

**"How Traditional Genealogy Meets DNA to Solve Stubborn Brick Walls"**

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Overview

- What is Genealogy?
- Information Obtained from Census Records
- Difficulty of Documenting African American History
- Introduction of DNA
- Brick Wall #1
- Brick Wall #2
- Q & A

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**What is Genealogy?**

Genealogy is the study and tracing of lines of descent.

Original sources include vital records (births, marriages, and deaths), church records, immigration records, military records, obituaries, and wills.

Secondary sources such as biographies, genealogies, and local histories sometimes mention ancestors.

Most popular are census records!

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Information Obtained from Census Records

- 1790-1860: only whites were shown
- 1790 – 1840: head of household and number of each category
- 1850: name, age, sex, color, occupation, value of assets, place of birth, etc.
- 1850 & 1860: slave schedules listed African Americans by age, sex, and color

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Information Obtained from Census Records

- 1870: African Americans listed by name, age, and birthplace
- 1880: Lists relationship between people in the household and the place the person's father and mother were born

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Information Obtained from Census Records

- 1900 & 1910: Lists number of years married, and number of children born to the woman and how many children are still living
- 1920 & 1930: typical name, age, race, gender, marital status, birthplace, and occupation
- 1940: states persons' location in 1935
- 1950: typical name, age, race, gender, marital status, birthplace, and occupation

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### Difficulty of Documenting African American History

- Lack of information on African American pre-1870 census
- Rely on personal records (Bibles, wills, and slave transactions) for information
- Popularity of DNA

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### Introduction of DNA

- One of the most popular type of DNA test is autosomal test.  
- Helps identify relatives up to seven (7) generations back
- DNA test companies include Ancestry, FamilyTreeDNA, 23 and Me, and MyHeritage

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### Dedication to Grandparents



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Brick Wall #1

Maternal Grandfather

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Brick Wall #1

Objective: find all children and descendants of 3x great grandparents

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Brick Wall #1

• In 1900, Mary gave birth to 10 children and 9 children still living; 8 children living in the home

NAME	SEX	AGE	DOB	POB	MARR	POB	IND	EDUC	VAL	PROF	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	
100	Female	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
101	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
102	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
103	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
104	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
105	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
106	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
107	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
108	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
109	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															
110	Male	37	1863	Pa	1897	Pa															

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**Brick Wall #1**

- In 1910, Mary gave birth to 13 children and 12 children still living; 9 children living in the home

Child	Name	Sex	Birth	Death	Parents
1	Francis Joseph	M	1891	1957	Mary Ann
2	Mary Ann	F	1892	1978	Mary Ann
3	Joseph	M	1893	1965	Mary Ann
4	John	M	1894	1955	Mary Ann
5	Jacob	M	1895	1960	Mary Ann
6	Elizabeth	F	1896	1985	Mary Ann
7	Thomas	M	1897	1970	Mary Ann
8	William	M	1898	1968	Mary Ann
9	Margaret	F	1899	1990	Mary Ann
10	Robert	M	1900	1980	Mary Ann
11	Charles	M	1901	1975	Mary Ann
12	Henry	M	1902	1982	Mary Ann
13	George	M	1903	1988	Mary Ann

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**Brick Wall #1**

**DNA Match with UNKNOWN Connection**

FP DM Fason DNA Project and DNA Match  
 Shared DNA: 169 cM across 7 segments  
 Unweighted shared DNA: 169 cM  
 Longest segment: 50 cM

How do we estimate DNA relationships?

Possible DNA relationships  
 This table shows the percentage of the time people sharing 169 cM have the following relationships:

Percent	Relationship
55%	2nd cousin 1st cousin 2x removed Half 1st cousin 1x removed Half great-granduncle/granduncle Half great-grandniece/grandnephew

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### Brick Wall #1

- **CLUE:** DNA Match informed me his father's name was Gregory Punch and was born in New York.

