

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012

Editor and Publisher: Jack K Coffee 2012-2016

Editor and Published by Bonnie Culley 2017

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley & Fred Coffey 2022

Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No. 164 ISSN 0749-758X

Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

(This actually is Fred, standing in for Bonnie. She is having considerable computer problems right now. Her computer is not functioning, and she has lost her old "embarqmail" email address. At the moment she is not even sure she will be able to access and read this newsletter when I get it finished!

So don't expect any "Editor's Comments" this quarter.

Do NOT send any notes to her old email address!

Sincerely,

~~*Bonnie Culley*~~ (*Fred*) *Bonnie's old Embarqmail.com Address does not work!*

Co-editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

I've had a lot of fun exploring topics in this newsletter. I love trying to solve mysteries, stirring up new evidence, speculating on how things might fit together. Sometimes I help, sometimes I add confusion. I would be delighted if you readers would add new information, correct my ideas, etc., etc. As you read this newsletter, keep asking yourself "do I have any ideas that might help?" Let me know your thoughts!

Readers will recall that we have previously worked on an occasional "adoption" puzzle. Where someone who was adopted was seeking information on his biological origins. I find that kind of work to be particularly fascinating. We have just turned up another such case and are trying to help the family. It involves a young girl who had a child out of wedlock that she gave up for adoption. At a much later date she started searching for her son and found him! And DNA tests showed the son's father had to be related to descendants of our Edward Coffey. Things get terribly complicated, and we're struggling to fit the pieces together. Stand by for a potential good story in the next newsletter!

Fred Coffey

FredCoffey@aol.com

Index: Issue 165

	Page		Page
Editors' Comments	1	Dealing with paperwork?	7
Co-Editor Comments	1	Future Evolution of the ECP	9
Caution: Fake Email!	2	Update Hugh Coffey Project	10
Geographic Perspective	3	Hugh Coffey Haplogroups	11
Searching Info Breakthroughs	3	DNA Update: R-Y52526 SNP	12
Chasing Martin Coffey (Sr & Jr)	4	R-Y46776 Tentative Review	13
Three Martins in 1894 Census	4	Information Resource Links	15
Did Martin Jr. have a brother?	5		

CAUTION! FAKE EMAIL A THREAT TO CCC NEWSLETTER READERS?

By Fred Coffey

I get quite a few email messages that I conclude are "Fake" and are trying to persuade me to click on a link in the message. I'm not the only one, Terri Stern showed me a message she received claiming to be a "Note from Fred Coffey". I never sent her that note! And I later got a similar note that appeared to be from Bonnie Culley, saying "I need a favor" and asking for an immediate reply. I was indicated as a "bcc" recipient – and immediately decided this was NOT a real note from Bonnie!

I am very suspicious of any note that asks me to react by responding or clicking on something in the note. I am particularly suspicious if I see that I am a "bcc" recipient of the message, which suggests it could be a note being sent to thousands of people in the hope that at least a few will "take the bait"!

But then I thought about how I am sending notices about the availability of new issues of these newsletters. I send the notices to a couple hundred readers, using "bcc" to keep the distribution list private. And I have usually been including a hyperlink and suggesting "click here to read the Newsletter". In other words, I am doing EXACTLY what I am warning against!

I now fear that the notes I send could be perceived as dangerous, or that someone could copy my format and turn it into a real danger to the reader.

I will continue to use "bcc" to protect your email addresses, BUT I will no longer include ANY such "links" in the note. I will simply say something like:

"Visit the Coffey Genealogy Information Roadmap to call up the new newsletter issue. Once there, you can click on "Newsletters" and choose Issue #165. If you don't know or remember how to find the Roadmap, just reply to this note and say "send me instructions to find the Roadmap". I will send you a direct person-to-person reply with instructions.

A Geographic Perspective:

By Fred Coffey

There are several articles in this Newsletter, related to the area in southern Kentucky in and near Russell County. There were tremendous numbers of “Coffey Cousins” found in this area starting in the early 1800’s. And a large number of you readers have ancestors that passed through this area. See this map:



Genealogies here are extremely complex. I have hundreds of pages of information. Involving people with identical or nearly identical names. There were many marriages of cousins, which created significant complexity.

Kevin Coffey and I did a background analysis about the people living in this area for the 2009 Coffey Convention that was held in Russell County. We developed 200 pages of information and interesting discussion covering years up to 1880. If you want to review the highlights, click on this blue link to [RussellCounty](#),

I have moved beyond 1880 and developed an Excel spreadsheet that looks for EVERY Coffey name that can be found in this area in EVERY federal census from 1810 to 1950. It contains a vast amount of information that can extend and support the above Russell County report. You can search for any Coffey name that appeared in any census in this area, using your computer’s powerful search tool. If you see a name that is promising, click to see supporting details. It hyperlinks to the source data, including full census reports and images.

If anyone is interested, send me a note and I’ll forward the spreadsheet. (Maybe later, once it’s better tested, I’ll post it for general availability.)

SEARCHING FOR NEW INFORMATION BREAKTHROUGHS:

By Fred Coffey

Readers will recall from the last newsletter that we have been struggling to work out who was the “Husband of Hester”. Hester was the mother of three Coffey lines found in Russell County, KY, but we haven’t been able to connect Hester to a known Coffey ancestral line. As noted above I have hundreds of pages of information, and I think the answer OUGHT to be in there. But I simply can’t find and confirm Hester’s Husband.

