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Georgia/North Carolina Pruitts

Hello,

I'm hoping that by joining this group I can overcome the brick wall I've run into with my tree. I'm able to trace the Pruitts back to my g-g-g-grandfather, James Smith Pruitt, born around 1826 somewhere in North Carolina. By 1850 he is living in Union County, GA with his wife Louvina and children. I've read about the famous Thomas Pruett and his descendants and have not been able to link my family to any of them. I'm getting pretty discouraged.

I'm mostly trying to figure out where in North Carolina he was born. I've also tried researching his wife Louvina, her maiden name is Peak I believe, but no luck. I'm wondering if perhaps the reason why I'm unable to link him to any of the other Pruitts of the region is because he was living among the Cherokees. Perhaps Louvina was a Cherokee? Given the times and their location maybe he was trying to stay under the radar. Does anyone know of Pruitts living among Native Americans just before the removals began and maybe even after?

Thanks!

Megan

Comments



Jan McClintock Dec 10, 10

Megan

I hope you're able to solve your problem. My mother's name was Pruett and I have a gggrandmother whose name was PEAK..

Jan



Marcia McClure Dec 11, 10

Megan - here's some suggestions. In 1850 "Smith" is living right beside William, whose name is misspelled exactly like James Smith's is - "Prul. " By 1860 Fannin was formed from Union and both William and James are in Fannin.

In 1830 the only NC William who seems to fit the age of the one in GA is found in Rutherford Co, NC. He has one son under 5. In 1840 this William appears to be in Cherokee Co, NC which was then adjacent to Macon Co, NC. David Peak/Peek lived and died in Macon Co, NC. His wife was Mary (Polly) Henderson. James named his oldest son William and his second son David. He named his oldest daughter Mary (Polly) and his second daughter Sarah, which was the name of William's wife. That's a very traditional naming pattern - father's father, mother's father, mother's mother, father's mother...

In the 1810 census of Rutherford there is a +55 William who has a son 10-16. This man is indexed in Ancestry as William Pruce but the name is clearly Pruit. He was there in 1800 and was over 55 then. He had 2 sons under 10 and one 10-16. He's not there in 1790, so maybe he was in VA.

This family hasn't been researched anywhere that I can find. Any chance that you can find a Pruitt male from this line to see which group he belongs to?



Megan Lounsberry Dec 13, 10

Marcia, you are a godsend. Thank you so much. I had pretty much figured William was his father, but it seemed to stop there. I couldn't find William in North Carolina. I've been reviewing the info and plugging in names on my tree, and all of a sudden those lovely little green leaves started popping up. Oh my goodness, you have no idea how happy this makes me! I'm so glad I found this group!

I do have some Pruitt men that may be willing to take the test. Unfortunately they all live in Alabama, and I'm in Louisiana. I'm not sure how it all works. Can you tell me anything?

As for my Cherokee suspicions, your information reaffirms my belief. Macon County, Cherokee County, all those areas were part of the Cherokee Nation prior to removal in 1838. It was quite common for Scotch-Irish traders and such to marry Cherokee women, because it allowed them access to land and business among the Cherokee people. It would be interesting to know whether my Pruitts are from Scotland or Ireland. I've been told that even though Pruitt is an English name, my great grandmother vehemently insisted we were Irish. Thank you again, Marcia. I really appreciate your help.

Jan, we could be related! Are your Pruitts and Peaks from the Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina area?



Jan McClintock Dec 13, 10

Megan

My Pruitts are from Alabama.....I've traced my Peak side back to 1700's in VA. My ggrandfather William Bush married Mollie Peak in Rutherford Co. TN. The Bushes came to TN from NC. Mollie's ancestors were from VA..

Jan



John W. Pruett-VA DF13 Dec 13, 10

Megan, your great grandmother could be right about your family being Irish. They could have migrated to NC with the other Irish-Scottish people.

Right now we have five or more different Pruitt Family Groups based on DNA. We are not sure where the country of origin is for any of the groups.

I recently had the deep clade test done by FT and found I was R1b1a2a1a1b4. This group has a high number of people in Ireland, it also shows up in Wales and all over the British Isles and France. People in these countries are slowly getting DNA tests done and hopefully in the near future may be we can pinpoint the country of origin.

I hope you can get someone in your family to do the test. It's painless, doesn't require any blood, and doesn't involve anything more than swabbing a q-tip inside your mouth. We have found that

getting tests below the 46 marker test doesn't properly show the closeness of family members to a common ancestor.



Megan Lounsberry

Wrote this on Dec 9, 10

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Jan McClintock

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