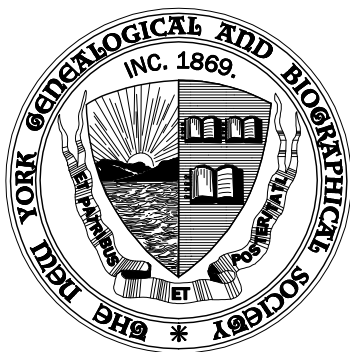


THE NEW YORK
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NUMBER 3

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The Bengali and English Ancestry of New York City Immigrant
Thomas² Chapman (1777–1862)

The Parents of Elsjé Jans, Wife of Conradus Van der Beek

Four Generations from Matthew Edward Thompson (1702–1785)
of Woodford, Essex, England, and Ulster County, New York
(concluded)

Early Sicard–Secor Families of New York:
Origins of United Empire Loyalist William Secord (continued)

Andrew Sinclair (circa 1795–1874) of New York City and His Family
(continued)

Bookstore Receipt Book, 1804–1816, of John C. Totten, Printer,
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THE EDITOR'S VIEW

Knowledge of historical context is critical to sound genealogical research. Correctly answering genealogical questions requires awareness of the time, place, and society in which an individual or family lived. Familiarity with conflicts, environments, laws, religions, and traditions affecting the person or group under study improves a researcher's ability to plan, understand, analyze, reason, and draw conclusions. In this issue of *THE RECORD*, authors Michael Rudy and Meryl Schumacker demonstrate the importance of considering context when trying to resolve genealogical problems.

The names of Elsje Jans's parents have eluded researchers for decades. Michael Rudy studied individuals connected to her through baptismal records, recognizing that Dutch families followed very specific traditions for naming children and selecting baptismal witnesses. Armed with that knowledge, Rudy untangled a complicated web consisting of Elsje's siblings and half siblings; in the process, he identified Elsje's origins.

Meryl Schumacker's quest to learn about Thomas Chapman, a nineteenth-century immigrant to New York City, led her to records created in New York, Massachusetts, England, and India. By studying historical context, Schumacker enhanced her understanding of the society into which Thomas was born. She surveyed a variety of published works about colonial India, focusing on the British East India Corporation, silk manufacturing, interpersonal relationships, and British record-keeping practices. Historical context added meaning to the information she found and helped explain the absence of other records.

Sources sometimes directly answer genealogical questions. In other instances, the answers are not so clear, and reaching conclusions requires extensive research, meticulous analysis, and careful assembly of evidence. Whichever the case, contextual awareness allows researchers to move beyond what seems obvious—to recognize subtleties and discern meanings that might otherwise be missed.

Laura Murphy DeGrazia, CG, FGBS
Editor

THE BENGALI AND ENGLISH ANCESTRY OF NEW YORK CITY IMMIGRANT THOMAS² CHAPMAN (1777–1862)

BY MERYL SCHUMACKER, CG*

Thomas² Chapman (1777–1862) was different than most early nineteenth-century New York City immigrants. He was born in colonial Bengal and had lived on two continents before he arrived in the United States. The search for his parents relied upon traditional genealogical records and historical research, with conclusions supported by DNA evidence. Thomas was the son of Thomas Chapman, an English silk merchant, and “Ayrsee Beeby,” likely Arshi Bibi, a Bengali woman. His parents’ identities highlight a unique period in Indian history, when Bengal was controlled by the British East India Company.

THOMAS² CHAPMAN (1777–1862)

Thomas² Chapman arrived in New York City by 1807.¹ There he married a young widow, Jane (Black) Brard,² raised a family, and led a quiet life as an accountant.³ He died in 1862 and was buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, with his wife of more than forty years.⁴

* Meryl Schumacker, CG (contact@waybackgen.com), is a professional genealogist at We Go Way Back LLC in New York City. She thanks the DNA-test takers whose results are referenced in this article, as well as Robert K. Brown of the Episcopal Church of Saints James and Andrew, Greenfield, Mass., and Dave Annal for retrieving records.

¹ Thomas Chapman–Jane Brard marriage, 12 Apr. 1807, in “Records of the First and Second Presbyterian Churches of the City of New York, Marriages,” RECORD 15 (1884): 135. Thomas may have been in the country earlier. His death certificate (Thomas Chapman death certificate, Brooklyn, 1862, no. 2160) states he had lived in the city (that is, Brooklyn) for sixty years, or since about 1801–1802, but no record of Thomas has been found in New York prior to his 1807 marriage in New York City.

² Chapman–Brard marriage (note 1). Jane was the widow of James Brard. No record of her marriage to Brard has been found, but their children Elizabeth, Maria, and Jane were baptized in a Reformed Dutch Church in New York City in 1798, 1799, and 1800, respectively (“Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in the City of New York, Baptisms,” RECORD 32 [1901]: 18, 84, 209); she is called Jane Black in her children’s baptismal records. James “Breard” died by 9 Mar. 1806, when he was buried in a Reformed Dutch Cemetery, New York City (“Burials in the Dutch Church, New York City,” RECORD 75 [1944]: 133). For Jane’s age, Jane Black baptism, “Records of the First and Second Presbyterian Churches in the City of New York, Births and Baptisms,” RECORD 16 (1885): 139.

³ For his family, see the genealogical summary. In the early years of their marriage, Thomas and his wife, Jane (Black) (Brard) Chapman, resided with Jane’s widowed mother at 95 Beekman St., where the Blacks were residing as early as 1797. *Longworth’s American Almanac, New-York Register, and City Directory* . . . (New York: Longworth, 1797), 124 [James Black]; and same title and publisher for [1804] 86 [Widow Black], [1806] 106, [1807] 117 and 140, [1808] 101, [1809] 130, [1810] 136, [1811] 52 [William (*sic*) Chapman, accountant, 95 Beekman], [1814] 49, [1818] 79. Thomas was not listed in the 1812 and 1813 directories. Thomas Chapman entry, 1816 Jury Census, New York City, Ward 2, p. 30, 95 Beekman St., “New York City Municipal Archives Collections: Browse New York County Jury Census,” NYC Department of Records and Information Services (<http://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/NYCMA~10~10>), showing he was a tenant, age 30, an accountant, that he had a personal estate of \$150 or more, and that there were two males and six females in his household.

⁴ Burial records and marker for grave 187, public lot 1596, section 86, Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N.Y., PDF and image from cemetery staff, 1 Dec. 2015. Thomas Chapman death certificate (note 1).

The 1855 New York state census lists Thomas's birthplace as "East Indies."⁵ His death certificate provides a much more specific birthplace—Kishenagur, Bengal—as well as an age at death that calculates to a birth date of about 13 December 1777.⁶ The death certificate for Thomas's daughter Charlotte lists her father's birthplace as "Calcuta [*sic*] (East India),"⁷ or present-day Kolkata, West Bengal, India. By contrast, the 1850 census shows Thomas's birthplace as Massachusetts,⁸ likely provided in error, as will be discussed. Thomas was not found in the 1860 census.

Thomas frequently associated with his wife's family in New York City; however, he was never documented with Chapmans other than his wife and children. New York City directories refer to him as Thomas Chapman "jun." from 1807 through 1810, although no other Thomas Chapman was listed in the city directories during that time.⁹

Thomas's surname suggests an English origin for his father. Under what circumstances could he have been born to an English father in Bengal in 1777?

THE (BRITISH) EAST INDIA COMPANY AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS IN COLONIAL INDIA

Thomas's reported birthplace and English-sounding surname suggest his father worked with the (British) East India Company (EIC) in some capacity. The EIC engaged in trade and also served as a private army, navy, and government in colonial India. It was independent from the British and Indian governments but at times operated on the government's behalf. The company warred with local armies, and captured and governed territories, including Bengal.¹⁰ The vast majority of British citizens in eighteenth-century Bengal were affiliated with the EIC as either soldiers, civil servants, or employees. British citizens married, had children, died, and were buried in colonial India.

Given historical and cultural context, Thomas's mother was most likely native to South Asia. In contrast to the many British men in colonial India, there were very few British women—and even fewer single British women. The EIC experimented with sending unmarried women from Britain to India with little success. Period accounts claimed that few British women could tolerate the climate and that their travel and living expenses were beyond the

⁵ Thomas Chapman, boarder, in the William Kidney household, 1855 New York state census, New York City, Ward 21, Elect. Dist. 4, New York Co., unpaginated, dw. 171, fam. 553. Thomas's entry states he had been a resident of the city for forty-one years (since about 1813–1814).

⁶ Thomas Chapman death certificate (note 1). He died 16 Aug. 1862, aged 84 years, 8 months, 3 days.

⁷ Charlotte Kidney death certificate, New York City, 1878, no. 295465.

