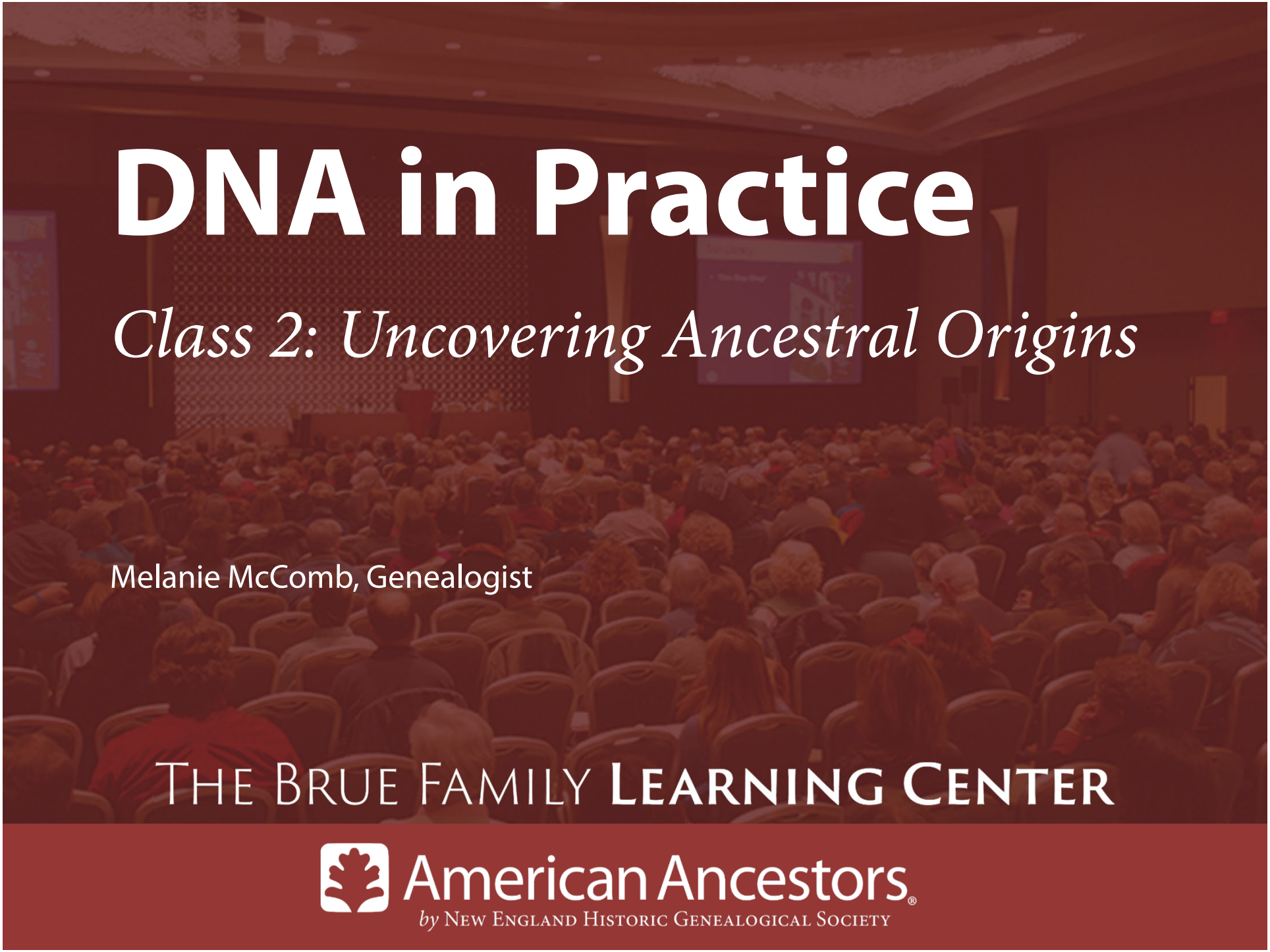

DNA in Practice

Class 2: Uncovering Ancestral Origins

Melanie McComb, Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

American Ancestors
by New England Historic Genealogical Society

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OVERVIEW

- **Presentation** (50 mins.)
  - Ethnicity Estimates
  - Analyzing Your DNA Matches
  - Organizing Your DNA Matches
  - Case Study
- **Q&A** (10 mins.)

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Voice of
Melanie McComb
Genealogist

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Ethnicity Estimates

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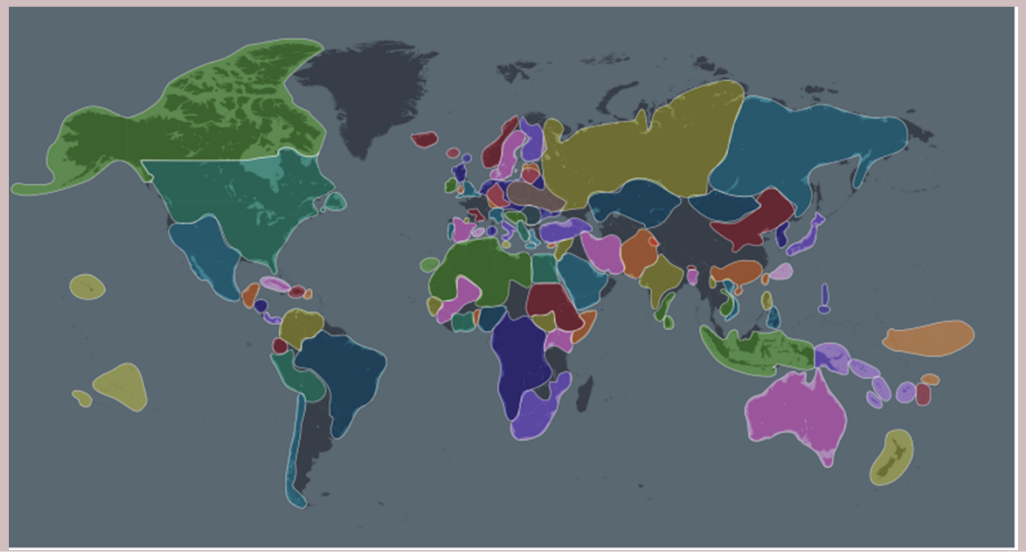
Reference Panels

- DNA samples from populations in a specific area
- People with documented ancestry from the area
- Each company has different sets of samples



AncestryDNA's 77 overlapping regions

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Which group are you in?

- Algorithms determine your assigned region
- May be put in a broader region
- Labels may be confusing

MyHeritage's 2100+ overlapping regions

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MyHeritage DNA Genetic Groups

MyHeritage DNA

List of Genetic Groups

December 2020

North and West European	295	Chinese and Vietnamese	50	Ethiopian Jewish	4
English	254	Middle Eastern	36	Central Asian	3
Scandinavian	187	North African	25	Somali	3
Irish, Scottish, and Welsh	155	Ashkenazi Jewish	24	Thai and Cambodian	2
Iberian	154	Filipino, Indonesian and Malay	20	Mongolian	1
Nigerian	147	Japanese and Korean	13	Inuit	1
Mesoamerican and Andean	146	Sephardic Jewish	11		
Italian	103	Polynesian	10		
Greek and South Italian	101	Yemenite Jewish	8		
West Asian	92	Mizrahi Jewish - Iranian/Iraqi	8		
East European	67	Baltic	7		
South Asian	64	West African	6		
Finnish	54	Kenyan	5		
Balkan	53	Sardinian	5		

Total of **2114**

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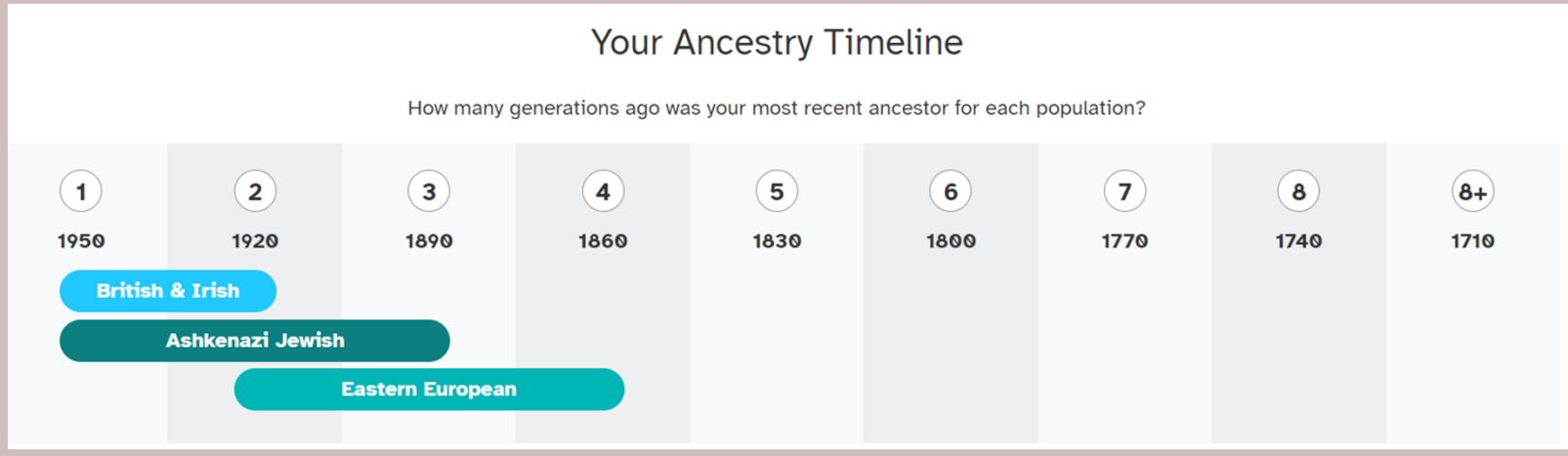
Ethnicity timeframes

- Usually about 500-1000 years ago
- Ancestry and 23andMe may be within 500 years



23andMe's Timeline by Generation

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Haplogroups

- Y-DNA and mitochondrial tests generate a haplogroup
  - Made up of letters and numbers (ex. R-M269)
- Each haplogroup is associated with an approximate time and place where it arose from
  - Example: Haplogroup J arose 45,000 years ago in the Near East or Caucasus region

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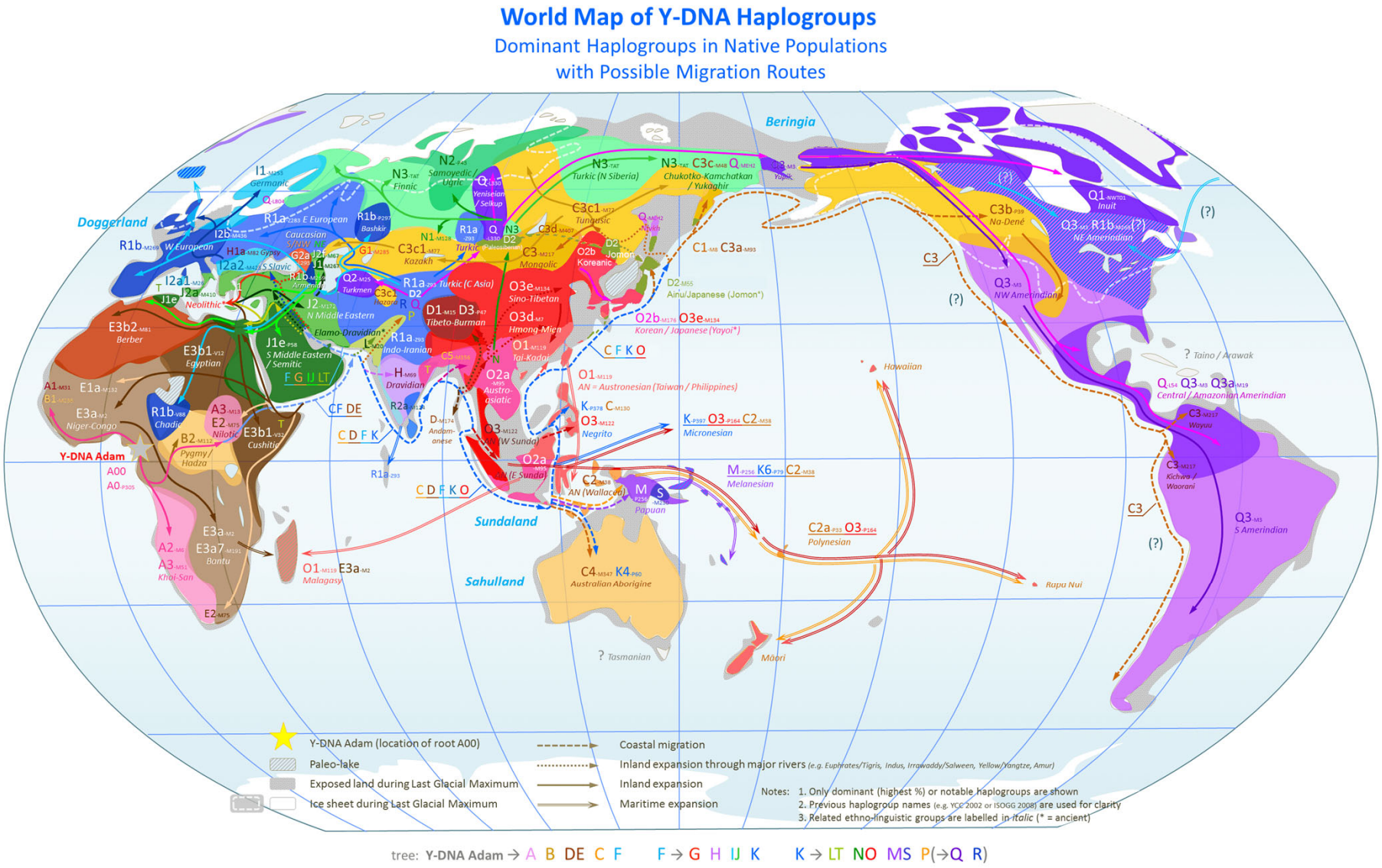

World Map of Y-DNA Haplogroups

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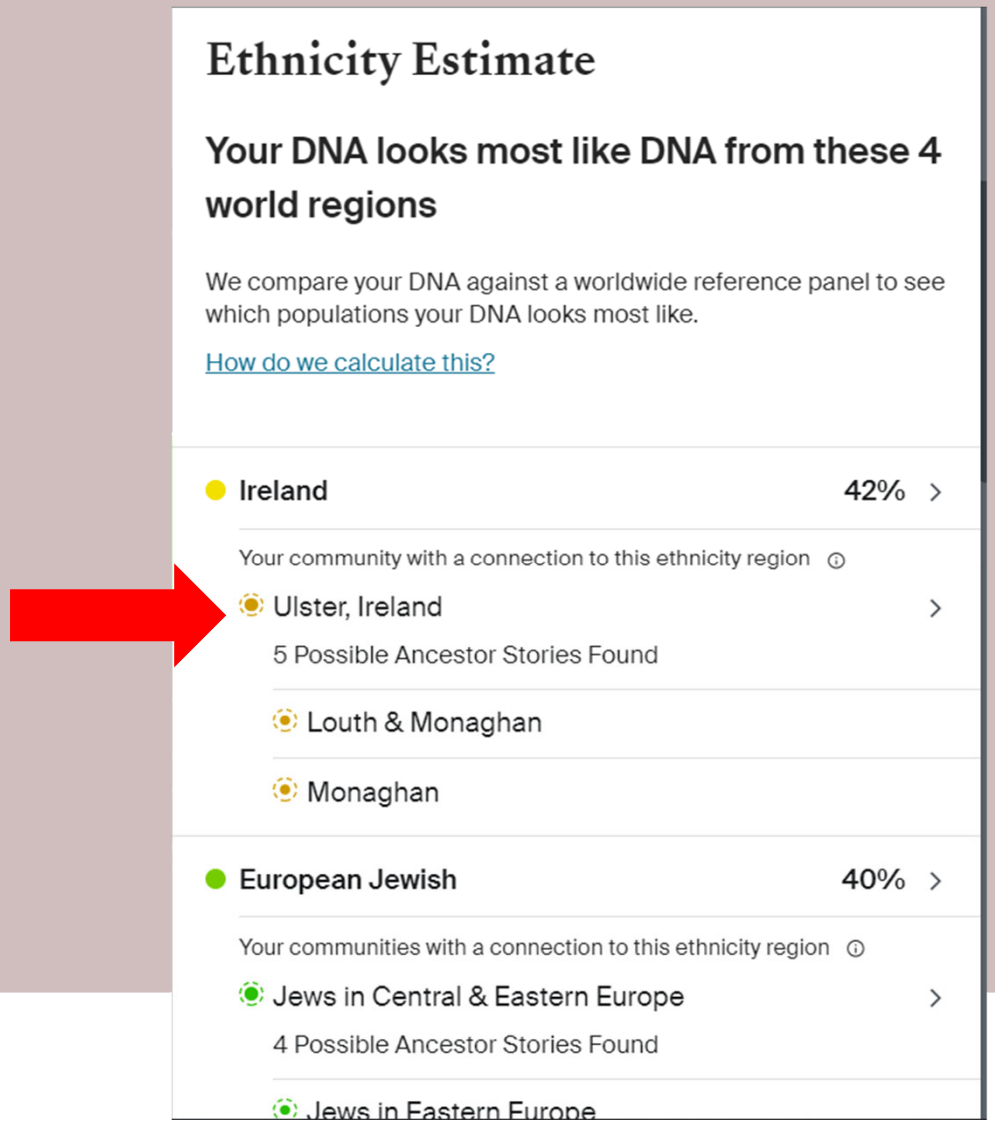
AncestryDNA



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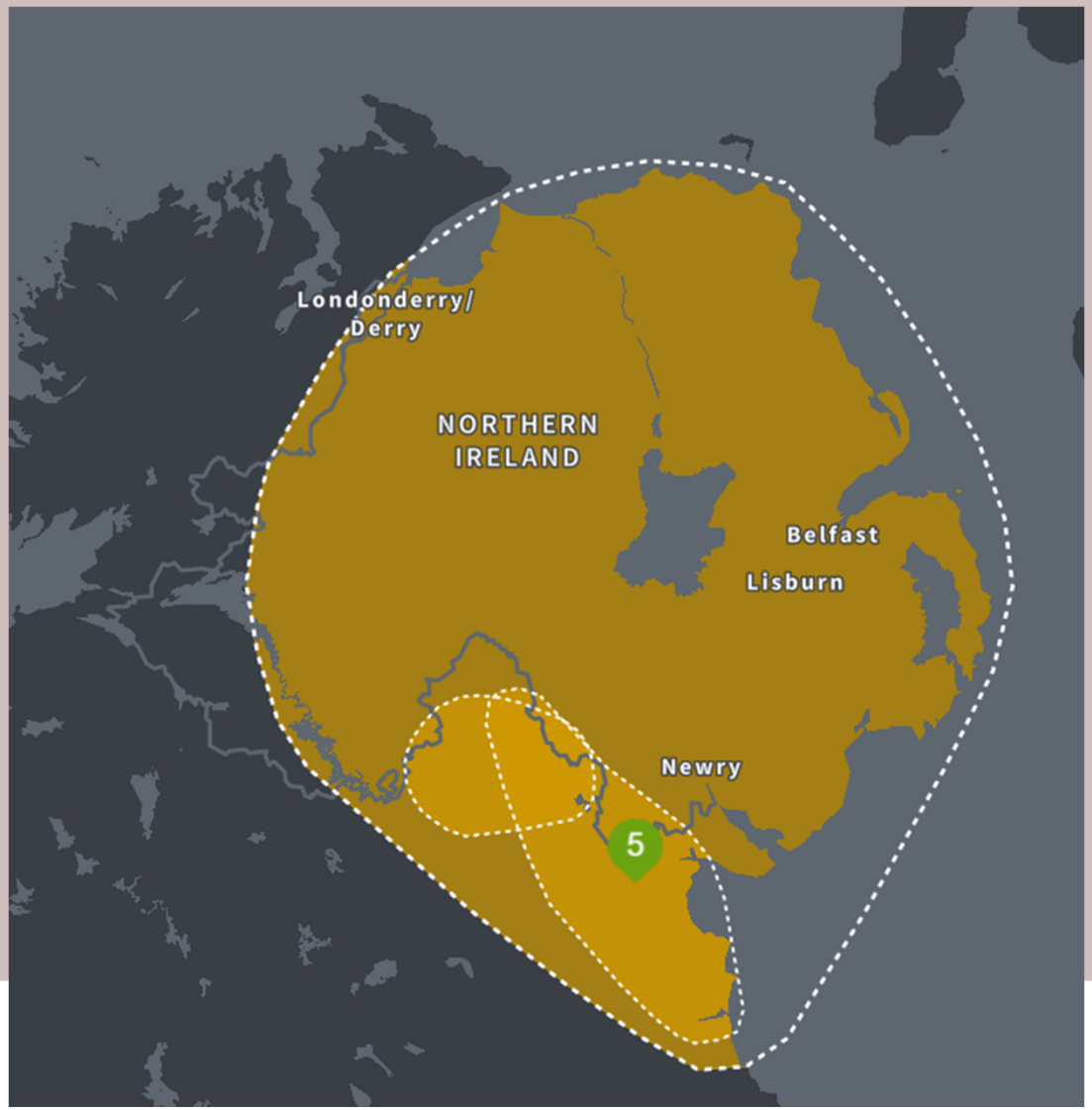
AncestryDNA



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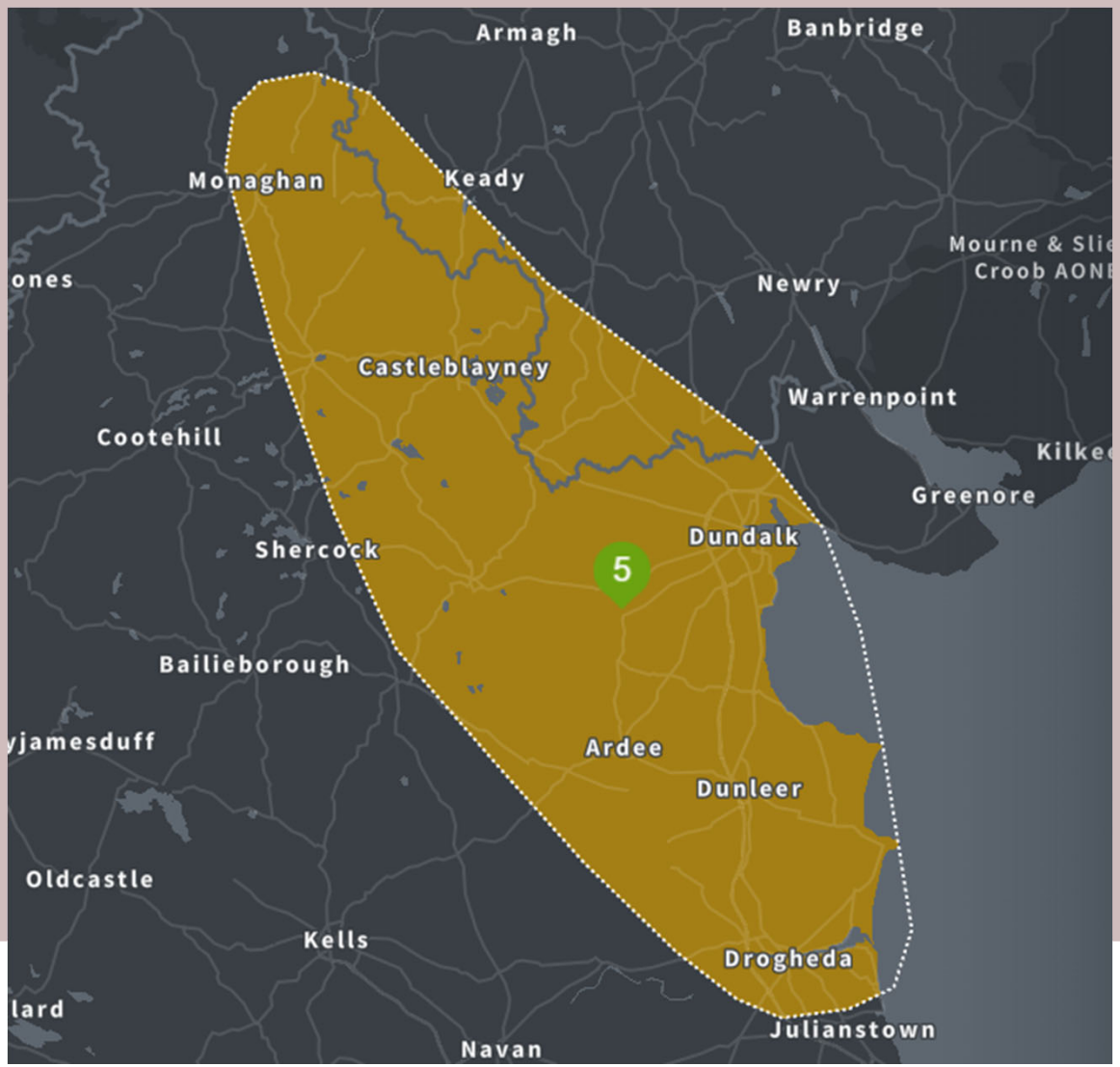
Ancestry DNA



