

Dorsey/Darsey/Darcy/ D'Arcy/ Dossey/Dawsey

DNA Project Report

March 27, 2006

Introduction

The purpose of this project is to compare Y chromosome DNA of males with the surnames Dorsey, Darsey, D'Arcy, Dorcey, and Dossey and other variant spellings in order to identify and verify patrilineal lines and connections among families of those surnames worldwide.

The Dorsey Project currently has results for 48 project members. This report includes results as of March 15, 2006. We are fortunate to have well documented members from several Dorsey/Darsey/Darcy/Dawsey/Dossey/D'Arcy lines that have been the subjects of much interest, discussion, and argument by genealogists both past and present—the line of the American Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey, the line of Norman D'Arcy who is said to have accompanied William the Conqueror to England in 1066, and the line of the Irish D'Arcys of Kiltullagh are all represented along with several other newly identified groups.

Problems Addressed by this Study

General Objectives

The initial objective of this study was to determine whether any or all of the Dorsey (and variant spellings) families of the American South share a common ancestor within a genealogically significant timeframe. Of particular interest to some was whether they were descendants of the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey whose ancestors had wandered away and lost track of their roots. Consequently, one early and continuing focus was on recruiting proven descendants of each of Edward Darcy/Dorsey's three sons in order to establish a core DNA signature that represents his line.

Based on some associations in the public record and similar naming patterns, a group of Dorseys with roots in Western North Carolina believed they were connected to each other and that their common ancestor was Andrew Dorsey who moved from Baltimore County, MD to Rowan County, NC where he died in 1777. They had wrung as much as they could from the scant records that detailed the events of the late 1700's in that area but could not decipher the relationships they implied. Nor could they determine whether their Maryland roots indicated descent from Edward Darcy/Dorsey.

A third group was bound by early roots in the Mid-Atlantic colonies and a common tendency to use the variant spelling Dossey.

A few other Dorsey/Darsey/Darcy/Dawsey/Dossey/D'Arcy's from the US, Ireland and Australia had hit an impasse in their search for their ancestors and hoped for fortuitous matches that could point their research in the right direction.

As the study grew, our membership expanded to include representatives of a number of well-documented American and Irish Dorsey/Darsey/Darcy/Dawsey/Dossey/D'Arcy lines, making it possible to address several specific questions of long standing academic interest. *The project is ongoing and we are actively recruiting new members.*

Do the lines of American Dorseys with roots in colonial Maryland share a common ancestor?

In addition to records placing the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey in mid-seventeenth century Anne Arundel County, Maryland¹, Nannie Ball Nimmo has reported records of a Ralph Dosey (Dasey/Dosse) in Calvert County by 1660 and in Talbot County in 1669, a James Dorsey in Maryland by 1668 and a John Dossey of Dorchester County in 1674.² That these three were related is evidenced by their designation as “kinsmen” in the will of Richard Preston made in 1669.³ (The name is spelled both Dorsey and Dossey in the will.) Ms Nimmo also presented a review of the records that document the descendants of these three men in Maryland. However, many records of this area have been lost and the picture of these families is not as detailed as that of the line of Edward Darcy/Dorsey. Their relationship with Edward Darcy/Dorsey is unclear as well.

Reports that these Dorseys were related to Edward Darcy/Dorsey have propagated throughout the genealogical literature, though they appear to be based on a conjecture that first appeared in writing over 200 years later. Hester Dorsey Richardson, wrote in 1913 in *Side-Lights of Maryland History*,

There were two distinct branches of Darcys in Colonial Maryland, not in any way connected so far as the records show, but between which traditions of relationship exist in both branches.⁴

No other information has since been found that confirms or identifies the basis of these traditions. (Ms Richardson herself was a descendant of John Dossey of Dorchester County.)

Was the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey a direct line male descendant of Norman d’Areci?

The ancestry of the American Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey has been the subject of much interest, research and debate. In spite of the efforts of a number of eminent genealogists, no documents have emerged that name his parents or his whereabouts before he was recorded in Lower Norfolk County Virginia in the early 1640’s and then in Maryland by 1650.⁵ There has, however, been no lack of theory and conjecture on this topic. The most popular claims make him a descendant of the Darcys of Hornby Castle Yorkshire, variously the son of Conyers D’Arcy, the 7th Lord Darcy de Knayth or his father or brother, both named Thomas.^{6,7,8,9,10}

The 1st Lord (Baron) Darcy of Knayth was a ninth generation descendant of Norman De Areci, reportedly a companion of William the Conqueror.¹¹ His line of descent was, according to Burke’s *Peerage*,⁸ John Darcy of Knayth (7 Roger/6 Philip/5 Norman/4 Thomas/3 Thomas/2 Robert/1 Norman).¹² ⁸John Darcy 1st Baron De Knayth first married Emmeline, the daughter and heir of Walter Heron. A son of that

marriage, ⁹John Darcy, 2nd Lord of Knayth, became the ancestor of a number of well-documented English Darcy lines including the Darcys of Hornby Castle Yorkshire.¹³ Unfortunately, in spite of extended search efforts on the part of many genealogists including the British College of Heraldry, there are no known living, documented male line descendants of this English line of ⁹John Darcy, 2nd Lord of Knayth, the hereditary title being now held by a female descendant.

The 1st Baron ⁸John Darcy of Knayth governed Ireland as Justiciary for many years. In 1329, he married a second time to Joan de Brugh the daughter of Richard de Brugh, Earl of Ulster. A son ⁹William from that marriage, paternal half brother of the 2nd Baron ⁹John Darcy Knayth, was the ancestor of ¹²William D'Arcy of Platten, County Meath (¹¹John/¹⁰John/⁹William/⁸John/⁷Roger/⁶Philip/⁵Norman/⁴Thomas/³Thomas/²Robert/¹Norman d'Arcy),¹⁴ ancestor of two of our project members. We are fortunate to have these two well-documented descendants of Sir William D'Arcy of Platten in the Dorsey DNA Project.

Are the Irish D'Arcy's of Kiltullagh descendants of the Anglo/Norman D'Arcy's or the more ancient O'Dorchaidhe Clan or yet another unidentified line?

The D'Arcy's of Galway were one of the families who made up the fourteen "Tribes of Galway." These families dominated the political, commercial, and social life of the Irish city of Galway from the 1400's to the 1700's. The Galway family is descended from James Riveagh D'Arcy, who served as appointed Vice-President of the Province of Connaught. He also served as Mayor of Galway (1602-1603). James Riveagh D'Arcy died in 1603, leaving seven sons and one daughter.¹⁵ The D'Arcys of Kiltullagh descend from James Riveagh D'Arcy as do other prominent D'Arcy lines, the D'Arcy's of Newforest, in the County of Galway and the D'Arcy's of Clifton.

There is much disagreement over the origins of James Riveagh D'Arcy.¹⁶ Burke's *Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry Including American Families with British Ancestry* attaches James Riveagh D'Arcy to the Norman-Anglo D'Arcys as a son of Nicholas D'Arcy, brother of John D'Arcy de Knayth.¹⁷ However, *Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland*, published in 1958, notes that

... although according to a pedigree recorded at Ulster's Office in 1770, James D'Arcy of Kiltullagh was descended from the Anglo-Norman family of D'Arcy, the Irish genealogist MacFerbis maintained this James D'Arcy descended from Walter Riabbach O'Dorchaidhe, the first man of the family who came to Galway.¹⁸

John O'Hart presents an impressive pedigree for this O'Dorchaidhe line back to Fiachra, an elder brother of Niall of the Nine Hostages, the 126th Monarch of Ireland.^{19,20} Edward MacLysaght in his often quoted but rarely cited section on the O'Dorchaidhe clan in *Irish Families, Their Names, Arms, and Origins*, says

... the Darcys of Munster and Connacht (with very few exceptions) were of native Irish stock and their name is a corruption of the Gaelic O Dorchaidhe which was first anglicized as O'Dorcey. There were two minor septs so called: one in County Mayo was located

mutations define branching points in descendants of a common ancestor. The locations for which repeats are counted are called markers. Most markers on the Y chromosome are called DYS markers (though new markers with other designations are rapidly appearing on the scene). Individual markers are designated by a number or a combination of a number and letter. A list of the values (number of repeats) for all of one man's markers is called his [haplotype](#).

In addition to being characterized by its array of STR marker repeats, Y chromosomal DNA, like the DNA of the other chromosomes, can also be characterized by a second kind of mutation which involves the substitution of one of the subunits for another. These mutations are called Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNP's). SNP mutations are rare. In fact, they occur so rarely that they are considered unique events in human history—each one occurring only once in only one person. A [Y chromosome Haplogroup](#) is defined as all the male line descendants of the one person in whom a specific Y chromosome SNP first appeared. They will, of course, all test positive for this mutation. The Y Chromosome Consortium²⁴ has defined 18 major haplogroups designated by the letters A through R.²⁵ Subgroups are identified by additional SNP's which have occurred later in individual lines. They have been given numeric names which follow the haplogroup name. Additional branches are designated by lower case letters. Family Tree DNA and other commercial laboratories also offer SNP testing for determination of some haplogroups and subhaplogroups. A few Dorsey DNA Project participants have also been "SNP tested" for haplogroup assignment. However, it is usually possible to estimate a person's haplogroup based on the pattern of his STR markers, eliminating the need for SNP testing. Of great interest are current projects using data from SNP and STR analyses to map the paths of human migration out of Africa and through the rest of the world^{26,27,28,29}

For further, more in depth, information about the science of DNA and how it can be used as a tool for genealogical research see DNA Basics at http://www.contexo.info/DNA_Basics.

Hypotheses and Predictions

In addition to assessing the probabilities of common patrilineal lines among individuals of the Dorsey surname or its variants, this study examines three hypotheses that appear frequently in published histories and genealogies from a new perspective of biological inheritance:

1. If male members of the Dorsey, Darsey, and Dossey families with known or suspected roots in Colonial Maryland share a recent patrilineal common ancestor, then their Y chromosome DNA will all match.

2. If Edward Darcy/Dorsey was the son of either Conyers D'Arcy, the 7th Lord Darcy de Knayth or his father, brother or other patrilineal descendant of Sir Norman d'Arece, then Edward Darcy/Dorsey's descendants' Y chromosome DNA will match the Y chromosome DNA of registered descendants of

William D'Arcy of Platten, who shared a common ancestor, the 1st Baron ⁸John Darcy of Knayth, with Conyers D'Arcy the 7th Lord Darcy de Knayth and who was a direct line male descendant of Sir Norman d'Areci.

3. If James Riveagh D'Arcy was a descendant of the brother of John D'Arcy de Knayth or of someone of the same patrilineal line, then his descendants' Y chromosome DNA will match the Y chromosome DNA of the proven descendants of Sir William of Platten.

Experimental Procedure

Lab work and reports for this project were coordinated by Family Tree DNA (www.familytreedna.com). Using a kit and directions supplied by Family Tree DNA^[30], each participant provided two samples of cheek cells collected at least eight hours apart. The scrapings were sealed in small vials of preservative and returned by mail to Family Tree DNA.

For this experiment, repeating patterns at 25-37 different locations (markers) on the Y chromosome were compared at the laboratory of Dr. Michael Hammer in the University of Arizona using methods previously reported by Redd et al³¹ and Butler et al.³² The number of repeats at each location was determined for each participant and genetic distances among participants calculated. An estimated haplogroup has also been reported by the lab for all project participants. In addition a number of participants have had further SNP testing to confirm their Haplogroup assignment.

Results and Discussion

Lineage I *An Irish line that includes the line of Edward Darcy/Dorsey*

We are fortunate to have DNA samples from five well documented descendants of Edward Darcy-Dorsey. In addition, we have DNA from several more individuals who have paper trails that strongly suggest they are also Edward Darcy-Dorsey descendants. A few others can now be included in that group based on the similarities of their DNA signatures to those of the documented descendants. And, somewhat surprisingly, we have additional participants with matching DNA who have proven roots in Ireland which post-date the appearance of Edward Darcy-Dorsey in America. DNA results from all of these participants are shown in TableI-1.

