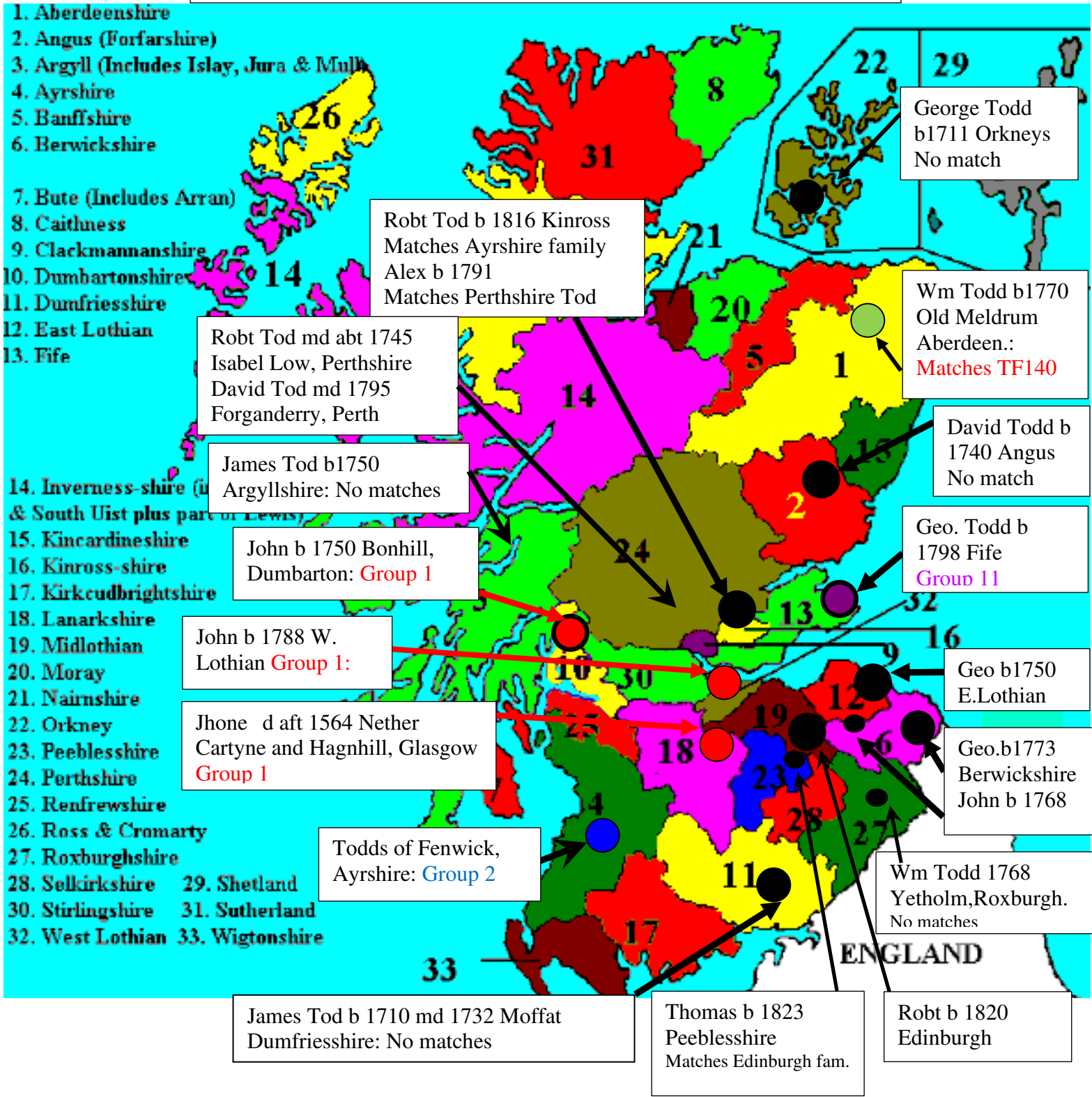


Todd Families of Scotland and Their DNA Pattern Matches

Richard McMurtry

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The primary purpose of the Scottish Todd DNA and Family History Project is to enable Todds whose ancestors emigrated from Scotland to Ireland, England, North America or Australia/New Zealand to locate their likely origins in Scotland, that is, to answer the question: where did my ancestors come from?

