

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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Note for CCC Beginners:

This is Issue #176. We have been producing these reports for 44 years, and we have accumulated many thousands of pages of information. And these newsletters often go off into details that will be confusing to “new members” of the Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse, or to those who have not kept up with our activities. If you find our work confusing, we recommend you click on this link, and rapidly skim through the discussion there:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

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Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins: Can't believe that it's time for the next newsletter. How time flies.

I have been busy trying to keep up with my Facebook account watching Channing Green's Posts. On the side of his van, he has the following: “*I brake for old grave yards.*” I am so impressed with the job he does cleaning old cemeteries. Many of them are absolute jungles. I have seen where he had to take his chain saw to even get into the place and will have huge bonfires to get rid of the debris. He sprays weed killer just to be able to find some of the stones. Most are treated with D2 which cleans all the gunk off the stone without damaging it. Many are broken and he will take them home and repair if there is enough left to fix. Sometimes the base needs repair also.

If that wasn't enough, He also gets signs made with the name of the cemetery and puts them up where they can be read, and sometimes puts up a flag pole and flag. Revolutionary War soldier's graves are marked with a small American flag and Civil War soldiers with a Southern flag. He does all this for free. Sometimes he will get a donation for the D2 or chain saw blades, etc. I'm sure some of us have families buried in these areas of Tennessee and could help. I hope you will look into

helping him if possible. He is in the Grainger Co. TN area and descends from the Edward Coffey line. One of the tombstones that he pictured as an ancestor was Thomas Jefferson Coffey, and his wife: Mary Elizabeth Greer.

(Oh, Fred tells me that "Greer" is an unusual name and is easy to search for using techniques discussed in the articles below!)

Bonnie Culley

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Co-editor's Comments

Dear Cousins, I continue to be amazed by Jack Coffee's Edward Coffey Project (ECP). But I'm always learning new things that expand the ways I can access and use the ECP. And I learn things about new branches of our huge Coffey family. This has resulted in some lengthy articles in this newsletter. I hope our readers will be patient – if a brief look at the beginning of an article seems irrelevant to your interests, just skip ahead.

I "discover" some pitfalls in searching the ECP, that may be of interest to readers that have trouble exploring for their family connections. If you get in trouble someday, maybe just remember this newsletter, and go back to read these articles more carefully.

We're always looking for new stories, and new puzzles we might help solve. Send us your comments!

Fred Coffey

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FAKE EMAIL RISK TO CCC NEWSLETTER READERS?

By Fred Coffey

This is just a reminder that we no longer include a "click here" link when we send out advice that a new newsletter is ready. There is a risk that such "clicking" could expose a reader to hacking.

You will be told "Visit the Coffey Genealogy Information Roadmap to call up the new newsletter issue. Once there, you can click on 'Newsletters' and choose the latest issue. 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 reply with instructions*.

*To find the Roadmap, visit www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html Click on **Newsletters** and the list of available issues will pop up! Recommend you post this link on your computer.

THE ARCHIVESTICK:

By Fred Coffey: Readers may recall that in previous newsletters, I talked about seeking ways to preserve the many thousands of pages of Coffey genealogical information in our "Roadmap" application. We worked out that all our important data could be contained on a 16-gb USB flash drive. That could be offered to interested Coffey researchers. I call this the "ArchiveStick".

ALLIE NICOLE FAMILY:

By Allie Nicole, Fred Coffey, and Jean Mouse

Allie: Hi Fred, I recently came across Terri Stern's "[Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group](#)" and have been trying to make sense of some things in my family tree. From my understanding we are descendants of the Edward/Hugh line, but I have not taken the DNA test. I'm not certain how to go about this. I did take a DNA test on Ancestry several years back.

My grandmother is 90, and in her tree, she has believed there is a William Solomon Coffey B: 7/10/1821 -D: 8/14/1865 who is claimed to be a full-blooded Cherokee Indian. We can't seem to find any info, and I see a William Stanton Coffey in research/trees, but not sure if that's the same person. This is where there is confusion to know how to continue building the tree with more certainty and clarification. If I go down the line from William Solomon Coffey, his son was William Franklin Coffey, his son was Owen Coffey and his daughter was Evelyn Coffey Schmitt and then my grandmother is Shirley Schmitt. I have a family tree on Ancestry and showed you the link. (But it needs work, and I don't want to publish that link just now.)

