

Roberta Vorobel – An *Oakley-Browne* Descendant

By Burks Oakley II
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I have been spending a lot of time recently finding my DNA matches with descendants of Miles Oakley III (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682). This couple were my eighth-great grandparents. I have a segment of DNA on Chromosome 15 that appears to have come from this couple, and I share this *Oakley-Browne* segment with a large number of other people who are descended from this couple.

Here is a webpage that has links to a number of narratives I have written recently on this topic:

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/Oakley-Chr-15.html>

One of the key people in my recent “research” is Rev. Timothy W. Bever, who is known to have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15. In fact, Tim appears to have the longest segment – what I like to think of as the “gold standard” for the *Oakley-Browne* segment.

Since I only have this single shared DNA segment with Tim, when I find an individual who has a DNA with both Tim and me (a so-called “Shared DNA Match”), I am reasonably sure that this person has the *Oakley-Browne* segment. And then my challenge is to find an ancestral line from the individual back to the *Oakley-Browne* couple. Since many people on the Ancestry.com website have very meager family trees, this task can be daunting at times.

Let me begin this narrative by saying that I looked at my DNA match with Tim Bever on the Ancestry.com website, and then I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. One of them was a woman named Roberta Vorobel:

 Roberta vorobel	 	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Timothy Bever's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 24 cM
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I have a 21 cM DNA match with Roberta, while Tim has a 24 cM match with Roberta.

As an aside, Roberta’s surname *Vorobel* comes from her paternal grandfather, Jurag George Vorobel (1899-1973), who was from Šemetkovce, Slovakia, and immigrated to America in 1923.

I next looked at my DNA match with Roberta, and then at our “Shared DNA Matches”. Here are the top matches from my perspective (largest to smallest):

 John Bever		Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 43 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 23 cM
 Timothy Bever Managed by Marva Gervais		Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 3rd cousin 43 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 24 cM
 Howard Bever		Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 24 cM
 Cassidy Prentiss		Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 39 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 24 cM

It comes as no surprise that Roberta has DNA matches with the ***Bever*** family (Cassidy Prentiss is Howard Bever’s granddaughter).

Roberta’s next largest matches are with Kathy Hill Orr and her sisters:

 Betty Jackson		Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 27 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 24 cM
 Ann Winningham		Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 24 cM
 KathyOrr60		Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 24 cM

Kathy has her DNA profile on GEDmatch.com, and I know for sure that she has the ***Oakley-Browne*** segment on Chromosome 15. So I’m 99.9% certain that Roberta has this segment, as well.

I continued to look at our “Shared DNA Matches”, and since I have a “Pro” membership on Ancestry.com, I viewed our shared matches from Roberta’s perspective (from largest to smallest). Here are her top shared matches:

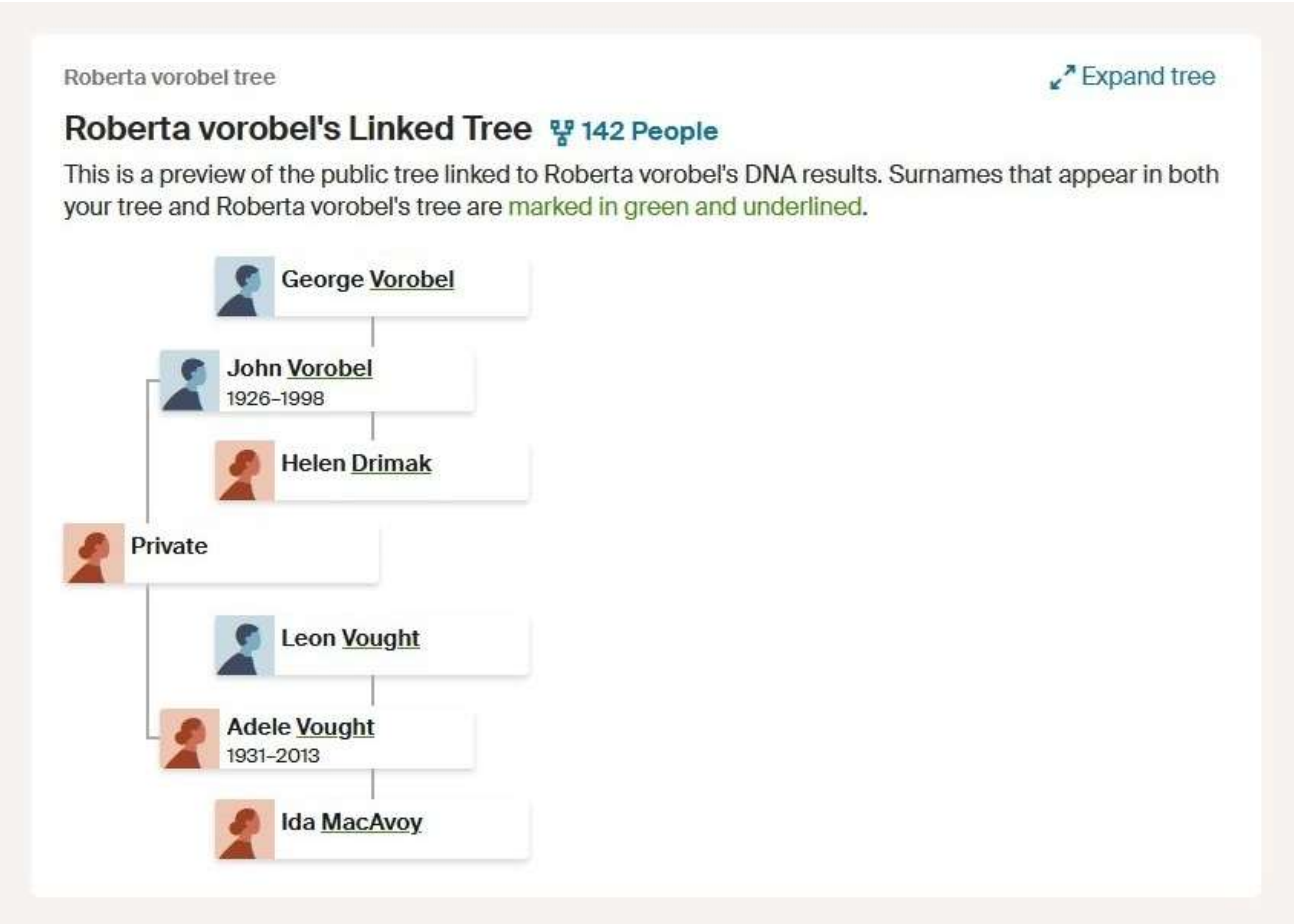
 George Pallifrone  	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Son 3,484 cM
 J.H. Managed by CheyenneStandingElk  	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 19 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 1st cousin 1x removed or half 1st cousin 550 cM
 Victoria Vought  	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 1x removed 133 cM
 E.E. Managed by Victoria Vought  	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 18 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 2x removed or half 1st cousin 3x removed 109 cM

Her top match is with her son, George Pallifrone. Her next match is with **J.H.**, and I hadn't seen this DNA match previously – I'll come back to it later. But the next two matches are with Victoria Vought and **E.E.**, whose profile is managed by Victoria Vought. I know that Victoria is an ***Oakley-Browne*** descendant, and I wrote about our DNA match previously – see:

http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/VictoriaVought_6Jan25.pdf

