

# The Meek/Meeks Families

Of The United States Prior to 1800

By Christopher A. Meek

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There were people named Meek in the United States as early as 1647. They came from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland<sup>1</sup>. They represented many unrelated families with names such as Meek, Meeks, Meeke and Meik<sup>2</sup>.

The purpose of this paper is to present an overview of people named Meek(s) living in the United States before, during and shortly after the Revolutionary War. The focus is primarily on earliest known ancestors and is not a list of all descendants within Meek(s) families. However, it is assumed that the majority of men living in the U. S. during that period will be found within these families. Some familiar Meek names are not listed here because there is no tangible evidence that they lived in the United States or in some cases even existed<sup>3</sup>. There are many families named Meek in the British Isles who never migrate to America or did not migrate until after 1800. Many early Meek families left few if any male progeny or they died out altogether.

The Meek name developed independently in different locations of England, Wales and Scotland when surnames were mandated in the 13<sup>th</sup> century<sup>4</sup>. The name probably never had a consistent spelling but was commonly spelled Meek or Meeke in England and Meik or Meyk in Scotland. The spelling Meeks also became common during this time. The reason this name was picked was probably as varied as the different families that adopted it.

It is not clear who the first immigrant to the United States named Meek was. His name is probably lost to history. On 1 Dec 1647 the will of Robert Meeke was probated in York Co., VA. There is no information about his sons or descendants. There are names similar to Meek in earlier records. However, it is impossible to know if these are misspellings of the name Meek or separate surnames in their own right with different origins. In most cases there is little or no genealogical information.

Guy Meeke lived in Ann Arundel Co., MD before 1662<sup>5</sup>. He was the progenitor of a large family of descendants in Maryland and Virginia. This is one of the earliest Meek families for which there is genealogical information. By the time of the Revolutionary War many different Meek(s) families could be found throughout the colonies.

Genealogies of Canadian families named Meek are becoming more available. It is known that some early U. S. families who were loyalist during the Revolution moved to Canada<sup>6</sup>. Shortly after the Revolution families moved across the border between the U. S. and Canada in both directions. It is not known when the first settler named Meek came to Canada.

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<sup>1</sup> This is based on various genealogical histories. There is no proven record of the name in any other country before the use of surnames in England. Similar names such as Meck, Mick and Mock have German origins. Most surname directories simply discuss the origins of the adjective "meek" which does little to tell us about the use of the word as a surname.

<sup>2</sup> There are other variations but one must distinguish misspellings in records from actual names used.

<sup>3</sup> A major example is Adam Meek born 1640 in Lincolnshire, England and his son Jacob born 1698. Contrary to popular belief there is no evidence that Jacob ever came to America and it has been proven that he did not father the children attributed to him.

<sup>4</sup> Based on different DNA profiles which prove the name Meek is not monolithic.

<sup>5</sup> "On Meek Families" by Joseph L. Meek, 1967 unpublished

<sup>6</sup> "Second Report Of The Bureau Of Archives For The Province Of Ontario", Alexander Fraser

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Evidence of people working on Meek genealogies in the United States is very minimal before 1900. After that date books began appearing in libraries and genealogies were being circulated between genealogists. Still it was difficult for all but few people to do comprehensive research or even know what information was available. Unfortunately incorrect genealogies were circulated and many inexperienced genealogist have now spent a life time following the wrong leads.

Today the Internet has exposed the world to a wealth of hard data as well as other people's genealogies. Unfortunately it has also exploded the number of incorrect genealogies available and in some ways a new genealogist today is in a far more difficult situation than his parents were. Many people entering data in online databases have no clue how to do genealogy and simply copy other people's genealogy without regard to their accuracy.

Fortunately, within the last few years a new source has become available that is helping sort out some of the misinformation. It also has the potential of helping with one of the more difficult problem in Meek genealogy. That is finding a connection prior to immigration to the U. S.

The Meek/Meeks Family Y-DNA Project<sup>7</sup> was started in November 2004. Combined with traditional genealogical research it is a powerful tool for exploring ones ancestors and sorting out the mountain of bad information confronting genealogists. With over 200 members the project has disproven some traditional genealogies and found connections between early ancestors that were not even guessed at in the past. One group recently made a connection to a family in Scotland that has a genealogy that pre-dates the family in the United States. In another group proven genealogies in some families confirmed family lore in others concerning a connection to Ireland. As the project grows the possibilities for discovery also grow.

One focus of the DNA project has been to identify which Revolutionary War era ancestors were related and which were not. The ancestors listed in this paper are grouped by DNA results, geographic location and/or date they were born and lived. All people within a given DNA project group are related. The unanswered questions are how they are related and when the connection occurred. By the same token people in different groups definitely are not related.

Most of the people in the United States named Meek or Meeks who have had a DNA test fall into the haplogroup<sup>8</sup> R-P311 and subclades with only a few exceptions<sup>9</sup>. More importantly 75% of the members of the Meek/Meeks DNA Project can be associated with seven groups of pre 1800 United States ancestors and a number of unconnected individual ancestors<sup>10</sup>. These early immigrants named Meek(s) were followed by many others from the early 1800's up to the present.

There is no single source for finding Meek genealogies. However a fairly significant collection has been made available on the Internet by this author<sup>11</sup>. It is not the last word in Meek genealogies but it gives a good view of the scope of people named Meek, especially before 1800. Other collections are available on the Internet. One should be extremely cautious with any family

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<sup>7</sup> <http://meekdna.com>

<sup>8</sup> <http://ISOGG.org> for definition

<sup>9</sup> See page 17

<sup>10</sup> <http://meekdna.com>

<sup>11</sup> <http://meekgenealogy.com>

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tree that is not documented. There are many incorrect genealogies available today. Some of the worst have been copied the most. Just because everyone appears to be saying the same thing does not mean they are correct. It just means they all copied the same bad genealogy.