⁸ Thos. Hagerman [*sic*] in the W. H. Kenedy [*sic*, Kidney] household, 1850 U.S. census, New York City, Ward 18, New York Co., N.Y., pp. 363–64 (penned), p. 182 (stamped, recto and verso), dw. 260, fam. 479 (National Archives and Records Administration microfilm publication [NARA] M432, roll 558). Despite the surname errors, the household is clearly that of Thomas Chapman's son-in-law William Kidney. The composition is consistent with Kidney's 1855 New York state census household (note 5). The 1850 household included (besides Thomas and his son-in-law) Thomas's daughters Charlotte (Chapman) Kidney and Julia Chapman (listed as Julia Hagerman), and several grandchildren.

⁹ *Longworth's American Almanac, New-York Register, and City Directory* . . . [1807–1810] (note 3).

¹⁰ Philip J. Stern, *The Company-State: Corporate Sovereignty and the Early Modern Foundations of the British Empire in India* (Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 2011), 3–6.

means of most EIC soldiers and employees.¹¹ British women willing to travel to India with hope of marrying there were generally from a social class that brought no property or dowry, another disincentive to marriage.¹²

As a result, a significant number of British men formed relationships with native women.¹³ Affiliations ranged from purely sexual (including prostitution)¹⁴ to long-term, committed relationships in which women converted to Protestantism, married, and had families.¹⁵ Approximately one in three wills from Bengal during the period 1780–1785 shows a British man providing for his native partner and children.¹⁶

There were no civil marriages in Bengal,¹⁷ and there is no record of a Christian marriage between a Chapman groom and an Indian woman, or any woman, around the time when Thomas was born.¹⁸ This is not anomalous: though there were many biracial children of British fathers and Indian mothers (known as “Anglo-Indian” or “Eurasian” children), marriages were far less common.¹⁹ Few of the records of Christian baptisms, marriages, and burials from the period clearly show interracial relationships; in fact, record-keepers commonly modified native women’s names or omitted them entirely, obscuring women’s identities while indirectly signaling race.²⁰ No baptismal record exists for Thomas in Bengali church records.²¹

¹¹ Thomas Williamson, *The East-India Vade-Mecum; or Complete Guide to Gentlemen Intended for the Civil, Military, or Naval Service of the Hon. East India Company*, 2 vols. (London: Black, Parry, and Kingsbury, 1810), 1:453–56. From p. 455, “Such is the encrease of domestics, of cloathing, of accommodation, and, particularly, in keeping a carriage, without which no comfort can be expected, that it is utterly beyond the means of full four persons in five to receive an European lady into their houses.”

¹² Williamson, *East-India Vade-Mecum* (note 11), 1:458. J. Talboys Wheeler, *Early Records of British India: A History of the English Settlements in India* . . . (London: Trubner and Co., 1878), 75. Christopher J. Hawes, *Poor Relations: The Making of a Eurasian Community in British India, 1773–1833* (Richmond, England: Curzon Press, 1996), 6.

¹³ Durba Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India: The Making of Empire* (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 35. Williamson, *East-India Vade-Mecum* (note 11), 1:413. The EIC began condoning marriages with Roman Catholics (the Portuguese) in 1680 and with native women in 1688. See Wheeler, *Early Records of British India* (note 12), 75–76. Also, East India Company, *Records of Fort St. George: Despatches from England*, 18 vols. (Madras: Madras Record Office, 1926[?]), 8:116.

¹⁴ Kenneth Ballhatchet, *Race, Sex and Class Under the Raj: Imperial Attitudes and Policies and Their Critics, 1793–1905* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1980). Ballhatchet’s book is a critical examination of the British military’s policies that condoned prostitution as a sexual benefit to soldiers and the practice’s effect on the spread of venereal disease.

¹⁵ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 2. Hawes cautions that conversion and Christian marriage were less popular than non-formalized partnerships; there was no civil marriage option.

¹⁶ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 4, adding that “those who left wills were naturally amongst the better-off in British society.”

¹⁷ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 2.

¹⁸ “British India Office Marriages,” database with images, *Findmypast* (<https://www.findmypast.com>), citing British in India Collection, British India Office Records, British Library, London. The closest match, Charles Chapman, married Mary Williams in Calcutta in 1784, seven years after Thomas’s birth.

¹⁹ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 4, indicating that “in Bengal between 1757 and 1800 only one in four British covenanted civil servants, one in eight civilian residents, and one in ten army officers married there.” For terminology, Usha Devulapalli, “Exploring Social History of Colonial India: Issue of the Mixed Race Children (1765–1857 A.D.); Social Issues Mixed Race Children Faced During Colonial Period 1766–1857 A.D.,” *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention* 7 (2018): 51–59, particularly p. 54. According to Devulapalli, “‘Eurasian’ was the name given to the poor and dark-skinned people. Anglo-Indians were recognised as the British subjects and British descent.” Use of these terms has evolved over centuries. In practice, some favor one term or the other to refer to all Indian Europeans, irrespective of the above definitions (for example, Hawes, in *Poor Relations* [note 12], prefers “Eurasian”).

²⁰ Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India* (note 13), 17–19. From p. 17, “Native women were often not identified by complete names, but recorded incompletely by first name or a nickname given by the men who kept them.”

²¹ “British India Office Births & Baptisms,” database with images, *Findmypast*, citing British India Office Records, British Library, London.

Thomas was consistently recorded as “white” in censuses enumerated in New York City.²² This is not a conflict: children of white and South Asian parents may have a range of skin tones. Thomas was evidently light-skinned. His reported race offers little to no evidence of his mother’s birthplace or ethnicity.

The fact that Thomas was in New York City as a young man suggests his father was not a soldier with the EIC. According to historian Christopher J. Hawes, “British soldiers were not allowed to take their Indian partners and Eurasian children back to Britain and quite often retired to an invalid colony such as Chunar.”²³ The policy was one of many blatantly racist regulations enacted by the EIC and the British government intended to maintain the status quo and suppress the growing biracial population, which was perceived as a threat.²⁴ Educational, professional, and social discrimination, combined with the cost of leaving India, prevented young biracial men from seeking their fortunes abroad as adults.²⁵

Of children permitted to leave, those with lighter skin tones were more likely to make the journey to Europe.²⁶ Following arrival, they would be baptized and educated.²⁷ That description seems to fit Thomas: he was described as white, arrived in New York City by 1807, and quickly began work as an accountant.

For Thomas to have left Bengal, at least one of the following must have been true about his father:

- He had wealth, influence, or a position that offered some autonomy, as British men with those characteristics brought Indian wives and biracial children back to England.²⁸
- He was not employed by the EIC at about the time of Thomas’s birth.

One candidate for Thomas’s father meets these criteria.

²² Thomas Chapman households, all in New York City, New York Co., N.Y.: 1810 U.S. census, Ward 2, p. 98 (penned, left margin) (NARA M252, roll 32), with one free white male under age 10, one free white male age 26–44, three free white females under age 10, one free white female age 10–15, and one free white female age 26–44; 1820 U.S. census, Ward 2, p. 115 (penned, left margin) (NARA M33, roll 77), with one free white male under age 10, one free white male age 26–44, two free white females under age 10, one free white female age 10–15, one free white female age 16–25, and one free white female age 26–44; 1840 U.S. census, Ward 7, folio 91 (penned) (NARA M704, roll 301), with one free white male age 60–69, one free white female age 15–19, and one free white female age 60–69. Thomas Chatman [*sic*] household, 1830 U.S. census, New York City, Ward 7, New York Co., N.Y., p. 25 (penned) (NARA M19, roll 97), with one free white male age 50–59, one free white female age 5–9, one free white female age 10–14, one free white female age 15–19, two free white females age 20–29, and one free white female age 50–59.

²³ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 8. An invalid colony, sometimes called an invalid station, was a place where former soldiers, weakened by illness or injury, could reside with their families. Hawes also notes (p. 60) that the rule prohibiting soldiers from bringing partners and children back to England was “tested” in 1817 when, “[T]he Commander-in-Chief asked the Advocate General to rule under what authority was it prohibited for soldiers to take back their Eurasian or Indian wives and children. The answer was that there was no such ruling, but the local government made it clear that it had no intention of abandoning long existing usage.”

²⁴ Frank Anthony, *Britain’s Betrayal in India: The Story of the Anglo-Indian Community* (Bombay, India: Allied Publishers, 1968), 20–22. On p. 22, quoting Viscount Valentia in 1806, “The most rapidly accumulating evil of Bengal is the increase of half-caste children. They are forming the first step to colonisation by creating a link of union between the English and the natives. In every country where this intermediate caste has been permitted to rise, it has ultimately tended to its ruin.”

²⁵ Anthony, *Britain’s Betrayal in India* (note 24), 20–22. Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 57–60.

²⁶ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 78.

²⁷ Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India* (note 13), 30. Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 76.

