Some interesting information about some of our (Fern Mangold's) ancestors:

- Our grandmother was the midwife at the birth of Abraham Lincoln.
- Two of our grandparents were German immigrants who became wealthy landowners in Illinois. They were murdered in 1916 and the case was never solved.
- One grandfather negotiated with the indians and purchased 8 miles of Long Island, NY.
- Four of our grandfathers were the first settlers of Newark, New Jersey.
- Several grandfathers fought in the Revolutionary War.
- George Washington surveyed land for one of our grandfathers.
- One cousin was Abraham Lincoln's brother-in-law and died fighting for the Confederacy during the Civil War.
- The seventh president of Yale was our cousin.
- One of our cousins became the Governor of Kentucky.
- We are cousins to Thomas Edison.

This is a list of the first arrivals to America (long before the Revolutionary War):

Year	Arrivals:
1617	James Knott arrived on the "George" in Virginia
1631	John Carman arrived on the "Plough" in Massachusetts
1634	John Stiles arrived on the "Christian" in Connecticut
1637	Approximate year Thomas Thomas arrived in Virginia
1639	Robert Kitchel arrived in New Haven Connecticut
1640	John Ogden arrived in South Hampton New York
1640	Abraham Pierson arrived in Boston, Massachusetts
1658	Pierre Cresson arrived in Manhattan, New York
1660	Phillipp Casier arrived in the "Gilded Otter" in Manhattan New York
1680	Larue arrived in Pennsylvania
1685	Edward Willett in Maryland
1701	Martin Nall in Virginia
1704	Lewis Yancy in Virginia
1732	Walter arrived in the "Loyal Judith" in Pennsylvania
1737	Beezler arrived in the "Charming Poly" in Pennsylvania
1748	William Carter in Maryland

Note: the Pilgrims arrived in MA in 1620.

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Wikipedia ancestors:

John LaRue (LaRue County KY named after him)
Abraham Pierson the elder (a founder of Newark, NJ)
John Ogden (a founder of Elizabeth, NJ)

Wikipedia cousins:
Ezra Stiles (seventh president of Yale, associate of Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson)
Ben Hardin Helm (Lincoln brother-in-law)
John L Helm (Gov of KY)
Thomas Edison (inventor)
Claude Shannon (father of information theory)
David Aaron Ogden
Abraham Ogden
Samuel Ogden
Aaron Kitchell

Ancestors that were founders of:
Elizabeth, New Jersey - John Ogden (first English settlement in New Jersey)
Newark, New Jersey - Abraham Pierson, Robert Kitchel, Obadiah Bruen
Hempstead, New York - John Carman
Hodgenville, Kentucky - John LaRue

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Lincoln's birth (we are direct descendants of both Mary Brooks and Peggy Walters):

http://rogerjnorton.com/Lincoln88.html

On June 10, 1806, Thomas Lincoln of Hardin County, Kentucky, traveled to the Washington County Courthouse to obtain a **bond** to marry Nancy Hanks. Two days later the wedding took place in Richard Berry's **cabin** located close to Beechland in Washington County, Kentucky. **Reverend Jesse Head**, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, performed the ceremony in the evening after a day of festivities. **Dr. Christopher Columbus Graham**, who attended the wedding, stated that the food included bear meat, venison, wild turkey and ducks, eggs, maple sugar strung on a string to bite off for coffee and whiskey, syrup in big gourds, peach and honey, and a sheep that two families barbecued over coals and wood burned in a pit.

The Lincolns settled in Elizabethtown, and they celebrated the birth of their first child, **Sarah**, on February 10, 1807. In 1808 the Lincolns moved to the **Sinking Spring Farm** located on the south fork of Nolin Creek, around two and a half miles from Hodgenville, Kentucky. Their cabin measured approximately 16 by 18 feet. The logs were oak and chestnut and numbered approximately 143. They were chinked with clay. Rough wooden shingles covered the roof. There was a stone fireplace, one door which swung on leather hinges, and one window (without glass) which was once covered with greased paper or thin animal skin. There was a small box-like stick and clay chimney. The floor was dirt.

In 1808 Nancy became pregnant for the second time. During the afternoon of Saturday, February 11, 1809, Nancy told Thomas that the time was getting close. She asked Thomas to get a midwife. Thomas left the cabin, and when he reached the road he saw a neighbor, Abraham Enlow (then 16 years old). Enlow's mother was a local midwife. Enlow told Thomas to go back and wait with his wife, and he promised to send his mother, and if she couldn't come, he would get his half-sister Margaret "Peggy" La Rue Walters (wife of Conrad Walters). As it turned out, Peggy Walters was the one who returned to the Lincolns' cabin. Abraham Enlow took Peggy Walters to the Lincolns' cabin. Peggy was only 20 years old, but she had assisted her mother with other births in the area.