You may want to read the background search as reported in this old newsletter (See page 8).

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/CCCNewslettersOnline/CCCIssue126.pdf>

I speculate that all of these people may be descendants of Martin Coffey (1762 – 1867), who lived a very long time and had 3 or 4 wives.

Note that House #204 is Martin Coffey Jr. I have started to wonder if Martin Jr could actually be a SON of the “Husband of Hester”, and thus BROTHER of the men in houses 205, 209, and 211. And if that were true, then Martin Jr would also have the same unusual mutation on y- DNA

Marker #27 (aka Y-GATA-H4) and would have likely passed it on to his descendants. These men have an allele value of “12”. Everybody else descending from Edward has a value of “11”.

I would love to find a proven male-line descendant from Martin Jr and obtain a y-DNA test. I am now trying to work through every information source I have to find such a person. I haven’t given up, but so far no success. Does any reader know a living male Coffey who clearly descends from Martin Jr?

ECP: CHASING MARTIN COFFEY (SR & JR):

By Fred Coffey

Martin Coffey, senior and junior, were known to Jack Coffee and are addressed in his ECP (Edward Coffey Project). We tend to rely very much on the work that Jack did. He was extremely careful to document everything he examined, and his project offers links to 48,507 source references! And if he is ever uncertain about his conclusions, he offers discussion.

I have been spending considerable time looking at census reports and trying to tie things to what Jack wrote about Martin Coffey (1765) and Martin Coffey Jr (1804). I now think there are a couple of areas where Jack’s work was less than fully complete.

About Martin Jr’s wife: Let me first closely look at what he wrote about Martin Coffey Jr’s family. I think he made two errors with consequences:

He wrote that Martin Jr’s wife was Nancy Cundiff “born circa 1820”. But Martin and Nancy had a son Benjamin born in 1832, so Nancy would have been age 12! Also, the 1840 census shows BOTH Martin and Nancy as being in the same age group. It would be more likely if they were BOTH of about the same age, and I will henceforth assume Nancy was born circa 1804.

Secondly, Jack found Martin Jr. in the 1850 census with several of his known children. But he admits he was puzzled, because the 1850 census shows a curious male in the family, and Jack worries “Who is the 30-yr old Coffey male whose name appears to be Daccus? Could be census error and name is Darcus, perhaps a second wife?”

Jack was quite right about the “second wife”. He failed to look ahead to the 1860 census, after the death of Martin Jr. “Darcus Coffey” is THERE as the widowed **female** head of the family. And with additional children born prior to Junior’s death.

I also see that Martin Junior’s children were appearing at close interval until 1840, and then there was a 5-year gap before the next child in 1845. I think Martin’s first wife Nancy died in or after 1840, and Martin then remarried to “Darcus” and had additional children.

There were THREE Martin Coffey in the 1840 Census:

Jack’s ECP only talks about two men named “Martin Coffey”. But if I look at the 1840 census for Russell County, I see THREE “Martins”. Here’s a table showing what I can see in that census:

“Martin #1” is clearly Martin Sr, and this is entirely consistent with Jack’s assessment for that person. We know the names and age category for each person here.

1840 CENSUS, RUSSELL COUNTY, KY				
MARTIN # =	(1)	(2)	(3)	
Given Name	Martin	Martin W	Martin	
Surname	Coffey/Caffey	Coffey	Coffey/Caffey	
White Males - Under 5	0	1 (Unknown)	2 (John & Christian)	
5 thru 9	0	1 (Unknown)	1 (Ben)	
10 thru 14	1 (John C)	1 (Unknown)		
15 thru 19	2 (Andrew & Golson)	-		
30 thru 39	-	-	1 (Martin Jr)	
40 thru 49	-	1 (Martin W)		
60 thru 69	1 (Martin Sr)	-		
white Females - Under 5	-	1 (Unknown)	(Sarah Missing?)*	
5 thru 9	-	1 (Unknown)	1 (Lucy)	
15 thru 19	1 (Frances)	-		
20 thru 29	-	1 (Unknown)		
30 thru 39	-	-	1 (Nancy Cundiff)*	
49 thru 49	1 (Nancy Herriford)	-		
Total Free White Persons	6	7	6	

“Martin #3” is clearly Martin Jr, and again we know the names of the people.

But “Martin #2” is a real mystery. Can any of our readers offer a discussion about his connection? He was probably born 1790-1800, had children born 1825-1840. He had children under age 5 in 1840, so in 1850 he should still have children with ages 15 or younger. But I can’t find him. Where did he go?

There is also another small “mystery” under Martin #3. In the 1850 census, recall that I believe Martin Jr’s first wife Nancy has died, and I believe he has married his second wife “Darcus”. In the 1850 census there is a female child “Sarah” age 13, who would have been age 3 in this 1840 census. I suspect that Darcus had been previously married, and that “Sarah” is Darcus daughter by her first marriage?

Did Martin Jr. have a brother? Jack apparently did not look farther back than the 1840 census, assuming the 1840 and 1850 census covered everything he needed to know about “Junior”. He did already know a lot about the marriages of Martin Sr, so concluded he had everything he needed to know.