Also FYI, here's a family picture. All of these families have Coffey ancestors. The celebration was for my 90-year-old grandmother, the lady in the middle.



Fred: We have had a long exchange of notes. Let me jump ahead and show you where I came out. The following tabulation is my conclusion of how your Coffey family and mine likely fit together. I will follow this with a discussion of how I developed this and why I put it together this way. All of us go back to an Edward Coffey who has Irish origins:

- (1) Edward COFFEY (1650-1670 - abt 14 Feb 1716) & Ann POWELL (1683-1685 - Oct-Dec 1744)
- (2) Edward COFFEY Jr. (Feb - Jul 1700 - aft 1774) & Unknown MARTIN
- (3) Salathiel COFFEY (abt 1753 - 1784) & Elizabeth NEWTON (1758 -)
- (4) Eli/Eliazar COFFEY (8 May 1775 - 18 Jul 1833) & Mary "Polly" COFFEY (7 Dec 1785 - 10 Mar 1872) **(FIRST COUSINS)**
- (5) William S. COFFEY (10 Jul 1821 - bef 1860) & Martha Ellen JOHNSON (Mar 1823 - bef 1910)
- (6) William Franklin COFFEY (25 Oct 1849 - 21 Dec 1911) & Mary Elizabeth MCQUERY (8 Jan 1854 - 2 Apr 1898)
- (7) Abraham Redwin COFFEY (25 Jul 1872 - 13 Jan 1923)
- (7) John W COFFEY (abt 1874 - bef 1900)
- (7) James Daniel COFFEY (20 Feb 1875 - 12 Dec 1956)
- (7) Martha Ann COFFEY (8 Oct 1878 - 15 Jul 1958)
- (7) Margaret Lissie COFFEY (8 Oct 1878 - 14 Jun 1961)
- (7) Permelia COFFEY (10 Mar 1880 - 3 Apr 1969) & Thomas LANE (31 Mar 1880 - 28 Dec 1955)
- (8) Mary Nancy LANE (25 Aug 1904 - 2 Jul 1998) & Earl Terrell (2 Aug 1904 - 4 Jun 1977)
- (8) Lowell LANE (23 Aug 1908 - 8 Jan 1977)
- (8) Gracie May LANE (abt 1910 -)

- (8) Gertrud LANE (10 Sep 1915 - 24 Jan 2011)
- (8) Jas F LANE (9 Sep 1916 - 26 Nov 1916)
- (8) Estel LANE (15 Sep 1917 -)
- (8) Dallas C LANE (30 May 1921 - 2 Dec 1994)
- (8) Lula LANE (abt 1925 -)
- (7) Susan Ella COFFEY (20 Mar 1881 - 6 Oct 1931)
- (7) Victor COFFEY (Mar 1883 - 1883)
- (7) Victoria COFFEY (10 Mar 1883 - 11 May 1914)
- (7) Owen Kanacher COFFEY (5 May 1886 - 17 Dec 1946) & Jennie R FARMER (6 Jun 1890 - 20 Jun 1968)
- (8) Evelyn Margaret COFFEY (7 Aug 1915 - 10 Jan 2010) & Wilfred Joseph SCHMITT (7 Feb 1911 - 7 Oct 1994)
- (9) Shirley SCHMITT (age 90)
- (10) Allie's MOTHER
- (11) Allie NICOLE
- (7) Charles Harrison COFFEY (16 May 1889 - 24 Feb 1919)
- (7) Edgar Willis COFFEY (30 Jun 1891 - 15 Feb 1959)
- (7) Oscar COFFEY (30 Sep 1894 - 16 Apr 1964)
- (5) Newton Eli COFFEY (2 May 1823 - 13 Jan 1890) & Martha Louise VERMILLION (4 May 1827 (1826?) - 27 Mar 1904)
- (6) William COFFEY (27 Oct 1848 - 16 Mar 1896) & Malcena BARBRE (28 Mar 1855 - 12 May 1920)
- (7) Newton COFFEY (23 Sep 1875 - 26 May 1969) & Adelia Gertrude ROBINSON (12 Sep 1878 - 16 Jan 1973)
- (8) Leo Newton COFFEY (22 Jul 1901 - 26 Oct 1998) & Elsie Maureen WALKER (20 Nov 1903 - 12 Mar 1983)
- (9) Leo Frederick COFFEY* (8 Jan 1942 -)

There are some uncertainties in the early generations, as we have already discussed. But working down the tree, entry (4) Eli Coffey is our MRCA (Most recent Common Ancestor). Eli married his first cousin Mary Coffey, and this complicates the genealogy – we'll ignore that complication for the moment.