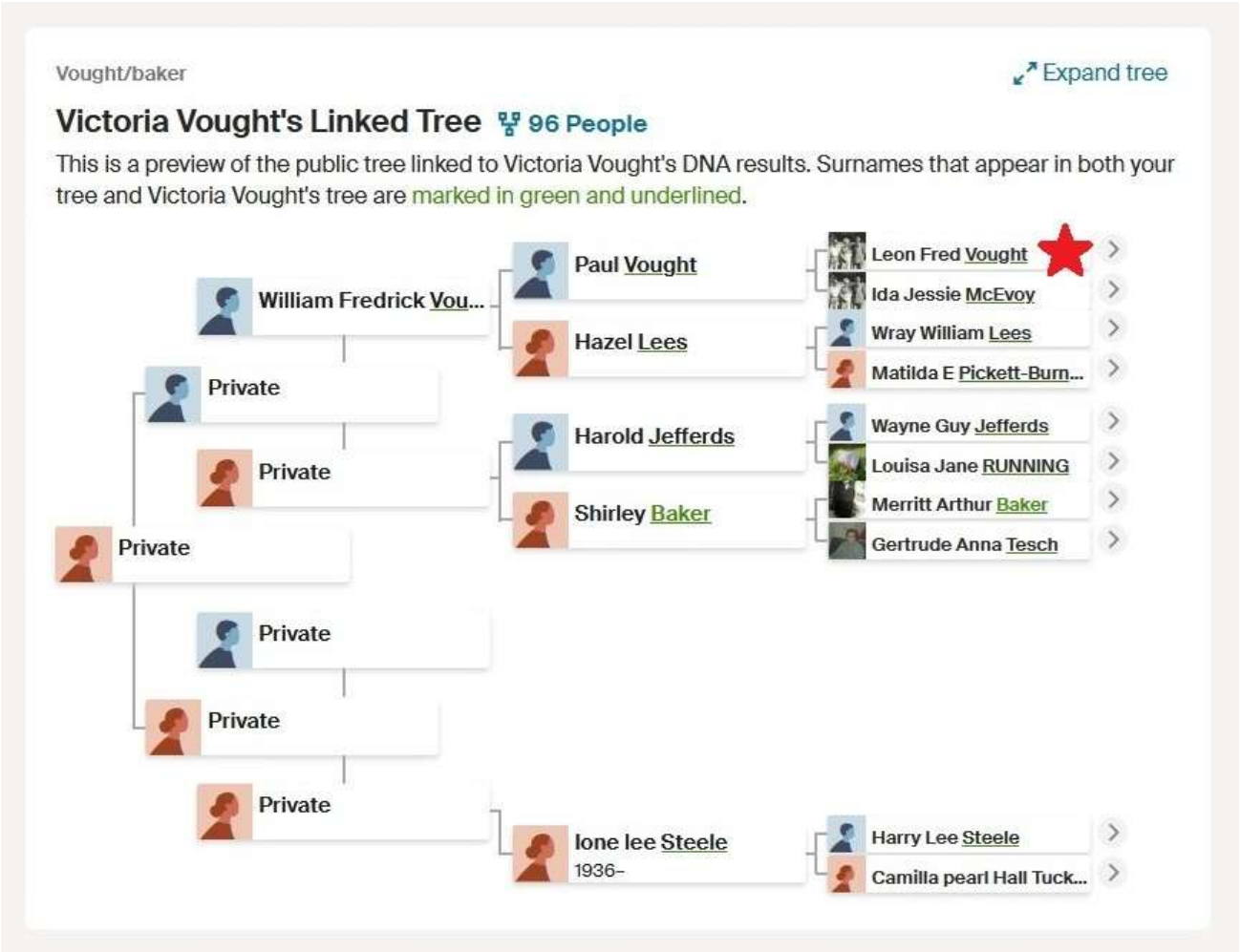
Again, Roberta's DNA match with Victoria supports the idea that Roberta has the ***Oakley-Browne*** DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I next looked at Roberta's family tree on Ancestry.com. Here is her pedigree:



Oh my! Roberta's mother was Adele Vought (1931-2013), and her maternal grandfather was Leon Vought. This has to be the connection with Victoria Vought.

