Parents for Isaac Garrett
of Laurens County, South Carolina:
DNA Corroborates Oral Tradition

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Documentary sources plus DNA evidence and oral tradition lead to the parents of a formerly enslaved African American.

No record names Isaac Garrett’s parents. Isaac, an African American, first appears with a surname in the 1866 tax roll for Laurens District, South Carolina. Reconstructing an enslaved person’s lineage is challenging, and this case is no exception. Involuntary separations often severed family ties. Antebellum records rarely give human property a last name. Postbellum geographic proximity and shared surnames do not prove familial relationships, especially among freedmen who perhaps assumed an enslaver’s family name. Retold for generations, family stories laid a foundation for documentary and genetic research, which point to Isaac’s parents.

ORAL TRADITION

Descendants believe Isaac’s parents were an enslaved couple, Samuel and Nancy Garrett. In his 1919 biographical sketch Casper George Garrett claimed:

My grandparents were Samuel and Nancy Garrett. My mother, Martha Hyde, was brought from Virginia as a slave when small. . . . Grandfather’s parents were strong.

1. South Carolina, Comptroller General, Tax Return Books, Laurens District, 1866, H–M, box 32, folder 1, loose pages, unpaginated, List of Freedmen, Isaac Garrett, person of color; Series S 126062, South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), Columbia. Before 1868 South Carolina jurisdictions were called districts and thereafter counties. For changing jurisdictions, see “SC County Maps,” South Carolina Department of Archives and History (https://scdah.sc.gov/research-and-genealogy/resources/sc-county-maps).

and hearty Virginians. My grandmother’s father... went upstate, bought land in the
early eighties, married a slave woman, built a home and bought his wife and all his girl
children. Through the treachery of his guardian the old man lost his plantation and the
children unbought. 3

Casper, born September 1865 in Laurens District, was Samuel and Martha
(Hyde) Garrett’s son. 4 Casper’s granddaughter reported his father, Samuel, and
Isaac were brothers. 5 His daughter shared information about a third brother, named
Stobo Garrett. 6 No other known direct evidence establishes Isaac’s kinship to either
man. Nor does any record show Isaac living with Samuel and Nancy Garrett. Isaac,
born about 1836–38 in South Carolina, established his own household after slavery
was abolished. 7

ISAAC’S ROOTS IN LAURENS COUNTY

Isaac Garrett was probably newly freed when taxed in 1866. No emancipation
deed, census enumeration, or other known record shows him as a free person of

Carolina Edition (Atlanta, Ga.: A. B. Caldwell, 1919), 316–19, specifically 316 for quotation. Casper was
the apparent informant for his biographical sketch.
D.C.; notes in author’s files. The interview is memorialized in LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, The Source
of Our Pride (Washington, D.C.: Privately printed, 1996), 13. Ruth reported she was the daughter of
Mattie (Garrett) Simons. For Mattie’s father, 1900 U.S. census, Richland Co., S.C., population schedule,
Columbia Township (Twp.), Enumeration District (ED) 82, sheet 9-B, dwelling 146, family 160,
Casper G. Garrett household; microfilm publication T623, roll 1534, National Archives and Records
Administration (NARA), Washington, D.C. Daughter Matte P. Garett was eight. In his biographical
sketch Casper confirmed Mattie P. (Garrett) Simons was his daughter. See Caldwell, “Casper George
Dakers Burton; transcript in interviewer’s files, Columbia, S.C., 2008. Burton gave a copy of the
interview transcript to the author. See Beryl Dakers Burton, e-mail to LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson,
21 February 2008, “Naomi Mills Garrett Transcript”; author’s files. The interview is memorialized
in LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, The Source: The Garrett, Neely, and Sullivan Families (Salt Lake City, Utah:
Family Heritage Publishers, 2008), 79. Although in her 90s when interviewed, Dr. Naomi Garrett
had a long career as an educator and was a credible witness. For Naomi’s father, 1910 U.S. census,
Richland Co., S.C., pop. sch., Columbia Twp., ED 76, sheet 3-B, fam. 63, Caspar G. Garrett
household; NARA microfilm T624, roll 1471. Daughter Naomi M. Garrett was three.
7. 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., fol. 136v–37r (stamped), dwell./
fam. 8, Isaac Garrett; NARA microfilm M593, roll 1501. Isaac was 32 and head of household. For
earlier birth year, New Grove Baptist Church Cemetery (Laurens, Laurens Co., S.C.), Isaac Garrett
[ sic ] marker; transcribed by author, July 2015; notes in author’s files. Isaac’s marker is inscribed: “died
June 8, 1911 Age 76 Years.”
color before 1865. Laurens County’s racial climate during Reconstruction argues against Isaac’s moving there in the postbellum period: “In Laurens . . . there were organized bands of ‘regulators’—armed men who make it their business to . . . maltreat Negroes.”

Isaac Garrett of Laurens County, South Carolina

Enslaved Isaac Garrett

The estate of Jesse Garrett, a Laurens District slaveholder, provides Isaac’s probable whereabouts in 1847. That year Garrett bequeathed six enslaved people to his wife for her use during her lifetime, including a male named Isaac. The enslaved were to be sold after the widow’s death. In 1857 W. H. Langston purchased one “Negro boy Isaac” from Garrett’s estate.

If “boy Isaac” was the same person as thirty-two-year-old Isaac Garrett living in Laurens County in 1870, he was about nineteen when Langston purchased him. Isaac may have been the twenty-three-year-old black male Langston owned in 1860. Langston died in 1886, apparently intestate, thus leaving no information about his former enslaved people.

Isaac likely reclaimed the surname of his earlier Garrett owner with whom he identified more closely. No known postbellum record names an African American Isaac Langston of Laurens County. Only one African American Isaac Garrett

8. “Search Historical Records,” database, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/search/), search for “Isaac Garrett”; Residence place: exact to “Laurens, South Carolina”; Residence Year (Range): 1800 to 1865. Also, Margaret Peckham Motes, Free Blacks and Mulattoes in South Carolina 1850 Census (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2002). No entry was found for “Isaac Garrett.”


born before 1850 was enumerated there in the nineteenth century.\textsuperscript{16}

Two other enslaved persons sold from Garrett’s estate also adopted Garrett’s surname: “Sam and his wife Hannah,” originally bequeathed to Garrett’s wife. In 1857 Abner Babb bought them for five hundred dollars, a sum suggesting old age.\textsuperscript{17} In 1870 eighty-four-year-old Samuel Garrett and seventy-nine-year-old Hannah Garrett lived in Laurens Township of Laurens County. Enumerated in the preceding household was Samuel Garrett, fifty-three, Nancy Garrett, fifty-six, and eight younger Garretts.\textsuperscript{18} Samuel and Nancy were likely Isaac’s parents and the grandparents Casper named in his biography.

