

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012
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Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No. 144 ISSN 0749-758X

President's Message

Hi Cousins,

Hope everyone had a great summer, enjoying the out of doors and breaking down some of your brick walls. We had a great vacation this year by traveling in our motorhome for about two months through New England. We did not do any genealogical research, but just enjoyed some sightseeing and relaxing. Mostly relaxing.

We are rapidly approaching the time when we will get out information about the next CCC reunion which you know will be in the Kansas City area. Tim Peterman and David Smith are busy putting together a great weekend that I am sure we will all enjoy.

We hope by the December newsletter we will have all the information assembled. They are looking at three different venues, and of course trying to hold down the cost, and travel time to the local historical and genealogical areas we may want to check out. Right now, it looks like it will be the weekend of the 26 – 28th of April. Please mark your calendars with those dates and plan to attend and meet old friends and new cousins.

Did you send for your results on DNA? The studies going on within our club are proving to be very fruitful and we need your information to add to the mix. You may be pleasantly surprised who you are related to. Might even be a horse thief. How 'bout that for meat on the skeleton.

Thanks again to all who are writing in with Coffee/ey information as well as the DNA results, thus making the newsletters more interesting.

You are the Coffee/ey Cousins. It will only work if you are involved.

Wayne Mower

Editor's Comments

Hello cousins,

It's so good to be able to move my mind back to genealogy. All the news lately has been so depressing. It's exciting to look at the great advances that Fred and Jack have made for the Coffee/ey researchers. Fred has added several new cousins to the newsletter list.

I always look forward to our conventions where we have the opportunity to meeting other cousins. I challenge you to all look forward to the convention too. Can you plan to use your vacation to attend? Tim Peterman is planning a good one for us. I know it will be interesting as most have been. Tim is working on some really good programs and tours.

Do you have some good family stories that you would like to share?

Bonnie Culley bculey@embarqmail.com

Bonnie Culley

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We Get Mail

Kathy Burd Kburd@acpl.lib.in.us of the Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library asked if we were still publishing the Coffey Newsletter. When she learned that we still exist she wrote:

"Thank you so much for your time and help with this. I see we have numbers 2 and 6-123 (2011) cataloged, bound and shelved within our permanent collection. As soon as I have all for 2016, I'll make sure we securely bind nos. 124-141 (2012-2016). That's an amazing collection of the organization's newsletter. We definitely don't want to miss any issues!"

Annette Coffey acoffey10@yahoo.com wrote:

"I am looking for information on William Patterson Coffey (my great grandfather) born in 1864 in TN and died in Cleburne County, Alabama. I know he married George Ann Chandler from Carrollton, GA and they lived in Cleburne County, AL. He died there around 1945. A census record I have shows his dad being from North Carolina and his mother from VA. This is about all I have proof of.

"Some information I read told me he and his brothers and sisters came to USA from Ireland with his grandmother, but I have no proof of this.

"Other information I have tells me that he was born in TN and also had brothers named Jim, Sam, and Thomas and that he had a sister named Susan that married a McKnight while in TN. Supposedly, his brothers and sister moved to Sioux City, Iowa while he moved to AL from TN. Also, his brother Jim married a Sarah Trobough, and after his death his brother Sam married Sarah Trobough.

"The William Patterson Coffey I am looking for information on lived in Cleburne County Alabama and is buried there. I have been to his grave. I just know nothing about his parents or siblings. I have been told that he possibly had a sister named Susan and brothers named James (Jim), Sam and Thomas that went from TN to Iowa while he settled in AL.

"Do you have any information on this Coffey line? I have been searching for years with no success or proof of either story."

Susan Chappell schappe11@att.net updated her query from last issue. She wrote:

"I still don't have proofs of any of his actual marriages, but James McCoy Craig's last wife was Elizabeth Collier (1780-aft.1850) who he named in his will along with his grandson William (son of John Coffey Craig). All 3 are together in the 1840 census in Giles Co. Elizabeth was on the

1850 Giles Co, TN census with one of her sisters. She was the daughter of Joseph Collier who died in 1830 in Limestone Co, AL and named his daughter Elizabeth and her husband James Craig in his will there. This means if he was married to Susanna Coffey she died by 1823 when the will was written. Collier family fought over this for several years.”

Wills and Probate Records, 1753-1999 Limestone Co, Ala

- Orphan Court Minutes, 1830-1850 p90 (film image 50)
- Orphan Court Minutes, 1830-1850 p108 (film image 61)
- Orphan Court Minutes, 1830-1850 p109 (film image 61)
- Jan 1832 Page 115 (film image 64)
- Page 117 (film image 65)
- March 23, 1832 Page 125 (film image 69)

“Also, Elizabeth Collier had sisters 30 years younger than her and two of her sisters married 2 of James McCoy Craig's sons.

“Isabel Collier m. James Craig’s son Johnathan C. (listed in Collier will) and Nancy Ann Collier m. Eli Taylor Craig.

“Hope this helps someone else.”

Tom Coffey tomcoffey1525@gmail.com says that Fred’s analysis of the Samuel connection to Annister is excellent. He says that his GGGrandfather was James Sylvester Coffey. (See article later in this newsletter.)

Cathy Powers, catpowers@mac.com, says she is a descendant of Isaac & Lumina Coffee via Cleo Coffey’s marriage to Charles Roy Spurlock Sr. Her mother was his granddaughter. She has taken a break from Ancestry because of travel and other things but will subscribe again in a couple of months. She also will be heading to Salt Lake City in October with the Genealogy Soc of Desoto County (MS) for a week long deep dive into my father’s side—Limberg.

