

Vance Y-DNA Project: Group 6 Overview

by Adam Bradford (adam.bradford@gmail.com)

Lineages

- Hugh Vance of Fayette County, PA (b.1775) m.Margaret Tedrick
- William Vance of Fayette County, PA (b.1779, PA)
- Davis Vance of Fayette County, PA (b.1781) m.Hannah Tedrick
- Capt. Jacob Vance of Chester County, PA (b.1781)

Members

- 140136 – Hugh Vance of Fayette Co, PA (b.1775) m.Margaret Tedrick
- 61703 – William Vance of Fayette (b.1779, PA - d.1854, OH) (son Lem)
- 101216 – William Vance of Fayette (b.1779, PA – d.1854, OH) (son Mintun)
- 104739 – Davis Vance (b.1781 - d.1837, Highland Co., OH)
- 133768 – Jacob Vance (1781-1815), Chester Co, PA

DNA Analysis

DNA Results

Markers 1-37																																						
Kit	3 9 3	3 9 0	1 9 *	3 9 1	3 8 a	3 8 b	4 2 6	3 8 9	4 3 9	3 9 i	3 9 2	3 8 i	4 5 8	4 5 a	4 5 b	4 5 5	4 4 7	4 4 7	4 4 8	4 4 9	4 6 a	4 6 b	4 6 c	4 6 d	4 6 0	GY A I	Y C A I	Y C A I	4 5 6	6 0 7	5 7 6	5 7 0	C D Y	C D Y	4 4 2	4 4 3		
140136	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	13	11	16	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16	10	9	19	19	14	14	16	19	34	36	12	10	
61703	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	16	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	31	14	14	15	16	10	9	19	19	14	14	16	19	34	36	12	10	
101216	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	16									31																	
104739	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	16									30																	
133768	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	16	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16	10	9	19	19	14	14	16	19	34	36	12	10	

Markers 38-67																														
Kit	5 3 1	5 7 8	S 1 a	S 9 b	5 9 0	5 3 4	6 4 1	4 7 2	6 S 1	4 5 1	4 1 a	4 1 b	5 5 7	5 9 4	4 3 6	4 9 0	4 3 4	4 5 0	4 4 1	4 4 8	4 5 2	4 4 6	6 1 7	5 6 8	4 8 7	5 7 2	6 4 0	4 9 2	5 6 5	
140136	11	8	15	16	8	11	10	8	11	9	12	21	22	15	11	12	12	17	9	13	24	22	10	13	12	14	11	12	12	11
61703	11	8	15	16	8	11	10	8	11	9	12	21	22	15	11	12	12	17	9	13	24	22	10	13	12	14	11	12	12	11
101216																														
104739																														
133768	11	8	15	16	8	11	10	8	11	9	12	21	22	15	11	12	12	17	9	13	24	22	10	13	12	14	11	12	12	11

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All members of Group 6 are identical on 12 markers with the exception of 140136, who is a genetic distance of 1 from the others. Compared on 67 markers, members 61703 and 140136 are a genetic distance of 2 from each other and member 133768 is a genetic distance of 1 from each of them. These results are all consistent with the group's common descent within a genealogically meaningful timeframe, implying descent from someone with the same surname.

Matches with Other Surnames:

This group is within a genetic distance of 6 on 37 markers from 3 individuals in Ysearch:

User ID	Surname	Origin
34A4D	Evans	Wythe Co, VA
CSEEE	Carter	Unknown
NAZCH	Bassett	Llanelly, Wales

The Bassett match is especially close and led me to the [Bassett DNA Project](#), which contains a group of 20 or more men who closely match the Vance Group 6 modal haplotype.

ID	Genetic Distance																				
	V	V	B-IN	B-IN	B-NY	B-NY	B-MD	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-NY	B-MO	B-B	B-L	B-L	
Vance-PA	67	3	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	5	2	3
Vance-PA	3	67	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	7	3	4
Bassett-IN	4	5	37	1	1	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	6	4	5	
Bassett-IN	3	4	1	37	0	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	7	3	4	
Bassett-NY	3	4	1	0	37	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	7	3	4	
Bassett-NY	1	3	4	3	3	37	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	4	2	3	
Bassett-MD	1	2	3	2	2	1	67	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NY	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	37	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NY	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	37	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NY	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	37	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NJ	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	37	0	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NY	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	37	1	1	0	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-Wales	2	3	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	37	2	1	2	3	6	2	3	
Bassett-NJ	2	3	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	37	1	2	3	6	2	3	
Bassett-NJ	1	2	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	37	1	2	5	1	2	
Bassett-NJ	2	3	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	37	1	6	2	3	
Bassett-MO	3	4	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	37	6	3	4	
Bassett-Beaupre	5	7	6	7	7	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	6	6	37	6	7	
Bassett-Llanelly	2	3	4	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	6	37	2	
Bassett-Llanelly	3	4	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	7	2	37	

