



The Bulletin

Quarterly Magazine of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Volume 73, Number 2

December 2023

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The Lost Uncle: Yitschak Meir Diokhter, a.k.a. Max Ducker, son of Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter and Brane Averbakh



By Ronald D. Doctor

The Bulletin: Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

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The Forum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Gifts and contributions may be tax deductible.

Federal Tax ID# 93-6026015 • ISSN 2374-2453 (print) • ISSN 2374-2461 (online)

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CALL FOR ARTICLES

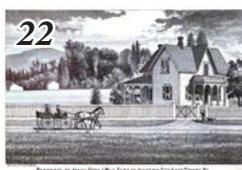
The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to *The Bulletin*. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- memoirs and personal essays
- research articles and source guides
- how-to articles
- problem-solving articles
- articles on family history travel
- using technology

We also welcome book reviews, transcriptions or extractions from original sources, and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs and other graphics. Send submissions to bulletin@gfo.org. You may request the current "Instructions and Guidelines" by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at <https://gfo.org/learn/our-publications/gfo-bulletin.html>.

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Letter from an Editor

“There is no way to remove the observer—us—from our perceptions of the world ... the past, like the future, is indefinite and exists as a spectrum of possibilities.”
—Stephen Hawking

WHO WILL WRITE YOUR FAMILY’S STORY?

After my mother passed away in 2010, I often visited my father with my young grandson. My father did not tell stories about his past or his family. At times, my father appeared to need something to do. So, I suggested that he write a book. His response was an emphatic, “I am not writing a book!” But he did have a computer and put some thoughts into writing.

It’s funny how, ten years after his death, I wish we had continued that conversation. “Well, dad, if you don’t write that book, someone else will.” Now, if my grandson were to write about his great-grandfather, he would look at those old photos, maybe ask a few questions, and we would read something very different from what my father could have composed.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BULLETIN

Don’t let someone else write your story. One of the purposes of *The Bulletin* is to provide space to preserve your stories. The inside cover suggests we are looking for your memoirs and personal stories. Maybe you can share your research, like Duane Funk does in this issue. We are looking for “How-to” articles, problem solving articles, articles on family history, and articles using new technology.

MY FAMILY’S STORIES

I’ve been trying to write about my father’s side of my family. In the September 2023 *Bulletin*, there was an article on my father’s “War Years.” In September and the June 2023 *Bulletin*, there were transcriptions of two of my mother’s photo albums, where Nanci thought I missed a good opportunity to write more about my mother, but I find that challenging. I put an image of my grandparent’s grave on the cover of the March 2023 *Bulletin*, and imagined a conversation with the grandpa, who I did not know very well. *The Bulletin* published a story about my great-grandma Mary Brawand in December 2022, and her father’s probate papers have appeared as transcriptions. And a few short stories about me have made their way into these “Letters” and articles like the “Old House” in the June 2022 *Bulletin*.



Father Grafe with his great-grandson watching baseball at the Main Field at Alpenrose Dairy, Portland, Oregon, 2011.

INSPIRING ARTICLES

Gina Palmer’s article from the September 2022 *Bulletin*, “Finding German Church Records at Archion and Matricula Online,” and Fritz Juengling’s article, “Meyer’s Gazetteer Now Online, Indexed and Fully Searchable!” from the March 2017 *Bulletin*, helped motivate me to research German ancestors. My next article may be on my father’s maternal side.

A GOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Maybe you are tired of reading about my family. Would you like to share stories of your family?

For me, the purpose of this magazine became clearer after publishing an article in December 2015, “Memoir: Ruth Holly Ball and Reginald “Heber” Radcliff [sic].” Yes, they misspelled my grandpa Radcliffe’s name. But telling people that I would publish my grandpa’s genealogy, helped me do that. Writing up his genealogy led to learning *InDesign* and then laying out *The Bulletin*. It can be hard to accept other people’s edits. Now I understand the purpose of the editing process is to make our writing easier to understand.

Tell bulletin@gfo.org what you want to write about, learn some new tricks, get editing help, and let us help you publish your genealogy. We’ll try not to spell your name wrong. You could also send it to *NGSQ/NGS Magazine*, or Allen County Library, submit it to the Genealogical Forum of Oregon’s *Insider*, or maybe send it to an out-of-state genealogical society. Maybe our competition is Facebook. But consider that *The Bulletin* is here for you, and if you don’t write your family’s history, someone with different perceptions will.

—Mark Grafe

Letters to the Editor

Regarding “Robert Frederick Grafe (1922–2012), War Years: ‘I saw a lot of people that I didn’t want to be like.’”

Good article Mark.

I love to read about your parents as they were such a big part of my life. I miss them both.

Joyce Eaton

Thanks Joyce, it’s harder to write about my mom, but her father kept and returned every letter she wrote him!

Thanks for sharing this Mark!

I loved your parents and always considered them my 2nd set of parents! I was broken hearted when they passed. Also loved growing up with you at St. Barnabas!

Donna Davis Moore

Regarding the March 2023 *Bulletin*,

Dear GFO team,

Thank you for the excellent article about the research on Mary Ellen Cheatham and her ancestors.

I enjoyed learning more about doing African-American genealogical research, and also the easy-reading clarity, quality and thoroughness of the article. It all must have taken many hours of work and I appreciate it.

I look forward to digging further into the anniversary issue but wanted to get this note sent right away.

I hope to become a member again someday, for now I appreciate your sharing your publications and with (now) out-of-staters like myself.

Thank you, again.

Sincerely,

Debbie Schley



The Lost Uncle: Yitschak Meir Diokhter, a.k.a. Max Ducker (1877–1945), son of Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter and Brane Averbakh

Ronald D. Doctor

This biographical sketch is part of a series I am writing about subsets of my Doctor family. The sketch draws from my full family history recorded in my *RootsMagic* genealogy software. It is about Yitschak Meir Diokhter (son of Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter and Brane Averbakh, my paternal great-grandparents), his wife Etil, and their children Aaron and Brayne. Each used many different names during their lifetimes.

INTRODUCTION

Long before I got interested in my family history, Dad told me a story about his “lost” uncle. “Why do you say he’s lost?”, I asked. And this is what he related;

His name is Max and he’s my father’s brother. He came to America a few years after my mother and father did. He was alone, didn’t have any place to live yet. So, he lived with my mother and father. His wife and children didn’t come to America until years later. And a few years after they arrived, Max left them and disappeared.

Years later, I visited my cousins Renee and Harvey Miller at their home in New Orleans. Renee’s mother (my Dad’s sister), Aunt Bea, lived with them. I had recently started working on our family history and while talking with Aunt Bea, I remembered Dad’s story. I asked her, “Do you know anything about what happened to your Uncle Max?” “It was terrible,” she said.

Max and Ethel had two children, Aaron and [my first cousin] Bea.¹ When I was growing up, all the family called their daughter “red-headed Bea” to keep from



Meier Doktor arrived in New York City in 1906 aboard the SS Kaiserin Auguste Victoria. Wikipedia.

mixing the two of us up. She was a few years older than me. When she was just a teenager, Max left the family and disappeared. Many years later, Max showed up for his daughter’s wedding, but his family didn’t want anything to do with him. He didn’t get to attend the wedding. No one ever heard from him after that.

In the mid-1990s I was a novice at genealogy and there were few resources I could easily search. I was unable to find any trace of Max, so, I set aside my search and moved on to other parts of my family history. But now, times have changed. An enormous number of online databases are available and organizations like Ancestry, FamilySearch, and MyHeritage provide easy access to archived data. In 2021 I renewed my search and have been able to reconstruct a fair amount of Max’s life and his whereabouts. In this brief sketch, I will try to tell you his story. It is a sad tale.

IN THE BEGINNING ... THE KREMENETS YEARS

Max began life as Yitschak Meir Diokhter almost a hundred and fifty years ago in the town of Kremenets, Russia (now Ukraine).² He died 68 years later in San Francisco, alone, and with a name unknown to his family, Max Ducker.³

Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter and Brane Averbakh were his parents. Brane was from the notable Averbakh family. Rabbi

1. Both first cousins, Max’s daughter Bea and my father’s sister Bea, had the same given names at birth, Brane or Brayndil. In their early teens both changed their names to Rebecca, and then later to Beatrice or Bea. In this story, to avoid confusion, I’ll refer to Max’s daughter as Bea or red-headed Bea, and to my father’s sister as Aunt Bea.

2. Kremenets is in Volhynia province in the northwest corner of Ukraine. It is near the Polish border, 78.8 miles ENE of Lviv and 212.9 miles W of Kyiv. Before 1792 and during the interwar years after WW I, Kremenets was part of Poland. Also, Yitschak Meir Dokhter, Kremenets birth record, 2 November 1877; Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 2,086,060, Kremenets District Research Group (KDRG) file 719, male birth 115.

3. *Find a Grave*, database with image (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/137606757/max-ducker> : accessed 26 June 2023), Max Ducker (1879–1945), Salem Memorial Park and Garden Colma, California; gravestone photograph by Larry White.

Duvid Tsvi, son of Arye Leyb Averbakh, had been the town Rabbi in the early 1800s. Brane Averbakh's family had lived in Kremenets since sometime before 1719. At that time, Kremenets had fewer than 800 Jewish people in about 150 families. Yosef Yechezkel's family was from Oleksinets, a smaller town with fewer than 300 Jews (almost half the population). It's about 21 miles SSW of Kremenets.

