



Ewing Family Journal

Volume 23 – Number 1
May 2017

ISSN: 1948-1187

Published by:
Ewing Family Association
www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org

Ewing Family Association

1330 Vaughn Court
Aurora, Illinois 60504

www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org

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Ewing Family Association, 1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, IL 60504

Web Site: www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org

The *Ewing Family Journal* is published semi-annually. Members of the Ewing Family Association receive the *Journal* as part of their membership. Copies of previous issues are \$5.00 each, and copies of previous volumes are \$10.00 (\$20.00 for overseas mailings). For copies of previous issues or volumes, contact John A. Ewing at JohnEwing2003@msn.com.

Through 2008, this publication was titled *Journal of Clan Ewing*. The name was changed in January 2009 to reflect a change in the name of the publishing organization from Clan Ewing in America to Ewing Family Association.

All contributions are subject to editing. The Ewing Family Association does not assume liability for statements of fact or opinion by contributors, but proven errors will be corrected. In addition, the opinions of contributors are not necessarily those of the Ewing Family Association or its Officers, Board Members, or Activity Coordinators.

ISSN: 1948-1187

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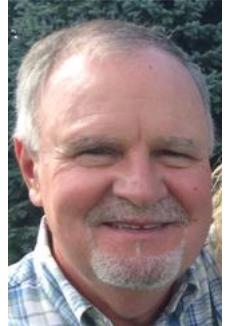
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Table of Contents

<i>From the Editor</i>	1
<i>Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) – Part 5</i>	3
<i>John Ewing and the Underground Railroad</i>	18
<i>Celebratory Poetry</i>	24
<i>Commander’s Comments</i>	25
<i>Chancellor’s Letter</i>	26
<i>New EFA Members – Welcome Aboard!</i>	27
<i>Passings</i>	30
<i>Earl Norman Ewing</i>	30
<i>Betty Leona (Draper) Ewing</i>	30
<i>Tribute to Earl Norman and Betty Ewing</i>	31
<i>Information Exchange</i>	34
<i>William Albert Ewing, Jr.</i>	34
<i>William Ewing (1770-1827), Jackson County, Georgia</i>	34
<i>William Ewing (b. 1818, Ireland)</i>	38
<i>Gillespie Clan</i>	40
<i>Joshua Craig Ewing (6/23/1825 – 12/13/1904)</i>	44
29Bio: <i>Joshua Craig Ewing – 1825-1904 (Great Great Grandfather)</i>	46
30Bio: <i>Selena Catherine Ish – 1831-1908 (Great Great Grandmother)</i>	48
15Bio: <i>James Carroll (J. Cal) Ewing – 1866-1937 (Great Grandfather)</i>	48
<i>Ewing Family Reunion Photo</i>	53
<i>Y-DNA Project Inquiries</i>	54
<i>Clan Ewen of Otter</i>	60
<i>‘Googling’ Martin Ewing</i>	70
<i>Fate of Four Deserters</i>	72
<i>Index</i>	73

From the Editor

John A. Ewing, *Ewing Family Association Journal* Editor
(johnewing2003@msn.com)



Once again, this edition of the *Journal* offers a rich variety of contributions anchored by Part 5 of Bruce Frobes' intriguing historical account of the life and times of Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) in colonial Philadelphia (see page 3). By contrast, the piece written about the Underground Railroad (page 18) in the pre-Civil War days of slavery in the United States, reports more desperate times in the evolution of a young nation.

Not to be outdone by numerous great Scottish poets, our own Ewing Family Association member, Steven C. Ewing from near Martha's Vineyard, weighs in with yet another poetic gem: *Faces in the Crowd*. This is found on page 24.

As an author and a scholar, our Clan Ewing Commander, John Thor Ewing, is deeply schooled in all things 'Ewing.' One again, he crowns his many interesting contributions by bringing us a most wonderful piece on Clan Ewin of Otter (page 61).

Also, be sure to catch up on Clan Ewing heritage events being held this summer in both Scotland and the U.S. Our EFA Chancellor, Beth Ewing Toscos, highlights locations and dates of these events with other notes of interest in the Chancellor's Letter on page 26. If you have an opportunity to attend one of these gatherings, you will never forget it!

And finally, just a word about a curious tale of four men (one of them a John Ewing, no less) trapped in a mine in the state of West Virginia during Civil War times. This woeful newspaper account (page 73) entitled, *Fate of Four Deserters*, was read aloud last July by David Neal Ewing at the *Celidh* the evening before the Celtic Festival in Saline, Michigan. The tale was certainly morbid enough, and when David read that one of the victims was a John Ewing, my reaction was "yikes!"

In any case, as always, it's a great time to be a Ewing!

John Alan Ewing, Editor



As our volunteers grow older, we need to begin the process of transitioning some of our activities to younger members. We have opportunities for the following:

*1 – **Genealogy Database** - EFA Genealogist, Karen Avery, has an extensive database of Ewing families and collateral lines. She would like to talk to anyone who might have an interest in working with her to learn about the Genealogist position. You may contact Karen at bkavery2@comcast.net.*

*2 – **yDNA Project** – Project leader, David Neal Ewing, would like to encourage anyone with an interest in potentially overseeing this ongoing project to contact him at davidewing93@gmail.com.*

*3 – **Ewing Family Journal / Newsletters** – If you are interested in learning how to put together the Ewing Family Journal (which includes soliciting and editing articles, formatting, and working with a print company to ensure a quality product), please contact John Ewing at johnewing2003@msn.com.*

Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) – Part 5

Her Famous Friends in Philadelphia from 1779 to 1844

David 'Bruce' Frobes (brucefrobes@gmail.com)



Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson)
(20 Jan 1751 - 24 May 1844)

Painted by
Charles Willson Peale
Philadelphia, PA 1797

Introduction

Part 5 continues the story of famous and interesting people in Amy's life (January 20, 1751 - May 24, 1844). Some of these people had EWING for a last name, some were Amy's immediate family, others married into Amy's family, and some worked for decades for the US Mint in Philadelphia. In addition, Amy knew famous doctors, scientists, congressmen, senators, and US Presidents. This chapter of the Ewing family story centers on Amy's seventh child, Robert Maskell Patterson (March 23, 1787-September 5, 1854). Robert M. Patterson is my 3rd great grandfather and a direct maternal ancestor.

He was named after his father Robert and his grandfather (Amy's father), Maskell Ewing (1721-1796). Amy and Robert's first child, Thomas Ewing Patterson, named after his great grandfather Thomas Ewing (1640-1747), was born on March 4, 1775, but died at 10 months on January 19, 1776, in Greenwich, New Jersey.

Robert Maskell Patterson ("RMP") had five sisters and a brother. He was born six months before the U.S. Constitution was signed. During his lifetime, he witnessed and participated in the first 67 years of the building of the United States of America. Most importantly, RMP, like his father, made major contributions to the new country in education, scientific, and civic activities in their home town of Philadelphia. You will see that he knew personally, and gathered knowledge from, many famous and interesting people while being raised by Amy. As he matured, he became a highly-respected leader in many disciplines.

This article tells just part of RMP's life story. We will explore the years of his life from 1793 to 1812, with a concentration on his adventurous four years in Europe. There is a lot more to tell *Ewing Family Journal* readers about this Ewing/Patterson ancestor and his Ewing relatives.

As a child, "Robert's formal education began, as was the custom, at the Dames school. However, after a few days he refused to return, and his parents obtained special permission for him to attend the preparatory school at the University of Pennsylvania where his father taught mathematics."¹

This closeness was exhibited when his father wrote a book entitled, "Hints Toward a Primer for my Little Boy." The booklet included alphabet, phonetic language, and examples of same in

¹ The Robert Patterson Family, Eminent Philadelphians, Scholars, and Directors of the Mint, 1743-1854, by Carolyn Myatt Green, Athens, Georgia 1974, Doctor of Philosophy Dissertation.

columns. At the end of the book was the Lord's Prayer transcribed phonetically. In 1937, Robert Patterson IV added a note to the primer.

"I think this little book was written by my Grandfather, Robert Patterson, for my Father, Robert Maskell Patterson. I recognize my grandfather's writing in certain sections of informal script. The book contained a scrap of paper with BOB in pencil, and a note in Grandfather's writing to the effect that this was Father's first attempt in writing."²

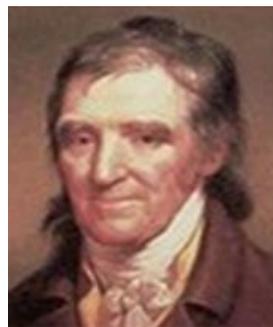
See photos of the primer on pages 5 and 6 (Robert Patterson Collection, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

While RMP advanced through his primary education (1793-1805) to the College of the University of Pennsylvania, many of his relatives were out in the world contributing to society and to the promotion of useful knowledge. For example, Amy's younger brother, Maskell Ewing Jr. (1758-1825), became an attorney in 1788 after studying under lawyer William C. Houston. He then served as recorder of the City of Trenton, New Jersey, (1799-1803). The portrait by Charles Willson Peale in 1788 coincided with his assignment as executor of Houston's estate, whose name is on the letter Ewing holds. In 1803, he removed to Philadelphia, and in 1805, to a farm in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. He represented that county in the State Senate for six years.

Another Ewing relative was the youngest brother of Amy's father, James Ewing (1744-1823). He was a member of the famous "Tea Party," which, on the night of Thursday, December 22, 1774, destroyed a quantity of tea which had been landed at Greenwich, New Jersey. While serving in the state assembly, he liked Trenton so much that he moved there in 1779. He engaged in mercantile business, and for a short time, was involved with printing the New Jersey Gazette. He was Mayor of Trenton, 1797-1803.

Another uncle, William Findley (1741-1821), was born in Ulster, Ireland, and married to Amy's sister, Mary McKnown Ewing. As noted in the letter (page 6) that RMP's father sent to President Jefferson, Findley introduced RMP to the President in 1808 while representing the 8th District of Pennsylvania (1803-1813). In 1768, Findley bought a farm in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. In the American Revolution, he served on the Cumberland County Committee of Observation and enlisted as a private in the local militia.

In 1798, Charles Ewing, son of James Ewing mentioned above, and Amy's cousin from Bridgeton, New Jersey, graduated from Princeton University and moved to Trenton to study law with Samuel Leake, a local lawyer. He was licensed as an attorney in 1802, as a counselor in 1805, and called to the degree of sergeant at law in 1812.



William Findley
(1741 – 1821)
Public Domain

² "Hints Toward a Primer for My Little Boy", Robert Patterson, Mathematician, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA.



COLLEGE OF THE SACRED HEART
MANHATTANVILLE
CONVENT AVENUE AND 133RD STREET, WEST
NEW YORK, N. Y.

*Note to go with "Hints towards
Primer for my little Boy."*

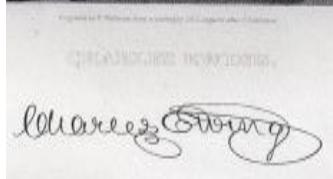
I think this little book was written by my Grandfather, Robert Patterson, for my Father Robert M. Patterson.

I recognize my Grandfather's writing in certain sections of informal script. I saw the book in my youth and the family tradition was that it was our Grandfather's work.

The book contained then a scrap of paper with BOB in pencil, and a note in Grandfather's writing to the effect that this was Father's first attempt in writing.

M. J. P. Patterson, R. S. C. N. Y. 1917

Sounds	Duplications	Examples
ē	ēē, ēā, ēēī	mē, mēēt, mēam, gnīve, sīng, kīy
ā	āā, āy, ēā	māle, māll, māy, grāt
ä	ä	mā, fār, wāt, heāt
ō	ōw, ōe	nōw, hōw, mānū, fālū
ó	óó, óu, óe	óó, óók, fūn, fōe
ī	īī, ēē	tō, tōol, yōw, shōes
ē	ēē, ā, āā	pāt, kītī, kōm, āngland
ā	ā	pēt, hēr, lēgā, sōy, hāt
ō	ō	hāt
ū	ū	nēt
á	á	nūt, lēve, hēr, fīe
ī	ī	pāt, hōok
oi	oi	mīnd, mīy, fēe, gnēes
ou	ou	ōil, bōh
ū	ū	out, sīw
	ew	ūse, hōe, fūr



Charles Ewing
(1780 – 1832)
Public Domain

Charles was the recorder for the City of Trenton, ran unsuccessfully for the New Jersey Legislature in 1815, was a commissioner to revise the laws of New Jersey in 1819, and the director of the Trenton Banking Company in 1821 and 1823-24. He eventually became Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court in 1824. Ewing Township, formed February 22, 1834, was named in his honor. The Ewing and Patterson families were involved in the creation of America, and now they were running organizations of civil concerns and participating in institutions of higher learning.

But closer to home, RMP observed his father's career up close and personal. During this time Professor Patterson taught Natural Philosophy at the University and served as an officer of the American Philosophical Society (APS). The APS met twice a month on Friday nights, and between meetings, the members worked to bring scientific and engineering ideas to a practical reality. On Saturday nights, he attended the parties at Dr. Caspar Wistar's home along with other elites in the world of scientific exploration.

When RMP was 16, his father, at the request of President Thomas Jefferson, "trained" Meriwether Lewis to read the stars before the great Lewis and Clark expedition to the west and soon Jefferson made him the Director of the US Mint. With all that to attend to, Professor Patterson made time to be a loving husband to Amy and a dedicated father to the lives of his seven children.

Amy and Robert's family were exposed to incredibly high achieving family members and famous friends as Robert Maskell reached maturity.

"At the age of 17 (1804), young Robert took his first degree in the Arts at the University of Pennsylvania. Making [the] choice of medicine as a profession, he pursued that study under the instruction of the eminent Dr. Benjamin S. Barton; and after attending the usual routine of lectures, was advanced to the degree of M.D. in April 1808."³ While in medical school, Robert was a private pupil of Dr. Barton, who practiced medicine and taught *Materia Medica* at the University. The doctor distinguished himself as the author of the first notable treatise of botany in America. In addition to medical classes, Robert continued hearing Dr. Woodhouse's chemistry lectures, so that he came to prefer chemistry to every other department of medical science.



Dr. Benjamin Barton
(1766 – 1815)
Public Domain

³ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

According to Wikipedia, *Materia Medica* is a Latin medical term for the body of collected knowledge about the therapeutic properties of any substance used for healing (i.e., medicines). After graduating with an M.D. degree, he spent the next 12 months studying mineralogy under Mr. Godon at the University. In early 1809, his father wrote a letter (page 7) to his close friend, President Thomas Jefferson:⁴

Dear Sir,

Philad May 10th 1809

My young son, Robert Maskell, having gone thro the usual course of collegiate studies in our Seminary, and of medical studies under Dr. Barton, and obtained degrees in both the Arts & in medicine; has devoted the last twelve months chiefly to the study of mineralogy under Mr. Godon; in which, it is said, he has made considerable proficiency. He has a strong desire of visiting some parts of Europe, particularly Paris, with a view to his further improvement from the opportunities which he would then enjoy...I have to his inclination; and he is about to embark in a vessel which will sail from this port for Amsterdam, probably in the course of about two or three weeks from this time.

He is extremely solicitous, as well as myself, to obtain a letter from you, Sir, to some of your correspondents in Paris. It is true, he has not the happiness of being personally known to you. Sometime last spring he had indeed the pleasure of being introduced by his Mr. Findley, which you will probably recollect. How far a compliance with this request maybe consistent with propriety, under the present circumstances, you will judge & determine; and will have the goodness to excuse this freedom in... Sir, your most respectful servant,

Rt. Patterson

President Thomas Jefferson

I would love to be able to know for sure that the introduction of RMP to Thomas Jefferson by Uncle William was at the White House. For purposes of my family history...I say YES!

A classmate, Samuel Jackson, who later was a medical professor at the University of Pennsylvania, recalled this about RMP:

"He never was known as the leader of the tumultuous frolic or athletic game, but he was ever foremost in the classical exercise of the school, and bore away the palm in the themes of his classes. Yet his success inspired no envy, nor gave birth to any enmity, for it was unaccompanied with arrogance, and then, as now, he inspired respect and esteem in those surrounded and who knew him."⁵ Although Robert had received his M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania, his student days were not over.

⁴ Letter, "Robert Patterson to Thomas Jefferson," May 10, 1809, Founders Online, National Archives

⁵ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

Ewing Grandson Sails for Europe

Since the opportunities for studying natural sciences were superior in Europe, he decided to go abroad. With his father's blessings, he sailed for Europe in the summer of 1809 for further medical and scientific study."⁶

I believe that RMP is the first of the Ewing blood line to return to Europe. However, it is possible another "cousin" did, but I cannot find any record of such a voyage before Robert M. He was on his way to Paris. On June 15, 1809, Robert wrote a letter to his father. He was on the ship bound for Europe that stopped at New Castle, Delaware.

The harbor at New Castle, just below Wilmington on the Delaware River, was a stop to board passengers for ocean bound ships.⁷

June 15, -9

New Castle

My dear Friends, Thus far, I am safe and well. I begin to feel that I have parted from you. Tomorrow, we start for the ocean. I shall write to you from the Cape.

Farewell, R. M. Patterson



**Robert Maskell Patterson
Watercolor--Benjamin Trott
c.1807**

**Gift to Philad. Museum of Art
by Louise Robins Lord, 2008
*Public Domain***

Two hundred years after he wrote this letter and many more letters from Europe, I was able to obtain from the files of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia "typescripts" of most of the letters (49) he wrote from Europe (1808-1812). I will refer to these letters and a graduate thesis written in 1974 to reveal RMP's travel adventures and his time as a student in Paris. (see footnotes).

When his ship, *Pekin*, reached the coast of England after six weeks under sail from Philadelphia, he writes in a letter to his father on July 30th..."we were brought to by the Sloop of War *Osprey*, Capt. Clinch, off Beachy-Head."⁸ All vessels bound for Europe were detained. "The cause assigned for our detention is the fitting out of a great expedition for Flushing."

In 1809, Napoleon and the English Government were at war. While the expedition was being fitted out, "all vessels in English ports were embargoed, and all vessels bound for Europe brought to and detained."⁹ Reminiscent of his father observing the British fleet gathering at New York in July 1776, Robert recorded history in the July 30th letter.

⁶ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

⁷ Forty-nine Letters 1809-1812 from Europe written by Robert Maskell Patterson to his father Robert Patterson and other family members, American Philosophical Society, typescript letters.

⁸ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

⁹ Forty-nine Letters 1809-1812 from Europe written by Robert Maskell Patterson to his father Robert Patterson and other family members, American Philosophical Society, typescript letters.

*"The last division of the Expedition sailed this morning, consisting of about 200 sail of men of war and transports. It was a magnificent sight and entirely novel to an American eye. Such grandeur and extent, it is said has never been known. It is computed that nearly one hundred thousand men have embarked on it...Soldiers and Sailors."*¹⁰

The British Expedition was heading to Flushing to engage the French. I will speculate here that his mother, Amy, has not read to him the letters his father wrote to her during the Battle of Long Island in July, August, and September, 1776. That was another magnificent sight of the British Fleet about to participate in a grand battle.

A couple of his letters described his detainment, and so he finally writes on August 5th:

*"My spirits are good, My health excellent...one thing I have to beg of my dear Father and Mother...that they will not make themselves uneasy on my account: that they will not magnify my supposed misfortunes: that they will be assured I will not place myself in any danger. Whatever may be my situation here...and, if I were not separated from those I love, I would be happy."*¹¹

These words were priceless! Keep in mind, Robert's letters to Mom and Dad took six weeks to two months to reach Philadelphia. Amy knew about the war in Europe and her motherly concerns probably created some elevated anxiety as she waited for news from her son.

On Land and In London

Finally on August 9th, he is able to write . . .

"Dear Parents, You will no doubt be very much surprised to receive a letter from me, dated at London."

On August 13th, while continuing to reside in London at great expense, he takes time to describe his observations of the land he must reside in for the present.

*"The country of England is beautiful beyond any idea I had ever formed...in order to get here I travelled about 80 miles. Harvest was ripe, yet ungathered, forming by far the most elegant and interesting time of the year. London is magnificent..."*¹²

He follows up with another letter on August 17th. He now knows that

*"The arrival of our ship in Amsterdam is now almost impossible; and even her going to any port in Europe is uncertain."*¹³

Robert was not without "contacts" in London. One contact was a prestigious American, William Pinckney, who was the American Ambassador to England. Upon meeting with young Robert,

¹⁰ Forty-nine Letters 1809-1812 from Europe written by Robert Maskell Patterson to his father Robert Patterson and other family members, American Philosophical Society, typescript letters.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

"The American Ambassador here, has promised, that if no other mode of conveyance offer, he will give me the next dispatch to France to carry... This may not perhaps happen for three months...all lost time and dead expense."¹⁴

Pinckney returned to the US in 1814 and became a congressman from Maryland. In 1819, he was elected a United States Senator from Maryland.

Because of the uncertainty of the timing of Ambassador Pinckney's "scheme" to help RMP reach Paris, he tells his father that he has decided "to take advantage of the last mode of conveyance, a very favorable opportunity now occurring. A vessel is going from Gravesend, the day after tomorrow, in ballast, for the sole purpose of taking passengers."¹⁵ "He took passage in a 'Pampenburgh Bomb', a tub like fishing vessel belonging to the neutral town of Papenburgh on the German side of the Rhine. The Captain promised to change his course on the coast of Holland, an action which would have been at the risk of his own life."¹⁶

"The four day voyage was unbelievably rough for the ten passengers crowded together in the hold without any kind of accommodations. Robert slept wrapped in his overcoat, using a plank for a bed and a coil-of-ropes for his pillow." As would be expected Robert was very seasick. "A storm changed their course forcing them to land on the island of Ter Schelling, which was under Dutch control."¹⁷ One of the passengers told officers that they were from England and as a result they were held for eight days until new orders arrived. All the passengers, except Robert, were sent under guard to Enkhuizen, and according to law, were supposed to remain there until peace was made between England and France.

