TWO JOHN WESTS

JOHN WEST OF SOLON, IA (1796-1861)

JOHN WEST OF MINER VA, NY (1796-?)

by

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Grass Valley CA Rev. August 2024

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PART I TWO JOHN WESTS

John West of Solon IA = John West of Minerva NY
?
True or False?

SHORT VERSION:

John West (1796-1861) was born in New York and died in Solon, IA.

John West (1796-?) lived in Minerva, New York until after 1820.

John West of Minerva may have accompanied his siblings and cousins to Western New York in the 1820-1830s.

John West of Solon may have settled in Ohio before 1830. ¹ About 1838 he joined a migration to Iowa Territory² and in 1840 platted the village of Solon, IA.

Theory: John West of Minerva may have married, had children and migrated to Solon, IA—and thus became John West of Solon.

Or did he?

The proof?

Unfortunately no convincing sources were found--except for a couple of DNA matches to possible descendants of brothers Ebenezer West, Jr. and John West, Sr. of Minerva. (See DNA, Part V.) The name "Orson Childs" offers an area of further investigation. (See Chiles, Appendix D.)

¹ Settled in the "Connecticut Western Reserve", an area originally reserved for those from Connecticut but later available to the public.

² Settled in the Blackhawk Purchase, an area settled by treaty with Sac and Fox nations.

LONGER VERSION:

John West [Jr] of Minerva--born in Granville, Washington Co., New York (or possibly as a 'Yorker' in Vershire, Vermont.)³

In my theory, John had only to believe he was born in New York.^{4,5}

John's father, John West, Sr. and grandfather, Ebenezer West, Sr., moved to the region of Minerva (Shroon Lake), New York about 1804. John West Sr.'s youngest son, Francis, was born there in 1804. The Wests were founding members of the Minerva Baptist Church.⁷

John West, Jr. made a name for himself by participating in a legal dispute described in the Minerva Baptist Church records of 1817. He would have been about 21 years old at that time. He may be accounted for in his father's household in the 1820 census. No record has yet been found that John West Jr. married in Minerva.

Then John Jr. disappears from the record.

There was a great westward migration of Yorkers from Vermont and upstate New York to Chautauqua County, NY, in the 1830's as described in the town history of Minerva¹⁰ as well as a history of Chautauqua County.¹¹ Several of John's siblings and cousins resettled there according to the 1835 New York State census.¹² New York property records suggest that *John may have accompanied them.*

³ Mabel Jones, "John West [Sr.]," "The West Family: Notes taken from the clerk's records of the Minerva Baptist Church," typescript,

[&]quot;Minerva.pdf", Minerva Historical Society, nd, p. 67. (Provided by "Anne" at 23andMe, 2020). See Appendix A – discussion of the work Mabel Jones.

⁴ The 1850 U.S. population schedule for the U.S. census of Johnson Co., IA, enumerates John West of Big Grove as born in New York.

⁵ Before the Revolution many New Yorkers held Royal (British) grants to land within what is now Vermont. Vermont declared itself a Republic in 1777 during the Revolution. For nearly 15 years New York and Vermont fought for control of the grant land. In March 1791 Vermont won and became a state. From then on a "Yorker" became a person who stubbornly claimed New York residency even though living on land that had become Vermont. John West, Sr. and his family may have been Yorkers. His eldest son William was born in Vershire, VT in 1790 and son Jesse in 1792. Son John, Jr. was born in 1796/7 either in Vershire, VT or Granville, NY.

⁶ Francis West, first child born in Minerva which was founded in 1804. (French's Gazeteer 1860 as quoted in "Mabel Jones: John West" manuscript. Op. cit.)

⁷ "The George Soule Family, Generations V and VI," *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, Vol. 3., ed. Anne Borden Harding, Hist. General, Soc. Mayflower Descendants, 1980. Patriarch of the family was Ebenezer West, Sr. (sons William, Nathan, Joseph, John, Ebenezer, Jr.)

⁸ "History of the Minerva Baptist Church 1807-1957," typescript, Minerva Historical Society, ND.

⁹ 1820 U.S. Census, Essex County, NY, Minerva, p. 436.

¹⁰ Minerva, a History of a Town in Essex County, NY, Minerva Historical Soc. NY, 1967, p. 32

¹¹ Andrew W. Young, *History of Chautauqua County*, 1875.

^{12 1835} New York State Census, French Creek, Clymer, Chautauqua Co., NY

An earlier westward migration to Niagara Co., NY, included John's uncle Ebenezer West Jr. and his sons ¹³ In addition John's uncle, Joseph (twin of his father John, Sr.) may have been the first "West" to buy property in Niagara County. A Joseph West purchased land between 1802 and 1818 in the region of Niagara County known as the "Mile Reserve" from which the town of Niagara Falls evolved. (See Joseph West, son of Ebenezer West, in Part III and Appendix C)

John West [Jr.] of Minerva may have married during the 1820's, but no proof of marriage has been found in New York or Ohio. 14

Some Minerva West descendants have said John West, Jr. migrated to Ohio. 15, 16

So who was John West of Solon, Iowa? This John West left many records in Solon: several state and U.S. census records; one ME Church record; several records of civil proceedings; a cemetery record and an estate file.

He probably had married a woman from Vermont named Clarissa.¹⁷ He had at least two children both born in New York: *a daughter "Julia Ann West" born December 23, 1823* and a son "Orson Childs West" born October 1827.¹⁹

Did John name his son, "Orson Childs West," for a relative of his wife, Clarissa?²⁰ One man named "Orson Childs" is of particular interest. (See Appendix E.)

By 1838 John had come with his wife and children—and probably a few relatives—to settle at the Iowa frontier in Big Grove Township, Johnson County, IA. It was part of the Blackhawk purchase.

¹⁷ 1850 U.S. Census, Johnson Co., IA, Big Grove Twp. The 1850 Census does not show marital status. Clarissa appears immediately below John in his household which usually implies 'spouse.' However census takers interview whomever 'answers the door,' and sometimes get the wrong answer. (This is from personal experience as late as 2000 when I was myself a census taker.) It is possible that "Clarissa" was not the mother of John's children, Orson Childs West or Julia Ann West. Until a marriage record for John and Clarissa is found—or baptismal records for the children-- I cannot be certain.

¹³ Excepting Ebenezer's son Ezra who had joined the migration of Minerva Wests to Chautauqua County.

¹⁴Perhaps he married a girl named "Clarissa Leonard" who had been baptized in the Minerva Baptist Church. John's brother, William C., married her sister Betsy Leonard and his cousin Ezra B. (son of Ebenezer 3rd) married her sister Sophia Leonard.

¹⁵Mabel Jones, "John West", op. cit. .p.13.

¹⁶ Minerva, op. cit., p. 4.

¹⁸ Julia's birthdate is calculated from her gravestone. Her birthplace from the 1850 U.S. Census, Johnson Co., IA, Big Grove Twp, household of her husband A. W. Blaine.

¹⁹ Orson's birthdate and place are from <u>U.S. Census 1900, 12th Census, California, NARA Microfilm T623 Napa Co., Roll 95, Vol.20 ED 96, Napa Twp., Sheet 5, line 126, June 1</u>. Enumerated with Albert E. Hatt,739 Main Street Napa City: Orson C. West, 72, Farmer, **b. Oct 1827 NY, f b. NY, m b. [VT].** His middle name is from the mortuary Record of his death in San Francisco, 1901. Record dated April 9, 1901, Age 73 y 5 mos, Rancher b. NY

²⁰ "Childs," is a name found living not far from John West, Sr. (of Minerva) in Vershire, VT in 1800. An "Orson Childs" is shown several lines above Ebenezer West in the 1830 census for Niagara, Niagara Co., NY. See Appendix E.

THREE JOHN WESTS !!!!!

A man named "John West" resided in Portage County, Ohio in 1830.

Was he the link between John West of Minerva and John West of Solon

7

My theory is based partly on dna and partly on "preponderance of evidence."²¹

So far the evidence includes census data and migration patterns based on Solon local histories and post-revolutionary histories of Ohio and western New York. Marriage and migration evidence provided clues to surnames to be investigated. In this case (so far) the names include *Childs, Leonard, Mc Cune, Adams, Parks, Lyon, Stiles and Calkins.* The important places (besides Minerva and Solon) include *Niagara and Chautauqua Counties, NY and Portage and Summit Counties, OH.*

The pivotal location for "John West" of Portage, is Coventry Township, Portage County, Ohio, 1830.

A John West had settled in Portage Co., OH by 1830. I believe that **John West of Portage** is the same man as **John West of Solon** and possibly also **John West of Minerva**. **Of course, he may be neither.**

5

²¹ This is a term used by a genealogist when unable to prove the existence or heritage of a subject. It is similar to the term "circumstantial evidence" used in criminal law.

Part II

MUCH LONGER VERSION

DETAILS

—Author seeks input

Send any relevant information to the email in footer below

1. John West of Solon -- Details

John West, my great- great grandfather really did exist. He's in our family bible.

From the time he helped settle the town of Solon, Iowa, about 1840, he left identifying records for himself and two known children. There may have been other children who left no records. The origins of his family are unknown. This is his family group sheet. (*Red items are speculation*)

John West

birth date: 1796-7²² birth place: New York¹⁰ married: 1820-1823)²³

death: 4 Aug 1861, Solon, IA²⁴

Spouse 1: Clarissa___(Chiles?, Leonard?)²⁵

birth date: 1801 ²⁶ birth place: Vermont²⁷

death: (Solon, IA, 1850-1853)²⁸

Spouse 2: Hannah Hill

Married: Solon, IA: 17 June 1853²⁹

Children with Clarissa:

Julia Ann West:

Born approx. 23 Dec 1823, New York³⁰
Married Archibald W. Blaine, March 1839, Solon, IA³¹
Died 19 Oct 1852³²

Orson Childs West:33

Born approx. Oct. 1827 34

Married Catherine Griffith about 1850-1851,³⁵ Died 8 April 1901, San Francisco³⁶

Possibly others

Children with Hannah:

None



father: unknown mother: unknown

father: unknown mother: unknown



²² 1850 U.S. Census, Big Grove Twp., Johnson Co. IA, NARA microfilm M432, Roll 208, p. 180, line 12, household 3 . 1860 U.S. Census, Newport, Twp., Johnson Co. IA, NARA microfilm M 653, 2d filming, Roll 327, p. 541, household 365 Based on birth of daughter, Julia in 1823

²⁴ Sandtown Cemetery, Hills, Johnson County, IA. Find-a-grave (FAG) Memorial # 32742976.

²⁵ Is it possible that Clarissa is not John's first wife nor the mother of his children?

²⁶ 1850 Census Big Grove, op. cit.

²⁷ 1850 Census Big Grove, op. cit.

²⁸ Clarissa is shown in the 1850 Johnson Co., IA census in the household of John West. John West remarried in 1854.

²⁹ Marriages of Johnson Co. IA, 1839-1910 (MJCI), John West to Hannah Hill, Bk 3, p. 1421 May 1854

³⁰ Birth calculated from tombstone [FAG] and from 1850 census

³¹ Johnson County, IA marriage record for Archibald W. Blain to Julianne West, March 1839

Oakland Cemetery, Solon IA, Find-a-grave (FAG) Memorials # 20646022, 20646010, Julia [West] Blaine and Archibald Worley Blaine.

Photo supplied by email from 'Betty' at hortonhwy60@aol.com. It shows Orson West in San Francisco. Refers to him as Orson Childs West 1900 U.S. Census,, California, op. cit.

No marriage record found. Date estimated from 1850 census and birth records of the children of Orson and Catherine Griffith West.

³⁶ Book P, Mortuary Records, City of San Francisco, 1901; obituary in *San Francisco Call*, 9 April 1901.

<u>John of Solon</u> is said to have married in New York before 1822. (His daughter, Julia, was born in 1823 and his son, Orson, in 1827.) Given the dates of birth of his children—both in New York—*John of Solon* was probably in New York in the 1820's until late 1827.

The **1840 U.S. Census for Big Grove Township, Johnson Co.**, IA shows **John West** with a large family -- possibly two families in one household. It also shows that John West possibly had other children born 1822-1836³⁷

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It shows twelve people in John's household:38
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```
1 male < 5 (b. after 1835--possible son)

1 male >5 and < 10 (b. between 1830 and 1835--possible son)

2 males > 10 and < 15 (b. between 1825 and 1830 — Orson and one other)

3 males > 20 and <30 (b. between 1810 and 1820 --probably not his sons) (? A.B. Blain b. 1814)

1 male >40 and < 50 (b. between 1790 and 1800—John)

1 male > 60 and < 70 (b. between 1770 and 1780--possible father of Clarissa or other elderly male)

1 female > 10 and < 15 (b. between 1825 and 1830--possible daughter.)

1 female > 20 and < 30 (b. between 1810 and 1820) (probably not John's daughter, Julia b. abt 1823)

1 female > 30 and < 40 (b. between 1800 and 1810) Clarissa
```

The persons not yet accounted for in John's family are:

```
3 males > 20 and <30 (b. between 1810 and 1820) Related to Clarissa? Related to John? or unrelated 1 male > 60 and < 70 (b. between 1770 and 1780) Clarissa's father? Related to John? or unrelated 1 female > 20 and < 30 (b. between 1810 and 1820) Related to Clarissa? Related to John? or unrelated
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The **1844 lowa State Census, Big Grove Township, Johnson Co.**, shows John West's household to contain "7 souls." That is 5 people less than in 1840. Shows that 5 persons shown in 1840 probably were not John's children and moved out of the household by 1844.

Group migration to Solon, IA

According to a history of Johnson County, IA, a group living in northeastern Ohio in the 1830s migrated to Johnson Co., IA about 1837/8. It included Moses Adams as well as Fanny and Cotton Pratt and John and Charles McCune of Portage/Summit Co. OH.

Did John West of Portage, who lived in Portage Co. OH in 1830, meet the McCunes and join the migration? The Wests and Mc Cunes of Solon became prominent in the cattle business in Johnson Co.