DNA Signatures of Documented Edward Darcy/Dorsey Descendants

The first two rows of results in Table I-1 comprise the haplotypes (combination of marker values) of two fourth cousins who trace their descent eleven generations from ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey's son ²John Dorsey via their common ancestor ⁷Richard Dorsey (⁶Edward/⁵Edward/⁴Edward/³Edward/²John/

¹Edward).³³ ⁷Richard Dorsey was born in Frederick, Maryland and died July 1833 in Washington, Kentucky.³⁴ That these two match perfectly on all 25 markers tested tells us that it is unlikely there have been mutations of these markers in either line and that their shared haplotype (on these 25 markers) is also the haplotype of their common ancestor ⁷Richard Dorsey.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparisons for Lineage I Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project January 2006 <i>Including the line of the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey</i>																									
Darcy or Dorsey Ancestor	Marker Values																								
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	9	9	9	9	8	8	2	8	3	8	9	8	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	6	6	6	6
	3	0		1	5	5	6	8	9	9	2	9	8	9	9	5	4	7	7	8	9	4	4	4	4
					a	b							a	b							a	b	c	d	
									1		2														
Proven Descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey																									
² John of ¹ Edward	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	29	15	16	16	17
² John of ² Edward	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	29	15	16	16	17
² Edward of ¹ Edward	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	12	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
² Edward of ¹ Edward	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	12	11	25	15	18	31	15	16	16	17
² Edward of ¹ Edward	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30													
Probable Descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey																									
William C. MD>KY>PA	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	12	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
William H KY 1807	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	12	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
William B. 1809 MD	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30													
Vincent PA 1829	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
Proposed haplotype of Edward Darcy/Dorsey																									
<i>Proposed Edward Darcy-Dorsey</i>	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
Descendants of American ancestors who shared a common ancestor with Edward Darcy/Dorsey																									
John MD>WV late 1700's	13	25	14	11	11	13	12	12	12	13	14	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
Cornelius MD>SC late 1700's	13	25	14	11	11	13	12	12	12	13	14	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
Descendants of a proven Irish ancestor who shared a common ancestor with Edward Darcy/Dorsey																									
John Co. Clare>Boston 1856	13	25	14	11	11	13	12	12	12	13	14	29	16	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	17	17
Patrick Co. Clare>WA Ter.	13	25	14	12	11	13	12	12	12	13	14	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17
? Darcy Ireland (Tipperary)	13	25	14	11	11	13	12	12	12	13	14	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	31	15	16	17	17
Lineage I Modal Haplotype																									
<i>Lineage I Modal Haplotype</i>	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	30	15	16	16	17

Table I-1

Source: *Dorsey DNA Project Results* reported by Family Tree DNA and the University of Arizona 2001-2005

The next two rows show the 25 marker results of two tenth-generation descendants of ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey through a second son ²Edward Dorsey. They share a great grandfather, ⁸Ben Hill Dorsey, the son of ⁷Solomon Dawson Dorsey (⁶John/⁵Nicholas/⁴Henry/³Joshua/²Edward/¹Edward). ⁶John Dorsey, the father of ⁷Solomon Dawson Dorsey, moved from Maryland to Georgia in the late 1700's.³⁵ (One of the DNA donors is the current owner of Solomon's family Bible that records the birth of his son ⁸Ben Hill Dorsey.³⁶) These two share 24/25 markers with a difference of one step at DYS 449 at which they both also differ from the descendants of ²John Dorsey. They share a value of 12 for DYS 455 giving them both a 23/25 marker match with the line of ²John Dorsey. Row five is the 12 marker signature of another well

documented descendant of ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey through ⁷Solomon Dawson Dorsey's brother ⁷Isham Dorsey (⁶John/⁵Nicholas/⁴Henry/³Joshua/²Edward/¹Edward). He matches the other documented descendants at all markers tested.

Since these five descend from two different sons of Edward Darcy-Dorsey, it is highly probably that all of the marker values they share in common are those passed by Edward Darcy-Dorsey to his sons John and Edward. With differences only at DYS 455 and DYS 449, we can predict an ancestral haplotype for Edward Darcy-Dorsey for the remaining 23 markers. This signature is presented in Line 9, Table I-1.

Signatures of Probable Edward Darcy/Dorsey Descendants

Rows six through nine of Table I-1 present the results of four individuals with paper trails of circumstantial evidence that point to ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey as their ancestor. Our newest set of results are given in Row 6, Table I. This project member fits neatly into this group of probable descendants of Edward Darcy-Dorsey. He can trace his line back to his third great-grandfather William Cumming Dorsey who was the son of Edward Dorsey and his wife whom he believes was Sarah Cumming.³⁷ Interestingly though this family did not know their exact connection to Edward Darcy-Dorsey themselves, William Cumming Dorsey is found on a tree provided by the descendants of ²John Dorsey as a brother of mutual their ancestor ⁷Richard Dorsey who was born in Frederick County Maryland and died in Washington County, KY.³⁸ This participant shares the more unusual value of 12 for DYS455 with the descendants of ²Edward Dorsey while matching the descendants of ²John Dorsey at DYS449.

Row 7, Table I-1 comprises the haplotype of a descendent of William H. Dorsey who, according to Kenton County, KY census records, was born c.1807 in KY.³⁹ He is a perfect match to row four, a documented descendant of ²Edward Dorsey, son of "¹Edward the Immigrant".

Row 8, Table I-1 presents the 12 marker results of a proven descendant of William B. Dorsey who was born in 1809 in Maryland. He has evidence that suggests he descends from ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey through the line ⁷William B. Dorsey (⁶Joshua/⁵Joshua/⁴Henry/³Joshua/²Edward/¹Edward). His haplotype perfectly matches the proposed haplotype for ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey on all 12 markers he has tested. DNA is consistent with the hypothesis generated by traditional records which links this participant with the descendants of Ben Hill Dorsey though a common ancestor, ⁴Henry Dorsey (³Johua/²Edward/¹Edward), however, the 12 marker haplotype is limited in its ability to confirm detailed relationship.

The fourth member of this group (Row 9, Table I-1) traces his line to Vincent Dorsey who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1829. He matches the descendants of ²John Dorsey (¹Edward) at DYS 455 but also matches one of the descendants of ²Edward Dorsey at DYS 449. DYS 449 is a curiously volatile

marker within this family group and the implications of its various values await further testing of additional documented descendants.

While the DNA results are consistent with all of these group members being descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey, they are ambiguous as to which son, ²John or ²Edward, is the ancestor of some of them. DYS455 and DYS449 have both mutated somewhere among the descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey. Both values of 11 and 12 at marker DYS455 are found among potential or proven descendants of both. If traditional genealogies are correct this mutation could have occurred between ⁷Richard Dorsey and his father ⁶Edward since descendants of two of his sons share the value of 11 and the descendant of his brother ⁷William Cumming Dorsey matches the descendants of ²Edward Dorsey at this marker. On the other hand, though there is, as yet, no known connection between Vincent Dorsey and Edward Darcy/Dorsey, his descendant shares the value of 11 with the descendants of Richard Dorsey. At this point, it is not possible to pinpoint how many times this marker has mutated in the lines of Edward Darcy/Dorsey's sons nor when. We know that DYS 449 has mutated a second time in one of the descendants of one of Ben Hill Dorsey's sons. Eventually these volatile markers may prove useful for identifying specific branches of these Dorseys lines. At the present time, they just present an enigma. We would welcome more participants from these two lines and from the line of their brother ²Joshua Dorsey in order to locate these and other defining mutations.

Signatures of those who appear to share a common ancestor with Edward Darcy/Dorsey

The next row of results in Table I-1 is the haplotype of a participant who traces his line to John Dorsey, and his wife Airy (Arrah) Stockdale, who were married in Maryland on September 28, 1791.⁴⁰ By the late 1790's they had moved to West Virginia. Researchers from this line have hypothesized (based on some thin circumstantial evidence) that their ancestor, John MD/WV, was the son of ⁴Joshua (³John/²Joshua/¹Edward) Dorsey and his wife Flora Fitzsimmons. This participant closely (but not perfectly) matches the confirmed ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants and his marker results were originally tentatively included with them, though there is no direct documentation for the connection. The two mismatches between this member and the five proven Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants at DYS389i and DYS389ii actually translate to one mismatch because DYS389i is a subset of DYS389ii. The loss (or gain) of one repeat at DYS389i not only changed the value of 14 to 13 (or from 13 to 14) for that marker but also changed the DYS389ii value from 30 to 29 (or from 29 to 30). After this consideration, this participant is a three step difference from the ²John Dorsey descendants and three- and four-step differences from the two descendants of ²Edward Dorsey.

Data from four new participants now make it more difficult to deduce John MD/WV's place in the puzzle and suggest he is not a direct descendant of Edward Darcy/Dorsey after all. The first of these four is a proven descendant of Cornelius Dorsey (Line 11, Table I-1) who appeared in Chester County, South

Carolina in the late 1700's. Though there is evidence that Cornelius Dorsey was in Maryland before he came to South Carolina⁴¹, no definite records of him have been found there and his parentage is unknown.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparison for Lineage I Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project January 2006 <i>Lines of John Dorsey WV and Cornelius Dorsey</i>												
D'Arcy/Darsey Ancestor	DYS Marker Numbers											
	4 6 0	G A T A H 4	Y C A I I a	Y C A I I b	4 5 6	6 0 7	5 7 6	5 7 0	C D Y a	C D Y b	4 4 2	4 3 8
John Dorsey MD > WV	11	11	19	23	17	16	19	16	37	37	12	12
Cornelius Dorsey MD > SC	11	11	19	23	17	16	18	16	37	38	12	12
Table I-2 Extended Marker Test Results, Family Tree DNA Third Panel for Lineage I Source: <i>Dorsey DNA Project Results</i> reported by Family Tree DNA and the University of Arizona 2005												

The descendant of Cornelius Dorsey is a 25/25 marker match with John Dorsey of MD/WV. Upgraded tests to Family Tree DNA's third set of markers shows these two to be a 35/37 marker match—still consistent with shared a close common ancestor. Results for those markers are in Table I-2. The two mismatching markers are shaded in blue. Both of these markers have been chosen by Family Tree DNA because their relative volatility makes them potentially useful in identifying branching points of closely related lines. Consequently, this difference is not surprising and may even prove useful as these two lines try to piece together the details of their relationship.

Line 12 of Table I-1 presents 25 marker results for a descendant of a John Dorsey from County Clare in Ireland who has no known connection to Edward Darcy/Dorsey. This John Dorsey, according to his grave marker, was born in 1828 in County Clare Ireland.⁴² He immigrated to Boston in 1856 and eventually to an Irish settlement in Refugio, Texas. He has no known connection to the Edward Darcy/Dorsey line but is a 23/25 marker match with the descendants of John of MD/WV and Cornelius MD/SC and with the descendant of another John Dorsey from County Clare (Line 12, Table I-1). He has one mutation at DYS458 that he does not share with anyone else in Lineage I—suggesting it is a fairly recent mutation in his line. His second difference from the modal haplotype of Lineage I is a value of 17 at DYS464c. This mutation he shares with the last member of the group who was born and lives in Ireland.

Line 13, Table I-1 results are for a descendant of Patrick Darcy, who was born in 1846 in Bonavilla, a part of the townland of Ballymackea Beg in County Clare Ireland, to John Darcy and Honora Mungovan.⁴³ Patrick Darcy migrated to Washington Territory USA in 1881,⁴⁴ where he married Margaret Darcy,⁴⁵ also from Bonavilla. Her parents were Patrick Darcy and Eliza

Looney.⁴⁶ He matches the descendants of John Dorsey (MD > WV), Cornelius Dorsey, and John Dorsey (b. 1828, County Clare) at all markers except DYS 391 for which he has the unusual value of 12.

Finally, the last member of this group is Irish born and lives in Ireland. His great-grandfather Thomas Darcy died in 1884 in Miltown, Solohead in County Limerick, near the Tipperary border.⁴⁷ He is a 23/25 marker match with the John MD/WV and Cornelius MD/SC descendants, a 22/25 marker match with the descendant of John Dorsey (1820) County Clare and as pointed out above a 23/25 match with the descendant of John Dorsey (b. 1828, County Clare). All three participants with proven Irish origins share the same values for DYS385b and DYS389i as the descendants of John MD/WV and Cornelius. Those five differ at those markers from the descendants of ²Edward and ²John (of ¹Edward) Dorsey who share identical (and somewhat more unusual) values.

The last line of Table I-1 presents a modal haplotype for Lineage I based on the most frequent value of each marker in the group. (It should also be noted that at this time, the makeup of this group is biased toward descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey making the modal values weighted toward the Edward Darcy-Dorsey ancestral haplotype.) At one time, it was assumed that the common ancestor of this lineage would be the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey. However, with new data from participants whose Irish roots post-date the appearance of Edward Darcy/Dorsey in America, it would appear that this line will eventually be extended back to a common ancestor of Irish birth. **The results strongly suggest that Edward Darcy/Dorsey was also of Irish origin.**

Possible Darcy/Dorsey lines and connections suggested by traditional genealogical records and DNA results.

Figure I-1 illustrates some of the ways the members of Lineage I might fit together in light of proven lineages, proposed lineages based on some traditional genealogical data, and DNA results. Solid lines represent documented relationships reported by individual project members and dotted lines represent possible relationships that could be consistent with what we know from traditional records and DNA results. (Naturally not all dotted line relationships can be true and I have undoubtedly missed some possible scenarios.)

Yellow boxes represent DNA project participants whose results place them in Lineage I. All participants share the same values for 21 of the markers tested (see chart at the top of the diagram) which most likely represent unchanged values handed down from the common ancestor of all participants from this group. Values for markers that are not shared by all Lineage I participants are given in their boxes for convenient identification of mutations.

