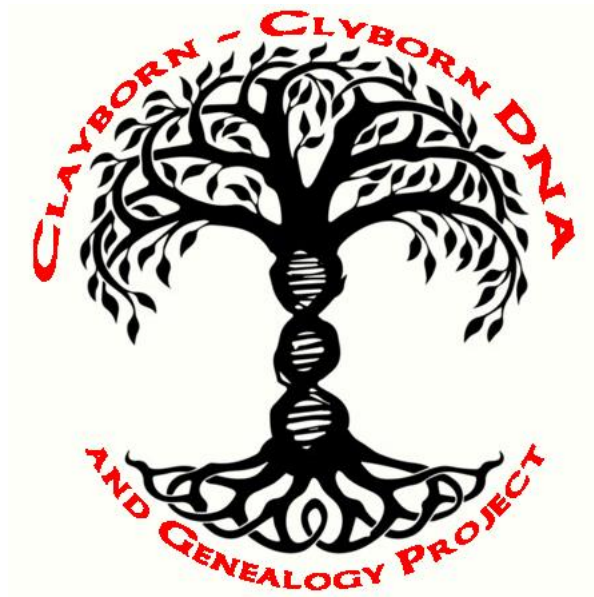




CLAIBORNE-CLYBORN DNA & GENEALOGY PROJECT UPDATE

Jun 2023



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Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

Contents

IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGHS AND UPDATES	3
COL. WILLIAM	3
EDWARD ANCESTORS	3
BIG Y-700 RESULTS: EPHRAIM, NOVA SCOTIA, & ISOM.....	7
FAMILY CONNECTIONS	9
COL. WILLIAM DESCENDANTS.....	13
Col. William Cladogram.....	13
Col. William Ancestry	13
NATHANIEL BRITTON CLYBURN DESCENDANTS	13
Nathaniel Britton Cladogram	14
Nathaniel Britton Ancestry	14
CLIBBORN OF MOATE DESCENDANTS.....	14
Moate Cladogram	14
Moate Ancestry.....	14
CLIBBORN OF BALLYCULLUTAN DESCENDANTS.....	15
Ballycullutan Cladogram	15
Ballycullutan Ancestry.....	15
JOSHUA CLYBURN FAMILY	15
Joshua Clyburn Cladogram.....	15
Joshua Clyburn Ancestry.....	15
EPHRAIM CLYBURN OF NOVA SCOTIA DESCENDANTS	16
Ephraim Clyburn Cladogram	16
Ephraim Clyburn Ancestry	16
EDWARD CLEIBORNE DESCENDANTS.....	16
Edward Cladogram.....	16
Edward Ancestry	17
DNA MYSTERIES	17
Haplogroup E.....	17
Unknown Origin	17
Haplogroup R	18
Ishom Connection	18
Giles County, Virginia	18

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

R-M269 Outlier	19
NEXT STEPS	19
SNP Testing	19
Genealogy Records	19
CONTACT	20

IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGHS AND UPDATES

Over the last few months I have been working closely with Joshua Isom to push our understanding of the DNA and genealogy even further. We have been collaborating, cross-referencing, double-checking, and targeting specific questions and problems. Without his assistance these updates would not have been possible.

A big thank you is also in order for the 5 members who took the Big-Y 700 tests so far. Without these folks making the investment in their genetic genealogy, none of these answers would have been available to us.

COL. WILLIAM

There have not been any significant breakthroughs on Col. William's Ancestry past his grandfather at this time. However, we are working on tracking down some additional documents that do suggest a *familial* link between Col. William and the Westmorland branch. Some further details are explained below in *Family Connections*, but I will keep you updated as I learn more. Only 1 member of this branch has completed the Big Y-700 test, and thus far the results are not extremely useful in that there's nothing to compare it against. The Col. William sub-branch of the I Haplogroup split off back in the Bronze Age, circa 2500CE. There is only 1 other known Big-Y tester who also appears in this sub-haplogroup, but they did not make their data publicly available, so we know nothing about them. I am attempting to cross reference some other leads to determine the genetic ancestry of this branch.

EDWARD ANCESTORS

For years, it was hypothesized that Edward Cleiborne who came over on the *Globe* came directly from Westmorland to America. When the DNA evidence came back that he shared the Westmorland DNA profile, this further emphasized this hypothesis. Many researchers plugged Edward directly into the Westmorland tree in different places. We now know, definitively, that all of these previously published genealogies are incorrect. Edward was not born in Cliburn.

Joshua Isom was instrumental in discovering the true origins of Edward. He realized that his ancestor, Robert Isom, was also on the *Globe* with Edward. And since his DNA matched the Westmorland DNA, that meant that these two passengers were related. He began looking for information about Isoms and Cleibornes living in close proximity to one another and discovered Edward in the small town of Waltham Cross, essentially a suburb of North London. We now know that Edward was baptized on 22 May 1614 in Waltham Abbey, and thanks to my earlier research we know that he was buried on 15 September 1622 in St. Michael, Barbados.

The fact that Edward is from North London also answers the question of why he boarded the *Globe* where he did. I had always wondered why someone from Cliburn would have travelled all the way to London just to catch a ship to America when there were several closer ports, like Liverpool, where he could have boarded a ship. But the fact that he was already in London makes a lot more sense.

Edward was the youngest of 7 children of James Cleborne and Agnes Jurye. This also may come as a surprise to many researchers because there have been many assumptions in previously published works that because Edward had a son named John, his dad was probably John as well. Edwards has other siblings, according to the Waltham Abbey baptism records, 2 sisters and 4 brothers.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

James Cleburne was born in May 1565 in South Mimms, Hertfordshire and was baptized on 10 May 1565 in South Mimms. South Mimms is approximately 10 Miles due west of Waltham Cross. This is also an important location in the story of the family history because the Isoms, who are also Cleburne descendants, lived in South Mimms as well. For work, James was employed as a bargeman and ferried cargo up and down the River Lea. The River Lea runs about 25 miles from the River Thames in London, north to the town of Ware, and then it jogs west and terminates in the town of Hertford. This was an interesting piece of information for me because the historical records show that Edward Cleiborne came over multiple times, even when the Captain of the ship that brought him stayed in America. I had hypothesized that Edward may have been a sailor, at least temporarily in his life. If his father was a bargeman, then it is possible that Edward may have learned the basics of seamanship from him.