The 1830 U.S. Census for Coventry Township, Portage County, Ohio shows the household of John West:

```
2 males < 5 (b. after 1825) Orson and one other

1 male 20-30 (b. 1800-1810) Unknown – could be younger brother of John or Clarissa

1 male 30-40 (b. 1790-1800) John

2 females > 5 and < 10 (b. 1820-1825) Julia Ann

1 female >20 < 30 (b. 1800-1810) Clarissa
```

It is worthwhile to compare the 1840 U.S. Census of Johnson County, IA for John West [of Solon] to the 1830 U.S. Census for John West of Portage).

The above matches the 1840 household for John in Johnson Co. IA--with the addition of daughter Julia still living in household because she was not yet married in 1830. It does not contain the 2 males born after 1830.

³⁷ The 1840 census for Johnson County, IA shows a large household headed by John West. It may contain children who left home before the 1850 census. One or more males may have joined the California Gold Rush in 1849. (Son, Orson, later went to San Francisco in the 1850s. See portrait inscribed "Orson West, San Francisco, Cal." on previous page.)

³⁸ 1840 U.S. Census, Big Grove Twp., Johnson Co. IA, NARA microfilm M704, Roll 101.

³⁹ 1844 State Census, Iowa Johnson Co., Big Grove Township, transcription, p. 10, line 5, LDS film #1728630

2. John West [Jr.] of Minerva--Details

John West, Jr. appears in local histories of Minerva, New York, with his father, John West Sr. John West, Sr. was the son of Ebenezer West, Sr. of Newport, Rhode Island, Vershire, VT and Minerva, NY.

<u>John West, Jr.</u>, subject of this report—is referred to as <u>John West of Minerva</u>. He was supposedly born in Granville, Washington Co., NY. ⁴⁰ He moved with his father, John West, Sr., to Shroon Lake, NY between **1801 and 1804.** His mother Betsey (Miller) West died there sometime after 1807.

John West, Sr. and family were enumerated in the 1810 census of Essex County, Shroon Lake.

<u>John West, Sr. is</u> shown also in the **1820 U.S. Census of Essex Co. NY, Minerva.** The household contains an adult woman, John's apparent 2nd wife, as well as a young male child under 10 and an adult son aged between 18 and 25. This supports the claim that John West, Sr. remarried after his wife Betsy died and had a son by his second wife.

The question remains: who was the male aged 18-26 in his household? It could be either Francis (age 18) youngest son (by Betsy), or our subject, **John West, Jr.** (age 24). (See census data in following pages.)

Which one do you think? I prefer to think it was Francis still living at home and that our subject, John West, Jr. had already left Minerva to go west.

The following church record establishes that John West, Sr. of Minerva, had a son, John West, Jr.

Minerva Baptist Church:

The History of the Minerva Baptist Church records the presence of the family of John West, Sr in Shroon/Minerva. ⁴¹ The typescript by Mabel Jones provides further details. ⁴²

The Baptist Church records show the sons of John West, Sr. as members between 1804 and 1832. One key record dated August 1817 details a dispute involving both John West Sr. and John West Jr. A transcript at the Minerva Historical Society states (verbatim):

"Aug 2., 1817 – Met at Nathan West's and he was moderator. John West brought the following complaint against Phoebe Tallman: Phoebe Tallman, the wife of Abner Tallman, has reported that John West Jr. has taken false oath in a case between Abner Tallman and William West, and that John West his father and William C. West his brother did hire the said John West, Jr. to do the same. And as the said Phebe is guilty of spreding this report and others that are fals I think it my duty to inform the church of her slanderous conduct in order that the church if they will put a stop to her destroying the carrecters of her fellow creaturs. This I enter as a complaint against said Phebe Tallman to the church to which she belongs."

Summarizing this transcript it is apparent that John West Jr. is drawn into the dispute between John West, Sr. and the Talmans. (John West Sr. was 50 years old by this time. His son John Jr. would have been about 20-21 and was a *legal party* to this dispute.)⁴³

⁴⁰ See Appendix A: a discussion of the 1800 U.S. Census, Vershire, Orange Co., VT and Granville, Washington Co., NY.

⁴¹ History of the Minerva Baptist Church, op. cit. A transcript of the typescript is available online at the LDS Family Search website.

⁴² The Minerva town historian, Mabel Jones, wrote a report on John West, Sr. and John West, Jr on file at the Minerva Historical Society. She refers to family sources claiming "John West" fought in the War of 1812 and received bounty land **in Ohio**. *I believe she was mistaken*. (See Appendix A. Mahel Jones).

⁴³ History of the Minerva Baptist Church, op. cit. mention the following baptisms from 1828-1831: Wests: Spencer, Ezra, Sophia (Leonard), Jesse, Rhoda, Hannah, Lenox, Benoni, Leander, Ithamar. Leonards: Rosella, Joanna, Clarissa.

This is the premise upon which I build the rest of my case—that John West of Minerva was a leading candidate to be John West of Solon. Unfortunately the census of 1810 and 1820 do not necessarily support assumptions and claims implied in the histories of the church and town.

U.S. Census for Minerva, Essex Co. NY:

45+

Census of Essex County, NY 1810, Schroon

```
John West [Sr]--males:

2 < 10 [Francis West b. > 1804 + one unidentified b. 1800-1810]

0 [10-15] [should be John West Jr. b. 1796/7and therefore age 13-14]

2 [16-25] [William Carr West b. 1790, age 20, Jesse West b. 1792, age 18

1 [26-44] [John West, Sr. b. 1766/7]

0 45+

--females

0 <10

1 [10-15] Sarah b. 1795

0 [16-25]

0 [26-44]

1 > 45 John's wife
```

Discussion of the 1810 census for John West [Sr], Shroon:

(Portion of 1810 census shown on page 12)

2 < 10 [Francis West b. > 1804 + one unidentified b. 1800-1810] 0 [10-15] [should be John West Jr. b. 1796/7and therefore age 13-14]

The census implies that John had two sons born between 1800 and 1810.

John's first wife (Betsy) died soon after they came to Shroon (founded about 1804). Francis West was said to be Betsy's son, the first child born in Shroon. Therefore Francis was probably born after 1804 and [Betsy's death?] Francis would have been age 3-6 at the 1810 census.

It seems clear that Francis West is one of the two sons under 10 years old.

But the other son is unclear:

The obvious candidate is John West, Jr. supposed born 1796/7. Much of his birth date is based on the Minerva Baptist Church records of 1817 where John [Jr.] is named as a party to a legal matter within the church. This presumes he was of legal age [21?] in 1817 (therefore b. 1796.) Even if he was younger, it is presumed he was of age to be responsible for his actions—in other words not a child. Could he have been as young as 16 in 1817 (born in 1801)?

Any other explanation? Obviously there are only 2 sons total born between 1795 and 1810 living in John West Sr's household.

Is the census marshal or family historians wrong? Does it matter?

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Census of Essex County, NY 1820, Minerva (p. 346)

John West [Sr]--males:

1 < 10 [a son by 2d marr aft 1810?]

0 [10- 15] [missing: Francis West b. >1804, age < 15]

0 [16-18]

1 [16-25] John West Jr. b. 1796/7, age 23-24 or Francis West b. 1804? age 16 44

0 [26-44]

1 45 + [John West Sr. b. 1766/7]

--females

0 < 10

1 [10-15] Sarah

0 [16-25]

1 [26-44] 2<sup>nd</sup> wife

[45 +]
```

John West Jr. may be the male age 16-25 shown in the 1820 Minerva census in his father's household. Alternatively it might be John's brother, *Francis West*, also aged 18-25. It seems likely that John West, Jr. did not remain long in Minerva—or Essex County. The 1830 census for Minerva, next page, shows a John West of the correct age. 45

Census of Essex County, NY 1830, Minerva (p.276)

```
John West, Sr shown as age 70 or over – no other males in household
Jesse West, shown as age 30-39—with one male under 5.
William Carr West, (eldest son of John West, Sr.) shown as age 40-49, with 2 male children and one male of 20-29.
```

Notice the absence of other members of the family of John West, Sr. The absence of John West, Jr. in this census suggests he already had migrated west before 1830. Ebenezer West, Jr and his sons appear also to have migrated west--to Niagara Co., NY.

Collateral Evidence in local histories:

The Minerva town history claims that residents joined a collective westward migration about 1832 to Chautauqua, Co., NY. The *History of Minerva*, *NY* names Jesse, son of John West, Sr. and his cousins Spencer West and Ezra Bliss West as migrants to Clymer and French Creek in Chautauqua County. The 1835 New York State Census as well as histories of Chautauqua County confirm such migration. The town of Gerry was originally named "Vermont" due to the migration of "Vermonters." Minerva itself had been originally settled by many from Addison County, Vermont. Some of these then moved on from Minerva to the original Vermonter settlement in Chautauqua County. *The History of the Minerva Baptist Church* also mentions the migration of members of the West family to French Creek and Clymer in Chautauqua in 1832. The migration of some Wests of Minerva may have started before 1820 but most began **after 1832**. Some Wests migrated further *west to Minnesota* much later.

Although several men named John West lived in Chautauqua County at this time, none appear to be John West of Minerva.⁴⁶ It is however possible that he invested in land in that county.

⁴⁴ Had John West, Jr. already left Minerva by 1820?

⁴⁵ John West, Sr. is in the 1850 U.S. Census and the 1855 NY State Census living in Chestertown, Warren County, NY (adjacent to Essex County).

⁴⁶ It is conceivable that John went to Chautauqua and met a man named Jehiel Parks in Ellery. The relationship between John West of Solon and a "Jehiel/Jehial Parks" is discussed in Appendix E

Part III

ANCESTORS & DESCENDANTS OF: EBENEZER WEST OF RHODE ISLAND

The many gaps in the life of John West [Jr.] of Minerva may be answered by examining the descendants of Ebenezer West, born in 1738 in Rhode Island and died 21 Aug 1847. Most of Ebenezer's family migrated north to Washington Co., NY and Vershire, VT after the Revolution.

Traditional ancestral claims:

Published articles in journals such as *Mayflower Descendant* show this Ebenezer West, Sr. as a direct descendant of *George Soule, indentured servant to Edward Winslow, a passenger on the Mayflower and prominent member of Plymouth Colony.* 48

This is the proposed lineage from George Soule to Ebenezer West and his sons:

George Soule -> had a daughter **Susannah Soule**Suzannah married **Francis West**Susannah and Francis had a son, **William West**

William West married Jane Tanner
William and Jane had a son, Ebenezer West, born 1732, Newport, RI
Ebenezer West m1. Waite Carr

Ebenezer and Waite had 5 sons b. RI:

William, Nathan, Joseph, John, Ebenezer, Jr. (see next page)

Ebenezer Jr m. Jane Bliss
Ebnezer and Jane had 3 or more children:

Ebenezer 3^{rd,} Ezra Bliss, Ira, Itha J. and others ⁴⁹

The westward migration of Ebenezer West Sr's descendants is central to this report.

⁴⁷ Parshall Family History, p. 392 as posted at Family Search for Ebenezer West of Rhode Island b. 1738.

⁴⁸ Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol. 3, "Family: George Soule," Ed. Anne Borden Harding, General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1980, pp. 303-304. See also https://themayflowersociety.org/passenger-profile/passenger-profiles/the-soule-family/ and https://mayflowerhistory.com/winslow-edward

⁴⁹ Some unverified family group sheets show Ebenezer 3rd also had sons James and Matthew and that he married also Mercy Yates.

Sons of Ebenezer West, Sr. and Waite Carr—and their migration west

```
William
                    Warren b. 1798
                    Hannah b. 1803 m. Wimmett (to Naples, Ontario Co. NY) 50
                    William J. b. 1800 (probably to Naples)
          Nathan (1763-1851) m. Martha Titus
                    Lenox b. 1790
                    Anson b. 1795 (to Sherman, Chautauqua Co. NY)<sup>51</sup> (See Appendix C.)
          Joseph (twin b. 1766) m1. Ruth Munson; m2. Sally Spelk (See "1" following)
1
                    Ithamar b. 1786 (do not confuse with cousin, Itha J., b. 1804 to Ebenezer Jr. below) Son Joseph b. 1794
                    Spencer b. 1799 (to French Creek, Chautauqua Co. NY 1835)<sup>52</sup> (See Appendix C.)
          John [Sr] (twin b. 1766) m1. Elizabeth Miller; m2. Mary Spink. 53 (See "2" following)
2
                    William Carr b. 1790 (to Minnesota)<sup>54</sup>
                    Jesse b. 1792 (to French Creek, Chautauqua Co. NY 1835.)<sup>25</sup> His children born there.
                    Sarah b. 1795 (lived with her uncle Joseph West).
                              Married Ira Wade and went to Clymer, Chautauqua 1832, then French Creek. 55
                    John (Jr.) b. 1796/7 (our subject—maybe went to Chautauqua Co. NY/Portage Co. OH)<sup>56</sup>
                    Francis [D.] b. > 1804 (to Niagara, Niagara Co., NY by 1830)<sup>57</sup> (Also to Clymer—see Appendix C)
3
          Ebenezer Jr. (b. 1768) m. Jane Bliss) (See "3" following)
                    Ebenezer 3<sup>rd</sup> b. 1790 (to Niagara, Niagara Co., NY by 1830) (See Appendix C.)
                    Ezra Bliss b. 1789 (to Clymer/French Creek, Chautauqua Co. NY 1835)<sup>25</sup> (See Appendix C.)
                    Ira born 1799 (d. 1885) (to Niagara by 1830) (See Appendix C.)
                    Itha J. born 1804 (d. 1879) (to Niagara by 1830) (See Appendix C.)
Other claims 58
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"1", "2", "3" above are discussed further in following pages.

There is no record when John West Jr. (subject of this report) left Minerva. He could have gone with Ebenezer to Niagara or to Chautauqua with brothers and cousins. It is possible John West Jr. met a man named Jehiel Parks in Ellery, Chautauqua Co. NY and later migrated together to Iowa. Both names are found in the early records of Johnson Co. Iowa. The relationship between *John West of Solon* and a "Jehiel/Jehial Parks" is discussed in Appendix B, C and E."⁵⁹

The Wests of Minerva produced many offspring after the Revolution. As was true for most large families in those days, the younger generation moved west to acquire land in the expanding frontier. The Wests of Minerva were no different. No attempt was made to trace the migrations of *all* the cousins into the Northwest Territory over the decades between 1820 and 1840.

