated	Included in atDNA results	FTDNA 23andMe
Y-DNA	Males only	Father’s father’s father’s—direct paternal line	Haplogroup	FTDNA – complete 23andMe – projection only
mtDNA	Males & Females	Mother’s mother’s mother’s—direct maternal line	Haplogroup	FTDNA – all levels 23andMe – projection only

Third Cousins and Sunny Skies: Making Sense of DNA Relationship Predictions

by J. H. Fonkert, CG

If you have DNA, you have ancestors. Because your DNA came from those ancestors, it might help you find your ancestors by forecasting in which direction to look.

Testing DNA has never been easier. The harder part of genetic genealogy is interpreting the results. Testing companies help by offering predictions of how two individuals might be related. But, just as with predicting tomorrow's weather, it is all a matter of probability. Sometimes the weather forecast is correct. Sometimes it is not. Sometimes the weather is better than forecast. Sometimes it is worse. So it goes with DNA relationship predictions. Sometimes people are more closely related than predictions based on shared DNA. Sometimes they are less closely related than predicted. Understanding the statistical underpinning of DNA predictions will help you assess the predictions the companies give you.

DNA as a Predictor of Relationships

Genealogists commonly use DNA in one of two ways.

- They scour lists of “matches” to find possible cousins with whom they might collaborate.
- They seek people to test whose DNA might confirm or reject a hypothesized relationship.

In either case, the exercise is based on the fact that two people with a common ancestor may share some DNA. Two

males who are straight male-line descendants of the same man should have closely matching Y-DNA. Two females who are straight female-line descendants of a common female ancestor should have closely matching mitochondrial DNA. Two individuals – regardless of sex – who have a common ancestor within a half-dozen or so generations should have significant matching segments of DNA on one or more of the 22 autosomal chromosomes.

If two people have closely matching DNA, they likely have a common ancestor within several generations – fewer generations for autosomal DNA and more for Y-DNA. Or they may not. It is important to understand why two people who are related in genealogical time may have little, if any, shared DNA.

- Autosomal DNA recombines in every generation. A child gets half its autosomal DNA from each parent, but two siblings may not get the same mix on any of the 22 autosomal chromosomes. A grandchild will, on average, get 25 percent of its autosomal DNA from each of four grandparents, but will likely get significantly more than 25 percent from some and significantly less than 25 percent from others. These average percentages drop off with each generation, so that a great-great-grandchild – on average – gets around six percent from each great-grandparent, but that grandchild may get little, if any, autosomal DNA from one great-grandparent and considerably more than six percent from the other.

- Mutations occur. Mutations are random copying errors as DNA passes from one generation to the next. Some parts (markers) of the Y-DNA molecule commonly mutate over several generations. This is why two males with a common straight-line male ancestor might not have as closely matching Y-DNA as would be expected. Mitochondrial DNA mutates very slowly, so this is less a problem – but, as a result, the common ancestor may be thousands of years back in time.

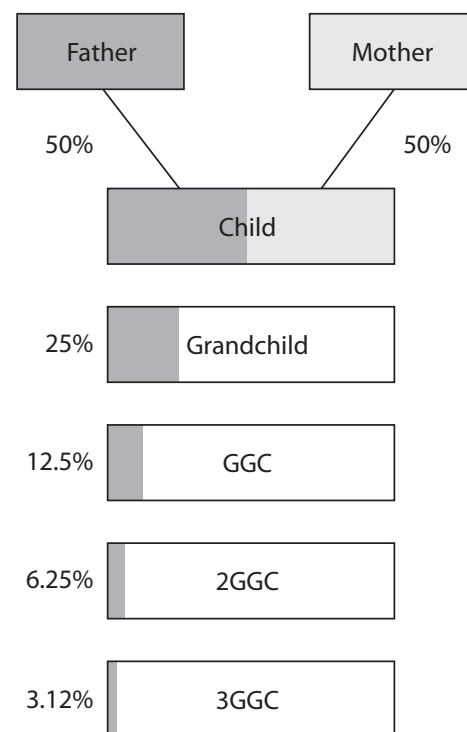


Exhibit 1. Average Percentage of Autosomal DNA Passed to Descendants

Predicting Relationships from Autosomal DNA

Based on comparisons of two individuals' DNA, testing companies offer predictions of how two people might be related. Individuals who share more centimorgans of matching DNA tend to be more closely related. For example, based on samples of their autosomal DNA, *AncestryDNA* predicts that Barbara and Robin are 3rd-4th cousins. *Ancestry* makes the prediction with "extremely high" confidence based on the fact that Barbara and Robin share 12 segments of autosomal DNA totaling 171 centimorgans (cM). In fact, Barbara and Robin are 2nd cousins. They are more closely related than *AncestryDNA* predicted. *Ancestry's* prediction was conservative in the sense that it cautioned that Barbara and Robin might not be more closely related than 3rd or 4th cousins.¹ Had the same two women tested at a different company, the prediction might have been slightly different.

