

Using DNA to Identify Ancestral Origins

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THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors[®]
A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

Overview

- Why Should You Use DNA for Genealogy?
- Types of DNA Tests Available
- Ethnicity Estimates
- Reviewing Autosomal DNA Matches
- Case Study #1
- Reviewing Y-DNA and mtDNA matches
- Case Study #2

Why Should You Use DNA for Genealogy?

Using DNA in Family History

What DNA can do:

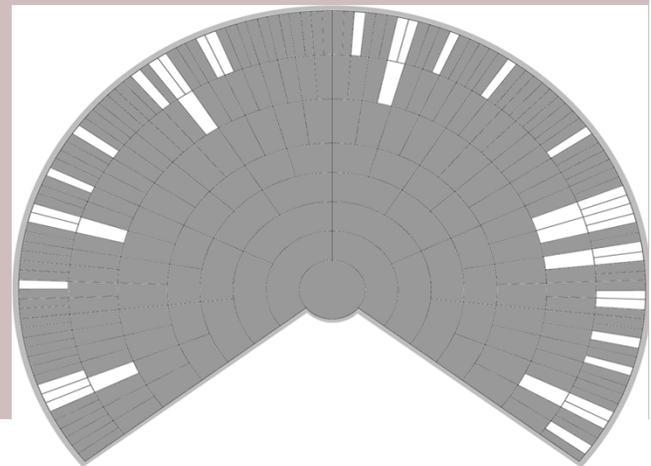
- Test a hypothesis
- Confirm a matrilineal or patrilineal origin
- Provide possibilities of recent non-paternity events, including the presence of new relatives
- Identify regional Native American ancestry

What DNA can't do:

- Solve a brick wall ancestor without any genealogical research
- Determine a specific Native American tribe
- Serve as positive proof of a distant kinship

Genealogical vs. Genetic Tree

- Genealogical Tree includes all your ancestors
- Genetic Tree only includes the ancestors you inherited DNA from
- 100% probability of inheriting DNA from great-grandparent or 2G-grandparent
- 95% for 5G-grandparent
- <50% for 8G-grandparent
- 15% for 10G-grandparent



To connect with other cousins researching the same families

- DNA matches may have valuable information about the family including the following:
 - Stories
 - Photographs
 - Unpublished genealogies
 - The "family bible" and other family heirlooms
 - And more!

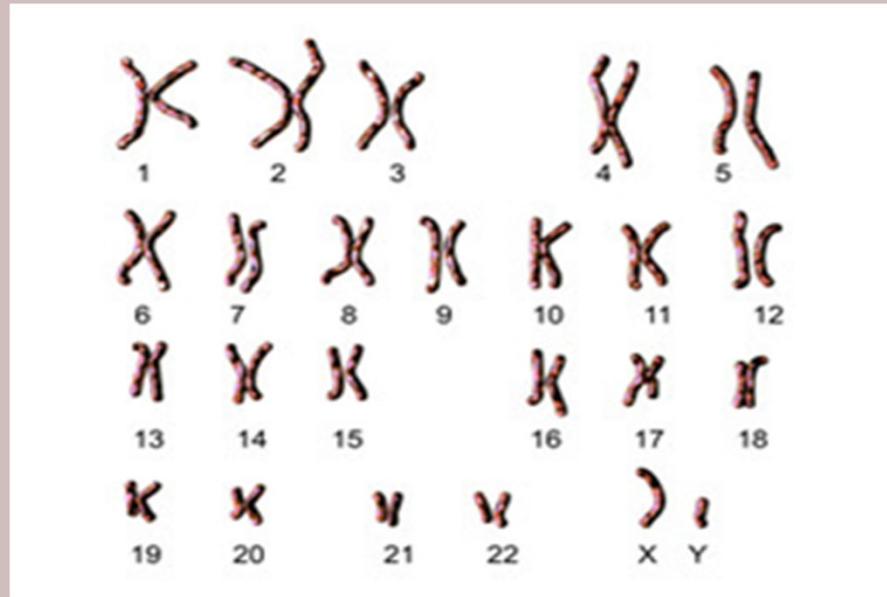
Types of DNA Tests Available

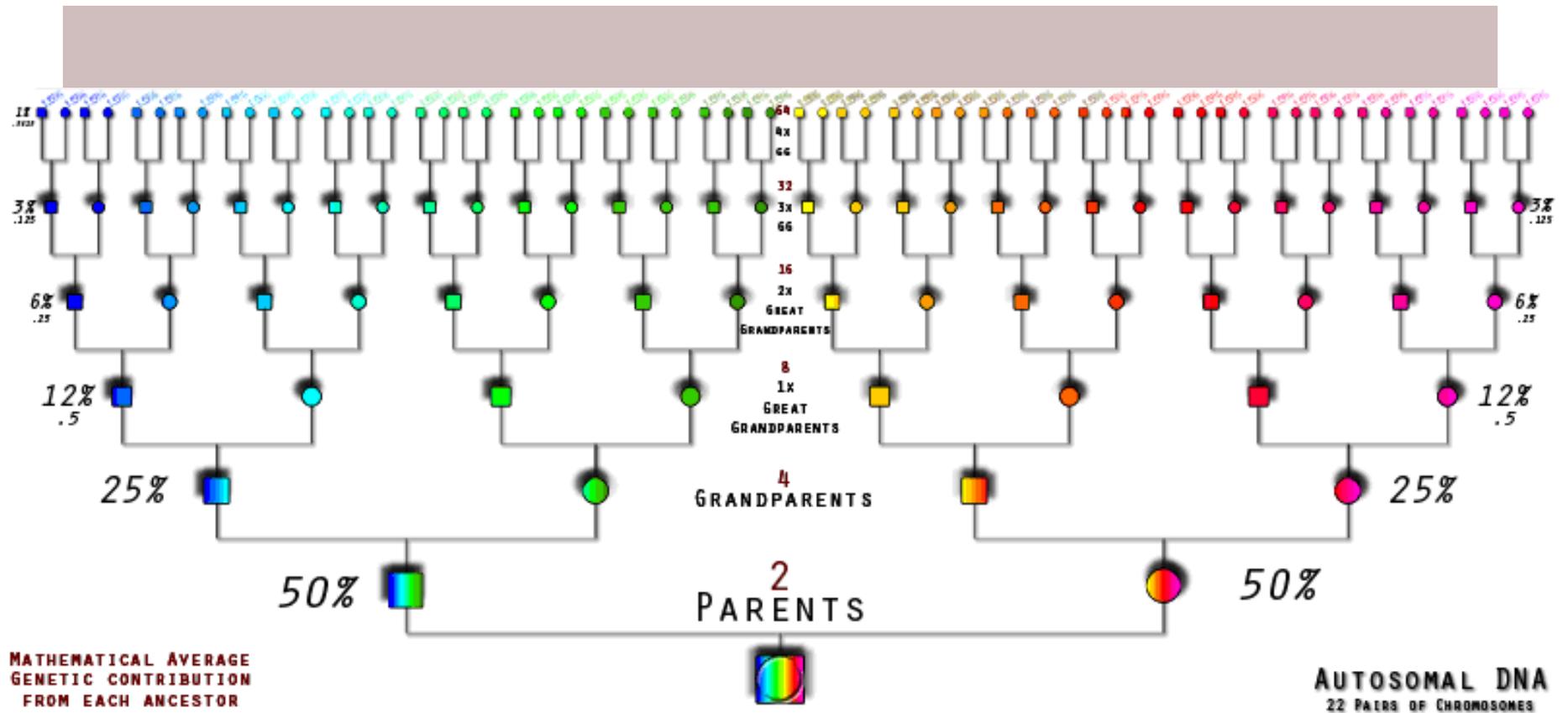
The Three Tests

- Autosomal (includes the X chromosome)
- Y-DNA Test
- Mitochondrial Test

The Autosomal Test

- Autosomal Test includes SNP's (pieces) of all the 22 Autosomal Chromosomes and the X chromosome



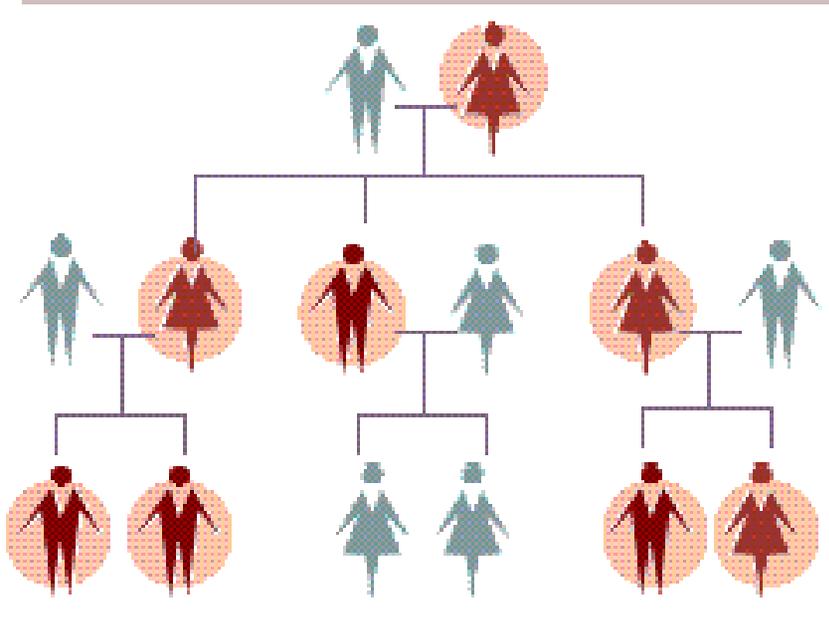


Each human cell has 22 chromosomes split from the mother's and father's cells

Autosomal is Best for:

- Comparing close cousins
- Determining which chromosomes are from mom and dad (if parents also provide a DNA sample)
- Identifying continental origins
- Can reveal information up to 6 or 7 generations back (back to 5th great grandparents)

mtDNA Testing



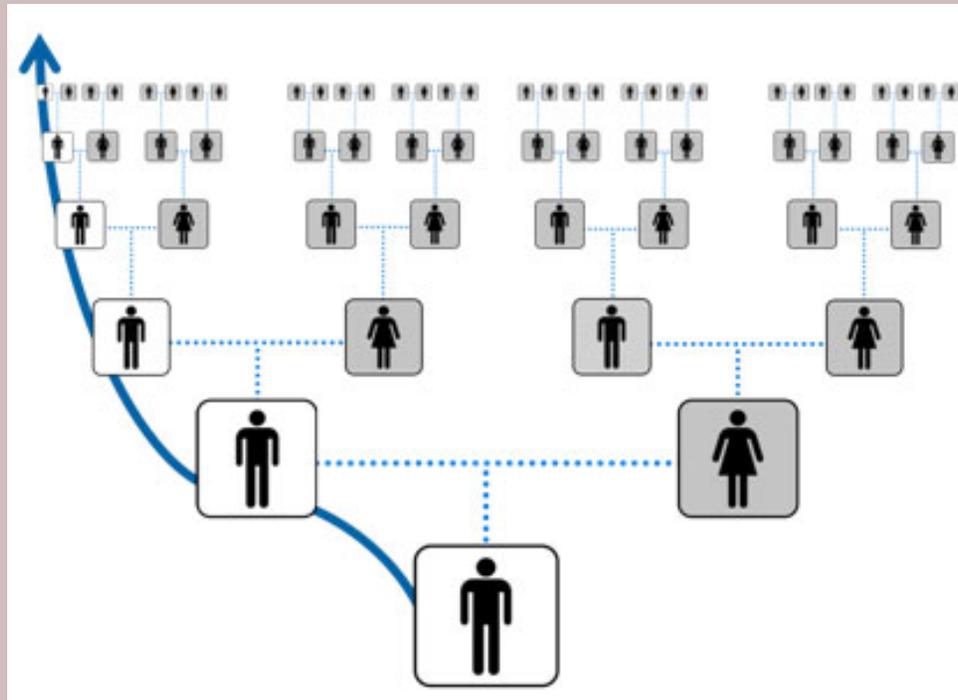
- Inherited from mother to child
- Males inherit mtDNA, but do not pass mtDNA to their child

mtDNA is Best for:

- Researching your maternal ancestry
- Comparing to see if two people have the same mother or maternal grandmother
- Comparing female immigrants to the new world (to the 1600s)

Y-DNA Testing

- Y-chromosome passed from father to son



Y-DNA is Best for:

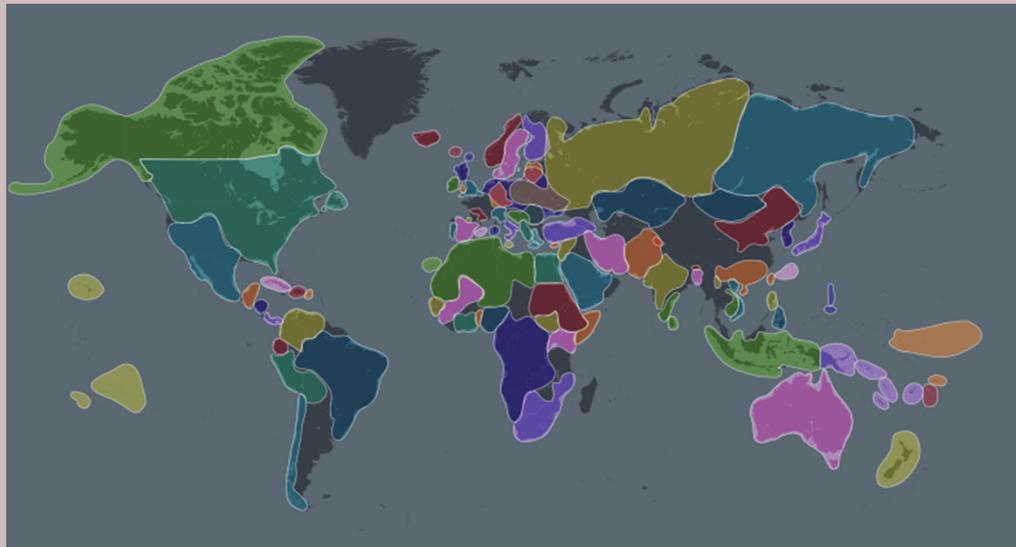
- Researching your paternal ancestry
- One name study projects
- Comparing male immigrants to the new world (to the 1600s)

Ethnicity Estimates

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



Which group are you in?

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

MyHeritage's 2100+ overlapping regions



MyHeritage DNA Genetic Groups



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**

Ethnicity timeframes

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



23andMe's Timeline by Generation

AncestryDNA

Ireland 49% >

Your community with a connection to this ethnicity region ⓘ

- Ulster, Ireland** >
5 Possible Ancestor Stories Found
 - South East Ulster & North East Leinster
 - North Monaghan & South Fermanagh
 - North Monaghan & South Tyrone

Jewish 38% >

Your communities with a connection to this ethnicity region ⓘ

- Ashkenazi Jews In Northeastern Europe** >
4 Possible Ancestor Stories Found
 - Ashkenazi Jews in Belarus & Ukraine
 - Ashkenazi Jews in Belarus & Northern Ukraine
- Ashkenazi Jews in Central & Eastern Europe** >
4 Possible Ancestor Stories Found
 - Ashkenazi Jews in Eastern Europe

Ancestry DNA Map

The screenshot displays the Ancestry DNA Map interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Trees', 'Search', 'Memories', and 'DNA'. The user's profile is 'DNA: Melanie (Doherty) McComb'. The map shows Ireland in green, with Northern Ireland highlighted in orange. A red arrow points from the orange region to the sidebar. The sidebar, titled 'Ireland', shows an ethnicity estimate of 49% (range 35-52%) and lists 'Ulster, Ireland' as the most likely connection. It also features a 'Learn more with AncestryAI BETA' section and a 'Compare with matches' section.

Ancestry DNA Community with Map

The screenshot displays the Ancestry DNA community interface for Ulster, Ireland. On the left, a map of Ireland shows the province of Ulster highlighted in orange, with sub-regions like Northern Ireland and specific cities such as Derry/Londonderry, Belfast, Lisburn, and Newry marked. A vertical timeline on the right side of the map shows migration dates: 1700, 1775 (Carlisle), 1800, 1825, 1850 (UNITED KINGDOM), 1875, 1890 (Preston), and 1950 (Manchester, Liverpool). To the right of the map is a community overview panel. It includes a 'Back to Ireland' link, a landscape photo of a green valley and blue lake, and the text 'COMMUNITY Ulster, Ireland' with a blue box containing the number '772,198 AncestryDNA members'. Below this, there is explanatory text: 'You, and all the members of this community, are linked through shared ancestors. You probably have family who lived in this area for years—and maybe still do.' and 'The more specific places within this region where your family was likely from.' A location pin icon indicates the specific area: 'South East Ulster & North East Leinster'.

Communities by Parent

Your communities by parent Beta

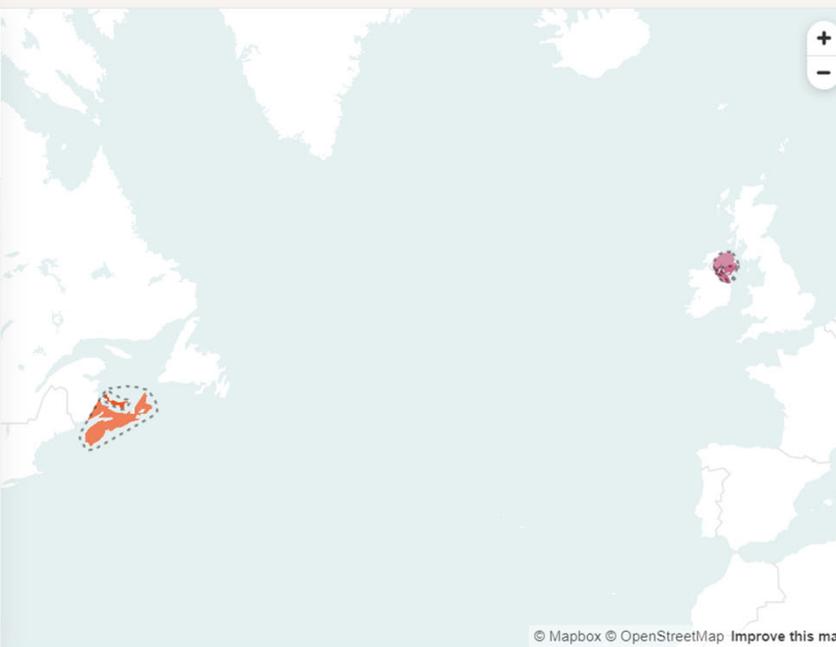
Find out where your ancestors lived in the recent past—on each side of your family. Even if your parents haven't taken DNA tests, we can tell you which communities you inherited from each parent. [Learn more](#)