Eli & Mary had a son (5) William ? Coffey, with this “?” indicating uncertainty. In the above I show a middle initial “S”, but that is uncertain. This is the man your grandmother thought might be a “Cherokee”. (I am convinced he is NOT native American.)

Ancestor (6) William Franklin Coffey was completely new to me. You gave me an essay focused on his daughter Permelia Coffey. Under William Franklin, the thirteen (7) lines list the children of William Franklin. And the eight (8) lines list the children of Permelia and her husband Thomas Lane.

Thomas Lane & Permelia Coffey/Lane

This “essay” was an interesting discussion of the life of (7) Permelia. It was written by Permelia’s eldest daughter (8) Mary Nancy Lane. Here’s a picture of Permelia with her husband Thomas Lane.

>>>>>>>>>>>



And under (7) Owen Kanacher Coffey we find the family from the picture that showed Allie's grandmother Shirley (now age 90).

And the last four lines of the above tabulation show my own family connection to this tree. My GGGrandfather (5) Newton Eli is the brother of your ancestor (5) William. And I am (9) Leo Frederick Coffey. I am in the same generation as your grandmother (9) Shirley. She and I are 4th cousins. Allie and I are 4C2R (Fourth Cousins Twice Removed).

In our early exchange you gave me a link to your Ancestry family tree. We had a side discussion about some errors that found their way into that preliminary tree. The mistakes were ones that are commonly made and might be worth mentioning for the benefit of other readers of this newsletter:

Chesley "Joel" Coffey Sr. You showed this person in your tree. And for a long time, the Coffey Cousins did believed this person was real and a part of the family genealogy. But, after more careful examination, we decided this person NEVER EXISTED. He should be deleted from your tree.

Edward Joshua Coffey Jr We have never seen a middle name for Edward Jr. So delete the "Joshua" middle name. Also you show **BIRTH 16 JUL 1700**. We don't know his precise birth date and usually just say "Feb - Jul 1700".

Edward Coffey Sr BIRTH 20 Oct 1670 We do NOT know exactly when Edward Coffey Sr. was born. We just make a guess of "abt 1650-1670". We are quite sure he came from Ireland but don't know exactly when he arrived. Edward is first found mentioned in the 1699 will of William Mosely. The will was proved in Essex Co., VA on April 16, 1700, and in September 1700 Edward received his "freedom, corn, and clothes" from the Mosely estate. Mosley transported many indentured persons to Virginia from about 1660 until the 1690's. Edward was likely one of his servants.

Ann "Annister" Dulin Powell This is Edward's wife, but we have never seen Ann referred to as "Annister". She is always simply "Ann". However she and Edward had a daughter named Annister, who has a long and complicated record in Coffey genealogy. Early on she got hauled into court for having a child "James" out of wedlock. And we were able to use DNA tests to prove paternity.

John Hays Coffey / Hugh Coffey Jr You show these as ancestors of Edward. But we do not have ANY information about the parents of Edward. At one time the Coffey Cousins thought there was a "John Coffey" who could be Edward's father, but the consensus now is that person's name was "Coffin" not "Coffey".

Now, where did I get some of the information for the above analysis? Your own family tree per the link you gave me in the beginning was lacking in supporting genealogical details. So I looked around on Ancestry to see if anyone had covered some of the lacking details. And I found the most amazingly well documented tree that I have ever seen!

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/72257961/person/152088977932/facts>

This link drops the reader into a public tree managed by **Jean Mouser** from Spring Hill, Maury, Tennessee, USA. It offers tremendous data sources including census reports, etc. The link drops you into the page for Permilia and her husband Thomas Lane. Any time you are looking for more details on a covered person, have a look at her fantastic tree!

I invited Jean Mouser to join into our discussions, and she gave me her email address. And I do see an interesting gap in her tree. She shows the parents of the (5) William Coffey who married Martha Johnson as "unknown". I know very well that the parents are (4) Eli Coffey and his cousin Mary.

Per my suggestion, you ordered an autosomal DNA test on your grandmother. The results are now available, and I will discuss shortly.

