

Map of the Counties of Scotland with Locations of Todd Families with DNA Samples

1. Aberdeenshire
2. Angus (Forfarshire)
3. Argyll (Includes Is)
4. Ayrshire
5. Banffshire
6. Berwickshire
7. Bute (Includes Arran)
8. Caithness
9. Clackmannanshire
10. Dumbartonshire
11. Dumfriesshire
12. East Lothian
13. Fife
14. Inverness-shire (incl
& South Uist plus part
15. Kincardineshire
16. Kinr
17. Kirk
18. Lan
19. Midlothian
20. Moray
23. Peeblesshire
24. Perthshire
25. Renfrewshire
26. Ross & Cromarty
27. Roxburghshire
28. Selkirkshire
29. Shetland
30. Stirlingshire
31. Sutherland
32. West Lothian
33. Wigtonshire

John Todd b 1788 West Lothian **Group 1**

John b ab 1750 Bonhill, Dumbarton **Group 1:**

Jhone Todd d aft 1564 Nether Cartyne and Haghill, Glasgow area: **Group 1**

Matthew Todd b abt 1770 Dreghorn ,Ayrshire **Group 2**

George Tod b 1711 Orkneys => Virginia by 1737 No match

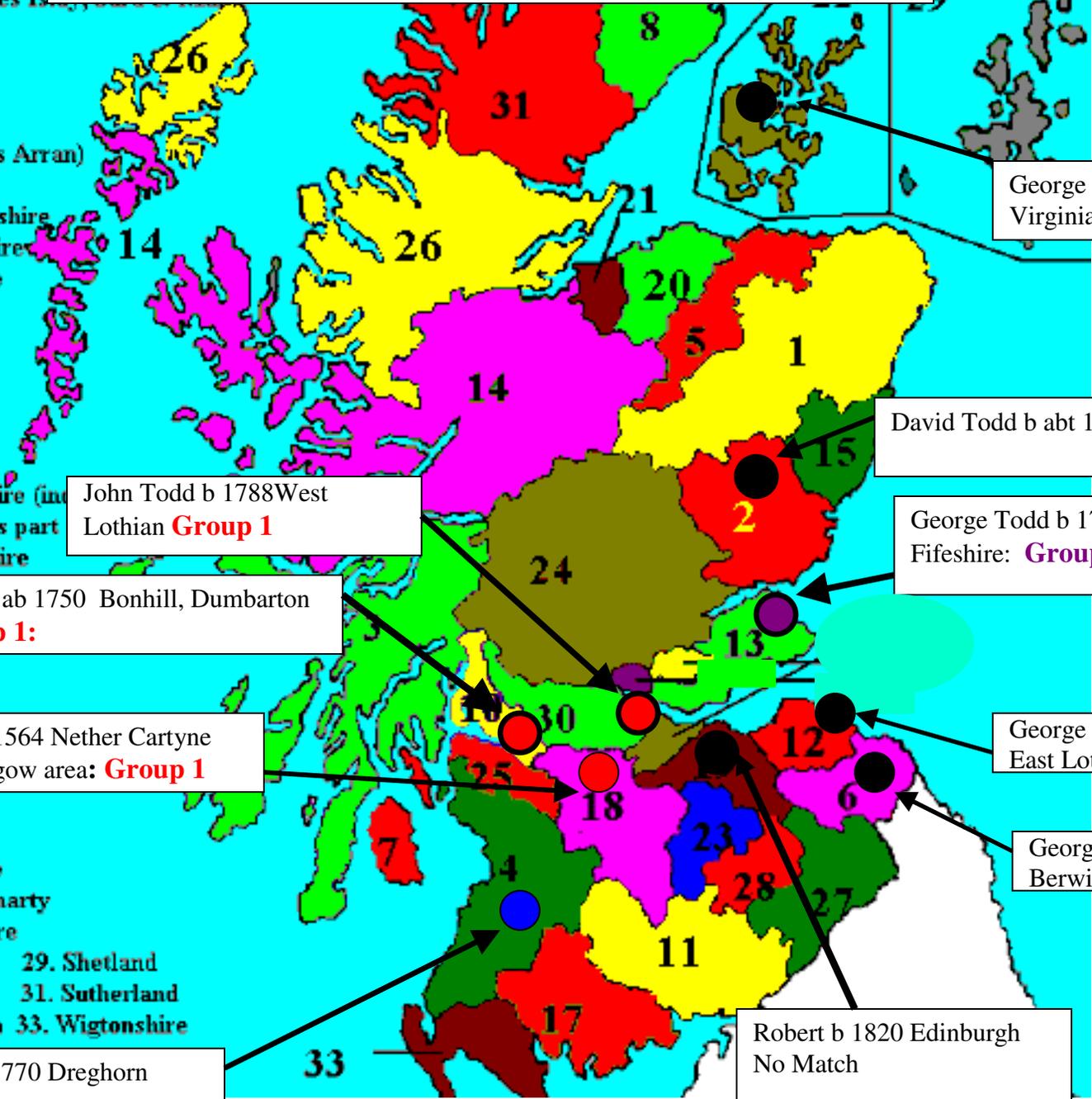
David Todd b abt 1740 Angus No Match

George Todd b 1798 Fifeshire: **Group 11**

George Todd b abt 1750 East Lothian No Match

George Todd b 1773 Berwickshire No Match

Robert b 1820 Edinburgh No Match



The Todd Families of Scotland

Scottish Todd DNA Survey

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During the last half of 2010, 8 Todd families of Ireland and 9 in Scotland gave DNA samples to help uncover previously hidden information about the origins of those families and the connections between the Todds of Scotland, Ireland and America.

The results have been very gratifying! In Scotland, most interesting is that DNA for 4 of the 9 samples matched families in America and 3 of those 4 matched families in Ireland. The other 5 were unique DNA patterns that didn't match other Todds elsewhere in Scotland or in Ireland or America.

There were three families that had the same DNA pattern – the Todds of Bonhill, Dumbarton (south of Loch Lomond), the Todds of Haghill, Glasgow and the Todds of Livingston and Bathgate, West Lothian. Their DNA pattern matched the DNA of the Todds in Ballyalbanagh/Coggry area of Co Antrim and the Mary Todd Lincoln Todds of New Jersey/Pennsylvania and Nathan/Nathaniel and Patrick Todd of Laurens