

My DNA Match with Sheryl Finch (née Parker)

By Burks Oakley II
18 December 2024

When I first began using the GEDmatch.com website a number of years ago, I learned that I have a segment of DNA on Chromosome 15 that matches a number of people who are descendants of Miles Oakley IV (1645-1682) and his wife Mary Wilmot (1649-1698).¹ Miles Oakley IV was from Saffron Walden, England, and in 1651, he immigrated to America with his father Miles Oakley III (1612-1672) and his older brother Thomas Oakley (1640-1709), living first in Boston, Massachusetts, and later in Westchester County, New York. The ***Oakley-Wilmot*** couple were my seventh-great grandparents.

It is quite amazing to have an autosomal DNA match that goes back so many generations. It appears that this segment is passed from parent to child with little change in size.

Let me begin by reviewing the basic findings about this DNA match on Chromosome 15. Out of all the individuals with their DNA profiles on GEDmatch.com, Rev. Tim Bever has the largest DNA segment on Chromosome 15 that matches other ***Oakley*** descendants, so in the following example, I have looked at how a small group of people match Tim on Chromosome 15. The people in this group include Jeani Trana, Kathy Hill Orr, Mark Workman (***Mark628***) and his daughter Elizabeth Workman (***EBW91***), Ann Ely Wain (***AEW***), my daughter Amy Oakley, and me.

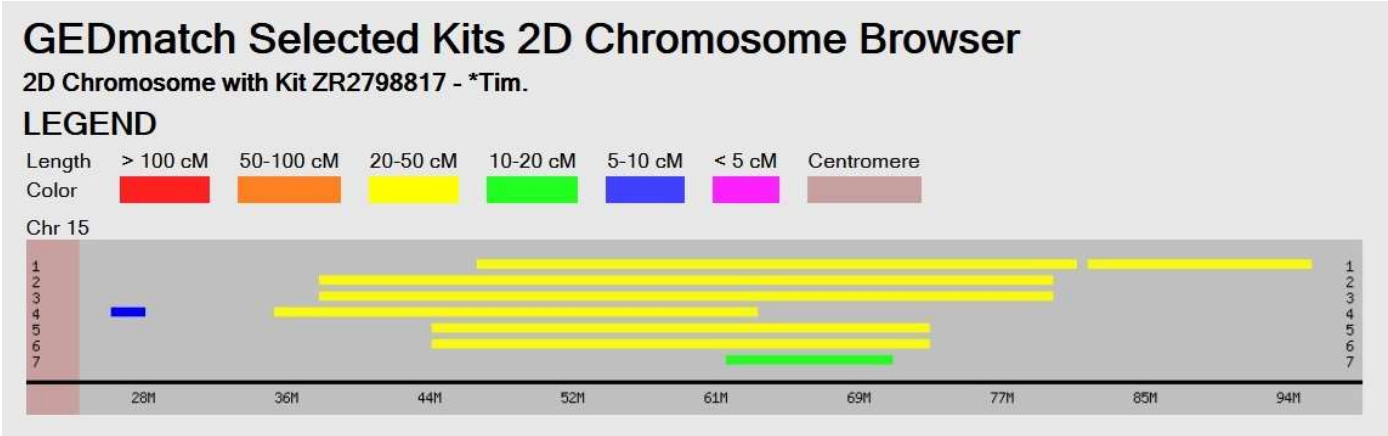
Here is a chart showing where on Chromosome 15 each of the seven of us match Tim Bever:

Chr 15			
Match ID	Name	Matching segments on Chromosome 15	Overlap with previous match
1	Jeani Trana(A685139)	48098423 - 82573255 (40.2 cM), 83221392 - 95999729 (25.0 cM)	root
2	Burks Oakley II(WG268483C1)	38994113 - 81179553 (45.7 cM)	48098423 - 81179553
3	*Amy.Oakley(A059368)	39046212 - 81180981 (45.6 cM)	39046212 - 81179553
4	Kathy Hill Orr(A657657)	27050817 - 28962131 (7.1 cM), 36417486 - 64176308 (31.1 cM)	39046212 - 64176308
5	*EBW91(A127417)	45457458 - 74107677 (34.3 cM)	45457458 - 64176308
6	*Mark628(A171585)	45457458 - 74111343 (34.3 cM)	45457458 - 74107677
7	*AEW(A348886)	62424649 - 71921839 (14.2 cM)	62424649 - 71921839

Note that Amy’s DNA match with Tim (45.6 cM) is essentially the same size as my match with Tim (45.7 cM). And Elizabeth’s DNA match with Tim (34.3 cM) is nearly identical to her father’s.

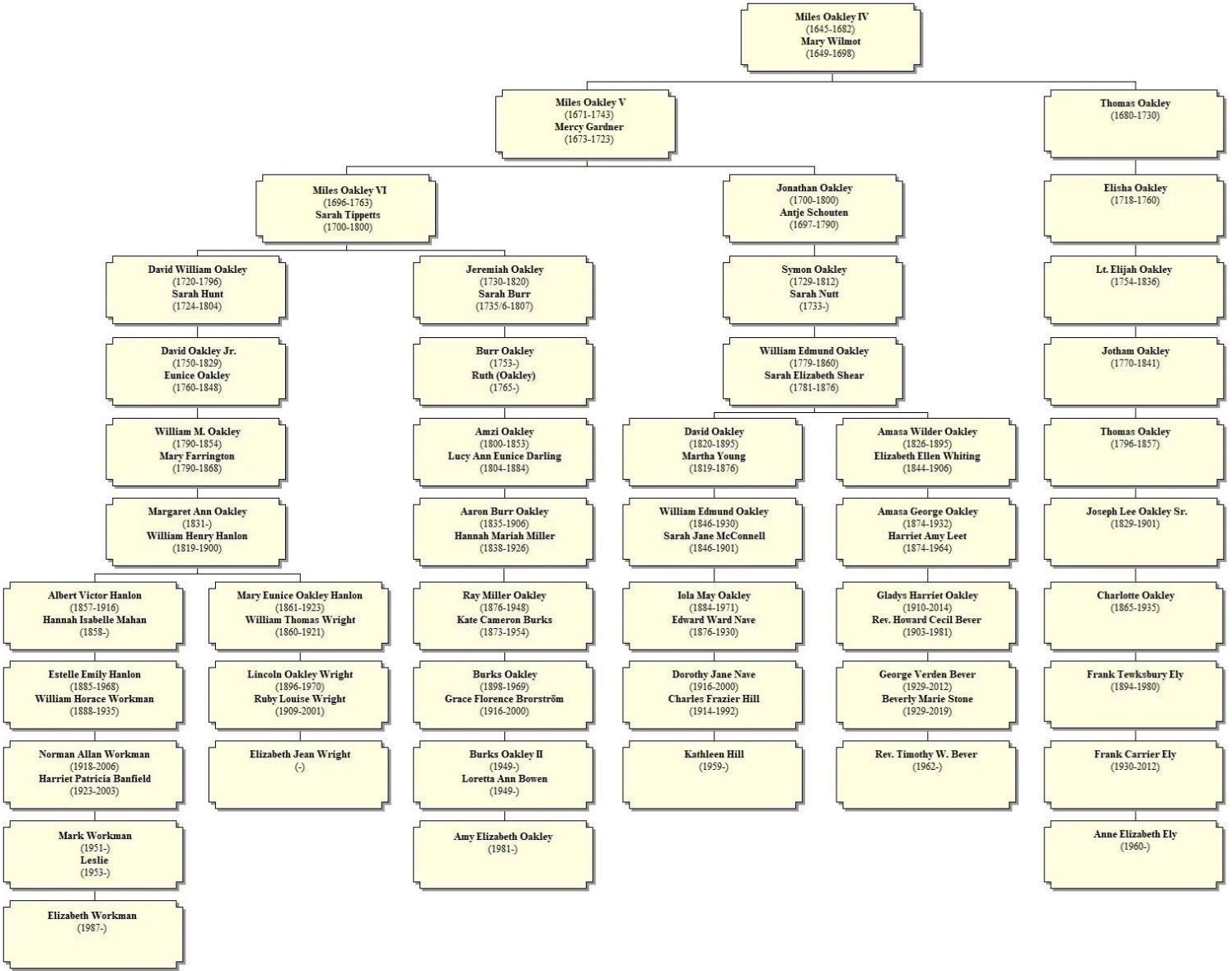
¹ The naming convention for all of the men named Miles Oakley in my ***Oakley*** ancestral line is explained in Appendix A.

