

## Analysis of Barron **Clan 2** Y-DNA Evidence

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**Clan 2 of the Barron DNA Project** has grown to twenty-four members as of April 2015, now with six **sub-clans identified**. **Sub-clan A** is the line of William Barron, whose family has been first identified in Wilkes County, GA, in 1784. **Sub-clan B** is composed of descendants of a large Barron family residing prior to the Revolutionary War in the area of SC that was later designated York and Union Counties. Despite these families living in fairly close proximity, to date, no documentary connection between William Barron and the York County, SC, Barrons has been found. However, DNA testing tells us that these lines are very closely related, with a participant from Sub-clan A and several participants from Sub-clan B matching the Clan 2 baseline (see below for detail).

**Sub-Clan C** consists of Robert Charlton (Bob) Barron, who graciously agreed to participate in DNA testing after it was determined that he was almost certainly a descendant of the Barron family that lived for 200 years in Lisnaward, near Dromore, County Down, N. Ireland. Research showed that, like the York County, SC, Barron family, the Barron line in the Dromore area used the given name of Archibald over several generations from the 1700s through mid-1800s. So Bob was our best chance to try to prove an Irish connection for Sub-clans A and B. The testing paid huge dividends when Bob showed only one mutation from baseline in a 67-marker Y-DNA test! And the mutated marker was the same one on which five other participants in Clan 2 (all from Sub-clan A) showed a mutation.

**Sub-Clan D** is the line of James Barnes (yes, Barnes, not Barron), an Irishman – also from County Down -- who immigrated to America in 1886, more than one hundred years after the ancestors of Sub-clans A and B. And yet the Y-DNA of his great-grandson, Daniel Barnes, tells us that this line is very closely connected to Sub-clans A through C, with his DNA results exactly matching the Clan 2 baseline on 67 markers.

**Sub-clan E is the new addition to Clan2**, another County Down branch traced back to Archibald Barron, b. 1791 in Ireland, who, together with several brothers, immigrated to Girvan, Ayrshire, Scotland, in the 1810s. The family later immigrated to Canada and then the U.S. (Oregon), where the name was changed to Burns. Raynor Horton (Burns) matches the Clan 2 Y-DNA baseline on 64 of 67 markers.

**Sub-clan F** is represented by Fred Barron, whose great-grandfather, Robert, immigrated to America from County Down, Ireland, in 1849. Fred's Y-DNA carries the most mutations from the clan baseline (four on the 37-marker test) and it seems likely that he is more distantly related to other participants in Clan 2, perhaps as long ago as the 1500s.

**Amazingly, four members of Sub-clans A, B and D (Oran Barron of Sub-clan A, Keith Barron and Michael David Barron of Sub-clan B and Daniel Barnes of Sub-clan D) have identical Y-DNA results – matching on 67 of 67 markers!** Oran Barron of Sub-clan A descends from William Barron of the Wilkes County, GA, family; Keith Barron from Archibald Barron of York County, SC; Michael David Barron's probable ancestor was Alexander Barron of York County, SC; Daniel Barnes' earliest known ancestor was his great-grandfather, James Barnes (likely a son of David Barron of County Down, N. Ireland). The marker values of these four participants are considered the baseline for the entire clan (*meaning these Y-DNA values were the ones most likely carried by the clan members' Most Recent Common Ancestor [MRCA]*).

Though these participants' Y-DNA markers match exactly on 67 markers, documentary records show that their MRCA did not occur in the six most-recent generations (since the identities of those ancestors are already known). Thus, given their perfect Y-DNA match, Family Tree DNA identifies a 98% probability that Keith, Michael David and Oran Barron shared a common ancestor seven generations ago. One of FTDNA's experts suggested that we look for a recent ancestor for William, Archibald and Alexander Barron, such as a common father or grandfather. Then there was the exciting, but unexpected, finding that Daniel Barnes' 67-marker Y-DNA is also an exact match. While the lack of data on Daniel's early ancestors is a hindrance, it is possible that he, too, might share a common ancestor with members of Sub-clans A and B as recently as seven or eight generations ago. More documentary research is needed on the Barnes ancestry, in order to provide new insights on this branch's relationship with the other sub-clans and possibly on the heritage of the entire clan.