His Patterson name probably saved him from the fate that befell the other passengers.

"The pointed questions of the Minister indicated his specific interest in Robert's relation to or knowledge of the Pattersons from Maryland. Elizabeth Patterson, daughter of a Baltimore merchant, had married into the Bonaparte family."¹⁸

During the French Revolution, the younger brother of Napoleon came to America and married Elizabeth Patterson in 1803. She was protestant and Napoleon refused to recognize the marriage when Jerome brought her to France in the spring of 1805. Ultimately, because Pope Pius VII refused to annul the marriage, Napoleon annulled it by imperial edict. RMP was ordered not to leave Holland until the Minister successfully petitioned King Louis Bonaparte for permission to do so.

Finally Paris

Three weeks later, Robert proceeded to Paris with a slight eight-day delay in Brussels. He reached Paris two and a half months after his ship had been forced to land in England and four months after sailing from Philadelphia.

¹⁴ Forty-nine Letters 1809-1812 from Europe written by Robert Maskell Patterson to his father Robert Patterson and other family members, American Philosophical Society, typescript letters.

¹⁵ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

One of the first letters Robert sent home from Paris was written to his brother, Dr. William Ewing Patterson, on October 18th. After explaining the Atlantic voyage and the details of being confined to the ship off Deal, England, he tells William about the initial experience upon going ashore on one of the Deal boats.

*"The distance was about equal to the breadth of the Delaware at Philadelphia. For this we were charged and were forced to pay three guineas. After this, for taking my trunk out of the boat, and carrying it to a tavern, half a square, 4s & 6d (\$1) . . . we took at the house a drink of draught beer---5s.&6d.&c. After undergoing an impertinent examination at the custom house, we took a post-chaise for London."*¹⁹



Post-Chaise

He compared London and Paris as major cities of the world and referred to English people as having a prominent trait of Patriotism. He wrote,

*"This they carry to extravagance and prejudice. They think their country a paradise, their king a demigod, and themselves the perfection of human nature. They absolutely hate Americans---and all other foreigners are French Dogs."*²⁰

He also mentions...

*"At London, it is an axiom, Nothing for Nothing. To see almost anything cost you a dollar. If a fellow looks at you in the street he expects a shilling for it. At Paris all buildings, and museums and gardens are open to the public. I do not except the Emperor's Palace, nor, of that palace, his bed chamber. You are forbidden, by a notice, to give anything to the attendants, as they say, the government pays its own servants!"*²¹

"I arrived at Paris on the 7th instant.--Mr. Peale got here on the 9th...." he wrote to his parents on October 28th.

The summer courses were over and the winter courses had not yet begun...so he spent his free time studying French. He continues in the letter...

*"I am at a hotel garnie, called the Hotel d'espagne, Rue des Colombiers--exactly opposite to the Lecture-room and Manufactory of Vauquelin. Mr. Godon will know it well. I eat at the restaurateurs. I cannot become reconciled, as yet, to this solitary mode of living, but I have no choice. Mr. Peale lives close by me."*²²

¹⁹ Forty-nine Letters from Europe 1809-1809.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

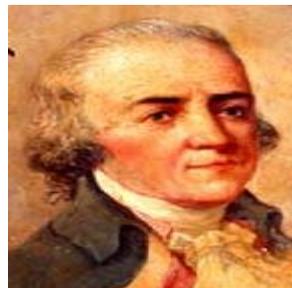


Rembrandt Peale
(1778 – 1866)
Public Domain

The Mr. Peale he mentions in the letter is artist Charles Willson Peale's son, Rembrandt. The Peale family was extensively intertwined with the Ewing and Patterson families over many decades in Philadelphia. From the painting of individual portraits, establishing a museum, to scientific studies and the promotion of Philadelphia, these families gathered together many times to share talents. In the fall of 1809, Rembrandt returned to Europe and specifically to Paris accompanied by his young family. It was a comfort to know that a family friend was nearby, but Robert and Rembrandt were so totally devoted each day in Paris to their academic and professional training, and to these unique learning experiences, that they rarely visited one another.

Letters of Introduction

Perhaps the reason Robert liked Paris so much relates to his pro-French political feelings or to his letters of introduction which he did not have for England. Thomas Jefferson had written to Pierre Samuel duPont de Nemours introducing Robert to him and asking that he help the young American while he was in France. duPont was a French political economist and statesman. His history with the U.S. is lengthy, but suffice it to say that he assisted President Jefferson in his negotiations with Napoleon to secure the Louisiana Purchase of 1803 in which the U.S. acquired approximately 827,000 square miles of land west of the Mississippi River for \$15 million.



Pierre Samuel duPont de Nemours
(1739 – 1817)
Public Domain

With respect to Robert, Jefferson wrote,

"He is correct in his morals, and conduct and earnest in the worthy pursuits which carry him to Europe."

As you will soon learn, Robert was indeed fortunate to have introductions to such an illustrious figure in Paris.²³

Upon Robert's arrival in Paris, duPont, a foreign member of the American Philosophical Society, asked the young man to consider the Frenchman's family as his own and invited him to dine with the duPonts every Wednesday. Robert described one of the dinners at which they toasted each other:

"At the proposal of Madame, they all drank a la sante de Monsieur votre Pere. Could anything be more delicate? Nothing, I am sure, could have been more gratifying."²⁴

²³ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

²⁴ Ibid.

Robert wrote of his indebtedness to duPont, for it was this Frenchman who secured his admission to study at the Institute of France. When duPont's granddaughter, Madame de Pusy, went to Philadelphia with her family, Robert gave her an introductory letter to his family. He asked his parents to return the many kindnesses of the duPonts. To his sister, Matilda, he wrote that she could not find a more accomplished or amiable friend than Sarah du Pusy, granddaughter of Mr. duPont. A few years later duPont himself returned to America to live near Wilmington, Delaware, with his son, Eleuthere Irenee, who founded the E.I. DuPont de Nemours Powder Company, which brought such wealth to the family.



General John Armstrong
(1758 – 1843)
Public Domain

I have been unable to find any documents that prove Amy Hunter Ewing and/or Robert Patterson, nor my four greats, invested in the original DuPont Company. Oh well, "*C'est la vie!*"

Another prominent person in Paris, who was friendly to Robert, was General John Armstrong, American Minister to France. They, too, often dined together, and Robert had the highest opinion of him. They were both Republicans and wanted America to take a stronger stand regarding English and French policies. Robert wrote his parents that he thought General Armstrong was returning to Philadelphia, and he hoped his father would repay the General's hospitality. In praise of General Armstrong, Robert asserted that he should be the next Governor of Pennsylvania, and afterwards, the next President of the United States.

Robert's association with the duPonts and General Armstrong were but two examples of how well he was received in Paris. Thus the city and the French people were very much to his liking, as he proclaimed:

"Besides my studies, which are my principal pleasure, I have now French enough to enjoy society, and nothing, surely, can be more pleasing to a stranger, than society here. There is a refinement in their politeness which gratifies you, and an ease which makes you forget that you are gratified by mere politeness."²⁵

For the next two years Robert studied in Paris taking courses at the Institute of France, the College de France, the School of Medicine, and the Garden of Plants.

For two seasons, Robert was a pupil of Louis Jacques Thenard, who held the Chairs of Chemistry at Ecole Polytechnique and at the Faculte de Science, in addition to teaching at the College de France. Robert called him "the most popular lecturer on Chemistry in Paris."²⁶ Another professor of chemistry at Ecole Polytechnique was Joseph Louis Gay-Lussac. Gay-Lussac and Thenard together performed experiments on the oxidation of soft metals such as potassium and sodium. Robert talked to Gay-Lussac about the experiment and found him a fascinating savant. In 1810, Robert had no idea that he and Gay-Lussac would make major contributions to the mints of their respective nations...the American as Director of the U.S. Mint,

²⁵ Forty-nine Letters from Europe 1809-1812.

²⁶ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

and the Frenchman as assayer to L Hotel des Monnaies (The French Mint). A method of assaying silver by a standard solution of common salt was invented by Gay-Lussac. This method was later adopted by Robert into the American process.

Even though RMP was devoted to his educational experiences, some of his correspondence dealt with political events in France and how they affected the rest of Europe. He was tied to the Democratic Republicans, especially since President Jefferson, the founder of the Party, appointed his father Director of the U.S. Mint. Most Democratic Republicans held pro-French sentiments and they were impressed with Napoleon. On one occasion, Robert observed the Emperor when he obtained a ticket to his private chapel. He observed Napoleon for about a half hour and recorded this:



Napoleon at the Tuileries 1811
(1769 – 1821)
Public Domain

"He has an extremely characteristic countenance. You can look him full in the face and realize the reflection--that is, the man who has performed the actions of Napoleon--who has been able, by his sole genius, to astonish the world, and to make every year of his reign an epoch in the history of nations."²⁷

There were 300,000 spectators along the Champs Elysees, including Robert, as Napoleon dramatically entered into Paris with his eighteen-year-old Austrian bride at his side. There were hundreds of carriages following Napoleon and Maria Louise as they came through the Arc de Triomphe. He watched them move slowly by him in a spacious glass paneled coronation carriage and found himself overwhelmed by the pageantry. Robert described the festivities this way...

"To describe the splendor of the celebration would mock the magic pen of poetic inspiration." And added, the "most splendid fete ever exhibited in to the world....Paris will be one blaze of fire. The lamps, at the palace garden and neighborhood of the Tuileries, are reckoned at more than a million. It is incredible."²⁸

General Armstrong gave Robert an admission ticket for the marriage ceremony at the palace, but he decided to not attend.

"I should be obliged to dress up like a fool, in embroidered habit francais, hair in a bag, cocked hat, etc., besides giving 12 louis d or for a coat, so that my purse and my republicanism agree well."

²⁷ Forty-nine Letters from Europe 1809-1812.

²⁸ Ibid.

But earlier as he watched the royal procession on the Champs Elyees, he was able to observe that the Empress was

*"rather handsome than otherwise....Her face is characteristically German. Her figure is unmarkably fine. She is as tall as the Emperor."*²⁹

French Art

While his time in Paris was mostly spent hearing lectures and reading books, he was able to observe other worlds which differed in many respects from his own. He saw people dealing with great hardships while on his way to France. War and its awful results were all around him. Plus, he witnessed the charisma of Napoleon as he conquered most of Europe. Outside of the effort he made to accumulate scientific knowledge in the classroom, Robert found an interest in art. He loved the superb art collection at the Louvre which he described as "of an extent and splendor, unprecedented."³⁰ He was not able to see all of the collection under the roof of the Louvre, containing more than 1,000 paintings, 200 sculptures and many more art objects, but he viewed the most famous paintings of the day. He anticipated his return to Philadelphia and telling Rembrandt Peale's family, especially his friend Franklin, about the exhibits.

In late summer of 1811, Robert completed an excellent two years of studying in Paris. He told his father that he ranked chemistry and practical medicine as the best taught courses. These he took privately from the celebrated Louis Nicholas Vauquelin. RMP's father knew about the talents of Vauquelin, because he was a foreign member of the American Philosophical Society. Despite Vauquelin's skills as a teacher, Robert was aware that the Medical School at Edinburgh (University) was the most famous. He wrote this to his father:

*"I think it would be a great advantage to spend the following winter in Edinburgh. It is not only by name of the thing that would assist me in my practice on my return, for, let it be whispered softly, Paris is but a poor place for the pure medical student."*³¹

In November, 1811, he crossed back over the English Channel and traveled to London. This was supposed to be the first leg on his way to Edinburgh University. However, he never made it to Edinburgh.

To be continued . . .

In Part 6, I will take you back to London in the winter 1811-1812, where Robert *"discovered that most of his professors there were the foremost in their fields and many had studied in Edinburgh."*³² Also, when he returns to America in the summer of 1812, his homeland will be back at war with England, and Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) will meet more historical figures who lives touched her life and that of her family.

²⁹ Forty-nine Letters from Europe 1809-1812

³⁰ The Robert Patterson Family dissertation.

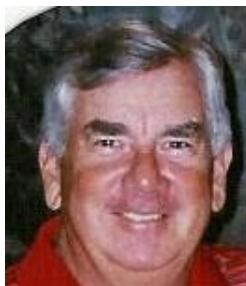
³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

In the meantime, I found another letter written by a young man describing his visit to Paris:

*"Paris is beautiful. The city is low...no skyscrapers and the parks and arches are lit up like they were going to have a party there..." "...we walked to the Louvre and spent the morning there. I saw Venus, Winged Victory, and Mona Lisa, but they are not quite as cute as you are... Venus has stubby arms anyway..."*³³

The above quotations are from a letter written from Paris by Maskell Ewing's 5th great-grandson (**your author**) on July 21, 1961, 150 years after Robert Maskell wrote letters from Paris to his parents and others. In 1961, the writer had no knowledge of his EWING heritage. Obviously, he had no knowledge that his hotel, Hotel Saint Pierre, was located on the street of one the schools attended by Robert. The letter was written to the young man's future wife, Cobe. They were married one year later and are now about to celebrate 55 years together. **"Amour pour toujours!"**



David 'Bruce' Frobos earned his bachelor degree from DePauw University. He is attached to the Ewings of Greenwich, New Jersey through Amy Hunter who married Robert Patterson there in May 1774. He has made several on-site trips to Greenwich, New Jersey, and Philadelphia to study more about his Ewings and the history of that area. His career included the Air Force and 35 years in the investment management and trust administration business. Now retired in Rio Verde, Arizona, Bruce has built his genealogical files to include 3,800 names with the Ewings as a prominent focus of his research. When not searching the past and contributing articles to the Ewing Family Journal, he is an avid golfer in the mountains and the deserts of Arizona. You can reach Bruce via email at BruceFrobos@gmail.com.

³³ Letter, "Bruce Frobos to Carole Battey, 21 July 1961," from Paris, France.

John Ewing and the Underground Railroad

Contributor: Michelle Perkins – Member #1209 (michelle@teamregency.com)

Editor's Note: This information was copied in the original format.

As recorded by Prof. J. T. Stewart in "Indiana County, Pennsylvania - Her People, Past and Present"

Published by J. H. Beers & Co.: 1913

Reformatted by E.K.

Warner, September 1998

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN INDIANA COUNTY

(By an Official)

Although the subject of human slavery had occupied the minds of the people greatly hitherto, it was not until the year 1840 that public attention was called to the matter in this vicinity in a way to cause careful and considerate deliberation. About this period meetings commenced to be held in school houses to consider the evil, and it became a matter of discussion pro and con at public assemblages of the people. The agitation of the question of slavery met with the most determined opposition from many good people, and at the same time was arrayed in its favor those base elements of society always found upholding the wrong against the right. At the period alluded to, several meetings were held in what was known as McMullen's schoolhouse, in Center township. Among the speakers who addressed these meetings in opposition to slavery were Ephraim Carpenter, William Henry, James Moorhead and Dr. Mitchell.

The seed sown by these pioneers of freedom fell upon good ground and brought into the ranks of the "abolitionists, such well known and well-remembered men as Hon. Joseph Campbell, John Allison, Sr., Alex. McMullen, John Lytle, John B. Allison, James Hamilton, John Adair, A. C. Hall, John Ewing, J. R. Smith, and many others more or less prominent at that day in that neighborhood. Meetings in other localities rapidly followed, and the ranks of the advocates of the oppressed were swelled by the addition of hundreds—John Graff, John Ewing, John Ellis, John and Alexander Sutor being among the number. The Rev. David Blair then had congregations in Indiana, Conemaugh and West Lebanon, and his denunciations of the sin of slavery were constant, and the influence of his preaching was

greatly felt in the accession of good men to the cause.

A paper published in Washington, D. C., entitled *New Era*, was circulated extensively through the county, and its influence aided in extending the work and increasing the ardor of the opponents of slavery.

In a few years from the commencement of the agitation there was no section of the country where the abolitionists were not recognized as a power, and while the members of the party challenged debate on the subject and lost no opportunity of presenting their views, they at the same time were not slow to avail themselves of opportunities to give, practical assistance to the objects of their solicitude. For this latter purpose, what was then known as the "Underground Railroad", was organized. A description of this will doubtless be interesting to many who were in life then, and cannot be devoid of interest to the generation which have succeeded, and to whom the workings of this road will be entirely new.

The fugitive slave law, enacted especially for the protection of slaveholders, imposed severe penalties upon any person known to give aid or comfort to the fleeing slave. Men of means and property were, in many instances, deterred by this law from openly giving aid to fugitives. Dr. Mitchell had been convicted of harboring runaways, and been mulcted in such heavy damages and costs as to seriously embarrass him. The United States courts, whose jurisdiction extended over infractions of the fugitive slave law, were extremely proslavery, and to gain favor with the Southern owners were ready to bow to their behests, and the slave power was so far-reaching and widespread that to oppose it was to incur social ostracism and political death. The rulings of the courts, consequently, were often one-sided and partial, and it was mainly through fear of not obtaining justice that the abolitionists organized the "Underground Railroad". Many of the slaves fleeing from bondage lived along the border counties of Virginia, and always traveling by night, and guided by the north star, their route led them through this county on their way to Canada. Once on the shores of Canada the slave stood in no awe of his master; but this was not the case within the States or Territories of the Union. In daylight the fugitives sought concealment in the thick woods or underbrush, and at night pursued his lonesome and toilsome journey towards the polar star, which to him was the beacon of hope and a ray of light which meant liberty.

The town of Indiana and the surrounding hills (then nearly all thickly wooded) was a great "depot", on the road. As soon as the presence of the fugitive was made known to the railway officials, he was taken in charge and piloted to the next station, and there delivered to the care of another "conductor", and so on until safely passed to the Canadian shore. The runaways were furnished with food, and frequently with raiment, it being sometimes the case that they were destitute of garments. The pursuers were

often close at hand, and in some instances were in the town before the train had started. Many hairbreadth escapes were made under such circumstances. One instance I recall to mind will illustrate this. At one time four or five stout negroes were discovered on Caldwell's (now Gomfer's) hill, in sight of town. They remained there one entire day, and at dark it was deemed desirable to have them removed to Hamilton's barn, a mile distant. This was safely accomplished. They were given much needed food, and after eating were secreted among the hay and straw to gain rest and sleep. About eleven o'clock that night the writer heard a faint tap at the door of his house, in Indiana. Upon opening the door and peering into the darkness, I discovered the form of old Sheriff James Taylor. Trembling and almost breathless he rushed into the house, closing the door in haste as though fearful of discovery. He informed me of the presence of the slaves at Hamilton's, and said they had scarcely crossed the pike when their pursuers-six or eight in number-came along; that the slave-hunters were now in town, and intended making a raid on Hamilton's barn before morning. He added that something must be done at once to save the fugitives; that he had property that if detected in assisting in their flight, the masters could secure, and that as I was possessed of little of this world's goods I must get them out of danger. I aroused James M. Hart (now of Saltsburg), and taking a direction opposite from Hamilton's, to mislead any enemy who might be watching us, walked rapidly to the residence of David Myers. At a gentle tap on his back window (a familiar signal to him), he quickly arose and piloted us through the woods and brush to "Jimmy" Hamilton's. Arousing him and informing him of the danger, we all repaired to the barn. Here the negroes were quickly wakened, and in a few minutes the "train" was under headway, "Conductor" Myers in charge, and passing laboriously but steadily through ravines and over rocks, fallen logs and other obstructions, was brought to a standstill at the house of Conductor Jacob Myers. Here they were safely secreted for several days, until the immediate danger was past. Then they were taken in charge by John Jones and the Sutors, and then by John Ewing, near Georgeville. From here, provided with food, etc., they once more set out on their journey, with the polar star as their guide. We afterwards learned that they arrived safely in Canada, and in all probability some of them are yet living to recount to their children their perilous escape from slavery. The conductors, I may add, all got home before daylight, and next morning resumed their usual avocations, the members of their families or neighbors knowing nothing of the work during the watches of the night. I may as well state that the slave-hunters were informed by some sympathizer that the negroes had been seen in the evening going in the direction of Hamilton's. At two o'clock next morning the barn was surrounded by slavecatchers and carefully

searched, but they were about thirty minutes too late. They were satisfied by their investigation that the negroes had been there.

They remained about the town and surrounding country for some time thereafter, continuing their search for the fugitives. They were kindly treated by the citizens, and appeared to be enjoying themselves very well; expressed a good opinion of the people, but said they were the most close-mouthed population they had ever seen—especially on the matter they were most interested in. They offered money for information, and counted down \$200 to Samuel M. Jamison, their hotel-keeper's son, but their bribes or money availed nothing. When they announced their departure for Virginia, they were closely watched, and when well out of the county the managers of the railroad so informed the conductors, and the train moved on with the result already stated.

At another time, five fugitives were secreted in a dense woods on the banks of Little Mahoning creek, near Georgeville. They were closely pursued, and their masters appeared in the locality, and had with them a large bloodhound. Ben. Warren had the runaways in charge. He became alarmed and took Thompson Hays, of Plumville, into his confidence. Hays, accompanied by his wife, secreted themselves in a clump of bushes, some eighty rods from where the negroes had crossed the road. In a little while one of the slave-hunters, with the bloodhound, came along the road. When the dog came to the point where the negroes had crossed, he halted and gave evidence that he had got the scent. The case was desperate, but Hays was equal to the emergency. Bringing his rifle to his shoulder, he took careful aim, and shot the bloodhound down in his tracks. The slave-hunter was badly frightened, and fearing the same marksman would draw a bead on him, he put spurs to his horse and galloped rapidly back the road he had come. The hunt was not resumed, and the conductor got his train away safely.