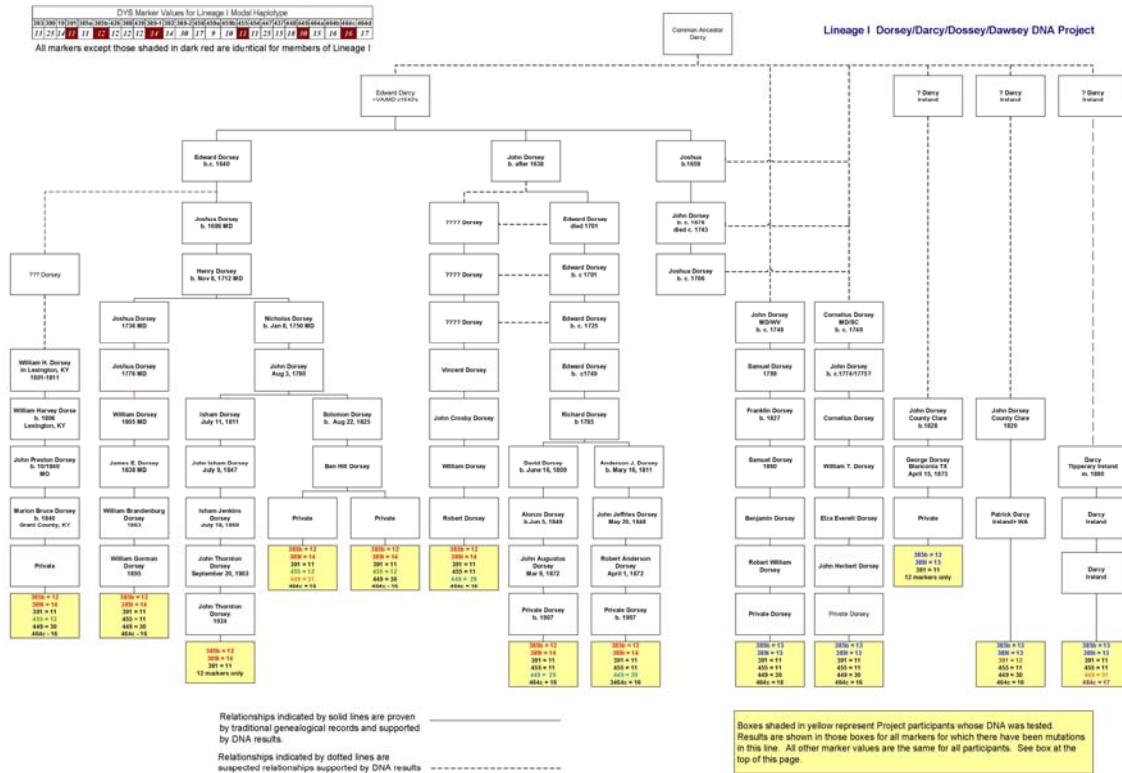


Figure I-1a Possible Dorsey lines and connections suggested by traditional genealogical records and DNA results.

Because of its size and complexity, Figure I-1a will obviously need to be enlarged to be read. When reading as a Word of PDF document, increasing the View option is probably the best way to read the figure text.

A full page version of this diagram, Figure I-1b, is provided at the end of this section. Printed on a printer with good resolution, it should be readable on a standard 8 1/2 x 11 page.

The diagram can also be printed on larger paper with a wide format printer for easier reading. If you cannot produce your own readable copy, email DorseyDNA@Contexo.info to order a free, enlarged hard copy.

Possible scenarios that might account for these DNA results are:

1) John Dorsey of MD/WV and Cornelius Dorsey were not direct descendants of ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey but rather shared a common ancestor with him and with the three participants with documented Irish roots. Mutations at DYS389i and DYS385b occurred between that common ancestor and ¹Edward (most likely as the values that distinguish the ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey line are the more unusual values for those markers) or between that common ancestor and a mutual common ancestor of the other American and Irish participants. A mutation at DYS455 has occurred in a later generation of ¹Edward's line, possibly twice with parallel mutations in the lines of both of ¹Edward's sons ²Edward and ²John. At least two mutations have occurred at DYS449 as four proven ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants have three different values for that marker. The easiest speculation is that the ancestral value of that marker was 30 and one line (²John/¹Edward) had a mutation involving a loss of one repeat and the other

(²Edward/¹Edward) had a gain of a repeat. *Complicated as it is, this is the most probable and most parsimonious explanation of these results.*

2) ²John and ²Edward were identical twins with two mutations occurring during the meiosis that produced the sperm that contributed their Y chromosome(s). Parallel mutations at DYS455 have occurred in both lines as above. At least three mutations occurred at DYS449—two in the descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey. John MD/WV and Cornelius are descendants of Edward's third son ²Joshua who inherited the ancestral values unchanged from his father ¹Edward. The Irish participants share a common ancestor with Edward Darcy/Dorsey. *This is very complicated as well as improbable.*

3) John WV and Cornelius share a common ancestor who was a descendant of Edward Dorsey/Darcy (perhaps through his son ²Joshua as speculated). Mutations at DYS389ii and DYS385b occurred during transmission events somewhere between ¹Edward and the common ancestor. Coincidental identical mutations occurred in the Irish line. *This is very improbable.*

4) The three Irish participants are descendants of a son(s) Edward I left behind in Ireland (and Edward II and John were identical twins) as per idea #2.

I welcome other ideas of explanations that are consistent with what is known.

Lineage I Matches with Other Surnames

Partial matches with other surnames are most likely indicative of a shared common ancestor before the advent of surnames and are of little value for genealogy. However, as the number of matching markers increases, particularly those that include unusual marker values, it is prudent to review possible connections between families of those names who have been reported to be at the same place at the same time in family or public records.

There are opportunities for “non-paternal events” in every age, i.e., widows remarry and bring children, sometimes unborn, who take their stepfather’s names; parents die by accident, disease or war and relatives or friends takes in the children and raise them with their name; or a young daughter has a child out of wedlock and her parents raise it as their own. Infidelities within marriage occur—sometimes with and sometimes without the husband’s knowledge. A widow may give her illegitimate child the name of her deceased husband. A variety of scenarios over several generations could be devised to account for matches between individuals with different surnames.

Within the Family Tree DNA customer database of about 51,120 individuals (as of January 2, 2006), the descendants of ²John Dorsey only match each other at all 25 markers tested.⁴⁸ They do match a few individuals of other surnames at 24/25 markers. Some of those names are McClanahan, Parton, Cope,

Raines and Cain which have (at least to my current knowledge) no obvious connections with the Dorsey family.

Of curious interest, there are also three 24/25 marker matches (a mismatch of one step at DYS385b) with individuals of the surname Wyatt.⁴⁹ Table I-3 compares the proposed ancestral haplotype of Edward Darcy/Dorsey with that of a matching Wyatt line. It is interesting to note that the Wyatts' value of 13 at DYS 385b makes their haplotype a bridge or intermediate haplotype between the descendants of Edward Darcy-Dorsey and the rest of Lineage I.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparisons for Edward Darcy/Dorsey Line and Wyatt Lines																									
Ancestor Surname	DYS Marker Numbers																								
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	9	9	9	9	8	8	2	8	3	8	9	8	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	6	6	6	6
	3	0		1	5	5	6	8	9	9	2	9	8	9	9	5	4	7	7	8	9	4	4	4	4
				a	b				i		ii		a	b							a	b	c	d	
Darcy/Darsey ^a	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	?	15	16	16	17
Wyatt ^b	13	25	14	11	11	13	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	29	15	16	16	17
Freq. ^c	.95	.15	.93	.63	.90	.02	.98	.98	.74	.10	.09	.79	.50	.97	.87	.98	.99	.67	.85	.13		.82	.28	.38	.67
^a Proposed haplotype for Edward Darcy/Dorsey the Immigrant based on the results of descendants from two of his proven sons. ^b Modal haplotype of descendants of Samuel Wyatt VA, TN, and KY—Wyatt DNA surname project http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~scperkins/WyattDNA.html . ^c Frequency calculations for Edward Darcy-Dorsey marker values from the R1b Haplogroup were provided by Whit Athey http://www.worldfamilies.net/Super%20Western%20Atlantic%20Modal%20Haplotype.htm accessed January 13, 2006. Cells highlighted in yellow denote marker frequencies for the proposed Edward Darcy/Dorsey haplotype below the modal (most common) value of the R1b population sample used for the calculations.																									
Table I-3													Source: Family Tree DNA September 2003-2004												

These Wiatt/Wyatts trace their lines to Samuel Wiatt who was in Greenbriar County, Virginia (now West Virginia) in 1786, then moved first to Greene County, TN and then to Knox County, KY by 1805. He died in July/Aug 1835.⁵⁰ It is well known that ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey and Nicholas Wyatt were both in Lower Norfolk County, Virginia in the 1640's and moved to adjacent lands in Anne Arundel, County Maryland in the 1650's.⁵¹ In fact, ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey's son ²Edward married Sarah, the daughter of Nicholas Wyatt.⁵²

This close association poses the question of whether this DNA match might be more than a curious (and unusual) coincidence. As yet there is no defined relationship between Samuel Wiatt and Nicholas Wyatt though Wyatt researchers are looking for a connection in light of this new perspective. This DNA signature shares several unusual markers (Line 3, Table I-3) and it is doubtful that two neighbors living side by side in the seventeenth century would share it by mere coincidence. Unfortunately, the only son of Nicholas Wyatt apparently died without leaving any documented children, so there is no opportunity to compare the DNA of his direct descendants.⁵³

Of interest as well, Greenbrier County, WV is adjacent to Nicholas County, WV where John Dorsey of MD and WV is found in the late 1700's. In fact, the descendant of John Dorsey of WV/MD (and Cornelius Dorsey, as well) actually shares the 385b value with the Wyatts for which they both differ from the proven descendants of Edward Darcy-Dorsey. One member of the Wyatt project has upgraded his test to 37 markers.⁵⁴ Although we do not have 37 marker results for Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants, we do have 37 marker results for the descendants of John Dorsey (MD>WV) and Cornelius Dorsey (Table I-2). They match the Wyatts at 33/37 and 34/37 markers respectively.

Do these matches between Dorsey and Wyatt lines mean 1) A shared common ancestor who lived before the adoption of surnames? 2) A Wyatt child raised as a Dorsey? 3) A Dorsey child raised as a Wyatt? 4) A name change later in life? 5) A coincidental, parallel series of mutations in two lines that are unrelated? The close matches between Edward Darcy-Dorsey descendants and several Darcys with proven Irish roots suggest that Edward was not a Wyatt child raised as a Darcy/Dorsey. Furthermore, the name Wiatt/Wyatt/etc is not a name commonly associated with Irish heritage. We are left to wonder whether the line of Samuel Wiatt and the other Wyatts who match this haplotype represent descendants of a Dorsey child raised as a Wiatt or a chance match of two lines sharing a common ancestor before the adoption of surnames.

Surely additional DNA testing and further investigation of traditional records is warranted. An upgrade by the proven descendants of Edward Darcy-Dorsey to 37 markers to determine whether the match persists would be of great interest. A close match on these additional markers between the Wyatts and two other members of Lineage I (not Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants) hints that the match will continue.

The descendants of ²Edward Dorsey share a very unusual value for DYS 455. The first descendant of ²Edward Dorsey has several 23/25 marker matches with individuals of other surnames in the Family Tree DNA database—MacKinney, McGinnes, MacAllister, Slaven, Strain, and Pryor.

The mutation to the unusual value of 31 at DYS449 in combination with the already unusual DYS455 marker gives the second ²Edward descendant a very unusual haplotype and consequently in the Family Tree DNA database outside the Dorsey project—a 23/25 marker match with an individual of the surname Keech. None of the surnames has any known Dorsey connections at this time.

Recent research at Trinity College Dublin has identified a haplotype cluster found in some concentration in northwest Ireland. The authors of this study suggest this “Irish Modal Haplotype” represents the haplotype of a prolific line whose ancestor live in ancient Ireland and suggest the King Niall of the Nine Hostages as a possible progenitor.⁵⁵ Of great interest, the core haplotype of Lineage I of the Dorsey Project matches this haplotype. Because it appears to be such an ancient haplotype—existing long before the introduction of surnames in Ireland, it is not surprising to learn that it is found in a number of

Irish surnames. More has been written about this under the title “Ancient Irish Origins of Dorsey DNA Project Members.”

Anyone wishing to explore matches with other surnames in more detail should go to www.ysearch.org and click on “enter any sequence and search by haplotype” on the search for Genetic Matches page. Then enter the values for the Dorsey line of interest as they are given in Table I-1. Contact information for the persons matching this line will be given as a result of the search. Dorsey project members are urged to upload their results to this database. A somewhat similar database will be found at www.smgf.org. This database is the outgrowth of an academic research effort, contact information is not available. However, many entries link to files with some pedigree information.

Was Edward Darcy/Dorsey a direct male descendent of the Anglo/Norman D’Arcy line?

