Phillips DNA News

www.phillipsdnaproject.com
July 2013
Volume 5 Issue 7
Editor: Nancy Kiser

Please submit news articles or ideas for articles to the editor. Questions about Genetic Genealogy can always be sent to the editor.

Project News

This heart-warming announcement was sent to me by Jack Phillips, a member of our Phillips Family DNA Group 5. Congratulations, Jack and Ann!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Phillips Renew Vows during Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Phillips, then and now

Jack and Ann Phillips recently celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with a renewal of their wedding vows on Saturday, June 8, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church of Clarksville, Arkansas. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. David Hanshaw and followed by a dessert reception.

They were married June 6, 1953 at the Judsonia Methodist Church. Ann is the daughter of the late J.C.A. and Bessie Dawson Bolding of Judsonia, and Jack is the son of the late John J. and Jewell Willey Phillips of Clarksville. Jack and Ann are the parents of three children, John J. Phillips III (Gina) of Houston, Texas, James Bolding Phillips, deceased, of Portland, Oregon, and

Karen (Marvin) Fawley of Monticello. The couple moved to Clarksville approximately 20 years ago from Houston, Texas, following Jack's retirement.

The bride was escorted to the altar by grandsons John J. IV and Jackson B. Phillips. Female attendants were Karen Fawley and Gina Phillips. Male attendants were John J. Phillips III as best man and John J. IV and Jackson Phillips as groomsmen. Dr. Don Pennington provided the music for the service.

Book Review

The Phillips Families of Montgomery, Emanuel, and Treutlen Counties, Georgia, 1720-1850

By Montell Phillips-Brinson Truitt and Paul Truitt
Reviewed by Nancy Kiser

A member of our project generously sent me a copy of a genealogy book entitled "The Phillips Families of Montgomery, Emanuel and Treutlen Counties, Georgia, 1720 – 1850" written by Montell Phillips-Brinson Truitt and Montell's husband Paul Truitt. The book was published in 1992. Montell was and/or is an active member of the DAR and she and her husband have published several genealogical books.

On the title page of her book, Montell wrote she was "of the eighth generation of Mark and Joseph Phillips of North Carolina." I believe she was referring to Mark Phillips who died in Montgomery County, Georgia, in 1812, leaving a will dated 14 January 1810.

Like many people who write genealogy books, Montell and Paul decided to include information on several different men named named Phillips, whether or not there was any evidence that these men were related. Y-DNA testing on descendants indicates they were not.

For example, Etheldred and his son Exum are described on page 31 of the Truitts' book. Etheldred lived and died in Edgecombe County, North Carolina, and he appears to have been the son of Joseph Phillips and Sarah Exum. Joseph was likely the son of John Phillips and Martha Crawford. Two descendants of John and Martha Crawford Phillips have gotten DNA tested and their Y-DNA indicates they belong to Phillips Family DNA Group 46.

On page 33 of the Truitts' book, Mark Phillips who died in Greene County, Georgia, in 1817 is featured. Mark left a will dated 19 February 1812, admitted to probate in 1817, in which he mentioned the names of his wife and children. Here is a paragraph from the Truitts' book:

"Mark surely had two wives; in the Patriot Index of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Book 1, Page 532, his wife is listed as Raney Moore. In his will, he refers eight times to his wife Nancy, and two sons-in-law, Washington W. Bierd and Daniel Jackson. He refers to his two oldest sons, Henry and Hardy Phillips, and his six youngest children, John Hudgins, Melindy, Jesse Bush, Sally (Sarah), Abigail, and Patsy. This may indicate a change in wives after Henry and Hardy."

The problem is Mark Phillips who died in Greene County, Georgia, in 1817 is not the same Mark Phillips who was married to Raney Moore. The second Mark Phillips served in the Revolutionary War and there is evidence in his pension file that he died in Moore County, North Carolina, in 1839. His pension file also reflects the fact that his wife Raney was still alive in 1820. There is also strong evidence, both in his pension file and elsewhere, that he had three sons named Benjamin, Eli and John and two daughters named Polly and Raney.

We have not yet found a descendant of Mark Phillips of Moore County, North Carolina, for DNA testing, but it is likely that he was the son of John Phillips of Moore County whose will was probated in Moore County's November court in 1799. In addition to Mark, John had a son named Lewis and a descendant of Lewis has been DNA tested. His Y-DNA indicates he belongs to our Phillips Family DNA Group 10.

We have also DNA tested several descendants of Mark Phillips of Greene County, Georgia, and their Y-DNA indicates they belong to our Phillips Family DNA Group 53. Their Y-DNA is sufficiently different from Group 10 and Group 46 to suggest these three Phillips families do not share a common paternal Phillips ancestor within 1,000 years.

