

My New DNA Match with Pearl Cramer (and where it took me)

By Burks Oakley II
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I am interested in genetic genealogy – that is, the use of DNA to verify and to extend my family tree. To that end, I make extensive use of the Ancestry.com website. On a fairly regular basis (i.e., daily), I view my DNA matches on Ancestry.com and filter them so that I only see those matches that I have not viewed previously where software on the website has been able to identify our common ancestors. Most of the time, this filtering process comes up empty – no new matches where our common ancestors are known. But a few days ago, I saw that I had a new DNA match with Pearl Cramer:



Pearl Cramer

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed
Paternal side
15 cM | < 1% shared DNA

 Public linked tree
39 people
 Common ancestor

Pearl and I share just 15 cM of DNA, so we most likely are very distant cousins.

I went on and looked at our common ancestors:

How are you and Pearl Cramer related?

Common Ancestors 

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

Pearl Cramer could be your 6th cousin through:



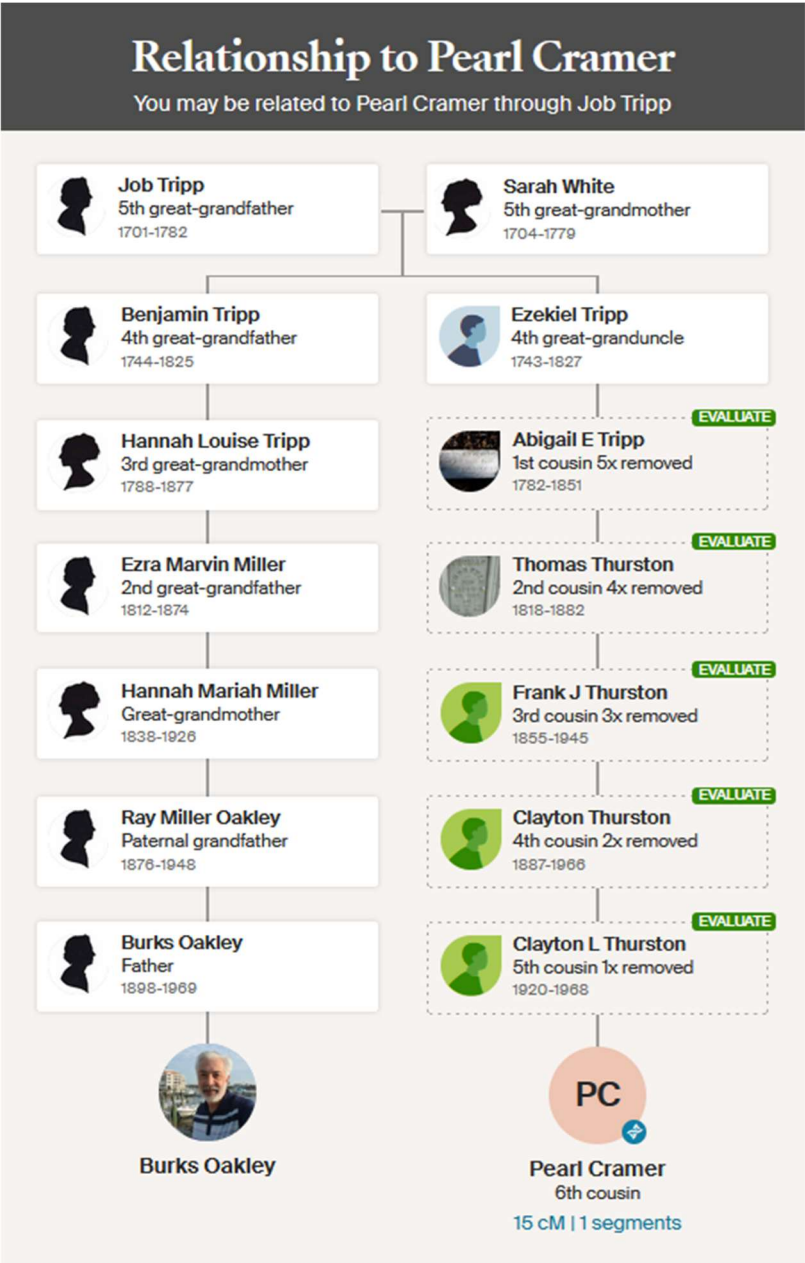
Job Tripp
5th great-grandfather
1701-1782
[View Relationship](#)



Sarah White
5th great-grandmother
1704-1779
[View Relationship](#)

Pearl and I both are descended from Job Tripp (1701-1782) and his wife Sarah White (1704-1779). This couple were my fifth-great grandparents, and they lived in Rhode Island.