This writer has researched the names Meek and Meeks for over 50 years. With all due humility this effort is put forward to share knowledge. This writer effort, like all genealogists, is subject to incomplete data, incorrect interpretations and outright mistakes. However, it is one of the few attempts in history to compile a comprehensive list of families named Meek or Meeks.

The families presented here include most known Meek/Meeks families from official records not just those that have been DNA tested. As the existence of an individual becomes known through official records he will be added to the list. One should always assume that this list is incomplete.

**Group A – R-P311>U106>Z381>Z301>S1688>U198>S15627>Y14069>Y14201>BY16497**

This is a small group of ancestors two of whom were known to have been born in Maryland according to pension records. The oldest was **Jeremiah Meeks** who died in Westmoreland Co., PA in 1783. Deed records suggest that his sons were named John, Jeremiah and Joshua. Joshua is the only one that can be traced from Westmoreland County.

**Joshua Meeks** ( -1801) was an adult in 1765. He died in 1801 in Fairfield Co., OH. He resided in Berkeley Co., VA, Westmoreland Co., PA and Fairfield Co., OH.

Son: **William J. Meeks** was born 2 Mar 1800 in Fairfield Co., OH.

**John Meeks** ( - ) lived in Westmoreland Co., PA

**Jeremiah Meeks** ( - ) in Westmoreland Co., PA

The other four ancestors were born between 1731 and 1755. They resided in Allegheny Co., PA beginning in 1773. Basil, John and Jacob were brothers based on genealogical data<sup>12</sup>.

**Joshua Meek** (1731-1818) He was in Allegheny Co., PA from 1774 to 1818. His relationship to the others is unknown. He married **Margaret Mitchell** in 1789. **Not DNA tested.**

Son: **Joshua Meek** (1800-1853) Lived Muskingum Co., OH and Mason Co., WV. He married Eleanor Yauger.

Son: **Jeremiah Meek** (1804-1873) Lived Allegheny Co., PA.

Son: **Bazel Meek** (1811-1905) Lived Allegheny Co., PA. He married Nancy Hood.

**Basil Meek** (1740-1840) was born in 1740 in Maryland according to his pension record. He purchased land in York Co., SC and later joined the Virginia Army at Winchester. While in the army he was stationed at Ft Pitt in Allegheny Co., PA. After the war he returned to York Co., SC until about 1806 when he moved to Henry Co., KY. Only two sons are known but it is assumed that he had more. A person who descends from Baker Meek born 1813 South Carolina has DNA matching Group A. He may be a grandson of Basil.

Son: **John Meek** (1779-1869) Lived Henry Co., KY and Holt Co., MO. He married Temperance Loudon.

Son: **Jesse Meek** (1780-1856) Lived Henry Co., KY.

**John Meek** (1754-1803) He was in Allegheny Co., PA from 1773 to 1789 when he moved to Henry Co., KY.

Son: **John Meek** (1772-1849) Lived Wayne Co., IN and Owen Co., IN. He married Margaret Erwin.

Son: **Bazil Meek** (1774-1830) Lived Hancock Co., IN.

Son: **Jeremiah Meek** (1776-1839) Lived Wayne Co., IN and Hancock Co., IN. He married Mary Jane Cornwell.

Son: **Joshua Meek** (1781-1856) Lived Wayne Co., IN. He married Jane W. Galbreath.

**Jacob Meek** (1755-1840) was born in modern day Howard Co., MD according to his pension record. He was in Allegheny Co., PA from 1773 to 1793 when he moved to Henry Co., KY. He moved to Wayne Co., IN about 1807.

Son: **John Meek** (1778-1841) Lived Wayne Co., IN and Niles, MI

Son: **Jeremiah Lee Meek** (1780-1842) Lived Wayne Co., IN. He married Rebecca Grimes.

Son: **Joshua Meek** (1785- ) Lived Henry Co., KY. He married Martha Holman.

Son: **Isaac Meek** (1785-1829) Lived Fountain Co., IN and Woodford Co., IN. He married Sarah Perkins

Son: **William Meek** (1787-1829) Lived Wabash Co., IN.

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<sup>12</sup> The Meek/Meeks Family of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Kentucky, 2006, by Christopher A. Meek

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### Group B – R-P311>S1194>CTS4528>S14328>A8469>ZS5789>BY13029>S10242

This is a large diverse group covering different locations and time period. The largest number of them was located in Washington Co., PA from the 1770's to 1800. It is not known where they came from. A smaller group is found in Tennessee after 1800. The relationship between these men is unknown.

#### Group B1b

##### Washington Co., PA

**Samuel Meek** (1732-1799) He came to Washington Co., PA about 1774. He married Charity \_\_\_

Son: **John Meek** (1751- ) Lived Washington Co., PA.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1752- ) Lived Columbiana Co., OH. He married Catherine Parkison.

Son: **William Meek** (1755- ) Lived Washington Co., PA. He married Margaret Thomas.

Son: **Richard Meek** (1757- )

Son: **Jacob Meek** (1762-1848) Lived Fairfield Co., OH. He married Sarah Smith.

**Isaac Meek** (1746-1840) Lived in Ohio Co., VA and Jefferson Co., OH. He married Mary Robinson 1770 Ohio Co., VA. He married Rachel Hedges 31 Jan 1792.

Son: **Sylvester Meek** ( -1847) Lived Jefferson Co., OH. He married (1) Rachel Hoagland.