The GEDmatch.com website provides a “2D Chromosome Browser”, and the following graphic shows how each of the seven of us match Tim Bever on Chromosome 15:

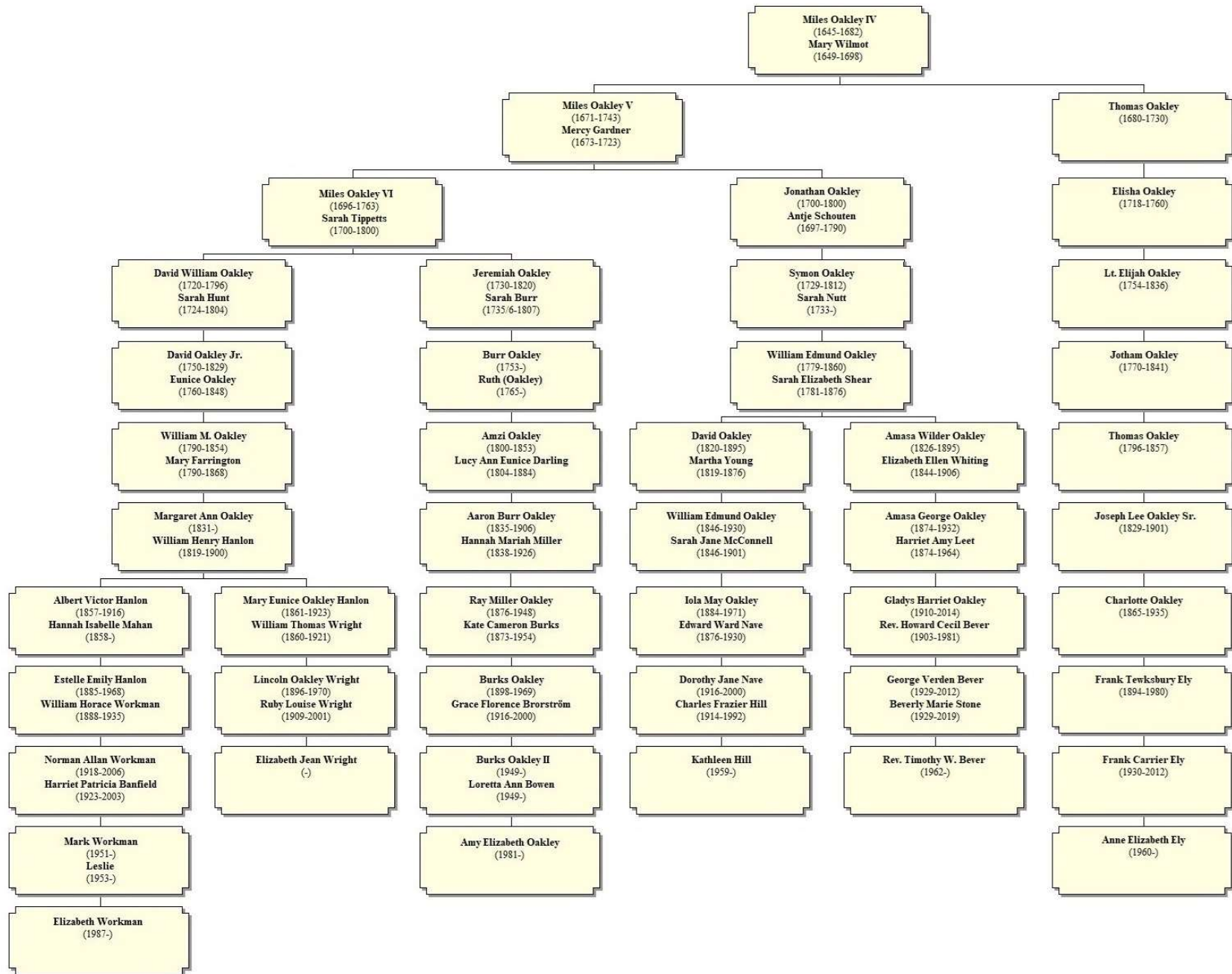


The line numbers at the left side of this graphic correspond to the numbers at the left of the table shown on the previous page. Note that Tim is NOT shown in this graphic – the horizontal lines show where on Chromosome 15 each of us matches with Tim.

The most important finding, of course, is that all eight people (Tim and the seven DNA matches) are descended from Miles Oakley IV and his wife Mary Wilmot, as shown in the following relationship chart:



This relationship chart is shown in landscape view on the next page:



I have written about all the people I have identified who are **Oakley-Wilmot** descendants² and have (part of) this DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/14A-DeepTriangulationConfirmsOurOakleyLineage.pdf>

<http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/14B-Triangulation-Chr.15.pdf>

In addition to the people identified in these two narratives, there are more than thirty (or is it fifty?) other individuals who share (part of) this DNA segment on Chromosome 15. I am confident that they also are **Oakley-Wilmot** descendants, but I haven’t been able to prove this – either they don’t have family trees available and/or they haven’t responded to my numerous emails. But from time-to-time, I go back and revisit these matches, hoping to find another person who is an **Oakley-Wilmot** descendant.

Earlier this month, I revisited a woman by the name of Sheryl Finch, who goes by her maiden name of Sheryl Lynn Parker on the GEDmatch.com website. Sheryl, her sister Jerene E. Parker, and Sheryl’s son Austin Finch (**ACFinch**), all have the **Oakley-Wilmot** DNA segment on Chromosome 15. I had looked at my DNA matches with them in the past, but I couldn’t find a genealogical connection to the **Oakley** family.

I looked at how Sheryl, Jerene, and Austin match Tim Bever on Chromosome 15. I included Jeani Trana, myself, and my daughter Amy in this comparison. Here is a chart showing where on Chromosome 15 each of us match Tim Bever:

Chr 15			
Match ID	Name	Matching segments on Chromosome 15	Overlap with previous match
1	Jeani Trana(A685139)	48098423 - 82573255 (40.2 cM), 83221392 - 95999729 (25.0 cM)	root
2	Burks Oakley II(WG268483C1)	38994113 - 81179553 (45.7 cM)	48098423 - 81179553
3	*Amy.Oakley(A059368)	39046212 - 81180981 (45.6 cM)	39046212 - 81179553
4	Jerene E Parker(A311966)	62429997 - 82573255 (24.5 cM)	62429997 - 81180981
5	Sheryl Lynn Parker(A105626)	62429997 - 82573255 (24.5 cM)	62429997 - 82573255
6	*ACFinch(GR2396243)	62429997 - 82573255 (24.5 cM)	62429997 - 82573255

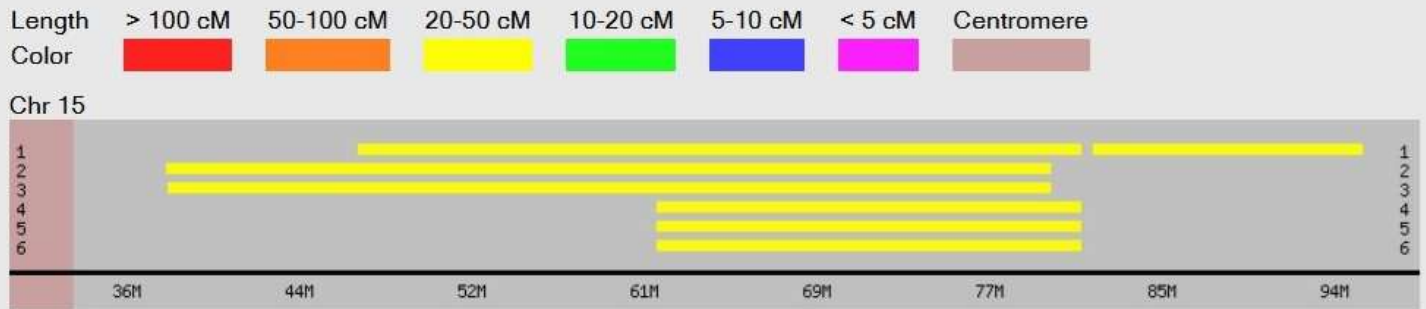
Sheryl, Jerene, and Austin all have the identical 24.5 cM segment matching Tim Bever.

Here is the graphic from the 2D Chromosome Browser on GEDmatch.com, showing these same DNA matches:

² Note that in the early stages of this research, I didn’t know how many generations back into the past the DNA match went, so I called it the Oakley-Gardner segment for many years.

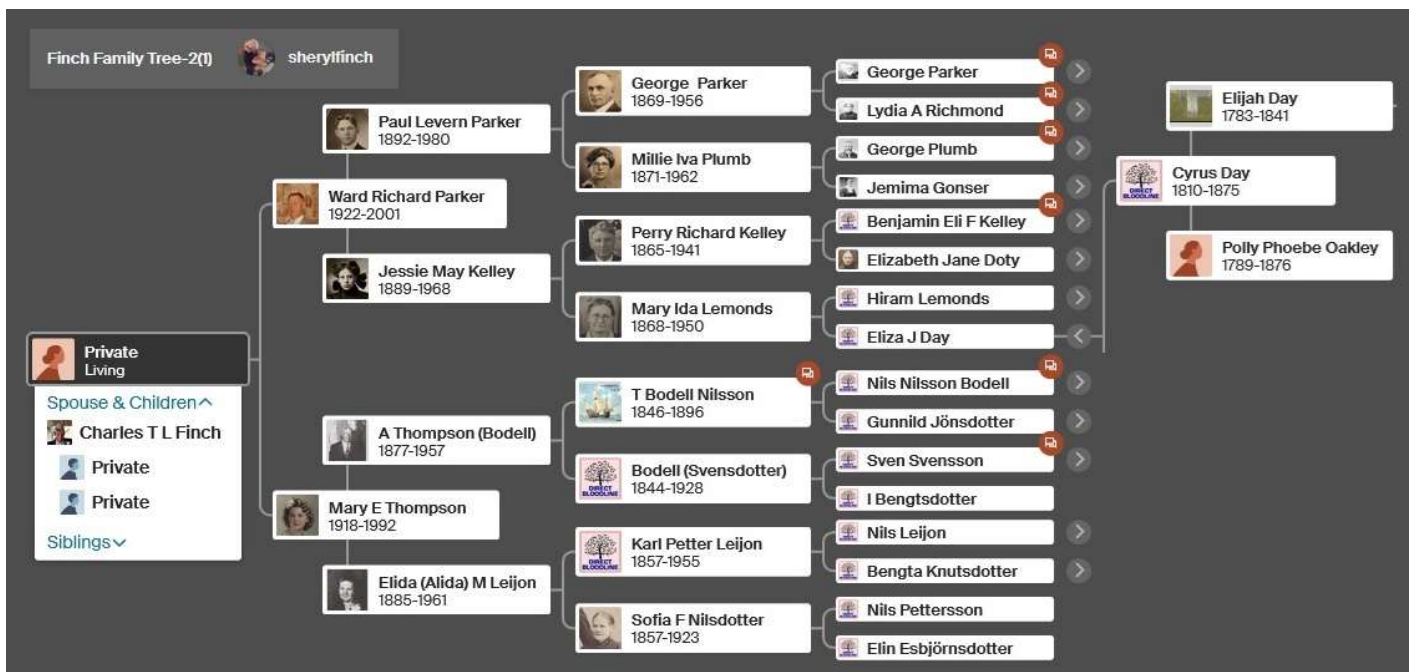
2D Chromosome with Kit ZR2798817 - *Tim.

