

DNA News

Given Name Ancestry Search.1	
NC Research.....2	
St. Mary's Howards2	
New Members 3	
More Research.....4	



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Given Name Ancestry Search

In some cases when faced with a lack of knowledge about where our ancestors come from, it is interesting to look at the first names of individuals that have run in the family for several generations. Knowing this may give a clue about the locations where one's ancestors came from.

With this in mind, I did a short study of my Howard surname, where I knew that they came from Charles Co. Maryland. Several questions have come to mind, such as: Did the ancestors tend to stay in the same place or move from one county to another? Where did the Howards cluster in Maryland? What names were repeated through the generations? Some religions tend to use some first names and not others, and that might be a clue.

My motivation for doing the study was to try to resolve my line of Howards. I know where the beginning point was (Edmund Howard who married Margaret Dent, who went from Somerset Co. to Charles Co.). And I knew where the end point was (Thomas Howard who married Ann Bean and lived in Washington DC).

I went to Annapolis with a friend and looked at their land records, and I found a summary of wills on the Ancestry.com site of the Maryland Calendar of Wills. While that particular question has not been answered, I stumbled on an interesting approach that involved the presence or absence of given names, by county.

I extracted all the Howards from those records and compiled a list of every mention of Howards, or land records that mentioned Howard from every county in Maryland during colonial times. I already knew that there were at least three Howard lines in colonial Maryland - one that starts with Matthew Howard, who probably traces to English royalty, one that includes Cornelius and John Eager Howard (of Revolutionary War fame, and who is referenced in Maryland's state song), and one that starts with Edmund (my line). DNA evidence is hinting at a fourth line, centered in

St. Mary's County, and their DNA is close to my Edmund's line. Charles Co. and St. Mary's Co. are located very close to each other.

I wound up with a compilation of Will signer, county, date, action (who received something in the will, and test/witnesses) and land that either had the Howard name in it or was owned by a Howard.

From that I extracted a list of first names that appeared in each Maryland county, and I found the result to be most interesting. The results show that certain first names occur only in a single county and popular first names tend to group. Examples include Cornelius, Ephraim, Gideon, Philip and Ruth only in Anne Arundel Co., Joshua only in Baltimore Co., Charles only in Cecil Co., Adam, David, and Daniel only in Talbot Co., Bernard and Peter only in St. Mary's Co., Nehemiah only in Somerset Co..

This approach to the data is quite similar to the type of analysis that was done on intercepted signals from enemies in World War II when the content of the signal was unknown but the identity of the sender and the receiver were known. Here the analogy is that the County and first name of a surname group are known but the genealogical relationships are fuzzy. It is presented in an Excel file, but attachments cannot be sent to the Charles Co. and St. Mary's Co. Rootsweb list.

However, if anyone wants to have a copy, I will be most willing to send it as an attachment if you will send me your email address. Let me know if you would like the Excel file. It might be interesting to do a similar study on first names in other counties or regions in the country.

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RESEARCH

NC Craven/Onslow Co's Howards

Recent research on Cherry/Dew families show connections to Edward, John or Joseph, and possibly Seth Howard families.

Members of the Cherry family of Virginia married into the Kennedy family: James Howard m. Edna Banner, their d Edna Banner Howard m. Alfred Kennedy whose parents were Isaac Kennedy & Mary Cherry of NC.

Another member of the Cherry family's descendent was Cherry Dew (whose father, Joseph Dew, sold land to William Orme on the Trent River 10 Mar 1775) m. John Howard s/o either John Howard and Frances Denson or Joseph Howard of Williamsburg, Onslow Co. NC (this information says the latter).

Sorry, I forgot to source this material

Robert Orme, associated with Seth Howard, descended from William Orme of Hanse Hall, by Longdon Green, in the co. Of Stafford. He settled in Jones Co., America and became a member of Congress. "*A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry of Ireland*" by Sir Bernard Burke, C.B., L.L.D.

Josiah Howard m. Matilda Henderson 18 Dec 1839, Jacksonville, Onslow Co., NC; he died before 1847, **LDS site**

Possible connection to William Buckhannan Howard Mary Ann Howard, d/o James Howard and Edna Banner, married Andrew Jackson Edmondson whose parents were Robert Edmonson and Isabelle Buchanan who died in Shelbyville, TN. Andrew is the only child shown for this couple. <http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=waslugs&id=I504>

A Benjamin Howard and his family are shown to have been in Shelbyville, TN c1840, **WorldConnect Project**

Email: My husband is a direct descendant of Hiram Howard and Sarah Boswell. Hiram is supposedly a brother of John Wesley Howard. He was married to Katheryn ?, to Elizabeth Rudd, a sister of Nancy Rudd wife of John Wesley, and to Sarah Boswell. I thought Hiram's father was also named Hiram from SC and his mother from Ireland. Guess I have been looking for the wrong name. How did you find out about William Buckhannan Howard and Jane Carter? And do you know anything else? Thanks, Rebecca

It is beginning to look like William Buckhannon may be a descendent of Seth Howard, could it be through his son Hiram?