Your communities

All **Paternal** Maternal Both sides >

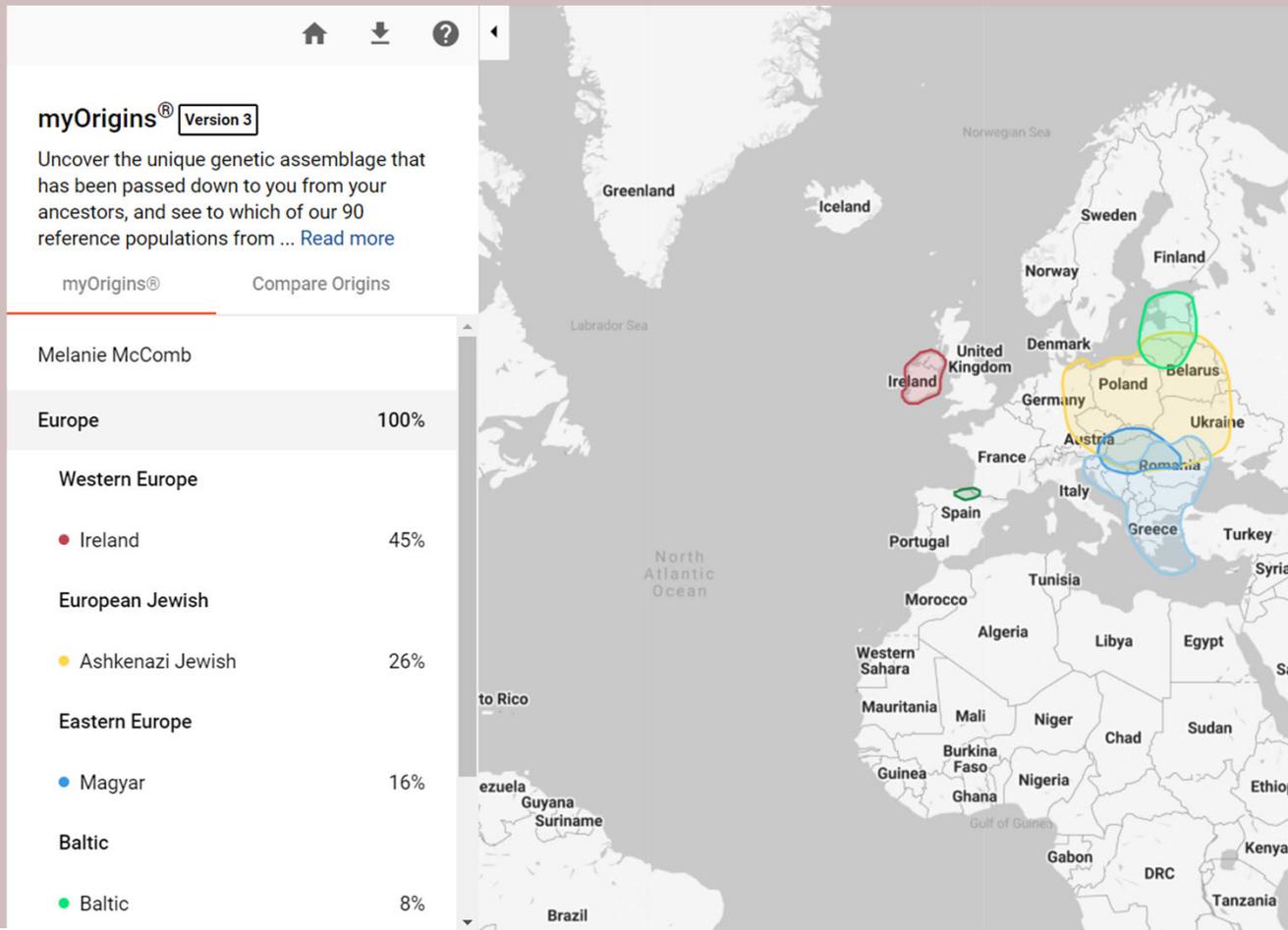
Communities you inherited only from your Paternal side.

- Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island Settlers
- Prince Edward Island Settlers
- Ulster, Ireland
 - North Monaghan & South Fermanagh
 - North Monaghan & South Tyrone
 - South East Ulster & North East Leinster

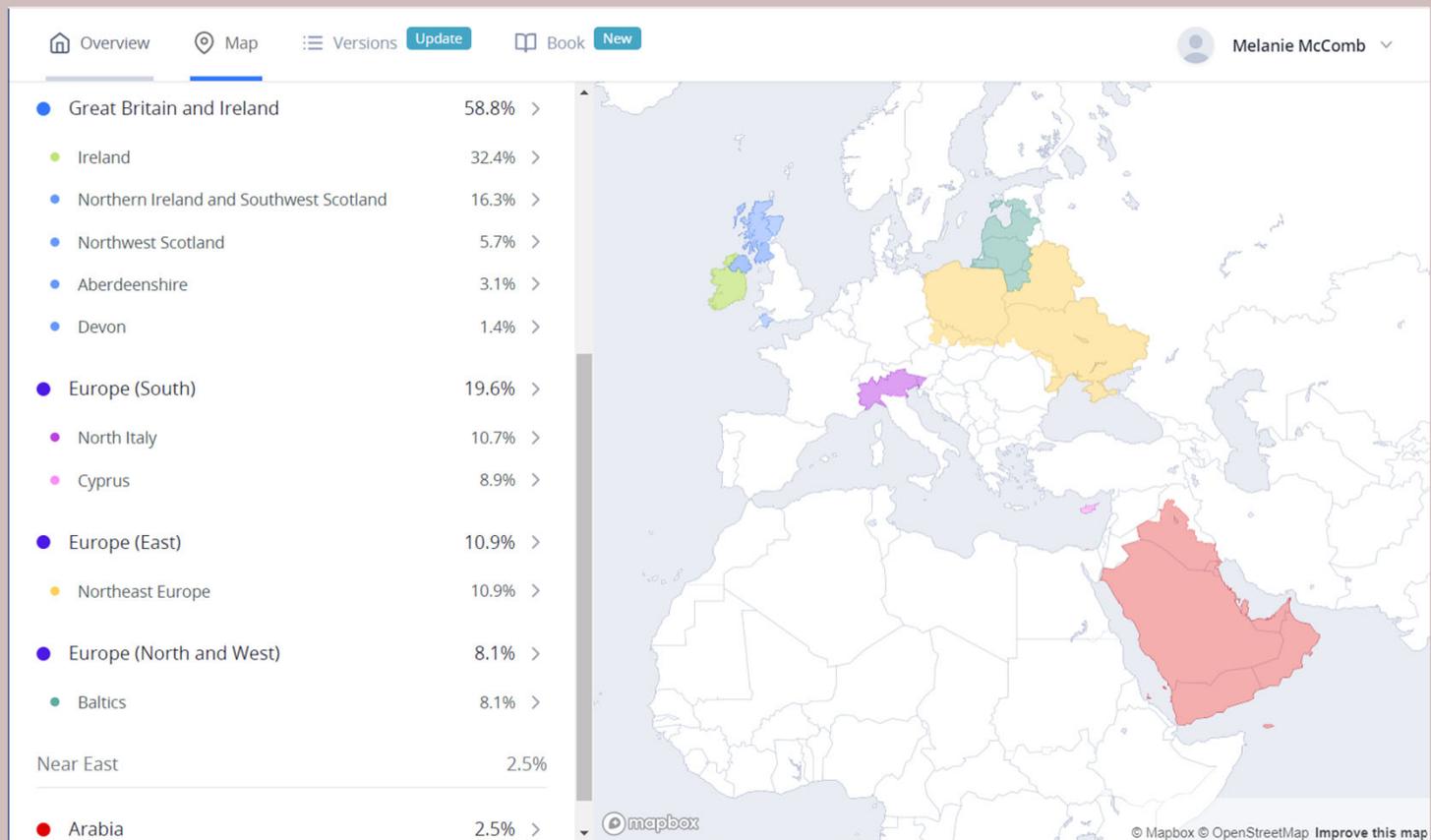


© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap [Improve this map](#)

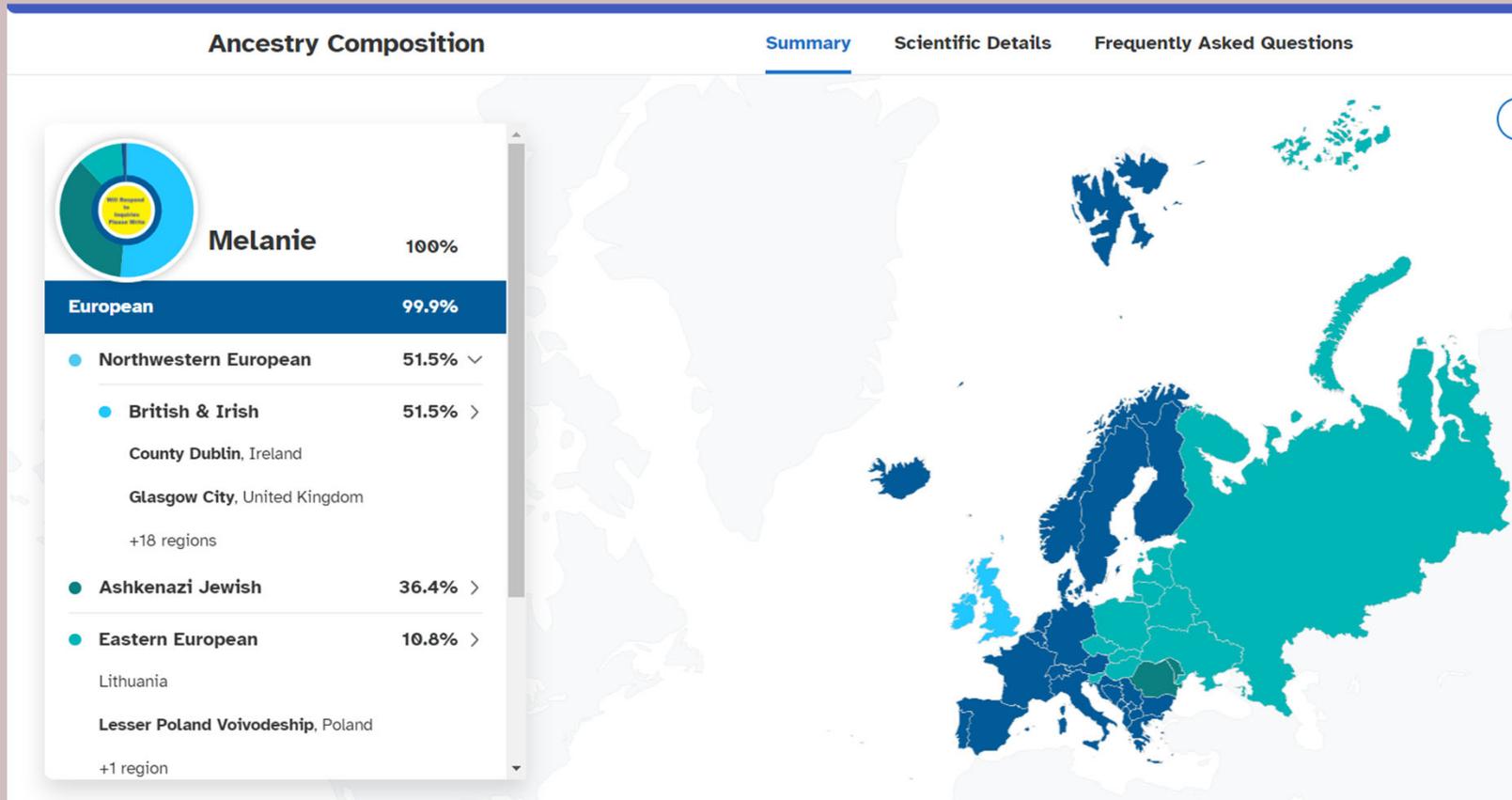
FamilyTreeDNA



LivingDNA



23andMe



23andMe

Ancestry Composition

[Summary](#)