With regard to Mark and Joseph Phillips of Montgomery County, Georgia, from whom Montell claims descent, it appears that Montell believes they were somehow related to Thomas and Isabella Phillips of Craven County, North Carolina, who had a son named Mark. Here is some of what Montell wrote about Mark Phillips who died in Montgomery County, Georgia, in 1812:

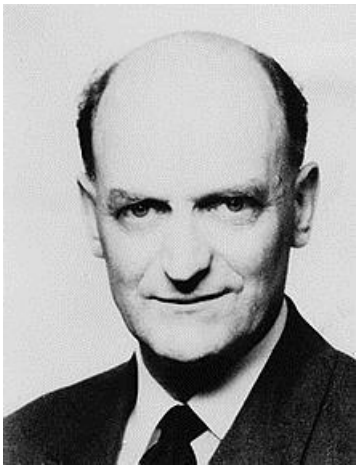
"The authors believe Mark Phillips was born in that part of Craven County now know as Jones County, North Carolina, at or near a highway junction called 'Phillips Crossroads' on modern maps. In relation to the ages of his children, his last will and testament, and probable birthdate of his wife, he was born between 1715 and 1720."

If Montell is correct, her Phillips family belongs to our Phillips Family DNA Group 5. To the best of my knowledge, no male Phillips descendants of Mark Phillips who died in Montgomery County, Georgia, in 1812 have joined the project and gotten DNA tested. Mark's will indicates he had a son and a grandson with the unusual name of Real Bud. I have also seen this name spelled Rial Bud and Royal Bud. Mark also mentioned a grandson named Con Phillips in his will. It would be very interesting to find a descendant of this Phillips family for DNA testing.

Featured Phillips Family Story

Alban William Housego Phillips, Economist

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Phillips_(economist)



Alban William Housego "A. W." "Bill" Phillips, (18 November 1914 – 4 March 1975), was an influential New Zealand economist who spent most of his academic career at the London School of Economics (LSE). His best-known contribution to economics is the Phillips curve, which he first described in 1958. He also designed and built the MONIAC hydraulic economics computer in 1949.

Phillips was born at Te Rehunga near Dannevirke, New Zealand, to Harold Housego Phillips, a dairy farmer, and his wife, Edith Webber, a schoolteacher and postmistress.

He left New Zealand before finishing school to work in Australia at a variety of jobs, including crocodile hunter and cinema manager. In 1937, Phillips headed to China but had to escape to Russia when Japan invaded China. He traveled across Russia on the Trans-Siberian Railway and made his way to Britain in 1938, where he studied electrical engineering.

At the outbreak of World War II, Phillips joined the Royal Air Force and was sent to Singapore. When Singapore fell, he escaped on the troopship Empire State, which came under attack before safely arriving in Java.

When Java, too, was overrun Phillips was captured by the Japanese, and spent three and a half years interned in a prisoner of war camp in Indonesia. During this period he learned Chinese from other prisoners, repaired and miniaturised a secret radio, and fashioned a secret water boiler for tea which he hooked into the camp lighting system. In 1946, he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for his war service.

After the war he moved to London and began studying sociology at the London School of Economics, because of his fascination with prisoners of war's ability to organize themselves. But he became bored with sociology and interested in Keynesian theory, so he switched his course to economics and within eleven years was a professor of economics.

While a student at the LSE, Phillips used his training as an engineer to develop MONIAC, an analogue computer which used hydraulics to model the workings of the British economy, inspiring the term Hydraulic Macroeconomics. It was very well received and Phillips was soon offered a teaching position at the LSE. He advanced from assistant lecturer in 1951 to professor in 1958.

His work focused on British data and observed that in years when the unemployment rate was high, wages tended to be stable, or possibly fall. Conversely, when unemployment was low, wages rose rapidly. This sort of pattern had been noticed earlier by Irving Fisher, but in 1958 Phillips published his own work on the relationship between inflation and unemployment, illustrated by the Phillips curve.

Soon after the publication of Phillips' paper, the idea that there was a trade-off between a strong economy and low inflation caught the imagination of academic economists and policy-makers alike. Paul Samuelson and Robert Solow wrote an influential article describing the possibilities suggested by the Phillips curve in the context of the United States.

What people think of as the Phillips curve has changed substantially over time, but remains an important feature of macroeconomic analysis of economic fluctuations. Had he lived longer, Phillips' contributions may have been worthy of a Nobel Prize in economics. He made several other notable contributions to economics, particularly relating to stabilization policy.

He returned to Australia in 1967 for a position at Australian National University which allowed him to devote half his time to Chinese studies. In 1969, the effects of his war deprivations and smoking caught up with him. He had a stroke, prompting an early retirement and return to Auckland, New Zealand, where he taught at the University of Auckland. He died in Auckland on 4 March 1975.

Guest Column

QR Codes create Internet-connected Tombstones

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyrighted by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.

