Some family unit connections on these trees are inferred (marked as such) and may not actually be related. As an example: A birth record was found for “John Smith” born in 1801 to Jim Smith and Mary Doe (both born in 1775), but there was no marriage or death records found for John. Later, we find a birth record for “Jimmy Smith” born in 1830 to parents “John Smith (age 30) and Sue Black (age 28). We note that we just discovered two “John Smiths” which have similar birth years, so it is possible they are the same person.

There is no guarantee they are the same, so this family unit is marked as inferred. This suggests that we found the wife of our original John Smith, so Sue Black is paired with him (we do know that the couple “John and Sue” exists; we are just not exactly sure if they connect to Jim and Mary. It is also inferred that we have now connected Jimmy Smith to his grandfather Jim Smith. (NOTE: Confidence is increased because Jimmy may have been named after his grandfather.) However, if we had two or more potential unassigned candidates for John Smith (all born around 1800) we would not make the connection to either because we can't be sure which could be correct.