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One of the Bassetts from this group has tested 67 markers, and his genetic distance from the Vance Group 6 modal is only 2 on 67 markers. A match this close is highly indicative of a recent common descent.

Among this Bassett group are three individuals who appear to have documented lines of descent from the [Bassetts of Llanelly and the Bassetts of Havod in Wales](#). These appear to be cadet lineages of the Bassetts of Beaupre, who trace back to Sir Elias Basset, who lived in the 13th century. They ultimately have a tradition of descent from Thurston Bassett, whose son Ralph was Justiciar of England in the reign of King Henry I. The Vance-Bassett match takes on added significance in light of traditional evidence, detailed below, that points towards a connection between the Group 6 Vances and a group of Welsh families who migrated from the area around Llanelly and Havod to the so-called Welsh Tract in Pennsylvania.

Observations on Marker Values:

This group is characterized by several marker values that are unusual for the I haplogroup. Those values that are present in less than 10% of I males are listed here in order of rarity:

- 520=22 2% of I
- 390=25 3% of I
- 385b=17 3% of I
- 455=10 3% of I
- 487=14 4% of I
- 454=12 5% of I
- 446=10 5% of I
- 448-19 7% of I
- 406S1=11 8% of I
- 464a=14 9% of I
- 481=24 9% of I
- 449=30/31 10%/3% of I

Marker rarity was assessed using the late Leo Little's [survey of marker value frequency](#).

Haplogroup:

Two members of Vance Group 6 (133768 and 140136) have tested positive for the M170 SNP, confirming their membership in the I haplogroup. They have not had a more refined SNP test to determine their membership in one of the many subclades of I. According to Whit Athey's [haplogroup predictor](#), they very likely belong to haplogroup I2b*, meaning they may have the S23 SNP but none of S23's descendant SNPs. This result is also predicted using Jim Cullen's [haplogroup predictor](#), which further predicts that they belong to the I-S23-A subclade of I-S23.

The International Society of Genetic Genealogy maintains an up-to-date phylogenetic tree of the I haplogroup here: http://www.isogg.org/tree/ISOGG_HapgrpI09.html. Ken

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Nordvedt's excellent work on the I haplogroup and its subclades may be found on [his website](#).

Notable Findings:

The Group 6 lineage is not genetically related to that of 67952, a descendant of John Vance of Fayette County, PA. This John was the son of the John Vance who left a will in Frederick County, VA, dated 1760 (his descendants are in Group 1 of the DNA project). This genetic evidence confirms the long-noted distinction between the Presbyterian Vances of Tyrone and Connellsville Townships in northern Fayette County and the Baptist Vances of Georges Township in southern Fayette County. The latter are the ancestors of the Group 6 Vances.



* * *

Genealogical Overview:

There are 5 Vance members in Group 6, representing 4 different lineages. The traditional genealogical evidence combined with the genetic evidence, suggests that the entire group is descended from William and Elizabeth (Backhouse) Vance, who moved from Northern Ireland to Chester County, PA, around 1741.

Descendants had long thought that Hugh, William, and Davis Vance of Fayette County, PA, were closely related. All three appear to have been born within a 10-year time span,

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all three were Baptists, and all three lived in Georges Township in Fayette County. Davis and William both also later moved to Highland County, Ohio, as did the widow of Hugh Vance after his death. Davis Vance and Hugh Vance both also married Tedrick women. The DNA evidence for this group has thus basically confirmed what was already strongly suspected – these three Vances were closely related.

