

Aileen Sandwick – A Wennström Relative

By Burks Oakley II

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This narrative includes my DNA connection with:

- Aileen Sandwick

Introduction

In the past few years, I have become very interested in my Swedish roots. My mother was Grace Florence Brorström (1916-2000), and all four of her grandparents immigrated to America from Sweden in the early 1880's, so her ethnicity was 100% Swedish. In turn, this means that I am 50% Swedish, and therefore I can proudly claim that I am a Swedish-American.

In researching my Swedish ancestry, I have made great use of my DNA matches on the Ancestry.com website. In February 2019, Ancestry released beta versions of several new software tools for exploring, organizing, and identifying a user's DNA matches. There are two parts to this software: a new "Matches" interface and a separate feature called ThruLines™, which uses both DNA and family tree information to suggest possible relationships that would account for a user's DNA matches.

From time to time, I look at my new DNA matches on the Ancestry.com website using the "Common ancestors" filter. Using this filter creates a list of my DNA matches where the ThruLines™ software has been able to identify that we have a common ancestor (or ancestors) – meaning that it is possible that we both are descended from this person (or couple). In late July 2019, I scanned the list for new matches, which are flagged with a blue dot. I found a new DNA match with Aileen Sandwick.

Aileen Sandwick

Here is my new DNA match with Aileen Sandwick:

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Aileen Sandwick'. At the top, there are three dropdown menus: 'Groups' (selected), 'Common ancestors' (selected), and 'Search'. Below the search bar, there is a profile picture of Aileen Sandwick and her name. To the right, it says '5th-8th Cousin' and 'Shared DNA: 10 cM across 1 segments'. Further to the right, there is a green icon for '35 People' and a green leaf icon for 'Common ancestor'. At the bottom right, there are buttons for 'Add/edit groups' and a file icon.

Note that the software concluded that we have a common ancestor. When I clicked on the "Common ancestor" link, I went to a page that showed our common ancestors:

How are you and Aileen Sandwick related?

Common Ancestors

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

Aileen Sandwick could be your 6th cousin through:

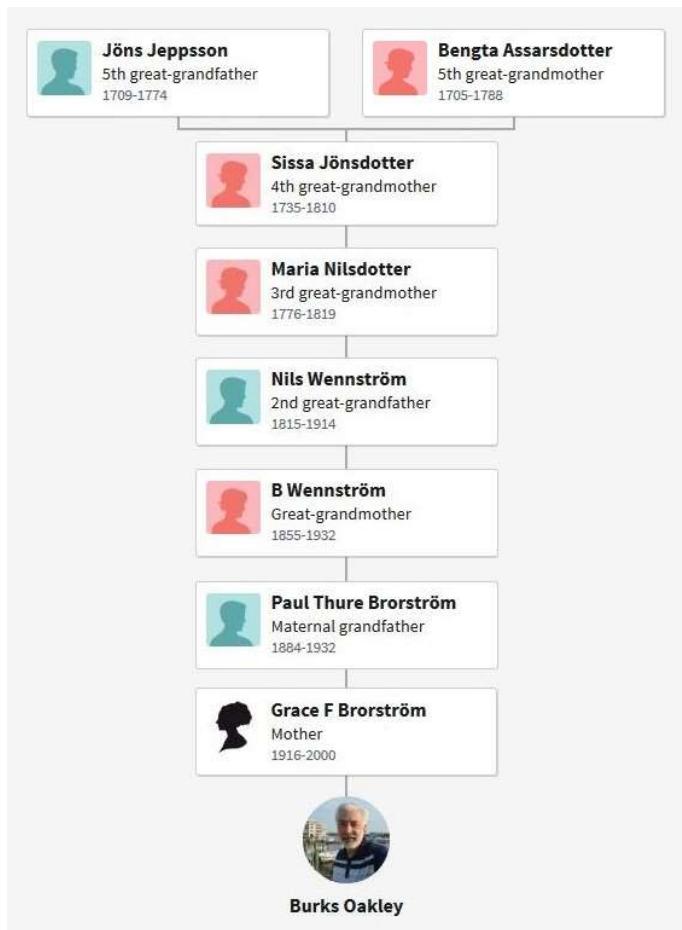
**Jöns Jeppsson**
5th great-grandfather
1709-1774
[View Relationship](#)

