

A Tale of Two Davids

A TALE OF TWO DAVIDS

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Objectives:

The main objective for this report is to trace the Yocum family in order to confirm that Mary Loretta Yocum was the daughter of David Yocum, son of David Yocum. Additionally, verify the parentage of each David Yocum.

Background Information:

The client had provided a will, dated 18 June 1888, for David Yocum who bequeathed \$100 to his granddaughter, Loretta Yocum, when she became eighteen years old.

- David Yocum lived in Island Creek Township, Jefferson County, Ohio.
- Mary Yocum was David's widow.
- Children of David Yocum:
 - Elias Yocum
 - John D. Yocum
 - Stephen N. Yocum
 - Cyrus M. Yocum
 - Asa W. Yocum
 - Sarah Jane Still
- David named his son, Asa W. Yocum, as his executor.

The client also had a marriage record for Mary L. Yocum and George L. Gilbert.

- Client stated Mary L. was Mary Loretta Yocum who used each name on varying documents.
- They were married 2 August 1915 in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.
- Mary was 40 years old, making her birth possibly 1875 in Steubenville, Ohio.
- Her parents were David Yocum and Josephine Kelly.
- She had previously been married once to Mr. Wood, but was divorced in Columbiana County, Ohio.

Analysis:

Mary's previous marriage to Mr. Wood might provide further details concerning her parents as well as more about Mary Loretta.

Mary used the name, Retta J. Yocum, when she married Thomas N. Wood on 17 May 1904 in Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio. Retta could be a nickname for Loretta. She was 29 years old, meaning her birth was about 1875 in Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio. Her parents were David L. Yocum and Josie Kelly, which relatively matched the details from the marriage record to George Gilbert.

Another change besides Mary's name, was the acknowledgement of another marriage to Frank R. Cole, which ended in divorce.¹

That Mrs Retta J Yocum is 29 years of age, a resident of Steubenville, in this county, her place of birth is Steubenville, County of Jefferson, and State of Ohio; her occupation is a housewife; her father's name is David L Yocum; her mother's maiden name was Josie Kelly; that she was ~~not~~ previously married to Frank R Cole now ~~deceased~~ divorced. That they are not nearer of kin than second cousins, and that there is no legal impediment to their marriage.

Attachment 1: Marriage Record, Thomas Wood & Retta Yocum²

Frank R. Cole married Miss Retta J. Yocum on 30 September 1891 in Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio. Retta was 17 years old, making her estimated birth about 1874.³

Personally appeared before me, Frank R Cole who, after being duly sworn, deposes and says, that Miss Retta J Yocum is an unmarried female, color white, aged 17 years, native of Jefferson County, State of Ohio and is a resident of Jefferson County and

Attachment 2: Marriage Record, Frank Cole & Retta Yocum⁴

Based on Loretta's birth being between 1874 and 1875, she should appear on the 1880 U.S. Census between the ages of five or six years old. David Yocum,

¹ Jefferson County, Ohio, Marriage Record, No. 28183, entry for Thomas N. Wood and Reta J. Yocum, 17 May 1904; digital images, Ancestry, "Ohio, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1774-1993," database, (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3834559:61378>; accessed 3 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 000900079, image 91 of 351.

² Ibid.

³ Jefferson County, Ohio, Marriage Record, Certificate No. 20326, entry for Frank R. Cole and Retta J. Yocum, 30 September 1891; digital images, Ancestry, "Ohio, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1774-1993," database, (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/903600182:61378>; accessed 3 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 000900076, image 192 of 747.

⁴ Ibid.

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age 30, born about 1850 in Ohio, was a blacksmith, residing in Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio, along with his wife, Joanna, age 29, born about 1851 in Pennsylvania, and daughter, Mary L., age 6, born about 1874 in Ohio.⁵

Yocum David W m 30		1	Blacksmith					Ohio
- Joanna W F 29	wife	1	Keypiece					Pennsa Indand Indand
- Mary L W F 6	daughter	1	at home					Ohio Ohio Pennsa