The traditional genealogical evidence relating to the Georges Township Vances of Fayette County is documented in several articles about Hugh, William, and Davis that have appeared in past issues of the VFA Newsletter. In the May 2009 newsletter, a group of cousins who have been collaborating on the genealogy of this group brought up a possible connection between the Georges Township Vances (Hugh, William, and Davis) and Jacob Vance of Chester County, PA (133768). To summarize that theory . . . Jacob Vance of Chester County (ancestor of 133768) is known to have had a brother Thomas Vance, and it was thought that these two may have been the sons of a Thomas Vance who appeared on the 1790 census in East Nantmeal, Chester County, PA. There is no trace of this older Thomas Vance in Chester County after 1790, but a Thomas Vance does appear on the 1798 and 1799 tax rolls in Fayette County. This Thomas Vance of Fayette is also listed in the 1800 and 1810 censuses in Georges Township, Fayette County (the same township in which Hugh, Davis, and William lived). He was described as an “old man” in the 1817 tax assessment, indicating that he was probably a generation older than William, Davis, and Hugh Vance of Fayette and that he may have been roughly the same generation as Thomas Vance of Chester (purported father of Jacob). The idea that Thomas Vance of Chester was the same man as Thomas Vance of Fayette was suggested by the timing of the former’s disappearance from Chester records and the timing of the latter’s appearance in Fayette records, and also by the recurrence of the names William, Jacob, and Thomas among the Chester County Vances. DNA results for 133768 make this theory very plausible.

William and Elizabeth Vance of Chester County, PA / County Armagh, Ireland

The DNA match with a descendant of Jacob Vance gave the Georges Township Vances a firm connection to Chester County, and this opened up new avenues of investigation. The April 1998 issue of the VFA NL contains the following will abstract from Chester County, PA:

Pg. 178. Will of Philip David, E. Nantmeal Twp. B2- March 1747. June 2, 1732-Mar. 23, 1747. To wife Katherine lands, etc. To sister Gwan Llian David, sister Janet David, Servant lad Evan, son of Griffin Griffies. Exrs: wife Katherine and John Griffies and John Rees. Codicil: gives to Evan Griffids all bequests to his wife she being now deceased, except for 5 pounds to **Thomas son of William Vance** and 2 articles names to Clement Radford. Exr. Nathaniel Jones and John Rees. Wit: Jeremiah Kyle, John Lewis, John Cai___

Bill Vance, a Group 6 descendant, obtained a copy of the will’s codicil, which makes it clear that Thomas Vance was under 21 in 1747. He may therefore probably be identified as the Thomas Vance who can be tracked through the tax rolls of East Nantmeal township from the 1760s all the way up to the 1790 census. This is the same Thomas

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Vance who is suggested to have moved to Fayette County and who has been put forward as a father to some or all of the Vances who are the earliest known ancestors of the members of Group 6.

Thomas' father, William Vance, may be identified as the William Vance who first appeared on the tax list for Nantmeal Township in Chester County in 1748. He and his wife Elizabeth were Quakers who emigrated to Pennsylvania from Ireland, where they were members of the Grange monthly meeting at Charlemont in County Armagh. They received a certificate dated 3 March 1741 from the Grange meeting recommending them to Chester County's Goshen meeting. William is mentioned in Quaker records as early as 1732 and Irish marriage records confirm that his wife's maiden name was Backhouse. In the marriage certificate William is referred to as being "of Doricreeny [i.e., Derrycreevy] in the parish of Clonfeacle and County of Tyrone", while Elizabeth was in Grange parish. This William and Elizabeth Vance are most likely the ancestors of all the members of Group 6.

The cousins who have been working on the genealogy of this group have identified four likely sons of William and Elizabeth (Thomas, John, William, and Jacob), based on records of the Quaker church in Pennsylvania and laid out in an article in the May 2011 issue of the VFA newsletter. It seems clear that Hugh, William, Davis, and Jacob, the ancestors of our Group 6 project members, are the sons of one of these four sons of William and Elizabeth. Hopefully further evidence will be discovered that will allow us to determine their parentage with certainty, but for now we can be fairly confident that they were all the grandchildren of William and Elizabeth (Backhouse) Vance. The lineages of the 5 Group 6 members are as follows. Their descent from William and Elizabeth via one of William and Elizabeth's four probable sons are also indicated.