“I read that you do a quarterly newsletter and that there is a CD of Coffey info. Would the newsletter be beneficial to me? How would I get info about the CD?”

Bonnie’s Comments: Some of Cathy’s family is indeed in the Edward Coffey Project, with this ancestry:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
- (2) John Coffey (~1699 - ~1775) & Jane Graves (ca1708 - 1792)
- (3) Benjamin Coffey (ca1747 - 1834) & Mary Hayes (ca1760 -)
- (4) John Coffey (1776 - 1845) & Elizabeth Rucker (1787 - 1855)
- (5) Ausburn Coffey (1805 - 1876) & Matilda Dalton (1799 - 1899)
- (6) Elias Henry Coffey (1832 - 1911) & Hannah Bullen (1833 - 1909)
- (7) Isaac J. Coffey (1854 -) & Lamina A. Morris (1861 -)
- (8) Cleo Coffey (1885 -) & Charles R. Spurlock (1885 -)
- (9) Lonie Spurlock (ca1906 -)
- (9) Katherine Spurlock (ca1908 -)
- (9) Arnold Spurlock (ca1910 -)
- (9) Voline Spurlock (ca1913 -)
- (9) Marie Spurlock (ca1919 -)

(The Edward Project is no longer available on a CD, it has grown too BIG. See the last page of this newsletter for info on how to order.)

PROOF FOR THE NAME OF BENJAMIN COFFEY'S WIFE:

By Bonnie Culley

The following is a copy of the document sent to the Federal Government. It was application to acquire a small pension for her as the widow of Benjamin Coffey. Benjamin's pension was for service in the Revolutionary War.

This is the only document that we have to prove that her name was "Molly." Previously we thought her name was "Polly."

State of Tennessee } Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions
Hawkins County } February Session 1834

I Stackley N. Mitchell Clerk of the Court of Pleas &c. for Hawkins County, do hereby certify, that on the twenty-fifth day of February 1834 appeared in open Court Hanson Hays & Charles Wolf who were then & there duly sworn according to Law & upon their oath did prove that they were well acquainted with Benjamin Coffey & his wife Molly Coffey and have been for upwards of twenty-five years, that they have lived in Tennessee near neighbors to the said Coffey for twenty years and that during all that time they knew them the said Benjamin Coffey & Molly Coffey to live together as husband & wife & that it has always been understood in their neighborhood that they were such & were lawfully married, and they further proved that the said Benjamin Coffey departed this life on the fourth day of January 1834 and was buried on the fifth of the same month, they being present when he was buried & assisted in burying him And I further certify, that the said Witnesses further proved that the said Molly Coffey is the Widow & relict of the said Benjamin Coffey & is now living on the place in Hawkins County where her husband died, And I further certify, that they further proved that they knew the aforesaid Benjamin Coffey to be a Pensioner of the United States. And do further certify, that Levi Rice Esq. whose name appears to the following power of attorney & affidavits, is now, & was at the time of signing the same, an acting Justice of the Peace in & for said County and that his signature appears to be in his own proper hand writing. I further certify that the foregoing facts are proved to the satisfaction of the Court
Given under my hand and seal of Office
at Rogersville the 10th day of March

(Fred: I think the Edward Coffey Project assumes "Polly/Molly" are nicknames for "Mary".)

VALLEY FORGE MUSTER ROLL:

Valleyformusterroll.org/muster.asp

John Coffee, state: Pennsylvania, ID: PA33821, Division 2nd, Regiment: 1st. PA, Brigade: 1st. PA,

This is probably one of our northern cousins but I found it in the muster rolls and hope it might help someone with their research. You might want the web site for other research as well. Good site! Bonnie

JAMES COFFEY, GRAINGER COUNTY, TENNESSEE:

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

You like complicated and confusing puzzles? Read on!

Right after the last newsletter was published, I got two very short notes from Jeanine (Coffey) Celentano, moochie_1952@yahoo.com, and from JoAnn Coffey, joann_coffey@yahoo.com. Both asked the same basic question: "What DNA testing would you recommend for me?"

I did a quick bit of digging, and found that Jeanine descended from a James Coffey who married Martha Dalton (1858-1920). And JoAnn descended from a James Coffey who married Mary Elizabeth Mitchell (~1857-). And everybody had roots in Grainger County, TN.

So, who were these two "James"? A little more digging, and it became apparent that BOTH lines were claiming their ancestor was "James Arthur Coffey (1850-1915). I turned to Jack Coffee's big "Edward Coffey Project" (ECP), and soon figured out that Jack had an early Project version giving "James Arthur" as the spouse of Mary Mitchell, but had later switched to giving him as the spouse of Martha Dalton (based on new evidence provided by Jeanine).

So, I dove into the 1880 census for Grainger. And I found "James A" Coffey in Grainger District 7, with wife Mary E, and children consistent with JoAnn's line. And I found "James Coffey" in Grainger District 11, with wife Martha, and children consistent with Jeanine's line. So, I declared, since the "A" must be "Arthur", that JoAnn MUST be correct, and Jeanine must descend from a DIFFERENT James.

