

October 29, 2021

Hello to all my Hyatt Cousins!

My name is Peggy Rosenbaum and I began working on our family history around 1985. Several of my family branches were fairly easy to find links in and grew quickly. The Hyatt side of the family was a different beast. Much of the family did not have good records and everyone was Mamaw and Papaw so it was hard to make connections. Online searches all seemed to evolve around a Charles Hyatt who had married a Sarah Tewksberry but their children did not match anything that I had found with our branch. Family tales had our family migrating from the New England states down into Virginia and into North Carolina and back to Tennessee. I spent a lot of time researching in the courthouses and libraries of Ashe, Surry and Cherokee Counties in North Carolina and have walked many cemeteries in each of these counties. My mother and I enjoyed working on this together and I have many happy memories of doing this.

One connection that we wanted to pursue was given us from the Courthouse in Surry County. They told us about the Hyatt Reunion that was held in Cherokee every year. I first attended the North Carolina Hyatt Reunion in 2003 with my Mother Dorothy Hyatt Rhea. We had been working on trying to find our Hyatt connection with the North Carolina Branch ever since we had first heard of the reunion and felt sure we would be better able to make the link by attending the reunion. The extensive work that had been completed by the family there was amazing and we were very excited to be there. But even though everyone was super friendly and welcoming us into the group we just could not make the link happen and ultimately left that day feeling somewhat like the illegitimate step kids. Over time we continued to stay in touch with the group and have had many good conversations and links from family there. Even though we could not make the "tree" link we did pursue the DNA link via my Uncle (Mom's brother) and did confirm a positive link so we knew we were still on the right track. Mom passed in 2015 without knowing the link but she was still certain that we were connected.

To make a long story short, 18 years from when we first met the North Carolina branch I finally have made the connection! I learned of the First Hyatt Reunion that was held Wednesday June 20 & 21, 1866 in the Congregational Church at Stamford, Connecticut. The meeting was conducted very much like the North Carolina reunion is done. Officers were elected and the group stated a purpose of preserving the Hyatt name and lineage. At that time there were representatives that came from 20 states to give their numbers from their state. The validity that **Simon Hoyt (Hyatt)** was the first member of the Hoyt family to emigrate to New England was affirmed as was much other history of the family. Simon is known as the "Father of the Hyatts" in the United States. The reference for the reunion is found in "A Genealogical History of the Hoyt, Haight, and Hight Families" written by David Webster Hoyt. This was also affirmed to me in the "North American Family Histories of Frost and Related Families 1500-2000".

In these books I also found that one of Simon's sons was Thomas. **Thomas married Elizabeth Russell** and their children were Mary, Deborah, Caleb, Ruth, Johannes, Charles Sr and Thomas (twins), William, and Rebecca. My side branches from **Johannes** and the North Carolina branches from **Charles Sr**. According to the Court records in Maryland for 1662-1911 **Charles Sr** was married to **Mary Preston** and they had a son named **Charles II** who married **Sarah**

Tewksberry and had a son named Seth. You can read of this also in "Settlers of Maryland 1679-1783" by Peter Wilson Coldham and "Ancestral Colonial Families - Genealogy of The Welsh and Hyatt Families of Maryland and Their Kin" by Luther W Welsh, A.M, M.D..

My problem had been that I was not looking far enough back to find the link - 12 generations back from me is a long way to look and the family was still in Connecticut at that time. My family merged into Guilford County NC in the 8th generation back from me and then in the 6th generation spent time in Surry County. Four generations back we came into Tennessee. It is affirmed that the Tennessee branch and the North Carolina branch of Hyatt's are all one big happy family! And I believe Mom actually figured it out before me as she is visiting with all the family in heaven and saying "I told them so".

Sincerely,
Peggy Rosenbaum