**Bengta Assarsdotter**
5th great-grandmother
1705-1788
[View Relationship](#)

Aileen is related to me on the Swedish side of my family; it appears that we both are descended from my fifth-great grandparents, Jöns Jeppsson (1709-1774) and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter (1705-1788). This couple lived in Tåssjö, Sweden, in northern Skåne county (very close to the Hallandsås).

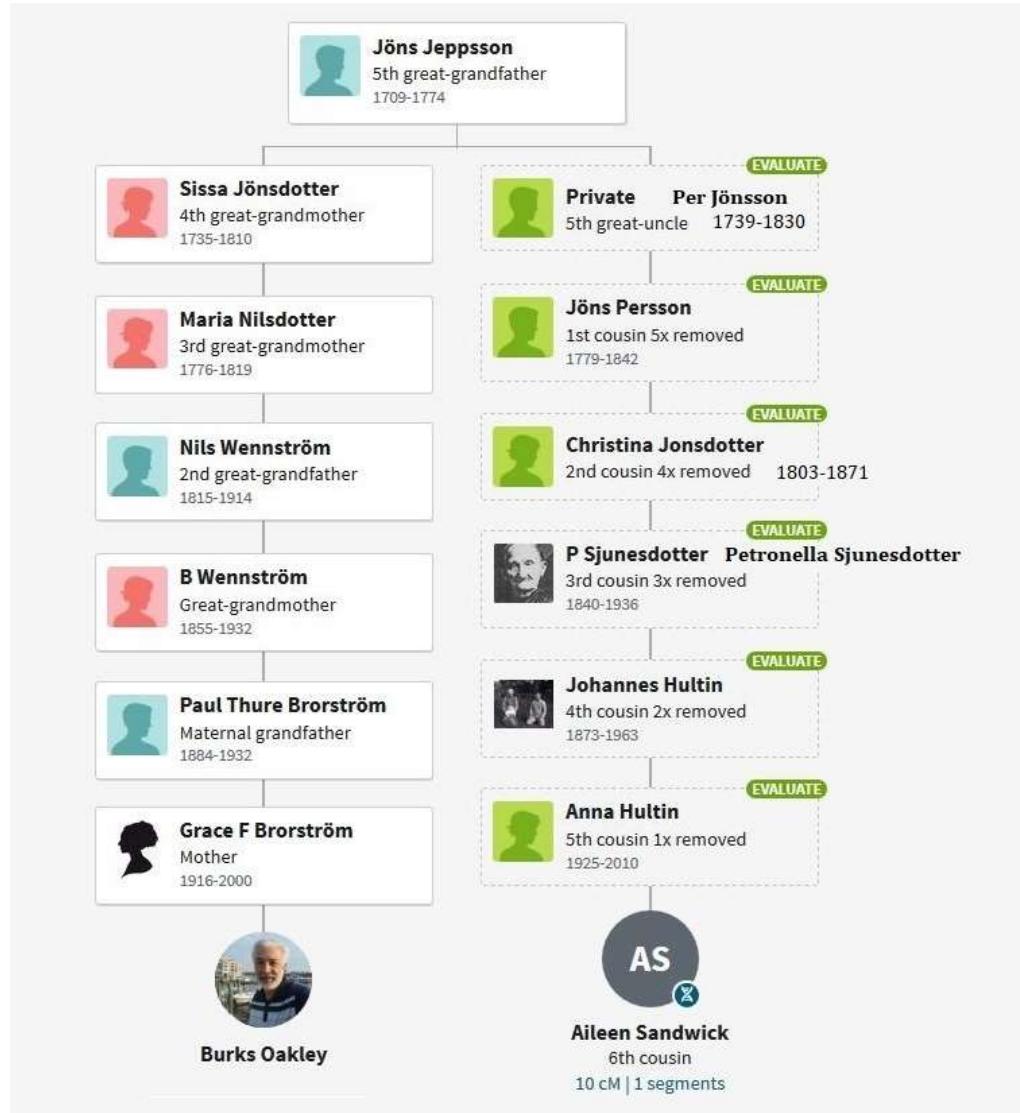
<http://www.burksoakley.com/SwedishGenealogy/Hallandsa%CC%8As.pdf>