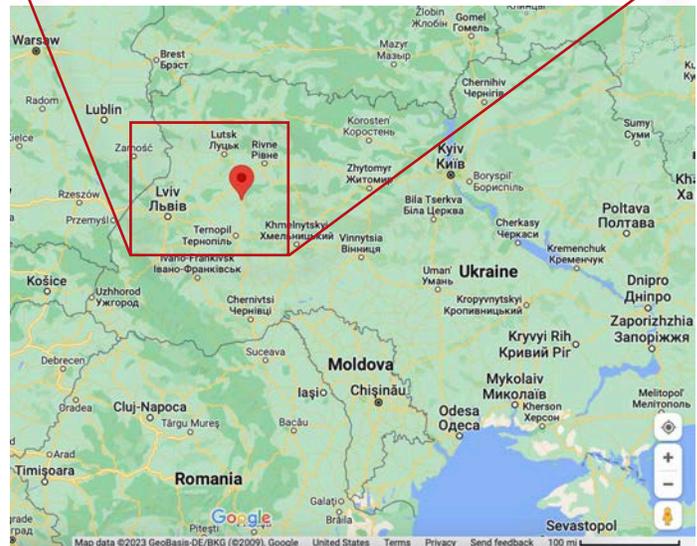
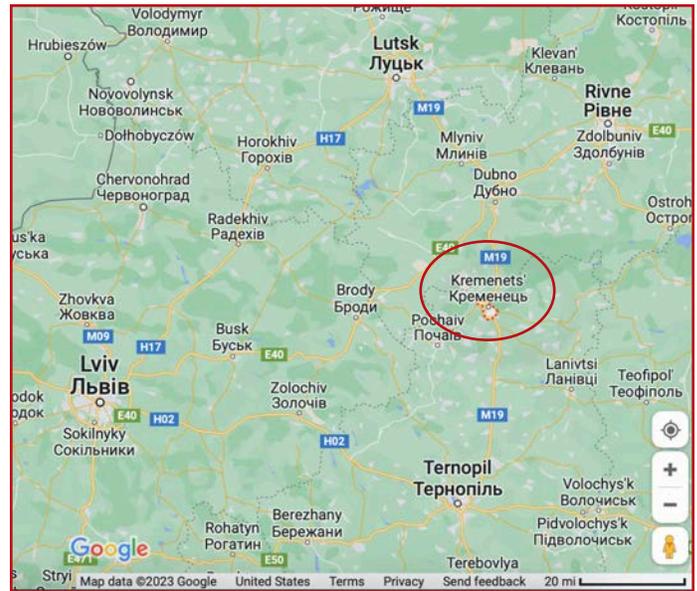
An arranged marriage between Brane Averbakh and Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter took place in October 1874. Yosef moved to his wife's town, Kremenets, where he became close to the Averbakh family. By this time, there were about 5,000 Jews in Kremenets, more than 40 percent of the town's population.⁴

In September 1875, their first child was born, Avraham Shimon Diokhter, my paternal grandfather.⁵ He was named for Brane's father, Avraham Shimon Averbakh, who had died just four years earlier at age 35. A family story tells of Avraham Averbakh's tragic death. As a recruit in the Russian cavalry, he fell off his horse, cracked his head, and died.

Two years after my grandfather's birth, his brother Yitschak Meir Diokhter was born, on 2 November 1877. He was named after Brane's grandfather, Yitschak Meir Averbakh. The Diokhter brothers were raised in Kremenets in close association with Brane's Averbakh family, a family of merchants.

We know very little about Yitschak Meir Diokhter's daily life in Kremenets. During his early years, Kremenets had a large synagogue in the center of town, as well as many *Shtiblach*, prayer houses, scattered around town. The brothers probably attended Hebrew school at a *Shtibl*. Most of the Jewish people of Kremenets were neither Misnagedim nor Chasidic. Rather, Kremenets was one of the centers of Jewish enlightenment. The Jews were Orthodox, but not at one extreme or the other. So, this probably was the environment in which the Diokhter brothers were raised. Each had a Bar Mitzvah and each probably worked during their teenage years.

Tragedy struck again. Avraham was 22 and Yitschak was 20 when their mother, Brane, died of tuberculosis in October 1897.⁶ She was only 41. Their father



The Diokhter family emigrated from Kremenets, Ukraine. Google Maps.

quickly remarried. By February 1899, Chaye Nahl, Yosef Yechezkel's new wife, had a son, Yekusiel Pesach,⁷ named for Yosef's father, Nachum Yekusiel Diokhter. After Yekusiel's birth, Yosef and Chaye moved to the nearby town of Katerburg, leaving Yosef's older sons Avraham Shimon and Yitschak Meir in Kremenets, 10 miles away.

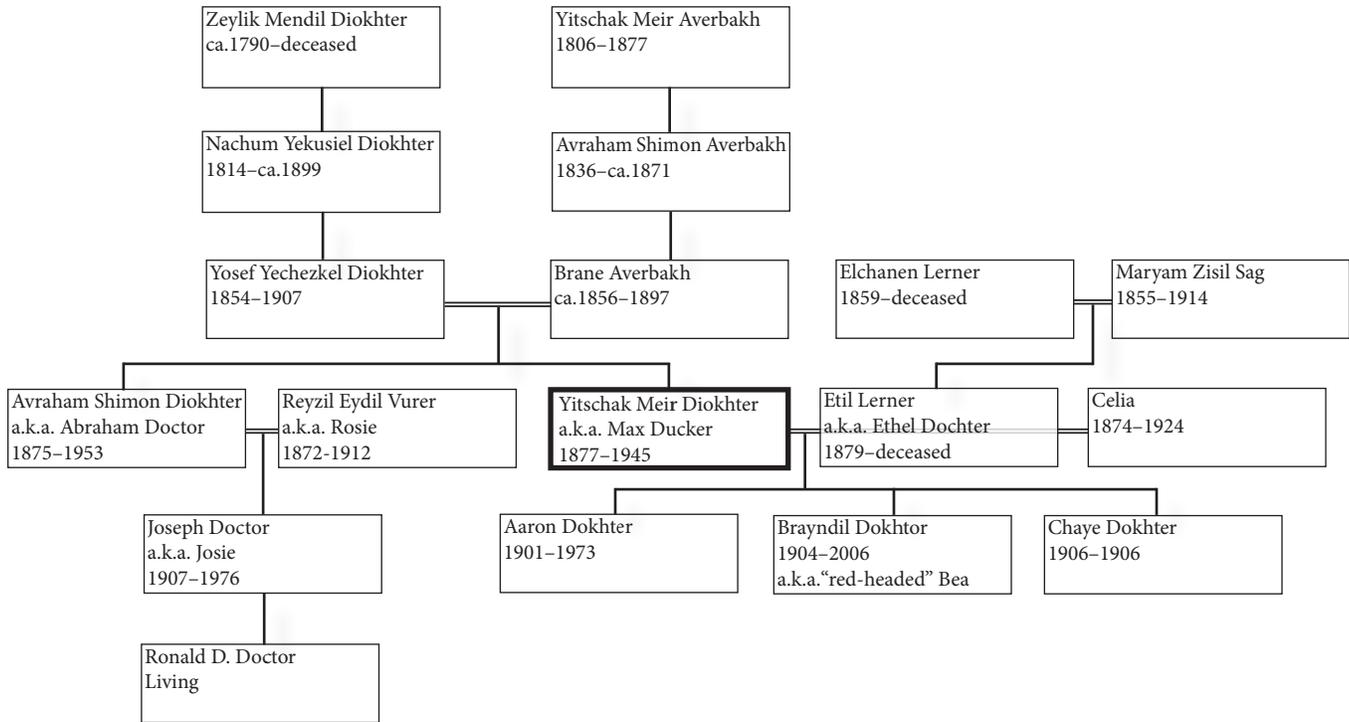
4. Population data for Kremenets District towns is from "Pinkas Hakehillot Polin, the Encyclopedia of Jewish Communities in Poland", Volume V. It is accessible at *JewishGen* (http://www.jewishgen.org/Yizkor/pinkas_poland/pol5_00179e.html). *Encyclopedia Judaica* is another important source (http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/judaica/ejud_0002_0012_0_11597.html). A spreadsheet showing the population of Kremenets district towns from 1552 through 1944 is downloadable from tinyurl.com/Jewish-Population-of-Kremenets.

5. Avraham Shimon Diokhter, Kremenets birth record, 21 September 1875; FHL microfilm 2,086,060, KDRG File 556, Male birth 92.

6. Ukraine, Kremenets district, death record, Brandil Averbakh Diokhter, 3 November 1897; FHL microfilm 2,086,064, files 15 & 146, female death 52.

7. Ukraine, Kremenets district, birth record, Yekusiel Pesach Diokhter, 16 February 1899, FHL microfilm 2,086,064, KDRG file 338, male birth M27.

SELECTED FAMILY OF YITSCHAK MEIR DIOKHTER



Citing Ronald D. Doctor, "Doctor-Kazdoy Extended Family," *Ancestry*.

Yechezkel and Chaye soon had two more children, Feyga (born in 1902),⁸ and Yitschak (born in 1904).⁹ This second Yitschak from Yosef was named for Chaye's paternal grandfather, Yitschak Nahl.

Although their father had moved to a nearby town, Avraham Shimon Diokhter and Yitschak Meir Diokhter were not forgotten. Marriages were arranged, and in May 1899, Avraham married Reyzil Eydil Vurer,¹⁰ daughter of Duvid Vurer. Reyzil's life had been seriously disrupted in the past several years. Her father Duvid, had died of tuberculosis

in 1889.¹¹ He was only 37; and her mother, Sura, daughter of Meir Volf & Hinda Korenfeld, died in November 1898 at age 44,¹² only six months before Reyzil's wedding.

It was time for the brothers Avraham Shimon Diokhter and Yitschak Meir Diokhter to begin forging lives of their own. Avraham and Reyzil left Kremenets, traveled to Hamburg, and sailed for America, arriving in New York in July 1900.¹³ Meanwhile, Yitschak Meir Diokhter married Etil Lerner, daughter of Elchanen Lerner and Maryam Zisil Sag, in June 1900.¹⁴ They soon had three children,

8. Ukraine, Katerburg, birth record, Feyga Dechtiar, 22 January 1902, Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People (CAHJP) disk 1-06, sp 095, file 3995, female birth 2. See *JewishGen* > <https://www.jri-poland.org>.

9. Ukraine, Katerburg, birth record, Yitschak Dechtiar, 2 August 1904; CAHJP disk 1-06, sp 095, files 4118-4119, male birth 15. See *JewishGen*, > <https://www.jri-poland.org>.

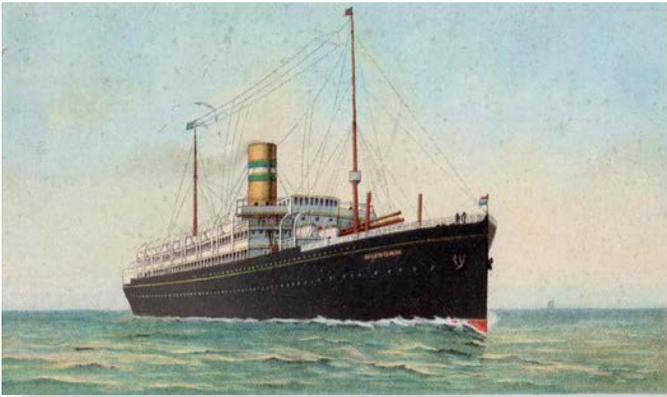
10. Ukraine, Kremenets district, marriage record, Avraham Shimon Diokhter and Reyzil Eydil Vurer, 24 May 1899; FHL microfilm 2,086,064, KDRG file 476, 1899 marriage 15.

11. The memoir of Etta Gittelman Karson, Duvid Vurer's granddaughter, states that "his wagon was marooned during a severe snow storm and he was unable to reach home. He slept in a doorway all night and suffered frost bite. He became ill and never recovered." However, Duvid Vurer's death record says he died in Kremenets of consumption (tuberculosis) on 6 August 1889, at age 37. Also, Duvid Vurer, Kremenets death record, 6 August 1879; FHL microfilm 2,086,062, KDRG file 380, male death no. 50. He died at age 37 of tuberculosis.