Family Tree DNA found that Barb and Bruce have 71 cM of matching autosomal DNA spread over 14 segments, and predicts that they are 2nd to 4th cousins. They are, in fact, 2nd cousins, once removed. Again, the actual relationship is slightly closer than predicted. (*FTDNA* also reports that their longest share segment is 40 cM on chromosome 9. *AncestryDNA* does not report this level of detail).

The testing companies state their relationship predictions as a range of possible relationships precisely because the recombination of autosomal DNA each generation makes it difficult to determine an exact relationship solely from DNA data. The predicted ranges tend to be quite accurate, but sometimes

the actual relationship determined through traditional documentary research is slightly outside the predicted range. Exhibit 2 shows data for eight individuals who match Bruce, ranked according to total matching centimorgans. The actual relationships determined by comparing family trees line up nicely with *FTDNA's* predicted relationships. Otto is a bit more distantly related than predicted – probably because he and Bruce descend two ways from a common ancestor.

Exhibit 3 shows data for five individuals who match Barb at *AncestryDNA*. *Ancestry* modifies their predictions with a confidence-rating. From this small sample, *Ancestry's* predictions appear to be on the conservative side because the actual relationships are mostly on the near end of the predicted relationship ranges. *Ancestry* was very confident that Barb and Robin were at least 3rd or 4th cousins – when, in fact, they are even more closely related.

Match	Total cM Match	Longest Segment	Predicted Relationship	Actual Relationship
David	99	36	2nd - 4th cousin	2nd cousin, once removed
Sharon	94	26	2nd - 4th cousin	2nd cousin, once removed
Barb	71	40	2nd - 4th cousin	2nd cousin, once removed
Otto	66	43	2nd - 4th cousin	5th cousin, once removed
Patsy	47	19	2nd - 4th cousin	4th cousin, once removed
Connie	45	23	4th - remote cousin	4th cousin, once removed
Evelyn	40	11	4th - remote cousin	5th cousin, once removed
Dee	35	11	4th - remote cousin	5th cousin, twice removed

Exhibit 2. Bruce's Autosomal Matches at Family Tree DNA

Match	Total cM Match	Predicted Relationship	Confidence	Actual Relationship
Robin	171	3rd - 4th cousin	Extremely high	2nd cousin
Sharon	13	5th - 8th cousin	Moderate	3rd cousin
Fran	11	5th - 8th cousin	Moderate	4th cousin, once removed
Carolyn	10	5th - 8th cousin	Moderate	5th cousin
Clara	7	5th - 8th cousin	Moderate	Half 4th cousin, once removed

Exhibit 3. Barb's Autosomal Matches at AncestryDNA

Note: *AncestryDNA* does not report segment data.

Test results from *AncestryDNA*, *Family Tree DNA*, *23andMe*, and other companies can be uploaded to *GEDmatch.com* where an individual's test results can be compared to individuals who tested at the other companies. *GEDmatch* predicts relationships by estimating the number of generations back to a common ancestor of two individuals. For example, using data from *FTDNA*, *GEDmatch* estimates that Bruce and Barb have a common ancestor within 3.7 generations. Their common ancestor is, in fact, back three generations from Bruce and back 4 generations from Barb; the estimate is pretty accurate.

Predictions and Estimates. The key words here are *prediction* and *estimate*. Researchers tend to hope for a close relationship. But, just as with weather forecasts, DNA predictions and estimates can be overly optimistic (sunny) or overly pessimistic (cloudy).

In the case of autosomal DNA, the degree of mixing, or recombination, increases with each generation. Without mixing, 6.25 percent of an individual's autosomal DNA would come from each 2nd-great-grandparent. However, the actual percentage for any one of sixteen 2nd-great-grandparents could be higher or lower – even approaching zero. Over five or six generations, autosomal DNA from a distant ancestor can, in effect, be washed out.