When I look at the 1820 and 1830 census, I can see that both Martin Sr and Martin Jr are there. Mostly their families are consistent with what Jack concluded from his work, but with one interesting exception. I now believe that Martin Jr had a brother with an unknown name. Perhaps that brother died before 1840, and thus was not found by Jack?

For some of the following, knowledge of the geography of this area, and how it changed over time, may be helpful. Note that in 1810 and 1820 Russell County did not exist. In 1830 Russell was added, and in 1840 Clinton County was added. Coffey families are found in all of these counties as they appeared over time. See the area map shown on Page 3.

Let’s first examine the 1820 census for Wayne County, KY. (In 1820 Russell County did not yet exist and the area of interest was WAYNE county!) Remember that in 1820 only the head of household was named, and everybody else was just part of the “head count”.

Be aware that Martin Senior had three wives. His first was Elizabeth Bronson, who died in Kentucky before 1798. His second was Nancy Phelps, and the ECP reports they had 4 daughters and one son (Martin Jr). His third wife was Nancy Herriford, and they had 4 sons and one daughter.

Here’s the census info for 1820, annotated in red with the family names we now know:

Name:Martin Coffey	Only the family head is named. This would be “Martin Sr”.
Home in 1820 Wayne, Kentucky	“Russell” county did not exist in 1820, was later formed in part from this “Wayne” county.
Enumeration Date: August 7, 1820	
Free White Persons - Males - Under 10: 2	His son James (age 2) by Nancy Herriford is here. The other male is a mystery, maybe a son by his first wife Nancy Phelps?
Free White Persons - Males - 16 thru 25: 2	One of these would be his son “Martin Jr”, born 1804. The other one is a mystery, Maybe a brother of Martin Jr.??? (See later discussiom.)
Free White Persons - Males - 26 thru 44: 1	This is Martin Sr. Other info says he was born 15 Sep 1765, and therefore he actually would be age 55. This is probably a census error!?

Free White Persons - Females - Under 10: 3	Daughters: Nancy, Ellen, and Artemesia Coonis, all by his wife Nancy Phelps, plus Frances by wife Nancy Herriford.
Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 15: 2	Daughter Elizabeth by Nancy Phelps. Plus another mystery child?
Free White Persons - Females - 16 thru 25: 1	Martin's Current Wife Nancy Hereford was born in 1795 and would be age 25..
Number of Persons - Engaged in Agriculture: 3	
Free White Persons - Under 16: 7	
Free White Persons - Over 25: 1	
Total Free White Persons: 11	
Total All Persons - White, Slaves, Other: 11	

Next, we can consider the 1830 census for Russell County, KY. Martin Sr. is there reported as age 50-59. (If he was born 15 Sep 1765 his actual age would be 65.) This is all generally consistent with the above 1820 census, so I won't go into details.

But there is also important 1830 census information for Warren County, where we can now CONFIRM that Martin Jr almost certainly had a BROTHER! Have another look at the map on page 3, and you'll see "Warren" is about 3 or 4 counties west of Russell County. I have no idea why they were there in 1830, but there can be no mistake about the names. And they returned to Russell County by 1840.

Name: Martin Coffee	Only the family head is named. This is "Martin Jr".
Home in 1830: Warren, KY	"Warren" is four counties west of Russell, about 90 miles. Don't know why they were there, but this is clearly the right family and clearly consistent with the above!
Free White Persons - Males - 20 thru 29: 2	One of these is a perfect fit for Martin Jr, and the other would fit the unknown brother we speculated in the 1820 census.
Free White Persons - Females - 20 thru 29: 1	This would be Martin Jr's first wife Nancy Cundiff
Free White Persons - 20 thru 49: 3	

(MEMO: Following is a rough tabulation of some of the people we have just talked about. But it needs work. Depending on what conversations are stirred up by this Newsletter, I may take a fresh shot at it next year!)

-)1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)
- (2) Edward Coffey JR. (ca 1701 - aft 1774) & Unknown???
- (3) Martin Coffey* (15 Sep 1765 - 27 Nov 1867) & Elizabeth Bronson (ca 1762 - bef Aug 1798)
- (4) Joel Joseph Coffey (1790 - abt 1862) & Anne Booker Sharp (1810 - bef 1859)
- (3) Martin Coffey* (15 Sep 1765 - 27 Nov 1867) & Nancy Phelps
- (4) Mary Ann Coffey (16 Sep 1799 - 24 Aug 1881) & Henry Meadows (28 Mar 1797 - 13 Jan 1851)
- (4) "BrotherOfMartinJr"
- (4) Martin Coffey Jr.* (ca 1804 -) & Nancy Cundiff (ca 1820 -)
- (5) Benjamin Coffey (ca 1832 -)
- (5) Lucy N. Coffey (ca 1833 -)
- (5) John Wesley Coffey (May 1835 - 22 Sep 1919) & Elizabeth Popplewell (22 Feb 1836 - 9 Aug 1906)
- (5) Sarah A. Coffey (ca 1837 -)
- (5) Christian Coffey (ca 1838 -)