I [Dick Eastman] had an experience that got me thinking about today's tombstone technology and what it might be like in the future. A company that shall remain unnamed asked that I

write about the company's product: long-lasting display plates containing QR codes. (You can read about QR codes used on tombstones by a different company in my earlier article at http://goo.gl/wrR9m.) The company's products can be attached by adhesive, either to a tombstone (which I am strongly against) or to an urn, marker, or other nearby object that can be inserted into the ground near the tombstone. (I can live with that second idea.)

The second part of their product occurs when a future visitor to the cemetery uses a QR code reader in an Apple iPhone, Android phone, or similar mobile device to read the QR code. That person then would use the device's wireless Internet connection to display an associated web page that is stored on a web server someplace. This product requires the QR code to point to the dedicated web page on the company's web server. Each QR code points to a different page on the server, and each page contains information supplied by the family that purchased the QR code display plate. That tribute page could either display information directly or redirect the visitor another web site, such as a charity of the family's choice or a family tree posted on some other web site.

At first, this sounds like a good idea; but, then I wondered, "What happens if the company goes out of business and their web site goes offline?" I assume the answer is that the customer has wasted the money he or she spent. While I hope this company remains in business for a long, long time, I still don't like the idea of depending upon any one corporation's future success.

The discussion I had with a company rep revolved around a possible endorsement of the product from me. In return, the company would offer a discount to readers of this newsletter. I declined the company's offer, and I will explain why I am not offering discounts on this product to newsletter readers. The bottom line is that I don't approve of this product as it presently exists. However, I will also offer explanations and list three of my concerns. I will say that minor product changes could quickly remove my objections. However, I think I have an even better idea which I will also describe.

First, there is the concept of attaching a QR code (or any other foreign object) directly to a tombstone. I am against that for a variety of reasons. When discussing historic tombstones, most tombstone scholars would be aghast at the idea of using adhesives or any other means to attach a new object to an existing tombstone.

NOTE: Adhesives are commonly used to repair broken tombstones. However, only certain types of adhesive are used because using an improper chemical mix in the adhesive can actually accelerate the tombstone's decay. Some adhesives also expand or contract with changes in temperature. That would hasten the destruction of the tombstone; the exact opposite of what was planned. If you are thinking of using an adhesive of any sort on any tombstone for any purpose, please first consult with an expert who knows what to use and especially what not to use! Even then, adhesives are normally only used to restore a tombstone to as close as possible to its original condition, not to add new attachments.

Example of QR Code

I do think the use of a nearby "marker" of some sort is a good idea, however. In many cemeteries, we already see many in-ground markers or flags placed by veterans' organizations, fraternal organizations, the Daughters of the American Revolution, church groups, and others. These nearby markers are subject to occasional theft or lawnmower damage, but most of them seem to remain in place for decades. If the item deteriorates or is stolen, it is also easily replaced without damaging anything else. I would think that a SEPARATE marker containing a QR code could be used in any cemeteries that allow separate markers.

My second objection revolves around the question, "What web page or URL should the QR code point to?" I would never purchase a QR code marker that points to a corporation's web site, even if that site then redirects the web browser elsewhere. I would prefer to have the QR code point directly to a web site of my choice, preferably to a web page that I own or control.

QR code attached to a tombstone

To be sure, even pointing to one of my own web sites is an imperfect idea; but, at least it remains under my direct control. It is not dependent upon the lifetime of any corporation. If I want to change the web page later, I can do so. I can do that even if the original corporation has long since disappeared.

Of course, this assumes that I am still around, alive, and able to make web page updates for many more years. However, since my web site is under my control, I also have the option of finding and motivating younger family members to continue the web site after my demise. Maybe they will even add a new QR code and web page that documents my life! It is not a perfect solution; but, at least it remains under my control. I like that better than depending upon some corporation where I have no control at all.

As to my third objection, I love QR code technology but do question how long it will be available. I doubt if any technology will last more than ten or twenty years. While QR codes are a great solution today, I doubt if my grandchildren or great-grandchildren will use them. I'm reminded of the old proverb, "This too shall pass." That's another reason against permanently attaching anything to a tombstone: if the technology becomes obsolete, the tombstone is left with a permanently-attached memorial of someone's failed use of the technology of that time. That would be embarrassing, even if the person who attached the foreign object has long since departed this world.

In fact, I think I see a better technological solution on the horizon, a solution that is non-destructive and doesn't require any attachments. It also doesn't require an in-person visit to the cemetery by future "visitors." It even solves the "problem" I have because all of my ancestors' tombstones are buried in the snow for about four or five months every year. You may or may not have the same "problem."

