

12-2018

Carter Family Tree

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Recommended Citation

Griffin, Mattison, "Carter Family Tree" (2018). *History Class Publications*. 54.
<https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/history/54>

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Course 3003 Seq. #1161

Dr. Hicks

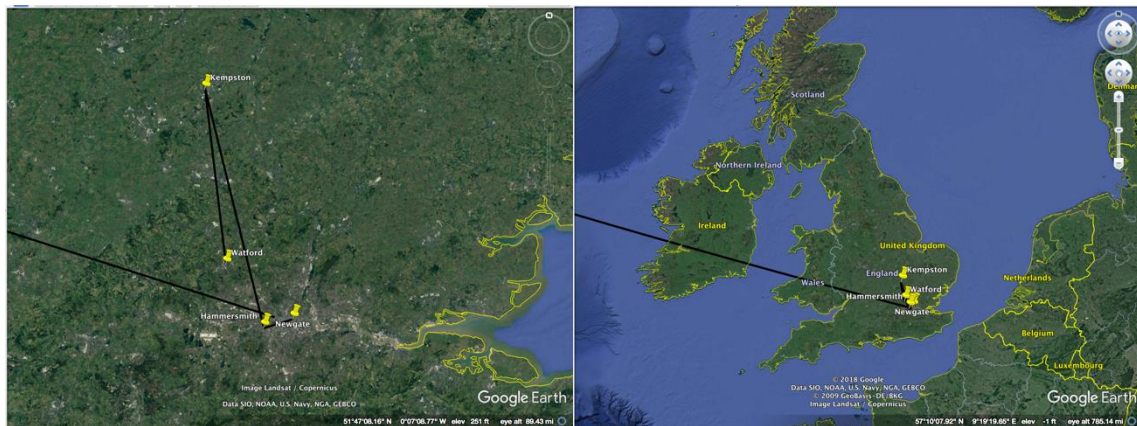
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Research Paper

Genealogy has always struck me as an interesting concept. I had thought about my ancestors before, but I had never actually researched it. When tasked with the job of studying a specific line of my genealogy, I was excited to see what I would find. I was impressed that I was able to trace it back as far as I did. For my research, I focused my attention on my maternal line.

My maternal line can be traced back to around thirty-one generations to a gentleman named Sir NN Le Caretier Knight of France who lived from 1150 to 1210 (“Mattison Griffin Family Tree,” 2018). However, the website in which I found my lineage, familysearch.org, was only able to provide information on family member up to a gentleman named William Carter of England who lived from 1426-1517 (“Mattison Griffin Family Tree,” 2018). Through my research online and an interview with my grandmother and mother, I discovered that my ancestors have traveled to different portions of England before coming to America and travel across the country before settling in one general area for several generations. I have been able to trace my ancestry back to Watford, Hertfordshire, England in the 1500s, as this was where William Carter died (“William Carter,” 2018). His son, John William Nicholas De Carter, then lived in Kempston, Bedfordshire, England, United Kingdom (“John William Nicholas De Carter,” 2018). The next few generations went back to Watford before moving to Hammersmith, London, England, United Kingdom, where Sir Richard Croxton Carter died in 1558 (“Sir Richard

Croxtton Carter, Lord of Garston Manor,” 2018). Once again, the family moved back to Watford (See Map 1). Around the 1600s, John Carter lived in Newgate, London, England, where his son William John Carter II was born in 1599 (“William John Carter II,” 2018). Carter II would be the individual who brought the Carter line to America around 1622 (See Map 2), as he was reported to work near Jamestown, Virginia in 1624 (See Image 1) (“William Carter Sr.,” 2018).