Attachment 3: 1880 U.S. Census, David Yocum⁶

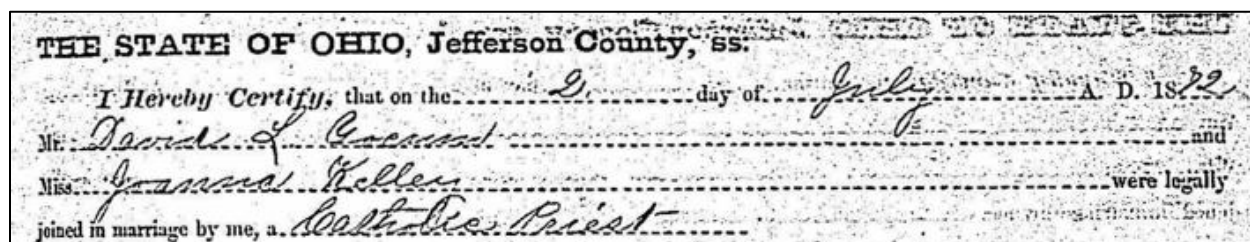
Searched Jefferson County, Ohio Birth records, 1867-1908 collection at FamilySearch <<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1932106>> for Mary Loretta's birth by:

- searching for her name variants,
- searching for any child with David Yocum as the father, and
- browsing the "Y" index for volume 1, 1867-1879.

We could not locate a birth record for Mary Loretta.

Was Joanna, who was on the 1850 Census, and Josephine "Josie" Kelly, named on Mary's marriage records, the same woman?

David L. Yocum married Joanna Kelley on 2 July 1872 in Jefferson County, Ohio.⁷ The use of the same surname indicates that Joanna and Josephine are the same person.



Attachment 5: Marriage Record, David Yocum & Joanna Kelley⁸

⁵ 1880 U.S. Census, Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio, Enumeration District 114, p. 546A (stamped), p. 25 (handwritten), lines 14-16, entry for David Yocum; digital images, Ancestry, (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/23876728:6742>; accessed 3 November 2022); citing NARA Film: T9_1037.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Jefferson County, Ohio, Marriage Record, v. 8, p. 308, entry for David L. Yocum and Joanna Kelley, 2 July 1872; digital images, FamilySearch, "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939K-BJH4-1>; accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900074, Marriage records, 1866-1883, v. 8, image 259 of 541.

⁸ Ibid.

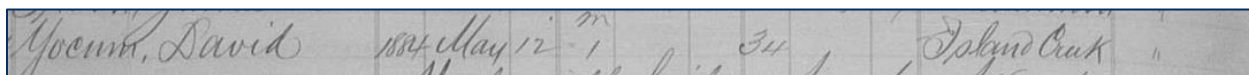
What happened to Mary Loretta's parents?

Neither of Loretta's parents were mentioned in her grandfather, David Yocum's probate documents, including the Will, Administrator Docket, and Estate Inventory, which were documented in the Probate Court until his estate was settled 6 September 1895. Loretta would have been approximately 13 to 14 years old at the time his will was probated in 1888 so where are her parents, given that she was to inherit \$100.

David, Loretta's father, died of consumption at 34 years old, on either 1 or 12 May 1884 in Island Creek, Jefferson County, Ohio.⁹



Attachment 22: Death Record, No. 98, David Yocum¹⁰



Attachment 23: Death Record, No. 254, David Yocum¹¹

Johanna, Loretta's mother, died at the age of 36, on 7 March 1888 in Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio. Her death was accidental, she was burned.¹²



Attachment 24: Death Record, No. 318, Johana Yocum¹³

⁹ Jefferson County, Ohio, Death Record, No. 98, v. 1, p. 72, entry for David L. Yocum, 1 May 1884; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-99ZR-KQ4H>; accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900038, image 185 of 488. Jefferson County, Ohio, Death Record, No. 254, v. 1, p. 64, entry for David Yocum, 12 May 1884; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-89ZR-KQ6Y>; accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900038, image 181 of 488.

¹⁰ Jefferson Co., OH, Death, No. 98, v. 1, p. 72, David Yocum, 1884.

¹¹ Jefferson Co., OH, Death, No. 254, v. 1, p. 64, David Yocum.

¹² Jefferson County, Ohio, Death Record, v. 2, p. 134, No. 318, entry for Johana Yocum, 6 March 1888; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9ZR-KQ3Y>; accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 004017030, image 216 of 488.

¹³ *Ibid.*

Burned Beyond Recognition.
STEUBENVILLE, O., March 8.—Yesterday Johanna Yocum was found lying in the grate in her residence in the suburbs of this city; the body being burned beyond recognition.

Attachment 25: *The Lima Democratic Times*, 10 Mar 1888, Johanna Yocum¹⁴

With Loretta being a minor and an heir to an inheritance, a guardian needed to be appointed by Probate Court.