**Gregory Punch**  
in the New York, New York, Birth Index, 1910-1965

Name:	Gregory Punch
Birth Date:	2 Mar 1950
Birth Place:	Manhattan, New York City, New York, USA
Certificate Number:	0343

Source Information  
Ancestry.com: New York, New York, Birth Index, 1910-1965 (database on film), LNH, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2017.  
Original data: New York City Department of Health, courtesy of [www.cityofnewyork.us/health](http://www.cityofnewyork.us/health). Digital Images.  
Description  
This collection includes birth records from New York, New York that took place between the years of 1910 and 1965. [Learn more.](#)

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### Brick Wall #1

1930 Census in New York

Punch, Jacob	Head	M	35	26	Polish	Poland	Poland
Agnes	Wife	F	29	19	Polish	Poland	Poland
Gregory	Son	M	1	1	Polish	Poland	Poland
William	Son	M	8	0	Polish	Poland	Poland

1940 Census in New York

Punch, Jacob	Head	M	35	26	Polish	Poland	Poland
Agnes	Wife	F	29	19	Polish	Poland	Poland
Nathaniel	Son	M	8	0	Polish	Poland	Poland
Gregory	Son	M	5	0	Polish	Poland	Poland

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### Brick Wall #1

- In the 1950 census, Jacob Punch is shown with his wife, Agnes, and infant son, Gregory, the father of DNA Match.

Punch Jacob	Head	M	35	26	Polish	Poland	Poland
Agnes	Wife	F	29	19	Polish	Poland	Poland
Gregory	Son	M	1	1	Polish	Poland	Poland

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### Brick Wall #1

- "Uncle Jackie" sired children until he was over 50 years old. He produced 3 sets of children with the age gap between his oldest and youngest was about 37 years.

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### Brick Wall #1

- DNA Match's paternal grandfather was Jacob Punch from Texas...the missing child of my 3x great grandparents!!!!!!

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### Brick Wall #1

Percent	Relationship
56%	2nd cousin 1st cousin 2x removed Half 1st cousin 1x removed Half great-granduncle/granduncle Half great-grandniece/grandnephew

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Brick Wall #2

Maternal Grandmother

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Brick Wall #2

Objective: find all children and descendants of 3x great grandparents

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Brick Wall #2

• In 1880, Jeff Stephens listed with his presumed wife and seven (7) children living in Harrison County, Texas.

1880	Jeff	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife
1880	John	Stephens	12/25/54	Wife	1	Wife's home	11/11	Stephens	6/6/54	Wife

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### Brick Wall #2

- In 1900, Jeff Stephens listed with his wife, Dillie (aka Dilcie) from 1880 census, and two (2) children and three (3) stepdaughters are living in the home.

3239	Stephens, Jeff	30/10/18	3	11						
	Dillie		3							
	Sarah		7							
	Janette		7							
	Harriet		7							
	Elizabeth		7							
	Harriet		7							

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### Brick Wall #2

- Jeff Stephens, spouses, and all possible children based on census.

Spouse and children

- Dillie Dilcy 1847-
  - Stephens
  - Stephens
  - Stephens
  - Stephens
  - Stephens
  - Stephens
  - Stephens

Spouse and children

- UNKNOWN
- Sarah Stephens Stephenson Steverson 1858-1906

Spouse and children

- Harriett UNKNOWN
- Stephens

Unknown

- Add spouse
- Elizabeth Stephens 1870-1908

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### Brick Wall #2

- Lack information on daughter, Elizabeth



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### Brick Wall #2

#### DNA Matches with UNKNOWN Connection (Mother and Daughter)

**DNA Match #1**

**Davis DNA Project and DNA Match #1**  
Shared DNA: 70 cM across 3 segments  
Unweighted shared DNA: 73 cM  
Longest segment: 49 cM

**DF SS**

How do we estimate DNA relationships?

**Possible DNA relationships**  
This table shows the percentage of the time people sharing 70 cM have the following relationship:

Percent	Relationship
37%	3rd cousin 2nd cousin 2x removed Half 2nd cousin 1x removed Half 1st cousin 3x removed
34%	2nd cousin 1x removed Half 2nd cousin 1st cousin 3x removed Half 1st cousin 2x removed

**DNA Match #2**

**Davis DNA Project and DNA Match #2**  
Shared DNA: 67 cM across 3 segments  
Unweighted shared DNA: 83 cM  
Longest segment: 46 cM

**DF ME**

How do we estimate DNA relationships?

**Possible DNA relationships**  
This table shows the percentage of the time people sharing 67 cM have the following relationship:

Percent	Relationship
37%	3rd cousin 2nd cousin 2x removed Half 2nd cousin 1x removed Half 1st cousin 3x removed
34%	2nd cousin 1x removed Half 2nd cousin 1st cousin 3x removed Half 1st cousin 2x removed

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### Brick Wall #2

- DNA Match #1 and DNA Match #2 have a public family tree.

