

Chapter 8B

Amy (White) Griffey – Revisited

2 August 2019

Introduction

Amy Griffey was one of my father's eight great-grandparents:



I previously wrote about Amy (White) Griffey and the entire Griffey line in my early research about Quincy Oakley genealogy – see Chapter 8A at:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/8A-GriffeyGenealogy.pdf>

Amy Griffey married a Mr. White (first name unknown) and had several sons with him. He died and left her a widow. She then remarried Levi Burks, who himself was a widower (he had ten children with his first wife, Sarah “Sally” Pigg). Amy and Levi had four children; only James Alfred Burks, who was my great-grandfather, lived to have children of his own.

Here is my entry for Amy's family on the Ancestry.com website:

Amy (White) Griffey

BIRTH ABT 1800 • Orange Co., Virginia, United States

DEATH 1854 • Harrodsburg, Mercer, Kentucky, United States

Parents	Siblings	Spouse & Children	Spouse & Children
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Joseph William Griffey 1765-1842 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> Francis Wisdom (Fanny) Burris 1773-1835 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> David D. Griffey 1791-1848 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> James Griffey 1794- </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Nancy Griffey 1799-1863 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Frances W. Griffey 1803-1876 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Joseph William Griffey Jr. 1808-1892 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> William Burrus Griffey 1812-1897 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Undiscovered White </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Joel J. White -1865 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> Edwin G. White -1840 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Levi Burks 1781-1854 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> James Alfred Burks 1831-1900 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> John Allen Burks 1833-1862 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Lucy Burks 1835-1849 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"> Baby Burks </div>

Here is Amy's pedigree:

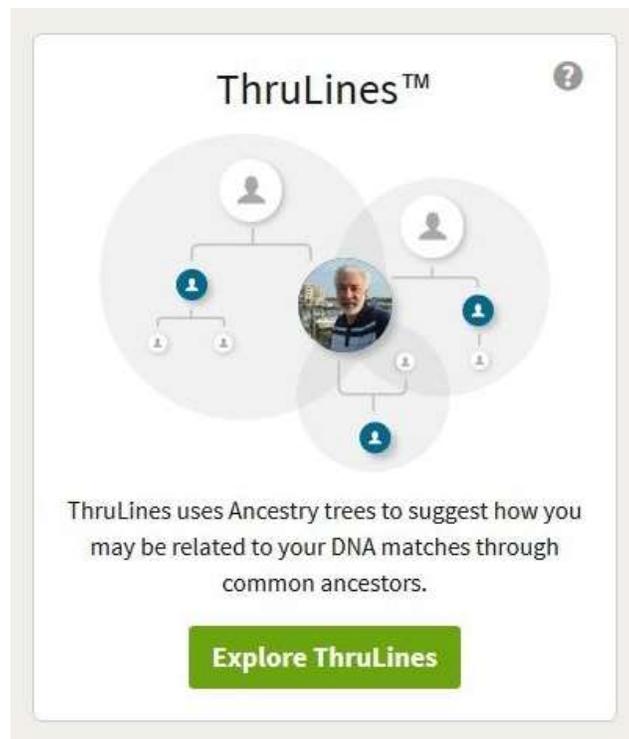


In early 2019, Ancestry.com released a new software tool called ThruLines™. This software first identifies my DNA matches and then searches their family trees (and mine) to determine how we are related. It also searches through all family trees on the Ancestry.com website in an attempt to extend minimal family trees and find possible genealogical connections. It can even scan family trees that are marked "Private", as long as they are searchable. The ThruLines™ software came out of beta testing on 1 July 2019, and I decided that would be a good time to look at the ThruLines™ associated with my father's eight great-grandparents. This chapter deals with the ThruLines™ for Amy (White) Griffey and her ancestors.

The ThruLines™ software calculates relationship charts through a user's 5th-great grandparents – and that means that I have ThruLines™ for all the people in the pedigree for Amy White Griffey on the previous page.

ThruLines™ Associated with Amy (White) Griffey and her Ancestors

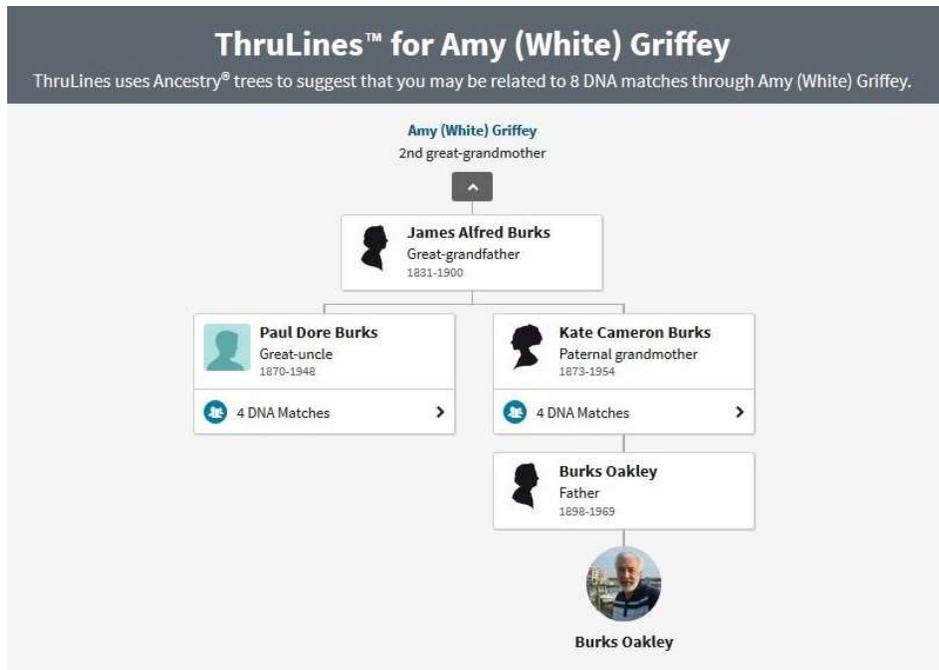
My main DNA page on the Ancestry.com website has a link to all of my ThruLines™:



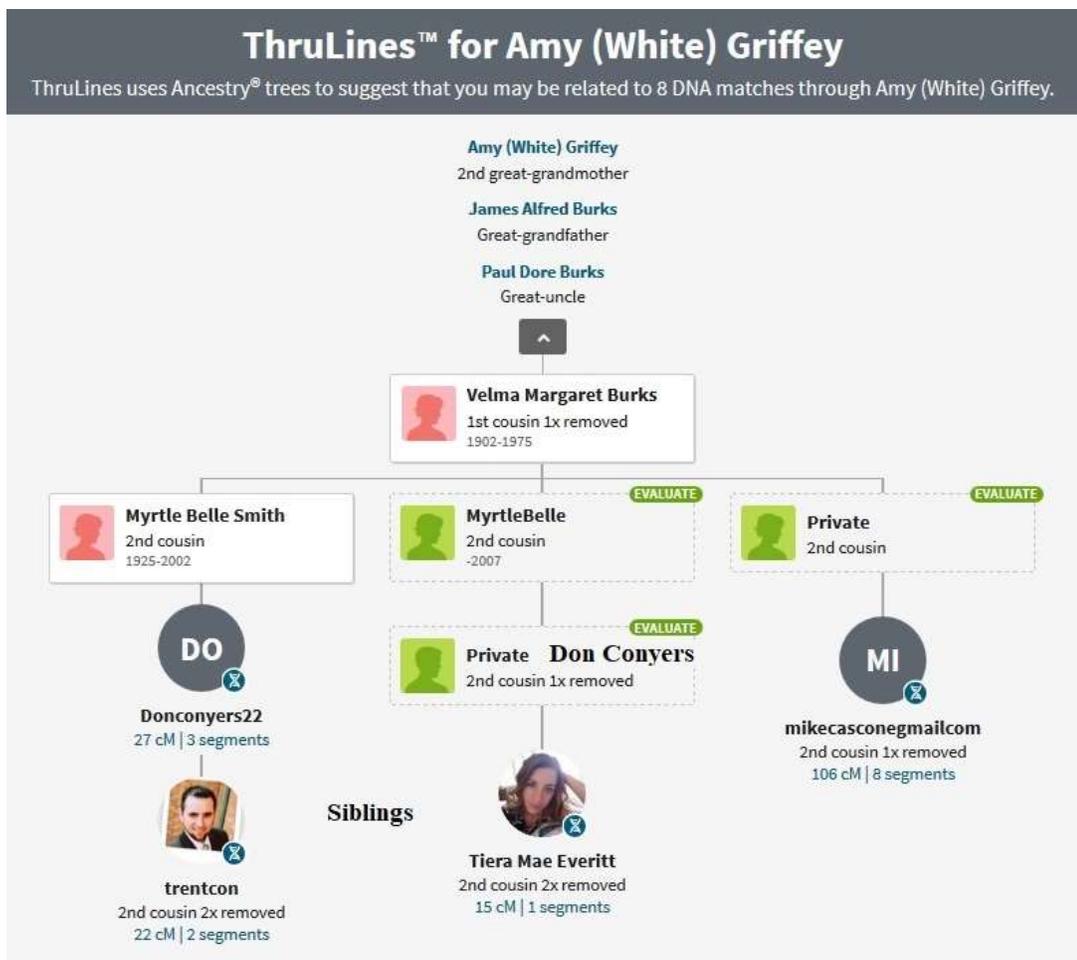
The ThruLines™ are organized in a hierarchical manner, starting with a user's two parents and going all the way back to the user's 128 fifth-great grandparents. In this narrative, I will start with my ThruLines™ for Amy (White) Griffey herself.



