

Reiffenberg DNA to Rivenbark DNA



T. Allen Quinn
Raleigh, NC

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/rivenbark-dna/about>

The yDNA that solves the European genetic trail for Rivenbark stems from the Farmers and Laborers that Von Graffenried settled near Comfort, Jones, NC at the headwaters of the Trent River that flowed to New Bern. Johan Henrich Reiffenberg 1695 - 1772 was born in Oberreifenberg, Hochtaunuskreis, Hesse,

Germany and husband to Anna Atkinson 1735 - 1779 of Cheshire, England. Rivenbark mtDNA and atDNA may show signs and overlapping cM to confirm this further. Although I know the yDNA signature, I do not have permission to publish it publicly and have purposefully omitted that degree of specificity. A search will find the evidence you seek for yDNA, the atDNA or mtDNA should again show a corresponding relationship to ATKINSON.

RIVENBARK yDNA & the mtDNA and atDNA for MARGARET QUINN nee RIVENBARK OF ROCKFISH CREEK, DUPLIN & PENDER COUNTIES, then MT. OLIVE ,ultimately a life long resident of GOLDSBORO, WAYNE COUNTY who married JOSEPH SAMUEL QUINN of WOLFSCRAPE, DUPLIN, NORTH CAROLINA BORN IN LENOIR. Burried by her husband Joe "Josiah" and son Joseph Paul Quinn at Maplewood Cemetery, Mt. Olive, Wayne, North Carolina.

Reifenberger to Rivenbark

Within this lineage their are Reifenbergers that were a part of the Swiss Colony founded by Christoph von Graffenried, 1st Baron of Bernberg that founded New Bern, Craven County, Province of Carolina. The Reifenberger settlers abandoned the areas to the east of New Bern and moved to the southeast of New Bern approximately east of what today is known as James City. Due to poor land quality for agricultural purposes, these pioneers explored areas close by and ultimately settled land in what would later become Pender County at Rockfish Creek on the Duplin County border.

Genetic data can be verified by Christoph Reifenberger's DNA, whom at one time published this information on www.reifi.de, but it has been abandoned. The then homepage for von Christoph Riefenberger was reifi.de.

Uberreifenberg of Schmitten and the paradox of where they immigrated to is being investigated presently. If you are interested in confirmed Royal Knights of this area you can Google Cuno/Kuno von Riefenberg and Walther von Riefenberg the only known Knights of Riefenberg.

It is very well documented within the manuscripts of Christoph von Graffenried, 1st Baron of Bernberg, otherwise known as Christoph de Graffenried that he himself was a Swiss Palatine gathering settlers from the poor German and disenfranchised Swiss among others that sought evacuation from their homelands for protection against religious persecution. Many of this New Bern settlement were comprised of several thousand Swiss Palatines, German Lutherans and Palatines that included many Bernese settlers.

Christoph, Swiss was also a British Peer authorized to settle new lands in Carolina. Christoph is credited with funding, transporting and then founding the new English Colony at New Bern in the Province of Carolina in 1710. The colony was formed at the confluence of the Trent River and the Neuse River and was home to the Tuscarora an Iroquoian People that first inhabited the area and gave the place names we often use today.

After facing severe hardships in their own countries, the group were willing to attempt a new venture, this time to Carolina. The thousands sailed to Carolina in 1710. On the sea voyage the settlers were attacked by French privateers who stripped them of everything they had brought with them. Whereas, on a similar voyage of nearly 3000 German Palatines departing London for New Amsterdam, were nearly decimated with one-third being laid to final rest during the sea voyage. Arriving to New Amsterdam and led to Carolina by John Lawson. John Lawson is most famous in the Carolinas. Lawson was an English explorer, surveyor, naturalist and writer. He played an important role in exploring the interior of colonial North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, publicizing his expeditions in various books. He founded two settlements in North Carolina: Bath and New Bern, both accessible by sea.

During the settler's first season, their crops did not perform well. Von Graffenried quickly returned to Europe to obtain supplies and additional settlers. He returned to the colony unscathed. In addition to a lack of food and

supplies, there was great tension between the settlers and the Tuscarora Indians of the Neuse River region.

The Tuscarora are an Iroquoian-speaking people, closely related to the Five Tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy based in central and western New Amsterdam. The settlers had unwittingly planned their new settlement on the site of an old Tuscarora village.

In 1711, von Graffenried and the settlers evicted a group of Tuscarora from nearby lands without payment, and von Graffenried had now assumed the title "Landgrave of Carolina." Retaliatory raids by the Tuscarora, under a leader named Hancock, led to many casualties for the new settlers.