12. Ukraine, Kremenets district, death record, Sore Ester Korenfeld-Vurer, 27 November 1898; CAHJP disk 2-05, Sp 099, files 1488-1489, female death 65. She died of a "stomach catarrh."

13. "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYT715_139-0632? : accessed 26 June 2023); SS *Palatia*, passenger manifest, line 1, Reise Doctor, Hamburg to New York, arrived 20 July 1900.

14. Ukraine, Kremenets district, marriage record, Yitschak Meir Diokhter & Etil Lerner, 29 June 1900; FHL microfilm 2,086,064, KDRG file 661, marriage 23.



Aron Doktor arrived in New York City aboard the SS Ryndam in 1913. *Wikipedia*.

56 Sheriff Street, in Manhattan, New York City. He carried \$20 cash, equivalent to \$679 in 2023 dollars.²⁴

By 1910, Yitschak Meir Diokhter had once again adopted a new name; Max Doctor.²⁵ He lived with his brother Avraham (now Abraham, and later Abram and Abe), Abraham's wife Reyzil (now Rosie), and their four children; Charles, Sadie, Josie and Beckie. Josie was my father Joseph; Beckie was my aunt Bea. A David Gittelman also lived in the household.²⁶ Four adults and four children lived in a very small tenement apartment on the lower east side of New York.²⁷

David Gittelman was the husband of Reyzil's sister, Velye, who was still in Russia. They had married six years earlier, had two children (Sore and Braine), and had been separated for almost three years. They reunited a few months later, in September 1910, when Velye and her daughters were able to immigrate. The economy was in bad shape. David had been employed for only 12 weeks

in 1909 and Max had been out of work for 14 weeks. Abraham was a street peddler, selling fruits and vegetables from a pushcart.

Recall that on his passenger manifest, Yitschak (Meir/Meier/Max) said he was a tradesman or merchant. In 1910 he reported that he was an "operator" in a tailor shop. Later we will see that for most of his life his work involved clothing ... except for a few short-lived diversions.

Max lived with Abraham and his family at least through July 1911 when Max's wife Etil and daughter Brayndil (now called Brayne) immigrated.²⁸ On her passenger manifest, Etil gave her destination as the home of her husband, I. M. Doktor, c/o Abe Doctor,²⁹ 256 Rivington Street, New York. Max's and Etil's son Aaron remained in Kremenets, living with his maternal grandmother, Susel Lerner. So, now, although David Gittelman had moved out, Etil/Ettel and Brayne moved in. There were five children under the age of ten and four adults in the household, and Reyzil was six months pregnant with Sol. I can only imagine the tensions and conflicts that must have arisen in such a crowded apartment.

Twelve-year-old Aaron, the son of Max and Etil, immigrated on 22 July 1913. A Kremenets neighbor, 30-year-old Jankel Schwartz, looked after him on the 11-day voyage.

By 1915, Max and his family found an apartment of their own. They moved back to 56 Sheriff Street, where Max had lived with Abram's family when he first arrived in 1906.³⁰ In New York that year, Max worked as a "fan maker."³¹ That's the last time Max appears in New York records. Sometime between 1915 and 1917, Max deserted his family.

24. *CPI Inflation Calculator* (<https://www.officialdata.org/us/inflation/1906?amount=20> : accessed 28 June 2023).

25. 1910 U.S. census, New York County, New York, Manhattan, Enumeration District (ED) 1696, sheet 14A (280), dwelling 16, family 247, 256 Rivington Street, Abraham and Rose Doctor and family, David Gittelman, and Max Doctor; *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/18620631:7884?tid=&pid=&queryId=d03a16fc0284cef522bfde3c513f2009&phsrc=APP4221&phstart=successSource> : accessed 30 June 2023); citing NARA microfilm roll T624.

26. *Ibid.* I have presented all names as they appeared in the census.

27. Two years later, disaster struck Abraham Doctor's family. On 10 May 1912, Reyzil died of complications from choking on a chicken bone. By this time there were five children; Sol, the youngest, was only nine months old. Within three weeks, Abram realized he could not raise his children alone. On 29 May, he placed Charlie, Sadie, and Joseph in the Hebrew Orphan Asylum as "half-orphans." Bea and Sol were sent to the homes of Reyzil's sisters. In March 1913, Abram remarried. His new wife, Rebecca Eisenhandler, subsequently had three children, Jack (born 1914), Louis (born 1916), and Mollie (born 1920). Abram and Rebecca brought Sadie home from the orphanage in 1916, when she was nine years old. Charlie and Joe remained in the Orphanage until 1918, when they were 15 and 11, respectively.

28. Record of Detained Alien Passengers, SS *George Washington*, page 177, line 139 Ettel Doktor and child, arrived 3 July 1911.

29. Abe is a shortened form of Abraham.

30. The 1915 New York state census reported Abraham's given name as Abram, another shortened form of his given name.

31. 1915 New York state census, New York County, New York City, ED 11, 56 Sheriff St., Max, Etta, Aaron, and Brane Doctor; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2703/images/32848_B094057-00323?usePUB=true&pld=7911300 : accessed 30 June 2023).

MAX DUCKER IN SAN FRANCISCO ... WITH CELIA AND THEN LOUISE

In June 1918 Max appeared in the San Francisco, California, city directory as Max Ducker, owner of a restaurant with his “presumed” wife, Celia.³² The restaurant was at 1016 Webster Street in downtown San Francisco.³³ The June 1918 San Francisco City Directory “presumed” that Max and Celia were married. However, his September 1918 WW I Draft Registration Card mentions his New York wife, “Etty Ducker,”³⁴ living at 254 Rivington Street in New York. This is next door to Abram who had remarried after the death of his wife Reyzl (Rosie). Abram now lived with his second wife, Rebecca Eisenhandler and their family. By September 1918, Max and Celia were out of their restaurant business. Max was a “junk dealer,” his “own boss” at 512 Fulton Street, San Francisco.

Although Celia was not mentioned on Max’s 1918 Draft Registration Card, she appears again as Max’s wife in the 1920 U.S. census for San Francisco and in the 1921 San Francisco City Directory.³⁵ In 1920 they lived at 773 Howard Street, San Francisco, and Max was a second-hand goods dealer. In 1921, once again, Max and Celia owned a restaurant, at the same address as Max’s second-hand goods business, 773 Howard Street. Their residence in 1921 was at 63 Shipley Street.

It looks like Max and Celia lived and worked together as husband and wife from 1918 through 1921. His occupation was sometimes restaurant owner, sometimes second-hand goods dealer. For most of that period, their business address was 773 Howard Street.³⁶ Through that



San Francisco business district, 1922. *LOC.*

entire time, Max and Ethel were still married. Celia died on 9 July 1924 at age 60.³⁷ She is buried at Eternal Home Cemetery in Colma, California.³⁸ Her gravestone has the most basic inscription ... her name (Cila Ducker), birth date, and death date.

In 1923, although Max still was at the 773 Howard Street address, he now was with Louise, presumed to be his wife.³⁹ Max no longer owned a restaurant. Instead, he was a “clerk” in a second-hand goods business. He continued in this occupation through 1926, but from 1924 onward, Louise was not with him.⁴⁰ All further listings for Max indicate he was alone.⁴¹

32. I have not been able to find a marriage record for Max and Celia ... and Max was still married to Ethel when he and Celia lived together.

33. H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco Directory 1918*, page 568, Max & Celia Ducker; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2469/images/3286814?> : accessed 30 June 2023).

34. Etil, Hetil, Ettl, Etyla, Etta, Ety, and Ethel are variations of the given name of Max’s wife on various documents over the years. Also, “World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918,” *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10513-22139030/max-ducker-in-united-states-world-war-1-draft-registrations> : accessed 10 July 2023), San Francisco, Max Ducker, 12 September 1918.

35. 1920 U.S. census, San Francisco County, California, San Francisco, population schedule, Precinct 9, ED 31, sheet 2B, lines 85–86, 773 Howard St., Max & Celia Ducker; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6061/images/4293839-00274?usePUB=true&pid=19299019> : accessed 2 July 2023). Also, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1921*, page 1872, Max & Celia Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953247/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953247/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023).

36. The Howard Street address is where the Moscone Center, South is located in today’s San Francisco.

37. “California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1939,” page 2931, line 13, Celia Ducker, died 9 July 1924, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5187/images/41547_B138953-00793?usePUB=true&pid=897631 : accessed 2 July 2023).

38. *Find a Grave*, database with image (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/171014450/cila-ducker> : accessed 2 July 2023), memorial 171014450, Cila Ducker (1874–1924), Eternal Home Cemetery, Colma, San Mateo County, California; gravestone photograph by Stephen C. Miller.

39. H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1923*, page 612, Max & Louise Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023).

40. H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1924*, page 497, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-492709795/max-d-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-492709795/max-d-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023).

41. H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1925* page 643, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023). Also, H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1926* page 714, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953248/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023).

NATURALIZATION AND DIVORCE

On 28 January 1927, Max filed his First Papers, his Declaration of Intention to become a citizen.⁴² At this point he lived at 41 Rondel Street in San Francisco. He gave his name as “Mayer Ducktor, known as Max Ducker.” He worked as a tailor. Although he said he was not married, he did not file for a divorce from Ethel until the next year. His divorce was finalized in a San Francisco court on 27 January 1928. In the divorce papers, he gave his wife’s name as Ethel Ducker.⁴³ Apparently Ethel, in New York, didn’t know about the divorce (or the name change).

By June 1928 he moved to 229 Fourth Street and dealt in second hand goods ... again.⁴⁴ He still lived there on 10 April 1929 when he filed his Petition for Naturalization.⁴⁵ In the petition he named his children and noted that he was divorced. As part of the petition, he asked the court formally to change his name to Max Ducker. Two witnesses who signed his Naturalization Petition said they had known him in San Francisco since 1924. In March 1929, the Bureau of Naturalization filed a Certificate of Arrival verifying that Max had immigrated legally.⁴⁶ He received his Certificate of Naturalization on 5 August 1929.⁴⁷

The 1930 U.S. census for San Francisco recorded Max as a salesman of second-hand clothing.⁴⁸ He lived at 229 Fourth Street. By 1934, he still sold “used clothing”, but he moved around the block to 230 Third Street,⁴⁹ and that’s where he remained until 1943. By the time of the 1940 U.S. census,

Max had become the “proprietor” of a retail clothing store, selling second hand goods and men’s furnishings.⁵⁰



Sanborn Fire Insurance map of San Francisco, showing approximate location of 1081 McAllister Street 1950. LOC.

