

Pruett/Pruitt/Prewitt is a public family group on [myfamily.com](#). To add content or comment you must be a member.

[Request to join this group](#)



Pruett/Pruitt/Prewitt

Search tags in this group

[Home](#) [DNA Console](#) [Compare DNA](#) **Discussions** [Photos & videos](#) [Calendar](#) [Files](#) [Shop](#) [Members](#)

Thomas Prewitt and Pierre Chastain

As I have been working on the Pruett/Prewitt of which I am a direct descendent, I see much information about Thomas Prewitt, son of Henry Prewitt, grandson of Thomas Prewitt our immigrant g-grandfather, marrying a Mary Chastain. I have looked on many trees and most have this information. If you look on the Chastain informational pages, however, they do not have this Mary listed nor do they have any of the girls marrying a Prewitt. I am making a trek to Virginia in August to start work on a Historical fiction about the first couple of generations of Prewitt's in America and would like some information on the Chastain connection. Can anyone shed light on this?

Comments



Bill Pruiett Jul 14, 14

Raymond, welcome to the group. We're in a transition period with this site right now. Ancestry changed the URL without notice and we have been scrambling to make the new URL known to our members. We are also busy downloading all our files, discussions and pictures to save on another site when this one is retired in September. We will also be starting a Pruett-Prewitt-Pruett, etc. site on [FTDNA/WorldFamilies.net](#). We'll keep everyone posted as we develop this further.

That being said, there is a lot of information on this site that should be useful to you. Henry Prewitt is the earliest known ancestor of our Family Group C. If you enter "familygroupc" in the white Search tag box at the top right of this page, you'll get a list of 50 Discussions and 14 Files that you may find useful. In particular, you should see the file titled, Descendants of Henry Prewitt 1654. Also, see the family tree at <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/9501721/family/pedigree#pedigree=-791164800>. Both indicate that the Mary Chastain in question married a DuCray/DuCre before marrying Henry Prewitt. I hope one of our members from Family Group C will comment on this aspect of our Discussion above.

One note: Before we started this website and before DNA testing became widespread, most of us thought we were descended from Thomas Prewitt. Now we know there are at least 6-8 distinct Prew-it family groups and many more unassociated Prew-its who have joined this site. Based on DNA testing, we know that only one of the groups (or maybe none) can be descended from Thomas. We have no evidence to support any claim at this point.

Hope this helps,
Bill



Raymond Pruitt Jul 14, 14

Bill thank you so much for your kind welcome. I'm hoping to learn a great deal more before writing this book. In regards to your comments regarding Henry and Thomas, if Thomas is not Henry's father, then who is? It has always been my thought that Henry was one of the sons of Thomas, the young orphan lad who came as an indentured servant in 1636. I know when we get back this far, it is very difficult to know very much with certainty. I have also considered starting a Prewitt/Pruitt/Pruett, etc. page on Facebook since so many people are on there.



Bill Pruiett Jul 14, 14

Raymond, we actually have a Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/PruettPruittPrewittPrewittPruettPruettPruettPage> - that is in need of some tender loving care. It has a lot of great information, but hasn't seen much action in recent months. I can't remember which of our members started it.

As far as Henry's father goes, we have several Virginia Prew-its that can be traced back to the late 1600s, but none can be tied to Thomas or back to England. There just aren't any documents or records that can help us make the connections. I don't believe we've made a Y-DNA hit to any one in the British Isles. If that were to happen, it might open up some doors.

Bill



John W. Pruiett-VA DF 13 Jul 14, 14

Welcome to our group Raymond. We have less than two months left before our project is shut down, but I hope you can find some things of interest on your family which we refer to as Family Group C, which goes back to Henry of Henrico b 1654.

