

Origins: Coffey/Keogh Families (Update July 2023)
By Fred Coffey

ONLINE: <http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/DNA/Origins-CoffeyKeoghFamilies.pdf>

My name is “Coffey”, and I’m very interested in working out the deep origins of my family. My ideas have evolved over time, as DNA evidence came to light. Following is my current opinion, followed by my analysis. I invite comments and arguments:

Readers will recall that we have an extended family that might appropriately be called “Coffey, Coffee, Coffia, Keogh, Keough, Kehoe, Keay, Kaho, Cahill, Cahow, Kayhow, Kayhowe, and Howe” – for quick convenience I will call this the “Coffey/Keogh” family.

First some background: We are doing two different types of y-DNA testing, and I want to use the following example to explain the difference:

LOOKING AT THE "Y" CHROMOSOME



Here are three men, showing one hypothetical segment of their y-DNA. They all start with the DNA sequence of “GTAC” in the first four positions.

But wait: Something is different in the fifth position! Maybe every male in the world originally had an “A” here, but there was a rare mutation, and one male got a “T”. The mutation did him no harm, but from then on, EVERY descendant of that first mutation now has a “T”.

This is called a “single nucleotide polymorphism”, or a “S N P”, or a “snip”. This has a lot of genealogical potential, because every person in the world with a “T” in this position is now marked as a descendant of that person. Those SNP’s never change back to their original. There are now many thousands of known “snips” in the human y-chromosome. Trying to organize them is a continuing challenge.

There is another type of mutation that is more traditional and easier to use for genealogy. At a number of places in the yDNA there are sections where a short segment repeats itself. These are called “short tandem repeats”, or STR’s. Man #1

has the sequence CTACTACTACTACTA, or 5 repeats. Man 2 has six repeats, and man 3 has 7 repeats. The number of repeats will often gradually change over time. This does no harm to the man, but the number can gradually become associated with a particular family line.

And this “STR” test is what initially showed that “Coffey/Keogh” are a large mixed family.

But these STR’s can change back and forth, sometimes returning to their original value. And it is possible that various other unrelated families may evolve to show STR patterns that happen to look like today’s Coffey version. So we need to be more cautious about giving too much weight to STR values.

And we have been doing a different form of DNA testing that can help reveal our “deep ancestry” connections. This is the 700-marker y-DNA test, called the “Big-Y700”. We have now seen test results for 22 individuals, and I want to show you some of our results and comparisons. All are related, but they do split into two groups, with 11 men in the “Coffey” group, and 11 in the “Keogh” group.

The test fits people into “haplogroups”, with names like “R-FT43552”. ALL of the Coffey and Keogh are in “R-FT43552”, and that is what shows we belong together. But over the last few hundred years this has evolved into several sub-groups. The Coffey and the Keogh are clearly relatives, but at varying distances.

FTDNA, our testing service, writes the following about the central R-FT43552 haplogroup that all our Coffey/Keogh all belong to:

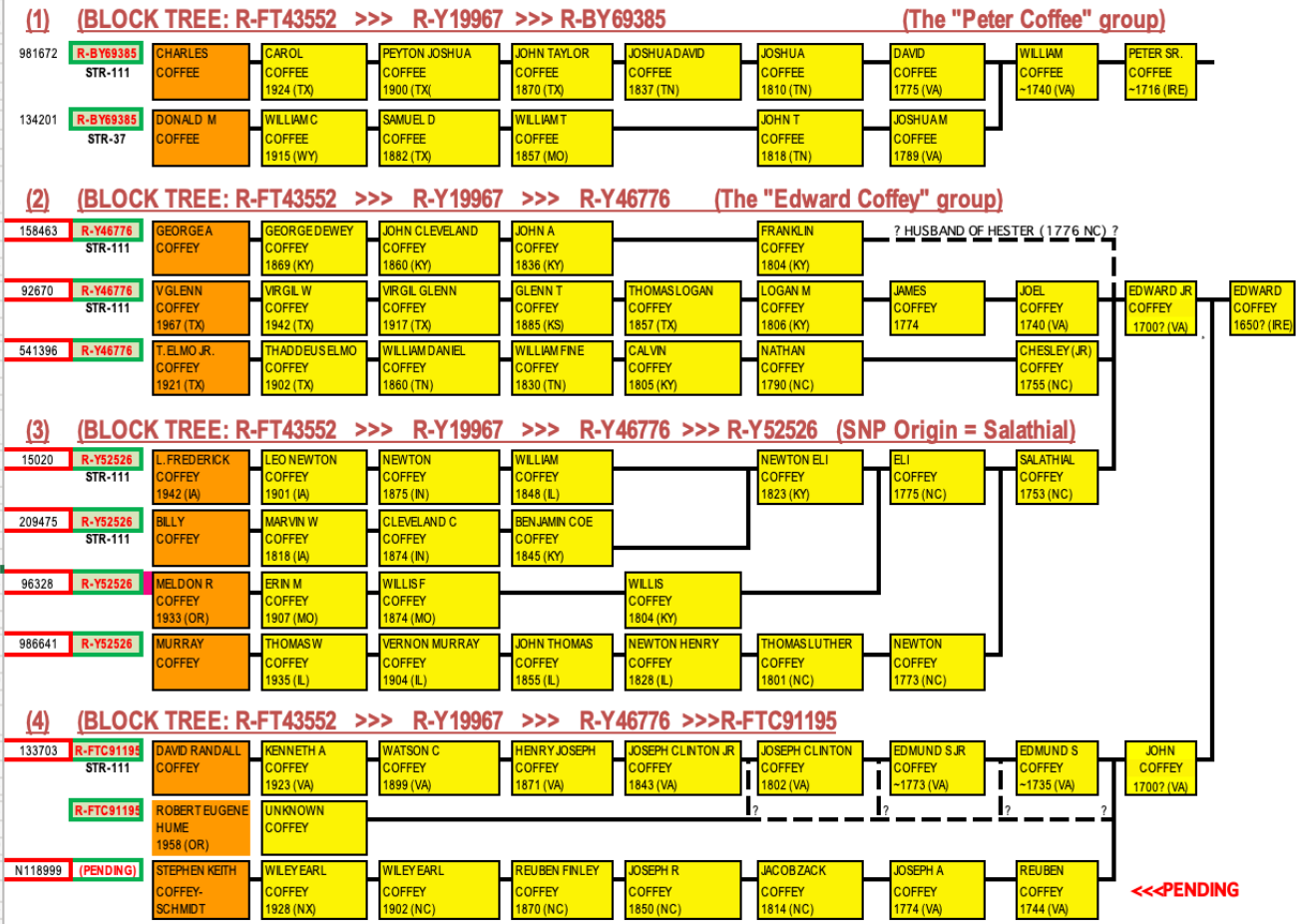
The R-FT43552 Story: The man who is the most recent common ancestor of this line is estimated to have been born around 1150 CE. This date is an estimate based on genetic information only. This estimate will likely change in the future as more people test and we improve the method.

He is the ancestor of at least 3 descendant lineages known as R-Y19967 (**Our Coffey Group**), R-FTA58713 (**Our Keogh Group**) and 1 yet unnamed lineage. Descendant lineages are identified as people test their Y-DNA with the Big Y test. At least two testers from a lineage are needed for a new branch to be named and added to the tree.

There are 22 DNA tested descendants, and they specified that their earliest known origins are from Ireland and United States with 7 from unknown countries. But the story does not end here! As more people test, the history of this genetic lineage will be further refined.

The testing service, FTDNA, uses a “block tree” to show how the pieces fit together. Let’s first look at block tree results for our 11 in the Coffey group. Here’s a table showing how they fit together:

"PETER COFFEE / EDWARD COFFEY" EXTENDED FAMILY BIG-Y GROUP



Look at the block tree labels. Everybody starts with R-FT43552, and we share that with the Keogh. But the Coffey evolved into R-Y19967, and that covers BOTH Peter and Edward – we have long known that Peter and Edward were somehow related back in Ireland.

Block (1) shows the two men who descend from Peter Coffee. The orange box names the tested men, and the yellow boxes show the male-line ancestry of these men, leading back to Peter. And for this block only, R-Y19967 has evolved to R-BY69385. That “R-BY69385” marks every descendant of Peter, and if we ever see it again we’ll know we’re looking at a “Peter” descendant.

Block (2), and all of the rest of the blocks on this table, have further evolved to R-Y46776. And that marks every descendant of Edward Coffey. The three men in Block 2 all descend from Edward through Edward Jr. The first line in this block is dotted, reflecting some male-line uncertainty that is still unresolved and that has been discussed in previous newsletters.

Block (3) presents a group of 4 tested men, where there was a mutation AFTER Edward arrived in America, that caused R-Y46776 to evolve one step farther, and yield a new haplogroup, R-Y52536. Once we saw that this was happening with the first two men, we started seeking others with different ancestry to upgrade to Big-Y.

Once we had all 4 recruits, we could now see that we knew exactly where the mutation occurred. And we now know that Salathial Coffey was the first person born with the new R-Y52536 mutation, and we now know that EVERY descendant of Salathial is “marked” by R-Y52536.