⁵⁰ Revo. War Pension Application of Lucy West, widow of William West, Sr. of Minerva, names her daughter Hannah Wimmett of Naples, Ontario Co., NY. Pension S14418.

⁵¹ Minerva, A History of a town in Essex Co., NY, p. 32, History of Minerva Baptist Church.pdf, op. cit.p . 14. See also land docs, App D.

⁵² NY State Census, 1835, French Creek, Chautauqua County, op cit

⁵³ See "Spink" in land records, Appendix C.

⁵⁴ William Carr –see 'John West' in History of Minerva Baptist Church.pdf, op. cit. p. 14.

⁵⁵Sarah, *Ibid*.

⁵⁶1830 Census, Portage Co., OH

⁵⁷ Joseph and John West—twins—born 1766

⁵⁸ [James born 1807 –doubtful; no source]; [Matthew born 1807 –different family](went to Scipio, Cayuga Co. NY?) (d. 1900)

⁵⁹ A Jehiel Parks had a farm of 150 ac. Pt lot 42_Township 3_Range 12 Holland Land Co contract dated 30 Jan 1810. A Polly Pratt had 60 ac pt lot 45 T 6 R 11 dated 8 Mar 1819. See also Charles and Samuel Pratt in 1820 Minerva census.

1. Joseph West of Hartford, Washington Co. NY (1766-1847)

Joseph West was born bout 1766/7 in Litchfield, Connecticut and died 22 August 1847 at age 81 years. 60 Joseph migrated to Hartford, Washington County, New York by 1793.

He married first Ruth Munson.

They had the following children:

Huldah b. 24 September 1784

Ithamar b. 1 September 1786

John Munson b. 1 June 1789.

Lydia P. b. 1 October 1791

Joseph [Jr] b. 21 September 1794

Calvin b. 29 October 1796

Spencer b. 21 May 1799

Lyman b. 11 August 1805

Joseph married second, Sally Felch.

They had the following children:

Chester F., b. 30 March 1807

Sydney C. b. 24 May 1811

Samuel F. b. 10 August 1816



Image of bible records of the Joseph West Family from the Bible records of Sally Felch. 61

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⁶⁰ Mayflower Descendant, op. cit. p. 303.

⁶¹ Litchfield CT Historical Society at Family Search post for Joseph West (from Minerva New York History.)

Ancestors: Ebenezer West of Rhode Island

After the Revolutionary War Joseph settled in Hartford, Washington County, NY. It is likely many of his children were born there. Some of his brothers settled in nearby Vershire, Vermont and later removed to Essex County, New York about the beginning of the 19th century. They settled at Minerva, Essex County, New York.

It was at that time that Betsy Miller, the first wife of his brother, John West Sr, died. John sent their daughter, Sarah, to live with Joseph in Washington County. During her time with her uncle Joseph, Sarah met and married "Ira Wade." Joseph later removed to Minerva as well.

Ira and Sarah West Wade among the first to migrate west to Chautauqua Co. New York about 1833. Several of the Minerva Wests also went to Chautauqua County including Francis D. West, son of Joseph's twin brother John. Many settled in "Clymer" which was located in far southwestern Chautauqua County near the Pennsylvania border. (See French Creek and Clymer in Property Records, Appendix C_and Census Records, Appendix B.)

Land and census records suggest that Joseph's son Spencer also migrated to Chautauqua County.

Joseph himself may have migrated west to Niagara County—or at least purchased land there.

No record was found to show that Joseph West actually settled in Chautauqua County. However, a Joseph West purchased land from the Holland Land Company in western New York as early as 1809. The name "Joseph West" appears in land records of Niagara County in 1803, 1808 and 1818. In 1820 Joseph West sold his land in the "Mile Reserve" to Nathaniel Leonard. The 1809 deed record refers to Joseph as "of Niagara" implying he actually lived in the county. It is possible he went west to acquire land as investment for the family and then returned to Minerva⁶²

Much of the land purchases by the Minerva Wests are recorded in the transactions of the Holland Land Company--a major owner (speculator) of lands in western New York. (See Appendix C)⁶³

⁶² In 1809 Joseph would have been 43 years old. His son Joseph Jr. would have only been only 15—not old enough to sign a legal contract to purchase property. There are no other known men named 'Joseph' among the descendants of Ebenezer West. Therefore the "Joseph West" who acquired property in Niagara County in 1809 remains a mystery. Adding to the mystery is the sale of property in the same Mile Reserve tract in 1820 from Joseph West to Nathaniel Leonard. There are several connections by marriage between the Wests and Leonards of Minerva County.

⁶³ The purchases may indicate interactions between the sons of John West (1766-1855), Joseph West (1766-1847) and Ebenezer west (1738-18-). Although these property acquisitions do not necessarily establish family connections between the grantors and grantees, they may imply a close family or business relationship.

2. John West [Sr.] of Minerva, Essex Co. NY (1766-1747)

John West Sr. was born 1766/7 in Connecticut

He married first, Elizabeth (Betsy) Miller

John and Elizabeth (Betsy) had 4 sons:

William Carr West, born 1790, Vershire, VT (dna donor line) m. Betsy Leonard

Jesse West, born 1792, Vershire VT

Sarah West, born 1795 Granville? (m. Ira Wade)

John West Jr, born 1796/7, Vershire, VT or Granville, NY⁶⁴ (subject of this report)

Francis West, born after 1804, Minerva, ${\sf NY}^{\sf 65}$ First child born in Essex County.

(aka Francis D. West in Chautauqua Co., NY—see Appendix C)

Elizabeth (Betsy) Miller West died after 1804.66

He married second, Mary Spink⁶⁷

The children of second marriage not yet included in this report.

John may have died in Warren Co. after 1855. His last known record was the NY State Census of 1855. He may have migrated west after 1855 and died elsewhere. No record has been found to clarify his death.

He is the father of John West, Jr. the proposed subject of this report as described in Part II, (2).

⁶⁴ John West, Jr. is found in the 1817 records of the Minerva Baptist Church as party to dispute between his father and a family named 'Talman.' This implies that he was of legal age between 18 and 20 and therefore born between 1795 and 1797.

⁶⁵ French's Gazeteer 1860 as quoted in "Mabel Jones: John West" manuscript. Op. cit.)

⁶⁶ It is disputed whether Francis was the last child of Betsy or first child of Mary.

⁶⁷ It should be noted that the name "Spink" was found in property records in Chautauqua Co., NY in the early 1800s.

3. Ebenezer West, Jr. of Rhode Island 1768 - 1847

(DNA evidence implies that Ebenezer West, Jr. is the uncle of **John West [Jr.] of Minerva the** subject of this report. The following collateral evidence supplements the DNA evidence. See also Ezra B. West)

Ebenezer West Jr. was born 1768 in RI (died in Michigan in 1847)

m1. Jane Bliss, 1790

They had the following children:

Ebenezer West^{3rd} b. 12 Oct 1790 (or 25 Nov 1793) Vershire, VT Ezra Bliss West born 1792, Vershire, VT Ira West b. 1799 (d. 1885) (FAG, Rev Ira of Lewiston) Itha West b. 1804 (d. 1879)

m 2 Mercy Yates (date unknown –Unsupported gedcom files)

They had these children according to unproven online sources:

[James b. 1807] [Matthew b. 1807] [Sally Sharp b. 1811 – d. 1888]

Other improbable children appear in various online, unsourced, family trees:⁶⁸

Some of the above information came from the History of Minerva, Esssex Co., NY.

Specifics from the History of Minerva, NY p4 (Questioned items are italicized in red.)

"Ebenezer West, Jr. probably served in the Revolutionary Wat as a private in Capt. Hall's Company under Col. Holden in the expedition against Newport in 1779. He acquired land in Vershire, Orange Co. VT in 1782. He married his wife Jane [Bliss] in Vermont. He had migrated to Minerva, Essex Co. NY by 1805. He was a member of Minerva Baptist Church by 1807. "

References to the children (see above) taken shown in Church records:

Ebenezer West III b. 25 Nov 1793, [or 12 Oct 1790]..Member Minerva Baptist Church 1807 Ezra Bliss West b. 1792 Vershire VT, m. Sophia Leonard in Minerva 11 Aug 1815 Ezra and Sophia had these children:

> Daughters born in Minerva: Elizabeth West, 1816, Jane West 1819. Son, Isaac, possibly born in Manlius, Onondaga Co. NY, 1822; [speculative]⁶⁹ Child born in Minerva: Azariah, 1825

Ezra Bliss West went to Clymer, Chautauqua Co. NY **1831**. (see 1840 census)

Ira West b. 1799 (d. 1885) aka Rev. Ira West of Lewiston⁷⁰

Itha West b. 1804 (d. 1879) went to Clymer, Chautauqua Co. NY 1831 [Incorrect.]⁷¹.

Itha J West in Niagara 1830 and 1850 census for Wilson, Niagara Co. where he is also buried. 72

Nieces/Nephews: Other cousins settled at French Creek circa 1832 (near Clymer or taken from Clymer)
Some went later to Minnesota and S. Dakota.

<u>DNA</u> suggests that Ezra Bliss West, son of Ebenezer West 3rd left descendants which are probably my contemporary cousins. However, no known connections between recent families have been found. (It is generally shown through church and census data that **Ezra Bliss West was likely the nephew of John West, Sr of Minerva.)**

⁶⁸Elsey b. abt. 1824 and Bennet b.1828

⁶⁹ No evidence that the family went to Onandaga County. Other Wests were known to have lived in Onandaga Co. at that time.

 $^{^{70}}$ FAG Memorial 195801923, Ira West (8 Sep 1799-24 Dec 1885) 1 $^{\rm st}$ Presbyterian Cem., Lewiston, Niagara Co. NY.

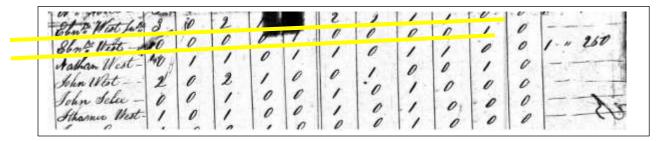
⁷¹ Confusion here. This might be Ithamar West, son of Joseph. Some of Joseph's children went to Clymer and French Creek

 $^{^{72}}$ FAG Memorial #65203313,Itha J. West, Budd Cem. Cambria, Niagara Co. NY.

Migration West: Ebenezer and his father still resided in Essex County (Schroon Lake) in 1810.

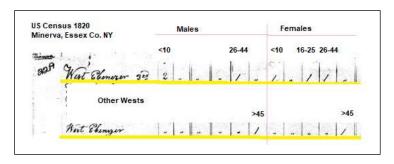
U.S. Census:

Census of Essex County, NY 1810, Schroon (later Minerva)



The <u>Minerva Church History</u> states that after the 1810 census, "we have no further record of Ebenezer and Jane."⁷³ This must be an error for Ebenezer is also shown in the 1820 census for Minerva (See below).

Census of Essex County, NY, 1820, Minerva (Ebenezer and son)



This image shows the younger Ebenezer first. He is listed as "West, Ebenezer 3^{rd"} head of household with 2males < 10 and Ebenezer 3rd himself age 26-44. Three lines below is his father, "West, Ebenezer" (our Ebenezer Jr.) listed head of household aged over 45. No other males.

The later westward migration of Ebenezer West, Jr and his son Ebenezer West 3rd is not discussed in other Minerva sources cited so far. (See previous page about confusion over various references to "Ebenezer" by name).

Compare the 1820 and 1830 census of Minerva. (All Wests)

Census of Essex County, NY 1820-:

On left -Original image with edits in *mage*nta.

On right -- Notes and interpretation by author:

```
West,

Ebenezer 3<sup>rd</sup> + wife age 26-44; 2 m < 10, 1 f < 10; + 1 f > 45 [missing in 1830]

Warren + wife age 26-44; 1 f < 10 [missing in 1830]

Anson + wife age 26-44; 1 f < 10

Nathan + wife > 45

Ebenezer + wife > 45 [missing in 1830]

John + wife > 45; m 16-25; f < 16

William C. 26-44; f 16-25, 1 m < 10, 2 f < 10

Lenox + wife age 26-44; 1 m < 10, 2 f < 10

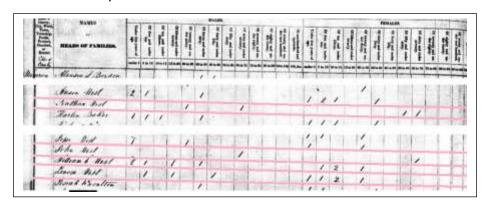
William + wife > 45; 1 m < 10, 1 m < 16, 1 m < 26, 1 f < 26 [missing 1830]

Ithamar + wife 26-44; 2 m < 10, 1 m < 16, 1 f < 16

.

Ezra B. 26-44, wife 16-25, 2 f < 10
```

1830 U.S. Census, Minerva



Anson West (son of Nathan)
Nathan West (son of Ebenezer)

Jesse West (not shown in 1820) John West William C. West Lenox West

The **1830 U.S. Census** reveals that Ebenezer and sons had left Minerva. ⁷⁵

Where did they go?

They migrated to Niagara County in far western New York.

Niagara County bordered Chautauqua County as the westernmost counties of New York. It also bordered Canada. The region was on the major immigrant routes to the Northwest Territory—which at that time included the future State of Ohio and in particular the lands known as the *Connecticut Western Reserve* in northern Ohio.

The further migration of Ebenezer and his family to western New York in the 1830s is discussed in Census records, **Appendix B** and Land records in **Appendix C**.

⁷⁵ Niagara County also encompassed what would later become Erie County.

Part IV

MISSING LINK: JOHN WEST OF PORTAGE

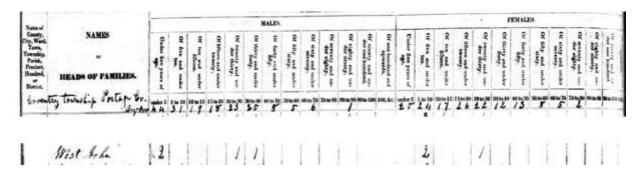
A connection between

John West Jr of Minerva and John West of Solon?

A possible link: After the birth of his son, Orson, it is speculated John West of Solon left New York and settled in Portage Co. OH.