The ThruLines™ for Amy's husband Levi Burks is very different, since he was married previously and had ten children with his first wife; this means that I have a very large number of DNA matches with his descendants. By comparison, Amy only had one child who went on to have children of his own. Here is my ThruLines™ for Amy (White) Griffey:



This chart shows my line back through Kate Cameron Burks, as well as a second line back through her brother Paul Dore Burks. I have DNA matches with four individuals that connect back through Paul Dore Burks. Note that James Alfred Burks had other adult children who had families – but so far, I only have DNA matches with descendants of Paul Dore Burks. Here is the Paul Dore Burks line:



This line accounts for my DNA matches with **Donconyers22** (Don Conyers), his son **trentcon** (Trent Conyers) and his daughter **Tiera Mae Everitt** (nee Conyers), as well as **mikecasconemailcom**. I wrote about three of these matches in my narrative at:

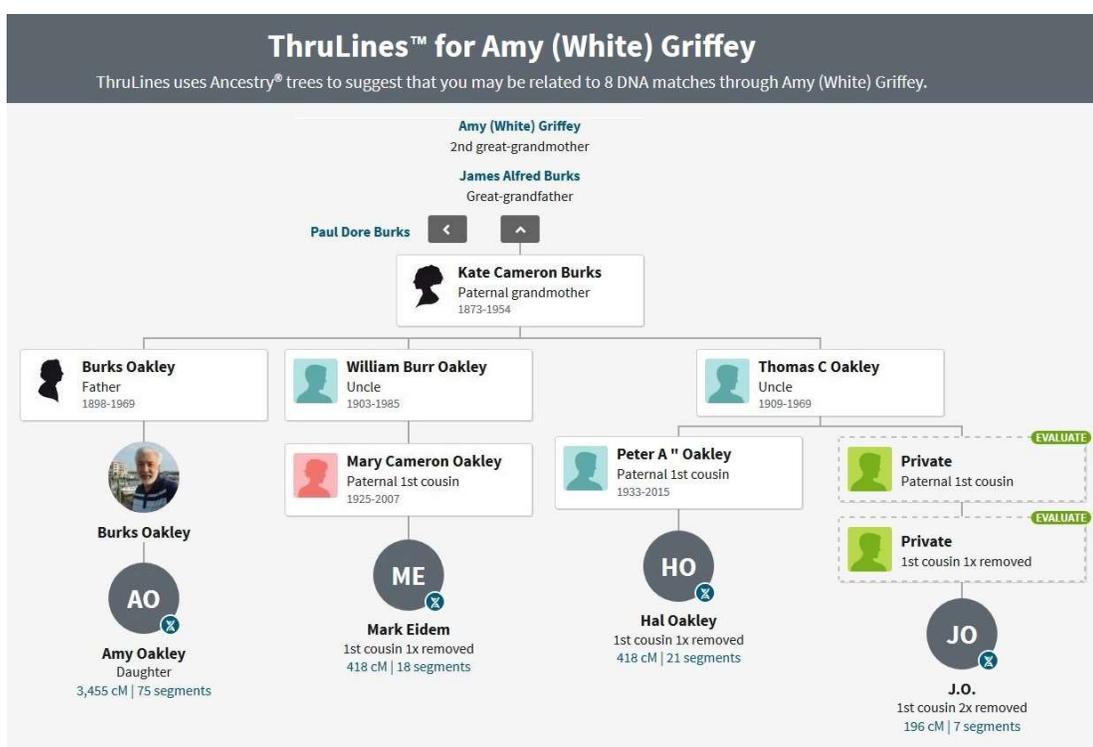
<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/38-Descendants-of-JamesABurks.pdf>

Note that since Tiera Mae’s family tree lists her paternal grandmother as “MyrtleBelle”, the ThruLines™ software doesn’t figure out that this person is

Myrtle Belle Smith, so it erroneously shows two separate lines to Trent and his sister Tiera Mae.

DISCLAIMER – The ThruLines™ show **suggested** relationships that could account for DNA matches between two people. The ThruLines™ are based on family trees on the Ancestry.com website, and these trees might contain errors. The reader should keep in mind that the ThruLines™ are only suggestions and should not be taken as proof of a relationship. So while I will use the terminology that a certain ThruLines™ accounts for my DNA match with someone, it really isn't proof. I should also add that since family trees on Ancestry.com are being edited every day, the ThruLines™ often change from one viewing to the next.

I now will look at the line connecting back through Kate Cameron Burks:



Not surprisingly, this line shows my DNA matches with my Oakley cousins who have tested on Ancestry.com: my first-cousins once-removed Mark Eidem and Hal Oakley, and my first-cousin twice-removed John Oakley (**J.O.**).

All of the eight DNA matches were grouped into the “James Alfred Burks Family Line”:

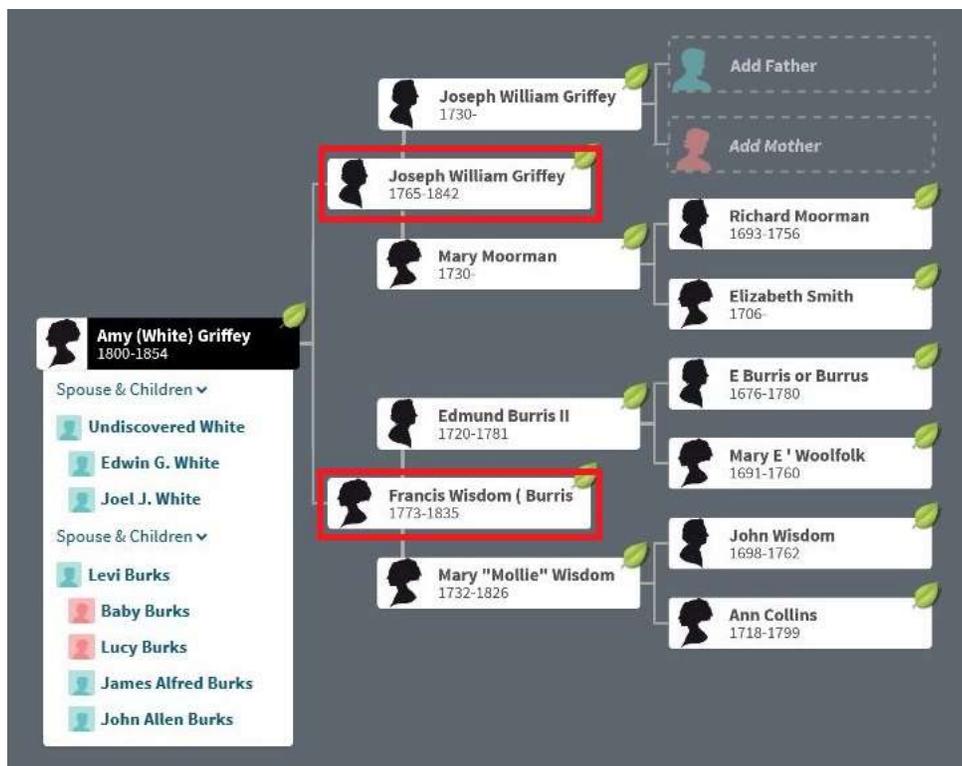
James Alfred Burks Family Line		8 matches
	You Amy (White) Griffey is your 2nd great-grandmother.	
	Amy Oakley Parent/child-immediate family 3,455 cM across 75 segments	Daughter 1,990
	Hal Oakley 1st-2nd cousin 418 cM across 21 segments	1st cousin 1x removed 3
	Mark Eidem 1st-2nd cousin 418 cM across 18 segments	1st cousin 1x removed 146
	J.O. 3rd-4th cousin 196 cM across 7 segments	1st cousin 2x removed 70
	mikecasonegmailcom 3rd-4th cousin 106 cM across 8 segments	2nd cousin 1x removed 10
	Donconyers22 4th-6th cousin 27 cM across 3 segments	2nd cousin 1x removed 243
	trentcon 4th-6th cousin 22 cM across 2 segments	2nd cousin 2x removed 7,566
	Tiera Mae Everitt 5th-8th cousin 15 cM across 1 segments	2nd cousin 2x removed 98