Here is my line back to this couple:



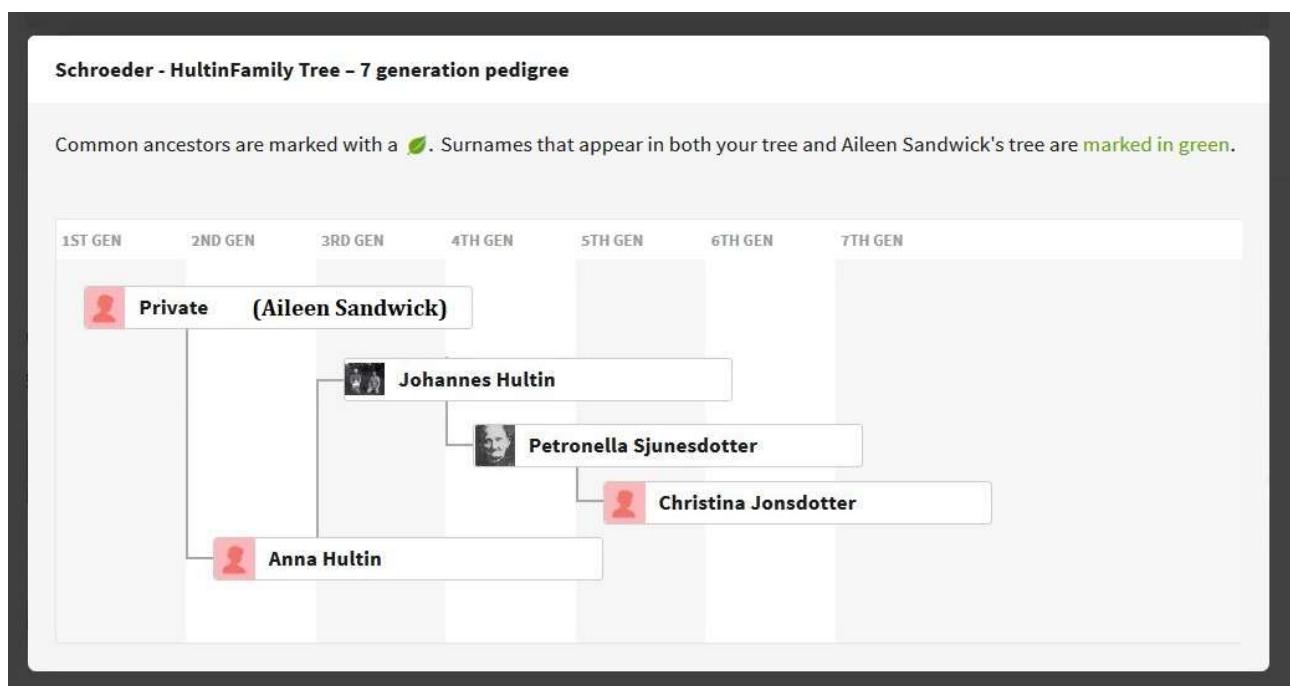
Jöns Jeppsson and Bengta Assarsdotter were the parents of Nils Wennström's maternal grandmother (*mormor* in Swedish). In May 2019, I visited Tåssjö and saw the property where Nils Wennström lived as a child, as well as the church where he was baptized (see Appendix A).