These are mere recitals of hundreds of similar instances of the way the underground railroad was run in this county, and which only ceased operations with the removal of the cause which had brought it into existence.

Many of those engaged in this work of assisting fellow beings in their flight to freedom, have gone to their long reward. Others of us still linger on the sands of time. Whatever may be the judgment of posterity, of our action in this matter, it should be tempered with the knowledge that we believed we were fully justified in assisting to liberty human beings, with human instincts and immortal inspirations and to whom liberty was as great a boon as to ourselves. We repudiated the doctrine that one man had a right to enchain in perpetual bondage and degradation his brother, and we only carried out our belief when we assisted to liberty and freedom the flying fugitive.

A BRANCH OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Robert Mitchell, Jr., relates the following incident : " On a Sunday night in February, 1856, seven colored men, came from Johnstown by the way of Mechanicsburg, where their pursuers had preceded them two hours, to our house at Diamondsville, to which they had. been directed by a colored barber at Johnstown named Williams. They were nearly exhausted with their walk and as soon as possible they were provided with supper, and about midnight were put to bed in our store-house. I awakened them about three o'clock in the morning and we started for Cherrytree by the back road, by way of Hustenville and Pine Flats, reaching the village by daybreak, and thence proceeded toward George Acheson's in Clearfield county.

"The only person who observed us on the road was David Kinports of Cherrytree, who saw us on the hill above the village. We got within half a mile of Acheson's by ten o'clock; so, leaving the slaves in the woods, I went to Acheson's home and informed him of the colored men's troubles. He at once went to the timber and took them to his house and gave them their breakfast. They went to bed and slept till four o'clock in the afternoon. He then started with them for a colored man's cabin, where they would be directed to Jason Kirk's house, who lived on the Grampian hills.

" Meanwhile I started for home, and on the hill above Cherrytree I met eleven men in hot pursuit of the slaves. I passed them, and at about a mile's distance I met George Spalding, who had a letter for me, informing me of the close pursuit of the colored men.

"We turned and followed the party and noticed they had stopped at Gamble's mill and were about to put up for the night. We hastened to Acheson's, reaching there about eleven o'clock at night, and informed him of the close chase. Without waiting fully to dress, he, with a loaf of bread under each arm (and minus pantaloons), started for the negroes.

"When he reached the colored man's cabin, he took the slaves away to a dark wilderness, pine country, on Moss creek, a tributary of the Susquehanna, from whence, after remaining a week, they reached New York State in safety.

"I subsequently received a letter informing me of their safe arrival in Chautauqua county, N. Y.

"In the next morning, Spalding and myself apprised Gamble of how matters stood and he detained the pursuers as long as possible."

This is one of the many incidents which transpired on this branch of the Underground Railroad.

GEORGE ATCHESON

was the great hero of the antislavery men in this section. Born in Ireland. he was there an Orangeman, and removed to eastern Pennsylvania, whence, at an early date, he migrated to the Susquehanna valley, not far from the Cherry Tree, where he was among the earliest settlers.

He was over six feet in height, of strong build, with rugged features, and was a natural orator. For many years he was a pilot on the river, and he became a successful lumber merchant. He was passionately fond of the culture of fruit, and had his Orangeman's flowers, as well as the Irish hedge, growing in his garden.

He attended all the principal antislavery meetings of his time, and could entertain for half an hour at a time such men as Giddings, Pillsbury, Garrison and others. He expended thousands of dollars, and being a man of great energy and determination was regarded as the leader of the abolitionists.

Personally he was regarded with great favor by the leaders of the proslavery party, and he returned their courtesies, while he never abated in his plans to hurry on to freedom all the slaves who came within his reach.

He was at first a Protestant Methodist, but became a Wesleyan Methodist after the agitation of the slavery question.

Editor's Note: It is a well-known fact that slavery is, unfortunately, a part of the history of the United States. Although some Ewings were slave owners, there were many who were abolitionists, or who were passively opposed to slavery. This article is not meant to be an indictment of any Ewing family, but rather, a report of factual historical events. Fortunately, the United States has come a long way in its moral beliefs regarding this sensitive issue.

Celebratory Poetry

Faces in the Crowd

By: Steven C. Ewing

(Written for the Edgartown, Massachusetts, Town Hall Meeting, April 2017)

I've tried to march in step
 since '95 I've
 hauled the bright
 red and rampant
 Scottish Lion
 fierce fangs and claws all
 snarling from his flapping
 yellow stage
 I've heard the brave heart
 cheers of pride
 swelling in the
 snappy harbor breeze
 as we pass
 Followed by the
 pounding drums and squealing
 bags
 curling round these
 summer streets
 crammed
 with raucous crowds

The steps I follow
 are my dad's
 Since he died
 I took up his kilted call
 and staff in hand
 we lead the band
 beating close behind
 Kids and candy
 line the
 festive screaming route

The same parade
 I saluted as a boy
 small flag in hand
 from our old time
 Main Street yard
 Then on my rough
 but festooned bike
 baseball cards pinned
 and ticking
 on the spokes

Later with a rifle and
 the Boys' Club
 Drum and Bugle Corps
 all geared up
 helmet and white bucks
 Steely eyed so
 young and proud

Small town boy and
 small town man
 have meshed
 to march
 in independent step
 somehow
 Now I'm grown
 just past my prime
 I see more clearly
 broad faces
 in the looming
 waving crowd
 Familiar quiet smiles
 snag me
 from chosen spots

As we pass each year
 I come to search
 them out
 and as we lock
 our eyes
 in knowing moments
 time stalls and stops
 It's clear they see
 my dad in me
 and I wave back
 unabashed
 soaking up this
 special scene
 Year to year we share
 these silent stares
 amidst the cheers
 of happy tourists
 jostling kids
 the pipe band pounding
 in our ears

Until the day
 an empty chair appears
 and frames
 that somber space
 where Bob or Dick
 had been
 Where Rosalie
 once stood
 or sat and Walter
 Herb or Bailey
 Nelson, Anne and
 all the rest
 should wave back
 In the summer breeze
 I hesitate and almost
 sense their breath
 on my neck

While close friends and
 family stand there still
 guarding in respect
 the loss the space
 declares
 Our smiles hide
 the tears
 the knowing and
 the love
 the shared communal
 grief
 and as we pass
 and wave
 goodbye
 my sight drifts forward
 slowly towards
 a stroller
 The small baby
 tentative and curious
 at her very first parade
 stares bright eyed and
 oh so
 very much alive

Commander's Comments

John Thor Ewing (thor@thorewing.net)



Many of us are looking forward to Clan Ewing's night at this year's **Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**. The clans' participation in 'A Splash of Tartan' at this year's Tattoo has already attracted a good deal of coverage in the press in Scotland and the rest of the UK. For everyone taking part, I expect it will be a very memorable evening.

We will be gathering after 7:00 pm on Tuesday 8th August in the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle ready to march out together before a crowd of 8,800 people at 9:00 pm. I've set up a Facebook event page to help coordinate everything (search for "Clan Ewing at the Tattoo"). Of course, not everyone is on Facebook, so I will still also be sending updates via email to everyone who I know is coming. If you are joining us, please don't forget to wear the tartan!

On the subject of Facebook, I'm delighted to see we are now approaching 600 members in the Facebook Clan Ewing group. Thank you to everyone who has joined, and in particular to Group Admins, Bobbi DeSart, Steven C. Ewing, and Beth Toscos.

Finally, I have recently been contacted by the editors of the Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopaedia. This is widely regarded as one of the most authoritative books available on the clans. The new edition has been ten years in the making and, for the first time ever, it will include an entry for Clan Ewing.

AUDACITER!

John Thor Ewing

Chancellor's Letter

Beth Ewing Toscos, EFA Chancellor (mbtoscos@comcast.net)



The Ewing Family Association can look forward to three Heritage Events over the next few months:

- 1) The Saline Celtic Festival in Saline, Michigan, which will be held July 14-15, 2017. See www.salineceltic.org.
- 2) The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Edinburgh United Kingdom, is to be held August 4-26, 2017. See <https://www.edintattoo.co.uk/>. Clan Ewing will participate on Tuesday, August 8th, under the direction of Commander Thor Ewing.
- 3) The 152nd Scottish Highland Gathering and Games is being held on September 2-3, 2017, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, California. See www.thescottishgames.com.

Heritage events give EFA and Clan Ewing members an opportunity to gather to participate in traditional activities, interact with other Ewings, and enjoy the outdoors. Clan Tent Captains here in the United States are Walter 'Major' Ewing (wallygator@hotmail.com) in Michigan, and Larry Ewing In California (rkt88ll@earthlink.net). For information about the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, contact Commander Thor (Thor@ThorEwing.net).

Younger Ewing family members are participating in social media offerings. There are currently 588 Facebook members in the Clan Ewing group. A number of these Ewings have joined the Ewing Family Association.

As we move toward the future of our Association, we will continue to utilize our traditional publications, web site, and other social media options to provide an inclusive experience for those interested in their Ewing history. In March, a young woman named Caleigh Hilyard wrote on the Clan Ewing Facebook page,

"I am doing a research project at school about family history. I know that my last name is not Ewing, but my mom's maiden name was Ewing. I thought it would be interesting if you could just say the country that you're from if that's possible."

Within three days, Caleigh had 93 replies from Ewings in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia and the United States. This tells us a lot about the range of the outreach that we may rely on in the coming years.

Consider joining us either digitally or in real time.

Audaciter!

Beth Ewing Toscos, Chancellor

New EFA Members – Welcome Aboard!

Delilia Werner (Member #1217), and her husband, Ralf, reside in Warner Robins, Georgia. She may be contacted by sending an email to: Delilia@bellsouth.net. Delilia shares the following:

My parents are Herschel Baker (born in Rockford, Coosa County, Alabama) and Eunice Brackner. I was born in Los Angeles, California, but raised in Alabama, where both of my parents were born and raised. My grandparents were married in Sardis, Dallas County, Alabama.

I have been married for 33 years to my wonderful husband, Ralf, who was born in Germany. He is retired from the Air Force, and we currently live in Warner Robins, Georgia. We have five grown children – Greg, Michael, Liane, Kyle, and Jacob. I enjoy reading, quilting, and herbalism. I am a Family History Consultant for my church, which gives me opportunity to help others find their ancestors, as well as work on my own tree. I am working on an Associates' degree in Family History Research through online work at BYU-Idaho.

Editor's Note: See further information on page 38 in the Information Exchange section.

Clarice A. Coffman (Member #1218), hails from Peoria Heights, Illinois. Her earliest known ancestor is William 'Swago Bill' Ewing. She may be reached via email at: imframed@yahoo.com.

Michael Jones (Member #1219) resides in Baltimore, Maryland. You may contact him at michael35e@aol.com.

Nancy Gill Shifflet (Member #1220), and her husband, David, live in Charleston, West Virginia. Nancy discovered the Ewing Family Association and their extensive research in her search for her Gillespie ancestors. Nancy's earliest confirmed Gillespie ancestor is David Gillespie, d. 1828, Louisa County, Virginia. Nancy may be reached at nancy@shifflet.us.

Susan Moon (Member #1221), and her husband, David, live in Fort Worth, Texas. She may be reached at david.susan.moon@gmail.com. The EFA genealogist, Karen Avery, shared the following communication she had with Susan:

It is with great pleasure that I personally welcome you to Ewing Family Association! I knew your name sounded familiar and discovered that my large Ewing data base has included you and your Ewing lineage for a very long time. You and I (plus some other cousins who are also members of EFA) are 2nd cousins.

We share William A. Ewing (1839-1907) and wife, Sarah A. Banks (1848-1907) as our common ancestors. My grandfather, Albert Ewing (1870-1938), is the older brother to your grandmother, Alice Charlotte 'Lottie' Ewing (1895-1971). In the past, I have been in contact with various members of Lottie's line who shared information with me.

I know you will treasure all that you will learn about our Ewing heritage via the EFA website and all that it contains. If you have specific questions, please let me know.

Thomas D. Ewing (Member #1222) resides in Salem, Oregon. Contact him via email at thomas.d.ewing@sbcglobal.net.

Kelly Ewing Heimerl Trolander (Member #1223), and her husband Robert, live in Boxford Massachusetts. You may reach Kelly at Kellyewingtrolander@gmail.com

Cecele Cox (Member #1224), and her spouse, John, are residents of Layton, Utah. Contact them via email at cecelecox@yahoo.com.

Joshua Ewing (Member #1225) and his spouse, Tayla Bryant, make their home in Ostrander, Ohio. You may contact them at 17ewing76@gmail.com.

Jeffrey H. Sedgewick (Member #1226), and his spouse, Roya, live in Great Falls, Virginia. He reports that the ancestor to which he is related is Indian John Ewing. These folks can be reached at dr.sedgewick@gmail.com.

BradleyScott Ewing (Member #1227), and Gwin Ann Eckert, his wife, reside in Akron, Ohio. Connect with them via email at ewingb5@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: The following is additional information provided by a new member who was listed in the November 2016 issue:

Yvonne (Vonnie) K. Tischer (Member #1216) (yonnie54_00@yahoo.com)
Vonnie may be contacted at 2260 Evergreen Road, Perry, OH 44081. [Note: Be sure to include the underscore after '54' in Vonnie's email address.]

Message from Vonnie Tischer:

I retired from Bank One/Chase Bank where I was a Human Resource Officer, Senior Generalist. I have been involved with prison ministry for over 25 years, and I am now helping to find positions for felons when they are released. My love of history started with the stories my grandmother told me as I sat on her lap. My interest in family history, and history in general, started because of my grandmother, Daisy Ewing Andrews (1887-1970).

My great, great grandparents, Deborah Parsons (1812-1883), and her husband, George Samuel Ewing (1805-1883), were involved in the beginnings of the Mormon Church. They followed Joseph Smith from New York to Ohio to Illinois where Joseph Smith was murdered. They stayed behind in Iowa with Emma Smith, Joseph Smith's wife. My grandmother loved the RLDS church, which was organized and led by Joseph Smith's son, Joseph Smith III. He officiated at the funerals of both Deborah and George S. Ewing. I have a den full of old letters, pictures, wills, and land purchase documents saved by them and by my grandma Daisy.

I was very close to my grandmother. We lived with her for several years before her death. My mother lived with us for 13 years before her death, so I have letters, pictures of a log cabin where they lived in North Dakota, a picture of the log school my grandfather built, and other items. My home is in North Perry, Ohio on Lake Erie. This is about 40 miles

from Cleveland. I would be happy to drive and meet anyone interested in talking with me or welcome you to North Perry. Just to let you know. I am 80, and even though my memory is still mostly intact and my body works most of the time, age is very unpredictable.

In 2015, I drove to Michigan, my home state, and went to my Ewing Cousins' Reunion. This is how I discovered there was the Ewing Family Association. Karen -- I can't thank you enough for all you do for the Ewing family. I hope all who are involved in the leadership of the Ewing Family Association know that their work is appreciated.

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

What a treasure trove you possess – I am envious! The EFA has many donated items already digitized with the originals stored at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The link is: <http://www.genealogycenter.org/>. When you are ready to donate your items, please consider adding them there also. Here is the link where you may view the items that are already housed at the library:

http://www.genealogycenter.info/search_ewing.php

The EFA keeps an inventory of all items. Please contact Beth Ewing Toscos mbtoscos@comcast.net prior to giving your gifts to the library so that the EFA inventory list is always complete.

The paper trail of our lineage has been confirmed by Y-DNA testing of several Ewing males of our line. Both methods show that we share the same ancestors beginning with John Ewing, II (1769 - c. 1813) and his wife, Lucy Williams (1784-1856). The first known Ewing male of our line was located in Ashford, Windham County, Connecticut, prior to 1732 when Alexander and his wife, Jean, began to have children. Our line is known as Group 2b in the Ewing Family Y-DNA Project. You may view it here:

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_data/Group2bRelationshipDiagram.pdf

Our lineage goes back to Pilgrims, John and Priscilla (Mullins) Alden. You and I are 4th cousins!

SAVE THE DATE!

2018 Ewing Family Gathering

Nashville, Tennessee (location TBA)

Fall of 2018

More information in the August Newsletter.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

Passings

With sincere condolences to their family and friends, we note the passing of the uncle and aunt of Walter 'Major' Ewing, EFA Member:

Earl Norman Ewing

(Published in *Saginaw News on MLive.com* on December 20, 2015)



Ewing, Earl Norman 90, of Lake, MI formerly of Saginaw died Thursday, December 17th at Masonic Pathways in Alma. He was born January 29th, 1925 in Lansing the son of the late Earl and Laura (Hubbard) Ewing and was raised in Chesaning and Burt areas.

Earl served his country with the U.S. Marines, Co. A, 3rd AMPH. Trac. Bn in Guam and Iwo Jima, during World War II. Upon his return, he married Betty Leona Draper in Burt, MI on December 26th 1945. He worked at Wicks Boiler Shop before and after the War. Earl was also a Saginaw Police officer for 27 years and was decorated for saving a Deputy Sheriff who was shot in February 1956. He also served as a night guard at the *Saginaw News*. Earl was a lifetime member of the F.O.P. and the V.F.W. Post 3039 of Farwell.

Surviving are his Wife of nearly 70 years, Betty (Draper) Ewing; his children and their spouses, Terry L. (Michelle) Ewing, Dennis N. (Pam) Ewing, two very special grandchildren, Terry L. Ewing Jr., and Cary D. Ewing. Four siblings, Russell (Daisy) Ewing, Paul Ewing, Walt (Lilly) Ewing, Velma (Ken) Allen, and many other family members and friends. In addition to his parents, Earl was preceded in death by his siblings Doris Hilliker, Lauralee Irene, Frank and Duane. Sisters-in-laws Joanne, Pat, and Marie, and a brother-in-law, Lee.

Betty Leona (Draper) Ewing

(Published in *Saginaw News on MLive.com* on June 26, 2016)



Ewing, Betty Leona of Lake, Michigan formerly of Saginaw, passed away Monday, June 20th, 2016 at age 92 at McKellar's AFC in St. Louis. She was born July 30th, 1923 in Flint, Michigan. Betty was the daughter of the late William and Mildred (Burluson) Draper and was raised in Burt, Michigan.

Betty married Earl N. Ewing in Burt, MI on December 26, 1945. She was a lifetime member of Ladies Auxiliary V.F.W. Post 3039 of Farwell. Surviving are her children and their spouses; Terry L. (Michelle) Ewing, Dennis N. (Pam) Ewing; two very special grandchildren, Terry L. Ewing Jr., and Cary D. Ewing; three siblings, Kathleen (George) Gean, Garland (Rita) Draper, Bill (and close companion Gloria Mulcher) and many other family members and friends. In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by her siblings; her sister Josephine (Lester) Rummel and her brother Darrell (Jean) Draper.

Tribute to Earl Norman and Betty Ewing

Remembering Grandparents of “The Greatest Generation”

Cary Dean Ewing (Cousin of EFA Member Walter ‘Major’ Ewing)

Preface by ‘Major’ Ewing:

The late Earl Norman Ewing and his wife, the late Betty Ewing were my dear uncle and aunt who filled a void within me, since I never knew my own grandparents. They influenced me in a way real grandparents do and left me with wonderful memories. Below is their story as told by their grandson Cary Ewing. It is truly a story that represents members of “The Greatest Generation”, and hopefully will be appreciated by our newest generations.

Grandpa, the oldest of several brothers and sisters, was a solid example of individual responsibility and self-reliance; the very definition of the ‘do-it-your-selfer.’ Among other things, Grandpa was an athlete in school, running track and playing football.

When Grandpa was just 14 years old, he learned to handle a team of horses, and, at about the same time, learned to drive a car. The car belonged to the owner of a farm where grandpa worked. This farmer trusted my grandpa - at that young age - to drive him into town and on errands. It’s difficult to imagine a scenario such as that today!

Grandpa demonstrated how much he cared for other people - especially his own family. He cared so much, in fact, that during one scary moment, he nearly burned the house down while trying to keep his mom and siblings warm. He nearly lost his life.

Grandma was the quintessential country girl; the oldest daughter in a fairly large family. She played guitar and performed music with one of her sisters at the church in Burt, Michigan, and also was a professional babysitter from a young age.

Like most any family at the time, Grandma’s was devastated by the Great Depression. For a period of time, they lived in an abandoned wood shack that featured dirt floors. But they endured and made it through the tough times. Like so many others of that generation, Grandma learned what it took to persevere.

Grandma had a charming sense of humor; with a delightful, easy laugh. She enjoyed sharing stories such as the time she played a practical joke on her father: One day, while on his lunch break at work, he was eating a sandwich she had prepared for him when he discovered that she had substituted a piece of cardboard for the meat!

At a time when financially most of the country was suffering, Grandma and Grandpa had rich lives with tremendous stories. There is no richer story than that of when they first met.

In the early ‘40’s, Grandpa’s father’s family (the Earl Howard Ewing family) relocated to Burt, Michigan, to a home across the road from the Draper family. One magical day, a 16-year-old Norm wanted to impress the neighbor girl. He chose to accomplish this by standing on the handlebars while riding his bicycle. All was going according to plan, until he hit a rock, and

went, as he described it, “ass over elbows.” I would suggest that this was when Norm first discovered Betty’s delightful laugh.

