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Portraits of the Past

On the Cover:

George Jackson and Cynthia Crocker

George E. Jackson, born 4 December 1835 in New York, probably Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, was the son of John and Menirva (Stilwell) Jackson. Minerva was the daughter of Stephen Stilwell. George's family moved to Erie County, New York, in the late 1840s, with his extended family including his parents and siblings as well as his mother's family.

George's family joined the western migration of many New York families to the Midwest, settling first in Ionia County, Michigan, and then in Ingham County, Michigan. Around 1858, he married Cynthia Crocker, born 29 March 1840 in Genessee County, New York. The Crocker family had been near neighbors of the Jacksons in Alden Township, Erie County.

George and Cynthia lived the hardworking, stable life of a farming family. George himself cleared much of their forested property to develop it into farmland. They cared for livestock and raised crops such as wheat, corn, and oats. By 1880, they were raising sheep to sell wool and had two acres of apple orchards.

They had five children, and outlived two of them. George died 19 March 1913 after a long illness. Following his death, Cynthia moved to Lansing and lived with their son Elmer who had left the farming life behind to work in construction. Cynthia died 20 December 1925 at her son's home in Lansing, Ingham County. She and George are buried in Dansville near his parents and their children.

Credits. The picture was given to Barbara J. Garrison (bjg@psu.edu) by her grandmother Irene Collier Jackson Garrison, the mother of Homer and Ruth Garrison. Barbara is a 4th great-granddaughter of Stephen Stilwell.

DNA Merges Families of Stephen Stilwell of Dutchess County, New York; Cornwall, Upper Canada; and Coshocton County, Ohio

By Patricia Lee Hobbs, CG, and Barbara J. Garrison, PhD

Over a thirty-year span records of multiple families in different locations point to a common patriarch. Y-DNA and autosomal DNA triangulation proves one man fathered children with five women.

Stephen Stilwells headed three families in disparate locations. The first lived in Cornwall, Upper Canada, in the 1790s. The second resided in Dutchess County, New York, from 1799 through about 1810. The third Stephen Stilwell family lived in Coshocton County, Ohio, from 1811 into the 1820s. DNA testing revealed they were all led by one man, moving from one place to the next, leaving a trail of progeny in his wake.

Stephen's descendants discovered their shared DNA, and that he fathered two illegitimate children, each connected to one of the three known families. A distinctive shared Y-DNA SNP and numerous autosomal DNA matches prove Stephen Stilwell's relationship to the families' members.

Stephen Stilwell, born about 1769, died in Coshocton County, Ohio, on 31 December 1827 at age fifty-eight.¹ Three of his legitimate children reported a New

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1. *Find A Grave* (www.findagrave.com), memorial 79299491, digital image, 25 Oct 2012, by Debe Clark, gravestone for Stephen Stilwell (Franklin Cem., Franklin, Coshocton Co., Ohio). The gravestone has been repaired and the year of death is obliterated. Stephen's will was written 27 Dec 1827. See, Coshocton Co., Ohio, Will & Inventory Record 2B:272-75, Stephen Stillwell will; *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org), Image Group Number (IGN) 5449234, image 400. For letters of administration, 4 Apr 1828, pp. 219-20, image 373.

York birthplace for him; two others indicated Vermont and New Jersey.² Recently discovered evidence suggests Stephen Stilwell's birthplace was the Beekman Patent area of Dutchess County, New York.³

Little more is known about Stephen Stilwell. He may be the man of the same name living briefly in Fair Haven, Rutland County, Vermont. Stephen Stilwell bought fifty acres there in May 1791 and used it as security against a debt on 14 March 1792.⁴ About a month later, residing in Fair Haven, he signed a petition to obtain land in Lower Canada.⁵

Stephen's migration is consistent with others of his time and place. By 1791 movement from southern New York into northern New York, Vermont, and the Province of Quebec (from which Ontario was extracted as part of Upper Canada in 1791) had become commonplace. Beginning in the 1780s, the promise of free land in Upper Canada attracted Loyalists dispossessed of their lands and chattels during the Revolutionary War.⁶ Perhaps even more relevant in Stephen's case, Dutchess County residents were then purchasing bounty-land warrants enticing them to relocate to northeastern New York near Plattsburgh.⁷ Dutchess County residents' interests extended beyond upper New York; the first proprietors' meetings for the town of Danby in Rutland County, Vermont, were held in Dutchess County.⁸ Between 1790 and 1800, Vermont's population had grown from just over eighty-five thousand to more than one hundred fifty-four thousand—almost an 81 percent increase.⁹

2. For New York birthplace, see 1880 US census, Ingham Co., Mich., White Oak Township, enumeration district (ED) 142, p. 11, dwelling 113, family 114, Minirva Jackson. Also, 1880 US census, Dent Co., Mo., Spring Creek Twp., ED 65, p. 68, dwell./fam. 498, Newton Stilwell. Also, 1880 US census, Clark Co., Ill., Parker Twp., ED 42, p. 13 (penned), p. 171 (stamped), dwell. 105, fam. 106, Wm Stilwell. For New Jersey, 1880 US census, Guernsey Co., Ohio, Wheeling Twp., ED 81, p. 19 (penned), p. 297 (stamped), dwell. 166, fam. 178, Adaline Miskimmin. For Vermont, 1880 US census, Jasper Co., Ill., Grove Twp., ED 157, p. 12, dwell. 96, fam. 99, Rebecca Graham.

3. Frank J. Doherty, "The Stillwell Family," *The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: Spencer to Swift*, vol. 13 (Orlando, Fla.: author, 2017), 415–16. Research attributed to Valerie LaRobardier was commissioned independently by Barbara J. Garrison and Janice Johnson.

4. Fair Haven, Vt., Land Records, 2P:346, Mathew Lyon to Stephen Stilwell, 31 May 1791; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8582624, image 207. Also, Rutland Co., Vt., Land Records, 2:11–12, Stephen Stilwell to Oliver Cleaveland, 14 Mar 1792; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8129412, image 240.

5. Memorial of Simeon Smith, 24 Jul 1792, Lower Canada Land Papers, Record Group (RG) 1, L3L, vol. 184, Smith Robert – Smith William, stamped item 88505; "Land Petitions of Lower Canada, 1764–1841," *Library and Archives Canada* (www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-lower-canada-1764-1841/pages/land-petitions-lower-canada.aspx) > SearchDatabase > Stillwell, Stephen > 1792; citing Library and Archives Canada (LAC) microfilm C-2563.

6. "Loyalist Records," Research Guide 227, *Archives of Ontario* (www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/access/documents/research_guide_227_united_empire_loyalists.pdf), 3.

7. Peter S. Palmer, *History of Lake Champlain from its First Exploration by the French in 1609 to the Close of the Year 1814* (Albany, N.Y.: J. Munsell, 1866), 163–65.

8. J. C. Williams, *The History and Map of Danby, Vermont* (Rutland, Vt.: McLean & Robbins, 1869), 11–13.

9. Edward Day Collins, *A History of Vermont* (Boston: Atheneum Press, 1903), 299.

STEPHEN STILWELL'S FIVE FAMILIES

First Relationship, about 1790–96: Lois Roys

Lois Roys was the daughter of Evan Roys.¹⁰ A Loyalist, Evan petitioned the British crown for lands in Upper Canada as compensation for his confiscated New Ashford, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, property. Roys was a native of Connecticut and by 1771 had moved to New Ashford. He was drafted to serve in the militia in 1777. After marching against General John Burgoyne, Roys and his son escaped and joined the British Army, serving the remainder of the war with them. By 1787 Roys resided in New Johnston (now Cornwall), Upper Canada. His wife did not immediately join him in Canada. She had to pay \$60 per year to live on part of the confiscated land before moving to Canada by 1788.¹¹

In 1797, Lois stated she was “Steven” Stillwell’s wife.¹² Lois remarried to George Barnhart; he died in 1811.¹³ Lois’s children’s surnames reflect their father’s.¹⁴ Lois Barnhart and her children “Kaizia” and John Stillwell are named in Evan Roys’s 1819 will.¹⁵ Lois (Roys) Stilwell Barnhart died in March 1816.¹⁶

10. Township of Cornwall, Eastern District of Upper Canada, estate files, arranged alphabetically by year, will, Evan Roys Senr., dated 12 Dec 1817, filed 2 Apr 1819; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8131254, images 1047–49.

11. American Loyalist Claims Commission, 1783–1790, Evidence, New York, 1788, pp. 86–87, evidence in the claim of Evan Roys, 27 Feb 1788; *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3712). The microfilm was mislabeled when filmed. The archival record group number designated with each image can be found at *The National Archives* (discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C3439403), where AO 12 contains the American Loyalists Claims, Series 1, and AO 12/33 is for 1788 New York evidences. For name change of New Johnstown to Cornwall, see Brenda Dougall Merriman, *Genealogy in Ontario: Searching the Records, 30th Anniversary Edition* (Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 2013), 39.

12. Upper Canada Land Petitions (1763–1865), petition of “Loies” Stillwell as daughter of a Loyalist, 27 Oct 1797; Upper Canada Land Petitions, RG 1, L3, vol. 451, S Bundle 4, (1797–1799), no. 177; *Library and Archives Canada* (www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/006003-110.011-e.php) > Upper Canada Land Petitions (1763–1865) > C-2808 > image 348.

13. Stormont Co., Eastern Dist., Upper Canada, Deeds C:408–10, memorial no. 268, will, George Barnhart, 2 Mar 1811, registered 11 Jun 1811; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8130280, images 228–29. Executors were his sons William George Barnhart and John Barnhart, the same executors named by Lois Barnhart in her will.

14. Stormont Co., estate files, arranged alphabetically by year, will, Lois Barnhart, written 17 Mar 1816, filed for probate 29 Mar 1816; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8131254, images 852–54. John Stilwell, Cuziah Stilwell, and Olive (Stilwell) Barnhart are named as Lois’s children.

15. Township of Cornwall, Eastern Dist. of Upper Canada, will, Evan Roys Senr., dated 12 Dec 1817, filed 2 Apr 1819.

16. Stormont Co., estate files, will, Lois Barnhart. Trinity Church (Church of England), Cornwall, Ontario, burials in Cornwall (1885 transcription), p. 7, no. 97, burial, “Widow of G. Barnhart,” 20 Mar 1816; citing LAC, Manuscript Group (MG) 9, Ser. D 7, vol. 3-3, Ottawa; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8130403, image 445.