- (5) Mary J. Coffey (ca 1840 -)
- (4) Martin Coffey Jr.* (ca 1804 -) & Darcus Pierce? (abt 1820 -)
- (5) Martha Coffey (ca 1845 -)
- (5) Mandy O. Coffey (ca 1847 -)
- (5) James A. Coffey (ca Jun 1850 -)
- (5) Louisa Coffey (ca 1853 -)
- (5) William M Coffey (ca 1855 -)
- (4) Elizabeth Coffey (11 Mar 1805 - 11 Sep 1843) & Elisha Mitchell (15 Jun 1806 - 13 Mar 1872)
- (4) Nancy Ellen Coffey (1813 - 14 Dec 1888) & William Perry Meadows (26 Jun 1811 - 24 Apr 1870)
- (4) Artemesia Coonis Coffey (1817 -) & William Kelsay (ca 1810 - ca 1850)
- (3) Martin Coffey* (15 Sep 1765 - 27 Nov 1867) & Nancy Herriford (1795 - 3 Feb 1875)
- (4) James Coffey* (7 Sep 1818 - 27 Jul 1897) & Martha Tucker (7 Dec 1818 - 7 Mar 1877)
- (4) James Coffey* (7 Sep 1818 - 27 Jul 1897) & Clarinda Estes (ca 1826 -)
- (4) Frances Coffey (abt 1819 -) & George W. Brown (abt 1824 -)
- (4) Golson Wilson Coffey (1822 - 1906) & Rebecca Ann Shackelford (14 Feb 1825 - ca 1891)
- (4) Willis Andrew Coffey (15 Feb 1824 - 8 Apr 1884) & Sarah A. Bernard (18 Apr 1827 - 23 Jul 1896)
- (4) John C. Coffey (1828 - ca 1880) & Nancy Jane Godby (Apr 1835 -)

WHAT DO WE DO WITH ALL THE PAPERWORK?

By Fred Coffey and Chris Coffee

Fred: Chris Coffee, son of Jack Coffee (creator of the Edward Coffey Project (ECP)), asked for advice about what people should do with all the paperwork family researchers leave behind after their death. Here's part of our exchange, and some thoughts. Do any of the readers of this newsletter have suggestions for us?

(The following "discussion" goes beyond the "left-behind-paper" to discuss what is (or is not) included in the ECP. It may be helpful to some of the readers to know how things fit together.)

Chris: Hi, Fred. I assume Dad had digitized most of his genealogy records, but I'm not certain. Can you help me understand the recommended best practice for how to handle all of this paperwork he left behind?

It's a challenging project to grasp a hold of. I have a similar issue with all of my kids' "art" from their early years. What do I do with it, does it have any family "value", does it stay in a box, do I display things, etc.?

While I have an interest in our family history, the ECP was my dad's project and it's not one I can afford to take on with the same fervor as he did. Of his children, I'm the only one that helped him out at times or showed any interest in his findings. Hence, I'm the guardian of his records. However, he had no long-term plan for how to handle the data nor did he seem to have it organized in such a way for anyone to know what was yet to be reviewed/digitized, etc. It certainly would be interesting to know how others plan to handle their data after death.

Fred: I personally also have a couple of file cabinets full of paper that I've never published in detail. A big part of MY paper volume is because I keep a separate file folder on each person who joins the Coffey DNA Project. I would expect when I am gone that my son will eventually bring in a dumpster and trash most of that paper!

Will I be upset if he goes the "dumpster" route? Will he be destroying valuable information? Actually NOTHING will be lost, because each folder contains information given to me by the DNA Project participants, and those participants are the real owners of the information. And I

would presume those participants are already doing all their own genealogy and preserving whatever paper records they think useful.

Most of this “paper” collection has nothing to do with my son’s personal genealogy. Or with the genealogy of various other near-family members. Most often I give near-family members notebooks containing hard-copy reports focused on their specific genealogy, and they are then responsible to consider if they want to save the books for future generations to look at.

Jack digitized an absolutely HUGE amount of information, and he was extremely careful to document all of this information, his sources, and his assumptions. And to the best of my knowledge, everything he thought might be useful for Edward Coffey Project genealogy is now digitized and available online.

Be aware, however, that Jack clearly had a lot of information in his files that never made it into the ECP. For example, he tried to never post information into the ECP that addressed living persons – for privacy reasons. Among many others, one “living person” was Jack himself. Jack himself does NOT appear in the ECP (beyond identifying himself as the author).

It goes beyond that. Here’s a profile that was published in Newsletter 154-4 (the issue with Jack’s obituary). No matter how hard you search you will **NOT** find any of the names highlighted in yellow in Jack’s formal ECP!