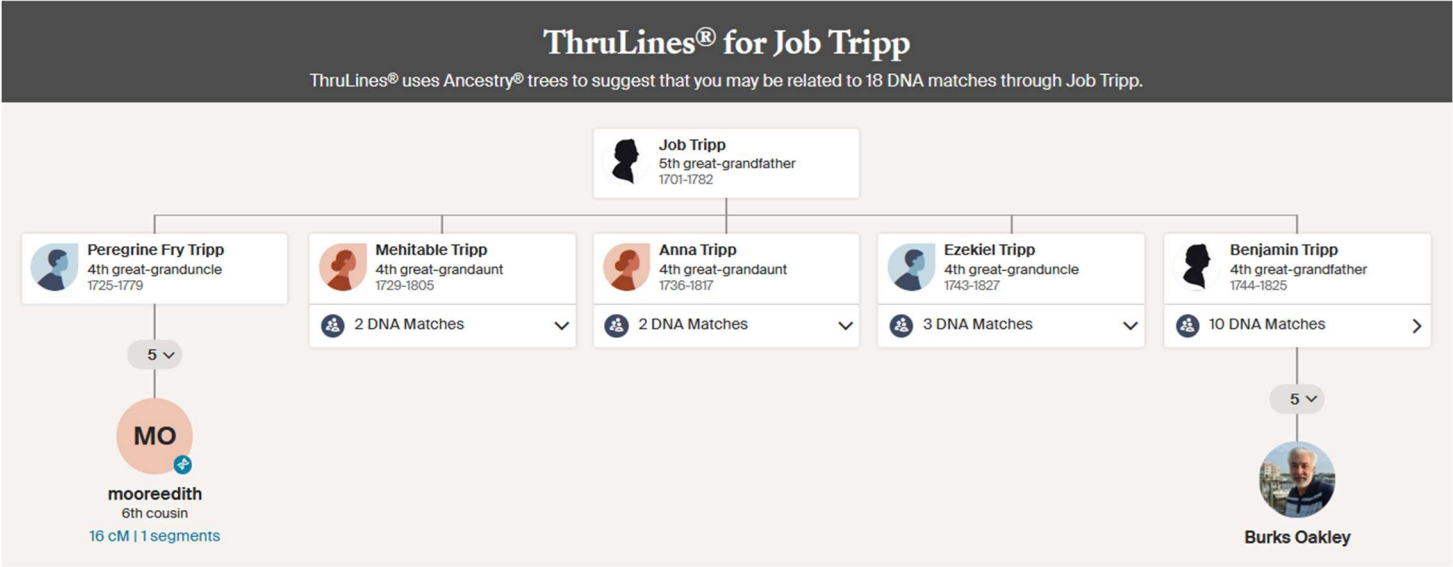
Here is a chart showing how Pearl and I are most likely related:



I am descended from the **Tripp-White** couple through their son Benjamin Tripp (1744-1825), while Pearl is descended from this couple through their son Ezekiel Tripp (1743-1827). Based on this chart, Pearl and I are sixth-cousins. Note that Pearl’s father was born in 1920, so she is likely to be about the same age as I am.