It was only when Family Tree DNA offered a new 111-marker Y-DNA test that a DNA mutation was found between Oran and Keith Barron and Daniel Barnes. No upgrade has been ordered for Michael Barron. However another descendant of the William Barron line, Thomas "Chip" Barron also ordered the 111-marker test. And the test of Robert Charlton Barron, descendant of the Lisnaward Barrons, was also upgraded to 111 markers. Among four participants (Oran, Keith, Chip and Daniel Barnes), each had one additional mutation when compared to the other three. And each mutation was on a different marker!

Oran, Keith and Daniel Barnes match on 109 of 111 total markers tested: a Genetic Distance of 2. Once again, Family Tree DNA defines their relationship as tightly related and explains that most persons who match at this level are 7th cousins or closer. This new information reinforces the belief that Oran, Keith and Daniel may have shared a common ancestor as recently as seven to eight generations ago, (that is, William Barron Sr. of GA and Archibald Barron of SC -- and Daniel Barnes' ggggg grandfather, whoever he was – may have been brothers or first cousins), making them about 7th cousins -- which would closely adhere to the relationship prediction by Family Tree DNA for Clan members with a Genetic Distance of 2 from a test of 111 markers. (See Note on Chip Barron's Y-DNA results below).

Robert Charlton Barron's Y-DNA upgrade to 111-markers presented more mutations. In the 67-marker test, Bob had shown only one mutation from the results of Oran, Keith and Daniel. The expectation was that Bob might have one or two additional mutations on markers 68 to 111, as the Most Recent Common Ancestor that Bob shared with Oran, Keith and Daniel may have lived one or several generations prior to Oran, Keith and Daniel's MRCA. Research has provided convincing evidence that Bob descends from another, earlier, Archibald Barron in Ireland. It is possible that Bob's ancestor, Archibald Barron of Lisnaward, County Down, N. Ireland (b. abt 1680, d. 1739), might also be Oran, Keith and Daniel's ancestor. If so, Bob would be about an 8th or 9th cousin to Oran, Keith and Daniel. But the connection between Bob with Oran, Keith and Daniel could also have occurred a generation or two before Archibald Barron of County Down.

Specifically, 111-marker results posted for Bob show three additional mutations, meaning Bob matches Oran, Keith and Daniel on 107 of 111 markers, a Genetic Distance of 4. (You can view the Y-DNA marker comparisons at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/BarronDNAProject/default.aspx?section=ycolored>) According to Family Tree DNA's assessment, most persons who match on 107 of 111 markers are 10<sup>th</sup> – or more recent – cousins. We're hoping for about 8th cousins, but we need documentation to provide evidence.

Perhaps we will learn more about patterns of mutations on markers 68 through 111 as additional members upgrade to 111 markers. However, it should be noted that the minimal mutations found when upgrading from 67 to 111 markers and thus comparing 44 more markers for these participants confirms the tight relationship of this clan.

*Note on Chip Barron's full Y-DNA results: Before testing, one might have assumed that Chip and Oran's DNA results would show a closer match than with Keith, Daniel or Bob. But they do not. Chip showed three mutations from the Clan marker baseline in the first 67 markers and one more in the upgrade from 67 to 111 markers. For 111 markers, Chip has a Genetic Distance of 5 from Oran, Keith and Daniel, which is a higher Genetic Distance than Keith, Oran and Daniel show from Bob Barron -- though Chip and Bob have an equal number of mutations (four) compared to Oran and Keith. The reason that Chip is given a Genetic Distance of 5, rather than 4, is apparently due to the magnitude or palindromic nature of his mutation on marker YCAII. The baseline reading for this marker is 24 -- Chip's reading is 19, a five-step mutation. In most cases, mutations are usually just one or two steps above or below baseline. But marker YCAII has shown to be a fast-mutating marker for the sub-clan of William Barron Sr. (of the **eight members of this sub-clan who have had this marker tested, five members** have mutations) -- AND also fast mutating for Bob Barron, descendant Archibald Barron of County Down. Bob Barron is the **ONLY** member of clan 2 outside of the William Barron Sr. sub-clan to carry a mutation on YCAII.*

