'Ancient' Genealogy: Fact, Speculation, & Fiction

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Overview

Most people with a lot of New England ancestry descend from one or more 'gateway' ancestors – i.e., early colonists who descend, themselves, from English kings, primarily the Plantagenets. The latter, in turn, have their own gateway ancestors, through whom we derive our longest possible 'ancestral lines' – into the Dark Ages (roughly A.D. 450-750), and perhaps (though far more conjecturally) even the Classical (Greco-Roman) and Ancient (Egyptian, Babylonian, and Persian) worlds.

ALL such descents are *hypothetical* – that is, all entail many filiative links that are not, in fact, attested in writing, but postulated by scholars on the basis of an assessment of the known chronology, ethno-political situation, and onomastic patterns of the relevant era, locale, and race. In short, 'ancient' pedigrees have many 'dotted lines,' which are *plausible*, even *likely*, but *NOT susceptible to proof*. (If you're allergic to dotted lines, now would be a good time to leave!)

Unfortunately, popular American genealogical literature is rife with supposed 'ancient' pedigrees which are neither likely nor plausible, and in some cases provably bogus, passing, as they do, through long chains of supposed personages who never existed. How, short of acquiring a comprehensive knowledge of many phases of world and national history, half a dozen ancient and modern languages, the various branches of philology, and an immense (and highly specialized) research literature (surely a job for several lifetimes!), is the 'lay' reader to tell the plausible from the preposterous, the reasonable from the ridiculous?

For those who find themselves far up the proverbial creek, this talk and syllabus should serve as a paddle. The *talk* will identify the major geographic areas, ethnicities, and pre-Plantagenet 'gateway' ancestors through whom we *MIGHT* descend from Dark Age, Classical, or Ancient kings, warlords, consuls, emperors, and pharaohs, and will outline the major sources of data and forms of reasoning upon which such descents are predicated. It will also draw your attention to proposed 'ancient' descents which are *known to be false*, or have been *seriously questioned*, and identify the absolute historical limits beyond which it will *never* be possible to go. The *syllabus* provides an area-by-area list of the best or most interesting or exemplary books and articles which have come my way. (Readers are encouraged to send me more.)

Please note that a one-hour talk covering such a vast subject cannot but resemble the Rio Grande ('a mile wide and an inch deep'). Likewise, this syllabus doesn't even pretend to be exhaustive. (In fact, several sources are listed precisely because they contain excellent and far more extensive bibliographies.) Take talk and syllabus as a modest, even cursory introduction – and *always* follow up footnotes!

Outline

INTRODUCTION

'COLONIAL' TO 'PLANTAGENET'

'ANCIENT' ANCESTRY

SCANDINAVIA

- + Sweden: Ynglingar ('Peace Kings' of Uppsala)
- + **Denmark:** Skjoldungr (largely bogus)

BRITISH ISLES

- + Angles, Saxons and Jutes: (a) Cerdic of Wessex (with possible links to Theuderic/?Makhir and Merovingians, v. inf.); (b) Hengist of Kent; (c) 'Woden' lines
- + **Britons & Britanno-Romans:** (a) Welsh dynasties (Coel Han, Cunedda, Ceredig/Coroticus); (b) semi-mythic figures (Vortigern, Ambrosius Aurelianus, Arthur, & Magnus Maximus); (c) the Catuvellauanian house
- + Gaelic Celts: (a) Scottish (Dalriadan) kings > 'high kings' of Ireland; (b) kings of Leinster
- + Picts (Cruithni)

GAUL

- + **Franks:** (a) Ripuarian; (b) Salic (= Merovingian); (c) 'proto-Merovingian' > Gennebaud I ... > Maroboduus?
- + Theuderic/?Makhir/?Natronai ben Nehemiah: > (a) Jewish Exiliarchs, Persarmenia, & Ancient world, or > Merovingians again?
- + **Gallo**-Romans: (a) Ruricius > Anicii (& Ceionii?); (b) Syagrii & Tonantii Ferreoli; (c) Remigius of Rheims
- + Goths: (a) Visi- (>Artavazd >Mamikonids?); (b) Ostro-
- + **Gepids:** > Huns (= 'Hsiung-nu'?) > Chinese (Han Dynasty) Emperors?