²⁸ Hawes, *Poor Relations* (note 12), 60.

THOMAS CHAPMAN (1745–1819)

The obelisk marking the grave of Thomas Chapman, a resident of Greenfield, Franklin (formerly Hampshire) County, Massachusetts, during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, tells an abbreviated version of his life story:

THOMAS CHAPMAN Esq^r
 A Native
 Of Barforth in Yorkshire Great Britain
 and many years resident of
 Cossim buzar in the East Indies
 He departed this transitory life
 May 25th, AD. 1819, aged 73 . . .²⁹

His age at death suggests a birth year of about 1745–1746. Church records of Forcett parish, which includes Barforth, include only a handful of Chapmans. A baptismal record dated 29 December 1745 for Thomas, son of Thomas Chapman,³⁰ appears to be a match for the man who was buried in Greenfield.

This Thomas Chapman of Barforth and Greenfield was not found in any of the most genealogically relevant British Indian records, such as Bengali church records;³¹ however, a former neighbor, a great-granddaughter, and a grandson-in-law and described him in works published after his death. A Massachusetts neighbor wrote about Thomas based on recollections of their conversations.³² Thomas's great-granddaughter published a family history that includes his biography.³³ His granddaughter's husband, a frequent contributor to *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, authored a genealogy describing Thomas's travels and naming his associates.³⁴

The three accounts offer several key details about Thomas of Barforth and Greenfield:

²⁹ Thomas Chapman marker, Federal St. Cemetery, Greenfield, Mass., memorial 50,615,288, image, *Find a Grave* (<https://www.findagrave.com>). A transcription of the marker was published in 1839, only twenty years after Thomas's death (John Warner Barber, *Massachusetts Historical Collections* . . . [Worcester, Mass.: Dorr, Howland, and Co., 1839], 258–59). Franklin Co., Mass., was formed from the northern part of Hampshire Co. in 1811.

³⁰ Thomas Chapman baptism, 29 Dec. 1745, Forcett (Yorkshire North Riding, England), Parish Registers, baptisms, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (*FamilySearch* [<https://www.familysearch.org>] Digital Genealogical Society no. [DGS] 7,568,318). Also, Bishop's Transcripts for the same parish, baptisms, 1745 (DGS 8,074,836).

³¹ Records of British citizens in India are primarily held by the British India Office, British Library, London. The collections include some genealogically relevant records, such as church records and wills, as well as many that are less relevant, such as receipts from EIC expenses. Many of the records are in chronological order without indexes. There are large gaps in both Bengal records and late eighteenth-century records compared to other EIC-occupied regions and time periods. *Findmypast*, the Families in British India Society (FIBIS), and *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>) have indexed, if not digitized, the most genealogically relevant records plus many others, including EIC employee lists, soldier and sailor lists, and newspapers and periodicals. No reference to Thomas has been found in these collections.

³² David Willard, *Willard's History of Greenfield* (Greenfield, Mass.: Kneeland and Eastman, 1838), 153–54.

³³ Katharine H. Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard, 1828–1904: A Memoir of Her Life by Her Daughter* (Springfield, Mass.: privately published, 1908), 1–4.

³⁴ Edward Strong Moseley, *A Genealogical Sketch of One Branch of the Moseley Family* (Newburyport, R.I.: privately published, 1878), 43–44. Moseley, who married Charlotte Augusta Chapman in 1839, two decades after Thomas died, did not know Thomas personally.

- “Thomas Chapman went in early life to India, where he became an indigo planter[.]”³⁵
- “He was a member of the British East India Company[.]”³⁶
- He “was engaged in the rearing of silk worms, and in the silk business—residing some time at Bengal, and at Cossim-buzar.”³⁷ He worked “in partnership with James Lucas Worship[.]”³⁸
- He “returned to England at about the age of thirty-five,”³⁹ which would be about 1780–1781.
- He married Charlotte Carnzu in London.⁴⁰
- “His most intimate friend in England was Robert Beebee, Esq., their friendship commencing in India. . . . Both lived at Chailey [in Sussex, England].”⁴¹
- “In 1795 he [Thomas] concluded to come to America. . . . His inclinations were towards settling either in South Carolina or New York.”⁴²
- He “resided some time at Elizabethtown, New Jersey, was naturalized, and came to [Greenfield] about the year 1796[.]”⁴³

Many of the details can be independently confirmed. Thomas Chapman of Chailey Green, Sussex, was a member (shareholder) of the EIC.⁴⁴ He and James Lucas Worship worked as private contractors for the Bengal Board of Trade; they privately owned silk filatures near Cosimbuzar [*sic*].⁴⁵ Today Kasim Bazar is a city in West Bengal. During the EIC’s occupation, it was a center for trade and an appropriate location for silk merchants.⁴⁶ Thomas’s contract with the Bengal Board of Trade expired in 1781,⁴⁷ when he was about 35–36 years old. A resident of St. Andrew Holborn parish, London, he married Charlotte Carnzu there in 1787.⁴⁸ Thomas paid taxes on a residence in Chailey from 1788

³⁵ Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 1.

³⁶ Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 1.

³⁷ Willard, *Willard’s History of Greenfield* (note 32), 153.

³⁸ Moseley, *Genealogical Sketch of One Branch of the Moseley Family* (note 34), 43.

³⁹ Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 2.

⁴⁰ Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 2. Moseley, *Genealogical Sketch of One Branch of the Moseley Family* (note 34), 44.

⁴¹ Moseley, *Genealogical Sketch of One Branch of the Moseley Family* (note 34), 43.

⁴² Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 2–3.

⁴³ Willard, *Willard’s History of Greenfield* (note 32), 153. Bette M. Epstein (New Jersey State Archives, Trenton) to author, notice of negative search, 24 Oct. 2018. Epstein reported that Thomas’s naturalization record was not found in Essex Co., N.J., Supreme Court or Chancery Court records.

⁴⁴ East India Company, *A List of the Names of Those Members of the United Company of Merchants of England, Trading to the East-Indies, Who Stood Qualified as Voters on the Company’s Books the 14th of April, 1789* . . . (London: East India Company, 1789), 12, for Thomas Chapman, Esq., Chailey Green, Sussex, with one vote.

⁴⁵ Answers of Thomas Chapman, Esq., and James Lucas Worship, Esq., 24 Mar. 1787, in East India Company v. Aldersey, Study Matters removed from Mr. Whittington’s Office, 1791, Whittington and Sewell Division, Court of Chancery, Six Clerks Office, Pleadings 1758–1800, C 12/175/27, The [U.K.] National Archives, Kew, Surrey, England. As a private contractor, Thomas was not an employee of the EIC. According to Merriam-Webster’s online dictionary (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary>), a filature is a factory where silk is reeled.

⁴⁶ Rila Mukherjee, “The Story of Kasimbazar: Silk Merchants and Commerce in Eighteenth-Century India,” *Review (Fernand Braudel Center)* 17 (1994): 499–554.

⁴⁷ Answer of Thomas Chapman, Esq., in East India Company v. Aldersey (note 45).

⁴⁸ Thomas Chapman–Charlotte Carnzu marriage, St. Andrew Holborn (Middlesex, England), Parish Registers, Vol. 6 (Marriages 1781–1790), p. 131 (DGS 7,568,172).

to 1794; Robert “Beeby” paid taxes on and occupied lands there from 1790 to 1794.⁴⁹ Thomas Chapman, “late of Elizabethtown in the state of New Jersey” but then a resident of Greenfield, obtained a quitclaim for land in Greenfield 1 May 1798⁵⁰ and was enumerated there in 1800.⁵¹ Consistent with his being an independent merchant, no British army, navy, or EIC soldier or sailor pension was found for a Thomas Chapman in Bengal.⁵²

In his will, penned in 1817, Thomas Chapman of Greenfield described his beneficiaries:

“my Wife Charlotte Chapman”

“my natural Son Thomas Chapman”

“my Son The Reverend George Thomas Chapman”

“my Son Henry”

“my three Daughters Mary_l, Elizabeth_l, and Charlotte”⁵³

Should there have been any doubt about what he meant by “natural Son,” Thomas bequeathed other assets to his “aforesaid five legitimate Children viz. George_l, Henry_l, Mary_l, Elizabeth_l, and Charlotte.” As would be expected, the natural son, Thomas, received significantly less, and would inherit only after Charlotte (Carnzu) Chapman’s remarriage or death.

Additional evidence points to Thomas² Chapman being the natural son mentioned in this will. No marriage was found in India for Thomas of Barforth, but he was in Bengal when Thomas² was born.⁵⁴ As a private contractor, Thomas was free to remove biracial children from India. Thomas² Chapman was listed as “jun.” during the lifetime of his proposed father, and he named a daughter Charlotte, perhaps after his stepmother and half sister.⁵⁵ Both Thomases were affiliated with Episcopal churches. The elder Thomas cofounded St. James [Episcopal] Church in Greenfield;⁵⁶ the younger Thomas

⁴⁹ Chailey, East Sussex, England, Land tax assessments, loose papers, 1788–1794 (DGS 4,426,934).