*DNA mutations can happen randomly and in any generation. That is why it is so rare that Oran Barron, Keith Barron and Daniel Barnes match exactly on 67 of 67 markers and on 109 of 111 markers. Chip's Barron line experienced some of those random Y-DNA mutations. Despite Chip's additional mutations, we know that Chip is more closely related to Oran than to Keith, Daniel or Bob due to a detailed paper trail documenting his line.*

**A proposed family lineage is charted on the next page:**

**CLAN 2**

**FAMILY LINEAGE proposed by DNA Results and documentation**

*Dates designate birth year, unless otherwise noted. Known or likely brothers appear below in identical background shading.*

**Most Recent Common Ancestor for all Clan 2 Participants (identified in italics, kit # in parenthesis)**

*This individual is unknown at present, but he may have lived in N. Ireland, or less likely, Scotland*

Perhaps many generations for all Clan 2 sub clans to share a common ancestor

*One or several generations to a common ancestor between Sub Clans A, B, C and D, which are very closely related  
Do they share a common ancestor in Archibald Barron, b.?? – d. 1739, of County Down, N. Ireland, or possibly Archibald's father?*

<b>Sub Clan A</b> Common Ancestor – William, Sr. – abt 1740										<b>Sub Clan B</b> John Barron ??, York County, SC										<b>Sub Clan C</b> County Down, Ireland	<b>Sub Clan D</b> County Down, Ireland	<b>Sub Clan E</b> County Down, Ireland	<b>Sub Clan F</b> County Down, Ireland	
										Archibald – 1734	Alexander			James	Thomas – d. 1780			Abraham??						John, Sr. – abt 1740
John – 1763		Samuel – 1767		William, Jr. – 1769						William – 1772	William ? – abt 1776	Alexander – 1779	James A. – 1800	Robert	Thomas		William? – abt 1790					Archibald Barron – 1791	John, Jr. – abt 1770	
Milton D. – 1818	William – abt 1787	Agesilaus – 1801		James S. – 1791			Smith – 1805			Archibald I. – 1807	John – 1805	Alexander F. – 1813	John W. – 1824	Nathan – 1807	Robert – abt 1810		Benjamin F. – 1824			Joseph	David Barron?	James Barron – 1819	David – abt 1810	
	Augustus C. – 1833	Preston A. – 1827		John W. – 1821		Thomas D. – 1843	James T. – 1845		James F. – 1826	John W. – 1832	Joseph S. – 1838	Benjamin C. P. – 1840	William A. – 1836	Homer H. – 1864	James W. – 1845	Robert J. – abt 1836	William M. – 1852	Robert – 1844	Benjamin F. – 1854		William J. – 1829	James Barnes – 1853		Robert – 1832
Morgan – 1863	Henry B. – 1861	Henry N. – 1872		John D. – 1849	Lewis J. – 1867			Franklin S. – 1866	Joseph F. – 1866	William S. – 1866	Frank E. Sr. – 1879	Porter F. – 1863	Homer H. – 1893	Henry G. – 1887	Robert J. – 1856	Robert L. – 1878	Robert L. – 1887	Luther A. – 1884		William D. – 1858	James L. Barnes – 1883	Adam Burns – 1851	Joseph – 1853	
Oran M., Sr. – 1896	Harvey B. – 1910	Arlin L. – 1910		John, Sr. – 1893	Sherman A. – 1890	Zeddie P. – 1883	Joseph L. – 1883		William F. – 1898	Coke F. – 1897	Billie F. – 1917	Frank E. Jr. – 1913	Wake L. – 1904	Art – 1937	Jessie F. – 1917	George O. – abt 1885	James R. – 1905	Paul – 1903	Herbert C. – 1915	Thomas T. – 1905	John H. – 1899	Daniel Barnes – 1914	Wilburn P. Burns – 1882	Waldo S. – 1895
				John, Jr. – 1927	Dorman L. – 1921	Lindsey H. – 1923	Joe W. – 1907			Joseph A. – 1928	Richard S. – 1946		George A. – 1926			Robert D. – 1925	Darrell – 1922	Kenneth A. – 1938	Daniel Barnes – 1914					
Oran M. 18169	Harold B 142211.	Bill W. 15219		Jesse D. 179243	Herbert – 1956	Thomas W. 71454	Joe L. 15701 & Sidney Boudreaux 252797		William F., Jr. 217935	Joseph R. 36543	Justin S. 117230	Keith R. 43129	Michael D. 22581	Michael J. 121466	Brent C. 22581	Jerry W. 103783	R. Larry 102182	John L. 157008	Kenneth D. 22581	Bobby C. 288407	Robert C. 198623	Daniel Barnes, Jr 158267	Raynor Horton (Burns) 306208	Fred J. 176644