[Scientific Details](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

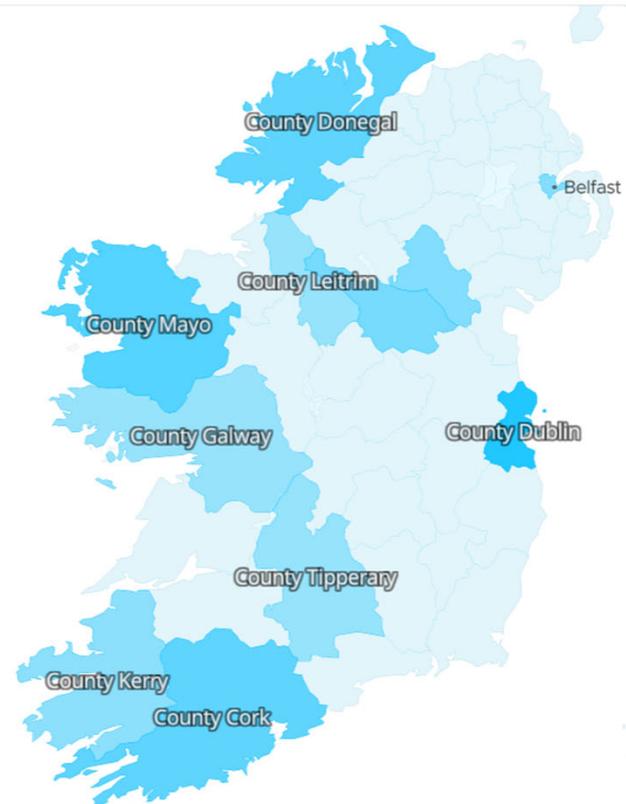


Ireland

Highly Likely Match ^

Ireland has 26 administrative regions, and we found the strongest evidence of your ancestry in the following 10 regions.

1. County Dublin
2. County Mayo
3. County Cork
4. County Donegal
5. County Cavan
6. County Monaghan
7. County Kerry



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

Reviewing Autosomal DNA Matches

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

Evaluate Your Tree

- Do you have gaps or brick walls?
- Can you fill with hypothetical ancestors?
- Traditional 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

Working with your Matches

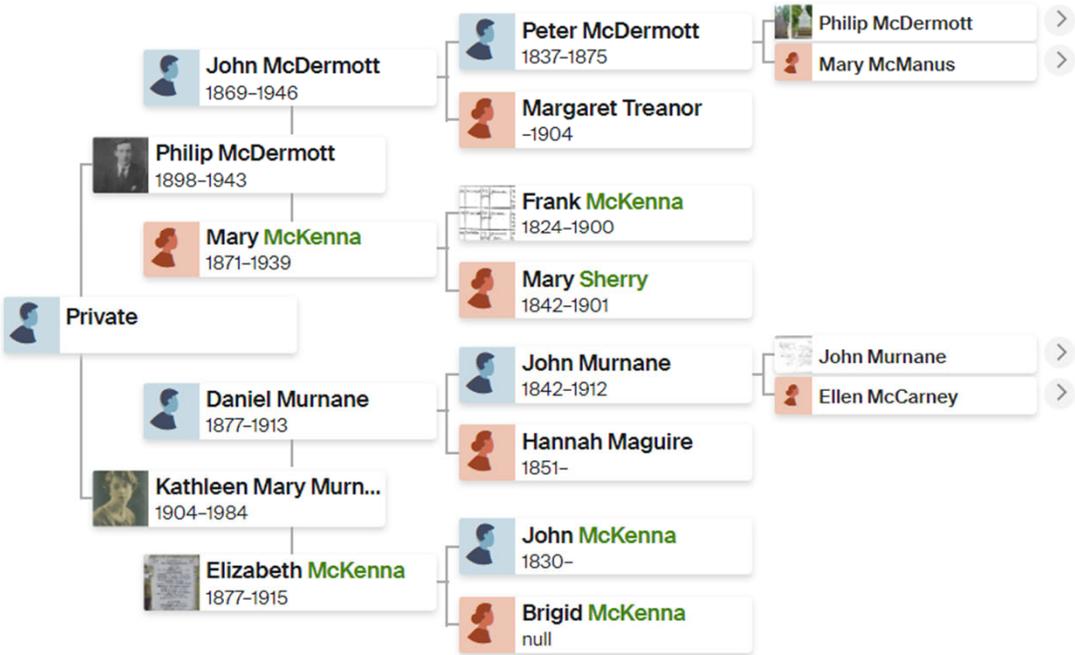
- Look for people or surnames in common
- Look for locations in common
- Ask questions and be patient for answers
- Work together and share information
- Always confirm with genealogical records

Finding clues in trees

Donagh McDermotts  [Expand tree](#)

's Linked Tree  496 People

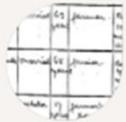
This is a preview of the public tree linked to **'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and **'s tree are marked in green.****



The diagram shows a family tree with the following individuals and their dates:

- John McDermott (1869-1946) is connected to Peter McDermott (1837-1875) and Margaret Treanor (-1904).
- Peter McDermott is connected to Philip McDermott and Mary McManus.
- Philip McDermott (1898-1943) is connected to Mary McKenna (1871-1939).
- Mary McKenna is connected to Frank McKenna (1824-1900) and Mary Sherry (1842-1901).
- Private is connected to Daniel Murnane (1877-1913) and Kathleen Mary Murn... (1904-1984).
- Daniel Murnane is connected to John Murnane (1842-1912) and Hannah Maguire (1851-).
- John Murnane is connected to John Murnane and Ellen McCarney.
- Kathleen Mary Murn... is connected to Elizabeth McKenna (1877-1915).
- Elizabeth McKenna is connected to John McKenna (1830-) and Brigid McKenna (null).

Finding Clues in Trees



Frank McKenna

Donagh McDermotts

Birth

1824 • Toneylone, Tydavnet.

Death

08 Feb 1900 • Toneylone, Tydavnet.



2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)



Finding clues in trees

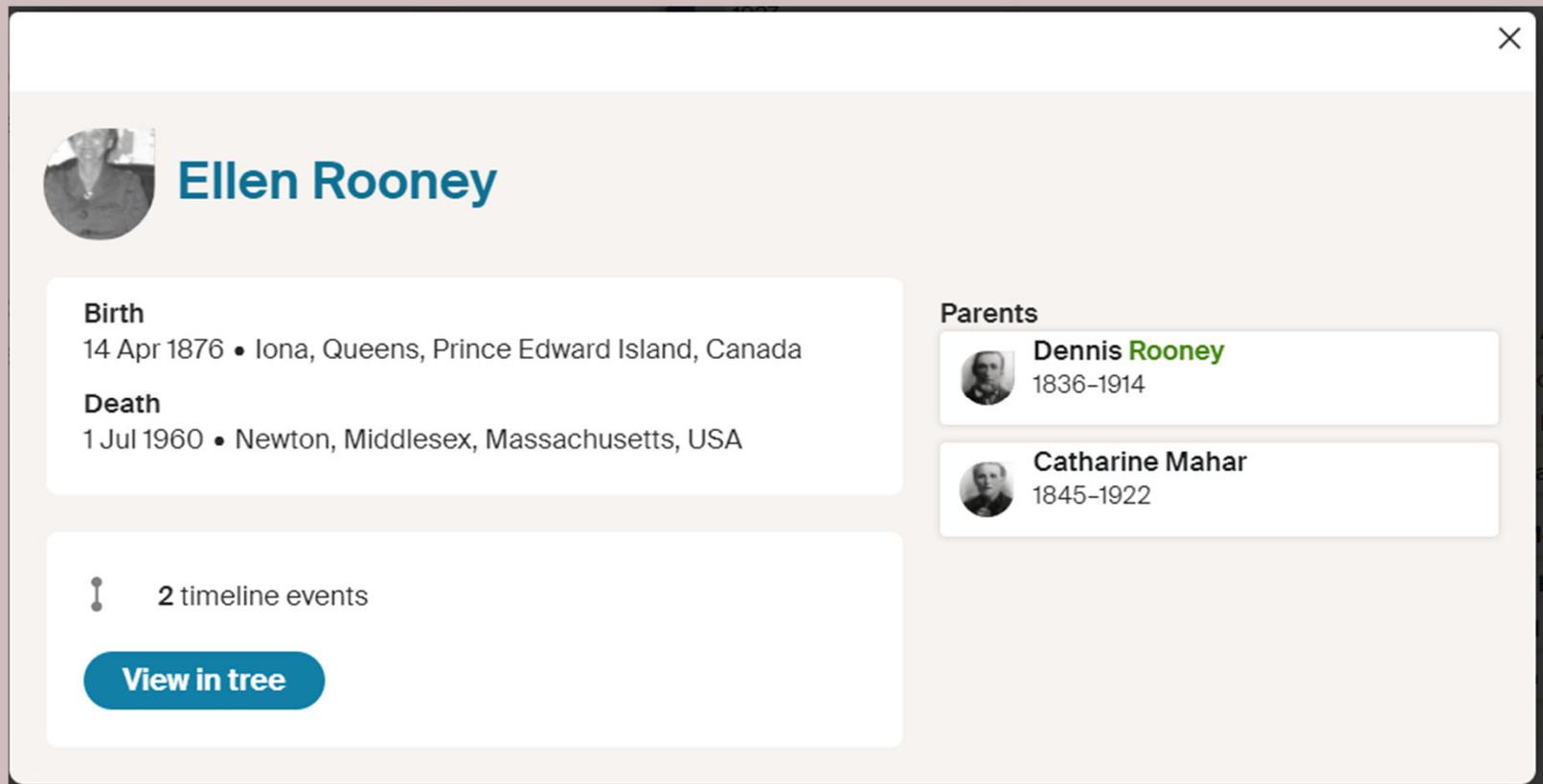
Scott ↗ Expand tree

H.M.'s Linked Tree 👥 2,395 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to H.M.'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and H.M.'s tree are **marked in green**.