1. William Vance (d.bef.1751, Chester Co, PA)
 - m.Elizabeth Backhouse, 1737, Armagh, Ireland
 - 2.?Thomas, John, William, or Jacob Vance
 - 3.Hugh Vance (b.1775 – d.1827, Fayette Co, PA)
 - m.Margaret Tedrick
 - 4.George Vance (b.1825)
 - 5.John O. Vance (1.1865)
 - 6.PRIVATE
 - 7.PRIVATE
 - 8.140136
 - 3.William Vance (b.1779, PA – d.1854, Highland Co, OH)
 - m.Rachel Minton
 - 4.Mintun J. Vance (b.1816 – d.aft.1884)
 - m.Matilda Tener
 - 5.Thomas Henry Vance (b.1856 – d.1924)
 - m.Mary Frances Barker
 - 6.PRIVATE
 - 7.PRIVATE
 - 8.101216

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4.Lemuel K. Vance (b.1822, Fayette Co, PA – d.1889, Highland Co, OH)

5.PRIVATE

6.PRIVATE

7.61703

3.Davis Vance (b.1781, PA – d.1837, Highland Co, OH)

m.Hannah Tedrick

4.William Vance (b.1823, Fayette Co, PA – d.1894, Highland Co, OH)

m.Mary McConnaughey

5.PRIVATE

6.PRIVATE

7.104739

3.Jacob Vance (b.1781 – d.1815, Chester Co, PA)

m.Magdalena

4.Thomas Vance (b.1813, Chester Co, PA – d.1891)

m.Sarah Ludwick

5.Jacob Vance (b.c.1842 – d.1926)

m.Sarah

6.PRIVATE

7.PRIVATE

8.133768

* * *

Chester County Welsh Baptist Connection

Philip David of Chester County, who left Thomas Vance a bequest in his will, was Welsh. His family (the name was also sometimes spelled Davis or Davies) took part in a movement of Welsh Quakers and Baptists to Pennsylvania in the late 17th/early 18th century. Many of them settled in what was known as the “Welsh Tract,” which comprised parts of the present-day counties of Chester, Montgomery, and Delaware. The following [item on the Griffiths family](#) is of interest; it mentions both Philip David and the Griffin Griffiths who is noted in Philip David’s will:

At this time [1724] Griffith Griffiths was a member of the Great Valley Baptist Church, the congregation of which was composed partly of persons from the neighborhood of his home in Wales. In 1726, however “the following persons broke off from the Great Valley Church on account of their change of sentiments concerning the Sabbath: *Philip Davis (David)*, Lewis Williams, Richard Edwards, Griffy Griffiths; and the next year William James. These five with their families removed to French Creek in the aforesaid year.”

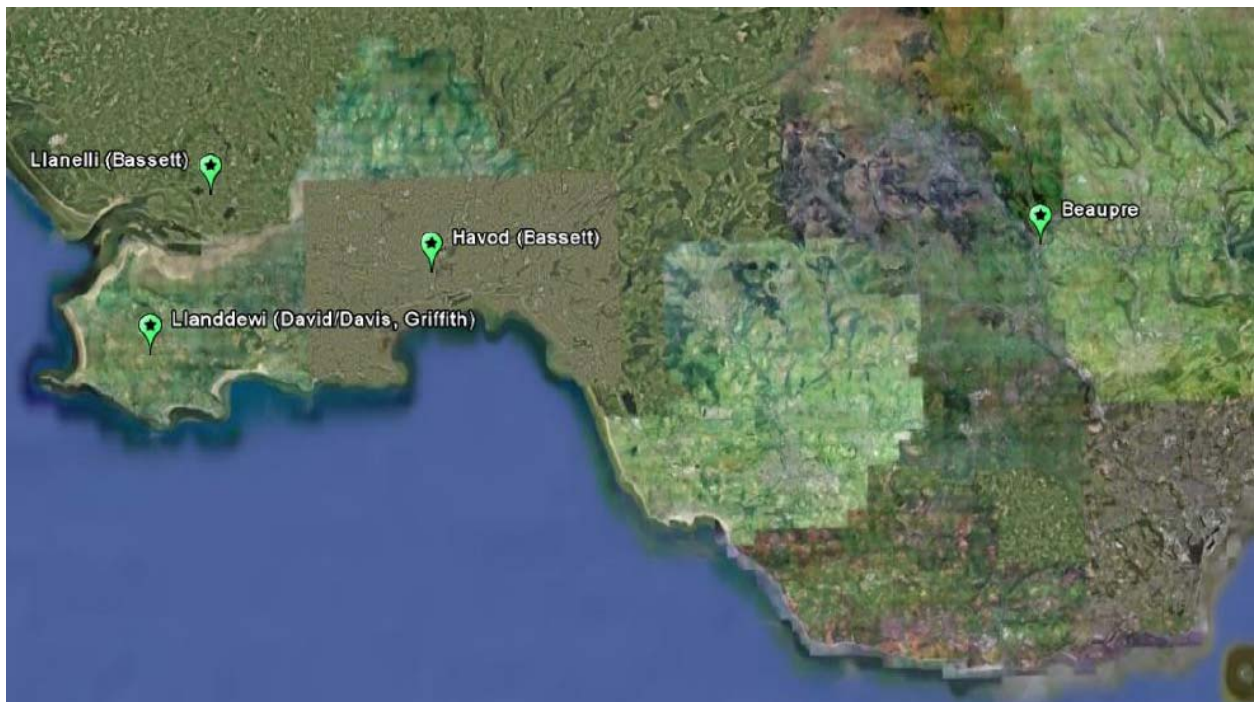
From this, it appears that Philip David/Davis and Griffin Griffiths were part of the same Welsh Baptist splinter congregation (they established a Seventh Day Baptist Church). The two families were clearly close, and Philip David gave Griffiths’ son Evan a bequest in his will. William Vance may also have been close with Philip David, since his son also received a bequest. Given this connection, it is tempting to wonder whether Davis Vance of Fayette may have been named after Philip David/Davis or someone else in his family. There is also a connection between the Fayette County Vances and the family of Griffin