Joseph William Griffey and Francis Wisdom Burris

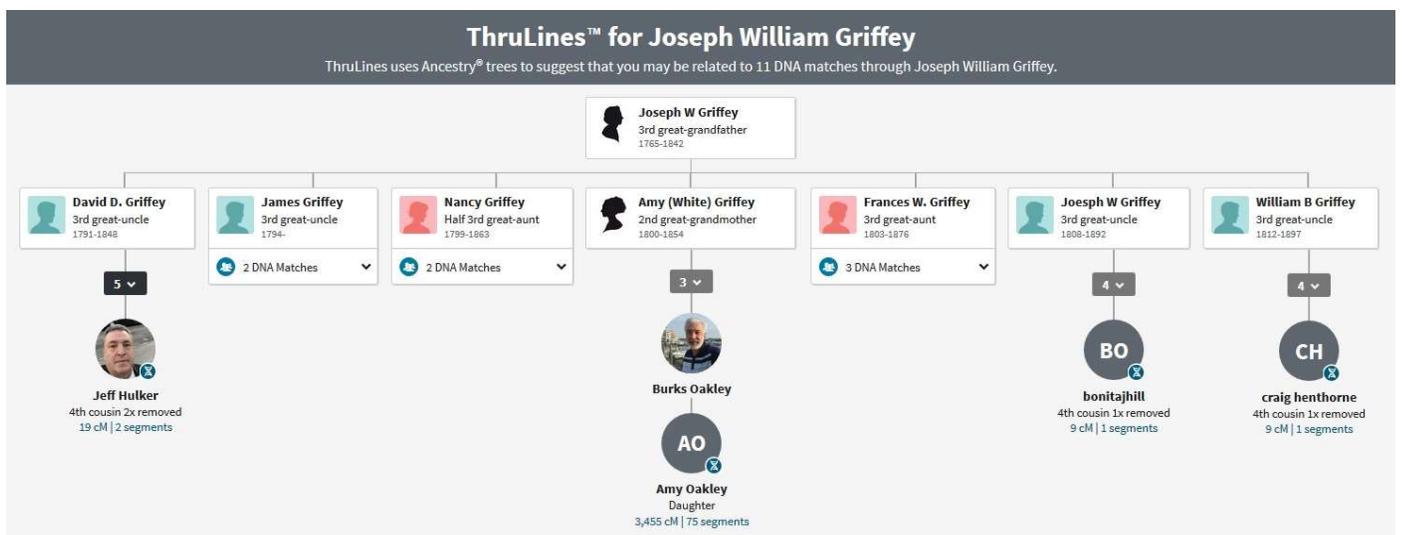
I now will go back another generation, to the parents of Amy (White) Griffey – they were Joseph William Griffey and Francis Wisdom “Fanny” Burris:



This couple is highlighted in the red boxes in Amy’s pedigree chart shown below:



The ThruLines™ for both of Amy’s parents are the same. Here is the one for Joseph William Griffey:



Wow! This is pretty cool! I have DNA matches with the descendants of six children of Joseph William Griffey. As shown in this ThruLines™, these children are: David Griffey, James Griffey, Nancy Griffey, Frances W. Griffey, Joseph W. Griffey, and William Burrus Griffey. I now will expand various lines to show more details about these DNA matches.

At the left, we have the lines back to Joseph William Griffey through David Griffey, James Griffey, and Nancy Griffey:



This accounts for DNA matches with **Jeff Hulker**, **C.P.**, **M.P.**, **M.W.** and **Vicki Holt**.

At the right of the overall ThruLines™ for Joseph William Griffey are lines connecting through Amy (White) Griffey, Frances W. Griffey, Joseph W. Griffey Jr., and William Burrus Griffey:

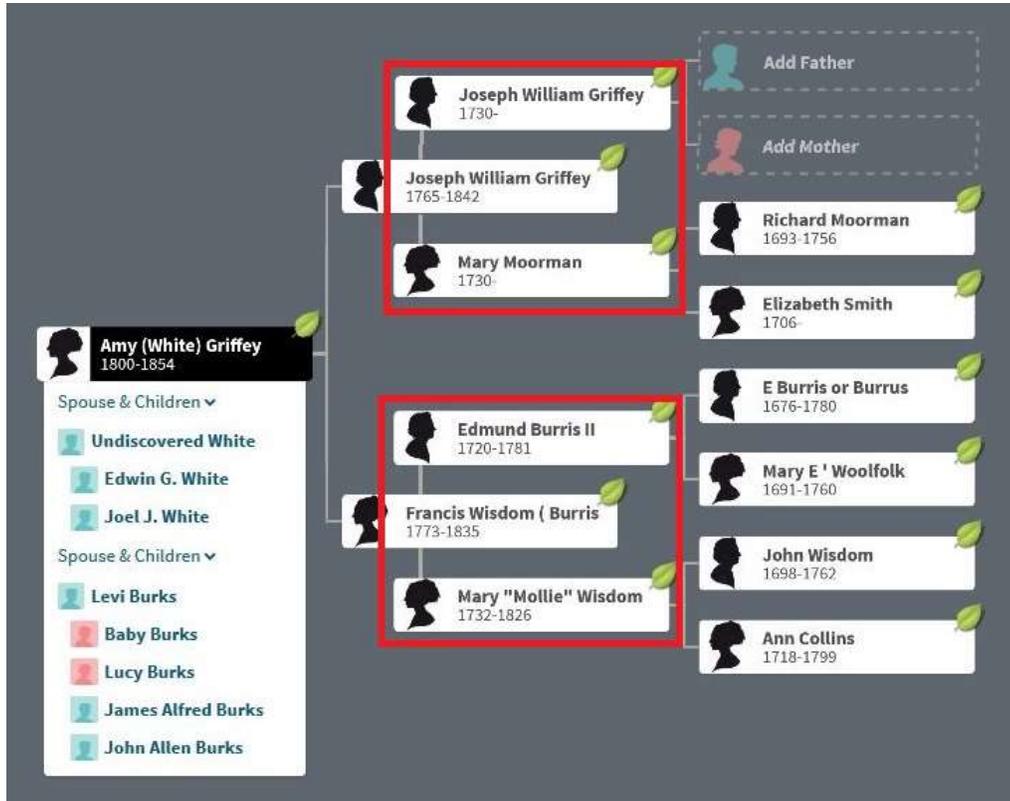


These lines account for my DNA matches with **Amy Oakley**, **thoss20**, **C.C.**, **S.L.**, **bonitajhill**, and **craig henthorne**.

Overall, the ThruLines™ suggests that connections through Joseph William Griffey and his wife Francis Wisdom “Fanny” Burris account for eleven of my DNA matches. They were grouped into a number of family lines:

David D. Griffey Family Line 1 match ^		
 Jeff Hulker	5th-8th cousin 19 cM across 2 segments	4th cousin 2x removed 7
James Griffey Family Line 2 matches ^		
 C.P.	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 2x removed 66,690
 M.P.	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 2x removed 66,690
Nancy Griffey Family Line 2 matches ^		
 M.W.	5th-8th cousin 17 cM across 1 segments	Half 4th cousin 2x removed 5,408
 Vicki Holt	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	Half 4th cousin 1x removed 4
Amy (White) Griffey Family Line 1 match ^		
 You Joseph William Griffey is your 3rd great-grandfather.		
 Amy Oakley	Parent/child-immediate family 3,455 cM across 75 segments	Daughter 1,990
Frances W. Griffey Family Line 3 matches ^		
 thoss20	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 1x removed 9
 C.C.	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 45,358
 S.L.	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 1x removed 45,358
Joesph William Griffey Family Line 1 match ^		
 bonitajhill	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 1x removed 2,145
William Burrus Griffey Family Line 1 match ^		
 craig henthorne	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	4th cousin 1x removed 10

Let me now go back to the grandparents of Amy (White) Griffey. These two sets of grandparents are highlighted in the red boxes in the pedigree shown below:



Joseph William Griffey and Mary Moorman

Amy White Griffey's paternal grandparents were Joseph William Griffey and Mary Moorman:



Here is my ThruLines™ for Joseph William Griffey (the senior one):

ThruLines™ for Joseph William Griffey

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 5 DNA matches through Joseph William Griffey.

Relationships List



Joseph W Griffey
4th great-grandfather
1730-



Joseph W Griffey
3rd great-grandfather
1765-1842

5 DNA Matches >

4 v



Burks Oakley

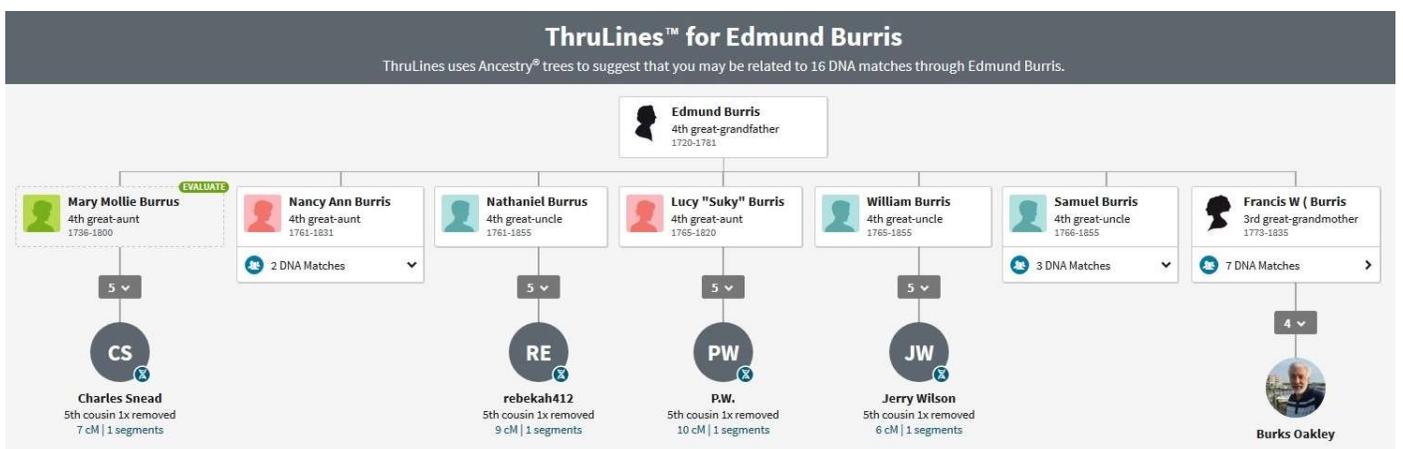
Nothing at all new in the ThruLines™ for Joseph William Griffey (senior) – no new DNA matches with his descendants. Maybe he didn't have many children. Unfortunately, little is known about this man.