⁵⁰ Benjamin Swan to Thomas Chapman, quitclaim, dated 1 May 1798, Franklin Co., Mass., Deeds 11:431–32 (DGS 7,465,506). At the time, Greenfield was in Hampshire Co., but deeds recorded in Hampshire County’s Deerfield registry between 1787 and 1812 were transferred to Greenfield, Franklin Co., when that county was formed in 1812 (Alice Eichholz, “Massachusetts,” in *Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources*, ed. by Alice Eichholz, 3rd ed. [Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2004], 323).

⁵¹ Thomas Chapman household, 1800 U.S. census, Greenfield, Hampshire Co., Mass., p. 605 (penned, right margin) (NARA M32, roll 15), with one free white male under age 10, one free white male age 10–15, one free white male age 45 or more, one free white female under 10, one free white female age 10–15, and one free white female age 26–45.

⁵² “British India Office Army & Navy Pensions,” database with images, *Findmypast*, citing British in India Collection, British Library, London, and FIBIS.

⁵³ Thomas Chapman will, dated 7 July 1817, proved 19 June 1819, in Thomas Chapman estate file, Franklin Co., Mass., probate files, no. 851, image, *Ancestry*.

⁵⁴ Complaint [“To the Right Honorable Edward Lord Thurton . . .”], p. 2, and Answer of Thomas Chapman, Esq., in *East India Company v. Aldersey* (note 45). Thomas was under contract with the Bengal Board of Trade to produce silk in Bengal from 1777 through 1781.

⁵⁵ See the genealogical summary for details.

⁵⁶ “Chapman Tablet Unveiled: Memorial to Greenfield Pioneer Dedicated at St. James Church,” *The Greenfield [Mass.] Recorder*, 7 June 1916, p. 4, col. 2. “The memory of Thomas Chapman, Greenfield pioneer and one of the founders of St. James church [*sic*] was honored Sunday morning by the unveiling and dedication of a handsome Kentucky limestone tablet which was placed some time ago on the south wall of the church. The tablet is the gift of Colonel Fred Moseley and Charles W. Moseley of Newburyport, greatgrandsons [*sic*] of Thomas Chapman.” The tablet still exists today.

had children buried in Trinity Episcopal church cemeteries in New York City.⁵⁷ Finally, the 1850 census lists the birthplace of Thomas² as Massachusetts.⁵⁸ At the time, Thomas² lived in a large household of children and in-laws, potential informants who may have known only that a parent had lived there.

In his short biography of Thomas Chapman of Barforth and Greenfield, neighbor David Willard wrote

The mists of prejudice may for a time obscure the character of men of worth, but like the vapors which surround the mountain's summit which they cannot hide, they are ultimately dispelled. He had his faults.⁵⁹

Although the meaning is uncertain, Willard may have been alluding to his neighbor's non-Christian partner and one or more illegitimate children.

BAPTISM OF THOMAS² CHAPMAN

When Thomas Chapman married Charlotte Carnzu in 1787, he resided in St. Andrew Holborn parish in London.⁶⁰ Records of that parish include the 22 June 1785 baptisms of three children of Thomas Chapman:

Thomas, son of Thomas Chapman "by Ayrsee Beeby," born "at Mahomedpore in the Kingdom of Bengal," 13 December 1777

William, son of Thomas Chapman "by Ayrsee Beeby," born "at Rangamatty in the Kingdom of Bengal," 1 June 1779

James, son of Thomas Chapman "by Frances Rennie," "Lambs Conduit Street."⁶¹

The son Thomas born in Mahomedpore, Bengal, shared his birthday with Thomas² Chapman of New York City.

Surrounding entries in the baptismal register list parents names together, for example as "John and Jane Doe." In the Chapman baptisms, the mothers are identified with surnames other than Chapman and their names are preceded with the word "by." The wording suggests the parents were not married, consistent with Thomas's will that refers to a natural son.

The name Ayrsee Beeby offers additional evidence that she was the partner of Thomas of Barforth and Greenfield and mother of Thomas². Although Beeby is an English surname, in colonial India "bibi" was an eighteenth-century term used for the female companion of a European man.⁶² "Bibi" was also an honorific title appended after an Indian woman's given name.⁶³ With few exceptions, Indian women from this period were recorded without surnames, sometimes identified by "a nickname given by the men who

⁵⁷ See the genealogical summary.

⁵⁸ Thos. Hagerman [*sic*] in W. H. Kenedy [*sic*, Kidney] household, 1850 U.S. census (note 8).

⁵⁹ Willard, *Willard's History of Greenfield* (note 32), 155.

⁶⁰ Chapman–Carnzu marriage (note 48).

⁶¹ Thomas, William, and James Chapman baptisms, 22 June 1785, St. Andrew Holborn (Middlesex, England), Parish Registers, Baptisms 1781–1792, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (DGS 7,905,454). James's entry does not include his date of birth.

⁶² Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India* (note 13), 33.

⁶³ "Beebee," in Henry Yule and A. C. Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson: The Anglo-Indian Dictionary*, rev. ed. (Hertfordshire, England: Wordsworth Editions Ltd., 1996), 78.

kept them” or merely as “native woman.”⁶⁴ The person who recorded the baptisms likely defaulted to the English spelling Beeby. Similarly, “Ayrsee” is not a given name in Arabic, Urdu, or Persian; however “Arshi” or “Arshee” is a Persian given name meaning “heavenly.”⁶⁵ For clarity, the spellings of “Ayrsee” and “Beeby” are continued for the remainder of this article.

Today, Mahomedpore corresponds to the area of Mamudpur, West Bengal.⁶⁶ As illustrated in Figure 1, it is located 20 miles east of Cossimbazar and about 55 miles north of Kishenagur, the birthplace listed on the death certificate for Thomas².

The distance between the conflicting birthplaces is more than 50 miles. The proposed father was not found documented in either location, however he conducted business in Cossimbazar (close to Mahomedpore), and his business associate James Lucas Worship was in Mahomedpore on 25 January 1778,⁶⁷ about six weeks after Thomas² was born. Possibly the proposed father of Thomas² was there at the same time. Together, Worship’s 1778 location and the baptismal record makes the birthplace of Mahomedpore more likely than Kishenagur.

The travel of English merchant Thomas Chapman can be explained by his occupation as a private contractor in the silk trade. During the late eighteenth century, the EIC saw great potential in Bengal as a producer of high quality silk. The EIC aspired to make Bengal’s silk competitive with that from other markets, particularly Italy.⁶⁸ The EIC’s agents, including one of Thomas’s associates, brought silk-production techniques from Italy to Bengal.⁶⁹ European agents trained local workers, built new filatures and aurungs (silk-production sites), and oversaw operations.⁷⁰ The centers for silk trade emerged

⁶⁴ Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India* (note 13), 17–18.

⁶⁵ Francis Joseph Steingass, *A Comprehensive Persian-English Dictionary* (New Delhi: Asian Educational Services, 2005), 843.

⁶⁶ There are several locations with names similar to Mahomedpore. The historical location was determined by consulting James Rennell, *An Actual Survey of the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, &c* (London: A. Dury, 1776).

⁶⁷ Answer of James Lucas Worship, in *East India Company v. Aldersey* (note 45). James’s signed statement quotes a letter written by him in “Mahomed pore” on 25 Jan. 1778.

⁶⁸ Narendra Krishna Sinha, *The Economic History of Bengal: From Plassey to the Permanent Settlement*, 3rd ed., 3 vols. (Calcutta: Firma KLM Private Ltd., 1965), 1:189–90. For an overview, Karolina Hutková, “The British Silk Connection: The English East India Company’s Silk Enterprise in Bengal, 1757–1812” (Ph.D. thesis, University of Warwick, Coventry, England, 2015), particularly pp. 173–75, PDF, *University of Warwick Publications Service & WRAP* (http://wrap.warwick.ac.uk/77740/1/WRAP_THESIS_Hutkova_2015.pdf). Also, Mukherjee, “The Story of Kasimbazar . . .” (note 46), 507–8.

⁶⁹ Femme S. Gastra, “War, Competition and Collaboration: Relations Between the English and Dutch East India Company in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries,” in *The Worlds of the East India Company*, ed. by H. V. Bowen, Margarette Lincoln, and Nigel Rigby (Woodbridge, England: The Boydell Press with the National Maritime Museum and the University of Leicester, 2002), 55–68, at p. 64. *The Silk Culturist and Farmer’s Manual* printed an article that cites and extensively quotes Thomas’s own writings on Bengali silk production, including comparisons between the Italian and Indian methods. See “Production of Silk in Bengal,” *The Silk Culturist and Farmer’s Manual* 2 (1836): 129–30. The activities of Thomas’s associate James Weiss are described in Sinha, *Economic History of Bengal* (note 68), 1:190. Weiss worked at Kumarkhali, which is about halfway between and slightly east of Mahomedpore and Kishenagur.