Known children of Stephen and Lois (Roys) Stilwell were:¹⁷

- I. OLIVE STILLWELL, born about 1792 in the United States; died 10 October 1862 and is buried at the Trinity Anglican Church Cemetery in Mississauga, Peel County, Ontario.¹⁸ She married JOHN BARNHART, son of George Barnhart, in May 1809.¹⁹ John was born in March 1790, probably in Cornwall, Eastern District, Upper Canada. He died 29 October 1863.²⁰
- II. KEZIAH STILLWELL, born in Cornwall, Eastern District, Upper Canada about 1795; died 1 March 1883 in Cornwall Township, Stormont County, Ontario.²¹ She married JAMES ROBERTSON 17 February 1818.²² James, born on 21 January 1791 in Upper Canada, died 13 September 1864.²³
- III. JOHN STILLWELL, born about 1796 in Cornwall, Eastern District, Upper Canada; died 21 August 1876 in Osnabruck, Stormont County.²⁴ He married

17. Stormont Co., estate files, will, Lois Barnhart. All three children named in the will.

18. *Find A Grave*, memorial 146053966, digital image, 4 May 2015, by Richard Holmes, gravestone for Olive Barnhart (Trinity Anglican Church Cem., Mississauga, Peel Co., Ontario). The tombstone photo shows the month and year of Olive's death clearly, but the day, although consistent with "10," is on the damaged part of the stone as is her age in years at death. For Olive's year and place of birth, see 1851 Canada census, [Canada West], personal census, Peel Co., ED 3, Toronto, ward 3, p. 21 (penned), p. 103 (stamped), no. 25, Olivia Barnhart, age 60; citing LAC microfilm C-11746, Ottawa. Also, 1861 Canada census, [Canada West], personal census, Peel Co., ED 1, Village of Streetsville, p. 7 (penned), p. 7 (stamped), no. 29, Olive Barnhart, age 68; citing LAC microfilm C-1063, Ottawa.

19. Upper Canada, Marriage Bonds, 1806–1814, p. 94 (stamped), Barnhart-Stillwell, license issued 18 May 1809; citing RG 5, B9, vol. 13, LAC, Ottawa; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8200794, image 184.

20. *Find A Grave*, memorial 45009458, digital image, 1 Dec 2009, by "Islington," gravestone for John Barnhart (Trinity Anglican Church Cem., Mississauga, Peel, Ont.).

21. Ontario, Death Registrations, 1883, F:532, no. 8 (penned), no. 15969 (stamped), Keziah Robertson, 1 Mar 1883; citing RG 80-8, Archives of Ontario, Toronto; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4032998, image 666.

22. Trinity Church (Church of England) marriages in Cornwall (1885 transcription), p. 17, Robertson-Stilwell, 17 Feb 1818; vol. 3-1, image 366.

23. *Find A Grave*, memorial 177186417, digital image, 14 Apr 2020, by "LanieC" (Maple Grove Cem., Stormont Co., Ont.). The death date in the memorial has been misinterpreted by the contributor to fit a Presbyterian church record for a different James Robertson; see St. John's Church, Cornwall, Register of marriages, births and funerals, 1833–1863, Sep–Nov 1854 (arranged chronologically), burial no. 8, James Robertson, 13 Oct; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8486552, image 106. Keziah's husband wrote his will on 7 Jun 1864 and it was recorded on 27 Sep 1864, see Township of Cornwall, C:171–73, memorial 1391, will, James Robertson; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8130284, images 94–95. Censuses indicate that Keziah's husband belonged to the Church of England, not the Presbyterian church: 1861 Canada census, Stormont Co., Canada West, personal census, Cornwall, ED 4, p. 59 (stamped), lines 18–19, James and Keziah Robertson.

24. Ontario, Death Registrations, 1876, E:214, no. 20 (penned), no. 13226 (stamped), John Stilwell, 21 Aug 1876; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4173140, image 671. Birth year calculated from age at death.

ELIZABETH CHRISTIE, born about 1798, the daughter of Abijah Christie.²⁵ Elizabeth died 14 May 1883 in Osnabruck.²⁶

In 1798, Lois's petition was approved for two hundred acres.²⁷ She was granted Lot 4, First (Front) Concession in the town of Cumberland.²⁸ No entry shows Lois sold this land.²⁹ The abstract index shows Lois as sole owner of two hundred acres granted by the crown; it does not show how it was conveyed to the next owner.³⁰ Neither do the township papers provide helpful information. When the next-shown owner sold the land in 1834 nothing indicates how he had acquired it.³¹ Other than Lois's petition, the land records make no mention of Stephen or his whereabouts.

No Stilwells appear in Ontario estate files processed by the probate court or surrogate court before 1859.³² No Stilwells transferred or received land in the town or township of Cornwall.³³ Other than Keziah Stilwell's marriage to James Robertson, the Church of England records in Cornwall contain no Stilwells—no baptisms of Stilwell children, no marriage for Lois to George Barnhart, no burial record for Stephen.³⁴ Other microfilmed Cornwall church records begin much

25. Upper Canada Land Petitions (1763–1865), petition of Elizabeth Stillwell of Osnabruck, 4 Feb 1850; Upper Canada Land Petitions, RG 1, L3, vol. 484, S Bundle 5, (1848–50), no. 152; *Library and Archives Canada* > Upper Canada Land Petitions (1763–1865) > C-2826 > image 864.

26. Ontario, Death Registrations, 1883, F:587, no. 14 (penned), no. 16218 (stamped), Mrs. John Stilwell, 14 May 1883; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4032998, image 693.

27. Upper Canada Land Book D:25, "Lewis" Stillwell, 5 Jan 1798; *Heritage Canadiana* (heritage.canadiana.ca/view/occihm.lac_mikan_205068), reel C-101, image 530. On the outside of the petition, the name is spelled "Louis Stillwell," but Lois signed with "her" mark and the petition is clearly for a daughter of Evan Roys.

28. Cumberland Twp., Russell Co., Upper Canada, miscellaneous township papers, 11–15, lot 4, front, Lois Stillwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8346938, images 635–39.

29. Cumberland Twp., alphabetical index [to land records], pp. 3–7, 88–90, index pages for surnames beginning with B and S; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8130256, images 7–9 and 41–42. These records began in 1806.

30. Cumberland Twp., abstract index, p. 5, lot 4; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8660035, image 8.

31. Cumberland Twp., register 2:71, memorial 1988, Dunning to Waters, 1834; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8631591, image 42.

32. Ministry of Government and Consumer Services, "Ontario Probate Court Records – Surnames O to Z," *Archives of Ontario* (www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/ontario_probate_rg22fc.aspx), alphabetical listing; citing Archives of Ontario, Inventory 22, Appendix A1 for probate court. Also, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services, "Ontario Surrogate Court Index 1793–1858," (www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/surrogate_court_index_rg22h.aspx), negative search results for Stilwell; citing Archives of Ontario, RG 22, Appendix 25.

33. Cornwall Twp., Stormont Co., Ontario, alphabetical index 1:264–68, negative search results for Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8200442, images 50–52. Also, Town of Cornwall, Stormont Co., alphabetical index, 217–18, negative search results for Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8189761, image 31.

34. Trinity (Anglican) Church, Cornwall, Ontario, 1803–1846, baptisms index, p. 38, negative search results for Stilwell children, marriage index, pp. 2 and 12–13, negative search results for marriage of Barnhart to Roys or Stilwell, p. 13, negative search results for Stilwell burials; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8130403, images 350, 437, and 517. The church records were transcribed by the rector in 1885.

later.³⁵ Searchable newspaper databases reveal no relevant Stilwells.³⁶ No divorce record for Stephen and Lois exists.³⁷

Second Relationship, about 1796: Mary Ann Roys

Mary Ann Roys was also Evan Roy's daughter.³⁸ She married Alvin C. Monroe possibly 16 January 1800 at Williamstown, Berkshire County, New York. Mary Ann already had a son, Darius, of undocumented paternity.³⁹

- I. DARIUS MONROE, reported his own birth as 16 April 1797 at New Ashford, Berkshire County, Massachusetts; died 20 November 1880 at his home in Bronson, Branch County, Michigan. He married PARLEY HOOKER 1 December 1824, probably in Cayuga County, New York.⁴⁰

Alvin, son of Reuben Monroe, was born 20 May 1781 in New Ashford, Berkshire County, Massachusetts; he died 10 June 1827 at Cayuga County, New York. Darius adopted Alvin's surname.⁴¹

No marriage or intent-to-marry record exists in Williamstown for Alvin Monroe to Mary Ann Roys. Williamstown birth records for two of Reuben's children exist—Almeren in 1783 and Arden Chapman Munroe in 1785.⁴² New Ashford,

35. *FamilySearch* catalog, search for "Ontario, Stormont, Cornwall."

36. *PaperofRecord.com* (paperofrecord.hypernet.ca), negative search results in *Ottawa Free Press* (1871–75, 1881), *Ottawa Times* (1865–67), *Simcoe Reformer* (1860–2003), *Bytown Gazette* (1836–41), *Kingston Chronicle* (1833–45), *Kingston Daily News* (1862–64), *Le Franc-Parleur* (1870–78), *Montreal Herald* (1811–16), *Montreal Transcript* (1840–45), *Le Nouveau Monde* (1861–71). Also *Ottawa Daily Citizen*, 1846–80; *Newspapers* (newspapers.com). Also, *NewspaperArchive*, broad search through all Ontario newspapers.

37. There were no legislative acts governing divorce before 1840 in what is now Ontario; see Acts of Divorce, 1841–1968, *Library and Archives of Canada* (www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/vital-statistics-births-marriages-deaths/divorce-1841-1968/Pages/acts-divorce-1841-1968.aspx). Between 1826 and 1840, divorce was granted by Parliament; see "Index to Canadian Parliamentary Divorces 1826–1946," *CanGenealogy* (www.cangenealogy.com/armstrong/divintro.htm). Although not an official government site, the "Acts of Divorce . . ." page on *Library and Archives of Canada* links to it. Negative search results for Stephen and Lois Stilwell.

38. Will of Evan Roys Senr., 1817. Will names daughter Maryan Munrow.

39. Joan S. Guildford, *The Monroe Book: Being the History of the Munro Clan from its Origins in Scotland to Settlement in New England and Migration to the West 1652–1850 and Beyond* (Franklin, N.C.: Genealogy Publishing, 1993), 415–16.

40. Marriage information, years and places of residences, birth and death dates and locations are given in "Death of Hon. Darius Monroe," *Coldwater (Michigan) Republican*, 23 Nov 1880, p. 3. The same birth date, but a birthplace of Williamstown, Massachusetts, is given in *Early History of Michigan with Biographies of State Officers, Members of Congress, Judges and Legislators* (Lansing: Thorp & Godfrey, 1888), 467–68. New Ashford is less than ten miles from Williamstown.