We are fortunate to have two members of the Dorsey DNA Project with registered titles and pedigrees that document their descent from Norman D’Arcei who is purported to have come to England with William the Conqueror in 1066. Results for those two members do match some of our American project members (see Lineage V results and discussion) but they do NOT match the DNA results of the descendants of Edward Darcy/Dorsey. Table I-4 compares the DNA marker results for the deduced ancestral line of Edward Darcy/Dorsey and the results of the two proven Anglo/Norman D’Arcys. It is immediately obvious that these two haplotypes do NOT match and, in fact, are mismatched at 17 different markers! (Mismatching markers in the D’Arcy haplotype are shaded in blue.) Further discussion of this comparison can be found at the beginning of the Lineage V section of this report. **However, the short answer is that these results offer no possibility of a patrilineal connections between these Edward Darcy/Dorsey descendants and the Anglo/Norman D’Arcys.**

Y-STR Haplotype Comparisons Edward Darcy/Dorsey and the Anglo/Norman D’Arcys																									
Ancestor Surname	DYS Marker Numbers																								
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
	9	9	9	9	8	8	2	8	3	8	9	8	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	6	6	6	6
	3	0		1	5	5	6	8	9	9	2	9	8	9	9	5	4	7	7	8	9	4	4	4	4
				a	b				i		ii		a	b							a	b	c	d	
Darcy/Darsey ^a	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	?	15	16	16	17
D’Arcy Haplotype ^b	13	24	13	10	16	18	11	12	12	12	11	30	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	32	13	15	15	16
^a Proposed haplotype for Edward Darcy/Dorsey the Immigrant based on the results of descendants from two of his proven sons. ^b Proposed haplotype for Sir William D’Arcy of Platten County Meath Ireland-a direct, patrilineal descendant of Sir. John D’Arcy de Knayth, ancestor of the English and the Irish D’Arcys. Note differences on 17 different markers.																									
Table I-4												Source: Family Tree DNA September 2003-2004													

Conclusions Lineage I

Current DNA results support the documented, traditional genealogies of the first five of this group as descendants of the Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey. They also provide a first estimate of an ancestral haplotype for Edward Darcy/Dorsey on at least 23/25 markers.

The results also support the next three members' connections with the Edward Darcy/Dorsey lineage and are consistent with their (sometimes tentative) research conclusions.

DNA results from the final five participants place them in the same lineage as the first eight. However, neither the current DNA results nor information from known traditional genealogical records are able to delineate their places in this family group.

Y chromosome DNA from this group does NOT match Y chromosome DNA from proven descendants of Norman D'Arcy who was said to have come to England with William the Conqueror in 1066. In fact, the two lineages fall into two separate "Haplogroups" which have been shown to have diverged over 20,000 years ago (see Lineage V Results and Discussion for more information about haplogroup differences between Lineage I and Lineage V.)

The DNA results coupled with known Irish origins of the last three participants of Lineage I and matches with a number of Irish surnames strongly suggest an Irish origin for Edward Darcy/Dorsey.

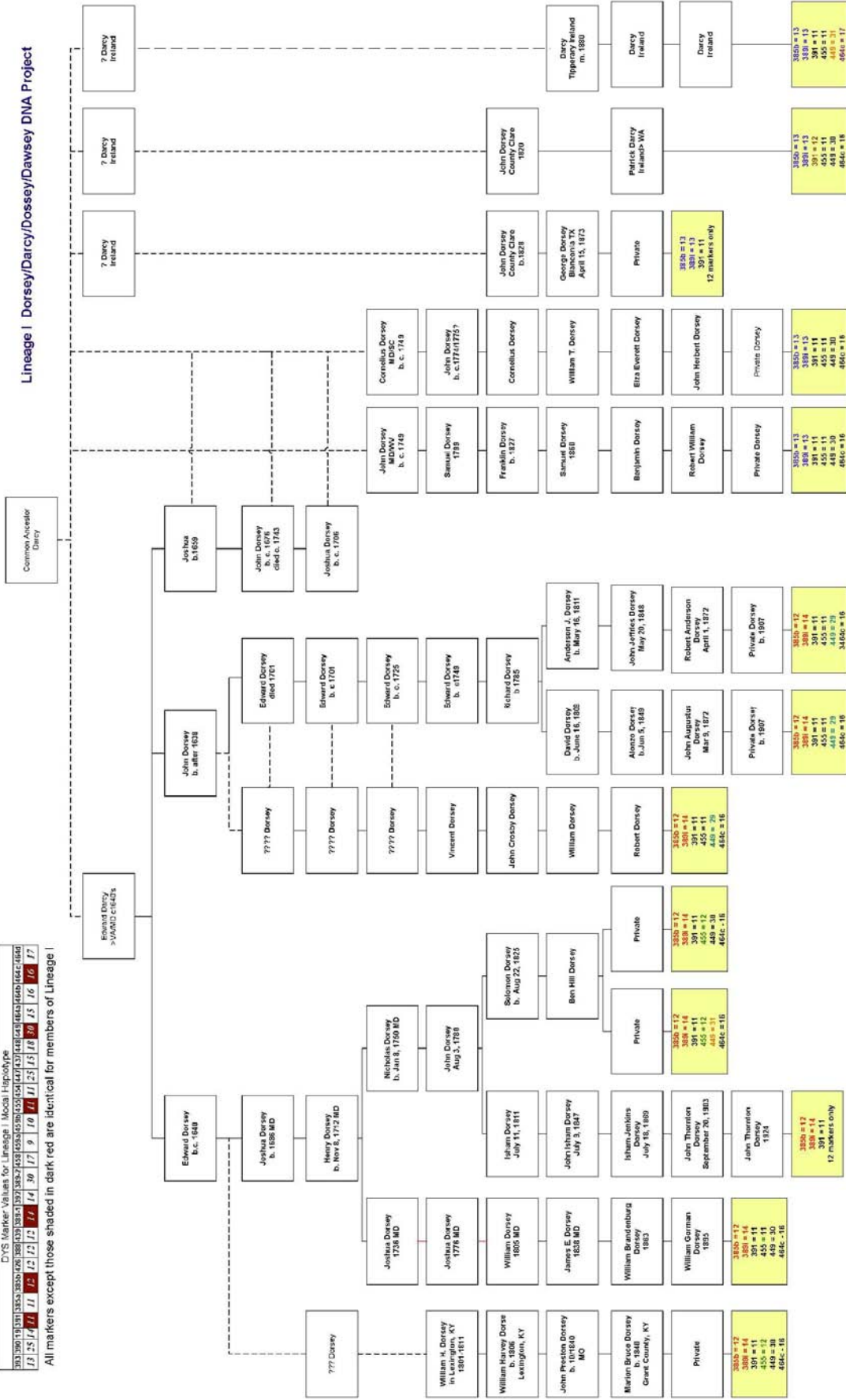
We hope further testing of more markers and of additional Dorseys (Darcys) from Ireland and the US will eventually shed more light on the nature of these connections and perhaps reveal additional defining mutations for the vast and complicated tangle of Edward Darcy/Dorsey's undocumented or partially documented descendants.

Lineage | Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/Dawsey/Dawsey DNA Project

DYS Marker Values for Lineage | Modal Haplotype

15	25	47	11	22	12	12	14	39	17	9	16	17	11	23	15	28	25	16	17
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All markers except those shaded in dark red are identical for members of Lineage 1.



Boxes shaded in yellow represent Project participants whose DNA was tested. Results are shown in those boxes for all markers for which there have been mutations in the line. All other marker values are the same for all participants. See box at the top of this page.

Relationships indicated by solid lines are proven by traditional genealogical records and supported by DNA results.
Relationships indicated by dotted lines are suspected relationships supported by DNA results.

Figure 1-1b

Lineage II *Five Dorsey/Dossey Lines from the Mid-Atlantic Colonies*

Though the name Dorsey is fairly common in the United States (ranking 604th with a frequency of about .02 in the general population⁵⁶), it is rarely found in England and Ireland, the more common variant of the surname there being Darcy (D'Arcy). Other variants found in the United States are the less common Dossey⁵⁷ (ranking 20939th) and Dawsey⁵⁸ (27807th). In many cases, these variant spellings are reflective of the spelling skills of census takers and other government clerical workers of the 18th and 19th centuries as variant spellings are often found sprinkled through legal documents of even one individual or one family line. However, there are several lines in which the Dossey spelling has persisted or, at least, alternated with the Dorsey spelling a significant portion of the time. The Dorsey project has participants from five such lines. The results for those participants are shown in the first five lines of Table II-1.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparison for Lineage II Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project February 2006 <i>Dorsey/Dossey (and Cranford) Lines from Mid-Atlantic Colonies</i>																				
Ancestor Name	DYS Marker Values																			
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	9	9	9	9	8	8	2	8	3	8	9	8	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4
	3	0		1	5	5	6	8	9	9	2	9	8	9	9	5	4	7	7	8
					a	b								a	b					a
									1			2								b
Western AMH	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
² Daniel (¹ Elias) NC>GA	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
² Matthew (¹ Elias) NC>GA	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
² Joseph (¹ James) VA>MO	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
¹ Jeremiah KY	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
Solomon died 1818 NC	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
Calvert Co. Cranford	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29	18	9	10	11	11	25	15	19
Marker frequencies ^a	.95	.55	.93	.63	.90	.52	.98	.98	.74	.86	.90	.79	.23	.97	.87	.98	.99	.67	.85	.81
					.29	.82	.82	.52	.22											

Table II-1
Frequency calculations for Lineage II marker values within the R1b Haplogroup were provided by Whit Athey <http://www.worldfamilies.net/Super%20Western%20Atlantic%20Modal%20Haplotype.htm> accessed January 13, 2006.
Source: *Dorsey DNA Project Results* reported by Family Tree DNA and the University of Arizona 2001-2005

The first row of results in Table II-1 is the haplotype of a descendent of Daniel Dorsey/Dossey, a son of Elias Dorsey/Dossey who was living in Bute/Franklin County, North Carolina in the 1700's⁵⁹ and who later moved on to Oglethorpe County, Georgia where he died in 1796.⁶⁰ DNA marker values in the next row are from a descendent of Matthew Dorsey/Dossey, another son of Elias Dorsey/Dossey. Descendents of this family use both the names Dorsey and Dossey. These Dorsey/Dossey descendents match each other exactly.

Line three of Table II-1 is a descendent of James Dossey who died in Albemarle County VA c.1815. His son Joseph was in Missouri by 1850.⁶¹ Dossey researchers have suspected a connection between this

group and the Elias Dossey branch, owing to 1) the persistent use of the Dossey vs. Dorsey spelling, 2) some tracks, including families of spouses, in the trail through Virginia from MD to NC, and 3) some similarities in given names.

The fourth member of this group is a descendent of Jeremiah Dorsey, who died in 1828, in Barren County, Ky. Again, Dossey researchers have suspected links between this branch and the Elias branch owing to 1) the early 1800's presence of a Jeremiah Dossey in Franklin County, NC^{62,63}. 2) possible land dealings between the families of Elias and Jeremiah⁶⁴ 3) North Carolina being the birthplace of Jeremiah's sons,⁶⁵ and 4) the persistence in the use of the Dossey spelling.

The most recent results for Lineage II (Table II-1) are from a descendent of Soloman [sic] Dossey who was also present in Bute/Franklin County, NC in the late 1700's. Soloman may have been a brother to Elias, for they are linked many times in land dealings and other activities in the late 18th century in North Carolina. However, when Elias migrated to GA around 1787, Solomon stayed in North Carolina, where he left a will in 1818.⁶⁶

Interestingly, although they represent lines that separated and lost touch many years ago, all five lines match perfectly at all 25 markers which along with the persistent Dossey spelling and a few entries in the public record, confirms a recent common ancestor for these lines--yet to be identified. A smattering of records place most Lineage II participants' earliest known ancestors in close proximity and suggest a common 17th or 18th century ancestor in the mid-Atlantic colonies, North Carolina and/or Maryland specifically.

Many of the markers shared by this group are found frequently in individuals of western European descent (see Western Atlantic Modal Haplotype, Row 1, Table II-1). However, though they have a number of 22-24/25 marker matches with individuals of different surnames within the Family Tree DNA database, they have only a couple of perfect matches with other surnames at all 25 markers. The last row of values in Table II-1 records the frequencies at which each of the marker values of this group are found in members of the R1b Haplogroup. Three Lineage II markers show a relatively low frequency, DYS #'s 458, 449 and 464d. DYS 449 is a very volatile marker and in spite of its low frequency, 29 is the most commonly occurring value. However, Lineage II values of DYS 458 (= 18) and DYS 464d (= 18) are present in only 22 and 23 percent of R1b populations respectively giving the group two unique markers to distinguish their line.