At first, Betty’s mother, Mildred Draper, forbade her from dating Norm, as she disapproved of her daughter going out with someone who hung around with the local Indian boys. It took a bit of convincing, but Great-Grandma Draper eventually gave in to Betty. By this time, Grandpa had his own car, ‘Old Pete,’ and was so excited upon getting the news that he and Betty would be allowed to date, he backed ‘Old Pete’ squarely into the Draper family flag pole. Grandma sure did have an effect on Grandpa from the beginning!

For their first date, Norm took Betty to the Montrose High School homecoming at which their first picture together as a couple was taken. Of the many photos of Grandma and Grandpa together through the years, this particular one is my favorite. They were an item for barely two years, however, when World War II forever altered the course of many lives, including theirs.

Grandpa, who was working at Wickes boiler shop (Saginaw, Michigan) at this point, joined the Marine Corps and attended boot camp in San Diego, California. Before shipping out, he traveled by rail back across the country to say farewell to family and friends, and asked for Betty’s hand in marriage.

Grandma and Grandpa were separated for two years while he fought in the Pacific theatre with the 3rd Amphibious Tractor Battalion. This young farm boy cast out into the unknown from ship to shore, battle to battle, unfazed by the genuine uncertainty. Guam, Bougainville, and Iwo Jima were just a few of the locations that Norm realized experiences that would permeate the rest of his life, not to mention that of his family.

Through their time apart, Grandma continued babysitting for various families full time until joining Grandpa in the national effort in the States. She became a member of a special group of women that worked in factories and industrial capacities. Yes, Grandma too, was “Rosie the Riveter.”

Betty and Norm were separated until the end of the war, yet remained committed to one another, only communicating by long-delayed, and sometimes redacted, handwritten letters. They were only able to see each other by way of black and white photos - another scenario difficult to imagine by today’s generation. My Grandma and Grandpa, Norm and Betty, are the defining example of “The Greatest Generation.”

Grandpa was discharged December 7, 1945. Upon reuniting, Norm and Betty wasted no time and were married on December 26th. They also wasted no time growing their own family – bringing their first son, Terry, into the world the following November, and celebrating the birth of a second son, Dennis, a couple of short years after.

After the war, the uncertainty continued as Norm returned to his job at the boiler shop; but the workers had gone on strike almost immediately after he was back at the boiler shop. So, he joined Saginaw’s police force, a career in which he found himself in the middle of more battles and walking a beat. Grandpa also brought his do-it-yourself inclination to the table yet again; he learned to construct a film developer for the police department from a library book. Norm retired a decorated officer in 1984.

Grandma looked after the two boys and blossomed into a dedicated wife, mother, and then naturally, a Grandma to me and my brother Terry Jr. I'll never forget the elation I felt the days that I came out of St. Casimer's Elementary School to find Grandma waiting for me in that bright, shiny red Volkswagen bug. That meant I would have the chance to spend time with Grandma and Grandpa after school.

There were magical times spent with Grandma and Grandpa at the cabin on Littlefield Lake. We learned to swim and row a boat. My brother was best described as 'captivated' when Grandpa took him for rides in his home-made sail boat.

Both Norm and Betty were a generous and kind couple with traditional values and were known for helping others. Even if the situation was at odds with their values, they were still willing to offer a helping hand. They did favors for not only family, but friends and even strangers, and never really cared for anything in return. They both were deeply involved in family and community, were avid volunteers, and just plain nice folks to know.

There is so much more to be said about Norm and Betty Ewing. Anyone who knew them has a positive memory. To me they were more than just Grandma and Grandpa; they were also my friends. One of Grandpa's best bits of advice, which I pass along often is: "Life is like a book; you turn the page, and start a new chapter."

From here, a new chapter opens for each of us; an opportunity to continue their legacy in our own way and to pass along the kindness and generosity taught to us by a farm boy and a country girl. They were a couple who loved and supported one another through a lifetime, and continue as they move into their next chapter together through eternity.

Information Exchange

This section of the *Ewing Family Journal* provides members with transcripts of dialogues initiated by queries or offers of information sent to the EFA Genealogist, the *Ewing Family Journal's* Editor, the following websites, and others. Including these items here is intended to entice others to join the dialogues and help respond to the queries or amplify the provided information.

Ewing-related requests for information and offers of information are often posted to various Internet web sites including:

- EFA's Forum at groups.google.com/group/EwingFamilyAssociation,
- EFA's Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/ewing.family.association,
- Ewing Family Genealogy Forum at genforum.genealogy.com/ewing, and
- Rootsweb's Ewing Message Board at boards.rootsweb.com/surnames.ewing/mb.ashx.

Readers should periodically view and search these sites to find queries and offered information related to their Ewing-related genealogy research.

William Albert Ewing, Jr.

Message from Carol A. Casner, Esq. (cc19805@aol.com)

My son just completed an extensive Y chromosome testing and tells me that he has a very strong connection to a William Albert Ewing, Jr. Our Ewing family dates back to the early 1800's in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, but I have no record of a William Albert.

My oldest known Ewing was James, whose sister Katie, along with the McCormick girl, were kidnapped by Indians. James's daughter, Sarah (1805-1882), married James Fleming. Sarah would be my 2nd great grandmother.

Any cousins out there?

William Ewing (1770-1827), Jackson County, Georgia

Message from Stewart T. Ewing (ewingent@bellsouth.net)

On November 15, 2015 ([Ewing Family Journal](#), Vol. 21 No. 2, page 61), an email exchange was published between Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist, and Tim Campbell of the Green Berry Ewing Line. In that article there was the assertion that William Ewing 1770-1827 of Jackson County GA (purchased land there in 1802) m. Hannah Whaley was in fact the son of Patrick Ewing (1736-1819) of Cecil Co Maryland m. Jane E. Porter m2 Elizabeth Porter.

I must admit that the article is intriguing, but short. And while I am not convinced it is correct because of some discrepancy, my FamilyDNA-12, 37, and 67 marker results puts me genetically very near to that family at least. And going on just the information I have in Margaret Fife's book, there are some very compelling possibilities. The result may rewrite

all of chapter 24 and much more in that book and yield a solution to a mystery that has plagued the family for decades.

My questions:

- 1. How was the link made between this William Ewing and Patrick? Can you put me in touch with the person that made this discovery who might share some sources?*
- 2. Margaret Fife's research indicated that William son of Patrick had gone west to Missouri. How was that resolved?*

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

I was asked to serve as genealogist simply because I have managed to accumulate a very large data base of Ewing information - well over 12,000 folks so far. I am not a certified genealogist, but perhaps should be labeled compiler. When I add a family to my records, I try to discover everything else that helps to confirm that a family group is indeed true. I have gleaned information from many people, and sometimes data is not correct. Using the census (in the years that it is available), county books, and the like, help in placement. I believe that most of my data is correct. Now that Y-DNA is such a great tool, that also helps cement a group into the correct place on the Ewing tree. The one fact that I know to be true is that no genealogy is ever completely free of errors.

It is so very unfortunate that Margaret Fife was in error with the publication of her own line. There is great value in thinking to update and make corrections to Fife's Chapter 24. I simply do not have the time or desire to do this, but should you want to untangle that chapter, I am willing to share as much of my work as would be helpful to you. In my opinion, I doubt that we will ever know positively about your William who married Hannah Whaley.

As an aside, my direct line has the same problem as your William. Since my line falls into Group 2b, there is a chance that my Alexander also was a 1/2 brother to Nathaniel (1693-1748). It is not known if he journeyed to Cecil County with that group or perhaps he sailed to Boston about the same time. He is first found in Massachusetts and Connecticut prior to 1732.

I am willing to send (via PDF) an Outline Descendant Tree of people who descend from Patrick and his two Porter wives. A Genealogy Report (including all my notes and sources) could also benefit your work. And I would appreciate your review of my work.

Of course, we cannot change Fife's Ewing in Early America, but a correction to her work would be welcome as an article in a Ewing Family Journal.

It will be interesting for you to see the results of your pending DNA test from Ancestry. Once you have the results from that test, may I suggest you then add the raw data from either Ancestry or FTDNA to a free site called GEDmatch? The link is here: <https://www.gedmatch.com>. This site uses different tools to compare people who tested with FTDNA, Ancestry, and a third testing company, 23andMe.

Again, I am sorry that I am unable to provide the answers to your questions. My response in the Ewing Family Journal Vol. 21, No.2, page 61, is unfortunate since I truly do not have a primary source for this assumption.

Response from Stewart T. Ewing (ewingent@bellsouth.net)

Thank you so much for your response. Your article was the most compelling possibility I've seen in several years, and I think there is enough merit to pursue it. I'll likely be making some trips soon, most likely to the Cecil County courthouse and any other archives and history centers. If there is any original sources left with the answer, I'll find it.

As for re-writing that chapter, I'm not sure anyone could do it, except Margaret, and perhaps Jim McMichael, but when this is all over, I plan to do a work of my own. I'll provide some updates to the EFJ as I find things.

Response from Beth Ewing Toscos, EFA Chancellor (mbtoscos@comcast.net)

I've been following your discussion with Karen Avery. I wanted you to know that all the records originally stored at the Cecil County (Maryland) Historical Society are now archived at the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) in Fort Wayne, Indiana. If you're travelling to Cecil County, this may save you at least one trip!

Over time, all the Cecil County records will be digitized and made available on-line at www.genealogycenter.org.

Response from Stewart T. Ewing (ewingent@bellsouth.net)

It is good to know Margaret's work is in Ft. Wayne still in the safe hands of EFA. However, as my father and I worked very closely with her when she was still living, we have a pretty good handle on the information she has. Plus, years ago when there was an EFA event in Cecil County, I spent time with her materials, though more in the line that she asserted was hers than the Cecil County bunch.

There may yet be some value in coming to Ft. Wayne, but because her own book seems to simply cite Col. Wm. A. Ewing's statement that William son of Patrick "went west" (Chapter 25 page 208), it would appear that in her mind the trail on that William ends with Patrick and the good Colonel's speculation. Here are my thoughts on that:

- *The "went west" passage was actually the Colonel quoting a passage in Elbert William R. Ewing's 1867 book "Clan Ewing of Scotland, early history and contribution to America," written 30 years earlier.*
- *It could be that this "went west" reference came from a family Bible or some other hand-written note in a family artifact of the day, and perhaps that artifact might have other clues what "west" meant.*
- *In that period, particularly as far east as Cecil County was, west meant west... it didn't matter if it was southwest, northwest, etc. They only knew that people were moving because Native American land was being opened up to settlers. Most folks back east would not have had an understanding of the kind of land or geography beyond stories, but would follow known trails. Georgia would certainly have been*

west from their perspective. But I'm getting ahead of myself. I could make up a good story if I wanted to, but that's not what this is all about.

- *One thing that is keen in my mind is who William was in Cecil County. William in Jackson County, Georgia, was a farmer. Was William in Cecil County a farmer? He married a Whaley. Whaleys were also from Maryland... coincidence? Did any of his neighbors in Jackson County, Georgia come from Maryland? There are lots of things like this I can work on that may lead to an answer. It's just going to take time.*

Therefore I have to hope that there are still some original sources still lurking out there that haven't been found, a daunting task given Margaret's overwhelming thoroughness.

With that in mind, because I can't wait for Cecil County records to be digitized, I'm planning a road trip. I would very much welcome any information on someone who knows the sources at Cecil County, Maryland, and the best way to approach them for the period of 1770 until about 1802 when William (m. Hannah) bought land in Jackson County, Georgia.

I'm also expecting that William's journey from Cecil County might have been to specifically go to Georgia, or it may have been a process of moving to other parts of Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, before ending up in Georgia. I'm inclined to think that at 32 years old, he probably would not have had the means to do a lot of land trading, settling, and resettling before ending up in Georgia, but I'm not going to assume anything. My strategy, then, would be to follow the path of the great migration down the Shenandoah, the Great Wagon Rd, the Catawba Rd, the Peedee Rd, and the Kings Hwy, into South Carolina, and see if I can find him along the way.

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

I will prepare and send an Outline Descendant Report for you beginning with Joshua (1704-1753) and wife Jane Gillespie Patton to include seven generations. After that, you can decide if you want a very large Genealogy Report of these seven generations as one report, or if it would be more helpful to break it down into smaller family groups. If you chose one report, it will be 141 pages and include all my notes and the sourcing I used.

Later Response from Stewart T. Ewing (ewingent@bellsouth.net)

As I was continuing to research Margaret's original theory of our family for many years, I accumulated a great deal of very factual information that includes corrections and significant amplifications to the lineage of James Ewing of Old Hunterdon County NJ, some interesting facts about his son, Thomas, as well as his son William of Chester County, and descendants through to Cumberland County PA. I have corrections with strong evidence as to the exact location of the residence (still standing today) of William Ewing who married the daughter of Matthew Robertson, as well as his sons land location in Cumberland County. If there are known members of that family (as has been indicated in other correspondence from EFA), they can reach me at this email address and I'd be happy to help.

William Ewing (b. 1818, Ireland)

Message from Delilia Werner (Delilia@bellsouth.net)

My Ewing connection is through my mother. From what I have determined, there were five Ewing men that came from Ireland (likely County Tyrone) in the early to mid-1800's and settled in Canton, Madison County, Mississippi. They may be brothers or cousins, as I have yet to determine which. Samuel was born in 1808, Adam in 1811, John in 1812, William in 1818, and Andrew in 1822. William is my direct ancestor (3rd great grandfather).

Samuel filed a Declaration of Intent in the Madison County, Mississippi, Circuit Court on 19 Nov. 1841 and has a Naturalization date of 22 May 1844. His country of birth is Ireland and allegiance is to Great Britain. The index does not list when he entered this country or through which port. He married Rebecca Walton on 13 Apr 1837 in Canton, Madison County, Mississippi, and then Mary A. M. Owens on 8 Feb 1848 in the same county. He had at least six children with Mary, and he died in Canton in 1889.

Adam was married to Margaret McMannee, who was also born in Ireland. They had at least three children, two born in South Carolina in 1847 and 1851, and one born in Mississippi in 1853. I have not found much on this family.

John filed a Declaration of Intent in the Madison County, Mississippi, Circuit Court on 7 Nov 1838 and has a Naturalization date of 19 May 1841. His country of birth is listed as Ireland (County Tyrone) and his allegiance is to Great Britain. The index states that he arrived in the U.S. in 1833 through New Orleans, Louisiana. He married a woman named Jane who is five years older and had at least six children – the first in New York in 1836 (possibly a stepdaughter?) and the rest in Mississippi. I have not found much else on this family either.

William filed a Declaration of Intent in the Leake County, Mississippi, Circuit Court on 14 Mar 1849, which was recorded in Lee County. His country of birth or allegiance is listed as Great Britain and he naturalized on 21 Oct, 1852. William came to the US with a child, and possibly a wife. I have found a couple of newspaper articles in the Mississippi Creole, Canton County, Mississippi, one dated 14 Aug 1847, "Died-in this place on Friday last, (unreadable), wife of Mr. William Ewing", and one dated 15 Jan 1848, "Died on the 13th, child of William Ewing." I also know he had a son named Andrew, born in 1844 in Ireland. Andrew fought in the Civil War. On the 1920 census, he stated that he was born in Ireland, came to the US in 1848 and naturalized in 1856. I found a William Ewing on the 1850 Canton, Madison County, Mississippi census as living in a household of another family, but no Andrew. William married Elizabeth Sanders in 1854, in Leake County, Mississippi. and had five children. His youngest daughter is my 2nd great grandmother. He died before 1870, but I don't know when or where. His widow remarried in December 1870.

Andrew (not William's son) married a woman named Margaret, and had at least three children, two born in South Carolina in 1845 and 1847, and one born in Mississippi in 1850. I used to think Adam and Andrew were the same person because I found one on a couple of earlier census records and the other on later ones, with the wife's and children's names

the same, but I now believe they are different. I may have found them both listed on an earlier census.

I tried tracking down the Naturalization papers of Samuel, John, and William, but they are not to be found. The Department of Labor created the indexes, but the records were created at the county level and may have been destroyed in a flood or fire. Madison County has no idea where they are.

My line is:

William Ewing – Elizabeth Sanders

Andrew Jackson Langston – Eudora Elizabeth Ewing

Walter William Langston – Maggie Eunice McCoy

James Oscar Brackner – Ruby Bell Langston

Herschel Ausborne Baker – Eunice Yvonne Brackner

Ralf Kurt Werner – Ruby Delilia Baker

While searching for information in the Salt Lake City Family History Library, I was told that my Ewings were probably of the Anglican church given they had put Great Britain as their country of allegiance, and that Ewing wasn't an Irish name, so they may have been moved there by the British from Scotland. I have no idea when this may have occurred. I looked in County Tyrone for any Ewings because this is where John says he was born, and found a marriage record of a William Ewing in 1843 in County Donegal, right next to County Tyrone, where there was a concentration of the surname Ewing.

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

Unfortunately I do not have your family lineage in my data base, but I will enter the Ewings in your line. Thank you for including a GEDCOM file of your Ewing family. You have done an enormous amount of research and still need answers. Brick walls are no fun!

One of the first things that need to be determined is whether there is a living Ewing male who could do the 37 marker Y-DNA test at FTDNA. We have a large ongoing project and that could possibly give you a lead. If you do know of someone, you should read the following:

<https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/genealogy-and-history/y-dna-project>

This is the link to join the project:

<https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/join-dna-project>

I have found some trees online that also have data on your line. If you are not able to access these, let me know.

We do have members who also have ancestors in Mississippi. Perhaps they will see common names and be able to assist you.

Isabella Miller McEwen (1718-1814)

Message from John Northcutt (ncutt1969@hotmail.com)

I am trying to validate my McEwen line through Isabella. She married a McEwen, but I cannot positively identify the name. One descendent (about 75% certainty) is Robert Bort McEwen, a fairly unique name. Any assistance on how to proceed or any other help will be greatly appreciated.

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

Thanks for including your lengthy tree, but I am sorry to report that I am not familiar with any of the people. If you aren't a member of Ancestry, you may want to use your public library, as there are several items listed for her. I used Isabella Miller and the dates you gave me to find them.

Message from John Northcutt (ncutt1969@hotmail.com)

Here is what I can find, so far. My 4th great grandmother is a Cynthia Ann McEwen born 1812 in Alabama, married to Hugh Washington Mills. We are fairly certain on this, but cannot find substantiating records except for census reports. I conduct all my work on Ancestry, but I do not have local access to a library with a genealogy section. I have tracked this line back on Ancestry to an Isabella (or Isobella) Miller in Scotland. An interesting story exists about her eloping, getting disowned, and immigrating to the US with her family. The only problem is the story accompanies a James McEwen, and I also have a name of John Mason. James's line continues, but John Mason's line stops. What I feel is correct, as my grandmother found the same information, but did not make copies of her supporting documents, is a Robert Bort McEwen in the line. The name would appear to be unique enough to trace, so I am curious if anyone in the McEwen line has already accomplished this.

I did the search suggested and still found two husbands, different childrens' names, etc. Does anyone have a similar ancestry and already conducted the research with more definitive evidence or answers? Information on my lineage is included in the following link:

http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/genealogist-uploads/McEwen_Line.pdf

Gillespie Clan

Message from Nancy Gill Shifflet (Nancy@shifflet.us)

As I do my Gillespie, Gillaspie, Gillespey, etc., research I find a lot of Ewings!!! I was reading your site, great site! And I found a Ewing in Pocahontas County, West Virginia that I don't see on your site? William Ewing, 83, died of old age, parents John and Ann Ewing. Wife Sarah Ewing reported his death. Lived at Stony Creek. He is number 13 in year 1858.

http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_view.aspx?Id=4071061&Type=Death

If you already have this information, I apologize. I'd join just for the interesting info, but I don't have a Ewing that I know of. I'm sure there's one back there somewhere though!!!

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

Thanks for writing and for the death information for William Ewing. I keep a large Ewing data base, which is not online, and I do have the record for the William Ewing whose death record you found. He was born in 1775 and died 1858 in Pocahontas County, West Virginia/Virginia. His wife was possibly Sarah Beatty (she was previously married to James Johnson - I think). William was a son of John and Ann (Smith) Ewing. We call this John 'Indian John' to keep a few of our John Ewings straight. Our Ewing Y-DNA Project has men who descend from Indian John, although I do not have any children listed for William and Sarah. I suspect that William was also previously married since he and Sarah did not marry until 1827.

About 1725, it is known that Ewing and Gillespie families came to America and settled in Cecil County, Maryland, where they did intermarry. Does your Gillespie line connect there? I have records on about 40 Gillespie folks.

Ewing Family Association welcomes any and all who are interested in Ewing history. You need not have a Ewing ancestor. We are quite proud of our website and all of the information that can be found there. Dues are only \$25.00 per year. We would love to have you join.

Response from Nancy Gill Shifflet (Nancy@shifflet.us)

Thanks for responding! My Gillespie line goes back to David Gillaspie (Gillespie) b. abt. 1760?? Died 1828 Louisa County, Virginia. Most internet family trees tie us back to Robert Gillespie and Mary Galloway, but I know, DNA, historical documents, and my Aunt Rena's excellent family notes tie us to David Gillespie (especially David's Will and probate) of Louisa County, Virginia. I've given up trying to get folks to correct this. I can't get beyond David in the Gillespie line, but more deeds have been ordered.

We also know George Gillespie (1731-1803) of Amherst, Virginia, John Gillespie (1745-1811) of Fluvanna, Virginia, and William Abner Gillespie (1790-1860) of Pendleton, Kentucky, share the same Gillespie DNA.