Edmund Burris II and Mary “Mollie” Wisdom

The maternal grandparents of Amy (White) Griffey were Edmund Burris and Mary “Mollie” Wisdom:

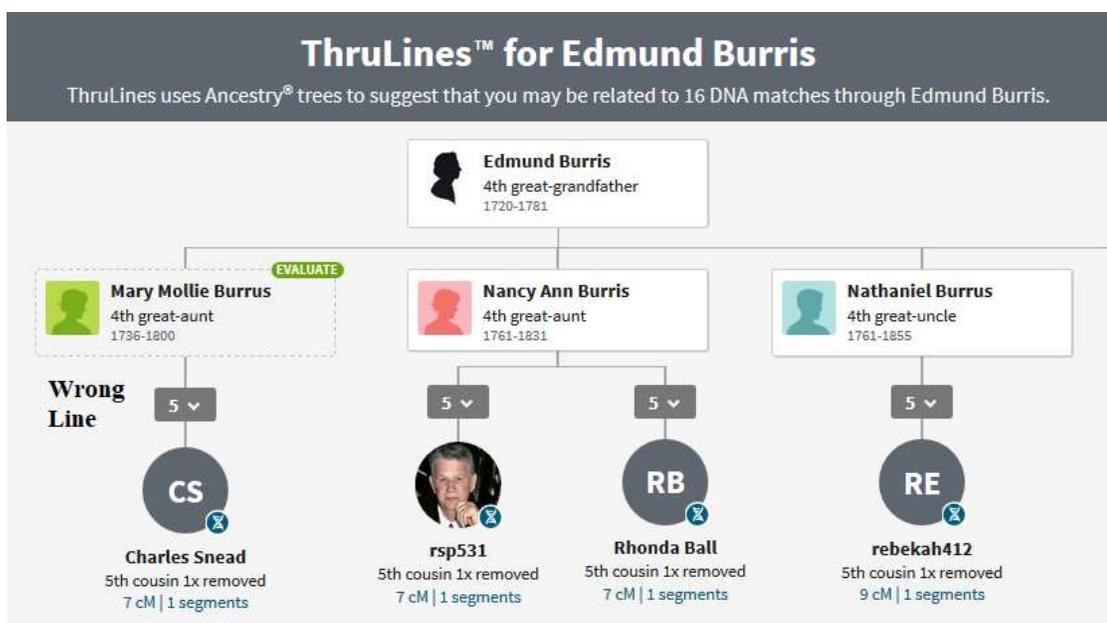


Here is my ThruLines™ for Edmund Burris:



Wow! Again a ThruLines™ with many different lines – connections through six other children (besides Francis Wisdom “Fanny” Burris).

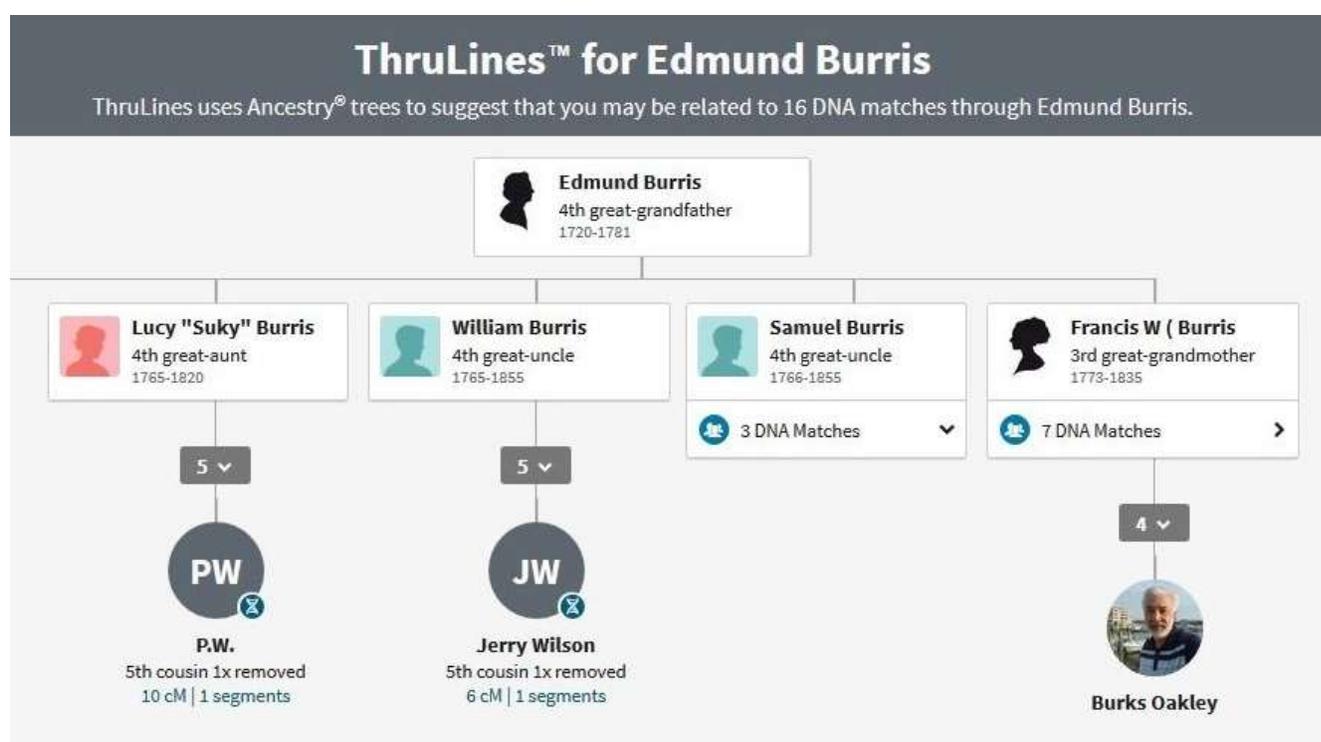
The three lines at the left of this ThruLines™ are shown below:



In looking at these lines, I believe that the line at the far left, connecting through Mary Mollie Burrus is just plain wrong. She was not a daughter of Edmund Burris and Mary “Mollie” Wisdom – in fact, it appears that this is the married name for Mary “Mollie” Wisdom. The two women have the same birth dates. I have no idea how the ThruLines™ software added her to this family.

The line through Nancy Ann Burris goes to *rsp531* and *Rhonda Ball*, while the line through Nathaniel Burrus goes to *rebekah412*.

The four lines at the right of this ThruLines™ are shown below:



This part of the ThruLines™ accounts for my DNA matches with *P.W.*, *Jerry Wilson*, the Samuel Burris line, and the Francis Wisdom Burris line (my line).

Opening the Samuel Burris line gives:



Mariah Spradling (red arrow) is not a daughter of Samuel Burris¹; again, I have no idea how the ThruLines™ software added her to this family. This part of the ThruLines™ adds DNA matches with *hensleyrd* and *DelorisMSweazy*.

¹ <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/101826332/person/140015295822/facts?ssrc=>

All of these DNA matches were grouped into various family lines:

Mary Mollie Burrus Family Line		1 match
Charles Snead	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 10

Nathaniel Burrus Family Line		1 match
rebekah412	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 4

Samuel Burris Family Line		3 matches
E.H.	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 8,215
hensleyrd	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 10,404
DelorisMSweazy	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 281

Private Family Line		1 match
Jerry Wilson	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 7

Private Family Line		1 match
Rhonda Ball	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 33

Private Family Line		1 match
P.W.	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 1,328

That completes the ThruLines™ that I have for the grandparents of Amy White Griffey. Now I will move on to the three set of great-grandparents, which are outlined in the red boxes in the pedigree chart below.