IMPERIAL ROME

+ Gallo-Romans > Anicii (& Ceionii?) > Classical & Ancient worlds

ARABIC & 'MOHAMMED' LINES

+ Banu Qasi of Spain; Zadan Zara; Cordova & Seville; 'Sarracina'; Byzantium > Emirs of Mosul (unsatisfactory); various > Mohammed (all bogus)

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

+ Byzantium: (a) Rurikids; (b) Charles Constantine > Anna > Armenia > Parthia > Seleucids, Ptolemids, & other eastern Mediterranean principalities > classical Greece & Persia, Babylonia, & Egypt

Bibliography

Colonial 'Gateway' Ancestors of Royal Descent

- Frederick Lewis Weis, Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr., and David Faris. Ancestral Roots of Certain American Colonists Who Came to America Before 1700. The Lineage of Alfred the Great, Charlemagne, Malcolm of Scotland, Robert the Strong, and Some of Their Descendants. Seventh edition. 1992.
- . The Magna Charta Sureties, 1215. The Barons Named in the Magna Charta, 1215 and Some of Their Descendants Who Settled in America during the Early Colonial Years. Fourth edition. 1991. [The above two books don't cover as comprehensive a range of royally descended colonists as Roberts, below, but give more dates, places, and bio for those they do cover.]
- David Faris, Douglas Richardson, and Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr., *projected four-volume* revision of above two sources, still in progress do NOT pester them!
- Gary Boyd Roberts. *The Royal Descents of 500 Immigrants to the American Colonies or the United States...*1993. [The most comprehensive treatment of the subject in print. Lines only, with very few dates & places, but superb bibliography and noone is more 'in-the-know' than Roberts about UNPUBLISHED materials, as well.]

The Plantagenet Ancestry, etc.

- W. H. Turton. *The Plantagenet Ancestry. Being tables showing Over* 7,000 *of the ancestors of Elizabeth (daughter of Edward IV, and wife of Henry VII), the heiress of the Plantagenets*... 1928. [Outdated, and full of errors and fantasy for the more distant reaches; still a useful reference for the immediate ancestry. Use with caution.]
- George Andrews Moriarty. *The Plantagenet Ancestry of King Edward III and Queen Philippa*. c1960. Stuart (see below) published a *Comprehensive Index* to same in

- 1986. [Better, but there HAVE been changes since 1960, as reflected in much of the rest of this bibliography. Not a Bible!]
- Roderick W. Stuart. *Royalty for Commoners. The Complete Known Lineage of John of Gaunt, Son of Edward III, King of England, and Queen Philippa.* Second edition. 1992. [Excellent bibliography, irrational structure, uneven judgment, very poor proofreading.]
- David H. Kelley. "A Medieval Miscellany: Commentaries on Roderick W. Stuart's Royalty for Commoners." *The American Genealogist* 69 (1994): 110-8. [Must-read review of above, with much by-the-way material of great interest, bearing on many other subject areas dealt with in this talk.]
- H. M. West-Winter. *The Descendants of Charlemagne (800-1400)*. 8 vols. 1987-91. [The canonical work on the subject, but watch for vol. 1 of Faris, Richardson, & Sheppard, above.]
- Ernest Henderson III. Ancestors Ancient, Medieval, and More Recent of Ernest Flagg
 Henderson III. [Still in preparation, so DON'T pester! Will cover entire
 Plantagenet ancestry, in easy-to-follow pedigree charts, as far as it can possibly be chased. Mr. Henderson has taken much expert advice.]
- Don Charles Stone. Some Ancient and Medieval Descents of Edward I of England. [Still in preparation. (Which, you know by now, means 'Don't pester!') A beautifully organized and illustrated labor of love which will use many of the sources cited in this bibliography, by a competent scholar who is diligently keeping up with the literature and shows excellent judgment.]
- Iain Moncreiffe. Royal *Highness: Ancestry of the Royal Child*. 1982. [A myriad odd, interesting, and ancient lines for England's Crown Prince William. Virtually no citations, but Moncreiffe was a world-class genealogical scholar, and his judgment can usually be trusted. Lavishly illustrated.]
- Steven Runciman. "Lineage Apparent." *London Times Literary Supplement* 3 Sep. 1982. [Review of above. Runciman has a legitimate bone or two to pick; should be read.]
- Anthony Wagner. *Pedigree and Progress: Essays in the Genealogical Interpretation of History*. 1975. [Contains an early, but classic, general essay on possibilities for tracing lines into the ancient world; very useful charts, though not without a few errors.]
- A. M. H. J. Stokvis. *Manuel d'Histoire, de Généalogie et de la Chronologie de Tous les États du Globe…* 3 vols. 1888. [Outdated, but still usable, with caution.]

