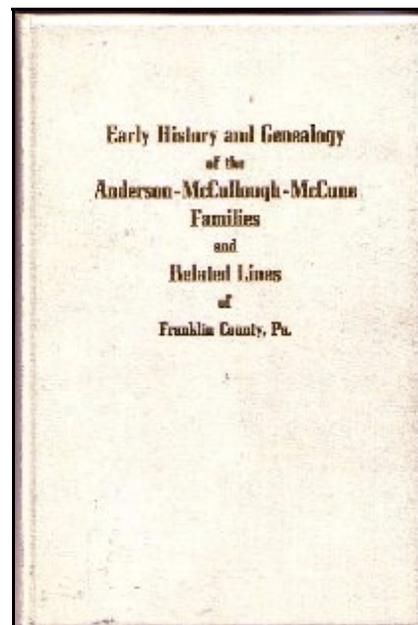


## Archibald McCullough Project

The goal of this project is to determine through DNA testing whether our ancestor Archibald McCullough, father of George McCulloh<sup>1</sup> is the same as Archibald McCullough, father of Lawson McCullough.<sup>2</sup>

For many years our family line has depended almost exclusively on one book for our genealogical history; *Early History and Genealogy of the Anderson - McCullough - McCune Families and Related Lines of Franklin County, Pa.* by Elizabeth Brubaker Wolff; generally known as “The White Book.” *The White Book* has been our only source for the descent of our branch of the McCullohs from Archibald McCullough through George McCulloh of The Little Cove, Pennsylvania. Lawson McCullough and his branch is not included in *The White Book* genealogy though it is also known that Lawson descends from an Archibald McCullough. As described in *A History of Our McCulloh Ancestors; Archibald McCullough (1718-1814) to William Edgar McCulloh (1866-1938)* [Working Draft - 1](#) posted at [www.mccullohreunion.org](http://www.mccullohreunion.org) we believe George and Lawson are half-brothers. We have no primary documents such as birth certificates, baptismal records, Bible records, etc., to prove “our” Archibald is the same Archibald as the father of Lawson. Consequently, to date we have been unable to verify or validate this relationship.



DNA testing has really become an incredible tool in genealogy research. You may already know how this works but if not let us try to briefly explain a pretty complicated process. We all have DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid.) The main role of DNA molecules is the long-term storage of information. DNA is often compared to a set of blueprints or a recipe, or a code, since it contains the instructions needed to construct other components of cells. The DNA segments that carry this genetic information are called genes. Males have Y-DNA. This DNA is passed down *unchanged* from father to son. (Y-DNA cannot be passed down through a female since they can only pass down X chromosomes) Although DNA is made up of *millions* of repeating four letter sequences, genealogy DNA tests use only 67 of the locations of these sequences known not to mutate.

If George and Lawson are both descendants of the same Archibald McCullough, they will have *exactly* the same number sequence. This is what makes DNA testing so valuable for genealogy research. We are in the process of obtaining DNA from descendants of “our” Archibald McCulloh. To do a comparison we need two or three descendants of Lawson to have their DNA tested. If the number sequences match then we will have proven that George and Lawson are the sons of the same Archibald. (If the sequences do not match then we have a lot more work to do.)

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<sup>1</sup> b. 1745 in New Castle Co. Delaware - d. after 1889 presumably in The Little Cove, PA

<sup>2</sup> b. 12/21/1769 in Maryland - d. 6/22/1845 in Columbus, OH; re- interred in the Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, KY

The DNA test costs \$268 and **we will pay the entire cost of the test plus pay \$100 for your help.** This test will help us take an important step towards determining once and for all whether our Archibald was indeed the father of both George and Lawson McCullough. Additionally, the volunteers will get the DNA results for free that most people have to pay for themselves plus the \$100.

The DNA samples collected will be analyzed purely for genealogical data; no medically-relevant data will be collected or analyzed, nor will the DNA be shared. The portion of the DNA tested is from an area of the genes called “junk DNA” which has no known purpose. The tests will not tell us anything about the volunteers health or about health problems they or their family may have. Nevertheless, we will not reveal the names of the volunteers who provide samples unless we request and receive their written permission to do so.

The test is very easy to take and simply involves obtaining three DNA samples by rubbing a test swab along the inside of the cheek. The analysis will be done by [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com). We will order and pay for the test kit which will come to the volunteers in the mail. They will swab their cheek 3 times, 3 hours apart, place each swab in the tubes provided and mail the samples in the pre-addressed postage paid box. In three to five weeks we will both receive the DNA sequence at which point we will send the volunteer \$100 for successful completion of the test. We hope to find three volunteers from three separate branches of Lawson McCullough’s descendants to do the test so we can achieve a pretty certain result.

To proceed we will need to confirm the following:

1. Volunteers must be male with the McCulloh or McCullough surname or a similar variation.
2. Volunteers must be descendants of Lawson McCullough. We will need a clear understanding from the volunteers as to how they descend from Lawson.

We really look forward to hearing from you! I can be reached by telephone at: **(765) 942-2342**; by e-mail at **[rodney@mccullohreunion.org](mailto:rodney@mccullohreunion.org)** or, of course, by mail.

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