To complicate matters, this process plays out differently in every line of descent. This is why some third cousins have a lot of matching DNA, while others don't. Third or fourth cousins – who indeed have a common ancestor – may not have enough matching DNA to show up in each other's match lists. Consider the curve graphed below.

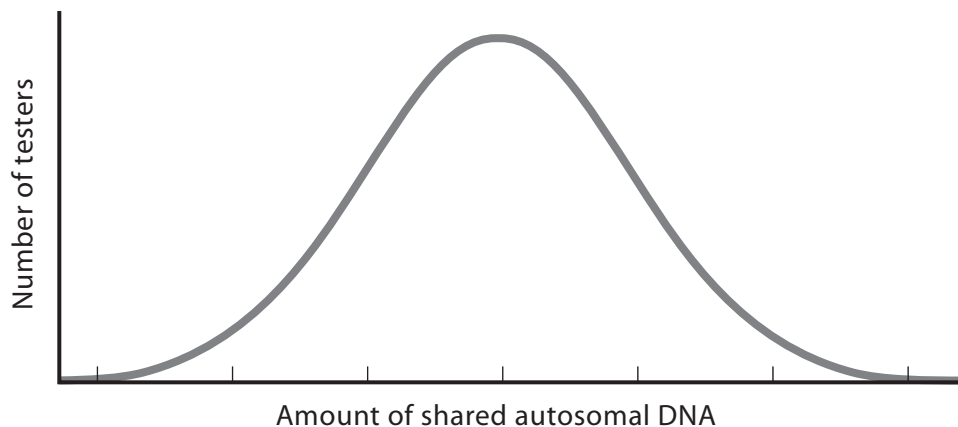


Exhibit 4. Hypothetical Distribution of Shared DNA between Cousins

This is a hypothetical graph of the distribution of testers of, say, third cousins sharing various amounts (centimorgans) of autosomal DNA. The horizontal axis represents centimorgans of shared DNA. The vertical axis represents the number of third cousins who have tested. Most of the testers fall in the middle of the curve. That is, they have shared amounts of DNA near the mean, or average, value under the peak of the curve. However, some tested third cousins are outliers who share significantly less or more autosomal DNA than the average.

share more or less DNA than expected. If they share less than expected, they might look genetically like 4th cousins. If they share more than expected, a testing company might predict a too-close relationship.

While they should be taken only as science-based estimates, the testing companies' predictions are usually in the ballpark. The predictions are a guide suggesting how far back in your tree you and your match might find a common ancestor.

Another hypothetical graph illustrates the problem. The amount of expected shared DNA declines with distance of relationship. A 4th cousin is expected to have less shared DNA than a 3rd cousin. However, any pair of tested individuals can fall above or below the line in the graph. That is, a pair of third cousins may

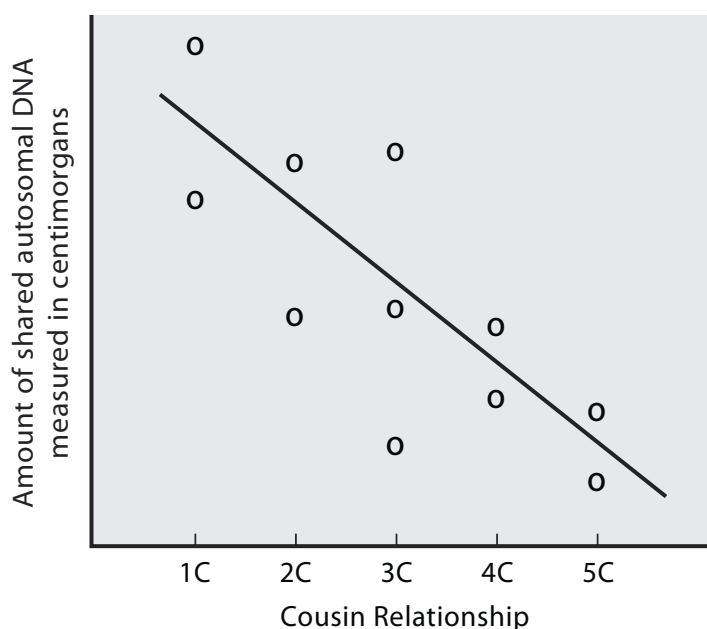


Exhibit 5. Shared DNA and Cousin Relationships

Do not be alarmed if the prediction is off by a generation or two.