LEGEND



Again, it is interesting that Austin (line 6) has the identical match with Tim that his mother (line 5) has. The segment appears to be passed from parent to child with little if any decrease in size (which could explain why it has persisted for so many generations).

My next task was to revisit Sheryl's family tree on the Ancestry.com website and look for an ***Oakley*** ancestor. I was amazed to see that since I last looked, she has added her fourth-great grandmother, Polly Phoebe Oakley (1789-1876), to her family tree. Polly Phoebe is shown at the far right in Sheryl's pedigree chart:



Certainly Polly Pheobe Oakley has to be the connection back to the ***Oakley-Wilmot*** couple, right?

Note that Sheryl is descended from Polly Phoebe Oakley on her father's side of the family.

Using family trees on Ancestry.com, I was able to construct an ancestral line for Polly Phoebe Oakley. She appears in 227 family trees on the Ancestry.com website:

Polly Phoebe Oakley from tree Day Family Tree			
Birth	24 Feb 1781 New Jersey, USA	Father	Thomas OAKLEY (1737-1821)
Marriage	1 Apr 1804 Chatham, Morris, New Jersey, USA	Mother	Nancy Oakley (1739-1819)
Residence	1850 Blendon, Franklin, Ohio, USA	Spouse	Elijah Day (1779-1841)
Death	23 Mar 1853 Ohio, USA		
379 People 3 Records 4 Sources			
Polly Phoebe Oakley from tree Hall Family Tree			
Birth	24 Feb 1781 Westfield, Union, New Jersey, USA	Father	Thomas Oakley (1737-1821)
Marriage	1 Apr 1804 Morris, Camden, New Jersey, USA	Mother	Nancy Clark (1759-1819)
Death	23 Mar 1853 Ohio, USA	Spouse	Elijah Day (1779-1841)
514 People 3 Records 4 Sources			
Polly Phoebe Crane Oakley-Day from tree Henson Family Tree			
Birth	24 Feb 1781 New Jersey, USA	Father	Thomas Oakley (1737-1821)
Marriage	19 Mar 1804 New Jersey, USA	Mother	Nancy Clark (1759-1819)
Death	23 Mar 1853 Ohio, USA	Spouse	Elijah Day (1779-1818)
144139 People 3 Records 4 Sources			

She married Elijah Day (1779-1841) – and here is her profile from the “Day Family Tree”:

of
Day Family Tree ▾
 Find in tree
VD
vddpc



Polly Phoebe Oakley

BIRTH 24 FEB 1781 • Westfield, Morris, New Jersey, United States
DEATH 23 MAR 1853 • , Ohio, USA

Family

Parents


Thomas Oakley
 1737–1821


Nancy Clark
 1759–1819

Spouse and children

 Elijah Day 1779–1841  Stephen Snethen Day 1805–1888  Elias Riggs Day 1807–1871  Cyrus Bruen Day 1810–1875	 John G Bergen Day 1812–1886  Ira Benton Day 1815–1865
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Sheryl's line back to Polly Phoebe Oakley (shown on the previous page) goes through Polly's son Cyrus B. Day (1810-1875), who is shown in the above profile.

Polly Phoebe’s father was Thomas Oakley (1737-1821):

Auten Family Tree

Find in tree

BA Byron Auten

Thomas Oakley

BIRTH

1737 • Morris Co., New Jersey, USA

DEATH

1821 • Chatham, Morris, New Jersey, USA

Family

Spouse and children

Parents

Ephraim Oakley

1700–1761

Sarah Davis

1708–1761

Nancy Clark

1759–1819

Jonathan Oakley

1779–

Jeremiah H. Oakley

1786–1862

Phebe Oakley

1781–

Daniel Oakley

1790–

Aaron Oakley

1783–1853

Clark Oakley

1791–

Johanna Oakley

1785–

Lot Oakley

1793–

Thomas Oakley’s father was Ephraim Oakley (1700-1761):

Auten Family Tree

Find in tree

BA Byron Auten

Ephraim Oakley

BIRTH

1700 • Jamaica, Queens, New York, USA

DEATH

3 APR 1761 • New Providence, Union, New Jersey, USA

Family

Spouse and children

Parents

DAVID OAKLEY

1673–

Unknown mother

Sarah Davis

1708–1761

Sylvanus Oakley

1724–1787

Ephraim Oakley

1732–

Thomas Oakley

1737–1821

Ephraim’s father was David Oakley (1673-1733):

DAR - Oakley

Find in tree

mabrand_56

David Oakley

BIRTH

1673 • Jamaica, Queens County, New York, USA

DEATH

24 JAN 1733 • Hempstead, Nassau, New York, USA

Family

Parents

Thomas "Captain" Oakley

1640-1709

Sarah Whitehead

1644-1694

Spouse and children

Mary Foster

1675-1768

Mary Oakley

1700-

Sarah Oakley

1700-1739

Ephraim Oakley

1700-1761

Nathaniel Oakley

1704-1794

Sarah Oakley

1707-1739

David Oakley Jr

1715-1796

Sylvanus Oakley

1724-1787

Thomas Oakley

1739-1821

David's father was Thomas Oakley (1640-1709). Thomas appears in 4000 different family trees on the Ancestry.com website:

All Family Trees results for Thomas Oakley

Captain Thomas Oakley found in 4000 trees

View all

Captain Thomas Oakley from tree

Garver-Long-Moore Family Tree

Birth

1640 Boston, Lincolnshire, England

Marriage

1706 New York City, New York, USA

Residence

USA

Death

Jan 1709 New York City, New York, USA

Father

Miles Oakly (1612-1672)

Mother

Mary Browne (1607-1682)

Spouse

Elizabeth -Oakley (1641-1689)

98505 People

20 Records

29 Sources

Thomas came to America with his father Miles Oakley III and his brother Miles Oakley IV in 1651. Their ship took them to Boston, Massachusetts. Note that Thomas was born in 1640 – so his birth location had to be England. Yet most of the family trees have him being born in Boston, Massachusetts. Or even worse, in “Boston, Lincolnshire, England”, as shown above.

Here is a profile for Thomas Oakley:

Dee Rochelle Van Natta

Find in tree

RN Rietta Van Natta



Thomas Oakley

BIRTH

1640 • Boston, Suffolk, Masschusetts Bay Company

DEATH

JAN 1709 • Jamaica, Queens, Province of New York

Facts

1640

(AGE)

Birth

1640 • Boston, Suffolk, Masschusetts Bay Company

1 source

1645

5

Birth of brother [Miles 4 Oakley](#) (1645–1682)

15 Jul 1645 • Oakley Grove, England

1665

25

Marriage

about 1665 • Jamaica, Queens, Province of New York



[Sarah Whitehead](#)

1644–1694

Family

Parents



[Miles 3 OAKLEY](#)

1612–1672



[Mary BROWNE](#)

1607–1693

Siblings



[Elizabeth Oakley](#)

1635–1671



[Miles 4 Oakley](#)

1645–1682

Spouse and children



[Sarah Whitehead](#)

1644–1694



[Daniel Oakley](#)

1666–1709



[Elizabeth Oakley](#)

1668–



[Sara Oakley](#)

1671–



[David Oakley](#)

1673–



[Nathaniel 1 OAKLEY](#)

1678–1733



[Hepsibah Oakley](#)

1681–



[Patience Oakley](#)

1689–

Thomas’ parents were Miles Oakley III (1612-1672) and Mary Browne (1607-1693):

benedict Family Tree

Find in tree

MA mapletot



Miles 3 OAKLEY

BIRTH

BEFORE 10 AUG 1612 • Saffron Walden, Essex, England

DEATH

AFTER 19 OCT 1672 • Boston, Suffolk, Massachusetts Bay Colony

Family

Parents



[Miles Oakley](#)

1574–1636



[Susan MAY](#)

1571–1626

Spouse and children



[Mary BROWNE](#)

1607–1693



[Elizabeth Oakley](#)

1635–1671



[Thomas Oakley](#)

1640–1709



[Miles 4 Oakley](#)

1645–1682

benedict Family Tree

Find in tree

MA

maplelot



Mary BROWNE

BIRTH

27 SEP 1607 • Walden, Essex, England

DEATH

AFTER 1693 • New York Colony

Family

Parents



Godfrye BROWNE

1583–1631



Elizabeth MORE

1584–

Spouse and children



Miles 3 OAKLEY

1612–1672



Elizabeth Oakley

1635–1671



Thomas Oakley

1640–1709



Miles 4 Oakley

1645–1682

Oh my!! Miles Oakley III and his wife Mary Browne were my eighth-great grandparents – and now I have found the ancestors that I have in common with Sheryl Finch!! I thought I was looking for Sheryl’s ancestral line back to Miles Oakley IV and his wife Mary Wilmot. But instead, I found Sheryl’s ancestral line back to the parents of Miles Oakley IV. Could this be possible? If so, it would extend the DNA segment on Chromosome 15 back one more generation. If this is true, it is really an amazing finding!