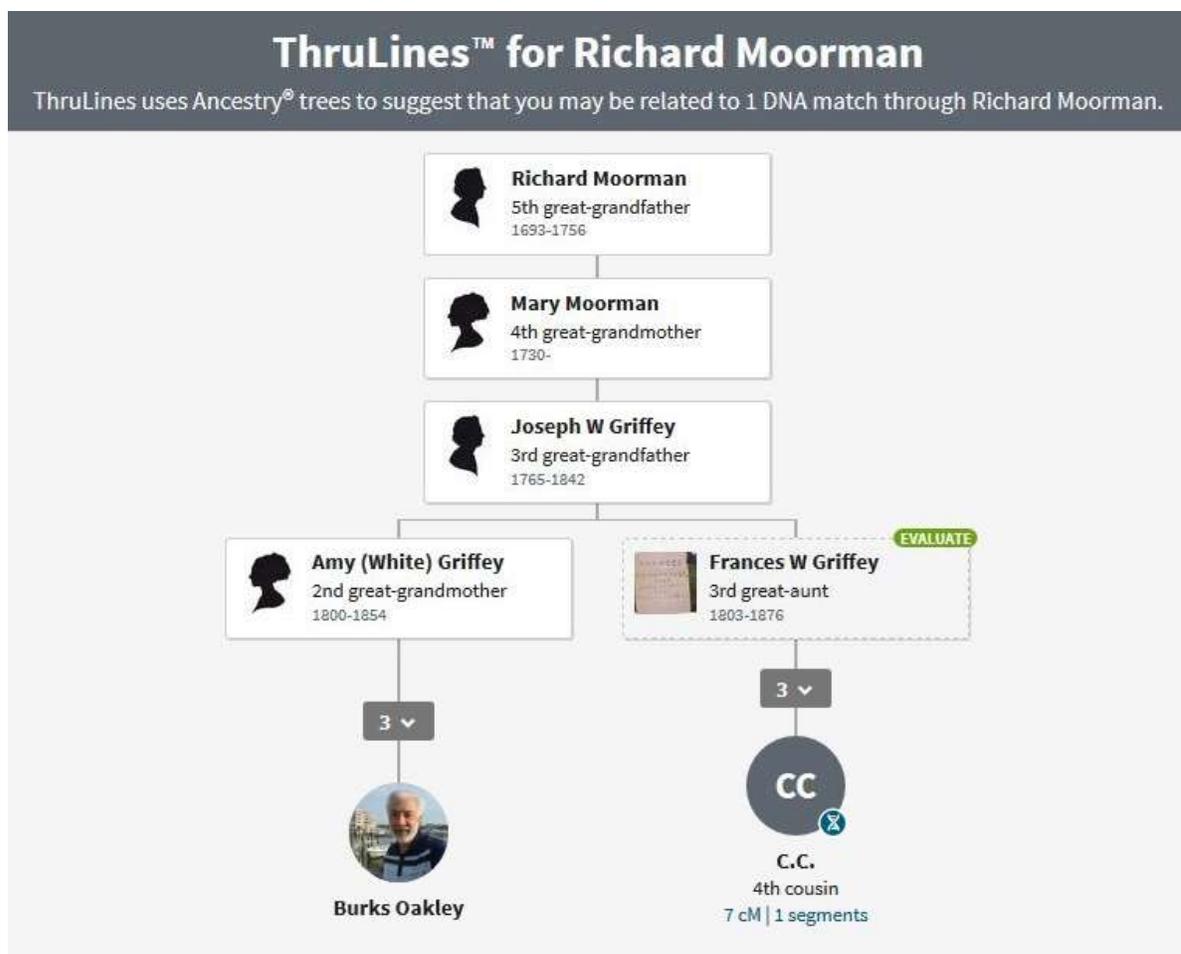
Note that Amy White Griffey's great-grandparents are my 5th-great grandparents.

Richard Moorman and Elizabeth Smith

Mary Moorman's parents were Richard Moorman and Elizabeth Smith:



Here is my ThruLines™ for Richard Moorman:



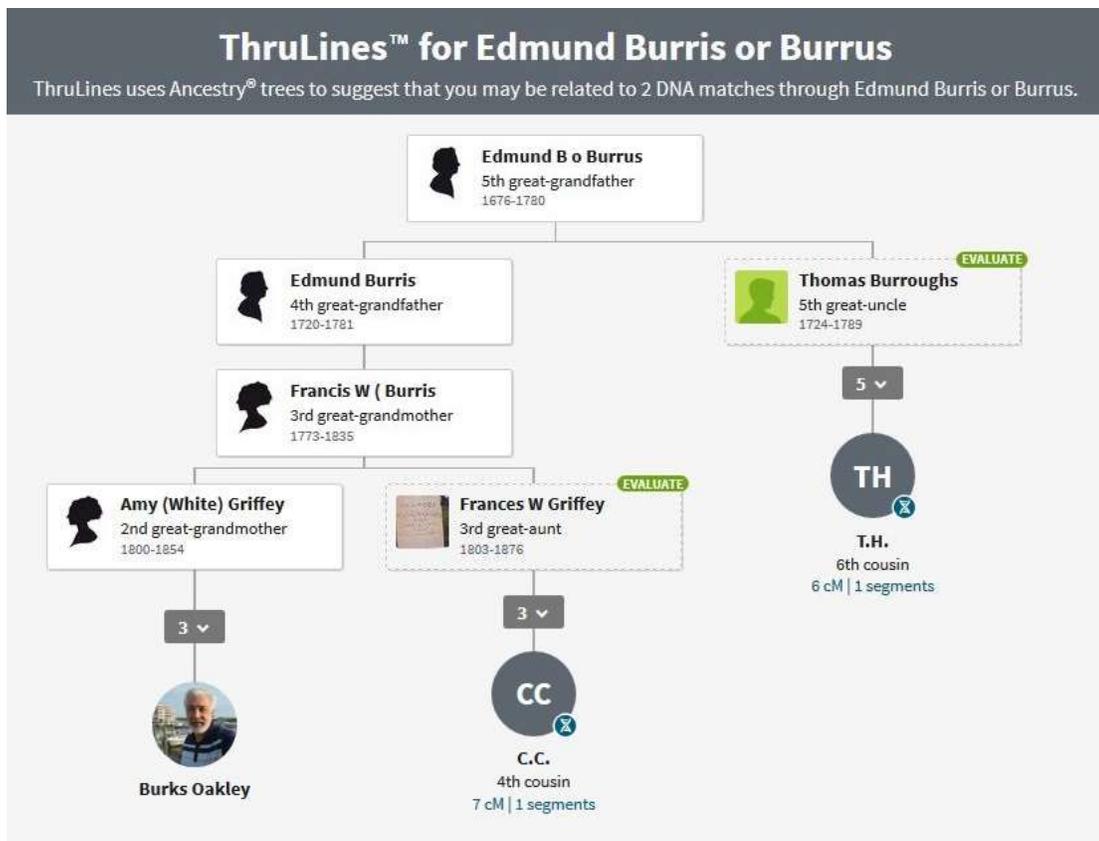
It is strange to see *C.C.*, since she appeared earlier. At any rate, this ThruLines™ doesn't have any new DNA matches. Again, maybe Richard Moorman didn't have other children. Also, this line goes all the way back to my 5th-great grandfather, who was born in the late 1600's, so any DNA matches would be very small.

Edmund Burris Sr. and Mary Woolfolk

Edmund Burris II's parents were Edmund Burris Sr. and Mary Woolfolk:



Here is my ThruLines™ for Edmund Burris Sr.:



This ThruLines™ just adds one new match, with someone having the username **T.H.** This person is descended from Thomas Burroughs. I have no idea why the software keeps adding **C.C.** Again, this ThruLines™ involves my 5th-great grandfather, who was born in 1676, so it is not surprising that I don't have many DNA matches going back this far.

Note that the son appears as Thomas Burroughs in the ThruLines™ – not Burrus or Burris. But a listing for this man has his name written various ways:

Thomas Rev. Burris, Burrus, Burroughs

Thomas Rev. Burris, Burrus, Burroughs may be the son of Edmund Burris or Burrus. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

- Ancestry Member Trees**
1 other member tree identifies Thomas Rev. Burris, Burrus, Burroughs as the son of Edmund Burris or Burrus.
- Starling-Walters-Johnson-Marrs 2014**
by wmarrs41
8 Records

My DNA match with **T.H.** was put in its own family line:

Thomas Rev. Burris, Burrus, Burroughs Family Line 1 match

T.H.	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 306
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The first two ThruLines™ involving my 5th-great grandparents only added two new DNA matches. So I wasn't expecting much when I got to the last set of great-grandparents for Amy (White) Griffey. Boy, was I wrong....

John Wisdom and Anne Collins

Mary "Mollie" Wisdom's parents were John Wisdom and Ann Collins:



Here is my ThruLines™ for John Wisdom:

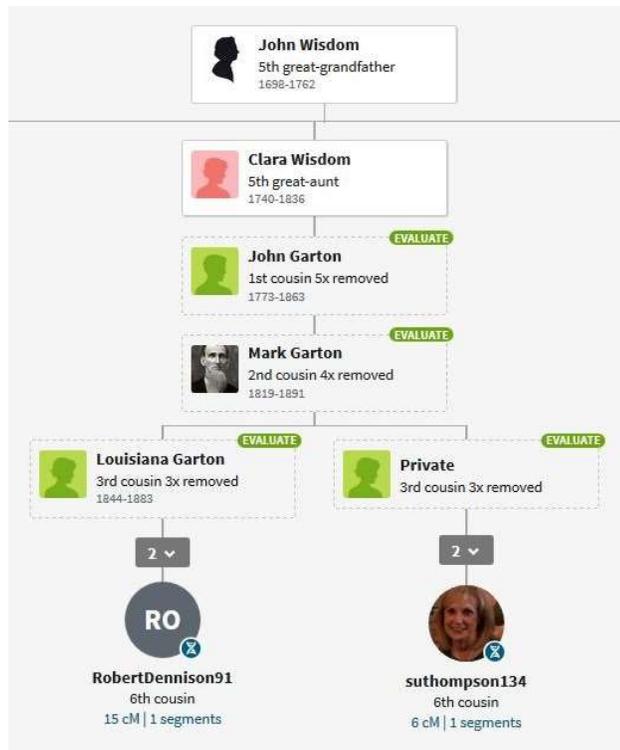


The very top of the chart has:



OMG! I have 51 DNA matches with descendants of John Wisdom. This is unbelievable!! The ThruLines™ chart shows that I have DNA matches with descendants of thirteen of John Wisdom's children. It is impossible to view this all at once, so I'll break it up into multiple lines.