There are quite a few Ewings in early Kanawha County. I live in Charleston, West Virginia, very near the State archives and Kanawha County Courthouse. If you need something copied let me know.

How do I join the Ewing Family Association? What is the link? Do you have a list of Gillespies that came over with the Ewings?

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

We do have a long list of Gillespie folks in our 'go-to' book –“Ewing in Early America,” by Margaret Ewing Fife, published in 2003 for Clan Ewing in America, by Family History Publishers, Bountiful, Utah. (We are now known as the Ewing Family Association.)

Unfortunately the index pages of the book have not yet been added to the website. Using this link below, you might want to view pages containing Gillespie family. Start with Chapter 14, and using your 'find' search tool, check out the following chapters. There are many references to Gillespie.

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/books/Document_Fife.html

We would love to have you join EFA. The link is located here:

<https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/about-us/membership>

Thanks for the offer to look up Ewing information in West Virginia.

Response from Nancy Gill Shifflet (Nancy@shifflet.us)

On the first page of chapter 14, I see a familiar name. David Gillespie's Will, filed in 1828, in Louisa County, Virginia, and names all his children. One son is named James Lindsay Gillespie.

Louisa County Records, Will Book 7, pp 493-495. David Gillaspys bequeaths to wife Peggy and children Morris Robert, Nelson Saunders, William Allen, Matilda Caroline, Mary Elizabeth, David Shelton, John Miner, Parthenia Jane, James Lindsay, and Emily Ann. There is a pattern of using surnames as middle names for sons.

I am currently investigating deeds and transfers trying to determine David Gillespie's parents.

My great, great grandfather, Robert Morris Gillespie (b. 1795-d. abt. 1873) threw a wrench in the works when he reversed his first and middle names. Most family trees list him as the son of Robert Gillespie and Mary Galloway, but my family notes said his parents were David Gillespie, Ellisville, Virginia, mother's last name Roberts? I found a David Gillespie married first to Frances Robards (Roberts), and then to Margaret Peggy Saunders.

Confusion over the Morris Robert/Robert Morris was cleared up when I found a probate record and Robert Morris Gillespie's letter requesting approval for his War of 1812 (served 1814) pension, saying he would write to the clerk of Louisa County and get affidavits of two or three reliable persons. Also, we did a DNA test and our Gillespie male line is not even the same haplogroup as the Gillespie/Galloway line. So it has been a challenge getting the ancestry straightened out.

Anyway, I'm rambling. Thank you again! Yes, I'll join the Ewing Family Association! If you need something looked up here, just let me know. I'm two miles from the West Virginia State Archives Library and have a vacation home near 'Indian John' Ewing's area in Pocahontas County, West Virginia (previously Bath County, Virginia). There are lots of Ewings in the West Virginia records

James Ewing (1670 – 1740)

Message from Martha Maurer (marthamaurer1@gmail.com)

Hi everyone, I joined the Association last year. I thought maybe that I was in the line of James of Inch Island, but now I think it is a different James, although I cannot determine who his father is. My Ewings lived in Lancaster, Ohio, but are not related to Senator Thomas Ewing, if I am correct.

My name was Martha Lou Anderson Richardson Maurer. Born January 1, 1935, in Leesburg, Ohio. My mother was Bernice Marie Ewing Anderson born on October 6, 1906, in Lancaster, Ohio. She died January 12, 1966, in Los Angeles, California. Clarence Daniel Ewing was my grandfather. Thank you for anything you can do to help us.

*Clarence Daniel Ewing
1874–1939*

*BIRTH 22 NOV 1874 • Fairfield, Ohio
DEATH 26 FEB 1939 • Fairfield, Ohio*

*David Ewing
1823–1900
BIRTH OCT 11 1823 • Ohio
DEATH MAY 1, 1900
Great-grandfather*

*David Ewing
1784–1844
BIRTH 20 OCT 1784 • Cumberland, Pennsylvania
DEATH 30 DEC 1844 • Fairfield, Ohio
2nd great-grandfather*

*John Ewing
1739–1806
BIRTH 1739 • West Natmel Twp., Chester Co., Pennsylvania
DEATH 1806 • West Pennsborough, Cumberland, Pennsylvania
3rd great-grandfather*

*William Ewing
1696–1771
BIRTH 1696 • Antrim, Ulster, Ireland
DEATH 1771 • Walnut Bottom, Cumberland, Pennsylvania
4th great-grandfather*

*James Ewing
1670–1740
BIRTH 1670
DEATH SEP 1740 • Pennsylvania*

Joshua Craig Ewing (6/23/1825 – 12/13/1904)

Message from William J. McGuire (wingmate@sbcglobal.net)

My genealogical research has uncovered the following (and I thought we were Irish). This is mainly just an FYI for you and to confirm any inconsistencies you might note.

William Joseph McGuire, Oakland, CA, 3 Mar 1942 living Napa, CA

Brother: Michael James McGuire, Oakland CA, 15 Jan 1945 living Santa Rosa, CA

Mother: Catherine Ewing O'Connor McGuire, Oakland CA, 13 Jan 1918 - 25 Apr 1994

Grandmother: Leila Allyn Ewing O'Connor, Oakland CA, 14 May 1889 - 30 Apr 1958

G. Grandfather: James Carroll [corrected from Calvin by Bill] Ewing, Suisun CA, 31 Oct 1866 - 19 Jan 1937

GG Grandfather: Joshua Craig Ewing, Callaway County MO, 23 Jun 1825 - 26 Jun 1908?

GGG Grandfather: Patrick Ewing, Lee County VA, 2 Dec 1792 - 25 Jul 1879

GGGG Grandfather: Joshua Ewing, Rising Sun, Cecil MD, 25 Sep 1763 - 21 Aug 1843

GGGGG Grandfather: Patrick Ewing, Cecil MD, 1 Feb 1737 - 11 Apr 1819

GGGGGG Grandfather: Joshua Ewing, Ulster Ireland, ~1704 - 8 Aug 1753

Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist (bkavery2@comcast.net)

Thanks for your family information. Unfortunately I believe there is a problem in the lineage you provided.

The problem is with Joshua, son of Patrick born about 1824. The Joshua that I believe is the son is another Joshua altogether who never married and you seem to have information about him. Census records from 1850 to 1900 show Joshua (10-21-1824 to 6-26-1909) as son of Patrick (1792-1879) and Nancy (Darst) Ewing. He is not shown as married in any of those records.

My records do not include your named Joshua Craig Ewing, Callaway County MO, 23 Jun 1825 - 26 Jun 1908. I suggest you research Joshua C. Ewing, a son of James Patton Ewing and wife, Belinda Neil. This Joshua is a grandson of Joshua B. and Rachel (Craig) Ewing so he may be your ancestor.

Response from William J. McGuire (wingmate@sbcglobal.net)

I just realized that in my list of ancestors, I misspelled my great grandfather's name. It should be James Carroll Ewing not James Calvin Ewing.

I'm trying to sort out conflicting information on Joshua Craig Ewing and Joshua Charles Ewing. A newspaper obituary identifies Joshua Craig Ewing as being the father of James Carroll Ewing showing a death date in Oakland, California as December 13, 1904. In an old family scrap book, the father of James Carroll Ewing is identified as Joshua Craig Ewing in several pictures, although there is a picture of Belinda Neil identified as the wife of Joshua Craig Ewing. The grave marker in Callaway County, Missouri shows Joshua Craig Ewing as having died on June 26, 1908. The dates for Joshua Craig Ewing I showed in

my tree came from the grave marker and not cross referenced to the obituary dates. This is all very confusing, but thank you anyway for pointing out the conflicts. I'll keep researching.

Another Response from William J. McGuire (wingmate@sbcglobal.net)

Subsequent to my earlier email, I have resolved the issue of just who begat whom. So, here is my corrected family tree knowledge:

William Joseph McGuire, Oakland, CA, 3 Mar 1942 living Napa, CA

Brother: Michael James McGuire, Oakland CA, 15 Jan 1945 living Santa Rosa, CA

Mother: Catherine Ewing O'Connor McGuire, Oakland CA, 13 Jan 1918 - 25 Apr 1994

Grandmother: Leila Allyn Ewing O'Connor, Oakland CA, 14 May 1889 - 30 Apr 1958

G. Grandfather: James Carroll Ewing, Suisun CA, 31 Oct 1866 - 19 Jan 1937

GG Grandfather: Joshua Craig Ewing, Callaway County MO, 23 Jun 1825 - 13 Dec 1904

GGG Grandfather: James Patton Ewing, Lee County, VA, 15 Mar 1797 - 6 Sep 1859

GGGG Grandfather: Joshua Ewing, Rising Sun, Cecil MD, 25 Sep 1763 - 21 Aug 1843

GGGGG Grandfather: Patrick Ewing, Cecil MD, 1 Feb 1737 - 11 Apr 1819

GGGGGG Grandfather: Joshua Ewing, Ulster Ireland, ~1704 - 8 Aug 1753

My confusion began with Ancestry.com's tree. It wasn't until I looked at pictures in our family scrapbook kept by my grandmother, that I realized the error. The Joshua C. Ewing of my tree was different than the Joshua C. Ewing on ancestry.com's version of the tree leading to my Great Grandfather.

Joshua Craig Ewing's picture is in our scrapbook with a picture of Belinda Neil as his mother. Belinda was married to James Patton Ewing. My GG Grandfather was a cousin of Joshua Charles Ewing who was married to Nancy Darst). The fact that they had similar names, were born in the same county within months of each other, and had the same Grandfather sowed confusion. Hopefully, this will clear that all up.

Subsequent Response from William J. McGuire – to the Editor (wingmate@sbcglobal.net)

A few days ago, I began distilling some of my research information on my ancestors. One of the first I did was Joshua Craig Ewing. I'm attaching my draft copy of his biography. In addition, I'm attaching the bios of his wife, Selena Catherine Ish and their son (my great grandfather), James Carroll (J. Cal) Ewing. The bio numbering is just part of my efforts to keep everyone straight for now. (See following pages.)

29Bio: Joshua Craig Ewing – 1825-1904 (Great Great Grandfather)



Joshua Craig Ewing
Father of ...
1/23/1825 - 12/15/1904

Joshua Craig Ewing was born on June 23, 1825, in Callaway County, Missouri. His parents were James Patton Ewing and Belinda Neil. Joshua had three brothers and one sister.

There has been a bit of confusion in the various genealogy sites because Joshua Craig Ewing had a cousin named Joshua Charles Ewing. Both are frequently referred to as Joshua C. Ewing, and both were born in Callaway County – only 6 months apart. I was able to determine which was which because of a picture of Belinda Neil in the family scrapbook shown as the being the wife of Joshua Craig Ewing.

Regarding Joshua's migration from Missouri to California in 1850, his name is found in *Fulton, Missouri 1820-1920 - A History in Stories & Photographs* by Carolyn Paul Branch:



Belinda Ewing
Fulton, Missouri
mother of
Joshua Craig Ewing

The Telegraph of April 12, 1850 listed names of 235 men who planned to emigrate to California that Spring. Only 22 of those listed were from the city of Fulton. The following is in part a list of the emigrants who proposed to emigrate from this county to California in the spring of 1850.

. . . F. Darioux, I. Davis, Joseph Ewing, Joshua C. Ewing, James

CALLAWAY COMPANY - May 1850

The Callaway company, en route for California, met on the plains ten miles west of St. Joseph, when they proceeded to organize by adopting a constitution and electing officers.

Additional confirmation of his coming west is a quote from the *San Francisco Call* obituary of December 14, 1904, "Joshua C. Ewing, a pioneer of 1850 ... crossed the plains from Missouri to California and settled in San Francisco, but subsequently he went to the mines. Later he

taught school in Santa Clara and Contra Costa counties, coming to Oakland in 1871. For many years, he had been engaged in book selling.”

The *San Francisco Chronicle* obituary stated, “In 1850 he came to California, crossing the plains with a band of hardy adventurers in search of gold. For several years he engaged in mining in the Sierra, giving up that pursuit to take up teaching.”

Joshua married Selena Catherine Ish in 1856 in California. They had five children, two girls and three boys. Their oldest daughter, Edith, took her life at age 26 while living in Seattle, Washington.

Joshua, his wife, Selena, and two children are listed as living in Suisun, Solano County, California, along with a boarder in the 1860 Census. He is shown being a farmer and having Real Estate of \$5000 and Personal Estate of \$1000.

In the Federal Census of 1870, Joshua and his family are shown as living in “All Townships, Merced, California” with the Post Office in Snelling. Joshua’s occupation is that of “farmer.” In addition to his wife, Selena, the Census shows five children ages 12 through 3 along with two boarders.

The 1872 *Great Register, Alameda County*, lists voter registration information showing Joshua Craig Ewing living in Oakland, California, on September 27.

The 1880 Census finds him living in Oakland with his wife, two daughters and two sons. He listed his occupation as “Clerk.”

Voter registration information on October 6, 1890, has him living at “N W Cr 13th And Washton, Alameda, California, United States.”

On September 1, 1892, Joshua was registered as living at “1415 Brush, Alameda, California, United States.”

The *Great Register, Alameda County*, of 1896 lists him as a “Solicitor of medium height with blue eyes.” He, apparently, was living with his son, James Carroll Ewing (J.Cal), at the same address, 1368 Franklin in Oakland.

The 1904 Oakland City Directory shows Joshua living at the same address as J. Cal Ewing at 122 9th Street.

Joshua Craig Ewing passed away on December 13, 1904 at his residence at 122 Ninth Street. According to the obituary in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, “Failing health, the result of a paralytic stroke that he suffered about four years ago, culminating in a stomach trouble, caused his end.” The funeral was held at the residence and the interment was private. His burial place is unknown.

He was 79 years, 5 months and 20 days old when he passed away.

30Bio: Selena Catherine Ish – 1831-1908 (Great Great Grandmother)

Selena Catherine Ish was born on March 10, 1838 in Saline County, Missouri, to Carroll Whitfield Ish and Mary Jane Baldrige. She was one of 12 children, six of whom were born in Missouri, and the other six in California after her family moved there in 1850.

She married Joshua Craig Ewing in 1856. They had five children, one of whom, Edith E. Ewing, took her own life in 1884 at the age of 26.

The 1860 Federal Census listed “Salena” C. Ewing, age 21, as living in Suisun City in Solano County, California. Joshua’s occupation was “Farmer. No occupation was shown for her. One “Farm Laborer” was listed as living there also.

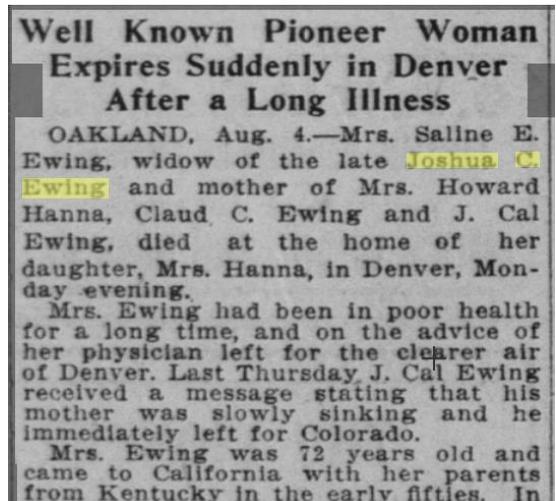
The Census of 1870 showed Selena living in Merced, California with her husband, J.C. Ewing and their children. His occupation was listed as a farmer and she as “keeping home.”

In 1880, the Census found them living in Oakland, California and showed her occupation as “keeps home.”

The 1900 Census listed J.C. Ewing and Selena Ewing as living in the home of their son, James C. Ewing (J. Cal) in Oakland.

The Oakland City Directory of 1907 showed “Ewing, Salena C (wid Joshua C), b 122 9th.” living at the same address as James C. Ewing.

Selena died August 3, 1908. The *San Francisco Call* newspaper published this obituary on August 5, 1908: “The funeral services were held in Denver, where the remains were cremated.”



15Bio: James Carroll (J. Cal) Ewing – 1866-1937 (Great Grandfather)

James Carroll Ewing (known as J. Cal Ewing) was born to Joshua Craig Ewing and Selena Catherine Ish on October 31, 1866, in Suisun in Solano County, California. Cal was the youngest of two sisters and two brothers. His oldest sister, Edith, took her own life at age 26.

The Federal Census of 1870 shows the Ewing family living in “Merced, All Townships” with the nearest Post Office being Snelling, California. The listing of family members includes Lawrence Ewing as two years older than Cal. His name does not appear in the 1880 Census when he

would have been 15 years old. That Census listed the family as living in Oakland, Alameda, California. An 1898 biographical article touting Cal as a popular and formidable candidate for County Auditor on the Republican ticket mentions that he moved to Alameda County in 1871.

In 1888, at age 22, he married Grace Alberta Eaton the daughter of Charles Henry Eaton and Susan Allyn Eaton in the Presbyterian Church of San Francisco. The marriage announcement mentioned that they had started housekeeping in San Francisco. Over the next three years, they had two daughters, Leila Allyn and Grace Rowena. James Carroll Ewing is listed in the 1890 *Great Register, Alameda County, City of Oakland*, Third Ward, Precinct No. 2 in 1892 as being 27 years old, 5' 8" tall, having fair skin, hazel eyes with light brown hair and working as a jeweler. He was living at 1216 Chestnut.



James Carroll (J. Cal) Ewing

J. Cal Ewing appears to have started along a road of public service early in life. The *Oakland Daily Evening Tribune* of June 4, 1891, mentions him as being elected as third vice-president of the Grand Parlor Native Sons of the Golden West at a meeting in Santa Cruz. In 1895, he was noted to be a Deputy Clerk in the Assessor's Office of Oakland. He was also listed in that position in 1896 in the *Great Register of the City of Oakland*. In that register, he was shown to be 5' 8½" tall, of light complexion, with gray eyes and now living at 1368 Franklin with his father. The *San Francisco Call* on November 1, 1898, had an article about the campaign in Alameda County for County Assessor in which Cal Ewing was noted to be a sure winner for Auditor. Apparently, he won the election because in December of 1901 he requested the Board to grant him a leave of absence from the State for sixty days. He lost his bid to be reelected in 1902.

The Nile Club of Oakland was organized in 1896, and in 1899, J. Cal Ewing was the Treasurer as well as one of the Directors. J. Cal Ewing was involved with baseball as early as 1901 when the *Oakland Tribune* had a short article about how his "Oakland Dudes" team beat the Los Angeles team. "He (Mr. Ewing) thinks he has a splendid chance of winning the pennant this year." The next month the *Oakland Tribune* had an article praising his efforts in resolving an issue between the league and the Alameda County Building Trades Council. The leaders of the Council voted unanimously to tender a vote of thanks to him for helping to settle the dispute amicably.

In December of 1902, the *Oakland Tribune* reported that he turned down an offer by Governor-Elect Pardee to become secretary of the Board of Examiners, "a place that pays \$250 a month, but Ewing wants to be appointed Building and Loan Commissioner." On July 9, 1903, he accepted the position of Secretary of the Bank Commissioners. He was still in that office per a newspaper article on August 10, 1904.

On November 21, 1903, a judgment was rendered in favor of a Mary F. Arnold against Selma (Selena) C. Ewing, J. Cal Ewing, Grace A. Ewing, and J. F. Campbell in a foreclosure case

regarding some property in Oakland for the sum of \$1,621.76 in United States gold coin. The case had been docketed in the County Clerk's Office in Fresno County in December 1900.

The *Oakland Tribune* reported on March 6, 1906, that J. Cal Ewing purchased the San Francisco baseball team and will sell his majority interest in the Oakland Baseball Association.



506 Vernon Street, Oakland

The *San Francisco Call* reported on December 17, 1907, that, in a political shakeup with a new Governorship, J. Cal Ewing was relieved of "his official scalp" as Secretary of Bank Commissioners and a William L. McGuire (no relationship to our McGuire line) of Kings County was appointed to his position, and the \$300 a month salary will be credited to Assemblyman "Billy" McGuire's account. The Board placed in the minutes a testimonial that they "thoroughly appreciated the quality and quantity of his work." The article goes on to suggest that deposing Cal was a reward to McGuire for delivering Kings County to the new Governor.

Apparently Cal was not always able to settle disputes amicably. The *Tribune's* sports page reported on September 25, 1909, that President (of the Coast League) Cal Ewing and Oscar Jones (pitcher for the Fresno club) "met in a one-round unannounced scrap yesterday afternoon just before the Sacramento-San Francisco game ... drew to a close. According to bystanders, the mix-up started with a rush and ended accordingly. Ewing having the better of the argument as far as superior boxing and effective punches are concerned. ... It was Ewing's fight all the way."

Cal Ewing's involvement in helping the Pacific Coast League survive after the great earthquake of 1906 was acknowledged in an article in the *Oakland Tribune*. The *Tribune* reported on November 16, 1909, that J. Cal Ewing had been succeeded as President of the Pacific Coast League.

The article goes on to say, "In Ewing the Coast League found a man who handled the business end of affair with great tack and prudence. After the earthquake the league was in a bad way, but by skillful management, he carried the organization through the "hard times" and today the Coast League is in as prosperous a condition as any in the United States. For what Ewing has done let there be a shout of "Thanks."..."

The Federal Census of 1910 reported that J. Cal, his wife, Grace, and daughters Leila and Grace R. lived on Vernon Street in Oakland where they were listed as renters. J. Cal's industry was reported to be Real Estate and that he was acting as an Agent. In August 1912, the *Oakland Tribune* reported that J. Cal Ewing was connected to the Stafford Coal Company in an article stating that the company had been victimized by a bad check passer who presented a check for \$7. He received a dollar change, but the check was returned as worthless.