Block (4) was triggered by an “Adoption Mystery”, where adoptee Bob Hume was looking for his Coffey connection. Bob was in a new haplogroup that suddenly became named R-FTC91195, when it met the criteria that a pair of at least two SNP’s had to be found before that SNP would become named. Analysis combined this with autosomal DNA tests, which proved that the match between Bob and David Randall Coffey had to follow one of the dotted lines under Block 4. [\(We have another Big-Y test pending at the bottom of the above table, which will be the 13th member of this group. It may offer new information.\)](#)

ADDRESSING KEOGH GROUP: The next table is for the “Keogh” group. They also have 11 tested persons. Again, all persons start with the R-FT43552 that they share with the Coffey. But now the next step is R-FTA58713, and that covers all of the Keogh.

Block (5) includes 5 tested men, all who have only the original R-FTA58713. Two of the tested men have not provided any genealogy, but their name is “Keogh” so there is no doubt about their origin.

This group now has one newly tested member, Matt Cahill, whose ancestry was known only back to Virginia. Now he knows his origin is Irish. And “Cahill” sounds phonetically consistent with some of his distant cousins names like Keogh, Keough, Kehoe, Keay, Kaho, Cahow, Kayhow, Kayhowe, and Howe.

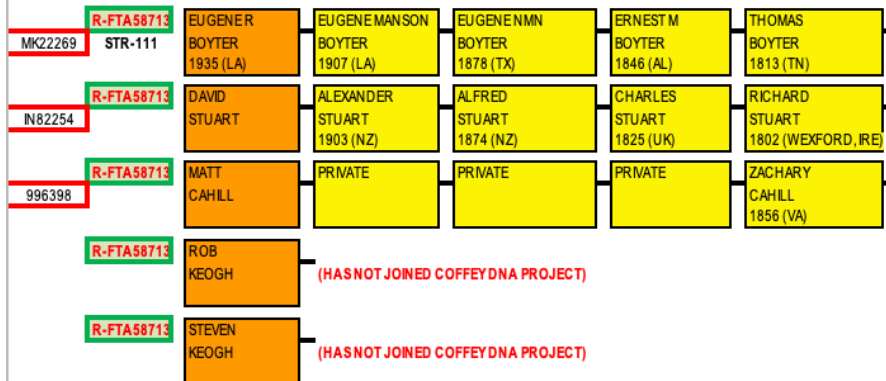
Block (6) has two men showing one more level of mutation -- the R-FTA58713 has evolved to add R-Y20216. But the really interesting thing is that one of those men has the surname “Coffey”, even though the DNA says he has “Keogh” DNA. The Coffey and Keogh families were probably closely associated, and this might reflect an adoption?

Block (7) started with the R-Y20216 from block 6 and added one more evolution to become R-FT199937.

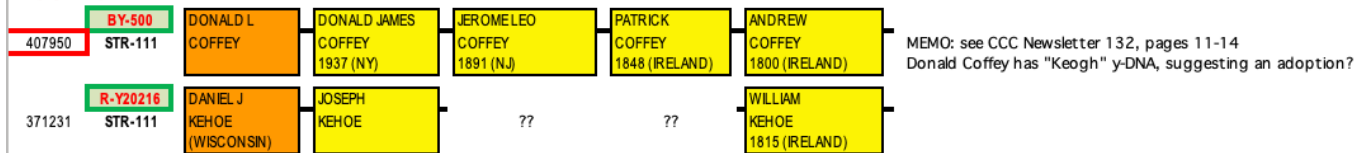
Block (8) also started with the R-Y20216 from block 6, but this one added a different evolution to become R-FT257666.

"KEOGH" EXTENDED FAMILY BIG-Y GROUP

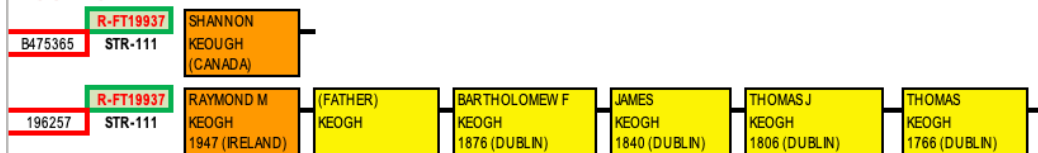
(5) (BLOCK TREE: R-FT43552 >>> R-FTA58713)



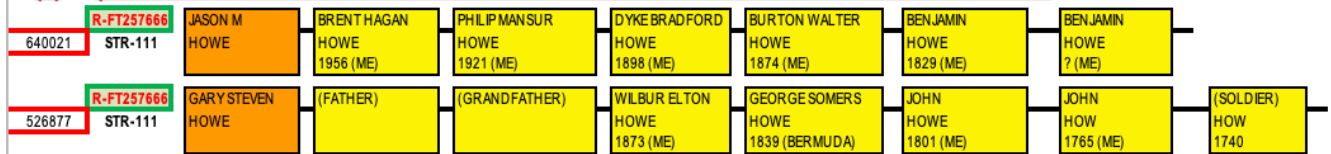
(6) (BLOCK TREE: R-FT43552 >>> R-FTA58713 >>> R-Y20216)