James Cleborn (1565) had a relationship with Apollonya Isham and they appear to have lived together circa 1585. This is where the Isom connections occurs. By 1590, the relationship between them had ended and James married Agnes Jurye in Watham Abbey. It is not 100% clear what occurred, but based on Joshua Isom's research it seems like Apollonya's family may not have approved of the relationship and picked a different suitor for Apollonya in the form of Robert Lee, whom she married in 1587. It is believed that James & Apollonya's son went to live with other members of the family.

The Isham family had prominent businesses in London and also owned the manor of Dancers Hill, which is still situated on the south end of South Mimms. This is most likely where Apollonya was living when she met James. You can read more about the Dancerhill House here:

<https://docs.planning.org.uk/20210118/199/QMRFO9IFLBQ00/nphg90o37zg4djm3.pdf>



Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

James and Agnes Jurye both died in 1625, which coincidentally, also happened to be the same year as a Y-pestis outbreak of plague that killed 40,000 Londoners. It could be merely coincidence, James would have been about 60 and Agnes about 55. But the timing definitely does warrant a further look into the records at least. Upon the death of James in 1625, his eldest son James (1598) was made the executor of the estate and given guardianship of Edward (aged 9) until he came of age.

James (1565) was the youngest child of William Clybborne and Ellen, who were married in 1550 in South Mimms. They had 1 daughter and 4 sons. William was born in 1527 in Monken Hadley, a small town 4 miles to the southeast of South Mimms. William died and was buried on 13 Jan 1584 in St. Giles, South Mimms.



William was the oldest known son of Thomas Clybborne and Joane. Thomas was born about 1505 in Monken Hadley. He married Joan around 1526, and they had two sons that we know of. He was buried on 10 Oct 1558 in South Mimms.

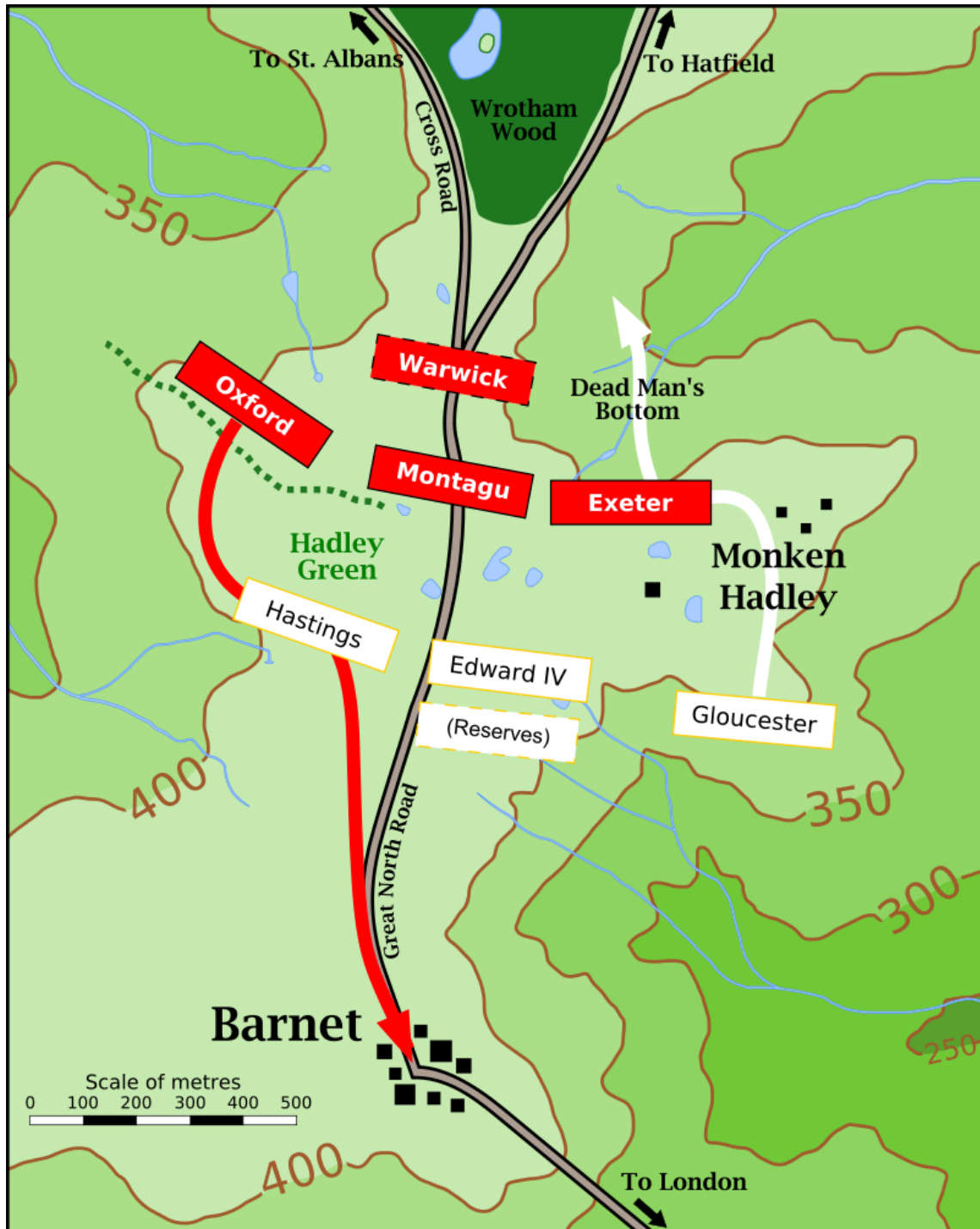
William was the only known son of Oliver Clyborn and Isabel. Oliver was born about 1472 in Monken Hadley and died before 1532. Joshua has uncovered several court documents that firmly place Oliver in Monken Hadley and establish him as the father of Thomas. Up to this point, Joshua and I have double and triple checked the records and we are confident that this is the correct genealogy for Edward of the Globe.