## *Major Issues and Answers for Clan 2*

### **1. William Barron Sr. (b. about 1740) was not from County Waterford, Ireland!!! (Sub-clan A)**

One of the enduring traditions of the heritage of **William Barron Sr. of GA** was that he emigrated from **County Waterford, Ireland**. The original source of this story was the correspondence of John Davis Garrard, beginning in 1892. However, careful reading of Garrard's letters show that his earliest statements specified only that this Barron line came to America from Ireland. Later, when he and a cousin, J. D. Barron, read a pedigree of the Waterford Barrons, the two became convinced William Barron must be a member of that family. Garrard wrote Barron that they should research the Waterford genealogy to find the link. There is no evidence that either man ever followed through with an investigation, though both continued to claim kinship with the Waterford Barrons until their deaths. See transcribed copies of these letters at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/johndavisgarrardletters.pdf>

Their assumption was carried forward by writers of early Georgia county histories and accepted by countless members of that Barron line. Many later researchers attempted to make the connection through research and some even hired professional genealogists. None could ever find the elusive link. For more about the tradition of Irish heritage in the William Barron family, see <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/barronirishheritage.pdf>

In the last twenty years, several serious researchers began to doubt the Waterford connection and began looking at other leads, including the Barrons of Craven County, NC – a relationship that no longer appears likely, despite initial promise – though descendants of this William Barron line are still being sought for DNA testing.

And DNA testing offered the best opportunity to determine whether William Barron Sr. of GA was indeed one of the County Waterford Barrons. **David Charles Netteville Barron** of the United Kingdom is a descendant of the Waterford Barrons through **James Fitzgerald**, the first of that line to take the surname Barron. David, who is very knowledgeable about his family tree, agreed to DNA testing, though his family records indicate that none of his family immigrated to America in the 1700s. Further, his Barron ancestors were Catholic at that time – while William Barron's family was Protestant by tradition and Baptist as recorded as early as the 1790s.

David's DNA results confirm that his Waterford line is not related in the slightest degree to the Clan 2 Barrons (which, of course, includes the line of William Barron Sr. of GA). Further, David's haplogroup results (*identifying ancient ancestry*) show that his group is I-M253, whereas descendants of William Barron are from the R-M269 haplogroup.

More recently **Michael Barron-Wike**, whose Barron line has been traced to John Barron (b. 1792) of Cappel, County Waterford, Ireland, has taken the Y-DNA test. And John Lowell Barron, whose Barron line was found in County Kilkenny as early as the late 1700s, also tested. Neither of these men's DNA matches that of David Barron, nor do their results match each other or members of Clan 2.

It is hoped that this proof that William Barron Sr. was not descended from the County Waterford Irish will eventually correct the error made so long ago by John Davis Garrard and perpetuated for these many years.

So, who are William Barron Sr.'s kinsmen???

### **2. The Barron line of York County, SC, is related to William Barron Sr. of GA, but how? (Sub-clans A and B)**

The descendants of **William Barron Sr.** have long faced a brick wall in determining their family's origin. The trail of documentary evidence ends abruptly in 1784 in Wilkes County, Georgia. But DNA testing has identified Archibald, Thomas, Alexander, James and Abraham Barron as William Barron's close relatives. These men lived in what is now York and Union Counties, SC, prior to the Revolutionary War.