Scandinavia

E. Christiansen. 'Royal Genealogies in Medieval Denmark.' In Lindsay L. Brook, ed., *Studies in Genealogy and Family History in Tribute to Charles Evans...* (1989):

17-43. [Summary: Danish genealogies going back 20 or 30 generations are bogus. This may not be entirely true for Swedish royal line, however.]

British Isles

- S. Ireland. Roman Britain: A Sourcebook. 1986. [Extracts from early documents.]
- K. R. Dark. Civitas to Kingdom: *British Political Continuity 300-800*. 1994. [General survey, with excellent bibliography.]
- David Dumville. "Sub-Roman Britain: History and Legend." *History* 62 (1977): 173-91. [Scoffing view of sources for the period, with some justice.]
- G. N. Garmonsway, trans. and ed. *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. 1972. [Oldest history of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms; incorporates still older mss. preserving oral tradition back to 3rd or 4th century.]
- Kenneth Sisam. "Anglo-Saxon Royal Genealogies." *Proceedings of the British Academy* 1953: 387-348. [Critical look at genealogies from above.]
- David Dumville. "The West Saxon Genealogical Regnal List and the Chronology of Wessex." *Peritia* 4: 21-66. [Ditto, but focuses on revising early Anglo-Saxon chronology.]
- Michael E. Jones and John Casey. "The Gallic Chronicle Restored: A Chronology for the Anglo-Saxon Invasions and the End of Roman Britain." *Britannia* 21 (1990): 367-98.
- Geoffrey of Monmouth. *The History of the Kings of Britain*. Trans. by Lewis Thorpe. 1966. [A fabulist's 12th-century version of the ancient history of Britain. Largely imaginary, but probably has a few grains of valid data preserved nowhere else. Trouble is, which is which? First extensive version of 'Arthur.']
- A. W. Wade-Evans. *Nennius's "History of the Britons" together with "The Annals of the Britons" and "Court Pedigrees of Hywel the Good," also "The Story of the Loss of Britain."* 1938. [Oldest Celtic histories & genealogies, already severely twisted and fabulized.]
- Leslie Alcock. *Arthur's Britain. History and Archaeology AD 367-634*. 1971. [Focus on Arthur, but also a good general survey of the history of the period.]
- John Morris. *The Age of Arthur*. 1973. [Ditto. Morris, however, had the deductive genius's fatal tendency to draw a pound of inferences from a pinch of fact. Much incidental material of value on Celtic genealogy.]
- Geoffrey Ashe. *The Discovery of King Arthur*. 1985. [Entertaining re-examination, with good bibliography. Includes semi-serious hypothesis that Cerdic of Wessex was son of Arthur (!) This probably founders on chronological difficulties, however, if no other.]
- A. W. Wade-Evans. "The Chronology of Arthur." Y Cymmrodor 1910: 125-49.