From here on out the next connection, which links back to the main Westmorland branch directly, is circumstantial, but so far remains our best lead. I am reluctant to call it "certain", I would like to find additional records that solidify the connection, but it definitely is "highly suggestive". The hypothesis that we are working on is that Oliver is the son of Sir John Cliburne (1439-1489), the son of Roland de Cliburn and Katherine de Lancaster.

At present, we do not have a much documentation in the way of a smoking gun or a something that states this explicitly. However, take note of the map showing Monken Hadley above – the red arrow. If you look just to the right of that you will see Barnet. This is significant because Barnet was the site of a major battle during the War of the Roses Even more significant is the date of the battle – 14 Apr 1471. We know, through historical records and rolls of arms, that Sir John Cliburne was present at the battle of Barnet and

we also know that the King's army camped there for some weeks. Nine months later would be Jan 1472, which does coincide with the same year that Oliver is estimated to be born.

Does this prove that Sir John is Oliver's father? Definitely not. However, it does place a known member of the family literally next door to Oliver's birthplace and the right time and place to be his father, and that is a strong coincidence that cannot be ignored. We are tentatively calling this the correct connection, but we are hunting for additional documentation to either shore up this hypothesis or disprove it.



Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

[BIG Y-700 RESULTS: EPHRAIM, NOVA SCOTIA, & ISOM](#)

Thus far 5 members of the Cliburn DNA branch of the family have taken the Big-Y tests. 1 of whom is Joshua Isom, the other 4 include a known descendant of Edward, a known descendant of Ephraim, and two others who's ancestry not known.

This information has yielded extremely useful information in our search for clues. In the last major update I published I included an overview of DNA, including SNPs – Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms. These SNPs are tiny, but important, genetic mutations that occur with a pretty specific frequency, which makes them fairly easy to trace back and tie to a particular person if the genealogy is known.

In that same earlier update I also discussed Haplogroups, which I think most people in this study are probably at least superficially familiar with. Bundles of these SNPs are grouped together and formed into new micro-haplogroups that branch off of earlier Haplogroups. In looking at this haplogroup tree, the number of SNPs that have occurred, and how they all connect, it is possible to estimate a date to the MRCA to a fairly high degree.

From this we know that Dr. Isom's specific Haplogroup of R-FTC71892 branches off from the Cliburn modal DNA at exactly 1564, which coincides with the birth of James, providing solid evidence that James is definitely the Most Recent Common Ancestor between many of the Westmorland branch in American and Dr. Isom.

Two other members, Jeff & Flynn, have a specific haplogroup of R-BY181254, and they share a MRCA with each other of Lewis Lee Clyburne (1840-1925). Their Haplogroup is estimated to have split at about 1800, which suggests that all of the Descendants of William Craig Clyburne (1802-1882), Lewis' father, would all share that same group.

Of the other two, Kenneth, and Charles – Charles is a known descendant of Edward, and Kenneth is a known descendant of Ephraim. It says that they share a MRCA between 1650-1700, with circa 1680 being an approximate value. This tells us definitively that Ephraim of Robeson, NC is a descendant of Edward of the *Globe*. We also know from the DNA that the sub-group for Flynn & Jeff share this same MRCA, as these two men appear to be descended from Ephraim's brother, William, and represent many of the Nova Scotia Clyburnes.

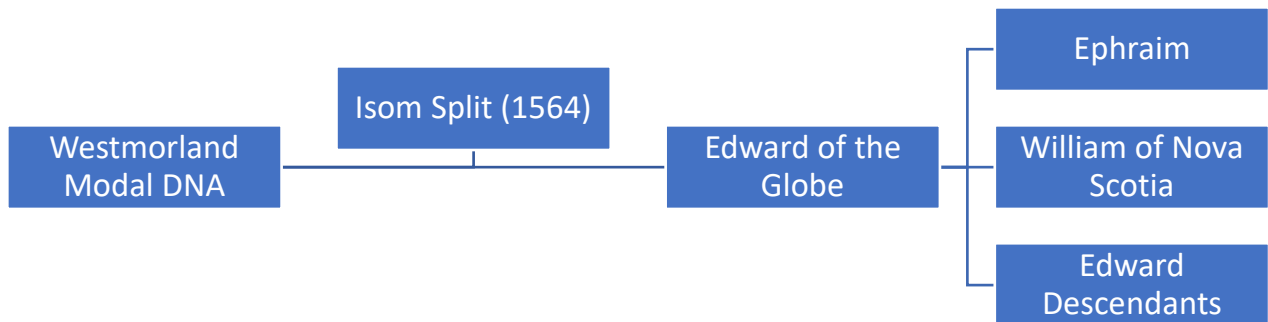
Unfortunately, this is where we are presently stuck. I thought that I had it figure out yesterday, but in double checking my research notes, I realized that the connection as it is presented is impossible. There is some generational confusion occurring. According to books by the late Angela Claire Clyburn, Edward of the *Globe* was the son of John of Westmorland, son of Giles. But we now know that is incorrect. She also posits that William, brother to Ephraim, was the son of John of Henrico (1705), son of John of Henrico (1677), who was the son of Edward (1650), who was the son of Edward of the *Globe*.

