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DNA Matches Pruett/ Chumlea or Chumley

I received the following message from Mary Ann Ward.

Subject: DNA Matches

I am writing to you with the hope that you can shed a little light on my genealogy/DNA research. It came as a great shock to me when I received my brother's (surname Chumlea) DNA results and found that he matches you and three others at 34 out of 37 markers. I wonder if in any of your research you have come upon the surname Chumlea or Chumley?

At the link below, you can view my brother's y-DNA results that are posted on the Cholmondeley surname group through FamilyTreeDNA. He is C-1. Oldest ancestor John Chumlea, b. 1781 VA.

<http://www.worldfamilies.net/surnames/cholmondeley/results>

And, at this link, you can see his results on the Pratt surname group. Scroll down to the purple block on the left. He is the last entry.

<http://www.worldfamilies.net/surnames/pratt/results>

Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time,

Mary Ann Ward
wardma@bellsouth.net

Comments



Marcia McClure Jan 28, 11

Thanks for posting this Grace. I have corresponded with another of this Chumlea line. It's been some time, but as I recall, this is another one like Renney Belue and John Farmer that goes back to Thomas Prewitt Jr of Goochland, Amelia, and Halifax Co, VA.

There is a Cardwell line that matches Prewitt too but I think that goes back to one of Henry Prewitt's (1654 - 1722) sons in Henrico. The Cardwells were neighbors of Henry Prewitt.

I'll drop her a line.



Grace Kayser(MO-Pruetts) Feb 23, 11

One wonders, when some of these other surnames match so closely, could it be that the neighbors got a little too close or perhaps a neighbor took on the responsibility of raising a neighbor child and just gave the child their surname. I'll bet a lot of children were adopted without any legal documents - just taken in as a matter of necessity!



Marcia McClure Feb 23, 11

Grace - I think that you are right as a general rule. People just did what they needed to do and got on with life. If I lose children after the Civil War, I always try to look for them under a step-father's surname and most times they are back to their own surnames by 1880. DNA testing is sorting out some of these things.

Tom Prewitt was such a serial offender that I hate being generous when other surnames, known to be neighbors, appear as matches to him. He never got hauled into court, so I have to think that these were secrets, some known to him, others not.



Jan McClintock Feb 23, 11

Hi Marcia...would you elaborate on Tom Prewitt's transgressions? What was that about?



Marcia McClure Feb 24, 11

Thomas Prewitt Jr (c1705 - c1760) had at least 2 illegitimate children with, we believe, Judith Chastain Bellew - Renney (Rene) and Abraham. These were his oldest children. He also had a child with an unknown Farmer - John Farmer. Before his death, Tom gave Halifax Co, VA land to "loving sons" Renney Prewitt, Abraham Prewitt, and John Farmer within days of each other. All the deeds were witnessed by presumably legitimate sons Thomas III and William. Sons David and Michael weren't of age yet to witness the deeds.

He didn't seem to have any problem acknowledging the children that he knew about.

Judith was tried numerous times for bastardy in Goochland and Amelia, the first time within months of the death of her only husband Giles Bellew.

There's information on Renney and the solving of his mystery in the files section of this site. Here's a link to more of Thomas' story:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~greengarden/Prewitts%20of%20Henrico%20Amelia%20Halifax/descendants%20of%20henry%20prewitt%20sr.htm>

In perhaps the most amusing twist, Abraham Bellew's DNA does not match the Prewitt DNA. I suspect that Judith got that one by old Tom. The families of the Prewitts and Abraham Bellew were intertwined in SC for a couple of generations both in Spartanburg and Greenville.



Jan McClintock Feb 24, 11

Marcia..thank you for posting all that.



Grace Kayser(MO-Pruetts)

Wrote this on Jan 25, 11

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