

News, Updates, & More

Varner Family Genealogy

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October 2017

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Prior newsletters and other Varner genealogy information can be found on the Varner Family website.

<http://brucevarner.com/VarnerGenealogy.htm>

By way of general information we have confirmation. Even if an area of land in Missouri has changed counties over time, records for that piece of land SHOULD have been transferred to, and be found in, the county under which it is currently located! FYI.

That is not to say that information could not be found in records of the original county that controlled the land at the time of occurrence.

So, it seems that the best approach would be to visit both locations to cover any possibility. But, the current county seat would still be the best starting point for old land transfer information.

QUESTIONS / NEWS

Q: Still getting some questions about which is the best company to use for DNA testing.

A: My response is only my opinion. I have tested with FamilyTree DNA. I also subscribe to Ancestry.com. I have no personal experience with 23&Me.

If you are looking at Y-DNA (Male to male), then FamilyTree DNA is the only option.

If you are looking at Autosomal DNA (Male &/or female), but MAY need Y-DNA later, for yourself or others, then FamilyTree DNA would still be the best choice, because you would become familiar with their processes and results for all future DNA testing you become associated with.

If you are looking at only Autosomal DNA, then Ancestry DNA may even be the best choice as it is the largest. Also it is directly associated with the Ancestry.com website.

No one I have talked to seems to really be really happy with 23&Me. Seems their emphasis is on medical issues, such as your propensity towards certain disease. Of course, if one of your main concerns is medical issues, 23&Me would be the clear choice.

Remember that no matter which one you choose, you can, and should upload

autosomal results to GedMatch.com. That way you can compare results with people from any company, so long as they have also uploaded to GetMatch.com.

Finally, you may also increase your options by changing companies. In some cases you can upload your results from Ancestry to FamilyTree DNA for a smaller fee. Then have your results in both places.

George Varner of Missouri Direct Line DNA

A few of us are again making a concerted effort to narrow down the precise location where George & Harriet were located when enumerated in the 1860 census. Doing this in hopes of determining where they might be buried. If anyone has any ideas for possible avenues to follow in order to achieve this goal, please let me know. A further explanation of methods tried and their results, will be forth coming in a future newsletter.

Riggs/Varner Connection

Some new details are surfacing about Edmund Riggs, thanks to Dee Bremer and crew who revisited Miller County Historical Society this month. Will cover this in a future issue.

More Information About the Owen Family

I made a trip to the Howard County (Fayette) & Cooper County (Booneville) seats this month, attempting to locate additional information on our George Varner, the Owen family, and any other new data I could find. I came across some interesting details that require additional study, and likely another trip to these counties. I also stupidly overlooked obtaining all information while I was there.....

Here is an overview of the information I located in Howard County. No study of this information has yet been made.

I became sidetracked and neglected to look through the actual marriage books, after having captured information from the Marriage Indexes. Sometimes additional family information can be found in the actual marriage record.

Marriage indexes are a dual set of books. One with the males name alphabetized, the companion book with the females name alphabetized. The alphabetized name is found first in the list here.

Howard County Marriage Index

Name	Name	Date	Bk	pg
Riggs, Silas	Sary Hicks	3/18/1819	1	71
Riggs, Samuel	Koady Belcher	8/23/1825	1	153
Owen, Mary	Robert Hanna	3/26/1829	1	213
Owen, Mary	John A. Shepherd	11/3/1836	2	11
Owen, Mary	James Andrew	2/2/1837	2	68
Owen, Jermily	Alfred Barnett	8/31/1837	2	78

Owen, Julia	Benj F. Brauddus	9/22/1839	2	118
Owen, Louisa	Ira Brooks	10/27/1840	2	140
Owens, Sarah	John Wilhort	7/4/1840	2	163
Owens, Elizabeth	Allen Hubitt	7/4/1841	2	175
Owen, Charles A.	Nancy Pemberton	12/30/1860	4	14
Owens, Philip	Cornelia Blythe	2/13/1862	4	14
Owen, Thomas J.	Nancy E. Hackley	12/17/1867	4	153
Owen, Thomas	Carrie Steel	11/28/1889	?	153

As you can see, there is no marriage record for any Varner's. It does show several likely descendants or cousins of our Thomas J. Owen in this area.

Next is an index of early legal case records for Howard County.

Howard County Legal Cases

Books 1 through 14. Book 1 starts in 1819. Book 14 in 1860. Only books 1 or 2 would involve the timeframe when our Thomas J. Owen would have lived in the area.

Name	Vs. Name	Book	pg
Owen, Thomas J.	Adam C. Woods	1 (1821)	265
Owens, Jesse	Thomas Miller	2	234, 260
Owen, Glenn	S. J. Carman	2	194, 228, 264, 357
Owen, Wm. E.	Edward Williams	3	22, 46, 85, 87
Owen, J. P.	Deputy Goaler	3	147
Owen, J. P.	J. H. Birch	4	22, 63, 91
Owen, J. P.	W. Wright	4	38, 65
Owens, E.	???	7	131, 345, 346, 353, 492
Owens R.	H. S. Elliott	7	153
Owens, Thos J.	A. C. Woods	14	147, 164, 190, 241, 246, 271, 301

Finally, the land records in Howard County that pertain to individual who may be of importance.