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Griffiths. Ann Vance, daughter of William Vance of Fayette (61703/101216), married Reverend Levi Griffiths, a grandson of Griffin Griffiths' son Levi, who moved from Chester County to Fayette County. Jacob Vance, another child of William, named one of his sons Griffith Vance. The families were clearly close, and the naming patterns among the Vance children suggest that there may have been intermarriages between the families.

These connections to the Davis and Griffith families are even more interesting in light of the Vance-Bassett DNA match discussed above. From what I have been able to gather, both the Davis and Griffith families of Chester County, along with several other families who settled the Welsh tract, originally hailed from the parish of Llanddewi in Wales. The town of Llanddewi, from which the parish takes its name, is only about 20 miles distant from Llanelli, which was the home of the branch of Bassetts whose descendants are such a close match with the Group 6 Vances.



It is clear that William and Elizabeth Vance came to Pennsylvania from Ireland, not Wales. Yet the DNA evidence does suggest an ultimate genetic origin in Wales, possibly as an offshoot of the Bassett lineage around Havod/Llanelli by means of a change of surname. The close connection, including both religious and kinship bonds, between the Fayette County Vances and the demonstrably Welsh David and Griffiths families provides further evidence in favor of an ultimate Welsh genetic origin in the direct male line for the Group 6 Vances.

* * *

Given Group 6's possible Welsh descent, it is interesting to note that at least one Vance family was aware of a tradition of Welsh ancestry. A *Toledo Blade* article from 1976

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noted the following about Cyrus Vance, soon to be secretary of state under President Jimmy Carter:

The Vance family was of Welsh descent, and Cyrus was the fourth generation of Vances in Clarksburg [West Virginia]. His great-grandfather, Cyrus Vance, had been mayor, and his grandfather, John Vance, was a member of the first legislature at Wheeling after the state split from Virginia.

The John Vance mentioned in the article may be identified as John Carl Vance, the son of Cyrus and Minerva (Davis) Vance. Conflicting information exists about the elder Cyrus Vance. At least one source (*Reminiscences of Northern West Virginia*) claims that he was born in Fayette County, PA, in 1807 and that he was the son of Moses Vance. However, only one Moses Vance has been identified in Fayette County during this time and no Cyrus Vance was named in his estate records, which seem to have been comprehensive. In the July 2000 issue of the VFA newsletter, Mary Vance Norfleet noted that *Shallenbergers of Echo Mountain* mentions a Cyrus Vance who was apprenticed to a saddler in Mount Pleasant, PA, in 1824. (Mount Pleasant is in Westmoreland County, directly north of Fayette.) This Cyrus may probably be identified as Cyrus Vance of West Virginia, since his age fits and since Cyrus of Virginia was known to have been a saddler.