

Meek/Meeks Families of Virginia

Meek Group C Introduction

The Meek/Meeks Y-DNA Project¹ has established DNA signature² for a significant number of early American ancestors. This allows for a determination of which Meek ancestors were related and which ones were not related. Combined with genealogy DNA shows several groups one of which is designated as Group C. Y-DNA 37 STR³ marker tests on their descendants indicate that they all shared a common Meek ancestor. The haplogroup⁴ of Group C men is defined by the SNP⁵ marker R-PH1247. PH1247 is within the para group L21. L21 and its many sub-clades include a significant portion of men of European descent. All men in Group C will likely be positive for PH1247.

Earliest known ancestors

The earliest known ancestors in Group C are John Meek born 1707 and Thomas Meek born 1708. They lived in different places and there is no known documentation to prove a connection between them. DNA shows that they were related, possibly closely related. However, it is not possible at the current time to determine when the common ancestor lived.

John Meek born about 1707 lived in Augusta Co., VA. This area was settled in the 1730's. John's name first appears in court records 6 Aug 1750, and he likely lived there before that date. It is not known where John was born or where his family came from. His estate was probated in 1761. The names of his children are known through court records of guardians being appointed.

Thomas Meek born about 1708 lived in Washington Co., MD. He owned several properties in Maryland as well as property in Washington Co., VA. The earliest known record of him is 1752. It is not known where Thomas was born or where his family came from. There are indications that his father lived in the colonies. Part of Thomas' bequeath to his oldest son included "And also Fifty acres of land called Pleasant Hill which was purchased out of my Fathers Effects he leaving no will, neither did any person administer lawfully theron..."

When he died about 1776 his wife and some of his children moved to the property in Washington Co., VA. Since the first white settler only came to Washington Co., VA in the 1760 it likely that Thomas had owned the land for a short period of time. There is no reason to believe that he had any connection to Virginia other than as a land speculator.

It is noted that also living in Washington Co., VA was Joseph Meek born 1744. Descendants of Joseph Meek who have been DNA tested fall into Meek Group E and thus Joseph was not related to John, Thomas or any other ancestor in Group C. A man in one group cannot be related to a man in another group.

A word about Guy Meek: Joseph Meek of Washington D. C. was a significant Guy Meek researcher in the 1960's and 1970's. He and other researcher concluded that John and Thomas

¹ <http://meekdna.com>

² 37 Y-DNA STR marker results. AKA DNA haplotype, signature or profile

³ STR=short tandem repeat

⁴ Haplogroup=large population of men defined by a single SNP marker

⁵ SNP=single nucleotide polymorphism

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were sons of Guy Meek and Dorothy Cubby. While he had extensive documentation on the Guy Meek family, he had no records that proves that John and Thomas had any connection to Guy Meek. They are not included in parish records like Guy's other children and there are no documents to place them in Anne Arundel Co., MD. Since DNA is not currently available from the Guy Meek family a connection to Guy Meek cannot be excluded. However, it seems unlikely at this point in time.

Other pre 1800 Ancestors in Group C:

James Meek was born about 1774 in Virginia. He married Mary Greenslate. They resided in Greenup Co., KY. Two DNA samples from descendants of different sons show non-matching profiles. Additional tests are required to resolve the conflict.

Thomas Meek was born between 1775 and 1780 in Virginia. He married Naomi Grinstead 13 Jun 1807 in Warren Co., KY.

James Meek was born about 1778. He died in 1823 in Johnson Co., KY. He married Judith Hylton.

William Meek died 5 Apr 1832 in Johnson Co., KY. He married Judith Popplewell 18 May 1807 in Wayne Co., KY. His descendants **have not been DNA tested** and he may not be connected to this group but since he lived in Johnson Co., KY he may be related to James Meek.

Other post 1800 ancestors represented in the DNA project

Other members of the DNA project have been unable to trace their ancestor further back than 1800. One member of the project currently lives in Ireland, but it is not known how long his family has lived in Ireland.

John W. Meek (1801 -)
Owen Co., KY

William Meek (1800-)
Dade Co., MO

John "Crip" Meek (1835 -)
Grundy Co., TN

Summary: Were John and Thomas Meek the progenitors for all the other Group C ancestors or were there one or more other men who migrated to the United States without leaving a footprint? The DNA for Group C does not identify different branches of this particular family. It is known that John and Thomas left relative behind in the Isles because there is at least one family that remains in Ireland today. The descendant chart for John Meek born 1707 is incomplete and it is entirely possible he is the progenitor of at least some of the members in the DNA project not connected to Thomas Meek born 1708. At the same time, it is entirely possible that other

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members of the Group C family came to the United States after John and Thomas did. More research is needed to answer these questions.