(7) (BLOCK TREE: R-FT43552 >>> R-FTA58713 >>> R-Y20216 >>> R-FT19937)



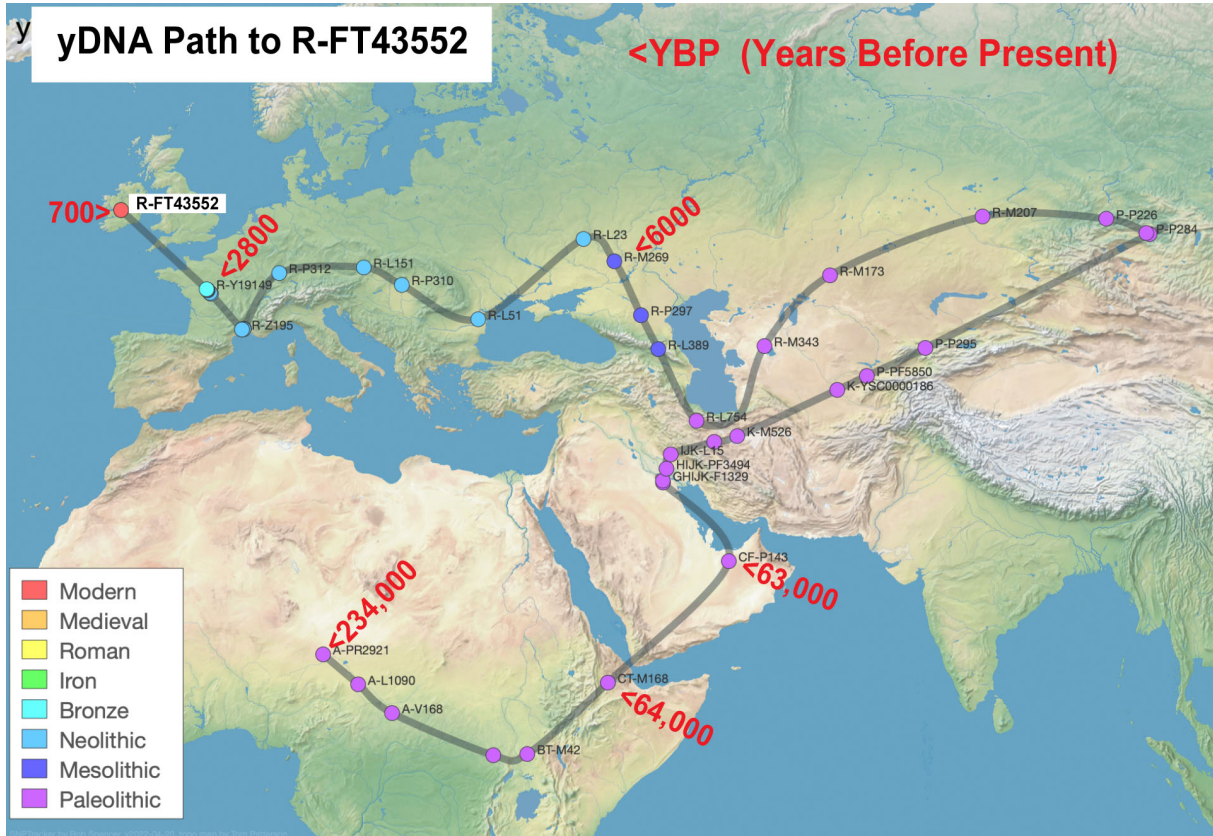
(8) (BLOCK TREE: R-FT43552 >>> R-FTA58713 >>> R-Y20216 >>> R-FT257666)



An interesting comparison is the chart on the following page, which tracks the evolution of R-FT43552 back to deep Africa origins.

Every living human male in the world ultimately descends from a single male who lived in Africa over 200,000 years ago. This chart shows the evolution path from Africa. This eventually leads us to the "R" haplogroup, and ultimately to R- FT43552. This group encompasses all the Coffey/Keogh descendants.

Each of the "dots" on the following chart represents a "haplogroup". And ALL of the Coffey/Keogh are a part of ALL of the haplogroups on this chart. I have annotated this chart to show one version of "Years Before Present" for selected points along the track. The chart ends in Ireland about 700 years ago, when our Coffey/Keogh appeared:



Here's a table showing critical points along the above chart:

Haplogroup	MRCA	# People Tested	Comments
A-PR2921	232000 BCE	250065	Y-chromosome Adam
CTM168	63000 BCE	248524	Leaving Africa
R-M207	26000 BCE	111824	"R" Haplogroup branches from "P-P226"
R-L51	4000 BCE	79793	Entering Europe
R-Z198	2550 BCE	2975	R-Z198 & SRY2627 Haplogroup Project
R-BY27994	1550 BCE	36	
R-FT43552	1150 CE	22	The Coffey/Keogh Family, arriving in Ireland
R-Y19967	1250 CE	11	Descendants: Peter Coffey & Edward Coffey
R-Y46776	1600 CE	9	Descendants of Edward Coffey
R-Y52526	~1753, in NC	4	descendants of Salathial Coffey

The bottom four lines in the above table cover the Coffey/Keogh family, discussed on pages 3-5 above. All are focused on the CE (Christian Era) time period.