- John Morris. "Dark Age Dates." In Michael G. Jarrett, ed., *Britain and Rome*, 145-85. 1965.
- P. K. Johnstone. "A Consular Chronology of Dark Age Britain." *Antiquity* 36 (1962): 102-9.
- Nikolai Tolstoy. "Early British History and Chronology." *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmodorion* 1964: 237-312. [Four articles by four good scholars, coming to four wildly different conclusions as to the chronology of the period proving that the source materials are simply inadequate.]
- Nora K. Chadwick. Celtic Britain. 1989. [Good general survey, with excellent maps.]
- Peter C. Bartrum. *Welsh Genealogies 300-1400*. 8 vols. 1974-80. [Basic set of charts summarizing all the earliest royal British/Welsh; authoritative & generally reliable.]
- John T. Koch. "A Welsh Window on the Iron Age. Manawydan, Mandubracios."

 Cambridge Medieval Celtic Studies 14 (1987): 17-52. [Fascinating article showing that Welsh oral tradition preserved at least ONE fragment of GENUINE British genealogy from around the time of Christ, possibly ancestral to the later Welsh houses, though the connection is lost.]
- John H. Ward. "Vortigern and the End of Roman Britain." *Britannia* 3 (1972): 277-89. [Good study of the last Roman Vicar of Britain, possibly ancestral to some Welsh dynasties.]
- E. Williams B. Nicholson. "The Dynasty of Cunedag and the Harleian Genealogies." *Y Cymmrodor* 1909: 63-104.
- David H. Kelley. "A Study in Early Celtic Genealogies: Dyfed." *Journal of Ancient and Medieval Studies* 1:49-58.
- Marjorie O. Anderson. *Kings and Kingship in Early Scotland*. 1980. [Contains detailed analysis of the Scottish & Pictish king lists; presented verbatim from original mss.]
- H. Pirie-Gordon. "The Succession in the Kingdom of Strathclyde." *The Armorial* 1: 35-40, 79-87, 143-8, 192-6, 2: 9-14, 92-102. [Reconstruction of families ancestral to Kenneth MacAlpin, King of Scotland, including lines from Dalriada, Strathclyde, and Pictavia.]
- John O'Hart. *Irish Pedigrees: or, The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation*. 2 vols. 1892. [However unsatisfactory, this is still the basic source, compiled from the 'Annals of the Four Masters,' etc., for royal Irish lines; incorporates much sheer mythology, and must be taken with a shaker of salt.]
- David H. Kelley. "Early Irish Genealogy." *The American Genealogist* 41 (1965): 65-76.

 _____. "Descent from the High Kings of Ireland." *The American Genealogist* 54 (1978): 1-5.

 _____. "The Ancestry of Eve of Leinster." *The Genealogist* 1 (1980): 4-26. [Excellent introductory & critical articles on various royal Irish lines.]

Gaul

- Christian Settipani. *Les ancêtres de Charlemagne*. 1989. For a trans., see Marshall K. Kirk, *Settipani's "Les ancêtres de Charlemagne." A crude English translation*, 1994 [NEHGS ms.] [By far the most important work on the subject in any language, ever. Superb bibliography. Indispensable.]
- and Patrick van Kerrebrouck. *La préhistoire des Capétiens 481-987. Prémière partie: Mérovingiens, Carolingiens et Robertiens*. 1993. [The definitive genealogical work on these three houses.]
- M. L. Bierbrier. "Medieval and Royal Genealogy Update." *Genealogists' Magazine* 24 (1994): 510-11. [Review of above, which finds fewer nits to pick than usual.]
- Christian Settipani and Patrick van Kerrebrouck. *La préhistoire des Capétiens. Seconde partie: L'aristocratie mérovingienne et carolingienne*. [Still in preparation. Will cover the more speculative or problematic points of the royal genealogies, as well.]
- Ralph Whitney Mathisen. *The Ecclesiastical Aristocracy of Fifth-Century Gaul: A Regional Analysis of Family Structure*. 1979. [doctoral thesis, University of Wisconsin-Madison] [A broad-ranging discussion of attested or possible relationships among Gallo-Roman aristocrats of the 400s, some of whom are certainly or probably ancestral to Charlemagne.]
- Martin Heinzelmann. "Gallische prosopographie 260-527." Francia 10 (1982): 531-718.
- Louis Duchesne. Fastes Episcopaux de l'Ancienne Gaule. 3 vols. 1894. [THE basic study of the Bishops of old Gaul, many of aristocratic families ancestral to Charlemagne.]
- P. Pius Bonifacius Garns, ed. *Series Episcoporum Ecclesiae Catholicae*... 1873. ['Official' lists of Catholic Bishops, from legendary beginnings; useful supplement to above.]
- Les Petites Bollandistes. 17 vols. [Saints' lives compiled & edited by the Bollandist monks. Many 'saints' were of same episcopal families as above.]
- Ralph Whitney Mathisen. "The Family of Georgius Florentius Gregorius and the Bishops of Tours." *Medievalia et Humanistica* New Series 12 (1984): 83-95. [Said family apparently related to Charlemagne.]
- Gregory of Tours. *The History of the Franks*. Trans. by Lewis Thorpe. 1974. [Primary source for 5th & 6th centuries in Gaul.]
- Edward James. *The Franks*. 1988. [Most recent comprehensive study.]
- Maurice Chaume. *Les Origins du Duché de Bourgogne*. 4 vols. 1925. [Appendix contains the basic discussion of naming patterns among aristocratic Franks.]