I have written a lot about the genealogy and history of our shared Coffey family. Most of our Coffey roots go back to the Kentucky area around what is now Russell County. See the adjacent map. In this area there were many related Coffey families, many of whom owned slaves. The Civil War disrupted many family relationships. Members of my particular branch opposed slavery and moved north to Illinois before the War and supported Abe Lincoln. Others stayed in KY and named sons after Confederate generals, even though KY remained a Union state. And some moved farther south to Tennessee and Alabama and were probably sympathetic to the Confederate side.



The family that involved Permilia and her husband ended up in Sunbright TN, about 30 miles south of the KY border. After the Civil War, Permilia and family moved back north from Tennessee to Kentucky. They went to Casey County, shown on this map. That may have been her family's original home. Most of her life was spent in Casey County. And some of her family later moved even farther north and joined related families who had settled in Illinois.

A final footnote: I skipped over explaining how a marriage of cousins could affect family relationships, because it was not relevant to understanding your Permilia connection. But the next article, on a different branch of the Coffey family, gets into the complexities of cousin marriages! (My name doesn't appear in the tabulation for this next family, because the analysis starts with Edward's son John, and I don't descend from John.)

The autosomal DNA result for your grandmother Shirley is now back. I'll offer some quick comments: One interesting item is ethnic origins. Shirley is from 100% European origins, which breaks down into 51% England Wales and Scotland, and most of the rest Central Europe. Yes, the name Coffey is Irish and that doesn't show up, and that surprises people. But only a very, very tiny share of her overall Family Finder DNA mix comes from Edward Coffey.

She has 7720 matches. That sounds like a lot, but it is quite normal. (I have more than 10,000 matches!) Generally, only a few of the nearest matches will be of any particular interest. Shirley's best match is to a lady named "Ms. Heather Anne Velez" who is related as a "2nd Cousin – 3rd Cousin". Perhaps you already know Heather? If you click on her name, you will see her Email address if you wish to contact her.

But the most interesting thing is that Heather says her earliest known ancestor is "Chesley Joel Coffey". We had the discussion above and I pointed out that the Coffey Cousins no longer believed Chesley Joel ever existed! You may want to bring this article to her attention?

This test is excellent at solidly identifying cousins out to "third cousin" level. There is only one more person at that level. Her second-best match is to a "John Farmer". You can view his email address, but he did not specify ancestral origins. You could ask him for more info?

(Actually, I think we know the probable origin of this "John Farmer" based on the Jean Mouser family tree: Her tree gives us Margaret Lissie Coffey, born 6 Oct 1878 in Russell, KY, died 14 Jun 1961. Her husband was Ollie Hough Farmer, born 8 Mar 1873 in KY, died 23 May 1951. They had 11 children, including 6 males with the "Farmer" name. Details on children of the males are not given, but I think there is a high probability that John Farmer descends from this family.)

Another option is to ask FTDNA to show matches to a specific name, and I asked for "Coffey". It did identify several possibilities. But I was not one of them. I am a known "fourth cousin", but that is getting into the doubtful area for reliable matches.

I did look over the matching Coffey name list, and there was one person that I immediately recognized! Shirley had a match to a James Richard Coffey, at the "3rd – 5th" cousin level, with a paternal ancestor "Joel Coffey". This James was recently featured in Newsletter #174, pages 4, 5, and 6. That sort of match is a matter of random luck, but it is a real match. James is a regular reader of these newsletters, and he will recognize his name when this issue is published.

Your opening note referred to "William Solomon Coffey B: 7/10/1821 -D: 8/14/1865". He is found in 467 public trees. But none of them explains the origin of the "full-blooded Cherokee Indian" story.

DEBORAH TOWER GENEALOGY:

By Fred Coffey & Debbi Tower

I got a note from Debbi Tower in July:

Debbi: Is the Archive Stick still available? Can I get a copy?

Fred: Who are you? I can't find your name in my files. How are you connected to Coffey family?

Debbi: I am connected like 5 or 6 different ways. Here are examples (several sent).

Fred: Ah, now I see. Jack Coffee in his ECP (Edward Coffey Project) included a tremendous amount of information on your family, and I have access to all of his data. I also descend from Edward, who is our MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor). I asked my computer to work out how you and I are related. We are 5*7C1R plus 5*7C2R. We have TEN paths to shared family connections. WOW!