We added the "R-BY27994" dates back to 1550 BCE, showing there are only 36 tested people who are believed to connect within the last 3500 years!

Next shown is “R-Z198” which is a major study that includes our Coffey/Keogh group. (Will discuss this on a later page.) And above that are steps leading back about 232,000 BCE, with 250,065 tested people.

The timing for the above SNP’s has a high level of uncertainty. And more accurate timing estimates may be achieved by looking at the STR results. I will do that, but I would like to introduce some of the people involved in our Coffey/Keogh clan. They have interesting stories, and some may be candidates for additional Big-Y testing in the future:

SNP R-BY69385:

Peter Coffee is an immigrant that arrived on a British prison ship in the early 1700’s. Only a few of his descendants have been tested. The earliest tested person was Peter’s descendant **Carol Coffee**, who did several y-DNA tests. Carol was deceased before the “Big-Y” became available, but Carol’s son **Charles Coffee** has now completed a Big-Y test. And we also have a Big-Y for **Donald Michael Coffee**, who is a fifth cousin of Carol.

SNP R-Y46776:

The immigrant **Edward Coffey** arrived in America before 1699. We have more than 60 descendants of Edward with y-DNA tests. And of these we presently have nine descendants of Edward who have done Big-Y. The first three include **George A Coffey**, **V Glenn Coffey**, and **T. Elmo Coffey Jr.** (George is part of a major Coffey family mystery, in that while we are able to identify his GGG Grandmother “Hester”, we can’t figure out who was his GGG Grandfather!)

SNP R-Y52526:

Here we have **Fred Coffey** (that’s me - my full name is Leo Frederick Coffey, but most people call me “Fred”). We also have Big-Y for **Billy Coffey** who is my known third cousin. Plus we have **Meldon Coffey** and **Murray Coffey**. Examination of these four men, along with their known ancestry, confirms that this specific SNP mutation occurred with the birth of their shared ancestor **Salathiel Coffey** AFTER Edward Coffey arrived in America.

SNP R-FTC91195:

Here we have been pursuing an adoption mystery involving **Robert Hume**, discussed in CCC Newsletter 166 (page 5). This brought **David Randall Coffey** into the picture with this SNP, because Mr. Hume’s appearance caused this new SNP to be recognized. And **Stephen Keith Coffey/Schmidt** has agreed to do a Big-Y in the hope it will extend our database and maybe reveal more information related to Robert’s adoption.

SNP R-FTA58713:

Now we can switch over to the “Keogh” side of our Coffey/Keogh family.

Eugene R. Boyter had a positive Big-Y test for this specific Keogh group. He doesn't have a Keogh name, and only knows his paper trail back to 1813 in Tennessee. But his Big-Y shows he is absolutely part of this SNP. And the SNP includes **David Stuart** who lives in New Zealand and traces his ancestry back to County Wexford in Ireland. And we have **Matt Cahill** who only knows his ancestry back to 1856 in Virginia. We also can see this group includes Big-Y results for a **Rob Keogh** and **Steven Keogh** who have not provided any of their known genealogy – but their “Keogh” name proves their origin.

SNP R-Y20216:

Donald L Coffey traces his origins through NY and NJ and back to Ireland. His name is “Coffey”, but his DNA is “Keogh”. This may reflect an adoption (planned or unplanned)? And joining him in this SNP is **Daniel J Kehoe** who lives in Wisconsin and traces his genealogy back to Ireland.

(NOTE: Daniel believes he has a cousin, **James Kehoe**, who has NOT done BigY. Their ancestors arrived separately in the mid-1800's and settled in Brown County, WI – the families believe their immigrant ancestors may have been cousins, and some early STR work suggested this was likely.)

SNP R-Y199937:

This SNP has been identified and named only recently, and the current members were previously separate. **Shannon Keough** wrote “My family left the island of Ireland in either the late 1700s or early 1800s. With that said, they moved from one island (Ireland) to another island (Newfoundland, Canada) and have been here ever since. Newfoundland was the Dominion of Newfoundland and a British colony until 1949 when it joined Canada. We have been pretty isolated through the years.) **Ray M Keogh** still lives in Ireland, and has been tested more extensively than most others in “Keogh” clan. The homeland of his clan is believed to be County Wexford.