- Eugen Ewig. "Die Namengebung bei den altesten Frankenkonigen und im der merowingischen Konighaus." *Francia* 18 (1991): 21-69. [More on Frankish naming patterns.]
- Nellie Owings Chaney. "The Owings-Plummer Line to the Royal Houses of Europe." Maryland Genealogical Society Bulletin 35 (1994): 206-14. [Seriously presented but thoroughly bogus line to Mark Antony & his ancestors through mythical Frankish & British kings & an equally mythical daughter of Roman Emperor Claudius I.]
- Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh, and Henry Lincoln. *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*. 1982. [A frightful example of bad scholarly judgment re the Merovingians, etc. See reviews by Anderson, Kelley. Has reasonably good, interesting section on Jesus Christ, however.]
- Peter Heather. *Goths and Romans 332-489*. 1991. [Most recent study; casts serious doubts on validity of ancestral patrilineage of Theodoric the Great.]
- Ludwig Ligeti. "Die Ahnentafel Attilas und die Hunnischen Tan-hu-Namen." *Asia Major* 2 (1925): 291-301. [Gives Attila's traditional patrilineage for many generations, but doubts its validity.]

Imperial Rome

- Various eds. *Prosopographia Imperii Romani*. *Saeculi I. II. III*. [series 1, slowly being superseded by series 2] [Basic list of known Romans, AD 1-800.]
- A. H. M. Innes, J. E. Martindale, and J. Morris. The *Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire. Volume I. A.D. 260-395.* 1971.
- J. R. Martindale. *The Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire. Volume II. A.D. 395-527.* 1980.
- Ralph Whitney Mathisen. "PLRE II: Suggested Addenda and Corrigenda." Historia 31 (1982): 364-86.
- J. R. Martindale. *The Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire. Volume III. A.D. 527-641*. 1992. [Basic lists of known Romans, A.D. 260-641. With PLR above, THE basis for any onomastically-grounded reconstruction of Imperial-era families.]
- M. T. W. Arnheim. *The Senatorial Aristocracy in the Later Roman Empire*. 1972. [Does some Imperial genealogical reconstruction, showing proven or probable continuity of many such families from the Principate to the Later Empire.]
- François Jacques. "L'Ordine Senatorio attraverso la crisi del III secolo." In A. Giardina, *Società romana et impero tardoantico*, 81-225, 650-64. 1986. [Ditto.]
- John Morris. "Changing Fashions in Roman Nomenclature in the Early Empire." XXXX
- Alan Cameron. "Polyonymy in the Late Roman Aristocracy: The Case of Petronius Probus." *Journal of Roman Studies* 1985: 164-282.