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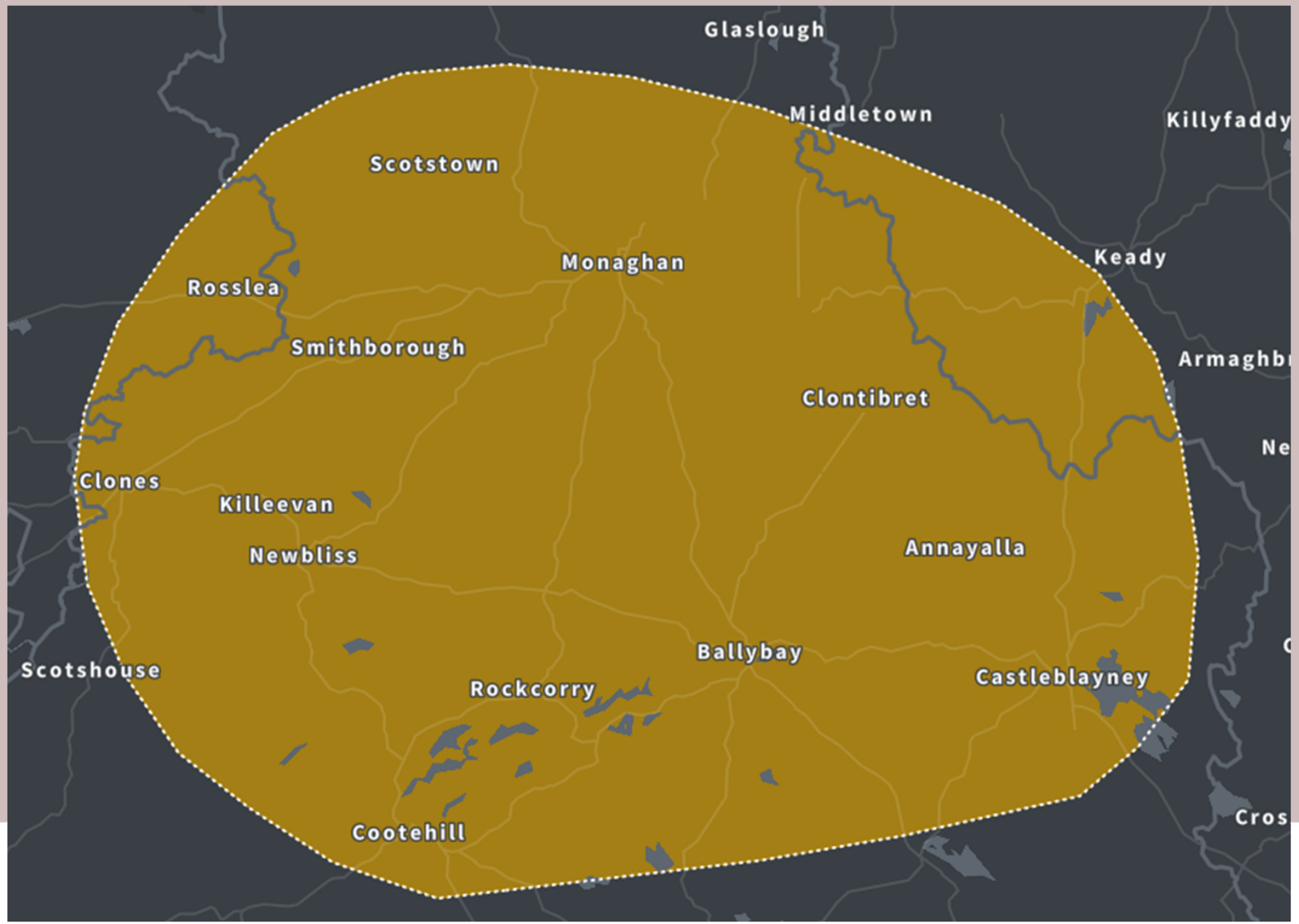
Ancestry DNA



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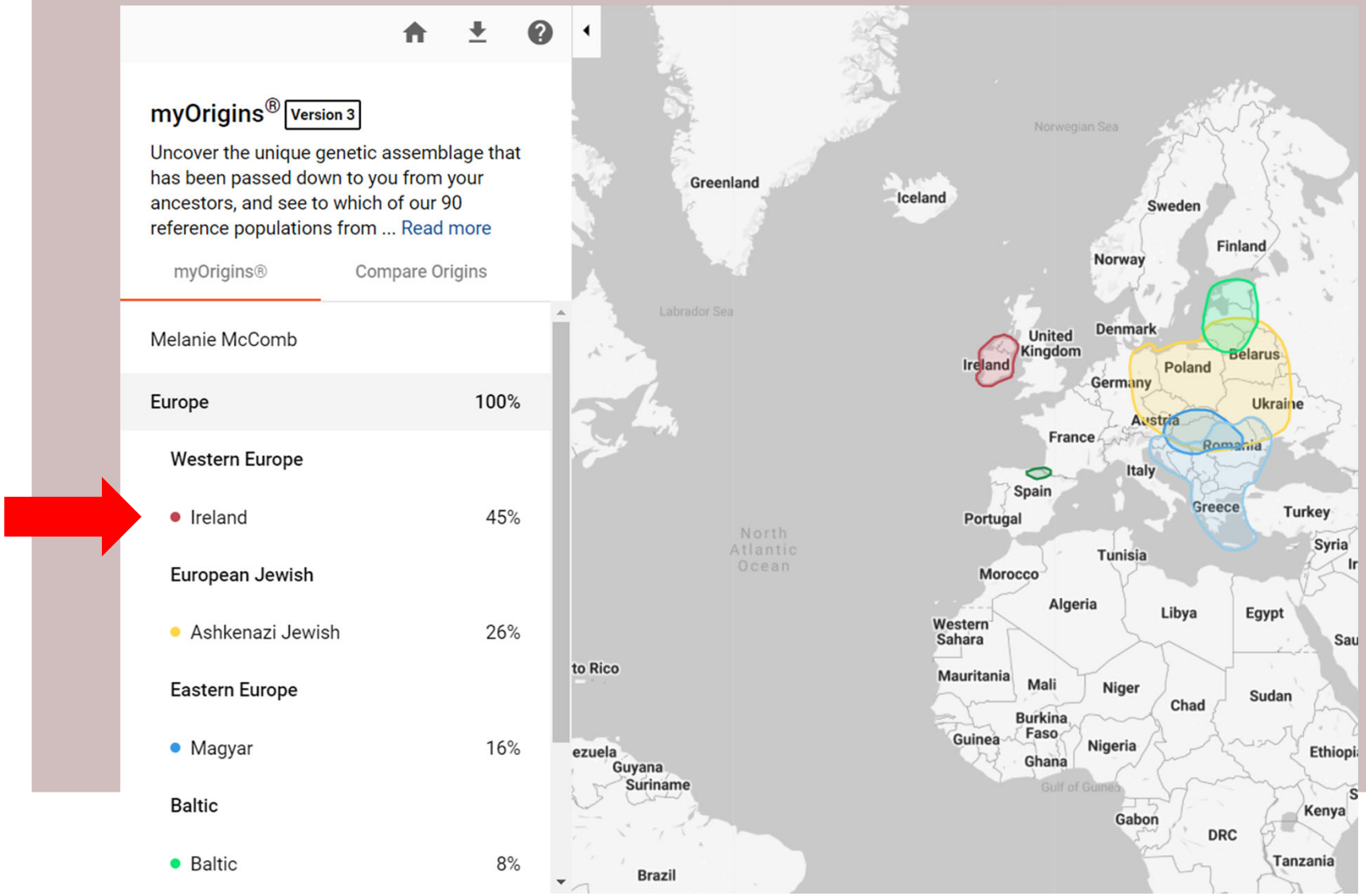
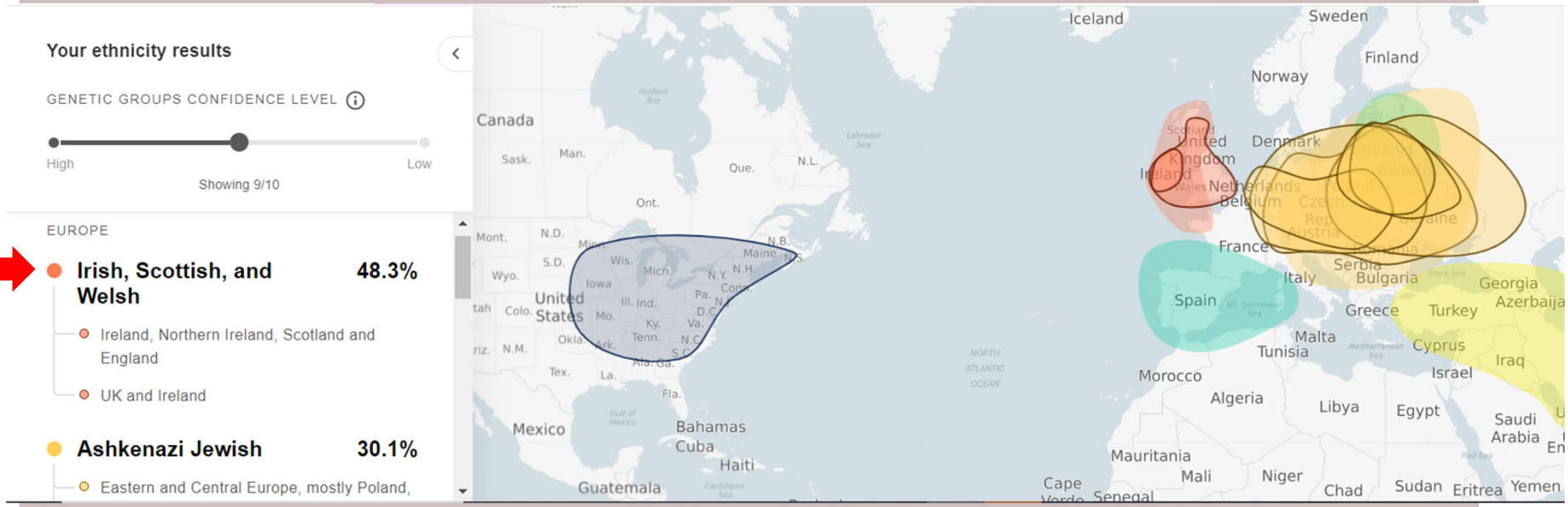
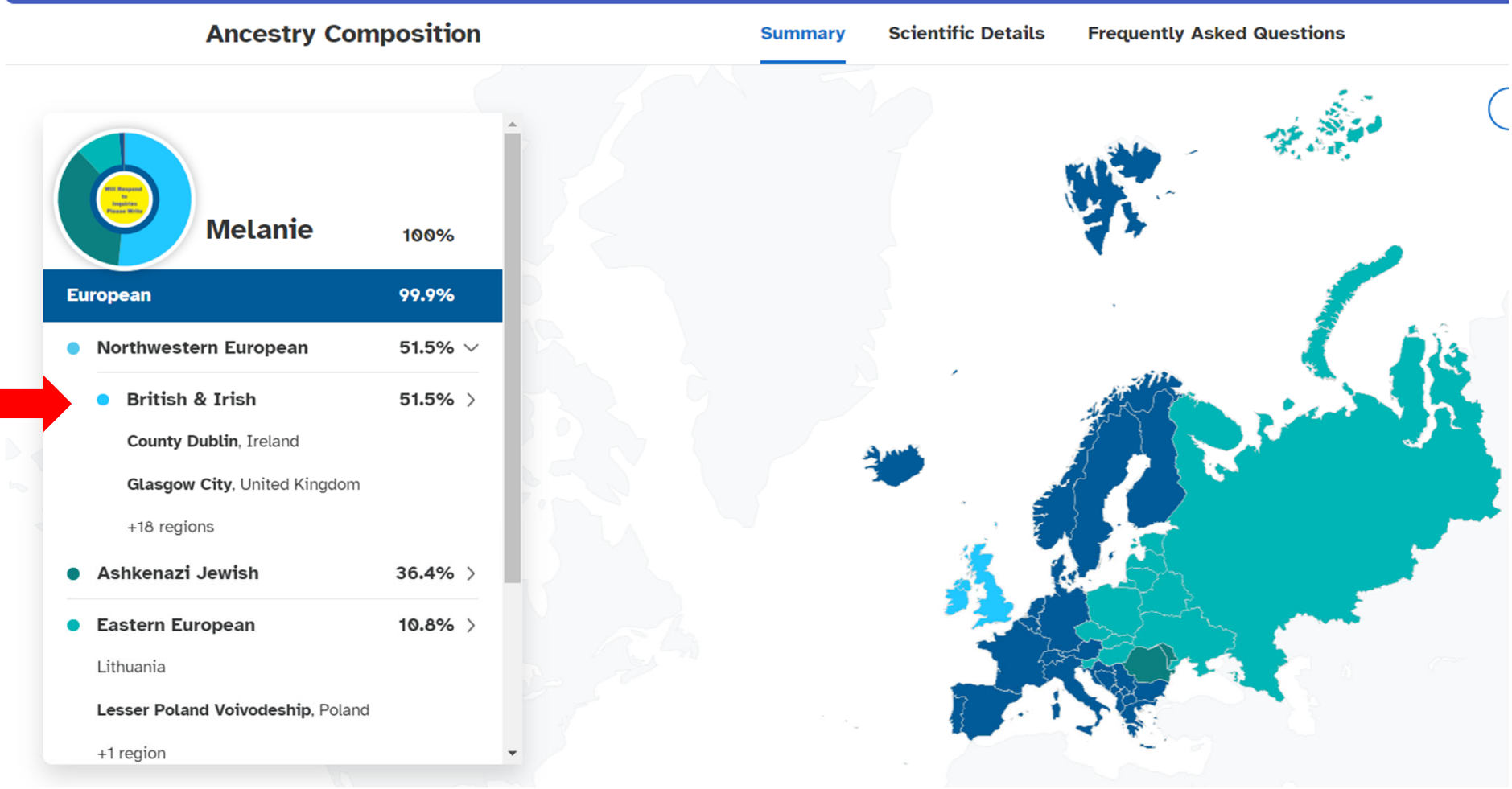
FamilyTreeDNA



MyHeritage


Your ethnicity results
GENETIC GROUPS CONFIDENCE LEVEL
High
Low
Showing 9/10
EUROPE
Irish, Scottish, and Welsh 48.3%
Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and England
UK and Ireland
Ashkenazi Jewish 30.1%
Eastern and Central Europe, mostly Poland,
Canada
United States
Mexico
Bahamas
Cuba
Haiti
Guatemala
Iceland
Sweden
Finland
Norway
Denmark
France
Spain
Italy
Serbia
Bulgaria
Greece
Turkey
Georgia
Malta
Tunisia
Cyprus
Morocco
Algeria
Libya
Egypt
Israel
Iraq
Saudi Arabia
Mauritania
Mali
Niger
Chad
Sudan
Eritrea
Yemen
Senegal

23andMe



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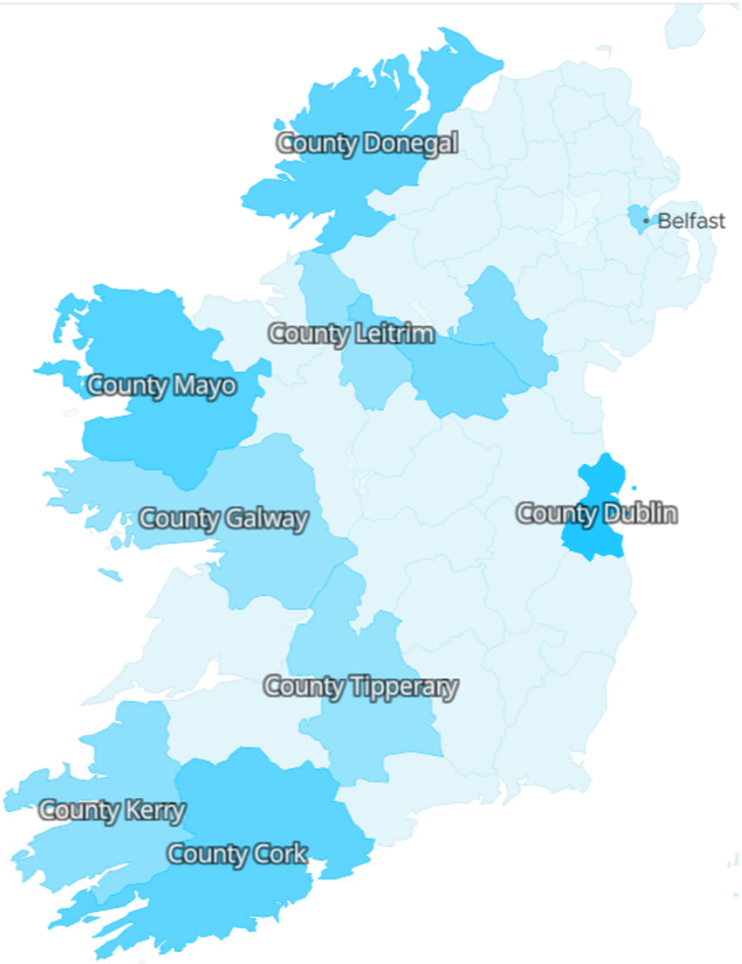
23andMe

Ancestry Composition

Summary | Scientific Details | Frequently Asked Questions



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Ethnicity Estimate takeaways

- Results differ across companies due to
  - Reference Panels
  - Algorithms and reporting timeframes
- Can point to areas of recent ancestry
- Misleading if broad or more distant regions
- May change over time

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Your Family Tree

- Must include all your earliest known ancestors
- Include dates and locations for all births, marriages and deaths
- Provide locations where family lived or moved to
- Include all children or siblings in each generation
- May want to include hypothetical relations

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Evaluate Your Tree

- Do you have gaps or brick walls?
- Can you fill with hypothetical ancestors?
- Naming conventions might be useful
  - Need all children or siblings in correct birth order to apply
  - Watch out for families that did not use it

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Irish Naming Convention

- First born son after father's father
- Second born son after mother's father
- Third born son after father
- Fourth born son after father's oldest brother
- Fifth born son after father's 2nd oldest brother or mother's oldest brother

- First born daughter after mother's mother
- Second born daughter after father's mother
- Third born daughter after mother
- Fourth born daughter after mother's oldest sister
- Fifth born daughter after mother's 2nd oldest sister or father's oldest sister

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Working with your Matches

- Look for people or surnames in common
- Look for locations in common
- Ask questions and be patient for answers
- Work together and share information
- Always confirm with genealogical records

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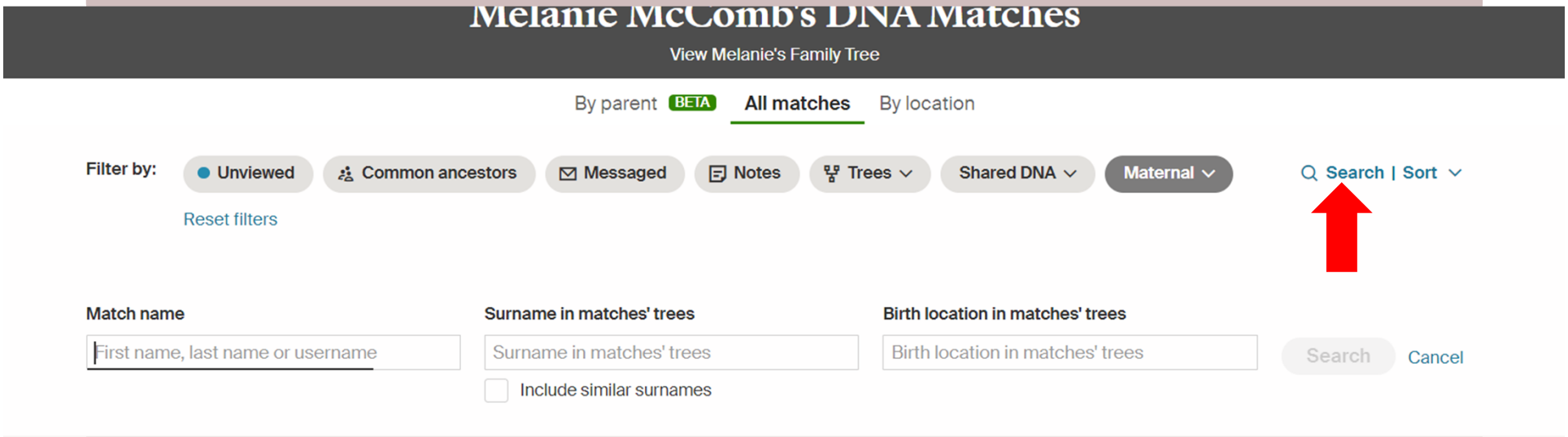
Ancestry - Search by Name and/or Location



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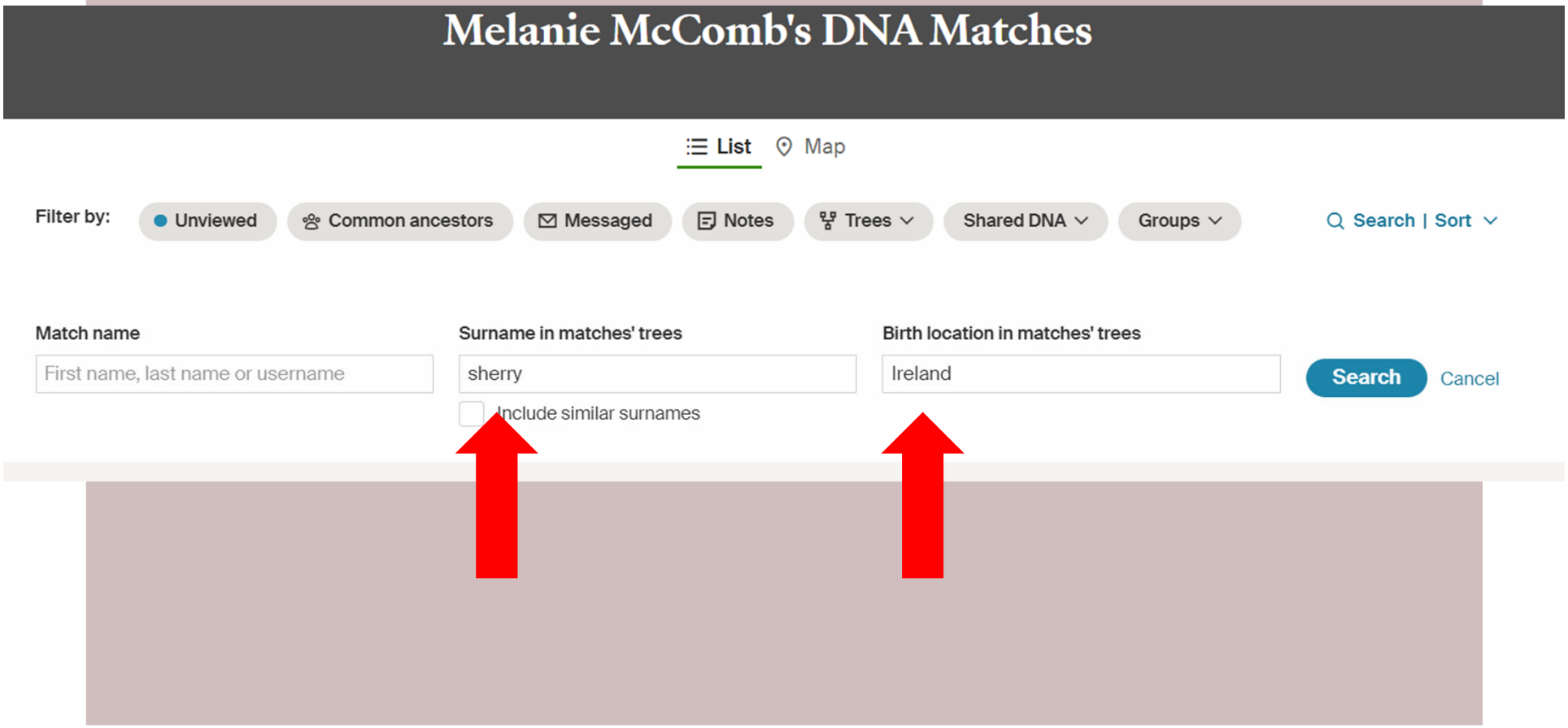
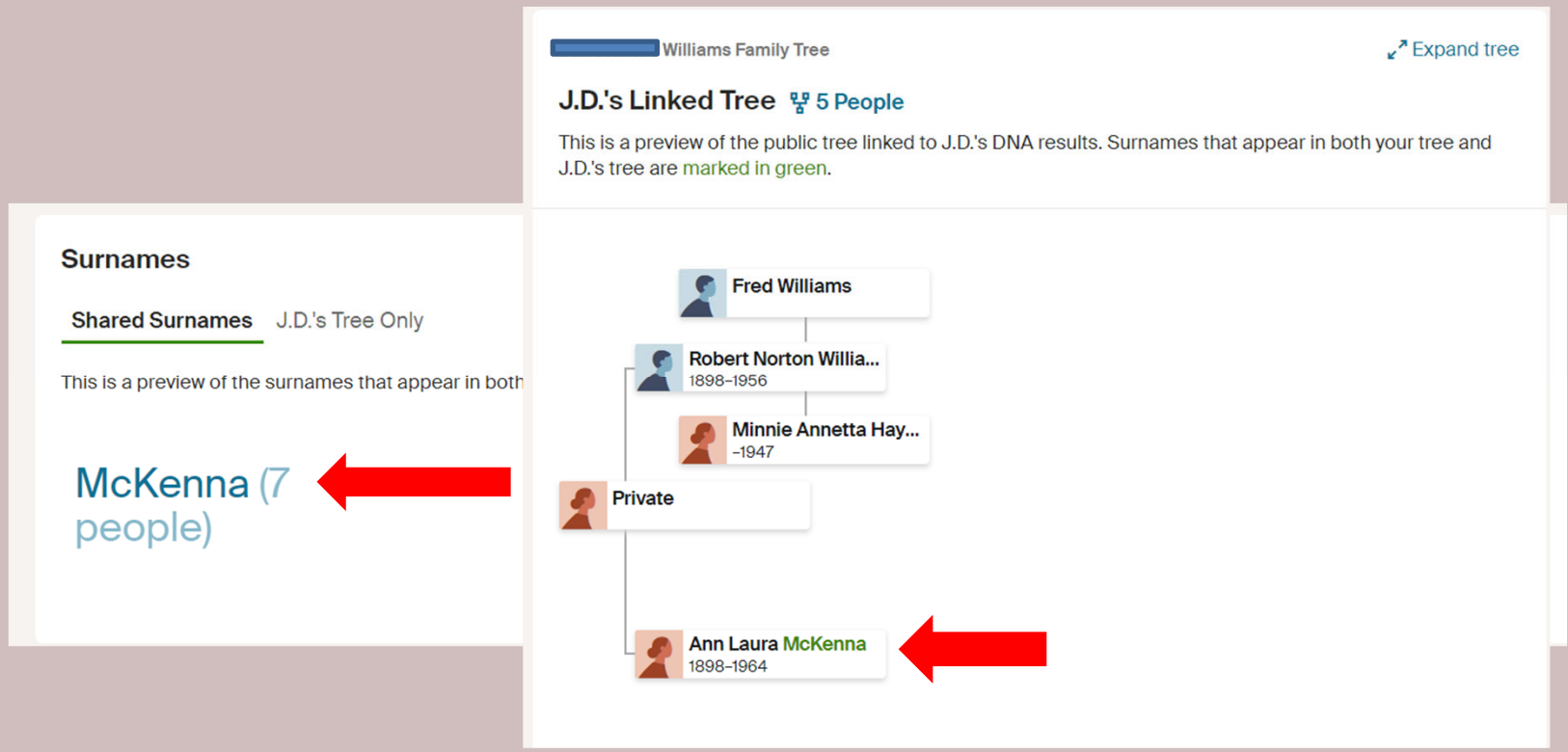
Searching by Surname in DNA Matches