He, once again, let his temper get the best of him while dining at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco with the owner of the Chicago White Sox, Charles Comiskey and others. Apparently, according to the *San Francisco Call* on March 7, 1913, he got into an argument with a William Kinsella (a scout for the White Sox) and was “to have spoken as virulently as a fish monger.” The house detective at the hotel forcibly ejected him into the street. Apparently Cal Ewing was a bit of a racist. In the spring of 1913, the Chicago American Giants came to the West Coast to play some exhibition games. The newspaper reported:

“James Calvin “Cal” Ewing, the owner of the San Francisco Seals, who was one of the PCL’s founders and a former president of the league, was equally as outspoken: “If I were a player working for McCredie, and he asked me to go out and play against these colored fellows, I would refuse to do it for him. “There are two classes I bar from playing on my ball park—colored tossers and bloomer girls. They will never use any park I control.”

On May 16, 1914, Ewing Field in San Francisco was dedicated under the shadow of Lone Mountain. All the 18,000 seats in the \$100,000 (\$2,400,000 in 2017) ballpark were full that afternoon. It was reported to be the largest crowd that ever saw a baseball game on the Pacific Coast. Unfortunately, according to an article published in the *Haight Ashbury Newspaper*, December 1982, “As the season wore on - the fog rolled in nearly every game. A game was actually cancelled due to fog on June 6. The fans stopped coming to games ... “

The players couldn't deal with the fog either: Elmer Zachar, an outfielder for Oakland, was so confused by the fog that the mascot for the "Oaks" was sent from the bench to inform Elmer that the side had been retired. Pete Daly built a fire in the outfield to emphasize the need to stay warm.” In 1915, the Seals returned to Rec Park and the brand new Ewing Field was abandoned. Today, that property is known as Ewing Terrace and is a collection of small single-family homes selling for about \$1.3 million each.

The *Oakland Tribune* reported on June 16, 1914, that, “While Del Howard, manager of the Seals, is out of the game with a lame back, J. Cal Ewing, proprietor, with Frank Ish of the club, will take Howard’s place on the coaching line., He signed a contract with himself today to allow his appearance in uniform.” Once again, apparently still not always being able to settle disputes amicably, the newspaper reported, “Ewing wants the team to show more fighting spirit. While in this same spirit himself last week, he got into a fist fight with Frank Dillon of the Angels and Umpire Dashwood.” In an article on July 30, 1916, in the *Oakland Tribune*, Cal Ewing was referred to as the “god-father of the Pacific Coast League” in the report that he was coming back to baseball as the President of the Oakland Club.

The 1920 Census shows a large Ewing family living at 506 Vernon Street in Oakland. In addition to J. Cal and his wife Grace, daughters Grace (divorced) and Leila with her husband Wallace O’Connor and their daughter (my mother) Catherine lived there. The house was now reported to be owned free and clear.

The *Oakland Tribune* reported on November 18, 1924, that Ewing had sold the Oakland club for \$350,000 (\$4,900,000 in 2017). A \$10,000 option payment had been made and the full amount to be paid by January 1925. On January 20, 1926, the *Oakland Tribune* reported that Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, high commissioner of baseball was honored at a luncheon of the Oakland Lions Club with J. Cal Ewing as president of the Oakland baseball club and

Lions Club. It was reported in newspapers that on November 29, 1926, J. Cal Ewing was now heading the directors of the Oakland Spray Company manufacturing agricultural and horticultural spraying equipment – a \$200,000 concern.

In 1927, the Bustin' Babes and Larrupin' Lou's starring Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig came west to play exhibition games against local teams. I believe that it was around this time that my mother joined J. Cal, Babe Ruth, and Lou Gehrig in a taxicab to take them to the train station for their trip home.

Apparently, the anticipated sale of the Oakland Club did not go through in 1925 because on October 24, 1929, it was reported that J. Cal Ewing, the widow of Frank Ish, and George "Del" Howard had sold the club for \$500,000 (\$7,000,000 in 2017). That day was also the first day of the Stock Market Crash. A newspaper report on November 9 suggested that the sale was still in the works.

The Census of 1930 continued to show the Ewings living at 506 Vernon Street. The house was listed as owned with a value of \$10,000 and that they had a radio set. Cal, wife, Grace, daughter Grace E. Hunt, and daughter Leila O'Connor, with her daughter Catherine E. O'Connor, occupied the house.

On October 27, 1931, J. Cal Ewing was honored for his 65th birthday at an Oakland Civic Leaders' banquet. In attendance, having travelled west for this event to pay tribute to Cal, was Babe Ruth of the New York Yankees. In 1932, J. Cal Ewing announced his intention to run for Congress as a Republican. He stated that he favored an amendment to give each state the right to settle the prohibition question, which had been in effect since 1920 (It was repealed in 1933). He did not win.

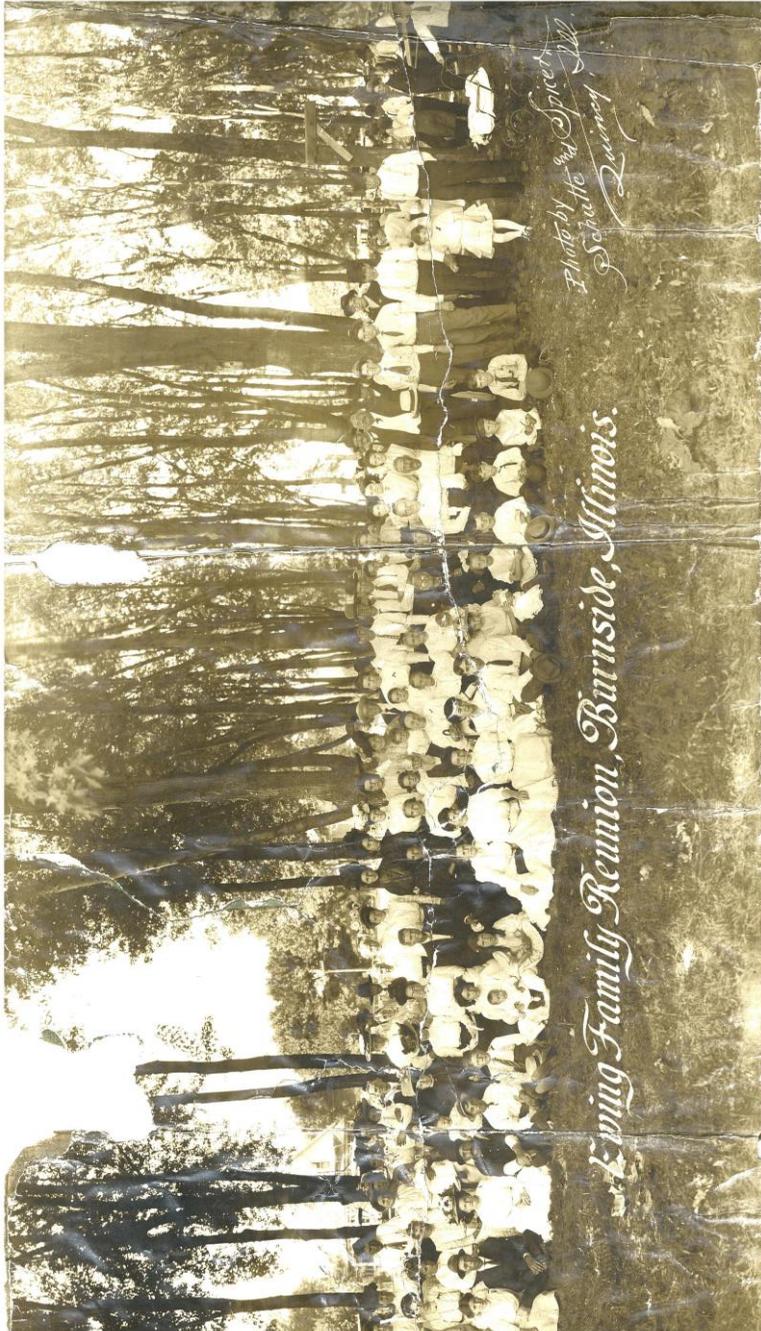
On January 3, 1934, it was announced that J. Cal Ewing had resigned by mail as a Director of the Oakland Baseball Club after serving for 45 years. It was reported that he had been in ill health for the past year, and he decided he could no longer perform his services to the club. He was first elected a director in 1911 after he came from San Francisco and the Seals.

As one of the original 10 Oakland Community Chest organizers, a picture of J. Cal Ewing was posted in the December 28, 1935 *Oakland Tribune* moving furniture into a new headquarters space. His wife, Grace, had passed away in February of that year from the effects of serious burns she suffered trying to light a heater in their home.



James Carroll Ewing (photo on left) passed away on January 19, 1937. His cremation certificate lists the cause of death as bronchial influenza. His remains were cremated at the Chapel of the Chimes in Oakland. He and his late wife are interred in the same niche in Trust E-5-4. He was 70 years, 2 months and 18 days old when he passed away.

Ewing Family Reunion Photo



Ewing Family Reunion photograph, year unknown, found in garage sale.
Is this your Ewing family?

Records of Genealogist, Karen Avery, suggests that this may be a line from Gallia County, Ohio which includes William Randall Ewing (1851-1924) and wife, Mehitable Young Ewing. A descendant, Randall Merlin Ewing, EFA Member #1166, will be notified about this photo.

Y-DNA Project Inquiries

Message from Glenn Ewan (gle002@student.usc.edu.au)

Hi. How do I join the Ewing DNA project? Not sure if there will be any connection at all to me but I said to others I'd try it. I have two DNA tests done from ancestrydna.com.au and FTDNA. Thanks

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

Since you have already had testing done with Family Tree DNA, you would join the Ewing Project on your FTDNA personal page. There is no charge for this. Depending on what testing you may have done with ancestry.com, you may also want to "transfer" your ancestry.com results to FTDNA. But, if as I suspect this is autosomal or other SNP testing, it probably wouldn't be worth the bother. The Ewing Surname Y-DNA project involves only STR testing and analysis. If you can tell me which specific tests you have had, I can tell you whether we can help.

In any case, joining our project or transferring ancestry.com results is all done through the FTDNA site. If you need help with that, FTDNA customer service is your best bet.

Response from Glenn Ewan (gle002@student.usc.edu.au)

Thanks David. I've joined now. I did the Family Finder, Y-DNAs, and MtDNA. I find the FTDNA site makes mistakes. The ancestry.dna one is without mistakes so far, and differentiates between Irish and British which FTDNA did not. But let me know if you can see to which Ewan, Ewing, Ewen, Evans, MacEwan, or MacEwen you think I belong.

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

I have added your results to our data tables, Glenn. I see you are sensitive to mistakes and I am very apt to have made mistakes in entering your results by hand, so please check them carefully and let me know if I need to make corrections.

I have added you to Ewing Group 4b with the project ID GLE. As a rule, we assign men to the lettered subgroups only on the basis of shared conventional genealogy, but we have handled this group a little differently because they are members of an STR cluster identified years ago by John McEwan of New Zealand (who is not himself a member of the group). Your results are especially close to those of Mark Edwin Ewing (ME) at genetic distance of only 3/67. He and SL are known to be related by conventional genealogy and you are also close to SL, but he has done only the 37-marker panel. The closeness of your results to these men is consistent with your having a common ancestor within the time frame that surnames have been in use, but it is not proof of this. We cannot make much of anything of the difference in spelling between Ewan and Ewing, given how non-standardized spelling had been until recently.

Have a look at the following links:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/zkkfzrucf8snbef/Group4bRelationshipDiagram.pdf?dl=0>

https://www.dropbox.com/s/sfqrqsb9zeghq58/Group4_ResultsTable.pdf?dl=0

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/k65n4fypxz3i78c/67-markerTable.pdf?dl=0>

https://www.dropbox.com/s/q8q7zw7zyink6yo/ME_Mark%20Edwin%20Ewing.pdf?dl=0

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_Project/DNA_Articles/DNA_Articles/Brittonic.pdf

*If you can send me a GED of your Ewan lineage, I will prepare a project lineage for you like the one from **ME** in the link above and will post it on the website.*

I recognize that you appreciate that ancestry.dna gave you more specific findings on your SNP results than FTDNA did, but I should caution you that results of the kind ancestry.dna gave you distinguishing British and Irish SNPs are speculative and controversial, and it is not really much a favor to you if they led you to believe you could hang your hat on them., Beginners in genetic genealogy are very apt to over-interpret results and vendors of DNA tests are very apt to over-sell their products. Ancestry.com is not the only offender--FTDNA, 23 and Me, and virtually all of the others do similar things. I have an idea that the difference in the cost of the tests at ancestry.dna and FTDNA is the result of differences in the number of SNPs that were tested and/or what other tests may have been done. We have no relationship with FTDNA and no special animus toward ancestry.com, but we have found that FTDNA has always offered us good value for money in the STR testing and reporting.

Response from Glenn Ewan (gle002@student.usc.edu.au)

Thanks David for all this effort you've put in. I didn't expect it, and mostly just wanted to contribute to the group, but it's really great to know all this.

I have several hundred people with whom I share some heritage with on these sites with these names including 1 or 2 each of Ewing, Evans, Lamont, and Ewen, I believe. So I'm wondering how close that 3/67 means? Would it mean closer than 3rd cousin for instance?

I saw you talk about Jack Doig. He sent me this a while back: "It's the only genealogy type thing I can offer you:

<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=DESC&db=ewan%2Daustralia&id=I15>

Hope it is helpful to you.

Thor Ewing says I am more likely connected with the Ewans in the Eastern Lowlands, which the birthplace in Edinburgh of the distant Ewans on this shows. But you are now saying there is close connection to the Ewings and their areas! So now I'm not sure, maybe it's both. And then there are the MacEwans. My middle name is Lamont.

The kind of mistakes of FTdna I'm referring to are not even noticing me and my half brother (on my Mum's side, not Ewan) are at all related or close until we pointed it out to them, with the site saying we have a genetic distance of 3, until they fixed it.

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

Though it would be unlikely, brothers could be at a genetic distance 3/67. And I am at genetic distance 0/67 (so, perfect match) with another Ewing who I know not to have a common ancestor with me in more than 9 generations. One cannot map STR genetic distance onto specific degrees of relatedness. This is because mutations occur at random, and we can make only probabilistic statements. This is explained in considerable detail on the website. Read the Y-DNA articles and browse the resource links. I regret that I cannot give private instruction by email, but your questions suggest you are not clear about the distinction between and usefulness of SNP vs STR testing. That might be a good place to start.

Thanks for joining the project.

Response from Glenn Ewan (gle002@student.usc.edu.au)

Hello again, David. I was chatting with John Thor Ewing. I thought I'd pass on what he said. He said the name Ewan is more associated with the eastern lowlands of Scotland and that there is reason to believe more of a history with Welsh Evans or English Ewen than with McEwan and Ewing.

I liked hearing though the shared ancestry you mentioned in the group to the McEwan and Ewing to ME and SL.

I also remembered though and thought I'd mention that my middle name is Lamont, and I have Lamont ancestry too. The Lamonts and McEwans lived side by side for a while in Cowal, so maybe some intermarriage could explain my shared ancestry with those two members, do you think? Anyway, if they ask about me, you can mention that.

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

I do not doubt that Thor is right in general, but please, don't forget that spelling is a very unreliable way to track one's history. We have Ewing documents in which the same man spells his surname in three different ways in the course of the same document. We have Ewins (Ewin) in the project who know exactly when their ancestors changed the spelling of their name from Ewing to Ewin.

If your STR results had matched those of the large closely-related group of Ewings, I could assure you that you had a Ewing ancestor. As it is, I can only tell you that your deep paternal ancestry almost certainly does not go to Wales or England. But rather to Scotland and probably north of the Antonine wall, and that you are related to the Ewing men I told you about within the period surnames have been used. For all I know, your common ancestor with them may have been named Ewan, but his biological origins were not in Wales or Scotland.

Further, you may be interested to know that Owen is a cognate of Ewan most commonly seen in Wales, though there is no evidence that Owens are related to any branch of the Ewings. I think you might be interested to read the article on the origin of the name by C. L'Estrange Ewen that is posted on our website.

Response from Glenn Ewan (gle002@student.usc.edu.au)

Thanks very much for this David, that's cleared much up. I'm hoping my data can be half as helpful to others here as you are being. It's pretty clear then my grandfathers from Edinburgh are from the general Argyll regions.

I can't find that article on the website. If you know the link easily, could you send it to me. Dont spend any effort though.

Thor Ewing writes that the history of Ewing names appear only after the lands of Cowal were dispossessed, and that it seems the MacEwens then moved to the Lennox area and renamed themselves Ewings, that they "popped up as Ewings there." So do you think my shared ancestry with the other two in the group could just as well come from one or more MacEwans who left Cowal directly to live in Edinburgh, as much as it being possible to be from those moved north of the Antonine wall and lived there for centuries??

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

The C. L'Estrange Ewen book chapter can be found at Resourcers > Articles and Reports > Surname Origins. You should read others of the articles in the same section. To go directly to Ewen's chapter, click this link:

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/documents/BritishIsleSurnames_Ewing.pdf

As to your questions. The short answer is that anything we might say is and must remain speculative. I will give a longer answer, but you need to take into account that I have more opinions than expertise.

First, knowing what I do about the formation of clans and human nature, it is essentially certain that the members of Clan Ewen of Otter in their territory on Cowall in the 15th century were not all biologically related to one another. It is also certain that very few of them have any living descendants today. Practically all paternal lines "daughter out" within five or six generations. Thor has presented a reasonably convincing circumstantial case that some of the Ewings who appeared in Lennox in the 16th century were indeed the descendants of Clan Ewen of Otter--convincing enough that the Lord Lyon in Scotland has accepted this in recognizing modern-day Clan Ewing. I also am persuaded (and no longer agree with my own conclusions in Y-DNA Article 11) that this is the case, but it is by no means certain. And we have no evidence about where else descendants of the broken Clan Ewen of Otter may have gone, though in my mind it is all but certain that some of them remained in Cowall and joined the Campbells. (We do know that Ewings related to some of the Ewings in Argyll/Lennox ended up in Aberdeen, though I think they may have gone there much more recently--perhaps the 18th or 19th century.)

Meanwhile, your STR haplotype is not anywhere close to the haplotype of the Ewings in Lennox that Thor thinks originated in Clan Ewen of Otter (but remember that I said there is no reason to believe all the members of Clan Ewen of Otter had similar haplotypes, so this does not prove your ancestors were not among them.)

The Y-DNA project participants you closely match are Peter Anthony Ewing (**PA**) of Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland, and 3rd cousins **SL** and **ME**. **PA** knows his Ewing line only back to the late 18th century, when they were in the vicinity of Glasgow. This was a time when people from all over Scotland were immigrating from their ancestral homes to the big cities during the Industrial Revolution, such as Glasgow, looking for jobs, so this really tells us nothing about where they came from. **SL** and **ME** know their lineage only back to their 2nd great grandfather who was born in the USA in the 1830s, maybe in Illinois, but I think they are not sure of that. If you want to know about the ancestral roots of this haplotype (STR cluster), your best bet is to read Colson's article and maybe contact him or search the web to see what more he may have learned since writing it. I sent you the link to his article in my first message about your results in this thread, but to save you the trouble of looking for it, here it is again:

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_Project/DNA_Articles/DNA_Articles/Brittonic.pdf

Finally, you may not know that we know of some American Ewings descended from Australian immigrants, whose ancestors had immigrated from Ulster to Australia, and at least one of them is a Y-DNA Project participant (**MT**, Group 1*--so not your relative). I have to ask you to do your own research about that. A good place to start is just to put "Australia" in the search field on the EFA website (reach that from the left most link in the top banner on the homepage).

Best of luck with your research,

Message from Emily Arp (em.arp9@gmail.com)

Hello David. I'm sorry to bother you, but I just wanted to get some clarification on how the DNA project works. I know the Y-DNA test is for the paternal line, but I'm a little confused on how this works.

I have Ewing blood through a great x5 grandfather, who is on my mother's side of the family. Would I be able to trace this through my brother's DNA? Or is that not possible because he wouldn't have the same Y chromosome?

If this is the case, and I can't trace that part of my family through this test, is there another option as far as DNA testing to prove I'm part Ewing?

I appreciate your time and attention.

Response from David Neal Ewing (davidewing93@gmail.com)

No need to apologize, Emily. I am happy to help.

You are correct that a Ewing Y-chromosome from your mother's side of the family would not have been passed to your brother. He got his from his dad. Have a look at this article:

https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_Project/DNA_Articles/DNA_Articles/050417%20CEJ%20Y-DNA_WebSite.pdf.

You can find all of the Y-DNA articles I have written, and many other resources, on our website. The home page is:

<https://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/genealogy-and-history/y-dna-project>

Look on the left side of the page. The link at the very bottom is to "Project Articles." You can learn a lot about the project by reading them. Be sure to read Article 8, which will help answer your question about whether other kinds of DNA testing might 'prove' you are part Ewing.

Autosomal DNA tests, like the Family Tree DNA "Family Finder" test, will find DNA from all of your lines, but because of a phenomenon called "crossing over," it gets pretty mixed up as time goes along, and if enough time has passed, some lines are not even represented at all. Remember, there are fewer than 30,000 genes in the entire human genome, but you had over one million ancestors 20 generations ago. In all of the mixing, some of their DNA got completely sorted out and stopped being passed on. So identifying a specific family relationship through autosomal testing becomes impossible beyond about four or five generations back. So it would be very unlikely to help you spot "Ewing" DNA as long ago as your 5th great grandfather. In any case, we don't really know what "Ewing" autosomal DNA looks like, yet. Too few of us have had autosomal testing to have that figured out.