\textit{Freedman Isaac Garrett}

Isaac lived in Laurens County shortly after emancipation. In 1866 he was assessed a capitation (head) tax imposed on males twenty-one to fifty.\textsuperscript{19} He registered to vote there in 1868.\textsuperscript{20}

In 1869 Isaac Garrett, a colored male twenty-one or more, headed a Laurens Township household of two boys and three girls, six to sixteen, and a fourth female who was over sixteen or under six.\textsuperscript{21} This family closely aligns with Isaac’s 1870 household: twenty-five-year-old Hannah, twelve-year-old Jefferson, ten-year-old Dicy, eight-year-old Wick, six-year-old Corra, and five-month-old “Marry.”\textsuperscript{22} They

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\textsuperscript{16} “Search Historical Records,” database, \textit{FamilySearch}, search for “Isaac Garrett”; Residence place: exact to “Laurens, South Carolina”; Residence Year (Range): 1800 to 1900, Birth Year (Range): 1800 to 1850. Only the subject Isaac Garrett was found.
\textsuperscript{18} 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., p. 110 (stamped), dwell. 60, fam. 63, Samuel Garrett (age 84); and dwell. 59, fam. 62, Samuel Garrett (age 53).
\textsuperscript{19} South Carolina, Comptroller General, Tax Return Books, Laurens District, 1866, H–M, box 32, folder 1, loose pages, unpaginated, List of Freedman, Isaac Garrett, person of color; SCDAH. For law, “No. 4776 An Act To Raise Supplies For The Year Commencing In October, One Thousand Eight Hundred And Sixty-Six,” \textit{The Statutes at Large of South Carolina, Volume XIII, Containing the Acts from December, 1861, to December 1866} (Columbia: Republican Printing, 1875), 368, “Special Tax.”
\textsuperscript{22} 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., fols. 136v–37r (stamped), dwell./fam. 8, Isaac Garrett.
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all appear as Isaac’s wife and children in his 1880 household, except for Jefferson, who was old enough to be on his own by 1880.23

Eleven other Garretts named in Isaac’s 1870 household were likely extended family or fictive kin who had had a common enslaver. Their ages ranged from four to twenty-one, including two four-year-olds, two nine-year-olds, and a second six-year-old child in addition to Corra. The eleven are listed together after Isaac, Hannah, and their four oldest children; five-month-old daughter Mary appears last.24 Enumerators’ instructions defined family as persons living under the same roof and provided for at a common table.25

Between 1870 and 1910 Isaac, described as a farmer or farm laborer in Laurens Township, rented his home.26 Federal enumerators were instructed “to distinguish between farmers and farm laborers.”27 Isaac’s farmer designation probably indicates he was a sharecropper.28 He apparently owned no land. From 1870 to 1874 he appears in the county tax records but was never assessed on real estate.29 In 1890 he

was taxed on two cattle and other personal property valued at twenty-four dollars.\(^{30}\)

Isaac’s 1880 household included wife Hannah (née Cunningham), thirty-nine, and his eight children: Dicy, nineteen; Sedgwick [a.k.a. Wick and Wister], seventeen; Cora, fifteen; Mary, thirteen; Lela, nine; Hattie, seven; Early, five; and Isaac, two.\(^{31}\) After Hannah’s death in 1888, Isaac lived with a second wife, named Kansas (var. Cavass). Censuses disagree on their marriage year—1870 or 1886.\(^{32}\) No civil records for Isaac’s marriages exist, but the later date is probably closer.\(^{33}\) In 1911 at age seventy-six, Isaac was laid to rest in the New Grove Baptist Church Cemetery by Hannah’s side.\(^{34}\)

**ISAAC’S PROBABLE PARENTS IN LAURENS COUNTY**

Samuel and Nancy Garrett’s presence in Laurens County soon after emancipation suggests they were enslaved there.

**Nancy Garrett’s Origins and Parents**

Casper Garrett preserved his family’s oral history, perhaps thanks to his legal training.\(^{35}\) He reported that Isaac’s maternal grandfather married a “slave woman,” bought his wife’s and daughters’ freedom, and bought land.\(^{36}\) Without naming him, Casper’s account closely tracks the life of Dublin Hunter, a free man of color.

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\(^{32}\) New Grove Baptist Church Cemetery, Hannah Garrett [site] marker; transcribed by author, July 2015; notes in author’s files. Hannah’s marker shows a death date 2 March 1888 at age 54, “Wife of Isaac Garrett.” The inscriptions are the only records spelled Garrett. For new wife and marriage year, 1900 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., ED 55, Sheet 19, p. 194, dwell./fam. 324, Isaac Garrett. Isaac was married 30 years. Also, 1910 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., ED 55, p. 39B (stamped), dwell./fam. 613, Ike Garrett. Ike was married 24 years.


\(^{34}\) New Grove Baptist Church Cemetery, Isaac Garrett [site] marker; transcribed by author, July 2015; notes in author’s files. Isaac’s marker is inscribed: “died June 8, 1911 Age 76 Years.”

\(^{35}\) South Carolina, Supreme Court, License to Practice Law, Casper G. Garrett, 23 May 1890; digital image in author’s files; original certificate, privately held by Phyllis Simons Ferguson, Seattle, Washington. The license hung in Casper’s home in Columbia, South Carolina, where it remained during the residency of his daughter, Naomi Mills Garrett. Phyllis obtained the license from her Aunt Naomi Garrett’s estate.

Isaac Garrett of Laurens County, South Carolina

who purchased his own freedom from a Laurens enslaver in 1819.\textsuperscript{37} Dublin bought twenty-one acres in 1821, the first of many land acquisitions.\textsuperscript{38} In 1823 he purchased an enslaved woman, Sall, and two girls from Charles Simmons’s estate.\textsuperscript{39} Dublin, born about 1785, lived in Laurens District from 1830 through 1850. Absent from the 1860 census, he probably died after his 1850 enumeration.\textsuperscript{40}

Sixty-year-old Sall and a fourteen-year-old boy, both free persons of color, lived in Dublin Hunter’s 1850 household. However, no known evidence of their emancipation exists.\textsuperscript{41} When Dublin purchased Sall in 1823 state law provided that “[n]o slave shall . . . be emancipated, but by act of the legislature.”\textsuperscript{42} Without legislative action Sall was Dublin’s personal property and subject to creditors’ claims, despite living as a free person. Children born to Sall while she was enslaved shared her condition of servitude.\textsuperscript{43}

Charles Simmons’s 1791 will gave rise to an 1823 equity court case involving enslaved Sall and five children. Sall was sold in 1792 in Virginia—after Charles Simmons’s death—at “about two years of age” and taken to Laurens District. Sall was in the decedent’s son’s possession until he executed a 1793 bill of sale to his

mother, Charles Simmons’s widow. Until the widow’s 1822 death, Sall remained in her possession.44

Heirs challenged the widow’s will, which treated Sall as her property.45 Because an enslaved woman’s issue were the property of her owner, the court’s decision also determined the ownership of Sall’s children.46 The equity court decreed Sall and her children belonged to Charles Simmons’s estate—rather than to his widow’s estate.47 In its decision the court accepted the claimant’s assertion that Sall was the mother of all five children in the case, including a girl Nancy “about eight years old,” thus born about 1815.48

When Dublin purchased Sall in 1823, John [Stobo] James purchased Nancy from the Simmons estate.49 He probably held Nancy in bondage into the 1840s.50 In 1842 financially troubled James mortgaged forty-one enslaved people, including a woman Nancy and a man Sam, the same given names as the couple Casper identified as his paternal grandparents and Isaac’s parents.51


46. John Belton O’Neall, Negro Law of South Carolina (Columbia, S.C.: John G. Bowman, 1848) 17, ch. 2, §2. “The owner of the mother has the same right in her issue, born while she belongs to him, which he has in her.”