I will start at the far left and work towards the right. My line through Mary "Mollie" Wisdom is the first at the left – that leaves twelve more children – a really large family, for sure. Next comes the line through "Clara Wisdom" – here is this part of the ThruLines™:



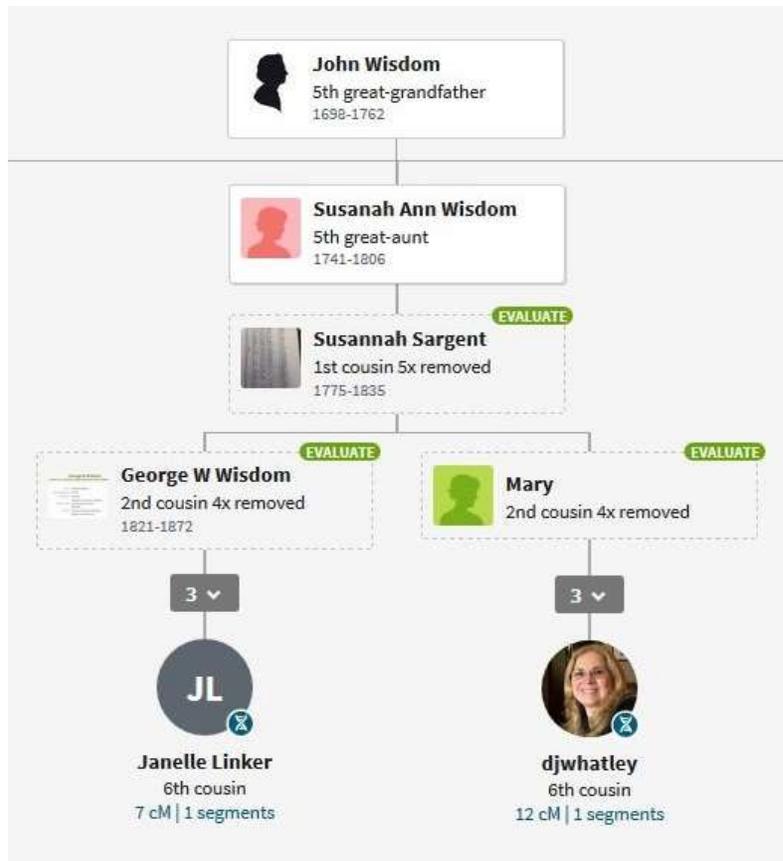
This part of the ThruLines™ gives DNA matches with **RobertDennison91** and **suthompson134**.

The next child is Elizabeth Wisdom, and here is that part of the ThruLines™:



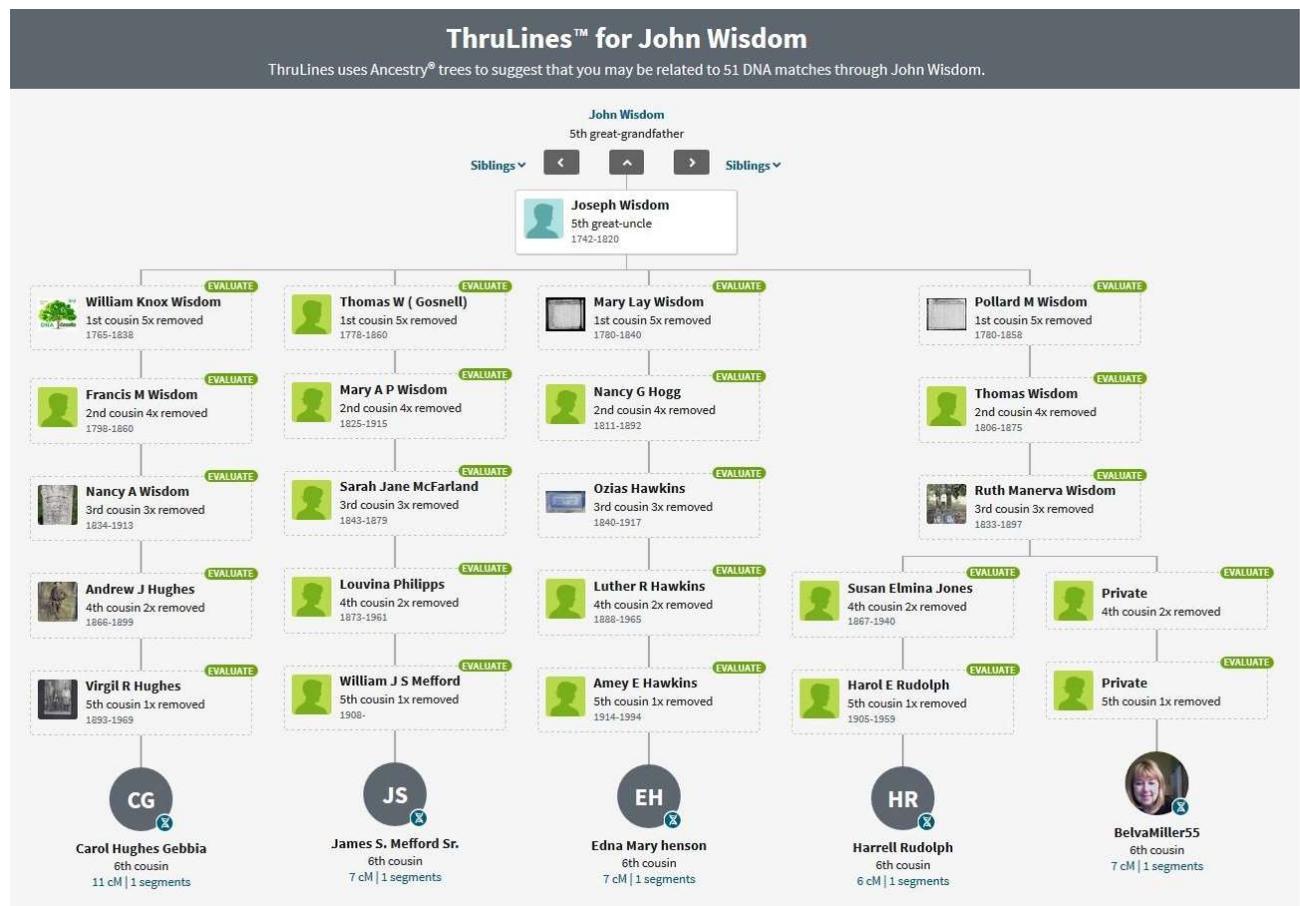
This part of the ThruLines™ accounts for 9 DNA matches – with **girlietchr**, **charles shell**, **hanck1965**, **B.K.**, **Harry Yowell**, **M.H.**, **Shirley McLawhorn**, **G.R.**, and **Jamie Simmons**. This is incredible – to have 9 DNA matches with descendants of John Wisdom’s daughter Elizabeth.

The next child in the overall ThruLines™ for John Wisdom is Susanah Ann Wisdom, and here is her branch of the ThruLines™:



This accounts for DNA matches with **Janelle Linker** and **djwhatley**.

Next comes Joseph Wisdom, and here is his part of the ThruLines™:



This section accounts for DNA matches with **Carol Hughes Gebbie**, **James S. Mefford Sr.**, **Edna Mary Henson**, **Harrell Rudolph**, and **BelvaMiller55**. Amazing that so far, none of my DNA matches still have the Wisdom family name.

The next branch of my ThruLines™ for John Wisdom is for his daughter Rachel Wisdom:

ThruLines™ for John Wisdom

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 51 DNA matches through John Wisdom.



This branch accounts for my DNA matches with **pawnye**, **J.K.**, **FernDeatherage**, **hassparker1**, **S.W.**, **Doris Record**, and **Ron Satterfield**.

The next line after Rachel's is that of John Wisdom's daughter Winifred Wisdom:

ThruLines™ for John Wisdom

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 51 DNA matches through John Wisdom.



This line accounts for DNA matches with **Gary Miller**, **H.H.**, **C.W.**, **drdymo**, and **Shannon Moore**.