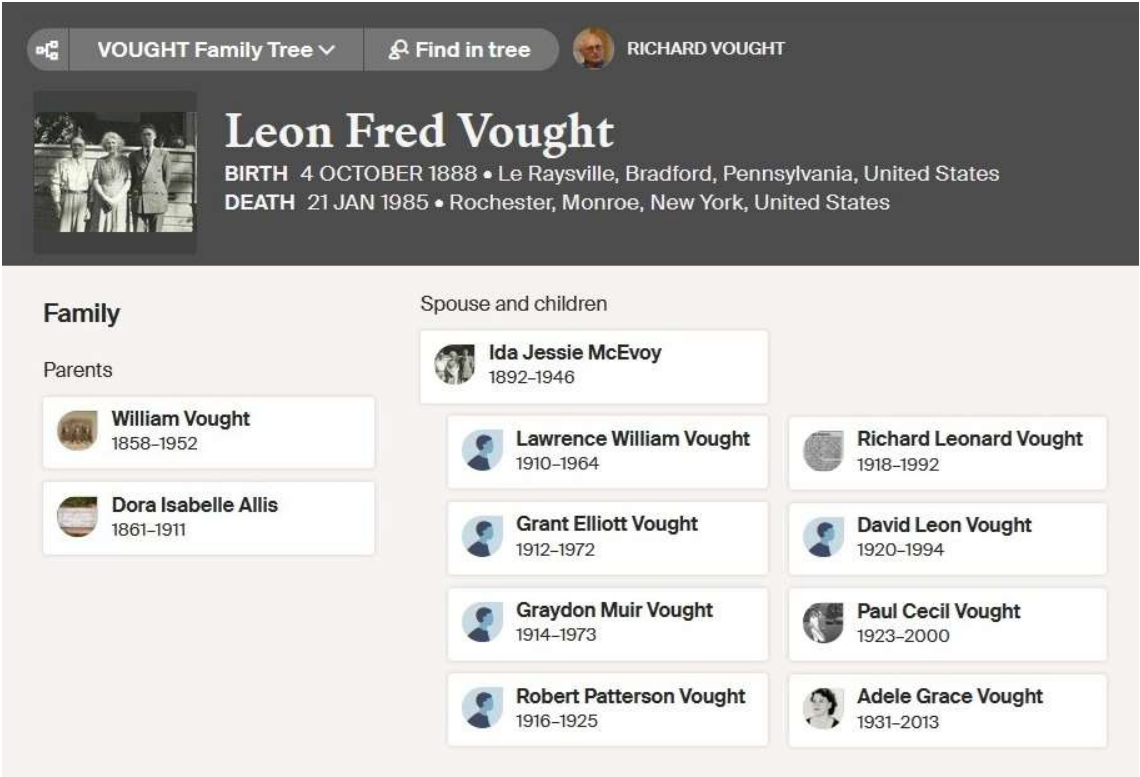
I looked at my DNA match with Victoria Vought, and then at her pedigree chart:



One of Victoria’s second-great grandfathers was Leon Fred Vought (1888-1985). I marked him with a red star in the chart shown above. This man is on Victoria’s ancestral line back to the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

According to Victoria’s pedigree, Leon was married to Ida Jessie McEvoy (1892-1946). And if you look back at Roberta’s pedigree chart on the previous page, you will see that Leon Vought was married to Ida MacAvoy – close enough spelling for me!

I went on to look at a profile for Leon Fred Vought on the Ancestry.com website:



According to this profile, Leon’s wife was Ida Jessie McEvoy. Leon and Ida had eight children, and their last was Adele Grace Vought (1931-2013). And this woman was Roberta Vought’s mother.

Here is Adele Grace Vought’s profile from the “Vought Family Tree” owned by Richard Vought:

VOUGHT Family Tree

Find in tree

RICHARD VOUGHT

Adele Grace Vought

BIRTH 1 FEBRUARY 1931 • Windham Center, Bradford, Pennsylvania, United States
DEATH 12 APRIL 2013 • Kissimmee, Osceola, Florida, United States