48. FamilySearch, digital film 007706338, image 948, Laurens Dist., Probate Court, box 66, package 11, estate of Charles Simmons (1822), “Inventory and appraisment [sic] of certain negroes (Decreed by the court of Equity to) belong to the Estate of Charles Simmons, decd.,” 24 March 1823.


50. 1830 U.S. census, Laurens Dist., S.C., p. 232 (stamped), Jno S. James. Also, 1840 U.S. census, Laurens Dist., S.C., p. 3 (stamped), John S. James, Esq. Nancy was the right age to be one of five enslaved females age 10–23 on the 1830 record and one of the four age 24–36 in 1840.

Samuel and Nancy Garrett in Postbellum Laurens County

In 1869 Samuel Garrett Jr. headed a household in Laurens Township with ten colored occupants—six males, only one over twenty-one, and four females. Six lines below Samuel Jr., the enumerator recorded Samuel Garrett Sr. in a household of two—one male and one female, both over twenty-one. 52

In 1870 Samuel Garrett, fifty-three, headed a Laurens Township household of ten, similar in makeup to Samuel Jr.’s 1869 household. His apparent wife, fifty-six-year-old Nancy Garrett, was born about 1814—the approximate birth year of Sall’s child Nancy, enslaved by the Simmons family. Dublin, a one-year-old in Samuel’s household, was likely Nancy’s grandchild. He may have been named after Nancy’s probable father, Dublin Hunter. Seventeen-year-old Stobo Garrett—a male with the same given name as the son Casper’s daughter remembered—lived with Samuel and Nancy. 53

In the next enumerated 1870 household, Samuel Garrett, eighty-four and “Infirm,” lived with Virginia-born Hannah Garrett, seventy-nine. 54 Their proximity to the younger Samuel and their ages suggest they were probably the couple recorded in 1869 as the Samuel Garrett Sr. household. The two Samuels were possibly father and son.

The younger Samuel last appears in Laurens Township tax rolls in 1874 listed on the line below Isaac Garrett. Samuel owed no poll tax, indicating he was over fifty. 55 Samuel and Nancy Garrett do not appear in censuses after 1870, which suggests they died before 1880. 56 Casper George Garrett—about five years old in 1870—

55. FamilySearch, digital film 008300442, image 147, Laurens Co., Auditor’s Tax Duplicate book, 1874, Laurens Twp., fol. 71, line 7, Isaac Garrett, Col[ored]; line 8, Sam Garrett, Col[ored]. In 1874 a one-dollar poll tax was assessed on males 21 to 50. See Acts and Resolutions of the General Assembly of State of South Carolina . . . at the Regular Session of 1873–74 (Columbia: Republican Printing, 1874), 733, section 5, no. 631, “An Act to Reduce all Acts and Parts of Acts Providing for the Assessment and Taxation of Property into one Act, and to Amend the Same.”
could have remembered Samuel and Nancy as grandparents.  

At New Grove Baptist Church in Laurens Isaac associated with Nancy’s probable brother, Richard Hunter. Isaac, his wife Hannah, and Richard are buried in the churchyard. Judging from newspaper accounts Richard Hunter’s birth family was enslaved after Dublin Hunter’s death. The reports corroborate Casper’s 1919 recollection that through a guardian’s treachery “the old man lost his plantation and the children unbought.”

SAMUEL’S SON STOBO  

Only one African American Stobo Garrett appears in federal censuses for Laurens County from 1870 to 1910. He bore the middle name of the man who enslaved his probable mother, Nancy.

In 1870 Stobo Garrett, seventeen, lived with Samuel and Nancy Garrett in Laurens Township. He was first assessed a poll tax in 1875, indicating he had turned twenty-one. In 1880 Stobo headed a household including wife Mary (née Clowney) and son Fletcher. In 1910 Stobo’s Laurens household included wife Mary and four children.


58. “Dick Hunter Dead, One of the Best Known Negroes in the County, Facts About His Remarkable Career—How He Bought His Freedom and Paid for it After Emancipation,” obituary, Laurens Advertiser, 4 June 1902, p. 3, col. 3. He died 1 June 1902 at age 76. After Richard “Dick” Hunter’s 1902 death, newspaper articles appeared nationwide about his continuing to pay for his freedom after emancipation. Reports identified him as the son of Dublin Hunter, a free man of color. See “Bought Himself Twice,” New-York Tribune (New York, N.Y.), 16 June 1902, p. 2, col. 4. Also, 1830 U.S. census, Laurens Dist., S.C., p. 233 (stamped), Dublin Hunter. The 1830 household included two males under ten years of age, one of which could have been Richard, born about 1826.


62. 1880 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., ED 99, p. 18 (penned), sheet 17-B (stamped), dwell. 163, fam. 174, Stobo Garrett. For maiden name, “South Carolina, Delayed Birth Records, 1789–1990 and City of Charleston, South Carolina, Birth Records, 1877–1901,” Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1239/) > Delayed Birth Records > BC_19 1891–1892 > image 1862, Laurens Co., delayed birth certificate, no. 15-1913 (1940), John B. Garrett. Stobo Garrett’s family Bible is cited. Parents were Stobo and Mary (Clowney) Garrett. Also, Suffolk Co., Mass., death certificate no. 611213, Mary Garrett, 27 December 1936; Registry Division, City of Boston; certified copy, 1 October 2018, author’s files. Laurens was her birthplace; father was Todd Clowney, and mother’s maiden name was unknown.
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children: eighteen-year-old John B., fifteen-year-old Anna, twelve-year-old Mamie, and seven-year-old "Maud." By 1920 Stobo, sixty-five, had relocated to Boston, Massachusetts, with his wife, Mary, and the same four children enumerated in his 1910 Laurens household. Casper's daughter may have known Stobo as an uncle. In an interview she said Stobo's son John B. Garrett was Casper's first cousin.

Stobo's 1922 Massachusetts death certificate names his father, Samuel Garrett. The record names no mother, but onomastic evidence connects Stobo to the former Nancy Hunter. "Hunter" was Stobo's middle name and the given name for one of his sons.

PARENTS FOR SAMUEL GARRETT

Samuel Garrett, born about 1817, was probably the son of Samuel and Hannah Garrett, the elderly couple sold out of the Garrett enslaver's estate. Several points support the theory:

- The same person—Jesse Garrett—enslaved Samuel the elder, Hannah, and Isaac.
- Seventy-nine-year-old Hannah, described as mulatto in 1870, is probably the same "Molattow Gerral" whom Jesse Garrett bought in 1803, and who is described as Samuel's wife in Garrett's will. The 1803 deed does not give Hannah's age, but by 1870 she would have been elderly.