Son: **Moses Meek** ( - ) Lived Muskingum Co., OH. He married Margaret Glass.

Son: **Joshua Meek** (1773-1847) Lived Jefferson Co., OH. He married Elizabeth Hedges.

Son: **James Meek** (1778-1826) Lived Warrenton, OH. He married Elizabeth Tingley.

Son: **John Meek** (1781-1860) Lived Clement Co., OH. He married Anna Jones.

Son: **Jacob Meek** (1784-1870) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH. He married Rachel Lanning.

Son: **Aaron Meek** (1812-1818) married Mary Lanning.

Son: **Isaac Meek** (1795-1866) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH and Marion Co., IA. He married Mary Storey.

Son: **Daniel Meek** (1801-1874) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH. He married Marilda Cole.

Son: **Joseph Meek** ( - ) Lived Harrison Co., OH.

Son: **William Meek** (1808-1881) Lived Jefferson Co., OH. He married Matilda G. Paterman.

**Nathaniel Meek** ( -1827) Moved to Pulaski Co., KY and then Jennings Co., IN.

Son: **Nathan Meek** (1775- ) Lived Jennings Co., IN.

Son: **Jeremiah Meek** (1776- ) Lived Jennings Co., IN. He married Nancy Roberts.

Son: **David Meek** (1718-1842) Lived Jennings Co., IN. He married (1) Cassander Eadour. He married (2) Nancy Crockett.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1784- ) Lived Andrew Co., MO. He married four times.

Son: **William Meek** (1788-1874) Lived Jennings Co., IN. He married (1) Sarah Spencer. He married (2) Matilda Walker.

Son: **Lewis Meek** (1800- ) Lived Jennings Co., IN. He married Abigail Ritchie.

Son: **Richard Meek** (1803-1858) Lived Platte Co., MO. He married (1) Catherine Riddell.

**Basil Meek** (1763-1844) Lived in Pulaski Co., KY, Jennings Co., IN and Woodford Co., IL. He married Eleanor Roberts.

Son: **Joseph Meek** (1797-1890) Lived Woodford Co., IL. He married Euranie Sullivan.

Son: **Daniel Meek** (1799-1874) Lived Knox Co., IL. He married Nancy Killiam.

Son: **Henry Meek** (1804-1883) Lived Woodford Co., IL. He married Parthenia A. Perry.

Son: **Joshua Meek** (1808-1825) Lived Jefferson Co., KY.

Son: **Noel Meek** (1810-1849) Lived Woodford Co., IL.

Son: **Jackson Meek** (1812- )

**Elisha Meek** (1765-1843) Lived in Greene Co., PA. He married **Mary Short**.

Son: **John Meek** (1791-1878) Lived Greene Co., PA. He married Elizabeth Boyd.

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Son: **Elisha Meek** (1802-1884) Lived Greene Co., PA. He married Jerusha Cary.

Son: **Jacob Meek** (1810-1897) Lived Greene Co., PA and Benton Co., IA.

The following do not have a paper connection to the Washington Co., PA Group B families but are related to Group B based on DNA.

**Samuel Meek** (1781-1865) Lived Belmont Co., OH/Lee Co., IL.

**Richard Meek** (1790- ) Lived Licking Co., OH.

### Not DNA tested

The following have a **speculative** connection to Group B1 based on time, proximity and naming pattern. Bear in mind they could also belong to Group A for the same reasons. But they lived right in the middle of the Washington County Meek families.

**Basil Meek** (1776-1863) Lived Washington Co., PA and Miami Co., OH. He married **Diana Evans** 7 Sep 1797 in Greene Co., PA.

**John Meek** ( - ) Lived Greene Co., PA. Mentioned in Nathan's death notice. Sons not verified.

Son: **Nathan Meek** (1794-1883) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH.

Son: **Thomas Meek** (1799-1864) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH. He married Jane Knight.

Son: **Jonathan Meek** (1814- ) Lived Tuscarawas Co., OH. He married Margaret Gardner.

**Jeremiah Meek** ( - ) Lived Washington Co., PA in 1783.

**Jacob Meek** ( - ) Lived Washington Co., PA in 1783.

**Isaac Meek** (b: <1765) Lived Washington Co., PA in 1783 tax list, 1810 census.

**Isaac Meek** (b: bet 1765 and 1769) Lived Greene Co., PA in 1810.

**William Meek** (b: bet 1765 and 1784) Lived Washington Co., PA in 1810 census

### Blount Co., TN/Carroll Co., AR

**Jacob Meek** (1764- ) AKA "Blue Jacob". Probable brother or close relative of Jeremiah. He moved to Carroll Co., AR about 1832. He is listed in the 1850 census of Navarro Co., TX. **Not DNA tested.**

Son: **George W. Meek** (1807- ) Lived Johnson Co., TX. He married Elizabeth Ritter.

Son: **Lorenzo D. Meek** (1813- ) Lived Ottawa Co., KS. He married Rhoda Hampton.

Son: **Simeon Meek** (1817- ) Lived Navarro Co., TX. He married (1) Laura A. Watkins. He married (2) Amanda Melvina Roberts.

Son: **John Meek** (1820- ) Lived Benton Co., AR. He married Nancy Blevins.

Son: **Jacob C. Meek** (1823-1897) Lived Atascosa, Co., TX.

**Jeremiah Meek** (1781- ) AKA "Shotgun Jerry". He married **Betsy Blevins** in 1802 Blount Co., TN. He moved to Carroll Co., AR about 1832. Y-DNA matches subgroup B1b but group with subgroup B1c for geographic reasons. Possible brother of Jacob above.

Son: **John Meek** (1806- ) Lived Johnson Co., TX and Stone Co., MO.