Next comes Drusilla Wisdom:

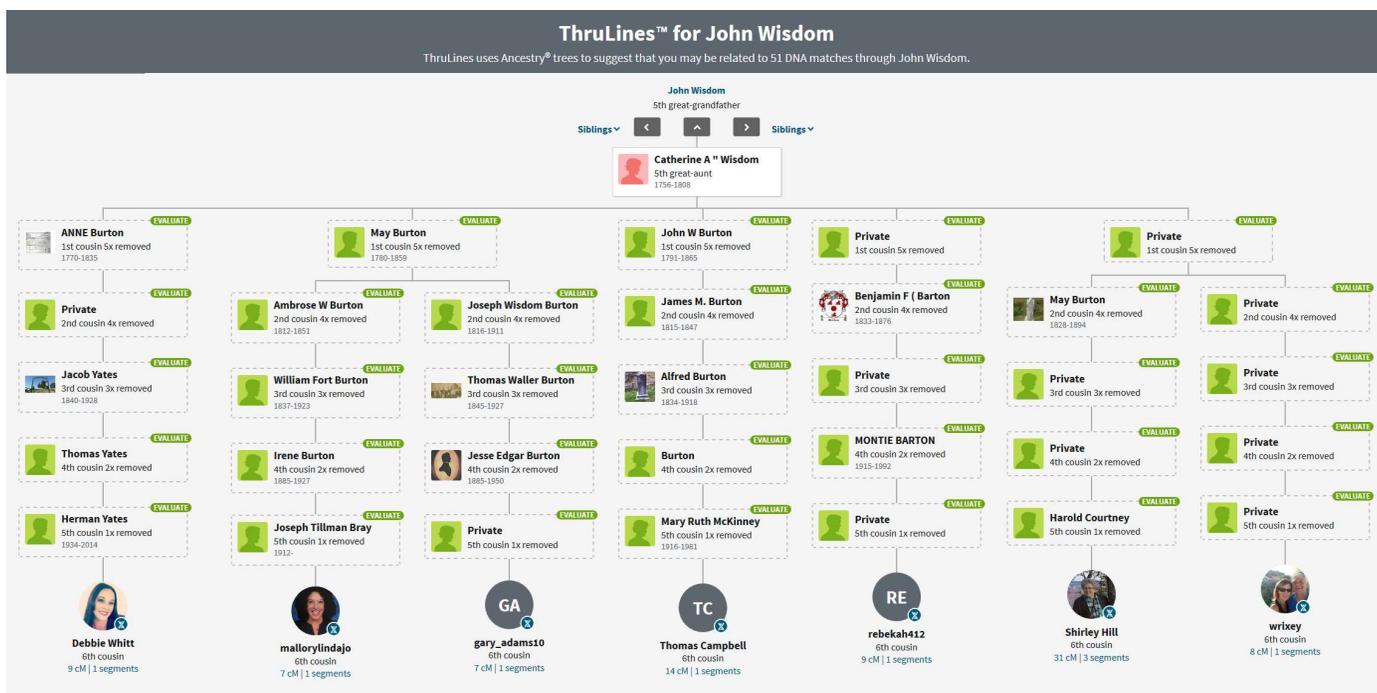
ThruLines™ for John Wisdom

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 51 DNA matches through John Wisdom.



These lines account for my DNA matches with **kscrute1**, **jbruce116**, and **Michael Gruskiewicz**. Note that Tabitha Wisdom's son was named Wisdom Sutton – exactly like Burks Oakley.

Next comes daughter Catherine:



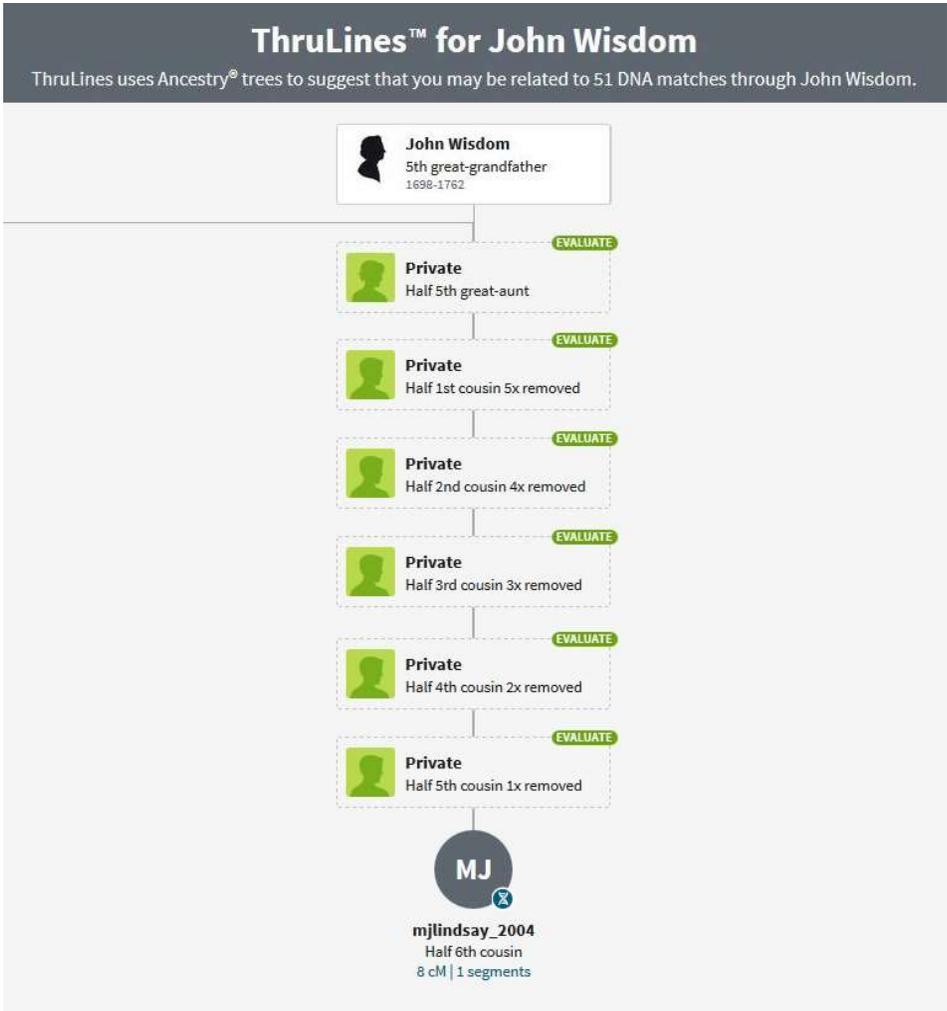
This branch accounts for my DNA matches with **Debbie Whitt, mallorylindajo, gary_adams10, Thomas Campbell, rebekah412, Shirley Hill,** and **wrixey.** Phew!

Two children remaining! The first one is Thomas Wisdom:



This part of the ThruLines™ accounts for my DNA matches with **mickeyhale60, L.M.,** and **Jerry Mills.**

Finally, we get to John Wisdom’s last child, who is marked “Private” in the ThruLines™. Unfortunately, there is absolutely no information about who this person is, so I have no idea if it is a valid line or not. Here is that line:



This line accounts for my DNA match with *mjlindsay_2004*.

All of these 51 different DNA matches in my ThruLines™ for John Wisdom were put into various family lines:

Clara Wisdom Family Line (2 matches):

Clara Wisdom Family Line		2 matches
	RobertDennison91 5th-8th cousin 15 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 3,116
	suthompson134 5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 7

Elizabeth Wisdom Family Line (9 matches):

Elizabeth Wisdom Family Line		9 matches
Harry Yowell	5th-8th cousin 11 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 964
B.K.	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 1,700
hanck1965	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 361
charles shell	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 335
Shirley McLawhorn	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 958
G.R.	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 6,304
M.H.	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 11,388
Jamie Simmons	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 22
girlietchr	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 15

Susanah (2 matches) and Joseph (5 matches):

Susanah Ann Wisdom Family Line		2 matches
djwhatley	5th-8th cousin 12 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 205
Janelle Linker	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 3

Joseph Wisdom Family Line		5 matches
Carol Hughes Gebbia	5th-8th cousin 11 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 53
BelvaMiller55	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 22
James S. Mefford Sr.	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 13
Edna Mary henson	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 58
Harrell Rudolph	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 3

Rachel (7 matches):

Rachel Wisdom Family Line		7 matches ^	
 RS Ron Satterfield	5th-8th cousin 16 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 2,566	
 JK J.K.	5th-8th cousin 13 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 20	
 SW S.W.	5th-8th cousin 12 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 794	
 DR Doris Record	5th-8th cousin 11 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 23,825	
 FernDeatherage	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 1,715	
 PA pawnye	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 24,473	
 HA hassparker1	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 879	

Winifred (5 matches) and Drusilla (5 matches):

Winifred Wisdom Family Line		5 matches ^	
 CW C.W.	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 211	
 GM Garry Miller	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 2,569	
 HH H.H.	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 137	
 Shannon Moore	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 398	
 DR drdymo	5th-8th cousin 6 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 26	

Drusilla Wisdom Family Line		5 matches ^	
 Darryl Casstevens	5th-8th cousin 15 cM across 2 segments	6th cousin 523	
 CJ Charles Jennings	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 4	
 RayMona Cunha	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 20	
 RD rdwight57	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 612	
 cynthia bath	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 2,532	

Betty (1 match) and Tabitha (2 matches):

Betty Wisdom Family Line		1 match
kscrute1	5th-8th cousin 13 cM across 1 segments	Half 6th cousin 76

Tabitha Wisdom Family Line		2 matches
jbruce116	4th-6th cousin 23 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 18
Michael Gruskiewicz	5th-8th cousin 10 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 251

Catherine (7 matches):

Catherine Ann "Catey" Wisdom Family Line		7 matches
Shirley Hill	4th-6th cousin 31 cM across 3 segments	6th cousin 9
Thomas Campbell	5th-8th cousin 14 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 43
rebekah412	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 4
Debbie Whitt	5th-8th cousin 9 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 8
wrixey	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 57,942
gary_adams10	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 6
mallorylindajo	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 231

Thomas (3 matches) and Private (1 match):

Thomas Wisdom Family Line		3 matches
mickeyhale60	5th-8th cousin 11 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 1,676
Jerry Mills	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	6th cousin 5
L.M.	5th-8th cousin 7 cM across 1 segments	5th cousin 1x removed 41

Private Family Line		
mjlindsay_2004	5th-8th cousin 8 cM across 1 segments	Half 6th cousin 290

Interestingly, over the course of two days when I collected and edited all these screenshots for the ThruLines™ for John Wisdom, the number of DNA matches went from 47 to 51:

ThruLines™ for John Wisdom

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 47 DNA matches through John Wisdom.