But Jack Coffee promptly countered by pointing to a marriage record for "James A Coffey" married to Martha Dalton in Grainger on 20 Feb 1877. I countered him, by pointing to a record in "Tennessee State Marriages, 1780-2002" showing that "James A Coffey" married Mary E Mitchell in Grainger on 10 Jul 1871. BOTH of the James appeared to have a middle initial "A"! However, they couldn't be the same, since the 1880 census showed them both alive and heading two different families. (Unless, of course, James was a polygamist maintaining two completely separate families?)

Could we find two ancestral families to explain the presence of the two "James" in Grainger?

Jack's ECP has one as the son of William M Coffey (1828-1893) who married Ellen Nash (ca1824-1884).

And I quickly found a second, also in the ECP. Jack reported a James Temple Coffey (~1803 -) who married Sarah Jane Fielding (~1803 -), and they had 10 children that I could track through the Grainger census for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. And their YOUNGEST SON was "James Coffey" who, per census, was born about 1852.

Now, let me digress a moment and worry about the middle name "Arthur", which was claimed by both family lines. I can find no RECORD **dating to the time when they were alive** that shows that either of the two "James A" was EVER referred to as "James Arthur"! There is however a birth record for Horace Taylor Coffey born 15 Feb 1888, a son of James & Mary (Mitchell) Coffey, that names his father as "James Arthur". However, this is a DELAYED birth record, issued in 1940 by a judge in OHIO for an 1888 birth in Tennessee, probably as part of a Social Security application. I wouldn't consider this as PROOF, but it does show that a person living in this family believed the middle name was "Arthur". It's thus probably true, but hence forth I will show the one who married Mary Mitchell as "James A (Arthur?) Coffey" to reflect a slight doubt.

I think DNA tests on JoAnn and Jeanine are more helpful in decide which James A belongs with which line. Let me show what I think is the end result, add some new names, and then explain.

The two "James A Coffey" are shown in BLUE, and the various **DNA tests are shown in RED**. And on one of the new branches, marriage of cousins may be relevant, and these are **marked in GREEN**: And finally, **JoAnn and Jeanine are shaded yellow (as is a cousin of JoAnn whose test is still pending)**:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
- (2) John Coffey (~1699 - ~1775) & Jane Graves (ca1708 - 1792)
- (3) John Coffey (ca1733 -) & Dorcas Carter
- (4) Meredith Coffey (~1760 - 1838) & Esther (ca1776 -)
- (5) James Temple Coffey (ca1803 -) & Sarah Jane Fielding (ca1803 -)
- (6) **James A (Arthur?) Coffey (1850 - 1915) & Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" Mitchell (~1857 -)**
- (7) James Arthur Coffey (1880 - 1940) & Matilda Leskevitch (~1895 -)
- (8) Richard James Coffey (1927 - 2004) & Grace Marion Zanger (1926 - 1975)
- (9) **JoAnn Coffey (atDNA 734165 Completed)**
- (7) John Quiller Coffey (1885 - 1945) & Lanthe Susane Ayres (1887 - 1938)
- (8) Robert Howard Coffey (1920 - 1984) & Dorothy H (1921 - 1976)
- (9) Raymond Coffey
- (10) **Robert Howard Coffey (atDNA=3rd to 5th vs JoAnn, PENDING: yDNA)**
- (6) Calvin Allen Coffey (1839 - 1907) & Josephine Simmonds (1851 - 1918)
- (7) Cora M. Coffey (1870 - 1944) & Thomas Frank Linke (1866 - 1964)
- (8) Edna Linke (1901 -) & Ellis Leroy Hawk (1898 -)
- (9) Ellis Leroy Hawk Jr (1926 - 2012) & Sarah Jane Parent (1927 - 2012)
- (10) **Chilton Hawk (2nd-4th Cousin to JOANN, no match JEANINE)**
- (3) Benjamin Coffey (ca1747 - 1834) & Mary Hayes (ca1760 -)
- (4) John Coffey (1776 - 1845) & Elizabeth Rucker (1787 - 1855)
- (5) William M. Coffey (1828 - 1893) & Ellen Nash (ca1824 - 1884)
- (6) **James A Coffey (1851 - 1917) & Martha Dalton (1858 - 1920)**
- (7) Noah Leander Coffey (1878 - 1955) & Lavinia Carrie Evans (Smith\Schmidt?) (1885 - 1937)
- (8) James Leo Coffey (1915 - 1970) & Edna Murle Busby (1916 - 1995)
- (9) Wayne Leroy Coffey (1938 - 1989)
- (10) **Jeanine Coffey & Celentano (atDNA 731335 completed)**
- (4) **Jane Coffey (ca1774 -) & Joel Coffey (1774 - 1822) (SECOND COUSINS)**
- (5) **James Coffey (1800 - ~1857) & Mahala Coffey (ca1803 -) (FIRST & THIRD COUSINS)**
- (6) Anderson H. (Hayes of Hardin?) Coffey (1829 -) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca1835 - 1891)
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey (1854 - 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca1857 -)
- (8) Arthur Reed Coffey (1888 - 1972) & Edna Anastatia Dailey (1907 - 1993)
- (9) **Arthur Robert Coffey (1939 -) (3rd-5th Cousin to JEANINE, no match JOANN)**

First, JoAnn and Jeanine themselves both have an atDNA test. But the above descent chart works out to show they are 6C1R, and that is out of range for this test.