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)
- (2) John Coffey (BET 1699 AND 1700 - BET JAN 1775 AND FEB 1775) & Jane Graves (ca 1708 - 1792)
- (3) Thomas Coffey (7 Mar 1742 - Apr 1825) & Sarah Fields (ca 1750 - 21 Nov 1828)
- (4) Sarah Coffey (ca 1792 -) & Hardy Mills (ca 1763 - 6 Mar 1841) **(Sarah’s descendants have MILLS y-DNA)**
- (5) Lilburn Jackson Coffee (BET 1822 AND 1824 - ca 1877) & Sarah Hannah Taylor (ca 1823 - Mar 1860)
- (6) John Fielding Coffee (Dec 1842 - 19 Apr 1911) & Fannie Thompson (2 Apr 1854 - 18 May 1888)
- (7) Robert Marvin Coffee (30 Sep 1879 - 14 Apr 1944) & M Alice Jones (abt 1881 - 11 Aug 1907)
- (8) Robert Donald Coffee (6 Nov 1906 - 20 Sep 1974)
- (9) Robert Donald Coffee Jr (8 Apr 1945 - 7 Oct 1984) & Linda Dianne Hay (14 Mar 1948 - 19 Nov 2008)
- (10) Aaron Vahid Coffee (1969 -) **(y-DNA Test + at-DNA Test)**
- (6) James M. Coffee (ca 1845 -) & Mary Elizabeth Bowman (5 Mar 1846 - ca Aug 1883)
- (7) Albert Lilburn Coffee (22 Jan 1873 - 26 Mar 1960) & Ora Elizabeth Braley (14 Jan 1884 - 7 Mar 1984)
- (8) Frank Hurley Coffee (8 Mar 1910 - 4 Sep 1976) & Velma Imogene Roe (29 Oct 1923 - 18 Mar 1966)
- (9) Jack Kenneth Coffee (1 Dec 1939 - 22 Oct 2020) & Nelda Laurent (11 Mar 1940 -) **(y-DNA Test)**
- (10) Danel Marie Coffee (29 May 1961 -)
- (10) Stephen Allen Coffee (12 May 1964 -)
- (10) Christopher Lee Coffee (21 Dec 1970 -)

The “yellow” names were not a secret. Some of this information actually came to me as part of Jack and Aaron’s “DNA Project” participation, flagged in red above.

Jack simply decided not to include even the deceased people from the yellow list in the ECP. Perhaps he did this because of the complication of Hardy Mills bringing Mills DNA into the picture via his relationship to (4) Sarah Coffey. All of the “yellow” people are descendants of Edward Coffey and have Coffey autosomal DNA – it’s just not “y” DNA because the female Sarah didn’t have the male Y-DNA.

Jack, of course, would have also done genealogy for many people outside of the Coffey lines, and that information would be somewhere in his files. He obviously did research on his maternal line (Roe) and his spouse line (Laurant). All that stuff is probably stored in his file cabinets. If I

were you, I would flip through his file cabinets looking for any personal files related to any living people who are part of your close family. You might want to think about preserving those as of possible future interest to your siblings, children, nephews, nieces, etc. My point is that there has to be a lot of stuff in his Jack's file cabinets that is not ECP. Be careful what you put in the dumpster if you go that route.

Chris: As I said, "the ECP was my dad's project and it's not one I can afford to take on with the same fervor as he did."

Fred: Actually, my opinion is that it would be nearly impossible for you or anyone else to pick it up and continue what Jack was doing in the way he was doing it. Jack used RootsMagic genealogy software, and you probably still have a copy of his data files. My impression is that it was a massive effort for Jack to do a full update, and he only did it rarely. You probably still have his electronic files, but it would be impossible for anybody other than Jack to pick it up and continue. It is far too massive and complicated.

But Jack's Edward Project INFORMATION remains available for anyone who cares to dig into the ECP results. Jack was always ready to give any Coffey an electronic thumb drive version of his ECP, subject to their respecting his Copyright views. And there was a HUGE volume of backup information always included. (By the way, that "backup" information DOES contain records that show Jack was indeed researching Roe, Laurent and other non-Coffey families.)

Do any of our readers have views on the preservation of paper records, that they would like to share?

FUTURE EVOLUTION OF THE ECP:

By Fred Coffey

In my view the ECP is not a dead project. It continues to evolve and expand as follows:

Many years ago, Jack gave me a GEDCOM of his ECP name list, subject to constraints about sharing with others. I loaded that into my own software and proceeded to ADD new information as I found it. My additions generally supported or added to what Jack had addressed.

In large part, I document a lot of MY work by writing articles for these newsletters. The ECP remains a core source of Edward Coffey information, but I have expanded on Jack's work.

Once in a while I do discover things that Jack overlooked. There are a couple of articles in this newsletter that discuss such overlooked discoveries. But there is no way that I or anyone else could go in and change Jack's work, his system was far too massive and complicated for me or anyone to make changes.

I consider my work to be an extension of the ECP, covering things that I believe Jack would have addressed if he were still alive. A Coffey researcher might be wise to search the newsletter archives to see if there have been any extensions of Jack's information.

Archives? All such "archives" are part of the "Coffey Roadmap". See the last page of this newsletter for how to access the "Roadmap".

AN UPDATE OF THE HUGH COFFEY PROJECT:

By Terri Stern

Terri Stern APG Profile Administrator, Hugh Coffey Autosomal DNA Project

Hugh Coffey Project -DNA evidence combined with record evidence give answers:

Question: How is John Coffey who died in 1843 related to Hugh Coffey born about 1700 of Augusta County Virginia?

Many years ago, Spencer Coffey traced his line back to his two times Great Grandfather John Coffey who died in 1843 in Fayette County, Tennessee. John was married to Margaret Baskin who died in Woodruff County, Arkansas in 1848. It was a brick wall for him. In 2004 Spencer took a Y DNA test and found out he matched Jeff Coffey. Jeff's tree had records going back to Hugh Coffey born 1750 and Agnes Montgomery of Lancaster SC. Hugh served in the Revolutionary War and was the son of John Coffey and Susannah Watson and grandson of Hugh Coffey born about 1700 who lived in Augusta County, Virginia.