Son: **Moses Meek** (1811- ) Lived Milam Co., TX. He married (2) Rhoda Langston

Son: **Jeremiah Meek** (1811- ) Lived Newton Co., AR.

Son: **Lewis Meek** (1818- ) Lived Bosque Co., TX and Stone Co., MO.

Son: **William Meek** (1821- ) Lived Bosque Co., TX.

Son: **Squire Meek** (1827- ) Lived Milam Co., TX and Benton Co., AR. He married Louisa Nediffer.

### Group B1c

#### Henry Co., TN/Carroll Co., AR

**Jacob Meek** (1760-1824) Lived in Cumberland Co., KY and Henry Co., TN. Multiple descendants from two sons show that Jacob had a unique DNA profile from other Group B ancestors of that period.

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- Son: **John E. Meek** ( - ) Lived Carroll Co., AR.
- Son: **Jacob W. Meek** ( - )
- Son: **Jeremiah T. Meek** (1788- ) Lived Carroll Co., AR and Bell Co., TX.
- Son: **Isaac Meek** ( -1831) Lived Brown Co., OH.
- Son: **Henry E. Meek** (1806- ) Lived Gibson Co., AR.

### Group B2

**Edward Meeks** (1680-1768) married Maria Kortwright

Son: Joseph Meeks (1710-1782) married Sarah Reade

Son: John Meeks (1739-1817) married Susanne Helene de Moulinars

Son: Joseph Meeks (1771-1868) in New York City. He married Sarah Clark Van Dyke

### Group B3

#### Group B3b

This group involves descendants of **John Meeks** (1700-1772) who resided in Pitt Co., NC. Documentation for his sons and grandsons is sparse and very confusing. Five members of the DNA project claim descent from two of the listed sons. The DNA profile clearly indicates a unique ancestry that is different from but related to Group B. There was a man named **James Meeks** in this area as early as 1727. He purchased land in 1747 that land was sold by John Meeks in 1757.

Son: **John Meeks** (1739- ) Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **Walter Meeks** (1740-1789) Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **Francis Meeks** (1747-1790) Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **Thomas Meeks** Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **James Meeks** Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **Nathan Meeks** Lived Pitt Co., NC.

Son: **Robert Meeks** Lived Edgecombe Co., NC

Son: **Matthew Meeks** Lived Pitt Co., NC.

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**Thomas Meeks** (1768-1825) lived in Monongalia Co., VA. He married Elizabeth Susannah George about 1793 in Maryland. His connection to the Pitt County group is unclear but it does not appear that he was a descendant of John Meeks. Given his location he may represent a different branch of the common ancestor's family that **may** have resided in Maryland.

#### Group B3a

MD/VA/TN/MS

**George B. Meek** (1785- ) Born in Maryland he moved to Shenandoah Co., VA. He was listed in the 1850 census of Pontotoc Co., MS. He married Catherine Everly. Group B of the DNA project also includes three other members who trace their family back to Baltimore, MD about 1820. It is not clear how closely these four men were related. DNA indicates they had similar to but different from Group B3. Maryland has long been thought to be the home of both Group B1 and B3.

Son: **George Meek** ( - )

Son: **John E. Meek** (1812-1890) Lived Marshall Co., MS. He married Cathren Hughes.

Son: **William F. Meek** (1819- ) Lived Pontotoc Co., MS.

Son: **Oscar Meek** (1820- ) Lived Pontotoc Co., MS.

### Group B4

Men named Thomas from North Carolina in mid-1700.

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### Group C – R-P311>P312>L21+

This group starts with two early United States ancestors. The relationship between them is not known but they share the same DNA profile. A current member of the DNA project lives in and has a history in County Down, Ireland. Several later ancestors have not been connected genealogically to John and Thomas but share their DNA profile. Contrary to many genealogies it is highly unlikely John and Thomas were sons of Guy Meek.

**John Meek** (1707- ) Lived in Augusta Co., VA. The genealogies of this family are not always complete or documented. Many of his grandchildren moved throughout Virginia, Kentucky and other states.

Son: **Thomas Meek** ( -1786) Lived Augusta Co., VA. He married Agnes \_\_\_\_\_.

Son: **John Meek** ( -1774) Lived Botetourt Co., VA.

Son: **Robert Meek** ( - ) Lived Augusta Co., VA.

Son: **Mathius Meek** ( - ) Lived Augusta Co., VA.

Son: **William Meek** ( - ) Lived Augusta Co., VA.

Son: **James Meek** ( - ) Lived Augusta Co., VA.

**Thomas Meek** (1708- ) Lived in Washington Co., MD. His wife and sons moved to Washington Co., VA where their father also owned land. He married Ann \_\_\_\_\_.

Son: **William Meek** (1749- ) Lived in Washington Co., MD.

Son: **Thomas Meek** (1756-1838) Lived Decatur Co., IN. He married Martha Davis.

Son: **David Meek** (1758- ) Lived in Washington Co., MD.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1760-1812) Lived Washington Co., VA. He married Elizabeth Campbell.

Son: **Alexander Meek** (1764-1857) Lived Mississippi. He married (1) Agnes Buchanan. He married (2) Elizabeth Keys.

Son: **Isaac Meek** (1766- ) Lived in Virginia

Connection to an earlier ancestor not established.

**David Meek** (1765- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN. This family has traditionally been placed in the Pitt Co., NC Group B3. DNA shows he is in Group C. (Note: There may have been more than one Meek(s) family in Grundy County.)

Son: **Soloman Meeks** (1803- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN

Son: **Isaac Meeks** (1804- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN

Son: **James Meeks** (1813- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN. He married Nancy Smith.

