

The Parentage of Robert R. Preston Todd 1817-1898
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In 1836, Robert R. Preston Todd married Lavinia/Malvina Todd daughter of Thomas Todd and Esther Dayton and granddaughter of Andrew Todd d 1801 Tazewell Co VA. The children of Andrew Todd d 1801 had left Tazewell Co about 1817, migrated to Floyd Co KY where they spent a year or so, and then migrated to Monroe and Lawrence Co Indiana.

Family historians reported that Preston Todd was a cousin, but there were no reports of who Preston Todd's parents were. Perhaps they simply assumed that he was a cousin because of his last name. All we knew about his origins is that he claimed to have been born in Russell County Virginia about 1817.

In any event, DNA testing has now disclosed that Preston Todd's father was a Horton of the Horton family of Russell County, VA and that the most likely candidate among the extended Horton family was Daniel Horton 1774-1843 or his brother Lewis Horton d 1817. The DNA of Christopher Todd, a descendant of Robert R. Preston Todd, matched the male DNA pattern of Franklin Nelson Horton, who is assumed to be a descendant of Daniel Horton. We have not located exactly where Daniel and Lewis Horton lived, but we do know that the Todds lived at the place known as Maiden Spring in Tazewell County and that many of the Hortons lived about 10 miles west of there in Russell Co in Horton Valley along Indian Creek. Daniel passed some of his land in Tazewell County to his daughter when he died in 1843. So there appears to be a closer geographical connection of Daniel Horton to the Todds than the other Hortons.

The history of these Hortons and the hanging of Abner Vance in 1817 is a story for another day. Suffice it to say that the DNA has solved a mystery about the origins of Robert R. Preston Todd that family historians have been wondering about for 100 years!

Y-DNA Matches of Christopher Todd desc of Robert R. Preston Todd 1817-1898

MARKERS - 8 MATCHES

Genetic Distance ↓	Name	Most Distant Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup	Terminal SNP	Match Date
0	Mr. Ervin L. Horton Jr.	William Horton, b 1630 Yorkshire, d 1700 Virginia	R-BY3927	BY3927	4/25/2013
0	Perry Horton		R-M269		2/5/2007
1	Franklin Nelson Horton	Hugh Horton Sr 1655-1724	R-CTS1751	CTS1751	5/5/2016
1	Ronnie L Amis	Wiley Amis	R-M269		9/18/2012
1	Mr. William Horton	Hugh Horton Sr, b. 1665 d. 1724	R-M269		8/18/2011
1	Martyne Mason	James Mason, born 4 May 1811, Russell Co., VA	R-M269		8/15/2007
2	Raymond Bryan Horton	Wm Horton, 1505-1603, Yorkshire m. Eliz Gledhill	R-BY3927	BY3927	2/14/2013
2	Clarence Henry Horton	Hugh Horton	R-M269		2/5/2007

Family Finder (Autosomal) DNA matches of Christopher Todd, desc of Robert R. Preston Todd

Franklin Nelson Horton	3rd Cousin - 5th Cousin	4th Cousin	50.6939697266	15.9249496460
Robert Vance Horton	4th Cousin - Remote Cousin	-	41.2032012939	11.2827997208
Robin Liane Horton	4th Cousin - Remote Cousin	-	31.8500900269	11.2827997208
Laurel McKay Horton	4th Cousin - Remote Cousin	-	31.0367908478	11.2827997208
James Stuart Horton	5th Cousin - Remote Cousin	-	36.6391601563	7.7507700920
Herman O Todd	3rd Cousin - 5th Cousin	4th Cousin	66.1494064331	14.1825103760
Joanne Louise Todd	3rd Cousin - 5th Cousin	4th Cousin	48.7998886108	14.2982501984

If Robert R Preston Todd was the son of Daniel Horton, then their descendants Chris Todd and Franklin N. Horton would be 4th cousins to each other. This is within the range suggested above.

Also, Chris would be a 4th cousin once removed to Herman Todd because Robert R Preston Todd's wife was a first cousin to Herman's great grandfather. This is also within the range suggested above.

What is surprising is the Joanne Louise Todd would be a 5th cousin once removed to Chris Todd but has almost as much matching DNA as does Franklin. Keep in mind that both Herman and Joanne have three lines going back to Andrew Todd d 1801 so they have three times as much Todd DNA as most descendants without multiple lines going back to a common ancestor. So perhaps that explains why they calculate out as being more closely related than the genealogical chart shows.