63. 1910 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens City, ward 2, ED 57, sheet 6-B, dwell./fam. 120, Stobo H. Garrett.
66. Suffolk Co., death certificate no. 698923, Stobo Garrett, 31 August 1922; Registry Division, City of Boston; certified copy, 13 August 2018, author's files. "Lawrence, SC" is the birthplace of both parents. Although unnamed, the informant's relationship was "wife."
69. Ibid., images 9–11, Laurens Dist., Probate Court, Jesse Garrett estate (1853), bundle 132, package 10, will of Jesse Garrett, 22 September 1847, proved 5 October 1853. Also, ibid., images 20–21, “Appraise Bill of the Estate of Jesse Garrett,” 24 May 1853.
Hannah, born about 1791, and about twenty-six at the younger Samuel’s birth in 1817, was of an age to be his mother.

After emancipation Samuel and Hannah lived in the household enumerated after Samuel and Nancy.\(^{71}\)

Casper reported his grandfather’s parents were Virginians. The one census where Hannah appears lists Virginia as her birthplace.\(^{72}\) A local history reports the Garrett enslaver’s parents emigrated from Virginia, likely bringing enslaved people with them.\(^{73}\)

Onomastic evidence supports the connection. The given names of Nancy’s husband and fourteen-year-old Hannah in Samuel and Nancy’s 1870 household are possible namesakes of the elder Samuel and Hannah.\(^{74}\)

The elder Samuel is listed as “Sr.” and the younger as “Jr.” in Laurens Township in the 1869 state census.\(^{75}\) Anecdotal evidence suggests the enumerator used these suffixes to distinguish between fathers and sons.\(^{76}\)

**CASPER GARRETT’S PARENTS**

Casper Garrett does not appear in the 1870 enumeration of Laurens County.\(^{77}\)

He told his biographer that his father, Samuel, “had left with the Yankees and did not return,” and that his mother’s given name was Martha.\(^{78}\)

*Marta Hyde a.k.a. Martha Hunter*

Casper Garrett may have been known by the surname Kennedy. In 1880 seventeen-year-old Casper Kennedy lived with sixty-year-old Cato Kennedy.\(^{79}\)

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71. 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., p. 110 (stamped), dwell. 59, fam. 62, Samuel Garrett; and dwell. 60, fam. 63, Samuel Garrett.

72. Ibid., dwell. 59, fam. 62, seventy-nine-year old Hannah in Samuel Garrett household.


75. 1869 South Carolina state census, Laurens Co., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., 24th unnumbered page, Samuel Garrett Jr., line 23; and Samuel Garrett Sr., line 29; FamilySearch, digital film 008194978, image 164.

76. The 1869 census taker for Laurens County’s population schedule was J.P. Owens. See ibid., image 140. For a Jr.-Sr. example, see ibid., image 257, Sullivan Township, line 11, Daniel South Jr.; and line 12, Daniel South Jr. Daniel South’s will names Daniel L. South as a son. See FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/004754156), digital film 004754156, image 492, Laurens Co., will book B:346, will of Daniel South, 8 May 1875, proved 12 February 1876.

77. 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch.; NARA microfilm M593, roll 1501. The author searched the entire county page-by-page using microfilm at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.


household’s eldest female, forty-year-old Martha Kennedy, carried the same given name as Casper’s mother. Casper reported his mother was “brought from Virginia as a slave when small.” Consistent with this story, in 1886 C. G. Garrett placed a newspaper ad seeking information about Martha Kennedy’s birth family from whom she had been separated and sold as a child in Virginia.

Records show two different maiden names for Casper’s mother: Hyde in his 1919 biography and Hunter on his death certificate. Martha’s enslavement history explains the conflict. Samuel Hunter enslaved Martha but after he died intestate she was transferred to his married daughter. Thereafter Martha was probably known by Hunter’s son-in-law’s surname, Hyde.

The similarity of the Virginia origin stories of Martha Kennedy and Martha Hyde—each with a son Casper of about the same age and interaction between Casper Garrett and Martha Kennedy—supports merging the identities. No conflicting record appears before 1880 when Casper was enumerated as a Kennedy or after he placed the 1886 ad. A colored C. G. Garrett owned personal property worth twenty dollars and no real estate in 1890 Laurens County. Cato Kennedy, enumerated without a family in 1870, was likely Casper’s stepfather.

80. Ibid. Everyone on the page, including Martha Kennedy, is recorded as South Carolina-born. It appears the enumerator assumed this was the case. 1930 U.S. census, Richland Co., S.C., pop. sch., Columbia City, p. 151, ED 40-25, sheet 1-A, dwell./fam. 3, Casper Garrett; NARA microfilm T626, roll 2210. Casper’s mother is shown as Virginia-born. However, unknown informants in other census records gave Casper’s mother’s birthplace as South Carolina. His daughter Naomi did the same on his death certificate.


86. 1870 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Laurens Twp., p. 115v (stamped), dwell. 151, fam. 157, Kato Kennedy [as]. Kato was fifty-two.
Another Samuel Garrett: Casper’s Father and Samuel Jr.’s Son?

A freedman named Samuel Garrett, born about 1838 and twenty-one years younger than Nancy’s husband, Samuel, lived in postbellum Laurens County. The younger Samuel was consistently enumerated in Youngs Township. He almost certainly was the colored “Sam Garrett” who registered to vote in 1868 at the Laurens Court House election precinct. He was neither Samuel Garrett Jr. nor Samuel Garrett Sr.; they registered to vote in 1868 in another precinct.

The 1868 tax list has no geographic detail. Therefore, it is impossible to determine whether Samuel Garrett with two hogs and other personal property worth twenty-four dollars was Nancy’s husband of Laurens Township or the Youngs Township resident. Sam Garrett of Youngs Township was taxed in 1874 and 1875 on personal property, but no real estate. After 1880 he does not appear in Laurens County censuses or on the 1890 tax list, suggesting he died or moved.

Samuel Garrett, born 1838, was the right age and living in the right place to be Casper’s father and Samuel Jr.’s son. However, no connection has been established between this Youngs Township Samuel and Casper. Casper’s father, Samuel, may have “left with the Yankees and did not return,” as family oral tradition holds.


88. South Carolina, Secretary of State, Abstract of Voter Registrations Reported to the Military Government, 1868, Laurens Co., First Registration Precinct, Laurens Court House Election Precinct, p. 185, Colored, Sam Garrett; images, South Carolina Digital Library.

89. Ibid., Second Registration Precinct, Scuffletown Election Precinct, p. 245, Colored, Samuel Garrett Jr., Samuel Garrett Sr.; images, South Carolina Digital Library (https://digital.tcl.sc.edu/digital/collection/voterreg/id/1505). Election precincts were not aligned with township boundaries. In 1868 Laurens County had sixteen registration precincts spread over nine townships. See ibid., Laurens Co., title page, fol. 159; South Carolina Digital Library (https://digital.tcl.sc.edu/digital/collection/voterreg/id/1462/rec/1).


91. Ibid., digital film 008300442, image 77, 1874, Youngs Twp., fol. 36, line 16, Sam Garrett, colored. Also, ibid., digital film 008300444, image 89, 1875, Youngs Twp., fol. 39, line 28, Sam Garrett, colored.