During the summer of 1711, von Graffenried, John Lawson and an unidentified African slave handling their baggage ventured up the Neuse River in the hopes that they would be able to locate a suitable native grape to hybridize with his European ones. It was not long that the Tuscarora took captive; von Graffenried, John Lawson, and an enslaved African. While in captivity, John Lawson and von Graffenried were given three separate trials, each held at different Tuscarora village. In one trial the men were found not guilty. The two remaining trials produced unanimous judgements as guilty of crimes against the Tuscarora. The verdict of The Tuscarora was then passed and they both were sentenced them to Ritual death. However, upon much discussion spanning several weeks, the leaders decided von Graffenried would be released. The notation is that he wore such fine clothes they had mistook him for the Governor of Carolina. In this instance, believing Graffenried was the Governor, they pardoned him and his slave.

It is also stated that the chief told them of their impending attack being mounting against all the settlements of the Virginians that were illegally in their lands. The following day, the Tuscarora Priests began their ritual torture of John Lawson. Von Graffenried was released only with the promise and condition that no new European settlements should be made in this region without first obtaining sanction by the native chiefs who lived upon

and cared for these lands. When he finally reached New Bern, he found it totally abandoned and in flames.

Unknown to Graffenried, a group of almost 500 colonist were escaping up the Trent River into what today is Jones County, North Carolina where many Quinn men had settled and explored earlier known today as Comfort and Pollocksville at the headwaters of the Trent, the Northeast Cape Fear River is only a few miles west and flows to the Cape Fear River via the NE Cape Fear River and down to Wilmington and up to Fayetteville.. This is evidenced within a map created by Edward Moseley in 1733, we see his indication of a Palatine Settlement near to Rockfish and the Little Rockfish Stream and Creek. I believe that these are the lost descendants of all Rivenbark lines worldwide.

In my experience, this is exactly the timeframe where the old German spelling of the surname was renewed with a new identity as Rivenbark not Riefenberg, or Reifenberg. When they said the name in German to the Irish and Scottish Gaels that were already present there and to the keepers of the records, the new surname was born. They discovered and knew of good lands suitable for farming and for little fear of the native inhabitants that were scarce in around Rockfish Creek in Duplin and Pender Counties. This is my lineage via Margaret Rivenbark Quinn, my paternal grandmother.

I have validated my genetic information using the profiles that were once public for Christoph Riefenberger. His reported yDNA and my cousins yDNA are a perfect match. I went so far as to create a Rivenbark DNA Project which bore no members for more than three years. I have since abandoned the project.

I must give credit to Audrey Frady Rivenbark of Charlotte, NC and Bobby G. Williams of Daphne, AL and his mother Nellie Grey Rivenbark, a sister of my grandmother Margaret Rivenbark for their lifelong dedication scouring the historic records in search of this very detail.



Plan
 der Schwedischen Colonie
 in Carolina
 Aufgesetzt den 10. October 1750
 Christian Ludwig von Graffenried
 Johann Ludwig Miesler

Da die Colonie in Wechoke ist und
 sich befindet, sind sie in die plantation in der mit
 ihnen zu sein. In dem Jahr 1748, nach
 dem sie die Stadt und die so genannte auf die Colonie
 sind. Man hat auch schon die Colonie, aber nicht
 die so genannte
 ist also die Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 in der Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so

Die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so

Die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so

Die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so
 die so genannte Colonie, die so genannte Colonie, die so

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The origins of the Palatine Settlers at Rockfish Creek in Pender County has always been a mystery before DNA testing came of age. The issue for the Rivenbark Families has always been that their surname originates in North America as Rivenbark and nowhere else. To everyone that has not done a yDNA test, you benefit by the legwork and expense of Randi Rivenbark's diligent efforts and difficult work to obtain the yDNA of her brother and make it all available to you. Thank you to both for spending the time and money. In my opinion, every Rivenbark should send both you a dollar.

My father's mother is Margaret Quinn née Rivenbark of Rockfish Creek in Pender County, not far from the town of Wallace in Duplin County. She is one of twelve children to Gustavus Adolphus Rivenbark born 23 Dec 1869 on the family plantation at Rockfish Creek. Gus died on 27 January 1938 in Mt. Olive, Wayne County, North Carolina and was married to Dorothy Davis, more often known as Dortha Davis born 14 March 1879 in Willard, Pender County, North Carolina. Dortha died in Goldsboro, Wayne County, North Carolina 8 February 1950.

Dortha was a daughter of William Henry Davis born 9 January 1840 in Union, Pender County, North Carolina who died on 27 October 1910 in Asheville, Buncombe, North Carolina and was the husband of Clarissa R. English born in August of 1846 in New Hanover County, North Carolina. Clarissa died in 1930 living in Wallace, Duplin County, North Carolina.

In a conversation and email with Randi Rivenbark, she was kind enough to enlighten me.