Shared Surnames



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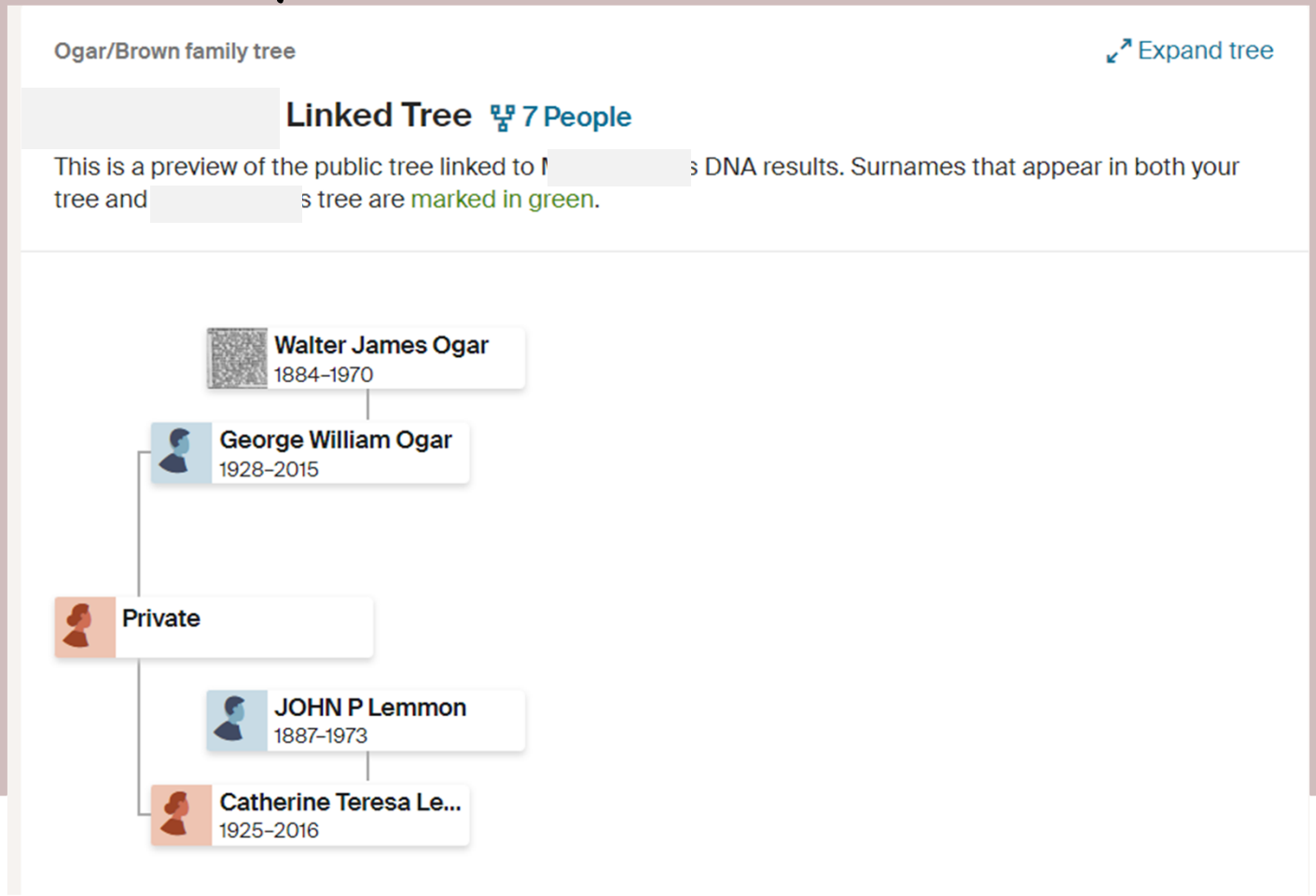
Shallow Trees

- Build out yourself to learn more



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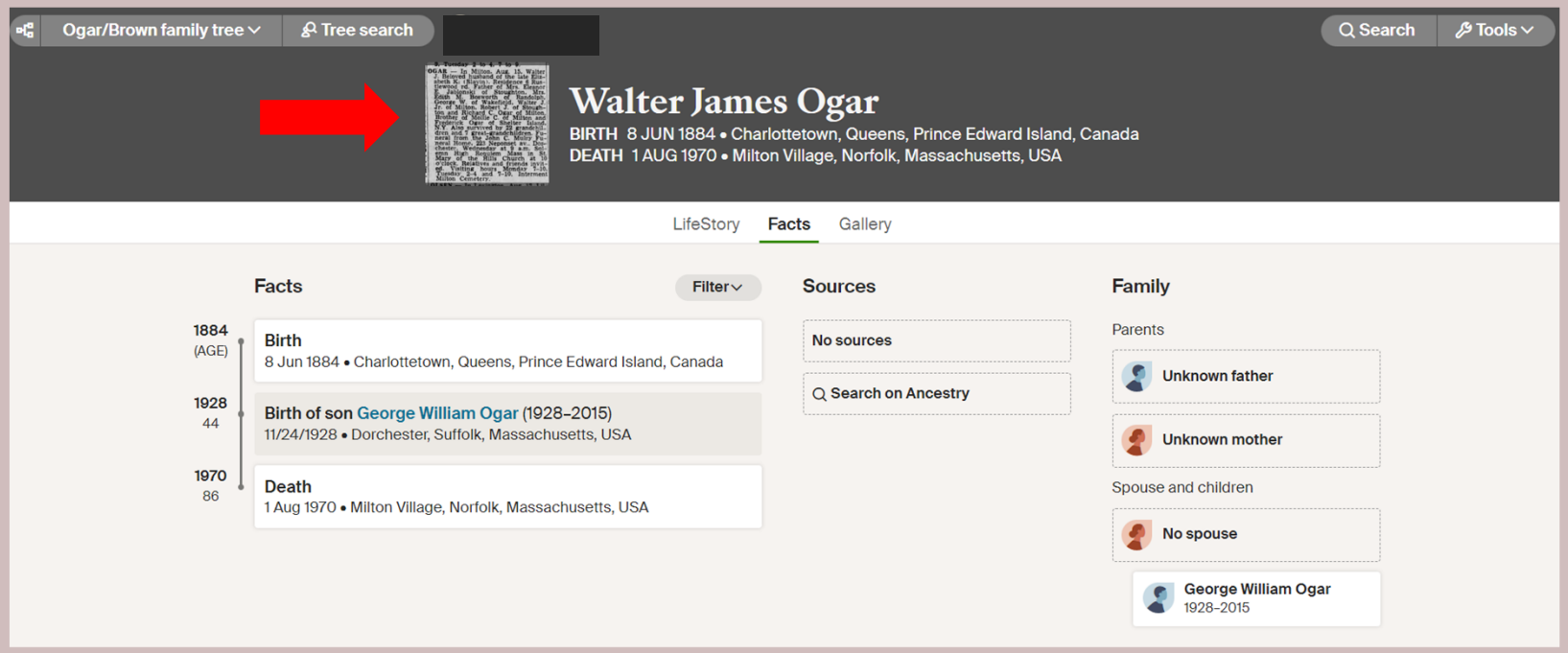
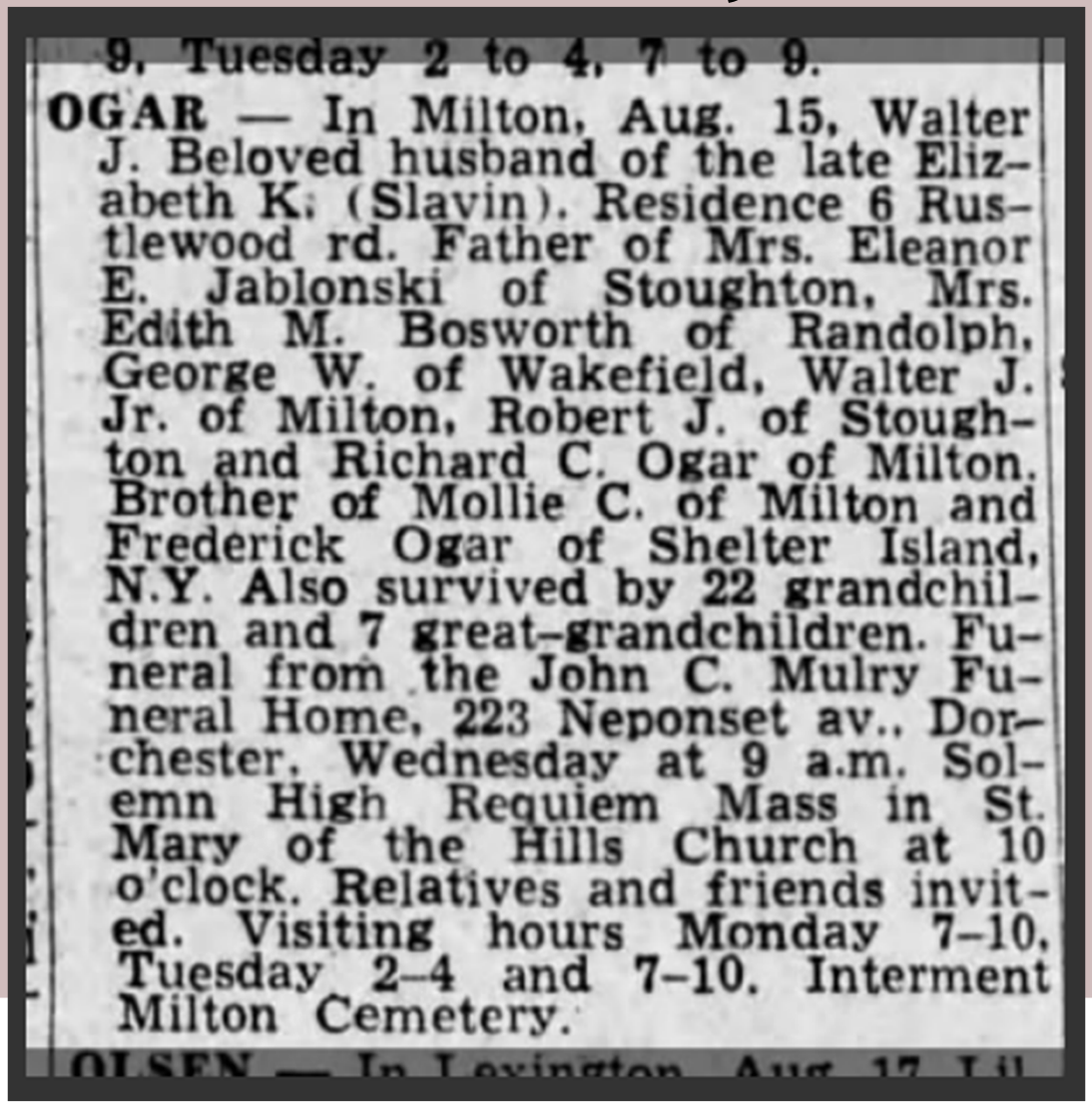
DNA Match's Tree



Obituary



9, Tuesday 2 to 4, 7 to 9.

OGAR — In Milton, Aug. 15, Walter J. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth K. (Slavin). Residence 6 Rustlewood rd. Father of Mrs. Eleanor E. Jablonski of Stoughton, Mrs. Edith M. Bosworth of Randolph, George W. of Wakefield, Walter J. Jr. of Milton, Robert J. of Stoughton and Richard C. Ogar of Milton. Brother of Mollie C. of Milton and Frederick Ogar of Shelter Island, N.Y. Also survived by 22 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Funeral from the John C. Mulry Funeral Home, 223 Neponset av., Dorchester, Wednesday at 9 a.m. Solemn High Requiem Mass in St. Mary of the Hills Church at 10 o'clock. Relatives and friends invited. Visiting hours Monday 7–10, Tuesday 2–4 and 7–10. Interment Milton Cemetery.

OLSEN — In Lexington, Aug. 17, Lil

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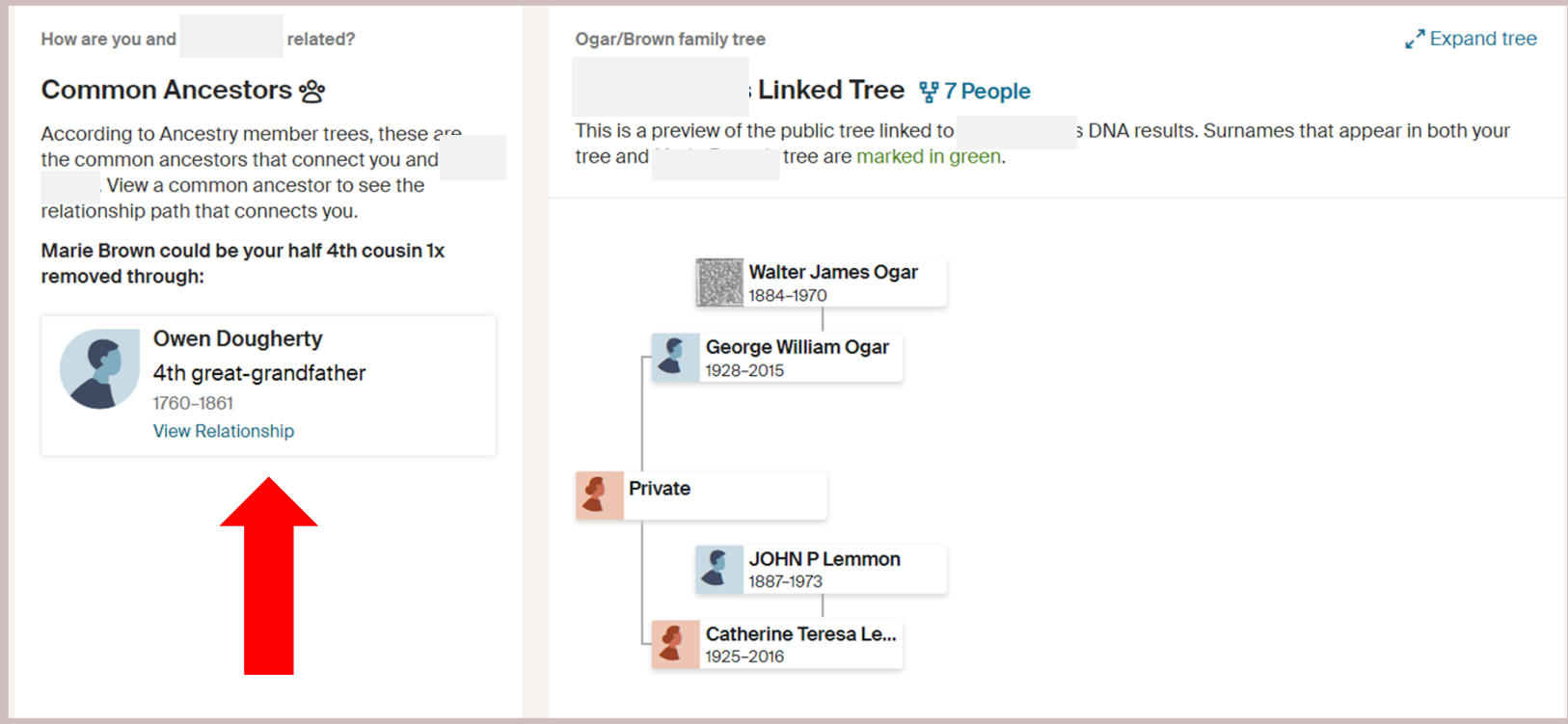
Ancestry DNA – Common Ancestors



Ancestry ThruLines

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Triangulation

- At least three people must be a DNA match on the same segment of DNA.
- With successful triangulation, you can identify a common ancestor.

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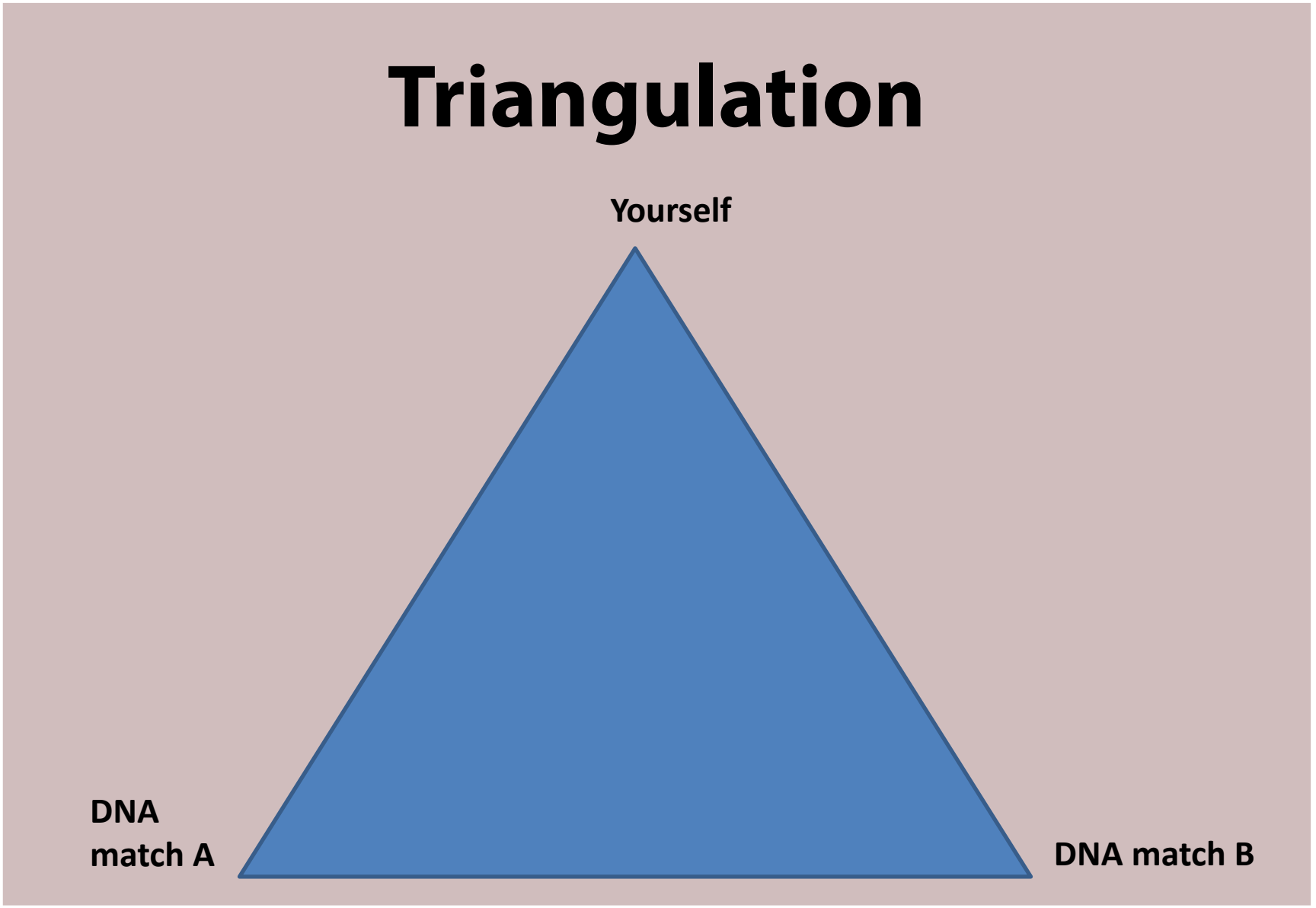
Triangulation



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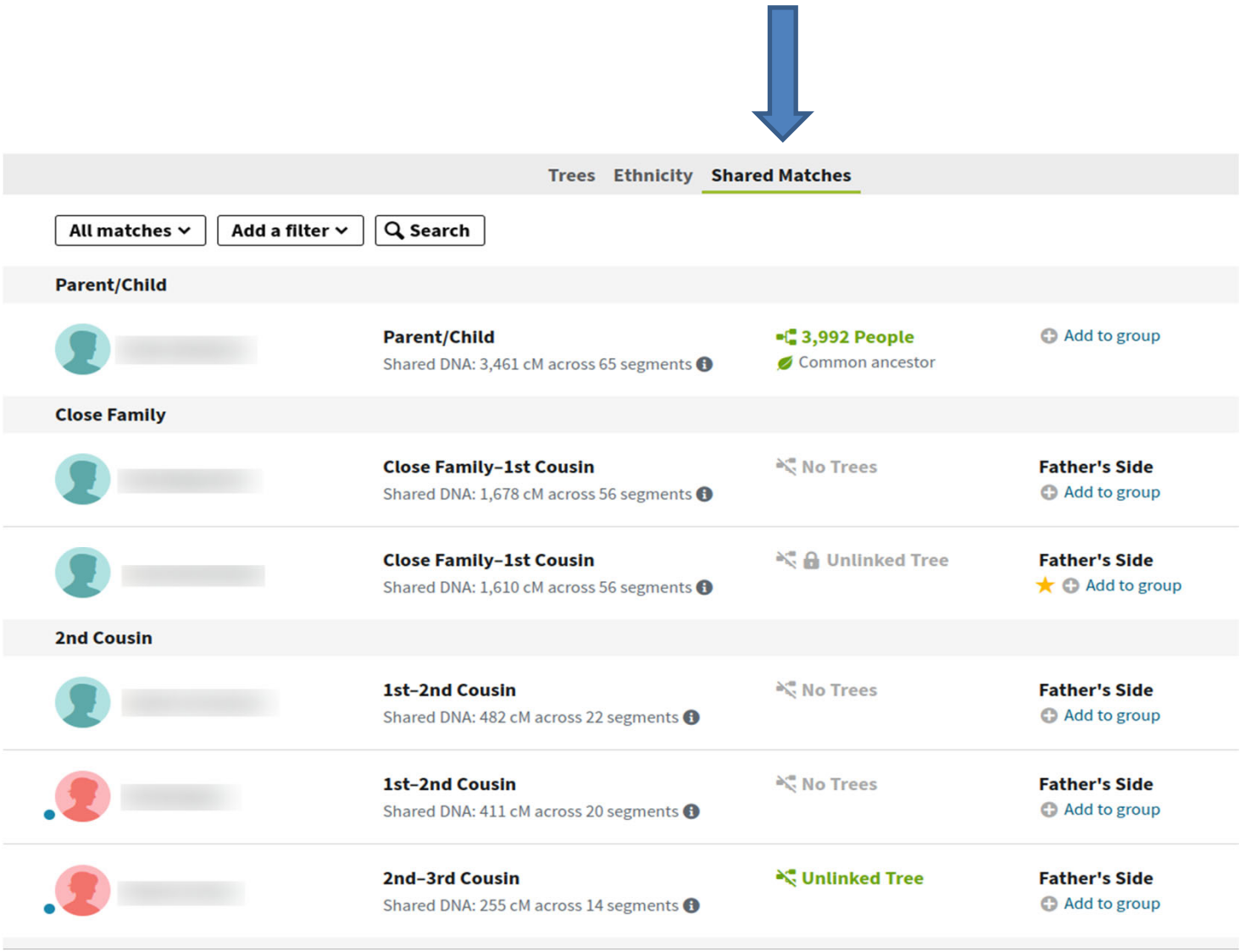