Descendents of Daniel Dossey and Jeremiah Dossey have upgraded their tests to 37 markers. Those results are reported in Table II-2. The match between these two lines continues with the exception of a single, one-step mismatch at DYS 576 (highlighted in blue) further supporting a recent common ancestor. DYS 576 is one of a set of markers chosen by Family Tree DNA because their relative volatility makes them potentially useful in identifying branching points of closely related lines. Consequently, this

difference is not surprising and may even prove useful as these two lines try to piece together the details of their relationship. (Family Tree DNA, based on statistical analyses of their extensive database, predicts that two individuals of the same surname with a 36/37 marker match are “tightly related.”⁶⁷)

Also included, as the last row of this table, are the marker frequencies for these markers within the R1b Haplogroup. Although there appear to be quite a few more unique markers in this set, it also must be pointed out that the frequency calculations were based on a significantly smaller sample size than the calculations for the makers in the first 25 marker set shown in Table II-1. It would be premature to attach too much significance to these marker frequencies until more data is available.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparison for Lineage II Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project February 2006 <i>Dorsey/Dossey (and Cranford) Lines from Mid-Atlantic Colonies</i>												
Ancestor	DYS Marker #											
	4 6 0	G A T A H 4	Y C A A II a	Y C A A II b	4 5 6	6 0 7	5 7 6	5 7 0	C D Y 19	C D Y b	4 4 2	4 3 8
² Daniel (¹ Elias)	10	11	19	22	17	15	19	18	35	37	12	12
Jeremiah	10	11	19	22	17	15	18	18	35	37	12	12
Cranford	10	11	19	22	16	15	17	18	35	37	12	12
Marker Frequencies ^a	.18	.67	.94	.08	.21	.66		.17	.14	.25	.74	.96
Table II-2 ^a Frequency calculations for Lineage II marker values from the R1b Haplogroup were provided by Whit Athey http://www.worldfamilies.net/Super%20Western%20Atlantic%20Modal%20Haplotype.htm accessed February 25, 2006.												
Source: Family Tree DNA						Data: Family Tree DNA 2005						

James Dorsey/Dossey Calvert County Maryland

Some traditions of Maryland origins and other glimmers of information from scattered records have led Lineage II researchers to identify James Dossey who was in Calvert County, MD in the late 1600's as a candidate for their ancestor. They are actively seeking a proven descendent of James Dossey who would be willing to join the Dorsey DNA Project with whom they could compare their DNA. Nannie Ball Nimmo has written a detailed and well documented review of this line which was published in *Maryland Marriages and Genealogies, 1634-1820*.⁶⁸

Most likely because of the two unusual markers discussed above, most matches between Lineage II and persons of other surnames are not exact 25/25 marker matches. There are only a handful of 25/25 marker matches with two other surnames—Creed and Cranford. The most intriguing of these 25/25 marker matches is with a Cranford line who also traces back to late 17th century Calvert County, Maryland. (Values for the Calvert County based Cranfords for markers one through twenty-five are shown in row 6 in

Table II-1 above.) Interestingly, the Cranford/Dossey match continues to be close at the 37 marker level with two Cranfords matching the Dosseys at 35/37 marker (Row 3, Table II-2) and one at 34/37 markers. One of the mismatches is at DYS 576, the site of the mismatch between the descendents of Elias Dossey and Jeremiah Dossey, with Jeremiah Dossey's descendent showing an intermediate value between the descendent of Elias Dossey and the Cranfords.

Matches between different surnames are usually indicative of a shared common ancestor before the advent of surnames—particularly within commonly found haplotypes. However, when the DNA match is accompanied by commonalities in time and place, it certainly becomes interesting—especially when the shared markers are of unusual values such as those at DYS#'s 458 and 464d. (This is not to mention the possibly unusual marker values in the third panel.) In this case, one of the Cranfords traces his ancestry back to William Cranford of Calvert County, MD, the home of the Dossey's proposed ancestor James Dorsey/Dossey. Members of Dossey/Dorsey and Cranford families are found together in several early records from that area.

A Few Records involving Dossey/Dorsey and Cranford in Colonial Calvert County, MD

The will of John Gill, witnessed by James Dossey and probated in 1687 gives most of his estate to Martha Morris, the daughter of Martha Dossey, who was also named executrix.⁶⁹ The administrators of this will when it was probated in 1687 were Nathaniel Cranford and his wife Martha.⁷⁰ An entry into the Inventories and Accounts of the Prerogative Court of Maryland records that James Dosey was married by October 23, 1679 to Martha, executrix of Thomas Morris of Calvert County⁷¹. From this it would appear that Martha Morris, daughter of Martha Dossey was the daughter of Thomas Morris, stepdaughter of James Dossey and wife of Nathaniel Cranford. On December 2, 1698, Martha Cranford appeared in the Prerogative Court of Maryland as executrix for Nathan Cranford. One orphan child was mentioned in those proceedings.⁷²

A Nathaniel Cranford made a will November 3, 1749 (proved July 28, 1750) leaving his estate to his brother Benjamin Cranford, with mother Elizabeth Cranford the other part of the estate. Witnesses to this will were James Dossey, Sr. and John Cranford.⁷³

James Dossey, Jr., made a will in 1758 naming among his children, a son Philip and a daughter Rebecca who married James Cranford. To his son Philip, James Dossey left "150 acres which I purchased from Capt Hyde, called "Robinsons Rest".⁷⁴ Chancery Court records of 1787 include a record of a lawsuit between Philip Dossey and his brother-in-law James Cranford concerning the title to a piece of property named "Robinsons Rest."⁷⁵

There are opportunities for "non-paternal events" in every age, i.e., widows remarry and bring children, sometimes unborn, who take their stepfather's names; parents die by disease or war and a relative

or friend takes in the children and raises them with their name; or a young daughter has a child out of wedlock and her parents raise it as their own. Infidelities within marriage occur—sometimes with and sometimes without the husband’s knowledge. A widow may give her illegitimate child the name of her deceased husband. A variety of scenarios over several generations could be devised to account for matches between individuals with different surnames.

In light of the commonalities of both DNA results and traditional genealogical records, the Cranford and Dossey families are reviewing their records and scouring the Maryland Archives and other sources for more clues regarding their past connections. It is certainly possible that their lines may be connected by either a Cranford child who was raised as a Dossey or a Dossey child who was raised as a Cranford.

In contrast, no obvious connections have been found between the Dorsey/Dosseys and the Creed family with whom they also have a 25/25 marker match. The Creed family reports origins in North Carolina and at least one Creed family has been located in Colonial Calvert County. However, the connections, if any, are too faint to decipher at this time.

Conclusions for Lineage II

The DNA project has been very informative for this group of Dosseys in spite of the fact that they have not found matches with either the Anglo/Norman D’Arcys nor the descendents of Edward Darcy-Dorsey as they had predicted nor have they, as yet, identified a common ancestor. They have established that they do share a recent common ancestor and that that ancestor most likely lived in the 17th or 18th century in the mid Atlantic colonies. An intriguing connection with a line of Cranfords with roots in Calvert County, MD has been identified and further research to define that connection is underway.

Efforts are underway to recruit a participant from the line of James Dorsey/Dossey of Calvert County, MD.

Lineage II benefits from having at least one skilled researcher from each of its lines and a Lineage II leader who has been very active in both recruiting participants and underwriting testing costs. It is a model for successful integration of DNA results and traditional genealogical research and for the benefits of an active recruiting program that focuses on testing hypotheses of connectedness based on traditional records.

Lineage III *Andrew Dorsey Line*

Table III-1 below summarizes and compares the haplotypes of a group of Dorseys who trace their origins to individuals living in Rowan, Lincoln, and Burke Counties in western North Carolina in the late 1700’s. A number of records cluster these individuals around Andrew Dorsey who moved from Baltimore County, MD to Rowan County in 1766.⁷⁶ The first line of the table is the haplotype of a proven descendent of Andrew Dorsey’s grandson Elisha (son of Andrew’s proven son Endymion^{77,78}). The next line, which matches that one at all 25 markers, is from a descendent of Dimmon Dorsey of North Carolina and

Tennessee.⁷⁹ That perfect match, the appearance of Dimmon Dorsey in several public records with other known members of Elisha Dorsey’s family, and the use of the unusual name Dimmon (for Endymion) in both lines insure these two share a close common ancestor. Though not proven directly, it is believed that Dimmon was another son of Endymion Dorsey and thus a brother to Elisha.

Confirmation of a close relationship is found in the uniqueness of the DNA signatures of these two individuals. Though they share many of the values of the Western Atlantic Modal Haplotype⁸⁰, they also share unusual values for four markers in this 25 marker set. They have no exact or near matches outside of the Dorsey surname in the Family Tree DNA database⁸¹, no matches in the worldwide population sample of 24,189 in the www.yhrd.org database⁸², and no matches in the [Sorenson Molecular Genealogy database](http://www.sorensonmolecular.com).⁸³ Frequency values for each of their markers are reported in the last line of Table III-1.⁸⁴ *Particularly rare is the value of 32 for DYS389ii.* Other unusual values occur at DYS#’s 390, 459b, and 447. This is truly an unusual haplotype. Along with supporting traditional genealogical records, it leaves no chance that this is a spurious match of unrelated people who happen to share the Dorsey surname (or one of its several variants) and have roots in the same geographical place at the same time.

Dorsey Ancestor	Y-STR Haplotype Comparisons for Lineage III Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D’Arcy DNA Project January 2006 <i>Andrew Dorsey Line</i>																								
	DYS Marker Values																								
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Elisha of Endymion	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Dimmon	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Anderson of William	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	31	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Elisha H. of William	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	31	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Elisha H. of William	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	31													
Joseph of David	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
William of David	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	18	28	14	15	17	17
Benj. of John Henry	13	25	14	10	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Virgil of John Henry	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	31													
Andrew of Bassell	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Andrew of Bassell	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	31	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
Ancestral Haplotype-Andrew	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17
freq. ¹	.95	.15	.93	.63	.90	.52	.98	.98	.74	.86	.63	.01	.50	.97	.12	.98	.99	.02	.85	.81	.39	.82	.69	.52	.62
<i>Ancestral Haplotype-Edward Darcy/Dorsey</i>	13	25	14	11	11	12	12	12	12	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	18	?	15	16	16	17

Table III-1

Source: Family Tree DNA. Data September 2001-November 2005

¹Frequency of marker value occurrence in Haplogroup R1b calculations for the ancestral haplotype provided by Whit Athey ⁸⁵

(<http://www.worldfamilies.net/Super%20Western%20Atlantic%20Modal%20Haplotype.htm>)

¹John H. Dorsey, Sr. Descendants

The next seven lines of Table III-1 are haplotypes for descendents of three proven sons of John H. Dorsey, Sr. who was born c.1772 in North Carolina⁸⁶. Unfortunately, John Dorsey is not an unusual name. It is likely, however, from known later associations that John H. Dorsey, Sr. was the same John Dorsey who appears in a variety of records in Lincoln and Burke Counties in North Carolina in the late 1790's and early 1800's.⁸⁷ His name appears on land records with two presumed sons of Andrew Dorsey (Bassell Dorsey and Benjamin Dorsey) and with Andrew's proven descendent, Elisha Dorsey, suggesting but not defining a relationship with them.⁸⁸ By 1830, John Dorsey and his family had moved to Macon County, NC⁸⁹ and by 1840 to Pickens County, SC⁹⁰ where he died in 1852.⁹¹ The settlement of John H. Dorsey Sr.'s estate names five sons, William, David, Elisha, Peter, and John H. Dorsey, Jr.⁹² William and Peter stayed in Pickens County. By 1850 David had moved to Habersham County, Georgia⁹³, Elisha had moved to Rabun County, Georgia⁹⁴ and John H. Dorsey, Jr. had moved to Cass County⁹⁵.

²William H. Dorsey (¹John)

The Y-DNA of the descendents of John H. Dorsey Sr.'s son William (Rows, 3, 4, and 5, Table III-1) are identical on all markers tested in common.⁹⁶ They match the Y-DNA of the descendent of Elisha Dorsey, proven grandson of Andrew Dorsey on 24/25 markers, conclusively supporting a recent common ancestor for William H. Dorsey and Elisha (and Dimmon Dorsey). The scanty tidbits offered up by the public record suggest that William's father, John, and Elisha's father, Endymion, were brothers or, possibly, that John and Elisha were brothers.

²David Dorsey (¹John)

DNA marker values for a eighth generation descendent of John H. Dorsey, Sr. through Joseph Tarpley Dorsey⁹⁷, a son of John's proven son David (cited in the settlement of JHD's estate⁹⁸) (Line 6, Table III-1), are an exact match with the markers of Elisha and Dimmon's descendents indicating that there have been no mutations in these markers in their lines and their values represent those of their common ancestor--most likely Andrew Dorsey. On the other hand, the results in row seven mismatch the descendent of David's son Joseph at three markers though they are those of a descendent of another son of David Dorsey, William Manson Dorsey⁹⁹. This participant also surprisingly mismatches descendents of John Dorsey, Sr.'s sons William and John Henry Dorsey (Table III-1, rows eight and nine), at four different markers each. William Manson Dorsey's descendent mismatches both lines at DYS #'s 448, 449, and 464a as well as mismatching William's line at DYS389ii and John Henry's at DYS391.

Table III-2 shows the probability of three mismatches between fourth cousins once removed (the relationship of the two descendents of David Dorsey who mismatch on three of 25 markers). The mutation calculator¹⁰⁰ predicts three mutations between such relatives will occur less than two percent of the time.