Working down from the top, you will see that I show JoAnn's ancestor, the James who married Mary Mitchell, as the son of James Temple Coffey. Why do I think that? Because if you scan on down, JoAnn has a reported atDNA "2nd – 4th cousin" match to a "Chilton Hawk", who is actually her 3C1R. Chilton has no match at all to Jeanine. Therefore, JoAnn most likely belongs to the same family branch as Chilton.

Farther down, you will see I have put the James A Coffey who married Martha Dalton as a son of William M Coffey (1828-1893). Jeanine is his GGGranddaughter. She has a "3rd – 5th cousin" match to the Arthur Robert Coffey shown farther down. Arthur has NO MATCH to JoAnn. So, Arthur Robert and Jeanine likely belong on the same family branch.

The ACTUAL relationship of Jeanine to Arthur Robert is complex. If you just look at the schedule above, it looks like they are 5C1R. But Arthur descends from a Coffey line with MULTIPLE marriages of cousins. He thus has a LOT of Coffey DNA, and that makes the projected DNA relationship seem closer.

(It hurts my head to think, depending on which shared ancestor you choose, about how many different ways Arthur relates to Jeanine. See CCC Newsletter 142-13,14 for discussion of the family.)

MEMO RE ECP: This above tree is now consistent with the ECP, with one major exception: While the ECP identifies that James Temple Coffey had a son James, it does not have anything farther on the descendants of this son.

I HAVE "COFFEY" IN MY FAMILY, AND I WANT TO KNOW...

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

You're looking for information about some "Coffey Connection" in your family, and you want to know where to look? You can, of course, use public data sources like ancestry.com, and they can be helpful. But the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse (CCC) can also help! We have LOTS of Coffey-specific resources!

Ask yourself what you already know. That may affect your choice as to which of the following you will find useful. **See the last page of this Newsletter** for information on how to pursue the following resources:

Newsletters: An immediate resource may be these newsletters. Counting the one you are reading now, there are 144 issues that have been published over 36 years. They write about "all things Coffey", and are not restricted to one particular family line. And they are all indexed, and there are search tools.

And you can use the future newsletters to ask for help from the wide community of "Coffey Cousins". Send a question to the newsletter editor.

DNA Project: Be aware there are a LOT of different, unrelated, lines with the Coffey name. And even if you think you know which line you belong to, ask yourself "are you sure?" Look over our DNA Project, to see what it does, and to think about whether you might want to get involved. Most of the time, tested persons get their family beliefs confirmed, but sometimes there are surprises. There are some elementary genealogies displayed there for already-tested persons,

and those may help you think about where you might fit.

In some cases, there are papers attached to the DNA Project that try to look in more depth, such as trying to resolve how descendants of Edward Coffey, of Peter Coffee, and other Coffey/Keogh families are tied together by DNA.

Hugh Coffey Project: For those who belong (or think they may belong) to a particular family line, there are some special projects with their own reporting resources. One of these is the Hugh Coffey Project. (Other readers are invited to step forward and take the lead on managing and documenting specific projects. Maybe a Peter Coffee project? Or an Ambrose Coffey project?)

Edward Coffey Project: The biggest Coffey group are the descendants of Edward Coffey. Many of you already know that Jack Coffee is managing a HUGE Edward Coffey Project (call it "ECP"). Jack writes "...as of Dec. 2016: I have compiled a database that includes roughly 42,932 people, 14,404 families, 103,870 events (births, marriages, etc.), 2,194 sources with 53,247 citations and 11,516 multimedia items (photos, death certificates, marriage records, news articles, etc.)"

The ECP is available to be ordered on a USB jump drive. It's big, and requires 5.8 GB of disk space! That's "Giga", not "Mega"!

If you wonder if your ancestors are included in the ECP, go to our Newsletter page, and click on "CONTACTS". There you can look at lists of the Names, Records, and Books in the ECP. (Don't panic, you won't have to READ through the list of 26,000 names! Your computer can scan that whole list looking for any name you want, in about 2 seconds!)

AN EDWARD COFFEY PROJECT PERSPECTIVE:

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

I often make use of information from Jack Coffee's Edward Coffey Project (ECP) in writing articles for these newsletters. And I would usually portray the early generations down from Edward as follows:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
 - (2) John Coffey (~1699 - ~1775) & Jane Graves (ca1708 - 1792)
 - (3) NINE CHILDREN OF JOHN
 - (2) Edward Coffey Jr.* (ca1701 - >1774) & Grace Cleveland (1716 -)
 - (3) EIGHT CHILDREN OF EDWARD JR. & GRACE CLEVELAND
 - (2) Edward Coffey Jr.* (ca1701 - >1774) & Unknown???
 - (3) Joel Coffey (ca1730 - ~1789) & Martha Stepp (Sealey?)
 - (3) Salathiel Coffey (~1750 - 1784) & Elizabeth Gore
 - (3) Chesley Coffey Jr??? (1755 - 1818) & Margaret Baldwin
 - (3) Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 - 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (1760 - 1830)
 - (3) Nathan Coffey (1760 - 1823) & Mary Saunders
 - (3) Martin Coffey (1765 - 1867) & THREE(?) WIVES
 - (3) Jesse Cleveland Coffey
 - (2) Martha Coffey (ca1702 - ca1772) & Joshua Stapp (ca1687 - ca1783)
 - (3) EIGHT CHILDREN OF MARTHA COFFEY
 - (2) Anstes Coffey (ca1705 -) & Stephen Chenault II (~1702 -)
 - (3) (FOUR SONS) Chenault
 - (2) Annister Coffey* (ca1708 -) & James Samuel (1690 - 1759)