Blaine Bettinger's "Shared cM Project" illustrates the kind of variation you can expect.² Bettinger has used a colorful chart to illustrate the ranges of shared cM he and other researchers have found between testers at different relationships.

The Role of Probability in Y-DNA Comparisons

Probability also plays a role in Y-DNA matching, but the reason is different. With Y-DNA, the uncertainty arises from the random nature of mutations. Two males with a common straight-line male ancestor should have closely matching Y-DNA, but if one of their lines has had an

average, two very closely related men may not match as closely as expected. If a marker has been more stable than expected (mutated less), the two men may appear more closely related than they actually are – that is, their common ancestor may be more generations back than expected.

Therefore, estimating likely relationship from Y-DNA is complicated by the fact that some markers mutate slowly and others more rapidly. Thus, estimates of relationship depend not only on genetic distance (from a perfect match), but also on which markers two males don't match. A non-match on a fast-mutating marker is less of a concern than a non-match on a slowly mutating marker.

Bill's and Bruce's surnames appear to be variants of the same name, suggesting they might be descended along straight male lines from a common man within genealogic time. *FTDNA* reports that Bruce and Bill have a genetic distance of 5 on 111 markers. How closely might they be related? It depends on whether either has had more or fewer mutations than expected.

FTDNA accounts for the possible range with a Time Predictor tool (TIP). Their TIP report estimates a 24 percent probability that Bruce and Bill have a common ancestor within four generations, a 75 percent probability of a common ancestor within eight generations, and a near certainty – 95 percent probability – of a common ancestor within 12 generations.

The DNA data does not directly identify the common ancestor; it only gives an idea of about how far back the common ancestor is. Although the odds don't appear good at four generations, the possibility of the common straight-line male ancestor being that close

Relationship	Average Shared cM	Low Reported	High Reported
Full sibling	2,600	2,150	3,070
1st cousin	869	533	1,379
2nd cousin	238	43	504
2nd cousin, once removed	129	0	325
3rd cousin	79	0	198
4th cousin	31	0	90
Data extracted from Blaine Bettinger, "Update to the Share cM Project," <i>The Genetic Genealogist</i> , 26 June 2016; http://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2016/06/26/update-to-the-shared-cm-project/ , accessed 10 November 2016.			

Exhibit 6. Ranges of Shared cM by Relationship

On their *AncestryDNA* autosomal tests, second cousins Barb and Robin shared 171 cM – less than average for second cousins. *FTDNA* reported that Barb and Bruce shared 71 cM – also less than average for second cousins, once removed. Bettinger's data shows that the active recombination of autosomal DNA can result in second cousins, once removed having no reported shared autosomal DNA. Thus, the absence of a match does not eliminate the possibility that two people are related – the relationship must be established through traditional research. Even when DNA test results show two people matching, traditional research is essential to prove a relationship.

unusual number of mutations, they might not match. Y-DNA tests report "repeat" values for identified locations, or markers, on the Y-chromosome. In the absence of mutations, two men with a common straight-line male ancestor – typically two men with the same surname – would have exactly matching Y-DNA.

But, mutations happen. When it compares the DNA of two men, *Family Tree DNA* (*FTDNA*) reports the genetic distance between them. Genetic distance is the number of mutations between two men. The uncertainty for estimating relationships arises because it is difficult to know how recently any mutation occurred. If the mutation occurred more recently than

is real. This could be the case if one of their lines had somewhat more mutations than expected. Bruce and Bill's common straight-line male ancestor is more than likely within 12 generations. The common ancestor could be that far or farther back only if their lines had mutated less often than expected. Traditional documentary research can eliminate the uncertainty.

What Are the Odds?

DNA alone is rarely sufficient to identify an ancestor. The random nature of autosomal recombination and Y mutations bring probability into the equation. This is why both *FTDNA* and *Ancestry* estimate a range for predicted relationships and why *FTDNA* offers its TIP-calculator. Both autosomal and Y-DNA make possible estimates of how closely two people are related.

