

Two Sisters, Two Surprises: How DNA Reunited a Family and Introduced Another Mystery

Objective

The objective of this project was to identify, document, and link the biological parents of L.B.S., who was born in Middleboro, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

L.B.S. was adopted as an infant in a closed adoption by George Hosea Brown and Gayle Sias Brown. After many years, she obtained a copy of her adoption petition, which named her biological mother as Jean Gordon Bruce and listed George Brown — her adoptive father — as her biological father.

Research Summary

Initial documentation suggested that George Brown was both the adoptive and biological father of L.B.S. However, to confirm these claims, a combination of DNA testing, document research, and contact with living relatives was conducted.

Research Results

- **Confirmation of Biological Mother:**
DNA analysis verified that Jean Gordon Bruce was indeed the biological mother of L.B.S.
- **Discovery of a Half-Sister:**
During the DNA research process, a living half-sister, G.D.S., was identified. After contact was established, G.D.S. provided a DNA sample, which confirmed the relationship.
- **Refutation of the Biological Father Claim:**
Contrary to the adoption petition's suggestion, DNA testing conclusively demonstrated that George Brown was **not** the biological father of L.B.S.

- **Identification of the True Biological Father:**

DNA research led to the identification of John D. Horgan, as the biological father. John Horgan had served in World War II and tragically died in an airplane crash. He left no other known descendants.

- **New Questions About Family History:**

DNA patterns and preliminary research suggested that L.B.S.'s maternal grandfather may have changed his identity before marrying her maternal grandmother — introducing a new mystery and opening a new avenue for exploration.

Recommendations for Further Research

- Conduct deeper research into the maternal grandfather's possible identity change.
- Continue to monitor DNA databases for emerging matches that could clarify ancestral lines.
- Expand research into all established family tree lines.
- Develop biographical narratives for known ancestors to preserve their stories for future generations.

Final Conclusions

By combining **traditional document research** with **modern DNA testing**, the true biological parents of L.B.S. were revealed, correcting decades-old misconceptions and reconnecting her with living family members she never knew existed.