ST. MARY'S CO., MD

While gathering ancestry info to update our website, I came across some really interesting information.

I couldn't remember when Thomas Howard of "Howard's Mount" St. Mary's MD arrived in Maryland so I checked the Harmon Howard Library book by Gust Skordas "*The Early Settlers of Maryland.*" Skordas lists names in alphabetical order with Liber & Folio numbers, and lists whether they were transported or immigrated. I found a Thomas Howard, liber#1, Folio#24 (also ABH, fol 59 & 356), transported in 1641.

What I have discovered through previous research is that I can find who transported them by locating the same liber & folio #'s saying immigrated. I found a John Howard with the same liber & folio #'s but he was also transported. I remembered that a John Howard, along with a Sanders/Saunders had left St. Mary's with the Brent's (Margaret, Mary, Giles & Fulke, who were associated with the Calverts) when they moved across the

River to Virginia. I checked and sure enough, the Brents (all of them) had all the same folio & liber #'s.

Out of curiosity I took it one step further. Edmund Howard was somehow related to John White of Pocomoke, Somerset Co., MD...their children were cousins. So I checked the Whites and found that the Brents had imported or at least come with Thomas White when they originally arrived in MD in 1633/7/8 (he was a court witness in 1638, listed as "aged 60 years & upwards"). But when the Howards came over in 1641 they had the same liber/folio #'s as a Frances White, who immigrated. What was their connection to her and to the Brents.

Could this somehow be connected to John White of Pocomoke whose children were cousins of Edmund Howard and Margaret Dent?

NEW MEMBERS

October:

103853 Isaac Howard matches

34045 Isaac Howard b 1701 England

104032 Michael Howard b. 1793 Edgefield Co., SC

84172 James Toone (TN?)

November: Results not back yet

10569 37 Marker no Ancestor listed

106840 No ancestor name, lived in Pike Co., OH 1796

As promised during our 4th Annual Conference for Group Administrators, Family Tree DNA is bringing back our traditional Holiday Gift Certificates.

Note that we posted 6 credits to each Project's General Fund for the following:

two \$30 Y-DNA37 2007 Gift Certificate

two \$15 Y-DNA25 2007 Gift Certificate

two \$15 mtDNA 2007 Gift Certificate

When these credits are used, the kit number toward which they are being applied will be entered next to each.

Once again, we thank you for making Family Tree DNA the leading and most trusted genetic genealogy testing service.

Max Blankfeld

Vice-President, Operations and Marketing

What this means for us is that the first person to let me know they are ready to buy a kit gets one of the gift certificates; until they are all gone or the date expires. Karen

DEEP DNA NEWS

A group, perhaps numbering only a thousand people, left Africa between 50,000 and 0,000 years ago and landed on the western shores of Asia. All non-Africans share markers carried by these first immigrants.

Two routes were open to Asia, one led up the Nile Valley, across the Sinai Peninsula and north into the Lavant. The other was caused by water being bound up in the ice packs, receding from oceans and leaving a stretch of land only a few miles wide at the mouth of the Red Sea between the Horn of Africa and Arabia.

These immigrants split into two groups, one staying in the Middle East, the other pushed up and around the Arabian Peninsula. It is thought that they traveled a little each year until 40,000 years ago they reached as far as Australia.

Eventually some from the Middle East settlements, which were possibly blocked by ice, traveled into Europe.

These two groups of ancient people have differences in DNA, which identify not only which group they descend from, but also identify them as early splits from their African ancestry.

Eventually the European group spread into Neanderthal territory about 40,000 years ago, the same amount of time it took the other group to spread to Australia.

Even though they may have shared the same territory for years, there is no indication that they interacted with each other, and research seems to indicate there was no interbreeding between the two species or, at least, not enough to leave a genetic trace in modern man.

