

McMullen DNA Research

June 2016

After comparing information with other McMullen researchers, the decision was made to consider DNA research to help determine the origin of our McMullen line.

James Melvin McMullen (b 1922, d 2014) was the last living child of Harvey and Gertrude McMullen. Shortly before his death in May of 2014, his DNA was submitted for analysis. Mr. Joseph Matthew McMullen was a match on Y-DNA37.

Quoting fellow researcher, Perry Baker, who guided me through the process, “Your McMullen DNA matched Joseph Matthew McMullen¹ 37/37. That means there is a 95% chance that the most recent common ancestor was no more than 7 generations back. That is right about at the Eneas generation level. The further you go back the more likely it is that a mutation would have occurred. Mutations do occur close in and one tester confirmed that he and his son only matched 36/37. 95% is [almost] perfect but that is a high probability and the further back you go the higher the probability gets.

“When you factor a few things the circumstances support the science. For two very closely related individuals who have the same last name to have ended up on the same small valley in what was at that time the frontier its likely more than a coincidence. Secondly they shared the same religious faith and were in a minority group in that regard. Third, it’s likely that one of the sons of Eneas would have kept the farm/mill following his death in Franklin County.

“Science combined with the paper trail and circumstance makes a very strong case for an Eneas connection.”

¹Joseph Matthew McMullen is a known descendant of Eneas McMullen who was born in Ireland.