County, SC. For the many Todd family historians of the Mary Todd Lincoln Todds and the Todds of Laurens Co, it has been wonderful to know of their possible geographic origins in Scotland. One of the Laurens Co SC Todd families left a record that their family lived in the Loch Lomond area before coming to Ireland. So finding Todds in the 1780s in Bonhill (south of Loch Lomond) supports this area as the possible origin of this family.

Another connection was the DNA of a Todd family in Ayrshire (which lies just across the North Channel from Ireland) that matched the Todds that settled in Co Down at Toddstown/Carricknaveagh prior to 1625 and at Ballynaskeagh/Aghaderg in the later 1600s. This same pattern was found in Dunluce Parish in northern Co Antrim and in a family from Co Tyrone. Since there were Todds in Dunluce in the 1600s and this is a considerable distance from Carricknaveagh and Ballynaskeagh, the Todds in the Dunluce area could have come from an independent migration to Co Antrim, rather than a migration from Co Down.

This DNA pattern also was that of a Todd family of 5 brothers and a sister who settled in Somerset County New Jersey by 1735 and a number of Todd families who settled in South Carolina between 1770 and 1816. So here again, we have a trail from America back to Ireland and potentially back to Scotland.

A most unexpected finding was that of the family of George Todd born 1798 in Fifeshire which matched the DNA of the family of Joseph Todd died 1699 Philadelphia who had come from Eling in Southamptonshire in southern England. Could there have been a migration from Fife to Southampton in the 1600s?

Other than these matches, there were no other connections found between the Todds sampled in this study. All the others – George Todd b 1711 Orkneys, David Todd b abt 1740 Angus, George Todd b abt 1750 East Lothian, George Todd b 1773 Berwickshire, Robert Haston Todd b 1820 r Edinburgh – had unique DNA patterns that couldn't be found in Ireland or elsewhere in Scotland. Of these “non-matching” families, only the Orkney Todds had a descendant who migrated to America, namely, George Todd born 1711 who went to Caroline County Virginia by 1737.