42. U.S. Department of Labor, Naturalization Service, Northern District of California, San Francisco, Declaration of Intention, certificate 69242, Mayer Duktur a.k.a. Max Ducker, 28 January 1927; digital image, “California, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1844-1999,” *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3998/images/005198931_00286? : accessed 2 July 2023).

43. “Decree of Divorce & Final Decree,” *The Recorder* (San Francisco, California), Max & Ethel Ducker, 27 January 1928, page 1; *Newspapers.com* ([newspapers.com/search/?query=Max%20Ducker&p_province=us-ca&p_city=san%20francisco&md=1928-01-27](https://www.newspapers.com/search/?query=Max%20Ducker&p_province=us-ca&p_city=san%20francisco&md=1928-01-27) : accessed 2 July 2023).

44. H.S. Crocker Co, *Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1928* page 563, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-491551561/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-491551561/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023)..

45. U.S. District Court, California, Northern District of San Francisco, Petition for Naturalization No. 17417, Mayer Ducktor aka Max Ducker, 10 April 1929; “California, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1844-1999,” digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3998/images/005198931_00290? : accessed 2 July 2023). Also, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Naturalization, San Francisco, California, Certificate of Arrival No. 671005, Mayer Ducktor a.k.a. Max Ducker, 4 March 1929; “California, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1844-1999,” digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3998/images/005198931_00288? : accessed 2 July 2023).

46. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Naturalization, San Francisco, California, Certificate of Arrival No. 671005, Mayer Ducktor a.k.a. Max Ducker, 4 March 1929.

47. U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, naturalization index card, certificate No. 3129602, Max Ducker a.k.a. Mayer Ducktor, 5 August 1929; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10695-151466/max-mayer-ducker-duktor-in-us-naturalization-records-northern-california](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10695-151466/max-mayer-ducker-duktor-in-us-naturalization-records-northern-california) : accessed 10 July 2023).

48. 1930 U.S. census, San Francisco County, California, San Francisco, population schedule, ED 38-7, Sheet 2A, dwelling 3, 229 Eastside Fourth Street, Max Ducker; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6224/images/4531850_00275?usePUB=true&pId=92751184 : accessed 3 July 2023).

49. R.L. Polk, Polk’s Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1934, page 326, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* ([myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953251/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories](https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953251/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories) : accessed 10 July 2023).

50. 1940 U.S. census, San Francisco County, California, San Francisco, population schedule, ED 38-56, sheet 1A, line 9, 230 Third Street, household 5, Max Ducker, 62; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2442/images/m-t0627-00300-00476?usePUB=true&pId=71089372> : accessed 3 July 2023).

In 1942 he registered for the World War II military draft (fourth registration).⁵¹ He was 65 years old. San Francisco city directories from 1931 through 1943 continued to show him living alone.⁵²

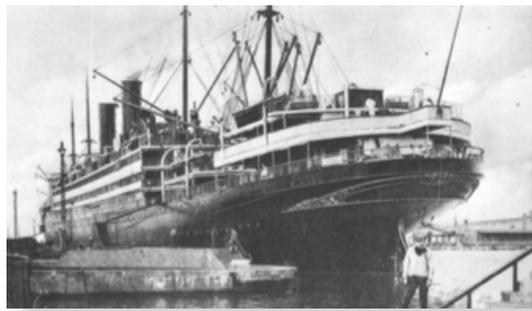
When Max was admitted as a naturalized citizen in 1929, he immediately registered to vote. From 1930 through 1944, he registered as a Republican.⁵³ Until 1944 the California Voter Registration Index recorded him as a merchant. In 1944, Max retired and moved to 1081 McAllister Street, the neighborhood he lived in when he first moved to San Francisco more than 25 years earlier.

MAX'S FAMILY ... ETHEL, AARON, AND BEA

Let's go back to pick up the lives of Ethel and her children, Aaron and 'red-headed' Bea. We will start with a brief recap and some expansion of information I presented earlier.

Hetil (Etil) Lerner was born in Kremenets on 9 November 1879.⁵⁴ She was the second of seven children from Elchonen, son of Aharon Lerner and Maryam Zisil (Susel) daughter of Shlome Sag. Her maternal grandfather, Shlome Sag, was an important Rabbi in Kremenets. His name appears often in the town's records as one of the Rabbis who certified births and deaths and officiated at circumcisions and marriages.

A year after their 1900 marriage, Yitschak Meir Diokhter and Etil had a son. Aaron was born 25 September 1901 in Kremenets and named for Etil's paternal grandfather, Aharon Lerner. Aaron's sister, Brayndil, was born 6 January 1904, and named for Yitschak Meir Diokhter's deceased mother, Brayne. Another child, Chaye was born 9 February 1906, but she died in April of "convulsions." During this time, the family must have been planning Yitschak's move to America because at the end of July, only three months after Chaye's death, Yitschak left for Hamburg where he boarded a ship to America. He left behind Etil and their children, a common practice at that time. They moved in with her parents, who also lived in Kremenets.



SS George Washington, 1908-1941. The ship was commissioned for service in 1908 by the North German Lloyd Line. *Ancestry*.

Five years later, Etil and her seven-year-old daughter Brayndil (now called Brane) immigrated to America, leaving nine-year-old Aaron in Kremenets with Etil's mother, Zisil (Susel) Lerner. They traveled overland, northward, probably by train, from Kremenets to Bremen, Germany where they boarded the Steam Ship *George Washington* on 23 June 1911. Their names on the passenger manifest were Etil and Brane Doktor. The manifest describes Etil as four foot, 11 inches, fair complexion, black hair, brown eyes.

Although Etil's husband, "Meier Doktor" (Max), had traveled "intermediate class" on his 1906 voyage to America, Etil and Brane traveled less expensively, in steerage. When they arrived at Ellis Island, they were detained overnight, not allowed to enter America. While detained, immigration officials served them four meals each. We do not know the reason for detention, but they probably had to wait until Max could pick them up. Immigration officials often detained unaccompanied women until a male relative could arrive and vouch for them. They might not have been able to contact Max immediately because about this time he and his brother Abram's family had moved from 256 Rivington Street back to 56 Sheriff Street. Since Etil had given Rivington Street as her husband's

51. "U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1002/images/2wwii_2396168-0254?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=OaT7994&_phstart=successSource&pid=8984813 : accessed 1 August 2023), San Francisco, California, Max Ducker, transcribed as May Ducker.

52. R. L. Polk, Polk's Crocker-Langley San Francisco City Directory 1931, page 366, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* (myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953250/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories : accessed 10 July 2023). Also, R. L. Polk, Polk's Crocker-Langley San Francisco Classified Business Directory 1943, page 411, Max Ducker; *MyHeritage* (myheritage.com/research/record-10705-494953250/max-ducker-in-us-city-directories : accessed 10 July 2023).

53. "California, U.S., Voter Registrations, 1900-1968," *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61066/?name=Max_Ducker&count=50&name_x=s_psx&residence=san+francisco-san+francisco-california-usa_69183 : accessed 3 July 2023), Max Ducker, 1930 through 1944; citing California Great Register of Voters, 1900-1968, California State Library Sacramento.

54. Hetil is the Hebrew name of Ethel, as recorded on the Hebrew page of her 1879 Kremenets birth record. The Russian page of the birth record gives her name as Etlya. Her 1900 marriage record gives her name as Etil in Hebrew and Etlya in Russian. Her 1911 passenger ship record gives her name as Etil. The 1915 New York state census gives her name as Etta. The 1920 U.S. census gives her name as Etil. The 1925 New York state census gives her name as Ethel. Other variations exist in other documents. Also, Ukraine, Kremenets district, birth record, Hetil/Etlya Lerner, 5 November 1879; FHL microfilm 2,086,061, KDRG file 24, female birth 81.



Immigrants Served a Meal at Ellis Island by Edwin Levick (1868–1929). Statue of Liberty Tour.

address, it took a day for the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and U.S. Immigration officials to find Max and notify him that his wife and daughter had arrived. Two years later, on 22 July 1913, 11-year-old Aaron arrived at Ellis Island. He was accompanied by a family friend, Yankel Schwartz, from Kremenets. Yankel had left his own family behind in Kremenets.

Now, after seven years, Max and his whole family were together once more. That togetherness lasted only a few years. Max deserted his family and showed up in San Francisco, California sometime between June 1917 and June 1918. Aaron was only about 16 and Brane was about 13. We can only imagine their feelings at this sensitive time in their lives. Aaron and Brane (now called Beckie) continued living with their mother at 56 Sheriff



Ethel Tochter

Street in Manhattan through 1924. By the 1925 New York state census, the family had moved to 112 Ridge Street in Manhattan.

ETHEL'S LIFE

The records I have found conflict as to Ethel's marital status in the years after her husband left her ... married, divorced, or widowed. Although her husband was gone, the 1920 U.S. census listed her as Ettel Doctor, a married housewife.⁵⁵ The 1925 New York state census listed Ethel Doctor and her two children and gave her status only as house worker.⁵⁶ The 1930 U.S. census identified her as Ethel Tochter, a widow, living with her son Aaron at 113 Broome Street, Manhattan.⁵⁷ Yet in 1928, Max had obtained a divorce in San Francisco using the names Max and Ethel Ducker ... and he was very much alive in 1930. In her Declaration of Intention to become a citizen, filed on 1 March 1940, Ethel Tochter said she was divorced and that her ex-husband was in San Francisco.⁵⁸ Yet, a month and a half later the 1940 U.S. census again recorded her as Etel Doctor, and stated that she was a widow. The 16 April 1940 U.S. census is interesting in some other respects.⁵⁹ Ethel was not working and had no income. But

the census notes that her household included Jack Kessler, a "lodger" and that he had been living with her since at least 1935. He was unemployed and had no income. In her 1945 Petition for Naturalization, Ethel did not mention Jack, but again stated she was divorced and her name formerly was Ethel Ducker.⁶⁰ This was the first time she acknowledged the "Ducker" name. She said the residence of her ex-husband, Max, was unknown.

55. 1920 U.S. census, New York County, New York, Manhattan, population schedule, ED 341, sheet 16A, dwelling 24, family 237, 56 Sheriff Street, Ettel Doctor with Aaron and Beckie; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6061/images/4313914-00885?usePUB=true&pId=32407187> : accessed 3 July 2023).

56. 1925 New York state census, New York County, New York City, election district 18, assembly district 4, page 17, rows 33-35, 112 Ridge Street, Ethel, Harry, and Beckie Doctor; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2704/images/32849_b094273-00327?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=OaT7904&_phstart=successSource&pId=14345358 : accessed 3 July 2023)

57. 1930 U.S. census, New York County, New York, Manhattan, population schedule, ED 31-142, Sheet 4A, dwelling 8, family 43, 113 Broome Street, Aaron and Ethel Tochter; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6224/images/4638835_01041?usePUB=true&pId=41966791 : accessed 3 July 2023).