Son: **Britain Meeks** (1810- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN. He married Emiline Rhea.

Son: **John Meeks** (1820- ) Lived in Grundy Co., TN

**Thomas Meek** (1775- ) Lived in Warren Co., KY. He married Naomi Grinstead 13 Jun 1807 in Warren Co., KY

Son: **William Meek** (1810-1887) Lived in Warren Co., KY. He married Mary Grimsley.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1812- ) Lived in Warren Co., KY. He married Nancy Adair.

**James Meek** (1774- ) In 1810-1860 censuses of Greenup Co., KY. He married Mary Greenslate 24 Oct 1817.

Son: **John Meek** (1820-1887) Move to Missouri and Wyoming. He married Elizabeth Barney.

Son: **Andrew Suter Meek** (1823- ) Lived in Greenup Co., KY.

Son: **James Meek** (1826- ) Lived in Greenup Co., KY.

Son: **William B. Meek** (1829- ) Lived in Greenup Co., KY.

**James Meek** (1778-1823) Lived in Johnson Co., KY. He married Judith Hylton.



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Son: **William Meek** (1810- ) Lived in Johnson Co., KY. He married Elizabeth Mollett.  
Son: **Jesse Price Meek** (1826- )

**William Meek** ( -1832) Lived in Johnson Co., KY. He married Judith Popplewell 18 May 1807 in Wayne Co., KY. May be a brother of James above. **Not DNA tested**

Son: **Isaac Meek** (1810-1878) Lived in Johnson Co., KY. He married Sarah Ward.

Son: **William Meek** (1812- ) Lived in Johnson Co., KY. He married Elizabeth White.

Son: **George Meek** (1813- )

Son: **Richard Meek** ( - )

**William Meek** (<1800-<1850) Lived in Dade Co., MO. He married Cynthia Swagerty.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1825- )

Son: **Thomas J. Meek** (1828-1906) Lived in Dade Co., MO. He married Elizabeth Meek.

Son: **William Meek** (1831- )

Son: **Henry Meek** (1839- )

**Samuel Meeks** (1788- ) Lived in Wayne Co., KY.

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### Group E – R-P311>P312+

This group clearly emigrated from Ireland. There are two subgroups according to the DNA profiles with ancestors who have unconfirmed connections to Ireland. Both subgroups have members from County Antrim, Ireland with genealogies back to the 1800's. The actual connection between the immigrant ancestors is unknown. The DNA subgroup status is not well defined.

#### Subgroup 1

**Adam Meek** (1726-1768) Lived Cecil Co., MD. He married Jean Mitchell.

Son: **Andrew Meek** (1747- ) Lived Cecil Co., MD.

Son: **Moses Meek** (1754-1818) Lived York Co., SC. He married Agnes Hope.

Son: **James Meek** (1758-1819) Lived York Co., SC. He married Susanna Byers.

Son: **Adam Meek** (1760-1807) Lived York Co., SC. He married Nancy Agnes Byers.

**John Meek** ( -1762) Lived Chester Co, PA. He married Rebecca Mitchell. Brother of Adam. **No DNA.**

Son: **Matthew Meek** (1747-1758) Lived Chester Co, PA

Son: **John Meek** ( - ) Lived Chester Co, PA

Son: **Andrew Meek** ( - ) Lived Chester Co, PA

**Joseph Meek** (1744-1807) Lived Washington Co., VA.

Son: **Joseph Meek** (1771-1839) Lived Washington Co., VA. He married Jane Buchanan.

Son: **James Meek** (1774-1832) Lived Washington Co., VA. He married Spicy Walker.

Father of Joseph Lafayette Meek AKA Joe the mountain man.

Son: **Steven Meek** (1775-1812) Lived Washington Co., VA. He married Winifred Bryant.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1777- ) Lived Washington Co., VA. He married Amelia Keys.

Son: **Jesse Meek** (1780- ) Lived Washington Co., VA.

Son: **Charles Meek** (1785- ) Lived Monroe Co., MS. He married Elizabeth Keys.

**James Meek** (1777-1833) Lived Ireland and Elgin Co., Ontario. He married Jane Thompson. Descendants moved to Oklahoma. Parents Thomas Meek and Jean Redman.

Son: **Thomas Meek** (1805-1880) Lived Ontario. He married (1) Mary Sarah Owrey. He married (2) Nancy Banghart.

Son: **John Meek** (1812-1867) Lived Ontario. He married Judith Lodge.

Son: **James Meek** (1815-1891) Lived Ontario. He married Margaret Lodge.

Son: **William Meek** (1817-1899) Lived Ontario. He married Nancy McCallum.

**William Meek** (1792-1834) Lived Marshall Co., TN. DNA notwithstanding this person may belong in subgroup 2. Genealogical data **suggests** he was a son of James, son of Adam born 1729.

Son: **James Allen Meek** (1816-1877) Lived Weakly Co., TN. (See James Franklin Meek)

**Rupert Meek** (1871- ) Resided in Ontario, Canada.

**Samuel Meek** (1814- ) Resided in Ontario, Canada.

#### Subgroup 2

**John Alexander Meek** (1686-1765) Lived Ireland. He married Elizabeth Mitchell. Sons immigrated to Laurens Co., SC. There is no evidence of this person. May be in Subgroup 1.

Son: **John Meek** (1777-1803) Lived Laurens Co., SC. He married Eleanor Mills. First record: marriage 1776 in Laurens Co., SC.

Son: **James Meek** (1746-1805) Lived South Carolina. First record: none documented. **No DNA.**

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

**Adam Meek** (1729-1822) Lived Cecil Co., MD and Mecklenburg Co., NC. He married Elizabeth Miller. Left 1000 acres in Marshall Co., TN to son James.