I next clicked on the "View Relationship" link on the Common Ancestors panel to see how Aileen and I might be related – here is the chart:



These charts are constructed using the ThruLines™ software on Ancestry.com and are based on family trees on this website, which are known to have many errors. So I can't take Aileen's line as the truth. Let's now look to see if this path is legitimate.

Here is Aileen's pedigree on the line back to Jöns Jeppsson, taken from her own family tree:



Her pedigree only goes back to Christina Jönsdotter (1803-1871). However, the Ekelund family tree on Ancestry.com has the rest of this line:



Putting these two pedigrees together gives the line shown in the ThruLines™ chart. One thing is a little confusing. Petronella Sjunesdotter married Carl Peter Nilsson, yet their son was named Johannes Hultin. Is this an error? Well, a number of trees show Carl Petter with two different names (including Aileen's tree):

Carl Petter (Nilsson) Hultin
Schroeder - HultinFamily Tree

Birth
07 Jan 1840 • Florshult, Orkelljunga, Kristianstad Lan, Sweden

Death
04 Jan 1933 • Walsh County, North Dakota, USA

Parents

- Nils Svensson
1807-1889
- Olu Mansdotter
1805-1870

Spouse and Children

- Petronella Sjunesdotter
1840-1936
- Johannes Hultin
1873-1963

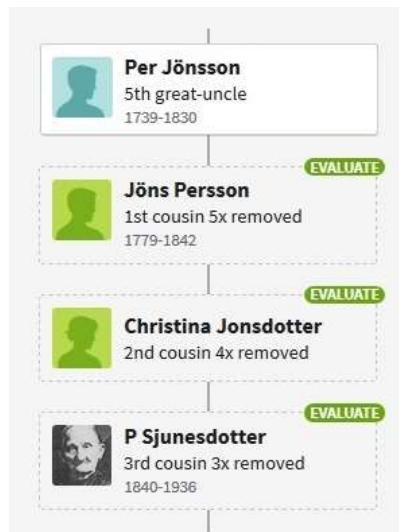
View in tree

And one tree even has an entry about the name change:

Name Change

The Family name was changed from Nilsson to Hultin

I decided to look at Eileen's line in greater detail. I went back to the relationship chart that shows how Aileen and I are likely related, and I focused on the part of Aileen's line that goes back from Petronella Sjunesdotter to Per Jönsson:



I then looked at each of the people in this line – what additional evidence is there that this line is correct? Clicking on the “Evaluate” button for Jöns Persson shows the following panel:

Jöns Persson

Jöns Persson may be the son of Per Jönsson. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

Ancestry Member Trees	
22 other member trees identify Jöns Persson as the son of Per Jönsson.	
Larsson - släktträd by MaVocks	8 Records
Carinas tree by carahl	2 Records
Len Göthe Släktträd by LenGöthe	2 Records
Ekelund by Margareta Borgman	1 Record
Olofsson Släktträd by AnitaGustavsson	1 Record
Bitte Zandelin by BitteZ	0 Records
Borgman släktträd by G_Borgman	0 Records
CJT - släktträd by Clas-Jörgen Trohammar	0 Records
Hans Melin Släktträd by Hans Melin	0 Records
Hela släkten 20180425 by PeterSöderberg	0 Records
Ingela Johansson - släktträd by Ingela Johansson	

This states that there are 22 family trees on Ancestry.com that show that Jöns Persson is the son of Per Jönsson. All these trees show multiple generations of this family in the small village of Tåssjö. Several of the trees include church records from birth books. So this part of the line seems OK (or at least it is accepted by a number of others as being OK).

Next, I went to Christina Jönsdotter and clicked on the “Evaluate” button. That brought up this panel:

Christina Jonsdotter

Christina Jonsdotter may be the daughter of Jöns Persson. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

Ancestry Member Trees

25 other member trees identify Christina Jonsdotter as the daughter of Jöns Persson.