58. "New York, U.S. District Court Naturalization Records, 1824-1991," digital image 278 of 638, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9HN-VG23?i=64&cc=2060123&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3A4K9Q-GKPZ> : accessed 4 July 2023); Declaration of Intention No. 454779, Ethel Tochter, 1 March 1940; citing NARA M1972.

59. 1940 U.S. census, New York County, New York, Manhattan, population schedule, ED 31-330, sheet 21A, visitation No. 445, lines 33-34, 113 Broome Street, Etel Doctor and Jack Kessler; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2442/images/m-t0627-02631-00792?usePUB=true&_phsrc=APP4223&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=11576377 : accessed 3 July 2023).

60. "New York, U.S. District Court Naturalization Records, 1824-1991," digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-89HN-VGDM?i=66&cc=2060123> : accessed 4 July 2023); Petition for Naturalization No. 424363, Ethel Tochter, 16 January 1943; citing NARA M1972.

Ethel Dochter died on 10 August 1968 at age 88. She is buried in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing, Queens County, New York.⁶¹

AARON'S LIFE

The 1920 U.S. census tells us that Aaron worked as a “cutter” of men’s clothes, and 16-year-old Beckie (formerly Brane) worked as an order clerk in a dry goods store. Both Aaron and Beckie decided to seek U.S. citizenship. At the New York County Supreme Court, on 18 December 1920, Aaron filed his “First Papers,” his Declaration of Intention to become a citizen.⁶² He gave his name as Aaron Dochter even though his surname was Doctor in the 1915 and 1925 New York State censuses and in the 1920 U.S. census. On 16 June 1923 he filed his Petition for Naturalization. Aaron’s uncle, Abram Doctor, signed as a witness to his petition. It was approved and he received his signed Certificate of Citizenship on 13 March 1924.⁶³

In 1932 Aaron married Eva (Chave) Goldman.⁶⁴ The newly married couple moved to Brooklyn, leaving Aaron’s mother Ethel living without family in her Manhattan residence for the first time since she immigrated in 1911. Two years later Eva filed her Petition for Naturalization and later that year, their son Ivan was born.⁶⁵ The family lived in Brooklyn, at 1446 Kingston Avenue. By the time their



New York, Ellis Island, between 1909 and 1932. [LOC](#).

daughter Marian was born in 1938, they had moved to a larger residence at 824 E. Ninth Street in Brooklyn.

Aaron continued working in the men’s clothing industry first as a “cutter”, then as a “marker” of men’s clothing, according to the 1940 U.S. census.⁶⁶ But by 15 February 1942, when Aaron registered for the WW II draft, he gave his occupation as an employee of Cohen, Goldman & Company in New York.⁶⁷ So, it looks like Eva’s father brought Aaron into the family business. At that time, they lived at 1402 Avenue K in Brooklyn. Sometime later, they moved to Florida.

61. *Find a Grave*, database (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/77474708/ethel-dochter>) Ethel Dochter (died 10 August 1968), Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing, Queens County, New York.

62. “New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980,” digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9M8-P6YY?i=277&cc=1999177&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3ACY2D-F5W2> : accessed 4 July 2023); Declaration of Intention, No. 237591, Aaron Dochter, 18 December 1920; citing New York County.

63. “New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980,” digital image 278 of 638, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9M8-P6YY?i=277&cc=1999177&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3ACY2D-F5W2> : accessed 4 July 2023); Petition for Naturalization, Aaron Dochter, 16 June 1923; New York County, volume 629, page 105. He was granted citizenship on 13 March 1924 and his Certificate of Naturalization was issued 17 May 1924.

64. “New York, New York, U.S., Marriage License Indexes, 1907-2018,” digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/9038401:61406?tid=&pid=&queryId=94cddc7caacfcf52f900b3b74d85d504&phsrc=APP4224&phstart=successSource> : accessed 4 July 2023), Brooklyn, No. 4462 Aaron Dochter and Eva Goldman, 26 March 1932. Also, “New York, New York, U.S., Extracted Marriage Index, 1866-1937,” database, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/4271006:9105?phsrc=OaT7915&phstart=successSource&gsfn=Aaron&gsln=Dochter&ml_rpos=1&queryId=2285dcc65de4f69cca2ffdf60aee0536 : accessed 4 July 2023), Kings County, No 4897, Aaron Dochter & Eva Goldman, 10 April 1932.

65. “New York, U.S., State and Federal Naturalization Records, 1794-1943,” digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2280/images/32126_23182410629376-00117?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&phsrc=OaT7917&phstart=successSource&pid=10135958 : accessed 4 July 2023); Petition for Citizenship, U.S. District Court, Eastern District, Brooklyn, No. 193287, Eva Dochter, 17 May 1934.

66. 1940 U.S. census, King County, New York, Brooklyn, ED 24-292, sheet 10B, household 174, lines 58–61, Aaron Dochter & family; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2442/images/m-t0627-02553-00680?usePUB=true&pid=5832400> : accessed 3 July 2023).

67. Cohen Goldman & Company manufactured lines of men’s clothing at 475 Tenth Avenue in Manhattan until their liquidation in 1950. They had been in business for 61 years, with factories in Baltimore, Maryland; New Bern, North Carolina; and Poughkeepsie and Syracuse, New York. From 2015 to 2020, there still was a branch of New York-based Cohen, Goldman & Company in California. It had been incorporated in 1932 but in 2020 was listed as “surrender” status, meaning it had surrendered its right to transact business in the State of California. Today, there is a Cohen Goldman factory in Syracuse, New York. It’s housed in a six-story building at 231-237 West Water Street. Also, “U.S. World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947,” digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2238/images/44027_05_00072-01534? : accessed 4 July 2023), serial no. T108, Aaron Dochter, Brooklyn, New York, 15 February 1942.



New York, Ellis Island, between 1918 and 1920. *LOC.*

Aaron Dochter died in Miami Beach, Florida on 17 January 1973. He was 71.⁶⁸

BRAYNDIL'S LIFE

A family story tells us that Brayndil did not like the name given to her at birth, neither Brayndil nor Brane. In America, she changed it to Rebecca and that is how it shows up in the 1915 New York state census. She changed it to Beckie Doctor for the 1920 U.S. census, a name also

recorded in the 1925 New York state census. However, in 1923 when she filed her Declaration of Intention to become a citizen, she used the name Beatrice Dochter.⁶⁹ The court checked immigration records and filed a "Certificate of Arrival" on 12 November 1925.⁷⁰ This confirmed that she had immigrated legally. The family also obtained a "Certification of Birth" from the State Rabbi in Kremenets.⁷¹ On 19 May 1926 she filed a Petition for Naturalization using the name Beatrice Dochter.⁷² It was approved and she was admitted to citizenship on 8 November 1926.⁷³ At that time, she worked as a typist, and subsequently as a bookkeeper, and lived with her brother at 112 Ridge Street in Manhattan.

During this period, Beatrice/ "Red-headed Bea" met Louis Gleich, a divorcee and 11 years her senior. In December 1917 Louis had married Ida Spiegelman.⁷⁴ They must have divorced by 1920, because Ida appears in the 1920 U.S. census as a single woman, using her birth surname and living as a "boarder" in another household. On 6 March 1927, Bea and Louis married in New York.⁷⁵ Our family story is that Max had returned to New York for his daughter's wedding and was rejected.⁷⁶

68. "Florida, U.S., Death Index," database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1571734:7338?> : accessed 4 July 2023), Dade County, Aaron Dochter, 17 January 1973. Also, "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014" database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/15888872:3693> : accessed 4 July 2023), Miami-Dade, Florida, Aaron Dochter, January 1973.

69. "Red-headed" Bea's 1st cousin, Bea Doctor, daughter of Avraham Shimon, went through a similar pattern of dissatisfaction with the given name she received at birth. Her 1909 birth certificate gives her name as Beckie and that's the name recorded in the 1910 U.S. census. By the 1920 U.S. census, like her first cousin, she also had changed her name to Rebecca, but soon was dissatisfied with that name too. In her teenage years, also like her first cousin, she was called Bea/Beatrice. To differentiate the two first cousins, Max's daughter was called Red-headed Bea.

70. "New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980," digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-99HX-B9WP-X?i=592&cc=2060123&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQGP6-H61J> : accessed 4 July 2023), New York County, Declaration of Intention, Beatrice Dochter, 3 August 1923, and Certificate of Arrival No. 75062, 12 November 1925..

71. Ukraine, Kremenets district, certification of birth from the State Rabbi, for Braindl Dokhtor, 22 August 1911.

72. "New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980," digital image 596 of 1410, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9HX-B948-Y?i=595&cc=2060123> : accessed 4 July 2023), Petition for Naturalization no. 81325, U.S. District Court, Southern District, New York, Beatrice Dochter, 19 May 1926.

73. "New York, U.S. District Court Naturalization Records, 1824-1991," digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9HX-B948-Y?i=595&cc=2060123> : accessed 4 July 2023); Petition for Naturalization, Beatrice Dochter, 8 November 1926. Memorandum has Certificate of Naturalization no. 2357396.

74. "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829-1938," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:24QB-XHS> : accessed 4 July 2023), Manhattan, certificate No. 18174, Louis Gleich & Ida Spiegelman, 24 December 1917.

75. "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829-1938," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:24WS-QG5> : accessed 4 July 2023), Manhattan, License No. 5762, Beatrice A. Dochter and Lewis Gleich, 6 March 1927.

76. This is a persistent family story. In October 2020 Steve Gleich, Bea's grandson, asked an elderly relative about Max showing up at the wedding. Steve reported, "She corroborated (based on what she had learned from family) that Max Dochter/Ducker did in fact show up at my Grandmother's wedding in 1927 expecting to walk her down the aisle ... only to be turned away." However, his relative wouldn't have been told this family story until 36 years after Bea's marriage, so we must treat it as a persistent, but unconfirmed story. Steve went on to relate that he was present when his father asked Max's daughter Bea about her father. She said that she did see him some time after he left the family, but they all remained estranged. It's worth noting that available evidence indicates that Max was not particularly wealthy. The roundtrip railway fare between San Francisco and New York would have been more than \$225 in 1927, equivalent to \$3,900 in 2021. Whether or not Max could afford that journey is unknown.

By 1929, Bea and Louis and their first son Lawrence (born 7 April 1928) moved to Brooklyn. The 1930 U.S. census for Brooklyn shows them living at 1660 West Ninth Street.⁷⁷ Their second child, Howard, was born there on 18 June 1931. By 1935 the family had moved to 357 Avenue P in Brooklyn.⁷⁸ They remained married until the 1961 death of Louis in Brooklyn.⁷⁹ For most of his life, Louis had worked as a chauffeur.