The tree diagram shows a central node for 'James Wilfred Mullin' (1926-1964). To his left are 'Ragaa Abdo' (1920-1990) and 'Pauline Anne MacIsaac' (1930-2016). To his right are 'James Isadore Mullin' (1898-1975), 'Clara Delia Hughes' (1902-1967), 'Stanley McIsaac' (1900-1969), and 'Margaret Helena Fra...' (1897-1935). Further to the right, a list of names is shown with expandable arrows: 'James Aloysius Mullin', 'Ellen Rooney', 'James Francis "jimmy"...', 'Barbara Ann Holland', 'John McIsaac', 'ELLEN Helen POWER', 'Donald E Scott', and 'Sophia Horne'. A red arrow points to 'Ellen Rooney'.

Finding clues in trees



A screenshot of a genealogy profile for Ellen Rooney. The profile includes a circular portrait of an elderly woman, her name in blue text, and several data fields. The 'Birth' field shows '14 Apr 1876 • Iona, Queens, Prince Edward Island, Canada'. The 'Death' field shows '1 Jul 1960 • Newton, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA'. A 'Parents' section lists 'Dennis Rooney' (1836-1914) and 'Catharine Mahar' (1845-1922). At the bottom, there is a section for '2 timeline events' and a blue button labeled 'View in tree'.

 **Ellen Rooney**

Birth
14 Apr 1876 • Iona, Queens, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Death
1 Jul 1960 • Newton, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA

Parents

 **Dennis Rooney**
1836-1914

 **Catharine Mahar**
1845-1922

 2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Finding Clues in Trees

 **Dennis Rooney**

Birth
1836 • Rosslea, Fermanagh, Ireland

Death
14 Jun 1914 • Queens, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Parents

-  **Philip Rooney**
1807-1884
-  **Mary Doherty**
1820-1896

 2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Shallow Trees

- Build out yourself to learn more

Ogar/Brown family tree [Expand tree](#)

Linked Tree 7 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to [redacted]'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and [redacted]'s tree are **marked in green**.

```
graph TD; Ogar1[Walter James Ogar 1884-1970] --- Ogar2[George William Ogar 1928-2015]; Ogar2 --- Private[Private]; Private --- Lemmon[JOHN P Lemmon 1887-1973]; Lemmon --- Catherine[Catherine Teresa Le... 1925-2016];
```

Ancestry DNA


**Walter James Ogar**
Ogar/Brown family tree

Birth
8 Jun 1884 • Charlottetown, Queens, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Death
1 Aug 1970 • Milton Village, Norfolk, Massachusetts, USA

📅 2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Ancestry DNA – Common Ancestors

How are you and [redacted] related?

Common Ancestors

According to Ancestry member trees, these are the common ancestors that connect you and [redacted]. View a common ancestor to see the relationship path that connects you.

Marie Brown could be your half 4th cousin 1x removed through:



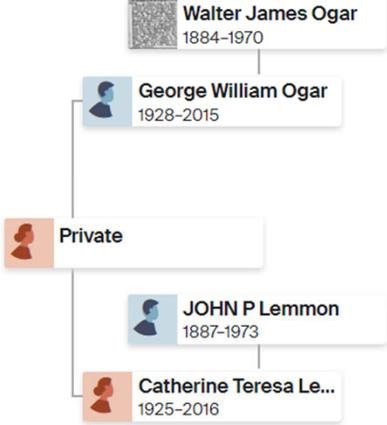
Owen Dougherty
4th great-grandfather
1760–1861
[View Relationship](#)



Ogar/Brown family tree [Expand tree](#)

Linked Tree 7 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to [redacted]'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and [redacted] tree are **marked in green**.



```
graph TD; Ogar1[Walter James Ogar 1884-1970] --- Ogar2[George William Ogar 1928-2015]; Ogar2 --- Private[Private]; Private --- Lemmon[JOHN P Lemmon 1887-1973]; Lemmon --- Catherine[Catherine Teresa Le... 1925-2016];
```

Ancestry ThruLines



Reviewing Ethnicity Estimates on DNA Match

The screenshot displays a DNA match profile for a 2nd-3rd cousin on the paternal side, with 3% shared DNA (233 cM across 14 segments). The match's ethnicity estimates are shown as a horizontal bar chart, with Ireland being the most prominent at 50%. A world map highlights the geographical regions corresponding to these estimates, primarily in Europe and the British Isles.

You and [Redacted]

2nd - 3rd Cousin | Paternal side
3% shared DNA: 233 cM across 14 segments

Connect to tree Message Edit Relationship

+ Add to group Add note

Trees Ethnicity Shared Matches

Ethnicity Estimates

You [Redacted]

Percentage	Ethnicity	Percentage
49%	Ireland	50%
38%	Jewish	0%
12%	Baltics	0%
1%	Scotland	0%
0%	Germanic Europe	29%
0%	Sweden & Denmark	10%
0%	England & Northwestern Europe	7%
0%	Eastern Europe & Russia	4%

Reviewing Genetic Communities on DNA Match

Shared communities



Ulster, Ireland

In the late 1700s the population of Ulster was growing. Land was scarce, rents were high, and...

[Learn more](#)



Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island Settlers

English speaking settlement of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (PEI) began in the early 18th...

[Learn more](#)

Case Study #1: Identify the parents and Origins of Bridget Sherry

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

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

Searching by Surname in DNA Matches

Melanie McComb's DNA Matches

[List](#) [Map](#)

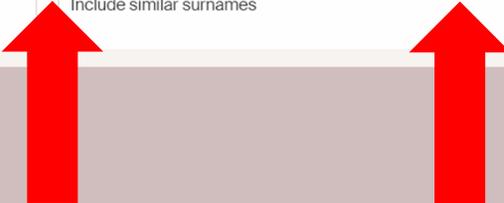
Filter by: Unviewed Common ancestors Messaged Notes Trees Shared DNA Groups [Search](#) | [Sort](#)

Match name:

Surname in matches' trees:

Birth location in matches' trees:

Include similar surnames



Looking for Clues in Trees

Graham/McCrudden Family Tree Expand tree

Linked Tree 5,815 People

This is a preview of the public tree linked to [Redacted] DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and [Redacted] tree are marked in green.

The tree shows the following individuals and their connections:

- Matthew McCrudden** (1866-1948) is connected to **Owen McCrudden** (1826-1906).
- Owen McCrudden** (1826-1906) is connected to **Helena (Ellen) Trayn...** (1861-1901).
- Owen McCrudden** (1907-1974) is connected to **Bridget Murphy** (1870-1956).
- Bridget Murphy** (1870-1956) is connected to **Michael Murphy** (1832-1915).
- Bridget Murphy** (1870-1956) is connected to **Catherine Mulligan** (1836-1913).
- Private** (indicated by a blue person icon) is connected to **Joseph McElroy** (1875-1940).
- Joseph McElroy** (1875-1940) is connected to **Francis McElroy** (1827-1885).
- Joseph McElroy** (1875-1940) is connected to **Mary T Campbell** (1873-1924).
- Bridget "Betty" McEl...** (1909-1994) is connected to **Felix McCaffrey** (1857-1943).
- Bridget "Betty" McEl...** (1909-1994) is connected to **Bridget Sherry** (1871-1924).
- Mary Anne McCaffrey** (1887-1924) is connected to **Felix McCaffrey** (1857-1943).
- Mary Anne McCaffrey** (1887-1924) is connected to **Bridget Sherry** (1871-1924).
- Helena (Ellen) Trayn...** (1861-1901) is connected to **Maria Moynagh**.
- Michael Murphy** (1832-1915) is connected to **Thomas Murphy**.
- Francis McElroy** (1827-1885) is connected to **Michael McElroy**.
- Francis McElroy** (1827-1885) is connected to **Ann Duffy**.
- Mary T Campbell** (1873-1924) is connected to **Patrick James Campbell**.
- Mary T Campbell** (1873-1924) is connected to **Anna McCullough**.
- Felix McCaffrey** (1857-1943) is connected to **James "Oines" McCaffr...**.
- Felix McCaffrey** (1857-1943) is connected to **Mary McNally**.
- Bridget Sherry** (1871-1924) is connected to **Edward Sherry**.
- Bridget Sherry** (1871-1924) is connected to **Mary Anne McCarey**.

Red arrows highlight the name **Bridget Sherry** in the bottom right section of the tree.

Review the Ancestors with Shared Surnames

 **Edward Sherry**

Birth
1824 • Monaghan, Ireland

Death
24 Jan 1890 • Barratitoppy, Co Monaghan, Ireland

Parents

-  **John Sherry**
1800-1881
-  **Ellen McCarvell**
1800-1862

 2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Review the End Line Ancestors

John Sherry

Common Ancestor

Birth
about 1800 • Scotstown Tydavnet County Monaghan, Ireland

Death
about 1881 • Prince Edward Island, Canada

Parents
_____ Sherry

2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Common Ancestor Theories

How are you and [Name] related?

Common Ancestors

According to Ancestry member trees, these are the common ancestors that connect you and [Name]. View a common ancestor to see the relationship path that connects you.