- Martin Heinzelmann. "Les changements de la dénomination latine à la fin du Moyen Age." In *Famille et parenté au Moyen Age* (1977): 19-24. [Above three articles will tell you as much as you're going to find, in systematic form, on how Roman naming patterns worked.]
- Christian Settipani. "Ruricius I^{er}, éveque de Limoges et ses alliances familiales." *Francia* 18 (1) (1991): 195-222. [Excellent reconstruction of ancestry of Ruricius a probable ancestor of Charlemagne showing descent from one of the two greatest families of the Later Empire, the Anicii.]
- T. S. Mommaerts and David H. Kelley. "The Anicii of Gaul and Rome." In J. Drinkwater and H. Elsor, eds., *Fifth-Century Gaul: A Crisis of Identity?* (1992): 111-21. [A somewhat different version of the above, showing descent from the Anicii AND from the OTHER great family of the Later Empire, the Ceionii. Note that two brilliant scholars, using the same (limited) evidence, will come to rather but not utterly different conclusions. These articles are the finest examples I know of the STYLE of reasoning typically used for such conjectural reconstructions.]
- David M. Novak. A Late Roman Aristocratic Family: The Anicii in the Third and Fourth Centuries. 1976. [doctoral thesis, University of Chicago.]
- ____. "The Early History of the Anician Family." In *Studies in Latin Literature and Roman History* 1 (1979): 119-63.
- Frank M. Clover. "The Family and Early Career of Anicius Olybrius." *Historia* 27 (1978): 169-96. [Useful background studies of the Anicii, supplementing the above.]
- John Morris. "Munatius Plancus Paulinus." *Bonner Jahrsbucher* 165 (1965): 86-96.

 [Includes an elaborate stemma showing CONJECTURAL descent of the Ceionii from Augustus's first wife Scribonia, and other figures of the early Principate.

 Many variant interpretations are certainly possible, but reasons are given why SOME descent is likely.]
- John Matthews. "Continuity in a Roman Family: The Rufii Vesti of Volsinii." XXXXX, 485-509. [A more conservative treatment of the same subject, sans stemma.]
- George Andrews Moriarty. "The Syagrii." *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 110 (1956): 38-40. [Analysis of facts concerning one of Charlemagne's likely ancestors, Roman Consul in 382.]
- J. R. Martindale. "Note on the Consuls of 381 and 382." *Historia* 1967: 234-6. [Corrects an error in the above.]

Arabic & 'Mohammed'

- Donald Lines Jacobus. "Islamic Genealogy." *The American Genealogist* 38 (1963): 57-8. [Useful intro.]
- Forrest E. Barber. "Arab Blood Royal." *The Augustan* 18 (1975): 115-24. [<u>Useful</u> discussion & charts, but all 'Zaida' lines fail, as her ancestry is in fact unknown.]

- Vladimir, Prince Eletski. "Blood Royal Arabian and European." *The Augustan* 19 (1976): 188-90. [Critique of above.]
- Forrest E. Barber. [Letter to the editor.] *The Augustan* 19 (1976): 190-1. [Admission of above critique's force.]
- George S. H. L. Washington. "The Princess Zaida." *The American Genealogist* 38 (1963): 245-7. [Explores Zaida's purported ancestry. See below for demolition thereof.]
- Charles Evans. "The Princess Zaida." The American Genealogist 39 (1963): 157-60.
- . "The Princess Zaida: Addenda." *The American Genealogist* 52 (1976): 32. [Above two pieces deprive Zaida of ancestry & surviving progeny. See Kelley, however, for restoration of latter.]
- T. Stanford Mommaerts. "More Arab Blood Royal." [unpublished?] [Contains a useful bibliography & numerous interesting charts showing purported 'Mohammed' & other royal Arab descents to Europeans; however, many of these don't seem, to me, adequately borne out by the cited sources.]
- Khalid Yahya Blankinship. "On the Alleged Marriage of a Muslim Princess to a Byzantine Rebel." *Genealogist's Magazine* 24 (1993): 190-6. [Shows no basis for alleged marriage of Romanos II Skleros to a daughter of Abu Taghlib, Emir of Mosul. Argues, however, that Moslem/Christian marriages virtually NEVER took place, a ridiculous overstatement.]
- Charles J. Jacobs. "A Suggested Moslem Descent for Eleanor of Provence and Eleanor of Castile." *Augustan* 12 (1969): 217-23. [From the Banu Qasi. 'Qasi,' however, = 'Cassius,' which suggests they were originally Hispano-Roman, anyway.]
- Milton Rubincam. "The Spanish Ancestry of American Colonists." National *Genealogical Society Quarterly* 51 (1963): 235-8. [Intro to Sancha de Ayala.]
- Jaime de Salazar. "The Pedigree of King Alfonso VI of Castile in the Light of Recent Research." *Studies in Genealogy and Family History in Tribute to Charles Evans...* (1989), 321-6. [Alfonso descends from a 'Sarracina,' probably Moslem.]

