

Bernardina Vasquez and Her New DNA Cousins

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Thanks must go out to several individuals instrumental in compiling some of the data and who also work on this more than I as it is their DNA lineage – Ron Miera, Patricia Rau, Rose Mestas Thompson whose DNA test results broke down that adobe wall. I thank them all.

In 2011, Rose tested her mtDNA and finish up her DNA testing; information she could use in her own family genealogy. When her results came in, like many of us, we ask “Now what?” So we got together and started with the results identifying who she matched and so on. We determined we knew whose lineage this was and it was that of Bernardina Vasquez, whom many New Mexicans have in their paper ancestry and well-known. But Rose’s paper trail did not even get close to Bernardina, it went up to Ysabel Pedraza and it was a well-documented lineage, so we felt there was more here than just a wrong turn in the family papers.

We further identified women in that time period and again we determined that we had found something new. Many more days passed and I had kept working on this and sending her emails, text messages, and phone calls detailing more what-ifs and how come this was a good find. I also contacted Patricia Rau as she has been more of the Chairperson for handling the Vasquez DNA lineage. Patricia had told me that everyone that was testing was pretty much from the Vasquez line, although she had received a few emails from some other people, but when their line didn’t go to Bernardina they discounted it. She even had emails from Mexico, which makes this more exciting. The DNA results were an “A” haplotype, meaning Native American heritage. When I did the lecture last year, we had 150 matches in the FamilyTreeDNA database, to date there are 170.

In doing some of this research, many things became clear at one time and I emailed Jose Antonio Esquibel to confirm things, which he did and I was excited that what I was finding and thinking was something he had also had an inkling about and he sent me two items I could add to the data. It exciting to have people that work in different time periods we can reach out to.

I next used “Origins of New Mexico Families.” I had purchased the Kindle or e-version was on my desktop computer and put names in and searching to see who was popping out. First were Bernardina and her husband Geronimo Marquez.

*DIEGO MARQUEZ accused as a major accomplice in the death of Governor Rosas, and Diego was beheaded in Santa Fe with seven other captains in 1643. His widow, Doña **Bernardina Vásquez**, was still living at the estancia of Los Cerrillos in 1660 with her daughter **Margarita**. Their children were: Cristóbal, Pedro, Bernabé, Margarita, wife of Gerónimo Carvajal, and, perhaps, Catalina. Diego also had a natural half-breed son, who lived as an Indian at Santo Domingo by the name of Alonso Catiti. Chavez, Fray Angelico. *Origins of New Mexico Families: A Genealogy of the Spanish Colonial e-book.**

With this I also compiled a list of names to be used later for any naming patterns. This entire family used the same names over and over, Beatriz, Catalina, Ana, Ysabel, Gregoria and Luisa.

Next, with Bernardina's information we had her father, Francisco Vasquez and so with the short bio that Fray Angelico did I could search those fields. I was using 1598, Cartaya, Spain, Vasquez, Bernardina and a few more.

*FRANCISCO VÁSQUEZ came in 1598. He was a native of **Cartaya**, twenty-eight years of age, the son of Alonso Alfrán. Francisco had a good stature and a red beard; next appears in the soldier escort of 1608, but there is no further information on him. However, the following women could well have been his daughter and grand-daughter: **Bernardina Vásquez**, widow of Diego Márquez, living at the estancia of Los Cerrillos with her daughter Margarita in 1660, played a role in major happenings of her day.*

I also searched for anyone in the Pedraza household, using Juan de Pedraza short bio including, 1598, Cartaya, Oñate, some of the same items that Francisco Vasquez had. This is where it all comes together.

*JUAN DE PEDRAZA, thirty years old, the son of Alonso González and a native of **Cartaya**, came with the Oñate forces of 1598. He was dark and tall, with a black beard and a wound above the left eye. To date, it is not known who his wife was __; two Pedraza women, **Beatriz** and **Isabel**, were his daughters. Beatriz de Pedraza was twenty-six in 1631 and the wife of Captain Tomás de Albizu. **Isabel de Pedraza**, twenty-five, was married to Matías Romero.*

Jose Antonio Esquibel also sent me this known information: "she (Ysabel Pedraza) was a cousin of María de Archuleta, widow of Captain Juan Márquez. From this marriage came the "Romero de Pedraza" branch of the original Bartolomé de Romero family." This confirmed more than we needed, but we kept looking.