41. Guildford, *The Monroe Book*, 415–16.

42. Rollin Hillyer Cooke, "Williamstown, Mass., Proprietor's Book, 1754–1879, Town Records, 1753–1882" (typescript, undated), p. 191; *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/405194).

Massachusetts, recorded no marriage of Mary Ann Roys nor birth records for any Roys or Munroe children.⁴³

Cayuga County, New York, recorded no probate for Alvin Munro, nor land he or Mary Ann acquired.⁴⁴ Mary Ann Munroe and Darius Munroe were enumerated next to each other in Cayuga County in 1830 and 1840.⁴⁵

Mary Ann and her son Jesse Monroe moved to Branch County, Michigan, by 1850.⁴⁶ Jesse's marriage record and death certificate identify his parents as Alvin C. Monroe and Mary Ann R[?]ce.⁴⁷ Darius Monroe followed them in late 1852 to 1853.⁴⁸ Darius nominated "my brother Jesse Monroe" as his estate executor.⁴⁹ No probate file exists for Mary Ann Monroe.⁵⁰

Third Relationship, about 1799–1808: Cornelia (possibly Van Keuren)

Stephen Stilwell married Cornelia before 1799. She may be Cornelia van Keuren, daughter of Cornelius van Keuren and Elizabeth Westervelt, born 17 February 1773.⁵¹ Cornelia Stilwell's death 24 December 1867 in Portland, Ionia County, Michigan, at age ninety-five years, eleven months correlates closely to Cornelia van Keuren's birth.⁵² In 1855 she lived with her daughter's family in Alden, Erie County, New York, where she had lived for the previous twenty years.⁵³ Cornelia's Dutchess County birth agrees with census details.

43. New Ashford, Mass., Town Records, vol. 1, negative search result browsing every page; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8204590, images 1–99. Marriages were scattered throughout. Births were recorded on images 71–87.

44. Cayuga Co., N.Y., General Index to Surrogate's Records L–Z, 576; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5115389, image 138. Also, Cayuga Co., N.Y., deed indexes, grantor, vols. 1–4, and grantee, vols. 1–4, M surnames with A and M given names, negative search results; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7164162, 7164163, 7164171, and 7164172.

45. 1830 US census, Cayuga Co., N.Y., Town of Victory, p. 440, Mary Ann Munro, Darius Munroe. Also, 1840 US census, Cayuga Co., N.Y., Victory, p. 57, Darius Munro and Mary Ann Munro.

46. 1850 US census, Branch Co., Mich., Matteson, p. 2, dwell./fam. 15, Mary A. Monroe.

47. Branch Co., Mich., Record of Marriages G:9, no. 135, Monroe-Ballou, 24 Mar 1888; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4653744, image 15. His mother's name is "Rice" on the marriage record. Also, Michigan Division of Vital Statistics, death certificate no. 14 (1911), Jesse Monroe; *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/60872). The second letter in Maryann's surname is unclear.

48. Darius was of the town of Victory, Cayuga Co., when he and his wife sold land in the town of Sterling in 1852. See Cayuga Co., Deeds 85:470–71, Darius and Parley Monroe to Robert Hammon, 20 Oct 1852; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7167348, image 280. He was of Bronson, Branch Co., Mich., by Dec 1853. See Cayuga Co., Deeds 87:416–17, Darius Monroe to John Pelton, 7 Dec 1853; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7167350, image 253.

49. Branch Co., estate file 2195, will of Darius Monroe, 10 Nov 1880; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5561127, image 643.

50. Branch Co., General Probate Index L–Z, p. 14; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5564358, image 259.

51. Reformed Dutch Church, Pougkeepsie, N.Y., records, baptisms, p. 54, Cornelia Van Keuren, bap. 14 Mar 1773; *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6961).

52. Michigan, Death records, 1867–68, Ionia, Co., 176–77, no. 124, Cornelia Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4207814, images 322–23.

53. 1855 N.Y. state census, Erie Co., Alden, pp. 36–37, dwell./fam. 310, Cornelia Stellwil in Edward Jewell household. Cornelia and Edward and Amanda Jewell had resided in Alden for twenty years.

Stephen and Cornelia Stilwell had five known children together. Two left records naming parents. Amanda Stilwell's 1817 marriage to Abraham Jewell in Dutchess County, New York, names parents, Stephen and Cornelia Stilwell of Beekman.⁵⁴ Eliza Marcy's Michigan death record identifies parents as Stephen and Cornelia Stilwell.⁵⁵ The Stilwell children's ages, their Dutchess County origins, migrations to Erie County and later, Ionia County, Michigan, help support the family structure. See table 1.

Cornelia lived with Hiram Stilwell in 1850.⁵⁶ His associates in their early days in Erie County help connect Cornelius Stilwell to this family. In 1836 Cornelius kept a tavern on the corner of Main and Huron Streets in Buffalo.⁵⁷ In 1837 Hiram Stilwell was a bar keeper for Cornelius there.⁵⁸ Cornelius bought one hundred acres in lot 15 in Alden Township in 1837.⁵⁹ In 1840 he bought eighty acres in lot 26 in Alden.⁶⁰ Hiram bought 65 acres in the same lot 26 in 1844.⁶¹ In 1851 Amanda (Stilwell) Jewell bought 1.5 acres cornering Hiram's lot-26 property.⁶² The proximity of Hiram, Cornelius, and Amanda's properties supports their sibling connection.

- I. AMANDA STILLWELL, born 26 October 1799 in Dutchess County, probably Poughkeepsie; died 25 March 1881, probably in Genesee County, Michigan.⁶³ She married 16 February 1817 ABRAHAM JEWELL, son of William and

54. Pleasant Valley Presbyterian church records, 1766–1905, unpaginated, marriages arranged chronologically, 15 Feb 1817 “Abraham Jewell son of William and Mary of Fishkill was married to Amanda Stillwell Daughter of Stephen and Cornelia of Beekman”; digital images from microfilm of the original records sent to Hobbs by New York State Library, Albany.

55. Ionia Co., Mich., Record of Deaths B:43, no. 936, Eliza Marcy, 5 Nov 1888; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7621882, image 51.

56. 1850 US census, Erie Co., N.Y., p. 27 (penned), p. 161 (stamped), dwell. 446, fam. 460, Hiram Stilwell household.

57. City directory of Buffalo for 1836, p. 142; “Buffalo City Directories,” *New York Heritage Digital Collections* (<https://nyheritage.org/collections/buffalo-city-directories>). The title page is missing.

58. *A Directory for the City of Buffalo; Containing the Names and Residence of the Heads of Families, Householders, and other Inhabitants in Said City, on the 1st of May 1837* (Buffalo: Sarah Cray, 1837), 128.

59. Erie Co., N.Y., Deeds, 49:54 (penned), Charles Boynton to Cornelius Stilwell, 10 Oct 1837; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7150856, image 33.

60. Erie Co., Deeds, 59:488–90, Sheriff's deed to Cornelius Stilwell, 8 Jun 1840; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7150851, image 553–54.

61. Erie Co., Deeds, 186:588–89, Wm. R Gwinn et al. to Hiram Stillwell, 12 Apr 1844; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7150950, image 304.

62. Erie Co., Deeds, 146:415, Christopher and Margaret Sippel to Amanda Jewell, 1 Nov 1851; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7150928, image 211.

63. *Find A Grave*, memorial 75275357, digital image, 8 Jun 2022, by Jan J., gravestone for Amanda Jewell (Evergreen Cem., Grand Blanc, Genesee Co., Mich.). For birth county and age, 1855 N.Y. census, Erie Co., pp. 36–37, Amanda Jewell. For Poughkeepsie see Town of Poughkeepsie, assessment roll, 1799, arranged alphabetically, Stilwell, Stephen; *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6771). Also, Genesee Co. Mich., Record of Deaths, pp. 184–204, negative search results for Amanda Jewell death in 1881; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7622243, images 232–52.

Mary Jewell.⁶⁴ Abraham, born 6 November 1784, died 14 May 1873 and is buried in Grand Blane, Genesee County, Michigan.⁶⁵

Table 1	
Evidence of Relationships between the Stilwell Children and Their Parents	
Amanda b. 1799	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage to Abraham Jewell names parents.^a • Cornelia is “m in l” [mother-in-law] to head of household “Edward” Jewell in 1855 New York state census. • Born in Dutchess County, New York^b
Hiram b. ca. 1801	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornelia lived in Hiram’s 1850 census household.^c
Eliza b. 1803	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death record names parents Stephen and Cornelia Stilwell.^d • Cornelia lived in 1860 census household.^e
Menirva b. 1805	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived as near neighbors to Hiram Stilwell and Cornelia in 1850 Erie County.^f • Born in Dutchess County.^g • Her son George’s death certificate gives mother’s maiden name as Stilwell.^h • Biographical sketch of her son Cornelius gives mother’s maiden name of Stilwell and his birth as Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County.ⁱ
Cornelius b. 1807	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debt of \$78.50 owed to Abraham Jewell in guardianship of Cornelius’s children.^j
<p><i>Sources:</i></p> <p>a. Pleasant Valley Presbyterian church records, 1766–1905, unpaginated, marriages arranged chronologically, 15 Feb 1817 “Abraham Jewell son of William and Mary of Fishkill was married to Amanda Stillwell Daughter of Stephen and Cornelia of Beekman”; digital images from microfilm of the original records sent to author by New York State Library, Albany.</p> <p>b. 1855 N.Y. state census, Erie Co., Alden, pp. 36–37, dwelling/family 310, Cornelia Stillwil in Edward Jewell household.</p> <p>c. 1850 US census, Erie Co., N.Y., Alden, p. 27 (penned), p. 161 (stamped), dwell. 446, fam. 460, Hiram Stilwell household.</p> <p>d. Ionia Co., Mich., Record of Deaths B:43, no. 936, Eliza Marcy, 5 Nov 1888; <i>FamilySearch</i> (www.familysearch.org), image group number (IGN) 7621882, image 51.</p> <p>e. 1860 US census, Ionia Co., Mich., Portland, p. 186, dwell. 1415, fam. 1362, George Marcy household.</p> <p>f. 1850 US census, Erie Co., N.Y., Alden, p. 27 (penned), p. 161 (stamped), dwell. 442, fam. 456, Minerva Jackson.</p> <p>g. 1855 N.Y. state census, Erie Co., Alden, p. 53, dwell./fam. 459, John Jackson.</p> <p>h. Michigan, Division of Vital Statistics, death certificate, (1913) George E. Jackson; <i>Michiganology</i> (michiganology.org/vital-records) > Death records > 1913 > Ingham Co. > A-M > Jackson > digital file 740763.</p> <p>i. <i>Portrait and Biographical Album of Barry and Eaton Counties, Mich.</i> (Chicago: Chapman, 1891), 786, Cornelius S. Jackson.</p> <p>j. Erie Co., N.Y., Surrogate’s Court, guardianship file no. 4241, for Dewitt G., Clifford E., and Rosellen Stilwell, account of guardian, May 1853; <i>FamilySearch</i>, IGN 8345503, image 904.</p>	

64. Pleasant Valley Presbyterian church records, 1817, Jewell-Stillwell.

65. *Find A Grave*, memorial 75275293, digital image, 8 Jun 2022, by Jan J., gravestone for Abraham Jewell (Evergreen Cem., Grand Blanc, Genesee Co., Mich.). Also, Genesee Co., Record of Deaths, pp. 69–86, negative search results for Abraham Jewell death in 1873, images 116–33. Also, Genesee Co., Index to estate files, negative search results for probate for Abraham or Amanda Jewell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5647012, image 26.