Stephen E. Yocum, Loretta's uncle, was named the "Guardian to the Estate of Retta J. Yocum, a minor child of David L. and Joanna Yocum, deceased" on 30 September 1891.¹⁵ Mrs. Retta J. Yocum Cole received her inheritance of \$100 on 26 January 1893.¹⁶

Jan 26th 1893.
Received of Stephen Yocum Guardian of Retta Yocum minor One Hundred Dollars in full of all claims and demands \$100⁰⁰ Mrs Retta J. Yocum Cole.
Attest: H. W. Miller Probate Judge.

Attachment 30: Guardian's Docket, Retta Yocum¹⁷

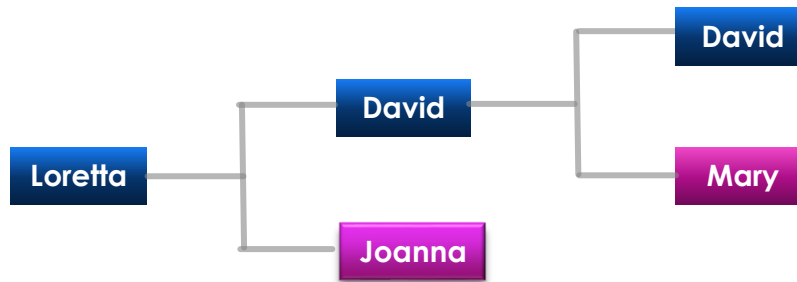
¹⁴ "Burned Beyond Recognition," *The Lima Democratic Times*, Lima, Ohio, 10 March 1888, p. 1, col. 6, death notice for Johanna Yocum; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com/image/668254662/>; accessed 28 November 2022).

¹⁵ Jefferson County, Ohio, Guardian's Letter, v. 1, p. 445, entry for Retta J. Yocum, 30 September 1891; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio Probate Records, 1789-1996," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9M2-LWJQ>; accessed 21 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 004019806, Guardians letters, v. 1, 1867-1894, image 262 of 326.

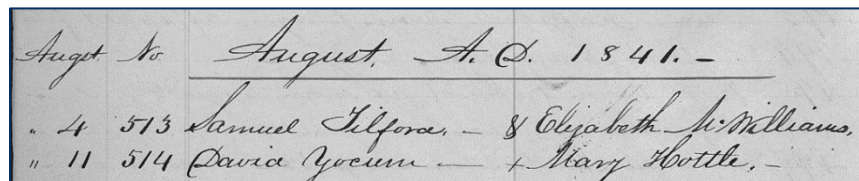
¹⁶ Jefferson County, Ohio, Guardian's Docket, v. 3, p. 363, entry for Retta J. Yocum, 1891-1893; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio Probate Records, 1789-1996," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9M2-F254>; accessed 21 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 004019783, Guardians' dockets, v. 3, 1880-1905, image 214 of 289.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

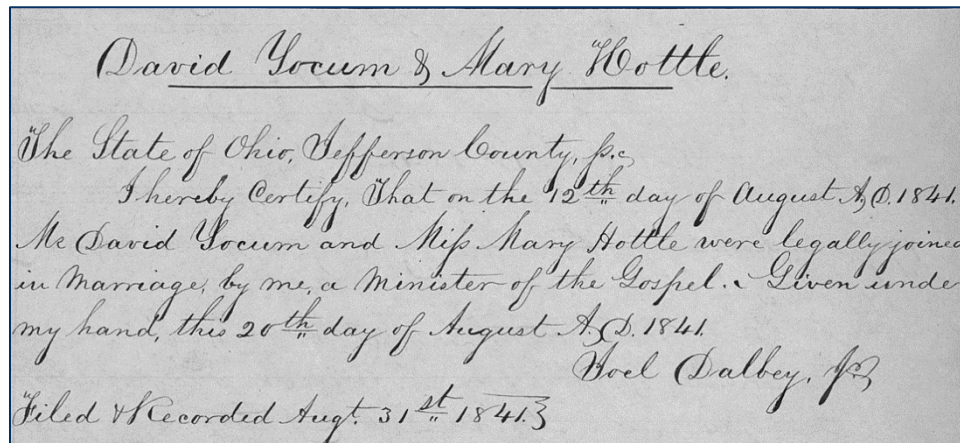
The Yocum family tree based on the current records:



David Yocum married Mary Hottle on 12 August 1841 in Jefferson County, Ohio.¹⁸



Attachment 33: Marriage Record, No. 514, David Yocum & Mary Hottle¹⁹



Attachment 32: Marriage Record, No. 475, David Yocum & Mary Hottle²⁰

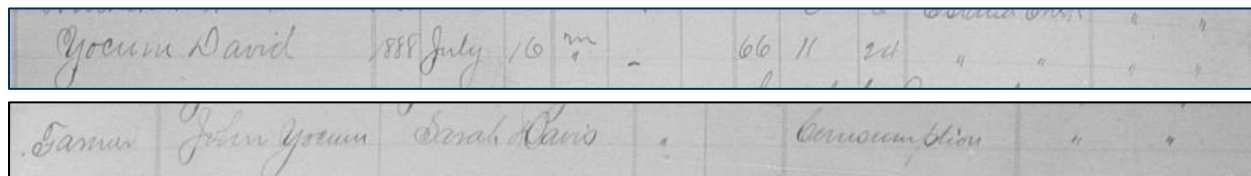
¹⁸ Jefferson County, Ohio, Marriage Record, No. 514, v. 5, p. 514, entry for David Yocum and Mary Hottle, 11 August 1841; digital images, FamilySearch, "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-89ZK-6W2>: accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 007485908, Marriage certificates, v. 5, 1838-1841, image 76 of 428. Jefferson County, Ohio, Marriage Record, No. 475, v. 5, p. 127, entry for David Yocum and Mary Hottle, 12 August 1841; digital images, FamilySearch, "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9ZK-637>: accessed 28 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 007485908, Marriage certificates, v. 5, 1838-1841, image 252 of 428.

¹⁹ Jefferson Co., OH, Marriage, No. 514, v. 5, p. 514, David Yocum and Mary Hottle, 1841.

²⁰ Jefferson Co., OH, Marriage Record, No. 475, v. 5, p. 127, David Yocum and Mary Hottle, 1841.

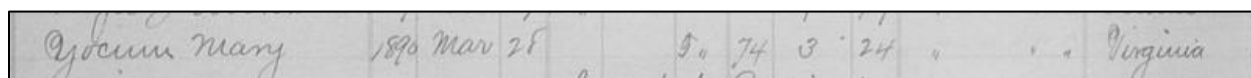
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David Yocum died at 66 years old from consumption on 16 July 1888 in Island Creek Township, Jefferson County, Ohio.²¹ David's parents were documented as John Yocum and Sarah Davis.²²



Attachment 34: Death Record, David Yocum²³

Mary Yocum died at age 74 of pneumonia on 28 March 1890 in Island Creek Township, Jefferson County, Ohio.²⁴



Attachment 35: Death Record, Mary Yocum²⁵

John Yocum's Will was probated 12 January 1866 in Jefferson County, Ohio with the following family members named:²⁶

"I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah the farm on which I now reside in Steubenville Township Jefferson County, Ohio, during her natural life. She to have the proceeds, and income of said farm, and at her death it is my will that said farm be sold, at the most advantageous manner and the proceeds,

²¹ Jefferson County, Ohio, Death, No. 48, v. 1, p. 140, entry for David Yocum, 16 July 1888; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-99ZR-KQS9>; accessed 30 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900038, image 219 of 488.

²² Jefferson County, Ohio, Death Record, No. 48, v. 1, p. 140, entry for David Yocum, 16 July 1888; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-99ZR-KQS9>; accessed 30 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900038, image 219 of 488.