[Name] could be your 4th cousin 1x removed through:

- John Sherry**
4th great-grandfather
1800-1881
[View Relationship](#)
- Ellen McCarville**
4th great-grandmother
1790-1881
[View Relationship](#)

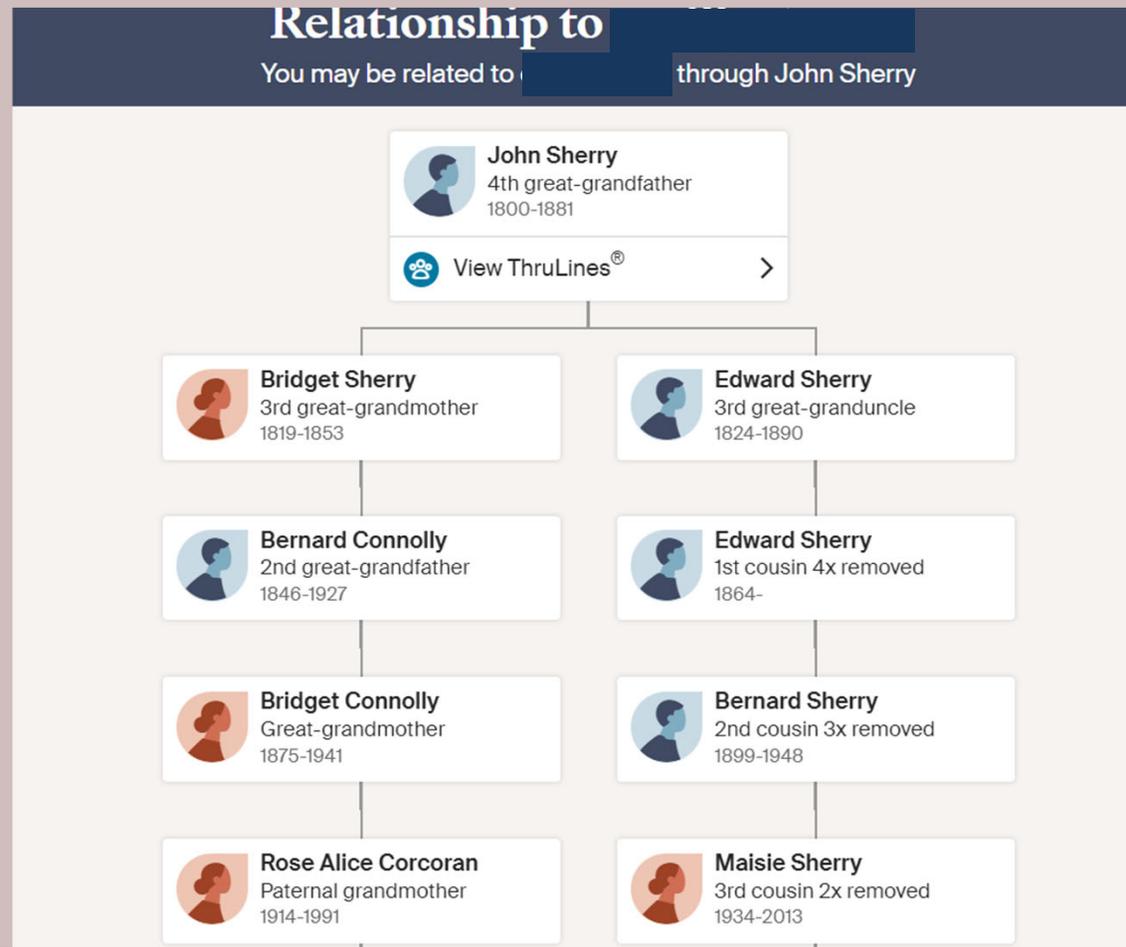
family tree [Expand tree](#)

Linked Tree 46 People

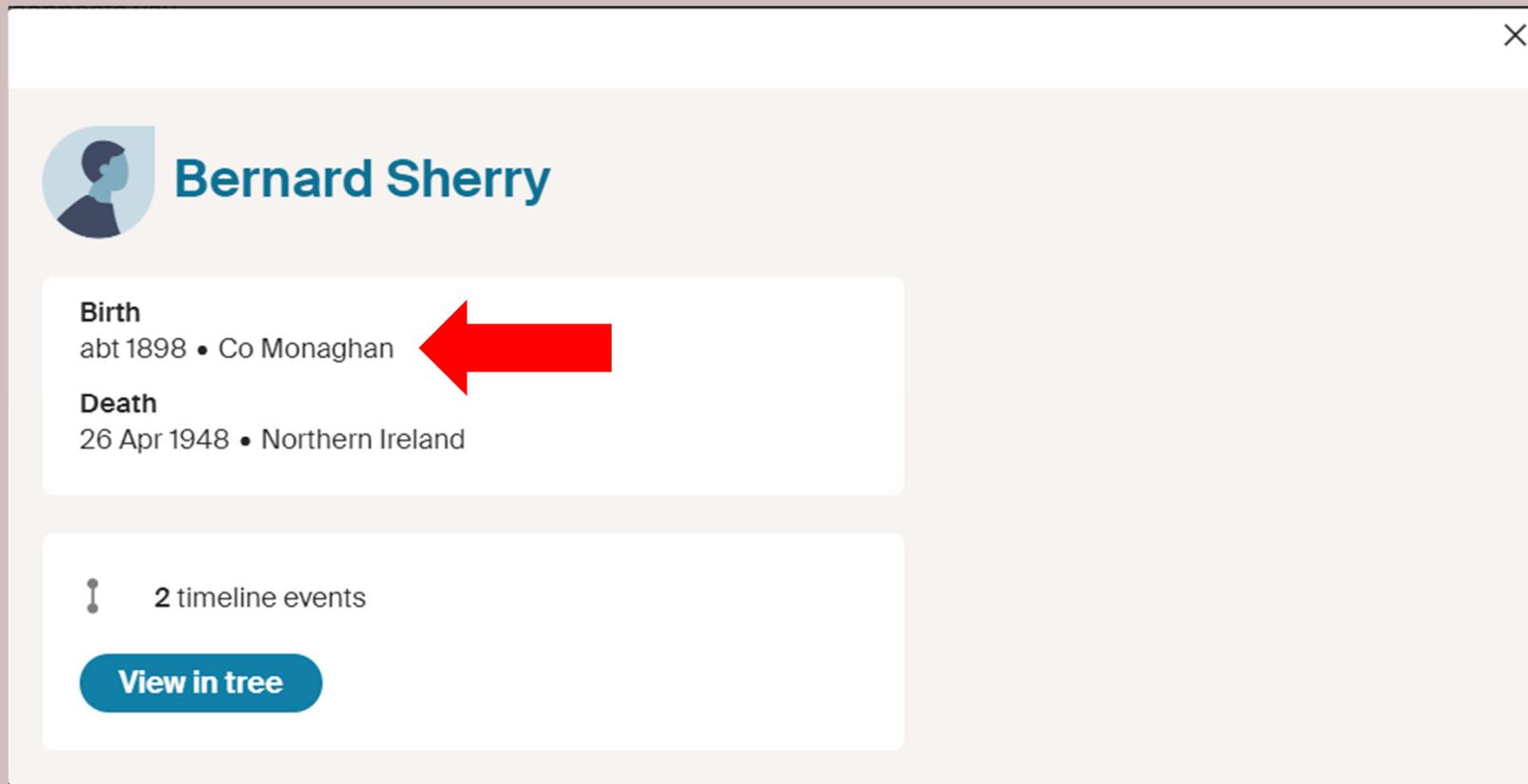
This is a preview of the public tree linked to [Name]'s DNA results. Surnames that appear in both your tree and oreilly_teresa's tree are marked in green.

A family tree diagram showing several generations. At the top, Thomas O'Harte (null) is connected to Michael Hart (1844-1923) and Rose Mary Sweeney (1848-1912). Rose Mary Sweeney is further connected to John Sweeney and Ann Johnston. Below Thomas O'Harte is Edward O'Harte (1928-2009), who is connected to Maryann McCabe (null). Below Edward O'Harte is a 'Private' node, which is connected to Bernard Sherry (1898-1948). Bernard Sherry is connected to Maisie Sherry (1934-2013), who is connected to Mary Gillies Tennent... (1915-2016). Two red arrows point from the text on the left to John Sherry and Bernard Sherry in the tree.

Review Common Ancestor Theories



Reviewing End of Line Ancestors



A screenshot of a genealogy profile for Bernard Sherry. The profile includes a name, a birth date and location, a death date and location, and a button to view the profile in a family tree. A red arrow points to the birth location.

Bernard Sherry

Birth
abt 1898 • Co Monaghan

Death
26 Apr 1948 • Northern Ireland

2 timeline events

[View in tree](#)

Birth Register



Second Page.

U1777392

Superintendent Registrar's District <u>Clones</u>				Registrar's District <u>Clones</u>						
BIRTHS Registered in the District of <u>Clones</u> in the Union of <u>Clones</u>										
in the County of <u>Monaghan</u>										
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.)
	18 <u>99</u>	<u>Loelt</u>		<u>Green</u>	<u>Eller</u>		<u>Minnie Kelly</u>	<u>Eight</u>		
<u>91.</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Margaret</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Keirans</u>	<u>Shirans</u> <small>formerly</small>	<u>Labourer</u>	<u>present at birth</u>	<u>September</u>		
	<u>Fermanagh</u>	<u>Clones</u>		<u>Fermanagh St</u>	<u>Emmory</u>		<u>Fermanagh St</u>	<u>18 99</u>	<u>M. Hussey</u> <small>Registrar.</small>	
		<u>Clones</u>		<u>Clones</u>			<u>Clones</u>			
	18 <u>99</u>	<u>Twenty third</u>		<u>Edward</u>	<u>Anna</u>		<u>Minnie Kelly</u>	<u>Eight</u>		
<u>92.</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Bernard</u>	<u>male</u>	<u>Sherry</u>	<u>Sherry</u> <small>formerly</small>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>present at birth</u>	<u>September</u>		
		<u>Clonkeenduea</u>		<u>Clonkeenduea</u>	<u>Carroll</u>		<u>Stales Fermanagh St</u>	<u>18 99</u>	<u>M. Hussey</u> <small>Registrar.</small>	
							<u>Clones</u>			
	18 <u>99</u>									



BINDING E

Marriage of Edward Sherry and Ann Carroll

Marriage No. 38? Registered by me, this 22nd day of February 1854

1854 Marriage solemnized at the Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Mary's Ballyjordan in the Registrar's District St. George's 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 Time of Marriage (7.)	Father's Name (8.)	Rank or Profession of Father (9.)
38	21 st January 1854	Edward Sherry	24	Bachelor	Farmer	Barratitopy	Edward Sherry	Farmer
		Ann Carroll	24	Spinster	Farmer	Glenbeg	Michael Carroll	Farmer