Following is a lengthy document summarizing what Jack reported. And I note there are several marriages between cousins in your tree. I've put a letter flag on each such marriage, indicating the relationship:

(A): 2C1R, 2*4C1R	Henry Marshall Everitt & Mittie Bell Coffey
(B): 2*3C	George Washington Coffey & Mary Catherine Demasters
(C): 1C1R, 4*C	Eliza Miller Coffey & Cyrus E. Coffey
(D): 3*1C1R	Wyatt Wesley Coffey & Nancy J Coffey
(E): 1C	John W. Coffey & Margaret Susanna Coffey

Here are the details. Your whole story starts with Edward through his son John. And I've added your name and your mother's name. (Jack may have known about them, but for privacy he didn't write about living people:)

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)s
- (2) John Coffey (BET 1699 AND 1700 - BET JAN 1775 AND FEB 1775) & Jane Graves (ca 1708 - 1792)
- (3) William Coffey (ca 1731 - bef 28 Mar 1828) & Elizabeth Osborne
- (4) Edmund Franklin Coffey (ca 1773 -) & Elizabeth Burger (ca 1775 -)
- (5) Mary Ann Coffey (ca 1806 -) & (5) John Demasters (15 Dec 1796 - 22 Mar 1870)
- (6) Mary Catherine Demasters (ca 1839 -) & (6) George Washington Coffey (ca 1836 -) **(B)**
- (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) & (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)
- (6) Martha Ann Demasters (ca 1841 - 17 Jul 1918) & (6) Elias Everitt (12 Dec 1842 - 13 Sep 1931)
- (7) Henry Marshall Everitt (15 Oct 1879 - 29 Jun 1969) & (8) Mittie Bell Coffey (30 Mar 1892 - 17 Oct 1923) **(A)**
- (8) George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980) & Mabel Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008)
- (9) Betty Geraldine Everitt (1938 -) & Sensabaugh
- (10) **Deborah Ann Sensabaugh & Tower**
- (3) Edmond Stewart Coffey (ca 1735 - 25 Jul 1808) & Nancy Barnett
- (4) Edmond Stewart Coffey Jr. (ca 1773 - 18 Mar 1855) & Matilda Fitzgerald (ca 1782 -)
- (5) John W. Coffey (ca 1805 - Mar 1864) & (5) Margaret Susanna Coffey (ca 1810 - ca 1877) **(E)**
- (6) Nancy J. Coffey (ca 1827 - 1 Jun 1894) & (5) Wyatt Wesley Coffey (ca 1820 - 1 Oct 1859) **(D)**
- (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) & (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)
- (6) John Henry Coffey (ca 1832 -) & Nancy Elizabeth Monroe (ca 1842 - 1915)