Eastern Mediterranean & Ancient World

Lindsay L. Brook. "The Byzantine Ancestry of H.R.H. Prince Charles, Prince of Wales." *The Genealogist* 2 (1981): 3-51. See also his "Letter to the Editor" (corrigenda) at *ibid.*, 256. [Many 'ancient' lines are via Byzantine emperors of Mamikonid ancestry; this is the best study of imperial Byzantine ancestry.]

- Cyrille Toumanoff. *Les Dynasties de la Caucasie chrétienne de l'Antiquité jusqu'au XIX*^e siècle. Tables généalogiques et chronologiques. 1990. [World's greatest authority on the Mamikonid & other princely houses of Persarmenia.]
- Augustan Society Research and Publications Project. *Descents from Antiquity. Part I.* 1986. [Comprehensive set of pedigree tables showing possible lines of descent from Ancient world. Some errors & questionable links, but still useful.]
- T. Stanford Mommaerts. "A Key to Descents from Antiquity." *Journal of Ancient and Medieval Studies* 3:76-107. [Some of these 60-odd suggested lines of ancient ancestry may be valid, but for those I've checked, the evidence seems weak.]
- Christian Settipani. Nos ancêtres de l'Antiquité. Étude des possibilités de liens généalogiques entre les familles de l'Antiquité et celles du haut Moyen Age. 1991. See also his privately distributed corrigenda to above, c1992-3. [THE most important study of ONE possible line back to Ramessu II of Egypt. Best bibliography around, too. See also his 'Charlemagne' book, above, for another Ancient-world line, through Imperial Rome.]
- M. L. Bierbrier. "Medieval and Royal Genealogy Update." *Genealogists' Magazine* 25 (1993): 399. [Supremely hostile review of above, by an excellent scholar who just WILL NOT tolerate dotted lines.]
- Rupert Willoughby. "The Golden Line Byzantine, Arab and Armenian Ancestry of the Russian Ruriks." *Genealogists' Magazine* 23 (1991): 321-6, 369-71. [Another take on Byzantine-to-Mamikonids, etc.; has errors.]
- ____. "The Golden Line Amended." *Genealogists' Magazine* 24 (1992): 66-7. [Some errors acknowledged.]
- Arthur J. Zuckerman. A Jewish Princedom in Feudal France, 768-900. 1972. [Complex, minutely detailed, dry, yet intriguing Rabbinical study of Jewish sources strongly suggesting that Count Theodoric of the Carolingian court = Makhir, Jewish Nasi of Septimania, and a probable member of the purportedly Davidic house of the Exilarchs of Babylon/Baghdad, with possible Ancient-world descent. See Settipani & van Kerrebrouck's 'Capétiens,' however, for bibliography of European articles sharply CONTESTING this.]
- David H. Kelley. "Who Descends from King David?" *Toledot* 1 no. 3 (1977-8): 3-5. [Supports Zuckerman, though not in detail; notes STRONG possibility that Raedburh, wife of Egbert of Wessex, was grand-daughter of Theodoric/Makhir.]
- and Robert C. Anderson. "Holy Blood, Holy Grail. Two Reviews." *The Genealogist* 3 (1982): 249-63. [Entertaining razing of this wretched book; Kelley's piece gives a further discussion of Zuckerman.]

Retyped in Marshall's memory by Julie H. Otto, July 2005