Bea lived another 45 years. She died in Long Beach, Nassau, New York, in 2006, at age 102.⁸⁰

MAX'S STORY COMES TO AN END

Max died on 10 September 1945. He never met his grandchildren. He is buried in Salem Memorial Park and Garden, Colma, San Mateo County, California.⁸¹ Colma, about 11 miles from San Francisco, is one of the burial places for Jewish people who die in San Francisco. (Since the early 1900s, San Francisco has not allowed new burials within the County's boundaries.) Sadly, Max died alone and unknown. Not even his divorced wife Ethel or his children knew of his death. His gravestone is minimal. The stone does not even include the name of his father; and it does not include his Hebrew name. It presents only his adopted name, date of birth, and date of death. There are no kind thoughts, no epitaph. There is no indication of family. It is a lonely gravestone.

You can see and download the actual source documents from our Doctor Family website on Google at <https://tinyurl.com/Yitschak-Meir-Dochter-Docs>. The website also displays translations of the Russian and Hebrew/Yiddish records we obtained from Ukraine as well as transcriptions of each American document. They're in the section titled "Yitschak Meir ben Yosef Yechezkel Diokhter – Collected Documents."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Ronald Doctor is founder and past President of the Kremenets District Research Group, and is a past Coordinator of JewishGen Ukraine Special Interest Group. He also is a past President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon. Ron initiated projects that translated records for people from towns of the Kremets District of Ukraine. He has written several articles for *Avotaynu, the Journal of Jewish Genealogy*. In 2009-2010, he wrote a series of 14 Jewish genealogy columns for the *Oregon Jewish Review*. In 2016, the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies selected him for its Lifetime Achievement Award. He began working on his family history in 1992 and has traced several of his lines back to the mid-1700s.



Max Ducker's gravestone in Salem Memorial Park and Garden, Colma, San Mateo, California. Courtesy Find a Grave member Larry White.

77. 1930 U.S. census, Kings County, New York, Brooklyn, population schedule, ED 24-1358, sheet 15B, dwelling 1, family 24, 1660 W. Ninth Street, Louis, Beatrice, and Lawrence Glick; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6224/images/4638808_00352?usePUB=true&pId=38979910 : accessed 4 July 2023). Glick should be Gleich.

78. 1940 U.S. census, Kings County, New York, Brooklyn, population schedule, ED 24-1816, sheet 1, household 16, 357 Avenue P, Lewis Gleich with Beatrice, Lawrence, and Howard; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2442/images/m-t0627-02593-00433?usePUB=true&pId=14574925> : accessed 4 July 2023).

79. "New York, New York, U.S., Death Index, 1949-1965," database, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61461/images/47769_B353875-00142?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&phsrc=OaT7933&phstart=successSource&pId=1056668 : accessed 4 July 2023), Brooklyn, certificate 19315, Louis Gleich, 25 September 1961.

80. "U.S., Social Security Administration Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007," database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/38951986:60901?lang=en-US> : accessed 4 July 2023), Beatrice Gleich [Beatrice Dochter]. Also, "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014" database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/77039710:3693> : accessed 4 July 2023), Beatrice Gleich, died 20 January 2006, Long Beach, Nassau County, New York.

81. *Find a Grave*, memorial 137606757, Max Ducker (1879-1945), Section H, Salem Memorial Park and Garden, Colma, San Mateo, California. The date of birth on his stone is incorrect. He actually was born 2 November 1877.

The search of marriage records also turned up a marriage of Jacob Rosecrans and Emily Fowler in 1871 in Will County.²²



Jacob Rosecrans and Emily Fowler index entry, Illinois State Archives.

That couple was found in the 1880 U.S. census in neighboring LaSalle County.²³ In Column 23, “Cannot Write,” there is a check mark on Jacob’s line. That likely explains the wide variation in the spelling of his surname in the records. He may not know how it was spelled, and the recorders had to use their judgment. From here on, I will use the spelling Rosecrans for the sake of consistency.

In the 1880 census, the other Jacob Rosecrans also lived in Ottawa, La Salle County.²⁴ These census records confirm that there were two men of the same name, approximate age, and birth state living in the area at the same time.



1880 census, La Salle County, Illinois, Emily in the family of Jacob Rosecrans. Ancestry.

22. “Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900” *Illinois State Archives* (<https://apps.ilsos.gov/isavital/marriageSearch.do> : accessed 14 July 2023), Jacob Rosecrans and Emily Fowler, 12 February 1871.

23. 1880 U.S. census, LaSalle County, Illinois, Marseilles, ED 88, dwelling 203, family 203, Jacob Rosencrantz; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYB8-9QF1?i=13&cc=1417683> : accessed 15 July 2023).

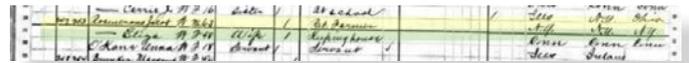
24. 1880 U.S. census, LaSalle County, Illinois, Ottawa, ED 82, dwelling 247, family 253, Jacob Rosencrans; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-GL1?i=23&cc=1417683&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AMXVH-5K9> : accessed 15 July 2023).

25. 1870 U.S. census, Jones County, Iowa, page 36, stamped 53, dwelling 283, family 299, John Rosecrans; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7163/images/4263632_00109?usePUB=true&pld=35493849 : accessed 15 July 2023).

26. 1885 Iowa state census, Jones County, Anamosa, Second Ward, population schedule, page 1, stamped 263, dwelling 4, family 4, John Rosencrance (Rosencrans); *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939Z-Y5WF-B?i=18&cc=1803643&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AH8XW-1PZ> : accessed 15 July 2023).

27. 1885 Iowa state census, Jones County, Anamosa, Third Ward, population schedule, page 3, stamped 289, dwelling 14, family 14, Jacob Rosencrance; *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939Z-Y5WY-R?i=44&cc=1803643> : accessed 15 July 2023).

28. Iowa, State Board of Health, Jones County, Return of Marriages, page 14, license 2307, 13 September 1887, John Rosencrans; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8823/images/42563_fp030872_0047-00174? : accessed 15 July 2023), image 175.



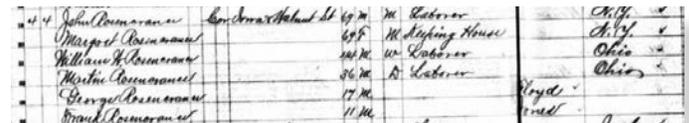
1880 U.S. census, Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois, entry for Jacob Rosencrans. Ancestry.

The next question was, what happened to the John Rosecrans from the 1860 Census? He turned up in the 1870 census in Jones County, Iowa.²⁵



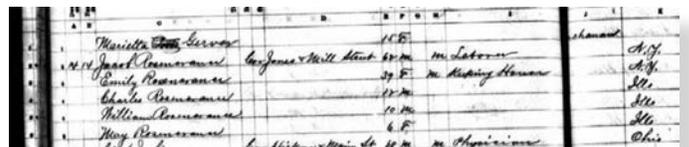
1870 census, Jones County, Iowa, entry for John Rosecrans. Ancestry.

He was still there in 1885 Iowa state census.²⁶



1885 Iowa state census, Jones County, entry for John Rosencrance. FamilySearch.

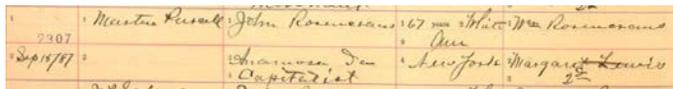
In the same census, Jacob and wife Emily were enumerated in the same township.²⁷



1885 Iowa state census, Jones County, entry for Jacob Rosencrance. FamilySearch.

Clearly there was a connection between John and Jacob Rosecrans.

John Rosecrans’ wife, Margaret Ann, died in 1887, and he remarried Delila Preston. On the marriage record, John gave his parents’ names as Wm. Rosencrans and Margaret Lewis.²⁸



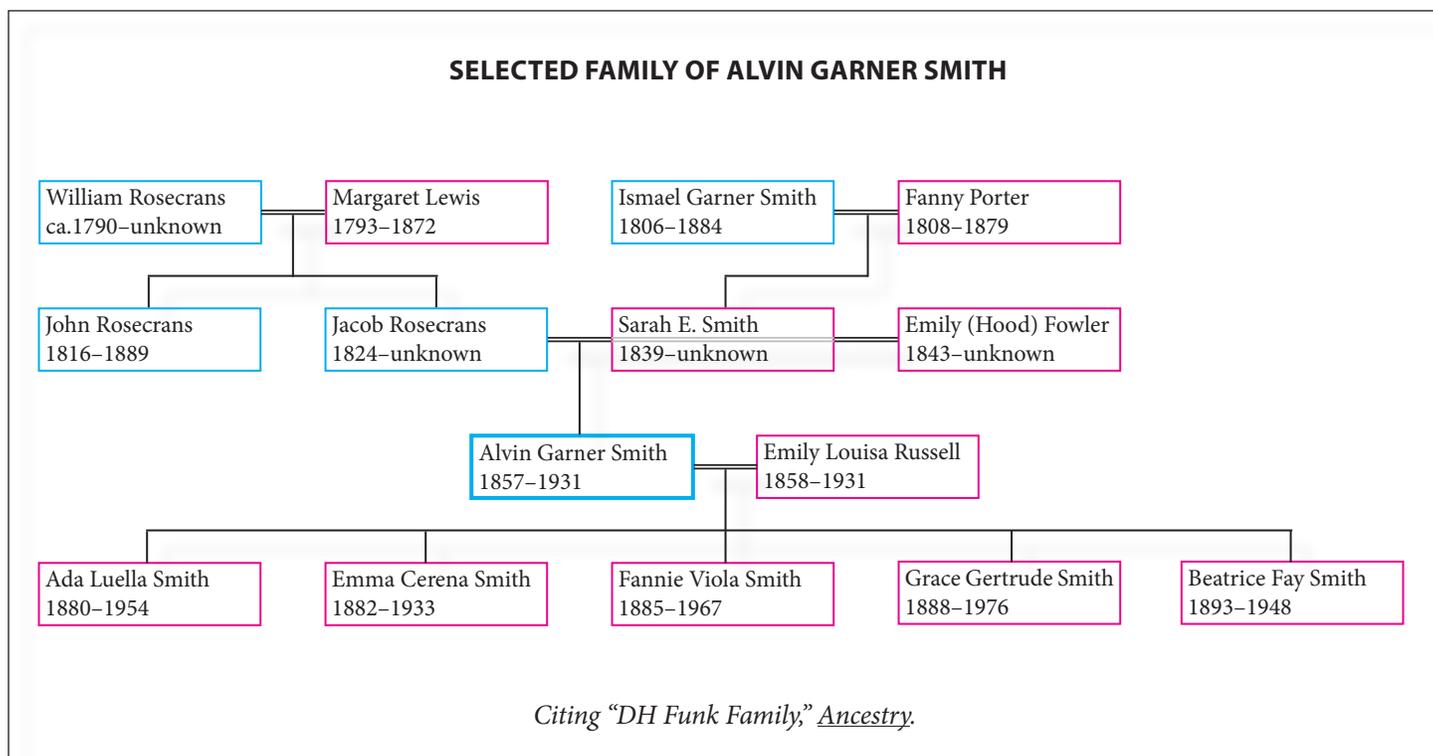
Marriage Record John Rosecrans and Delila Preston. Ancestry.