A John West of appropriate age and family appears in the 1830 census for Portage County, Ohio. I believe he was the future *John West of Solon. John West* lived in Coventry Township. He could conceivably be *John West of Minerva* and/or *John West of Solon.*

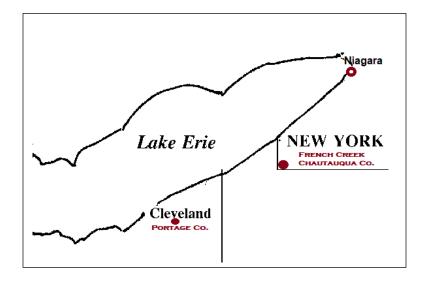
1830 U.S. Census, Portage County, OH.



My research into *John West of Portage* and his relationship to *John West of Solon* is detailed in Appendix C.

Here are images representing the region of French Creek in Chautauqua County, New York in relation to Portage County in northeastern Ohio. The siblings and cousins of John West of Minerva went to French Creek in the mid 1830's. A John

West had settled in Coventry Township in Portage County by the time of the 1830 U.S. Census. The distance between the two places is about 150 miles.





That *John of Portage* is the same man as *John of Solon* seems believable. His relationship to others in Solon as described in Appendix C enhances the case.

That John of Portage is the same man as John of Minerva—not so much.⁷⁶

Sooo-- I put my hypothesis aside pending more substantial evidence.

⁷⁶ It is very possible that John of Minerva stayed in Essex County. There is a John of similar age found in the U.S. Census for 1830 Essex (town) and 1840 Willsboro (50-60 miles north of Minerva.) If this is *John of Minerva* my search took me down the wrong path.

Part V DNA-WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

DNA

Although DNA testing has provided new paths to ancestry research, eight years of analyzing dna data have added little to my results.

DNA research is muddied by the same factors that make old-fashion research so difficult: too many fanciful ancestor stories get in the way. Where DNA results are exact, they can only be interpreted in the context of associated "trees"—gedcom files etc. Gedcom 'trees' range from 'pretty accurate' to downright 'foolish.' Distinguishing between the extremes can take years. Grinding research at libraries and courthouses continues to be the best way to discovery.

My objective: to use DNA matches to discover the origns of my 2nd great grandparents on my West line. Although DNA comparisons between recent cousins can be quite rewarding, at the level of great-great-grandparents it is very tedious and unreliable. We all have thirty-two 3rd great grandparents, each of which produced many children whose children produced many children and so on.

For instance while desperately researching my *paternal* ancestors, I was lured by the discovery of a chromosome match to someone with a similar paternal ancestral tree. Unfortunately I then discovered that I shared, instead, the same chromosome match with one of my known *maternal* ancestors.

Recognizing the above problem, I have refined my search. I confine my search to other researchers who match my dna as well as that of a known living cousin on my paternal line.

I count as valid only those that match my chromosome at the segment level.

The results are presented in the following analysis. Still no certainty.

TESTING

I tested my autosomal DNA at Ancestry.com in 2016 and at 23andMe.com in 2020. Both results were uploaded to GedMatch.com.

Although I found many matches at the 3rd great grandparent level, these were inconclusive. I compared my autosomal dna to all members, using the tools provided at Gedmatch.

What I really needed was a male relative who would take a y-dna test. My own paternal ('West') line died out in 1993 just before the popularity of dna-testing.⁷⁷ So I searched for some unknown 'West' male cousin.

Surprisingly, 23andMe, provided me a new West half-first cousin my family never knew about. This was exceedingly valuable. But, of course, she was female. The search for West y-dna continued—but with new hope. A whole new family of potential West descendants remained to be explored.

I refer to my new cousin as "NenaP" to protect her identity.

Apparently my paternal grandfather, Charles O. West, had a secret son that no one in my family knew about. Charles' son, Alberto,⁷⁸ left two sons—Bennie and Carlos West, both now deceased. One or both may have left sons. I have tried to find any living grandson of Alberto who has taken or would take a Y-DNA test. So far no responses.

However I now have autosomal dna results of my new female cousin. And that is very helpful.

NenaP and I matched at chromosomes 2, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 19.

Reviewing my autosomal dna matches from Gedmatch, I selected those who also shared my matches to NenaP. This produced a list of 10 GedMatch autosomal dna contributors.

⁷⁷ Twenty years of research proved that none of the grandsons of John West of Solon left any surviving males named 'West'—except for my father and one uncle—both long dead without sons.

⁷⁸ See "Alberto West" at https://www.westerly-journeys.com/genealogy/FamPrivate/Alberto%20West.pdf. Note: perhaps Alberto was named for his deceased brother, Albert, the infant twin of his brother Alfred Lynn West.

For each of these 10, I analyzed the segment size and locations for each of the matching chromosomes. That narrowed my dna matches to those who shared segment locations on the given chromosome shared also by both me and NenaP.

This is no guarantee that the matches are significant to my paternal West line, but it is the best tool so far.

The next pages show the results obtained at 23andMe and GedMatch.

CHROMOSOME SEGMENT MATCHES

Marilou Ficklin and "NenaP" (at 23andMe)

versus

Marilou Ficklin and selected kits (at GedMatch)

Autosomal DNA matches at 23andMe

Ficklin compared to NenaP:⁷⁹
2, 7, 9, 11, 14, 19 80

Autosomal DNA matches at GedMatch (by kit)

Ficklin (A835635) compared to kits which also match NenaP

(Chromosomes shared by the following kits with Ficklin and NenaP are shown in red.)

A155840 ekinde 1, 2, 5, 6, 16, 18 (Gedcom associated with the name Hatch)

A309367 LAuffert 2, 7, 14, 15, 18

A436421 R Frazier 1, 8, 10, 18, 19 (Gedcom associated with name Elisha Y. West)

A460278 JBruesch 7, 8, 11, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22

A958325 PamelaC 3, 6, 9, 14, 17, 18, 20

H387006 AStrout 1, 2, 6-8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17

M075814 JodyB 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20 (WikiTree ssociated with Ebenezer West)

M453795 NOlder MDW13 ch 4,9,10,18,20⁸¹

M797763 DCommins ch 9, 19

T667376 childs-west ? 1,2,3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 14⁸²

LT7847596 DChavez ch 4 11 14 (living cousin)

⁷⁹NenaP is a first cousin 2 x removed. My paternal grandfather is her great grandfather

The segment matches between Ficklin and NenaP were provided by a tool at 23and Me called "chromosome painting". Due to recent hacks (2024) of the 23andMe site, this tool is no longer available. When examining the match I rounded and copied the numbers. Therefore exact matches are not possible.

⁸¹ GedMatch cluster 22. The significance of this is not clear. See GedMatch

⁸² Previously connected to a Gedcom associated with Childs and West--but no longer valid at GedMatch in 2024.

Summary

Gedmatch autosomal chromosome segment matches to NP + Ficklin (A835635)

(by kit identifier at GedMatch)

Jody B M075814 (2, 14,19)

Childs **T667376** (2, 14)

Chavez LT7847596 (11,14)

DCommins M797763 (9, 19)

RFrazier **A436421** (19)

PamelaC <u>A436421</u> (14)

AStrout <u>H387006</u> (14)

NOlder <u>M453795</u> (9)

JBruesch **A460278** (7)

ekinde **A155840** (2)

LAuffert **A309367** (2)

Summary

Span of autosomal kit matches to NenaP + Ficklin (A835635) at GedMatch

(by chromosome and matching segment length. 83)

19:	Me + Nena	22.31
	RFrazier 3.	8
	Jody B 3.2	
	DCummins	3.3
14:	Me + Nena	20.66
	JodyB	3.7
	Pamela 3.1	
	Strout	1.7
	Childs	1.7
	Chavez 14.0 *	
11.	Me + Nena	12.49
	Chavez 27.5	
9:	Me +Nena	26.28
	DCommins	3.9
	NOlder 3.1	
	Corpus 3.5	
7:	Me + Nena	17.4
	Bruesch3.1	
2:	Me + Nena	52.58
	JodyB	5.1 ***
	Ekinde 3.3	
	Auffert 17.6	****
	Childs	3.0

⁸³ See *Raw Data at GecMatch,* following, for exact locations of segment start and stop

DNA matches at GedMatch for Ficklin (A835635), that did NOT also match NenaP:

```
A026721 Aunt Peggy 2, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18, 19 (Abner)
A89777 RHatch _4, 5, 11, 12, 19 (Melatiah, Reuben Hatch)
A153320 GSharp 2, 10, 15, 16, 18, 21 (William West, Columbia Co.)
A231262 Cannon 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 22 (? Griffith Wales)
A450035 VAMiller 1, 4, 6, 7, 13, 18
A607701 SMarks 2, 3, 9, 12-15, 20, 22
A652944 CLou Cotton/Brady 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 15, 16, 20
A745905 HSayers 3, 8, 14, 18
A802858 Walling 5, 9, 12, 13, 18
A839852 CNF Carl Norman Fields 1, 3, 4, 6, 12, 18
A945996 Carlos (Pat S. – Heber Carlos) 4, 6, 10, 13, 16, 18
H275364 Caran Ebert 2, 3, 7, 12, 15, 17, 20 (no segment match to Caran)
SR288965 Larry West (large file for all wests) 2, 4-6, 20, 22
T732521 No name 1, 2, 3-6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 20
Z6096506 Jennifer Corpus (large file) 1,3,4,8,9,10,17-19,22
DDW (not identified) ch 19
KY6444336 Jeanna Rodriguez ch 11,21
```

RAW DATA AT GEDMATCH84

List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 2

Nena + Me	129,900,000 - 191,100,000	52.58 cM
Aunt Peggy + me	218,000,000 - 220,000,000	4.3cM
Cara + me	218,680,570 - 221,654,925	5.5 cM
GSharp + me	189,000,000 - 193,000,000	3.1 cM
ekinde + me	218,942,848 – 220,792,739	3.1 cM
	133,951,544 - 137,527,965	3.3 cM
Auffert + me	220,668,021 – 222,192,743	3.1 cM
	132,548,137 - 153,466,691	17.6 cM—best match
JodyB + me	134,626,686 - 140,880,629	5.1 cM
Childs- West + me	134 ,084,312 – 137,583,196	3.0 cM

List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 7

Nena + Me	23,100,000 - 36,400,000)	17.44 cM
CindyLou + me	116,278,450 - 120,702,504		1.8 cM
Cara Ebert + me	96,530,404 – 103,208,865	5.3cM	
	151,678,416 - 159,119,486		20.5cM
Aunt Peggy + Me	153,000154 ,000		4 cM,
Auffert + me	155,5 00– 157,000		4.2 cM
Bruesch + me	29,145,731 – 30,529,411		3.1 cM—best match
Ann Strout + me	85,400,000 – 89,400,000		2.3 cM
JodyB + me	107,782,190 - 111,439,9	939	3.0 cM

List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 9

Nena	+ Me		1,000,000 - 12	,600,000		26.28 cN	<u>l</u>
Cara	+ me		132,500 – 134,	000			3.0cM
Aunt Pe	ggy + me	132,000	-133,000			4.0 cM	
ShaneN	1arks + me		74,265,535 -88	3,118,237		17.7 cN	
			137,859,032 -	138,544,01	.7	3.3 cM	
Cindy Lo	ou		17,478,111 - 1	.8,787,256		1.9 cM	
		32	2,902,395 – 36,0)85,505		2.1 cM	
			110,082,054 -	111,809,4	53	2.2 cM	
Pamela	+ me	103,969	,852 – 107,265,	452	3.1 cM		
Nicole C	Older MDW13+ m	e	185,632-1,358	3,244		3.1 cM	
DarrellO	C+me	4,232,87	71 - 5,384,832		3.9 cM		
Corpu	ıs + me		117,8 00,0	00 – 120	0,600,0	000	3.5 cM

⁸⁴ The segment matches between Ficklin and NenaP were provided by a tool at 23and Me called "chromosome painting". Due to recent hacks of the 23andMe site, this tool is no longer available. When examining the match I rounded and copied the numbers. Therefore exact matches are not possible.

30

List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 11

Nena + Me	1 – 62,700 ,000	12.49 cM
Breusch + me	95,900,000 – 98,600,000	3cM
	130,900,000–131,700,000	3.3cM
AnnStrout + me	69,500,000 -74,000,000	4.7 cM
Daniel Chavez + me	203,788 – 14 , 254,570	27.5 cM

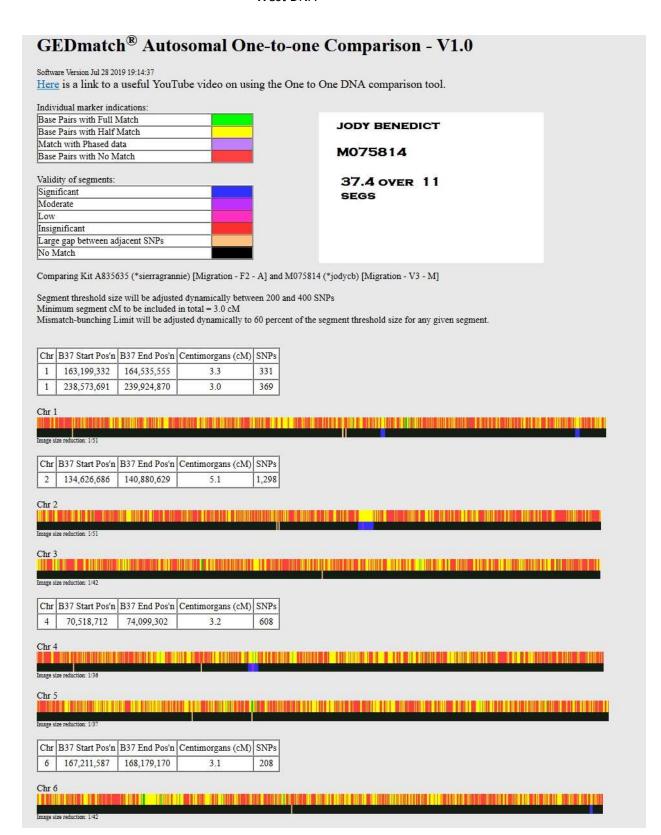
List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 14

