

## The YDNA Evidence for the Paternal Irish Origins of Lawrence Marr Sr.

Y-DNA evidence from the two known direct male descendants of Lawrence Marr Sr tell us his paternal line ancestors are decidedly Irish. The Y-DNA Haplogroup of those two descendants is R-BY18137. This Haplogroup is a more recent branch of the R-BY3338 discussed herein.

Note that there were known migrations from Ireland to Scotland starting at least as early as ~500 AD with the establishment of the Dál Riata kingdom in the Argyleshire and Galloway region of Scotland (where the concentration of the progenitor Haplogroup R1b-M222 is highest). So, many "Scottish" families' roots were actually from the Irish Dál Cuinn. Historical perspective and information about the related genealogical research can be found here:

<https://genelach.com/home.xhtml>

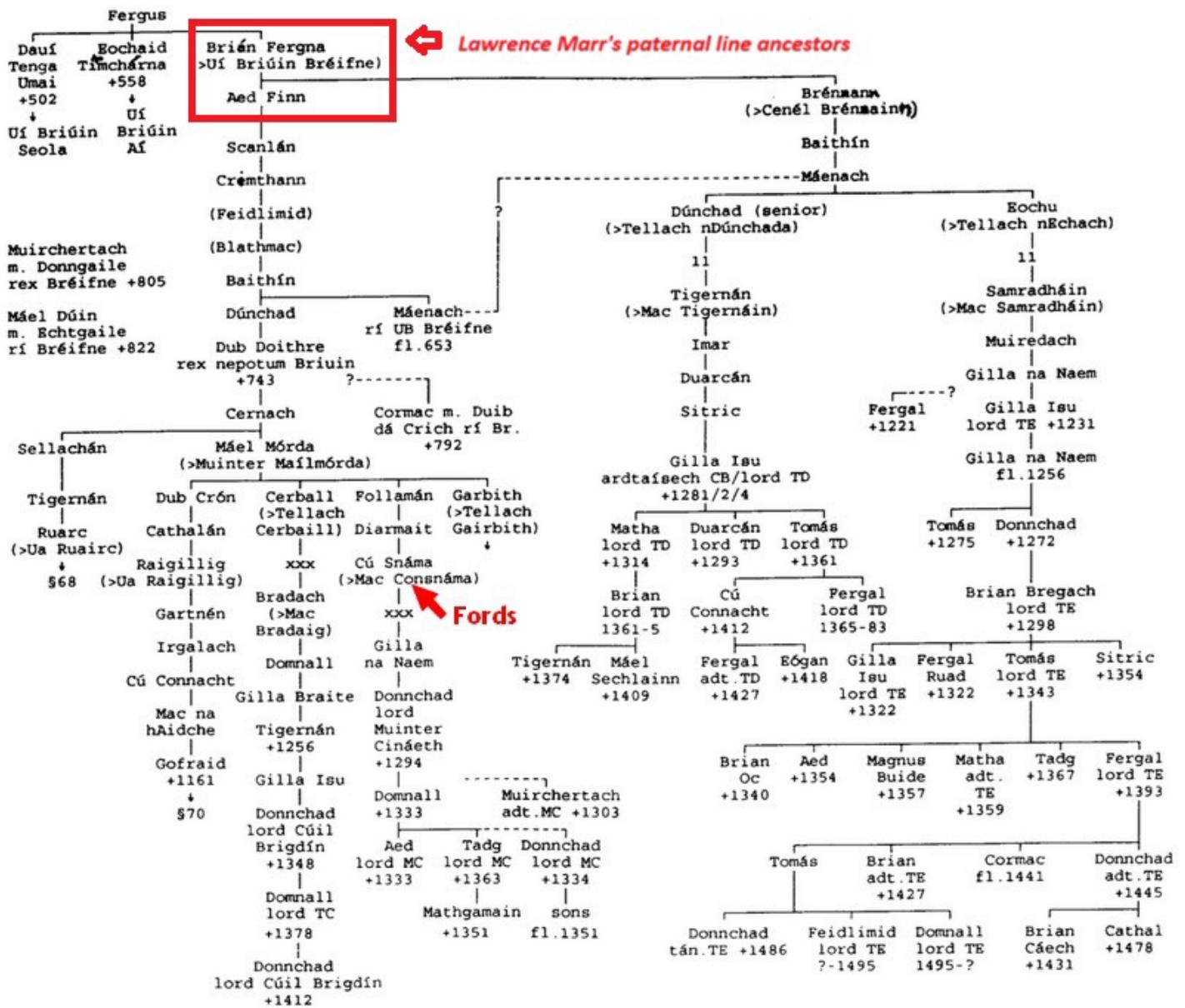
Claims that Lawrence Marr Sr. descended from the Earl of Mar in Scotland are entirely unfounded. Those claims are evaluated here: <https://moodyhowellfamilyhistory.com/marr/Marr-Claim-Associations.pdf>