In 2005 Edward Preston Wilson II took the Y37 DNA test and matched Spencer and Jeff.

In 2010 Richard Lee Coffey took the Y DNA test and was a match to Spencer, Jeff and Ed Wilson. Richard's earliest Coffey was Hugh Coffey b 1784 from Lancaster County SC who with his wife Margaret Walker died in Lafayette County, Mississippi. Some researchers claimed that the Mississippi Hugh was possibly a son of Hugh Coffey b 1750 and Agnes Montgomery but that Hugh already had a documented son named Hugh Jr born in 1770 who married Margaret Moore.

Ed Wilson and Richard Lee Coffey upgraded to Y-111 and then to Y700 and discovered that they indeed shared a common ancestor who created the Haplogroup R-FTB71880, a subset of R-FTB75177. Autosomal matches confirmed that Ed Wilson and Richard Lee Coffey were both descendants of Hugh Coffey and Margaret Walker through their son Andrew Boyd Coffey and his wife Margaret Kilgore. Autosomal matches also confirmed that Hugh Coffey born 1784 was indeed the son of both Hugh Coffey 1750 and his wife Agnes Montgomery born 1755.

In 2021 Brian Coffey took the Y700. Brian lives in Portavogie, County Down, Ireland. The family lore is that the Portavogie Coffeys are related to Billy Graham's mother Morrow Coffey. Morrow Coffey's two times Great Grandfather was John Coffey born 1752, brother of Hugh Coffey born 1750 who married Agnes Montgomery. Morrow's sisters came to Portavogie looking for Coffey families. Brian's Y700 confirmed that Brian shares a common Coffey ancestor with the Hugh Group. He has the same mutation R-FTB75177 formed around 1600 that Ed and Richard Lee have, but not the more recent mutation R-FTB71880 formed around 1800. This gives us evidence that Hugh b 1700 was from County Down.

This year 3 more men took the Y700 -- Spencer Coffey, his cousin Norm Coffey, and William Richard Coffey. Spencer and Norm share the common ancestor Robert Exum Coffey born 1858, a grandson of John Coffey and Margaret Baskin. They both have the mutation R-FTC70715 and R-FTB75177, but not the mutation Ed and Richard Lee have. William Richard Coffey is also a descendant of Hugh Coffey and Margaret Walker, but unlike Ed and Richard Lee descends from their son Harris Coffey. He has the same R-FTB71880 mutation that Ed and Richard Lee Coffey have and he has the autosomal DNA matches to descendants of Hugh Coffey and Agnes Montgomery that they have. Now we know that the R-FTB71880 mutation comes from Hugh Coffey born 1784 or his father Hugh Coffey born 1750. These 3 tests indicate that John Coffey who married Margaret Baskin is a descendant of a brother or uncle of Hugh Coffey born 1750.

Autosomal DNA matches that Spencer and Norm have point to Capt Henry Coffey born 1748 who served with his younger brother Hugh under Lt. Col. Henry Hampton at the battle of Blackstock's Plantation. Henry moved in 1793 to Davidson County, Tennessee. Records in Tennessee indicate Mary Coffey (wife of Alexander Hamilton), Jane Coffey (wife of Henry Anderson Jr), Ellenor Coffee (wife of John Menees) and John Coffey were siblings and all the children of Henry. Record evidence and DNA evidence together give us the answers. I am looking for more male Coffeys from the Hugh Group to take the Y700. I especially would like to find more descendants of Hugh born 1750 from his son Hugh born 1770 who married Margaret Moore, and John who married Esther Givens. None of the descendants of Hugh born 1770 who married Margaret Moore have matches to Montgomerys, so I am suspecting that the Hugh born 1770 is either the son of Hugh born 1750 by a first marriage before he married Agnes Montgomery or that he is the son on a brother of Hugh b 1750. If you want to find more about any of these Coffeys, you can find them on WikiTree, the free World Family Tree with DNA and sources where genealogists and family historians collaborate. Here is the web address for Hugh Coffey b 1750:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Coffey-2478>

HUGH COFFEY PROJECT: HAPLOGROUP STORY:

By Fred Coffey

In the previous article Terri talks about haplogroups R-FTB75177 and R-FTB71880. Here's a different view of what these terms mean – offered here because it links to the next article in this newsletter. FTDNA discusses the meaning of these as follows:

The R-FTB75177 Story

“R-FTB75177's paternal line was formed when it branched off from the ancestor R-FTB71717 and the rest of mankind around 1300 CE. This date is an estimate based on genetic information only. With a 95% probability, the ancestor R-FTB71717 was born between the years 963 and 1536 CE. The most likely estimate is 1292 CE, rounded to 1300 CE.

“The man who is the most recent common ancestor of this line is estimated to have been born around 1600 CE. This date is an estimate based on genetic information only. With a 95% probability, the most recent common ancestor of all members of haplogroup R-FTB75177 was born between the years 1378 and 1738 CE. The most likely estimate is 1586 CE, rounded to 1600 CE.