As to whether you are "part Ewing," you betcha. My only test is whether someone thinks they are--if they do, that is good enough for me. And the fact is that any person from northern Europe who lived in the early 15th century and has ANY living descendants now, has ALL of us of northern European extraction as descendants. Consider that we have more than half of our genes in common with corn on the cob, and something like 98% in common with chimpanzees--we're all cousins, Emily.

Clan Ewen of Otter

John Thor Ewing, EFA Commander (Thor@ThorEwing.net)

As Clan Ewing, we trace descent from the clan identified in the genealogies of 1467 MS as the MacEwens of Otter.³⁴ The clan name MacEwen means 'son of Ewen' but *Bhaltair* (or Walter), who was our chief at the time of the medieval genealogy, was already four generations away from the original Ewen of Otter who probably flourished around the middle of the 13th century.³⁵

In the days of this first Ewen, there was no clan as such. It would be later generations who would look back to him as the founder of their clan. In Ewen's day, Scotland had little need of clans as units of political power. Under the strong rule of able kings, Alexander II (1214-49) and Alexander III (1249-86), Scotland enjoyed an era of growth and prosperity. But on a dark night in 1286, King Alexander III tumbled from horseback to his death. The king left no heir except his grand-daughter, a four-year-old Norwegian princess. Four years later, Margaret 'Maid of Norway' drowned on her journey to take up her Scottish inheritance, and the nation was without any clear successor to the throne.

The resulting constitutional crisis led to the Wars of Scottish Independence, which have become the subject of legend. The names of William Wallace and Robert the Bruce are well remembered along with the battles they fought at Stirling Bridge and Bannockburn, even when the details of the actual events are sometimes subject to dispute. What is indisputable however, is that during the period from 1290 until 1314, Scotland was without a single ruler universally acknowledged as rightful king. This collapse in central authority led, inevitably, to a proliferation of local warlords. Without strong leadership as a nation, the people had to find strength in smaller political units. And because Gaelic society had always been based around the family, it was as families or 'clans' that these new units took shape.

The family groups which became the original clans seem invariably to have been made up of brothers and cousins, descended through the male line from a single grandfather or great-grandfather.³⁶ This structure reflects an important traditional family unit in Gaelic society, the *derbhfine* or 'true kindred,' which was made up of all those who shared the same great-grandfather in their paternal line. As was typical of the time, it was men and male kinship which formed the bedrock of the clan. Whilst this might not please modern sensibilities, it stems directly from the political reality that strength in a time of turmoil comes down ultimately to fighting force. Women were often highly regarded in their own right, and occasionally also appeared as leaders in a man's world, but their place in the drama of medieval politics was usually confined to supporting roles.

³⁴ It's interesting that, even at this early date, it was already necessary to distinguish our MacEwen clan from others of the same name by the territorial designation 'of Otter' and the same issue continues to cause confusion even today.

³⁵ For more detail on the genealogy of Clan Ewen of Otter, see my previous article, 'The Genealogy of Clan Ewen of Otter', *Ewing Family Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 2, November 2015.

³⁶ Gaelic society also acknowledged what is termed 'fictive kinship' whereby unrelated families could be adopted into the clan. In some cases, these fictive relationships might go back to the very foundation of the clan.

The sudden need for strong clans which arose during the political turmoil of the early 14th century is the reason why so many clans look back to a founder who lived during the 13th century. As each group of male relatives drew together into a band of warriors, they looked back to their common ancestor as the founder of their line. In most cases, this common ancestor had lived between 50 and 100 years before, and so it was with Ewen of Otter.

There is no direct evidence that Ewen himself actually lived at Otter, but the leading family among the descendants who made up his clan certainly did. At the time when Ewen's grandsons and great-grandsons met to seal their alliance for future generations, it's unlikely they all lived in precisely the same territory. And although the clan is uniquely distinguished in 1467 MS by a territorial designation ('of Otter'), that does not necessarily mean the entire clan dwelt within this single landholding. Although every clan map of Scotland shows the country divided neatly into a patchwork of discrete clan territories, the reality was somewhat less precise. As with other clans, there will undoubtedly have been family members of Clan Ewen of Otter who lived elsewhere in the local area. However, because the Barony of Otter was bounded to the north and south by clans descended from Ewen's cousins, Lauman and Lachlan, we can safely assume that the family had occupied this area of Argyll in western Scotland for some generations before they became organised into the prototypes of the distinctive Clans Ewing, Lamont and MacLachlan, which we know today.

The name Otter can still be found on the map, at Otter Ferry on the Cowal peninsular where, not so long ago, it was possible to catch a ferry to Kintyre. Although if you visit, there's every chance you might see an otter in the loch, the name actually refers to the spit of sand (Gaelic: *oitir*) which extends into Loch Fyne protecting the boats, which are harboured here.



An '*Oitir*'

Near to where this sandbar meets the shore, the clan built its principal castle, known as *Cnoc Mhic Eoghainn*, which may be transliterated into English as Knock MacEwen.³⁷ The Gaelic word *cnoc* usually refers to a rounded hill or headland, such as was traditionally used as a council meeting place. But here, the MacEwens, having found their perfect harbour to be hill-less, seem to have decided to build their own mound in the manner of a Norman motte.



The resulting structure (photo at left) is about 25 to 30 feet high, with a flattened oval top measuring some 80 feet by 50 feet. The top would probably once have been the site of a strongly-built wooden house protected by a wooden palisade, with a further palisade surrounding the mound at ground level. The motte at Knock MacEwen might have played a partly ceremonial function.

Its large mound is reminiscent of parliament sites such as Tynwald Hill on the Isle of Man, which suggests it functioned as a 'tomemoid' (Gaelic, *tom a'mhòid*, 'court hillock'), where the Baronial Court would have been held. Indeed, it might have been remodeled from an earlier sacred mound in the light of new Norman fashions, or have taken over from an established court hill elsewhere in the district.

Archaeologists consider the motte to date from the 12th or 13th century, which would date it to the time of the original Ewen of Otter or shortly before then.

³⁷ In the Gaelic form of the name, "Mac" appears as *Mhic* because it is in the Genitive Case; this name would be pronounced as 'Knockvikewan' and *Caisteal Mhic Eoghainn* as 'Castelvikewan.'

In the 19th century, the owners of the Otter estate built two rectangular burial enclosures on the top of the mound so, regrettably, the whole mound now stands as a memorial to the Campbells of Otter rather than to our own ancestors, the MacEwens of Otter.³⁸ Somewhat confusingly, when the Campbells of Otter sold their nearby mansion of Otter House and moved to Achagoyle House near Kilfinan, they decided to take the name 'Otter' with them, so that the new Otter House and the Otter Estates are now located in the south of the original territory.

Knock MacEwen overlooks the sandbank (*an oitir*) near the northern border of the old MacEwen territory, where it rubbed up against the lands of the MacLachlans. The southern edge was defined by Kilfinan Burn, which once marked the border with Clan Lamont. All three were kindred clans, claiming common descent from a twelfth-century nobleman called Donnsléibhe (Dunsleve), and they probably cooperated as allies but, nonetheless, the southern border was also protected with a castle.

Although it too stands on the shores of Loch Fyne, *Caisteal Mhic Eoghainn* or Castle MacEwen, is a very different kind of structure to its more northerly counterpart. Whereas Knock MacEwen may have been built by Ewen or his ancestors, there had probably been a fortification at Castle MacEwen long before our ancestors first came to Scotland in the 11th century, because the walls incorporate the remains of an ancient Vitrified Fort. These extraordinary structures have walls built of stones which have been partially vitrified—fused together in intense heat. Archaeologists still debate how such temperatures could have been achieved, and lovers of mysteries like to claim that the process would have demanded super-human powers. There is general agreement, however, that most of these forts date to before the Roman Invasion of Britain; although some may be from a later period, with a few perhaps dating to as late as AD900. At this site, there are only “small lumps of vitrified material in many parts of the dun wall” so it may be that vitrification was as much a matter of ritual as defensive significance.

Also unlike Knock MacEwen, the southern castle takes advantage of a natural rocky outcrop. The layout of the walls follows the uneven contours of the headland and describes a rough oval of about 70 feet by 90 feet. Excavations in 1968-9 found evidence of several medieval buildings, although it is not always clear which were in use at which time. Other finds included a 12th-century bronze crucifix, which may once have formed the focus for our ancestors' prayers.

A cairn or pillar was erected here by the Clan Ewen Society in 1990, and it still bears the motto *Reviresco*, which we have now established belongs to an entirely unrelated McEwen clan based in Galloway, about 100 miles by boat to the south. It's not a little ironic that, just like Knock MacEwen, this site should also have been appropriated by another clan, and I hope to see a time when our own heritage may be acknowledged here instead.

³⁸ Although I refer to the MacEwens of Otter as 'our ancestors' here, I do not mean to suggest that all of us are directly descended from MacEwens living within the Barony up until 1432, but that our clan today is descended from the clan which was founded under the chiefship of the MacEwens of Otter. Most, if not all, of us will be descended from the family which gathered as the *derbhfine* or 'true kindred' of the original Ewen who is named in the genealogy of the MacEwens of Otter in 1467 MS.

Today, Castle MacEwen stands in splendid isolation. It can be reached only on foot or by boat, and it is a wonderfully peaceful site. If you make the trip, you'll find the old clan lands to be quiet and sparsely populated. It is easy to imagine that nothing much has changed since our ancestors left, more than 500 years ago. Despite the cairn, the ghosts of the past seem to have this place more-or-less to themselves.



Cairn at Castle MacEwen

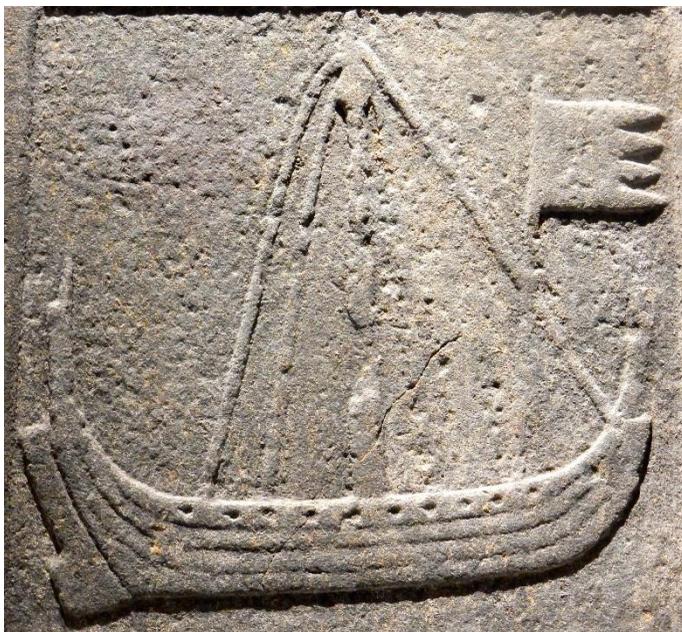
But romantic as it may be, the emptiness of the modern landscape contrasts with the scene as it would have appeared when our ancestors lived here. Then, there would have been crofts and houses scattered across the landscape, and the clansmen and crofters would have grown crops such as oats, barley, and kale in their fields, and raised geese and small black cattle.

Loch Fyne is famous for its oysters even today, and fish and shellfish would have been an important addition to the diet. In 1447, Loch Fyne was said to yield herring in "mair plenti than ony seas of Albion."³⁹

³⁹ Quoted by S. G. E. Lythe, 1977, 'Economic Life' in *Scottish Society in the Fifteenth Century* (Jennifer M. Brown, ed.) p75, citing A. M. Samuel, 1918, *The Herring: its Effect on the History of Britain*.

A statute of 1555 reveals that “in all times bygone” the waters of Loch Fyne had supplied herring not only for local inhabitants but for “Irvine, Ayr, Dumbarton, Glasgow, and other burghs”.⁴⁰ Salmon, too, was fished throughout Scotland. Scottish shellfish middens investigated by archaeologists contain oysters, mussels, limpets, whelks, and razor shells.⁴¹ The sea would also have provided seaweed—dulse and carrageen were eaten, while bucket-loads of bladderwrack and kelp were used to enrich the fertile soil.

Cowal wasn't always a backwater. In a world, before motor cars and proper roads, seaways were often quicker than travel by land. Our clan's two castles were on the coast because that's where travelers were most likely to haul up, whether they came in peace or war. The waters of Loch Fyne led not only south to the Clyde and Glasgow, but west across the sea to Ireland and the Hebrides. Most people would have got about by carrock (Gaelic: *curach*), a kind of boat made of animal hide stretched over a wooden frame. My mother remembers seeing the fishermen carrying similar boats over their heads when she was a child in Ireland—with two men to a boat, you just see the upturned boat with legs and feet walking along the ground.



A ‘birlinn’ carving, which can be found on MacKinnon's Cross, Iona. The Cross was dedicated to Lachlan MacKinnon and his son John, Abbot of Iona, in 1489.

(Photo by John Thor Ewing)

The clan would certainly have been able to boast at least one or two galleys or birlinns (Gaelic: *birlinn*). These small ships owed something to the ships of the Vikings, who had both raided and settled in the Western Highlands and Islands a few hundred years before. Birlinns could typically carry between three dozen and three score warriors, with three men to each oar. Although they could also be used on peaceful missions, the birlinn really came into its own in warfare and coastal protection, and from 1429, landowners in the west of Scotland were legally obliged to maintain such galleys. In the sea lochs and among the islands of the west coast, warfare often consisted of seaborne raiding and, whilst it's unlikely that Clan Ewing would have undertaken many raids on their own account (except perhaps as a show of

⁴⁰ *The Records of the Parliaments of Scotland to 1707*, K.M. Brown et al eds (St Andrews, 2007-2017), A1555/6/29.

⁴¹ See Alexander Fenton, 2007, *The Food of the Scots*, p297ff.

bravado after the inauguration of a new chief), they would have been ready to join a greater fleet to sail in attack or defence alongside their allies. The two great powers of the west were the Campbells and the MacDonalds, and both used the galley (known in heraldry as a 'lymphad,' from Gaelic, *long fhada*) as a symbol of their strength and power.⁴²

I asked Steven C. Ewing, a dock builder from Martha's Vineyard, who is familiar with both of the old MacEwen castles, to comment on their facility as anchorages. He pointed out that the sands at Knock MacEwen might have shifted somewhat over the centuries, making it difficult to fully assess how it would once have been. Today, however, this anchorage is somewhat shallow (although birlinns were probably fairly shallow in their draft), but the Otter sandbank would give good protection from storms and wind coming off the land through the east and to the southeast. At Castle MacEwen, there is a very obvious anchorage, quite deep, square and straight-sided, biting back into the shoreline, with a steeply shelving beach at one end and near-vertical sides. Steve saw this as 'an ideal location to haul at least two boats out, side by side. The angle of the sandy beach is ideal, as the slipway leads into a low marshy area, and the boats could be dragged as far in as necessary, even during big storms.' The birlinns may have been housed on shore in simple wooden boathouses.

It was as Lords of Otter that our ancestors enjoyed these lands from at least the 13th century when, in 1297, Gilbert (or *Gilleasbaig*) MacEwen is listed among the barons of Argyll.⁴³ In 1355, John (or Eoin) MacEwen met with other barons of Argyll at Inverleckan.⁴⁴ Ewen, son of Walter (the last chief in the MacEwen genealogy), appears as lord of the Barony of Otter in a charter of 1410.⁴⁵ And in 1431, Ewen's son, Swene, issued a charter for the lands of Strone and Barlagan to his in-laws (Latin, *affinit*), Duncan, son of Alexander, and Duncan's own son, Duncan, which was witnessed by John, son of William MacEwen.⁴⁶ Not surprisingly, early documents refer almost exclusively to the chiefs of the clan, but the whole extended family would have had a stake in the status which came with their lordship. It was to his clan that the chief would turn for warriors, and all clansfolk would have enjoyed a position of privilege over local tenant farmers or tacksmen.

The whole territory from Castle MacEwen in the south to Knock MacEwen in the north was held by the medieval clan chiefs as a barony, meaning that the estate was held directly from the Crown. Under feudal law, all land was in the king's gift. A baron held his lands directly from the king, while a second tier of landholders owed their lands to the barons, and so on. Although feudal rights were technically awarded at the behest of the king, they invariably passed from father to son as if they were heritable goods. So when in 1432, Swene MacEwen of Otter appeared before the king in Perth to surrender his barony, at one level at least, he was simply acknowledging the king's authority over his feudal inheritance. The king confirmed Swene in

⁴² Records of the Parliament of Scotland 1429/10/4; see also RPS 1430/21.

⁴³ Alastair Campbell of Airds, 2000, *A History of Clan Campbell*, Vol.1, p.122.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* p.243-4.

⁴⁵ Martin MacGregor, 2000, *Genealogies of the clans: contributions to the study of MS 1467*. Innes Review, 51 (2). p.139.

⁴⁶ Niall D. Campbell, 1911, 'MacEwens and MacSweens,' *The Celtic Review*, Vol.VII, No.27, p.275. This charter illustrates one of the ways in which a branch of a local family might become established outside the bounds of their main clan territory.

possession of his lands, but, significantly, he added an important clause regarding who could inherit the barony after Swene's death. Having not yet had the opportunity to see the original documents for myself, I quote from the account of Niall Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll, in whose archive they are still held in Inveraray. He wrote:

On 20th March 1432, King James I, by a charter under his Great Seal, dated at Perth, confirmed to 'Sufnnus Eugenii,' that is, Swene McEwen, all and whole his Barony of 'Ottir-in-werane,'⁴⁷ lying in Cowale shire of Argyll, which had been resigned by Sween into the King's hands. Failing heirs male to Suibhne, the Barony was to pass to Celestine Cambel, son and heir of Duncan Cambel of Lochaw, and his heirs whomsoever (original at Inveraray).⁴⁸

On the one hand, this gesture by King James I is clearly a reward to the Campbells in return for their loyalty during the early years of his reign, when the king had been a prisoner of the English. What's less obvious is why Swene was disinherited in this way. Perhaps Swene or his father Ewen had lent support for the rebellions of James Mor Stewart of Albany (James the Fat) in 1425 and 1429. If so, the case against Swene appears not to have been clear-cut, or he would have been attainted and dispossessed with immediate effect.

For the next scene in the drama, I turn once more to the account of Niall Campbell:

On 7th June 1432, a most interesting agreement was entered into at the Ottir by this Gillaspy (alias Celestine) Cambel, son and heir to Duncan Cambel, lorde of Lochawe, on the one part and Suffne McEwyn 'larde of ottir in weran' on the other part, which is written in the Scots vernacular. From its terms, it appears that the Lord of Ottir was married, but had not yet been blessed with an heir, for he pledges himself 'that quhat tyme that God wil that the said Suffne gets ane ayr mail lachfully with his lachful spusit wyfe that he oblyssis him . . . to pay to the said gillaspy cambel his ayris ... on a day betuix the sonis rysyng and the gangyng to or otherwas at the said gillaspy cambelis wil thre score of marks . . . and fyve and twenty sufficeand marts and that to be paid owthir at the ottirweran, or at Inche chonil or at Innerayra' or else to give him the two Larragis and the lands of Killala in the Barony of Ottir in tack for yearly payment of half a mark mail at Whitsunday and Martinmass if asked for. And if Suffnes male heir died before he begot another that the agreement would remain valid and Suffne should give [G]illaspy the first offer of the land if leased in wadset. To this deed both parties 'has gyfyn thar bodely athis the haly ewangelis thuichid,' etc. The Lord of the Ottir's seal is lost, but the deed which is at Inveraray is in a fine state of preservation.

This goes somewhat further than the original agreement made in Perth, which has led some to suspect that there is more to this deal than meets the eye. In recent times, people have embellished the narrative with tales of gambling debts, or of a MacEwen massacre. There is no reason to imagine that these speculations have any basis in truth, and the situation has not

⁴⁷ This peculiar phrase, 'Ottir-in-werane' represents the Gaelic, *Oitir an Bharain*, meaning 'the Baron's Otter' or, more loosely, 'the Barony of Otter' (Ronald Black, 2014, '1467 MS. The MacEwens', *West Highland Notes & Queries*, Ser. 3, no. 24, pp. 15).

⁴⁸ Niall D. Campbell, 1911, 'MacEwens and MacSweens,' *The Celtic Review*, Vol. VII, No.27, pp.272-84.

been helped by a readiness to glorify modern conjecture with the name of legend. It may be frustrating that we cannot reach back beyond the relatively dry clauses of this deal over property rights to discover the human story behind it, but it does not help to fill the void with false certainties.

This is not to say that we shouldn't try to make the best sense we can of the available facts, but we should refrain from flights of fancy and instead try to understand the surviving evidence more fully. One aspect of the available evidence which has seemingly been largely overlooked is that the loss of the barony in 1432 was more-or-less immediately preceded by an earlier charter of 1431, whereby Swene granted lands to his *affiniti* ('relatives by marriage'), and that this charter is preserved in the archive at Inveraray alongside the two charters of 1432 by which Swene went on to resign the Barony of Otter.