**CLUE:** Tree indicates an Elizabeth Stephens married to a John Wheeler. Provided further research.

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### Brick Wall #2

**Name:** Elizabeth Stephens

**Gender:** Female

**Marriage Date:** 4 Oct 1894

**Marriage Place:** Harrison, Texas, USA

**Spouse:** J W Wheeler

**Name:** Elizabeth Wheeler

**Age:** 23

**Birth Date:** Jan 1877

**Birthplace:** Texas, USA

**Home in 1900:** Justice Precinct 4, Harrison, Texas

**Sheet Number:** 4

**Number of Dwelling in Order of Visitat:** 60

**Family Number:** 60

**Race:** Black

**Gender:** Female

**Relation to Head of House:** Wife

**Martial Status:** Married

**Spouse's Name:** John W Wheeler

**Marriage Year:** 1894

**Years Married:** 0

**Father's Birthplace:** Texas, USA

**Mother's Birthplace:** Texas, USA

**Mother's number of living children:** 4

**Mother: How many children:** 4

**Can Read:** Yes

**Can Write:** Yes

**Can Speak English:** Yes

**Neighbors:** View others on page

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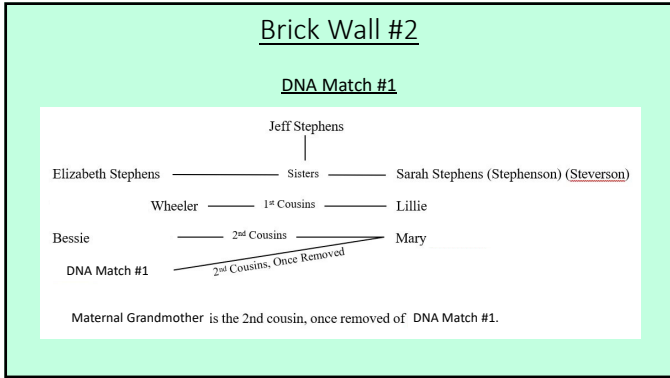
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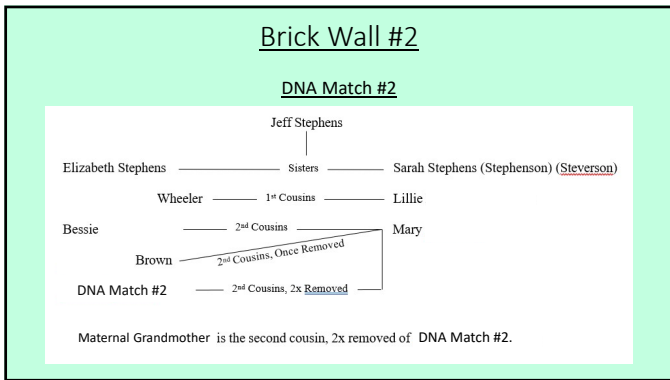
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### Brick Wall #2

#### DNA Match #1

**DF SS** Davis DNA Project and DNA Match #1

Shared DNA: 70 cM across 3 segments  
Unregistered shared DNA: 73 cM  
Longest segment: 49 cM

How do we estimate DNA relationships?

Possible DNA relationships

This table shows the percentage of the time people sharing 70 cM have the following relationships:

Percent	Relationship
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34%	2nd cousin 1x removed Half 2nd cousin 1x removed 1st cousin 2x removed Half 1st cousin 2x removed

#### DNA Match #2

**DF ME** Davis DNA Project and DNA Match #2

Shared DNA: 67 cM across 3 segments  
Unregistered shared DNA: 83 cM  
Longest segment: 46 cM

How do we estimate DNA relationships?

Possible DNA relationships

This table shows the percentage of the time people sharing 67 cM have the following relationships:

Percent	Relationship
37%	2nd cousin 2x removed Half 2nd cousin 1x removed Half 1st cousin 3x removed
34%	2nd cousin 1x removed Half 2nd cousin 1x removed 1st cousin 2x removed Half 1st cousin 2x removed

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Brick Wall #2

- DNA Match #1 and #2 are descendants of Elizabeth, the sister of my 2x great grandmother, Sarah!!!!!!!

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Questions &  
Answers

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