In a newsletter article published on February 12 of this year at http://goo.gl/8Nfzv, I wrote, "Tombstone experts have questioned the practice of using any sort of adhesive to attach anything to a tombstone. The new app from Otter Creek Holdings plans to make QR codes obsolete by replacing them with the one thing that never changes: latitude and longitude." In fact, future descendants and others can obtain the information without even visiting the cemetery, unlike today's "solutions" that require an in-person visit to view and use QR codes.

One new tombstone app gives cemetery visitors the power to easily find genealogical information about a deceased individual without the use of QR codes or other displays at the grave site. This is done when one volunteer snaps a quick, in-person photo of a particular gravesite's monument from the app's interface. (I assume the volunteer is not snapping pictures when snow obscures the information.) The photo normally includes longitude and latitude information embedded in the photo's metadata as supplied by the mobile device's internal GPS. That photo and its embedded information can then be uploaded to BillionGraves.com, Find-A-Grave.com, FamilySearch.org, MyHeritage.com, Ancestry.com, WeRelate.org, a personal web page devoted to a deceased relative's memory, or to any of hundreds of other web sites. In fact, it can be uploaded to ALL of those sites and even more, should the photographer wish. When uploaded, still more textual information can be added beyond the embedded metadata. The exact location of the tombstone, complete with a picture, a transcription of the tombstone's text, instructions on how to find the cemetery, and any other information as well as link(s) the uploader wishes can all be included.

I only know of one mobile app available today that can use that data, and I wrote about it at http://goo.gl/8Nfzv. However, if enough people start using longitude and latitude information, I am sure dozens of such apps will appear in the future. I also know of only one web site today that encourages the use of longitude and latitude information for tombstones (BillionGraves.com), but that also can change quickly. If customers start asking for it, I bet dozens of web sites will add new search capabilities.

A smartphone or any desktop or laptop computer could then access the online photo and its included metadata. Any app COULD (in the future) instantly recognize the exact tombstone in question and then display all known information about the stone and the person it commemorates. If the first page contains links to the individual's information stored on other web sites, such as on BillionGraves.com, Find-A-Grave.com, FamilySearch.org, MyHeritage.com, or others, the person viewing the information can easily click to visit those additional sources of information.

Once the longitude and latitude information is automatically extracted from each picture's metadata, I would envision the possibility of also clicking on an option that says, "Display nearby tombstones" or something similar. That would simplify the search for possible relatives of the first person, even in the largest of cemeteries. Today you can find lots of web sites that list a cemetery's tombstones alphabetically, but very few of them will provide a listing of nearby tombstones. However, that capability would be simple to add if all tombstones' longitude and latitude information was included as searchable database fields. That information already is embedded in most iPhone and Android photos and can be added with a number of other cameras.

Theoretically, this information also could be added manually, but I wouldn't want to do that to hundreds of photos at a time. That would be a tedious task! It's much better to let technology perform mundane tasks for us. Let's use cameras that embed that information for us automatically.

This technology should work when the information seeker is in the cemetery as well as when at home or at other locations. If used while in a cemetery, the process is simple. Since today's smartphones usually include a GPS, an app written for that smartphone or tablet computer could easily determine where you are located and then show you information about nearby tombstones, more information than what is engraved on each stone. If you are at home or elsewhere when you use the app, you would have to enter the name or the latitude and longitude of each cemetery of interest. Perhaps the app will also automatically look up the cemetery's name as well as its latitude and longitude. For less-common surnames, you could even search for all the entries of that surname in all cemeteries in a given town, county, or even an entire state or province.

The result should be nearly instant identification of any recorded tombstone from any location in the world, accompanied by all known information about the person buried there. That will even work in mid-winter as a personal visit should not be required. All of this can be done without attaching any foreign devices or adhesives to the tombstone.

I would love to go to a web site and say, "Show me all the tombstones containing the word 'Eastman' in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Bangor, Maine, and all tombstones located within twenty feet of an Eastman tombstone as well." No, that isn't available today, but it could become available most any time. The required technology is already available today. All we need is customer demand to encourage the programmers.

In summary, I doubt if any technology will last more than ten or twenty years. While QR codes are a great solution today, I doubt if my grandchildren or great-grandchildren will use them. I am sure an even better technology of some sort will eventually replace QR codes. I wouldn't mind adding a QR code to a small marker that is nearby, but not attached to, a tombstone. However, let's recognize that is a short-term solution. (When talking about tombstones, "short term" means ten or twenty years.)

I will suggest that the use of latitude and longitude will probably never change and is also non-destructive to the memorials. Even if latitude and longitude might drop out of favor at some future date, a web site containing that information could easily be converted to use whatever new location identification methods become popular in the future. Using latitude and longitude also allows for searches for information without a personal visit to a (distant) cemetery. I doubt if the use of longitude and latitude will be perfect forever but it sure sounds good to me for use in the next few decades.

When documenting the past, let's also look to the future to make sure information will always be available as easily as possible, limited only by our abilities to predict future technologies.