⁷⁰ Sinha, *Economic History of Bengal* (note 68), 1:190. *Fort William—India House Correspondence and Other Contemporary Papers Relating Thereto*, Indian Record Series, 21 vols. (Delhi, India: National Archives of India, 1949–1985), 8:56.

and changed over time. Cossimbazar and Rangamatty were two centers of silk production⁷¹ and there were additional silk filatures at Kishenagur.⁷²

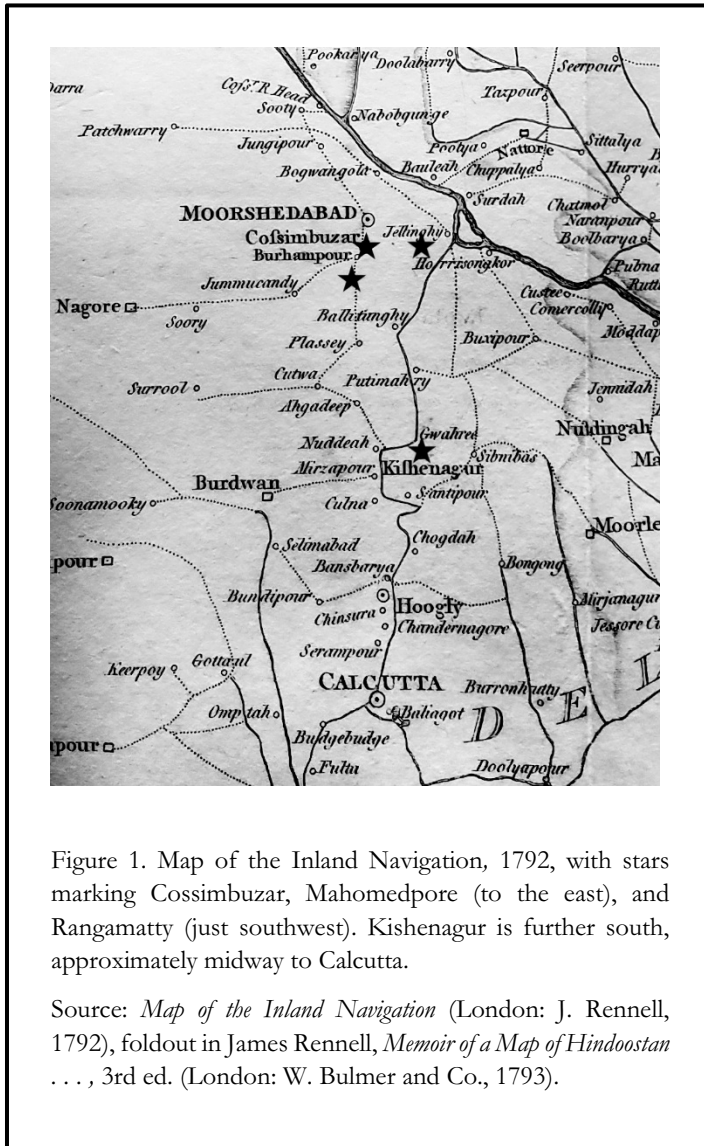


Figure 1. Map of the Inland Navigation, 1792, with stars marking Cossimbazar, Mahomedpore (to the east), and Rangamatty (just southwest). Kishenagur is further south, approximately midway to Calcutta.

Source: *Map of the Inland Navigation* (London: J. Rennell, 1792), foldout in James Rennell, *Memoir of a Map of Hindoostan . . .*, 3rd ed. (London: W. Bulmer and Co., 1793).

⁷¹ Sinha, *Economic History of Bengal* (note 68), 1:189. There are at least three places called Rangamati, two villages and one town. William's birthplace likely corresponds to Rangamati town (24.02°N 88.19°E), where the EIC maintained filatures, about 10 miles from Cossimbazar and 30 miles from Mahomedpore (*The Imperial Gazetteer of India*, 26 vols. [Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1908], 21:212).

⁷² *Fort William-India House Correspondence* (note 70), 8:56.

Records offer no evidence of Ayrshree's whereabouts after her son William was born in 1779. Negative searches suggest she either died or that Thomas left her behind in Bengal when he returned to England. Records of eighteenth-century non-royal Bengali women are all but nonexistent; records created by Europeans that mention local women frequently omit women's names.⁷³ As such, no firm conclusion can be made. Ayrshree may have been alive when Thomas departed Bengal; it was common practice for British men when they returned to Europe to leave behind native partners and some or all of their biracial children.

Although permission was required for all travel to India,⁷⁴ independent merchants' departures from India required no additional paperwork.⁷⁵ Departures were sometimes printed locally in newspapers and similar publications, but that did not become common practice until long after 1785.⁷⁶ Passenger manifests to Great Britain are sparse before 1878, which makes a search for Thomas, Ayrshree, and their children particularly challenging.

No record of a marriage or burial for Ayrshree was found in English parish records in any of the locations where Thomas Chapman (1745–1819) resided, in English civil death records, or in British Indian baptism, marriage, or burial records, with or without a surname.

ADMIXTURE AND X-DNA ANALYSIS

One of the most alluring components of consumer DNA test results is undoubtedly the “pie chart,” a graphic illustration of the continents, countries, or ethnic groups that may constitute a test-taker's genetic family tree. The smallest slices, termed “trace regions” by AncestryDNA,⁷⁷ oftentimes attract attention out of proportion to their size. Testing companies and genetic genealogists alike caution that results at the level of 0.5, 1, or 3 percent may be

⁷³ Ghosh, *Sex and the Family in Colonial India* (note 13), 17–19.

⁷⁴ *Charters Relating to the East India Company from 1600 to 1761, Reprinted from a Former Collection with Some Additions and a Preface by John Shaw, Esq.* (Madras, India: Government of Madras, 1887), 152–54. The last EIC charter was issued in 1698; later modifications were made by the Parliament rather than by issuing new charters. The 1698 charter forbade unauthorized trade to the East-Indies. It also stipulated that no subjects of England but approved parties could, “[D]irectly or indirectly, visit, haunt, frequent or trade, traffick or adventure, unto or from any the said *East-Indies* . . .” or face penalties. The charter granted the EIC full authority to control (license) all trade and travel to the region (pp. 153–54). The question of licenses was also addressed directly in William Bolts, *Considerations on India Affairs; Particularly Respecting the Present State of Bengal and its Dependencies* . . . , 2nd ed. (London: privately published, 1772), 125–28. Thomas Chapman admitted in a sworn statement that he first went to Bengal without a license (Answer of Thomas Chapman, Esq., in *East India Company v. Aldersey* [note 45]).

⁷⁵ “An Indenture signed by every Free Merchant who Goes to India.—To Calcutta,” quoted in Joshua Montefiore, *Commercial and Notarial Precedents: Consisting of All the Most Approved Forms, Special and Common, Which are Required in Transactions of Business* . . . (London: privately published, 1802), 292–96. The indenture signed by all free merchants traveling to India stipulated a date of return for those merchants and their families. Additional paperwork was filed only if the terms of the indenture were changed (for example, if the return date was rescheduled). The indenture was in use when Thomas Chapman was in India; see Bolts, *Considerations on India Affairs* (note 74), 115–16.

⁷⁶ For example, *Allen's Indian Mail, and Register of Intelligence, for British & Foreign India, China, and All Parts of the East*.

⁷⁷ AncestryDNA defines “trace regions” as “[R]egions where the estimated range includes zero and does not go above 15%, or where the predicted percentage is less than 4.5%. Since there is only a small amount of evidence that you have genetic ethnicity from these regions, it is possible that you may not have genetic ethnicity from them at all” (“AncestryDNA—Frequently Asked Questions,” *AncestryDNA* [https://www.ancestry.com/dna/en/lega/us/faq]).

“noise”⁷⁸ and should be treated with vigilance as evidence in genealogical proofs. Autosomal DNA evidence from two descendants of Thomas² Chapman reveals a shared 0.5–1.1 percent South Asian ancestry admixture. Analysis of X-DNA inheritance patterns links that DNA to Ayrshée Beeby, the testers’ great-great-great-grandmother.