Nena + Me	97,800,000 – 101,700,000	9.1 cM
	48,600,000 - 69,300,000	20.66 cM
HarveySayers + me	67,900,000 - 73,300,000	6.6 cM
Auffert + me	32,000,000 – 33,000,000	3.1 cM
Pamela + me	29,916,912 – 32,334,616	4.1 Cm
	55,201,507 -57,157,766	3.1 cM
AnnStrout +me	26,408,870 - 29,125,324	2.2 cM
	61,4 28,794 – 63,7 16,149 1.7 cM	
childs-west + me	44,305,674 – 47,587,699	1.3 cM
	66,952,882 - 68,911,115 1.7 cM	
JodyB +me	31,313,309 - 32,842,030	3.3 cM
Daniel Chavez + me	19,327,823 – 24,117,611	14.0cM

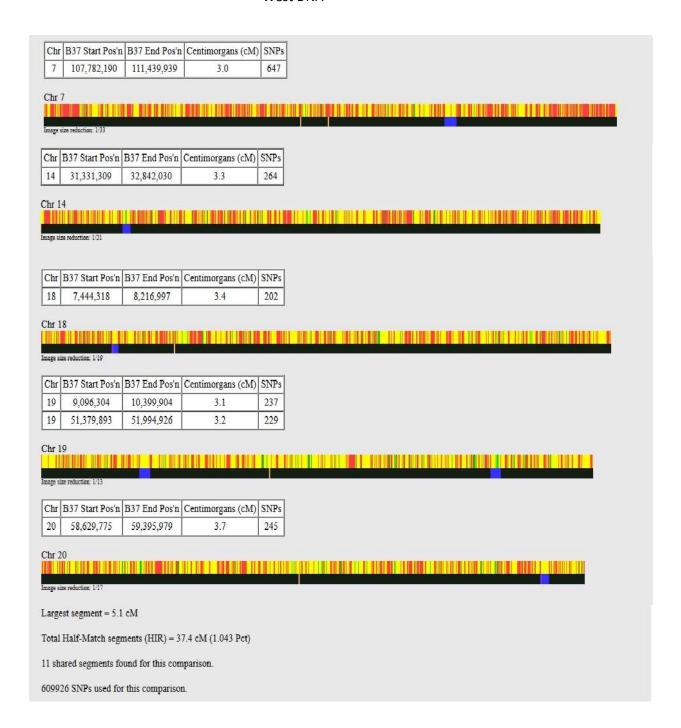
List of DNA segment matches at Chromosome 19

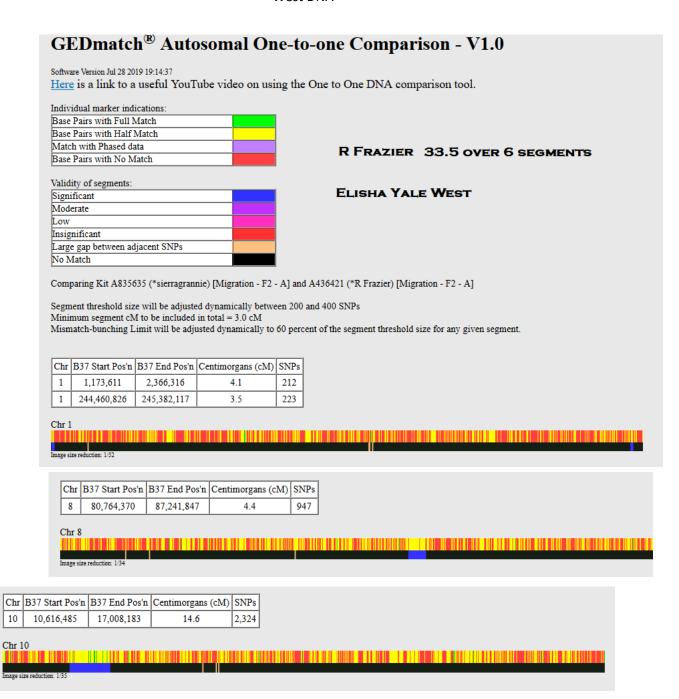
Nena + Me	52,000,000 - 55,000,000	22.31 cM
Aunt Peggy + Me	31,088,263 – 32,816,571	3.3 cM (Abner)
DDW + me	51,00,000 – 52,6 00,000	4.2 cM (Who is this?)
Caran Ebert + me	31,069,369 – 33,067,367	3.5 cM (William C.)
Darrell Commins + me	10,116,375 - 13,122,612	3.3 cM
RHatch + me	10,991,827 - 13,894,296	3.6 cM
R Frazier + me	51,379,893 - 52,163,035	3.8 cM
JodyB + me	9, 096,304 - 10,399,904	3.1 cM
	51,379,893 –51,994,926	3.2 cM (close)
Corpus + me	31,079,269 – 33,760,339	4.3 cM

GRAPHICAL DISPLAYS FROM SELECTED GEDMATCH COMPARISONS



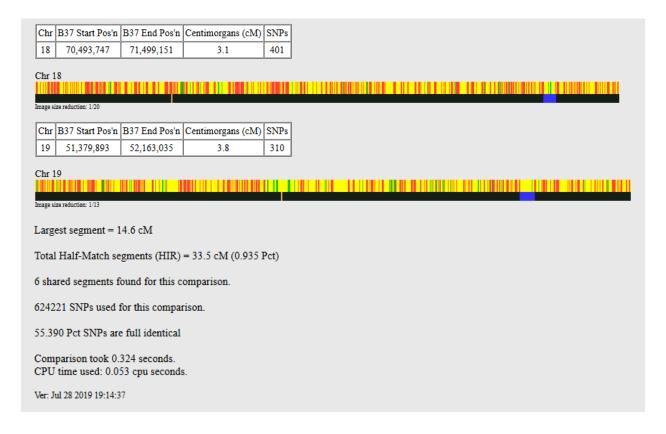
West DNA





West DNA

Frazier continued



West DNA

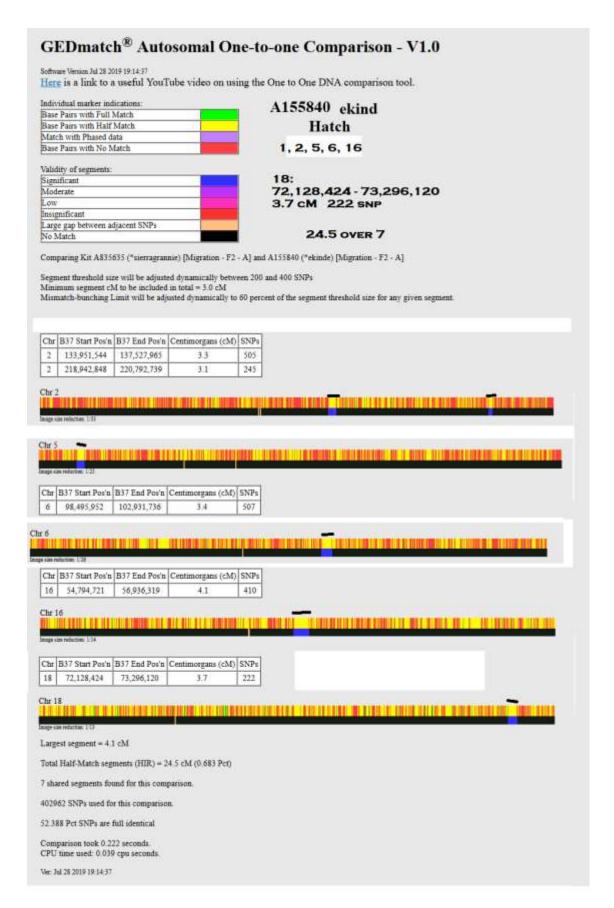
THIS COMPARISON IS NO LONGER VALID AT GEDMATCH.

The DNA Kit Number T667376 still points to the original email source and name. However it is now associated with a different DNA profile and Gedcom.

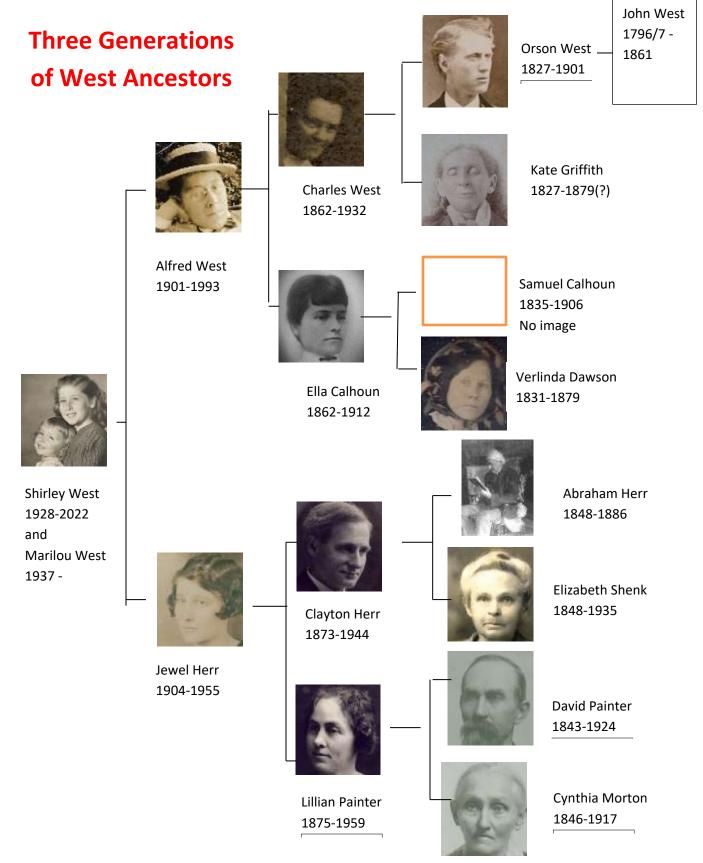
Childs-West 3.0 cM segs> 1 = 20.3 cM

11 segs





By the way, these are my ancestors back to John West of Solon.



APPENDICES

A - **E**

APPENDIX A

WEST CHRONOLOGY BY MABEL JONES

and

Challenges to her sources and conclusions

Before 1790:

John West [Sr.] came with parents to Vershire, VT where he married Betsy Miller. 85 "We do know that John's first wife was Betsy Miller and that they were married

in Vermont [<1790]."

About 1796/7:

John West [Sr.] and wife Betsy Miller may have removed to Granville, Washington Co., NY.⁸⁶ Mabel Jones states:

"It was probably only a few years after this marriage that John and Betsy moved to Granville, N.Y. The records of that town show cattle brands for John West in **1797**." (Ed: Not true. See details below)

After 1800:

John West [Sr.] and wife Betsy removed to Minerva/Shroon Lake, Essex Co., NY. Mabel Jones states:

"John [West, Sr.] came to Minerva with the rest of the family about 1800... the first child born in Minerva was [his son] Francis West and the first death was that of [his wife] Betsy West [after 1807 when she was baptized at Baptist Church]."

Details:87

Disputed claims about the birth of John West of Minerva (John, Jr., son of John West, Sr.):

No primary record of the birth or baptism of John West, Jr. has been found. His two older brothers were born in Vershire, VT. John West, Jr. could have been born in Vershire, or as Mabel Jones states, in Granville, Washington Co., NY.

The 1800 U.S. Census for Granville, NY does not show a suitable record for John and Betsy. However a John West does appear in the 1800 census for Vershire although not a good match.

Census records for John West, Sr. in 1800 are inconclusive.

87 ibid.

⁸⁵ Mabel Jones, "John West [Sr.]," "The West Family: Notes taken from the clerk's records of the Minerva Baptist Church," typescript, "Minerva.pdf", Minerva Historical Society, nd, p. 67. (Provided by "Anne" at 23andMe, 2020)

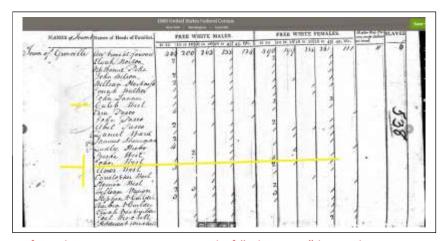
According to Mabel Jones' theory, John West, Sr. was living in Granville, Washington Co., NY. In 1800.

There is only one John West listed in the 1800 census for Granville, ⁸⁸ and he belongs to the well-documented family of Prince West that had come to Granville in the 1790's from Lee, MA. (These were descendants of Francis West of Duxbury and not related to the ancestors of subject John West, Sr.) ⁸⁹

Granville, Washington Co., NY 1800 Census: John West: 1 m < 10; 1 m 26-45. 4 f < 10; 1 f 26-45.

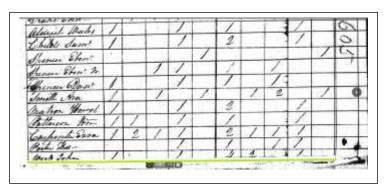
This matches John G. West, son of Prince West.

The census shows a group of Wests , all related to Prince West, on the same page. (Prince and sons Christopher, Heman, John and son-in-law, Caleb.)



The 1800 Census record of John West of Vershire, VT contains a record of "John West" but it does not fit our subject family. It shows only 1 male < 10 instead of 3. It shows 5 females total under age 16 whereas our subject John West Sr. had only one known daughter, Sarah, and she would have been living

in the household of John's brother, Joseph. 90



<u>Image from Vershire, Orange Co., VT 1800 Census:</u> ¹ West, John: 1 m < 10; 1 m 26-45. 4 f < 10; 2 f < 16, 1 f 26-45

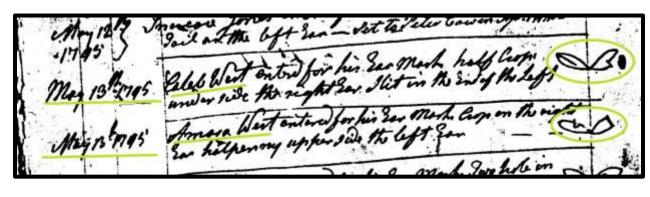
Note the household of Samuel Childs 9 lines above John. It contains a female under 10. One theory is that John Jr. married Clarissa Childs born abt 1801, VT.

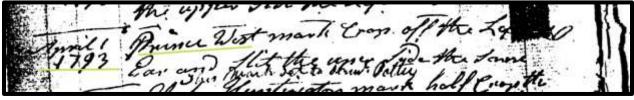
⁸⁸ 1800 U.S. Census, Granville, Washington Co. NY, NARA M32, Roll 26, p. 279, 4 August 1800.