Ancestral Signature

The ancestral signature is deduced by observing the differences between a member's marker values and those of a higher-level haplotype. In this case L151 is used because of the large number of men who fall under it. With nine deviations in the 37-marker panel and twelve in the 67-marker panel it likely will be easy to identify men who belong to Group C especially if their surname is Meek(s).

DYS name →	DSY393	DSY390	DSY19	DSY391	DSY385a	DSY426	DSY388	DSY439	DSY389I	DSY392	DSY392	DSY392	DSY458	DSY459a	DSY459b	DSY455	DSY454	DSY447	DSY437	DSY448	DSY449	DSY464a	DSY464b	DSY464c	DSY464d	DSY460	Y-GATA-H4	YCALLa	YCALLb	DSY456	DSY607	DSY576	DSY570	CDYa	CDYb	DSY442	DSY438
L151 Modal	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	13	13	29	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	19	29	15	15	17	17	11	11	19	23	16	15	18	17	37	38	12	12	
Gp C Ancestral Signature	13	24	14	12	11	14	12	11	14	14	30	17	9	10	11	11	25	15	19	29	15	15	16	17	11	11	19	23	17	14	20	18	37	38	12	12	

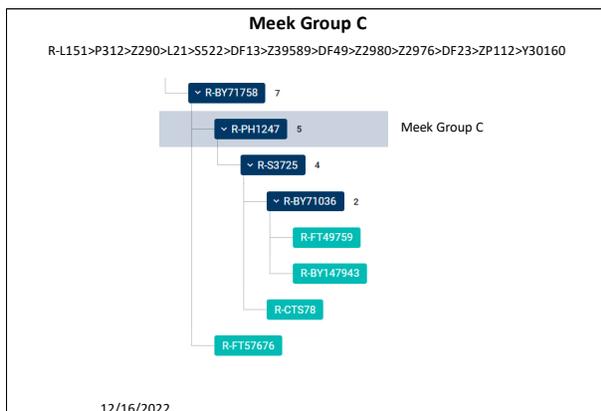
DYS name →	DYS531	DYS578	DSY3955.1a	DSY3955.1b	DSY537	DSY641	DSY472	DSY4065.1	DSY511	DSY425	DSY413a	DSY413b	DSY557	DSY594	DSY436	DSY490	DSY534	DSY450	DSY444	DSY481	DSY520	DSY446	DSY617	DSY565	DSY492	DSY640	DSY572	DSY487	DSY568	DSY565
L151 Modal	11	9	15	16	8	10	10	8	10	10	12	23	23	16	10	12	12	15	8	12	22	20	13	12	11	13	11	11	12	12
Gp C Ancestral Signature	11	9	15	16	8	10	11	8	10	11	12	21	23	16	10	12	12	15	8	12	25	20	13	12	11	13	11	11	12	12

Note: there is insufficient data to use the 68-111 panel of markers.

The marker values noted above taken as a group for form a unique ancestral signature that will identify Group C members a high percentage of the time. It is not necessary to match all defining markers. A member of Group C will match the ancestral STR signature identified above.

Haplogroup

A single member of Group C named Meeks has completed the Big Y advanced SNP test. His haplogroup and position on the Haplotype is R-PH1247. PH1247 is a descendant of BY71758. BY71758 has two known branches. They are PH1247 and FT57676. PH1247 also has one branches. It is S3725 which in turn has two descendant branches. It is estimated by FTDNA that the first man to be positive for PH1247 was born about 700 BCE. The common ancestor of the eleven men tested is estimated to have been born about 381 BCE (95% CI 1116 BCE to 201 CE Mean: 381 BCE). This could and likely will change as more men are tested. At this time the member can be said to descends from a yet to be identified branch of PH1247. Currently, the private variants are not available.



It is known that the Big Y tester matches the ancestral signature of Group C, but it is not known how closely related he is to the other members of Group C. Current genealogies do not tie his earliest known ancestor to any of the other ancestors. When other Group C members do the Big Y test, they may or may not be positive for PH1247 or even BY71758. The group haplotype needs to be confirmed with at least one additional test.

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