The Dal Cuinn research group maintains a Cladogram showing related Y-DNA test results and how they align to Irish clans, as far as is presently known. On the Cladogram page, search (CTRL-F) for "Marr" for the block with the two Lawrence Marr Sr. descendants. [https://genelach.com/cladogram\\_hg38.xhtml](https://genelach.com/cladogram_hg38.xhtml)

Regardless of opinions about migrations, the Y-DNA results tell us Lawrence Marr Sr descended from the Uí Briúin Bréifne, whose progenitor is attributed as Fergnóe, brother to Dau Tengae Umae, the King of Connacht. The King was killed circa 500 AD by his son-in-law at the instigation of his own daughter. Dau Tengae Umae is the attributed progenitor of the Uí Briúin Seóla. Fergnóe is attributed with 4 sons:

1. Áed Find
2. Brénaínd
3. Dícuill
4. Feradach

Y-DNA corroborates the likely existence of Áed Find by the R1b-BY3338 clade (Haplogroup) and Brénaínd by the R1b-A5902 clade. Dícuill and Feradach are unclear as of yet. Direct male descendants of Lawrence Marr Sr are R1b-BY3338+, and thus descend from Áed Find. Here is an abbreviated genealogy by Dr. Bart Jaski.



The Fords are recorded as Muintir Maíl Mórda, but they are not in the main R1b-BY11722 Muintir Maíl Mórda clade with the O'Reilly. Instead, they are in the parallel R1b-BY18113 clade. The genealogy above shows this is possible, just somewhat unexpected. If that split did occur after Máel Mórda, then Lawrence Marr Sr descendants, being in the more recent branch R-V86 Haplogroup (R-BY18137 is an even more recent mutation than R-V86), COULD be descended from either Cerball or Garbith, the branches above where Ford is shown. It is unlikely they descend from Selbachán along with the O'Rourkes, who are falling in the R-BY38364 clade<sup>1</sup>. There isn't enough data yet to separate the recorded branches by the Y-DNA. The genealogies are not perfect either, so that must be contended with as well.

Therefore, the Bréifne area of County Leitrim, County Cavan, etc. was Lawrence Marr Sr.'s likely area of origin. It is possible some descendants migrated to Scotland or England (and later descendants migrated back to Ireland). Researchers may never find enough data to determine that. The Marr surname doesn't make finding a connection easy. Hopefully, as researchers acquire more data the picture will become clearer. Slowly but surely.

<sup>1</sup> The man who is the most recent common ancestor of R-BY38364 is estimated to have been born around 972 CE. See below table for similar information related to Lawrence Marr, Sr.

A recent [paper by Tim McEvoy \(Gwinn\)](#) eloquently describes current knowledge about the genetic origin and Y-Haplotree of the historical Dál Cuinn dynasty in Ireland. Two short sections related to the origin of Lawrence Marr Sr's Y-DNA (his paternal line) ancestry can be found at pages 15-16 and are paraphrased here. This line is identified in the above chart in the red box.

### Uí Briúin Bréifne

Tradition holds that the Uí Briúin Bréifne descend from another 2nd great grandson of Dau Galach. This historical figure is Fergna or Feargus as he is sometimes known, and is supported by the occurrence of the clade trails: R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-A18726 > R-A259 > R-A260 > R-BY3338 and > R-A5902.

Uí Briúin Bréifne descendant clades under R-A260 split between R-BY3338 and R-A5902. These splits appear to occur under two lines of chiefs descending from Fergna (Fergus). These two lines of chiefs were Fergna's sons Áed Find (R-BY3338 – Lawrence Marr Sr's Y-DNA Haplogroup) and Bréinaid (R-A5902).

### Áed Find

The O'Reilly and O'Rourke families also descend from Áed Find and this is supported by the occurrence of the Y-DNA Haplogroup trail: R-DF104 > R-DF105 > R-A18726 > R-A259 > R-A260 > R-BY3338. From there to more recent branches looks like this: R-BY3338 > R-V86 > R-18796 > R-BY18137. This path represents Lawrence Marr Sr's more recent Y-DNA lineage and the split from the O'Reilly and O'Rourke families at the R-BY3338 Haplogroup.

The below Table shows the Haplogroup branching discussed above and the estimated time to where men with this Haplogroup could have shared a common ancestor. These estimates are from [FamilyTreeDNA](#).

Haplogroup	Estimated time frame of the man who was the most recent common ancestor of the Haplogroup
R-DF104	Around 119 CE
R-DF105	Around 190 CE.
R-A260	Around 454 CE
R-BY3338	Around 714 CE
R-V86	Around 800 CE
R-18796	Around 972 CE.
R-BY18137	Around 1700 CE. This is the Haplogroup of the two known direct male descendants of Lawrence Marr Sr who've done Y-DNA testing. 1700 CE would be an approximate time of Lawrence Marr Sr's birth, based solely on Y-DNA testing.