Swene's reference to his *affiniti* in his charter of 1431 may be read as an indication that he was then recently married, and that this charter forms part of his marriage settlement. If so, it is interesting that Swene's resignation of his barony in 1432 appears to come immediately after his marriage. In the article cited above, Niall Campbell expressed the opinion that the document of June 1432 implied that Swene was already married, which would tend to confirm this interpretation, and suggest that Swene's *affiniti*, Duncan, and his son Duncan, are likely to be the father and brother of his wife. Niall Campbell suggests they were probably Campbells, which would explain the presence of this charter in the charter chest at Inveraray.

According to online sources, it does seem possible that Swene had allied himself closely in marriage with the Campbells of Lochaw, and that the elder Duncan ('son of Alexander') in Swene's charter of 1431 is in fact Duncan Skeodan Campbell (1345-1435), whose father is apparently recorded under the names Archibald and Alexander.⁴⁹ No wife and children are recorded for Duncan Skeodan, but this may simply mean that they have left no trace in the records (with the possible exception of Swene's charter of 1431). If this suggestion is correct, Swene may have contracted a political marriage with a daughter of Duncan Skeodan Campbell at a time when she was already beyond childbearing age. This marriage could then have been unscrupulously used to open the door for her Campbell relatives to inherit in place of the MacEwens.

Whereas the marriage of a daughter into a more powerful noble family was nearly always a good move for a medieval feudal lord, by committing his own self to such a marriage, Swene had put his lands in jeopardy. The Campbells of Lochaw had shown their capacity to acquire their neighbours' lands in similar circumstances 60 years earlier when, in 1361, Christina, heiress of Craignish, had resigned all her lands and barony to Colin Campbell of Lochaw. The later manuscript history of the MacDougall Campbells of Craignish complains that this deal was "done to Defraud her uncle and his succession being the reighteous heir male" and as with the

⁴⁹ Gaelic names were commonly translated to their supposed Scots equivalents, but although Alexander should translate Alasdair, while either Archibald or Celestine should translate Gillespie, there was some room for confusion. Archibald's second wife (and Duncan Skeodan's mother) was Isabella Mary Lamont (daughter of John, Chief of Clan Lamont). For Duncan Skeodan's father named as Alexander, see: <http://gw.geneanet.org/webspinner?lang=en&pz=patrik+jozef+paul&nz=wegner&ocz=1&p=alexander&n=campbell+of+lochaw>

agreement over Otter, the estates were to pass to the Campbells of Lochaw “failzieing [i.e. failing] of heirs male in a direct line, by which it seems collateral were passed by.” But just as later generations of Ewings appear to have remained loyal to the Campbells, so too did the MacDougall Campbells of Craignish.

Further research is needed, and the exact course of events leading to the redestination of the Barony of Otter from MacEwen to Campbell hands might always remain obscure, but it is clear that by 1466 Celestine Campbell was using the territorial designation ‘of Otter’.⁵⁰ It’s often forgotten in discussions of Campbell acquisitiveness that the Campbells of Lochaw were effective sub-kings of Argyll, claiming the title of *Ceannas na nGaidheal*, ‘Heads of the Gael,’ and that as such, they were able to exercise the same sort of prerogatives associated with kingship. This was not just another clan, but was the *de facto* government of the region, and the King of Scots relied on Clan Campbell to deliver his rule in the western Highlands. There can be little doubt that our ancestors lost out to their overlords when they surrendered the Barony of Otter. But whatever the rights and wrongs of the case, succeeding generations of Ewings continued to trust the Campbell earls of Argyll as their ‘good lords.’ Although there may be a temptation to look back in anger at this episode in our history, we should remember that we are also heirs to those later generations who chose to remain loyal to their Campbell overlords, and who apparently prospered under their protection.

⁵⁰ *Argyll Transcripts*, 10th April 1466. In a footnote to his article of 2000 (note 77 p142), MacGregor writes, “If we accept the assumption others have made, that Gill-easbuig [i.e. Celestine], first Campbell lord of Otter, was one and the same as the Gill-easbuig Campbell who appears without territorial designation in a series of documents up to 1462, then it may follow that formal Campbell title to Otter was not finally secured until 1462 x 1466. *Argyll Transcripts*, 6 July 1452; Lamont Papers, 17-19.”

‘Googling’ Martin Ewing

Martin S. Ewing (ewing@alum.mit.edu)

Have you ever searched for your name on Google? You might be surprised what you will find. I did a search recently and came across an 1888 newspaper article from Missouri, reprinted below. Photo of actual newspaper article on next page.

(Source: Newspapers.com, *Chariton Courier* (Keytesville, Missouri) · Thu, Jan 12, 1888, pg. 3)

There was an interesting fellow, Martin Ewing, who was a former slave. He may well have been one of the first of a now substantial number of Ewings who are African Americans, since he had been owned by a Col. Ewing. This article is Martin's obituary.

There may be a few problems with this article, which don't take away from historical interest, but which might bear further study.

Martin's age at death was estimated to be 125 - 130 years. That may not be impossible, but it does seem unlikely. Tales of seeing George Washington "frequently" might or might not be creditable. Was his 'age' estimated from his Revolutionary War stories? We may never know.

Martin was said to have been living with a granddaughter, whose husband was John William Ewing. So, do we have a Ewing marrying a Ewing? Were there so many living in that area at that time? Yes, in fact Ancestry.com[©] shows there were numerous black Ewings in the Chariton, Missouri, area in the 1800s.

Regardless, Martin seems to have been a well-regarded and strong character in his community. I am happy to have him as a *tocayo*.⁵¹

An Old Man Gone

Through an oversight we omitted last week to publish the death of Martin Ewing, colored, of near Dalton, who was supposed to have been the oldest man in the United States. "Uncle Martin," as he was familiarly called, was well known in Chariton County for many years. He belonged, in slave times, to one of the most prominent families in the county. Through reliable information, obtained from living members of this family, it seems that Uncle Martin was somewhere between 125 and 130 years old. He was born in Virginia and was brought here many years ago by Col. Ewing, his former master, who was the father of Mrs. Dr. Dewey and the uncle of J. J. and S. P. Ewing. Col. Ewing died in 1859, aged 84 years. He always said that Martin was his nurse and was a grown man while he, the Col., was a small boy. The old man died of pneumonia, not because the physical man had worn out. This is the testimony of Dr. Moorman, who held a post-mortem examination of the body. One lung was very much affected while other organs were free from disease.

⁵¹ *Tocayo* is a Spanish term for a person with the same name. It seems English has no exact word for this. You might think of "namesake", "eponym", or "homonym", but to my mind those don't fit our cousin Martin.

In conversation with Uncle Martin a few years ago, he told us several incidents of the Revolutionary war, of which he had a vivid recollection. He had seen Gen. Washington frequently and admired him greatly. He claimed to have voted for Washington. He was not much of an advocate for the right to vote to be given people who did not know what or whom they voted for.

Some eight or ten years ago, Uncle Martin made a profession of religion, joined the Baptist church and was baptized in that faith. He had been married three times, and for many years had lived with a granddaughter and her husband, John William Ewing, of near Dalton. He had been a moderate drinker all his life and had also chewed tobacco. His faith in Christ was strong and he seemed well posted in the plan of salvation. No doubt the change is a happy one to him.

Fate of Four Deserters

Editor's Note: This article was read by David Neal Ewing at the Ewing Family Gathering in Saline, Michigan, July 2016. It has been retyped from the original newspaper format.

Xenia Daily Gazette (Xenia, Ohio) · Tue, Feb 25, 1896



David N. Ewing

Fearful

Fate of Four Deserters

The Mystery of Their Disappearance
Thirty-Two Years Ago Just Explained.

Colliers, W. Va., Feb. 24. --- People are much excited in this vicinity over a recent find which, it is claimed clears up a mystery of thirty-two years standing – the remains of four human beings having been discovered in an abandoned coal mine a mile east of here.

David Snyder has explored the old mine, which has not been worked since the sixties, and discovered the human bones. One of the skeletons was sitting upright against a ledge. Beside this skeleton was found a flask containing a note that explained the mysterious disappearance of John Ewing, Ben Ayers, Tom Ackelson and Joe Obney, thirty-two years ago. The notes were written in pencil, but well preserved. They read as follows:

FEARFUL RECORD.

November 2, 1863 - Should this ever reach the outside world let it be known that we (giving names) are prisoners here, owing to the caving in of the mine. We are deserters and were in hiding here when the mine caved in. Food and water all gone. We are doomed, as no one outside is aware of our whereabouts. This is about the eighth day of imprisonment.

November 4. - John Ewing and Tom Ackelson have just killed Ben Myers and are eating him. I have already eaten my bootleg. The water in the mine is terrible. Our oil is getting scarce, air becoming foul. I only know the day of the month by my watch.

November 6. - Ewing has just killed Ackelson. Cut off one of his feet and is eating it and dancing around and flourishing his dirk knife like a maniac.

ALONE WITH THE DEAD.

November 7. - I am alone with the dead. I had to kill Ewing in self defense. I have just eaten my other boot leg. Am sleepy. Goodby. I enclose this note in this flask to preserve it if possible, so that if ever found our sad fate will be known.

Joseph Obney.

Several of the old residents hereabouts remember these men. It was generally believed that they had been killed in battle. As no relatives of the deceased men could be found their remains were given in charge of Andy Listor for interment.

Index

Acheson			
George	22, 23		
Ackelson			
Tom	72		
Adair			
John	18		
Alden			
John	29		
Priscilla (Mullins)	29		
Alexander			
King, II (1214-1249)	60		
King, III (1249-1286)	60		
Allen			
Ken	30		
Velma	30		
Allison			
John, Sr.	18		
John B.	18		
Anderson			
Bernice Marie (Ewing) (1906-1966)	43		
Andrews			
Daisy (Ewing) (1887-1970)	28		
Armstrong			
John, General (1758-1843)	14, 15		
Arnold			
Mary F.	50		
Arp			
Emily	59		
Avery			
Karen	27, 29, 34-37, 39-41		
Ayers			
Benjamin	72		
Baker			
Herschel Ausborne	27, 39		
Baldrige			
Mary Jane		48	
Banks			
Sarah A. (1848-1907)		27	
Barton			
Benjamin, Dr. (1766-1815)		7, 8	
Beatty			
Sarah		41	
Blair			
David, Reverend		18	
Bonaparte			
Jerome		11	
King Louis		11	
Maria Louise		15	
Napoleon (1769-1821)		11, 13, 15	
Brackner			
Eunice Yvonne		27, 39	
James Oscar		39	
Bryant			
Tayla		28	
Burleson			
Mildred		30, 32, 33	
Campbell/Cambel			
Celestine		67, 69	
Colin		68	
Duncan Skeodan (1345-1435)		66-68	
(son of Alexander)			
Duncan (son of Duncan)		66, 68	
J. F.		50	
Joseph, Honorable		18	
Niall		67, 68	
Tim		34	
Campbell of Otter, Clan		63	
Carpenter			
Ephraim		18	

Casner		Ewen of Otter, Clan	58, 61
Carol A.	34		
Castle MacEwen	63, 64, 66	Ewing	
Coffman		Adam (b. 1811)	38
Clarice A.	27	Albert (1870-1938)	27
Cox		Alexander	29, 35
Cecele	28	Alice Charlotte 'Lottie' (1895-1971)	27
John	28	Andrew (b. 1822)	38
dePusy		Ann (Smith)	40, 41
Madame Sarah	14	Belinda (Neil)	44-46
DeSart		Bernice Marie (1906-1966)	43
Bobbi	25	Betty Leona (Draper)	30-32
Draper		Bradley Scott	28
Bell	30	Cary D.	30-32
Betty Leona	30-32	Charles	4, 7
Darrell	30	Clarence Daniel (1874-1939)	43
Garland	30	Colonel	36, 70
Jean	30	Daisy	30
Josephine	30	Daisy (1887-1970)	28
Mildred (Burleson)	30, 32, 33	David (1784-1844)	43
Rita	30	David (1823-1900)	43
William	30	David Neal	55, 57-59, 72
duPont Nemours		Deborah (Parsons) (1812-1883)	28
Pierre Samuel (1739-1817)	13	Dennis N.	30, 32
Eaton		Duane	30
Charles Henry	49	Earl Howard	30, 31
Grace Alberta	49, 50, 52	Earl 'Norman' (1925-2015)	30-33
Grace Rowena	49, 51-53	Edith E.	48, 49
Leila Allyn	49, 51-53	Elbert William R.	36
Susan Allyn	49	Elizabeth (Porter)	34, 35
Eckert		Elizabeth (Sanders)	38, 39
Gwin Ann	28	Eudora Elizabeth	39
Ellis		Frank	30
John	18	George Samuel (1805-1883)	28
Ewan		Grace Alberta (Eaton)	49, 50, 52
Glen	55-58	Green Berry,	34
Ewen		Hannah (Whaley)	34, 35, 37
<i>Bhaltair</i> (Walter)	61, 62, 66	Indian John	28, 40-42
C. L. 'Estrange	57, 58	James	34, 37
		James (1670-1740)	43
		James (1744-1823)	4
		James Carroll (1866-1937)	44, 45, 47-52
		James Patton (1797-1859)	44-46
		Jane	38
		Jane E. (Porter)	34, 35
		Jane Gillespie (Patton)	37
		Jean	29
		Joanne	30
		John	18, 20, 72
		John (1739-1806)	43
		John, II (1769-c. 1813)	29

Ewing (continued)			
John (b. 1812)	38, 39	William (b. 1818, Ireland)	38-40
John A. (b. 1947)	1	William A. (1839-1907)	27, 36
John 'Thor'	25, 26, 56-58	William Albert, Jr.	34
John William	70, 71	William R.	36
Joseph	46	William 'Swago Bill'	27
Joshua	28	Ewing Family Reunion Photo	53
Joshua (1704-1753)	37, 44, 45	Fife	
Joshua (1763-1843)	44, 45	Margaret	34-37, 41
Joshua Charles	46	Findley	
Joshua Craig (1825-1904)	44-49	William (1741-1821)	4, 8
Katie	34	Fleming	
Larry	26	James	34
Lawrence	49	Sarah (Ewing)	34
Laura (Hubbard)	30	Frobes	
Leila Allyn (1889-1958)	44, 45	Bruce	3, 17
Lilly	30	Cobe	17
Lucy (Williams) (1784-1856)	29	Galloway	
Margaret (McMannee)	38	Mary	41, 42
Marie	30	Gay-Lussac	
Mark Edwin	55	Joseph Louis	14
Martin S.	70, 71	Gean	
Mary (McKnown)	4	George	30
Mary A. M. (Owens)	38	Kathleen	30
Maskell (1721-1796)	3, 17	Gillaspie/Gillespie/Gillaspy	
Maskel, Jr. (1758-1825)	4	David (b.abt.1760)	41, 42
Michelle	30	David Shelton	42
Nathaniel (1693-1748)	35	Emily Ann	42
Pam	30	Frances (Robards/Roberts)	42
Pat	30	George (1731-1803)	41
Patrick (1736-1819)	34-36	James Lindsay	42
Patrick (1737-1819)	44, 45	John (1745-1811)	41
Paul	30	John Miner	42
Peter Anthony	59	Margaret Peggy (Saunders)	42
Rebecca (Walton)	38	Mary Elizabeth	42
Russell	30	Matilda Caroline	42
Samuel (b. 1808)	38, 39	Nelson Saunders	42
Sarah (1805-1882)	34, 40	Parthenia Jane	42
Selena/Salena/ Selma Catherine (Ish) (1831-1908)	47-52	Peggy	42
Steven C.	1, 24, 25, 66	Robert Morris (1795-abt. 1873)	41, 42
Stewart T.	34, 36, 37	William Abner (1790-1860)	41
Terry L.	30, 32	William Allen	41
Terry L., Jr.	30, 32	Graff	
Thomas	37	John	18
Thomas, Senator	43		
Thomas D.	28		
Thomas (1640-1747)	3		
Walt	30		
Walter 'Major'	26, 31		
William (1696-1771)	43		
William (1770-1827)	34-37		
William (1775-1858)	37, 40, 41		

Hall			Kirk	
A.C.		18	Jason	22
Hamilton			Knock MacEwen	62, 63, 66
James		18, 20	Lamont	55, 56, 61, 63
Hart			Isabella Mary	68
James M.		20	Langston	
Hays			Andrew Jackson	39
Thompson		21	Ruby Bell	39
Henry			Walter William	39
William		18	Leake	
Hilliker			Samuel	4
Doris		30	Lewis	
Hilyard			Meriwether	7
Caleigh		26	Lytle	
Houston			John	18
William C.		4	Margaret	
Irene			Maid of Norway	60
Lauraleee		30	Mason	
Irenee			John	40
Eleuthere		14	Maurer	
Ish			Martha Lou Anderson (Richardson)	43
Carroll Whitfield		48	MacEwen	
Frank		53	<i>Eoin</i> (or John), son of William	66
Selena/Salena/Selma Catherine (1831-1908)		47-52	Ewen, son of Walter	66
Jackson			<i>Gilleasbaig</i> (or Gilbert)	66
Samuel		8	Swene, son of Ewen	66-68
James			William	66
King, I		67	MacEwen of Otter, Clan	61, 63
Jamison			McCoy	
Samuel M.		21	Maggie Eunice	39
Jefferson			McEwan	
Thomas, President		4, 7, 8, 13, 15	John	55
Jones			McEwen	
John		20	Cynthia Ann (b. 1812)	40
Michael		27	Isabella/Isobella (Miller) (1718-1814)	40
			James	40
			Robert Bort	40

McGuire			
	Catherine E. (O'Connor) (b. 1918)	44-45, 52-53	
	Michael James (b. 1945)	44	
	William Joseph (b. 1942)	44	
	William L. ' Billy'	50	
McKnown			
	Mary	4	
McMannee			
	Margaret	38	
McMichael			
	Jim	36	
McMullen			
	Alex	18	
Mills			
	Cynthia Ann (McEwen) (b. 1812)	40	
	Hugh Washington	40	
Miller			
	Isabella/Isobella (1718-1814)	40	
Mitchell			
	Robert, Jr.	22	
	Dr.	18	
Moon			
	David	27	
	Susan	27	
Moorhead			
	James	18	
Mulcher			
	Gloria	30	
Mullins			
	Priscilla	29	
Myers			
	David	20	
Neil			
	Belinda	44-46	
Northcutt			
	John	40	
Obney			
	Joe	72	
O'Connor			
	Catherine Ewing	44, 45, 52, 53	
	Leila Allyn (Ewing) (1889-1958)	44, 45	
	Wallace	52	
Owens			
	Mary A.M.	38	
Parsons			
	Deborah (1812-1883)	28	
Patterson			
	Amy Hunter (Ewing)	3, 14, 16	
	Elizabeth	11	
	Matilda	14	
	Robert	3, 7, 8, 14	
	Robert, IV	4	
	Robert Maskell	3, 4, 7-9, 11-17	
	Thomas Ewing (1775-1776)	3	
	William Ewing, Dr.	12	
Patton			
	Jane Gillespie	37	
Peale			
	Charles Willson	3, 4, 13	
	Rembrandt (1778-1866)	12, 13, 16	
Perkins			
	Michelle	18	
Pope			
	Pius VII	11	
Porter			
	Elizabeth	34, 35	
	Jane E.	34, 35	
Pinckney			
	William	10, 11	
Robert			
	the Bruce	60	
Rummel			
	Josephine (Draper)	30	
	Lester	30	
Sanders			
	Elizabeth	38, 39	
Saunders			
	Margaret Peggy	42	

Sedgewick			Toscos	
Jeffrey H.		28	Beth (Ewing)	25, 26, 29, 36
Roya		28		
Shifflet			Trolander	
David		27	Kelly Ewing Heimerl	28
Nancy Gill		27, 40-42	Robert	28
Smith			Vauquelin	
Ann		40, 41	Louis Nicholas	
Emma		28	Wallace	
Joseph		28	William	60
Joseph, III		28	Walton	
J. R.		18	Rebecca	38
Spalding			Warren	
George		22	Benjamin	21
Stewart			Washington	
James More (James the Fat)		67	George, President	70, 71
J. T., Professor		18	Werner	
Sutor			Delilia	27, 38, 39
Alexander		18, 20	Ralf Kurt	27, 39
John		18, 20	Whaley	
Taylor			Hannah	34, 35, 37
James, Sheriff		20	Williams	
Thenard			Lucy (1784-1856)	29
Louis Jacques		14	Wistar	
Tischer			Caspar, Dr.	7
Yvonne 'Vonnie' K.		28		



Ewing Family Association
1330 Vaughn Court
Aurora, IL 60504

The Ewing Family Association fosters interest in the Ewing family; promotes gatherings of its members; publishes a journal with biographical, genealogical, and historical information; encourages identifying the relationships among Ewing families; and encourages genealogical research and the sharing of results.

Membership is open to all persons with the surname of Ewing or who are descended from anyone with that surname; to anyone who is, or has been, the spouse of such a person; and to anyone who otherwise supports the organization's purposes. To join, send a membership form to Ewing Family Association, 1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, IL 60504.

Forms are available at www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org. Annual dues are \$25.00. Membership includes the semi-annual Ewing Family Journal.

Publication of the Ewing Family Journal began in 1994. Through 2008, the publication was titled Journal of Clan Ewing. The first two issues were published in August and November 1994. They were not designated with a Volume and Number. The February 1995 issue was designated as Vol. 1, No. 4, as it was the third issue of the Journal. The Journal is currently published semi-annually in May and November.

We welcome contributions to the Journal from Ewing Family Association members and others. Electronic copy is preferred and should be sent to the Editor at johnewing2003@msn.com. Hardcopy submissions should be sent to John Ewing, 7910 Moss Grove Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. If you would like to discuss a potential submission, please call John Ewing, +1-260-704-1392.