Those names lead me to the well-researched Rosecrans family that arrived in New Netherlands in the 17th century. From those volumes of work, while there was no mention of Jacob Rosecrans, I did learn that the name Cornelia was common in the family and that the Emily Fowler whom Jacob married in 1871 was Emily Hood, whose first husband was Orrin Fowler, as confirmed by a Michigan marriage record and daughter Carrie's death certificate.²⁹ Orrin was the son of John Rosecrans' sister Elizabeth. Further, Margaret Van Amburg, John Rosecrans' first

wife, had a sister, Catherine, who lived in Beloit County, Wisconsin, during the Civil War. As noted above, Jacob Rosecrans' military record stated that "he was believed to have relatives in Beloit County, Wisconsin."

Considering the parents' names on Alvin's death certificate, the 1856 marriage between Sarah Smith, and Jacob Rosecrans, the use of the name Cornelia for a probable sister, and Jacob's frequent association with members of the extended Rosecrans family, I concluded that Jacob and Sarah were the parents of Alvin, despite the lack of direct evidence.

A few years later, DNA tests became available, and I submitted a sample to Ancestry. About thirty matches to the family of William Rosecrans and Margaret Lewis showed up.³⁰ I took that as confirmation of my hypothesis.



29. "Michigan Marriages, 1822-1995", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FCTW-54P> : accessed 15 July 2023); citing Lenawee, Michigan, Emily A. Hood and Warren Fowler, 1 August 1864. Also, "Oregon Death Index, 1903-1998," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VZH3-SPX> : accessed 15 July 2023); citing Oregon, Multnomah County, Death Certificate 1324, Carrie Spear, 27 April 1930.

30. "ThruLines," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-geneticfamily/thrulines/tree/735677126%3A9009%3A66/for/3D920394-7464-4B4E-9C20-5BB1134AD3A6?member=392327957649%3A1030%3A178654083&matchingsampleid=&startid=2878477645%3A9009%3A66> : private, unable to access).

From the Manuscripts

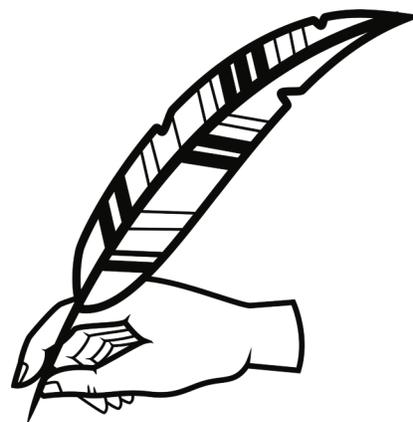
Why I Write Bulletin Articles About People Who Are Not in My Family

Nanci Remington

Most articles I write for *The Bulletin* stem from the Manuscript Collections at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. I have worked with the collections since 2012. That is more than 10 years of sorting, scanning, and creating finding aids. Most of the collections were created by researchers before the age of computers. The collections include correspondence, photographs, charts, Bibles, scrapbooks, and so much more. There is a plethora of family history material that is unique and not found anywhere else.

The first articles I wrote focused on Bibles. *The Bulletin* has always published Bible transcripts, but rarely with background information about the families. I began adding notes about locations and how families ended up in Oregon. But sometimes I had questions that led to more research:

- “Father left New York City Nov, 22nd, 1856 for Nicaragua, Central America, with Gen Walker, & he was reported Dead by him the Gen, had Died of the Intermitten Fever & was buried there.” Why would a recent immigrant leave New York to die in Nicaragua? This was published in the June 2014 *Bulletin*.
- “Errol Lorne Knight, son of John and Georgia Knight, borne at Hillsboro Oregon June 6th 1893, Died on Wrangel Island, June 21. 1922 of scurvy.” Where was Wrangle Island? And why was he there? This was published in March 2018.
- “Charles Paul Keyser ... died at 97 [in 1976], almost 67 years after he went to work in developing the Portland city parks ... His achievements in that office were remarkable ... an increase in Portland park acreage from less than 200 to more than 5,000 acres ... [including] Eastmoreland Golf Course ... the 3,000-acre Forest Park ... and the International Rose Test Gardens.” Why had I never heard of him? He was superintendent of Portland Parks for over 30 years. Why isn’t something named after him? This was published in the June 2015 *Bulletin*.



- “William Hooton bought nery [Henry?] August 1841 he was said to be six years old. Lucys first Baby name Letty [illegible] was born June 7th 1845.” Did the Hooten Bible really list the birth dates of the people they enslaved? Published in this issue of *The Bulletin*.

There are also records with information not found in other sources. In addition to sharing the information, I research and write about the people who collected or created the records:

- Two scrapbooks of “social columns” from the turn of the last century about the people who lived in Cracker’s Bend, Illinois. This was published in March 2018.
- A logbook containing life and death events in Cascade Locks from the early 1920s. *The Bulletin* published this in March 2020.
- A book of funeral records from a town in New York dating 1901–1903 and published in June 2023.
- A Civil War letter from 1862 that was published in December 2018.
- The diary that tells the story of some of the people enslaved by the Walker family. This was published in September 2016.
- The diary of a single woman who traveled from New Hampshire to Iowa in the 1850s to visit her brothers. This was published in the June 2017 *Bulletin*.
- The probate file of James Downs, the first in Lane County, is in this issue.

I write these articles because I am curious and because I enjoy research. But I want mostly to shine a light on the manuscripts and the researchers who compiled them.

From the Manuscripts

James Downs (1823–1852) of Leeds, Yorkshire, England, and Lane County, Oregon

Nanci Remington

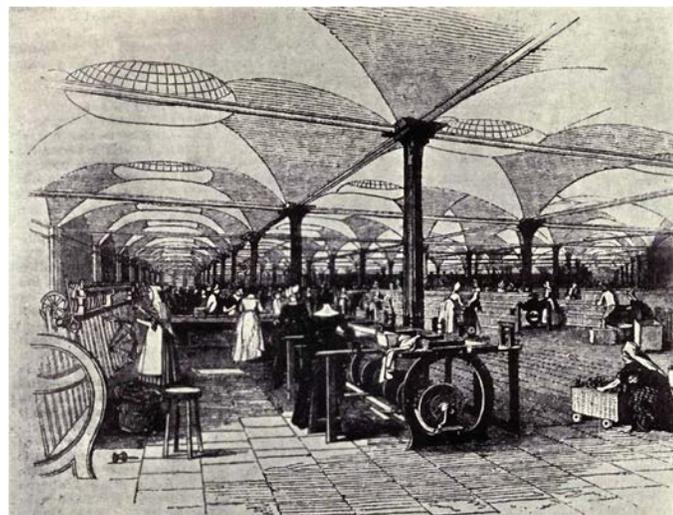
“... the heirs of the Late James Downs are Mrs. Downs his mother given name not known Mary Turner and Ann Heaps and they reside in Leeds, England.”¹

This phrase is found on the first page of the first probate case filed in Lane County, Oregon. Surprisingly, it was not difficult to find connections to James’ family in Leeds. What was surprising was the wealth of information about James found in his probate file and the donation land claim filed by his estate.

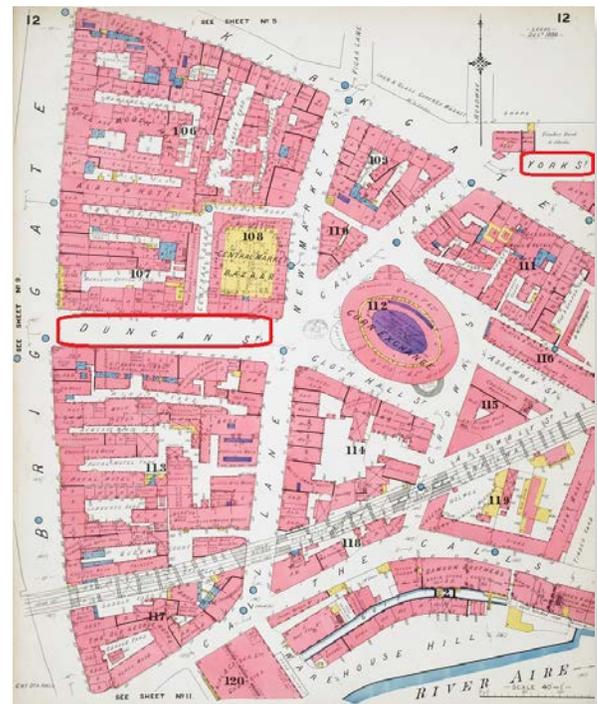
LEEDS RECORDS

James Downs was born 200 years ago in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, on 13 September 1823. This was recorded in a register for the South Parade Baptist Church.²

James’ father, George, was a butcher. His shop was on Duncan Street, mixed in with other butchers as well as woolstaplers, victualers, and a brandy merchant.



Flax mill in Leeds, 1843. Originally published in *Penny Magazine*. [Wikimedia Commons](#).



“Insurance Map of Leeds: sheet 12,” 1886, [Old Maps Online](#). Noting Duncan Street which was the location of the butcher shop in 1817, and York Street where the family resided in 1841.

Leeds had been a center of the wool trade for centuries. By the 1800s, the introduction of steam power allowed factories to grow and to employ thousands of workers, including women and children. The population grew in and around Leeds, which led to poor sanitation and the lack of safe drinking water which then contributed to the spread of disease.

Measuring a little more than a mile wide from east to west it was densely populated, containing over 82,000 people mainly living in squalid conditions, in filthy back to back houses or cramped lodging houses ... All this was then surrounded by mills, factories, foundries, gasworks and brickyards spewing out soot and pollution ... Ralph W Emerson, an American poet who visited Leeds in 1848, observed that “all the sheep were black, and I fancied they were black sheep; no, they were begrimed by the smoke”! ... All this meant that life expectancy was very low, with the life expectancy of labourers being only 19 years old while tradesmen and farmers could expect to live up to the ripe old age of 27 in 1840!³

1. “Oregon, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1849-1963,” digital images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9078/images/007648024_00203 : accessed 20 September 2023), file for James Downs, Lane County, Oregon, file no. 1, image 3. A typed transcript of this case was found in loose papers in the Manuscript Collection of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

2. Specific source citations for vital records and census records as well as images are attached to profiles of James Down on FamilySearch Family Tree and Ancestry. See Resources at the end of the article for more information.