Son: **James Meek** (1758- ) Marshall Co., TN.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1767-1802) Mecklenburg Co., NC. He married Jeannie Wallace.

Son: **Robert Meek** (1765- ) Paulding Co., GA. He married Hannah Donelson.

**Robert Meek** (1732-1838) Lived Brooks Co., VA. He married Elizabeth Alexander.

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1757-1838) Lived Brooke Co., WV. Sons to Ohio and Iowa. He married Polly Wells.

Son: **William Meek** (1784-1863) Lived Van Buren Co., IA. He married Elizabeth Johnson.

**Adam Meek** (1746-1828) Lived Ireland, Mecklenburg Co., NC and Jefferson Co., TN. He married **Martha Wallace** on 23 Mar 1781. First record: 1781 marriage Charlotte, SC. Father said to be James Meek born 1740, brother of John Alexander Meek.

Son: **James S. Meek** (1785- ) Lived Jefferson Co., TN. He married Martha Douglas.

Son: **Alexander Meek** (1788-1849) Lived Jefferson Co., TN. He married Nancy Douglas.

Son: **Adam K. Meek** (1798-1890) Lived Jefferson Co., TN. He married Elizabeth Jane Childress.

Son: **Daniel Meek** (1792-1860) Lived Jefferson Co., TN. He married Betsy L. Campbell.

**Moses Meek** (1755-1807) Lived Mecklenburg Co., NC and Dickson Co., TN. First record: 1790 census of Mecklenburg, NC. 1780 deed could relate to this Moses.

Son: **Josiah Meek** (1780- ) Lived Dickson Co., TN. He married Margaret Edmondson.

Son: **Moses Meek** (1782- ) Lived Dickson Co., TN. He married Elizabeth Miller.

**Moses Meek** (1792-1854) Lived Giles Co., TN. The identity of this person is uncertain. DNA indicates he is in subgroup 2 rather than subgroup 1 as some suspect.

Son: **Thomas Meek** (1819- ) Lived Giles Co., TN.

Son: **Giles Meek** (1820-1836) Lived Giles Co., TN.

Son: **William Meek** (1822-1846) Lived Giles Co., TN.

Son: **Maximillian Meek** (1830-1851) Lived Giles Co., TN.

Son: **Robert B. Meek** (1858-1936) Lived Tyler Co., TX.

Son: **John Meek** (1834-1853) Lived Giles Co., TN.

Son: **James Meek** (1837-1837) Lived Giles Co., TN.

**James Franklin Meeks** ( - ) Lived in Marshall Co., TN and owned land in 1830. He sold his land in 1839. He inherited land from James son of Adam born 1729. He may or may not have been father of James F. Meeks born 1821 who's DNA matches this subgroup.

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

### Group F – R-P311>P312>R-L21> L513>S5668>A7>S5979>L193 (S5982)>ZS4581>Z17817>BY615>FGC36506

This group includes a U. S. family thought to have lived in Hanover Co., VA in the 1780's based on deed records. In separate deeds Martin and Littleton refer to land willed to them by John Meeks. William Meeks gives power of attorney to son Athe Meeks. Connected by DNA to a family in Lanarkshire, Scotland.

**John Meeks** ( -<1783) lived in Hanover Co., VA. Willed land to Martin and Littleton Meeks according to deed records. **No DNA tested**

**William Meeks** (1725-1797) lived in Hanover Co., VA and Greenville Co., SC. Genealogical data has traditionally been poorly documented and confusing. However, DNA suggests the three of the sons shared a common ancestor.

Son: **Priddy Meeks** (1751- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC. He married Elizabeth Denny. No DNA

Son: **Atha Meeks** ( -1853) Lived Greenville Co., SC. He married Mary Mead.

Son: **John Meeks** (1753- )

Son: **Jesse Meeks** (1758- )

Son: **Martin Meeks** ( - ) Married Margaret.

Son: **Littleton Meeks** (1766-1852) Lived Franklin Co., GA. He married Elizabeth Ivie.

Son: **Nacy Meeks** (1768- ) Lived SC/TN/ Tippah Co., MS. He married Francis Holt.

### Group G – R-L21 (MacWho) not confirmed

**William Meeks** (1799-1877) Lived Greenville Co., NC. Often confused with men in Group F. Multiple tests from two different sons proved a separate Meeks family lived in Greenville, NC. He married (2) Mary Morrison. The Y-DNA STR profile for this group matches the “MacWho” profiles of a group of surnames in Scotland and Ireland. This is under the haplogroup R-L21. SNP test not available.

Son: **Leander Meeks** (1826- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC. He married Lucinda Aughtry.

Son: **Wilson Meeks** (1831- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC.

Son: **Thomas Meeks** (1840- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC.

Son: **James D. Meeks** (1844- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC.

Son: **Harmon T. Meeks** (1855- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC.

Son: **Miles W. Meeks** (1859- ) Lived Greenville Co., SC.

### Group H – R-L21 not confirmed

**Robert Meek** ( -1777) Cumberland Co., PA.

**George Meek (1741-1801)** Centre Co., PA.

Son: **Robert Meek** ( - ) Lived Cumberland Co., PA. Y-DNA conflicts with David.

Son: **David Meek** ( - ) Lived Cumberland Co., PA. Y-DNA conflicts with Robert.

Son: **William Meek** (1773- ) Lived Huntingdon Co., PA.

Son: **John Meek** ( - ) Lived Cumberland Co., PA.