⁸⁹ Marilou West Ficklin, "West of Tolland, CT and Lee, MA," 2017, see "Lt. John West," following. also see: http://www.westerly-journeys.com/genealogy/TollandWests.html

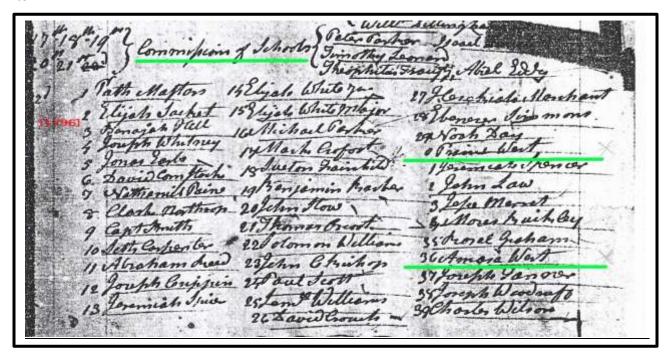
 $^{^{90}\,}$ 1800 U.S. Census, Vershire, Orange Co. VT, NARA M32, Roll 51, P. 605, 4 August 1800.

Mabel Jones cites a <u>cattle brand registered by a John West in 1797</u> as proof that John West, Sr. settled in Granville about 1796/7. However this earmark was undoubtedly that of a different "John West"--John West son of Prince West of an entirely different family. Prince, Amasa and Caleb West also registered earmarks as shown below: 93





Additional Granville records show the members of the Prince West family serving in various roles in the town.



⁹¹,Registered Earmarks of Granville; http://www.washington.nygenweb.net/earmarks.htm.

⁹² Prince West, ancestors and descendants are documented in my work "The Wests of Tolland CT and Lee MA" **online at** https://www.westerly-journeys.com.

⁹³ These were copied by the author at the Washington County, NY Recorder's Office in 2007

War of 1812

The household of John West shown in the U.S. Census for Granville contains a male aged 10 or under. This may be Lt. John West. The records of Lt. John West show that he was in no way related to the Wests of Vershire or Minerva. The family history for Lt. John West is on the *next page*.

Finally Mabel Jones is quoted as saying "John West, Jr." who had served in the War of 1812, later lived in York, Sandusky Co., OH in 1830.⁹⁴ John West who lived in York, Ohio is NOT the same person as our subject.

John West of York, Sandusky Co., OH was the son of David West of Hillsdale, New York.

The Revolutionary pension application of David West of Hillsdale, NY and the pension application of his widow, Hannah Batherick West, refer to their wills which state that their son, John West, lived in York, [Sandusky Co) Ohio. 95 David's Revolutionary War Pension File includes family Bible pages showing John West, born 1796, as their son. The West line of David West (of Hillsdale) and his wife Hannah are **not connected in any way to the line** of **John West of Minerva**. A lengthy published genealogy is attached to the Revolutionary Pension File of David West.

^{94 &}quot;The Minerva Baptist Church," op. cit. p. 13,

⁹⁵ Widow's Pension Application File of Hannah West : #W16464, NARA Microfilm 804, Roll 2534. Photocopied from LDS Microfilm 97253, 14 Sept 2004 (Revolutionary War Pension File of David West.)

Lt. John West of Granville

This is the documented genealogy of Lt. John West. His maternal grandfather was Prince West of Tolland, CT and Lee, MA

Prince West was born in 1735 in Tolland CT. He settled in Lee, MA after Revolution and in the 1790s went to Granville, Washington Co.,NY. He and his family remained there about ten years and then migrated to OtsegoCo., NY after 1810. 96

His children were:

1. John G. West, b. 1770 Lee MA. (Came in 1790s to Granville, Wshington Co. NY and then went to Cayuga Co. NY 1810.)

He appears in the U.S. Census 1800 for Washington County, Granville: 4 daus, 1 son all under 10 (Hannah b. 1794, Esther b. 1796, Eliza and Pamelia b. 1797, Nehemiah b. 1800)

- 2. Christopher , b. 1774)
- 3. Amos ?
- **4.** Bathsheba who married Caleb West (son of Prince's brother Oliver, b. 1764), They had children: 97
 - 1. Caleb b. 1788
 - John b. 1791 (son of Caleb) aka Lt. John West d. 1823, bur Hill Cem. Honey Hill Road South Granville, Wash. Co. NY. John served Capt. Day in Col. Adam's regt org at Whitehill South Granville and then to Battle of Plattsburg 1812. Hist of Wash. Co. NY 1737-1838 (Philadelphia: Everts & Ensign, 1878. P. 220). He married Lucy______ They had children:

son Prince Chas 1814-1814 dau Lucy 1815

3. Daniel b. 1794

⁹⁶ West of Tolland and Lee, op. cit. p. 15

⁹⁷ West of Tolland and Lee, op. cit. p. 25

Appendix A: Minerva (Mabel Jones)

Mabel Jones claims that Ezra Bliss West had a son named "Isaac" born in 1822 in Manlius, Onondaga Co., NY and that his son Azariah was born in Minerva in 1825. 98 This implies the family moved west to Manlius before or during 1822and returned to Minerva before or during 1825. Her claim seems invalid.

THE QUESTION: Did the wife of Ebenezer 3rd give birth to a child in Manlius and name him, "Isaac," a name not common in this subject ancestral line?

Mabel Jones was incorrect. Ebenezer West 3rd and his father are both enumerated in the 1820 census as residing in Minerva on August 6 1820. **If** they went to Manlius, it was after August 6. The 1820 census for Manlius (below) shows the household of an "Ebenezer West" which does not match the household of our Ebenezer 3rd.

1820 Onondaga: Ebenezer West as head of household shows 2 males under 10, 1 male 16-18, 2 males 16-25, and 1 male over 45.



There may be some private family records that prove the migration to Manlius—and the existence of "Isaac." I would like to see it.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

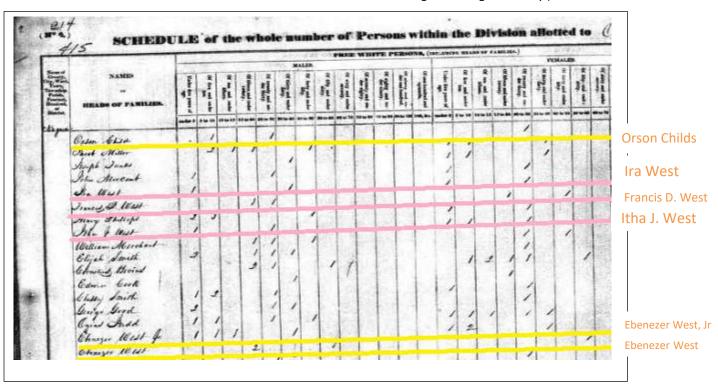
APPENDIX B

CENSUS RECORDS SHOWING WEST MIGRATIONS

to Niagara and Chautauqua Counties New York

U.S. Census for 1830, Niagara County, New York, Niagara (town)

Ebenezer West 3rd lived near a man named "Orson Childs" in the town of Niagara in Niagara County.)⁹⁹



Note: Itha J. West (above) is often transcribed as "John J. West". Since there are many other records for Itha J. West in Niagara County in this time period, I believe that "Itha" is the correct interpretation.

⁹⁹ See also Orson Childs b Ct abt 1805 in Niagara, Niagara Co. NY and Stephen Childs b abt 1766 CT same place with a Julia b. abt 1815.

Extracted data from 1840-1850 census:

<u>U.S. Census for 1840, Wilson, Niagara Co. NY, p. 14</u> John West Male <40 (b. 1801)¹⁰⁰ (Is this actually Itha West?)

Age groups header for 1840 census extracted below

	<u><5</u>	< 10	<15	<20	< 30	< 40	< 50	< 60 < 70	< 5	<10	<15	<20	<30	<40	<50	<u><60</u>
U.S. Census for 1	.840	,Niaga	ra, Nia	agara	Co., N	<u>′</u>										
Orson Childs	1	2	0	1	1	1			1	0			1		0	0
William H. Childs John Lyons ¹⁰¹	1	1	1	0	0	1			1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
U.S. Census for 1	.840	Clyme	er, Cha	utauc	jua Co	. NY										
Ezra B. West	0	0	2	1	0	0	1		1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0
U.S. Census for 1				, Mic	higan_											
Eben ^r West [Jr] William H. Childs		1	1	1	2	1	1	. 0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

Note: both William H. Childs and Ebenezer West, Jr emigrated from Niagara Co. NY to Washtenaw Co. MI.

U.S. Census for 1850 Wilson, Niagara, Niagara Co., NY

Itha J. West age 46 [b. 1803-4] NY Orson Childs age 45 [b. 1804-1806] CT Stephen Childs age 84 [b. 1766] Julia Childs age 35 [b. 1815] NY

 $^{^{\}rm 100}$ Is this Itha West? (See 1830 and 1850 census, Niagara County, NY)

¹⁰¹ Is this John Lyons of Solon, IA, brother of Mary Lyons of the ME Church?

APPENDIX C

PROPERTY RECORDS SHOWING WEST MIGRATIONS

to Niagara and Chautauqua Counties New York

"Joseph West" is named in some of the earliest land transactions in Niagara County. He appears in transactions dated 1809 and 1814. In 1820 he sold t same approximate land to a **Nathaniel Leonard**. (See "Holland Land Company" following.) Therefore Joseph West must have been at least 21 years old in 1809 when he is referred to as **Joseph West "of Niagara."** There is no proof that this "Joseph" was a member of the Minerva West family. However the surname "Leonard" suggests it. (Several members of the Minerva West family married women named "Leonard") 103

Note also that Joseph West of Hartford, Washington Co.¹⁰⁴ had taken Sarah his niece into his own family. **Sarah and her husband, Ira Wade, migrated to Clymer, Chautauqua County in the 1830's. This** may support his relationship to the Wests who migrated to Clymer.

Furthermore, a "Francis D." and "John West" are both found in the land records of Clymer at that time. Other relationships suggested by land records:

The land acquired by Joseph in Niagara County was located in the same tract as that of Orson Childs. Both had land in the "Mile Reserve,"--Joseph in lots 15, 32, 33 and 45, and Orson Childs in lot 37. Sons of Ebenezer and possible sons of John Sr. (John and Francis D.) all acquired land in Township 13, Range 9, in Niagara County.

Joseph's son Spencer migrated to French Creek in Chautauqua County—adjacent to and perhaps originally part of, Clymer. 105

¹⁰² Genealogical records of Ebenezer's sons and grandsons named 'Joseph West' do not reveal any "Joseph West' of appropriate age to have made above purchases. Men from other West families could have made the purchases but the purchases of other descendants of Ebenezer in the same location suggest that Joseph West of Niagara was the first to go west and buy land, but then later returned to Essex County.

¹⁰³ Marriages between the Wests and Leonards of Minerva: William Carr West (brother of John Jr) m. Betsy Leonard; Ezra Bliss West (cousin of John Jr) married Sophia Leonard, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Leonard. (Note: a "Clarissa Leonard" is found among baptisms in the Minerva Baptist Church in the 1820s. It is tempting to think she might be the wife of subject John West, Jr whose 1850 census record shows the presumed wife, "Clarissa".

¹⁰⁴ Joseph West twin brother of John West of Minerva, NY both born 1766.

¹⁰⁵ Ebenezer West, son Joseph and grandson, Spencer in Parshall Family history, History of Allegheny Valley, p. 392. As posted at Family Search.

Niagara County - Property transactions of "West" 1809-1814

Property Records from Niagara County, NY Clerk (Lockport, NY) except where noted.

Note "Mile Reserve" = "Niagara Tract")

Date	Grantee	Grantor	Bk –	Location	Notes
			Page		
1809	West, Joseph		A-8	Lot 15	Mile Reserve 106
1820	Leonard , Nathaniel	Joseph West	A-79	Lot 45	Mile Reserve
1814	West, Joseph		A-392	Lots 32, 33	Mile Reserve

Chautauqua County - Property transactions of "West" 1836-1839

Property Records from Chautauqua County, NY Clerk (Mayville, NY)

Date	Grantee	Grantor	Bk –	Location	Notes
			Page		
1836	Wade, Ira (husband of Sarah West)		74-294	L22T1R15	Fr. Creek
1837	West, Spencer and Ezra Morgan	Willink (Holland Land Co.)	22-561	L13T1R15	\$196.41 (Son of Joseph)
1837	West, John	Betsy Williamson	23-44	L60T1R14	Clymer
1838	West, Anson	Willink (Holland Land Co.)	24-307	L53T2R14	Sherman (son of Nathan West)
1839	West, Spencer w. Ezra Morgan et all	Willink (Holland Land Co.)	24-425	L13T1R15	French Creek
1848	West, Francis D.	Willink (Holland Land Co.)	30-482	L60T1R14	Clymer

Holland Land Company Property Records - "West" 1831-1833

Date	Grantee	Document class and number	Property Description	Location
7 Dec 1831	West, Francis D.	D 509-105	L4T14R9	Niagara (Niagara)
22 Jan 1833	West, Francis D.	O 511-109 Original	L17T1R14	Clymer (Chautauqua)
22 Jan 1833	West, Francis D.	O 511-119 Original	L17T1R14	Clymer (Chautauqua)

¹⁰⁶ See also Erie Co. Deeds, Book 1, p. 343 Dec 1808: Lot 15 on ea side of Niagara River to Joseph West of Niagara County from John Gansevoort of Niagara County. Also Erie Co. Deed Book, 3-11, to Joseph West from Willink (Holland Land Co.) 8 Nov 1813m kits 32 abd 33 T15R9.

The following diagrams show the locations of various "West" properties.

Notice that the name "Childs" appears frequently. (There may be a relationship between the Childs and West families in Niagara County. See Appendix D.)

Niagara County

Township and Range Diagram showing relative locations Property Ownership and names of towns

	Range 9	Range 8	Range 7	Range 6
Township 15	Joseph West 1813	Wilson	Wilson Itha J. West Ira West Ebenezer West 1831	
Township 14	Lewiston Francis D. West 1831t	Lewiston Cambria Aaron Childs	Cambria Lockport	Lockport
Township 13	Niagara [Falls] Ebenezer West Jr.			