 **Ekelund** by Margareta Borgman
2 Records

 **Larsson - släktträd** by MaVöcks
1 Record

 **Beese Family Tree** by lynn ahlquist
0 Records

 **Bitte Zandelin** by BitteZ
0 Records

 **Carinas tree** by carahl
0 Records

 **CDis** by sbgjonsson
0 Records

 **Hans Melin Släktträd** by Hans Melin
0 Records

 **Hela släkten 20180425** by
PeterSöderberg
0 Records

 **Hultin** by Marian Brelje
0 Records

 **Johansson/Hall Släktträd** by jenny
johansson
0 Records

 **Larsson - släktträd** by Jan Larsson
0 Records

This states that there are 25 family trees on Ancestry.com that show that Christina Jönsdotter is the daughter of Jöns Persson. Again, this part of the line seems OK.

Finally, I did the same for Petronella Sjunesdotter:

Petronella Sjunesdotter

Petronella Sjunesdotter may be the daughter of Christina Jonsdotter. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

Trees Linked to DNA Matches

1 tree linked to your DNA matches
identifies Petronella Sjunesdotter as the daughter of Christina Jonsdotter.

Schroeder - HultinFamily Tree

linked to Aileen Sandwich 
0 Records

Ancestry Member Trees

16 other member trees identify Petronella Sjunesdotter as the daughter of Christina Jonsdotter.

Shepard-Steele-Bielby-Taber Tree

by KlaskishWilliwaw
7 Records

Cross Family Tree MERGED by rancross57

2 Records

Ekelund by Margareta Borgman

2 Records

Bitte Zandelin by BitteZ

0 Records

Hultin by Marian Brelje

0 Records

Larsson - släktträd by Jan Larsson

0 Records

Lovchik Family Tree by alovchik1

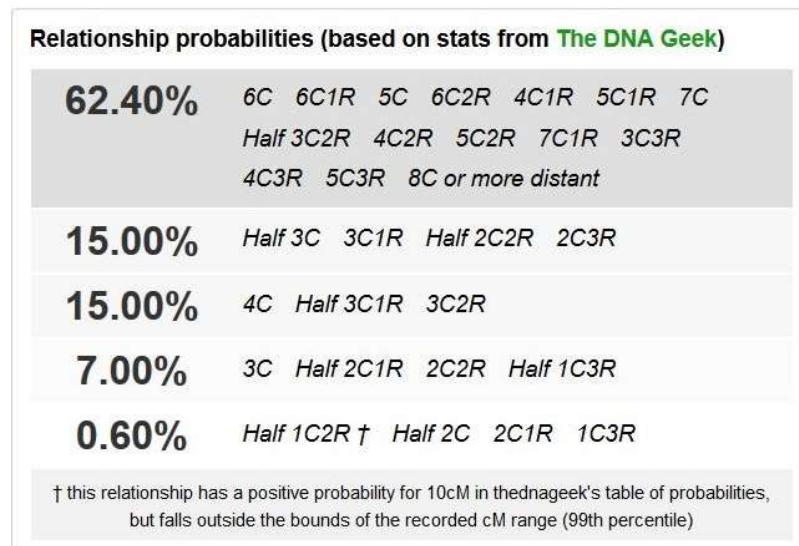
This states that 16 family trees, plus Aileen's tree, show that Petronella is the daughter of Christina Jönsdotter. So this part of the line seems OK.

Overall, the line that the ThruLines™ software calculated to connect Aileen back to Jöns Jeppsson and Bengta Assarsdotter seems to be credible. There is ample acceptance of this pathway, which is found in numerous family trees on Ancestry.com. And this pathway could indeed account for the DNA match that I have with Aileen.

Is the Size of the DNA Match Reasonable?

Aileen and I have a 10 cM match and according to the ThruLines™, we are 6th cousins. Is the size of our match reasonable for this relationship? I used the tool on the Shared cM Project page to answer this question.¹ I entered the size of our match (10 cM), and viewed the following chart:

The Shared cM Project 3.0 tool v4



According to this tool, Aileen and I have a 62.4% chance of having our relationship be in the group that starts with 6C (sixth-cousins). So our 10 cM match is very realistic for 6th-cousins.