**Hugh Meek** Letter of Admin for Robert 1777. Cumberland Co., PA.

**John Meek** Letter of Admin for Robert 1777. Cumberland Co., PA.

**William Meek** 1775 deed witness: Robert Meek. Cumberland Co., PA.

**James Meek** 1782 deed for Hugh Meek. Cumberland Co., PA.

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

### **Not Grouped** – Do not match any group or individual named Meek(s).

With DNA test – M269 predicted

**Isaac Meek** (1790- ) Lived Harrison Co., IN. Married Mary Daugherty 2 Nov 1809 in Hardin Co., KY  
Son: **Nathaniel**

**Woodson Meeks** (1794- ) Lived Henry Co., VA

With DNA test – J2b – Unusual haplotgroup for people named Meek.

**Edmund W. Meek** (1796-1854) Lived Albemarle Co., VA

### **Not Grouped** - No DNA test

With the exception of Guy Meek and John Meeks b: 1730 there may not be any male descendants named Meek(s) to be DNA tested. In most cases there are no genealogies tied to the ancestor. In most cases any father/son relationship indicated is speculative.

**Robert Meeke** ( -1647) Died York Co., VA. Will probated 1 Dec 1647

**Guy Meek** ( -1682) Anne Arundel Co., MD

Son: **John Meek** (1649- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: **John Meek** (1684- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: John Meek (1724- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Joseph Meek ( -1781) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Moses Meek (1719- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Aaron Meek ( -1808) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Valentine Meek ( -1763) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Augustine Meek ( -1781) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Joshua Meek ( -1811) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Edward Meek ( - ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: **Guy Meek** (1686- ) Moved to Virginia

Son: Isaac Meek (1710- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Nathan Meek (1715- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Jacob Meek (1717- ) Lived Maryland/Virginia.

Son: **Charles Meek** ( - ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: **James A. Meek** (1695-1758) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: John Meek (1737- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: James Meek (1743-1790) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: Westal Meek (1760- )

Son: James Meek (1784- ) married Mary MacCubbin

Son: **Samuel Meek** (1704- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

Son: **Christopher Meek** (1707- ) Lived Anne Arundel Co., Md.

**James Meek** (<1765- ) resided Chester Co., SC

Son: **Robert Meek** (1772-1839) resided Chester Co., SC. Meek/Egger cemetery

**Richard Meeks** ( -1729) Westmoreland Co., VA/Richmond Co., VA.

Son: **Richard Meek** ( - )

**Francis Meek** ( -1697) Charles Co., MD

Son: **Francis Meek**, Grandsons Francis Meek, John Booker Meek

**Walter Meeks** ( -1688) Cecil Co., MD

Son: **James Meeks** ( - )

Son: **Walter Meeks** ( -1703) Kent Co., MD

Son: **Francis Meeks** ( -1750) Kent Co., MD

Son: **Robert Meeks** ( - )

**William Meek** ( -1764) Cecil Co., MD. Will names his children and brother.

Son: **James Meek** ( - ) Cecil Co., MD

Son: **William Meek** ( - ) Cecil Co., MD

**James Meek** ( - ) Lived in Virginia according to brother's will. Brother of William above.

**John Meeks** ( - ) 1762 Westmoreland Co., VA deed-John Meeks died intestate

**John Meeks** ( - ) Louisa Co., VA 1830 census age 60-70

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

**Augustine Meek** ( - ) Lived Albemarle Co., VA 1791 court deposition “of legal age”  
**Moses Meek** ( -1793) Mecklenburg Co., NC 1754. Children unknown.  
**James Meek** ( - ) Mecklenburg Co., NC 1765-1790. Children unknown.  
**Richard Meek** (1771- ) Hanover Co., VA. Married Margaret Gianniny.  
**William Meeks** (1778-1850) Hanover Co., VA. Married Maria Gianniny.

### New York/New England

**Richard Meek** (1668- ) Essex Co., MA (Marblehead)  
Son: **Moses Meek** (1707- ) Daughter married Peter LaFrance.

**Edward Meeks** (1665-1689) Resided New York City  
**John Meeks** (1730-1799) Westchester Co., NY. Non-matching Y-DNA  
Son: **Edward Meeks** (1755-1850) Dutchess Co., NY  
Son: **Richard Meeks** (1758-1790) Dutchess Co., NY  
**John Meeks (1739-1817)** New York, NY married Susanne De Moulinere. Group B Y-DNA  
Son: **John Meeks** (1768- )  
Son: **Joseph Meeks** (1771-1868) NY married Sarah Clark Van Dyke

### Other

**Thomas Meek** ( - ) 1799 tax list Pulaski Co., KY  
**Thomas Meek** (1730- ) Lived White Co., TN  
**James Meek** ( - ) 1799 tax list Pulaski Co., KY.  
**Jeremiah Meek** ( - ) 1798 land grant Pulaski Co., KY. Also Jeremiah Jr.  
**William Meek** (1765- ) 1798 land grant Pulaski Co., KY. 1830 census  
**John Meek** (1790- ) Lived Casey Co., KY  
**Lewis Meek** ( - ) Lived Berkeley Co., WV  
**Basil Meek** (1790- ) Lived Virginia, Ohio and Washington Co., OH  
**Basil Meek** (1796- ) Lived Pennsylvania, Ohio and Hamilton Co., IA  
**Samuel G. Meek** (1798- ) Lived Virginia, Ohio and Van Buren Co., IA

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## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

Given the state of records in the early United States it is likely that the list of men named Meek and Meeks presented here is not complete. Unverified genealogies have not been used as sources for this article. Given the number of fictitious Meek genealogy that are known to exist everyone should use caution in using undocumented genealogies.