It really is a bit like interpreting a weather forecast. A 70 percent chance of rain sounds pretty gloomy, but there is a 30

percent chance it won't rain. Sometimes the forecast is dead-on, often it is close, and occasionally it is completely wrong. DNA-predicted relationships behave much the same way. The DNA data suggests how far back a common ancestor might be, but the common ancestor might be a bit closer and a bit farther back. The predictions are estimates; understanding the nature of these estimates will help you get the most out of your DNA test results.

Endnotes

¹ Data for Barbara and Robin were submitted to <www.gedmatch.com>, a third-party site that permits comparison of autosomal data from different testing companies. *GEDmatch* calculated that Barbara and Robin share 182.5 cM and predicted that their common ancestor was 3.1 generations back – consistent with their actual relationship.

² Blaine Bettinger, "Update to the Share cM Project," *The Genetic Genealogist*, 26

June 2016; <http://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2016/06/26/update-to-the-shared-cm-project/>, accessed 10 November 2016.

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What's New in Online Irish Records from 2016

Now – on these cold wintery days – may be the time to catch up on the Irish records and resources added to the Internet in 2016.

Most notably was the digitization by the National Library of Ireland of the Catholic Church records. Yes, we can find the image of the microfilm of the parish records at <<http://registers.nli.ie/>>, but it's best to consult the indexes created and available on *Ancestry* and *Findmypast*. From

either site we can link to an image of the record page. (Note: Both the Radford & the Strickland articles in the July 2016 issue of *The Septs* offer details to search both websites as each one handles the search parameters of the names a bit differently.)

Also made available in 2016 are the indexes to Ireland's Civil Registration Records, which we can find on these same websites, as well as on *FamilySearch*. Again, it is good to

check more than one index or website. The *Findmypast* includes links to order photocopies or originals of the record from the General Register Office.

The National Archives of Ireland added a half-dozen new collections available for searching at <www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie/>. They can also be found on *Findmypast*, which helped with the digitization of the records, as part of their free offerings.

A Good Source for Learning Irish Genealogy

by Tom Rice CG

What do I tell people who ask how they can learn more about Irish Genealogy? I send them to the *FamilySearch* Wiki and videos at the Learning Center there. These two resources are a treasure trove of information – not only about Irish genealogy but about genealogy in general and genealogy in locations worldwide. With 80,000 plus entries in the Wiki and over 300 recorded lectures there are few topics unaddressed. The best part is that these resources are free and open to everyone.

The Wiki

The Wiki at *FamilySearch* is modeled on the better known *Wikipedia*. It is a vast collection of interlinked web pages. To get full value the reader needs to dig deep into a topic by following the links. Most of these point to other Wiki pages, but many also send the reader to additional resources outside of the *FamilySearch* website. Also like *Wikipedia*, the content comes from knowledgeable volunteer authors with the additional quality control that submissions are reviewed by experts. The one negative is that older submissions may not be totally up to date, links may no longer be valid and newer resources may not be mentioned. However, you can fix that. You can become an author and fix the bad links and add the most recent information.

An example of how to use the Wiki is my search for information about my grandmother's home townland. Follow the trail: Click on Ireland → scroll down to the map and click on Galway → click on Civil Parishes on the sidebar → click on Kilcooly. This last page is a bit sparse. But Oh! The wealth of information to be found on the pages along the way. The Ireland Genealogy page is filled with links to pages about basic research methods, pages about

the various record types to be found in Ireland, pages about Ireland in general, and many other resources. The County Galway page is rich with links to records specific to Galway and to many resources outside of the Wiki – these are a must for getting full value out of your search for information on Galway research. Read about research methods, learn about the various record types, look at the maps, follow links to online records such as Griffith's valuation, the 1901 and 1910 censuses, and transcribed or digitized records.

The information to be found on the Wiki and its linked to pages is vast. Grazing on this is very enriching for the inquiring genealogist.

The Learning Center

The Learning Center at *FamilySearch* provides the genealogy student with another avenue to growing their knowledge base. This resource is a bit buried. You find it by clicking "Get Help" on the top right of the *FamilySearch* home page. Here you will find video lectures, slide shows and audio podcasts about a vast array of genealogy topics. The path into this is found on the sidebar. Here the offerings are indexed in a number of ways: by location, by skill level, by subject, by format and by language. Click on Ireland under places and see a shortened version of the sidebar index specific to the Irish related offerings, or scroll down to see the 14 Irish genealogy related lectures. These range from 16 minutes to an hour and 28 minutes in length. For each there is a brief description. Once a lecture is opened you may find a link to a downloadable handout. In most cases the handouts are another rich source of information. Perhaps you should read the handout first to get your mind into the topic.