Initially I thought this line might be correct because the John (1705) she cites married a Jean Clarke, and the John my branch descends from, John "of Dale Parish", who is also born 1705, married Jannette Robertson, so these would appear to be different people. And none of the side-by-side comparisons between her purported genealogy matched anything I knew from my branch, so this suggests that they are all different people. But there is one major kink in the works. Edward's son Edward (1650) died at age 7 in Barbados with his mother, Mary, and his father.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

For those who are unfamiliar with my research on that topic, I wrote extensively about it on my website, the link is here: https://claybornglobal.com/Genealogy/index.php/The_Barbados_Hypothesis. The cliff notes version is that Edward who came over on the *Globe* was brought once by Mr. Jeremy Blackman. Blackman lived directly across the river from the Cliburn House in Bermuda Hundred – so close that they could have seen the smoke from each other’s chimneys. Mr. Blackman’s next door neighbor, Jan Lucy, was also his brother-in-law, because Blackman married Lucy’s sister. I found the will of Jan Lucy’s father where he leaves certain things to Blackman (his son in law through marriage), and his sons, Jan and Lucas. Among them were several plantations. Lucas Lucie received a plantation in Barbados. And in the church of St. Michael’s in Barbados is the burial record for Edward Cleiborne, his wife Mary, and his child Edward, all died 1662, all within 2 weeks of each other. There was some sort of pestilence on the island at the time based on the number of deaths that occur in quick succession.

Based on this, Edward’s son Edward cannot be the progenitor of the Ephraim line as he did not live long enough to have children. I am shifting some of my focus to the colonial area of Henrico and also to the Waltham Cross area of London to see if I can’t sort out this confusion. If there was indeed another Edward in Henrico who was the progenitor of the Ephraim line, it’s possible that this Edward is a cousin to the Edward of the *Globe* and not his son, although admittedly, that connection would be more difficult to break with the DNA results. In either case, a thorough re-examination of the actual colonial records is warranted. Too many trees simply repeated Edward of the *Globe*’s death as 1658 in Jamestown without providing any evidence or citations for that. We basically need to start completely over in Virginia with Edward, forgetting all of the previously published work and then go back to square one and look at each and every record and rebuild that part of the tree from scratch.



FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Many years ago, there was a hypothesis that all Claibornes, regardless of spelling, were related. Different research was undertaken in an attempt to prove or disprove this hypothesis, initially undertaken by Dr. Alex Waldrop III and subsequently continued by this author. The DNA findings have definitively shown that there are multiple genetic profiles, and collectively the research community often refers to everyone of a different DNA profile as "the other family".

In doing the research over the last few years, and examining my own history and situation, this author believes that this approach is wholly incorrect. Collectively, we have been hyper focused on the DNA and using that as evidence as the sole focus of research efforts.

An example of what is meant can be found in Edward Cleiborne of Henrico, VA. Because known descendants of Edward have been DNA tested and match the Cliborns of Westmorland, the research immediately shifted directly to Westmorland and an attempt to plug Edward directly into that part of the tree. Thanks to efforts by researcher Joshua Isom this author has confirmed that Edward came from North London, in a suburb called Waltham Cross, as did his father before him – not directly from Westmorland as so many records and online trees erroneously claim.

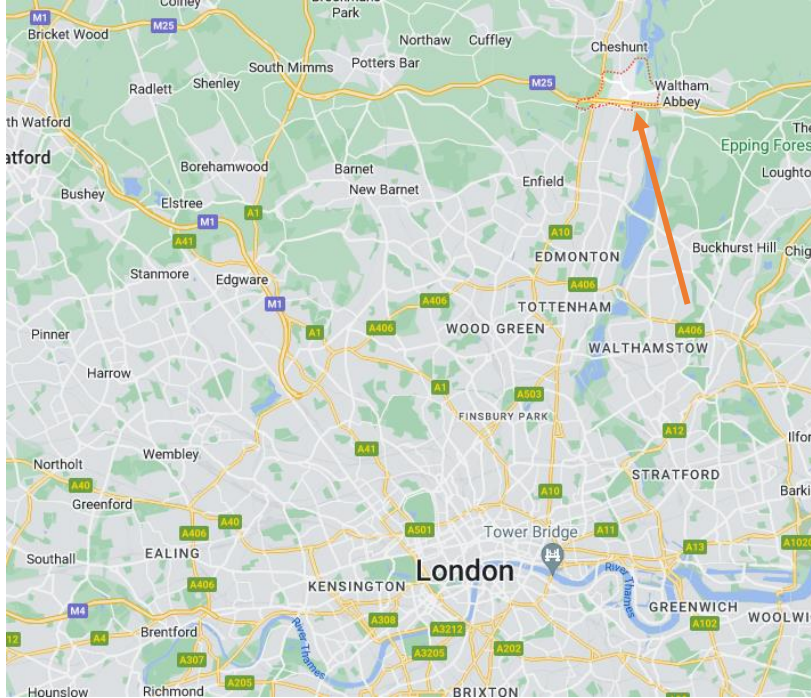
In that example, following the DNA evidence to the exclusion of all else has led to years spent looking in the wrong place. This author cannot help but wonder what else we are overlooking.

It has been said that Col. William Claiborne and his descendants are a wholly different family than the descendants of Edward Cleiborn because the two groups have a different DNA profile. This author does not believe this to be true. Evidence for the idea that Col. William is not connected to the Westmorland branch are as follows:

1. The Richmond Herald said that there was no record of Col. William having a grant of arms and that he lived on the opposite side of the country from the grantee, the implication is that he usurped the arms.

This author posits that that he displayed a coat of arms that he was hereditarily entitled to but did not take steps to properly register them. This is supported by the fact that many younger generations of the Westmorland branch bore the same arms but also failed to register them and as such there is no record of their grant of arms either. While children did inherit the arms of their armigerous ancestors, the process was not automatic and some onus was placed on the armiger to complete the process. In the case of younger children, a new petition would have to have been filed with the College of Arms in order to grant a new version of the arms with the proper marks of cadency applied. If the younger children did not do this, it would create no record trail and lead to genealogical confusion.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023



2. Col. William's family lived in Southern England, the opposite end of the country from Westmorland, so they cannot be related.

This assumption is false. It predisposes that none of the Clebornes of old ever left the family home and that the only place they ever lived was Cliburn. But we know this to be wrong. We know that at least two different branches went to Ireland during the 1600s.