Chautauqua County

Township and Range Diagram showing relative locations Property Ownership and names of towns

	Range 15	Range 14	Range 13	Range 12	Range 11	Range 10
Township 6					Childs	
Township 5				Childs		
Township 4						
Township 3					Childs	
Township 2		Sherman Anson West		Ellery		
Township 1	French Creek Ezra West Spencer West	Clymer John West Francis D. West 1833 Ira Wade		Busti Childs		

Appendix D

CHILDS

The Childs family of Niagara County, New York

<u>Aaron Childs</u> seems to be an early member of the Childs family who settled and purchased land in Niagara County. He had two sons, William H.(nicknamed the" preacher") and another son (nicknamed the "sinner"). Aaron settled in the town of Lewiston. His house on the hill (Main Street) was the only mansion of the section. He later removed to Niagara Falls and was a prominent land owner-speculator. He was the first highway Commissioner and organized the first Presbyterian Church at Lewiston. The church records mention Aaron, Ward, and Martha. Ira West was a deacon of this church suggesting a possible relationship between the Childs and Wests of Niagara County. (See "Library Research" and "Maps" on following pages.) Aaron Childs eventually migrated to Washtenaw Co., MI where he died in 1882. 107 108

<u>William H. Childs</u> was also a prominent land developer in Niagara County in the tract called (railroad) "Suspension Bridge" two miles below the falls of the Niagara River.

See the property records following. Also refer to Appendix C for the diagrams showing location of Childs and West properties in Niagara and Chautauqua Counties.

¹⁰⁷ FAG Memorial 23342271: Aaron Childs 6 Dec 1806 – 26 Mar 1882, bur Willis Cem., Washtnenaw Co. MI. 108 Ebenezer West Jr. also migrated from Niagara County NY. to Washtenaw Co., MI where he was enumerated in the 1840 census.

Orson Childs of Niagara Co. NY

Orson Childs was probably related to Aaron Childs – although not the son of Aaron. Orson was instrumental in the development of the "Mile Tract," and "Suspension Bridge." Its relation to Niagara Falls (incorporated 1848) is documented in *The Life and Times of Suspension Bridge Village*, which states,

..."the land north of [village of Niagara Falls] was all farmland and in 1845 there were only two houses there, the farmhouses of Elihu P. Graves and Orson Childs ..."

In the 1830 U.S. Census for Niagara Co., NY, "Orson Childs" is shown on the same page as Ebenezer West -- three lines above. This might suggests they were neighbors.

Why did it matter?

? WESTS OF MINERVA NY = WESTS OF SOLON IA ?

John West of Solon named his son "Orson Childs West."

Was there some relationship between Ebenezer West and Orson Childs? 110,111

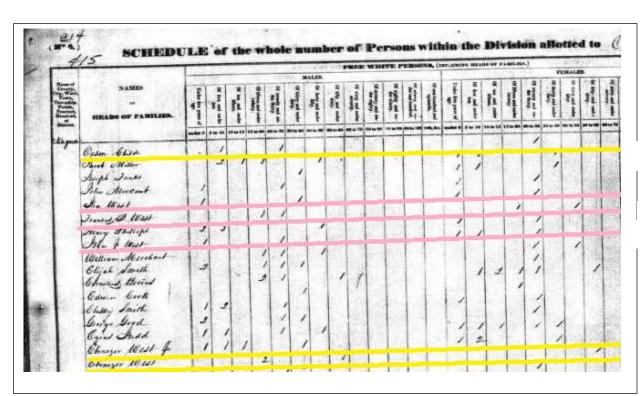
¹⁰⁹ Daniel L. Davis, *The Life and Times of Suspension Bridge Village, 2nd Ed.*, p. 8. (Mentions Gad Pierce Tavern and Orson Childs).

¹¹⁰ See property documentation in Appendix C re Jonathon Childs and Joseph West, in "Mile Reserve," Niagara Co., NY)

¹¹¹ There were several other men named "Orson Childs" in neighboring Allegheny County, NY. None of them fit within the time frame of "Orson Childs West," and furthermore, no connection was found to a family named "West."

<u>U.S. Census for 1830, Niagara County, New York, Niagara (Show previously at Appendix B Westward Migration, Census.</u>

(Shows that Ebenezer West 3rd lived relatively near a man named "Orson Childs" in the town of Niagara in Niagara County.)¹¹²



Orson Childs
Ira West

Francis D. West Itha J. West

¹¹² See also **Orson Childs** b CT abt 1805, in Niagara, Niagara Co. NY. Also **Stephen Childs** b abt 1766 CT and **Julia b.** abt 1815. **LDS Record:** Orson Childs born 1805, m Fairfield, Franklin Co. VT, son of Stephen Childs b. 24 Apr 1769, Woodstock, Windham, CT. Rootsweb ID I3364.216, Tree 151249.

West and Childs Selected Census Abstracts 1820-1840

1820 Lewiston, Niagara Co., N'	1820	Lewiston	, Niagara	Co.	, N1
--------------------------------	------	----------	-----------	-----	------

	M <10	<15	<18	<25	<45	>45	F < 10	<15	<25	<45	>45
Aaron Childs	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Stephen Child	s 1	2	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	0

Note also grave of Ira West in Lewiston:

Rev. Ira West (8 Sep 1799- 24 Dec 1885) [Son of Ebenezer West, Jr.] bur.Lewiston, Niagara Co., NY 113

1820 Protection, Erie Co, NY

Stephen Childs, son of Henry Childs of VT.

1830 Niagara, Niagara Co. NY:

	M <5	< 10	<15	<20	< 30	< 40	< 50	< 60	<70	F < 5	<10	<15	<20	<30	<40	<50	<60
Ebenezer Jr. [3 rd]	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Ebenezer [Jr.]	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Itha J. West	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Francis D. West	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 ¹¹	14
Ira	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Orson Childs	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Aaron Childs	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Stephen Childs	0	0	1	0	3/2	2 0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3/2	0	0	1	0
1840 Niagara, Niaga	ra Co.,	NY?															

Orson Childs	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
William H. Childs	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
John Lyons 115																	

1840 Wilson, Niagara, Niagara Co. NY, p. 14

John West Male <40 (b. 1801)

1840 Washtenaw, Michigan ¹¹⁶ : M Ebenezer West [Jr]																
1840 Clymer, Chautauqua Co. NY	^	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0

1850 Wilson, Niagara, Niagara Co., NY

Itha J. West age 46 [b. $\overline{1803-4}$] NY [son of Ebenezer West 3^{rd}] 117

1850 Niagara, Niagara Co. NY:

Childs	Orson age	45	born CT [1805]
	Sarah	38	born NY
	Arron E.	18	born NY [1832]
	Walter	16	born NY
	Miron	15	born NY
	Celestine 10	born NY	
Childs	Stephen	84	born CT [1766]
	Lolly	74	harn CT
	LOHY	74	born CT
	Julia	35	born NY

¹¹³ Find-a-Grave Memorial # 195801923, 1st Presb. Cem, Lewiston, Niagara Co., NY

 $^{^{114}}$ Is this Francis the youngest son (b. abt 1804) of John West Sr. and Betsy Miller?

¹¹⁵ Is this John Lyons of Solon, IA, brother of Mary Lyons of the ME Church?

This may not be our Ebenezer West, Jr from Essex. Notice Ebenezer West 3rd not shown in this census.

¹¹⁷ Grave of Itha J. West: 14 April 1804-28 Oct 1879, Budd Cem., Cambria, Niagara Co., NY. FAG Memorial # 65203313

Niagara County Deed Records for "Childs"

Property Records from Niagara County, NY Clerk (Lockport, NY) except where noted.

Red indicates a Holland Land Company record.

Note "Mile Reserve" = "Niagara Tract")

Date	Grantee	Grantor	Bk –	Location	Notes
			Page		
1803	Childs, Aaron	Holland Land Co.	O-488-86	Lot 62 T14R8	Cambria
		Original land entry			29 Dec 1803
1823	Childs, Jonathon	Comstock	1-234	Main St	See Joseph West
1823	Childs, Aaron	Willnicks (Hol. Land Co)	1-237	Lot 61	101 ac
1835	Childs, Aaron	A. Childs	14-98	Lot 36 T14R8	"Mile Reserve"
1835	Childs, Aaron	"The People of Nia"	17-246	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
1853	Childs, Orrin E.	Orson Childs	53-469	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
1853	Childs, Orson	Stewart Tomlinson	58-280	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
???	Childs, Orson	Babcock	127-239	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
1817		Childs, Aaron & Lucy	A-89	S61T14R8	Edge of Tuscaroras
				Ridge Rd.	Res.,
"		u	A-102	61 Ridge Rd.	
"		"	1-401	S62T14R861 Ridge	Lewiston; Holl. Land
				Rd	Co.
1827	Childs, Aaron	Holland Land Co.	S 505-113	L62T14R8	Cambria
1827		Childs, Jonathon of	3-61	Pt Lot 12 TR14R6	Village Lot ,
		Rochester & wife Sophia			Lockport
1833	Richabaugh	Childs, Orson	7-551	Lot 12 T13R9	
1836	J.M. McKay	Childs, Orson , Town of	17-246	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve" 153
		Niagara			ac. ea side Niagara R.
1840		Childs, Orson	28-76	Lot 15 T13R9	East of Mil. Rd.
1840		Childs, Wm. H.	27-487	Lot 20 T13R9	
"		Childs, Wm. H.	35-418	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
1853		Childs, Orson	53-469	Lot 37	"Mile Reserve"
"		u	51-604	Suspension Bridge	Ea bank Niagara R.
"		" w/ W. Griffith	56-590	Lot 18 T13R4	Town of Niagara
1871	Childs, Orson	George Babcock	127-239	Farm Lot 37 ea	Quit Claim. 118
				side Niagara R.	
1871	Childs, Orson w/ wife Sarah	George Babcock	127-241	"	u

Quitclaim Babcock to Orson Childs. p. 239 29 Nov 1871, Fort Dodge, IA. Recorded 1-8-1881. Farm Lot 37 ea side Niagara R called Niagara Tract or "Mile Reserve" on North River Niagara-Lewiston Rd. – same 2 ac to Orson Chiles Bk 31, p. 613, 1838. See also p. 241 North River tract Part 2, Lot 33, purchased 4 Jan 1836o, 153 ac. 6 lots from Niagara Falls. See 51:604—ea bank Niag. Riv, pub rd. Niagara Falls to Lockport. Mentions suspension bridge. Illegible.

Library Research: Local histories etc. Childs – Niagara

Lewiston Public Library

"Lewiston: Crown Jewel of the Niagara" Margaret S. Laurie 6-2-2001

Cambria 1808 created from Genesee Co. 1808/ Lewison created from Cambria 1817.

1st highway Commissioner: Aaron Childs

Lockport created 1824

Erie Canal constructed 1817

Holland Land Purchase advertised at 4 cents/ac

Niagara Suspension Bridge – 2 tiers. (Harriet Tubman legend: brought 300 slave runaways to bridge for escape to Canada)

Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Niagara Co. Ny (Gresham Pub. Co. 1892)

p. 109 Suspension Bridge Village -> as Niagara City inc 8 Jun 1865 on Niagara River 2 miles below falls. 1845 E.P. Graves and Orson Childs. At the time only 2 farmhouses existed.

Railroad suspension bridge 2 miles below falls

Presbyterian Church at Lewiston organized by Aaron Childs (see also Ira West deacon of Presbyterian Church.)

Aaron Childs, early Lewiston settler, removed to Niagara Falls. His two sons: "Deacon" and "Sinner". William [H.] was the deacon. The sinner not named.

Aaron Childs house up the hill on Main Street. (see deeds) was the only mansion of the section. Note Lockport 1823:

1st Presby Ch: Childs: Aaron, Ward, Luch, Martha Residence of W.H. Childs at corner of Ontario and Walnut.

Niagara Falls Public Library, Local History Dept.

Daniel L. Davis, *The Life and Times of Suspension Bridge Village*, 2nd Ed. (privately published), p. 8 mentions Gad Pierce Tavern. Mentions Orson Childs.

News clipping, Galaxys, p. 4:6, 16 Jul 1836. Mentions Aaron Childs.

Niagara Falls Public Library, Local History Dept.

Childs Family folder:

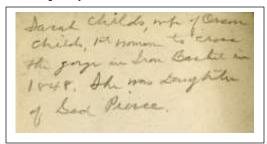
ORSON CHILDS (of Niagara Falls)

b. 10 Apr 1831 VT (source?)

m. Sarah Pierce -- dau of Gad Pierce (owner of Gad Pierce Tavern)¹¹⁹

Photo of Martha Childs, Niagara Falls Public Library:

Back of photo: "Sarah Childs wife of Orson Childs, first woman to cross the gorge in an iron basket in 1848. She was daughter of Gad Pierce."



Orson quitclaimed land at Niagara (while residing in Iowa¹²⁰)

d. Milwaukee, WI. bur Foresthill Cem



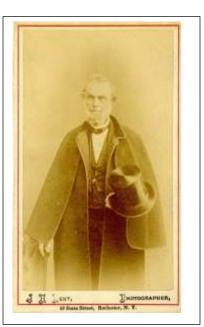
Other Childs:

William H. Childs (son of Aaron)

Photo of W.H. Childs, Niagara Falls Public Library

Back of photo: "Deacon W.H. Childs"





 $^{^{119} \} Gad \ Pierce \ Tavern \ in \ {\tt Daniel \ L. \ Davis, \it The \ Life \ and \ Times \ of \it Suspension \it Bridge \it Village, \it 2^{nd} \it Ed. \ , p. \ 8. \ , op. \ cit.}$

Quitclaim Babcock to Orson Childs. p. 239 29 Nov 1871, Fort Dodge, IA. Recorded 1-8-1881. Farm Lot 37 ea side Niagara R called Niagara Tract or "Mile Reserve" on North River Niagara-Lewiston Rd. – same 2 ac to Orson Chiles Bk 31, p. 613, 1838. See also p. 241 North River tract Part 2, Lot 33, purchased 4 Jan 1836o, 153 ac. 6 lots from Niagara Falls. See 51:604—ea bank Niag. Riv, pub rd. Niagara Falls to Lockport. Mentions suspension bridge. Illegible.