- (3) James Coffey (~1735 -)
- (2) Annister Coffey* (ca1708 -) & Stephen Chenault II (~1702 -)
- (3) William Chenault (1749 -) & Elizabeth Mullins
- (2) Elizabeth Coffey (ca1714 - 1770) & John Cleveland (1714 - 1778)
- (3) NINE CHILDREN OF ELIZABETH COFFEY

However, Jack Coffee, in his Edward Coffey Project (ECP) portrays the early generations differently. (I think Jack inclines toward “Proof Beyond a Reasonable Doubt”, whereas I am more accepting of “Preponderance of Evidence”!) Here’s Jack’s perception:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
- (2) John Coffey (~1699 - ~1775) & Jane Graves (ca1708 - 1792)
- (3) NINE CHILDREN OF JOHN
- (2) Edward Coffey JR.* (ca1701 - >1774) & Grace Cleveland (1716 -)
- (3) EIGHT CHILDREN OF EDWARD JR. & GRACE CLEVELAND
- (2) DNA Coffey**
- (3) Chesley Coffey**
- (4) Joel Coffey (ca1730 - ~1789) & Martha Stepp (Sealey?)
- (4) Salathiel Coffey (~1750 - 1784) & Elizabeth Gore
- (4) Chesley Coffey Jr??? (1755 - 1818) & Margaret Baldwin
- (4) Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 - 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (1760 - 1830)
- (4) Nathan Coffey (1760 - 1823) & Mary Saunders
- (4) Martin Coffey (1765 - 1867) & THREE(?) WIVES
- (4) Jesse Cleveland Coffey
- (2) Martha “Patsy” Coffey (ca1702 - ca1772) & Joshua Stapp (ca1687 - ca1783)
- (3) EIGHT CHILDREN OF MARTHA COFFEY
- (2) DAUGHTER (?) ANSTES (?) NOT RECOGNIZED**
- (2) Annister Coffey* (ca1708 -) & James Samuel (1690 - 1759)
- (3) James Coffey (~1735 -)
- (2) ANNISTER MARRIAGE TO STEPHEN CHENAULT NOT RECOGNIZED**
- (2) Elizabeth Coffey (ca1714 - 1770) & John Cleveland (1714 - 1778)

There are 3 major areas of difference, and they may matter if you try to compare ECP to other info found in these newsletters:

FIRST DIFFERENCE: Those of you who have been doing Coffey research for a long time may recall we assumed there was a “Chesley Coffey Senior”, from whom a huge branch of Coffey’s descended. Some thought Chesley might be a son of Edward, perhaps born after Edward died? And **DNA testing** absolutely proved that the presumed descendants of this Chesley were indeed somehow descended from Edward.

Jack got around this confusion by “inventing” an artificial connector he called “DNA Coffey”, as shown above.

However, a complete lack of plausible evidence for the existence of “Chesley” suggests he probably never existed. One plausible theory is that the presumed children of Chesley were actually children of Edward Jr. by an unidentified spouse? I took that as my approach. That’s not proven either, but I like it better.

SECOND DIFFERENCE: Edward, in his will, says he has six children. But Jack’s ECP only addressed 5 of them. That’s because the sixth was an illegible name of indeterminate gender. (I interpret the name as “Anstes, a female”.)

THIRD DIFFERENCE: Both Jack and I agree that Annister had a base born son, James.

However, I think Annister later married Stephen Chenault Jr., and Jack is not convinced the evidence meets his standard of proof.

At the "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" most of us are primarily interested in Edward's descendants with the Coffey name, so we really don't care so much about those who acquired different surnames. But there is a comparable group called the "Chenault Association", who obviously have QUITE a different opinion about WHICH surnames are important. THEY think their ancestor Stephen Chenault II first married Anstes Coffey, and they had 4 sons, and after Anstes died Stephen then married sister Annister Coffey, and they had one son.

I think the overall Chenault Association view is plausible, and believe there is convincing evidence that Annister was definitely involved with Stephen Chenault II, and probably was married to him. There's a LENGTHY discussion here with multiple hyperlinks:

<http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/FamilyNotes/CoffeyChenaultConnections.htm>

MORE ON ANNISTER COFFEY LINE:

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

We recently had a new person join our DNA Project, Tom Coffey, tomcoffey1525@gmail.com . And his DNA test shows a convincing connection to the Annister Coffey, mentioned in the previous article. You will recall that Annister had a base-born son James, fathered by a member of the Samuel family. And all descendants of Annister have distinctive "Samuel" DNA.