Two full siblings and their mother (referred to here as “Brother,” “Sister,” and “Mother”) took autosomal DNA tests through 23andMe.⁷⁹ Brother also tested with AncestryDNA. The siblings’ father is a documented descendant of Thomas² Chapman. Table 1 shows the test-takers’ admixture results from 23andMe at conservative (90 percent) and speculative (50 percent) confidence levels.⁸⁰ Table 2 shows Brother’s admixture results from AncestryDNA.⁸¹ Although the testing companies use different labels for regions, the results are virtually identical. In 23andMe, the South Asian population “[extends] from Afghanistan in the northwest to Bangladesh in the east . . . This dataset includes people of Afghan, Balochi, Bangladeshi, Brahui, Burusho, Hazara, Indian, Kalash, Makrani, Nepalese, Pakistani, Pathan, Sindhi, Sri Lankan, or Uygur ancestry.”⁸² Contrary to its name, AncestryDNA’s Western and Central India category covers almost all of India and extends as far east as Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.⁸³ The wide range of geographic locations complicates the search for specific ancestors.⁸⁴

As shown in Table 1, Mother has no South Asian DNA, so her children almost certainly inherited their South Asian ancestry from their father. Results from 23andMe show the siblings with identical European percentages and South Asian percentages ranging between 0.5 and 1.1 percent. Such small percentages may be noise, however the results are identical across DNA testing companies and they have been replicated in two siblings. As illustrated in Figure 2, Brother and Sister share one large South Asian-identified segment with overlapping start and stop points on chromosome 1.⁸⁵ Testing companies

⁷⁸ “Noise” in data or statistics refers to meaningless information, such as outliers and false positives.

⁷⁹ “Brother” and “Sister” are living and granted the author permission to publish their results but not their names. “Mother” is deceased. Her name has been redacted to protect the privacy of her living family members.

⁸⁰ Ancestry Composition reports, Oct. 2018, for “Brother,” “Sister,” and “Mother,” 23andMe (<https://www.23andme.com>). The default confidence level is 50 percent. The level can be adjusted up to 90 percent using 23andMe’s Chromosome Painting utility.

⁸¹ Ethnicity Estimate report, Oct. 2018, for “Brother,” AncestryDNA (<https://www.ancestry.com/dna>). AncestryDNA does not provide admixture totals for each continent. For purposes of comparison with 23andMe, which provides continental totals, the author has calculated the continental totals for Brother’s AncestryDNA results, shown in Table 2 alongside Brother’s full AncestryDNA admixture results.

⁸² “Reference Populations: South Asian,” 23andMe (https://customercare.23andme.com/hc/en-us/articles/212169298-Reference-Populations#South_Asian).

⁸³ AncestryDNA, *Ethnicity Estimate 2018 White Paper* (https://www.ancestrycdn.com/dna/static/images/ethnicity/help/WhitePaper_Final_091118dbs.pdf), section 2.5.

⁸⁴ Testing companies’ South Asian reference populations are small compared to those for other regions, despite India having one of the most genetically diverse populations in the world. For example, AncestryDNA’s Western and Central India reference panel has sixty-five samples, whereas France has 1,407 samples. See AncestryDNA, *Ethnicity Estimate 2018 White Paper* (note 83). Also, Jinchuan Xing, W. Scott Watkins, et al., “Genetic Diversity in India and the Inference of Eurasian Population Expansion,” *Genome Biology* 11 (2010): R113, online at <https://genomebiology.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/gb-2010-11-11-r113>.

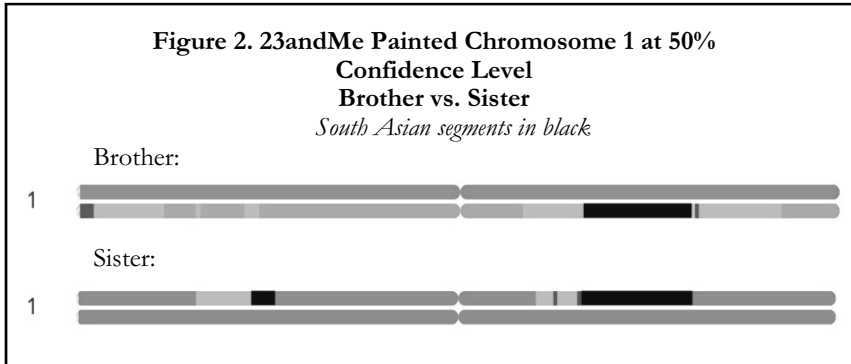
⁸⁵ Your Ancestry Composition Chromosome Painting report, Oct. 2018, for chromosome 1, “Brother” and “Sister,” at 50 percent confidence level, 23andMe. The shared South Asian segment is located at 165,658,091–200,865,768. The term “painted chromosome” refers to a visual representation of data on a chromosome, in this case the illustration of segments assigned to geographic areas. All humans have twenty-two pairs of non-sex chromosomes, numbered 1 through 22. Individuals inherit one set from each parent.

can distinguish between broad regions, such as Asia versus Europe, with a high level of confidence.

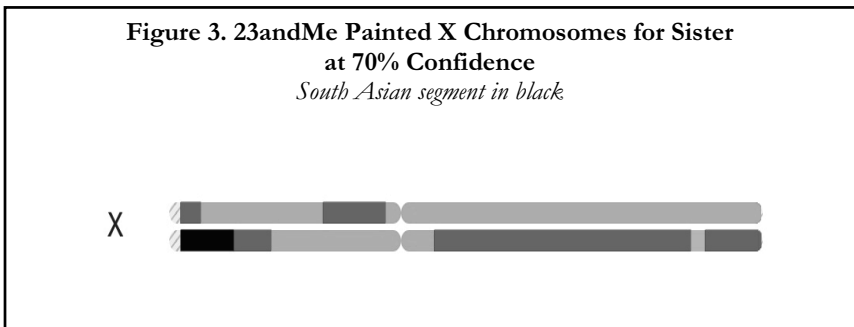
| Table 1. 23andMe Admixture Results | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|------------|-------|------|
| Brother, Sister, and Mother at 90% and 50% Confidence Levels | | | | | |
| BROTHER | | | MOTHER | | |
| REGION | 90% | 50% | REGION | 90% | 50% |
| European | 96.6% | 98.9% | European | 99.5% | 100% |
| South Asian | 0.5% | 1.1% | Unassigned | 0.5% | 0% |
| Unassigned | 2.8% | 0.1% | | | |
| SISTER | | | | | |
| REGION | 90% | 50% | | | |
| European | 96.6% | 98.9% | | | |
| South Asian | 0.7% | 1.0% | | | |
| Unassigned | 2.6% | 0.1% | | | |

| Table 2. AncestryDNA Admixture Results for Brother | |
|---|-------|
| REGION | % |
| England, Wales & Northwestern Europe | 45% |
| Ireland and Scotland | 43% |
| Norway | 6% |
| Sweden | 3% |
| France | 2% |
| [Calculated total] | [99%] |
| Western and Central India | 1% |

For more, see “Autosomal DNA,” *ISOGG Wiki* (https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA). While 23andMe can distinguish between two chromosomes, it cannot identify which chromosome came from which parent. As a result, Figure 2 shows Brother’s paternal chromosome on the bottom, while Sister’s is on the top. Figure 3 shows Sister’s paternal X chromosome on the bottom.



Given the very small percentages of South Asian DNA in the siblings' results compared with their very large percentages of European DNA, it is most likely that their South Asian DNA originated with a single, 100-percent South Asian ancestor rather than several more distant ancestors. Based on the siblings' admixture percentages, their South Asian ancestor may be any one (or more) of their sixteen paternal great-great-great-grandparents. Sister, however, has a South Asian segment of DNA on one of her X chromosomes, as illustrated in Figure 3.⁸⁶



X-DNA follows a narrow inheritance pattern.⁸⁷ A cisgender, non-intersex female inherits two X chromosomes, one from each biological parent. A cisgender, non-intersex male inherits a single X chromosome from his biological mother.⁸⁸ As expected, Brother's X chromosome, inherited from his

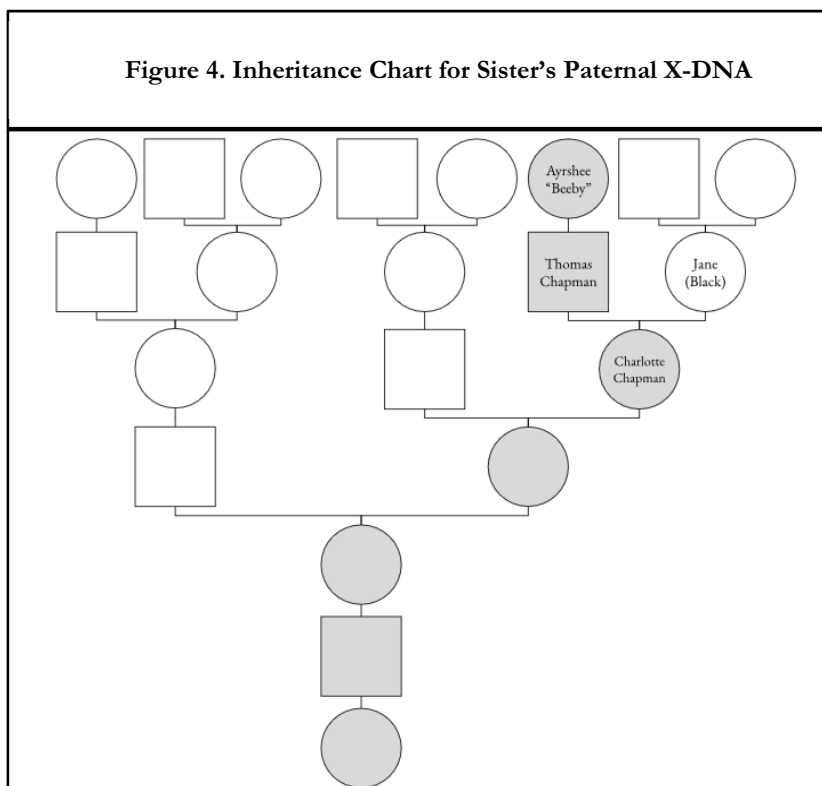
⁸⁶ Your Ancestry Composition Chromosome Painting report, Oct. 2018, for X-chromosome, "Sister," at 70 percent confidence level, *23andMe*.