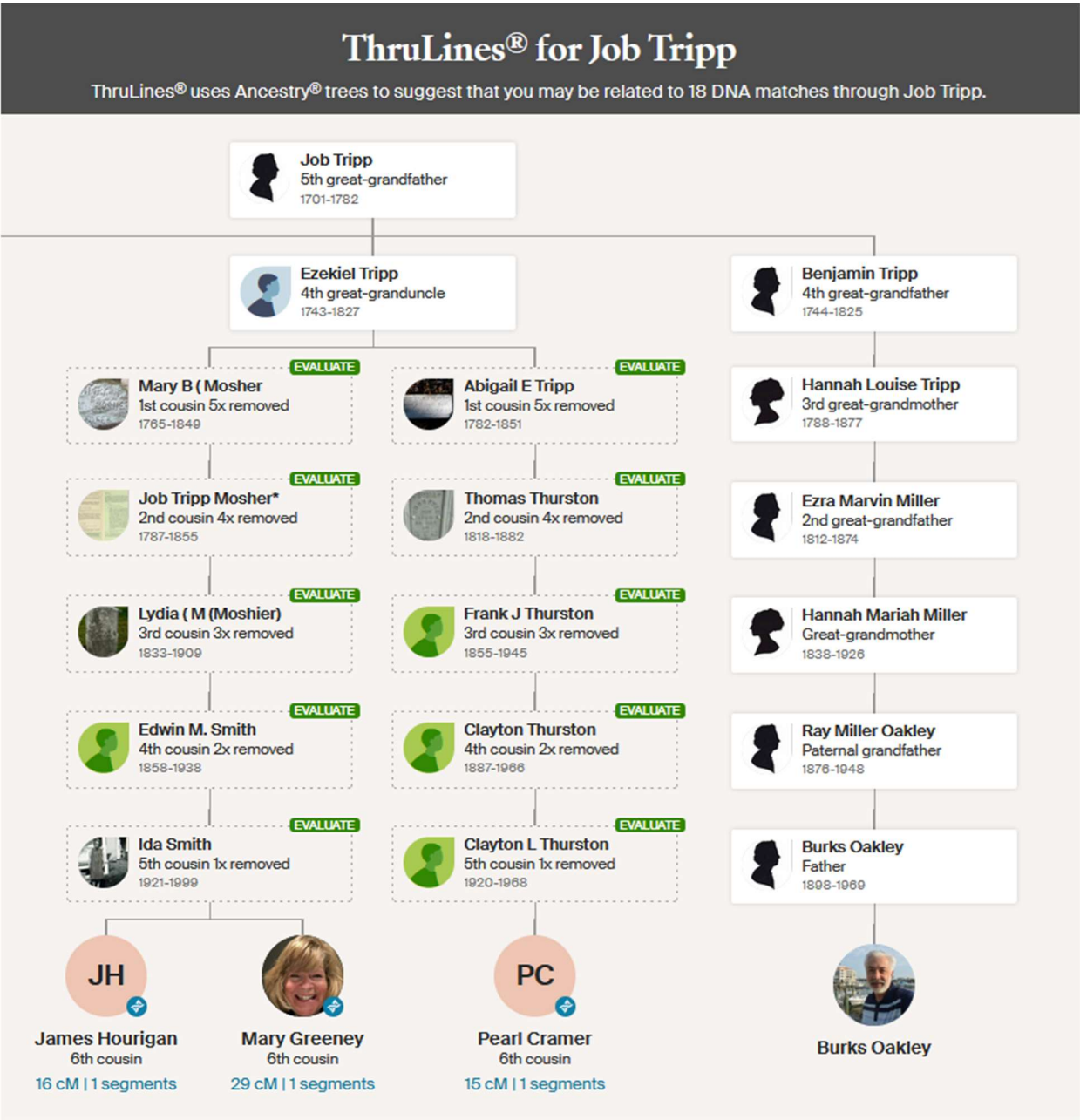
My ancestral line back to the **Tripp-White** couple goes through my third-great grandmother, Hannah Louise Tripp (1788-1877). I’ll come back to her later in the narrative.

I next looked at my ThruLines® chart for Job Tripp:



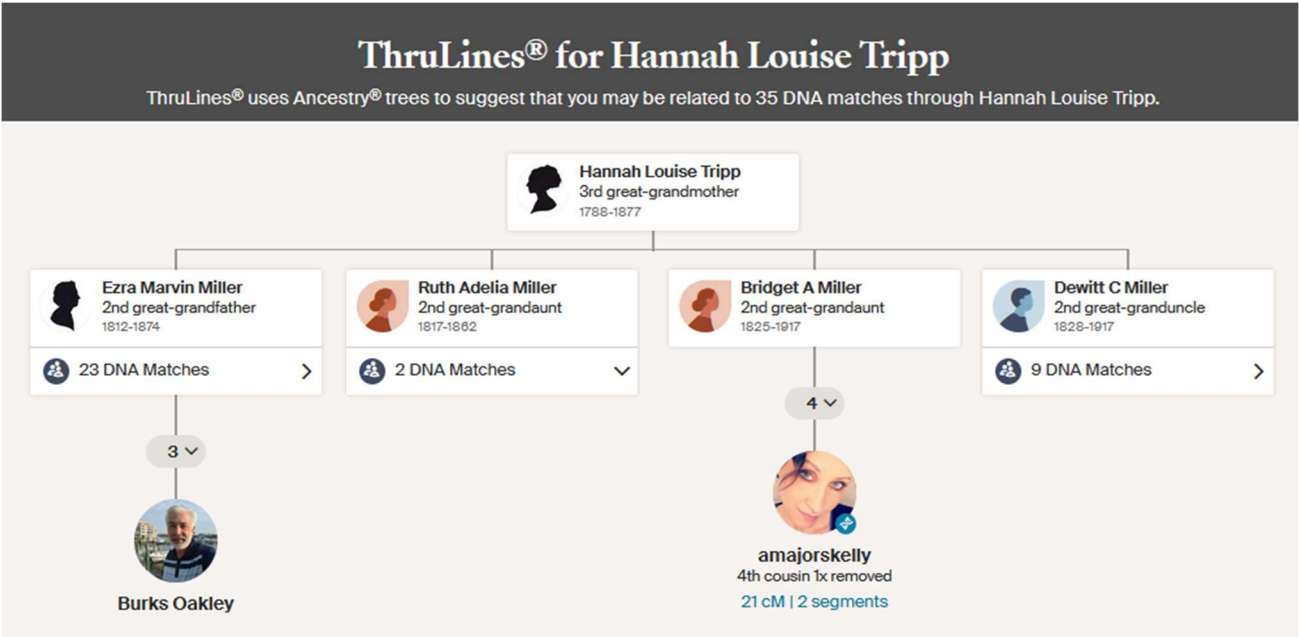
I have DNA matches with eighteen descendants of Job Tripp. I should add that my ThruLines® chart for Job’s wife, Sarah White, is identical to Job’s chart.

Here is the ThruLines® chart with the line to Pearl Cramer open:



At this point, I need to take a time-out to explain something about the ThruLines® charts on Ancestry.com. These charts are created automatically for all of an individual’s direct ancestors that appear in his/her family tree – back to the level of fifth-great grandparents. But they only include at most a total of eight generations (as in the chart shown above). So the ThruLines® chart for an individual’s fifth-great grandparents will stop at the level of sixth-cousins. This means that if I had a DNA match with one of Pearl’s children, it would not appear in my ThruLines® chart for Job Tripp.

Perhaps a concrete example would be of use. Here is my ThruLines® chart for my third-great grandmother, Hannah Louise Tripp:

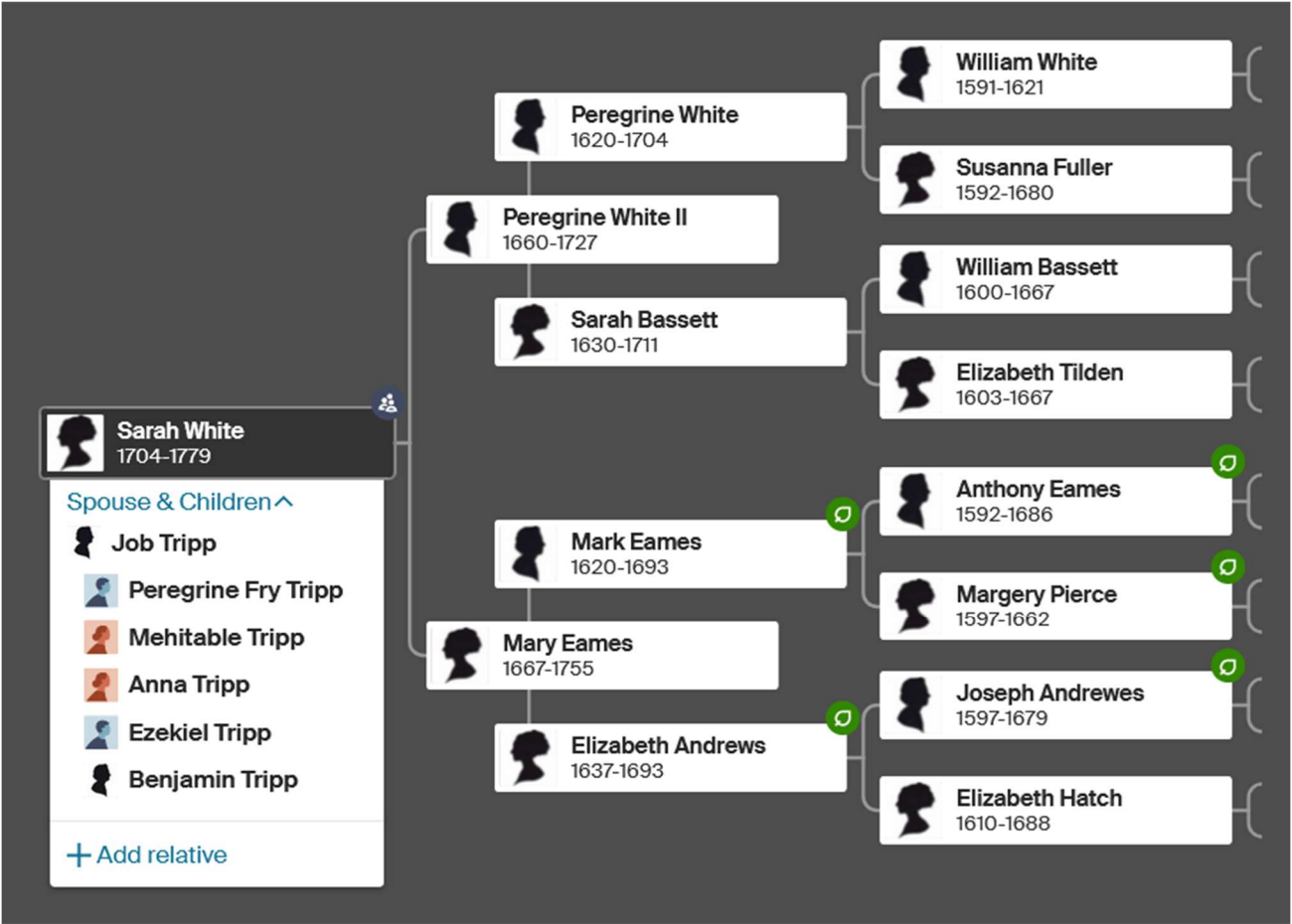


Note that this chart shows that I have DNA matches with thirty-five descendants of Hannah Louise Tripp. But in the ThruLines® chart for Job Tripp, I only had DNA matches with eighteen of his descendants. Clearly the descendants of Hannah Louise Tripp are also descendants of Job Tripp.

This is something to keep in mind when viewing various ThruLines® charts from Ancestry.com.

But I digress....

So far, I have shown that Pearl and I both are descended from Job Tripp and his wife Sarah White. Now let me look at Sarah. Here is her pedigree:



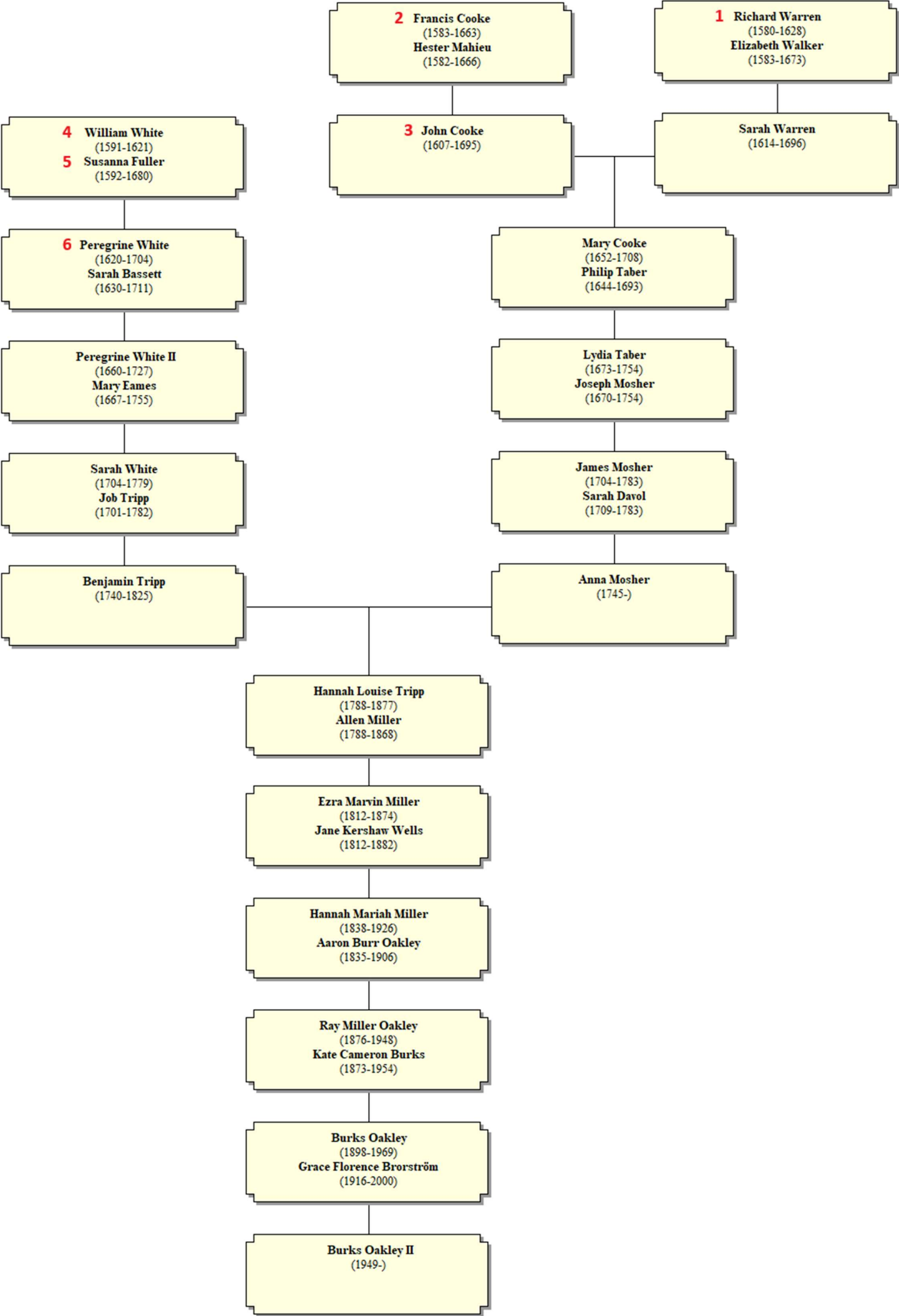
Note that her paternal line goes back to William White (1591-1621) and his wife Susanna Fuller (1592-1680). This couple came to America on the *Mayflower* in 1620, and their son Peregrine White was the first child born to the Pilgrims in the New World. In fact, he was born on-board the *Mayflower*, just a few weeks after

they arrived in Massachusetts. Since the Whites knew that Susanna was pregnant before leaving for the New World, they brought a cradle with them on the *Mayflower*, and this cradle is among the artifacts on display at the Mayflower Hall Museum in Plymouth, Massachusetts:



Since Pearl Cramer is descended from Sarah White, she also is a *Mayflower* descendant. I wonder if she knows about this....

Now I'm really going to go off on a tangent. I haven't thought about being a *Mayflower* descendant for a while. So I put together a chart showing my ancestors who were on the *Mayflower*:



Richard Warren (red 1) is in the upper-right of the chart. Francis Cooke (red 2) is at the top-center of the chart. Francis was accompanied on the *Mayflower* by his son John Cooke (red 3). Note that Richard Warren’s daughter Sarah Warren

came to America on the ship *Anne* in 1623, and she married John Cooke on 28 March 1634.

At the upper-left of the chart on the previous page are William White (red 4) and his wife Susanna Fuller (red 5). As I just mentioned, their son Peregrine White (red 6) was born on the *Mayflower* several weeks after they arrived in Massachusetts. William White died the first winter, while Susanna survived (and she re-married the following spring).¹

So I am descended from Francis Cooke, John Cooke, Richard Warren, William White, and Susanna Fuller. Five Pilgrims on the *Mayflower*. Six if you count Peregrine White.

My ancestral lines back to these Pilgrims all went back through Hannah Louise Tripp (1788-1877) – my third-great grandmother:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/18-HannahLouiseTripp&theMayflowerBranch.pdf>

I believe that I also am descended from Richard More, who was sent on the *Mayflower* as an indentured servant – see:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/48-RichardMore-MayflowerAncestor.pdf>

¹ Susanna was widowed on 21 February 1621, and on 12 May 1621, she married another Pilgrim, Edward Winslow. Edward's first wife had died on 24 March 1621. The wedding of Edward Winslow and Susanna was the first in Plymouth Colony.