There's no doubt that Tom Coffey descends from Annister, the DNA tells us that. But there was a puzzle as to EXACTLY how Tom's family line fits in. Tom and I exchanged dozens of notes, examining information and speculating on connections. And we now think THIS is how it all fits together:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
- (2) Annister Coffey (ca1708 -) & James Samuel (1690 - 1759)**
- (3) James Coffey (~1735 -)
- (4) James Coffey Jr (~1774 – bef 1840) & **Nancy (1785 - 1848)**
- (5) Lewis Moses Coffey (1798 - 1844) & Delilah B. Turpin (1802 - 1873)
- (6) James Wilson Coffey (1822 - 1889) & Louisa Tennessee Norman (1826 - 1912)
- (7) Joseph Lane Coffey (1856 - 1927) & Susanah Wellman (1850 - 1919)
- (8) Elmer Ivan Coffey (1880 - 1948) & Lola Edna Oldaker (1880 -)
- (9) Max Arthur Coffey (1902 - 1973) & Dora Ann Heath (1906 - 2005)
- (10) Robert Edwin Coffey (1932 -) **(DNA Test 70660)**
- (6) Moses Turpin Coffey (1831 - 1912) & Lucinda Renner (ca1834 - 1910)
- (7) John B. D. Coffey (1859 - 1912) & Kizzie Belle Gibbs (1864 - 1943)
- (8) John L Coffey (1904 - 1952) & Mildred E. Leonard (1905 - 2000)
- (9) Joseph D Coffey (1938 -) **(DNA Test 78671)**

NEW:

- (5) James Sylvester Coffey (1813 - 1876) & Sarah "Sally" Carter (1817 - 1892)
- (6) Franklin Pierce Coffey (1852 - 1922) & Nancy Ellen Sills (1857 - 1936)
- (7) John Milan Coffey (1880 - 1949) & Nancy Clapper (1888 - 1955)
- (8) Henry Franklin Coffey (1912 -)
- (9) Tom Coffey **(DNA Test 745341)**
- (5) Samuel L Coffey (~1820 - 1888)
- (5) John M Coffey (1824 - 1871) & Minerva Frances Carter (1837 - 1912)

The top section of this, down to the “NEW” label, has long been known. The only exception is that some Coffey genealogists originally speculated that (4) James Coffey Jr had a wife named “Sarah?”. We’ll explain in a moment why we now think his wife was “Nancy (b: 12 Jun 1785, d: 7 Jun 1848 in Shelby County, IN)”.

There are plenty of records for (5) James Sylvester Coffey, his wife, and descendants down to Tom. And Tom’s original analysis led back to the Brandywine Cemetery in Shelby County, IN, where James Sylvester is buried. And that cemetery includes the parents of his wife Sarah Carter, Wilford Carter and Catherine Dodd. And buried near James Sylvester’s “parents in law” is a Nancy Coffey, described as “wife of James”, born 12 Jun 1785, died 7 Jun 1848. We’re now convinced that Nancy was James Sylvester’s mother.

The real challenge was proving who her husband “James” was. The Coffey families are plagued with an overuse of the name “James”! The original James son of Annister, as far as we could determine, only had two sons, named Micajah and James. Could Nancy’s husband James be a son of Micajah? Or a son of James Jr? Or James Jr himself?

Tom offered some supplementary clues. The Brandywine Cemetery also had a Samuel Coffee, who was born about 1920 and died in 1888. Could this be a brother of James Sylvester?

Census and other information told us there was also a John M Coffey living nearby, who was born in North Carolina and who had married Minerva Carter, who was a niece of James Sylvester’s wife Sarah Carter. Could this be a brother?

The clues pointed back to North Carolina, where the original James son of Annister had lived. So, we re-examined the early NC census information for the adjacent counties of Stokes and Rockingham. Those census reports are sloppy about spelling and details, and don’t give names other than the head of household. But we think it all can be made to fit together:

The **1800 Stokes census** has the household of “James Coffee”, who has long been known to be James son of Annister. But there were puzzling household members, that seemed much too young. But once you start thinking they might be his children and grandchildren, and incorporate what we know about “Nancy” from the Shelby burial and her age from other information, it begins to fit: Nancy was the female age “10 thru 15”, and she had married at about the age of 13. And the two children “under age 10” were her babies! And the male “10-15” could actually be James Jr, but the census taker accidentally* checked the wrong census box? (James Jr. would actually be about age 26.) One of those babies would have been Lewis Moses, born in 1798. (*Note the 1800 census is alphabetized, which means the census taker would have collected the census information on other scraps of paper, and then transcribed, making errors quite likely!)

The **1810 census for Snow Creek, Surry** (Snow Creek is actually in Stokes, but Stokes used to be part of Surry so sloppy census work can be forgiven?) had “James Cuffe”. The family head was a male 26-44 (James Jr was 36), with a female 16-25 (Nancy was 25). The family included two children “under 10”, which we think were Nancy’s babies from 1800 who would be a bit over age 10, but again the census taker could have been sloppy. There were also two female children under age 10.

The **1820 census for Stokes** had the family of “James Coffie”, and the head was a male 45+ (James Jr would be 46), with a female 26-44 (Nancy would be 35), plus 9 young people. The “male 16-25” would be Lewis M, age 22. There were two males under 10 (James Sylvester would be 7, and Samuel would be newborn).

The **1830 census for Stokes** has a family headed by “James Coffie/Coffer”, a male 50-59 (James Jr would be 56) with a female 40-49 (Nancy would be 45). There were 7 children, all under age 20. There was a male 5-9 (John would be 6), and a male 15-19 (James Sylvester would be 17).

The **1840 census for Rockingham** (the adjacent county, just east of Stokes) is headed by “Nancey Coffee”, a female 50-59 (Nancy would be 55). There are 5 younger people in the household, all older than age 10. One is a male 15-19 (John would be 16). James Jr apparently died between 1830 and 1840.

We know that James Sylvester was the family pioneer in Shelby, who arrived in time to be married there in 1837. John was there before 1850, and is found in the 1850 census for Shelby working in the household of H H Boggess. Best guess is that Nancy moved west at the same time as John?