“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-FTB71880, R-FTC70715 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 6 DNA tested descendants,

The R-FTB71880 Story

“R-FTB71880's paternal line was formed when it branched off from the ancestor R-FTB75177 and the rest of mankind around 1600 CE. This date is an estimate based on genetic information only. With a 95% probability, the ancestor R-FTB75177 was born between the years 1378 and 1738 CE. The most likely estimate is 1586 CE, rounded to 1600 CE.

“The man who is the most recent common ancestor of this line is estimated to have been born around 1800 CE. This date is an estimate based on genetic information only. With a 95% probability, the most recent common ancestor of all members of haplogroup R-FTB71880 was born between the years 1647 and 1907 CE. The most likely estimate is 1803 CE, rounded to 1800 CE.

“This estimate will likely change in the future as more people test and we improve the method. He is the most recent paternal line ancestor of all members of this group. 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 3 DNA tested descendants.

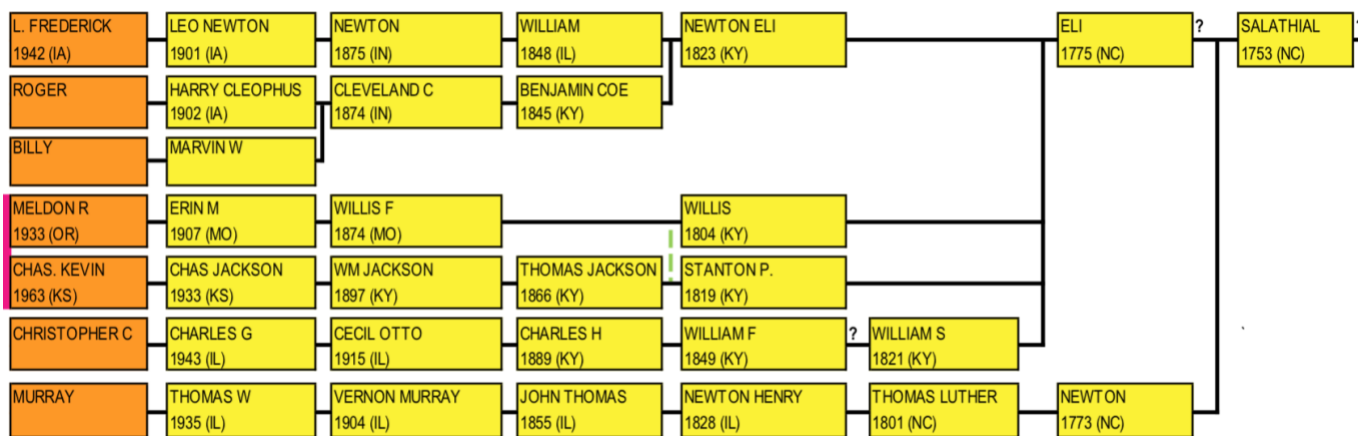
DNA UPDATE: ABOUT THE R-Y52526 SNP

By Fred Coffey

We have had previous discussions about something called a "single nucleotide polymorphism", or a "SNP". These are y-DNA mutations that occur from time to time in individuals. And once such a mutation has occurred, all future descendants of that individual will be forever marked with that SNP. The test we use to spot these SNP's is the Big-Y test.

We have Big-Y-700 results for several participants who are part of the R-Y46776 group, all of whom are believed to be descended from Edward Coffey (d 1716). But within that group, we are now seeing a sub-group called R-Y52526. It quickly became apparent that this R-Y52526 was a NEW SNP that had appeared in Edward's line AFTER Edward arrived in America.

And we have now seen test results that PROVE this specific mutation appeared with the birth of Salathial Coffey (born about 1750-55, died 28 Jul 1784 in Wilkes County, NC). Here's a table showing how the pieces fit together:



The first discovery was that the first 3 people above all had this new SNP, so we knew that it either originated in Newton Eli, or he got it from one of his ancestors. Then we got a test on the 4th person, Meldon, with this SNP. And that proved it was present in Eli. But perhaps Eli got it from his father, Salathial?

Finally we tested the last person above, Murray. And Murray ALSO had the R-Y52526 SNP. So it was now obvious that R-Y52526 ORIGINATED at the birth of Salathial.

So we now know that this is a marker for all descendants of Salathial. If we ever see it in a new person, we will KNOW that person is a descendant of Salathial! Is this an important discovery? Does it reveal anything about any of the mysteries in our Coffey families? In my view it is most likely just an "interesting curiosity". But the following article by Tim Peterman looks at the possibility for a much deeper examination.

By the way, I was premature with a first impression was that Murray did NOT have the new SNP. It took a couple of weeks for FTDNA to finalize their conclusion, showing that he DID have it. The last paragraph in Tim's article explains why there was a delay:

R-Y46776: A TENTATIVE REVIEW:

By Tomothy E Peterman, December 2022

So far, we have Y-700 results for several participants who are part of the R-Y46776 group, all of whom are believed at present to be descended from Edward Coffey (d 1716). By first name, they are Billy, Fred, Meldon, Murray, Elmo, George, Glenn, and David. The following is how things look to me at present.

1. There appears to be a deep divide between John Coffey and Edward Coffey, Jr. These center around the public SNPs: Z131 & S26590. David (representing John Coffey) is negative for the S26590 mutation. All of the others are positive for the S26590 mutation. If another descendant of John Coffey were to participate and confirmed David's negative status for S26590, Family Tree DNA would likely break out a new clade for Edward Jr. called S26590.