SNP R-FT257666:

And finally we now have, both with Big-Y, **Jason Howe** and **Gary Steven Howe**. They hail from Maine and believe they share Irish ancestry.

MEN WITH NO BIG-Y TESTS:

None of the remaining names in this discussion have Big-Y, but older STR work shows they absolutely belong to the Coffey/Keogh family. And maybe some will become candidates for future BigY testing:

Robert Keay, pronounced “K”: only knows his genealogy as far back as his grandfather. But DNA suggests Robert's closest relative may be a man we are calling **Mr Keough**. That's a curious name! Actually, we NEVER got a test on that person, he declined to participate in our Project testing. But he had enough good matches to other members that I was able to deduce ALL of his first 37-

marker values. I was never able to learn his first name, but he did report descent from **Henry Kough**, b. abt 1798, in County Wexford.

Patrick Quinn: Early DNA comparisons proved, to the surprise of his family, that his DNA ancestry was NOT Quinn! It now seems that his father, Peter Quinn, was the offspring from a non-paternal event involving a Keogh. Further investigations showed there was a “Keough” living in the same building as the Quinn family. They have now traced Pat Quinn’s genetic ancestry to **Patrick Keough** who was born 25 May 1806 in Newbridge, County Kildare, Ireland.)

Thomas Kehoe descends from James Kehoe b Wexford Ireland about 1805. We also have **Griffin H Kaho**, **Travis Keough** and **Patrick Kehoe**: Pat descends from Henry Kehoe born 1791 County Wexford, who arrived in Canada in 1825.)

And **Keith Cahow** showed us how the name may have gone from Keogh to Cahow to Howe. And this then tied nicely to Jason and Gary Howe on the previous page.

THE MRCA OF EDWARD AND PETER:

The “Coffey/Coffee” families have a particular interest in trying to learn how the Edward and Peter groups are related. These groups have long believed they have a MRCA back in Ireland. The haplogroup analysis back on Page 3 helps to show they are indeed related, but it only narrows the time down to “the last few hundred years”.

And we do have information that is NOT reflected on Page 3. We know most of the genealogy of the Edward and Peter descendants. And we have STR analysis tools to help. We know that the Edward/Peter descendants have been isolated from each other in America since Edward and Peter arrived, and we therefore know that there has NOT been a common ancestor within the last 10 generations. As an example, we can compare myself (Edward line) to Charles Coffee (Peter line), and FTDNA can use their “Time Predictor” to look at the STR matches and calculate the following:

“In comparing Y-DNA111 markers, which show 7 mismatches, the probability that 15020 - Leo Frederick (Fred) Coffey and 981672 - Charles Coffee shared a common ancestor within the last...

...10 generations is 28.91%.
...11 generations is 50.89%.
...12 generations is 66.92%.
...13 generations is 78.21%.
...14 generations is 85.93%.
...15 generations is 91.07%.
...16 generations is 94.42%.
...17 generations is 96.57%.
...18 generations is 97.91%.
...19 generations is 98.75%.
...20 generations is 99.26%.
...21 generations is 99.56%.
...22 generations is 99.75%.
...23 generations is 99.85%.
...24 generations is 99.92%.

* Assuming 15020 - Leo Frederick (Fred) Coffey and 981672 - Charles Coffee do not share a common ancestor in the last 10 generations.
 ** The FTDNATiP™ results are based on the mutation rate study presented during the 1st International Conference on Genetic Genealogy, on Oct. 30, 2004. The above probabilities take into consideration the mutation rates for each individual marker being compared. Since each marker has a different mutation rate, identical Genetic Distances will not necessarily yield the same probabilities.”

How would we interpret this? Since they can't have a MRCA within less than 10 generations, the above probability suggests there is a 29% chance the MRCA is EXACTLY in the 10th generation. The father of Edward might thus be the father (or grandfather) of Peter!

And it says that within the first 4 generations the probability of the relationship rises to nearly 80%. Allowing maybe 25 years per generation, that puts our MRCA within 100 years of the time Edward came to America in about 1699! That's a tighter limit than is implied by "The R-FT43552 Story" on Page 2.

The 95% confidence is reached within about 7 generations.

We can do the above calculation for any pairing of people. You will recognize the probabilities on the first line below as being the numbers reported on the previous page:

		mis-	NUMBER OF GENERATIONS BEFORE PRESENT TIME															
COMPARE:		matches	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
COMPARE TO CHARLES COFFEY (R-19967)	Leo Frederick Coffey (R-Y46776)	7	28.9	50.9	66.9	78.2	85.9	91.1	94.4	96.6	97.9	98.8	99.3	99.6	99.8	99.9	99.9	
	Billy Coffey (R-Y46776)	10	28.9	50.9	66.9	78.2	85.9	91.1	94.4	96.6	97.9	98.8	99.3	99.6	99.8	99.9	99.9	
	Virgil Glenn Coffey (R-Y46776)	8	23.5	43.3	59.1	71.2	80.2	86.6	91.2	94.2	96.3	97.7	98.5	99.1	99.5	99.7	99.8	
	George A Coffey (R-Y46776)	7	23.7	43.5	59.3	71.5	80.4	86.8	91.3	94.4	96.4	97.7	98.6	99.1	99.5	99.7	99.8	
	David Randall Coffey (R-Y46776)	10	14.0	28.3	42.0	54.3	64.9	73.7	80.7	86.2	90.2	93.2	95.4	96.9	97.9	98.7	99.1	
	AVERAGE: EDWARD GROUP MATCHES =		23.8	43.4	58.8	70.7	79.5	85.9	90.4	93.6	95.8	97.2	98.2	98.9	99.3	99.5	99.7	
	Eugene R Boyter (R-FTA58713)	15	4.2	10.0	17.2	25.5	34.6	43.8	52.8	61.3	68.9	75.4	81.0	85.6	89.2	92.1	94.2	
	Rob Keogh (R-FTA58713)	8	23.6	43.5	59.3	71.4	80.4	86.8	91.3	94.3	96.4	97.7	98.6	99.1	99.5	99.7	99.8	
	Donald Lee Coffey (R-Y20216)	11	13.3	27.0	40.3	52.5	63.1	72.0	79.2	84.9	89.2	92.4	94.8	96.4	97.6	98.4	99.0	
	Ray M Keogh (R-Y20216)	11	13.1	26.7	39.9	52.1	62.7	71.7	78.9	84.6	89.0	92.2	94.6	96.3	97.5	98.4	98.9	
Daniel James Kehoe (R-Y20216)	12	18.6	35.8	50.8	63.3	73.3	81.0	86.8	90.9	93.9	96.0	97.4	98.3	98.9	99.3	99.6		
Shannon Keough (R-Y20216)	12	12.8	26.2	39.2	51.3	61.9	70.9	78.2	84.0	88.5	91.8	94.3	96.1	97.4	98.2	98.8		
Jason Howe (R-FT257666)	9	22.7	42.0	57.6	69.8	79.0	85.7	90.4	93.7	95.9	97.4	98.3	99.0	99.4	99.6	99.8		
Gary Howe (R-FT257666)	8	27.8	49.4	65.3	76.8	84.8	90.2	93.8	96.1	97.6	98.5	99.1	99.5	99.7	99.8	99.9		
AVERAGE: KEOGH GROUP MATCHES =		17.0	32.6	46.2	57.8	67.5	75.2	81.4	86.2	89.9	92.7	94.8	96.3	97.4	98.2	98.7		

Caution: The SNP labeling on this table is out of date. Reader should only look at the people names and ignore the haplogroup names. The table was developed only using STR data and it remains valid!

The first 5 lines above are for the 5 Edward Group men, and the weighted average of the 5 is calculated and shown in red. We need to be careful about attaching too much weight to a single STR test, because that may just reflect good (or bad?) luck in accumulating random STR mutations. The weighted average of 5 may provide a better overall perspective.

Looking at the averages, the 70% confidence limit for the Coffey matches was reached 4 generations prior to the arrival of Peter and Edward in America. The 90% confidence limit was reached after only 3 more generations. Again, this is a tighter limit than is implied on Page 2.

We can also do this calculation for any of the Keogh participants, as shown by the extended list above. Once again, we can calculate the weighted average of the 8, shown in red. I was surprised by how many are yielding results that are, on average, on about 2 generations earlier.

DNA DATA BACKGROUND DISCUSSIONS:

We received a lot of much appreciated advice and support from Gareth Henson and Lucy Nelson. They have a huge amount of STR data as part of their “R-Z198 & SRY2627 Haplogroup Project” on FTDNA. The following link will take you to their home page on FTDNA, and you will see the opening page offers an invitation to JOIN their project:

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/r-1b-1c-6/about>

Their project has about 1500 members. About 20 of those are in their “E13” group, which includes many of our “Coffey/Keogh” group. Here’s an image of the first few columns of their E13 group as of July 2023:

E13. R-Y19149 (BY3255+ BY27944+) Time Tree							
19990	Coffey	Nebuzaraden Coffey b. 1757 d. 1797	United States	R-M269	13	23	15 11
845312	Kehoe			R-M269	13	24	14 11
96328	Coffey		Unknown Origin	R-Y52526	13	24	14 11
986641	Coffey		Unknown Origin	R-Y52526	13	24	14 11
541396	Coffey	Edward Coffey	Ireland	R-Y46776	13	24	14 11
209475	Coffey	Eli Coffey (1775-1833); Edward Coffey (d 1716)	Ireland	R-Y52526	13	24	14 11
133703	Coffey	Edward Coffey, b. 1670 and d: 1716	Ireland	R-FTC91195	13	24	14 11
15020	Coffey	Edward Coffey, bc 1650 - d. 1715, Northern Ireland	Ireland	R-Y52526	13	24	14 11
N118999	Schmidt	Edward Coffey, Ireland 1670-1715 (VA)	Ireland	R-BY3255	13	24	14 11
158463	Coffey	Franklin Coffey 1803-1862 Russell Co KY	Ireland	R-Y46776	13	24	14 11
893571	Bunderson	Jessie Coffey, b. 1776 and d. 1840	United States	R-M269	13	24	14 11
196257	Keogh	Thomas Keogh, 1766-1846; Dublin, Ireland	Ireland	R-FT199937	13	24	14 11
IN45402	Jackson	Unknown	Ireland	R-Z195	13	24	14 11
884982	Cahow	John Cahow b. abt. 1760	United States	R-M269	13	24	14 11
640021	Howe	Benjamin Howe 1802-1881	United States	R-FT257666	13	24	14 11
MK22269	Boyter			R-FTA58713	13	24	14 11
B840246	Arca	Ygnacio Del/De La Arca 1808 - 1898	Spain	R-FTC80985	13	24	14 11
55864	Coffey	edward b. abt 1650 and d. 1716	Ireland	R-M269	13	24	14 11
988647	Hume		Unknown Origin	R-FTC91195	13	24	14 12
92670	Coffee	Logan McMillon COFFEE (d. bef. 1865)	Unknown Origin	R-Y46776	13	24	14 12
146735	Kehoe	Mr. Henry Kehoe, b. 1791 and d. 1859	Ireland	R-M269	13	24	14 12

I recognize all of these in my Coffey/Keogh database **except B840246**, who is flagged in haplogroup R-FTC80985. We conclude he DOES NOT BELONG in this group and will ignore his presence. Gareth wrote a note in August 2022 implying that he agrees.

WHAT NEXT?

We do have some significant uncertainties in the early generations of the portions of the Edward line that descend from Edward’s son Edward Jr., and this is the portion of the line that **Tim Peterman** and I descend from. Tim has expressed an interest in ultimately seeking a large number of BigY tests on multiple patrilineal descendants of Edward Jr. Tim writes:

“My project described more fully would be 2 Y-700 participants descended from Joel Coffey (d 1789) , another 2 Y-700 participants from Jesse Cleveland Coffey, another 2 Y-700 participants Chesley Coffey (1755-1818), another 2 Y-700 participants from Nebuzaradan Coffey (1757-1797), another 2 Y-700 participants from Nathan Coffey (d 1828-30) -the presumed brothers (Salathiel was omitted because we have 4 already), and another 2 Y-700 participants from Martin Coffey.

Some of these may already have Y-700 tested descendants. If there are two, we can take them off the list for now.

If some have already y-tested out to 37 or more markers, there is a substantial discount on the Y-700 upgrade. Take advantage of the sales.

If we could increase the number of participants from Edward, Jr. by 50% or even 100%, the estimated dates for the earlier clade R-Y46776 will get better.

Regarding John Coffey (md Jane Graves), I'm anxious to see what if any impact Steve Schmidt's results have. I still think it might be helpful to apply the same logic above to each of John's sons.

Regarding Peter Coffee, I think more participants descended from him would be helpful, not only for their line of descent, but because of the impact on the age estimate of R-19967.”

Here is a table showing the “head count” Tim has in mind (looking only at descendants of Edward Jr):

Descendants of	# Big Y Wanted	# Big Y Now	Big Y Tested Names	Non-Big Y Tested Names (STR tests only)
Jesse Cleveland Coffey	2	0		DH Robert G
Salathial	2	4	Fred Billy Meldon Murray	Roger Kevin Christopher C
Nathan	2	0		(no y-DNA tests on Nathan line)
Joel	2	1	Glenn	Ernest L George L John
Chesley	2	0		T Elmo Jr Raymond W
Martin	2	1*	George*	Kenneth W Richard H Gordon Lee (s/o Gilbert Lee) Gordon Lee* (s/o Richard Lee) Danny K*
Nebuzaraden	2	0		Ralph Roger Wayne

*Assumes that “Hester’s husband” is a descendant of Martin. This is UNPROVEN.

I think Tim's proposal is worth thinking about. I do agree it might be possible, with enough testing, that there could be some chance we might eventually resolve some of the uncertainties in the Edward Junior line. But it would be a truly massive effort to pursue with today's costs and technology. With uncertain chance of success.

And the above table excludes desired additional tests on the Peter line, and excludes his desire to apply the same logic to each of the seven sons of Edward's son John.

I would propose that we continue with some SMALL steps in the general direction of Tim's interests. And then, as information develops, we might move ahead.

Looking for other research ideas. Anybody got suggestions?

Fred