The secondary purpose is to show whether there were regions of Scotland wherein all the Todds shared a common ancestor or whether the Todds of Scotland are simply numerous distinct and unrelated families.

To date, we have samples from 19 different counties of Scotland.

2 of these counties were the home of immigrants to colonial America (from **Perthshire** to Connecticut/then Ohio and the **Orkneys** to Caroline Co VA)

6 of these counties had families who were genetic kin to American families

- 3 of these counties (**Dumbarton, Lanarkshire/Glasgow, West Lothian**) had kin to the Todds of Central Antrim, Ireland and various families in America such as the family of Mary Todd Lincoln of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Kentucky and the Todds of Hunterdon County New Jersey and numerous other Todd families
- 1 county (**Ayrshire**) had families that were genetic kin to the Todds of County Down and NW Antrim/Coleraine in Ireland arriving in the 1600s and numerous families in America such as the Todds who came New Hampshire (1720), New Jersey (1735), Pennsylvania and South Carolina (1770s)
- 1 county (**Fife**) had kin to the Todd family that came from Eling, Southampton, England to Philadelphia by 1699
- 1 county (**Aberdeen**) had kin to the Todd family that came to Richmond then Northumberland County Virginia prior to 1739

3 of these counties (**Perth, Kinross, Ayrshire**) had families that were genetic kin to each other.

All the rest of the counties (10) – about half - had Todds who were unrelated to other Todds in Scotland or America or Ireland.

Discoveries To Date

1. The most exciting discovery was that the Todds of Fenwick Parish, Ayrshire matched the DNA of numerous Todd families, implying that Fenwick was the ancestral homeland of these families, including:
 - a. The Todds who settled in Aghaderg and Carricknaveagh in County Down in the 1600s.
 - b. The Todds who settled along the northern Antrim-Derry border in the late 1600s or early 1700s.
 - c. The Todds who came to Londonderry, New Hampshire around 1720
 - d. The Todds who came to Somerset County New Jersey by 1735.
 - e. The Todds who came to Ninety-Six District prior to the American Revolution (1774).
 - f. The Todds of Washington County, New York who came from County Monaghan, Ireland about 1764
 - g. The Todds of Laurens County South Carolina
 - h. The Todds of Washington County Pennsylvania
 - i. The Todds who came to Nashville prior to 1780 and then to Ohio
 - j. The Todds who came to Delaware by 1785 and then to Fayette County Pennsylvania.
 - k. The Todds of Fleming County Kentucky
 - l. The Todds of Kennett Square, Chester County Pennsylvania

We call this group of families, the Group 2 Todds. See more detailed analysis of this group elsewhere in the DNA section of the website.

2. Another exciting discovery was a DNA pattern similar to that of the Todds of Mary Todd Lincoln (wife of Civil War President Abraham Lincoln) existed in a swath between Bonhill in Dunbartonshire (northwest of Glasgow) Haghill/Nether Cartyne in Glasgow, and West Lothian (between Glasgow and Edinburgh). Todds in this region had the oldest DNA pattern from which other related Todds derived. This could be the ancestral homeland of all the Todds of this pattern.

The pattern of this region or a slight variant thereof existed amongst families in a 10 mile by 8 mile swath around Ballyclare, in County Antrim, Northern Ireland and in two families in the town of Londonderry/Derry in Northern Ireland. The Londonderry pattern was also found in a family that came to Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in 1767. The Antrim pattern was found in numerous families that came to the USA, including:

- a. The family of Mary Todd Lincoln who came to America about 1737,
- b. the family of Andrew Todd d 1801 Tazewell County, Virginia who first appears in a 1771 tax list in York County Pennsylvania,
- c. the family of David Todd 1731-1809 and John Todd 1729-1802 of Hunterdon County, New Jersey who came there in 1749,
- d. James Todd who came to Pendleton Co SC about 1799
- e. John Todd 1755-1820 who came to Somerset Co NJ before the Revolution
- f. Two families (Nathan/Nathaniel b 1751 and Patrick b d 1852) who came to Laurens County South Carolina about 1795. The Nathan family had a tradition of having come from the Loch Lomond area before coming to Ireland. This is supported by the nearly matching DNA pattern of the Bonhill Todds (near Loch Lomond).
- g. James Todd b abt 1750 who came to Virginia prior to 1787 and settled in Augusta County by 1791.
- h. The Todds of Ballyalbanagh (north of Ballyclare) who came to Dearborn County Indiana in the 1820s.

We call this group the Group 1 Todds. See elsewhere on the DNA portion of the website for a more indepth analysis of the relationships between the various members of this group.

3. A family of Fifeshire (George Todd b 1798) and the family of Joseph Todd b 1654 Eling, Southamptonshire, England had a very similar DNA pattern though the common ancestor may have been prior to 1500. This implies a very early migration from Scotland to England.
4. The family of Alexander Todd b 1791 Irvine Ayrshire matched the DNA of families along the Kinross/Perth border. This implies a migration from the Kinross/Perth area to Ayrshire.

5. Two samples from the family of James Tod b 1710 md 1732 in Moffat, Dumfriesshire matched each other but no other Todds.

Neither sample matched the William Todd d 1820 Horry County Todds for whom a family historian in the 1990s began asserting that William d 1820 was the William Tod b 1745 Moffat. The DNA does not support the Moffat origin theory for the Horry County Todds developed by family historians in the late 1990s.

On the other hand, a sample from the family of John Todd b 1734 Scarborough, Yorkshire matched the DNA from the Horry County Todds and genetically related families.

6. A family descended from William Todd b1770 Old Meldrum, Aberdeenshire matched the family of Cornelius Todd d 1750 Northumberland County Virginia (and the two branches of the family that went to Tennessee (John B. Todd b 1777 d Shelby Co TN and Samuel Todd d Lawrence Co TN))
7. The family of Robert Tod md 1745 Perthshire (whose descendants came to Connecticut then Ohio) matched the family of Robert Tod b 1816 Kinross and the family of Alexander b 1791 Ayrshire and the family of David Tod md 1795 in Forgandenny, Perth. David Tod md 1795 was kin to the Todds (Margaret Tod md William Niven) of Gospetry, Kinross who was the daughter of Robert Tod and Isabella Low who were reported to be the parents of David Tod born 1746 who came to America in 1761.
8. The family of John Todd d 1825 Peebleshire matched a Robert Todd that married Isabella Haston in 1745 in Edinburgh and a Robert Todd who married Ann Drew in Barony of Glasgow in 1748. I suspect this reflects a movement from Peebleshire northward to Edinburgh/Glasgow, but the opposite direction of the migration is possible.

The families that didn't match other Todds include:

1. Argyllshire: James Todd of Inverary and Glenary, Argyllshire b 1750 md 1775 Mary Paterson

2. Roxburghshire: William Todd b 1808 Morebattle, Roxburghshire d 1894 Quebec
3. Angus: Alexander Todd b 1773 Carmylie, Angus possible son of David Todd b 1740 Arbilot, Angus d 1827 Carmylie
4. Orkneys: George Todd b 1711 Orkneys d 1790 Caroline Co VA
5. East Lothian: George Todd b 1750 md 1775 Agnes Gray/Grey son James b 1786 Gladsmuir, East Lothian. This family appears to have originated in Norham, Northumberland County, England, then come after 1759 to East Lothian, Scotland and then two sons returned to Northumberland, England and Berwickshire, Scotland. These three counties are adjacent to each other as shown on the map.
6. Berwickshire: George Todd b 1721 Bunkle and Preston, Berwickshire md 1762 Roxburghshire to Sarah Umpherston
7. Roxburghshire: William Todd b 1768 Yetholm Roxburghshire
8. James Tod b 1710 md 1732 Moffat, Dumfriesshire