93. “Search Historical Records,” FamilySearch, search for “Samuel Garrett”; with Other Person: Casper, George, or Casper George Garrett; Residence Place: exact to “Laurens, South Carolina”; Residence Year (Range): 1860 to 1900.

INTERGENERATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THE GARRETT LINES

Two family reunion programs show Casper’s and Isaac’s descendants considered themselves kin. Casper’s granddaughter preserved a 1933 program for the Dublin Clan’s reunion at Bethel Hall Baptist Church in Laurens. Isaac’s son Wister donated the land on which Bethel Hall was built. Wister’s immediate family is interred in the graveyard. At the 1933 reunion Wister’s son F. M. Garrett welcomed the “Clan.” Casper’s son Dr. C. H. Garrett gave a talk on “Clanship.” Casper’s granddaughter explained the reunion’s reference to “Dublin” acknowledged the common ancestor of the three families attending—“Mills, Garretts, Hunter.”

Casper was the “organizer” of a 1934 Dublin Clan reunion and F. M. Garrett served as “Chair of the Committee.” The 1934 reunion was held at Flat Ruff Baptist Church in Laurens. An undocumented church history identifies Samuel and Nancy Garrett among its organizers. The program included Wister’s son John W. Garrett and Casper’s daughter Mattie (Garrett) Simons.

95. “1933 Reunion Program, Reunion of the Dublin Clan, including the Mills, Garretts, and Hunter Families,” Bethel Hall Baptist Church, Laurens, S.C., 13 August 1933; original in the custody of David Nicholson, Vienna, Va.; copy in author’s files. David inherited the document from his late mother, Ruth (Simons) Nicholson, who was Casper’s granddaughter.

96. Laurens Co., Deed Book 32:131, W. L. Garrett to Trustees of Bethel Hall Baptist Church, deed, 16 November 1911, rec. 16 November 1911; Clerk of Court’s Office, Laurens.


102. “History of Flat Ruff Baptist Church, Laurens County, South Carolina,” 120th Anniversary and Dedication (Gray Court, S.C.: Flat Ruff Baptist Church, 1988); SCC Pamphlet Box; Elaine Martin Local History Room. For Wister’s son, 1910 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., pop. sch., Sullivan Twp., ED 61, p. 153 (stamped), sheet 9-A, dwell./fam. 164, son John W. in household of Wister Garrett [sic].
DNA STUDY

Family tradition and documentary evidence show Samuel and Stobo were Samuel and Nancy (Hunter) Garrett’s sons. Isaac’s hypothesized relationship to the couple comes from indirect evidence. DNA alone cannot prove a genealogical relationship, but it can provide evidence to affirm or refute a conclusion. The study focuses on descent from the ancestral couple, Samuel and Nancy, because either individual might be the source of descendants’ shared DNA.

To test the hypothesis that Samuel and Nancy were Isaac Garrett’s parents, the study uses two types of DNA—autosomal DNA (atDNA) and the Y chromosome (Y-DNA), the latter only found in males.\(^{103}\) The study compares test results of two test-taker groups who agreed to participate and might contribute DNA evidence of Isaac’s parents—six of Isaac’s descendants and six descendants of his hypothesized brothers, Samuel and Stobo. Figure 1 identifies the lines of descent of the twelve testers.\(^{104}\)

\textit{Isaac’s Descendants}

Six of Isaac’s documented descendants through two children form one group shown in the shaded area of figure 1.

- Beryl, descended from Isaac’s daughter Dicy (Garrett) Johnson
- Kenneth, descended from Isaac’s son Wister
- Tony and Chris, full brothers descended from Isaac’s son Wister
- Thomas, descended from Isaac’s son Wister
- Abigail, descended from Isaac’s son Wister\(^{105}\)

103. All participants were tested by FamilyTreeDNA. X-DNA was tested as part of atDNA. However, X-DNA matches between testers in independent lines were too small to be significant. See Kathryn J. Johnston, “X-DNA Techniques and Limitations,” in Debbie Parker Wayne, ed., \textit{Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies} (Cushing, Tex.: Wayne Research, 2019), 67. Mitochondrial DNA is not applicable in this case study.

104. An author-created public \textit{Ancestry} tree documents the lines of descent. See LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, “Garrett-Nelson Family Tree,” Public Member Tree, \textit{Ancestry} (https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/85023590/family/familyview). The author received written permission from all test takers who are part of the study. One test taker, labeled “Male Garrett” in figure 1, declined to have his name published. Other potential test subjects were contacted, but did not agree to participate.

105. In all cases test takers identified their own parents. For Dicy and Wister’s parents, 1880 U.S. census, Laurens Co., S.C., p. 61, dwell. 530, fam. 587, Isaac Garrett household. Also, “South Carolina Deaths, 1915–1965,” FamilySearch > 004177654 > image 1208, S.C. Board of Health, death certificate, no. 22848, Wister Lee Garrett, 2 December 1928, Laurens Co. Certificate shows Wister’s parents were Isaac and Hannah Garrett. For Pearl Dakers, “Georgia, Deaths Index, 1914–1940,” Ancestry (http://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2562) > 004178801 > image 570, Ga. Board of Health, death certificate, no. 34277, Pearl Dakers, 30 November 1924, Richmond Co. For Lucius Dakers, 1920 U.S. census, Richmond Co., Ga., p. 492, fam. 515, Pearl Dakers household; NARA microfilm T625, roll 276. Son Lucius “Warren” was mistakenly given his middle name as surname. Also, Lucius Warren Dakers funeral program, Columbia, S.C., 1 April 2002; in author’s files. For Beulah, Elton, and Shellie, children of Wister (a.k.a. Wick), see his will, Laurens Co., Probate Court, bundle 532, package 5, Wick L. Garrett estate (1928), will, 10 February 1927, filed 8 December 1828; Probate Clerk’s Office,
Kenneth, Tony, Chris, and Thomas have Garrett and Neely lineages. These testers are descendants of siblings Beulah and Elton, Wister's children. Beulah (Garrett) Neely married a paternal uncle of Elton Garrett’s wife.¹⁰⁶ This analysis, however, is unaffected by the shared Garrett-Neely DNA. The focus is on DNA segments these individuals have in common with descendants of Samuel and Stobo who have no Neely lineage.

**Samuel’s and Stobo’s Descendants**

Casper is the only identified child of Isaac’s putative brother Samuel. Five of Casper’s descendants from three children provided test results.