In fact, **Keith Barron** (*descends from Archibald Barron*) and **Michael David Barron** (*a likely descendant of Alexander Barron*) matched **Oran Barron** (*a descendant of William Barron Sr.*) exactly on FTDNA's 67-marker test! **Brent Cody Barron** (*a descendant of James Barron*) matched **Oran** on 66 of 67 markers. Family Tree DNA commented that with exact 67 marker matches for Oran and Michael (and later Keith) and the 66 of 67 matches for Cody, "*I would say that the ancestors ... Alexander, James, and William (and now Archibald) were closely related; the probability that they are distantly related and yet have no mutations is pretty slim, albeit still possible. However, I would look for a recent ancestor between them, such as a common father or grandfather.*"

Bringing Keith Barron into Clan 2 provided significant new clues regarding the clan's Barron origins. His Archibald Barron line holds the oldest and most detailed tradition regarding our heritage. In the 1887 obituary of Archibald Ingram Barron, grandson of Archibald Barron (1734 Ireland – 1817 SC), we are told that he was a "*descendant of James Barron who together with Edward Houp, accompanied John Knox as lay commissioners for the first General Assembly of the Church of Scotland which met in the city of Edinburgh on the 20th of December, 1560. From Scotland [his family] emigrated to Ireland, settling in the neighborhood of Carrickfergus about the year 1665. From Ireland, they emigrated to America, settling first in Pennsylvania and afterward, about 1750 or a few years earlier, they came south and settled in York County, S. C.*" While this family tradition may contain errors, it provides worthwhile leads to follow as we seek our clan's history, and has already offered helpful pointers.

For example, there was a marriage record for an Archibald Barron and Elizabeth Rouen in Philadelphia, PA in 1756 and, in 1762, an Archibald Barron lived in nearby Northampton County, PA. Soon thereafter, we see the earliest known reference to the Barron family in the area that became York County, SC. It is reasonable to assume that the Archibald Barron in PA and the man who shortly afterward appeared in SC were one and the same. However, further research into PA, MD and SC colonial records is needed to confirm this speculation and trace the family's American migration – and, hopefully, to connect it to the William Barron Sr. family of Wilkes County, GA.

Most importantly, the story of Irish heritage in the Archibald Barron family offered another early source supporting the Irish tradition described by John Davis Garrard from the William Barron Sr. line. And the story did not reference County Waterford, but Northern Ireland (specifically Carrickfergus) settled by Ulster Scots in the 1600s. This origin makes sense given the York, SC, Barrons' neighborhood of Scots-Irish and the family's staunch Presbyterianism.

### 3. Connections to Northern Ireland! (*All sub-clans*)

A lead into Clan 2's Northern Ireland origins was found in the countryside of **County Down**, just southwest of the village of Dromore (and only 28 miles from Carrickfergus). A Barron family lived in a townland called **Lisnaward** by 1713. The earliest known of these Barrons was named **Archibald** and this given name recurred generation after generation through at least the mid-1800s. The only other Barron family known to name sons Archibald throughout the years was that of the **Archibald Barron family of York County, SC (Keith Barron's line)**. We searched for a descendant of the Lisnaward line for DNA testing and thought we had found one in the person of **Fred Barron**, whose great-grandfather, Robert Barron, was known to have been born in County Down in 1832. And an 1895 biography stated that Robert's line hailed from County Down as early as his great-grandfather (mid to late 1700s). We could not be sure that Fred's Barron line was connected to the Lisnaward family, but hoped for a close match.

The results were mildly disappointing in that they didn't provide the connection we were seeking. While Fred's DNA showed that he is indeed a member of Clan 2 (Sub-clan F), his Y-DNA 37-marker test showed four mutations from baseline, indicating a more distant relationship with Sub-clans A and B. Fred may share a Most Recent Common Ancestor with the rest of Clan 2 in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (perhaps before the Scots migration to Northern Ireland).

We returned to the search for a Lisnaward descendant and, nine months later, located a line with more promise. William John Barron, born in 1829, married Jane McRoberts in County Down, N. Ireland in 1851. The marriage records showed William John Barron living in Dromore, a small village a few miles north of the community known as Lisnaward. And he married Jane in Magherally, a village located a few miles southwest of Lisnaward. William John and Jane Barron immigrated to America immediately after their marriage, settled in Iowa, and had several sons. Tracing their line, we discovered **Robert Charlton Barron**, a great-grandson of William John Barron, who graciously agreed to take a DNA test (Sub-clan C).