Information on Hernando Hinojos, Alonso Barela and Francisco Ramirez with the already researched information on Francisco Vasquez and Juan de Pedraza, worked to my advantage and that of using the search field in the e-Origins book, which brought more information we could use.

*HERNANDO DE HINOJOS (Ynojos) and his brother SEBASTIÁN appear in the 1597 Casco roll of Oñate's forces as natives of **Cartaya**, Condado de Niebla, the sons of Juan Ruiz. Hernando was thirty-six years old in 1598, when he was described as having a good stature and a chestnut beard; here again as a native of Cartaya, the son of Juan Ruiz, and brother of Sebastián. Hernando's wife was **Beatriz Pérez de Bustillo**, who his widow by 1632. A known son of theirs was Miguel, and a daughter, **Gerónima**, was the wife of Francisco de Anaya.*

Bernardina Vasquez belonged to the Perez de Bustillo family, but HOW was the real question. We kept collecting data and names.

ALONSO VARELA and his brother Pedro came from Santiago de Compostela to the New World and up to New Mexico in 1598 with Oñate's troops. The first man founded a family

which came to Varela Jaramillo, and the second founded the Varela de Losada family. They referred the two men as the Varela brothers in 1613. Alonso Varela was described in 1598 as a native of Santiago in Galicia, of good stature, with a chestnut beard, and thirty years old, the son of Pedro Varela. In 1626 he referred to himself as an old settler sixty years of age, with a son, Alonso. His estancia was at La Cienega in 1632, and his wife was **Catalina Pérez de Bustillo**, sister of **Ana de Bustillo**.

ASENCIO DE ARECHULETA was one of the Oñate soldiers who came in **1598**. He was twenty-six years old, the son of Juan de Arechuleta and a native of Eibar in Guipúzcoa. He is described as having a medium build, black beard, and a slight wound on the forehead. Asencio was dead by 1626, when he was cited as living three or four years, and when he was the Syndic of the Franciscans. His wife was **Ana Pérez de Bustillo**, daughter of **Juan Pérez de Bustillo**, and they had a son, Juan. One daughter, María, was the wife of Captain Juan Márquez; another, Lucía, married Diego de la Serna; a third, unnamed, was the wife of Matías López del Castillo; a fourth, Gregoria, married Diego de Santa Cruz.

Antonio Baca was a captain by 1628 and twenty-eight years old, he said, married and living in Santa Fe. His wife was **Yumar Pérez de Bustillo**, forty years old in 1631. She, too, had come to New Mexico as a child with her parents. Of their three known daughters, Gertrudis married Antonio Jorge, Ana was the wife of Francisco López de Aragón, and Gregoria married Antonio de Albizu.

FRANCISCO RAMÍREZ, twenty-four, was among the Oñate soldiers of **1598**. He was a native of **Cartaya**, the son of Gómez de Salazar, described as small and red-bearded, and blind in the left eye.

Going back to the DNA, I could contact about 30 people who didn't identify their last known ancestor in FamilyTreeDNA. The findings were interesting, one went back to Yumar PdB (Antonio Baca), a few went back to Beatriz PdB (Hernando Hinojos), and few more to Ana PdB (Asencio Arechuleta). With this we knew and could confirm the connections.

After compiling all the data and what we could re-confirm, it was easy to put together a genealogy of Ysabel Pedraza and her father Juan Pedraza, who we know married a unnamed woman, but she was a Perez de Bustillo daughter, one of seven. We could also surmise that Francisco Vasquez married another daughter of whom we don't have a name for either. Since the other four men were in fact known entities of this family, we could say that Juan Perez de Bustillo and his wife Maria de la Cruz married their seven daughters off to 'men in arms,' all Spaniards, from the same place more or less, single and they all got along well. What happened to the 7th daughter is unknown right now. My best guess is she married Francisco Ramirez and in the 1603 abandonment of New Mexico, they escaped to Mexico with the others.