- William and Phyllis, full siblings descended from Casper’s daughter Mattie
- Paul, a grandson of Casper’s daughter Mattie
- Adam, a grandson of Casper’s son Marion
- Male Garrett, Casper’s great-grandson descended from Casper’s son Christopher¹⁰⁷


¹⁰⁷. In all cases test takers identified their own parents. For Mattie Simons, Marion Garrett, and Christopher Garrett, see 1910 U.S. census, Richland Co., S.C., pop. sch., Columbia Twp., ED 76, sheet 3-B, dwell. 47, fam. 63, Casper G. Garrett household. For William Simons, Phyllis (Simons) Ferguson, and Casper Simons, see 1930 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., pop. sch., ED 50, sheet 7-B, dwell. 119, fam. 99, Alfred E. Simons household; NARA microfilm T626, roll 293. For Sauda (Sue) Garrett, see Sauda (Sue) Lyn Garrett, ([E-ADDRESS FOR PRIVATE USE]) to La Brenda Garrett-Nelson, e-mail, 2 January 2012, “Happy New Year”, author’s electronic files. For Christopher Garrett Jr., 1930 U.S. census, Richland Co., S.C., pop. sch., Columbia, ED 40-34, sheet 6-B, dwell. 82, fam. 84, Christopher Garrett household; NARA microfilm T626, roll 2209. The editors confirmed the father of Male Garrett and that he identified his own parents and himself as a patrilineal great-grandchild of Casper George Garrett.
**Figure 1**

**Autosomal DNA Matches of Hypothesized and**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Samuel Garrett (b. 1817)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Isaac Garrett (b. 1836–38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dicy (Garrett) Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wister “Wick” Lee Garrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pearl (Johnson) Dakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buelah (Garrett) Neely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elton Garrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shellie Garrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lucius Dakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edgenoria (Neely) Herron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lhorea (Garrett) Grayson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Garrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shelley (Garrett) Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Beryl Dakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edgenoria’s daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tony Grayson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Grayson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abigail Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kenneth Crosson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** DNA test takers are indicated in bold. The shaded area shows Isaac’s descendants and his hypothesized relationship to Samuel and Nancy (Hunter) Garrett. For documentation of Isaac Garrett’s descendants, see footnote 105 in text.
Figure 1 (continued)

Selected Descendants of Samuel Garrett and Nancy Hunter

and Nancy Hunter (b. 1814)

Samuel Garrett
(b. 1838 [?])

Casper George Garrett

Mattie (Garrett) Simons

Marion Garrett

Christopher Garrett Sr.

Rosemary (Tyson) Matthews

Stobo Garrett
(b. 1853)

Maude (Garrett) Tyson

William Simons (Simons)

Phyllis Ferguson

Casper Simons

Sauda “Sue” Garrett

Paul Simons

Adam Garrett-Clark

Christopher Garrett Jr.

Male Garrett

Notes for figure 1 continued: For documentation of Samuel Garrett’s descendants, see footnote 107 in text. For documentation of Stobo Garrett’s descendants, see footnote 108 in text.
A single identified descendant of Stobo was willing to test—Rosemary, the only child of Stobo’s daughter Maude.\textsuperscript{108} Her own descendants aside, Rosemary could identify only one cousin in her Stobo Garrett line, who declined to participate.\textsuperscript{109}

Although Americans of African descent are reportedly underrepresented in direct-to-consumer DNA databases, Casper’s descendant Adam was found through FamilyTreeDNA’s database.\textsuperscript{110} Multiple efforts were unsuccessful to locate willing study participants who are documented Stobo descendants among FamilyTreeDNA and GEDmatch users.\textsuperscript{111}

### AUTOSOMAL DNA

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) refers to the twenty-two chromosomal pairs in the nucleus of each human cell. Each parent contributes to a child one of each pair of atDNA chromosomes. Because atDNA randomly recombines, siblings do not receive exactly the same mix of atDNA from their parents. In addition to the effects of recombination, half of a parent’s atDNA is not passed on to a child. Thus, the probability of matching genetic cousins decreases with each generation.\textsuperscript{112}

Genetic relatedness is measured using centimorgans (cM), the probability of the frequency of recombination between two points on a chromosome. In general, the higher the number of shared cM for two testers, the more closely related they are.\textsuperscript{113} Closeness of a genetic relationship is also assessed using the number of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), variations in the DNA sequence at locations on a chromosome.\textsuperscript{114}


\textsuperscript{109} [NAME PRIVATE] to author, e-mail, 21 February 2019, “Our Garrett Family”; author’s files.

\textsuperscript{110} Dieter Holger, “DNA testing for ancestry is more detailed for white people. Here’s why, and how it’s changing,” online news article, 4 December 2018, PCWorld (https://www.pcworld.com/article/3323366/dna-testing-for-ancestry-white-people.html).

\textsuperscript{111} See author’s files for private e-mails in 2017–2019. A DNA test taker who claims descent from Celie (var. Cicilia) Garrett (1805–?) shares more DNA with Rosemary than any other test taker in this study. The tester or her full sister also share DNA with descendants in the line of Stobo, Samuel, or Isaac. Test results for these sisters, however, are not included because adequate documentary evidence for Celie’s relationship to the Garrett lines in figure 1 has not been established.


\textsuperscript{113} Ibid., 72–75.

Variables Affecting the Analysis

Pedigree gaps result from the scarcity of records for enslaved ancestors. Thus, although each parent-child link in figure 1 is documented, the lack of depth in pedigrees could mask an unidentified common ancestor from whom test takers inherited atDNA. The enslaved in rural areas such as Laurens District were geographically isolated and had limited personal autonomy. They inevitably likely chose mates from family groups within the enslaved community. Intermarriage within the same communities continued in rural areas into the early twentieth century. Thus test takers may have atDNA from multiple recent common ancestral couples. Predicted relationships are based on theoretical probabilities. The following points reduce the odds of an invalid match or of attributing atDNA to the wrong ancestor:

- All atDNA matching segments in the study’s genetic comparisons are greater than 7 cM—statistically viewed as “identical by descent,” or inherited, in contrast to false positives.¹¹⁵ All matching segments have more than 700 SNPs.
- Valid statistical tools, such as those on GEDmatch and the Shared cM Project 4.0 tool v4 found at DNAPainter, support the conclusions about genetic relationships.¹¹⁶
- For the nine test takers who had results uploaded to GEDmatch the tool “Are your parents related” confirms none had parents who were related to each other.¹¹⁷
- Thomas is the only test taker whose parents were both members of the Laurens County population, and his pedigree is complete to the theorized ancestral couple. All eight of his great-grandparents are identified.¹¹⁸
- Rosemary’s pedigree is complete to the theorized ancestral couple. Her four grandparents are documented.¹¹⁹

115. Brenna M. Henn et al., “Cryptic Distant Relatives are Common in Both Isolated and Cosmopolitan Genetic Samples,” research article, 3 April 2012, PLOS One (https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0034267), see figure 6. True identical by descent segment lengths greater than 7 cM were detected over 90 percent of the time in this scientific study. Also, for a discussion see “Identical by descent,” updated 23 November 2018, International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki (https://isogg.org/wiki/Identical_by_descent).
117. “Are your parents related?” GEDmatch (https://www.gedmatch.com/v_compare_parents1.php), evaluations of kits T440057 (Beryl), T837933 (Kenneth), T407039 (Tony), T168905 (Chris), CU807097C1 (Thomas), T281192 (Abigail), T177464 (William), T141871 (Paul), and T351205 (Rosemary).
Other test takers' geographic dispersal outside of Laurens reduces the probability of competing hypotheses for the atDNA shared with Garrett descendants. Casper's mother was born in Virginia and the mother of his children outside the Laurens gene pool in Columbia, South Carolina. Beryl's paternal grandmother is her only genetic link to Laurens. All other test takers have at least one parent who was not a Laurens native, including Rosemary whose father was born in Georgia.