With Bob's results, we hit pay dirt! His Y-DNA matched 66 of 67 markers to the Barron Clan 2 baseline. Interestingly, the one mutation he showed was on marker YCAIIB, the same marker on which five descendants of Sub-clan A of Clan 2 show mutations. No participants from other sub-clans have experienced this mutation. While we can't conclude that Robert Charlton Barron's line is more tightly connected to that of the William Barron Sr. line (Sub-clan A), this similar mutation found otherwise only in Sub-clan A is quite intriguing.

What we can claim is that Bob Barron's family is closely related to Sub-clans A and B (and also Sub-clans D and E – see Items 4 and 5). As for Bob Barron, his descent from Archibald Barron of Lisnaward, County Down, N. Ireland, has since been proven by indentures identifying his ancestor William John Barron as being heir to a part of Archibald's original 1713 lease agreement. Without documentary records, Sub-clans A, B, D and E cannot prove that their ancestors also hail from Lisnaward; however, these groups can say, "We have found early family in Lisnaward, County Down, Northern Ireland" or that "Early Barron relatives lived in Lisnaward, County Down." Research of the Lisnaward Barrons is ongoing in hopes of determining a direct connection to Sub-clans A, B, D and E.

#### **4. A Barnes who is actually a Barron. (*Sub-clans A, B, C and D*)**

For several years, only three of Clan 2's participants matched exactly on 67 Y-DNA markers: **Oran Barron** (*Sub-clan A – descendant of William Barron connected to Wilkes County, GA*), **Michael David Barron** (*Sub-clan B – likely descendant of Alexander Barron of York County, SC*) and **Keith Reeves Barron** (*Sub-clan B – descendant of the Archibald Barron who also settled in York County, SC*). Recent results added another, unexpected, member to this small group whose markers constitute Clan 2's baseline: **Daniel Barnes** (*Sub-clan D – descendant of James Barnes*). Daniel Barnes' earliest known ancestor is James Barnes (b. 1853), first found in the 1881 Scottish census, with the name James Barrons, born in Ireland. James Barnes immigrated to America in 1886, a century and more after the ancestors of all these other participants. Research indicates that James Barnes may have been the son of a David Barron of Donaghadee, County Down, N. Ireland. Apparently, the change in the name from Barron to Barnes came during the immigrant James Barnes' lifetime. Work continues to try to determine if there is a connection of this family with the Lisnaward, County Down, Barron line. (See section 3. above for more on the Lisnaward Barrons).

#### **5. A Burns who is a Barron, too – and whose ancestral line used the given name Archibald! (*Sub-clan E, with implications for B, C, D and F*)**

Raynor Horton (*Sub-clan E*) never knew his biological father, so a genealogist cousin had him test both his autosomal and Y-DNA. Y-DNA 67-marker results indicated that Raynor is a Barron, matching on 64 of 67 markers. Bolstered by this finding, Raynor's cousin identified his likely Barron roots through documentary research, which in turn was supported by autosomal matches to various allied families in Family Finder. This Barron family is known by the surname Burns in the U.S., an evolution of the Barron surname to Barrons and then to Burns when the family immigrated first to the U.S., then Ontario, Canada, and finally to Oregon, back in the U.S. The earliest known ancestor of this line was Archibald Barron, b. 1791 in Ireland, who moved to Scotland in the 1810s with a young family, as well as several brothers. It is quite interesting that records show that both the wife and son of Archibald's brother, Thomas, were born in County Down, Ireland. Also intriguing is Archibald Barron's son James named a son Archibald (b 1844), who in turn named a son Archibald (b. 1871), who also had a son Archibald (b. 1904)! There were several other Archibalds in the family, as well. This naming tradition of Archibald over generations is reminiscent of the traditions in the Lisnaward, County Down, Archibald Barron (b. 1713) family and the York County, SC, Archibald Barron (b. 1734) family. It seems likely that Raynor Horton's Barron/Burns line either descends from the Lisnaward Barrons or was otherwise closely related to the Lisnaward clan.

Is it coincidence that records identify roots for all the Sub-Clans C, D, E and F in County Down, and that three sub-clans (B, C and E) have branches with an "Archibald" naming pattern over generations?