ThruLines™ for John Wisdom

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 51 DNA matches through John Wisdom.

OMG! I sure wasn't expecting all this to come from someone who is my 5th-great grandfather. I have fifty-one DNA matches with his descendants. Even if a couple are inaccurate, this still is incredible.

John Wisdom's wife was Ann Collins, and it turns out that her ThruLines™ contains 54 DNA matches:

ThruLines™ for Ann Collins

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 54 DNA matches through Ann Collins.

At this point, I don't have the energy (physical or mental) to go back and see where my ThruLines™ for Ann Collins differs from my ThruLines™ for John Wisdom.

Problems with ThruLines™ on Ancestry.com

The ThruLines™ aren't perfect – far from it. The noted genetic genealogist Arthur Sissman warns about using ThruLines™ as anything more than a starting point for research.² The genealogical connections shown in ThruLines™ definitely should not be taken as fact.

In looking at all the ThruLines™ associated with Amy (White) Griffey, I ran into connections that clearly were wrong. The ThruLines™ are based on family trees on the Ancestry.com website, and these trees are prone to errors.

My first example is in the ThruLines™ for Ann Collins (the wife of John Wisdom). This ThruLines™ has one of Ann's daughters being Mary Drew:

² Mr. Sissman is the Chair of the DNA SIG for the Collier County Genealogical Society in Florida.

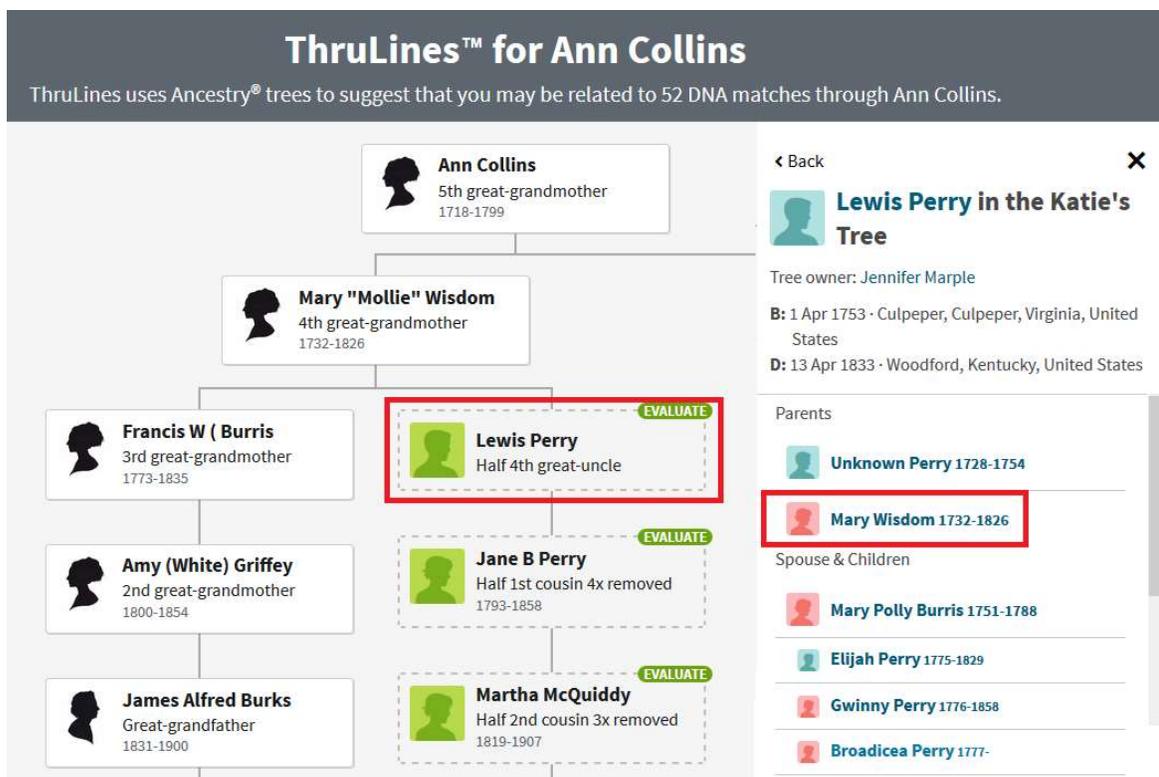
ThruLines™ for Ann Collins

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 52 DNA matches through Ann Collins.



I have no idea how the software made this error; I can't find any trees that show Mary Drew as the daughter of Ann Collins (and her husband John Wisdom). But there must be a tree somewhere that shows this connection.

It is possible to have a ThruLines™ that was created based only on a single family tree on the Ancestry.com website, which may not have any sources. For example, here is part of my ThruLines™ for Ann Collins:

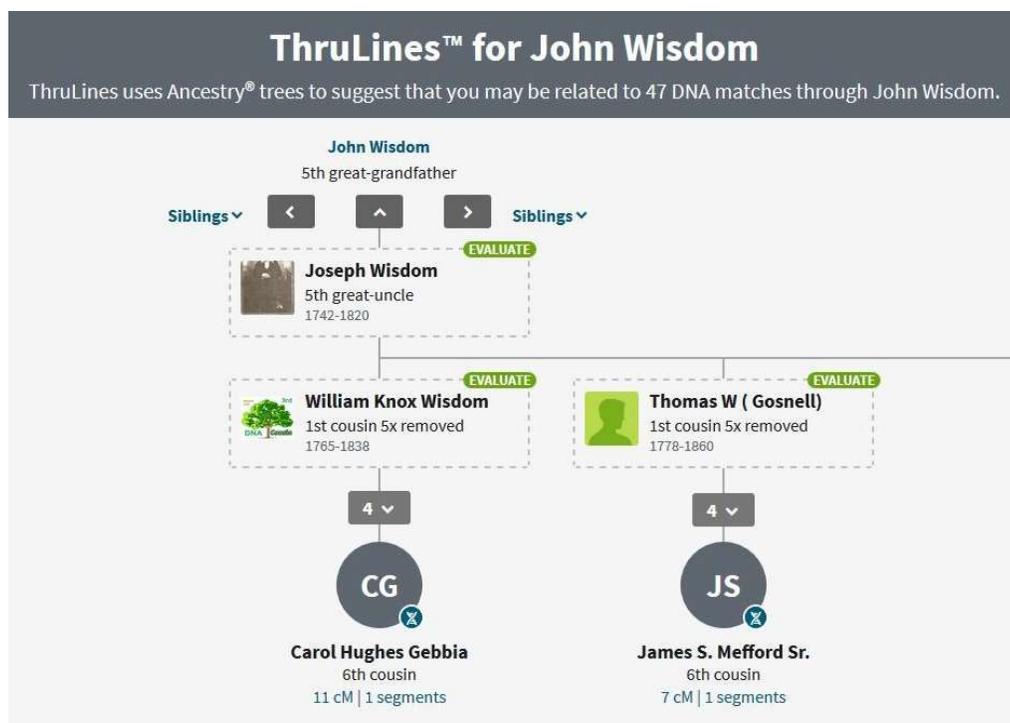


This part of the ThruLines™ shows Lewis Perry as the son of Mary "Mollie" Wisdom. It is based on a family tree owned by Jennifer Marple – and this tree shows that Mary Wisdom (1732-1826) was married to a Mr. Perry and having a son named Lewis Perry in 1753. While lots of family trees on Ancestry.com show Mary Wisdom married to Edmund Burris, no trees other than Jennifer Marple's show the Perry line. Mary's first child with Edmund Burris wasn't born until 1761, so an earlier marriage to Mr. Perry is possible. But without any sources, it is difficult for me to accept this line.

The last error I will point out also involves the ThruLines™ for Ann Collins. The chart shows that one of her sons was William Knox Wisdom. And this line led to seven of my DNA matches:



But according to the ThruLines™ for John Wisdom, William Knox Wisdom was Ann Collins' grandson – not her son.



William Knox Wisdom appears in the ThruLines™ for John Wisdom (the husband of Ann Collins) as the son of Joseph Wisdom. It can't be both ways....

Note that William Knox Wisdom was born in 1765, at a time when Ann Collins (who was born in 1718) would have been 47 years old. However, there are several trees on the Ancestry.com website that erroneously (I believe) show William Knox Wisdom as the son of Ann Collins, and the ThruLines™ software used these trees to make the connection.

Overall, the ThruLines™ work amazingly well and are extremely useful – as a starting point for research, not the end point.

Conclusion

When I started working seriously on our Oakley family genealogy, I didn't know who the parents of Amy (White) Griffey were. Gosh, I sure have come a long way from that time.

In this narrative, I have presented ThruLines™ for Amy (White) Griffey, her two parents, her four grandparents, and six of her eight great-grandparents. Collectively, these ThruLines™ identified 76 of my DNA matches who are descended from Amy and her ancestors. These ThruLines™ are strong evidence that the family tree I have for her is correct.

I was astonished to learn that I have 51 (or more) DNA matches with descendants of John Wisdom and his wife Ann Collins. It is amazing that an autosomal DNA match has survived for so many generations.