Many years later, in the summer of 1864, a neighborhood picnic took place near the location of the old Sinking Spring Farm. The picnic was on the property of a man named Richard Creal. During the picnic the conversation turned to the fact that President Abraham Lincoln had been born on the very land where the picnic was being held. One of the older women, Peggy Walters, mentioned she was present when Abraham Lincoln was born. She told the following story of the birth:

I was twenty years old, then, and helping to bring a baby into the world was more of an event to me than it became afterward. But I was married young, and had a baby of my own, and I had helped mother, who, as you know, was quite famous as a granny-woman, and I had gone several times to help when I was sent for. It was Saturday afternoon, I remember, when Tom Lincoln sent over and asked me to come, and I got up behind the boy that rode across to fetch me, and I rode across to the cabin that then stood here. It was a short ride, less than a mile. It was winter, but it was mild weather, and I don't think there was any snow. If there was any then, it wasn't much, and no snow fell that night. They sent for me quite as soon as there was any need, for when I got there nothing much was happening. They sent for her two aunts, Mis' Betsy Sparrow and Mis' Polly Friend, and these both came, but they lived about two miles away, so I was there before them, and we all had quite a spell to wait, and we got everything ready that we could.

They were poor folks, but so were most of their neighbors, and they didn't lack anything they needed. Nancy had a good feather-bed under her; it wasn't a goose-feather bed, hardly anyone had that kind then, but good hen feathers. And she had blankets enough. There was a little girl there, two years old. Her name was Sarah. She went to sleep before much of anything happened.

Well, there isn't much that a body can tell about things of that kind. Nancy had about as hard a time as most women, I reckon, easier than some and maybe harder than a few. It all came along kind of slow, but everything was regular and all right. The baby was born just about sunup, on Sunday morning. Nancy's two aunts took the baby and washed him and dressed him, and I looked after Nancy. That's about all there is to tell. I remember it

better than I do some cases that came later, because I was young, and hadn't had so much experience as I had afterward. But I remember it all right well.

Oh, yes, and I remember one other thing. After the baby was born, Tom came and stood there beside the bed and looked down at Nancy, lying there, so pale and so tired, and he stood there with that sort of a hang-dog look that a man has, sort of guilty like, but mighty proud, and he says to me, 'Are you sure she's all right, Mis' Walters'? And Nancy kind of stuck out her hand and reached for his, and said, 'Yes, Tom, I am all right.' And then she said, 'You're glad it's a boy, Tom, aren't you? So am I.'

No, there isn't much you can tell anybody about things of that sort. But Tom Lincoln was mighty anxious about his wife, while she was suffering, and mighty good to her, too. And they were both proud and happy that it was a boy. You can't tell much about the birth of a baby, except that you were there, and that the baby was born. But you can tell whether folks wants the baby or not, and whether they love or hate each other on account of it. I was young then, and I noticed and remembered everything. I remember it a heap better than I remember much that happened afterward. I tell you I never saw a prouder father than Tom Lincoln; and I never saw a mother more glad than Nancy was to know that her baby was a boy.

And they sort of explained to me how they named the little girl Sarah because the name Abraham didn't fit, and Sarah was the next best. For Tom's father, that was killed by Indians when Tom was a little boy, his name was the one they wanted the first baby to have. And so Nancy says to Tom, 'Now we can use the name we couldn't use before.'

And Tom says, says he, 'Yes, Nancy, and it's a right good name. This here baby boy,' says he, 'is named Abraham Lincoln.'

The inscription on Peggy Walters' tombstone in the old South Fork burying ground, which stands beside that of her husband, Conrad Walters, on the south side of the creek, shows that Peggy Walters was born December 11, 1789 and died October 16, 1864.

Sources: *The Women Lincoln Loved* by William E. Barton (Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1927), *The Paternity of Abraham Lincoln* by William E. Barton (New York, George H. Doran Company, 1920), *Nancy Hanks Lincoln: A Frontier Portrait* by Harold and Ernestine Briggs (New York, Bookman Associates, 1952), *The Life of Abraham Lincoln* by Ida M. Tarbell (New York, Doubleday Page & Co., 1895), *Abraham Lincoln and His Ancestors* by Ida M. Tarbell (New York, Harper and Brothers, 1924), *Following Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865* by Bernhardt Wall (New York, Wise-Parslow Company, 1943), *Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood* by Louis A. Warren (New York, Century Books, 1926), *Herndon's Informants* edited by Douglas L. Wilson and Rodney O. Davis (Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1998) and *The Women in Lincoln's Life* by H. Donald Winkler (Nashville, Rutledge Hill Press, 2001).

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Half-sister of Mary Todd Lincoln, Emilie (Emily) Todd Helm first came to the White House in December 1863, accompanied by her daughter Katherine. In March 1861, President Lincoln had offered her husband, Ben Hardin Helm, the job of army paymaster, which he declined. He instead became a confederate general. (Most of the children of the second marriage of Mary's father sided with the Confederacy.) Emilie arrived at the White House after her husband's death in the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863. Judge David Davis recalled: "I never saw Mr. Lincoln more moved,' said Senator David Davis, 'than when he heard of the death of his young brother-in-law Ben Hardin Helm, only thirty-two years old, at Chickamauga.