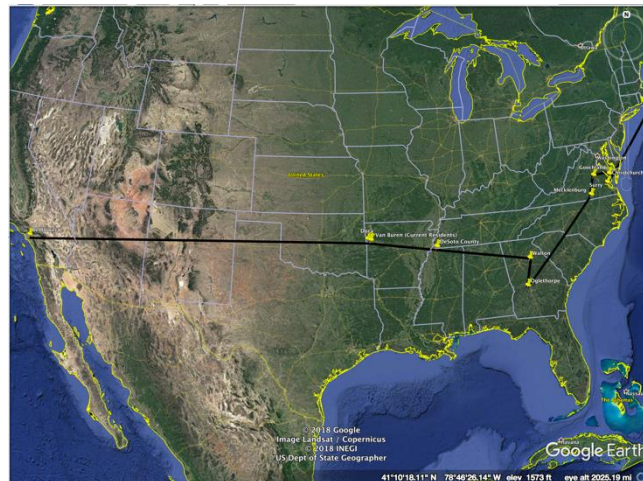
Map 1: These pictures show the internal migration of the Carter family in England.



Map 2: Migration from England to America

When William John Carter II came to America in the 1620s, he settled in Surry, Virginia (“William Carter Sr.,” 2018). The family stayed in this town until William John Carter, who was born in 1660, lived in Christchurch, Virginia (“William John Carter,” 2018). His son, Thomas Pew Carter moved to Goochland, Virginia where he died in 1738 (“Thomas Pew Carter,” 2018). The family moved once again in Virginia to Mecklenburg, Virginia where Thomas Carter died in 1796 (“Thomas Carter,” 2018). Charles Carter Sr., Thomas’ son, moved the Carter family to Oglethorpe, Georgia where he died in 1842 (“Charles Carter Sr,” 2018). His son, Edward Cater kept the family in Georgia, but moved to the city of Walton, Georgia by the time of his death in 1877 (“Edward Carter,” 2018). Elijah Carter, the son of Edward, moved to DeSoto, Mississippi in 1850 (“Elijah "Ely" G. Carter,” 2018). His son James Harrison Carter, was possibly born in Georgia, but according to census records, by 1850 he was living in De Soto, Mississippi (U.S. Census Bureau, 1850). By 1883 he had moved to Dora, Arkansas where Walter Carter was born (“James Harrison Carter,” 2018). Walter, my great-great-grandfather, lived in Dora for most of his life, until he moved to Bellflower, Los Angeles, California (“Walter Carter,” 2018). His daughter and my great-grandmother, Grace Atomie Carter, lived her entire life in Dora (“Grace Atomie Carter,” 2018), and my grandmother, Ola Mae Gibbs, was born and raised there as well (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018). In 1955, Ola married Don Hicks and lived in Fort Smith, Arkansas (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018). They moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma due to Don having a better job opportunity (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018). They live in Tulsa for a some time before moving back to Fort Smith because Don had another job offer (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018). My mother, Debbie Griffin was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas and lived there till she was

six, and then she moved with her parents to Van Buren (D. Griffin, personal communication, November 21, 2018). When they moved to Van Buren, their house also moved with them. The home was not a normal mobile home, but they were able to get the house on wheels and transport it across the Arkansas River and to the east side of Van Buren where it still sits today (D. Griffin, personal communication, November 21, 2018). After Debbie married in 1993, she moved to Heber Springs, Arkansas where my father, Jeff Griffin was a youth pastor (D. Griffin, personal communication, November 21, 2018). In the late summer of 1995, they moved back to the Fort Smith area due to rental property (D. Griffin, personal communication, November 21, 2018). A month later they moved to Van Buren about a half a mile from where I grew up (D. Griffin, personal communication, November 21, 2018). We have lived in the same home for twenty-one years.



Map 3: Internal migration across the United States.

