

## Chapman family of Western North & South Carolina yDNA Haplo-group R1b1

There was more than one Chapman family in the western region of the Carolinas during the period after the revolutionary war. Folk stories had some moving in from Maryland and some moving in from the Virginia lowlands. There were other families from the Virginia lowlands including Browns, Spradlings, Hoods and more.

Several authors and genealogist have written about the family of John & Eurith Chapman including six children; John Jr, Enoch, Raleigh, Nicholas, James, Nathan & Sarah as recorded in numerous books and family trees. Since those researchers didn't have access to DNA reports on proven descendants, we now know John & Enoch were not related to Nicholas. There were at least two Chapman families traveling together on some of the same trails.

The family group in this record consists of the descendants of **Joseph Chapman (1745-1836), John Chapman (1750-1832) and Enoch Chapman (1752-1832)**. Autosomal and yDNA results suggests they are closely related but finding that relationship and proving parents continues to evades us.

*DNA: This new tool has been a boon to genealogy, but has resulted in the challenge to a number of older books written before DNA testing was available. Through no fault of their own, numerous genealogy authors have been proven wrong.*

Circumstantial evidence suggests John & Enoch were brothers. *DNA* evidence suggest all three John, Enoch and Joseph were related.

So, what should we consider?

1. DNA where possible (yDNA and autosomal DNA). DNA alone is not enough as yDNA may result from a match in the distant past. Autosomal dna may be from a different genetic connection.
2. A paper trail with DNA support is a much stronger indicator of a match than one alone, but it depends of the strength of the trail.
3. Common name usage often means a family relationship, but may just mean the names are popular in the geographic area.
4. Consider traveling companions: Pioneer families tended to travel together as they moved from location to location. There was often intermarrying among these families as well as common use of names.
5. The best evidence sources are census, wills, land records, other legal papers and obituaries, petitions for pensions, newspaper articles. Any of these, though, may contain misleading or incorrect information.
7. Sound research by other family genealogists should be evaluated and accepted based on the same level of sound proof. .
8. Historical books should be considered but confirmation is important with them, too.

In these family descriptions, we will made use of the above guides and provide examples. You should do your own confirmation and we are open for discussion of differences.