All descendants of Stobo, Casper, and Isaac are estimated to have significant percentages of European DNA from outside the enslaved population, ranging from 9% for Thomas, to 21% for Beryl, 35% for Phyllis, and 40% for Rosemary. This finding is consistent with a peer-reviewed genetic study of African Americans who descend from enslaved populations on the U.S. mainland. This study's test takers are unlikely to share DNA through unknown European lines.

Pedigree collapse occurred in some areas as enslaved populations reproduced over several hundred years. In contrast, white settlement and the introduction of slavery in South Carolina's upcountry began in the mid-1760s, one hundred years and only three or four generations before emancipation.

**Autosomal DNA Shared by Both Groups**

Table 1 shows thirty instances in which one of Isaac's descendants has a matching segment greater than 7 cM on the same chromosome as one of Samuel's or Stobo's descendants. Each pair of test takers consists of

- a third-, fourth-, or fifth-generation descendant of Isaac; and
- a third- or fourth-generation descendant of Samuel, or Stobo's second-generation descendant.

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121. 1920 U.S. census, Richmond Co., Ga., pop. sch., Augusta, ward 3, ED 81, sheets 17-B-18-A, dwell. 494, fam. 515, Pearl Dakers household. Georgia is listed as the birthplace of Beryl's paternal grandfather. Also, 1920 U.S. census, Orangeburg Co., S.C., pop. sch., Union Township, ED 154, sheet 11-A, dwell./fam. 192, Laurene in household of John Williams; NARA microfilm T625, roll 1705. From at least age three Beryl's mother was enumerated in Orangeburg County.


123. “Origins Version 2,” *FamilyTreeDNA* [for kits 412572, 430704, 535421, and 469351]. Percentages were confirmed by the editors.

124. Soheil Baharian et al. “The Great Migration and African-American Genomic Diversity,” *PLOS Genetics* [see “Abstract.” “An estimated 82.1% of ancestors to African-Americans lived in Africa prior to the advent of transatlantic travel, 16.7% in Europe, and 1.2% in the Americas, with increased African ancestry in the southern United States compared to the North and West.”]

125. Margaret Peckham Motes, *Laurens County, S.C.: Rabun Creek Settlement 1762–1848* (Baltimore: Clearfield Publishing, 2011), xiv–xv; Donn Devine, “How long is a generation? Science Provides an Answer,” *ISOGG Wiki* [see “Abstract.” “An estimated 82.1% of ancestors to African-Americans lived in Africa prior to the advent of transatlantic travel, 16.7% in Europe, and 1.2% in the Americas, with increased African ancestry in the southern United States compared to the North and West.”]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISAAC DESCENDANT</th>
<th>SAMUEL / STOBO DESCENDANT</th>
<th>CHR</th>
<th>MATCHING SEGMENT &gt; 7 CM</th>
<th>SNPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beryl</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>2,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>2,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>3,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>2,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>715</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>6,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>3,719</td>
</tr>
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<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>1,586</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Phyllis (Sa)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.69</td>
<td>2,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29.28</td>
<td>7,844</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>43.6</td>
<td>9,148</td>
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<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>2,404</td>
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<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>5,651</td>
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<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>1,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>1,283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>1,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>3,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>William (Sa)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>2,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>William (Sa)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>3,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>4,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>1,433</td>
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<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>3,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Male Garrett (Sa)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23.67</td>
<td>2,591</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Phyllis (Sa)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19.67</td>
<td>4,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.63</td>
<td>2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>33.6</td>
<td>9,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>6,688</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>1,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>1,435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1 sources: “One-to-One Autosomal DNA Comparison,” GEDmatch [https://www.gedmatch.com], kits T719262 (Beryl), T837933 (Kenneth), T407039 (Tony), CU807097C1 (Thomas), T281192 (Abigail), T551205 (Rosemary), T177464 (William), and T141871 (Paul); default options (Build 37) with “Prevent Hard Breaks” selected. Kits for Phyllis, Adam, and Male Garrett were not uploaded to GEDmatch. Their matches were analyzed using FamilyTreeDNA tools and results verified by the editors. “Family Finder – Matches,” FamilyTreeDNA [https://www.familytreedna.com/my/familyfinder].

Table 2 shows hypothesized relationships for atDNA matches between the two groups for eleven of the twelve test takers. All relationships are consistent with those predicted by the Shared cM Project tool available at DNA Painter, a statistical tool that predicts relationships based on empirical data. None of the hypothesized relationships had a zero probability of occurring.

Table 2: Hypothesized Relationships between Isaac’s and Samuel/Stobo’s Descendants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test taker’s ancestor: Sa=Samuel, St=Stobo</th>
<th>Isaac DESCENDANT</th>
<th>SAMUEL / STOBO DESCENDANT</th>
<th>TOTAL SHARED cM</th>
<th>HYPOTHESIZED RELATIONSHIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beryl</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2C2R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>2C3R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2C2R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony</td>
<td>Phyllis (Sa)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3C1R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>2C1R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3C1R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>3C1R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Phyllis (Sa)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>William (Sa)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Male Garrett (Sa)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3C1R</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abigail</td>
<td>Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>2C2R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: For total shared cM, “Family Finder – Matches,” FamilyTreeDNA [https://www.familytreedna.com/my/familyfinder], for test takers’ matches. Results were verified by the editors. For the relationships, C=cousin, R=removed. For example, 2C2R is a second cousin, twice removed.

126. The twelfth test taker, Chris, did not match anyone in the Samuel/Stobo group, but atDNA and X-DNA confirm he is Tony’s full brother. See “GEDmatch® Autosomal One-to-one Comparison – V1.0,” and “X-DNA One-to-one Comparison – V1.0,” GEDmatch, comparing kits T168905 (Chris) and T407039 (Tony). The brothers share 2,737.7 cM of atDNA and 121.7 cM of X-DNA.

Isaac Garrett of Laurens County, South Carolina

Descendants of Isaac, Samuel, and Stobo Share Triangulated Segments

Segment triangulation identifies the same or overlapping atDNA segments on the same chromosome shared by at least three testers with independent lines of descent from a hypothesized common ancestral couple. Triangulation is viewed as increasing the probability the correct common ancestral couple is identified.