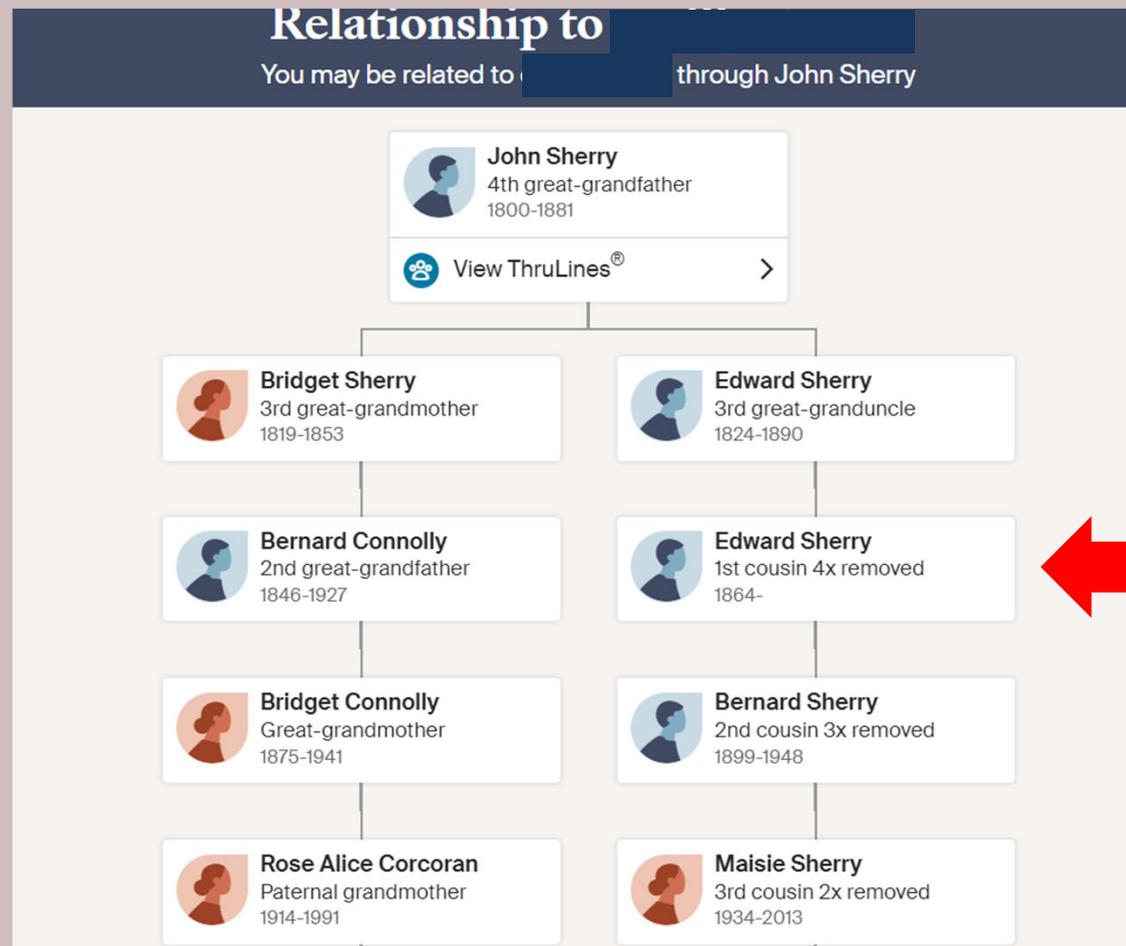
Married in the Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Mary's Ballyjordan according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church by me, James O'Dwyer CC

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Edward Sherry and Ann Carroll in the presence of us, James Coker and Ann Ince

James O'Dwyer Registrar.

Edward's residence is Barratitopy

Review Common Ancestor Theories



Edward Sherry

89	Twenty eighth March	Edward	Edward Sherry	Mary Sherry formerly McCarey	Tennet	Matthews Hill Barratitopy	July 1884	Sherry
----	---------------------	--------	---------------	------------------------------	--------	---------------------------	-----------	--------



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

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.

Ancestry ThruLines

ThruLines® for John Sherry
ThruLines® uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 23 DNA matches through John Sherry.

Relationships List

John Sherry
4th great-grandfather
1800-1881

- Ann Sherry**
3rd great-grandaunt
1811-1899
2 DNA Matches
- Owen Sherry**
3rd great-granduncle
1814-1900
3
SE
4th cousin 1x removed
15 cM | 3 segments
- Bridget Sherry**
3rd great-grandmother
1819-1853
13 DNA Matches
- Edward Sherry**
3rd great-granduncle
1824-1890
7 DNA Matches

Melanie McComb

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 Sherry and John Connolly.

Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

Connolly

Exact...

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Birth	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	1838 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> +/-10 yrs	Tydavnet, Monaghan, Ire <input type="checkbox"/> Exact to...
Death	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	City, County, State, Coun
Lived In	—	—	—	City, County, State, Coun
Marriage	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	City, County, State, Coun
Any Event	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	City, County, State, Coun

Add family member: [Father](#) [Mother](#) [Spouse](#)

	First & Middle Name(s)	Last Name	
Father	<input type="text"/>	Connolly	×
		<input type="checkbox"/> Exact	
Mother	<input type="text"/>	Sherry	×
		<input type="checkbox"/> Exact	
Spouse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	×

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Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Diocese

Choose...

Parish

▼

Year Range

Related data collections

[Ireland, Select Catholic Birth and Baptism Registers, 1763-1917](#)

While the Church of Ireland was the state church from 1536 to 1870, Ireland's population remained overwhelmingly Roman Catholic. This collection includes Catholic baptismal registers from 73 Irish parishes.

[Ireland, Select Catholic Marriage Registers, 1770-1910](#)

www.ancestry.com

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

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Your search

✎ ... Results 1-50 of 193

Connolly
Born: 1838
In: monaghan, ireland
[Hide 2 fields ^](#)
Parents: Connolly, Sherry

Broad Exact

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 ▶](#)

View Record	Name	Event Type	Event Date	Event Place	Relatives	View Images
View Record	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	

www.ancestry.com

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

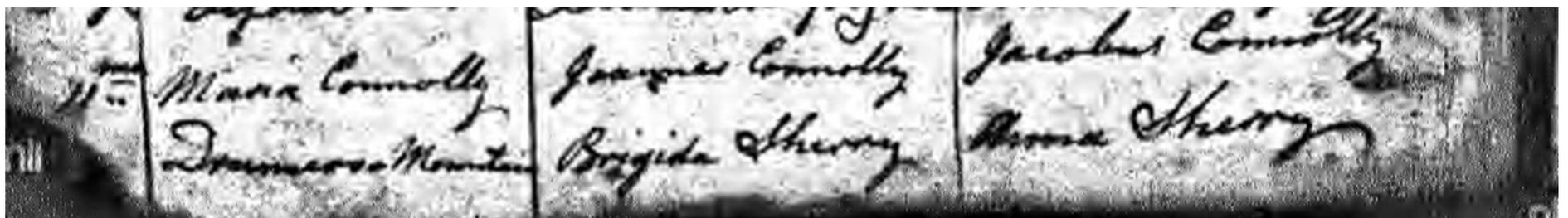
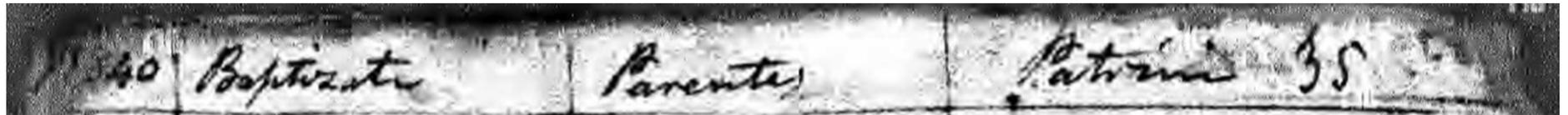
Other Event Place: Drumcoo Mountain

Diocese: Clogher

Father: Joannes Connolly

Mother: Brigida Sherry

Save ▾



Drumcoco Mountain is a neighboring townland next to Barratitoppy

Godparents were James Connolly and Mary Sherry

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

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

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

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.

Reviewing Y-DNA and mtDNA matches

Genetic Distance

- Ideal is to have a genetic distance of 0 or 1 for a DNA match
- 0 = Exact match, no mutations
- 1 = slight mutation
- The greater the distance, the higher the # of mutations and the further back a common ancestor.

Tip

If a Y-DNA match has distance of 0 or 1 but # markers is low (ex. Under 67), would encourage match to upgrade.

Y-DNA Matches

[? Help](#)

i The option to download your matches list and segment data is currently unavailable as we work on enhancements. We appreciate your patience and apologize for any inconvenience. ✕

[Detail View](#) [Table View](#)

Exact Search

All ▾

111 Markers (5) 67 Markers (29) 37 Markers (10) 25 Markers (21) 12 Markers (372) [Filter](#)

[Sort by](#) ↑↓



Y-DNA12



Markers Tested
1 to 12

Genetic Distance
Exact Match
[Link on Family Tree](#)

Big Y STR Differences
Not Available

Y Haplogroup
R-M269

Paternal Country of Origin
 Ireland

Paternal Earliest Known Ancestor
Not Available

Match date: January 04 2021



Y-DNA12



Markers Tested
1 to 12

Genetic Distance
Exact Match
[Link on Family Tree](#)

Big Y STR Differences
Not Available

Y Haplogroup
R-M269

Paternal Country of Origin
 Ireland

Paternal Earliest Known Ancestor
Hagan

www.familytreedna.com

Save on [Family Finder](#) & [Family Finder + myDNA Wellness](#) During Our Valentine's Day Sale! Now Through Feb 14th.

Y-DNA - Ancestral Origins

? Help

12 Marker

EXACT MATCH *i*

Country <i>i</i>	Match Total <i>i</i>	Country Total <i>i</i>	Percentage <i>i</i>	Comments <i>i</i>
England	1	47149	< 0.1 %	
Germany	1	25484	< 0.1 %	
Ireland	44	33076	0.1%	
New Zealand	1	92	1.1%	
Northern Ireland	3	3133	0.1%	
Scotland	16	23073	0.1%	
United Kingdom	2	16441	< 0.1 %	
United States	7	29976	< 0.1 %	



GENETIC DISTANCE -1 *i*

Country <i>i</i>	Match Total <i>i</i>	Country Total <i>i</i>	Percentage <i>i</i>	Comments <i>i</i>
Australia	2	333	0.6%	
Brazil	1	476	0.2%	
Canada	4	1774	0.2%	
England	16	47149	< 0.1 %	

<https://www.familytreedna.com/products/familyfinder-mydnawellness>

www.familytreedna.com

Tip

If a Y-DNA or mtDNA match
took the Family Finder test,
look for them in your
autosomal match list

Profile	Markers Tested	Genetic Distance	Big Y STR Differences	Y Haplogroup	Paternal Country of Origin	Paternal Earliest Known Ancestor	Match date
1	1 to 700	9 steps	Not Available	R-Y32988	? Unknown Origin	Howell Dawdy, b. 1746 and d. 1830	December 08 2022
2	1 to 700	9 steps	Not Available	R-Y32988	England	Francis Edwards c1742/1824	March 19 2021

Save on [Family Finder](#) & [Family Finder + myDNA Wellness](#) During Our Valentine's Day Sale! Now Through Feb 14th.