The Shared cM Project also has a table that shows the average size of the DNA match for various relationships, as well as the range.² Here is that table:

The Shared cM Project – Version 3.0 For MUCH more information (including histograms and company breakdowns) see: goo.gl/ZtEcJQ

August 2017

Blaine T. Bettinger
www.TheGeneticGenealogist.com
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How to read this chart:

Great-Great-Grandparent GGGG-Aunt/Uncle

Great-Great-Grandparent GGG-Aunt/Uncle

Other Relationships

Great-Great-Aunt/Uncle 427 191 - 885

Great-Aunt/Uncle 914 251 - 2108

Half GG-Aunt/Uncle 187 12 - 383

Half Great-Aunt/Uncle 432 125 - 765

Great-Grandparent 881 464 - 1486

Grandparent 1766 1156 - 2311

Parent 3487 3330 - 3720

Half Aunt/Uncle 891 500 - 1446

Half Sibling 1783 1317 - 2312

Sibling 2629 2209 - 3384

SELF 874 553 - 1225

Half 3c 61 0 - 178

Half 2c 117 9 - 397

Half 1C 457 137 - 856

Half-Sibling 1783 1317 - 2312

Niece/Nephew 891 500 - 1446

Child 3487 3330 - 3720

1C1R 439 141 - 851

2c1R 233 46 - 545

3c 74 0 - 217

4c 35 0 - 127

5c 25 0 - 94

6C 21 0 - 86

6C1R 16 0 - 72

6C2R 17 0 - 75

6C3R 11 0 - 53

7C 13 0 - 57

7C1R 13 0 - 53

8C 12 0 - 50

Half 3c1R 42 0 - 165

Half 2c1R 73 0 - 341

Half 1C1R 226 57 - 530

Half Niece/Nephew 891 500 - 1446

Great-Niece/Nephew 910 251 - 2108

Grandchild 1766 1156 - 2311

1C2R 229 43 - 531

2c2R 74 0 - 261

3C2R 35 0 - 116

4C2R 22 0 - 109

5C2R 17 0 - 43

Half 3c2R 34 0 - 96

Half 2c2R 61 0 - 353

Half 1C2R 145 37 - 360

Half Great-Niece/Nephew 432 125 - 765

Great-Grandchild 881 464 - 1486

1C3R 123 0 - 283

2c3R 57 0 - 139

3C3R 22 0 - 69

4C3R 29 0 - 82

5C3R 11 0 - 44

Half 3c3R 87 0 - 191

Half GG-Niece/Nephew 187 12 - 383

Great-Great-Niece/Nephew 427 191 - 885

Great-Grandchild 881 464 - 1486

1C3R 123 0 - 283

2c3R 57 0 - 139

3C3R 22 0 - 69

4C3R 29 0 - 82

5C3R 11 0 - 44

Minimum was automatically set to 0 cM for relationships more distant than Half 2C, and averages were determined only for submissions in which DNA was shared

It states that for 6C, the average DNA match is 21 cM, with a range of 0-86 cM. Our 10 cM match is certainly within the observed range.

¹ <https://dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4>

² <https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2017/08/26/august-2017-update-to-the-shared-cm-project/>

Conclusion

In this short narrative, I have discussed how my DNA match with Aileen Sandwick most likely is due to us both being descend from Jöns Jeppsson and his wife Bengta Assarsdotter, who lived in Tåssjö, Sweden, in the early-mid 1700's.

I am descended from this couple via their daughter Sissa Jönsdotter, while Aileen is descended from their son Per Jönsson.

The line from Aileen back to Jöns Jeppsson and Bengta Assarsdotter is very credible, and appears in numerous family trees on the Ancestry.com website.

Appendix A

Photos from Tåssjö (taken by Burks on 13 May 2019)



Outside view of the church in Tåssjö.



The altar inside the church in Tåssjö.



The baptismal font inside the church in Tåssjö.



The plot of land northwest of Tåssjö where Nils Wennström was born.