This author has also been working closely with Mr. Isom. Our new research shows that by the year

1600 the Clebornes had settled in several pockets throughout England, including: Yorkshire, Cumberland, Lancashire, Cheshire, Hertfordshire, London, Essex, Kent, and Norwich. This information shows that the family was far more widespread than originally thought. Now the idea that "they were on the other side of the country" is wholly disproved because known, verified, DNA matching Westmorland descendants were also living in Southern England, a mere 16 miles from where Col. William was born. If you have two people with the same name and they live 16 miles away from each other, this is no longer in the realm of distance being an exclusionary factor.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023



Figure 2 A map showing known pockets of Cleborne family members verified by records up to the year 1600.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

3. Because the DNA profiles are different, they are not the same family.

This is where it gets tricky. Different DNA means they are descended from a different biological ancestor. But does that mean that they are not the same family? What is family? How do you define it? This author would argue that there is more to family than just DNA.

Here's an example; my ancestor, Lemuel Croy, was adopted by William Clyborn of Giles County, VA circa 1850. We have been Clayborns for 7 generations. William Clyborn, a descendant of the Westmorland family, loved my ancestor enough to adopt him as his own son. Does that not make him family? Does that not make me a Clayborn? My DNA does not match either Westmorland or Col. William.

Continuing that line of reasoning, I am going to be adopting my own stepson. Would that not make him family? What about his children? Will they not be Clayborns? Their DNA will be different still even from mine. And yet, there is a *relationship* there. I love that boy enough to claim him as my own. The DNA does not show this, it cannot. But he and I are family nonetheless.

A third example I will leave you with; I have been running down the family history of a coworker of mine, Jasmine Claborn. Her 5th Great Grandfather was born out of wedlock. There is no record of his father, his mother, Lucy B. Claborn, gave the child her last name. They are descended directly from Alfred Lafayette Claborn of Weakly County, TN, but if her brother does the Y-DNA test, the results will not match known groups. Are they still family?

This author would argue that all of these examples are examples of family – of personal relationships, even if the DNA doesn't match. This author would further urge caution in not following the DNA to the point of ignoring all else. There is some new evidence that is being vetted that suggests that Col. William's grandfather may have either been a Cleborne of Westmorland or else adopted by them, thus suggesting a *familial* connection after all. If true, this would prove that we are all one family after all, just not strictly genetically.

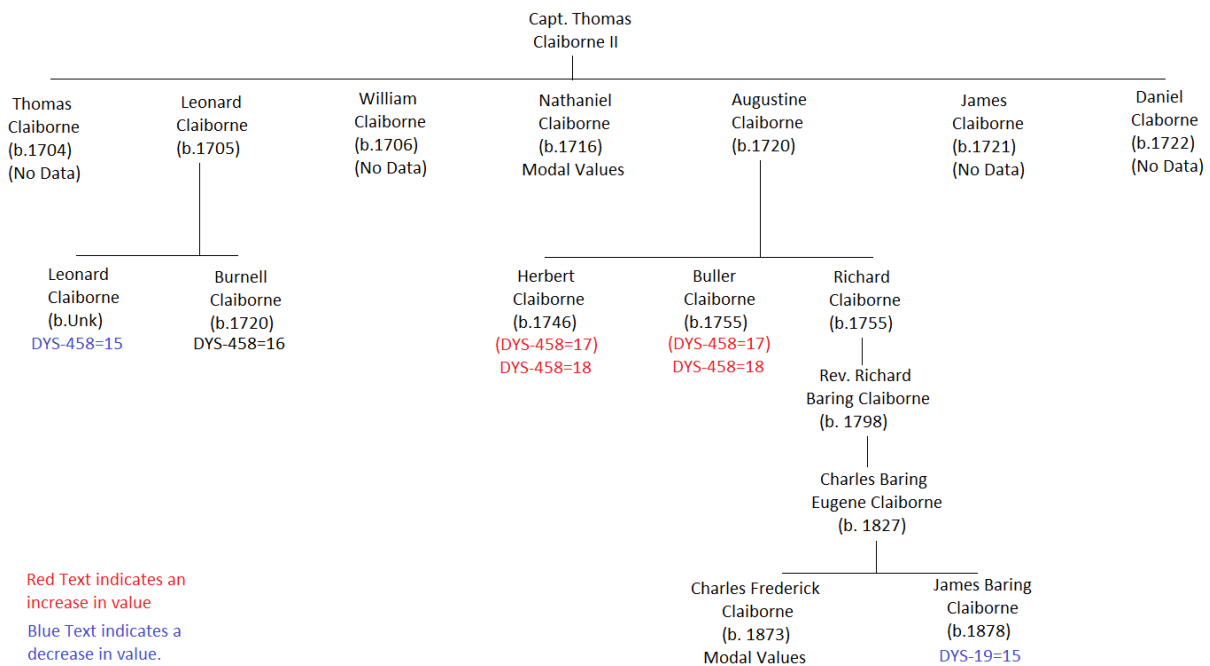
The technology that is available to us today is wonderful. But the old-fashioned human element is equally crucial. These are some things to consider while conducting research.

COL. WILLIAM DESCENDANTS

There are 13 participants in this group, 1 more than the previous update. There is no doubt that all of these people descend from Col. William because they all share the same I-M170 Haplogroup, which is unique to this branch.

So far, all 7 participants that I have been able to get genealogical records on descends from a son of Capt. Thomas Claiborne II (b. 1680). There is 1 participant descended from Nathaniel (b.1716), 2 descended from Leonard (b.1705), and 4 from Augustine (b. 1720). There are 5 participants that do not have genealogies or their genealogy doesn't connect to Capt. Thomas yet. Once I am able to sort them, it should fill in the Cladogram chart a little more.

Col. William Cladogram



Col. William Ancestry

The Update for Col. William was discussed in the beginning of the update.