A Few Notes

- Be sure to scroll down on the pages to get full benefit of these postings.
- Try investigating a topic using both the Wiki and the Learning Center offerings to stimulate your brain with information brought to you via both the written and spoken word.
- Become a volunteer author. Share your knowledge. At the very least, give back to this very generous offering by fixing broken links and adding links to new resources.
- Approach these repositories of knowledge with a question in mind. Start with basic questions about the most common genealogy methods and record types. Broaden your horizons with questions about record types specific to a place, such as Griffith's Primary Valuation – ask what is it, what is in it, how to find it, how to use its information. Perhaps a good question is what is the difference between a Civil Parish and a Church Parish – between different religions' church parishes? Ask and then seek and learn.
- Finding out new things about genealogy methods and records can be as rewarding as finding new family members in the records. In any case, you will not find these people if you do not know about the records.

Tom Rice, Certified Genealogist, is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer and writer. He is a director of IGSI, Managing Editor of The Septs, past director of the Minnesota Genealogy Society and genealogy help desk volunteer at the Minnesota History Society library.

100 Years Ago and More

Compiled by Sheila Northrop

300 Years Ago

[William Williams – forger]

William Williams, a middle-siz'd Man, between 25 or 30 Years Old, of a pretty fresh Complexion, his Hair dark brown, but wears a Wig, lately clerk to Sir William Fowds, was employ'd by Mr. Richard Magwire of the City of Dublin, Clothier, to draw out some Accounts, and hath run away with 20 odd Pounds from the said Mr. Magwire, and hath forg'd his Hand to Receipts for x33l. 3s. and receiv'd the Contents thereof. Whoever secures the said Williams with what Effects he may have in his Custody, so as he may be brought to Justice, shall have 10l. Reward from the said Mr. Magwire, or Mr. Thos. Puttanand of Dublin, or Sir Rich. Hoare, Goldsmith in London.

The Evening Post

London, England

26 January 1717

250 Years Ago

[New book for sale]

This Day is published, Price as 6d. served, *Historical Memoirs of the Irish rebellion, in the year 1641*. Extracted from Parliamentary Journals, State Acts, and the most eminent Protestant Historians – Together with an Appendix, containing several authentic Papers, relating to this Rebellion, not referred to in these Memoirs.

In a Letter to WALTER HARRIS, Esq;

Printed for J. Williams, at Number 28, next to the Mitre Tavern in Fleet-Street; and T. Lewis, in Russell Street, Covent Garden.

Where may be had, Price is 6d. very proper to be bound with the above Memoirs. The second Edition, of the *Trials of the Roman Catholics of Ireland*. By Henry Brooke, Esq;

Author of *Gustavus Vasa*, *The Farmer's Letters*, *Fool of Quality*, &c. &c..

The Public Advertiser

London, England

7 March 1767

200 Years Ago

[plea for funds for the Irish in England]

The extreme distress of the lower Irish in the Metropolis exceeds all description. In the districts of Wapping and Moorfields, some have actually died of starvation, while thousands are reduced to actual want. The Irish Merchants and professional Gentlemen resident in the City, have at a meeting for the purpose, raised a fund of four hundred pounds. We are sure the Corporation of London, the public Companies, with the *other absentee* proprietors of Irish Estates, will gladly co-operate with these benevolent individuals in relieving the natives of a country whose industry adds so largely to their revenue.

The Morning Chronicle

London, England

1 January 1817

On the Poor Laws.

... Mr. Curwen appealed to such members in the House of Commons as were magistrates, and asked whether, agreeably to their experience, the poor were at present happy, contented, and grateful. He knew, that they must answer, No; that they were unhappy, dissatisfied, and ungrateful to those who afforded them relief, and were at the same time without real comfort. They looked on every thing with a jaundiced eye and discontent of mind. He had visited Ireland; and when he first saw the wretched Irish cabins, with the smoke

issuing through the door, his feelings of disgust were so strong, that he turned away, desirous not to enter; but when he did go in, he found a surprising revolution, and the least looked for that could be imagined. He saw within the place the exercise of all the affections of the heart, while potatoes were the only food, and butter-milk the only luxury. He thought the Irish peasant happier than an English pauper. The poor Irishman did not appear broken in spirit or degraded. He had travelled a thousand miles in that country, making observations on the condition of the poorer classes wherever he went; and he was convinced, that nothing was so dangerous to the poor as pauperism; and yet there were not less than two millions of British subjects in that degraded state. ...