Two triangulated groups of testers, shown in table 3, share segments on chromosome 2. Each group includes Rosemary, the closest generational descendant of Samuel and Nancy Garrett, and a descendent of Isaac and Samuel. Documentary research revealed no genealogical connections among these test takers other than their Garrett lines. These shared matches in two triangulated groups strengthen the case for Samuel and Nancy Garrett as the test takers’ most recent common ancestral couple.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST TAKERS (ANCESTOR)</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>STOP</th>
<th>SHARED cM</th>
<th>SNPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas (I) and Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>77,572,079</td>
<td>133,728,225</td>
<td>43.6</td>
<td>9,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas (I) and Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>113,825,303</td>
<td>135,711,657</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>4,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary (St) and Paul (Sa)</td>
<td>113,825,303</td>
<td>133,728,225</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>3,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony (I) and Rosemary (St)</td>
<td>77,572,079</td>
<td>121,341,281</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>6,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony (I) and Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>77,511,553</td>
<td>120,961,417</td>
<td>29.28</td>
<td>7,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary (St) and Adam (Sa)</td>
<td>71,562,688</td>
<td>126,435,595</td>
<td>40.04</td>
<td>10,438</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: “GEDmatch® Autosomal One-to-one Comparison – V1.0,” GEDmatch (https://www.gedmatch.com), kits T407039 (Tony), T551205 (Rosemary), CU807097C1 (Thomas), and T141871 (Paul); default options (Build 37) with “Prevent Hard Breaks” selected. Adam’s test results were not uploaded to GEDmatch. His atDNA was analyzed with FamilyTreeDNA tools. See “Family Finder – Chromosome Browser,” FamilyTreeDNA (https://www.familytreedna.com), shared DNA segments for Tony Grayson, Rosemary Matthews, and Adam Garrett-Clarke; data verified by the editors.

X-DNA

The X chromosome (X-DNA) is one of the sex chromosomes. A mother passes an X chromosome to each of her children, but a father gives X-DNA only to his daughters. Because X-DNA recombines, the X-DNA a mother passes to a son can

be from either or both of the son’s maternal grandparents. A male cannot inherit X-DNA from his paternal grandparents. 129

FamilyTreeDNA includes X-DNA as part of its atDNA test results. The only X-DNA matches between independent Garrett lines of descent were Male Garrett and Rosemary. However, they share 3.82 cM, a segment considered too small to be significant. 130 X-DNA provides no relevant evidence for testing the hypothesis for Isaac’s parents.

Thomas and Chris, both Isaac’s descendants, share 1,849.3 cM of atDNA and 43.3 cM of X-DNA, supporting their uncle-nephew relationship. 131 Yet Tony, Chris’s full brother, shares 1,950.8 cM of atDNA and no X-DNA with Thomas—a demonstration of X-DNA randomly recombining in full siblings. 132

Y-DNA SUPPORTS A KINSHIP

The Y chromosome (Y-DNA) is passed from a male ancestor in a direct line from father to son. Y-DNA does not recombine but can mutate, which results in differences among test results of males in the same patrilineal line. Two Y-DNA tests are available. One looks at SNPs on the Y chromosome and determines a male’s haplogroup or deep ancestry. Another test examines sequences of short tandem repeats (STRs) along the Y chromosome and is best for identifying matches that may descend from a common male ancestor within a genealogically relevant timeframe. Y-DNA testing cannot determine the degree of relationship, but it can test whether two males from independent lines share a common patrilineal ancestor. 133

At a minimum, two males from different lines are needed to confirm or refute a hypothesized paternal relationship. 134 Two Garrett males took both SNP and STR Y-DNA tests: Isaac’s great-grandson Thomas and Casper’s great-grandson Male Garrett. 135

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130. Kathryn J. Johnston, “X-DNA Techniques and Limitations,” in Debbie Parker Wayne, ed., Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies, 59. This expert advises “only matching X segments above 10 cM should be considered.”
131. “GEDmatch® Autosomal One-to-one Comparison – V1.0,” GEDmatch, comparing kits CU807097C1 (Thomas) and T168905 (Chris); default options (Build 37) with “Prevent Hard Breaks” selected.
132. Ibid., comparing kits T407039 (Tony) and CU807097C1 (Thomas).
133. Bettinger and Wayne, Genetic Genealogy in Practice, 23–43.
135. The author was unable to locate a living Y-descendant of Stobo.
A SNP test established the biogeographical Y-DNA haplogroup of Thomas and Male Garrett as E-BY176457, an African lineage. The terminal SNP—the most recent mutation—for both men is BY176457. Thomas and Male Garrett sharing the Garrett surname carries less probative value than if their ancestors were not enslaved. Freedmen often assumed the surname of a former slaveholder with no genetic relationship. The Garrett surname is common to the British Isles, not Africa. The African haplogroup suggests the European DNA of these two testers came from maternal lines. The shared haplogroup supports the hypothesized relationship.

The STR test measures relationships based on the genetic distance (or number of differences) in the results of test takers. Thomas and Male Garrett are each other’s only match on a 111-marker STR test with a genetic distance of three. Table 4 shows the three differences. One is at DYS570, a fast-mutating marker that is more likely to change within a genealogical timeframe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST TAKER</th>
<th>DYS570</th>
<th>DYS413</th>
<th>Y-GGAAT-1B07</th>
<th>DYS425</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Garrett</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20-23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


139. Bettenger and Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, 23–43, for “Genealogical Applications for Y-DNA.”
The match result showing 108 of 111 markers indicates Thomas and Male Garrett share a common patrilineal ancestor. Over half of the matches at this level are related as fifth, or more recent, cousins.\(^{142}\) The men’s zero value at DYS425 provides additional evidence of relationship. Null values are rare.\(^{143}\)

CONCLUSION

The two groups of Garrett test takers share atDNA in amounts consistent with the hypothesized relationships of Isaac, Samuel, and Stobo as brothers. Two triangulated groups on chromosome 2 strengthen the evidence. Y-DNA comparison of two testers points to Isaac’s and Samuel’s descendants sharing a common ancestor on their patrilineal line. The DNA study results—in conjunction with documentary evidence—support the conclusion that Samuel and Nancy (Hunter) Garrett were Isaac Garrett’s parents. Samuel and Hannah Garrett were likely Isaac’s paternal grandparents.

\(^{142}\) “If two men share a surname, how should the genetic distance at 111 Y-chromosome STR markers be interpreted,” *FamilyTreeDNA* (https://www.familytreedna.com/learn/y-dna-testing/y-str/two-men-share-surname-genetic-distance-111-y-chromosome-str-markers-interpreted/).


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**Otto Garrett Killed by Peace Officer**

**Magistrate Woods Shoots When Negro Makes Show of Resisting Arrest.**

While attempting to make an arrest of Otto Garrett, colored, at a colored church in the Mount Bethel community of Sullivan township Friday night, Magistrate N. B. Woods shot and mortally wounded Garrett who died the following day. Magistrate Woods placed himself in the hands of the sheriff immediately after the shooting and was granted bail by Judge Memminger in Common Pleas Court Monday morning.

According to evidence adduced at the inquest Sunday morning, Magistrate Woods had been asked to come to the meeting at the church so that his presence would improve the order of certain unruly elements. Arriving there he was informed that Otto Garrett had a pistol concealed about his person. Going into the church he called Garrett out and told him that he would have to search him for the pistol. He was leading him out of the church, said Mr. Woods, and was just outside the door when Garrett brushed against him violently and made a flourish as if to draw his pistol. Thinking, he said, that his own life was in danger and the darkness preventing him from seeing the exact movements of the negro, Mr. Woods quickly drew his own pistol and fired one shot which struck somewhat in the rear of Garrett’s side and took effect in the abdomen.


—*Contributed by* LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LLM, CG, CGL.