NATHANIEL BRITTON CLYBURN DESCENDANTS

This family remains a mystery and is a genetic outlier. Without the accompanying genealogical records, I don't know much about this family except for what the DNA tells me. There are two members of this group and they belong to Haplogroup I, like the descendants of Col. William. However, these members are not closely related to them. Col. William's people are Haplogroup I-M170 and these members belong to Haplogroup I-M253, which makes their most recent common ancestor an estimated 80 generations ago.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report

Jun 2023

With no other data to access and no other groups to compare against, I cannot make any other inferences about this data. It's possible that these samples, which come from a father-son pair, represents what is called a "Non-Paternity Event" where non-Claborn DNA was introduced into the genealogy through adoption or other means. Or, it's equally possible that this sample represents a third unique Claborn Family. Without more data it is impossible to say.

Next steps for this group would be to try to locate additional genealogical information and then identify other members of that family tree to take the test.

Nathaniel Britton Cladogram

With only two participants in this group, and with both of them being father and son, there's not enough data to build a cladogram.

Nathaniel Britton Ancestry

At this time, there are no further clues regarding the ancestry of Nathaniel Britton Clyburn. Since this Haplogroup is unique among all of the other study participants a good approach would be to search the Y-DNA databases for any DNA matches at all, regardless of surname, as that may provide clues. It is impossible to tell at this point if this is a Non-Paternity Event or an entirely new line.

CLIBBORN OF MOATE DESCENDANTS

This group has changed from Dr. Waldrop's original list. He called them the "Durham Group" because that's where the immigrant Clyburn was born. However, I don't believe that adequately describes this test group. This group consists of two people who belong to Haplogroup R-M269. These two people are closely related, sharing a most recent common ancestor between 7-9 generations ago.

This group, while belonging to the same genetic Haplogroup as the Westmorland Cliburns, is not a close genetic match. They represent a 4th unique genetic haplotype. On paper, this group's lineage traces back to Westmorland. A person who was born in 1950 would have 12 generations between them and William Cleburne, the immigrant ancestor of this line. Based on this, and based on the fact that the MRCA for the two samples is 7-9 generations, we shouldn't assume that this change in DNA occurred in Durham. Many of the other descendants of that family may have different Haplotypes. The only thing that we can say for certain is that this sample group is not related to any other sample group in the study and that these samples came from Ireland. To that end, it makes more sense to call this group Moate Descendants.

Next steps for this group would be to attempt to track down genealogical records for these people and to identify more people within this group to get the study and get them to participate. It seems likely that at some point after coming to Ireland, for at least part of the family, a Non-Paternity Event occurred.

Moate Cladogram

With only two participants in this group, and no genealogical records for either of them, it's not possible to construct a cladogram.

Moate Ancestry

There are two approaches to determining the true ancestry of the Moate group. The first would be to find more participants descended from that line who are willing to test. This will help us nail down when the

Haplotype changed away from the Westmorland Modal haplotype. Concurrently, searching online Y-DNA databases for this haplotype and examining any matches may provide some clues. If there are matches that live near the Clibborns of Moate, for example, then it may provide some clues.

CLIBBORN OF BALLYCULLUTAN DESCENDANTS

There is one sample member in this group. On paper they trace back to Westmorland. The sample group belongs to Haplogroup R-M269 and is a genetic match for the Clibborns of Westmoreland. This seems to confirm that the Clibborns of Ballycullutan were directly descended from the Westmoreland group. It doesn't confirm that all of the paper genealogy is 100% accurate, but it does at least suggest that the paper genealogy is on the right track.

Next steps for this group would be to recruit additional members to verify the findings, repeatability is important in research.

Ballycullutan Cladogram

With only a single participant in this group it's not possible to construct a cladogram.

Ballycullutan Ancestry

Not much work needs to be done on this Ancestry. The Ancestry of the Ballycullutan group is well-documented and the DNA Analysis supports the paper tree that exists. To firm up the ancestry, SNP testing could provide more definitive proof, but so far, the DNA agrees with the established, published genealogies for this group so there is not an obvious reason to question it.

JOSHUA CLYBURN FAMILY

We now know from the DNA evidence that Joshua and his progeny are, in fact, descended from Edward, which rules out the other hypotheses about their origin. They are not descended from the Irish Clibbornes, and not descended directly from the Westmorland branch. Exactly how they connect to Edward is still unknown as of this writing, but there is a definitive connection established by DNA.

Joshua Clyburn Cladogram

Although I do have complete lineages for both members of this group, a cladogram of the sub-group would unnecessary as both members share identical haplotypes. As this group grows in size and scope then a cladogram would be warranted. Until then, figuring out how their haplotype connects to the Westmorland tree would be very useful.

Joshua Clyburn Ancestry

In this case, searching Y-DNA databases for matches for this haplotype are not going to be helpful. We already know what haplotypes and surnames match this family. The two ways that we can approach mapping out the ancestry better are attempting to piece together a master Cladogram for all of the Westmorland families, and by expanding the DNA results to look for Specific SNP markers that are unique to this group and attempt to track down where they originate, or what other unique SNP markers this group may share with others.

EPHRAIM CLYBURN OF NOVA SCOTIA DESCENDANTS

Based on new DNA evidence from the Big-Y 700 tests, we now know that this branch of the family descends from Edward of the *Globe*.

Ephraim Clyburn Cladogram

Although I do have complete lineages for two members of this group, a cladogram of the sub-group would unnecessary as both members share identical haplotypes. As this group grows in size and scope then a cladogram would be warranted. Until then, figuring out how their haplotype connects to the Westmorland tree would be very useful.

Ephraim Clyburn Ancestry

In this case, searching Y-DNA databases for matches for this haplotype are not going to be helpful. We already know what haplotypes and surnames match this family. The two ways that we can approach mapping out the ancestry better are attempting to piece together a master Cladogram for all of the Westmorland families, and by expanding the DNA results to look for Specific SNP markers that are unique to this group and attempt to track down where they originate, or what other unique SNP markers this group may share with others.