Because this occurrence is so rare, I asked Family Tree DNA to recheck the results for this descendent of David Dorsey. The lab rechecked the results and confirmed that there were indeed three mutations in this

Probability (P) of Observing A Specific Number of Mutations After a Given Number of Generations from a Common Ancestor							
Number of Mutations	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
(P) Six and seven generations from Common Ancestor	.57695	.31732	.08726	.0160	.0020	.00024	.00002
Table III-2		Calculations based on a mutation rate of .002.					

line.¹⁰¹ Nevertheless, in spite of this unusual discrepancy, the sharing of the very unusual pattern of values for the remainder of the markers and a very solid paper trail confirms the relationship and we include him in this line. (In fact, the two participants live in the same community and are known to each other as distant cousins.) As with the others, David Dorsey’s line matches more closely with the lines of Elisha and Dimmon Dorsey than with those of his brothers.

²John Henry Dorsey (¹John)

Confusingly, John Henry Dorsey, whose descendents' results are in lines eight and nine of Table III-1, reported in both the 1880¹⁰² and the 1900¹⁰³ census that his father was born in England and his mother was born in Prussia (or Germany). These reports have understandably left his descendents reluctant to place John Henry into any known Dorsey families in spite of some apparent close associations between the John H. Dorsey, Sr. family and with the family of John Henry Dorsey's first wife who was Sarah Denny.¹⁰⁴ In the 1840 Pickens County, SC census, there is a John Dorsey, of the right age to be John Henry Dorsey, living near William H. Dorsey and next door to Henry Medford and his wife Rachel¹⁰⁵ (William Dorsey’s sister and John H. Dorsey, Sr.’s daughter¹⁰⁶). A few houses down was a Joshua Denny. John Henry Dorsey and Sarah Denny Dorsey’s first son was Joshua Denny Dorsey.¹⁰⁷ (In the same 1840 census, John H. Dorsey, Sr., above, was listed as John Dossey, Sr.¹⁰⁸ Dossey being one common spelling used by southern census takers trying to record Dorsey.) By 1850 the younger John Dorsey had disappeared from the SC census. The settlement of the estate of John H. Dorsey, Sr. in Pickens County, SC (1852) names John H. Dorsey, Jr. who is “living outside of the state” of South Carolina.¹⁰⁹ According to family members and census records (cited above), John Henry Dorsey moved first to Cass County, Georgia then to Pickens County, Georgia. He fathered 15 children!

The descendent of John Henry Dorsey’s son Benjamin only mismatches Elisha Dorsey’s descendent by one-step difference at DYS 391. He has two mismatches with William’s descendents—at DYS391 and DYS389ii. With only 12 marker results available, the descendent of John Henry Dorsey’s son Virgil has a one step mutation from the ancestral haplotype represented by Elisha Dorsey’s descendent. Curiously, it appears he shares that mutation at DYS 389ii with the descendents of William Dorsey, John Henry’s brother. It would appear that this is an instance of parallel mutations occurring independently in two lines

of descent from the same ancestor. These descendants of John Henry Dorsey share all the unusual marker values that are characteristic of this line, assuring a relationship with them in spite of his conflicting reports for his parents' birthplaces. (There is some reason based on family rumors to believe that John Dorsey, Sr.'s wife Mary and mother of John Henry Dorsey was of German descent.)

Who Was Bassell Dorsey and Where Did He Come From?

There is much interest in the origins of Bassell Dorsey, who is first found next to Andrew Dorsey's widow Patience on the tax rolls of Captain Graham in Rowan County, NC in 1782¹¹⁰ and who moved to Georgia in the early 1800's. For many years, this Bassell Dorsey was erroneously believed to be Basil John Dorsey, the son of ³Francis Dorsey (²Edward, ¹Edward). In fact, many Internet published genealogies still advance that claim. In recent years, however, close examination of records in the Maryland State Archives have revealed that Basil John Dorsey remained in the Baltimore area his entire life, serving in the Revolutionary War and marrying at least twice^{111,112}. That he died in Maryland and left a family there is confirmed by a court case concerning the disposition of his estate including his property Scotchman's Desire¹¹³ which remained in the possession of his descendants for several generations. At the same time, Bassell Dorsey, in a parallel but not identical life married, moved to North Carolina from Maryland, served in the militia during the Revolutionary War in North Carolina¹¹⁴, had children, and died leaving an estate in Franklin County, GA. Clearly, these two could not have been the same person.

This conclusion has left the question, "Who was Bassell Dorsey of North Carolina and Georgia and where did he come from?" Records in North Carolina and Georgia often show Bassell Dorsey and his descendants associated with members of the Andrew Dorsey family.¹¹⁵ A logical inference is that Bassell was a son of Andrew and Patience Dorsey. DNA results, Lines 10 and 11, Table III-1< strengthen this conclusion. Each of these two descendants of Bassell Dorsey's grandson John Magers Dorsey differs from the deduced haplotype of Andrew Dorsey at only one marker--one by two steps at DYS 464c and the other by one step at DYS 389ii.

For further comparison, a final row (beneath the marker frequency row) has been added to Table III-1 which represents the haplotype of Edward Darcy/Dorsey, the proven ancestor of Basil John Dorsey, which was deduced from the results of his descendants (see [Lineage I Results and Discussion](#)). Edward Darcy/Dorsey mismatches the deduced haplotype for Andrew Dorsey (and Bassell Dorsey) at ten different markers (highlighted in dark red). Though both lines share some markers typical of Irish origin, their genetic difference precludes their sharing a common ancestor within the time that surnames have been in use.

These results firmly place Bassell Dorsey in Dorsey Lineage III, the line of Andrew Dorsey, and rule out any patrilineal relationship for either with Edward Dorsey/Darcy.

Figure III-1 maps the relationships for this Dorsey family that have been defined by traditional genealogical records and the DNA markers that support them. In spite of the implications of some records and geographical proximity to other Dorseys in western North Carolina, it has not been clear up until now whether Bassell Dorsey and/or John H. Dorsey, Sr. were a part of the Andrew Dorsey line. These results tell us that Bassell Dorsey, John H. Dorsey, Sr. and Elisha Dorsey shared an unusual Y chromosome haplotype inherited from a common ancestor. Interpretation of the scant records available tells us that the ancestor was Andrew Dorsey. Unfortunately, DNA cannot tell us whether John H. Dorsey, Sr. was a son or grandson of Andrew His birth year of 1772 (calculated from the 1850 census) makes both a possibility. It is even possible that he was a nephew or cousin. (To signify this, the line connecting Andrew Dorsey and John H. Dorsey has been drawn in red.) Available records do suggest more strongly that Bassell Dorsey was a son of Andrew and Patience Dorsey and the line connecting him to Andrew Dorsey is drawn in black. Regardless of the details of the connection, there is no doubt that these Dorseys from western North Carolina (and eventually South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee) are members of the same patrilineal line

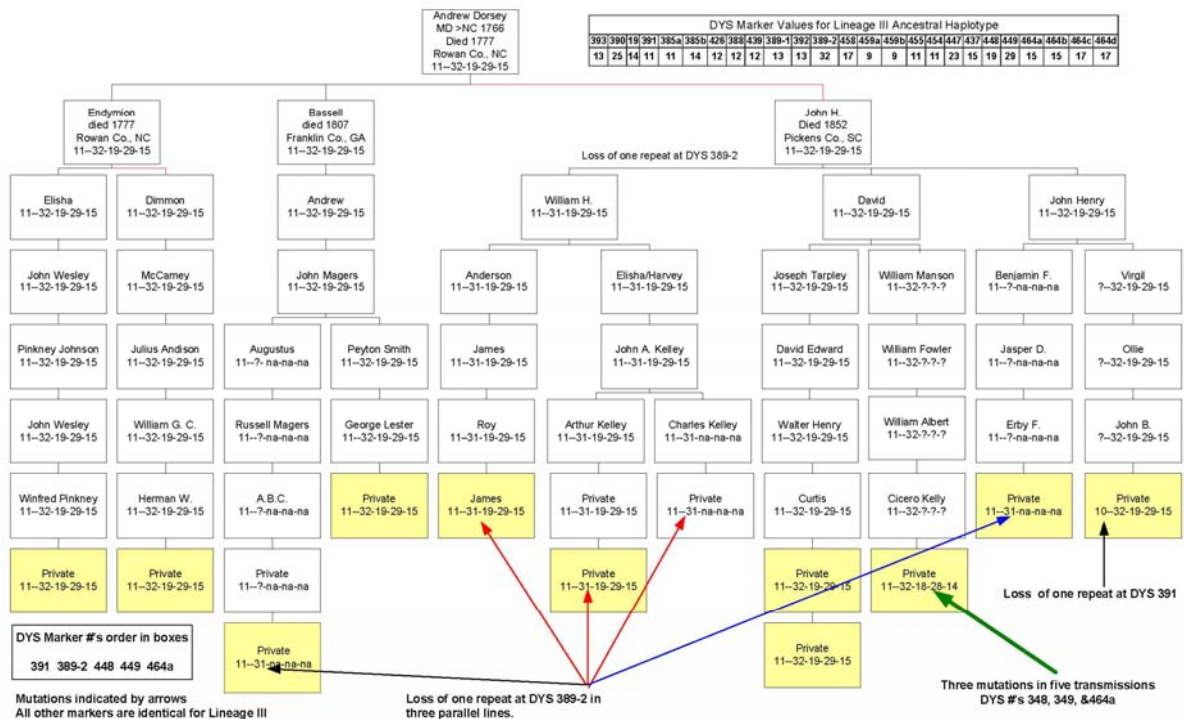


Figure III-1a

All other markers have the same values for all members of this line who were tested. (see insert at top of figure)

A full page copy of this chart is included at the end of this section, titled Figure III-1b.

Lines from Andrew Dorsey to John H. Dorsey and from Endymion Dorsey to Dimmon Dorsey are based on circumstantial evidence and are colored red.

Yellow boxes represent individuals whose DNA was actually tested. Values for others have been deduced from those results. For example, the descendent of John Henry Dorsey's son Benjamin alone has a value of 10 for DYS 391 that is not shared by any of the others of this group, including a descendent of Virgil Dorsey, a second son of John Henry. This tells us that the common ancestor of Lineage III passed on a value of 11 with a subsequent loss of one repeat unit for DYS391 somewhere in the line of John Henry Dorsey's son Benjamin. (Further testing of other descendents of Benjamin Dorsey would be necessary to determine exactly where that mutation occurred.)

Lineage III is also unusual in that it appears that the same mutation has occurred independently in three different lines of this group. At the beginning of this study, William Dorsey's descendents were unique in sharing a value of 31 for DYS 389ii. As most descendents of Elisha Dorsey, Dimmon Dorsey, David Dorsey and John Henry Dorsey share the (even more unusual) value of 32, we surmise that their common ancestor passed this value to his sons and that a mutation between John H. Dorsey and William caused a loss of one repeat at DYS 389ii. We know it occurred at that level because it is shared by descendents of two of William's sons. As the study has progressed, the same value for DYS 389ii has also been found in descendants of John Henry Dorsey and of Bassell Dorsey. Other descendents of both John Henry and Bassell Dorsey do not have this mutation but share the ancestral value of 32. All three lines are from different geographical areas so we do not, at this time, suspect any non-paternity events such as a child of one of line being raised in a family of the other. There is little reported in the scientific literature to explain differences in mutation rates among this type of marker. However, there are reports of an increased tendency to lose units as the length of an STR marker increases.¹¹⁶ The ancestral value of 32 repeat units for DYS 389-ii is unusually long, found in only about one percent of members of the R1b Haplogroup. Perhaps some instability related to its length underlies this unusual volatility.

As discussed above, the occurrence of three mutation differences (DYS #'s 448, 449, and 464a) between the two descendants of the David Dorsey is also quite unusual. Since the descendent of David's son Joseph Tarpley shares the ancestral values for all 25 markers in this study, the mutations have occurred somewhere in the line of descent from David's son William Manson Dorsey. Attempts to pinpoint each mutation would require extensive testing of other members of this line and would contribute little of genealogical value since most members of the line are known to each other and records are good.

Who Was Andrew Dorsey and Where Did He Come From?

In spite of the fact that a number of early to mid 18th century records show Andrew Dorsey living in Maryland in the midst of many descendents of the Immigrant ¹Edward Darcy/Dorsey¹¹⁷, there are no parents of record for him and his Y chromosome DNA haplotype does not match that of proven direct male line descendents of Edward Darcy/Dorsey (Table III-1).

Early Maryland records offer faint hints that Andrew Dorsey could have been an illegitimate son of a Dorsey widow.^{118,119} Hopefully his unique Y chromosome will eventually find a match with a yet undiscovered Dorsey ancestor or with someone of another surname who traces his line back to Baltimore County, Maryland in the early 1700's and that name will suggest a direction to search for a patrilineal line for Andrew Dorsey. Of course, the chances of this happening serendipitously are meager. Based only on some fanciful hunches generated by a few records, we are actively recruiting individuals from early Baltimore families of Gosnell, Norwood, Porter, Frizzle, Gaither, and Gillis to provide a DNA sample on the slim chance his father was from one of those lines.