Each one of these families has a fascinating family history which is beyond the scope of this report. Those histories are recorded elsewhere (See for example, the Todd Families in America website:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mcmurtriecfr/richard/todd/toddentrance.htm>

Next Steps

We have taken this study as far as we can with the time and resources available to us. We have demonstrated that it is possible to use DNA to find kinship between Scotland, Ireland and America. It is hoped that others will continue this search for family origins.

Important priorities for further DNA research would be:

1. The Todds of the counties bordering with England e.g. Dumfries, Roxburgh, Kirkcudbright
2. The Todds of the north – Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine
3. The Todds of the west and southwest – Renfrewshire and Wigtonshire

After these other counties have been sampled, new priorities will undoubtedly arise. But one that would be especially worthy of pursuit would be studying the various Todd families of Ayrshire to determine the variety of DNA patterns within one county and to see if these families had branches in Ireland or America. Ayrshire is a good candidate for such a study because of its proximity to Ireland and of its being known as a major source of migration to Ireland.

We hope that Todds throughout the world will support this effort to unlock the mysteries of the Todd family history in Scotland.

Appendix 1: Locations of Todd residences in Scotland

In trying to search for origins of the Todds in Scotland, we attempted to get a sense of where in Scotland the Todds lived. We looked at the parish registers entries online through the Mormon website. We found that the parish registers contained at least a few Todds in almost every one of the 33 counties of Scotland, though 90% of them were in 15 counties.

We found that almost half of these Todds were in the four counties of Midlothian (Edinburgh), Fife (north of Edinburgh), Peebles (south of Edinburgh) and Lanark (Glasgow).

About 44% were in the greater Edinburgh area of Midlothian, West Lothian, East Lothian, Fife and Peebles. About 18% were in the northeast counties of Angus, Aberdeen, Kincardine, Perth and Banff with Perth, Angus and Aberdeen having the largest numbers of Todd entries. About 21% were in the greater Glasgow area of Lanark, Dumbarton, Stirling and Renfrew. About 7% were in the southwest counties of Ayr, Wigton and Kirkcudbright. About 10 % were in the border counties of Berwick, Roxburgh Dumfries and Selkirk.

Perhaps this just amounts to saying that the Todds were almost everywhere except in the northwest Highlands. And that they were mostly in the populous strip between Glasgow and Edinburgh, but were in substantial numbers in the Borders and the Southwest and the Northeast.

The counties with large numbers of Todds most underrepresented in our DNA study were Aberdeen, Perth, Peebles, Dumfries and Renfrewshire.

Appendix 2: Details on Individual Families

Below are short snapshots of the various families that have been traced down to the present generation for the DNA study. Additional information can be found on the internet about some of these families. (See for example the Todd Families in America website mentioned above.) It is hoped that descendants of these ancestors without written family histories will compile more complete histories of each family.

1. George Todd of the Orkney Islands and Morayshire:

The family of George Todd b 1711 was from the Orkney Islands and Morayshire. As a young man, George came to Caroline County and was reported to be Deputy Sheriff in Caroline County Virginia 1737-1747. He purchase 628 acres of Sycamore Plantation located in St Margaret's parish near the Spotsylvania County border. He was a physician as early as 1745.

Nov 10, 1771 "George Washington dined at Doctr Todd's and reached Federicksburg at night."

2. David Todd b abt 1740 Angus

David Todd born about 1740 married Margaret Weir. They had a son Alexander born about 1773 in Carmylie, Forfar/Angus and died 1854 in Tealing, Forfar/Angus.

Some descendants remained in Scotland; one branch went to Ontario.

3. George Todd b 1755 Fifeshire

George Tod was born abt 1755 and married Elspeth Mason in Cameron Parish, Fifeshire in 1791. George died in 1812 in Carnbee. They had a son William born 1792 in Cameron and Alexander born 1800 in Carnbee. They are assumed to be the parents also of a George Tod who was born about 1798 in Scotland, married Elizabeth Lundie 1825 in Edinburgh but the marriage was recorded in Carnbee, Fife. She was born 6 JAN 1799 in Crail, Fife, Scotland, and died 29 SEP 1871 in Kansas City, Jackson, Missouri.