Shared Matches

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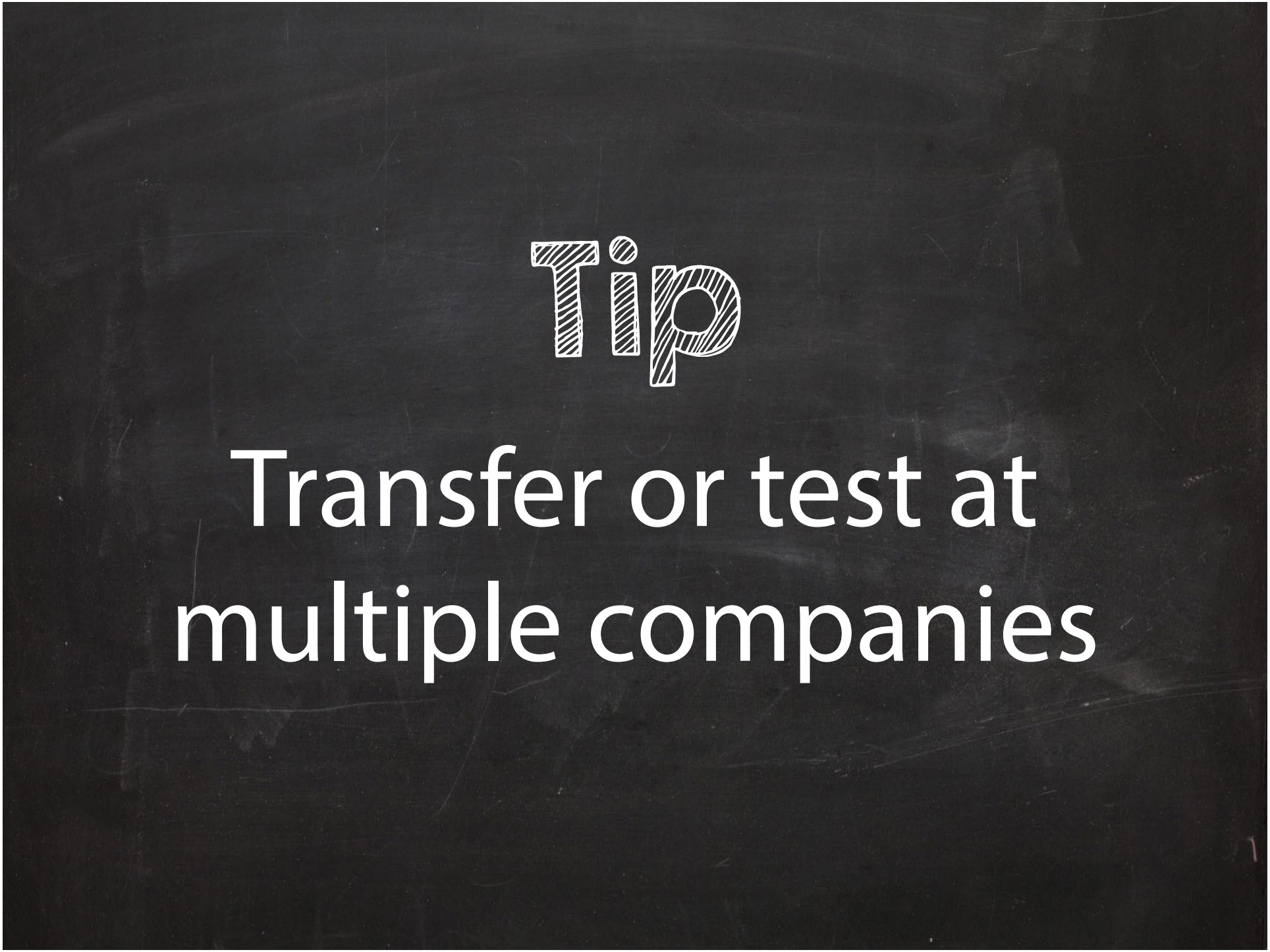

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Autosomal Upload of DNA

- Ancestry does not have a chromosome browser to perform triangulation. Other sites have this feature.
- Upload your Ancestry DNA results to one of the following web sites:
  - FamilyTree DNA
  - MyHeritage
  - GEDMatch

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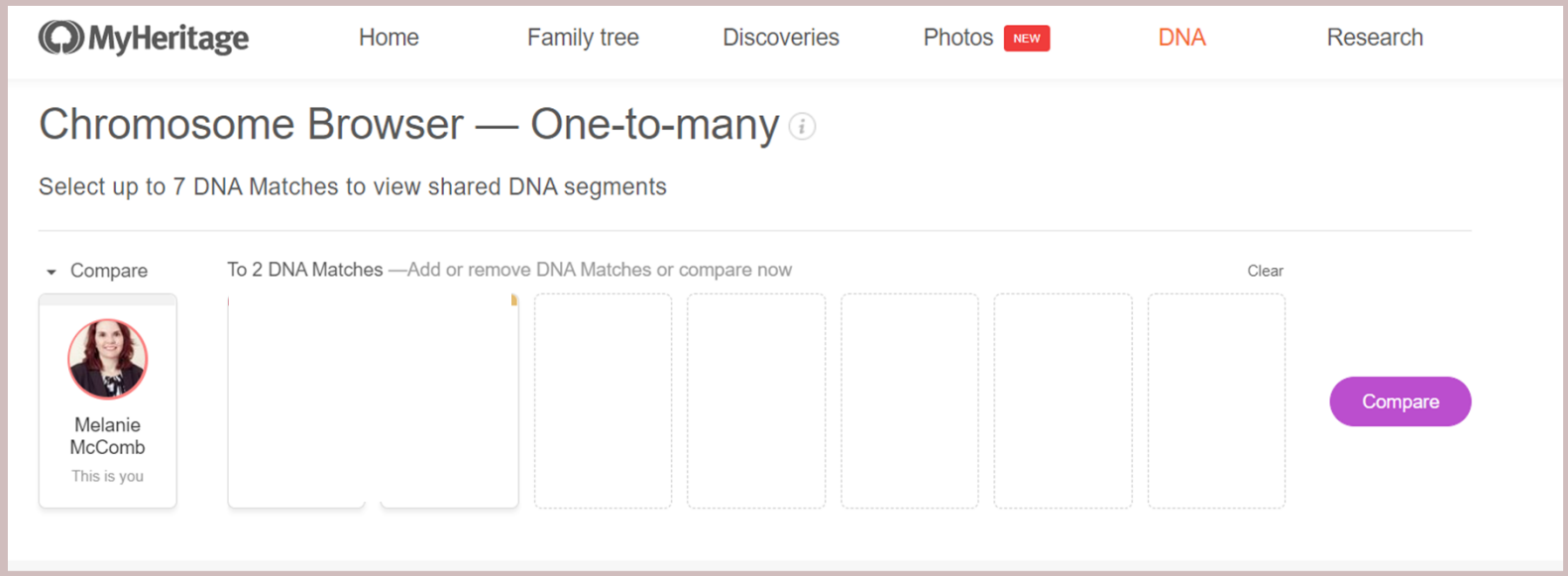
MyHeritage Chromosome Browser



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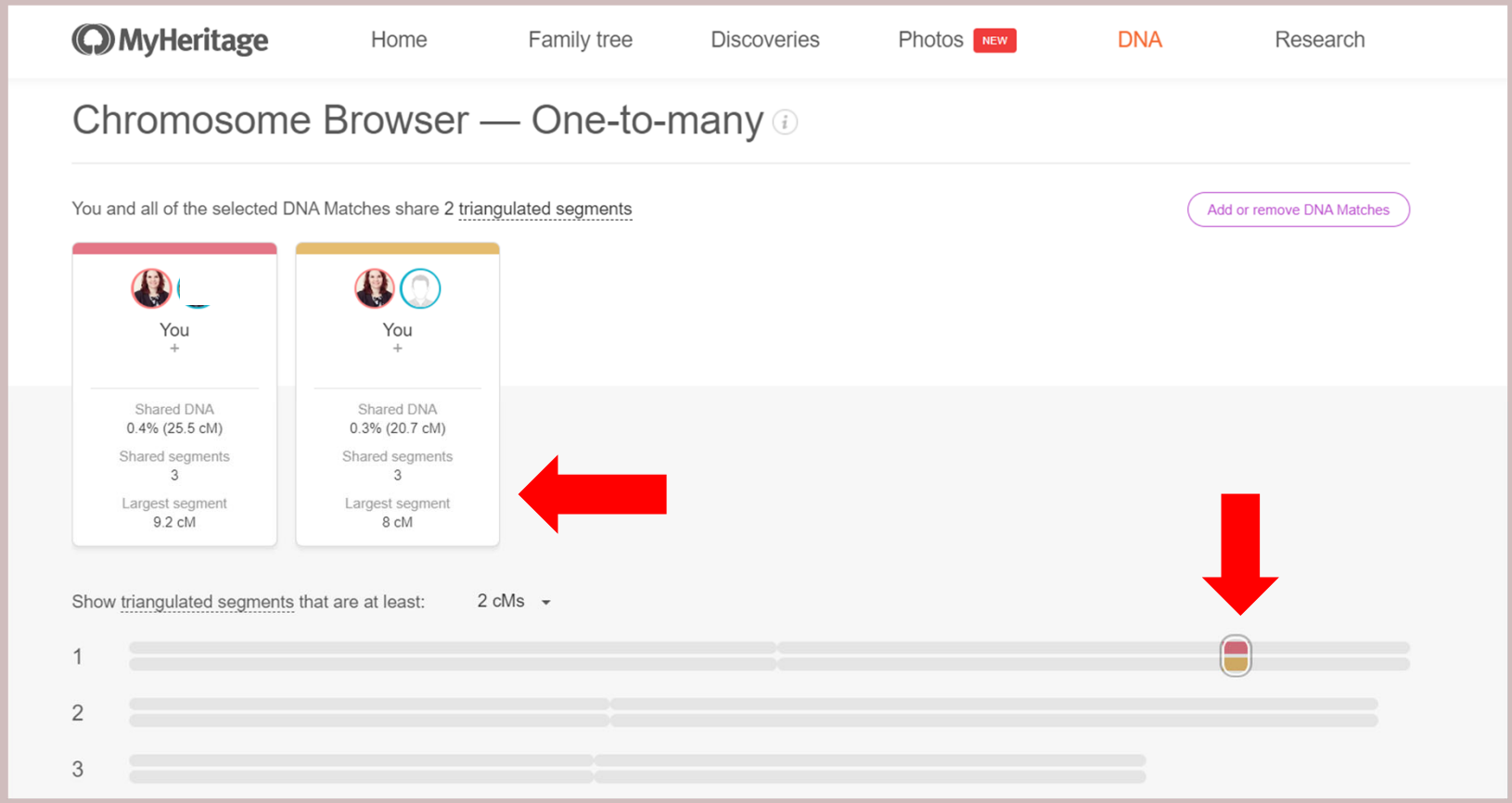
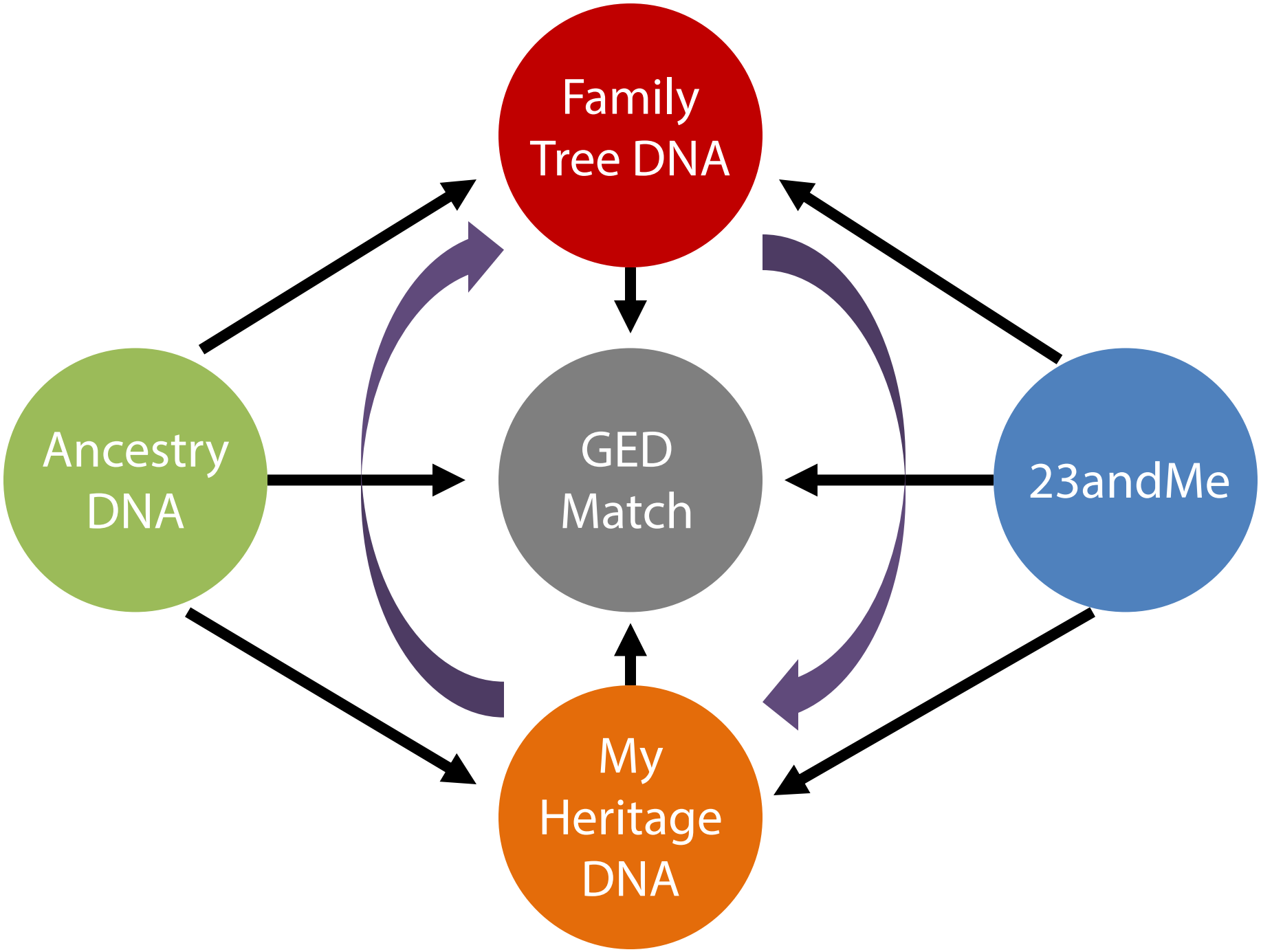
Triangulated Segments





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GEDmatch

- Free Research Tools
- Create an Account
- Download Your Raw DNA
- Upload to GEDmatch

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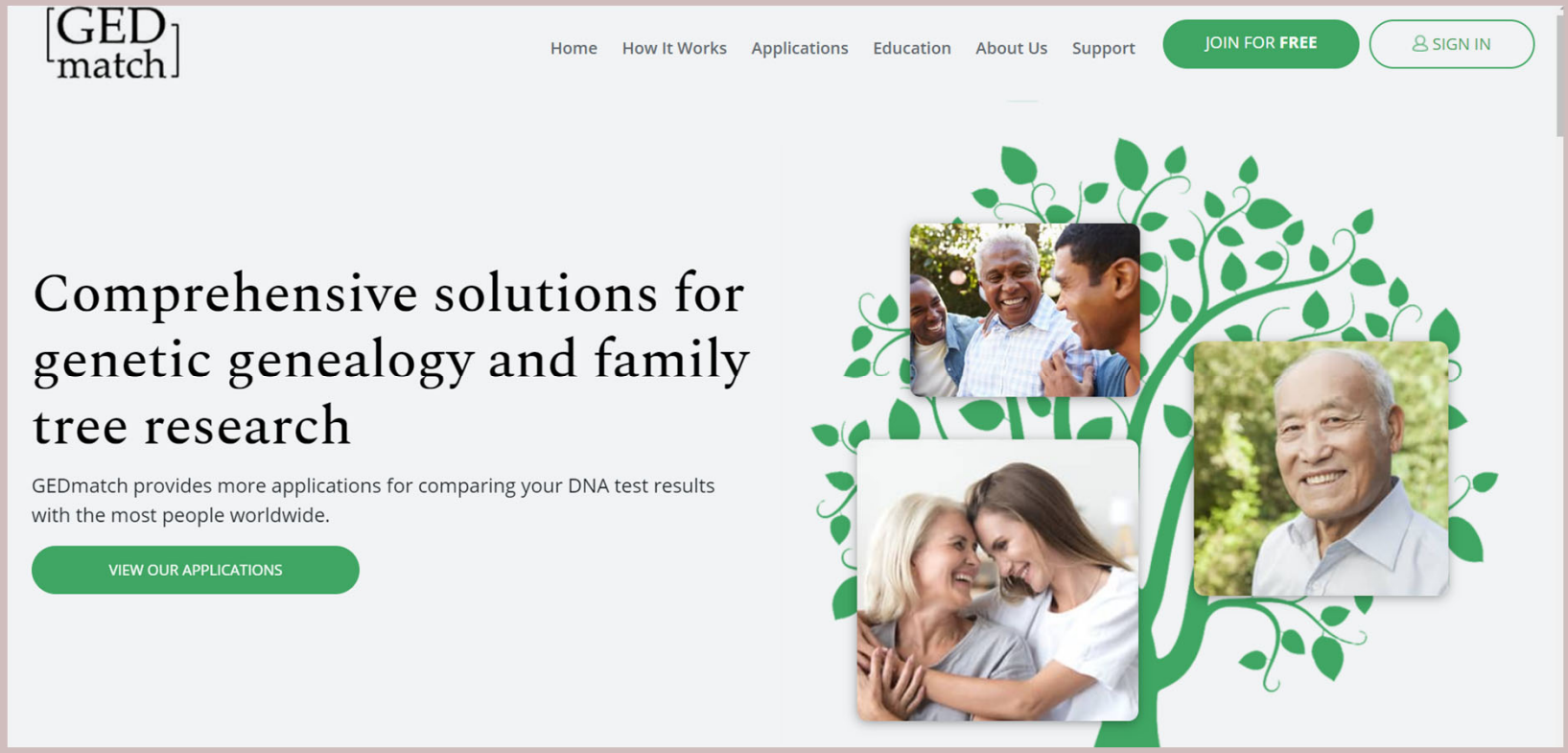
GEDmatch.com



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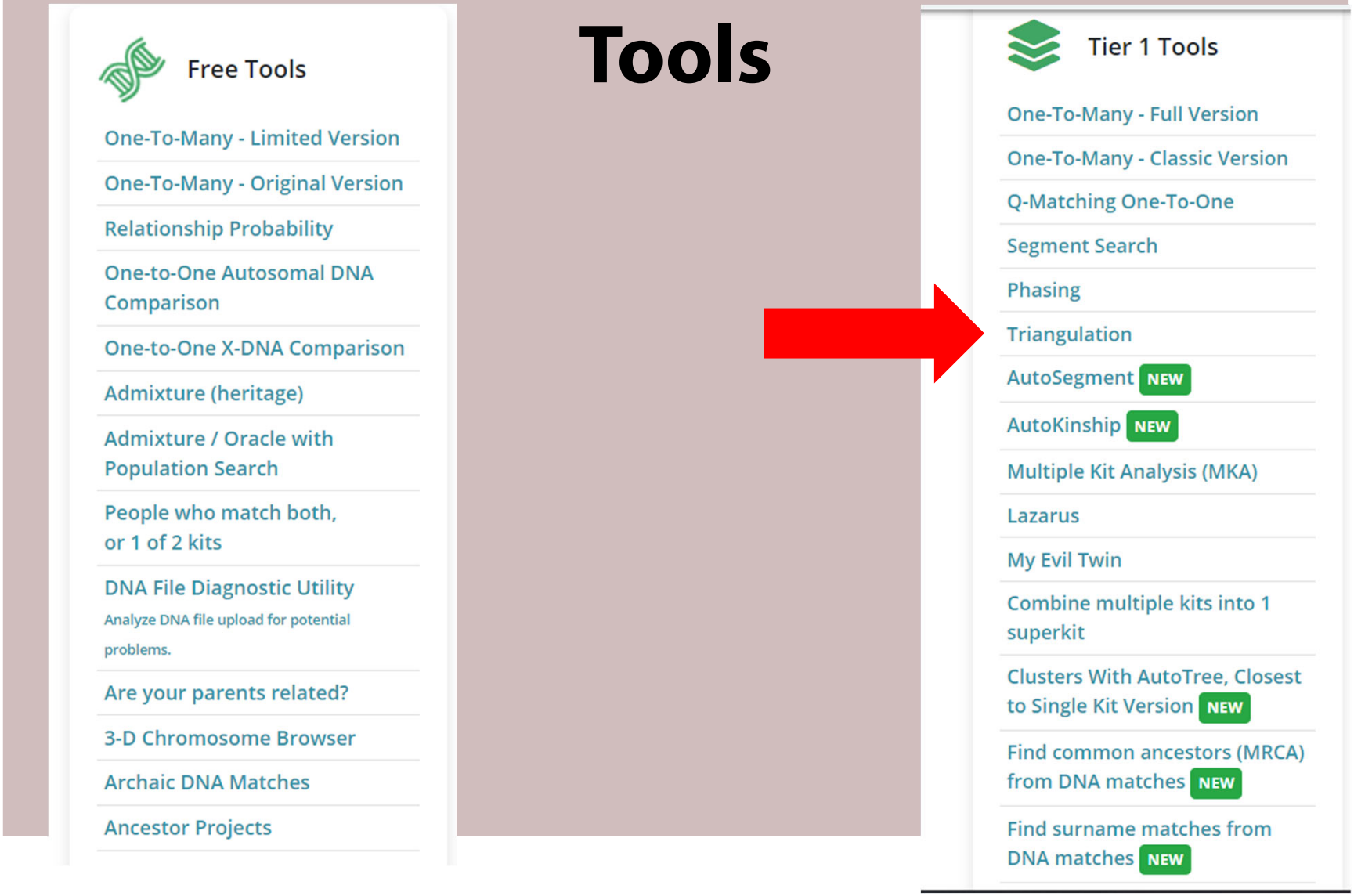
GEDmatch Tools



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Triangulation

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Chr	Kit1 Number	Kit1 Name	Kit1 Email	Kit2 Number	Kit2 Name	Kit2 Email	B37 Start	B37 End	cM
1							102085498	112056187	10.5
1							102085498	112858294	11.5
1							102085498	111183367	9.2
1							102085498	110604747	8.1
1							102085498	112795095	11.4
1							102085498	112795095	11.4
1							102085498	112582366	11.2
1							102090174	112787396	11.4