⁸⁷ For more about X-DNA results and inheritance patterns, "X-chromosome testing," *ISOGG Wiki* (https://isogg.org/wiki/X-chromosome_testing). Also, Kathryn J. Johnston, "X-DNA Techniques and Limitations," in Debbie Parker Wayne, ed., *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies* (Cushing, Tex.: Wayne Research, 2019), 55–78, particularly p. 56.

⁸⁸ Cisgender refers to a non-transgender person, that is "a person whose gender identity corresponds with the sex the person had or was identified as having at birth" (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary* [<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>]). Intersex "is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is

mother (who has no South Asian DNA), does not include a South Asian segment. Studying the pattern by which Sister could have inherited her X-DNA reduces the number of possible South Asian-DNA-carrying ancestors from sixteen to five paternal great-great-great-grandparents.⁸⁹ Those five candidates have all been identified. Their birthplaces are Canada, Connecticut, India, and two in New York. Thomas² Chapman is the ancestor who was born in India.

On average, a great-great-great-grandparent contributes approximately 3 percent of a person's genome. The mother of Thomas², a generation further back, may have contributed about 1.5 percent of the sibling test-takers' DNA. This number is close to the siblings' 0.5–1.1 percent South Asian result and certainly within a reasonable and acceptable margin, given the randomness of recombination. Ayrshee Beeby and Thomas² Chapman fit perfectly into Sister's paternal X-DNA inheritance chart, as illustrated in Figure 4, where squares represent males, circles represent females, and shading indicates the path from Ayrshee to Sister.



born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male" (*Intersex Society of North America* [http://www.isna.org/faq/what_is_intersex/]). The term includes those with more or fewer than two sex chromosomes.

⁸⁹ "X-chromosome testing" (note 87). Johnston, "X-DNA Techniques and Limitations" (note 87).

Documentary evidence establishes that Thomas² Chapman was the son of Thomas¹ Chapman and Ayrsee Beeby. This is supported by X-DNA analysis and admixture results for test-takers Brother and Sister, whose trace South Asian DNA originated with their great-great-great-grandmother Ayrsee Beeby.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1. **THOMAS¹ CHAPMAN** (*probably* Thomas^A) was born in Barforth, Yorkshire North Riding (today in County Durham), England, about 1745–1746.⁹⁰ He was probably the Thomas Chapman who was baptized at Forcett parish, Yorkshire North Riding, 29 December 1745, son of Thomas Chapman.⁹¹ Thomas¹ died 25 May 1819, aged 73 years, probably in Greenfield, Franklin County (formerly Hampshire County), Massachusetts, and was buried there in Federal Street Cemetery.⁹² He had children first in Bengal, India, with “**AYRSHEE BEEBY**,”⁹³ or Arshi Bibi (Bibi being an honorific title), likely a Bengali woman who resided there. Thomas¹ also had a child with **FRANCES RENNIE**. That child was born possibly in London, England.⁹⁴ Frances was likely the Frances Rennie baptized at St. Ann Blackfriars parish, London, 7 March 1764, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth ([-?-]) Rennie.⁹⁵ Thomas¹ married at St. Andrew Holborn, London, 3 May 1787 **CHARLOTTE CARNZU**.⁹⁶ She was born 1 March 1760 and baptized at Westminster St. James Church, Middlesex, England, 30 March 1760.⁹⁷ Charlotte died 13 February 1843, probably in Greenfield, and was buried there with her husband in Federal Street Cemetery.⁹⁸ She was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Wilson) Carnzu.⁹⁹

Children of Thomas¹ Chapman and “Ayrsee Beeby” [Arshi Bibi]:¹⁰⁰

2. i. **THOMAS² CHAPMAN**, born 13 December 1777 in Bengal, India, likely in Mahomedpore (today Mamudpur, West Bengal, India); died in the Williamsburg

⁹⁰ Thomas Chapman marker (note 29), indicating he died 25 May 1819, aged 73 years. Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 1.

⁹¹ Thomas Chapman baptism (note 30).

⁹² Thomas Chapman death, 25 May 1819, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.) parish records, searched by staff of the Episcopal Church of Saints James and Andrew, Greenfield. Also in *Vital Records of Greenfield Massachusetts to the Year 1850* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1915), 251. Thomas Chapman marker (note 29).

⁹³ Thomas Chapman and William Chapman baptisms (note 61).

⁹⁴ James Chapman baptism (note 61).

⁹⁵ Frances Rennie baptism, 7 Mar. 1764, St. Ann Blackfriars (London, Middlesex, England), Parish Registers, Vol. 2, Baptisms 1701–1812, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (DGS 8,046,653).

⁹⁶ Chapman–Carnzu marriage (note 48).

⁹⁷ Charlotte Carnzu baptism, 30 Mar. 1760, St. James (Westminster, Middlesex, England), Parish Registers, Vol. 4, Baptisms May 1741–Dec. 1760, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (DGS 5,109,359).

⁹⁸ Charlotte Chapman death, 13 Feb. 1843, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.) parish records (note 92). Also in *Vital Records of Greenfield to 1850* (note 92), 251. Charlotte Chapman marker, Federal St. Cemetery, Greenfield, Mass., memorial 50,615,525, image, *Find a Grave*.

⁹⁹ Charlotte Carnzu baptism (note 97), which gives her mother Elizabeth’s first name only. For Elizabeth’s maiden name, Dorniel [*sic*] Carnzu–Eliz. Wilson marriage, 3 Mar. 1754, Fleet Register: Symson’s register number 2, General Register Office: Registers of Clandestine Marriages and of Baptisms in the Fleet Prison, King’s Bench Prison, the Mint and the May Fair Chapel, p. 766 (penned), RG 7/268, [U.K.] National Archives, image, *Find My Past*.

¹⁰⁰ It is not known whether Thomas’s children William, James, and Charlotte (baptized 1790) immigrated. The generational superscript is not meant to imply that they immigrated, but only that they were children of immigrant Thomas¹ Chapman.

section of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, 16 August 1862; married in New York City 12 April 1807 JANE (BLACK) BRARD.

- ii. WILLIAM² CHAPMAN, born in Rangamatty, Bengal (today Rangamati, West Bengal), 1 June 1779 and baptized in St. Andrew Holborn, London, 22 June 1785;¹⁰¹ died probably before 7 July 1817, as he was not named in his father's will.¹⁰² No further information found.

Child of Thomas¹ Chapman and Frances Rennie:

- iii. JAMES² CHAPMAN, born possibly in Lambs Conduit Street, London, and baptized at St Andrew Holborn 22 June 1785;¹⁰³ died probably before 7 July 1817, as he was not named in his father's will.¹⁰⁴ No further information found.

Children of Thomas¹ and Charlotte (Carnzu) Chapman:

- iv. GEORGE THOMAS² CHAPMAN, born in Pilton, Devonshire, England, 21 September 1786, and baptized there 7 October 1786 as the "Base [illegitimate] Child of Charlotte Carnsu [sic]";¹⁰⁵ died in Newburyport, Essex County, Massachusetts, 18 October 1872;¹⁰⁶ married in Bucksport, Hancock County, District of Maine, Massachusetts, 19 May 1811 ALICE BUCK,¹⁰⁷ born in Bucksport 5 February 1794,¹⁰⁸ died in Newburyport 25 February 1870, aged 76 years, 20 days, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary B. ([?–]) Buck.¹⁰⁹ George was baptized again at St. George Hanover Square, Westminster, 21 January 1787, with both parents' names listed.¹¹⁰ His parents married four months later.
- v. MARY² CHAPMAN, born in Chailey, Sussex (today East Sussex), England, 29 June 1788 and baptized there 10 August 1788; died unmarried in Greenfield 18 June 1837 and was buried there in Federal Street Cemetery.¹¹¹

¹⁰¹ William Chapman baptism (note 61).