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA COFFEYS:

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

I got a query from Terrell Coffey uccra@hintonet.net (we wrote about his family line in Newsletter issue 142-6,7). Terrell has a business associate James “Jimmie” Dean Coffey, who was running into a brick wall on his genealogy. And Terrell challenged me to help Jimmie break through his brick wall. And I love a good puzzle!

Jimmie knew his genealogy was solid back to James Harvey Coffey born 22 Dec 1876, who married Elizabeth F Girking. I immediately checked Jack Coffee’s Edward Coffey Project (ECP), and none of the names in Jimmie’s known genealogy were there. But after a bit of digging (details below) I concluded that MOST of his genealogy was actually in the ECP as follows:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca1670 - ca1716) & Anne Powell (~1683 - ~1744)
- (2) John Coffey (~1699 - ~1775) & Jane Graves (ca1708 - 1792)
- (3) Rev. James Coffey (1729 - 1786) & Elizabeth Cleveland (1727 - ~1826)
- (4) Archelaus Coffey (ca1755 - ~1783) & Eleanor Wade (ca1755 -)
- (5) John Waid Coffey (ca1788 - ca1834) & Mary Harbord (1781 - 1853)
- (6) James Harvey Coffey (1806 - 1855) & Anna Eliza Graham (1815 - 1899)
- (7) Celestis E. Coffey (1836 - 1921)
- (7) William Henry Harrison Coffey (ca1838 -) & Margaret A. Reid (ca1838 -)
- (7) John Waid Coffey (1841 - 1922) & Elizabeth Matilda Persinger (1842 - 1939)
- (8) George Henry Coffey (~1870 -) & Elizabeth Kettler (1873 -)
- (8) James Harvey Coffey (~1872 -) & Mattie M. Kucher (~1881 -)
- (8) William Waid Coffey (1873 -) & Stella Underwood
- (8) Anna Eliza Coffey (1876 - 1942) & Thomas M. Denny (1878 - 1944)
- (8) Mary Elizabeth Coffey (1880 -)
- (8) Minard Ernest Coffey (1883 -) & Ida May McKnight (1889 - 1949)
- (7) Almira Eliza Coffey (ca1843 -) & Lewis N. Warwick (ca1844 -)
- (7) Mary Ann Coffey (1845 - 1935) & David S. Lusk (1844 - 1916)
- (7) James Harvey Coffey Jr.* (1848 - 1904) & Sarah Adeline “Addie” Chambers (1851 - 1926)**
- (8) James Harvey Coffey (1876 - 1953) & Elizabeth F Girking (1876 - 1955)**
- (9) Gerald Wilbur Coffey (1914 - 1981) & Rosalie Deckard (1914 - 2007)**
- (10) James David Coffey (1942 -) & Sally Ann Hudson (1943 -)**
- (11) James Dean Coffey (1964 -)**
- (7) James Harvey Coffey Jr.* (1848 - 1904) & Diantha Elizabeth Boling (1860 - 1942)

- (8) Cora M. Coffey (1884 -) & Henderson Haley (~1884 -)
- (8) Harry L. Coffey (1888 -)
- (8) Lola B. Coffey (1893 -) & Harry Gallion (~1898 -)
- (8) Lilly D. Coffey (1899 -) & Clyde Jackson
- (8) Myra E. Coffey (ca1902 -) & Michael Baker (- <1944)
- (8) Talmage I. Coffey (1903 - 1978)

(7) Addie Caroline Coffey (1851 - 1927)

The data found in the ECP is in black. Jimmie's known genealogy is in blue. And the **connecting bits** I added are shown in red. And here is the supporting evidence:

(aaa) The main breakthrough is that I found the death certificate for (8) James Harvey Coffey (1876). That told me that his father was James Coffey, and his mother was Addie Chambers.

(bbb) Since James Harvey was born in 1876, the next place to look was the 1880 census, searching for a James Harvey Coffey with parents James and Addie Coffey. And I found James H Coffey, age 3, in the household of Addeline Coffey, age 28, in Jefferson, Washington, IN. And Addeline was shown as **divorced**.

(ccc) So where was father James? He was also in the same community, born about 1849, also **divorced**, living in the household of his BROTHER John W. Coffey (age 39) and his wife Eliza M Coffey. John and Eliza's children were George J, James H, William W, and Annie E. And in the household was his MOTHER Annie E, (age 75). And ALL those names correlated perfectly with the family of John Waid Coffey in the ECP, as shown above.

(ddd) Unfortunately, the 1890 census was destroyed, and James Harvey (1876) was grown up and gone before the 1900 census. But as a form of verification, I found the Indiana Marriage Index, which said that Addie Coffey married William T Crow on 16 Mar 1886, in Washington, IN. (A "Crowe" genealogy then gave me lots more dates, etc. Among the information, the 1900 census shows that Addie had two children by William; Minnie and Willie.)

And, per the ECP, James Harvey Coffey (1848) also remarried and had more children.

Finally, to clear up a point of confusion. Some genealogies suggest that the "Addie Caroline Coffey" shown on the last line of the above genealogy was the "Addie" who married William T. Crow. That is not correct.

Addie Caroline Coffey is found with her widowed mother Ann Eliza Coffey in the 1860 and 1870 census for Washington County, IN. Thereafter, in the 1880, 1900, 1910 and 1920 census, she is always found living in the same household as her older sister Mary Ann, who married David S Lusk. In 1880 they are in Washington, IN, and in 1900-1920 they are in Reno, KS. "Find-a-grave" shows her buried in Partridge Cemetery, Reno County, KS. Her grave marker reads "ADDIE C COFFEY 1851-1927".