Throughout my family history there have been two main factors that have caused the my ancestors to migrate. The first was possibly from a famine that occurred between 1622 and

1624 in Lancashire, England. Lancashire is about 200 miles northwest of Newgate, where William John Carter II was living prior to his immigration to America. This famine is believed to have begun with the poor harvest in 1621, and it did not improve in 1622 or 1623 ("Famine as agricultural catastrophe: the crisis of 1622-4 in east Lancashire," 2010). Carter II is recorded to have come to America prior to March of 1622, and he may have been trying to leave the famine that was beginning in England ("William Carter Sr.," 2018). There is no conclusive evidence that says, that this is why Carter II left England, but the timing fits. Once he came to America, he lived in Surry, Virginia, which is about ten miles south of Jamestown, Virginia. Another major migration that my ancestors experienced was when Walter Carter and his wife Gertrude (See Image 2) moved to California in the 1940 (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018). They moved due to the Great Depression and the need for jobs (See Image 3). According to my grandmother, her family would travel to California often, or Walter and Gertrude would come back to Arkansas to visit. At one point, my grandmother shared that her parents, Grace and Fredrick had planned on moving the family out to California and staying, however that only lasted six months before they returned to Arkansas (O. Hicks, personal communication, November 4, 2018).



Image 1: Map of Jamestown in 1624.



Image 2: Walter and Gertrude Carter. Date: Unknown



Image 3: Arkansas family during the Great Depression.

When my ancestors moved to California, they were a part of a “wave” of migration in that many people were moving to California, because the state was not being severely affected by the Dust Bowl that had taken over the Great Plains regions, and there were many crops that needed harvested. Due to the Great Depression that was also taking place at this time, many were migrating due to the need for jobs, to buy food for their families.

Throughout my family’s history, one aspect that has not changed is that we have spoken any language except English, as far as I can tell. Since they lived in England and then came to an English founded area of America, there was no language barrier that occurred during immigration.

A change that may or may not occurred in my family history, but has occurred in recent family history is that of religion. I was unable to find any specifics that mentioned what religion my family practiced. I can assume they were Christians in England, but I do not know whether they were Catholic Christians or Protestant Christians. I know that in my recent family history,

my grandmother was raised Pentecostal because her father, Grace's husband, was a preacher. When my mom was a little girl, my grandparents did not go to church. It was not until I was baptized that they started coming to church on a regular basis. The church they began to attend, which is the same church that my parents and I attend is a Baptist church. Within the past four generations, the family has changed from being a practicing Pentecostal to a practicing Baptist.

In some cases of migration across the world, people migrate due to political events such as wars or government changes. Looking at the migration history of my ancestors, political events did not seem to affect them. During the Civil War, I had three family members who were alive, Edward Carter, his son Elijah "Ely" Carter, and his son James Harrison Carter. These men stayed in one place during the Civil War. Edward Carter lived in Walton, Georgia ("Edward Carter," 2018). Elijah lived in DeSoto, Mississippi before the war began (U.S. Census Bureau, 1850) and after the war (U.S. Census Bureau, 1870). James lived with his father prior to the start of the war (U.S. Census Bureau, 1850) and by 1880, he lived in Senatobia, Mississippi (U.S. Census Bureau, 1880).

It seems as if my family history begins the same way many white, non-Hispanic/Latino families begin, they begin somewhere in Europe excluding Spain and Portugal. My family lived in England and traveled to different cities in the southeastern portion of the country. My family then, like many others, chose to come to America. While in America, they migrated to different portions of Virginia, then to Georgia, Mississippi, and to Arkansas, where a majority of the family settled down, except for my great-great-grandfather who moved to California.

Bibliography

Charles Carter Sr. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCFZ-TVZ>

From this website I was able to learn information about my great-great-great-great-great-grandfather. I also had access to documents, such as his marriage record.

"Damned if we'll work for what they pay folks hereabouts."(n.d.). Retrieved December 1, 2018, from <https://libraries.uark.edu/info/exhibitgallery.asp?ExhibitID=125>

This picture is of an Arkansas family during the Great Depression and helps show what life was like for families during that time.