Family

Parents

Leon Fred Vought
1888–1985

Ida Jessie McEvoy
1892–1946

Spouse and children

John Michael Vorobel
1926–1998

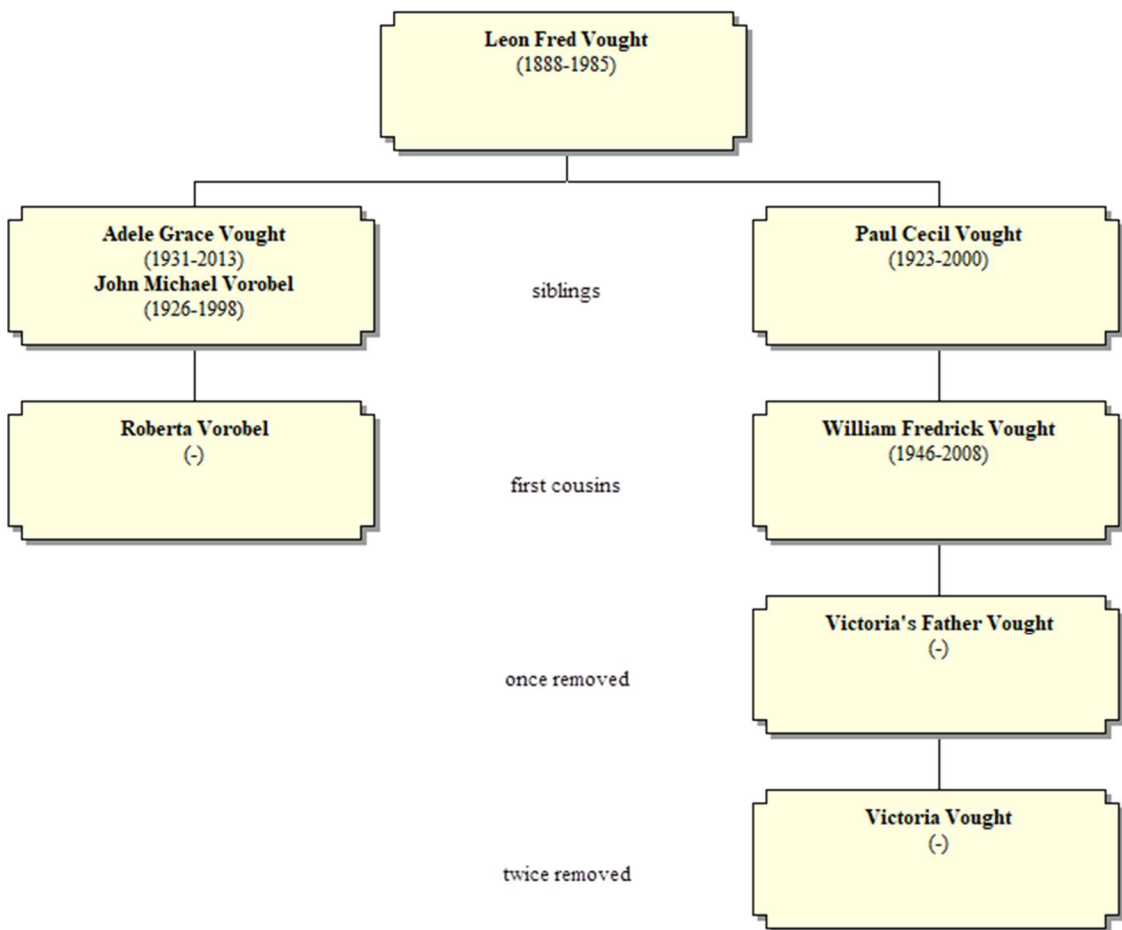
Private

Private

Private

Adele was married to John Michael Vorobel (1926-1998), and one of their three children (all marked “Private”) was Roberta Vorobel.

I added Roberta and her parents to my RootsMagic database, and created a chart showing how Roberta and Victoria are related:



According to this chart, Roberta and Victoria are first-cousins twice-removed. Based on the size of their DNA match (133 cM), software on Ancestry.com predicted that they were second-cousins once-removed:

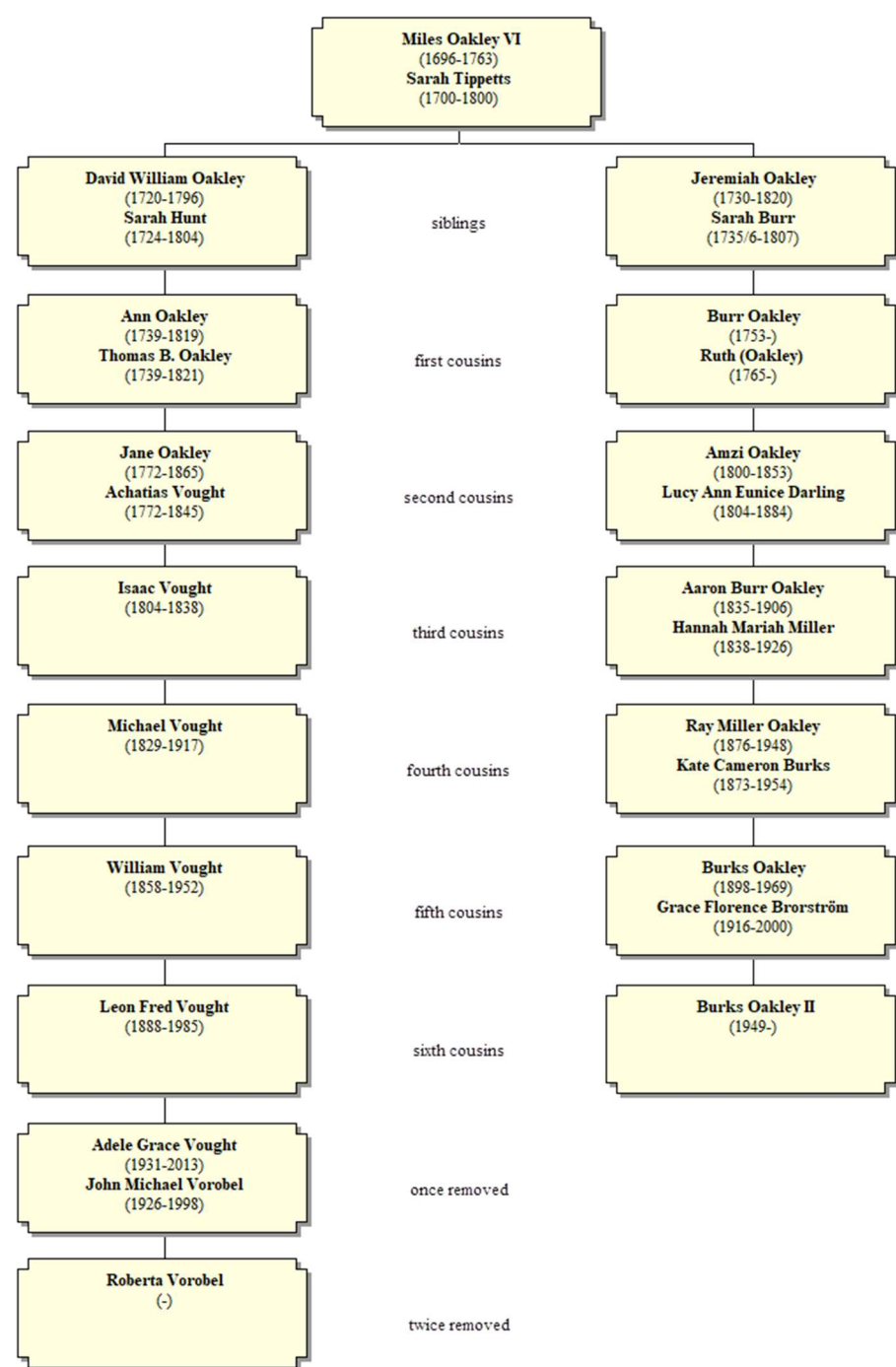


I looked at the data published by the Shared cM Project in 2022. They found that first-cousins twice-removed (1C2R) on average share 221 cM, with a range of 33-471 cm:



Since Roberta’s DNA match with Victoria is below average in size, Ancestry predicted that they were more distant relatives than they actually are. But their 133 cM match is well within the observed range for their 1C2R relationship.

I also generated a chart showing how Roberta and I are related:



According to this chart, we are sixth-cousins twice-removed.

Let me now go back and address a few things that I skipped over earlier. Here are Roberta’s top four “Shared DNA Matches” with me:

 George Pallifrone	  Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Son 3,484 cM
 J.H. Managed by CheyenneStandingElk	  Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 19 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 1st cousin 1x removed or half 1st cousin 550 cM
 Victoria Vought	  Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 1x removed 133 cM
 E.E. Managed by Victoria Vought	  Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 18 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 2x removed or half 1st cousin 3x removed 109 cM

The fourth one is **E.E.** (managed by Victoria Vought). To figure out who **E.E.** is, I looked at my DNA match with Victoria, and then at our “Shared DNA Matches”. The top two (from her perspective) are:

 E.E. Managed by Victoria Vought	 +	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 18 cM Paternal side	Victoria Vought's: Son 3,488 cM
 Roberta vorobel	 +	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Victoria Vought's: 2nd cousin 1x removed or half 1st cousin 2x removed 133 cM

Another oh my! **E.E.** is Victoria’s son. Since I have a DNA match with him, my guess is that he also has the **Oakley-Browne** segment. So I looked at my DNA match with **E.E.** and then looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. Here are the top matches from my perspective:

 Howard Bever	 +	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM Paternal side	E.E.'s: Half 2nd cousin 3x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM
 Cassidy Prentiss	 +	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 39 cM Paternal side	E.E.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM
 sheila porter	 +	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	E.E.'s: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 21 cM
 KathyOrr60	 +	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	E.E.'s: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 21 cM

He has DNA matches with Howard Bever and his granddaughter Cassidy Prentiss, with Kathy Hill Orr, and with Sheila Porter, who is one of Kathy’s nieces. Yup, **E.E.** must have the **Oakley-Browne** segment. And his matching segment with each of the people in the screenshot above is 21 cM – so that must be the length of his **Oakley-Browne** segment.

Going back to the top shared matches I have with Roberta:

 George Pallifrone	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: Son 3,484 cM
 J.H. Managed by CheyenneStandingElk	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 19 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 1st cousin 1x removed or half 1st cousin 550 cM
 Victoria Vought	 	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 1x removed 133 cM
 E.E. Managed by Victoria Vought	 	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 18 cM Paternal side	Roberta vorobel's: 2nd cousin 2x removed or half 1st cousin 3x removed 109 cM

The second person on this list is **J.H.** (managed by CheyenneStandingElk). I viewed my DNA match with **J.H.**, and then I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. Here are the top matches from my perspective:

 Timothy Bever Managed by Marva Gervais	 	Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 3rd cousin 43 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 21 cM
 Howard Bever	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 22 cM
 Cassidy Prentiss	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 39 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM

 Betty Jackson	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 27 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM
 Ann Winningham	 	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM
 KathyOrr60	 	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 21 cM

Since **J.H.** has DNA matches with the **Bever** family, with Kathy Hill Orr and her two sisters, and with me, I am 99.9% certain that he is an **Oakley-Browne** descendant with the **Oakley-Browne** DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I also looked at our “Shared DNA Matches” from **J.H.**’s perspective. Here are his top shared matches:

 Roberta vorobel	 	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 21 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: 1st cousin 1x removed or half grandaunt 550 cM
 George Pallifrone	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM Paternal side	J.H.'s: 2nd cousin or half 1st cousin 1x removed 286 cM

His top matches are with Roberta Vorobel and her son, George Pallifrone.

I then looked at *J.H.*'s pedigree chart:

Standing Elk Family Tree

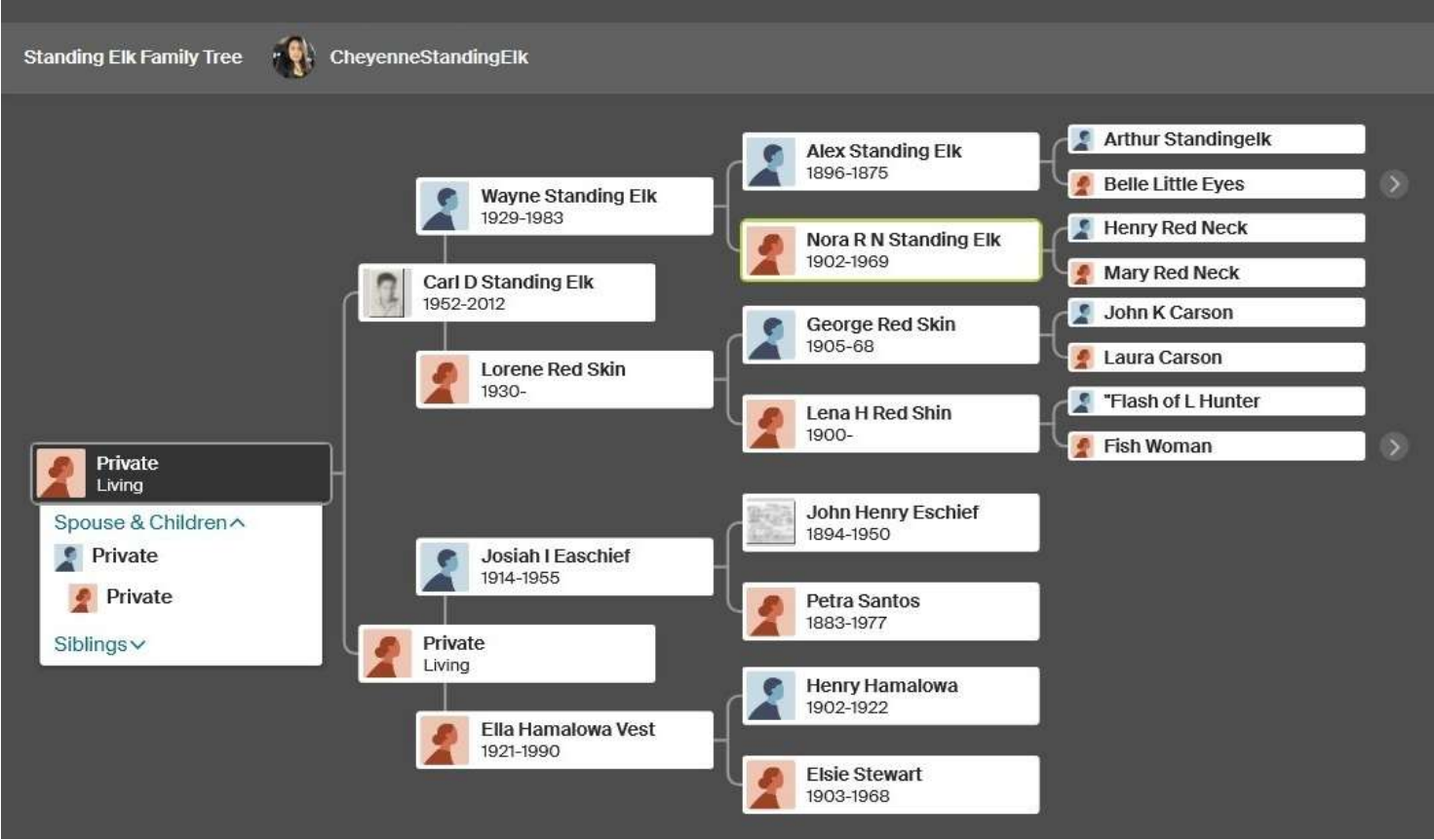
J.H.'s Linked Tree  162 People

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

 **Private**

Unfortunately, he only has himself in his pedigree.

I note that *J.H.* appears by himself in the “Standing Elk Family Tree”, owned by Cheyenne Standing Elk. Here is her pedigree from this family tree:



Interesting family names in her paternal ancestry, for sure.

But I digress....

So I know that *J.H.* is an *Oakley-Browne* descendant and he could be Roberta Vorobel's first-cousin once-removed. Since he doesn't have a family tree on

Ancestry.com, without some outside help, I don't think I'll be able to know exactly how he fits into this branch of our family tree.

Summary – In this narrative, I began with my DNA match with Roberta Vorobel. I found this match because Roberta is one of my “Shared DNA Matches” with Rev. Timothy W. Bever. Tim and I share a DNA segment on Chromosome 15 that goes back to Miles Oakley III (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682). We share this DNA segment with a number of other individuals who also are descendants of the **Oakley-Browne** couple.

Roberta Vorobel has DNA matches with a number of **Oakley-Browne** descendants. She is a first-cousin twice-removed of Victoria Vought, who is an **Oakley-Browne** descendant. I found the ancestral line from Roberta back to the **Oakley-Browne** couple, and on this line, we are sixth-cousins twice-removed.

I also found my DNA match with Victoria Vought's son, whose username on Ancestry.com is **E.E.** And I also found my DNA match with **J.H.**, who could be a first-cousin once-removed of Roberta. Both **E.E.** and **J.H.** have “Shared DNA Matches” with me that indicate that they also have the **Oakley-Browne** DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I continue to be amazed by all the people on Ancestry.com who have the **Oakley-Browne** DNA segment!