Genetic Analysis by Randi Rivenbark

According to an yDNA test that her brother took, their paternal haplogroup is predicted to be R1b1b2a1a2d3*. I believe they had this verified with a simple

yDNA test. Randi writes: Our surname is supposedly German, but we have never been able to prove that. I suspect the spelling changed from Riefenberg. My father's lineage has German, Swiss (both German and French speaking), French and Scottish. Most of them were fleeing religious persecution in Europe and settled in eastern North Carolina. After 2 years of waiting, my brother's test got a hit to the surname, Riefenberg. I also have 4 autosomal matches to trees with the same original Riefenberg immigrant to New York. I now have a tree of descendants from him on ancestry.com & My Heritage. I also have a tree of the von Riefenberg's from the middle ages (Uberreifenberg, Taunus Mountains, Hesse, Germany).

I Responded

I wish to Congratulate YOU on solving a 279 year mystery. Kudos Friend! As described in various manuscripts written during the governance of Carolana, then Carolina by the Lords Proprietors, the proprietary owners of the Province of Carolina from 1663-1729, the first **German & Swiss Palatines** arrived from London and settled at the the town **Neuse Bern** in 1710. By 1713 the **English** had changed this name to **New Bern** having set Neuse accidentally.

Three Groups of Settlers from New Bern

This large group of settlers was attacked incessantly during the **Tuscarora War** (1711-1715) and rightfully so, In addition to **trespassing under penalty of death** imposed by the **Tuscarora**, the settlers additionally were rife with disease and other calamities relating to their extraordinarily long ocean passage from **London**. In addition to the overwhelming hardships as mentioned, the settlers dealings with the local governors through to the 1730's had continually rejected the settler's claim for clear titles for their 1710 grants in hand.

In a 1733 map created by **Edward Moseley** from above, we can see where he identified the **Palatine Settlement** and then what he incorrectly concluded were **Welch settlements**. In a quick investigation into these labels, we find **Rockfish Creek and Little Rockfish stream** just east of Wallace in Duplin County on the county line with Pender County. **NCPedia** has a great look at these maps that are housed within the NC Archives in Raleigh.

<https://www.ncpedia.org/moseley-manuscript-map>

It has been established that Graffenried took **craftsman & merchants** with him in **New Bern** and then had **two additional settlements**, each settlement includes those that were the settlement men that dealt with **livestock** and then, the **farmers** and the **laborers**.

The first group the laborers went due south **across the Trent River**, with the farmers **moving up the Trent River** which flows to New Bern and tracks south, by southwest.

By the 1740s, settlers had progressed up the Trent River to **Comfort in Jones County** where the tiny headwaters of the Trent begin. Within a few steps from there, less than 2 miles I am sure, they could access the **NE Cape Fear River** with an easy ride to the confluence with the **Cape Fear River** and head to **Wilmington** and to the sea, or to the interior of Carolina to Fayetteville.

Extensive research into this line was performed in the 1960's and 1970's by **Mrs. Audrey Frady Rivenbark** and **Bobby Gene Williams**, the son of **Nellie Gray Rivenbark** and **William Walter Williams**. **Uncle Bobby** was **Audrey's** key investigator into the **military records** found in her book **Rivenbarks of Eastern North Carolina in IV volumes dating from 1967 to 1992**.

The genetic signature is **R1b1b2a1a2d3** is identified as a **Sub-Alpine** group found mostly in **Eastern France, Northern Italy, Corsica** and **Switzerland**.

Ancient Quinn Connections

From the Trent River Paletine Settlements of New Bern

Caraven, NC to the Cowhole Branch onto the NE Cape Fear River and Pender County.

At the headwaters of the Trent River is the Comfort Township where many Quinn families settled after the American Revolution, especially the family of The ARROW shows the distance to **Cowhole Branch** that leads to **Maxwell's Pond** and then to **Burncoat Creek** and **Long Branch** which changes back to **Burncoat Creek** and flows to the **Northeast Cape Fear River** at **Albertson** where my ancestors **Caleb & Jenny Quin** raised a large family, **Caleb** was a **Quartermaster Sergeant** in the **American Revolution** and of the **Wilmington District Militia**. They and farmed the land there and had many children. **Caleb and Jenny** are buried in **Albertson** on their *original granted land*. They are very close to **Caleb's** mother **Mary Quin** who is buried on her grant only a few parcels over. Also, note from the above map that the line comes close to **Quinn Mill Road** where you may find a **Quinn** scattered among the residents there today, but more toward **Comfort** or then **Potters Hill** around **Buelaville & Albertson**, then over to **Wolfscrape** in Duplin County on **Beautancus Road**.

<https://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/graffenried/graffenried.html>

Adare Manor, Limerick, Ireland Reifenberg's as farmers to Donogh Quin in the 16th century is also of note to my own Quinn line.

https://archive.org/details/bub_gb_IDUJAAAAQAAJ