Edward Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCFZ-27Z>

From this source I gained knowledge about my great-great-great-great-grandfather. I was also able to discover links to information on his immediate family as well as to his marriage record.

Elijah "Ely" G. Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/M483-Q6B>

This website allowed me access to census records from 1850 and 1870. I was also able to find the names and links to information on his spouse, children, and his parents.

Grace Atomie Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KV2T-C3B>

From this website, I was able to attain access to multiple documents, such as her marriage records and her divorce record. I was also able to locate the Arkansas Census of 1910, 1920, and 1940.

Griffin, D. K. (2018, November 21). Family Genealogy [Personal interview].

From this interview, I was able to learn some stories about my mother and her migration throughout her life.

Hoyle, R. (2010). Famine as agricultural catastrophe: The crisis of 1622-4 in east Lancashire. *The Economic History Review*, 63(4), new series, 974-1002. Retrieved from

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40929867>

This article provided information on a famine that was taking place in England, that may have caused my ancestors to immigrate to America.

Hicks, O. M. (2018, November 4). Family Genealogy [Personal interview].

From this interview, I was able to learn many stories about my grandmother, her mother, Grace, and her grandmother, Gertrude. These stories are very informational about the travels that my great-great-grandparents and my great-grandparents had. These are very beneficial in how my family migrated across the country multiple times.

James Harrison Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LHZR-RG4>

On this website, I was able to find multiple census records from 1850, 1880, and 1900. These records show how one of my ancestors moved to different locations in Mississippi before migrating to Arkansas.

John Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LKSG-1NN>

This website provided information on his immediate family, including his fifteen children. This website also provides links to the christenings of some of his children.

John William Nicholas De Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/96X5-QCY>

From this website, I can see where the individual was born and where they died, and even the location where they are buried. The website also provides links to family information.

Mattison Griffin Family Tree. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/pedigree/landscape/GM32-FZM>

From this family tree, I am able to trace my family lineage back several generations for my maternal and paternal lines. I can trace it back to a gentleman's birthyear of 900. The tree allowed me the opportunity to trace back the Carter line of my family back to the year 1150.

Robert Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCFV-5WV>

This website allowed me to find basic information on Robert Carter. Though there is not much information on this site, it allowed me to find other information on other ancestors.

Sir Richard Croxton Carter, Lord of Garston Manor. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/GM7V-CYV>

From this website, I was able to gain information on my ancestor and his immediate family. I also found out some other names that he went by.

Sir Thomas Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LK63-2ZH>

This website provided me with several links to marriage records and christening records. I was also able to find information on his spouse, children, parents, and siblings.

Sir William de Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LVJ7-FF7>

I was able to find a link to a christening record. This website also informed me of the full nobility title he was given.

Thomas Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L7NK-Y6N>

This website allowed me access to links for registers, marriage records, and christening records. I was also able to learn that even though he was born and died in Virginia, he may have lived in England at one point.

Thomas Pew Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L2V9-NSZ>

I was able to gain access to several christening records from this website. These show that several of his children were christened in England, while he was born and died in Virginia.

Walter Hugh Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/KV2T-HBJ>

This website provided me with links to multiple census records, for the years 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930, as well as a marriage record. It even provides the location to where he is buried in California.

William Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LJVR-PSY>

From this website I was able to gain basic information on William Carter. I was also able to gather some information on his immediate family.

William Carter III. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LDWL-NZ9>

This website provided me with many christening records and marriage records. I can even look at information about his close family.

William Carter Sr. (n.d.). Retrieved November 30, 2018, from

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Carter-4290#Immigration>

This source provided me with some information on when William Carter Sr. came to America. It even provided a possible job description.

William John Carter. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L8PD-2PF>

I was able to obtain links to several christening records. I was also able to find links to marriage records.

William John Carter II. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2018, from

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/M2NP-QYC>

This website provided links to several different records. I also found that this individual was the one who seemed to bring the family to America because he was born in England and died in Virginia.