#### **6. The expanded York/Union Counties, SC, Barron family (*Sub-clan B*)**

##### ***The Thomas Barron branch***

DNA testing of three descendants of the Tallapoosa County, AL, Barrons, **Richard Larry Barron** and **John Lee Barron** of the Thomas Barron / Sally Clay line and **Jerry Wayne Barron** of the Robert Barron line, showed that these men were closely related to other participants in Clan 2. Yet researchers had not been able to connect their two lines together and had no clue who their common ancestor might be.

The DNA results spurred additional research on these lines, tracing them back to one of the York/Union Counties Barrons of pre-Revolutionary days, **Thomas Barron**. This first Thomas Barron was killed in 1780 during a Revolutionary War skirmish. He left a widow, Mary, and at least two children, Robert and Thomas. Records for these heirs exist in Union County, SC, in the 1780s, with one reference to Robert in 1798. About that time, this close-knit Barron family moved to Greene County, GA, near the Davidsons and Shaws, with whom they had been connected in SC. Mary, Robert and Thomas were found in Baldwin County, GA, in 1807, but lived in that section which was apportioned to newly formed Morgan County later that year. Mary and Thomas appeared in Morgan records – Mary through 1812 and Thomas until 1820. Robert moved to nearby Jones County. By the late 1830s, Thomas's family and several of Robert's descendants had settled in Chambers/Tallapoosa Counties, AL. Even today, members of these families remain in this area.

Richard Larry Barron, John Lee Barron and Jerry Wayne Barron share a Y-DNA marker mutation that is unique in Clan 2, on fast-mutating marker 439. Larry and Jerry have a one-step mutation (value of 13) and John carries a two-step mutation (value of 14) from the Clan baseline value of 12. The assumption is that their common ancestor, the first Thomas Barron (d. 1780), was a brother to the other early York/Union Barrons. If that is the case, this mutation may have originated with Thomas, since it is carried by descendants of both his sons, but is not evident in the other York County, SC, Barron lines.

### ***The family of William Barron of Pendleton District, SC, and Cass/Bartow County, GA – and its apparent connection to the York County, SC, Barrons***

The line of **Kenneth 'Derry' Barron** and **Bobby Curtis Barron** was another surprising addition to Clan 2. Researchers had hit a brick wall with **Benjamin F. Barron**, of Cass (later Bartow) County, GA, who was born in SC about 1823. Benjamin's siblings included Abraham Pinkney, William Kennedy, John A., James P., Alexander W. and Mary (Mrs. Bailey Kay). The birthplace of several of these Barrons has been identified as Anderson County (Pendleton District), SC. Research indicates that these were the children of a **William Barron** with ties to the York County, SC, Barrons. The names of several of Benjamin F. Barron's siblings, Abraham and Alexander, are uncommon given names in Barron lines – except in the York County group. Elder Barrons, also named Abraham and Alexander, of the York County line were living in Pendleton District by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Alexander Barron moved to Giles County, TN, by 1808, but Abraham Barron remained in Pendleton until about 1817. This William Barron was found in Pendleton District records by 1810 and had moved to Cass County GA, by 1840. It appears likely that this William Barron, father of Benjamin F. Barron, was the son of Abraham Barron, originally of York, SC.

### **6. Which Samuel was the son of William Sr. and Prudence Barron? (Sub-clan A)**

A key question in the **William Sr.** and **Prudence Barron** line was: Which of the early **Samuel Barrons** living in northeastern Georgia in the late 1790s was their son? In 1892, John Davis Garrard wrote a letter in which he theorized that this son was the Samuel Barron (*b. 1768*) who married Joanna Braswell and lived in Jones County, GA. Since that time, Barron researchers unquestioningly accepted Garrard's theory. However, several years ago a study of records provided strong evidence that another Samuel Barron actually was William and Prudence's son. This was Samuel Barron (*b. 1767, d. 1801 in Hancock County, GA*) who married Jane Miller. See the analysis at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/barronsofga.pdf>.