Some afterthoughts:

Genesee County Surrogate – INDEX (as viewed 2007)

Name	Date	Туре	Register	Page	File	Other	Remarks
Aaron Childs	1841	estate	1	575	?	Surr Rec	Relation to Orson Childs of Niagara?
						2:412 MI	
John West	1832	estate	1	404	17	Will Bk 2-226	John West of Le Roy. Is this an alternative father
							to John West of Solon??

APPENDIX E

BIG GROVE PIONEERS

The first substantial records for *John West of Solon* are found in the *History of Solon*, the Territorial Census of 1838 for Iowa; U.S. Census of 1840 for Iowa, the Iowa State Census, 1844.

It seems likely that several founders of Solon came as a group from Eastern Ohio. They came to Big Grove Township about 1837. The town of Solon was platted in that township by John West in 1840.

Some settlers on the 1838 territorial census for Big Grove Township:

John E. Adams and sons Moses and Eben M came from Maine to Cleveland, OH in 1826. 121

<u>Fanny Pratt</u>, school teacher. Settled in Cedar Township adjacent to Big Grove. One of the earliest deaths in the township was her husband, **Cotton Pratt**, who died in 1840 on section 36 and was originally buried on section 3—now the Fackler Cemetery. 122

<u>Jehiel Parks</u> appears in the 1838 census. He may have first settled in Chautauqua Co. NY.¹²³ A Jehiel Parks is shown as Lot 42 of Twp 3, Rge 12. He appears as resident of Ellery in the 1830 U.S. Census (p.322) and in both the 1825 and 1835 State Census of New York. There were probably more than one Jehiel/Jehial for in the U.S. Census for 1820 lists a Jehial Parks in Chautauqua County aged 26-44 with a male child under 10 years of age. The younger might be the same Jehiel Parks who had business dealings with *John West of Solon*?

(John West does not appear in Big Grove township until the 1840 census. However the Johnson County marriage record for his daughter <u>Julia West to A.W. Blaine</u> is dated 1839 implying John's family might have come with the 1838 wave of settlers.)

The cattle business and the gold rush provide clues to other family relationships.

<u>The McCune brothers</u> came to Solon in 1850 from Portage County, Ohio and were in the cattle business. John West's son, Orson, was also a cattle dealer from Portage Co, Ohio. Did the Wests and McCunes meet in Ohio?

Charles McCune and his brother, John, were *born in Jefferson County, New York to William and Sally McCune originally of Vermont.* ¹²⁴ John T. McCune was born in 1819 and Charles W. in 1824. The family removed to *Summit County, Ohio (formerly Portage)* in 1833 and to Johnson County, lowa in 1850. ¹²⁵ Charles McCune had married in Portage County December 1, 1836. ¹²⁶ Charles claims to have gone to the

¹²¹ Several Adams are memorialized at Find-A-Grave—all buried at Oakland Cemetery, Solon. Moses Adams, son of Enoch Adams, John Adams 1780-1840. See also Ebenezer Adams, 1838 Territorial Census,1844 Iowa State Census, household of 3 souls,1858 Petit Juror. Moses Adams, b. Oxford ME 1815, d. Solon 1899; 1848 Military service eligible males, 1830 Census Chautauqua, Ripley, 435, E.M. Adams, 1839 Signatory, Claims Association; Louisa Adams m. John C. McGrew.

¹²² Cotton "Tufts" Pratt is memorialized at Find-A-Grave showing burial at Oakland Cemetery, Solon.

¹²³ Jehiel Parks and John West, Johnson County Second Judicial District Court, p. 99 May Term 1841; I.C. Lasher vs. Jehiel Parks and John West, p. 101 A.H. Frisbee vs John West 1 June 1841, p. 132 Thomas Ford vs. John West.,

¹²⁴ History of Johnson County, Iowa, op. cit.

¹²⁵ Father, Thomas McCune, in 1820 census Jefferson County (020011)

¹²⁶ Charles Mc Cune m. Catharine Downey, *Ohio County Marriages* 1774-1993, posted at Ancestry.com

Appendix E: Big Grove

California gold rush in 1849.¹²⁷ Many from Big Grove Township claim to have also gone to the gold rush. Orson West certainly went to San Francisco in the 1850s but perhaps mainly to market cattle in San Francisco Business District.

 $^{^{\}rm 127}$ Pioneers of Johnson Co. IA who are known to have gone to the gold rush are described at

< http://www.westerly-journeys.com/BigGrove/goldrush.html> One of these was Warren Stiles a charter member (with John) of the ME Church in Solon. He reportedly died in San Francisco in 1859/51.

Neighbors and family in T81N R6W.

The Wests' property:

See next page: Official Johnson County Record pertaining to the property of John West

Official description:

Seller? se 1/4 sw 1/4 sec 12 T81N R6W, Johnson County Recorder, West sold to Calkin, Deed Bk. 10, .146 sold to Norman Calkin 1854.

Seller? Moved to Newport and acquired s 1/2 ne 1/4 sw 1/4 sec 25, T80N R6W45

The Wests' Neighbors:

Norman Calkin/Calkins

b. 1811, Elizabethtown, Essex Co. NY, son of John Calkins and Lucy Kellogg; m. Mary Thompson 1832. Children born 1834 NY and 1837 IA. (Not in Johnson Co. in 1838 or 1840 census. [Could they be the extra family living with John West in the 1840 census?] Norman Calkins is in 1850 Big Grove census and listed as 1858 Petit Juror. He died in 1859 Solon, probate and guardianship on file Vol 3:217. Children, Elliott and Minerva. (Could it be a ref to Minerva, Essex Co. NY?) Also sister Charlotte Calkins m. Jesse B. McGrew—related to the husband of John's daughter Julia. Norman's father, Capt. John Calkins also came to Iowa. His mother, Lucy Kellogg Calkins died in Solon in 1847. His father lived in Newport, Johnson County, IA until after 1870 when he died in Washington County in 1874.

Jesse B. McGrew (in-law to John's daughter Julia West. Her husband was A.W. Blaine [b. 1815, PA.] whose mother was a McGrew.) Jesse m. "Sharlotty" Calkins (b. about 1828, NY) sister of Norman Calkin. Jesse was Charter member ME Church, as were John and Clarissa West. Other records: 1848 Military service eligible, 1839 Signatory, Claims Association, Grand Juror, 1840, October term, pp. 15, 23, 1838 Territorial Census, 1844 Iowa State census, household of 4 souls [J.B. McGrew], 1850 census.

The Wests and Blaines

Archibald Worley Blaine, m. John's daughter, **Julia Ann West**. (Most records refer to him as "A.W. Blaine). Some family records refer to him as "Worley." He was John's neighbor and bought land from John's son Orson.

Other references to John West in Local History

Index to History of Johnson County 1836-1882:

John West as supervisor of Road Dist. In 1841; John West and H.H. Kerr layed out the town of "Solon" Oct 25-27 1840. Also John West and wife, original members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Solon.

"History of Town of Solon," <u>Solon Reaper</u>, 28 July 1882, abstracted from *History of Johnson County, Iowa*, Iowa City 1883, rpt. (Unigraphic, Evansville IN, 1973):

"The founder of Solon, as far as information can be ascertained, is one John West, who it is said laid out the first town proper of Solon in the year 1840/42."

The ME Church of Big Grove Township:

Warren Spurrier and wife (son William was the first buried Oakland Cem)
William Cannon and wife Julia Pratt Cannon
Mrs. Fannie Pratt (widow of Cotton T. Pratt)

John West and wife

J.B. McGrew

Harvey Lyman and wife
Mrs. Eleanor Pryce

Mary Lyon

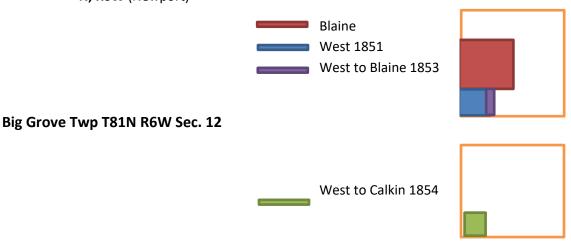
Official Johnson County Record pertaining to the property of John West

Original document for purchase of land in Sec 12, Twp 81 N, Rg 6 W

<u>Johnson County, Iowa</u>, Deed **Orson C. West** of Johnson County, IA from <u>Charles and Clarissa</u>
<u>Gower of { XE "**Gower**:Charles" }{ XE "**West**:Clarissa" }Piscataqua, ME, 16 **April 1851** for sw 1/4 of sw 1/4 section 12, Twp 81 N R6W , Book 9, p 131.</u>

Subsequent Title records 128

- 1. Orson West was owner of record of sw 1/4 of sw 1/4 Sec 12, Twp 81N, R6W (40 ac)
- Quitclaim to John West from A.W. Blain, 8 June 1853 for 28 acres east side se 1/4 of sw 1/4 Sec 12, Twp 81N R6W, Book 10, p. 146.
- Deed from John and Hannah West to <u>Norman Calkin</u>, 7 July 1854 for 28 ac east side se 1/4 of sw 1/4 Section 12 Twp 81N R6W, Book 11, p. 237.
- 4. Deed to John West from Sally Kinman 29 Dec 1859 for s 1/2 ne 1/4 sw 1/4 Sec 25, Twp 80 N, R6W (Newport)



¹²⁸These land records establish that Orson West owned property adjacent to property of John West and Hannah West and that therefore Orson's father, John , is probably the same John West who married Hannah. .

T81N R6W Secs 3 and 12

3 Fackler	2	1	
10	11	12 Blaine, West and Calkins	

Was John's wife Clarissa buried at Fackler Cemetery?

From History of Johnson County, Iowa, Iowa City 1883, rpt. (Unigraphic, Evansville IN, 1973) p.700:

"On section three there is what is called the Fackler's Grove burying ground, containing about one acre. George Fackler was the first person buried there." (died?) He came early but is not in list 1838. 129

1840 Census:

Fackler, Volentine	1793	PA
Elizabeth	1794	PA
Children	1824	OH
	1831	TA 222222

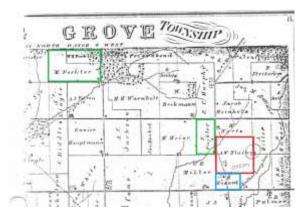
Deaths and burials at Sec 3 Facklers Grove

Cotton "Tufts" **Pratt** d. 1840? Age 54 (reburied Oakland) John E. **Adams** d. 1840 age 59 George **Fackler** d. < 1840?

Over the past ten or more years (as if 2020) a project to restore the Fackler Cemetery has uncovered much documentation about the people who lived near and were buried at the Fackler Cemetery.

The West property lies near the site of the Fackler Cemetery. Clarissa West's burial has never been found. If she died at home around 1850-1852 the closest burial ground would have been Facklers. Add to that the fact that that fellow pioneers John Adams and Cotton Pratt were buried at Facklers. Is it reasonable to think that Clarissa lies somewhere in the newly commemorated Fackler's Grove Cemetery?

The Fackler Cemetery in relationship to the West land is shown on an early township map.



129 **1840 census: (Valentine Falkler** 014000100 011100100--big family. Living with another family?)

Appendix **E**: Big Grove

Miscellaneous Records

Allegheny County, NY:

See Beers Hist of Alleghany Co., NY: (See more)

West:

Alfred West p. 380, 637; Anson West,p. 604, Ira West, p. 9

Childs:

Alfred Childs p. 891 Orson Childs, p. 892

Other: Not researched re death of Orson Childs.

Note 1870 census Ft Dodge Ward 4, Webster IA. he states he was born in VT – age 65. Wife Sarah Note 1860 census Kalamazoo, MI says born CT Sept 5 1805 Fairfield, Franklin Co. VT no Clarissa shown in siblings Died 22 Sept 1879 Milwaukee

Newspaper References:

Itha S. West

Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, 30 Nov 1869: Itha S. West, Postmaster.
Buffalo Morning Express, 6 Dec 1869, p. 4: Itha S. West, Postmaster, at Hickory Corners.

Orson Childs

Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, 23 Jul 1855: Lawsuit re. selling Whiskey
Huron Republican, Norwalk, OH, 23 Apr 1839; mention
Buffalo Courier, 24 Feb 1857, Lawsuit Hollister Bank of Buffalo v. Orson Childs, et al.
Reading Eagle. 16 Dec 1899, Orson Childs built International Hotel at Nigara Falls and first bridge to
Niagara. Married Sarah Pierce. She first to ride in a basket across the Falls.
They are buried at Forest Home Cem., Milwaukee, WI

Miscellaneous

Partial Bibliography

Mayflower Families through Five Generations, Vol. 3, General Society of Mayflower Descendants. 1980.

Minerva: A History of a Town in Essex County, New York, Minerva Historical Society, New York 1967

"The History of the Minerva Baptist Church, 1804-1957," typescript at LDS Family Search

Names and Places

No index included. If viewing online, use the Ira (Rev) 'find' function to search for names from this Isaac list in this PDF file. Itha J. Ithamar James **Partial List of Names** Jesse John Adams: Joseph E.M. Julia Ann Moses Lenox Blaine: Archibald Worley Matthew Bliss: Jane Nathan Calkins: Orson Charlotte Prince John (Capt.) Sarah Lucy Kellogg Spencer Norman Warren Carr: Waite William Child/Childs: William Carr Aaron David **Partial List of Places** Henry Orson Allegany Co., NY Samuel Big Grove, Johnson Co., IA Stephen Cambria, Niagara Co., NY William H. Clymer/French Creek, Chautauqua Co. NY Leonard: Genesee Co., NY Betsv Granville, Washington Co., NY Clarissa Hartford, Washington Co., NY Sophia Lewiston, Niagara Co., NY Mc Cune: Manlius, Onondaga Co., NY Charles Minerva/Shroon, Essex Co., NY John Newport, RI McGrew: Jesse B. Niagara, Niagara Co., NY Miller: Betsy/Elizabeth Portage/Summit Co., OH Parks: Jehiel/Jehial Solon, Johnson Co., IA Spink: Mary Vershire, Orange Co., VT Stiles: Warren Wilson, Niagara Co., NY Tanner: Jane West: Anson Azariah Caleb Clarissa Ebenezer

Ezra Bliss Francis Francis D.

Names and Places