The two "Addie's" were remarkably close in age. Sarah Adeline (Chambers) (Coffey) Crowe was born 26 Aug 1851, and Addie Caroline Coffey was born December 1851. Addie Chambers died 26 Jan 1926, and Addie Coffey died 1927.

A COFFEY HOUSE? FIRE ISLAND? NEW YORK?

By Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com)

I got the following query from Dylan Coffey (dylancoffey@hotmail.com):

DYLAN: "I'm just looking at the newsletters – and wanted to check with you ... are you aware of Mike Coffey, an Irish immigrant in 1911 who moved to Fire Island, NY and became a well known home builder of 'Coffey Houses'? He's my great uncle!"

I was not so aware, but a quick check on Google revealed many real estate ads featuring those "Coffey Houses". And the "Bike/Walking Tour of Historic Homes of Saltaire" points out several Michael Coffey houses. Here are examples provided by Dylan:



I'm always ready to stick my nose into somebody else's family tree, and I easily found Michael Coffey's immigration, naturalization and draft registration records. He was born 20 Jan 1888 in County Roscommon, arrived at Ellis Island on 25 Aug 1909 on the vessel "Oceanic", and petitioned for naturalization on 4 Jan 1915. He gave his profession as "carpenter".

His naturalization petition was witnessed by Patrick Coffey from Brooklyn, who was his brother. In the 1910 census Patrick (a railroad conductor) and Michael (a carpenter) were together in Brooklyn, Ward 10. Patrick was 9 years older, and had immigrated in 1902.

Dylan's grandfather, James Joseph Coffey Sr. born 29 Nov 1892, appears to have immigrated in April 1910. He was naturalized in 1918. He applied for a passport in 1921, wherein he gave his occupation as "pugilist" and said he was born at Loughglinn, Roscommon, Ireland. He was married in Saltaire on 10 Sep 1927.

I'm on a roll: I now have Patrick, Michael and James, all of known ages, born before 1900, and all obviously living in Roscommon, Ireland in 1901. Time to look at Ireland's 1901 census! Those are extremely common Irish names, but can we find them all at the same time, in the right family, in the right place, with the right distribution of ages? Yes! They are in Newtown, Creagh Parish, Roscommon. The townland of "Newtown" is about 280 acres, located at 53°21'37" N, 8°12'54" W. And it's only 5 km from the townland of "Ardnaglug".

Why is this all of special interest? Because it impacts our Coffey DNA Project. Dylan's father's y-DNA test says he is part of our Meath/Westmeath/Roscommon Group. And that group includes James M Coffey, who traces his grandfather to the townland of Ardnaglug! However, the group also includes descendants of Ambrose Coffey, long known to Coffey genealogists, who was an immigrant to America in the 1700's who joined with Daniel Boone to fight the Indians. The confusion? Genetically, Dylan's line is closest to Ambrose' descendants. Geographically, his line is closest to James from Ardnaglug!

How can this be? I think this area contains Coffey lines that have lived in the same relatively small area for hundreds of years. Without moving around much at all, they had time to evolve to show male-line y-DNA that is significantly different.

Anyway, here's the family record in the 1901 Ireland census for Newtown/Creagh/Roscommon:

John Coffey, age 58 (b: about 1843), Head, Farmer

Anne Coffey, 50 (abt 1851), Wife

Patrick Coffey, 21 (abt **1880**), Farmers Son

John Coffey, 17 (abt 1884), Farmers Son

Anne Coffey, 14 (abt 1887), Scholar

Michael Coffey, 12 (abt **1889**), Scholar

Timothy Coffey, 9 (abt 1891), Scholar

James Coffey, 8 (abt **1892**), Scholar

Dylan's response to the above:

"Your article is great and accurate!

"His daughter, Ann Coffey Keegan is still alive, is now 92, and still lives in the Coffey house her father built for her in 1951 - his very last house! We had a reunion this summer on Saltaire, and we had the grandkids, great and great-great grandkids of Michael and James Coffey Sr.

"Regards, Dylan"

INFORMATION RESOURCE LINKS:

We're going to continue using this last page to show where you can find some good sources of information:

NEWSLETTER QUERIES:

If you wish to pose a query to the newsletter, or offer an article or a suggestion, send to **Bonnie Culley** at Bculey@embarqmail.com. Unless it's a question primarily about DNA, in which case send it to FredCoffey@aol.com.

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE:

The archive of all the historic newsletters, with an index and search tools, is here:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/CCCNewslettersOnline/>

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION:

Newsletters always are found in the above archive. If you want to receive an email notice when a new issue is available, send a brief note to FredCoffey@aol.com.

EDWARD PROJECT:

Jack Coffee's Edward Project is still available on a USB drive and it can be ordered from the Edward Project blog at

<http://coffeycousins.blogspot.com/>

HUGH COFFEY PROJECT:

If you descend from Hugh Coffey, **Terri Stern** is the manager of an atDNA (autosomal DNA) Project on the Hugh line. You can contact Terri at HughCoffeyProject@gmail.com. More details about this project background can be found at

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/hugh-coffeyb-1710/about/background>

DNA PROJECT:

Our DNA Project can be found at the following link. Also, be aware that there are a number of additional information source links within the following:

www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/DNA