Recall that my line back to Miles Oakley III and Mary Browne goes through their son, Miles Oakley IV, who was married to Mary Wilmot:

Embree Family Tree Jun...

Find in tree

Irene Oakley



Miles OAKLEY IV

BIRTH

15 JUL 1645 • Oakley Grove, Cumberland, Oakley Parish,England

DEATH

16 MAY 1682 • Westchester, New York

Facts

1645 (AGE)

Birth

15 JUL 1645 • Oakley Grove, Cumberland, Oakley Parish,England

2 sources

1651 6

Arrival

1651 • Boston, Massachusetts

1 source

1669 24

Marriage

1669 • Great Neck, Queens, New York, United States



Mary WATERS WILMOT

1649–1698

1 source

Family

Parents



Miles Okeley (Oakley) 111

1612–1672



Mary Browne

1607–1682

Spouse and children



Mary WATERS WILMOT

1649–1698



Edward Oakley

1669–1680



Bridget Oakley

1675–1698



Wilmot Oakley

1670–1682



John Oakley

1678–1722



Jesse Oakley

1671–1688



Thomas Oakley Sr

1680–1730



Miles OAKLEY V

1671–1741



Mary Oakley

1682–1707

I had referred to the DNA segment on Chromosome 15 as the ***Oakley-Wilmot*** segment, since I previously had thought that they were the first generation in my ancestral line to have this DNA segment (I thought that it came from one of them). It now appears that I should refer to this as the ***Oakley-Browne*** segment!

Here is a chart showing how Sheryl and I are related:



According to this chart, Sheryl and I are ninth-cousins once-removed. Yet we have a DNA match on Chromosome 15 that is 21.6 cM (on the GEDmatch.com website):

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) [Migration - F2 - A] and Kit A105626 (Sheryl Lynn Parker) [Migration - F2 - A]

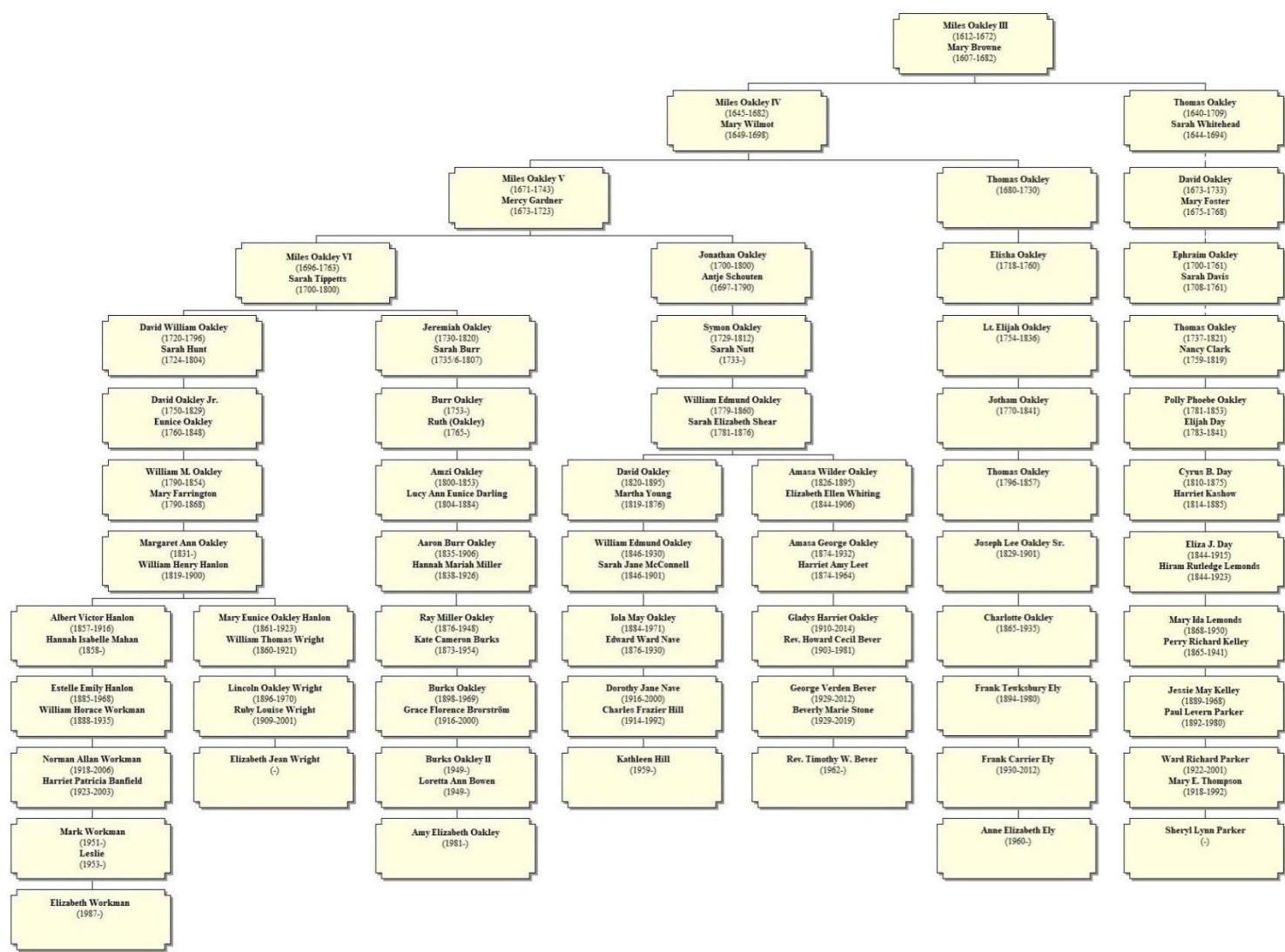
Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
15	62,427,674	81,091,879	21.6	3,788	213	128	0.4

Largest segment = 21.6 cM

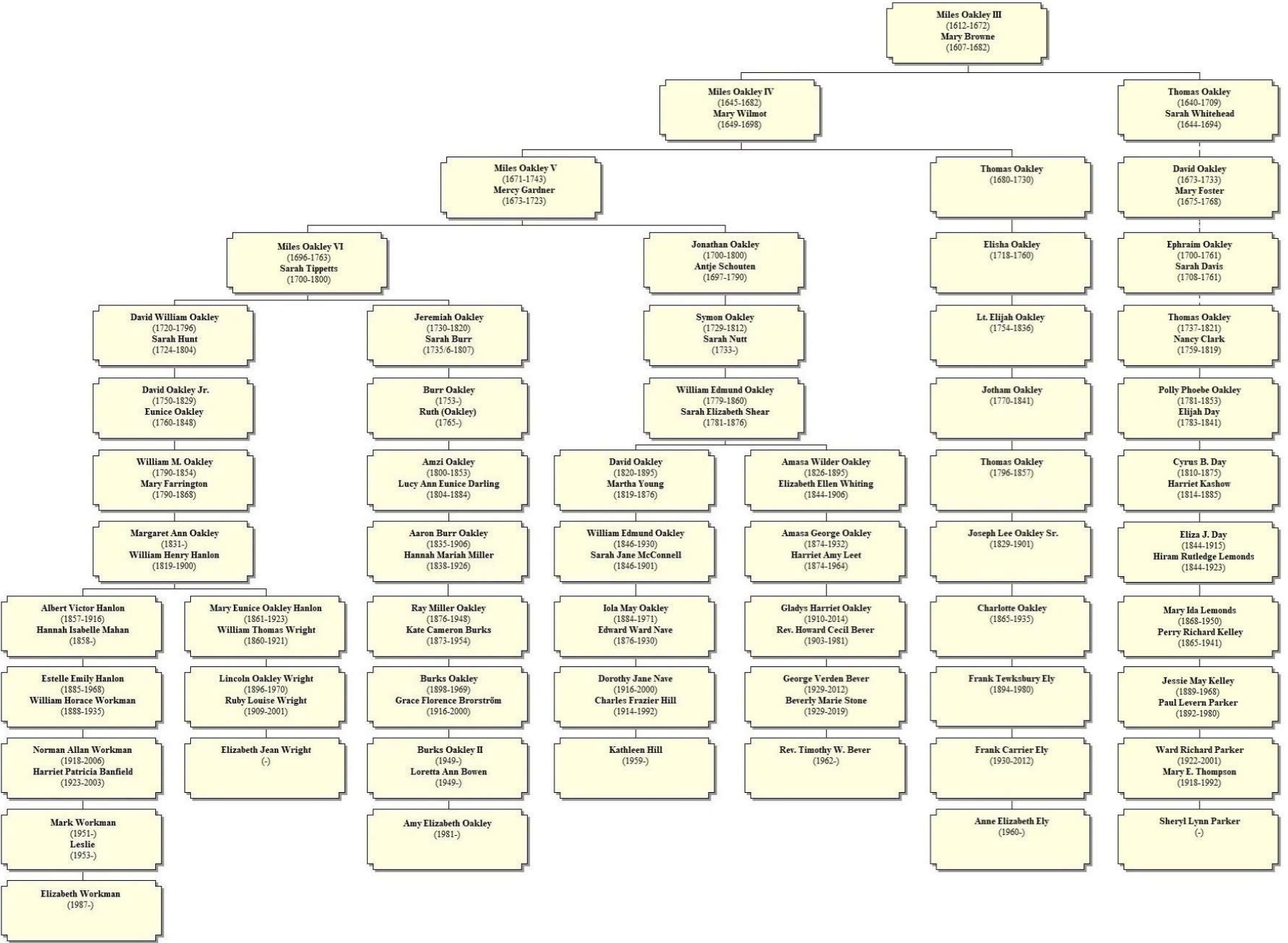
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.7