- II. HIRAM STILWELL, born about 1801 in New York; died 29 or 30 September 1852 in Erie County, New York.⁶⁶ He married HARRIET [—?—], born 16 April 1805 in Connecticut; died 26 July 1884 in Peoples Township, Boone County, Iowa.⁶⁷
- III. ELIZA STILWELL, born 8 September 1803, in New York, probably Dutchess County; died 5 November 1888 in Danby, Ionia County, Michigan.⁶⁸ She married GEORGE MARCY, born 4 November 1797 in New York. George died 1 July 1873 in Portland, Ionia County, Michigan.⁶⁹
- IV. MENIRVA STILWELL, born 1805 in New York; died in 1891 probably Ingham County, Michigan.⁷⁰ She married JOHN JACKSON, likely in Poughkeepsie, where their oldest son Cornelius was born in 1834.⁷¹ John, born 14 November 1806 in Dutchess County; died 6 December 1890 in White Oak Township, Ingham County, Michigan.⁷²
- V. CORNELIUS STILWELL, born December 1807; died 24 February 1849 by “being entangled in the machinery of a saw-mill” at the town of Wales, Erie County, New York.⁷³ Cornelius married CAROLINE ROSE.⁷⁴ Caroline was born 11 May

66. 1850 US census, Erie Co., N.Y., Alden, p. 27 (penned), p. 161 (stamped), dwell. 446, fam. 460, Hiram Stilwell. Hiram is 48 and although not marked by the enumerator, New York, is likely birthplace. For calculated date of birth, see *Find A Grave*, memorial 64120276, digital image, 11 Nov 2015, by Katherine White, gravestone for Hiram Stilwell (Mount Olive Cem., Newstead, Erie Co., N.Y.); age at death provided by contributors Jim and Elizabeth is not discernable from photo. For 29 Sep death date see Erie Co., Surrogate’s court, petition for administration, 15 Jan 1856, estate file 21902, Hiram Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7364459, image 1172. The petition identifies Harriet Holcomb, wife of George as Hiram’s widow, and Hiram’s only other heir as Esther Jane, aged nine years.

67. Boone Co., Iowa, Register of Deaths, 1880–1896, p. 41, no. 466, Harriet Holcomb; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4341396, image 435.

68. Ionia Co., Record of Deaths B:43, no. 936, Eliza Marcy, 1888. For birth location, see Paulings, assessment roll, 1803, p. 15, Stilwell, Stephen; *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6771).

69. Ionia Co., Probate Court, probate packet no. 1475, George Marcy, Petition for Appointment of Administrator, 3 Jul 1873; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5642821, image 336. Also, *Find A Grave*, memorial 77436341, digital image, 2 Oct 2011, by Laurel Luscher Manning, gravestone for George Marcy (Portland Cem., Portland, Ionia Co., Mich.). Also, Ionia Co., Deaths A:82, no. 1620, George Marcey, Jul 1873; database, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1675357).

70. *Find A Grave*, memorial 49234558, digital image, 18 Mar 2010, by “DTQuester,” gravestone for Menirva Jackson (Fairview Cem., Dansville, Ingham Co., Mich.). For birthplace, 1880 US census, Ingham Co., Mich., White Oak Twp., ED 142, p. 11, dwell. 113, fam. 114, Minirva Jackson.

71. *Portrait and Biographical Album of Barry and Eaton Counties, Mich.* (Chicago: Chapman, 1891), 786, Cornelius S. Jackson.

72. For birthplace, 1855 N.Y. state census, Erie Co., Alden, p. 53, dwell./fam. 459, John Jackson. For birth and death dates, Ingham Co., Mich., Record of Deaths, 2:81, no. 1738, John Jackson; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7609845, image 370.

73. *Find A Grave*, memorial 54147081, digital image, 10 Aug 2010, by Phyllis Meyer, gravestone for Cornelius Stilwell (Wales Center Cem., Erie Co., N.Y.). Also, Erie Co., Surrogate’s Court, petition for administration, 28 Feb 1849, no. 21901, Hiram Stilwell, image 1097. Edwin Rose was named as co-administrator. Also, “Summary - Cornelius Stilwell,” *Sabbath Recorder* (New York, N.Y.), 8 Mar 1849, p. 150, col. 4.

74. For maiden name, Pennsylvania, Department of Health, death certificate 38452 (1916), Rosellen Wallace.

1809 in Granville, Hampden County, Massachusetts, to Gamaliel and Lydia Rose.⁷⁵ She died 14 January 1869, probably in Wales.⁷⁶

Tax records suggest only one Stephen Stilwell lived in Dutchess County when he and Cornelia began having children.⁷⁷ In 1799 he was in Poughkeepsie and in 1803 he was in Pawling.⁷⁸

No Dutchess County probate record exists for Stephen.⁷⁹ He neither bought nor sold land there.⁸⁰ He appears in no Dutchess County court records before 1798.⁸¹ Neither Stephen nor Cornelia initiated divorce proceedings.⁸² Stephen's last recorded appearance is his 1806 Dutchess County petition to be an administrator of the estate of Nathan Spaulding of Pawling.⁸³

75. Granville, Mass., Register of Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Intentions (1799–1810), p. 74, births children of Gamaliel and Lydia Rose: Edwin, 9 Dec 1804, Caroline, 11 May 1809; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7538340, image 101.

76. *Find A Grave*, memorial 54122037, digital image, 17 Oct 2015, by Lynn Hawkins, gravestone for Caroline Stilwell Norton (Wales Center Cem., Erie Co., N.Y.). For Caroline's marriage to Norton see, Erie Co., Surrogate's Court, guardianship file no. 4241, for Dewitt G., Clifford E., and Rosellen Stilwell, 11 May 1853; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8345503, image 911.

77. "New York, U.S., Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799–1804," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6771), search for Stilwell, Stillwell, Stil*.

78. Town of Poughkeepsie, assessment roll, 1799, arranged alphabetically, Stilwell, Stephen. Also, Paulings, assessment roll, 1803, p. 15, Stilwell, Stephen.

79. Arthur C. M. Kelly, *Dutchess County, NY Probate Records, 1787–1865; Register of Wills and Letters Testamentary and of Administration in the Surrogate's Office, Poughkeepsie, NY* (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Kinship, 1997).

80. Dutchess Co., N.Y., Deed Index, Grantors, sec. 2219, negative search result for Stephen Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7140487, images 735–39. Also, Dutchess Co., Deeds Index, Grantees, sec. 2219, negative search result for Stephen Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7140499, images 581–83.

81. Dutchess Co., Index to Names Contained in Ancient Documents L–Z, sec. 71, negative search results for Stephen Stilwell through 1798; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5526594, images 442–46. For all indexed files through 1820, see "Ancient Document Search," *Dutchess.NY.GOV* (www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/County-Clerk/Ancient-Document-Search.htm), negative search results for "Stilwell" and "Stillwell."

82. New York State Archives Researcher Services Unit (archives@nysed.libanswers.com), email to Hobbs, 26 Apr 2022, reporting negative search results for Cornelia Stilwell and Stephen Stilwell in the indexes for the following record series: J0063 Enrolled decrees after 1800, 1801–1847; J0065 Enrolled decrees and filed parchments and papers before 1800, 1684–1799; J0070 Filed papers, 1800–1847; J0061 Enrolled decrees, petition case files, and filed papers, 1823–1847; JN306 Transcriptions of enrolled decrees into libers, 1799–1890; JN307 Enrolled decrees transcribed into libers, 1799–1890; and, JN312 Enrolled decrees, 1787–1868.

83. "New York: Abstracts of Wills, Admins. and Guardianships, 1787–1835," digital images, *American Ancestors* (www.americanancestors.org/DB7/i/6890/1914/444804), p. 1914, William A. Eardeley; "New York State Abstracts of Wills," p. 899, the unrecorded estate of Nathan Spaulding, 17 May 1806; citing Eardeley Genealogy Collection at the Brooklyn Historical Society. Original probate files are out for digitization until the end of the year as per phone call to the surrogate court, 21 Mar 2022.

Another Stephen Stilwell, not Cornelia's husband, lived in Alden when Cornelia's family lived there.⁸⁴ That Stephen Stilwell died 2 March 1841, leaving a widow residing in another county, and three sisters in Monroe, Rensselaer, and Saratoga Counties.⁸⁵ No estate file documents hint of connections to Cornelia Stilwell, an area resident since 1835.⁸⁶

Fourth Relationship, about 1810–11: Huldah Tharp

Huldah Tharp was born about 1792 in New Jersey to Asher Tharp, and died before 17 April 1854, possibly 3 September 1853.⁸⁷ Huldah Tharp married Thomas Sheldon, likely between 1811 and 1815.⁸⁸ Huldah and Thomas had at least nine children including William, Phebe, Sarah, Susan, George, Hester, Martha, and Thomas.⁸⁹

In his will, Asher Tharp named his daughter Huldah Sheldon and her son—his grandson—Asher, last name not given.⁹⁰

- I. ASHER STILWELL, born 31 July 1811 in Ohio; died 31 May 1890, in Holmes County, Ohio.⁹¹ He married HELEN BOYD 9 June 1842 in Holmes County.⁹² They had children Lillyas Huldah, Byron, Wellington, Albinus H., Newton, and Florence.⁹³

84. 1840 US census, Erie Co., N.Y., Town of Alden, p. 195, Stephen Stilwell. He was age 60–69.