- (7) George Monroe Coffey (19 Feb 1866 - 3 Sep 1949) & Sarah E. Grove (19 Jun 1867 - 1 Jun 1946)
- (8) Mittie Bell Coffey (30 Mar 1892 - 17 Oct 1923) & (7) Henry Marshall Everitt (15 Oct 1879 - 29 Jun 1969) **(A)**
- (8) George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980) & Mabel Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008)
- (9) Betty Geraldine Everitt (1938 -) & Sensabaugh
- (10) **Deborah Ann Sensabaugh & Tower**
- (4) William F Coffey (ca 1775 -) & Elizabeth Giles
- (5) William W. Coffey (ca 1811 - Jul 1886) & (5) Sarah Jane Coffey (ca 1812 -)
- (5) Edmund Coffey (ca 1812 -) & Martha Snead (ca 1815 -)
- (6) George Washington Coffey (ca 1836 -) & (6) Mary Catherine Demasters (ca 1839 -) **(B)**
- (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) & (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)
- (5) Wyatt Wesley Coffey (ca 1820 - 1 Oct 1859) & (6) Nancy J. Coffey (ca 1827 - 1 Jun 1894)
- (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) & (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)
- (4) Reuben G. Coffey (ca 1777 - 24 Nov 1845) & Nancy Giles
- (5) Mildred Ray Coffey (20 Dec 1803 - 14 Mar 1883) & John Everitt (2 Mar 1806 - 18 Oct 1892)
- (6) Elias Everitt (12 Dec 1842 - 13 Sep 1931) & (6) Martha Ann Demasters (ca 1841 - 17 Jul 1918)
- (7) Henry Marshall Everitt (15 Oct 1879 - 29 Jun 1969) & (8) Mittie Bell Coffey (30 Mar 1892-17 Oct 1923) **(A)**
- (8) George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980) & Mabel Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008)
- (9) Betty Geraldine Everitt (1938 -) & Sensabaugh
- (10) **Deborah Ann Sensabaugh & Tower**
- (5) Margaret Susanna Coffey (ca 1810 - ca 1877) & (5) John W. Coffey (ca 1805 - Mar 1864) **(E)**
- (6) Nancy J. Coffey (ca 1827 - 1 Jun 1894) & (5) Wyatt Wesley Coffey (ca 1820 - 1 Oct 1859) **(D)**
- (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) & (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)
- (6) John Henry Coffey (ca 1832 -) & Nancy Elizabeth Monroe (ca 1842 - 1915)
- (7) George Monroe Coffey (19 Feb 1866 - 3 Sep 1949) & Sarah E. Grove (19 Jun 1867 - 1 Jun 1946)
- (8) Mittie Bell Coffey (30 Mar 1892 - 17 Oct 1923) & Henry Marshall Everitt (15 Oct 1879 - 29 Jun 1969) **(A)**
- (9) Betty Geraldine Everitt (1938 -) & Sensabaugh
- (10) **Deborah Ann Sensabaugh & Tower**
- (5) Sarah Jane Coffey (ca 1812 -) & (5) William W. Coffey (ca 1811 - Jul 1886)
- (3) Winifred Coffey (ca 1739 -) & Nicholas Moran (1732 - 1805)
- (4) Martha Moran (17 Jul 1760 - ca 1850) & John Demasters (14 Oct 1754 - Mar 1831)
- (5) John Demasters (15 Dec 1796 - 22 Mar 1870) & (5) Mary Ann Coffey (ca 1806 -)(A
- (6) Mary Catherine Demasters (ca 1839 -) & (6) George Washington Coffey (ca 1836 -)
- (7) Eliza Miller Coffey (22 Oct 1870 - 4 Jul 1955) & (6) Cyrus E. Coffey (6 May 1860 - 23 Jan 1930) **(C)**
- (7) Myrtle Mae Coffey (25 Jul 1896 - 3 Jan 1982) & Oliver Elliott Wilhelm (19 May 1886 - 25 Aug 1972)
- (8) Mable Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008) & George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980)(
- (6) Martha Ann Demasters (ca 1841 - 17 Jul 1918) & (6) Elias Everitt (12 Dec 1842 - 13 Sep 1931)
- (7) Henry Marshall Everitt (15 Oct 1879 - 29 Jun 1969) & (8) Mittie Bell Coffey (30 Mar 1892 - 17 Oct 1923) **(A)**
- (8) George Ray Everitt (25 Feb 1918 - 5 Oct 1980) & Mabel Mae Wilhelm (11 May 1918 - 23 Jan 2008)
- (9) Betty Geraldine Everitt (1938 -) & Sensabaugh
- (10) **Deborah Ann Sensabaugh & Tower**

DEBORAH TOWER: USING THE "ROADMAP" ?:

By Fred Coffey

Debbi Tower, after reading the previous article, wrote:

Debbi: "I haven't figured out how to use the online Roadmap yet."

Fred: Let me first explain WHY you might want to use the Roadmap. The previous article showed you a long list of names and dates. Each of these were extracted from Jack's ECP. But those names/dates are only a tiny amount of the information in the ECP.

Jack liked to say *"The current edition of The Edward Coffey Project on USB contains 49882 people, 17564 families, 118458 events, 8072 places, 2561 sources, 62091 citations and 14534 multimedia items. It also contains over 20000 other documents and photographs."*

Only a very, very tiny part of this massive information source went into the summaries shown in the previous article. There is a tremendous amount of background and supporting information offered by Jack.

Suppose you decide you want to know more about the following line from the previous article:

(6) Mary Catherine Demasters (ca 1839 -) & (6) George Washington Coffey (ca 1836 -)

Searching can be a challenge, and I will discuss some of the pitfalls that may give you trouble in the next article. But here is a quick example of what you can discover once you have a successful search:

1411. [George Washington Coffey](#) was born circa 1836 in Virginia. He appeared in the census on 23 June 1900 in Nelson Co., VA. [4813](#) He lived with his son Joseph in Nelson Co., VA on 26 June 1920.