British Critic

London, England

1 March 1817

150 Years Ago

Pat and Deacon.

A few months ago, as Deacon Ingalls, of Swampscot, R. I. was travelling through the western part of the State of New York, he fell in with an Irishman, who had lately arrived in this country, and was in search of a brother who had come before him and settled in some of the diggings in that part of the country.

Pat was a strong man, a true Roman Catholic, and had never seen the interior of a Protestant church.

It was a pleasant Sunday morning that Brother Ingalls met Pat, who inquired the road to the nearest church.

Ingalls was a pious man. He told Pat he was going to church, and invited his new made friend to keep him company thither, his destination being a small Methodist

meeting-house near by. There was a great revival there at that time, and one of the deacons, who was a very small man in stature, invited Brother Ingalls to take a seat in his pew. He accepted the invitation, followed by Pat who looked in vain to find the altar, etc. After he was seated, he turned round to Brother Ingalls, and in a whisper that could be heard all around inquired:

"Sure, and isn't this a heretic church?"

"Hush!" said Ingalls, "if you speak a word they will put you out."

"Divil a word will I speak at all," said Pat.

The meeting was opened by prayer by the pastor. Pat was eyeing him very closely, when an old gentleman, who was standing in the pew directly in front of Pat, shouted "Glory!"

"Hist, ye devil," rejoined he, with his loud whisper, which was heard by the minister; be dacent, and don't make a blockhead of yourself."

The parson grew more fervent in his devotions. Presently the deacon uttered an audible groan.

"Hist, ye blackguard! Have ye no decency at all?" said Pat, at the same time giving him a punch in the ribs, which caused him to lose his equilibrium.

The minister stopped, and extended his hand in a suppliant manner, said –

"Brethren, we cannot be disturbed in this way. Will some one put that man out?"

"Yes, your riverince," shouted Pat, "I will!" and suiting the action to the word, he collared the deacon, and to the utter horror of the pastor, Brother Ingalls, and the whole congregation, he dragged him up the aisle, and with a tremendous kick sent him into the vestibule of the church.

Corydon Democrat

Corydon, Indiana 18 February 1867

The Fenian Raid in Kerry.

Details of the Abortive Conspiracy – The Shooting of the Policeman – Arrest of Moriarty and Others.

...A party of Fenians, however, began their march to Killarney from the neighbourhood of Cahiroiveen on the night of Tuesday. Their number is variously estimated, but it would seem that excitement led to exaggeration, and that, instead of 800, there were never, probably, more than 70 or 100 men. Some of these were strangers, probably Irish Americans, with a sprinkling of the peasantry and two or three Killarney people. The high road between the two places skirts the sea, and on their way one of these armed detachments consisting of about 30 men, came upon a small Coastguard look-out before daylight on Wednesday morning. The solitary Coastguardman who was keeping watch challenged them as they approached, and in reply they called on him to surrender. He asked to whom he was to surrender, and the answer was, "To the Irish Republic"...

The same party went to the house of Mr. Barry, a magistrate at Kells, and impressed a horse, which they obtained by threats from the servants, alleging that it was for the use of their colonel, who was wounded. This man's name is believed to O'Connor; his wound was not, of course, inflicted in any Fenian campaign, but is supposed to have been received in the civil war in America. ...

The Magnet, Agricultural, Commercial, and Family Gazette

London, England 25 February 1867

100 Years Ago

SUCCESSFUL MEN OF UTAH

A FINE, big-hearted, public-spirited citizen is P. J. Moran of Salt Lake. Few men have been more closely associated with the upbuilding of the city and the state, and no man has contributed more largely of brains and enterprise to the splendid public improvements which have been made in Zion during the last fifteen years.

With great love for his home city, wonderful strength of character, and tremendous popularity among his fellows, he has built many enduring monuments to his genius, which will stand for generations to come. He is, in every sense of the word, an industrial captain.