85. Erie Co., Surrogate's Court, petition of executor, 20 Mar 1841, no. 21900, Stephen Stilwell, image 917.

86. Erie Co., estate file no. 21900, Stephen Stilwell, 1841, images 912–1091. Also, 1855 N.Y. state census, Erie Co., Alden, pp. 36–37, Cornelia Stellwil.

87. 1850 US census, Holmes Co., Ohio, Richland Twp., p. 12, dwell. 88, fam. 91, Huldah in Thomas Sheldon household. For Thomas's remarriage, see Knox Co., Ohio, Marriage Record F:422, Sheldon-Lore, 17 Apr 1854; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4701440, image 246. Also, *Find A Grave*, memorial 11488332, 6 Aug 2005, by Roy Sheldon for Huldah Sheldon (Stillwell Cem., Richland Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio); memorial provides no image or other documentation.

88. 1820 US census, Muskingum Co., Ohio, Falls Twp., p. 2, Thomas Stelmon household. The male under age 10 is likely Asher, and three females under 10 suggest a marriage prior to 1815.

89. "Obituary [Martha P. (Sheldon)] McFarland," *Eldora (Iowa) Herald*, 11 Apr 1900, p. 1, col. 2.

90. Muskingum Co., Ohio, Will Book, B:326–27, will of Asher Tharp, written 21 Mar 1826, submitted for probate 1 Aug 1826; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5870610, images 321–22.

91. *Find A Grave*, memorial 64843374, digital image, 29 Jan 2011 by "Char G.," gravestone for Asher I Stilwell (Stillwell Cem., Holmes Co., Ohio). For birth and death locations, see Holmes Co., Ohio, Record of Death 2:50, no. 3600, Asher Stilwell; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4978704, image 666. Asher's parents are not named.

92. Holmes Co., Marriage Record 2:155, Stillwell-Boyd, 9 Jun 1842; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4701450, image 331.

93. "Obituary [Lillyas Huldah Stilwell]," *Holmes County Farmer* (Millersburg, Ohio), 14 Nov 1912, p. 1, col. 1; Holmes County Public Library District, *Community History Archive* (<http://holmes.county.advantage-preservation.com>).

Asher Tharp's will is the only documentary evidence tying Asher Stilwell to either of his parents.⁹⁴ However, connections among the Sheldons and Asher Stilwell and his children suggest that Huldah (Tharp) Sheldon was his mother.

- Asher Stilwell and Thomas Sheldon were enumerated next to each other on the 1840 Holmes County census.⁹⁵
- Thomas Sheldon first bought Holmes County property in 1836 in Section 21 Township 8 North, Range 9 West.⁹⁶
- Asher Stilwell lived in Licking County until 1837 when he bought Holmes County land in Section 21, Township 8 North, Range 9 West.⁹⁷
- In 1838, when Asher bought more property in the same section he was “of Holmes County.”⁹⁸
- Asher named a daughter Lillyas Huldah.⁹⁹
- Asher sold land to Stamen Hoops, husband of Thomas and Huldah's daughter Phebe in August 1859.¹⁰⁰
- When Asher sold a second property to Stamen Hoops in 1865, William Sheldon was a witness.¹⁰¹
- Asher Stilwell's family supplied evidence for Phebe (Sheldon) Lepley Hoops to gain a widow's pension.¹⁰²

94. Hulda (Tharp) Sheldon left no probate, see Genealogical Society of Utah and Holmes Co. Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, “Holmes Co. Ohio Probate Records Index,” Aug 1996, negative search results for Hulda Sheldon; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5449498, image 56. Also, Holmes Co., Probate Court, Journal 1, index for S surnames, negative search results for Hulda Sheldon; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5430734, image 25. Asher's parents are not named in “Death's Doings,” *Holmes County Farmer*, 5 Jun 1890, p. 3, col. 1.

95. 1840 US census, Holmes Co., Ohio, Richland Twp., p. 260 (stamped), Asher Stillwell and Thomas Sheldon.

96. Thomas Sheldon and Jonas Stanbery (Holmes Co.) cash entry file, certificate no. 10,397, Zanesville, Ohio, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, RG 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C. The receiver shows Thomas paid for the property on 6 Jun 1836, but then assigned it to Jonas Stanbery the same day.

97. Holmes Co., Deed Record 8:319, United States to Asher Stillwell, 15 Aug 1837; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7901091, image 486.

98. Holmes Co., Deed Record 8:319–20, United States to Asher Stillwell, 1 Sep 1838, image 486.

99. “Obituary [Lillyas Huldah Stilwell].”

100. Holmes Co., Deed Record 23:554–55, Asher and Helen Stilwell to Stamen Hoops, 16 Aug 1859; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8150666, images 286–87. Mrs. Phebe Hoops and Wm Sheldon of Ohio are two of eight named siblings in “Obituary [Martha P. McFarland].”

101. Holmes Co., Deed Record 30:259–60, Asher and Helen Stilwell to Stamen Hoops, 31 May 1865; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8193407, images 439–40.

102. Widow's Claim for Pension, Phebe Lepley Hoops, 17 Jan 1867, widow's pension application no. WC91564, p. 3; service of Stamen T. Hoops, (Pvt. Co. C, 48th Ohio Vol. Inf., Civil War); *Fold3* (www.fold3.com/image/293581427). It does not give her maiden name. For Phebe's Lepley surname, see Holmes Co., Marriage Record 2:145, Lepley-Sheldon, 11 Oct 1841, image 325.

- Asher's son, A[lbinus] H. Stilwell, notary public for Coshocton County, took testimony in the claim of Phebe Hoops.¹⁰³
- Asher's wife, Helen, testified she was present at the birth of Charles M. Hoops, son of Stamen and Phebe (Sheldon) Hoops.¹⁰⁴
- Asher's sons Wellington and Byron attested that Phebe Hoops's statements were true.¹⁰⁵

Asher Stillwell's interactions with Huldah (Tharp) Sheldon's family strongly suggest he is the grandson named in Asher Tharp's will.

Grandson Asher did not use his mother's surname—either Tharp or Sheldon—suggesting his father was Stilwell. Joel Tharp, Huldah's guardian, filed a suit in Muskingum County to be heard in the 1811 August term. He sued Stephen Stilwell for a breach of promise of marriage, seeking \$500 in damages. On 5 June 1811 the court ordered the sheriff to deliver Stephen to court on the third Monday of August 1811.¹⁰⁶ Huldah delivered baby Asher 31 July.

One week before the third Monday of August, Stephen assigned two promissory notes to Huldah for money Wm. "Markle" owed him. Both notes were written on the same paper, dated 1 July 1811; one was due 1 July 1812, the second 1 July 1813. On the back Stephen had written twice "For value Received I assign the within note to Huldah Tharp, 12 August 1811."¹⁰⁷

Fifth Relationship, about 1811–27: Mary A. Thompson

Asher's birth date suggests Stephen Stilwell was in Muskingum County by late October 1810. He married Mary Thompson there on 28 March 1811.¹⁰⁸ Mary was born to Abraham Thompson on 19 July 1789 in Virginia. She died 23 September

103. Affidavit of Andrew and Mary M. Smith, 27 Jan 1879, in Phebe Hoops widow's pension application no. WC91564, pp. 20–21.

104. Affidavit of Helen Stilwell, 27 Jan 1879, in Phebe Hoops widow's pension application no. WC91564, p. 22.

105. Affidavit of Wellington and Byron Stilwell, 3 Apr 1866, in Phebe Hoops widow's pension application no. WC91564, p. 41.

106. Muskingum Co., Complete Record C:218, Joel Tharp, guardian of Huldah Tharp vs. Stephen Stilwell, August Term 1811; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8705267, image 436.

107. Coshocton Co., Court of Common Pleas, file no. 5, renumbered as 79A, Stephen Stilwell vs. Wm Markle, executor of Adam Markle, deceased, May term 1814; digitized file emailed to Hobbs from Barbara Karr, Deputy Clerk of Coshocton Co. (barbkarr@coshoctoncounty.net).

108. Muskingum Co., marriage records 1804–1818, p. 36, Stilwell-Thompson, 28 Mar 1811; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4752640, image 257.

1864 and is buried at Gila, Jasper County, Illinois.¹⁰⁹ Stephen and Mary had the following children, all born in Ohio, likely Coshocton County:¹¹⁰

- I. ADELINE STILWELL, born 30 July 1812; died 2 April 1898 at Bird's Run, Wheeling Township, Guernsey County, Ohio.¹¹¹ Adeline married (1) LANSON HOGLE 27 January 1831 in Coshocton County.¹¹² Lanson, son of Michael and Polly (Langdon) Hogle, born 4 October 1804, probably in Highgate, Franklin County, Vermont; died 18 March 1837.¹¹³ Adeline married (2) JAMES MISKIMIN 16 April 1850 in Coshocton County.¹¹⁴ James, born 5 November 1801 in Maryland; died 15 October 1880 in Wheeling Township, Guernsey County.¹¹⁵

109. Mary, with no surname, is identified as a daughter, and Stephen Stilwell is the witness in Coshocton Co., Will & Inv. Record 1:357–58, Abraham Thompson will, 29 Oct 1822; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5449234, images 196–97. For sale by Stephen and Mary of Abraham's property, see Coshocton Co., Deed Record 3:568, Stephen and Mary Stilwell to John G. Pigman, 14 Feb 1823; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7902627, image 291. For birth and death dates, see *Find A Grave*, memorial 135930964, digital image, 15 Sep 2014, by Ralph Portlock, gravestone for Mary Stilwell (Fairfield Cem., Gila, Jasper Co., Ill.). For birthplace, see 1850 US census, Coshocton Co., Ohio, Franklin Twp., p. 527 (penned), p. 264 (stamped), dwell./fam. 109, Mary Stilwell.

110. For relationship of all children but William to Stephen Stilwell, see Coshocton Co. Deed Record 24:571–72; Mary Stilwell et al. to John Cross, 12 Dec 1849; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8185275, image 679. For relationship of William to Stephen see Coshocton Co., Deed Record 34:419–20, William and Emily Stilwell to Newton Stilwell, 8 May 1848; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8578424, image 214–15. For birthplace, see Guernsey Co., Ohio, Reports of Death, Wheeling Twp. for year ending 31 Mar 1899, no. 279 (7), Adaline Miskimmins, 2 Apr 1898; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4258319, image 346. Birthplaces of others presumed from family's residence.