Regarding Z131, since only one descendant of John has tested so far, we can't be sure how widespread it is. David is positive for Z131. All of the others are negative for Z131. All that we can say at present is that the SNP appeared at some point in the descent of David from John Coffey.

2. Billy has a private mutation at position 26394458. This must have occurred with Benjamin or Billy, or any generation between them.

3. Fred has two private mutations at positions 3050919 and 11827643. These must have occurred with William or Fred, or any generation between them.

4. Meldon has one private mutation at position 13258290. This must have occurred with Willis or Meldon, or any generation between them.

5. Murray has nine private variants at positions 4086840, 5153173, 7146289, 10120454, 11372826, 13381787, 15439546, 17046917, 17231012. These must have occurred with Newton or Murray or any generation between them.

Billy, Fred, Meldon, and Murray are also members of the new R-Y52526 clade as well. This clade appears to describe descendants of the father of Newton and Eli, presumed to be Salathiel, to the exclusion of all other descendants of Edward Coffey (d 1716).

5. Elmo has three private mutations at positions 4888651, 11925496, and 14329718. These must have occurred with Chesley (1755-1818) or Elmo, or any generation between them.

6. George has three private mutations at positions 3274588, 19694217, and 20970516. These must have occurred in his line of descent from Edward, Jr.

7. Glenn has three private mutations at 12165054, 12288389, and 14159755. These must have occurred in his line of descent from Edward, Jr.

8. David has four private mutations at 14226293, 19673586, 2035622, and 20538200. These must have occurred with John (b 1700) or David, or any generation between them.

Currently, Family Tree DNA's Discover app suggests that R-Y46776 branched off from R-Y19967 in about 1241 AD, rounded to 1250 AD. The MRCA of all tested participants, who

shared all 7 SNPs is estimated to have been born in 1626 AD, rounded to 1650 AD. As far as we know, this person was Edward (d 1716). The clade may have extended to his brothers or first cousins, if any.

The Discover app also states that R-Y46776 has at least 5 descendant lineages, as identified by SNPs. They are identified as R-Y52526 & 4 yet unnamed lineages. The four unnamed lineages obviously correspond to David Randall, Elmo, George A. & Glenn, each of whom is obviously in his own subclade. These won't be named, made public or given date estimates until a second participant shows up in the same clade.

These private mutations reveal that there definitely is structure beneath Edward (d 1716). Whether or not it is worth spending genealogical resources determining these SNPs is another matter. If the cost of Y-700 testing were not an issue, I would encourage each of the participants listed above to get their closest male next of kin to participate. This would allow the above private mutations to become public variants and would define new clades on the block tree. It would also allow better date estimations in Discover for R-Y46776, and possibly some of the upstream clades.

Since Murray has 9 private variants, he should, if possible, get a male next of kin to participate. This will likely cause a new clade beneath R-Y52526 to appear, and may significantly alter the dates for R-Y52526, which is currently estimated to be descended from a man born in 1735 AD.

It would be nice if we could get a descendant with a clean paper trail going back to Joel (married Martha Step) to participate, as well as descendants of Jesse Cleveland, Nebuzaradan, Nathan, and Martin Coffey to participate. Each would no doubt reveal about 3 mutations unique to his line of descent. By developing this library, this would allow participants like George & Glenn & possibly many others to better estimate their place within the Edward Coffey (d 1716) family.

Once we have a clear description of the several clades nested beneath R-Y46776, we should be able to recommend to any Coffey, who can't get back to John or Edward Jr., whose y-37 test indicates that he is part of this family to upgrade to Y-700 and see where the Block Tree places him.

One final comment. When Y-700 results come in, the results are preliminary, based upon the data that the DNA sequencer found. One to two weeks later, the results are finalized when a person reviews the data. Sometimes, private variants disappear, new clades are assigned & date estimates modified. In the case of Murray, the sequencer clearly showed that he had the Y52526 mutation, but only reviewed the location 6 times, finding the mutation each time. If a location is reviewed in the process less than a certain number of times, the sequencer provides a ? result, causing the preliminary results to show that the person is negative. Once the data is reviewed by an actual person, if the mutation is there, the result is changed. Usually, locations are reviewed some 20 to 30 times by the sequencer.

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 **Email Address Pending**, or send it to **Fred Coffey** at FredCoffey@aol.com. (Fred also maintains the newsletter distribution list and can be contacted if you wish to receive notification when new newsletters are published.)

OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES:

The "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" has access to a very substantial database of information about families with the Coffey or Coffee surname, or those connected to such a family. We are trying to consolidate access to all of these sources in a single location. If you are looking for ANY Coffey-related information, click on the following:

[THE COFFEY/COFFEE SURNAME: GENEALOGY INFORMATION ROADMAP](#)

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

(The "Roadmap" now offers full access to Jack Coffee's "Edward Coffey Project" (ECP). Scroll down to the section on "Edward Coffey Descendants".)

HUGH COFFEY PROJECT BY TERRI STERN:

Any questions? Contact me at hughcoffeyproject@gmail.com or call 410-798-4784. And here is the weblink to my [Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group](#) (140 members).

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/160379567933944/>