Born in Yorkshire, England, January 23, 1864, the son of Laurence Moran, of Mayo county, Ireland, and of Bridget (Durkin) Moran, of County Sligo, Ireland; he was left fatherless at the age of seven, and began the struggle in the battle of life in a work shop at the age of ten. From that time until now his industrial efforts have been indefatigable. At fourteen he emigrated to this country, arriving at Baltimore in April 1878. He mastered his trade and worked in Chicago until 1887, when he removed to Omaha. There he stayed but a few months, and then came to Salt Lake, which has been his home ever since. He married Dolly Shoebridge of Salt Lake in 1891 and there are six children, four boys and two girls. ...

Goodwin's weekly: a thinking paper for thinking people

Salt Lake City, Utah

1 April 1916

IRELAND

Record of the Most Important of the Recent Events Culled From Exchanges.

...There has just died at Meath Hill, Terence Carolan, who had reached the age of 100 years. He was able to move about until a fortnight before his death.

A number of posters which were recently displayed at Moyvalley in connection with a recruiting meeting, were torn down, with the result that the meeting had to be abandoned.

General sympathy is felt with B. J. O'Flaherty, Enniscorthy, and Mrs. O'Flaherty, in their bereavement caused by the accidental death of their youngest child, Annie Mary, aged three.

Miss Bride Lawler, youngest daughter of James Lawler, Carlow, made her final vows at the convent of the Sisters of Charity, Mill Hill, London. In religion her name becomes Sister Gabriel.

Dungannon Urban Council has accorded a unanimous vote of thanks to R. Brown, Donaghmore, for his offer to provide 452 rose trees to adorn the public places

in that town, and to plant them at his own expense.

Most Rev. Dr. Gilmartin presided at the office and requiem mass in the Convent of Mercy, Loughrea, for the repose of the soul of the late Sister Mary John Moylan. Deceased was a sister of the late Rev. J. Moylan.

The death of Rev. R. B. Dunne will be received with regret in many parts of the country, for during nearly fifty years he taught in the schools of the Christian Brothers in Dublin, Athy, Cashel, Thurles, Galway, Wexford and Mullingar.

The people of Castlebar and district gave a public funeral to the late P. Timlin. The cortege was over one and a half miles long, and the roads were lined with sympathetic onlookers. At the masses, tributes were paid to his memory by the Most Rev. Dr. Higgins and Rev. Father Meehan.

PUT OVER GOOD ONE.

Many years ago, at Elizabeth, N. J., it was announced that all the bells of the city churches, Protestant as well as Catholic, would ring on St. Patrick's day, March 17.

The rector of the Episcopalian church confirmed the rumor. At once the Orange lodge and several local A. P. A. divisions met in protest and appointed committees to visit the several sextons in order to induce them to strike against ringing the bells on this Romish holiday. But without result, for it developed that March 17 of that year fell on a Sunday.

Kentucky Irish American

Louisville, Kentucky 25 March 1916

Sheila O'Rourke Northrop is a professional genealogist and President of FamilyTracer.net. She is a long-time member of many genealogical organizations. She specializes in Irish research and genealogical Data Analysis. Sheila's family hails from Counties Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare.



A Potpourri of Irish Genealogy Websites

Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)	https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni
Ulster Historical Foundation	https://www.ancestryireland.com/
Ireland Reaching Out	http://www.irelandxo.com/
John Grenham's <i>Irish Ancestors</i>	https://www.johngrenham.com/
Griffith's Valuation at <i>Ask about Ireland</i>	http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/
Roots Ireland (Irish Family History Foundation)	http://www.rootsireland.ie/
IreAtlas Townland Database	http://www.thecore.com/seanruad/
Irish Genealogy Toolkit	http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/

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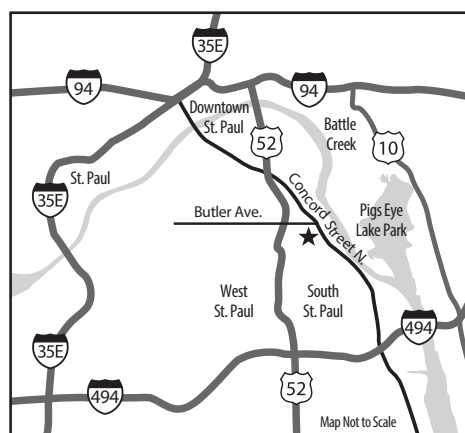
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