111. Guernsey Co., Reports of Death, Wheeling, no. 279, Adaline Miskimmins, 1898.

112. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record A:213, no. 949, Hogle-Stillwell, 27 Jan 1831; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4017024, image 128.

113. Helen Meredith, *Cemetery Records of Coshocton County, Ohio*, vol. 4, (Coshocton: author, n.d.), 112; *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/868588), image 114. Per the introductory material in vol. 1 "each stone was copied as it appeared to me after careful study." Lanson Hogle's entry gives parents' names and age at death. Polly Hogle is buried in the same cemetery. Lanson's birthplace is based on his parents' marriage date and place: Highgate, Vt., Town Records, 1:84, Hogle-Langdon, 15 Aug 1802; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5463970, image 52. For Lanson's probate, see Coshocton Co., Wills & Inventories C:445–46, letters of administration, estate of Lanson Hogle, 4 Apr 1837; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5449234, images 813–14.

114. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record C, unpaginated, no. 4473, Miskimin-Hogle, 16 Apr 1850; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4017024, image 536.

115. Guernsey Co., Record of Death 1:156, no. 146, James Miskimin, 15 Oct 1880; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4260536, image 134. Record includes age at death and birthplace.

- II. NEWTON STILWELL, born about 1815; died probably in Dent County, Missouri, between 24 December 1886 and 20 August 1891.¹¹⁶ Newton married CATHERINE BAIL 17 March 1857 in Muskingum County, Ohio.¹¹⁷ Catherine, the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Baker) Bail, born in Pennsylvania, 10 May 1835; died 18 May 1915 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California.¹¹⁸
- III. MIRIAM STILWELL, born about 1817. She reportedly was twin to William, born 22 January 1817.¹¹⁹ Miriam died after 18 March 1876.¹²⁰ Miriam married THOMAS J. MULLEN 11 January 1838 in Coshocton County.¹²¹ Thomas died sometime between the 1860 and 1870 censuses.¹²²
- IV. WILLIAM STILWELL, born 22 January 1817 in Ohio, probably Coshocton County; died 6 August 1892, likely in Westfield, Clark County, Illinois.¹²³ He married EMILY WILCOX 17 January 1841 in Coshocton County.¹²⁴ Emily, born 3 June 1820 in Ohio; died 20 June 1895, likely in Westfield.¹²⁵
- V. GEORGE STILWELL, born about 1820; died 27 January 1860 in Kansas. He married ELIZA FULTON 6 February 1842 in Coshocton County. Eliza, born

116. For birth, 1860 US census, Muskingum Co., Ohio, Dresden, p. 92, dwell. 699, fam. 644, Newton Stillwell. For last known record, Dent Co., Mo., Deed of Trust E:562, Newton Stilwell and Catharine Stilwell to W. R. Love, 24 Dec 1886. For sale of same property by spouse, see Dent Co., Warranty Deed 29:156, Catherine Stilwell to W. B. and Florence E. Bland, 20 Aug 1891. Also, Dent Co., Missouri, Index to Probate Records, S entries, negative search results for Newton Stilwell, 1886–94; *FamilySearch*, IGN 7424352, images 419–23.

117. Muskingum Co., Marriage Record 1848–1859, p. 459, Stillwell-Bail, 17 Mar 1857; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4260602, image 247.

118. Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co., death certificate, no. 2513, Catherine Stilwell, 18 May 1915; *FamilySearch*, IGN 5597647, image 2629.

119. Stilwell Family Bible Records, *The Holy Bible* (Concord, N.H.: Luther Roby, 1843), Births page, William Stilwell; privately held by Susan Stilwell Strole (susans1013@msn.com, Terre Haute, Ind.); email to Hobbs 16 Feb 2022.

120. Coshocton Co., Deed Record 49:533, Miriam Mullen to Sarah A. Willson, 18 Mar 1876; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8578431, image 279. Miriam's death post-dated this sale.

121. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record, B:167, no. 766, Mullen-Stillwell, 11 Jan 1838; *FamilySearch*, IGN 4017024, image 236.

122. 1870 US census, Coshocton Co., Ohio, Linton Twp., p. 5, dwell. 42, fam. 36, Miriam Mullen. Also, 1860 US census, Coshocton Co., Ohio, Jackson Twp., p. 4, dwell./fam. 30, Thomas Mullen household.

123. Stilwell Family Bible Records, "Births" and "Deaths." Also, *Find A Grave*, memorial 56567888, digital image, 28 Sep 2020, by "Joyce," gravestone for William Stilwell (Richwoods Cem., Westfield, Clark Co., Ill.).

124. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record C:14, no. 1341, Stillwell-Wilcox, 17 Jan 1841, image 336.

125. Stilwell Family Bible Records, "Births" and "Deaths." Also, *Find A Grave*, memorial 56568404, digital image, 29 Sep 2020 by "Joyce," gravestone for Emily Wilcox Stilwell (Richwoods Cem., Westfield, Clark Co., Ill.). For birthplace see 1880 US census, Clark Co., Ill., Parker Twp., ED 42, p. 13 (penned), p. 171 (stamped), dwell. 105, fam. 106, Wm Stilwell.

29 December 1818 in Muskingum County, Ohio; died 1 January 1902 in Vienna Township, Pottawatomie County, Kansas.¹²⁶

- VI. REBECCA STILWELL, born 5 September 1825; died 22 January 1900 and is buried in Gila, Jasper County, Illinois.¹²⁷ She married THOMAS GRAHAM 11 June 1844 in Coshocton County.¹²⁸ Thomas, born 5 April 1814 in Pennsylvania, died 15 July 1892, likely in Gila.¹²⁹
- VII. MARY R. STILWELL, born about 1828 in Ohio, probably Coshocton County;¹³⁰ married OTTO VON RUEDGISH 8 February 1852 in Coshocton County.¹³¹

Interactions that Hulda (Tharp) Sheldon's husband and son Asher had with Stephen and (Mary Thompson) Stilwell's son Newton suggest a connection between the two families. Stephen Stilwell's son Newton sold Holmes County property to Thomas Sheldon in 1853.¹³² Asher named a son Newton Stilwell.¹³³

Five families in widely separated locations all connect to a Stephen Stilwell. Stephen is not found in more than one location at any given time. But more evidence is needed to establish that the fathers were the same man. DNA provides that evidence.

STEPHEN STILWELLS MERGE AS DNA EVIDENCE ACCUMULATES

See figures 1 through 5 for the lines of descent of the DNA test takers from each mother.¹³⁴ The locations indicate the places of birth of the children of the identified mother. Kit numbers for *GEDmatch* and the Y-DNA results appear below test takers' names. The number of the test taker in each family group corresponds to the DNA data in the next section.

126. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record C:64, no. 1592/1590, George "Stillwell" to Eliza Fulton, 6 Feb 1842, filed 29 Apr 1842, image 361. The recorder mistakenly wrote Eliza Williams in the first box, probably repeating the name of the justice of the peace. George's year of birth is approximated based on year of marriage. His death and biographical information about Eliza from "Died," *Onaga (Kansas) Herald*, 2 Jan 1902, 2nd page, col. 2.

127. For Rebecca's birthdate, death date, and burial location, see *Find A Grave*, memorial 110773298, digital image, 14 Sep 2014, by Ralph Portlock, gravestone for Rebecca Graham (Fairfield Cem., Gila, Jasper Co., Ill.).

128. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record C:157, no. 2065, Graham-Stilwell, 11 Jun 1844, image 407.

129. *Find A Grave*, memorial 110773383, digital image, 30 Jun 2014, by Ralph Portlock, gravestone for Thomas Graham (Fairfield Cem., Gila, Jasper Co., Ill.).

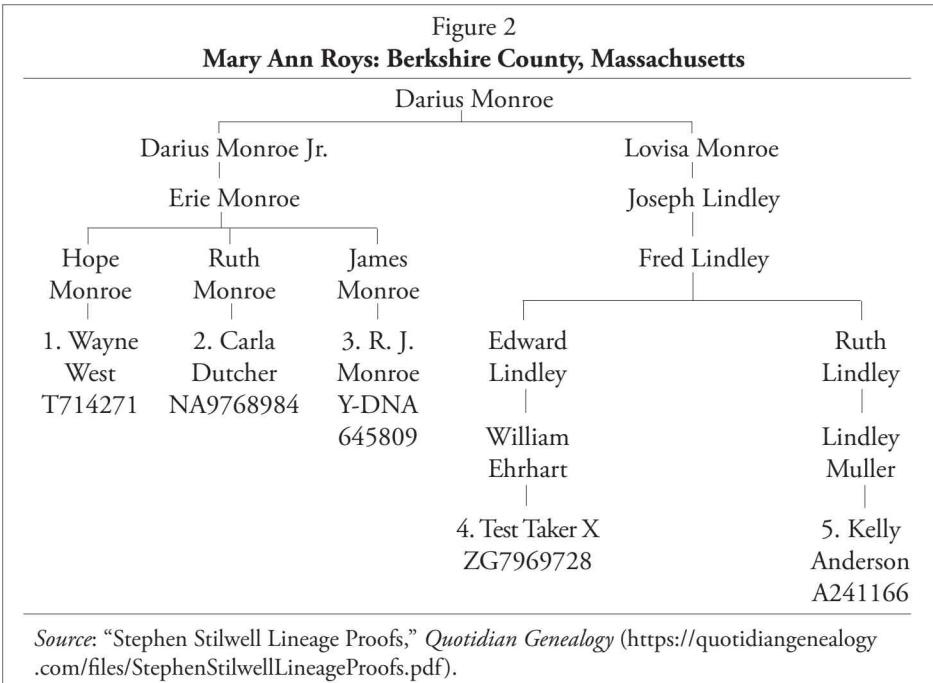
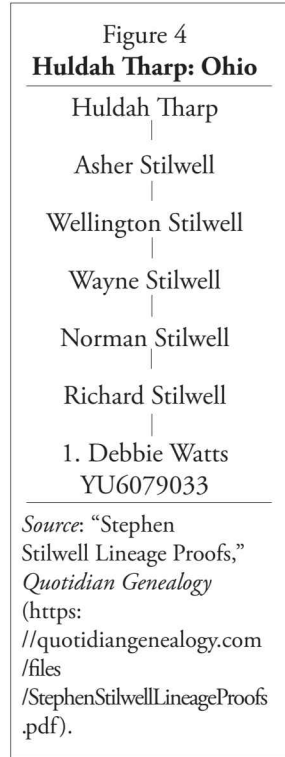
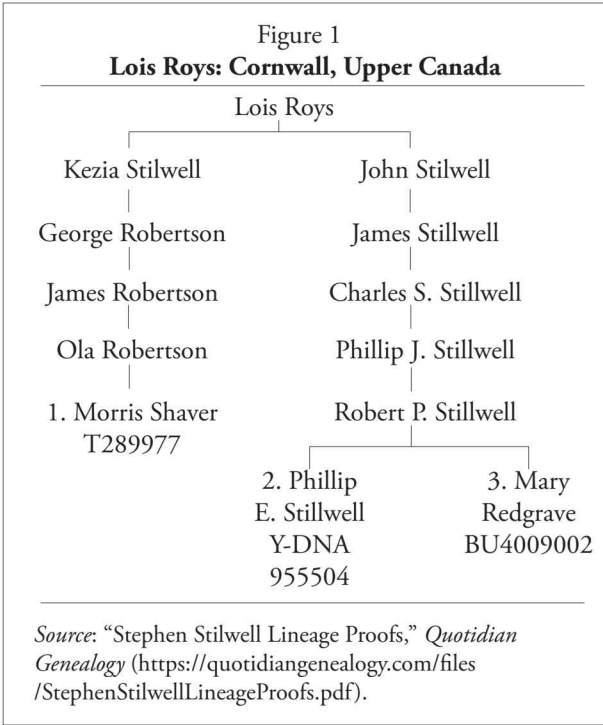
130. For approximate birth year and state of birth, see 1850 US census, Coshocton Co., Ohio, Franklin Twp., p. 527 (penned), p. 264 (stamped), dwell./fam. 109, Mary Stilwell.