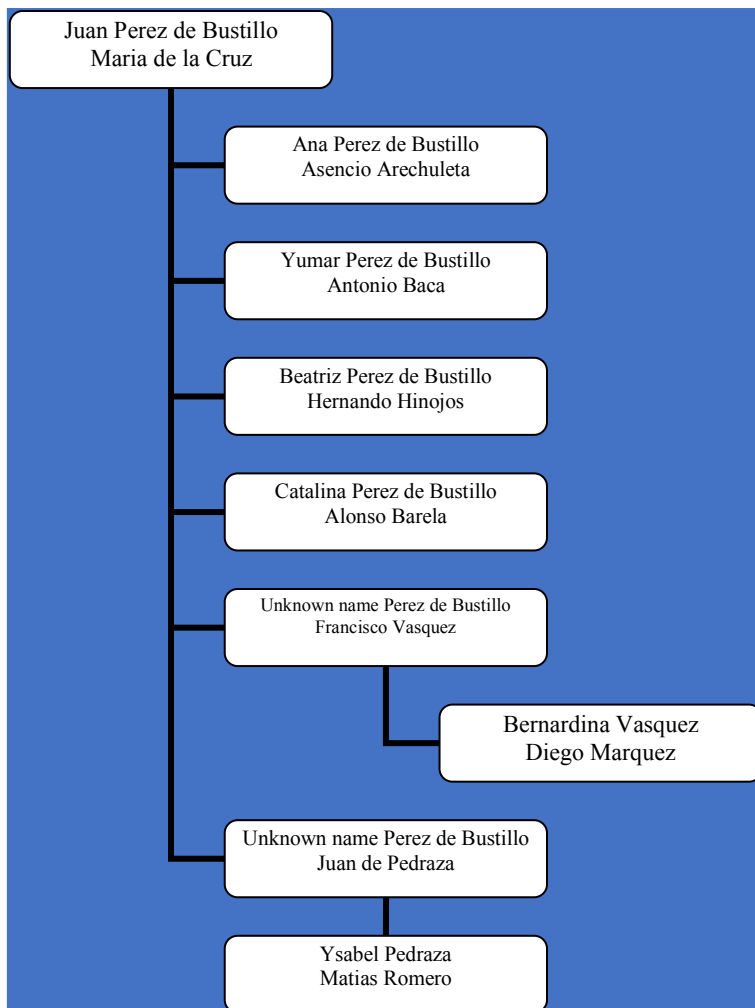
To complete the picture I had to go back to the *Origins* entry of Juan Perez de Bustillo.

JUAN PÉREZ DE BUSTILLO, forty years old, the son of Simón Pérez and a native of Mexico City, was an Oñate soldier of **1598**. He was small of stature, gray-bearded, having a wart on

the left side of the face. With him came his wife, two sons, and seven daughters. They also listed one son, Simón, as a soldier, as described later. Juan's wife was María de la Cruz, and both were still living, it seems, in 1626. Their two sons were Simón and Diego, the latter having adopted the surname of "Santa Cruz." Four of the daughters accounted for were: **Ana**, fifty in 1631, the wife of Asencio de Arechuleta; **Yumar**, forty in 1631, married to Antonio Baca; **Beatriz**, thirty-eight in 1631, wife of Hernando de Hinojos; and **Catalina**, married to Alonso Varela.

Now we can account for two more daughters with the DNA findings and the other documents. Because so many of not only descend from Bernardina but from many of the cousins, our genealogy trees collapse back to just a few families.

If I could give one good piece of advice from this study is that when you do the DNA test, you need to contact as many people as possible, share your data and then write an article. The second would be the *e-Origins* book was invaluable and searchable as an e-book. There are 32 search matches for Bustillo – no telling what additional information there might be about this family if we were to study them more.



In summary, Bernardina Vasquez is the grand-daughter of Juan Perez de Bustillo and Maria de la Cruz, who came with *don* Juan de Oñate in 1598. Maria de la Cruz descends from a Central Mexico – Native American female and she and her daughters and grand-daughters left many descendants in New Mexico.