George Washington Coffey and Mary Catherine "Kitty" Demastus were married on 1 November 1856 in Nelson Co., VA. [4809](#) They [4809](#) appeared in the census on 3 August 1860 in Nelson Co., VA. [4810](#) They [4810](#) appeared in the census on 2 September 1870 in Nelson Co., VA. [4811](#) George and Kitty [4811](#) appeared in the census on 11 June 1880 in Nelson Co., VA. [4812](#) **Mary Catherine "Kitty" Demastus**, daughter of John Demastus and Mary Ann Coffey, was born circa 1839.

George Washington Coffey and Mary Catherine "Kitty" Demastus had the following children:

If you click on George's name, it will jump into one of the pages in the ECP referencing George. Once you are in, you can scroll up and see the name of his father. Or you can click on any of his children and jump to a discussion page for each child. And each of the little blue hyperlinks in the text will open further discussion. For example, link [4810](#) will offer details on the 1870 census like this:

1. *United States Federal Census*. 1870 Nelson Co., Dist. 2, Massies Mill, Lovington PO, Page 40, dwelling 650, family 579, Coffey, Geo. Washington, age 29, male, white, farm laborer, \$100, \$___; born VA; Catharine, age 32, female, white, keeping hosue, born VA; Polly Ann, age 13, female, white, at home, born VA; Hugh, age 9, male, white, farm laborer, born VA; Sally Henry [sic], age 7, female, white, at home, born VA; Peter, age 5, female [sic], white, born VA; Luther J., age 3, female [sic] white, born VA; Henry Lee, age 1, male, white, born VA.

Once you have found any one of the names in your ancestry, like George, the whole of the ECP, from that name up and down, is at your fingertips.

SEARCH TECHNIQUES USING THE “ROADMAP” ?:

By Fred Coffey

The “Roadmap” offers several techniques to more easily search for information details. I worked with Jack’s son Chris, to make the ECP, and all of Jack’s backup information, directly accessible online. If you go to the “Roadmap”, and scroll down to the section on Edward Coffey, you will see a hyperlink called [ECPACCESS](#) that opens up some options to explore the ECP.

Let’s first explore how Jack Coffee envisioned people could use his ECP (Edward Coffey Project): Click on this link to explore how he meant to manage access:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/index.htm>

Here Jack explains that this started out as a “small project”. As you will see, it turned into a massive project with a massive amount of information! Suppose you decide you want to know more about the following line from the previous article:

(6) Mary Catherine Demasters (ca 1839 -) & (6) George Washington Coffey (ca 1836 -)

You will see that Jack offers a list of surnames, so you go to the “C” list for Coffey. In that you will see that the ECP has 10,503 Coffey references – you could click on that and try to find “George Washington Coffey”. Given time, you would get there, but you will soon learn that’s a big and slow search!

A better strategy would be to try to find George’s wife Catherine Demasters first. Anywhere you find Catherine, George has to be there. But if you look, you will discover the Demasters surname isn’t even in the list of surnames!

But don’t give up yet. Let’s look for any unusual name that is closely associated with George and Catherine. From the previous article, we can see that George is the son of Edmund Coffey and Martha Snead (ca 1815). Hey, “Snead” is a very unusual name. We go to the “S” name list and find there are only 32 people in the ECP with that name. We click on it, and there in the list is Martha (1815)! Click on the “Narrative” for that, and we’re in.

And we can see that George is the son of Edmund and we can click on George. And that gives us the successful search from the previous article.

And now, after a little thought, we can see why our search for “Catherine Demasters” failed! That was because Jack was officially spelling the name as “Demastus”. Jack could see that census takers often used the “Demasters” version. I have no idea how Jack decided to go with his official “Demastus” spelling choice. I’m sure that from time we’ll find other similar pitfalls.

I asked the [ECPACCESS](#) link to look directly for “Coffey, George Washington” It found there were 22 men using that name (including 2 named “Jr”). The one we wanted was born 1836, and he is there.

But there is a glitch in the program that calls up these Narrative links. It calls the links for 1836 George “invalid”. That’s because I (Fred) missed how “Cousin Marriages” screwed up the analysis. I think I know how to fix that problem, but I need to work on it.

After my correction, here is what you will see when you ask for info on “George Washington Coffey”.