For a detailed discussion of Andrew Dorsey's possible origins based on traditional genealogical records, please see "[Who was Andrew Dorsey of Maryland and North Carolina?](#)"

DYS Marker Values for Lineage III Ancestral Haplotype																							
383	390	19	391	385a	385b	426	388	439	389-1	392	389-2	455a	455b	455c	447	437	448	449	464a	464b	464c	464d	
13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	32	17	9	11	11	23	15	19	29	15	15	17	17

Andrew Dorsey
MD > NC 1766
Died 1777
Rowan Co., NC
11--32-19-29-15

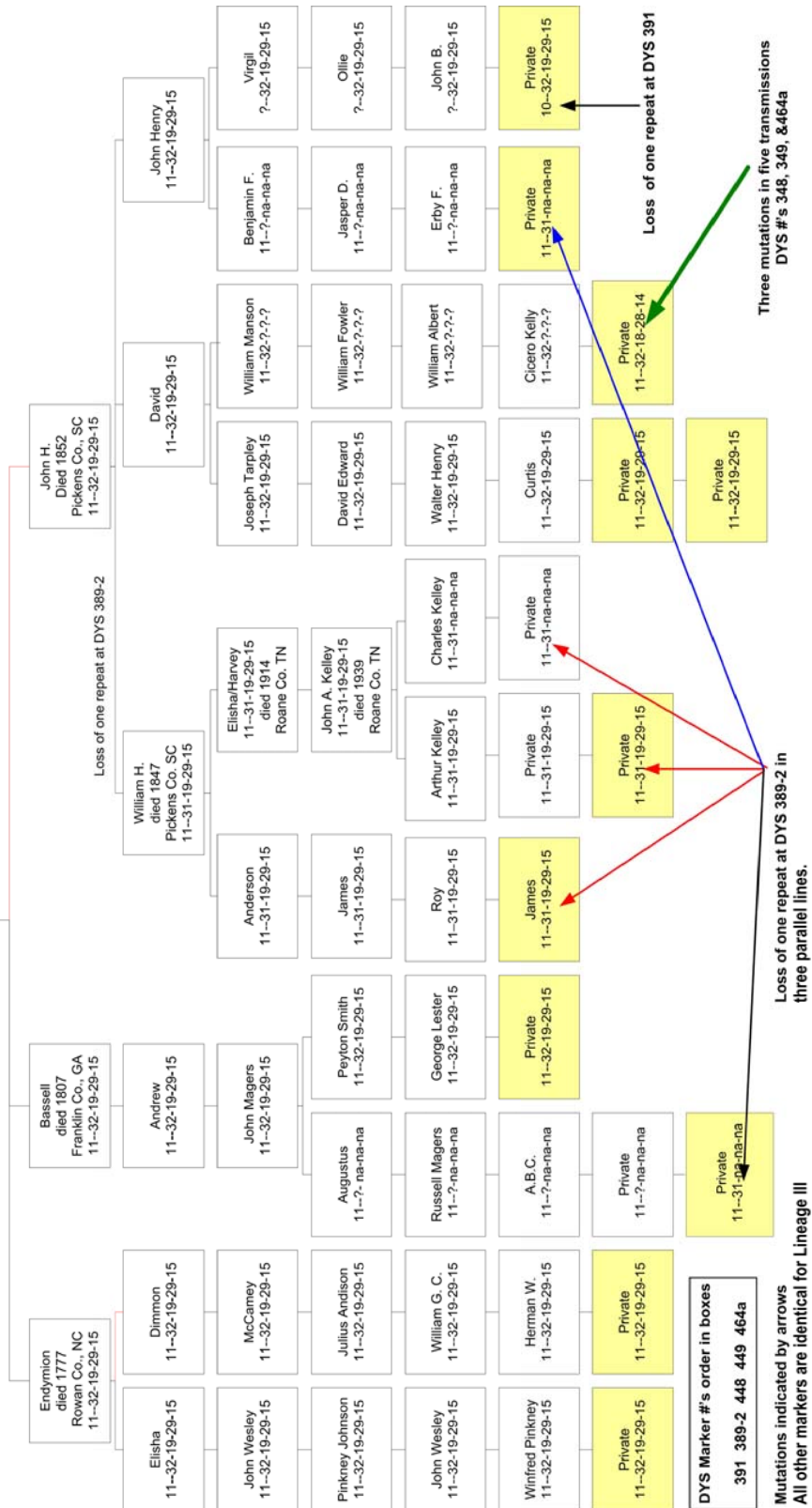


Table II-1b

Lineage III Descendancy Chart
See text for discussion

Lineage IV From Tipperary to Australia and America

Two participants who trace their lines to County Tipperary in Ireland share a 23/25 marker match that includes a few quite unusual marker values. Their results are presented in Table IV-1. The first row of results in this group is from a descendent of Thomas D’Arcy who was born on a farm near Lorrha in County Tipperary about 1820¹²⁰ and arrived in Sydney, Australia on February 18, 1848.¹²¹ The second member of this group can make his earliest connection to John Dorcey, who was in the County Tipperary (North Riding), the Barony of Lower Ormond, the Civil Parish of Kilbarron, the Townland of Lisquilabeen between 1834 and 1852.¹²² This John Dorcey immigrated to Michigan in the mid 1850’s only to be killed in the final days of the Civil War.

These two match on 23 of 25 markers with a two-step difference at DYS439 and a one-step difference at DYS458. For their mismatch at DYS439, one has one repeat more than the modal value and the other one has repeat less. (This suggests possible one-step mutations in both lines rather than one two-step mutation in one line.) The lower value 11 is found in about 15% of R1b haplotypes and the higher value of 13 is found in about 10%. (This is in contrast to the modal value of 12, which is found in almost 74% of individuals in the R1b Haplogroup.)¹²³

Dorsey Ancestor	Y-STR Haplotype Comparisons for Lineage III Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D’Arcy DNA Project January 2006 Tipperary Line																									
	DYS Marker Values																									
	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
	9	9	9	9	8	8	2	8	3	8	9	8	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	4	6	6	6	6
	3	0		1	5	5	6	8	9	9	2	9	8	9	9	5	4	7	7	8	9	4	4	4	4	
					a	b							a	b							a	b	c	d		
Thomas D’Arcy (Ire > Aus)	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	13	13	13	29	16	8	9	11	11	25	15	19	29	13	13	15	17	
John Dorcy (Ire > MI)	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	11	13	13	29	17	8	9	11	11	25	15	19	29	13	13	15	17	
Frequencies	.95	.55	.93	.63	.90	.52	.98	.98		.86	.90	.79	.02	.12	.98	.99	.67	.85	.81	.39	.02	.01	.07	.67		
Table III-1 Source: Family Tree DNA. Data September 2001-November 2005 ¹ Frequency of marker value occurrence in Haplogroup R1b calculations for the ancestral haplotype provided by Whit Athey ¹²⁴ http://www.worldfamilies.net/Super%20Western%20Atlantic%20Modal%20Haplotype.htm																										

They also share particularly unusual values of 8 for DYS 459a and 9 for DYS459b—values that are found in only about 2% and 12% of R1b populations respectively.¹²⁵ Similarly, their values for DYS numbers 464a, b, and c are very unusual. Their genetic distance from the various other Irish and American Dorsey/D’Arcy/Dorcy/etc lines is from seven to 15 steps.

With their remaining markers matching the very common Atlantic Modal Haplotype and in spite of the five very unusual markers, these two have a number of matches with other surnames in the Family Tree DNA database.

The descendant of Thomas D'Arcy closest matches are 23/25 marker matches with only four, not surprisingly, Irish surnames--O'Brien, Hart, Everett (Graham), and Callahan. It is perhaps the values of 13 at DYS 439 and 16 at DYS458 which are found in only about 10% and 18% of R1b men respectively that sets him apart. The descendant of John Dorcey, who has somewhat more typical values for these markers, has exact matches with five different surnames, again typically Irish names, Hogan, Casey, Bryan, West, and Donohoe. He has 23-24/25 marker matches as well with 25 others.

There has been some discussion on the Genealogy-DNA email list at Rootsweb about a (small) Irish cluster or haplotypes who share the unusual values of DYS459a,b = 8,9, and DYS464a,b,c,d = 13,13, 15, 17. Other distinctive marker values have been discussed. Len Keane, a list member who also shares this pattern wrote, "There seems to be an aura of mystery growing about this haplotype! It could relate to an ancient widespread group. What could it be??"¹²⁶ As geneticists and historian continue to join forces to map out the lines of descent of the Irish people, we hope to learn more about this interesting cluster and our Dorcey/D'Arcy members' place in it.

Because these two project members can place their earliest known ancestor in the same area of Ireland in the early 1800's, it would make sense for them to upgrade to the 37 marker test to find out whether this match strengthens and to attempt to recruit fellow D'Arcy/Darcy/Dorcey participants with known roots in Tipperary. The American family believes there might have been a family member who came to Michigan about the same time as their ancestor but then returned to Ireland only to immigrate to Australia later.¹²⁷ Though most likely a coincidence, they share a same somewhat uncommon first name.

Lineage V *The Anglo/Norman D'Arcy Line*

Though not closely matched to each other, the haplotypes of Lineages I – IV include a large number of markers typical of English or Irish origin and have all been estimated by the Family Tree DNA Lab at the University of Arizona to belong to the R1b Haplogroup. Several members have had additional testing that confirms this assignment. It is generally believed that populations bearing the R1b Haplogroup arrived in Spain from the east about 30,000 years ago among the Paleolithic or "old stone age" peoples considered to be indigenous to Europe. Populations of R1b are believed to have sheltered in the Iberian Peninsula during the last glacial maximum then expanded throughout Europe as the ice receded about ten to twelve thousand years ago.¹²⁸ The frequency of this Haplogroup increases from east to west across Europe with its highest concentration along the Atlantic façade--including the British Isles. In fact, R1b is found in nearly 100% of natives of western Ireland.¹²⁹

Interestingly, however, the members of Lineage V present marker profiles (Table V-1) typically found in the E3b Haplogroup, a Haplogroup which is believed to have originated in eastern Africa 24-27,000 years ago.¹³⁰ Several members of Lineage V have also had additional testing to confirm this Haplogroup assignment. Its distribution, which diminishes toward the west in Europe, suggests it began in the Balkans and expanded into southern Europe in Neolithic times¹³¹—long after their R1b brothers had arrived there. The E3b Haplogroup is found in low frequencies in England and even more rarely in Ireland.¹³² However, there are anecdotal hints that the E3b Haplogroup may appear with increased frequency among those with Anglo-Norman surnames, many of whom are said to descend from companions of William the Conqueror.

One member of this group is awaiting test results of further SNP testing to determine the E3b subgroup for this line. Further information about this interesting haplogroup can be found at Dennis Garvy's E3b webpage <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~dgarvey/DNA/hg/E3b.html>

Y-STR Haplotype Comparison for Lineage V Dorsey/Darcey/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project January 2006 Anglo/Norman D'Arcy Lin																									
D'Arcy/Darcey Ancestor	DYS Marker Values																								
	3 9 3	3 9 0	1 9 1	3 9 1	3 8 5	3 8 5	4 2 6	3 8 8	4 3 9	3 8 9	3 8 9	3 8 9	4 5 8	4 5 9	4 5 9	4 5 5	4 5 4	4 3 7	4 4 8	4 4 9	4 6 4	4 6 4	4 6 4	4 6 4	
William of Platten (George)	13	24	13	10	16	18	11	12	12	12	11	30	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	32	13	15	15	16
William of Platten (John)	13	24	13	10	16	18	11	12	12	12	11	30	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	32	13	15	15	16
James D'Arcy (Ireland)	13	24	13	10	16	18	11	14	12	12	11	29	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	32	13	15	15	16
Joseph Dorsey/Darcey	13	24	13	10	16	17	11	12	12	12	11	29	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	33	13	15	15	16
George Darcey	13	24	13	10	16	17	11	12	12	12	11	29	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	34	13	15	15	16
John S. Darcey	13	24	13	10	15	17	11	12	12	12	11	29	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	33	13	15	15	16
John S. Darcey	13	24	13	10	15	17	11	12	12	12	11	29	17	9	9	11	11	26	14	20	33	13	15	15	16
John S. Darcey	13	24	13	10	15	17	11	12	12	12	11	29													
<i>Ancestral Haplotype^a</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
^a Proposed haplotype of an unidentified hypothetical ancestor of these participants, determined by marker values shared among the three different lines of this group																									
Table V-1	Source: Family Tree DNA Date: 2004-2005																								

The results for members of Lineage V are presented in Table V-1. Five members of Lineage V have upgraded their tests to 37 markers. Results for those markers are given in Table V-2 below.

The first two haplotypes in both Table V-1 and V-2 are from descendants with registered Anglo-Norman pedigrees going back to George and John D'Arcy, the first and second sons of Sir William D'Arcy of Platten, County Meath, Ireland.^{133,134} Each participant is a 14th generation descendant of Sir William D'Arcy of Platten.