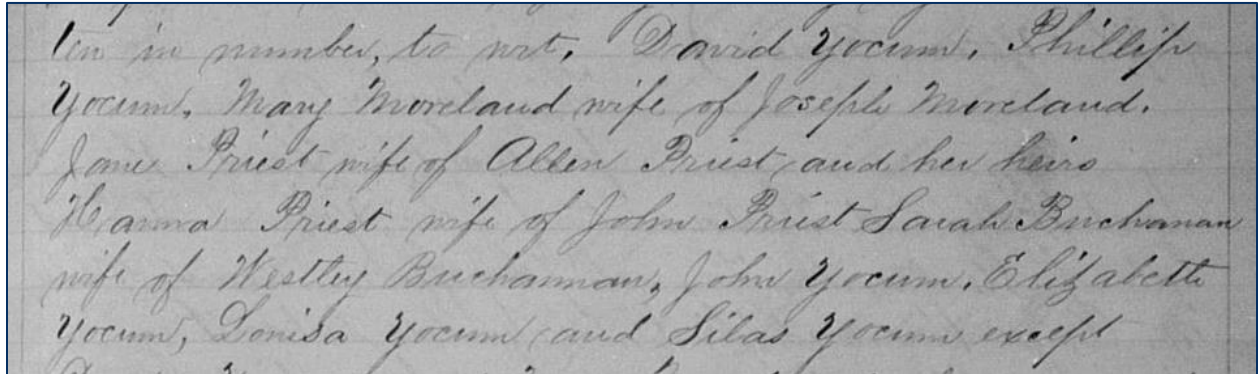
²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ Jefferson County, Ohio, Death Record, No. 18, v. 1, p. 154, entry for Mary Yocum, 28 March 1890; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio, County Death Records, 1840-2001," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9ZR-KQSF>; accessed 30 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 900038, image 226 of 488.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ Jefferson County, Ohio, Will, v. 6, p. 560-561, entry for John Yocum, 1 November 1865; digital images, *FamilySearch*, "Ohio Probate Records, 1789-1996," database, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-L9M2-NQZP>; accessed 21 November 2022); citing FHL Film: 004019786, image 312 of 734.

divided equally, among my children ten in number, to wit, David Yocum, Phillip Yocum, Mary Moreland wife of Joseph Moreland, Jane Priest wife of Allen Priest, and her heirs, Hanna Priest wife of John Priest, Sarah Buchanan wife of Westley Buchanan, John Yocum, Elizabeth Yocum, Louisa Yocum, and Silas Yocum except David Yocum, and Mary Moreland who are each to receive one hundred dollars less than the other eight, they having each received already one hundred dollars."



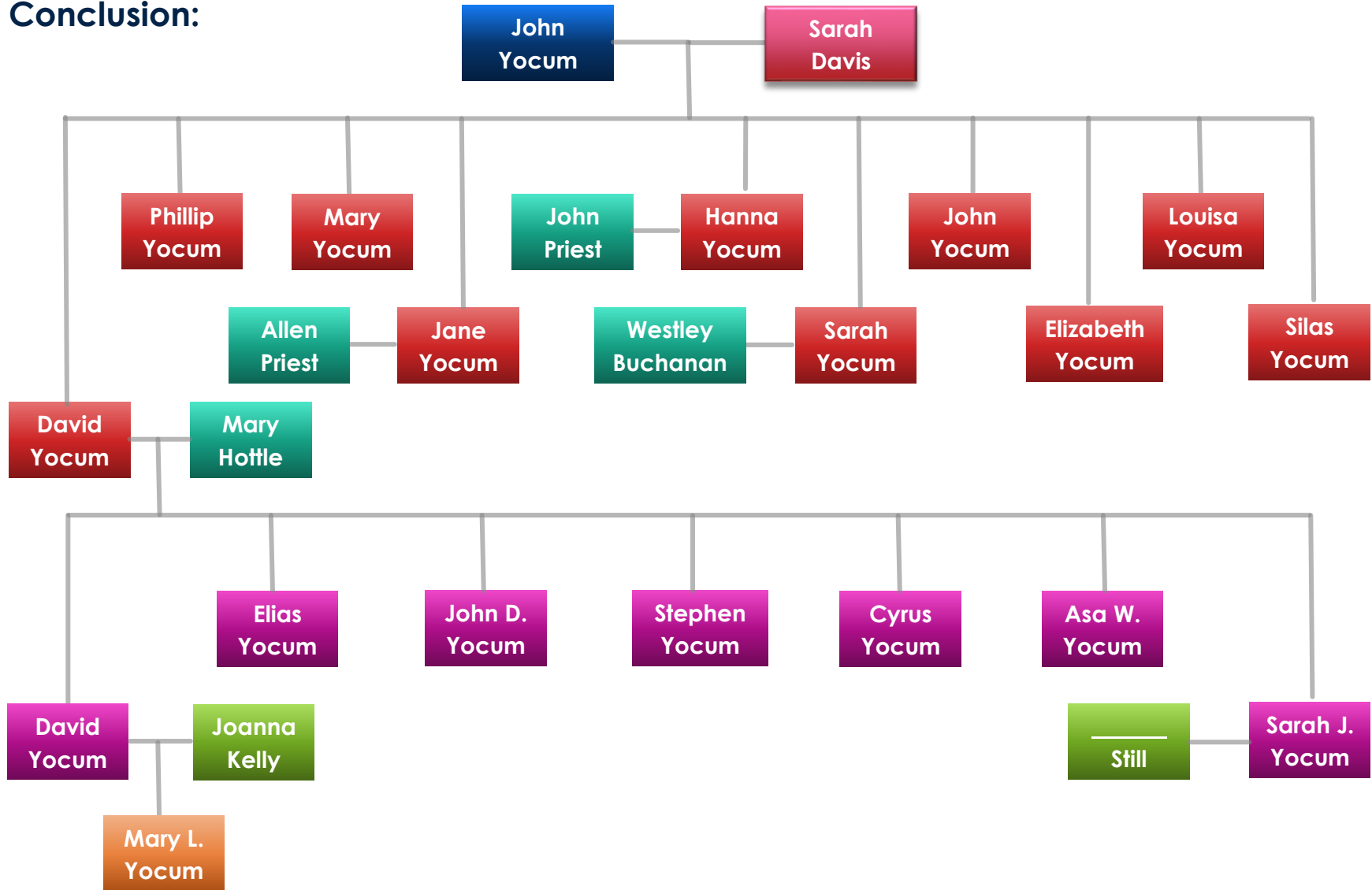
ten in number, to wit, David Yocum, Phillip Yocum, Mary Moreland wife of Joseph Moreland, Jane Priest wife of Allen Priest, and her heirs Hanna Priest wife of John Priest Sarah Buchanan wife of Westley Buchanan, John Yocum, Elizabeth Yocum, Louisa Yocum, and Silas Yocum except