I have seen some family trees listed on Ancestry where Ephraim is attributed as the son of John “of Dale Parish” Cliborn (b. 1705) and his wife Jean Clarke. I have serious doubts regarding the accuracy of these claims. These same trees list Ephraim’s birthplace as Brunswick Co, VA (with no cited sources). For starters, there is no evidence that John and Jean ever left Chesterfield County, VA. He is a well-documented individual and lived and died in Chesterfield. Furthermore, this attribution to John of Dale Parish ignores the larger family cluster. There are either 3 or possibly 4 Clyburn brothers – William Clyburn, Ephraim Clyburn, Joshua Clyburn, and possibly James Clyburn. John of Dale Parish already had 5 sons and 3 daughters. There is no evidence to support that he had an additional 4 children. As stated elsewhere in this report, SNP testing should be able to lend some serious weight toward proving or disproving ancestry lineages.

EDWARD CLEIBORNE DESCENDANTS

There is an in-depth update earlier in this report on this branch.

There are at least 7 known members of this group. Their DNA is Haplogroup R-M269.

Edward Cladogram

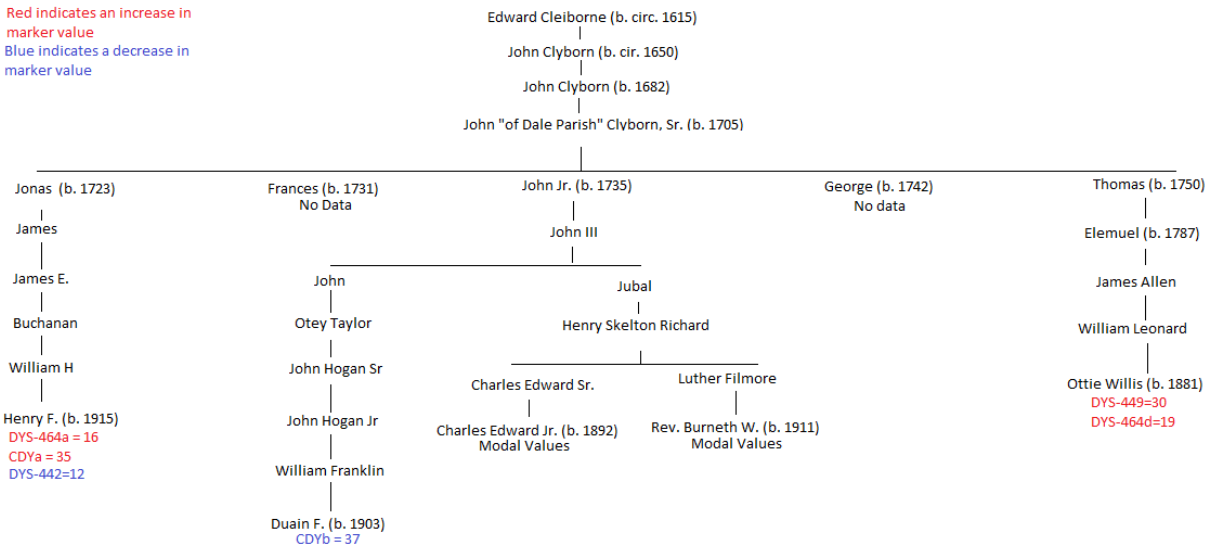
This chart represents the known mutations for descendants of Edward Cleiborne of the *Globe*. This chart is also a perfect example of the complications that arise with trying to use STR values only for tracing ancestry. The descendants of Thomas shown on the right side of the chart that closely match the values that are common mutations for both the Ephraim and Joshua lines. However, what we know about the paper genealogy makes these connections impossible. If those descendants of Thomas had the exact same mutations as the Ephraim and Joshua lines due to a single common ancestor, then those mutations would permeate throughout the entire tree because the Ephraim and Joshua lines pre-date that branch, which means any shared common ancestor must also pre-date that branch. Thus, the most plausible conclusion

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report

Jun 2023

at this time is that those specific mutations happened independently and in parallel. A less likely scenario is that this genealogy may be wrong and this person is actually a descendant of either Joshua or Ephraim.

Red indicates an increase in marker value
Blue indicates a decrease in marker value



Edward Ancestry

The Big-Y 700 DNA tests have helped up to specifically narrow down Edward's ancestry. We are working to shore up the hypothesis about how his ancestors connect to Westmorland.

DNA MYSTERIES

Haplogroup E

There are 2 members in the study who belong to Haplogroup E. One is from Haplogroup E-M2 and his earliest known ancestor is in Natchez, MS. The other is from Haplogroup E-M35. Neither of these members have provided much genealogical data. They are not related to each other, nor to any other members in the study and represent unique genetic families. As with the earlier examples of this for Nathaniel Britton Clyburn, there is not enough data here to make a determination one way or the other. They could be anomalies, they could be Non-Paternity Events, or they could new families. Additional participants and research data is needed. One big clue is that Haplogroup E is mainly found in Africa.

The one member who has provided some data will be a starting point, and I will attempt to research his line back the old-fashioned way and see where they go.

Unknown Origin

There are at least 3 members of study who are part of Haplogroup R-M269 and whose ancestry is unknown. These members do not have genealogies and enough additional information to be able to place them. They represent a divergent branch or an entirely separate Haplotype. Rough estimates of STR values suggest a genetic connection at around 22 generations, which is not genealogically close. It is worth noting that these 3 members all appear to be closely related to each other.

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

Haplogroup R

There are two members of the study who fall broadly under Haplogroup R, but they are not closely related to the Westmorland group. One is from Haplogroup R-M512 and his Earliest Known Ancestor is John Edward Clabon (b.1835) in Greensville Co, VA. The other member is Haplogroup R-L11 and claims to descent from Westmorland, but no genealogy was provided. The DNA suggests that neither of these two members are related to Westmorland nor are they related to each other. They present with unique Haplotypes. As in the other cases, there is simply not enough data to make any meaningful analysis at this time.

Ishom Connection

This mystery is now solved (see the update in the beginning of the article). This mystery will be removed from the list in future updates.