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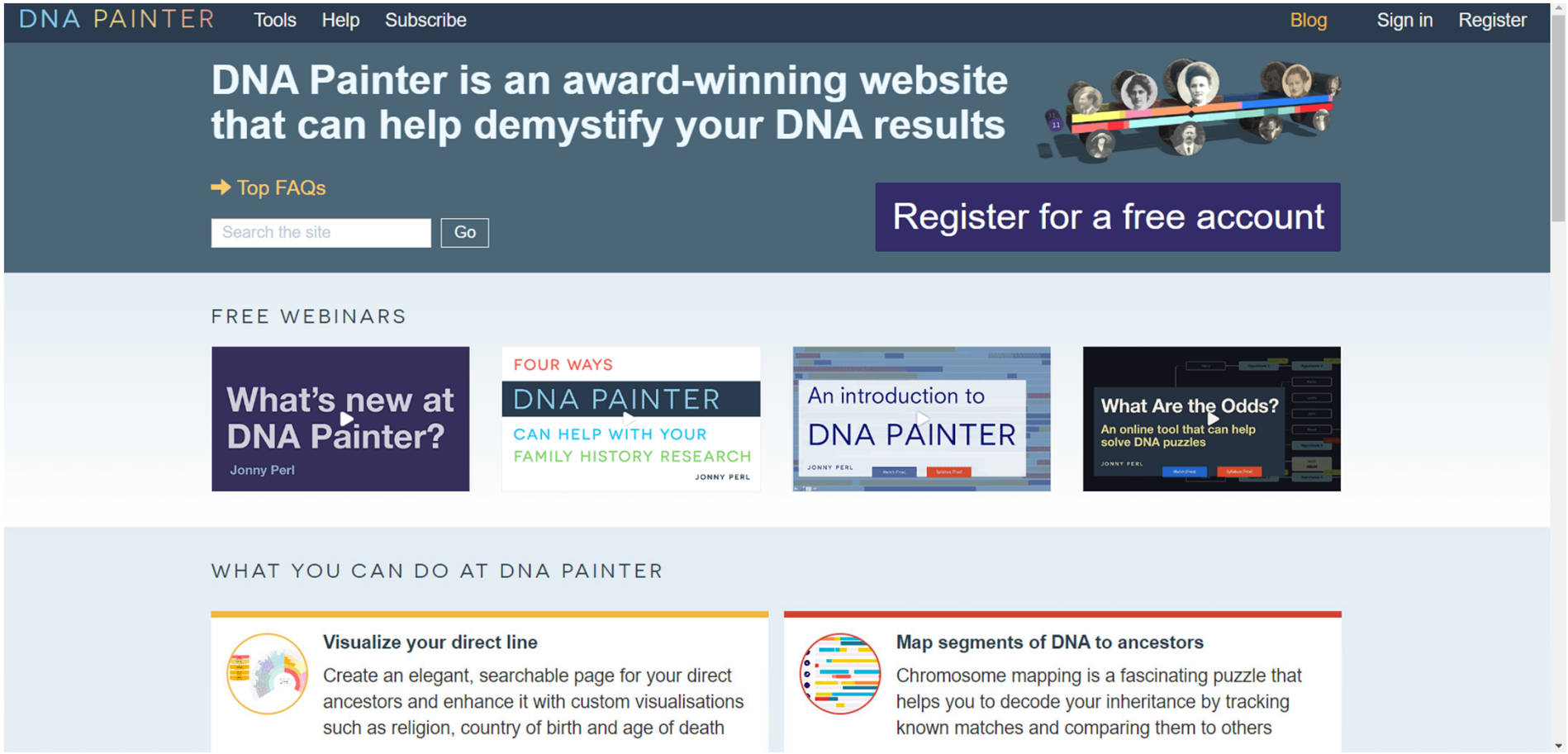

https://dnapainter.com

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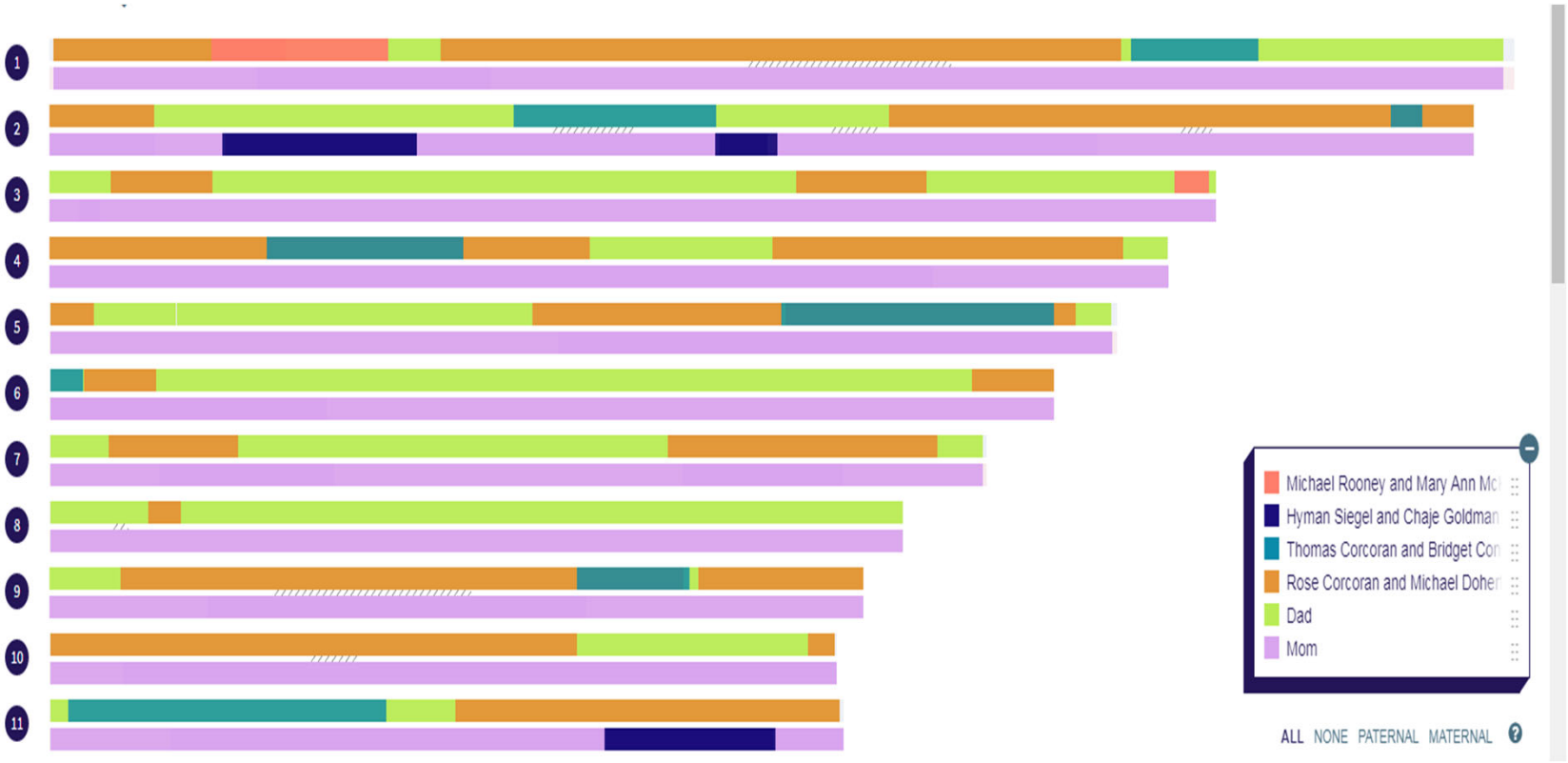
Chromosome Mapping



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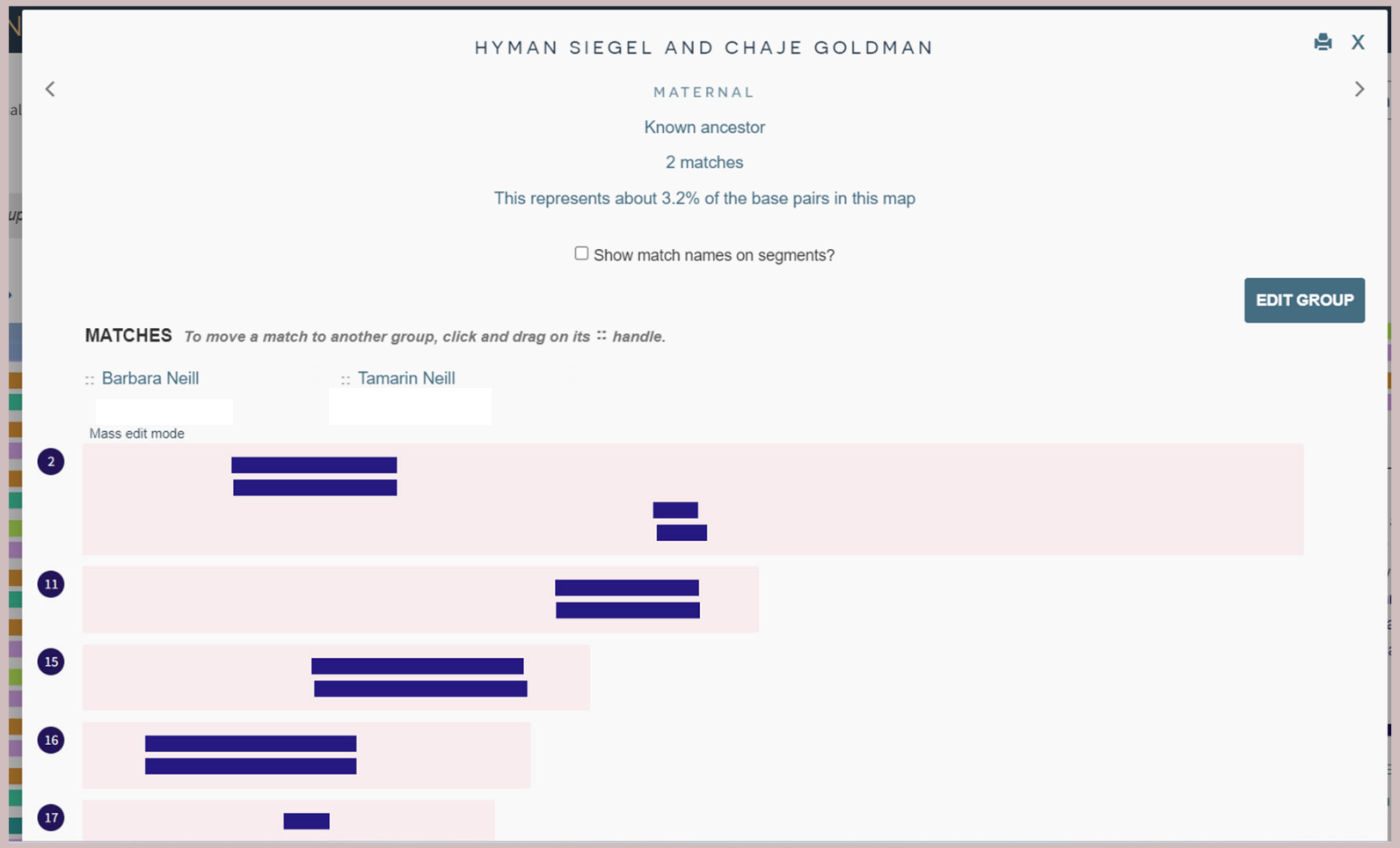
"Painted" Matches



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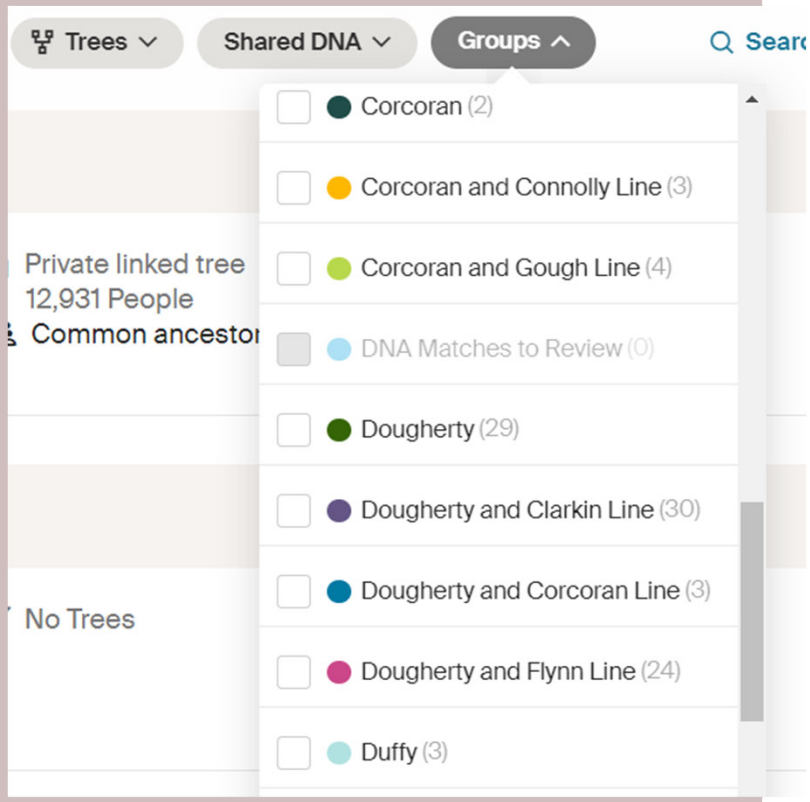
Ancestry - Custom Groups

- Add DNA matches to a group to help filter your matches
- Suggestion: Create custom groups for the most recent common ancestral couple you share with that match (ex. Dougherty and Clarkin line)



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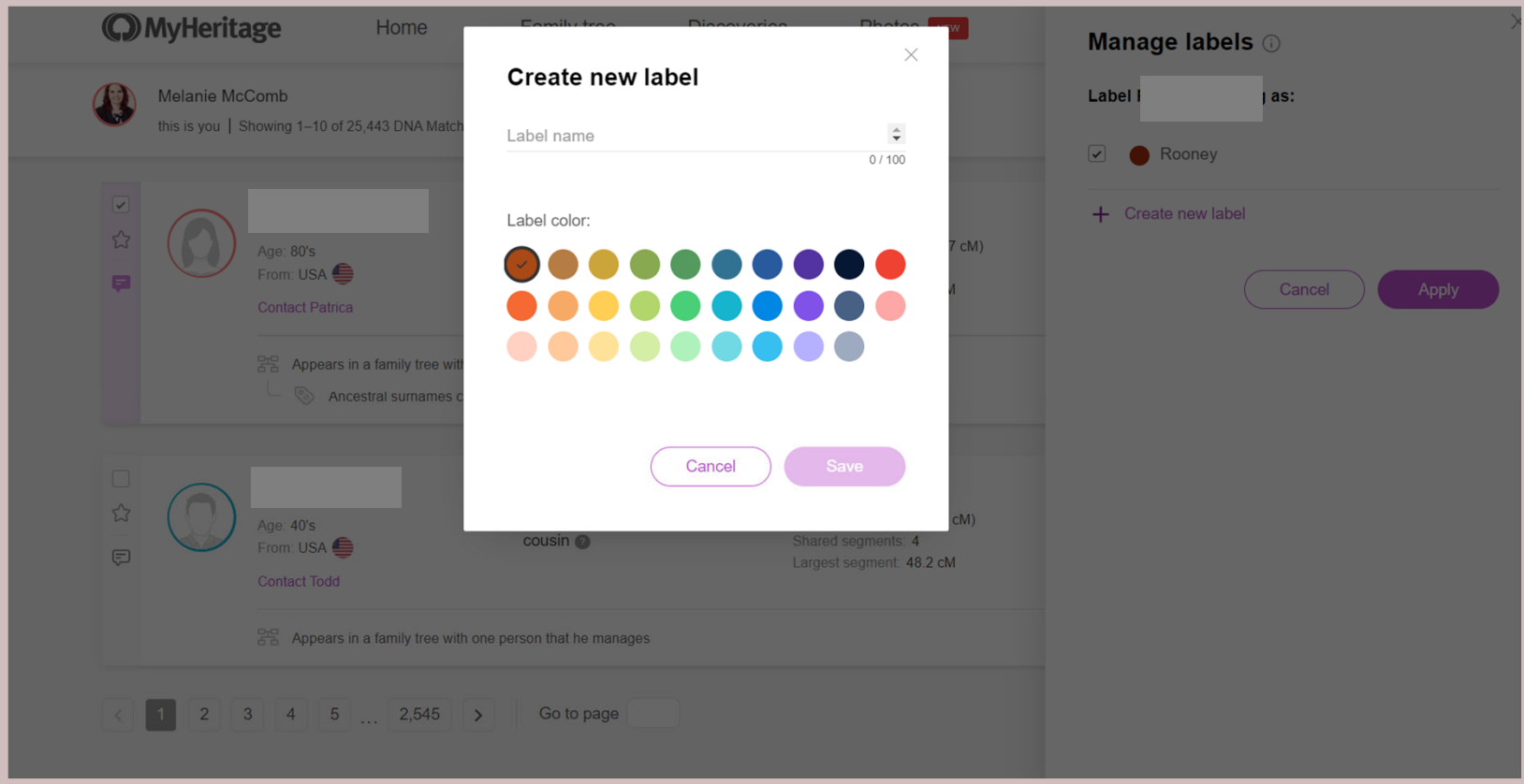
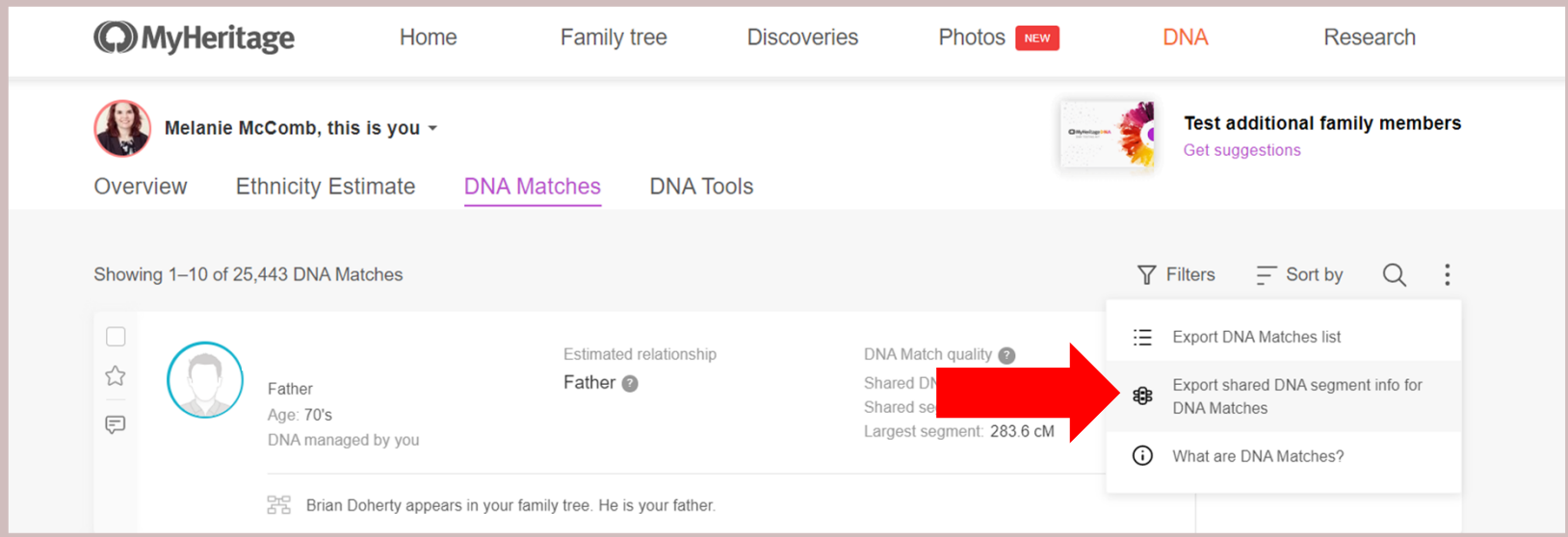
MyHeritage - Labels



MyHeritage - Exporting Shared Segments



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Using Excel Spreadsheets

B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
DNA Match Name	DNA Web Site	Number of Shared cM's	Estimated Relationship	Surnames in Common	Oldest Ancestor with Shared Surname	Birthplace of Oldest Ancestor on Line	Notes
Match A	Ancestry	75	3rd - 4th Cousin	Sherry	James Sherry	Barratitoppy, County Monaghan, Ireland	Baptized in Tydavnet, County M

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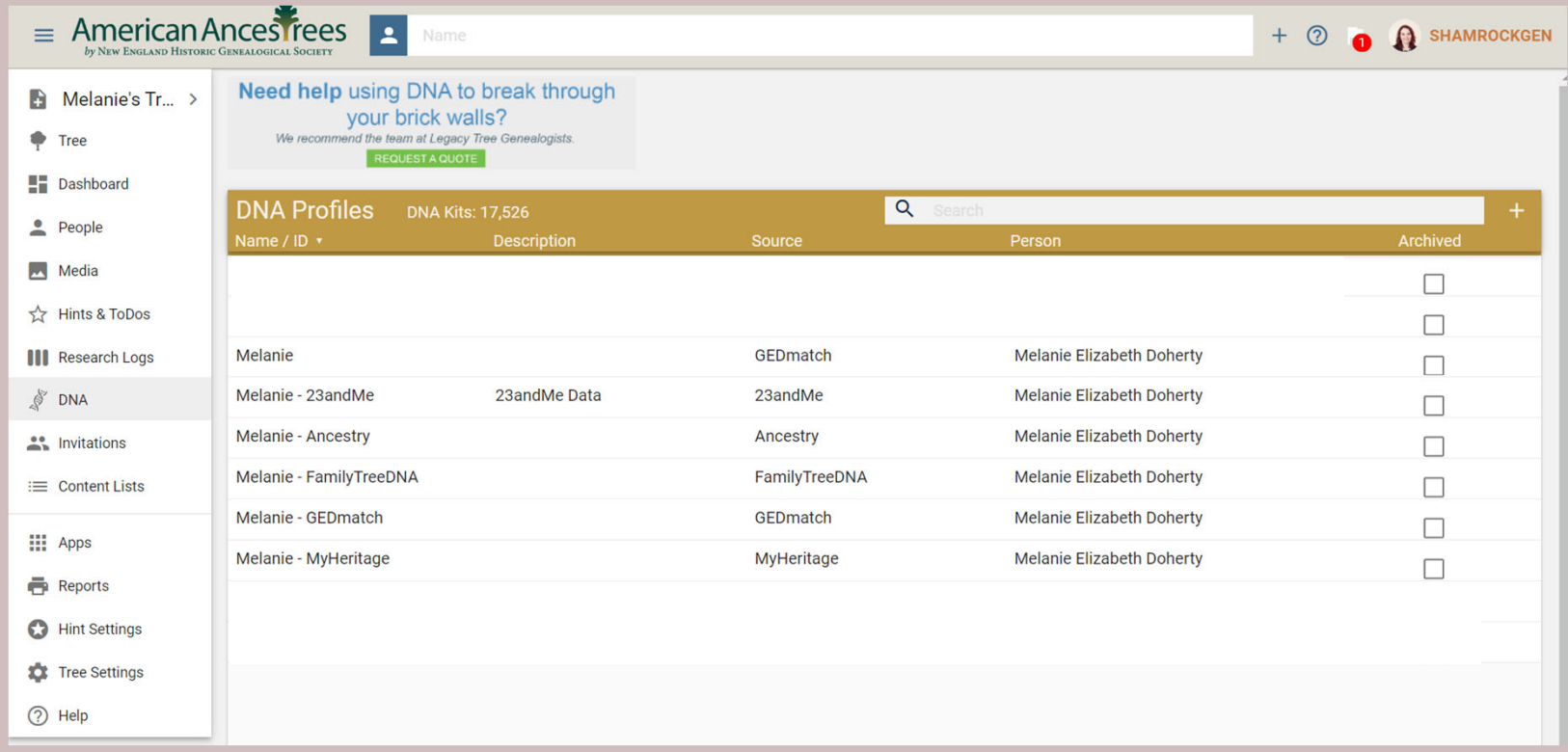
American AncesTrees



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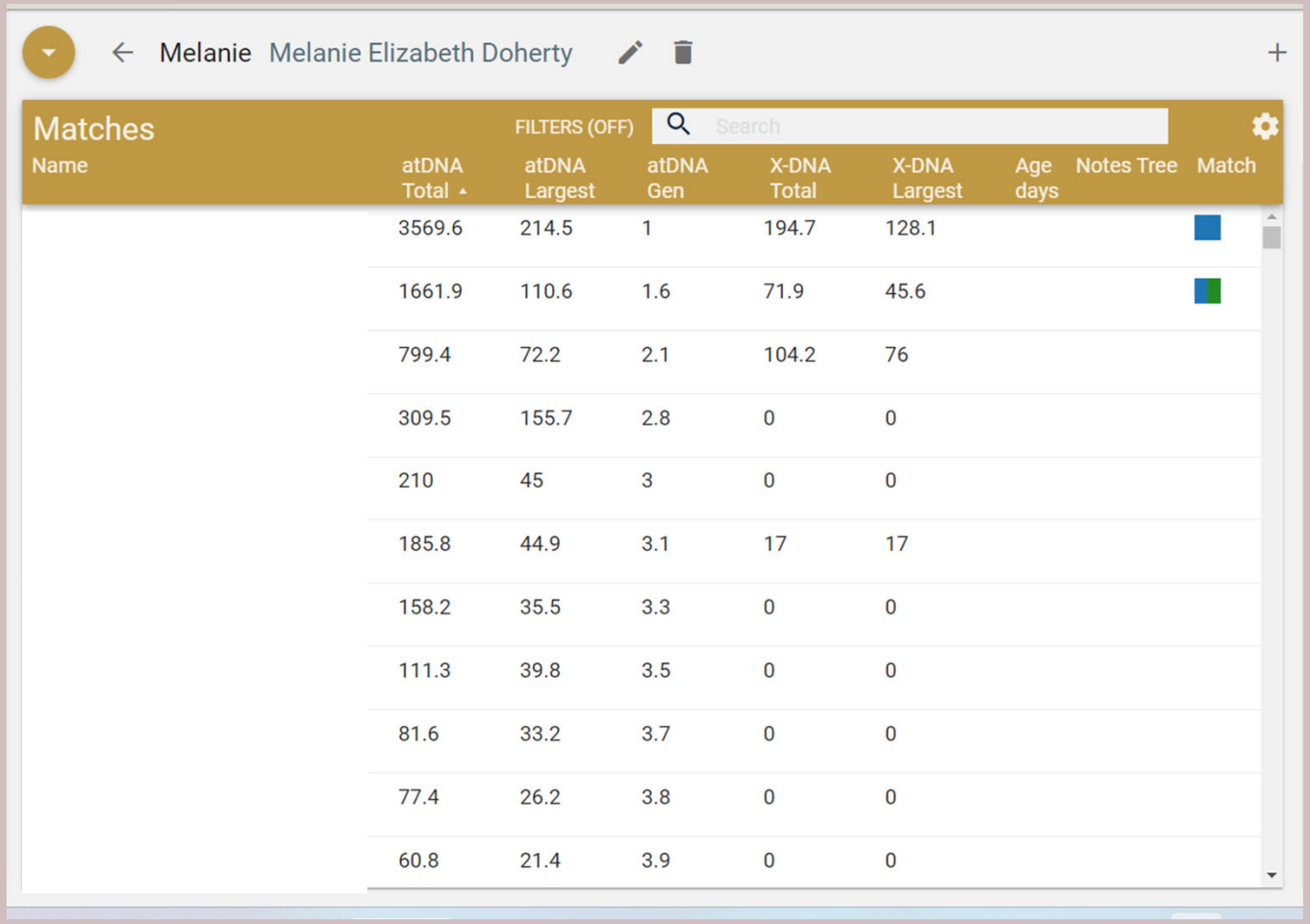
GEDMatch Matches



Name	atDNA Total	atDNA Largest	atDNA Gen	X-DNA Total	X-DNA Largest	Age days	Notes Tree	Match
	3569.6	214.5	1	194.7	128.1			
	1661.9	110.6	1.6	71.9	45.6			
	799.4	72.2	2.1	104.2	76			
	309.5	155.7	2.8	0	0			
	210	45	3	0	0			
	185.8	44.9	3.1	17	17			
	158.2	35.5	3.3	0	0			
	111.3	39.8	3.5	0	0			
	81.6	33.2	3.7	0	0			
	77.4	26.2	3.8	0	0			
	60.8	21.4	3.9	0	0			

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Genealogical DNA Analysis Tool

Genealogical DNA Analysis Tool

Utilizing Autosomal DNA to Research Family Trees

Home | Download | User Guide | Video Tutorials | Blog | GMP | About

Description

Genealogical DNA Analysis Tool (GDAT) is an app that utilizes autosomal DNA to aid in the research of family trees. The app houses a database of the autosomal data downloaded from various testing companies and provides analysis tools for family history research.