Attachment 38: Will, v. 6, p. 561, John Yocum

Recommendations:

We can continue to trace the Yocum family by expanding the search to include the siblings that have been documented and/or by searching for John Yocum's parents.

Conclusion:



Attachments:

Digital files of the following attachments in attached "Images" folder:

1. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Record, Thomas Wood & Retta Yocum
2. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Record, Frank Cole & Retta Yocum
3. 1880 U.S. Census, David Yocum
4. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Application, David Yocum & Joanna Kelley
5. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Record, David Yocum & Joanna Kelley
6. Jefferson County, OH, Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 428, David Yocum
7. Transcription of Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 428
8. Jefferson County, OH, Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 600, David Yocum
9. Transcription of Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 600
10. Jefferson County, OH, Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 599, Mary Yocum
11. Transcription of Administrator's Docket, v. 5, p. 599
12. Jefferson County, OH, Estate Inventory, v.16, p. 579, David Yocum
13. Transcription of Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 579
14. Jefferson County, OH, Estate Inventory, v.16, p. 580, David Yocum
15. Transcription of Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 580
16. Jefferson County, OH, Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 581, David Yocum
17. Transcription of Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 581
18. Jefferson County, OH, Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 624, David Yocum
19. Transcription of Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 624
20. Jefferson County, OH, Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 625, David Yocum
21. Transcription of Estate Inventory, v. 16, p. 625
22. Jefferson County, OH, Death Record, No. 98, David Yocum
23. Jefferson County, OH, Death Record, No. 254, David Yocum
24. Jefferson County, OH, Death Record, No. 318, Johana Yocum
25. *The Lima Democratic Times*, 10 Mar 1888, Johanna Yocum
26. Jefferson County, OH, Guardian's Letter, v. 1, p. 445, Retta Yocum
27. Transcription of Guardian's Letter, v. 1, p. 445
28. Jefferson County, OH, Guardian's Bond, v. 5, p. 290, Retta Yocum
29. Transcription of Guardian's Bond, v. 5, p. 290
30. Jefferson County, OH, Guardian's Docket, v. 3, p. 363, Retta Yocum
31. Transcription of Guardian's Docket, v. 3, p. 363
32. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Record, No. 475, David Yocum & Mary Hottle
33. Jefferson County, OH, Marriage Record, No. 514, David Yocum & Mary Hottle

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34. Jefferson County, OH, Death Record, David Yocum
35. Jefferson County, OH, Death Record, Mary Yocum
36. Jefferson County, OH, Will, v. 6, p. 560, John Yocum
37. Transcription of Will, v. 6, p. 560
38. Jefferson County, OH, Will, v. 6, p. 561, John Yocum
39. Transcription of Will, v. 6, p. 561
40. Jefferson County, OH, Will, v. 6, p. 562, John Yocum
41. Transcription of Will, v. 6, p. 562
42. Jefferson County, OH, Will, v. 6, p. 563, John Yocum
43. Transcription of Will, v. 6, p. 563