Raymond, before DNA everyone thought all the Pruetts/Pruitts/Prewitts/etc was one big family and every one went back to Thomas who arrived in 1636. In the last five years we have found there are at least 6 different family lines and possibly more if we could get more people to do the DNA test. There is no evidence that Thomas of 1636 had any children and several of our family groups probably could claim him. My line from William of Caroline County b 1651 was said to be Henry's brother, but we know for sure that this was not true. Some people in Family Group B also claim him. Any family group could claim Thomas, but they wouldn't have any evidence to back it up. For a Historian fiction book it would probably be all right to say Thomas was Henry's father.

Also, if you go to the Compare DNA file in the file section, you will see the surnames of the people in the large Family Group C, Henry's line has other surnames who have his DNA. We know why the Belues and Farmers were related to Henry. Thomas Prewitt, Jr, openly admitted in his will that Rennie Belue and John Farmer were his sons by Judith Chastain. See the file on Rennie Belue. There is a lot of information on Rennie Belue.

Marcia McClure is our expert on Henry's family and I will try to get her to come on the project and answer some of the questions you brought up. Family Group C has the most documentation and is an interesting family. If you put in Family GroupC (one word) in the search box at the upper right corner you will get all the 44 or so discussion items, many files, and photo albums for this family.

I will leave the details to Marcia, but the Chastain's were a very successful family in this country for many generations to this day. Maybe because of the unwed children of Judith Chastain they don't want to admit any relationship with Thomas Prewitt, Jr. Thomas Prewitt, Jr., 1705-1760, was a blacksmith who traveled around Amelia County and might have been a true-life character similar to the one in the movie "Tom Jones".

There are nine surnames showing up on the list of close matches of the Prew-its who are in the family of Henry Prewitt. A Cardwell shows up on the list and there was a Cardwell family who were neighbors of Henry in the 1690's in Henrico County. We know the Belues and Farmers were sons of Thomas, Jr. Also, on the list of matches are the surnames of Tynony, Cram, Goolsbee, Attaway, Chumlea, Watts, and Collier. We don't know when the connection of these other surnames to the Prewitts occurred, but we know the Y-DNA is very accurate and they are really Prewitts.

If some of this is similar to what Bill said its because I wrote my reply earleir today before Bill replied.

Raymond, Thomas was not a poor lad because he didn't have to work 7 years for his passage, but somehow paid off his debt quickly and I think about two months later he paid off his wife's debt which is in the records. People at one time thought he and his wife were Quakers, but now they say Quakers didn't arrive in the USA until later. Thomas and his wife were of another religion and got fined for not being married in the established church. I think the date they were fined was in the 1648 records for Charles River County.



Raymond Pruitt 4 days ago

There just seems to be a great deal of information from Thomas coming here and then a skip of information to Henry in Henrico County. I have taken pictures of a number of pieces of information we found in the archives in Charles City County on my recent trip. I will try to post of these to the Facebook account as I have an opportunity to work with them. I have decided on writing the book and will begin sometime this fall. I need to make a couple of more trips up to just work on this project. My last trip I was primarily working on a project on presidents for a book I'm doing. I hope you will continue to funnel information to me as I work on this. I really need information. I'm going to limit the book to the first three generations. I probably have enough information at this point to have a pretty fascinating book. What I really lack at this point is the character telling the story and the voice. I'm just not that familiar with the writing style and speech of that period. Any suggestions on things I could look at that would help would be greatly appreciated. I've already looked at some of the writings of Captain John Smith of nearby Jamestown and that was somewhat helpful. I look forward to hearing from any one who can help.



Raymond Pruitt

Wrote this on Jul 14, 14

4 views • 5 comments

↻ Newer Older ↻

Tags

- ◆ FamilyGroupC
- ◆ HenryPrewitt
- ◆ Henrico
- ◆ Belue
- ◆ Belew

Most recent discussions by Raymond Pruitt

[Thomas Prewitt and Pierre Chastain](#)

Most recent discussions

[Please Join Us at FTDNA/WorldFamilies](#)

[Welcome, Dina!](#)

[Thomas Prewitt and Pierre Chastain](#)

[Welcome Russell](#)

[Welcome, James!](#)