

Research Report for the Milo Andrus Family Organization

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Performed by Jeniann Nielsen, LDSGenealogy.com Research Services

Background Information

The goal of this research session was to locate the father of Ruluf Andrus. Previous research identified the mother of Ruluf Andrus as Sybil Andrews.

In the previous research, a possible father of Ruluf was identified as Eber Andrews. Eber Andrews was a descendant of William Andrews of New Haven, Connecticut. If Eber was Ruluf's father, then the descendants of William Andrews would match the descendants of Ruluf. However, Y-DNA testing indicated that the descendants of Ruluf Andrus did not at all match the Y-DNA of the descendants William Andrews family. Ruluf could not have been the son of Eber Andrews. He also could not have been the son of John Andrews and Mary Emmerson of Rutland County, Vermont, because John Andrews was also a descendant of William Andrews.

Nearly all of the Andrews men living in the area near where Ruluf grew up were descendants of William Andrews. (Some of the members of this family changed the spelling of their last name to Andrus, Address, etc.) Since Sybil Andrews was a single woman, Ruluf may have grown up with a single mother, and he may have taken her last name rather than the last name of his father.

One possible father of Ruluf that was identified was Joseph Johnson, so the purpose of this research was to identify more information about Joseph Johnson and determine whether he was the father of Ruluf.

Research Performed

In our previous research, we found some information about Joseph Johnson. A guardian bond posted in Hamden CT in 1789 listed Ruluf's guardian as Joseph Johnson. Ruluf was listed as 16 years old on this document.

Some researchers in the past have stipulated that the guardian bond document in Hamden CT in 1789 somehow applies to another Ruluf, not the man who died in 1849 in Henrietta, Ohio, that also lived in Vermont and New York. Ruluf is listed as age 16 on this document, and the Ruluf that died in Henrietta County, Ohio, has a gravestone that lists his death date as 12 March 1773, making his age 16 in December of 1789 when this guardian bond was written.

Ruluf Andrus is a highly unusual name. There is no other man named Ruluf Andrus in the United States in any vital or census record anywhere than anyone has located, other than our Ruluf. If there were 2 men named Ruluf Andrus, then there would be a death, marriage, or census record for another Ruluf Andrus, and there has never been one found. The likelihood of 2 men both born in 1773 named Ruluf Andrus is very slim.

Since Ruluf had a guardian bond posted for him, it would logically mean that he had a parent die a short time before. Sybil Andrews died 15 August 1789 in Cheshire, Connecticut, three months before the guardian bond was posted.

The *Families of Ancient New Haven* by Donald Jacobus lists the ancestry and family members of both Sybil Andrews and Joseph Johnson. It used original documents, which are clearly sourced. Sybil was born 6 July 1754 in Wallingford, New Haven, Connecticut, the daughter of Amos Andrews and Content Morgan. Joseph Johnson was born 1 January 1724 in Wallingford, Connecticut, to Isaac Johnson and Sarah Osborne. He married Phoebe in about 1750, probably in Wallingford. He had the following children: Phebe born in 1751, Eunice born in 1753, Rebecca born in 1755, Merab born in 1760, Elizabeth born in 1761, Joseph born in 1764, Rhoda born in 1768, Sarah born in 1770, Isaac born in 1773, Lowly born in 1776, Lent born in 1783, and Clarissa born in 1784. (Years of birth are approximate on some of his children as their births are not recorded in the vital or church records. They are all listed in land deeds as children of Joseph Johnson.)

In the Cheshire land records, Sybil sold land on 7 April 1784 in Cheshire, which was land she had inherited the year before at the death of her father, Amos Andrews. Joseph Johnson was a witness on the deed. In 1785 in Cheshire, there is a land deed in which the land of Amos Andrews is sold. All of Sybil's sisters are listed with husbands and Sybil is not, indicating that she was a single woman.

The father of Sybil, Amos Andrews, died in 1777 in Cheshire. Her mother had passed away in 1776. In 1784 in a land deed, Sybil is listed as being "of New Haven." Hamden was split off from New Haven in 1786, so Sybil was probably living in the area of New Haven that was later Hamden. It's very possible that at this time she was living with the family of Joseph Johnson since he was living in the New Haven/Hamden area at this same time, and he was appointed the guardian of Ruluf.

The death of Sybil Andrews was listed in the Cheshire town records where her parents had lived, and her death was also listed in the Mount Carmel Congregational Church in Hamden, so Sybil appears to have attended the Mount Carmel church. In examining the Mount Carmel church records, there were many Andrews and Johnsons listed in these church records, all of them related to Joseph Johnson and cousins of Sybil.

I had previously identified a history of the Mount Carmel Congregational Church called "The old Mount Carmel parish : origins and outgrowths" which I found on Ancestry.com. The book states that a number of members of the Mount Carmel church moved to Rutland County, Vermont. So Ruluf may have moved with other relatives or friends from the church in Hamden up to Rutland County, Vermont.

One of the questions that other researchers on Ruluf have had in the past is why he has a Dutch name. In Sybil's ancestry, all of her ancestors all had English names, there does not appear to be any Dutch ancestry there.

In the previous research we had located an article called the "Dutch Johnsons of Connecticut" by Donald Jacobus, published in the *New England Genealogical and Historical Register*, volume 66, 1912. In this article he explains that there were a group of Johnsons in the Wallingford area that had a common Dutch ancestor whose surname was originally Jansen. According to the *Families of Ancient New Haven*, Joseph Johnson was a descendant of the original Dutch immigrant, William "Wingle"

Johnson, and was part of this Dutch family. If Ruluf was related to the Johnson family who were Dutch, it could be why he was given a first name that was Dutch.