To fully utilized this app, the user should have a basic understanding autosomal research techniques and terminology.

Note that data is stored locally on the user's computer as a standalone database so access to the GDAT database as well as what data is loaded, rests completely with the user.

GDAT is available for the Windows, Mac and Linux desktop platforms.

GDAT Features

- *One Database to house data for multiple DNA tests*
- *Chromosome Mapping of Common Ancestors*
- *Triangulation and ICW Grouping*
- *Mark Most Recent Common Ancestors*

Signup for Updates

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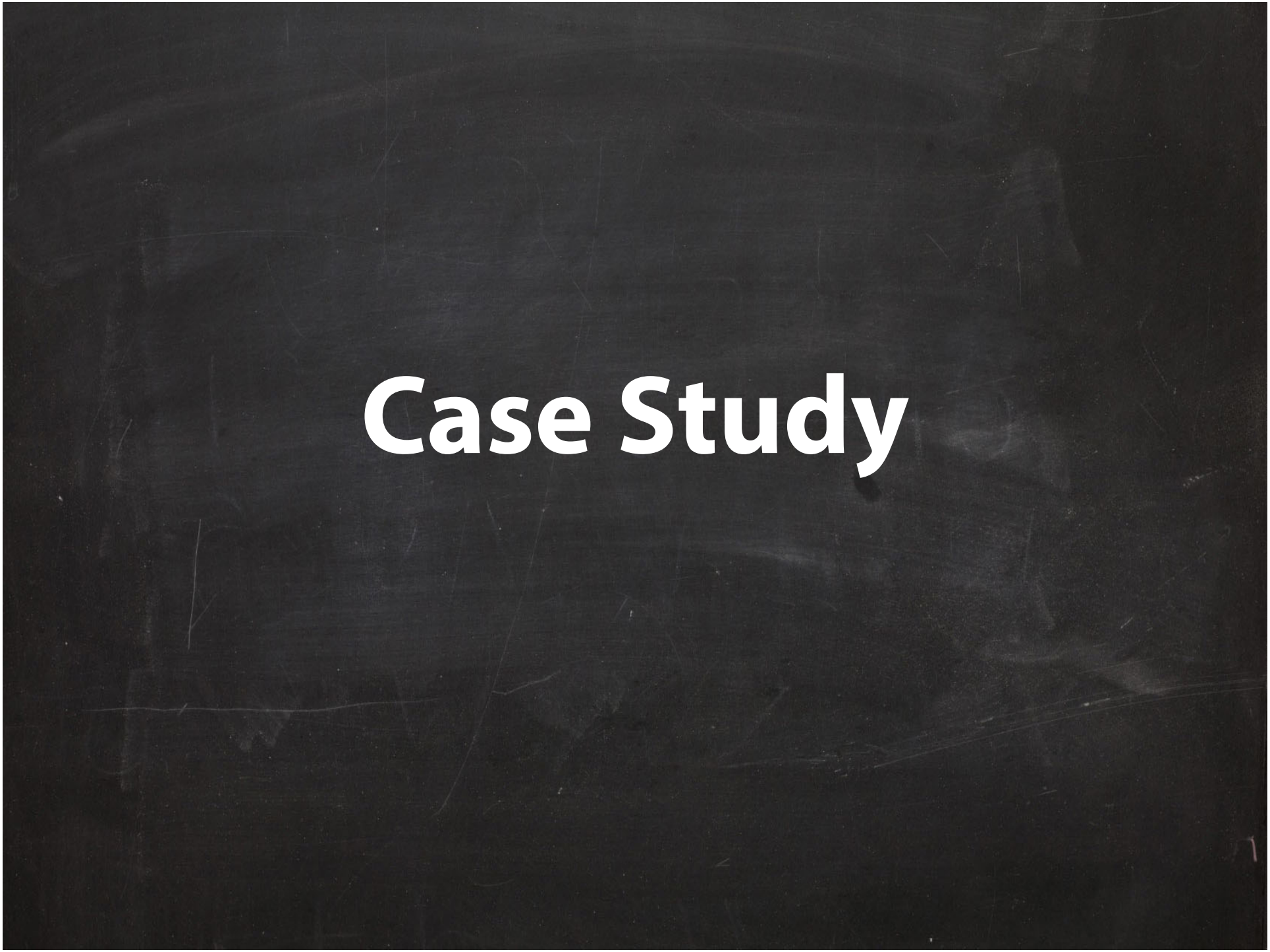

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Bridget Sherry

- Born about 1819 in Ireland
- Settled in Prince Edward Island (PEI), Canada with husband John Connolly and children by 1841.
- GOAL: Confirm her parents and Irish origins

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Children of Bridget Sherry and John Connolly

- John – 13 June 1841 PEI
- Ellen – 1 June 1843 PEI
- Mary – 14 Apr. 1845 PEI
- Bernard – 26 Oct. 1846 PEI
- Ann – 12 Dec. 1847 PEI
- Patrick – 4 Apr. 1851 PEI

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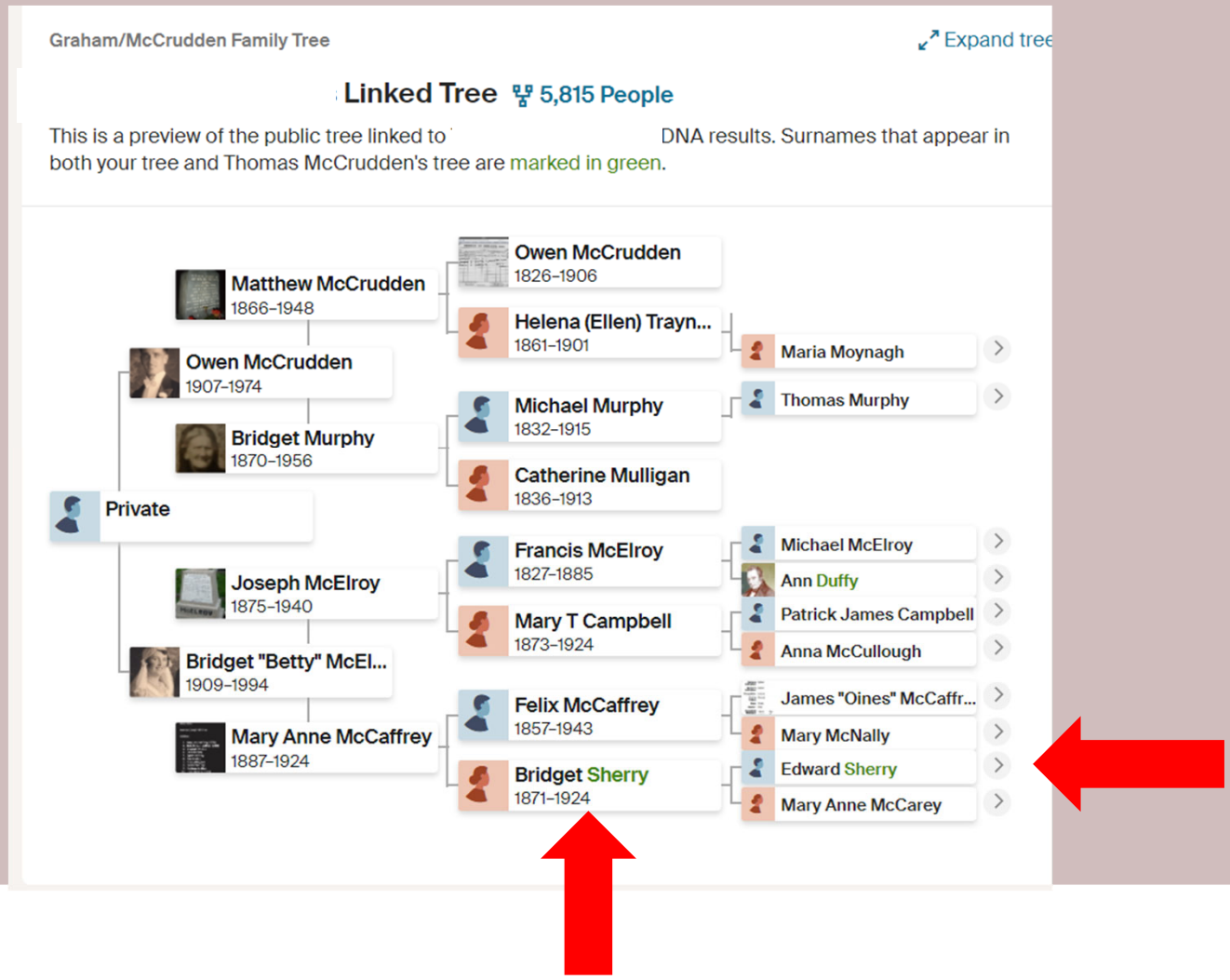
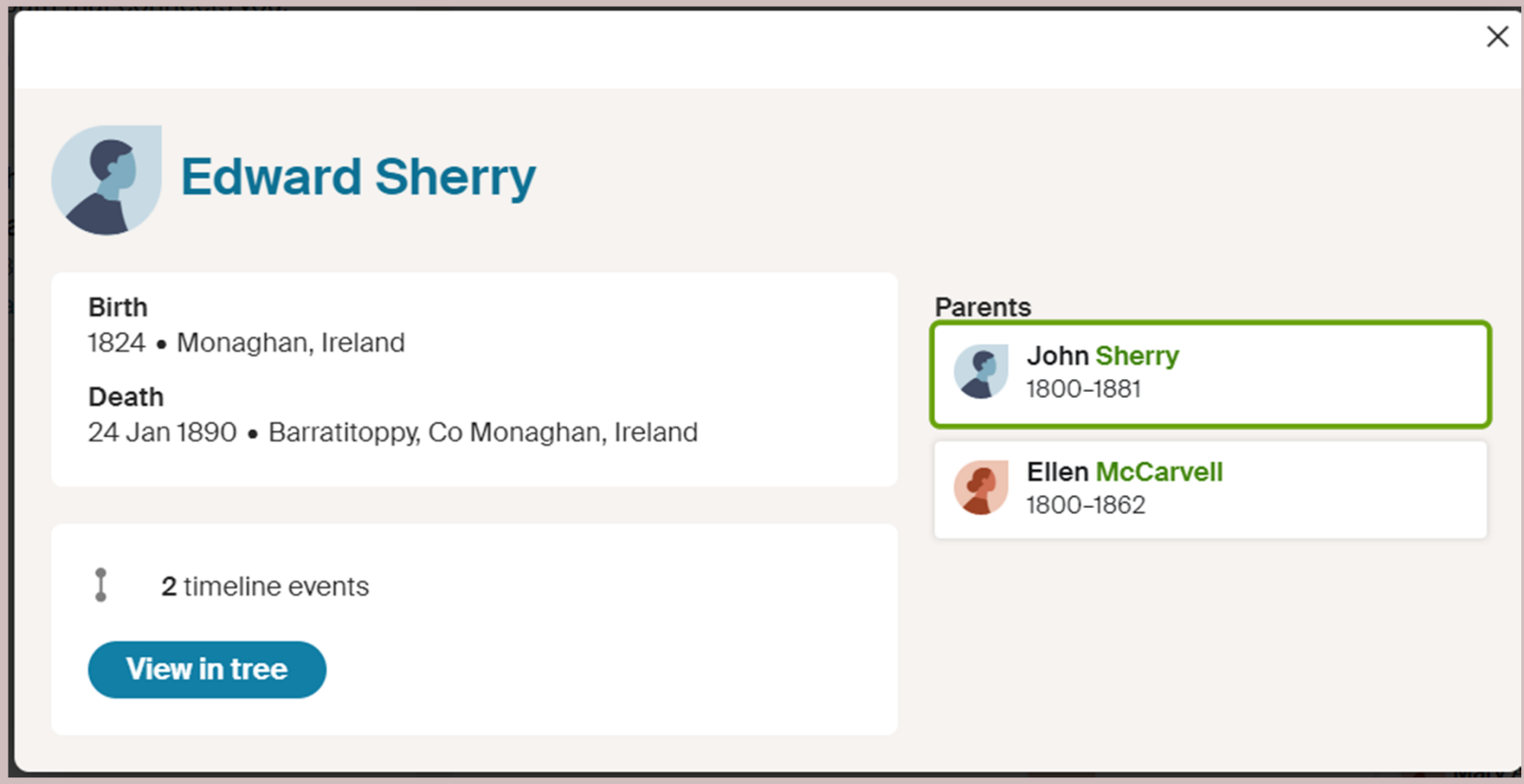
Looking for Clues in Trees



Review the Ancestors with Shared Surnames



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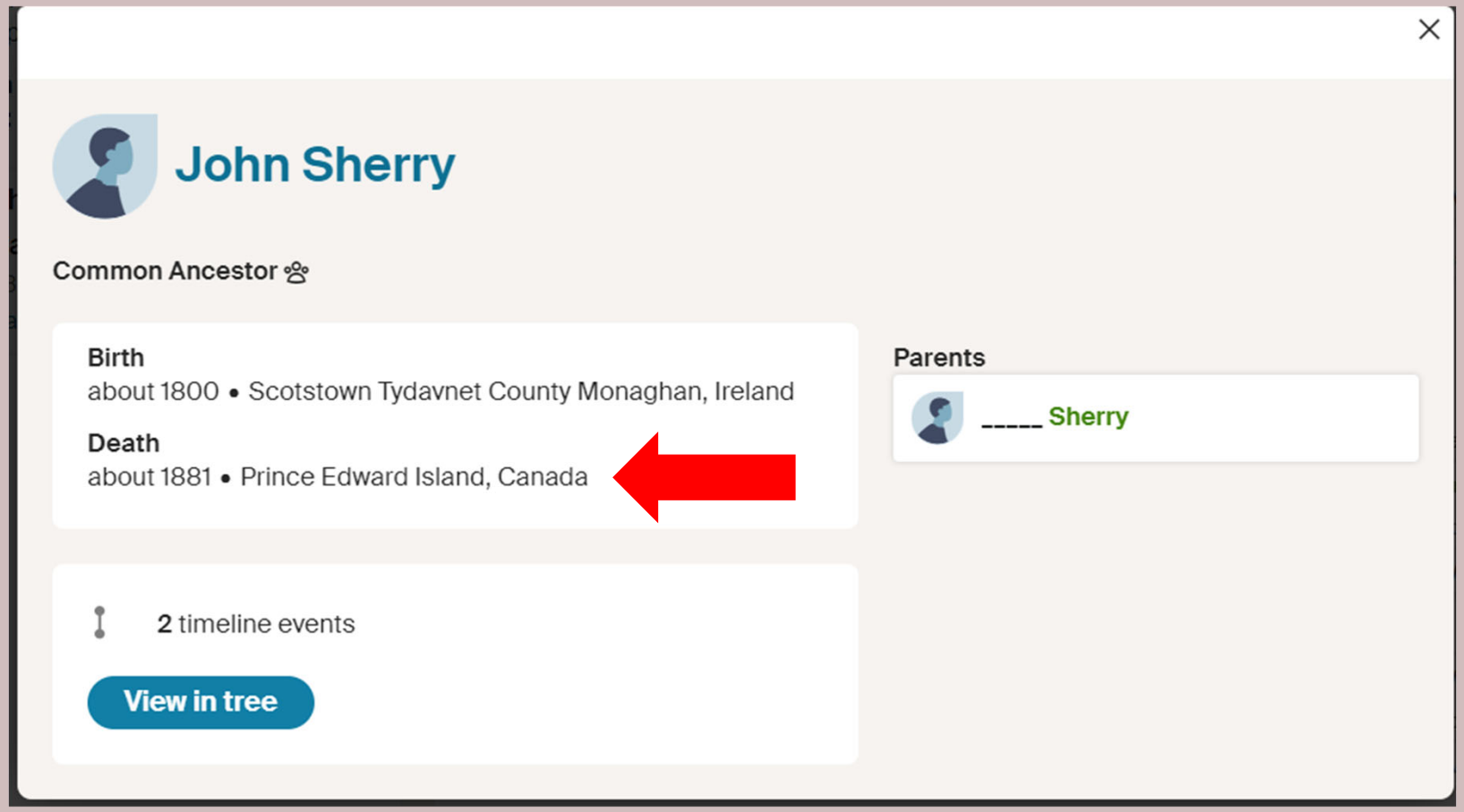
Review the End Line Ancestors



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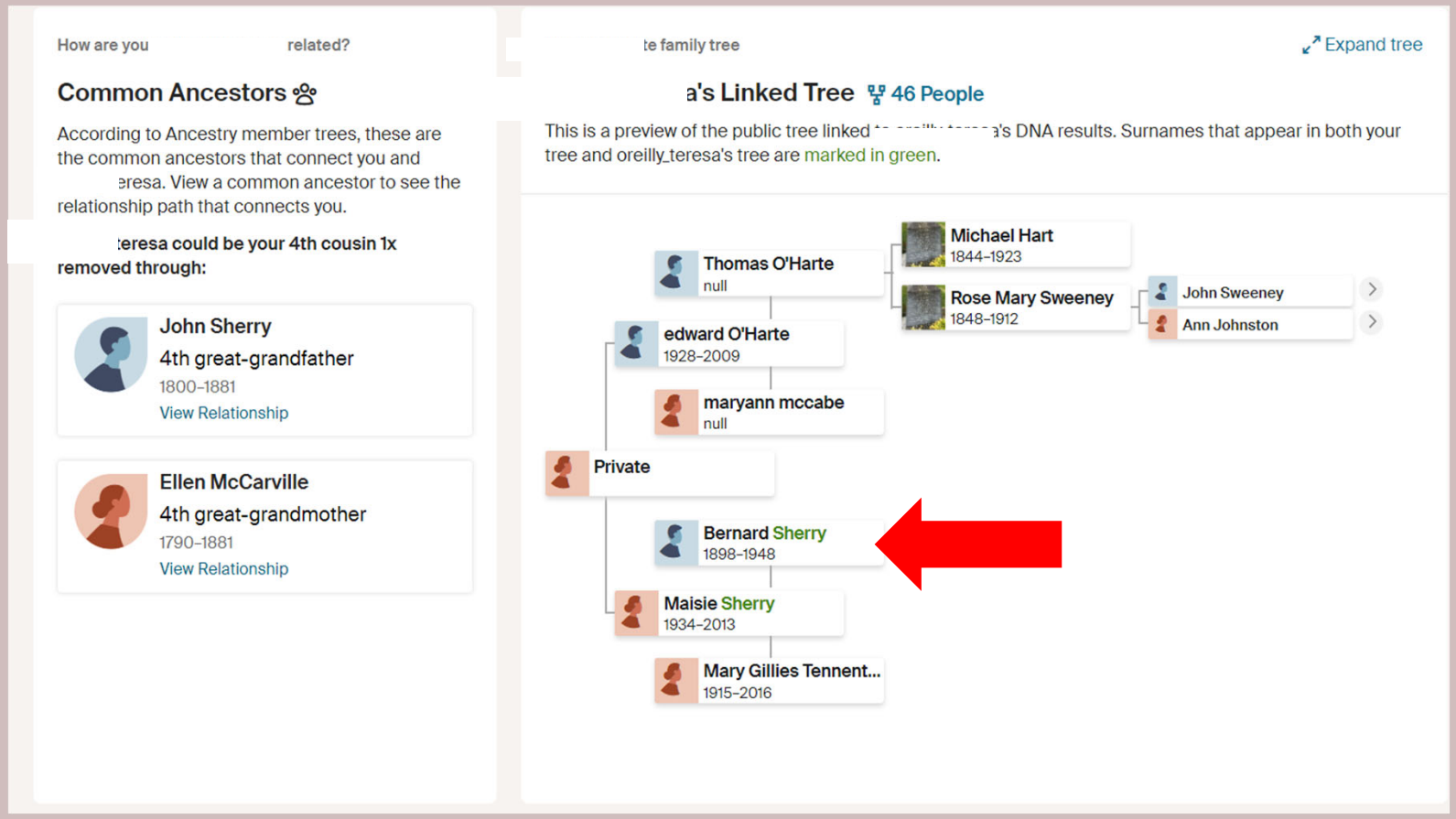
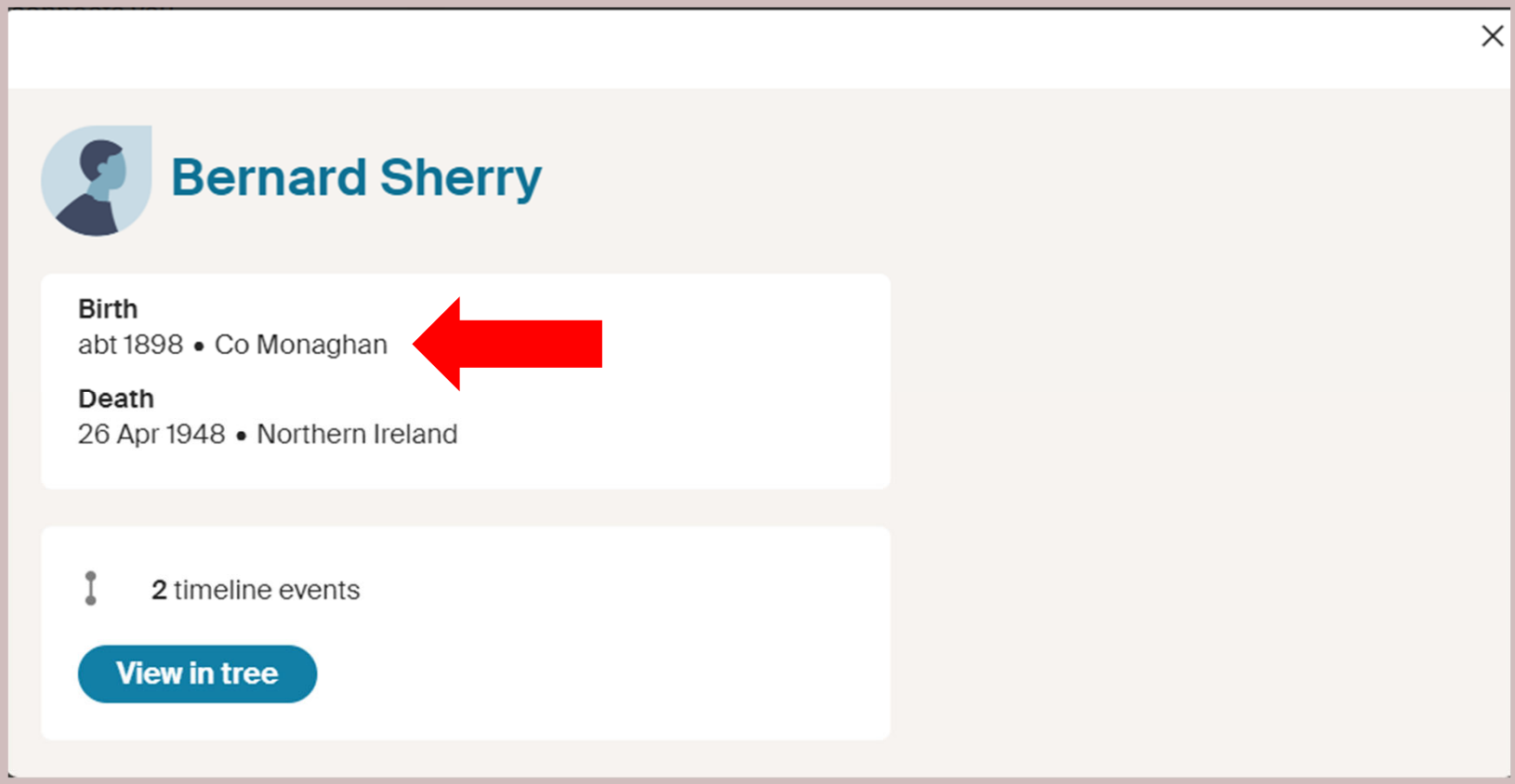
Common Ancestor Theories