The number of families in The United States named Meek and Meeks increased significantly after 1800. It is assumed that this was due to increased immigration following the Revolutionary War. It is also assumed that some of the families that appear in the records after 1800 will be found to have descended from one of the known ancestors listed above. Some will be found to represent as yet unidentified groups. It is also possible that some people named Meek or Meeks today descend from a line where the surname changed at some point in history.

Disclaimer: This information was prepared by the author using some undocumented and/or unverified sources. Some facts presented here MAY NOT be correct. Never accept as factual any information you find in a library, the Internet or from other genealogist unless it is supported by documentation. Documentation DOES NOT include the undocumented genealogies of other people including those in this article.

Any conclusions regarding relationships that are based on DNA results are also dependent on the validity of the genealogical information. In most cases multiple DNA tests from different branches of the same family are desirable.

By Christopher A. Meek

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### Explanation of group designations

Y-DNA is passed down from father to son and thus follows the surname. Relatedness of different individuals is demonstrated by the pattern of “short tandem repeat” or STR marker values. In most cases people with the same surname who share a similar STR pattern can be considered to share a common ancestor. Who that ancestor was and when he lived is not revealed by DNA. That is a matter for genealogy. Bear in mind the “Meek/Meeks” surname is probably not much more than 800 years old.

Each DNA group title also has a haplogroup designation. All men in the world can be divided into haplogroups which are defined by a specific DNA mutation known as a “single nucleotide polymorphism” or SNP. SNP mutations occur very slowly thus anyone related to a given male within hundreds of years will have the same SNP mutation. However, having the same SNP mutation does not signify a relationship within genealogical timeframes. Absent a SNP test major haplogroups can be predicted using STR markers, a large percentage of men of European descent fall into the “R” haplogroup. More than 90% of the men in the Meek/Meeks DNA project are in the “R” haplogroup.

The designations listed in this article are largely subgroups within the “R” haplogroup such as R-P312. Some SNP are a subset, child or descendant of another SNP such R-L21 which is a subset SNP of R-P312. The age of SNPs range from about 2000 years to more than 20,000 years. Consequently a person with a designation of R-L21 would not be considered related to someone with the designation of R-S14328 although they both descend from R-P311. This is why a person in one DNA group presented here could not possibly be related in any meaningful sense of the word to a person in another DNA group. This

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

knowledge allows genealogists to narrow their search for the earliest known ancestor to a smaller group of men named Meek(s).

A large number of known early American ancestors named Meek(s) are represented in the DNA project. But there may have been other who left smaller footprints. In addition in most cases there were relatives left in Europe who did not migrate to the United States or migrated later in time. DNA is an important fact to add to ones collection of data. However, it does not prove a connection in and of itself. Genealogical proof is required.



**DNA Project Members from the British Empire  
Haplogroup M269**

**Group C**

**John Meeke** (1916- ) Family lived in Rathfriland, County Down, Ireland. They had previously lived in County Clare. No other genealogical information

**Group E – Subgroup 1**

**William Meek** ( - ) Lived Ballymena, Antrim, Ireland.

Son: **William Meek** (1843- ) Lived Ballymena, Antrim, Ireland.

**Group E – Subgroup 2**

**William Meek** (1791- ) Lived Ballintoy, Antrim, Ireland.

Son: **Matthew Meek** (1851- ) Lived Port Glasgow, Scotland.

**William Meek** (<1825- ) Lived Antrim, Ireland.

Son: **Alexander Meek** was born on 14 Jan 1874 in Ballymena, Antrim, Ireland. He died in 1967 in Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland

**Group F**

**William Meike** (1625-1664) Lived in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He owned **Fortissat**.

**William Meike** (1800-1865) Lived in Edinburgh, Scotland. Moved to Canada.

**Haplogroup I1a-M253 (predicted)**

**Group I1aN-a** Haplogroup I1a-M253 (predicted)

This English group has unconnected genealogies but has a 35/37 STR marker match.

**John Meek** ( - ) Lived Norfolk, England.

Son: **John Meek** (1764- ) Lived Norfolk, England. Grandson James Meek born 1819 migrated to Australia in 1847.

**Joseph Meek** (1794- )

Son: **Edward George Meek** (1845- ) Lived Middlesex, England. Grandsons migrated to Australia.

**Group I1aN-b**

This Irish group has unconnected genealogies but has a 34/37 STR marker match.

**James Meek** (1796-1895) Lived County Armagh, Ireland and Dufferin Co., Ontario, Canada.

Son: **Robert Meek** (1821-1895) Lived Ontario, Canada.

**John Meek** (1846- ) Born in Ireland and migrated to Illinois before 1880.

## The Meek/Meeks Family of the United States

Ungrouped

### Haplogroup I1a-M253 (predicted)

Netherlands

**Oene Taekes Meek** (1710- ) Born in the Netherlands where descendants continue to live.

### Haplogrouo R1a1 (predicted)

**John Meek** (1804- ) Born in Norfolk, England and immigrated to Ontario, Canada.

Son: **James Meek** (1830- ) Lived York, Canada.

Son: **John Meek** (1833- ) Lived York, Canada.

Son: **William Meek** (1839-1911) Lived York, Canada.

Son: **Thomas Meek** (1843- ) Lived Toronto Canada. Migrated to Rochester, NY.

Son: **George W. Meek** (1879- ) Lived Rochester, NY.

Son: **Robert Meek** (1847-1872) Lived Aurora, Ontario.

### Haplogroup R1b (predicted)

**Thomas Meik** (1584- ) Bendochy, Perthshire, Scotland (**Ledcarsie Meeks**)

**William Meek** (1770- ) Resided Lanarkshire, Scotland

**James Meek** (1801- ) Born England. Went to Illinois before 1850