Source: "*The Greatest Journey*" by James Shreeve
National Geographic Magazine
Online site

RESEARCH

The following are sites which might prove good contacts for researchers:

1. Kit #16058 William Howard bc1760's and Kit #32804 Albert Howard b. 1813 Rhea Co., TN

Both sites are at WorldConnect Project:

#1 Patti Vance Hays

Abraham Howard bc 1780 VA

m. Elizabeth Bean

d. 1826 Roane Co., TN

1. Albert N. Howard

b. 18 Sept 1813 Rhea Co., TN

m1. Elizabeth Lavina Boland

11 Feb 1833 Rhea or Roane Co

1. Sarah

2. Nancy Jane

3. Amanda

4. Mary A. Henrietta

5. James Polk

6. Abraham

7. Oregon

m2. Mary Ann Brooks

7 Dec 1854 Saline Co., Ark

8. William Franklin

9. Albert Jessie

10. Martha

11. Orpha

2. Thomas Jefferson Howard

m1. Martha A. Goodwin

1. William Alvin

b. 10 Aug 1847

m2. Mary L ?

2. Sarah E bc 1866 Ark

3. Mary S bc 1868 Ark

4. Samuel W bc 1871 Ark

5. Amanda M bc 1875 Ark

Site #2 Val Schleicher

Last updated 1/2006, this site has a lot of valuable information

John Howard bc 1730 in Rowan Co.

NC by 1759 m. Hannah ?

1. William

2. Joanna

3. Patty

4. Elizabeth m. ? Day

5. John b 1760 TN

6. Hannah b 17 Oct1761

m. ? Day

7. John bc 1760 TN

m1. Elizabeth Brittain

1. Elizabeth

b 1794 Jefferson TN

m2. Sarah Todd or Roberts

2. John c 1778

3. Abraham 1780 (see #1)

4. Mary bc 1782

5. Nancy bc 1784

m. Howard Bean

6. Sarah bc 1786

m. Edward Templeton

7. Hannah bc 1790

8. William bc1792

m. Fanny Moore

d. 11 Jun 1836

9. Samuel bc 1796 TN

m. Margaret P. Moore

10 Aug 1814

d. July 1864

Kit #31511 John Howard Bc 1840

Hardin Co., IL

Other Howard's of Hardin Co., IL

1. Researcher Norvan

John Howard bc 1771 MD

m. Mary Robinett

dc 1841 Hardin Co., IL

1. Joshua bc 1799 Bourbon Ky

2. James

3. William

4. Joseph Robinett

5. Sydney

6. Phillip

2. Researcher Julia Adler

William Harry Howard

bc 1872 Hardin Co., IL

m. Hannah L. Miles

9 Dec 1895, Hardin Co., IL

d. 1953

1. Percy Eugene

b. 9 Dec 1895 Hardin Co

2. Wesley R. Howard

3. Researcher Julia Adler

John Howard bc 1811 KY

m. Susan Ledbetter

18 Mar 1835 Gallatin Co., IL (part became Pope, then Hardin Co., IL)

1. Allen F bc 1840 IL

2. James Goulding bc 1842 IL

3. John Charles bc 1845 IL

m. Drucilla Spencer

1. Viola

2. Ethel Mae bc 1872

3. Clarence Leroy

4. Christina Pearl

5. Willis Silvester

6. Arther

7. Agnes

4. Sarah E. Bc 1848 IL

5. Mary J. Bc 1851 IL

6. Gilla Elizabeth bc 1853 IL

7. Julia bc 1857 CA

8. Willis F bc 1859 CA

Kit #32863

William Howard

b. 1784 Anson Co., NC

m. Ursula Hinson 1792 Anson Co., NC

!. Researcher Tina Beller

lists daughter Agnes. This is mostly a history of the Hinson family. Ursula was the daughter of Charles Hinson and Agnes Clark of Marlborough Dist., SC. His parents, Benjamin and Mourning Hinson, moved from SC to NC when their son was a small child and Benjamin served in the Revolutionary war in Anson Co., NC. Part of that time was on the Pee Dee River. I don't know if this means anything, but that name is familiar and there are possibly Howards in that area, though I have not been able to trace any.

2. Researcher Jerry McDaniel

William Howard b. 12 Apr 1784 NC

m. Ursula Hinson

d. 28 Feb 1858 Henderson Co., TN

bur: Howard Cemetery "

1. Francis b. 15 Mar 1818 Anderson Co

2. James b. 10 Jul 1820

3. Samuel b. 27 Nov 1823 Anson Co

4. Benjamin F 5 Feb 1826 Henderson

5. Hiram 1830 TN

6. John H 4 July 1831 Henderson

7. Melvina M 1835 TN +3 more Child.

If you have any ancestral photos, short research articles, or anything else that could be of use in the newsletter please contact me.

Howard DNA Project

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