Matches Maps

mtDNA HVR1

Map

Satellite



www.familytreedna.com



Save on [Family Finder](#) & [Family Finder + myDNA Wellness](#) During Our Valentine's Day Sale! Now Through Feb 14th.

mtDNA - Ancestral Origins



HVR1 MATCHES i				
Country i	Match Total i	Country Total i	Percentage i	Comments i
Austria	2	1575	0.1%	
Belarus	5	993	0.5%	Ashkenazi (2), Polesia (1)
Canada	1	2471	< 0.1 %	
Germany	3	19000	< 0.1 %	Ashkenazi (1)
Hungary	8	1790	0.4%	Ashkenazi (1)
Lithuania	13	1690	0.8%	Ashkenazi (5)
Poland	21	7266	0.3%	Ashkenazi (5), Galicia (1)
Romania	7	1089	0.6%	Ashkenazi (3)
Russian Federation	14	4446	0.3%	Ashkenazi (5)
Slovakia	1	942	0.1%	
Ukraine	13	3038	0.4%	Ashkenazi (8)
United Kingdom	1	8962	< 0.1 %	

www.familytreedna.com

Case Study 2: Identify the origins and parentage of James S. Phillips

Background

- James S. Phillips was born circa 1780 (possibly Pennsylvania)
- Married Catharine circa 1810
- Children:
 - John (b. 1811 Pennsylvania)
 - Catharine (b. 1812 Pennsylvania)
 - Peter (b. 1812 Pennsylvania)
 - Daniel E. (b. 1815 New Castle, Clearfield, Pennsylvania)
 - Ellen Mora (b. 1815 Bradford, Clearfield, Pennsylvania)
 - Solomon (b. 1825)

Census Records

- 1820 – Bradford, Clearfield, Pennsylvania
- 1830 – Decatur, Clearfield, Pennsylvania
- 1840 – Fox, Clearfield, Pennsylvania
- 1850 - Woodward, Clearfield, Pennsylvania
 - Birthplace: Pennsylvania
- 1860 – Woodward, Clearfield, Pennsylvania
 - Birthplace: Pennsylvania

Y-DNA Results

- Father (who is a Phillips) took Y-DNA test
- Closest match was genetic distance = 1
 - Earliest ancestor was James S. Phillips
- Next closest match had a genetic distance = 3
- Y-DNA results were uploaded to Phillips surname project

Y-DNA Matches

FamilyTreeDNA

Home Results & Tools Family Tree Group Projects

Add Ons & Upgrades

Family Finder \$59 & Family Finder + myDNA Wellness \$79 During Our Valentine's Day Sale! Now Through Feb 14th.

Y-DNA Matches

[Detail View](#) [Table View](#) Exact Search All

111 Markers (19) 67 Markers (25) 37 Markers (12) 25 Markers (28) 12 Markers (121) [Filter](#) [Sort by](#) [Exp](#)

	FAMILY FINDER BIG Y-700 Y-DNA111					
Markers Tested 1 to 700	Genetic Distance 1 step Link on Family Tree	Big Y STR Differences 0 of 572	Y Haplogroup R-FT257083	Paternal Country of Origin United States	Paternal Earliest Known Ancestor James Phillips	Match date: Decemb
	BIG Y-700 Y-DNA37					
Markers Tested 1 to 700	Genetic Distance 3 steps Link on Family Tree	Big Y STR Differences 1 of 576	Y Haplogroup R-FT221459	Paternal Country of Origin United Kingdom	Paternal Earliest Known Ancestor Michael Phillips	Match date: An

Phillips Surname Project Grouping

Family Group 089																		
MIN					13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	29	16	9-10	1'
MAX					13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	30	16	10-10	1'
MODE					13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	29	16	10-10	1'
	Michael Phillips	United Kingdom	R-FT221459		13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	29	16	10-10	1'
	James Phillips	United States	R-FT257083		13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	29	16	10-10	1'
	James S Phillips, bc. 1780 PA?, d. 1860-70, PA	United States	R-FT221459		13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	29	16	10-10	1'
	James Phillips abt 1782 - abt 1860	Unknown Origin	R-BY166		13	23	14	11	11-11	12	12	11	13	13	30	16	9-10	1'

Ancestry ThruLines Shows a Possible Error

- Suspected father John H. Phillips (b. 1755 England and d. 1823 Maine) found in many online trees.
- ThruLines was reviewed and none were found for John, which suggests a possible issue with the lineage.

ThruLines for John H. Phillips

ThruLines® for John H Phillips

ThruLines® uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 66 DNA matches through John H Phillips.

Relationships ☰ List

 **John H Phillips** EVALUATE
4th great-grandfather
1755-1835

 **James S Phillips**
3rd great-grandfather
1780-1860

 66 DNA Matches >

4 ∨



ThruLines (5th GGF Level)

ThruLines® for Joseph John Phillips
ThruLines® uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 23 DNA matches through Joseph John Phillips.

Relationships List

Joseph John Phillips
5th great-grandfather
1727-1803

John H Phillips
4th great-grandfather
1755-1823
19 DNA Matches

John Phillips
4th great-grandfather
1756-1835
2 DNA Matches

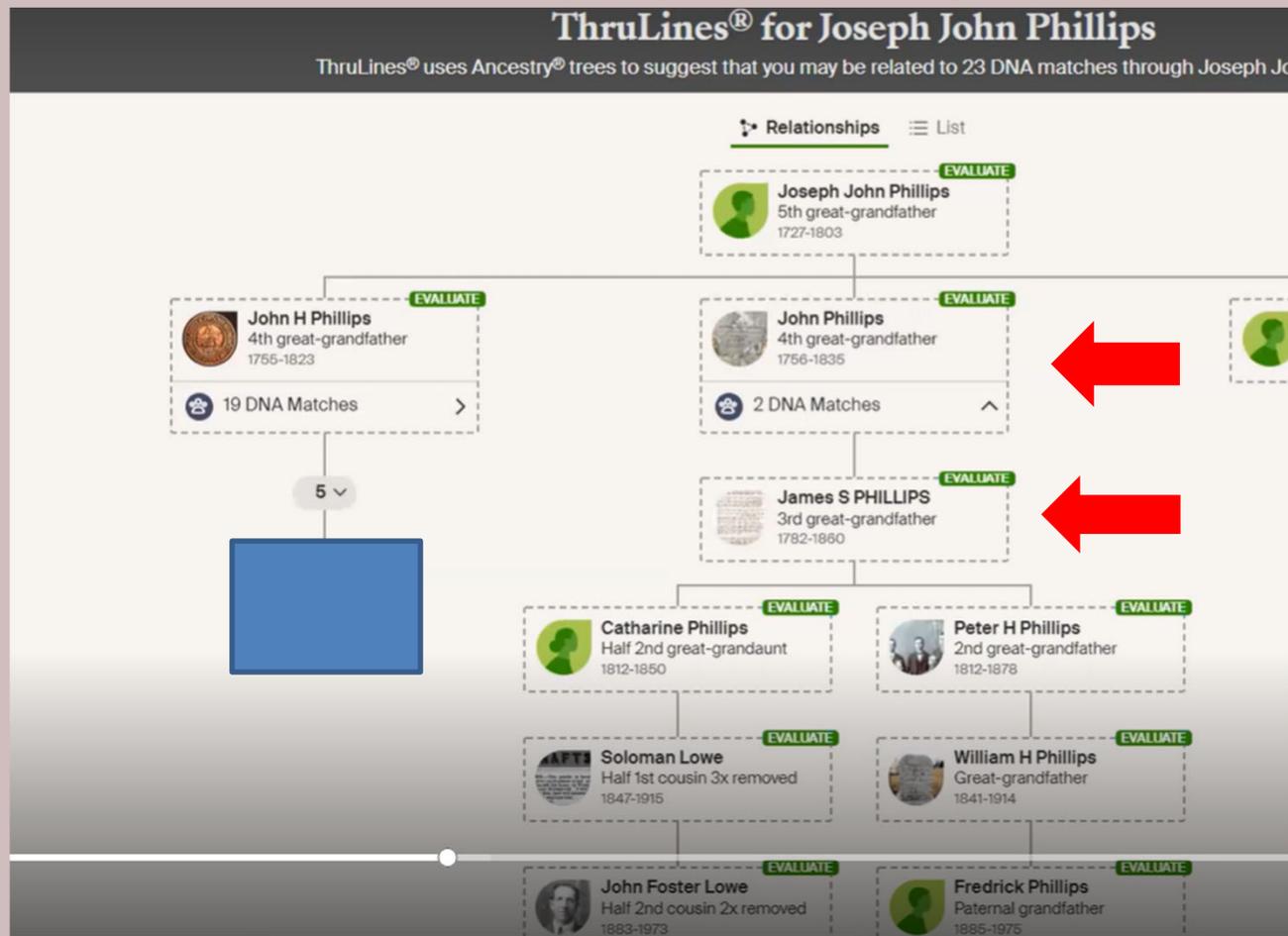
John Phillips
4th great-grandfather
1756-1838
3rd cousin
19 cM | 2 segments

Thomas Phillips
4th great-grandfather
1765-
4th cousin
37 cM | 2 segments

Visit our other sites: Select language:

Tip
Slight variations in
names/dates/locations
can produce duplicates
in ThruLines

ThruLines (5th GGF Level)



A New John Phillips

- Potential ancestor John H. Phillips (1756-1835) has 21 ThruLines matches.
- This John was of Rensselaer County, New York and died in the township of Grafton.

Conclusion

- Joseph John Phillips is the potential grandfather of James S. Phillips
- John H. Phillips is the potential father of James S. Phillips.
- He may have a brother named Thomas (based on ThruLines) that needs to be investigated further. Y-DNA of a living male descendant may help confirm that he is a brother.
- Additional descendants of potential siblings need to be identified and traced through genealogical records to confirm the parentage of James.
- Based on the DNA matches, John does not appear to be the immigrant.

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. Research thoroughly and be creative
5. Use cM chart to verify relationships
6. Always confirm with genealogical records

QUESTIONS?

Hire Research Services

research@nehgs.org

Chat with a Genealogist

AmericanAncestors.org/chat



THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org



American Ancestors[®]

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

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