To test the evidence, descendants of William Sr.'s sons John and William Jr., as well as a descendant of the Samuel Barron who married Jane Miller, took the Y-DNA test. To date, we've had two members of John Barron's line and eight of William Barron Jr.'s line compare their DNA to that of the one descendant of Samuel Barron. **Joe Lynn Barron** and **Sidney Boudreaux** ordered the 25-marker test, the remainder 37 markers or more. There were a few scattered, unique mutations among the 37-marker tests, in addition to one strong mutation pattern among the participants: Five of the seven participants (**Bill Barron of the Samuel Barron line, and Thomas 'Chip' Barron, Joseph Russell Barron, Justin Smith Barron and William Franklin Barron of the William Barron Jr. line**) showed a mutation on marker YCAIIB. Apparently, marker YCAIIB is a fast-mutating marker for descendants of William Sr. and Prudence Barron.

One descendant from each of John and Samuel Barron's lines and three from William Barron Jr.'s family have taken 67-marker DNA tests: **Oran Barron** (*of the John Barron line*), **Bill Barron** (*Samuel*) and **Chip Barron, William F. Barron and Kevin R. Barron** (*William Jr.*). The DNA values of **Oran Barron** had already been identified as Clan 2's signature baseline (*see discussion above*), so, of course, he had no mutations on the 67-marker DNA test. **Chip** showed one additional mutation from the baseline on markers 38-67 for a total of three, **Bill** one additional mutation for a total of two, **William F.** had no additional mutations, with just one mutation total, and Kevin showed only one mutation. The minimal difference in these DNA results supports documentary evidence of the close relationship of these participants, but suggests only an 85% probability that these men's ancestors, John, William Jr. and Samuel, were brothers (specifically, that the participants shared a common ancestor within the last eight generations).

DNA testing does not prove that **Samuel Barron** who married Jane Miller was **William Sr.** and **Prudence Barron's** son, but it does tell us that Samuel was definitely a member of Clan 2. And the combination of DNA testing and documentary evidence strongly indicates that Samuel Barron was indeed their son. However, it is very important to recruit a descendant of the **Samuel Barron** who married **Joanna Braswell** for DNA testing to determine if there was a relationship to this Barron family – and if so, how close.

## **7. The Barron Families of Smith County, Texas** (*Sub-clan A and Clan 3*)

Another question regarding **William Barron Sr.'s** family was of more local interest. Grandchildren of William Sr. and Prudence's son, William Jr., began a serial migration from Alabama to Smith County, TX, in 1852. Just a few years earlier, descendants of **Caleb Barron** (b. 1797) settled in Smith County. Fellow Barron DNA Administrator, Pat Childress, descends from **Caleb Barron** (*Clan 3*) and I descend from **William Barron**. For years, we had wondered if our Barron families were related -- or was it just coincidence that two Barron groups settled in Smith County, TX, at about the same time? Our DNA testing provided us a quick answer -- proving that **Caleb Barron's** line is not related to **William Barron Sr.'s** line. Now we know that our families' decisions to settle in Smith County, TX, were merely a coincidence.

### *What next?*

Two major Y-DNA revelations have both clarified and energized Clan 2's search for its heritage and the sorting of relationships of the various sub-clans. Robert Charlton Barron's 66 of 67 and 107 of 111 marker matches on the clan's baseline Y-DNA markers finally connected the clan to a location in N. Ireland – Lisnaward, near Dromore, County Down – and research is ongoing to determine if the remaining sub-clans have a direct or indirect tie to the Lisnaward Barron line. Barron researchers had attempted to find a specific Irish connection for more than one hundred years and it took DNA testing to break through the brick wall.

And Daniel Barnes' exact match to the 67-marker Clan 2 baseline provides another lead to trace back to Ireland. Given the late immigration to America of his great-grandfather, James Barnes (listed as Barrons in the first known family record), additional research may identify his family's Irish locale and proximity to the Lisnaward Barrons. Records indicate that James Barnes' father might have been one David Barron, a seaman living on the coast of County Down, N. Ireland.

It is possible that most of the Clan 2 sub-clans (with the potential exception of Fred Barron's line) share a common ancestor in Lisnaward, County Down, possibly Archibald Barron (d. 1739) or a generation or so earlier. We will continue pursuing this theory with documentary research and investigate additional Y-DNA candidates with a Lisnaward connection. We will also seek participants from other Northern Ireland Barron lines to broaden our knowledge of Clan 2 Irish branches and sort our Barrons from unrelated Barron lines (three known to date) with origins in Northern Ireland. Locating Scottish Barron DNA candidates might also be helpful to determine our Barron line's Scotland connection.