Ben Hardin Helm was a cousin of ours.

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Another cousin Ezra Stiles was the seventh president of Yale and friend of Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson.

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I read a book about the "father of the digital revolution and information theory" Claude Shannon. I learned one of his childhood heroes was Thomas Alva Edison. When he became an adult Shannon learned he was a cousin to Edison through a grandfather named John Ogden.

That name was familiar and after checking our family tree … I learned that every descendant of Grandma Fern is a cousin to both Claude Shannon and Thomas Alva Edison!!

Thomas Alva Edison's 4th great grandfather (David Ogden) is also Grandma Fern's 7th great grandfather! Which means YOU too are related to Thomas Edison!

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Mason City, Ill., Dec. 18-The sum of $14,000 was taken by the slayer of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Becker, wealthy farmers, found shot to death five miles northeast of here, according to Sheriff Close of Havana. The money had been collected by Becker December 15 from tenants on his farms.

The Beckers were our ancestors. Even after the robbery their estate was valued at over $400,000 in 1916
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In 2002, I received a hardcover book with over three hundred pages on the ancestry of Charles Thomas. Charles was the brother of our great grandmother (Mamma - Fern's mother) and so his parents were our great, great grandparents and all of his ancestors are our ancestors.

This book was written by John Thomas (his son) who worked on it from 1973 until 2001. John traveled all over the United States collecting information from courthouse (marriage, property, birth, voting, & probate) records, census reports, church records, newspapers, family records, interviews, cemeteries,... He lists all sources for his findings at the end of each families chapter in the book.

John has collected information on several hundred of our grandparents. I was overwhelmed by the historical value. We had 16 separate families in the original 13 colonies BEFORE the Revolutionary War began. These different families settled Virginia, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts. The first arrival was in 1617 in Virginia, three years before the first Pilgrims.

One of the most fascinating lineages belongs to the Carmans.

John Carman arrived from England in 1631 on the "Plough" in Massachusetts. He was one of the first settlers in the Boston area where 4 of his 5 children were born. He later moved to the Cape Cod area and then Connecticut. While in Connecticut he and an in-law (Robert Fordham) negotiated a deal with area Indians to purchase over 8 miles of Long Island New York. The deed signed by the Indians is dated 11/13/1643 and the following year they received a patent for the land from the local Dutch Governor. Our ancestors were English, but at that time New York belonged to the Dutch.

There is a log entry in the original ledger of George Washington where he surveyed 21,000 acres on 12/11/1771 for Isaac Larue.

Isaac Larue owned the 21,000 acres in Virginia and also owned land surveyed by Squire Boone (Daniel's Father). Isaac Larue's land holdings in addition to the 21,000 acres were 6,250 below the mouth of the Beech Fork of Salt River in Kentucky; 3,335 acres in what is now West Virginia; and 2,300 acres on the Ohio River at Middle Island.

Isaac and Phebe's son, John married Mary Brooks and moved to some of the 40,000 acres John owned in Kentucky. Some of this land was also surveyed by Squire Boone. Larue County Kentucky was named after John Larue.

John's wife, Mary had some medical background from growing up in Philadelphia. She often served as a "granny" (midwife) in the area. Her 20 year old daughter, Peggy Walters was called out to a neighbor's home one Saturday. By the next morning, Sunday February 12, 1809 she helped bring a new child into the world. His name was Abraham Lincoln.

Samuel Kitchel arrived in Connecticut in 1639 with his parents. He later joined 30 other families and they purchased land and founded the city of Newark (now the largest city in New Jersey). The original plat for the town in 1666 shows three of our ancestors owning 3 lots on or near the river where downtown Newark is now. The lots originally owned by the Kitchell's are now occupied by 20 and 30 story hotels.

David Ogden lived in Morristown, NJ and George Washington was a frequent visitor to their home for two years while he replenished his forces after Valley Forge. David served as a delegate to New Jersey's First Constitutional Convention.

Thomas Thomas owned 1,100 acres where the University of Maryland now sits. His descendants owned several tracts of land just outside our nation's capitol (10 miles away). He was also one of the first land owners in Baltimore. The first deed recorded in Baltimore County was for his property.

We are direct descendants of seven men who fought in the Revolutionary War. The families are - Thomas, Carman, Stiles, Kitchel, Walters, Ogden, and Hill.

Most of our ancestors came from England and others from Ireland, Scotland, Holland, and Germany. The first of our ancestors to arrive in America was James Knott in 1617 aboard the "George" and settled in Virginia just up the river from Jamestown.

We owned significant property in New York, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Illinois.

Conrad Walters was the closest neighbor to the Lincolns until 1816 - owned a tannery. He and his wife lived all their lives on the same land.

The above information comes from several books, census records, and courthouse records.