Autosomal DNA was examined to see whether there might be evidence that the descendants of Ruluf are related to the Andrews and Johnson families. Most living descendants of Ruluf are 5 or 6 generations from Ruluf and thus are not good candidates for autosomal DNA because the connection is too distant. However, a four generation descendant of Ruluf was located, and his autosomal DNA results on Ancestry.com were examined. There were 8 autosomal DNA matches to members of the Andrews family of New Haven County ranging from 7.9 cM to 12.2 CM for which another possible relative could not be determined. Some of these matches also matched other descendants of Ruluf. There were 4 autosomal DNA matches between the descendant of Ruluf and members of the Johnson family of New Haven County ranging from 9.2 and 12.0 cM for which another possible relative could not be determined. All of the 4 Johnson matches also matched one or more other descendants of Ruluf. The autosomal DNA is additional evidence that Ruluf's family has ancestry in common with the Andrews and Johnson families.

Y-DNA testing was done through FamilyTreeDNA.com to determine whether Ruluf Andrus was the son of Joseph Johnson. Y-DNA is DNA that is passed down from father to son and can be strong evidence for which paternal family someone belongs to.

Two descendants of the Johnson family were found to be a close Y-DNA match to three descendants of Ruluf Andrus.

The following image shows the Y-DNA matches on FamilyTreeDNA.com at 37 markers of a direct male descendant of Ruluf Andrus (names of test takers have been removed for privacy).

37 MARKERS - 6 - MATCHES			
Genetic Distance ↑	Name	Earliest Known Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup
1	Joseph Johnson descendant   Y-DNA37	William Wingle Johnson d. 1716 Connecticut	R-M269
1	Johnson (family not yet identified)   Y-DNA37		R-M269
1	Ruluf Andrus descendant   Y-DNA37		R-M269
3	Ludlow (family not yet identified)   Y-DNA37 FF	Willis Wilton Ludlow, b 1927 and d 1992	R-M269
3	Andrus	Ruluf Andrus b. 1773 Connecticut	R-M269
4	Descendant of William "Wingle" Johnson, ancestor of Joseph Johnson	Abram Johnson, b. 1793 and d. 1866	R-M269

This Ruluf descendant matches with just one genetic distance away from a verified male descendant of Joseph Johnson, indicating that they come from the same paternal family. He also matches very closely with 2 other Ruluf Andrus descendants, as well as a descendant of William “Wingle” Johnson, ancestor of Joseph Johnson.

The following image shows the Y-DNA matches on FamilyTreeDNA.com at 25 markers of a direct male descendant of Joseph Johnson (names of test takers have been removed for privacy). The Joseph Johnson descendant has a documented lineage from himself to Joseph Johnson through Joseph's son, Lent Johnson.

25 MARKERS - 7 - MATCHES			
Genetic Distance ↑	Name	Earliest Known Ancestor	Y-DNA Haplogroup
0	Johnson (family not yet identified) Y-DNA37		R-M269
1	Descendant of William "Wingle" Johnson Y-DNA37	Abram Johnson, b. 1793 and d. 1866	R-M269
1	Ruluf Andrus descendant Y-DNA37		R-M269
1	Andrus	Ruluf Andrus b. 1773 Connecticut	R-M269
2	Ruluf Andrus descendant Y-DNA37		R-M269

The Joseph Johnson descendant matches closely with a descendant of William “Wingle” Johnson, ancestor of Joseph Johnson. The Joseph Johnson descendant also matches very closely with 3 descendants of Ruluf Andrus.

There were William Andrews descendants in the Family Tree DNA database, as well as other Andrews/Andrus families of Connecticut and Vermont. However, none of the Andrews families were a close Y-DNA match to any of the descendants of Ruluf. Nor were there any other close matches in the Family Tree DNA database to Ruluf’s descendants other than the Johnson family.

The Y-DNA results show clearly that Ruluf Andrus was part of the Joseph Johnson family. I conclude that Ruluf’s father was Joseph Johnson for the following reasons:

1. The descendants of Ruluf Andrus are a close Y-DNA match to members of the Johnson family, and they do not closely match any other family nor any Andrews/Andrus families.
2. Joseph Johnson was designated as the guardian of Ruluf Andrus three months after the death of Ruluf's mother, Sybil Andrews.
3. Joseph Johnson was the right age to be Ruluf's father and was having children at the time that Ruluf was born.

4. Joseph Johnson was living in the area of Hamden/Cheshire/Wallingford/New Haven, as was the family of Sybil Andrews. (The boundaries of the towns changed over time and changed names, but all of the towns are in a close geographical area.) Joseph Johnson and Sybil Andrews both appeared to have attended the Mount Carmel Church in Hamden. Thus they were living near each other for most of their lifetimes.
5. Members of the Congregational Church of Hamden where Sybil Andrews and Joseph Johnson attended moved to Rutland County, Vermont. Ruluf also moved to Rutland County.
6. Joseph Johnson signed as a witness for Sybil Andrews on a land deed when she sold land she had inherited from her father, indicating a connection between them.
7. Ruluf is a Dutch name and the Joseph Johnson family was of Dutch descent.

References

- Cheshire CT town records, Family History Library Film 141275
- “Hamden church records,” (Mount Carmel Congregational Church), Family History Library Film 3054 Item 3
- “Land records, 1780-1909; general index, 1780-1931”, Cheshire Town Clerk, Family History Library Film 3986
- “Connecticut, Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999” on Ancestry.com (<http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=9049>) (includes probate records of Hamden CT)
- Cheshire CT land deeds
- *Families of Ancient New Haven Connecticut* by Donald Jacobus, vol 1 p 52 and , vol 5 p 1048-1049, AmericanAncestors.org
- "The old Mount Carmel parish : origins and outgrowths" on Ancestry.com, (<http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=14683>)
- New England Historical and Genealogical Register volume 66 on AmericanAncestors.org