Based solely on the size of our DNA match, software on the GEDmatch.com website predicts that our MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) should be 4.7 generations back – yet based on the relationship chart shown above, our MRCA is really 10.5. This is another bizarre finding – that this autosomal DNA segment persists over so many generations.

I now can add Sheryl’s ancestral line to the overall relationship chart:



On the next page, this chart is shown in landscape view:



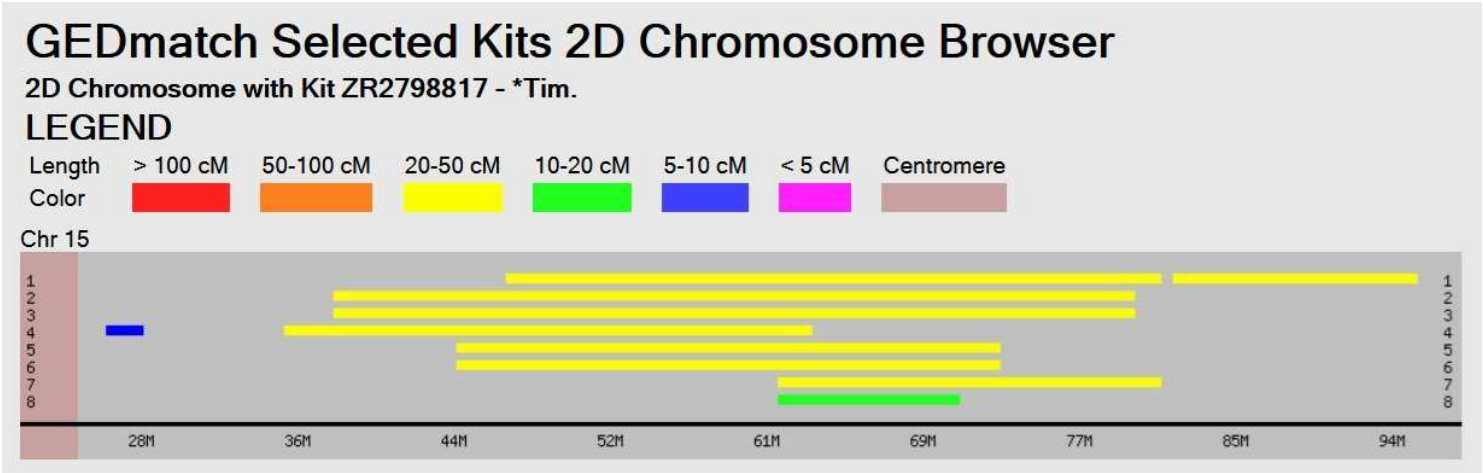
Of course, this description wouldn't be complete without showing the DNA matches. Here is a table showing how everyone matches Tim Bever on Chromosome 15:

Chr 15			
Match ID	Name	Matching segments on Chromosome 15	Overlap with previous match
1	Jeani Trana(A685139)	48098423 - 82573255 (40.2 cM), 83221392 - 95999729 (25.0 cM)	root
2	Burks Oakley II(WG268483C1)	38994113 - 81179553 (45.7 cM)	48098423 - 81179553
3	*Amy.Oakley(A059368)	39046212 - 81180981 (45.6 cM)	39046212 - 81179553
4	Kathy Hill Orr(A657657)	27050817 - 28962131 (7.1 cM), 36417486 - 64176308 (31.1 cM)	39046212 - 64176308
5	*EBW91(A127417)	45457458 - 74107677 (34.3 cM)	45457458 - 64176308
6	*Mark628(A171585)	45457458 - 74111343 (34.3 cM)	45457458 - 74107677
7	Sheryl Lynn Parker(A105626)	62429997 - 82573255 (24.5 cM)	62429997 - 74111343
8	*AEW(A348886)	62424649 - 71921839 (14.2 cM)	62429997 - 71921839

This table shows where on Chromosome 15 the following people match Tim Bever:

- Jeani Trana
- Burks Oakley
- Amy Oakley
- Kathy Hill Orr
- Elizabeth Workman
- Mark Workman
- Sheryl Lynn Parker (Sheryl Finch)
- Ann Ely Wain

Here is the corresponding graphic from the 2D chromosome browser on GEDmatch.com:



All of these people match Tim Bever on Chromosome 15, and based on various family trees, all of these people are descended from Miles Oakley III and his wife Mary Browne – my eighth-great grandparents.

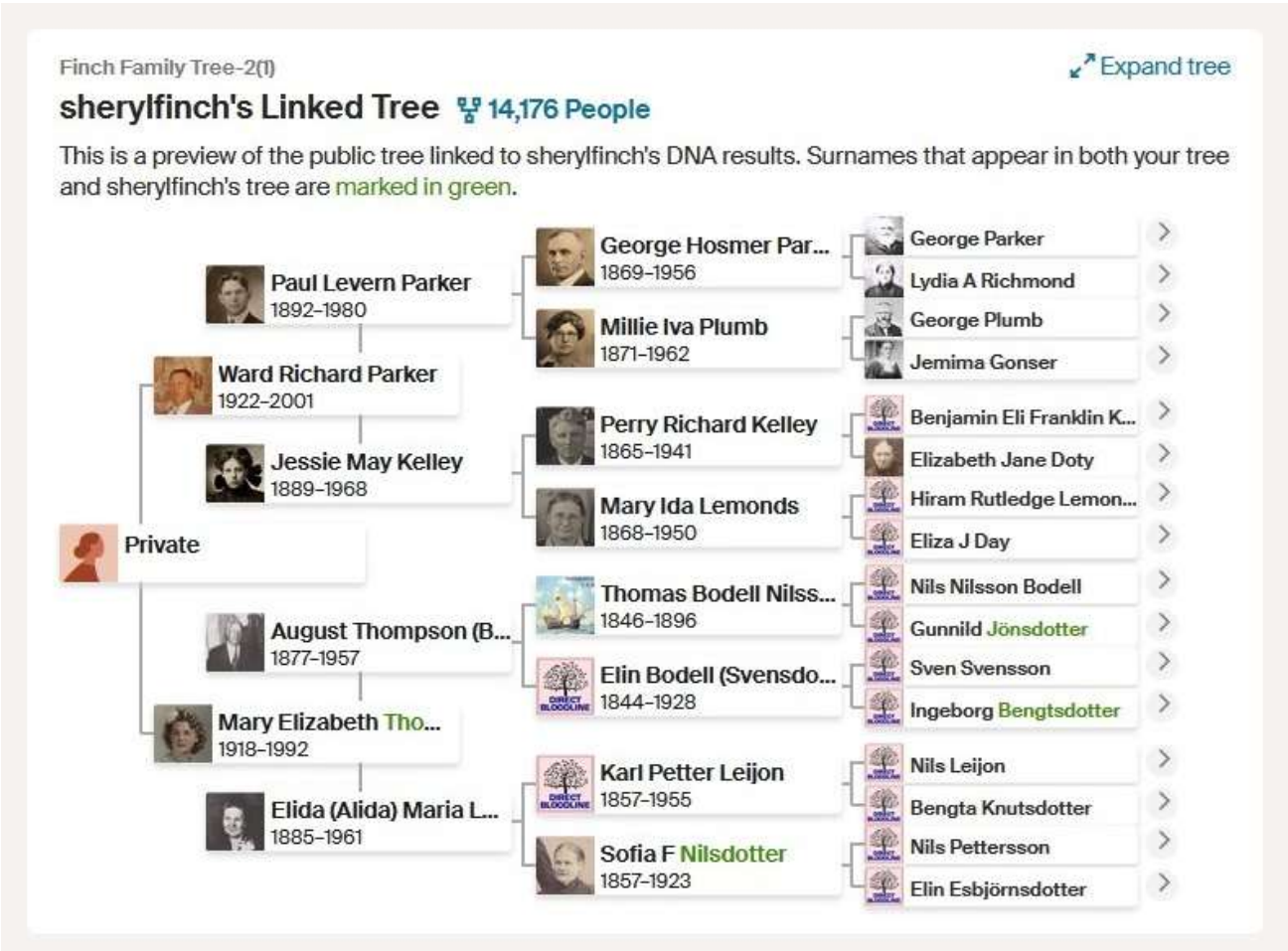
One more little factoid:

I am descended from Miles Oakley IV through his son Miles Oakley V (1671-1741). Note that Miles IV married Mary Wilmot (1649-1698), and they named

one of their sons Wilmot Oakley. So the tradition of using the mother’s surname as a son’s first name has been in the ***Oakley*** family for a long, long time.³

Switching Gears – Moving on to Sheryl’s Maternal Ancestors

Let me now go back to Sheryl Finch’s DNA profile on the Ancestry.com website. Here is her pedigree chart (she is the person marked “Private” at the far left of the chart):

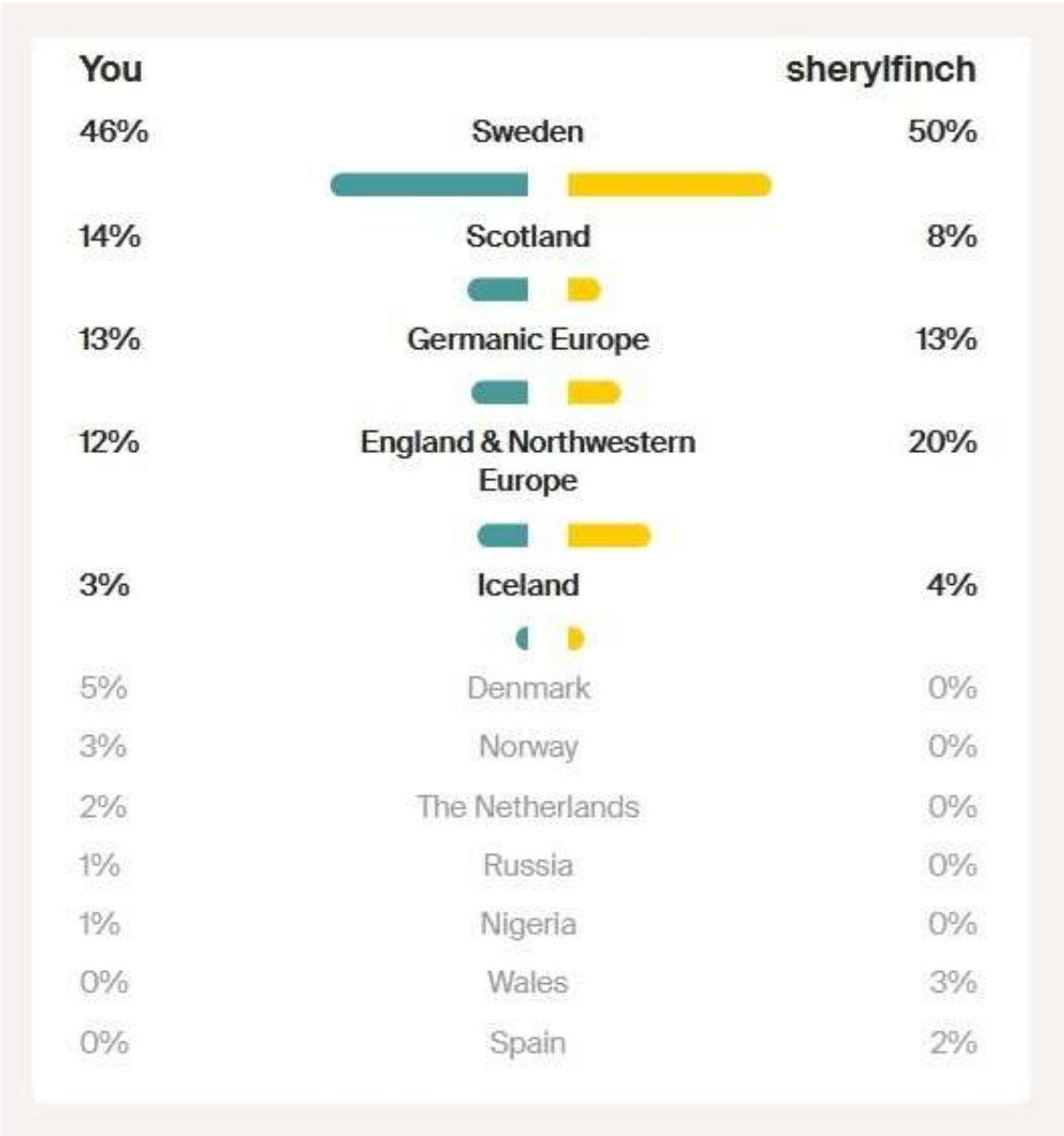


Sheryl’s mother was Mary Elizabeth Thompson (1918-1992), and all four of Mary Elizabeth’s grandparents were born in Sweden. This is just like my pedigree, in that all four of my mother’s grandparents were born in Sweden.

It would appear that the ***Thompson*** surname was pulled out of thin air sometime after her maternal grandfather, August Bodell, immigrated to the United States.

For fun, I looked at Sheryl’s ethnicity estimates on Ancestry.com:

³ My father, Burks Oakley, is a great example of this – his mother’s maiden name was ***Burks***. In a similar vein, my cousin Hal Oakley married Kathy Bennett, and they named their first son Bennett Oakley. And my cousin Cathy Oakley married Gary Bunce, and they name their son Oakley Bunce.



Not surprisingly, her ethnicity estimate includes 50% Sweden.

As long as I was looking at Sheryl’s information on the Ancestry.com website, I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”.



You and sherylfinch

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 18 cM across 1 segments

Trees Origins Shared Matches

Distant Family

	john Bever	Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 43 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Public linked tree 5 People
	Timothy Bever Managed by Marva Gervais	3rd cousin 1x removed or half 3rd cousin 43 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Public linked tree 1,006 People
	Howard Bever	Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Unlinked Tree
	Cassidy Prentiss	Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 39 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Public linked tree 1,102 People
	Donald Baird	Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 38 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Unlinked Tree
	A.B. Managed by Donald Baird	3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Unlinked Tree
	rjtrana50	4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Public linked tree 43 People Common ancestor
	Viveka Anderberg	4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 23 cM < 1% shared DNA Maternal side	No Trees
	Austin Finch Managed by sherylfinch	Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 21 cM < 1% shared DNA Paternal side	Public linked tree 14,176 People

These matches include Tim Bever, as well as John Bever, Howard Bever, and Cassidy Prentiss. John Bever is Tim Bever’s brother. Howard Bever is Tim Bever’s uncle (his father’s brother). Cassidy Prentiss is Howard Bever’s granddaughter. Howard’s full name is Howard Oakley Bever. They all are ***Oakley*** descendants, and Tim Bever appears to have the largest ***Oakley-Browne*** DNA segment on Chromosome 15 on the GEDmatch.com website.

These shared DNA matches also include Donald Baird and his son Andrew Baird (**A.B.**). I can trace their ancestral line back to my ancestors Miles Oakley VI (1695-1769) and his wife Sarah Tippetts (1700-1783). For various reasons, I am pretty sure that we all match on Chromosome 15.

These shared DNA matches also include Jeani Trana (***rjtrana50***) and Austin Finch (Sheryl Finch’s son), who I mentioned earlier (and they most definitely have the ***Oakley*** segment on Chromosome 15).

The last individual on the screenshot on the previous page is a woman named Viveka Anderberg. And it says that she is one of my Maternal DNA matches – whereas all the other matches were on the Paternal side of my family tree. How can this be? Does that mean that Sheryl Finch and I have another set of common ancestors who lived in Sweden?

According to the Ancestry.com website, Sheryl and I share 18 cM on a single DNA segment:



You and **sherylfinch**

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side

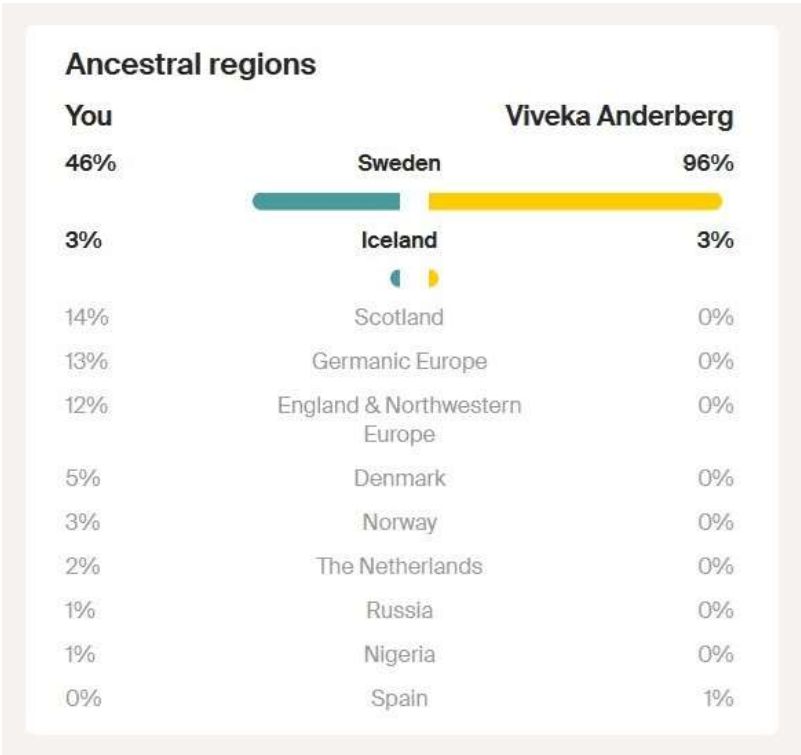
< 1% shared DNA: 18 cM across 1 segments

From GEDmatch.com, I know that our DNA match is on Chromosome 15 – this is what I now refer to as the ***Oakley-Browne*** segment.