One son William Todd b 1825 Carnabee, Fife, moved to Dumfriesshire by 1849, then to Kentucky by 1859, then to Kansas City, Missouri, then to Portland Oregon.

(Their DNA is a 25 marker match to the family of Joseph Todd of Eling, Southamptonshire, England who died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1699.)

4. John Todd b 1788 West Lothian

John Todd born in the 1750s and Violet Lithgow who had children in Livingston, West Lothian in the 1780s and 1790s. A grandson John Todd b 1834 came to Kansas by 1872 and his son John Todd born 1872 moved east to Schnectady, New York.

5. George Todd b 1750 East Lothian

George Todd married Agnes Gray abt 1775 East Lothian/Haddingtonshire. His son James was born in Gladsmuir, East Lothian in 1783 and married in 1813 in Dirleton to Christian Scott Gourley. James' grandson William James Walker Todd b 1884 was a noted architect in Edinburgh; a great-grandson Ruthven Todd 1914-1978 was a noted writer.

6. George Todd b 1773 Berwickshire

George Todd was born in 1773 in Coldstream, Berwickshire and married in 1796 to Elizabeth Paulin. Descendants remained in the area for generations.

7. Robert Todd born 1820 r Edinburgh

Robert Todd b 1820 a poulterer married Isabella Haston in Edinburgh in 1845. Shortly after 1848, he moved to the coal country of Pennsylvania - Pittston, Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

8. Matthew Todd b 1770 Dreghorn, Ayrshire

Matthew Todd was born about 1770 in Dreghorn, Ayrshire. He married Janet Lindsay and their children were born between 1796 and 1810 in the Mauchline area. A grandson Thomas Todd was born in 1823 in Mauchline, but moved to the Isle of Bute by 1850, to Dumfriesshire by 1854, to Quebec by 1856, back to Scotland by 1860, then on to New Zealand by 1866 where he settled in Invercargill. A grandson of this Thomas named Garfield Todd was a Prime Minister of Rhodesia/Zimbabwe before it broke away from England.

9. Jhone Todd d after 1564 resided Nether Cartyne and Haghill, Glasgow

Jhone Todd died after 1564 having lived in the Nether Cartyne and Haghill area of Glasgow. The right to occupy the land seems to have been passed down through the Todd family. In 1660, almost 100 years later, a John Todd and wife Marion Hill occupied the land. A century later John Todd (a maltman died 1780 md Helen Pollock) occupied the land.

In 1832, James Balderston b 1787 a great grandson of John Todd and Agnes Park who had obtained land rights in Haghill in 1667 compiled a family history. George Frederick Todd b 1910 Glasgow wrote a history of this family continuing the generations down past the times of Balderston to the near present.

10. John Todd b about 1750 Bonhill, Dumbarton

John Todd born about 1750 married Barbara Scott in 1777 in Bonhill, Dumbartonshire (which lies south of Loch Lomond). His son John born 1778 may be the John who married Ann Bruce and had children beginning in 1810. Their son John may be the John who married Margaret Ewart. Descendants of this family came to Massachusetts in the 1890s.

(Their DNA matched the family of Nathan Todd who migrated from Ireland to South Carolina about 1795 and which preserved a tradition that before coming to Ireland, the family lived in the Loch Lomond area. The DNA supports this tradition.)

11. John Todd b 1719 Glencairn, Dumfries

John Todd was born in Glencairn, Dumfries in 1719. He married Ann Crosbie about 1744. His son John Todd was born there in 1762 and married Helen Wilson about 1785. The next generation was also a John Todd born there in 1788 and married in 1812 in Marion Lorimer. Their son Thomas Todd was born in Penpont, Dumfries in 1821, became a Mormon in 1850 and came to Utah in 1854. Thomas left behind a personal narrative of his life that makes very interesting reading. (A DNA kit sent to this family has not been returned as yet.)