¹⁰² Thomas Chapman will (note 53). Several William Chapmans were buried in the London area between 1785 and 1800; however, these entries lack additional identifying information, such as ages at death, that might tie one of them to William.

¹⁰³ James Chapman baptism (note 61). The baptismal record does not include his date of birth. According to Leonard, *Clara Temple Leonard* (note 33), 2, Thomas returned to England at the age of 35, or about 1780–1781. James was likely born sometime between then and the June 1785 baptism.

¹⁰⁴ Thomas Chapman will (note 53).

¹⁰⁵ For birthplace, George Thomas Chapman death, Newburyport, Essex Co., Mass., Births, Marriages, and Deaths 4:91, no. 238, image, "Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988," *Ancestry*. Rev. George T. Chapman, *Sketches of the Alumni of Dartmouth College, From the First Graduation in 1771 to the Present Time, with a Brief History of the Institution* (Cambridge, Mass.: privately published, 1867), 116, in which George's birth date is listed as 21 Sept. 1786. Baptism of George, base child of Charlotte Carnsu, 7 Oct. 1786, Parish Church of Pilton (Pilton, Devon, England), Bishop's Transcripts, 1603–1812 [with gaps], arranged chronologically (DGS 5,751,490).

¹⁰⁶ George Thomas Chapman death (note 105).

¹⁰⁷ Chapman, *Sketches of the Alumni of Dartmouth College* (note 105), 117. George Thomas Chapman–Alice Buck marriage, Bucksport, Me., Town and Vital Records 1:485 (DGS 7,592,503). Maine became a state 15 Mar. 1820. Before that it was part of Massachusetts.

¹⁰⁸ Alice Buck birth, 5 Feb. 1794, Bucksport, Me., Town and Vital Records 1:496 (DGS 7,592,503). Alice Chapman, wife of George T. Chapman, baptism, 14 May 1814, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.) parish records (note 92), which shows her birth as Feb. 1794.

¹⁰⁹ Alice B. Chapman death, 25 Feb. 1870, Newburyport, Essex Co., Mass., Births, Marriages, and Deaths 4:73, no. 33, image, *Ancestry*.

¹¹⁰ George Thomas [Chapman] baptism, 21 Jan. 1787 (born 21 Sept. [1786]), St. George Hanover Square (Westminster, Middlesex, England), Parish Registers, Vol. 4, Baptisms 1767–1787, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (DGS 5,620,059).

¹¹¹ Mary Chapman baptism, 10 Aug. 1788, Chailey (East Sussex, England), Parish Registers (recopied), Baptisms 1538–1842, unpaginated, arranged chronologically (DGS 7,768,994). Mary Chapman marker, Federal St. Cemetery, Greenfield, Mass., memorial 86,097,043, image, *Find a Grave*, which includes places and dates of birth and death. Mary Chapman death, 18 June 1837, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.) parish records (note 92). Also in *Vital Records of Greenfield to 1850* (note 92), 251.

- vi. CHARLOTTE² CHAPMAN, baptized in Chailey 26 September 1790;¹¹² died probably before the 1800 census.¹¹³
- vii. ELIZABETH² CHAPMAN, born in Chailey 20 July 1793 and baptized there 25 August 1793;¹¹⁴ died unmarried in Springfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts, 8 March 1872, aged 78 years, and was buried in Federal Street Cemetery, Greenfield.¹¹⁵
- viii. HENRY² CHAPMAN, born in Greenfield about 1799–1800; died in the State Lunatic Hospital, Northampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, 23 March 1875, aged 75 years, and was buried in Springfield Cemetery, Springfield;¹¹⁶ married in Rutland, Rutland County, Vermont, 28 June 1827 CLARA TEMPLE,¹¹⁷ born in Castleton, Rutland County, 24 October 1806,¹¹⁸ died in Springfield 31 March 1880 and was buried there,¹¹⁹ daughter of Robert and Clarinda B. (Hawkins) Temple.¹²⁰
- ix. CHARLOTTE² CHAPMAN, born 7 July 1802, probably in Greenfield;¹²¹ died in New Haven, New Haven County, Connecticut, 29 October 1856 and was buried in Federal Street Cemetery, Greenfield;¹²² married in St. James Church, Greenfield, 30 July 1833 CHARLES MILTON EMERSON,¹²³ born January 1802, in Reading, Middlesex, Massachusetts, or Westminster, Windham County, Vermont, died in New Orleans, New Orleans Parish, Louisiana, 11 April 1881, son of Reuben and Persis (Hardy) Emerson. Charles married second say 1856 (first-known child), probably in New Orleans, Emily Broadhurst.¹²⁴

(To be continued)

¹¹² Charlotte Chapman baptism, 26 Sept. 1790, Chailey Parish Registers, Baptisms 1538–1842 (note 111).

¹¹³ Charlotte was not enumerated in her parents' household in 1800 (Thomas Chapman household, 1800 U.S. census [note 51]). Her parents named another child Charlotte in 1802 (see below), adding to the likelihood that this first Charlotte had died. No burial record was found for her in Chailey parish registers.

¹¹⁴ Elizabeth Chapman baptism, 25 Aug. 1793, Chailey Parish Registers, Baptisms 1538–1842 (note 111). For place and date of birth, Elizabeth Chapman marker, Federal St. Cemetery, Greenfield, Mass., memorial 50,616,064, image, *Find a Grave*.

¹¹⁵ Elizabeth Chapman death, Springfield, Hampden Co., Mass., Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1870–1879, p. 29, no. 129, image, *Ancestry*. Elizabeth Chapman marker (note 114).

¹¹⁶ Henry Chapman death, Northampton, Hampshire Co., Mass., Deaths 1873–1883, p. 88, no. 7, image, *Ancestry*. Henry Chapman memorial, Springfield Cemetery, Springfield, Mass., memorial 38,492,381, no image, *Find a Grave*, which notes, without documentation, the grave location (Myrtle Path West 1127) and the place of death as Springfield, which is incorrect.

¹¹⁷ Henry Chapman–Clara Temple marriage, Rutland, Vt., Vital Records 7:107 (DGS 5,464,222).

¹¹⁸ Clara Temple birth, Castleton, Vt., Vital Records 1:11 (DGS 5,460,123).

¹¹⁹ Clara T. Chapman death, Springfield, Hampden Co., Mass., Deaths, 1880, p. 4, no. 136, image, *Ancestry*.

¹²⁰ Clara Temple birth (note 118). For mother's maiden name, Clara T. Chapman death (note 119).

¹²¹ Charlotte Chapman baptism, 29 June 1803, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.), parish records (note 92). Also in *Vital Records of Greenfield to 1850* (note 92), 33. The church record lists her date of birth as 7 July, while her marker (Charlotte Emerson marker, Federal St. Cemetery, Greenfield, Mass., memorial 50,616,817, image, *Find a Grave*) shows it as 10 July.

¹²² Charlotte Emerson death notice, [Middletown, Conn.] *Constitution*, 12 Nov. 1856, [p. 2], col. 1. Charlotte Emerson marker (note 121).

¹²³ Charles M. Emerson–Charlotte Chapman marriage, 30 July 1833, St. James Church (Greenfield, Mass.), parish records (note 92). Charles M. Emerson–Charlotte Chapman marriage intention, 5 July 1833, Greenfield, Mass., Town Records 2:421 (DGS 7,009,246).

¹²⁴ Benjamin Kendall Emerson and George Augustus Gordon, *The Ipswich Emersons, A.D. 1636–1900: A Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Emerson of Ipswich, Mass.* . . . (Boston: privately published, 1900), 302, which indicates he was born in “South Reading,” Mass., 16 Jan. 1802. South Reading was formed from Reading in 1812. “Death of Judge Charles M. Emerson,” *The Daily Picayune* [New Orleans, La.], 12 Apr. 1881, [p. 4], col. 5, which states he had been born in Vt. He is likely the Charles Milton Emerson whose 21 Jan. 1802 birth to Reuben and Percy Emerson was recorded in Westminster, Windham Co., Vt. (Westminster Town Clerk Births, Marriages, Deaths, Vols. 1 and 3, p. 84 [DGS 4,032,888]). For first-known child, Charles Emmerson, age 23, in the Chas. M. Emmerson household, 1880 U.S. census, New Orleans, Parish of New Orleans, La., Enumeration District [ED] 83, p. 44, dw. 370, fam. 399 (NARA T9, roll 464). The 1880 census shows Charles M.'s birthplace as New Hampshire.