Reviewing End of Line Ancestors



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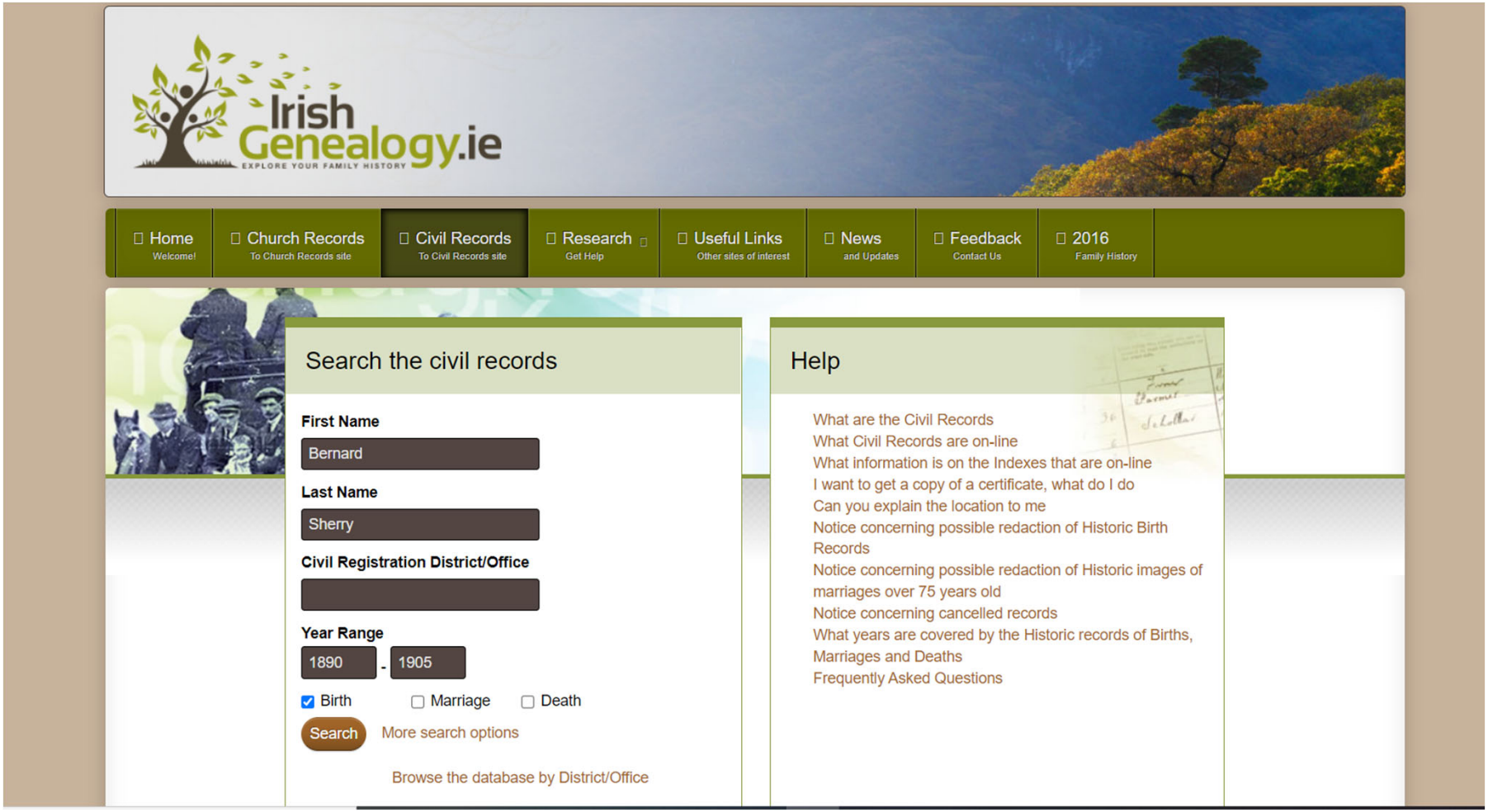

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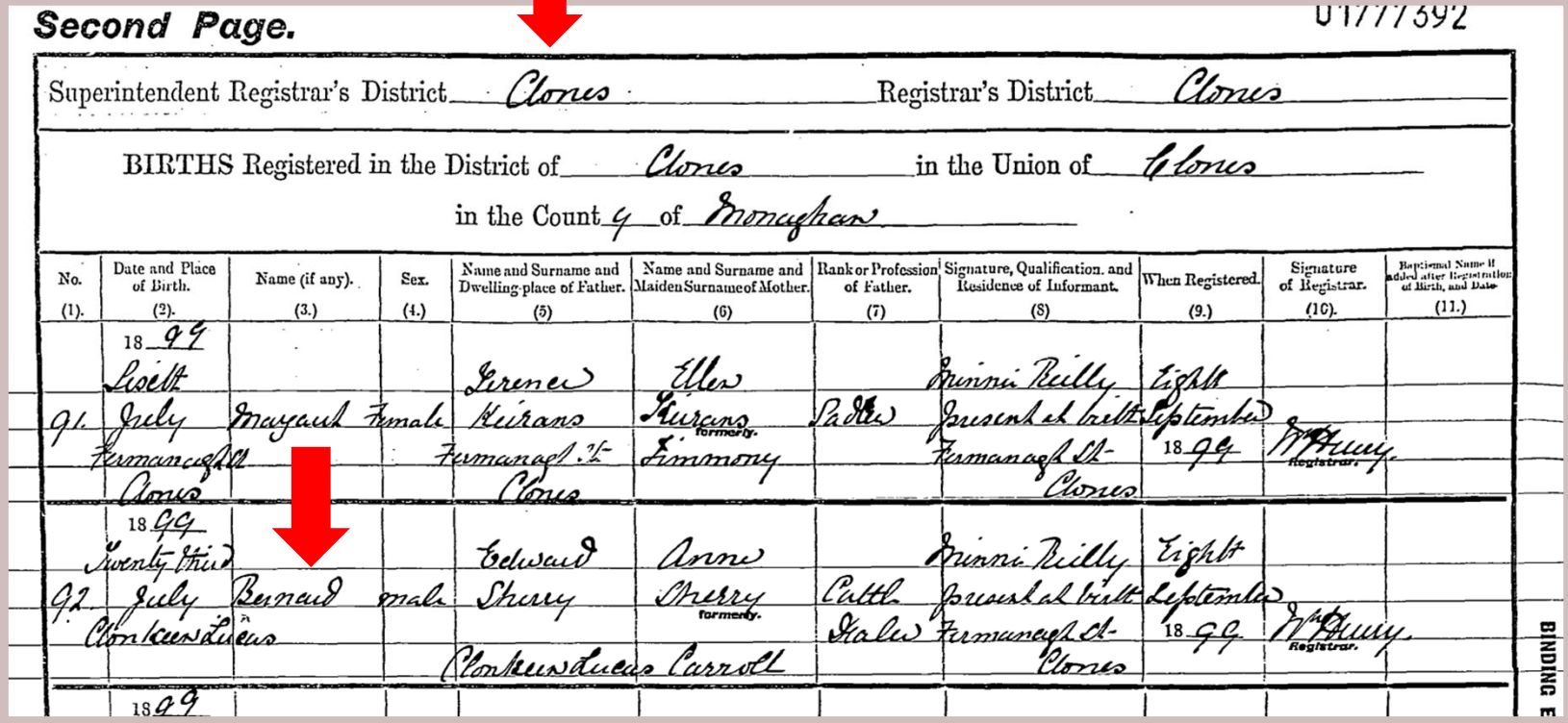
Birth Register



Second Page. 01777392

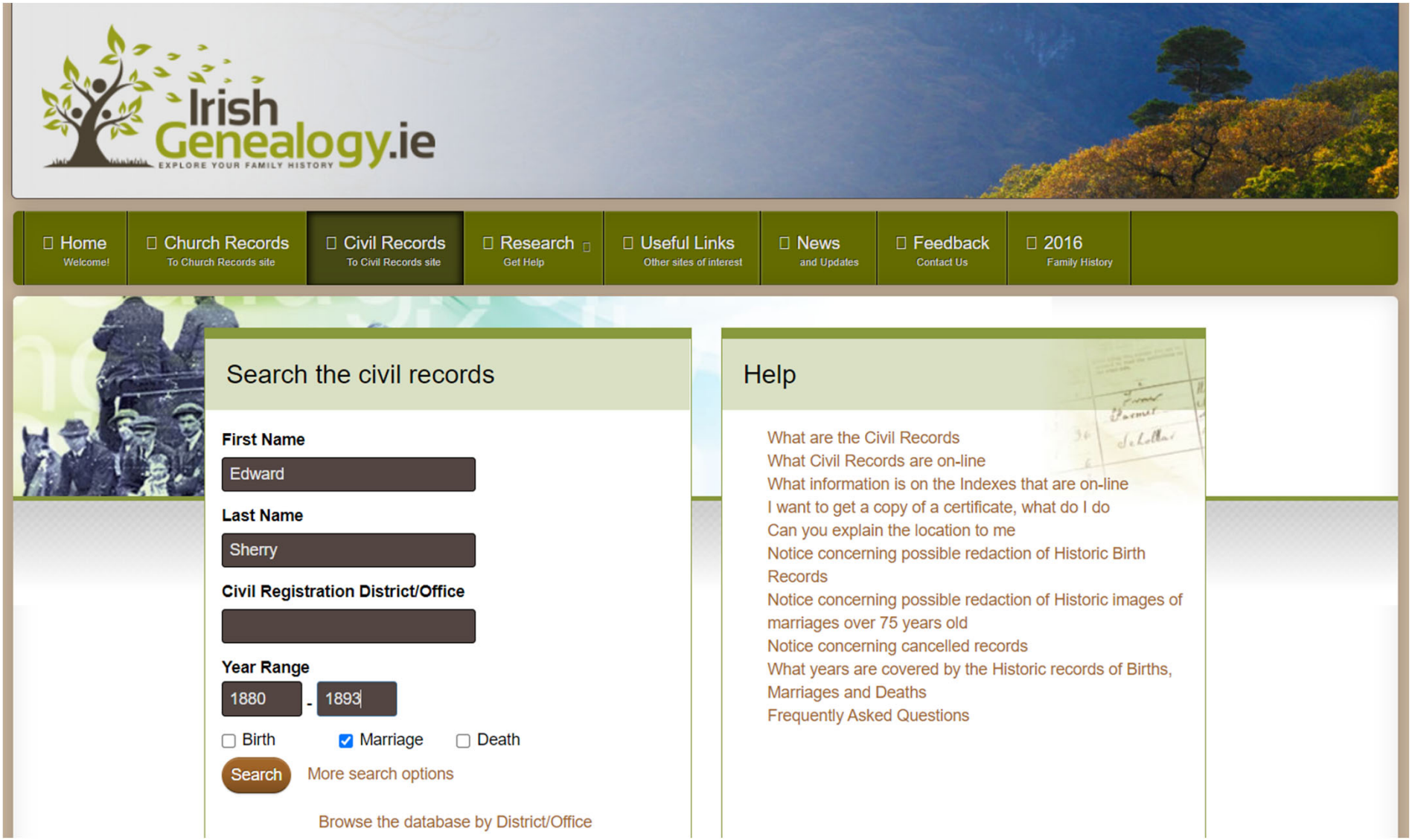
Superintendent Registrar's District Clones Registrar's District Clones

BIRTHS Registered in the District of Clones in the Union of Clones

in the County of Monaghan

No. (1).	Date and Place of Birth. (2).	Name (if any). (3.)	Sex. (4.)	Name and Surname and Dwelling-place of Father. (5)	Name and Surname and Maiden Surname of Mother. (6)	Rank or Profession of Father. (7)	Signature, Qualification, and Residence of Informant. (8)	When Registered. (9.)	Signature of Registrar. (10).	Baptismal Name if added after Registration of Birth, and Date (11.)
91.	1899 Sixth July Fermanagh St Clones	Margaret	Female	Terence Keirans Fermanagh St Clones	Ellen Keirans formerly Timmony	Sadler	Minnie Reilly present at birth Fermanagh St Clones	Eighth September 1899	Wm Henry Registrar.	
92.	1899 Twenty third July Clonkeen Lucas	Bernard	male	Edward Sherry Clonkeen Lucas	Anne Sherry formerly Carroll	Cattle Dealer	Minnie Reilly present at birth Fermanagh St Clones	Eighth September 1899	Wm Henry Registrar.	
	1899									

BINDING E



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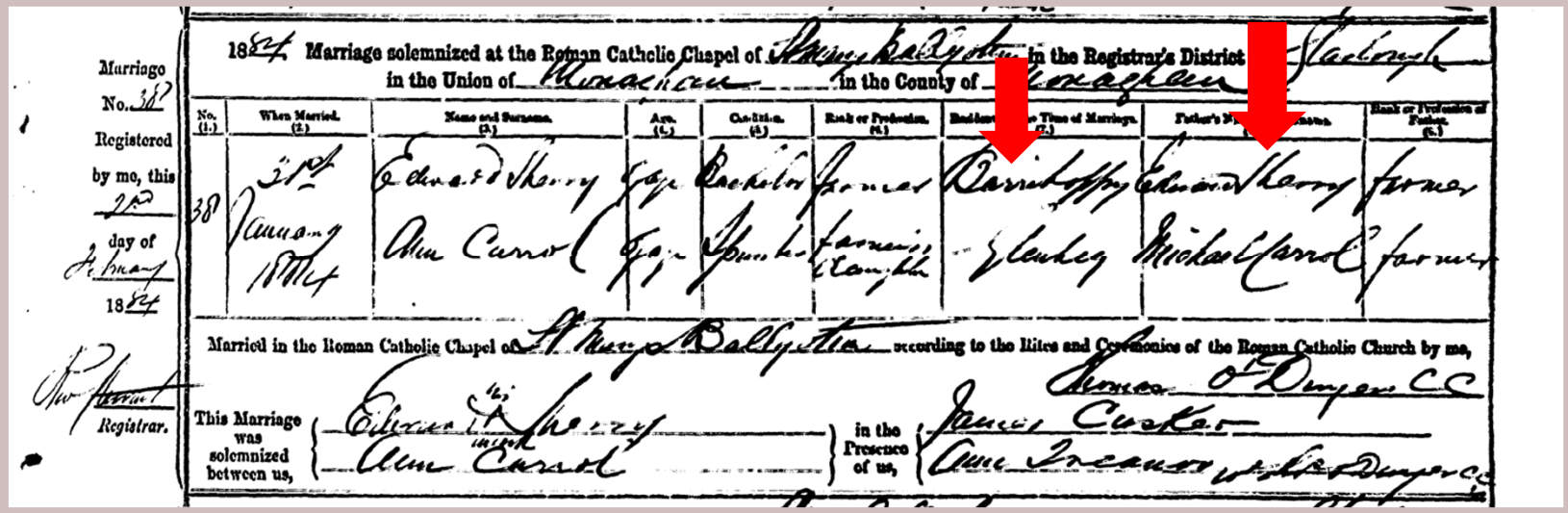
Marriage of Edward Sherry and Ann Carroll



Marriage No. 38 Registered by me, this 2nd day of February 1884

Registrar.

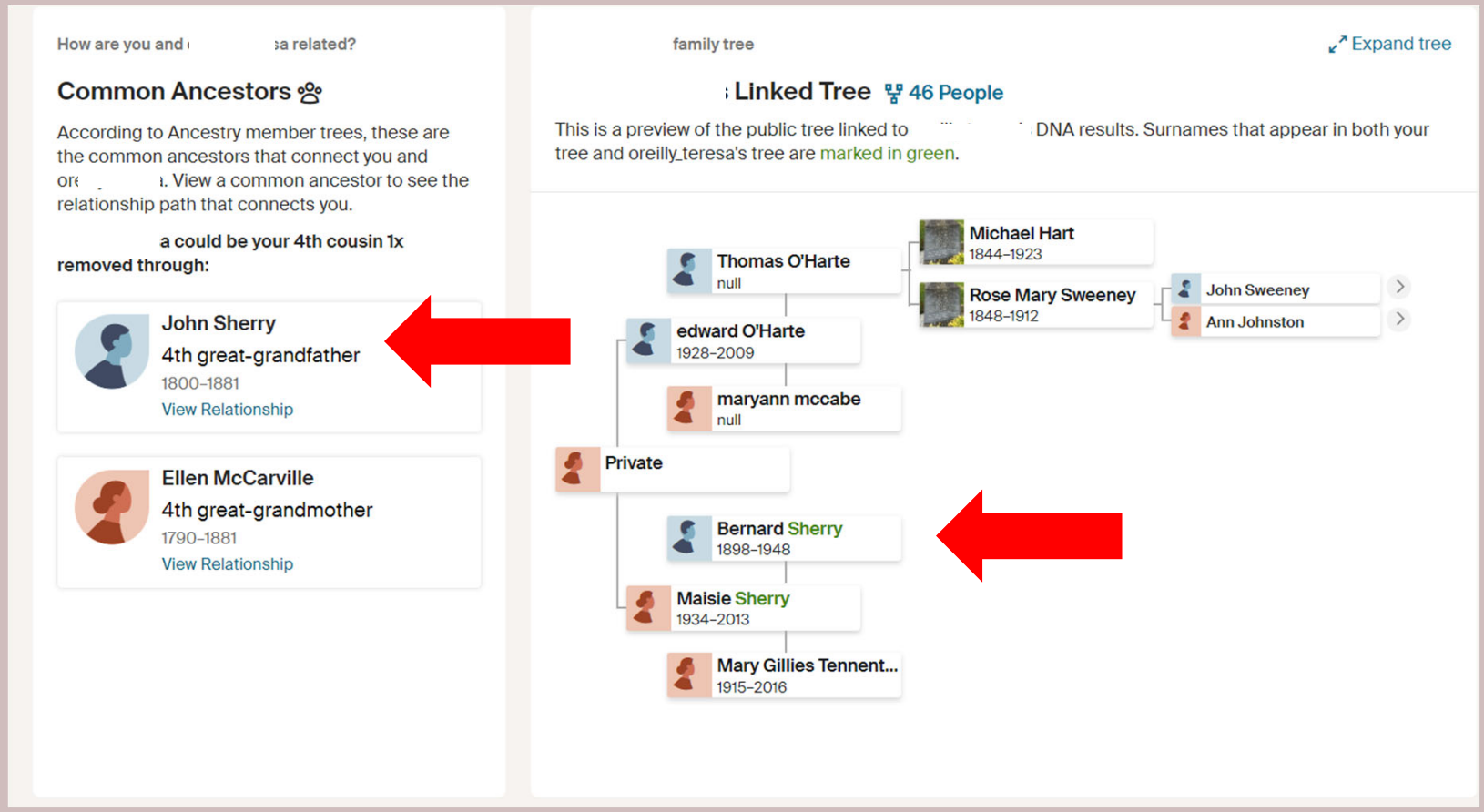
1884 Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic Chapel of St Mary's Ballyoten in the Registrar's District Stadonagh in the Union of Monaghan in the County of Monaghan

No. (1.)	When Married. (2.)	Name and Surname. (3.)	Age. (4.)	Condition. (5.)	Rank or Profession. (6.)	Residence at the Time of Marriage. (7.)	Father's Name and Surname. (8.)	Rank or Profession of Father. (9.)
38	31st January 1884	Edward Sherry	Age	Bachelor	farmer	Barratitoppy	Edward Sherry	farmer
		Ann Carroll	Age	Spinster	farmer's daughter	Glenbeg	Michael Carroll	farmer

Married in the Roman Catholic Chapel of St Mary's Ballyoten according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church by me, Thomas O'Dwyer CC

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Edward Sherry his mark, Ann Carroll in the Presence of us, James Cusker, Ann Treanor, Wm O'Dwyer CC

Common Ancestor Theories



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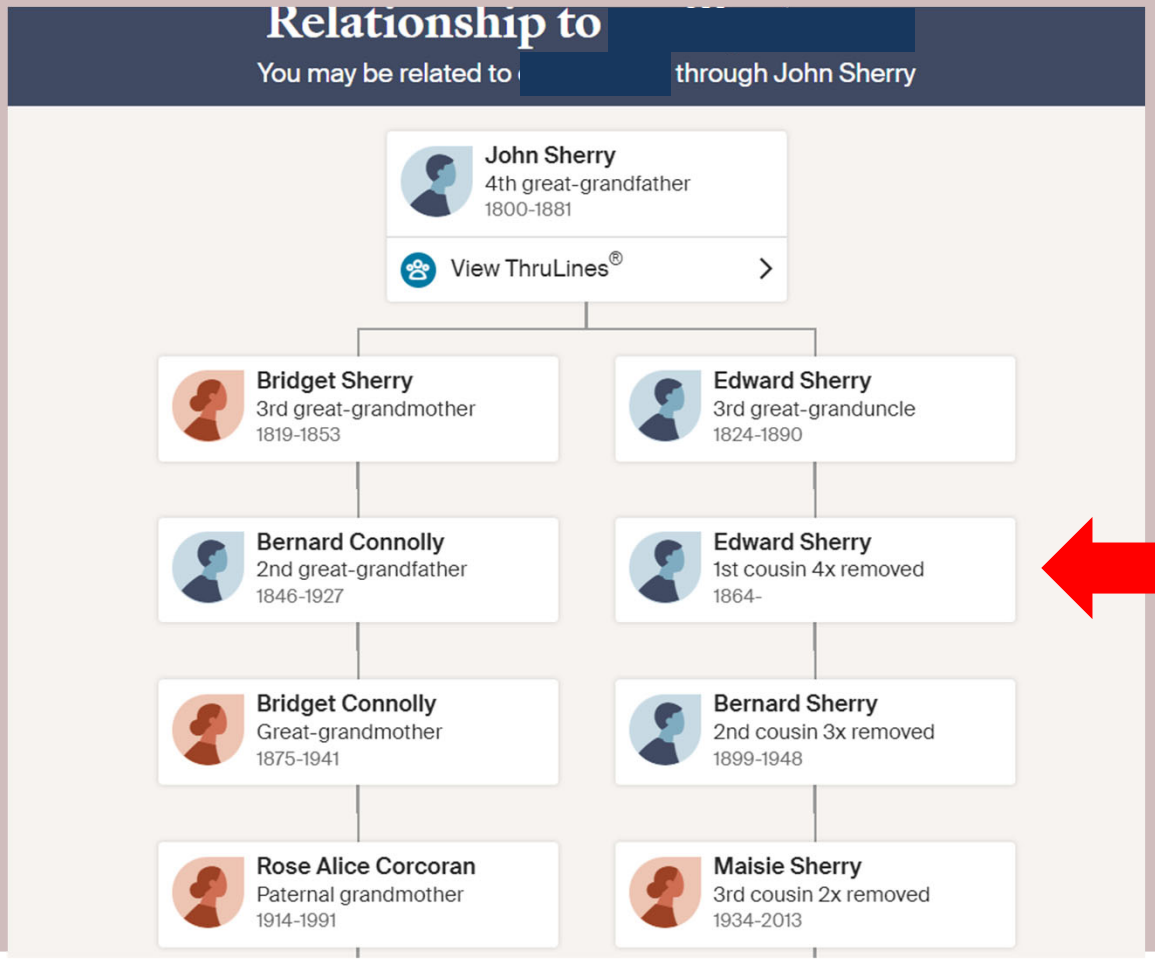
Review Common Ancestor Theories



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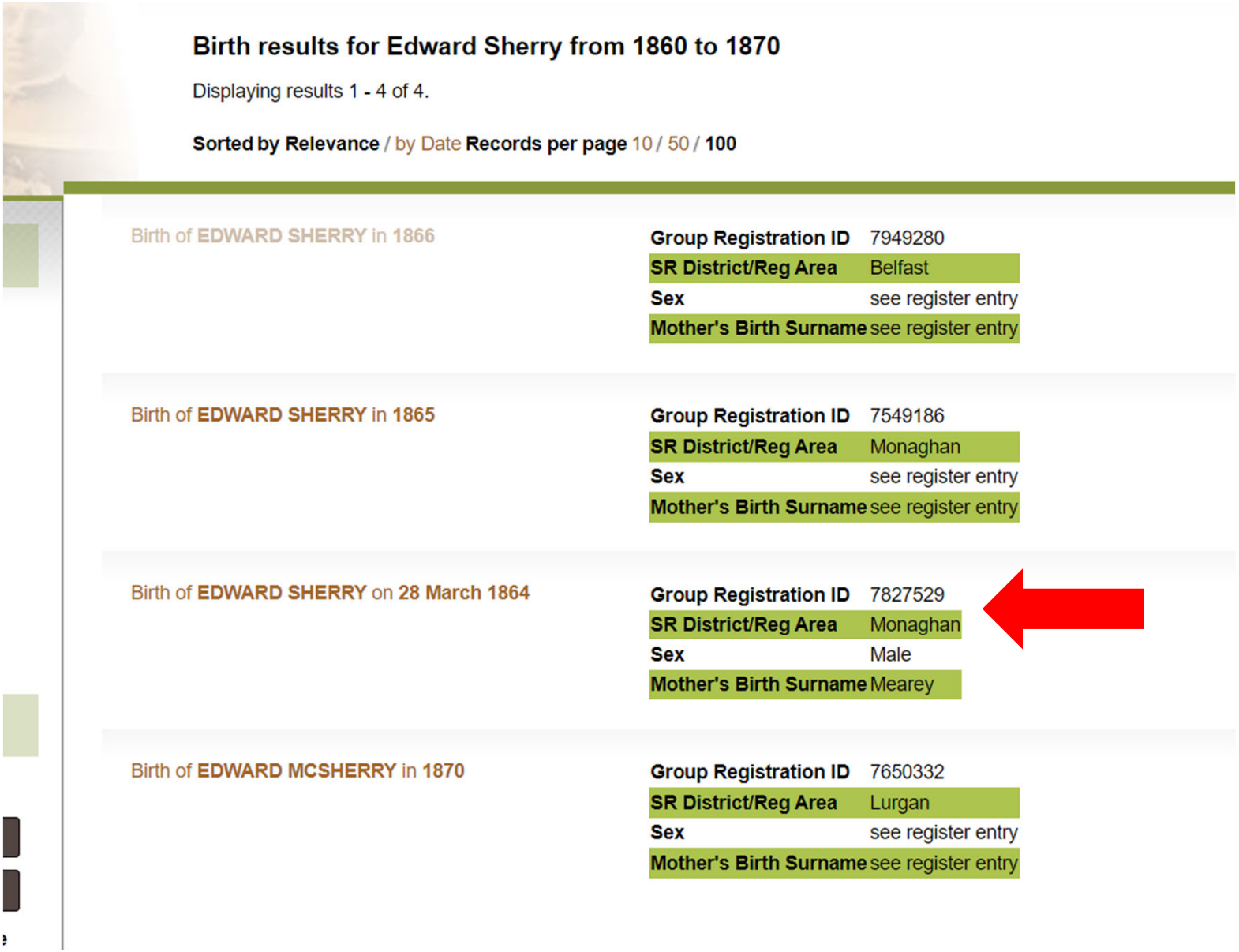

Birth results for Edward Sherry from 1860 to 1870

Displaying results 1 - 4 of 4.