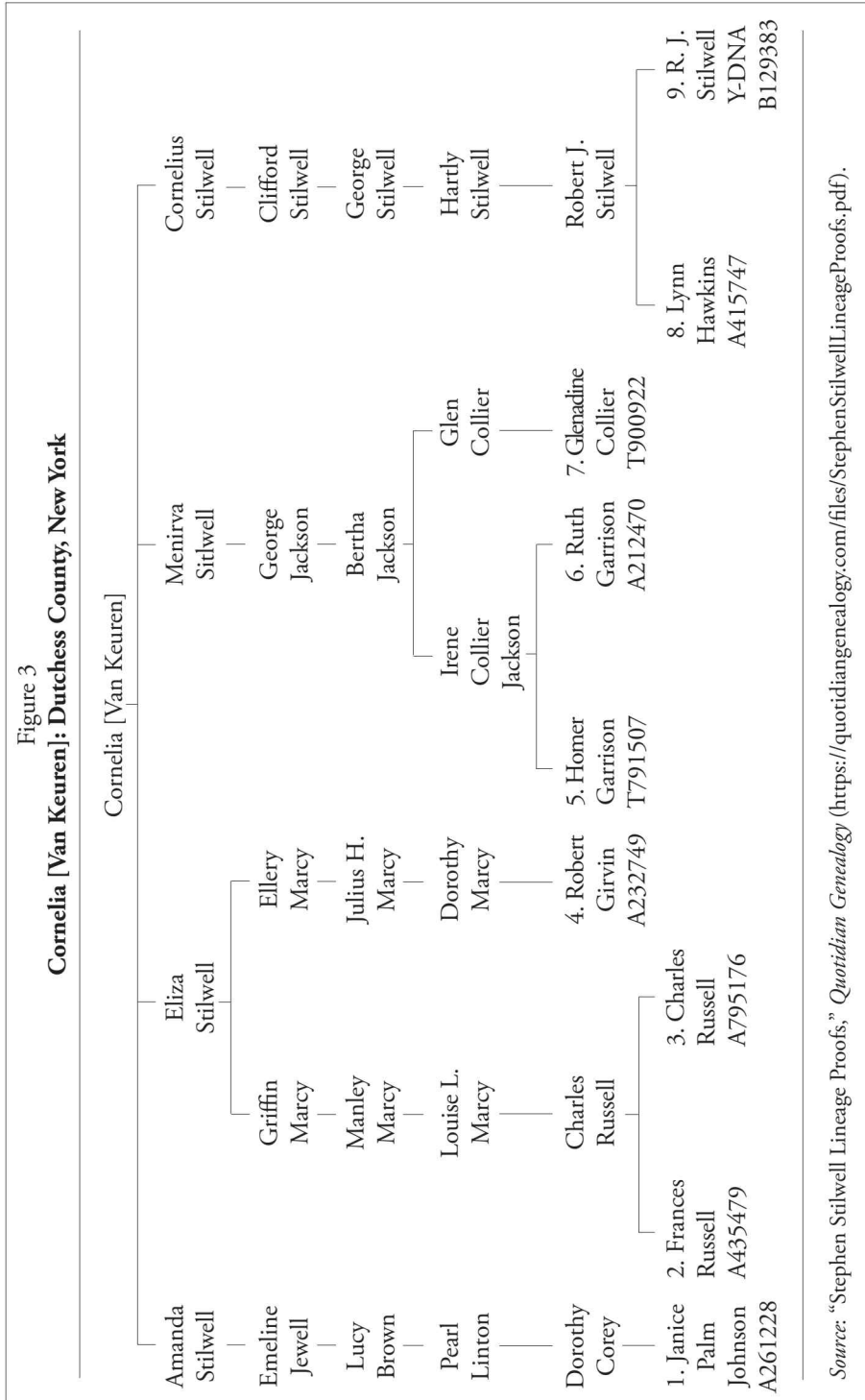
131. Coshocton Co., Marriage Record C:300, no. 3733, Von Ruedgish-Stilwell, 8 Feb 1852, image 768.

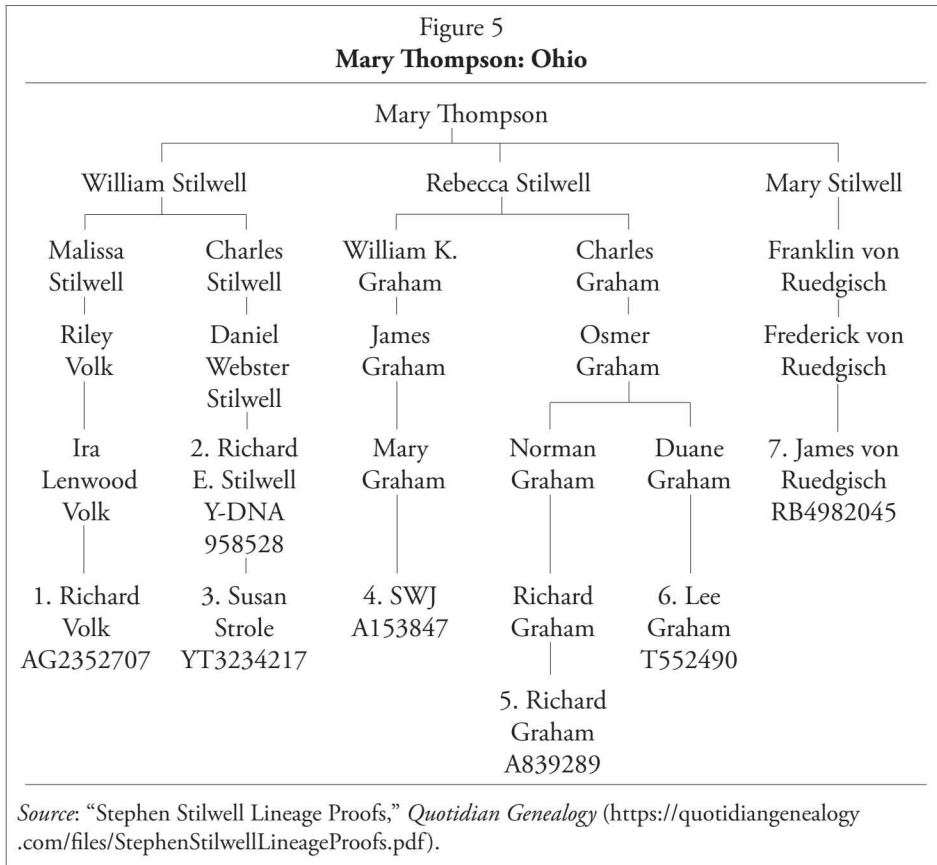
132. Holmes Co., Deed Record 19:145, Newton Stilwell to Thomas Sheldon, 10 Aug 1853; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8193411, image 78. For Newton as son of Stephen Stilwell, see Coshocton Co., Deed Record 24:571-72, Mary Stillwell et al. to John Cross, 12 Dec 1849; *FamilySearch*, IGN 8185275, image 679.

133. "Newton Stilwell," *Holmes County Farmer*, 2 Dec 1920, p. 1, col. 1.

134. For the lineages of the test takers, see "Stephen Stilwell Lineage Proofs," *Quotidian Genealogy* (<https://quotidiangenealogy.com/files/StephenStilwellLineageProofs.pdf>).







Y-DNA Evidence

The Y chromosomes of four Stilwell male descendants of four of the mothers were tested and compared at the 111 STR (short tandem repeats) marker level. They all match each of the others from one hundred eight markers to an exact match of one hundred eleven markers. Differences in marker values arise from mutations. All mutations from the overall modal values for the larger Stilwell subgroup (4.2 and 4.4 and their subgroups) appear random. All of the men in the Stilwell 4.0 group shown in purple on the website are related. The further subgrouping indicate men of closer relationship as identified by the SNPs they share. These groups correlate to the SNP Mutation History shown in Figure 6. No line-specific STR markers set the likely descendants of Stephen Stilwell apart from the other closely related Stilwell men; nothing suggests the four participating testers are not closely related in the

patriline.¹³⁵ Stilwells matching other Stilwell men in the standard Y-DNA STR test is unsurprising. In this case, it helps establish that Mary Ann Roys Monroe's son Darius was fathered by a Stilwell. Since only one Y-DNA test taker is in Darius's line, possibly one of the other fathers down to Mary Ann-3 could have been a Stilwell. However, since Darius's aunt was married to a Stilwell man, and autosomal DNA matching among other descendant lines point to a Stilwell connection, the union did not likely occur in any other way.