Y-STR Haplotype Comparison for Lineage V Dorsey/Darcy/Dossey/D'Arcy DNA Project January 2006 <i>Anglo/Norman D'Arcy Line</i>												
D'Arcy/Darsey Ancestor	DYS Marker Numbers											
	4 6 0	G A T A H 4	Y C A I I a	Y C A I I b	4 5 6	6 0 7	5 7 6	5 7 0	C D Y a	C D Y b	4 4 2	4 3 8
John of William of Platten	10	8	19	22	15	13	18	20	31	34	12	10
George of William of Platten	10	8	19	22	15	13	20	20	31	35	12	10
James D'Arcy of Ireland	10	8	19	22	15	13	20	20	31	35	12	10
Joseph Darsey MD>NC>GA (Rev War)	10	8	19	22	15	13	20	20	31	35	12	10
John S. Darsey MD>VA	10	8	19	22	15	13	20	20	31	35	12	10

Table V-2 Extended Marker Test Results, Family Tree DNA Third Panel for Lineage V
Source: *Dorsey DNA Project Results* reported by Family Tree DNA and the University of Arizona 2005

They match at 35/37 markers with a two step difference at DYS576 and a one step difference at DYSCDYb., a two step difference at DYS 576 and a one step difference at DYS CDYb. Both of those markers have been chosen by Family Tree DNA because their relative volatility makes them potentially useful in identifying branching points of closely related lines. Consequently, these mutations are not surprising considering the separation of 14 generations from a common ancestor.

Table V-3 reports the probability of observing different numbers of mutations between two individuals each descending 14 generations from a common ancestor (via different sons). It is uncertain whether to count the differences between the two descendants of William D'Arcy of Platten as two

Probability (P) of Observing A Specific Number of Mutations After 14 Generations Descend from a Common Ancestor ¹³⁵							
Mutations	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
(P) Both 14 Generations from Common Ancestor	.12593	.12593	.27033	.18671	.09671	.04008	.01384
Table V-3	Calculations based on a mutation rate of .002.						

(assuming the two step difference at DYS 576 occurred as one mutation) or three mutations (assuming the difference at DYS 576 occurred as two separate mutations). The probability of finding two mutations between such a pair is .27033 (actually, the most likely number) and the probability of finding three mutations is .18671 (greater than the probabilities of finding no or one mutation). In either case the results of this test continue to be consistent with their documented connection.

The third line of Table V-1 represents the Y chromosome DNA of a participant who can trace his line back to James D'Arcy, the father of John D'Arcy who, according to his baptism record, was born in 1820 in Balbriggan in County Dublin, Ireland.¹³⁶ Circumstantial evidence says that

James D'Arcy most likely was born in Oldcastle in County Meath Ireland about 1780. This participant hypothesizes that James's father was Edward D'Arcy who was born about 1742 in Co. Meath, an eighth-generation descendant of Sir William of Platten's son George. This project member has a two step difference at DYS388 (for a very unusual value of 14 for this marker) and a one-step difference at DYS449 compared to the two proven descendants of William D'Arcy of Platten, and is included in this Lineage. Upgrading the test to 37 markers extends the match with the descendent of George of Platten to 35/37 markers, further supporting this member's hypothesis. (Row 3, Table V-2)

Also included in this biologically defined group are five American Dorsey/Darseys. The first of these (Row 4, Table V-1) is a well documented descendant of Joseph Darsey who is said to have fought with his sons Joel, James, Joseph, Jr., William and Benjamin in the Revolutionary War. According to family members, Joseph Darsey moved from Maryland through North Carolina and finally settled in Georgia. Family lore says either Joseph or one of his sons was imprisoned by the English during the American Revolution and died on an English prison ship in Charleston, SC. Joseph Darsey's descendant differs from the Irish E3b D'Arcys at three markers—DYS385b, DYS389ii, and DYS449. The match continues as a 34/37 marker match with the descendant of George D'Arcy of Platten (Row 4, Table V-2). Though no records exist that tie Joseph Darsey to an English or Irish ancestor, these results are sufficiently unique to place him in this Anglo/Norman D'Arcy lineage.

The next four participants are also Americans. They trace their lines back to George Darsey who was born September 18, 1774,¹³⁷ most likely in Maryland. George Darsey was in the state of Georgia by the early 1800's. The first of this group (Row 5, Table V-1) descends from George Darsey's son Edward who was born June 11, 1802.¹³⁸ He matches the Joseph Darsey descendant on all but the very volatile marker DYS 449 at which they both also differ from the Irish D'Arcys.

The last three members of Lineage V descend from John Speer Darsey (Dorsey), a 59 year old farmer who reported his birthplace as Maryland on the 1860 US Census for Spaulding County, Georgia.¹³⁹ According to a family Bible, George D. Darsey and his wife Millinda Anne (married December 30, 1798) also had a son named John S. Dorsey.¹⁴⁰ All evidence supports this son being John Speer Darsey. George Darsey left a will in Columbia County, Georgia naming his eldest son John S. Darsey "who no longer lives in this county"¹⁴¹ at a time when John Speer

Darsey was living in Henry (now Spalding) County Georgia. John Speer Darsey named his first son George,¹⁴² which, if he acknowledged naming traditions of his time, further indicate his father was George Darsey. The descendants of John S. Darsey match the descendant of George Darsey's son Edward at all markers except DYS385a.

One descendant of John Speer Darsey has upgraded his test to 37 markers (row 5, Table V-2). He also matches the descendent of Joseph Darsey and the descendent of George D'Arcy of William of Platten on these markers.

Efforts to locate parents for George D. Darsey have only yielded some thin speculations. One researcher of this line has reported to me, "I have found an Internet reference to a John Darsey born in 1737, in Prince George's County, MD, with a son named George born in 1778 that could work, but I've never found any confirmation of this."¹⁴³ This same researcher has also reported speculative arguments that George Darsey was a son of Joseph Darsey, Jr. (above) who fought with his father and brothers in the Revolutionary War.¹⁴⁴

These close matches insure this group shares a common ancestor. While two of the Irish members of Lineage V have solid genealogies back to the eleventh century and can identify their common ancestor through traditional records, it is not so easy to connect the remaining groups members. Certainly the 35/37 marker match of the descendant of James D'Arcy of Ireland with the descendant of George D'Arcy son of William of Platten supports his hypothesis that his ancestor was also George D'Arcy

On the other hand, it is difficult to say whether the American Darseys share an Irish ancestor with the descendants of Sir William of Platten or whether they share an English D'Arcy ancestor much farther back in time.

Interestingly, the American Darseys share the same 389ii marker value (29) with the descendant of James D'Arcy who differs at that marker from Irish D'Arcy's of Platten line (30). In turn, the Americans share the same 388 marker value (12) with the William D'Arcy of Platten line, which differs at that marker value from the James D'Arcy line (14). It is difficult to say whether the match at DYS 389ii is the result of parallel mutations that have occurred coincidentally in two lines of this group or whether they indicate the American Darseys and the descendant of James D'Arcy descend from the same line—perhaps as hypothesized from a branch of the line from George D'Arcy of Platten.

The American Darseys, do, however, have a vague tradition that their D'Arcy ancestor came to America from England. However, it is difficult to determine whether this tradition has its roots in publications by genealogists endeavoring to forge a connection to England for all Dorsey/Darcy/D'Arcy lines in the US or is actually a valid oral tradition passed down from English immigrant ancestors. If they

are descendants of an English D'Arcy line, a shared ancestor with the Irish D'Arcys would be at least fourteen generations back.

The DNA match between the US and Irish groups supports a common fourteenth century ancestor. Unfortunately, we are at the mercy of traditional records to identify a British ancestor as it appears that the line of the English D'Arcys, though prolific and complex, has “daughters out” and there are no known living direct male line descendants of the English D'Arcys. One of our very generous project participants has even engaged the services of the Royal College of Heraldry to search for possible direct male line descendants of the English line of Sir John D'Arcy de Knayth but, as yet, to no avail.

Norman D'Arcei, Companion of William the Conqueror

Unfortunately, the recorded pedigree from John D'Arcy back to Norman D'Arcy is a straight line without reported collateral lines of additional sons along the way, although surely they must have existed. Consequently, at this time, it is impossible to verify by using DNA testing there were no intervening non-paternal events between Norman D'Arcei and Sir John D'Arcy de Knayth. However, the contention is supported by the E3b Haplogroup shared by Lineage V members as that Haplogroup, though sparsely represented in England and Ireland, may be more prevalent amongst descendants of Norman origin. Given the continuity of good records through so many centuries and the unique Haplogroup assignment of E3b, it is highly likely that members of Lineage V are indeed descendants of Norman D'Arcei, companion of William the Conqueror.

Fantasy and Speculation

Intriguingly, some historians name William of Arque, the son of Robert II the Fourth Duke of Normandy, as the father of Norman de Arcei. William of Arque was the brother or paternal half brother, depending on the source, of Robert II the Sixth Duke of Normandy, the father of William the Conqueror.

If all of these reports are accurate, then the D'Arcy/Darsey Y chromosome would represent the Y chromosome of the patrilineal line of William the Conqueror.

If this were true, it would imply that perhaps the legendary Rollo the Walker, purported to be the ancestor of both Norman de Arcei and William the Conqueror was also E3b. Sound a bit farfetched? He was reportedly a Dane. It is rare to find an E3b Haplogroup in Denmark though he could have strolled in from anywhere. is a little more consistent with the E3b Haplogroup designation and th

To be fair in reporting, another historical yarn, that makes more sense from the point of view of the E3b Haplogroup, names Norman D'Arcei as a patrilineal descendent of Charlemagne or perhaps more generally a descendant of a member of the court of Charlemagne..

A final word of warning—other lines of other surnames make similar claims of patrilineal lines to William the Conqueror. If several of these surnames suddenly show groups with matching Y chromosome DNA, there will be something to think about. Until this, these ancient connections are no more certain than fiction.

Unmatched Participants

The final two groups of data are from participants who do not match any other Dorsey project members, though several have a number of matches outside the surnames included in this study. The first group includes those whose earliest known ancestor is found in the US. The first of those is from a descendent of Thomas Franklin Dossey, who moved from Arkansas to Texas during the mid to late 1800's. The second traces his line back to West Virginia but does not match other West Virginia Dorseys in the project. Row three of the unmatched Americans is a descendant of John B. Dorsey who was born about 1856 in Indiana. Line 4 of this group is a Kelly who expected to match the Harvey Kelly (aka Elisha Dorsey) line (Lineage III). Line 5 has roots in Iowa while the last unmatched American is an African American Dorsey who traces his line to the late 1800's in Maryland and Delaware.

The last two trace their lines back to Ireland but do not appear to have a common ancestor in a genealogically meaningful time frame. The first of these is a descendent of John Edward Dorsey/Darcy, who according to census records was born in Ireland. He is first located on the 1840 Grant County, Wisconsin census¹⁴⁵ and later moved through Green County, Illinois¹⁴⁶ and Andrew County, Missouri.¹⁴⁷ His family spread out through the western states from there.

The D'Arcys of Kiltullagh

Of special interest, the last row of unmatched numbers comprises the haplotype of a well-documented descendent of James Riveagh D'Arcy, the progenitor of the D'Arcy's of Kiltullagh.¹⁴⁸ Surprisingly, there are as yet no matches within the Dorsey Surname Project. For more discussion about this line, see the Irish Origins Report.

www.contexo.info/DorseyDNA/IrishOrigins.pdf

Hopefully as the project continues to grow, these unmatched pioneers will find their lines.

Conclusion

The matching haplotypes of five well-documented descendents of Edward Darcy/Dorsey, all widely separated by time and geography, leave little doubt that their DNA represents that of Edward Darcy/Dorsey.

Similarly several D'Arcy/Darsey individuals, with documented genealogies also widely separated by time and place, present matching haplotypes that quite likely represent the Y chromosome DNA profile of the Norman d'Arcei.

Results to date strongly support separate, independent patrilineal origins for three lines which have frequently been linked in genealogies and pedigrees, the Anglo/Norman D'Arcys, the D'Arcys of Kiltullagh, and the line of the American Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey. That the STR haplotypes of the descendents of the American Immigrant Edward Darcy/Dorsey and the descendent of James Riveagh D'Arcy do not match the D'Arcys with proven lines to the Norman Conquest has profound implications for the validity of widely published pedigrees, genealogies and societal memberships which have claimed these connections often based on scant evidence and circuitous argument. Similarly, the DNA profiles of Edward Darcy/Dorsey and James Riveagh D'Arcy do not match each other which also eliminates claims that Edward Darcy/Dorsey was from the line of the D'Arcys of Kiltullagh.

Several other lines have also emerged from this study. The lines of Andrew Dorsey and a group of mid-Atlantic Dossey/Dorseys share origins in North Carolina and possibly Maryland but match neither each other nor either of the other two forgoing lines. One pair of participants with origins in Tipperary appears to have an as yet unidentified common ancestor.

Endnotes

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