Sorted by Relevance / by Date **Records per page** 10 / 50 / **100**

Birth of **EDWARD SHERRY** in **1866**	**Group Registration ID**	7949280
	SR District/Reg Area	Belfast
	Sex	see register entry
	Mother's Birth Surname	see register entry
Birth of **EDWARD SHERRY** in **1865**	**Group Registration ID**	7549186
	SR District/Reg Area	Monaghan
	Sex	see register entry
	Mother's Birth Surname	see register entry
Birth of **EDWARD SHERRY** on **28 March 1864**	**Group Registration ID**	7827529
	SR District/Reg Area	Monaghan
	Sex	Male
	Mother's Birth Surname	Mearey
Birth of **EDWARD MCSHERRY** in **1870**	**Group Registration ID**	7650332
	SR District/Reg Area	Lurgan
	Sex	see register entry
	Mother's Birth Surname	see register entry

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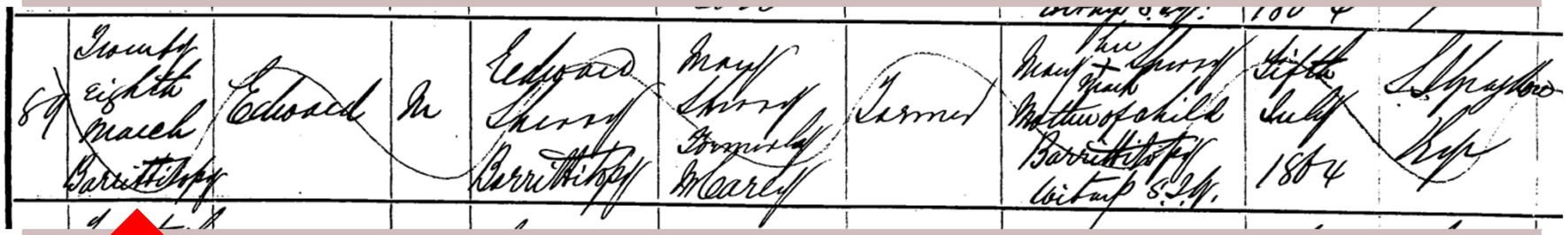
Edward Sherry



Parents are Edward Sherry and
Mary Sherry formerly McCarey.
Edward was born in Barratitoppy.

Edward Sherry

in the Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

Add or update information

Report a problem

Detail Source

Name:	Edward Sherry
Baptism Age:	0
Event Type:	Baptism
Birth Date:	1864
Baptism Date:	28 Mar 1864
Baptism Place:	Monaghan, Tydavnet, Ireland
Diocese:	Clogher
Father:	Edwardi Sherry
Mother:	Marie McKeary

Save

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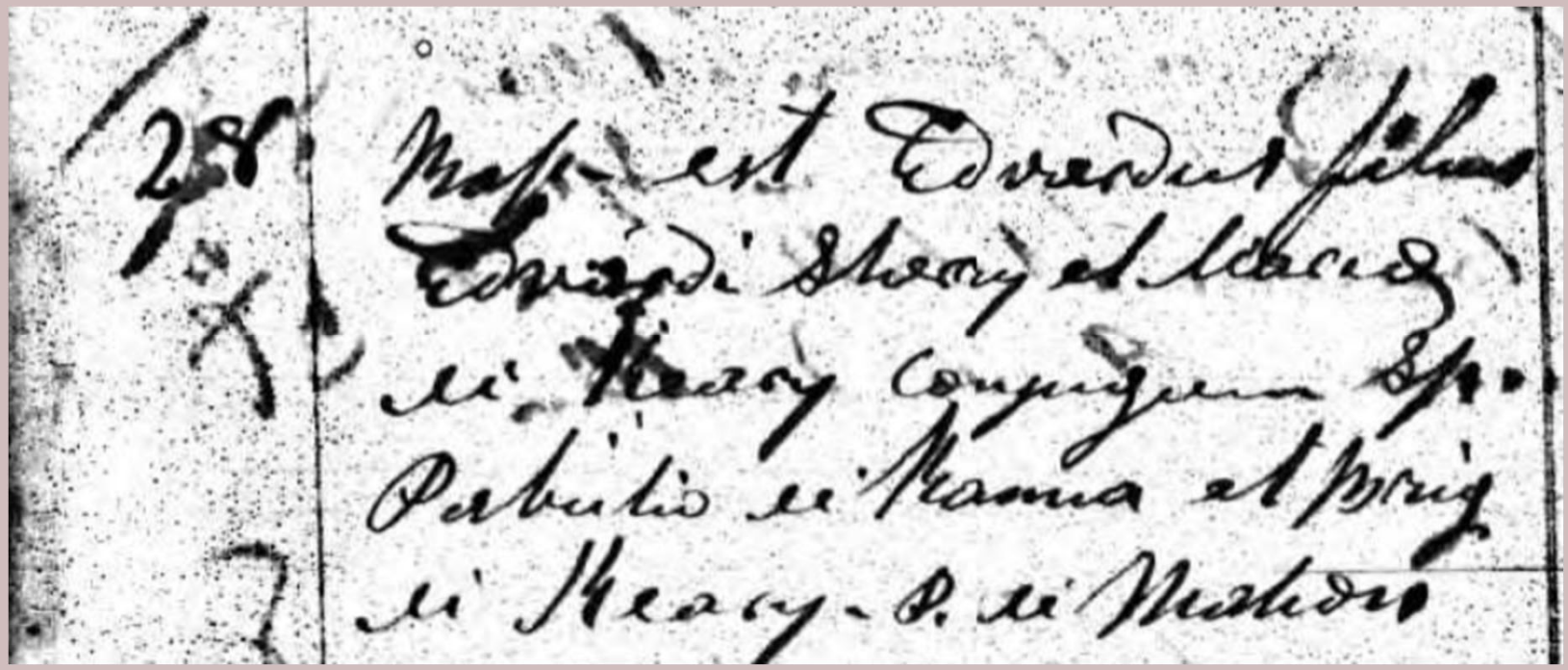
Baptism of Edward Sherry (1864)



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Identifying Siblings

- In order to help identify the parents of an ancestor, you need to keep looking for siblings of your ancestor.
- Review your DNA matches for possible leads on siblings and trace their tree as far back on the lines you share surnames and locations with.

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Ancestry ThruLines

Searching for Earlier Children in Ireland

- Using the townland of **Barritoppy** as a lead, baptism records in Tydavnet parish, Clogher diocese, were searched in Ireland for any other children born to Bridget and John.

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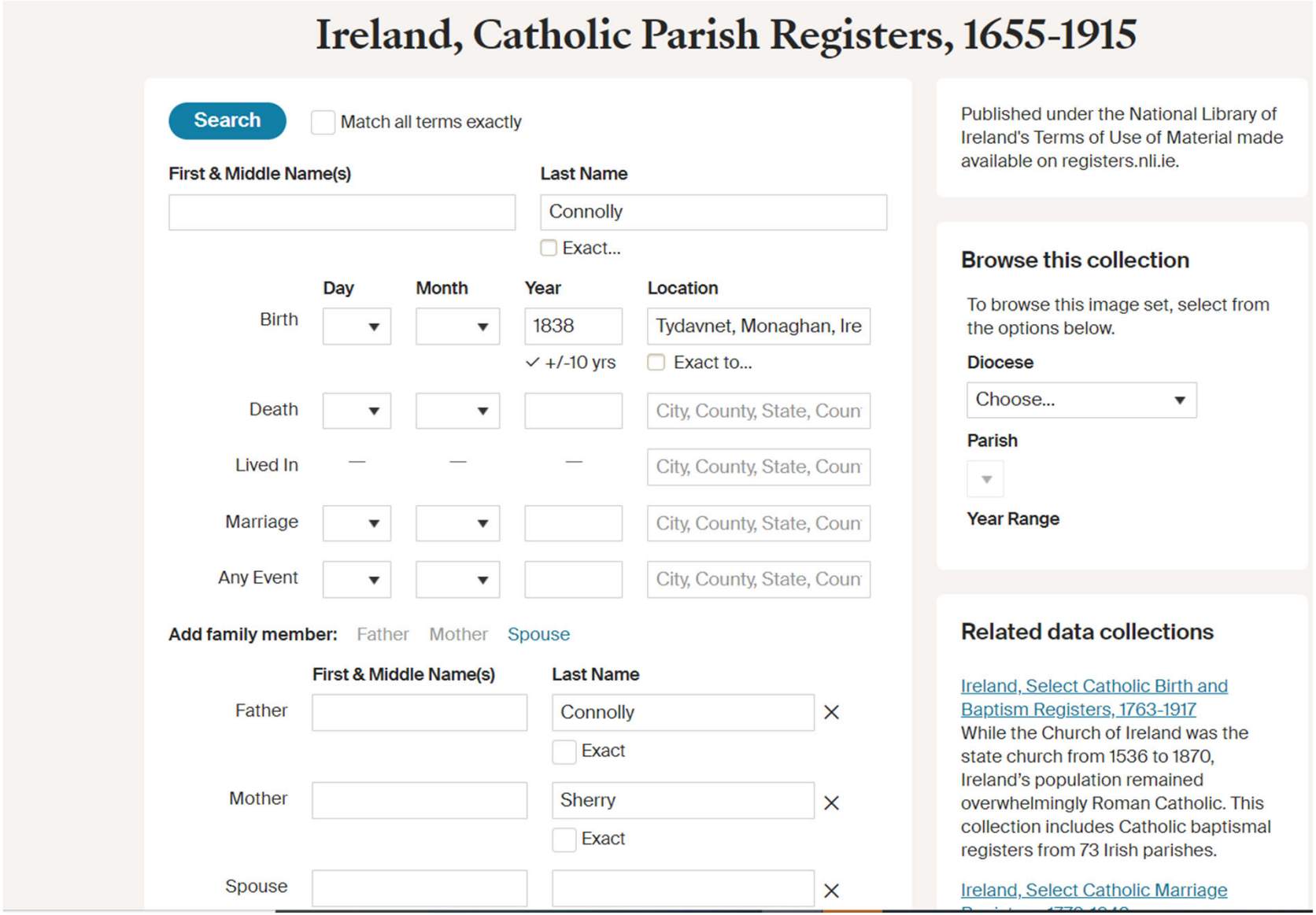

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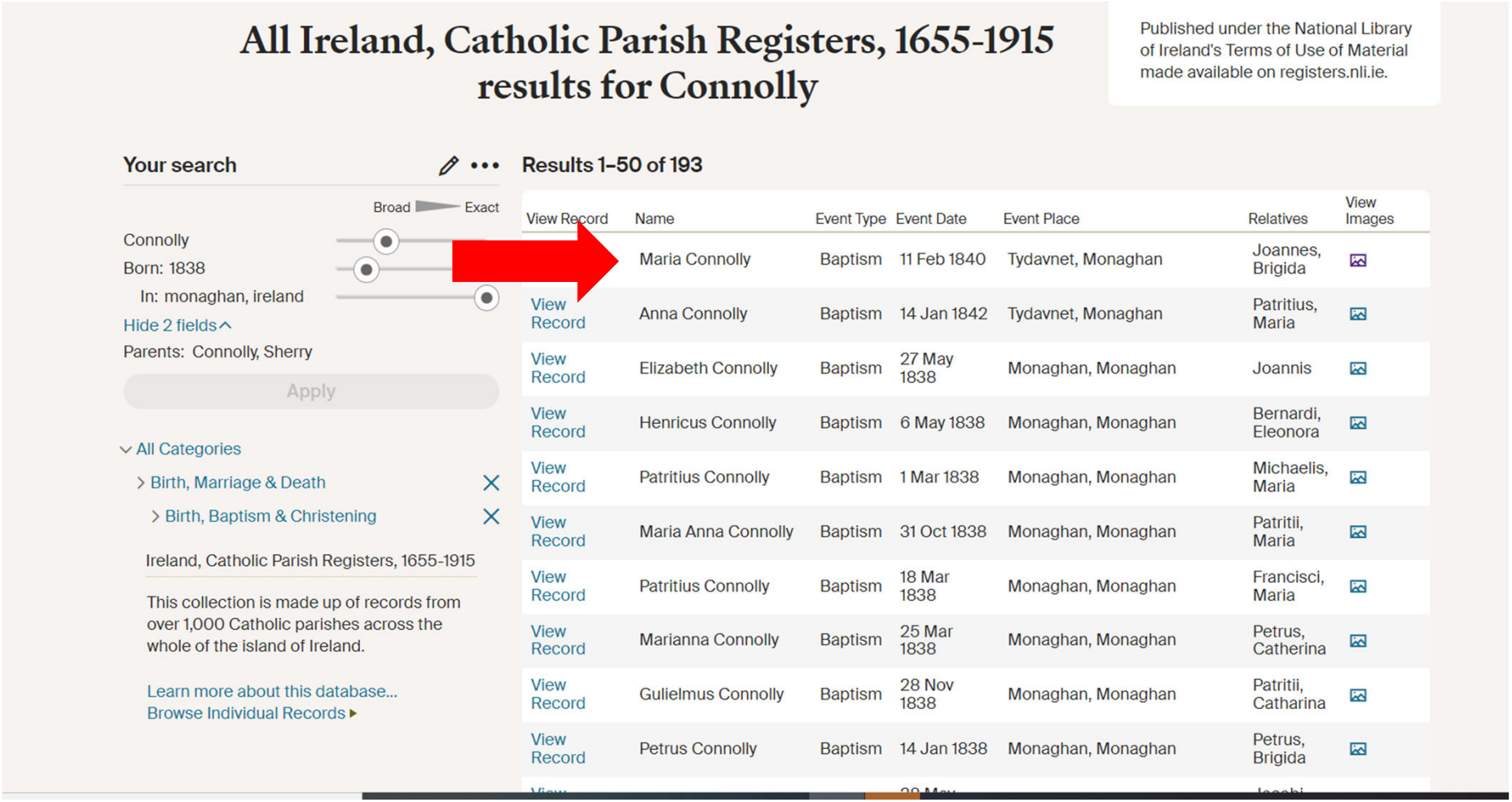

All Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915 results for Connolly

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Your search

Broad — Exact

Connolly

Born: 1838

In: monaghan, ireland

Hide 2 fields

Parents: Connolly, Sherry

Apply

All Categories

Birth, Marriage & Death

Birth, Baptism & Christening

Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

This collection is made up of records from over 1,000 Catholic parishes across the whole of the island of Ireland.

Learn more about this database...

Browse Individual Records

Results 1–50 of 193

View Record	Name	Event Type	Event Date	Event Place	Relatives	View Images
	Maria Connolly	Baptism	11 Feb 1840	Tydavnet, Monaghan	Joannes, Brigida	
View Record	Anna Connolly	Baptism	14 Jan 1842	Tydavnet, Monaghan	Patritius, Maria	
View Record	Elizabeth Connolly	Baptism	27 May 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Joannis	
View Record	Henricus Connolly	Baptism	6 May 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Bernardi, Eleonora	
View Record	Patritius Connolly	Baptism	1 Mar 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Michaelis, Maria	
View Record	Maria Anna Connolly	Baptism	31 Oct 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Patritii, Maria	
View Record	Patritius Connolly	Baptism	18 Mar 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Francisci, Maria	
View Record	Marianna Connolly	Baptism	25 Mar 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Petrus, Catherina	
View Record	Gulielmus Connolly	Baptism	28 Nov 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Patritii, Catharina	
View Record	Petrus Connolly	Baptism	14 Jan 1838	Monaghan, Monaghan	Petrus, Brigida	

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Maria Connolly

in the Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

Add or update information

Report a problem

Detail | Source

Name:	Maria Connolly [Mary Connolly]
Baptism Age:	0
Event Type:	Baptism
Birth Date:	1840
Baptism Date:	11 Feb 1840
Baptism Place:	Monaghan, Tydavnet, Ireland
Other Event Place:	Drumcoo Mountain
Diocese:	Clogher
Father:	Joannes Connolly
Mother:	Brigida Sherry

Save

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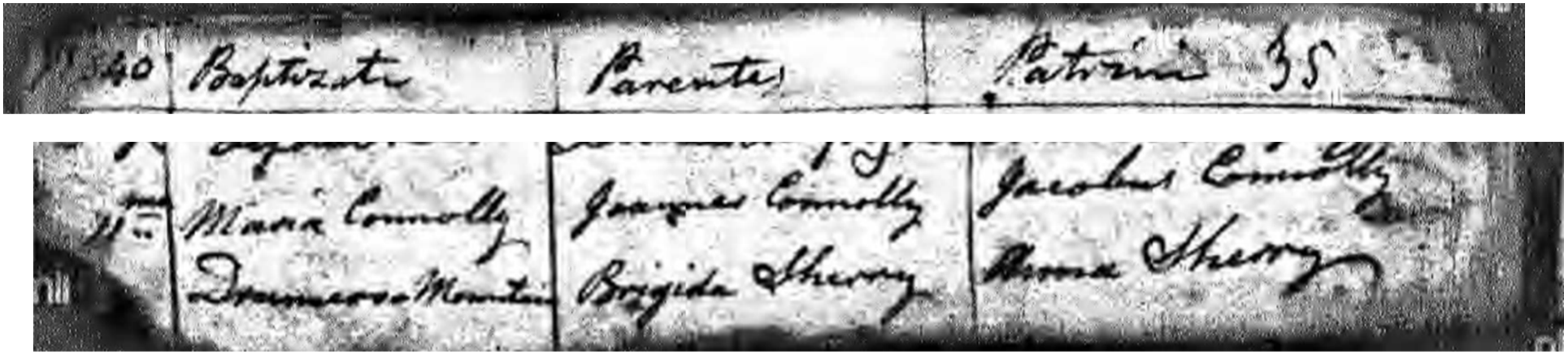

Baptism of Mary Connolly – 11 Feb. 1840, Tydavnet Parish, Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915, Ancestry.com

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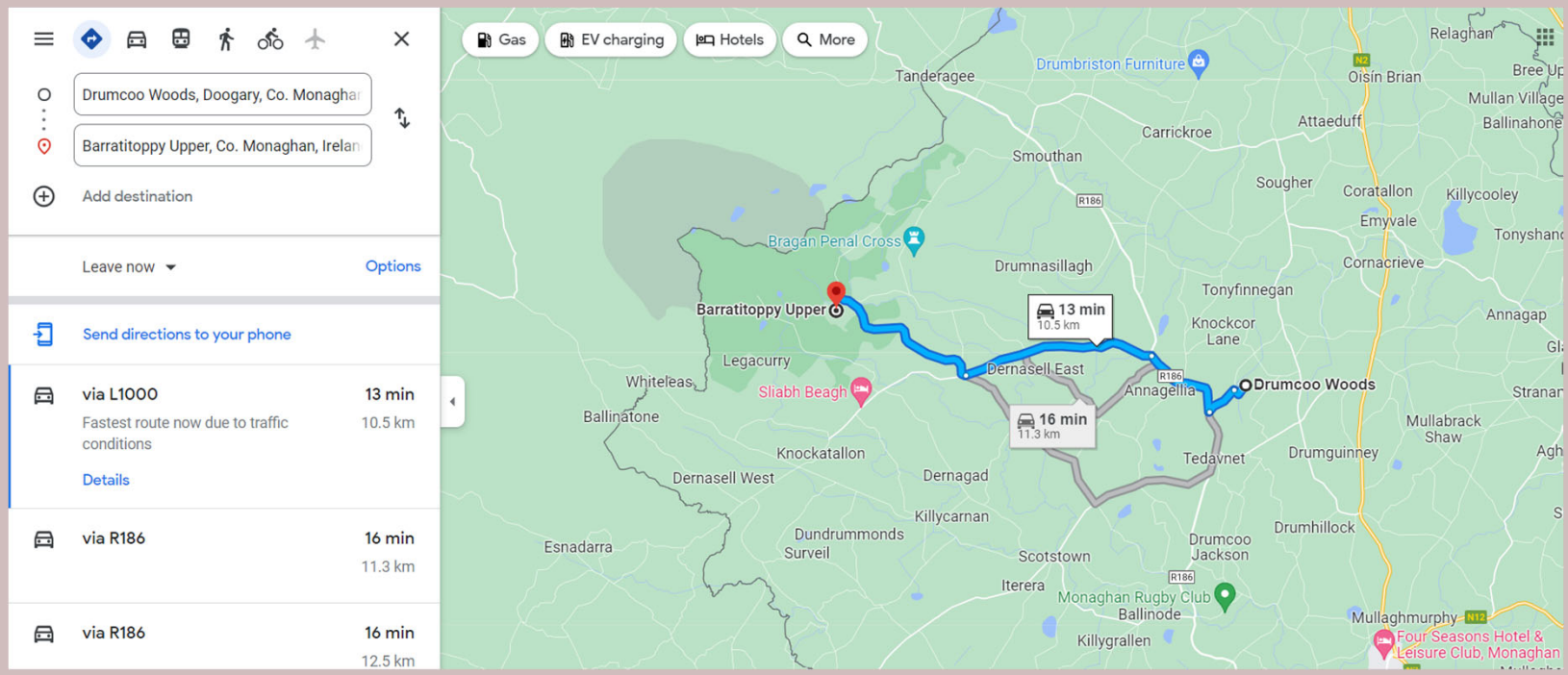
Comparing Distance of Townlands



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Another Baptism Found

- By browsing the Catholic parish registers for Tyadvnet, another baptism was located.
- James Connolly – bapt. 15 Jul. 1838 Tydavnet, Monaghan, Ireland

Residence listed was Barratitoppy

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Revised List of Children of Bridget Sherry and John Connolly

- James – about 15 July 1838 Monaghan, Ireland
- Mary – about 11 Feb. 1840 Monaghan, Ireland
- John – 13 June 1841 PEI
- Ellen – 1 June 1843 PEI
- Mary – 14 Apr. 1845 PEI
- Bernard – 26 Oct. 1846 PEI
- Ann – 12 Dec. 1847 PEI
- Patrick – 4 Apr. 1851 PEI

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Conclusions

- Three other potential siblings to Bridget Sherry were identified using DNA matches. These matches have ties to Barratitoppy, County Monaghan.
- Two additional children of Bridget Sherry and John Connolly were baptized in County Monaghan in Tydavnet parish. Barratitoppy was listed as the residence.
- Based on traditional Irish naming patterns, the second son of Bridget should be named after her father. Based on the birth order of the children, it should be John.
- John Sherry and Ellen McCarvell are probable parents that need to be investigated in greater detail to help establish a paper trail.

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Review

1. Use Ethnicity Estimates only as clues
2. Have a well-researched and deep family tree
3. Identify matches with common names and locations
4. Examine shared matches for possible triangulation and group matches
5. Research thoroughly and be creative
6. Always confirm with genealogical records

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