The marker values of the Y-DNA test results of a George Monroe descendant, one of Mary Ann's other sons, do not match those of the Darius Monroe descendant, indicating they did not have the same father despite their shared mother and surname.¹³⁶ George's descendant closely matches other Monroe test takers, differing from the modal haplotype by only one marker of thirty-seven.¹³⁷

The more advanced Big Y-700 test can identify fundamental mutations called SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms).¹³⁸ Big Y-700 is a SNP discovery test. STR mutations are copying errors while a SNP mutation is a specific base change in the nucleic acid at a specific location. Once such a mutation occurs in a male, he will reliably pass it on to all of his sons who will pass it to succeeding generations. SNP mutations are more definitive, but less common than mutations in STR testing. The *FamilyTreeDNA* analysis includes sequencing the order these SNPs have occurred and identifies a terminal haplogroup that is the most recent SNP shared by two or more test takers. The probability of the same terminal sequence of SNPs in two unrelated men is zero. Men who share a terminal haplogroup share a most recent common ancestor and may be able to identify that ancestor out of a larger group of same-surname men whose shared ancestry is farther back as indicated by the SNP mutation history. It may be possible to determine in which generation a mutation originated by comparing the lineages of the test takers to discover which branches have which mutations and which do not.¹³⁹ Targeted testing of the four men connected

135. "Stilwell Family DNA Website – Y-DNA Colorized Chart," *FamilyTreeDNA* (www.familytreedna.com/public/stilwell), kits in group 4.4C1: B129383 (Cornelia-9), 958528 (Mary-2), 645809 (Mary Ann-3), 955504 (Lois-2).

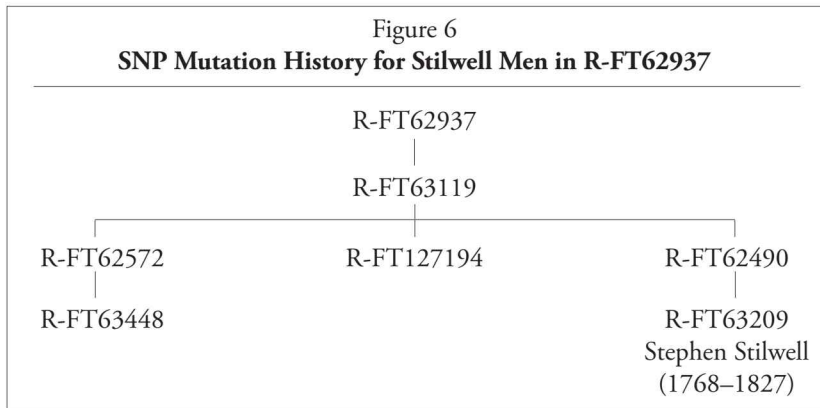
136. "Stilwell Family DNA Website – Y-DNA Colorized Chart," *FamilyTreeDNA*, kit no. 732008 for M. For M's descent from Alvin Monroe, see "Stephen Stilwell Lineage Proofs," 21. M's kit has been placed in both the Stilwell and Munro projects.

137. "Munro DNA Project – Y-DNA Colorized Chart," *FamilyTreeDNA* (www.familytreedna.com/public/MunroDNA), kit no. 732008 for W. Monroe. The one marker not matching the modal haplotype is DYS456.

138. "Testing Benchmarks," *YDNA-Warehouse* (<https://ydna-warehouse.org/benchmarks>), callable loci for FTDNA, Big Y-700, evaluating over fourteen million locations on the Y chromosome.

139. While over a term of several thousand years, rough estimates range from mutations occurring every eighty to one hundred twenty-five years. This can work out to three or four generations in which no distinctive mutations occur to separate family branches. For complications in estimating SNP mutation rates, see David Vance, *The Genealogist's Guide to Y-DNA Testing for Genetic Genealogy*, 2nd ed. (n.p.: author, 2024), 291–96.

to Stephen Stilwell revealed a new SNP: FT63209. These men are the only Big Y test subjects to date who share the FT63209 SNP.¹⁴⁰ Figure 6 shows the mutation history tree for the larger subgroup of closely related Stilwell men. While validation would require further documentary research and recruiting additional Stilwell test takers, these men may all descend from 1600s immigrant Nicholas Stilwell.



Given the four men share the same terminal SNP with no more recent shared branching indicates the men represent four separate lines of descent from the same common ancestor. Given three of them claim a Stephen Stilwell progenitor, the Big Y test results strongly suggest it was the same Stephen Stilwell. For the illegitimate son Darius Monroe to have a different Stilwell father—but not Stephen—when his mother was Stephen’s wife’s sister is improbable.

Autosomal DNA Evidence

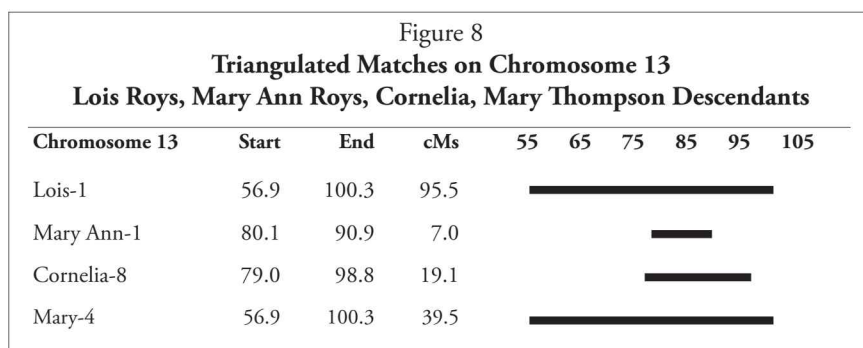
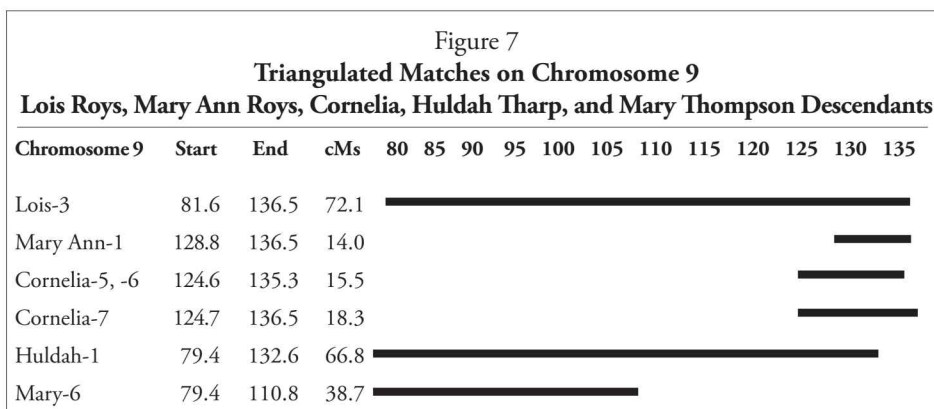
Many autosomal DNA matches among descendants strengthen the evidence that a single Stephen Stilwell was father of each family group. These include one Asher Stilwell descendant not represented in the Y-DNA testing. Unlike the Y chromosome, passed in its entirety from father to son, a child receives half his autosomal DNA from each parent. The chances of descendants inheriting the same DNA segment grow smaller with each generation. Triangulation—when three or more descendants inherit the same DNA segment—reduces the possibility of other shared ancestral lines. Y-DNA results pointing to a particular line of inheritance coupled with multiple triangulated segments compound assurance that no other shared ancestral line exists from which the DNA might have originated.

¹⁴⁰ The unique SNP for this group is identified in the haplogroup column of “Stilwell Family DNA Website – Y-DNA Colorized Chart,” *FamilyTreeDNA* (www.familytreedna.com/public/stilwell), kits in group 4.4C1.

Figures 7–13 show the test-takers overlapping segments.¹⁴¹ Descendants of all five mothers triangulate on chromosome 9. See figure 7. Descendants of three of the mothers triangulate on chromosomes 8 and 13. See figures 8 and 9. Descendants of three of the mothers triangulate on chromosomes 11 and 17. See figures 10 and 11. Also, two descendants of Mary, via different children, match descendants of Cornelia on chromosome 6 and a descendant of Lois on chromosome 12. See figures 12 and 13.

Matching locations among test takers as evaluated in megabase pairs (Mbp) define the beginning and ending locations of the shared ancestral segments. The diagrams represent the Stilwell ancestral DNA as shared by descendants. Descendants of sisters Lois and Mary Ann Roys have inherited DNA from their parents. Their shared segments were used only where descendants of non-Roys mothers triangulate.

Descendants from all five mothers, including the two illegitimate children, triangulate on chromosome 9; however, one triangulates with only two of the others. See figure 7.



141. "One-to-one Autosomal DNA Comparison," on-request reports, *GEDmatch* (gedmatch.com) among kits T289977 (Lois-1), BU4009002 (Lois-3), T714271 (Mary Ann-1), NA9768984 (Mary Ann-2), A241166 (Mary Ann-5), A435479 (Cornelia-2), A795176 (Cornelia-3), A232749 (Cornelia-4), T791507 (Cornelia-5), A212470 (Cornelia-6), T900922 (Cornelia-7), A415747 (Cornelia-8), YU6079033 (Huldah-1), AG2352707 (Mary-1), YT3234217 (Mary-3), A153847 (Mary-4), A839289 (Mary-5), T552490 (Mary-6), and RB4982045 (Mary-7).

distinctive SNP, the mutation is recent. Autosomal DNA matching also supports recent shared ancestry. The several autosomal-DNA triangulations that the descendants share are less likely to arise from common ancestry back a generation or more from the Stephen Stilwell born in 1769.

Table 2
Shared Segment Pairs among Stephen Stilwell Descendants

DESCENDANT	DESCENDANT	CHROMOSOME	START LOCATION	END LOCATION	SHARED cMs
Mary Ann-4	Cornelia-2	10	71.9	83.8	15.0
Mary Ann-4	Cornelia-5	3	55.7	65.1	13.8
Mary Ann-4	Mary-7	3	71.5	78.7	10.3
Cornelia-1	Mary-7	9	9.25	17.7	15.6
Cornelia-1	Mary-3	6	91.8	110.2	16.1
Mary-3	Mary Ann-2	5	174.8	180.6	10.2
Mary-3	Cornelia-4	5	141.8	161.0	21.0
Mary-3	Cornelia-4	15	37.0	58.5	21.0

Source: "One-to-one Autosomal DNA Comparison," on-request reports, *GEDmatch* (<https://gedmatch.com>), kits NA9768984 (Mary Ann-2), ZG7969728 (Mary Ann-4), A261228 (Cornelia-1), A435479 (Cornelia-2), A232749 (Cornelia-4), T791507 (Cornelia-5), YT3234217 (Mary-3), and RB4982045 (Mary-7).

Documentary evidence connects three families' descent from Stephen Stilwell. Two others were closely associated. Born in 1769, Stephen was a young man of about twenty-three when his first child was born. The births of seventeen children create a timeline showing his migration from Upper Canada through New York to Ohio with no overlap in any geographical location. Stephen Stilwell was not three same-named men, but one man.