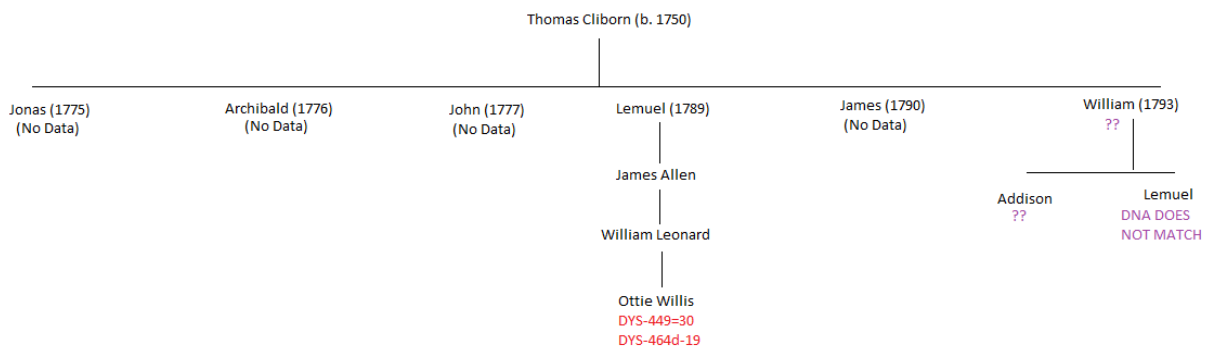
Giles County, Virginia

There is a non-Paternity Event somewhere in the descendants of Edward. I have a lot of information on this line because it happens to be my line. Although my haplogroup is also R-M269, it does not closely match the Westmorland Haplotype. However, since other members of Edward's descendants match the Westmorland haplotype, a Non-Paternity Event has occurred somewhere.

In tracing down what I know to be 100% certain, I am aware of two possibilities.

1. Elemuel/Lemuel Cliborn (aka: Lemuel Croy) (b. 1834) to Christina Croy. This person was born a couple of years after William Clyborn divorced his wife and eventually Christina and her two children moved into William's house. Elemuel would later go on to fight in the Civil War and his tombstone and military records list him as Clyburn. This seems like the most plausible explanation.
2. William Clyborn who adopted Elemuel may be the break. William had one son, Addison, with his first wife, Mary. After the divorce, Mary moved across the state and took Addison with her. Addison's descendants later moved down to Missouri.

I made a concerted effort to track down descendants of Addison Clyburn of Giles Co, VA and get at least one of them to take the Y-DNA test. However, I was saddened to learn that all of the male descendants of that branch of the family have since died and the branch is extinct on the Y-DNA side.



Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report Jun 2023

In the meantime, I am continuing searching for likely matches and candidates that may explain this NPE. I have been searching Y-DNA databases for my Haplotype with no luck. My specific DYS-464 markers are very rare, existing in only 0.1% of the R-M269 Haplogroup, so if another match is found, it is probable that they are related to me. I am also attempting to persuade by Great-Uncle to take the autosomal DNA test in an attempt to locate cousins that we can't place on our family tree. I am also making use of my father's autosomal DNA in an attempt to track down matches that cannot be explained.

R-M269 Outlier

There is another kit within the R-M269 Haplogroup set that is a total genetic mystery. Like my data, they don't closely match the Westmoreland Haplotype. They differ at 18 of 37 markers, making their Most Recent Common Ancestor an estimated 70 generations ago. I have no genealogical data on this individual and I have not been able to get in touch with them as their email is invalid, so at this point there are no further next steps for this mystery.

Weakley County, TN

This is a new branch to me, and a new mystery. One of my coworkers is a Jasmine Claborn. I traced her ancestry back to Weakley County, TN, and then from there to Accomack Co, VA, but from there I am currently stuck. A Y-DNA test for her brother will not be helpful in connecting this branch to Westmorland as Zora D. Claborn (1862) was the son of Lucy M. Claborn (1839-1902) and she gave the child her surname, so the Y-DNA will not match Westmorland modal. However, it may be useful in seeing if it matches any of the other Claborns in the study whose ancestry is not currently known.

An extremely useful step here is to identify male descendants of Alfred Lafayette Claborn (1805-1858) of Weakley Co, TN or of John Claiborne (1776) who married Mary Polly Middleton and have them take a Y-DNA test.

NEXT STEPS

Across all research groups of interest, aside from the specific next steps spelled out in each research group, overall advice would be two parts.

SNP Testing

Further Big-Y 700 DNA tests should be encouraged. Just the 6 tests that we have available to us so far have revealed much in the way of helping to smash through certain barriers and roadblocks. As more people take the Big-Y test the DNA pattern will become more clearly defined.

Genealogy Records

One problem that I encounter when researching these families is that there seems to be a great amount of confusion surrounding people's ancestry. For many years Col. William was attributed to the Westmorland Group, which we now know is false, but it still persists on many trees. Edward's children are erroneously attached to Col. William. Some of Col. William's descendants are erroneously attached to John of Dale Parish, etc. There are a great many places where casual researchers of these families cross-link the trees and place their families in as descendants of "the other family".

To combat that problem, I would suggest a more collaborative effort to make the genealogical index publicly available from an authoritative source. The Joshua descendants have done a remarkable job of

Claiborne-Clyborn DNA & Genealogy Project Report
Jun 2023

this at www.claybourn.org. I think this type of approach should be scaled up and replicated across all of the Claiborne-Clyburn families.

Additionally, volunteers should be conscripted to help track down some of the known gaps in the tree and work the tree from both ends. Most researchers work the tree from present-day to the past. But we also should be picking the Earliest known ancestor and tracking down all of their descendants completely. This will help to plug some gaps and rule out certain hypothetical ancestral connections while we are waiting for SNP testing.

CONTACT

If you have questions about the DNA project, this report, or the genealogical research, or if you would like to volunteer to help in some capacity, please send me an email at: Johnathan.clayborn@gmail.com

-Johnathan J. Clayborn, MS
15th Jun, 2023