George Washington (1806-1840) . . . [Narrative](#)

George Washington (1814-1880) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)

George Washington (1836-) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)

George Washington (1842-1912) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1853-1928) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1856-) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1858-1937) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1862-1918) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1862-1955) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1866-1945) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1870-1931) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1870-1940) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington Jr. (1880-1922) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1887-) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1891-1959) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1892-1945) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1895-1974) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1902-1978) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1913-1998) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1916-1989) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington (1924-1969) . . . [Narrative](#)
George Washington Jr. (1926-2000) . . . [Narrative](#)

Readers may find it fun to play with the above and see what information pops up for each "Narrative". There are 22 George Washington Coffey men listed, with 26 hyperlinks to different discussion narratives. Happy reading!

AUSBORN/OSBORN/AUSBURN/AUSBON COFFEY:

By Fred Coffey and Bonnie Culley

Bonnie Culley was looking over the previous newsletter (Issue 175) and noted that the article on page 7 titled "Amy's Coffey Family" showed ancestor Ausborn Coffey as a son of Colby Coffey. Bonnie's reaction was "That's wrong – I know all about Ausborn, and he was the son of Benjamin Coffey who married Nancy Hayes!"

It took a bit of digging into Jack Coffee's ECP, but it turns out that they are BOTH right, and Jack knew all about it. There are two different people with that name. Colby and Benjamin were brothers, and their sons are first cousins. For the record, here's how it works:

- (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) Benjamin Coffey (ca 1747 - 4 Jan 1834) & Mary Hayes (ca 1760 -)
- (4) John Coffey (15 Oct 1776 - 15 Mar 1845) & Elizabeth Rucker (6 Jan 1787 - 22 Mar 1855)
- (5) Colby Coffey (23 Aug 1806 - 17 Jun 1888) & Mary Dalaney (6 Oct 1807 - 26 Sep 1887)
- (6) **AUSBORN (OSBORN)** Coffey (Jan 1845 -) & Martha Campbell (9 Feb 1851 -)
- (5) Benjamin Coffey (8 Feb 1808 - 8 May 1867) & Nancy Hayes (23 Jul 1802 - 14 Feb 1874)
- (6) **AUSBURN (AUSBON)** Coffey (2 Aug 1846 - 20 Feb 1923) & Nancy Ann Phillips (28 Apr 1837 - 4 Nov 1903)

By the way, Jack did make use of the book "COFFEY COUSINS, North Side of Clinch Mountain, Tennessee and Beyond" by Bennie Lou Coffey Loftin, 241 pages, written 1984. And he gave her full credit for the book's help.

UPDATE ON “NOVA SCOTIA GROUP”:

From: John Coffey <jackconmira@ns.sympatico.ca>

Date: September 8, 2025

To: bonnieculley33@gmail.com

Subject: **Letter From Ireland**

Hi Bonnie: I read your reference in your Editor's Notes in the last issue of the Coffey newsletter. I have received their **“Letter From Ireland”** now for a number of years. I have personally met Mike Collins in Ireland and also he visited me here in Nova Scotia on one of his trips. He is very knowledgeable about Irish genealogy and is fluent in Irish Gaelic. My Coffey connections here on this side of the Atlantic are really scarce, but I have found present day descendants of my Coffeys in West Cork. My ancestors arrived in Nova Scotia in 1816. They were on a ship that stopped here for storm repairs, and my great, great grandmother refused to reboard the ship to continue on, so one family homesteaded here while the rest moved on. Fred Coffey and I have corresponded in the past and my Y DNA results do not link me with any of the prominent Coffey lines. I do have DNA matches with Coffeys in West Cork with Family Finder. We suspect my Coffey g, g ,grandfather's mother or grandmother was the Coffey link, and that is why the y DNA does not show any Coffeys.

Comment from Fred: That's a very interesting family story! We wrote about your research in CCC Newsletter #132 back in 2014. And we still refer to your unmatched 2-person group as the “Nova Scotian” Group.

INFORMATION RESOURCE LINKS:

We're 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 bonnieculley33@gmail.com, or send it to **Fred Coffey** at FredCoffey@aol.com. (Fred manages the newsletter distribution list. Contact him if you wish 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).

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](#)

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

The Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group is thriving and now has 314 members. **(MEMO from Fred: As of June 28, 2025, she had 383 Members!)**

Also note that the Hugh Coffey Project is looking for male descendants of Hugh who would like a free DNA test from the Project. Please contact me and I would be happy to fund their Big Y test and autosomal test.