Howard County Land Records

From	To	Date	Description
Hickman Burnaum	Ignatius P. Owen	1/1/1825	Chain & Link Description in Sec 11, Twnshp 50, Range 16
Jonathan Crowley	Ignatius P. Owen	2/4/1831	E ½ & SE ¼ of Sec 19, Twnshp 50, Range 17 + SW ¼ of Sec 20, Range 15
Ignatius P. Owen & Others	?????	9/19/1833	SE fractional ¼ of Sec 21, Twnshp 50, Range 16 + divided Areas?
Ignatius P. & Elizabeth Owen	James Shirley	5/1/1834	E ½ of SE ¼ of Sec 19, Twnshp 50, Range 15 + W ½ of SW ¼ of Sec 20, Twnshp 50, Range 15
Ignatius P. Owen	Major Horner	3/11/1835	E ½ of SW ¼ of Sec 7, Twnshp 50, Range 17 + E ½ of SE ¼ of Sec 12, Twnshp 50, Range 16
Samuel Glasgow & Proprietors	Elizabeth Owen	10/17/1835	Areas Marked in Plat of Town....
James Page	Thomas J. Owen	4/13/1840	E ½ of SE ¼ of Sec 34, Twnshp 52, Range 17
Thomas Morehead	Thomas J. Owen	6/13/1842	New Madrid certificate a parcel in Twnshp 51, Range 17
St. Clair Page	Thomas J. Owen	7/6/1842	In Sec 10, Twnshp 51, Range 17
Elizabeth Owen	Jonah Shipley	8/22/1842	Lots 47-48-49 in Town of Fayette, NE ¼ of Sec 30, Twnshp 50, Range 16
Thomas J. Owen	John Stern	3/9/1844	E ½ of SE ¼ of Sec 34, Twnshp 52, Range 17
Samuel Scott	Thomas J. Owen	5/31/1845	New Madrid certificate a parcel in Twnshp 51, Range 17
James Morin	Thomas J. Owen	10/8/1845	In Sec 10, Twnshp 51, Range 17
Moses Hunt Estate	Thomas J. Owen	4/1/1850	SE ¼ + SW ¼ of Sec 34, Twnshp 52, Range 17
Moses Hunt Estate	Thomas J. Owen	4/1/1850	W ½ of SE ½ + E ½ of SW ¼ of Sec 34, Twnshp 52, Range 17
Thomas J. & Sarah Owen	John B. Nelson	10/5/1850	SE ¼ of Sec 34, Twnshp 52, Range 17

An interesting note. All these land transfers involving Thomas J. Owen, occurred in 1840 or after. Thomas J. Owen indicate his wife having the first

name of Sarah. This is shown on those sales of land in 1844 and 1850. Our Thomas J. Owen, married a Nancy Varner in Oglethorpe Co. Georgia in the year 1810 (The same year George Varner of Missouri enlisted in the US Army). They then came to the Franklin area of what was then Howard County, Missouri. Our Thomas J. Owen was then in Pettis County by the 1840 census. This leads to the likelihood that the Thomas J. Owen in the property transfers here, may be a son or cousin. Also, the area of then Howard County where our Thomas J. Owen purchased land is in what now is Boone County.

The earliest purchase of non-patent land in Howard County is by Ignatius P. Owen. Who is Ignatius? In land sales his wife is indicated as Elizabeth Owen. After Ignatius death, she purchased lots in the town of Glasgow when it was plotted. Ignatius appears in a federal petition dated 14 Sep. 1819. In that document he mentions a son named Henry Carroll.¹ Ignatius died intestate in 1835.² What is likely the record of marriage for Ignatius is found in Kentucky in 1809.³ An initial record check indicates that Ignatius received

¹ U.S. Census Reconstructed Records, 1660-1820: Name on a petition, 14 Sep 1819, to the President from inhabitants of Howard Land District alleging that the Register of land has long been absent & left his son Henry Carroll as acting Register who w.....

² Missouri, Wills and Probate Records, 1766-1988: Ignatius P. Owen. Howard Co. Will Records, Vol. 1-2, 1818-1840

³ An Ignatius P. Owens, married Betsy Shepperd in Wayne, Kentucky on 12/2/1809.

two land patents (1824-1825) in Howard County. A study of this person might reveal ties.⁴

One of the early entries for legal matters in Howard County (1820's) involved a Glenn Owen. We know that Glenn Owen was the name of our Thomas J. Owen's father. However, that Glenn Owen remained in Oglethorpe where he later died. Also, this Howard County Glenn Owen could not have been a son of our Thomas, because he would not have been old enough to have filed a civil proceeding this early. Could this be a brother or cousin to Thomas? Study might tie this Glenn Owen back to Oglethorpe County.

The area where Thomas J. Owen and George Varner originally lived in Missouri, is a confluence of the three counties of Howard, Boone, and Cooper. Thomas at least, is found in records for each of these counties before they moved south into Pettis County. Confusing to say the least.

I did at one time visit the Boone County Recorder of Deeds. I do not believe I spent much time however trying to find info on the Owens. Those county records need to be scoured again.

⁴ Off topic. While searching Ignatius on Ancestry, a response appeared. It was for the marriage record of Martha P. Owen to Bejn Birdsong, in Oglethorpe Co. Georgia on 12 December, 1820. It should be noted that many Birdsongs appeared in Miller County, MO. Even a Benjamin who would have been of an age to have been a son.....

Cooler weather is here. Do some genealogy work!

Bruce Varner