Now I find that both Sheryl and I match Viveka Anderberg. But since Sheryl and I only have one segment in common, Sheryl and I must match Viveka at different locations in the genome. Note that a shared DNA match on Ancestry.com does NOT imply that all three people share the same identical segment of DNA.

Who is Viveka Anderberg?

I first looked at her “Ethnicity Estimates”:



Wow! She is 96% Swedish – I wouldn’t be at all surprised if she is a Swede who lives in Sweden. In fact, there are only five women named Viveka Anderberg listed on the Swedish website Ratsit.se:



Viveka Anderberg

Stella Viveka Anderberg
Rydebäcks Stationsgata 45 lgh 1101, Rydebäck
84 år ♀

Lena Evy Viveka Anderberg

Skördevägen 15, Segeltorp
77 år ♀

Eva Viveka Anderberg

Åldermansvägen 7, Bromölla
70 år ♀

Elin Viveka Anderberg

Klockspelsvägen 14, Staffanstorp
39 år ♀

Victoria Viveka Wanda Anderberg

Övre Besvärsgatan 9 lgh 1504, Göteborg
33 år ♀

And only two of these women actually go by the name of Viveka. I wonder which one is my DNA match....

I next looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”:



You and Viveka Anderberg

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Maternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 23 cM across 1 segments

TreesOriginsShared Matches

Distant Family



EC Alvdén
Managed by LL Kolmberger

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

 Public linked tree
364 People
 Common ancestor



Jeffrey Koldoff

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

 No Trees



Austin Finch
Managed by shervfinch

Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed
21 cM | < 1% shared DNA
Paternal side

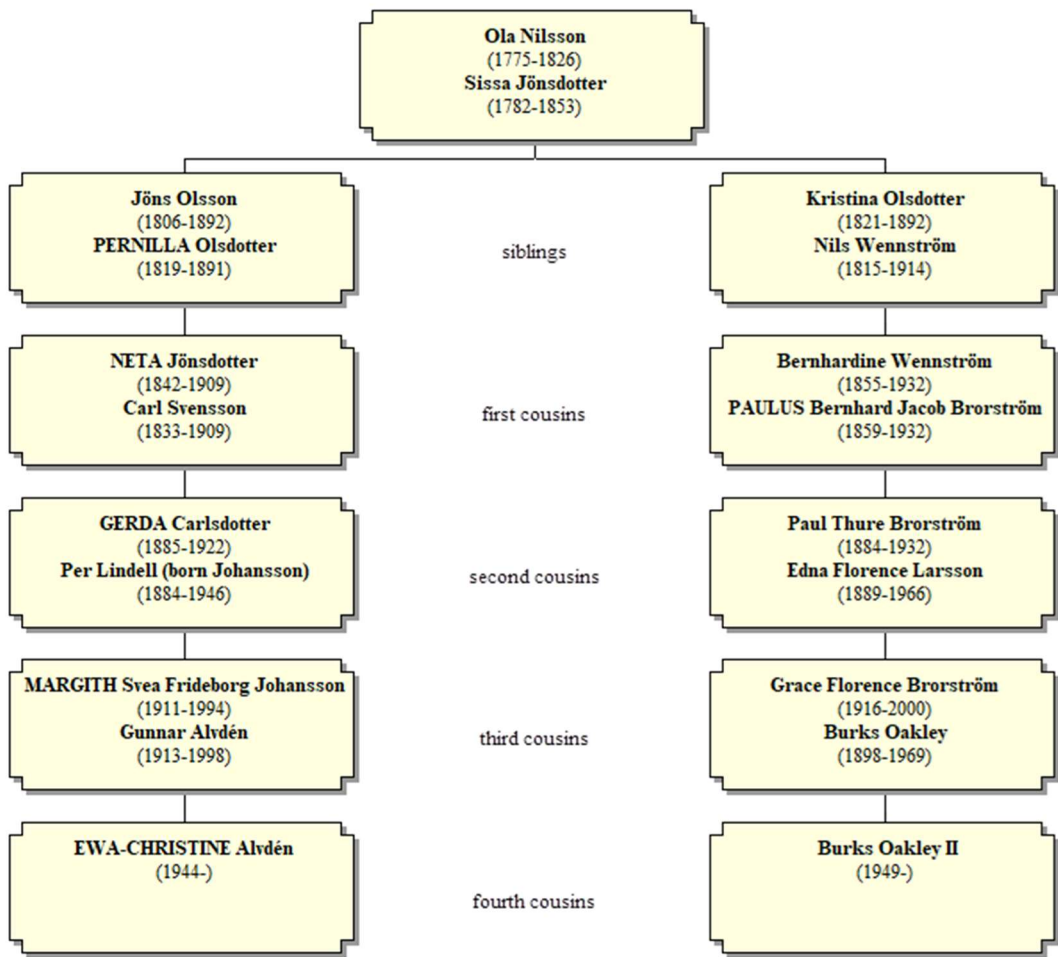
 Public linked tree
14,176 People

Oh my!! The first shared match is with EC Alvdén (Ewa-Christine Alvdén). I met this woman in May 2018 when I visited her daughter, Lise-Lotte Kolmberger, at Lise-Lotte’s home in Bildal, Sweden.



Burks and Ewa-Christine in Bildal, Sweden
12 May 2018

Here is a chart showing how Ewa-Christine Alvdén and I are related:



Ewa-Christine and I are both descended from Ola Nilsson and his wife Sissa Jonsdotter. On my line, this couple were the parents of Kristina Olsdotter. Kristina was married to Nils Wennström, and I have visited their graves in the church cemetery in Hasslöv and their home in nearby Menlösa several times when I have been in Sweden.

Going back to the DNA matches that I share with Viveka Anderberg, we both have DNA matches with Sheryl Finch’s son Austin Finch – not surprising.

The third shared DNA match is with a man named Jeffrey Koldoff – and I have absolutely no idea who this man is. Note that he is listed as a Maternal side match for me, which likely points to a common ancestor in Sweden. Here are the DNA matches I share with Jeffrey Koldoff:



You and Jeffrey Koldoff

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Maternal side

< 1% shared DNA: 22 cM across 1 segments

Trees

Origins

Shared Matches

Distant Family



Erik Ryberg

3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

23 cM | < 1% shared DNA

Maternal side

Private linked tree

1,934 People

We have a shared DNA match with Eva Josefsson. 15Oct23



Viveka Anderberg

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

23 cM | < 1% shared DNA

Maternal side

No Trees

Wow! The first match is with Erik Ryberg, and I previously noted that Erik and I have a shared DNA match with Eva Josefsson. I have visited Eva and her husband Sterner many times during my visits to Sweden. They live in Halmstad, on the west coast of Sweden. And Erik lives in Båstad, in far northwest Skåne, Sweden – just 38 km south of Halmstad. In fact, my daughter Amy and I had lunch with Eva and Sterner in Båstad during our visit to Sweden in the summer of 2023.

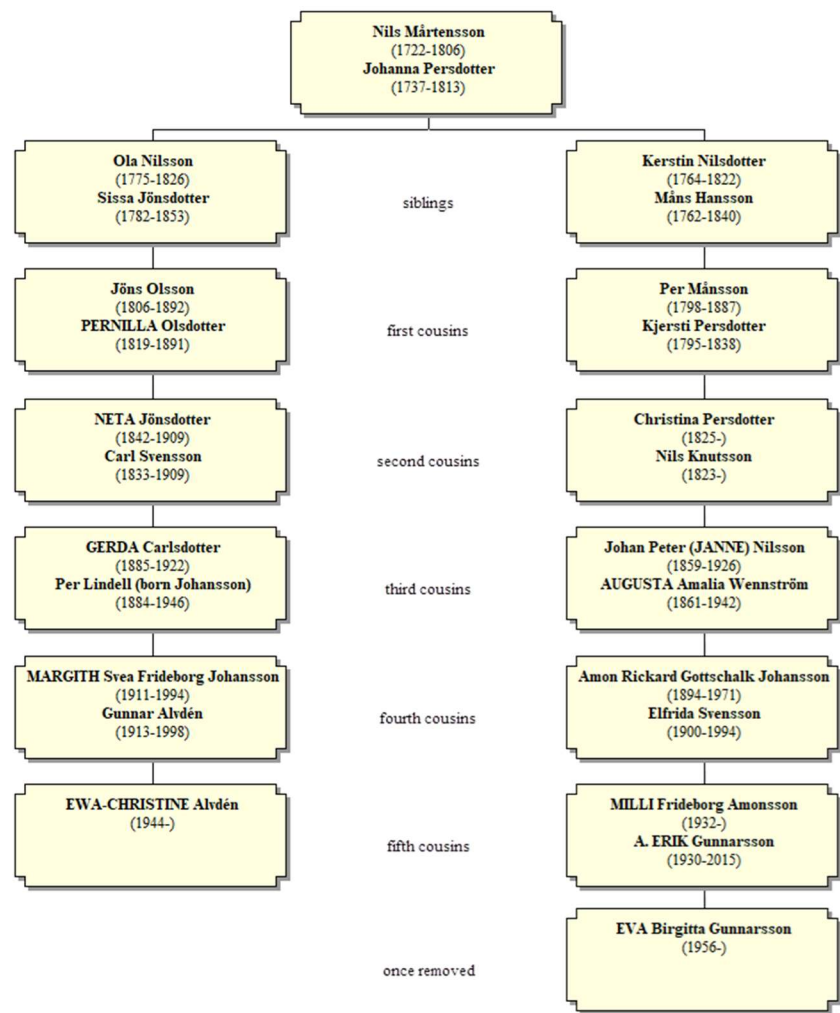


Eva and Sterner at their home in Halmstad, Sweden
14 May 2018

I actually am related to Eva in two different ways:

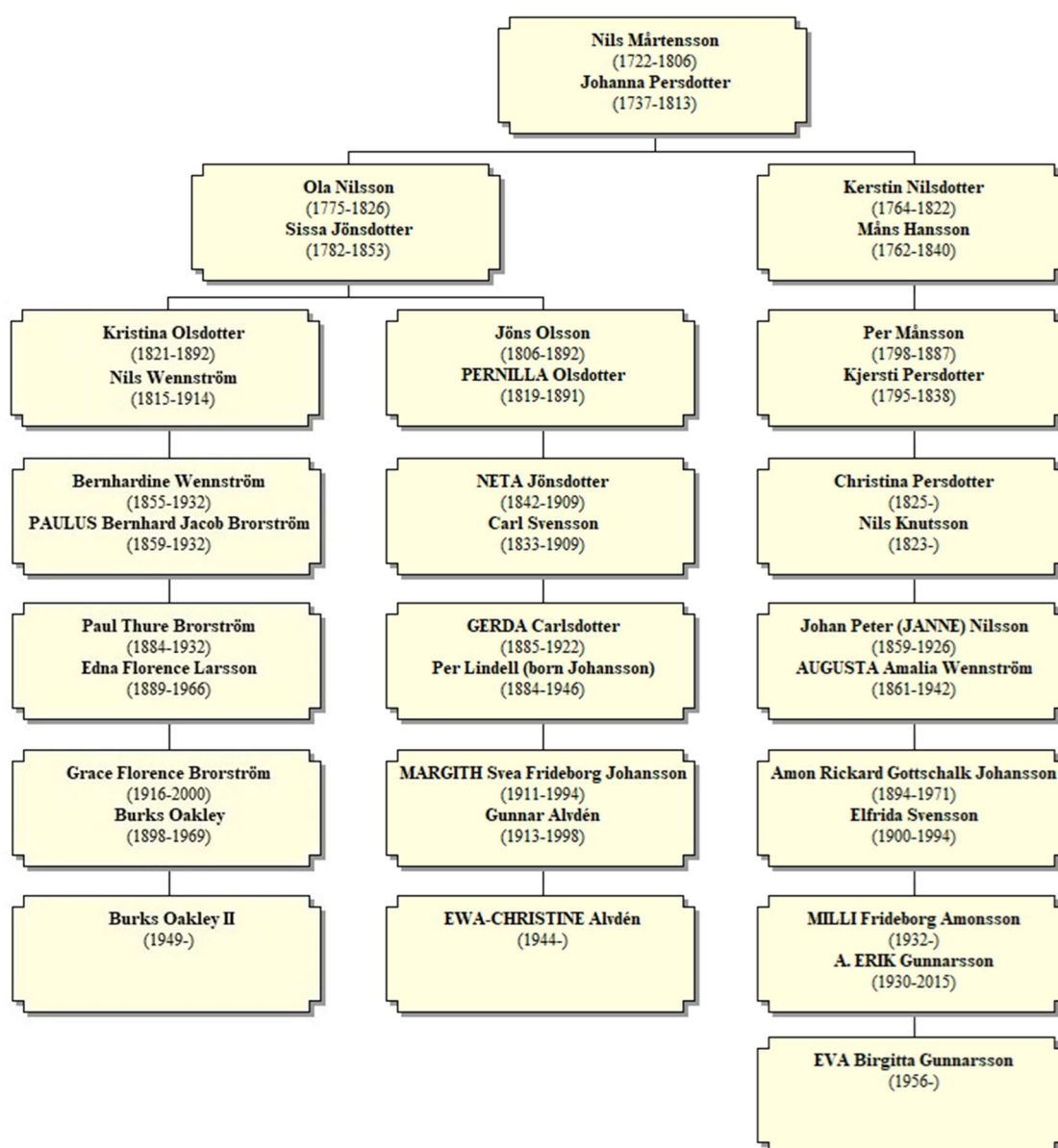


I know that Eva Josefsson (née Gunnarsson) is related to Ewa-Christine Alvdén:



Son of a gun! The couple at the top of this chart are also my direct ancestors.

I can add my branch to this chart and show how all three of us are related:



The three of us are all descended from Nils Mårtensson and his wife Johanna Persdotter. Nils was born in Våxtorp and died in Hasslöv. Johanna lived her entire life in Hasslöv. And Sheryl Finch has ancestors in Hasslöv:

Finch Family Tree-2(1) ▾

Find in tree

sherylfinch

DIRECT
BLOODLINE

Johanna Rasmusdotter

BIRTH 03 SEP 1749 • Tjuvhult, Hasslov, N, Sweden

DEATH Unknown

I assume that all these DNA matches mean that Sheryl and I have common ancestors in Sweden, and they are very likely to have been from the Hasslöv area. I'll have to get in touch with Lise-Lotte Kolmberger to see if she knows how her mother is related to Viveka Anderberg and Sheryl Finch.

Summary

I have a DNA match with Sheryl Finch (and her son Austin Finch and her sister Jerene Parker) on Chromosome 15. This segment comes from the ***Oakley*** family, and with the addition of Sheryl's line, appears to go back to Miles Oakley III and his wife Mary Browne, who were my eighth-great grandparents. They were born in Saffron Walden, England.



Saffron Walden Town Square
Photo taken by Burks during his visit to England in September 2019.

This DNA match is **incredibly significant**, since it pushes the DNA segment on Chromosome 15 back another generation – to my eighth-great grandparents. This certainly has to be one of the most important findings of my journey in ***genetic genealogy*** (look it up if you don't understand this term).

Another amazing aspect of my genealogical relationship with Sheryl Finch is that she and I have a shared DNA match with a Swedish woman named Viveka Anderberg. My DNA match with Viveka is on my mother's side of the family. My mother's four grandparents all immigrated from Sweden, and Sheryl's mother's four grandparents also immigrated from Sweden. I conclude that Sheryl and I are very likely to have a set of common ancestors from Sweden.

Viveka and I have shared DNA matches with Ewa-Christine Alvdén and Jeffrey Koldoff. In turn, Jeffrey Koldoff and I have a shared DNA match with a Swedish man named Erik Ryberg. And Erik and I have a shared DNA match with Eva Josefsson.

Ewa-Christine Alvdén, Eva Josefsson, and I are all descended from Nils Mårtensson (1722-1806) and his wife Johanna Persdotter (1737-1813). This couple lived in Hasslöv, in southern Halland County. Sheryl has Swedish

ancestors who lived in Hasslöv. It seems probable that Sheryl Finch and I had a set of common ancestors who lived in Hasslöv at some point in the distant past.

The bottom line is that I am related to Sheryl Finch in two totally different ways. Through her father, we are related through my father's ***Oakley*** line. And through her mother, we are related through my mother's Swedish ancestors in southern Halland County, Sweden.

What an amazing DNA match!!!

Appendix A: Miles Oakley Over the Generations

There is a major difficulty dealing with my ***Oakley*** ancestral line, which goes back to England in the mid-1500's – this is something that I have struggled with, even though I think that I know all the relationships. The problem is that there exists a string of generations in my ancestral line where each generation has a male named Miles Oakley, so referring to a person by this name can be incredibly confusing. Many “genealogists” on Ancestry.com have used Roman numerals (I, II, III, etc.), but often they start numbering beginning with a different generation, so Miles Oakley III is a different person in the various family trees. And I doubt that people in the 1500's and 1600's used Roman numerals in naming their children.

For the purposes of this document, I used the following generational names when I discussed my ***Oakley*** ancestral line:

Miles Oakley I (1554-1594)

He was married to Agnes Bell (1555-1593).

Miles Oakley II (1574–1636)

He was married to Susan May (1571-1626).

Miles Oakley III (1612-1698)

He was married to Mary Browne (1607-1668).

Miles Oakley IV (1645-1682)

He was married to Mary Wilmot (1649-1698).

Miles Oakley V (1671-1741)

He was married to Mercy Gardner (1673-1723).

Miles Oakley VI (1696-1763)

He was married to Sarah Tippetts (1696-1800).

Jeremiah Oakley (1729-1820)

He was married to Sarah Burr (1736-1807).

They were my fourth-great grandparents.