3. Jonnie, *Life in Leeds during the 1840s*, posted 14 November 2018, *Thackray Museum of Medicine* (<https://thackraymuseum.co.uk/life-in-leeds-during-the-1840s> : accessed 20 September 2023); citing Edwin Chadwick’s 1842 report on sanitary conditions.

Somehow, James eventually beat the odds and made it out of Leeds. He was the fifth of seven children of George Downs and his wife Amelia Hirst. When they married in 1810, George signed his name on the marriage register, whereas Amelia and most of the others on the page signed with a mark.

James may have had some education as a child. The Baptist Church stressed its importance and even poor children had schooling available as early as 1830. By 1839, “children were ordered to be taught two hours a week.”⁴

In 1841, the year he turned 18, James was working as a woolbreaker, likely in one of the local factories. His father, who was now 65 years old, worked as a scavenger.⁵

Book Sheet No. 7	George Downs	65	Scavenger	M
	Amelia Do	55		Y

Book Sheet	Harriet Downs	20	Dress Maker	Y
	James Do	18	Wool Breaker	Y
	Elija Do	15		Y

From “1841 England Census,” *Ancestry*.

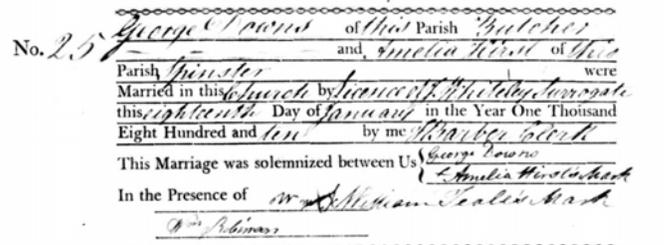
Less than 10 years later, James emigrated to the United States and made his way to the Oregon Territory.

OREGON RECORDS

The first mention of James in Oregon was on the 1850 territorial census. He was living with the family of Alfred Stanton in Marion County. Alfred’s land claim was just northeast of Salem. He was a farmer who grew and sold fruit trees.

According to an affidavit by Alfred, “he [James] came to my house early in the month of November, A. D. 1850, and worked some time in the neighborhood, and worked for me much of the following summer.”⁶

It is not known what James did between his departure from Leeds sometime after 1841 and his arrival in the Willamette Valley in 1850. Single men from England had options that included working on a ship that eventually made its way to Oregon; emigrating to the United States,



From “West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials,” 1810, *Ancestry*.

Canada, or other British territory and working their way to Oregon, possibly across the Oregon Trail; working for the Hudson’s Bay Company and ending up at Fort Vancouver; or following the dream to California during the Gold Rush, then traveling to Oregon.

No matter how he came, James would have found a different world than the one in which he grew up. Oregon was still a territory. In 1850, there were only 2,749 people (White and Native) listed on the census in Marion County. Lane County was still part of Linn County, which recorded 994 residents.

The number of settlers increased with the passage of the Donation Land Claim Act that same year, which encouraged settlement with the promise of free land. James took advantage of that offer. First, he had to declare his intention to become a citizen of the United States, which he did on 21 December 1850. Then he needed to file a claim in Oregon City, then move to and improve the land.

The description for James’ land claim, which was part of Township 15S Range 4W, was “W ½ of the SW ¼ of Sec. 34 – the SE ¼ and the East ½ of the SW ¼ of Sec. 33.”⁷ This land is just northeast of what is now Junction City in the southern end of the Willamette Valley. In 1850, there was no Junction City or any other nearby town. The closest post office operated out of a trading post run by Eugene Skinner about nine miles south. The mail was carried by horseback from Oregon City, over 100 miles to the north.

The Willamette River flows through the valley, running south to north to the Columbia River. There are mountains to the east, west, and south. Surveyor notes from 1854 reported

4. J. S. Fletcher, *The Story of the English Towns: Leeds*, (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1919), page 109; *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/storyofleeds00fletuoft/mode/2up?view=theater> : accessed 20 September 2023).

5. According to the *Dictionary of Old Occupations* (<https://www.familyresearcher.co.uk/glossary/Dictionary-of-Old-Occupations-Index.html#Old-Occupations> : accessed 20 September 2023) “sometimes called a scaffie, a scavenger was a dustman or street cleaner. Also, in the textile industry, the term scavenger referred to children employed in the highly dangerous job of darting under moving industrial machinery to snatch up waste material.”

6. “Oregon and Washington Donation Land Files, 1851-1903,” images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 6 July 2023), document #2637 for James Downs (dec), image 994; citing Donation Certificates no. 2552-2645; NARA Series M815, Roll 30.

7. See Bureau of Land Management websites listed in the Reference Section at the end of the article. They include links to documents that explain the terminology used in land descriptions.

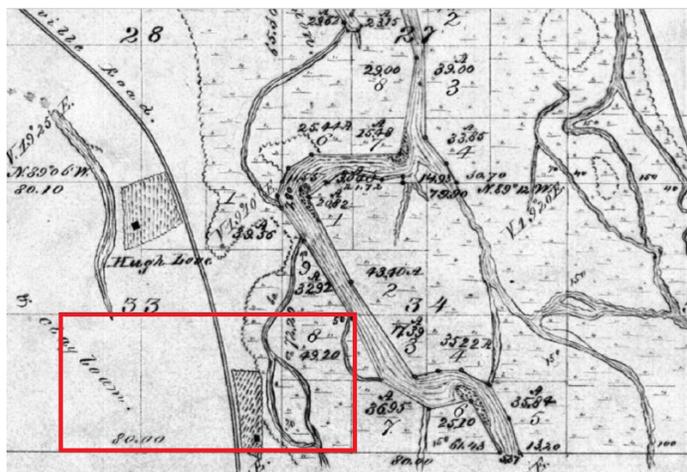
claims on the west side of Willamette Townships 15S 16S R 4W are generally of good quality, embracing principally a rich loamy soil [The timber] spreads out in groves and chains throughout the prairie The country is well watered by sloughs and swale receiving their water from the Willamette and which abound with fish. Large portions of the country is overflowed by the Willamette in high stage of water...⁸

The climate may have seemed familiar to James because both central England and Western Oregon tend toward wet, mild winters and cool summers. The southern valley, where James settled, averaged 45" of rain a year.

Letters and diaries of the pioneers in this area [Junction City] frequently speak of rain ... Rain made it difficult to work in the fields, rain poured into cabins and houses not rainproofed, dampness was hard on arthritis and other infirmities, rain piled up the gloom, rain churned the land into rivers of mud, making travel laborious, exasperating and terribly slow, rain kept people at home, where they developed cabin fever.⁹

A plat map surveyed in 1853 shows the topography of James' land. Though now almost a mile to the east, the Willamette River bordered the claim. The river and the surrounding marshland took up some of the acreage.

Thanks to the affidavit of Alfred Stanton, we know that James was industrious and eager to work his claim. In the middle of August 1851, James began living on his land. He built a small house and a granary. He planted 50 apple



From Survey Plat of Townships: 015-0S Range: 004-0W, surveyed 1853, *Bureau of Land Management*. The outline shows the claim of James Downs as described on his Donation Land Claim Patent.

trees, five pear trees, and some peach trees. He tended to three oxen and a horse.

About a year after moving to his land, James became ill. On 23 September 1852, he was seen by William Patterson for medical attention. He soon moved to the home of his neighbor, Hugh Love. The visits by Dr. Patterson continued almost daily for weeks. During October, he was seen by Dr. H. A. Davis, though not as frequently. Shortly before his death, James was moved to the home of William Brice, where he died on 9 December 1852. He was buried on the Brice homestead. He was 29 years old.

In the spring of 1852, however, Hugh Love, an Irishman, took up the claim now the property of R. Millett and son, while about the same time a young Englishman named James Downes settled on what is now the Isaac Cook place and adjoining that of Mr. Love. Here Downes died about Christmas-day, 1852, the first death in that district, and there he lies buried with naught to mark his resting-place save the tender remembrances of the few friends that attended him in sickness and followed him to the spot where they laid him.

From *Illustrated History of Lane County, Oregon*, 1884, page 457.

James died intestate (without a will). The only reported debts resulted from his illness and death. Those included doctor bills, room and board during his illness, a coffin, court fees, appraisal fees, and money paid to a tracker to round up his livestock.

The administrator of the estate was William Brice. Born in England, he was older than James, had emigrated to the United States decades earlier, and settled in the Willamette Valley in 1850.

The list of items included on the inventory for James' estate gives some insight into his personality. Though he was from a working-class background, James owned a few items of clothing not typical of pioneer wardrobes. In addition to common work clothes, he possessed a checked silk vest, a new fine shirt, silk handkerchiefs, a silk hat, and a silver watch. Household items were sparse—two plates, one cup and saucer, one knife and fork. He had a bed and a table, panes of glass, and a curtain. Provisions included flour, peas, wheat, oats, and molasses. There was a plow, yoke, log chain, spade, and other items used for working the land. To bolster the thought that he was literate, there were eight sheets of paper, a pencil case, two small books, and nineteen newspapers.

James had a promising future. He embodied the traits needed to succeed in the Oregon Territory. He was literate, hard-working, debt-free, and had more assets than many pioneers. His illness and death left that promise unfulfilled.

8. E. Haft, field note, Field Notes Volume OR-D0016 (State: OR, Meridian: 33, Township: 015-0S, Range: 004-0W), Survey pages: 0149.0-0153.0; image, Land Status & Cadastral Survey Records, Willamette Meridian – Oregon and Washington (<https://www.blm.gov/or/landrecords/survey/ySrvy1.php> : accessed 4 August 2023).

9. Ralph Friedman, *In Search of Western Oregon* (Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1990), page 518.

RESOURCES

Vital records and census records for James Downs are linked to his profiles on:

“FamilySearch Family Tree,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/MRZ2-91W> : accessed 6 July 2023), profile for James Downs, ID MRZ2-91W.

“Public Member Trees,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 September 2023), “Random Families,” entry for James Downs.

Details about James Downs’ life in Oregon came from:

“Oregon and Washington Donation Land Files, 1851-1903,” images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 6 July 2023), document #2637 for James Downs (dec), images 986-1001; citing Donation Certificates no. 2552-2645 (NARA Series M815, Roll 30).

“Oregon, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1849-1963,” images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 6 July 2023), James Downs, Lane County, Oregon, file no. 1, images 2-21; also, typed transcript dated 1959 at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

Background information about Leeds:

Fletcher, J. S. *The Story of the English Towns: Leeds*, 1919. [Internet Archive](https://www.internetarchive.org/).

Jonnie. *Life in Leeds during the 1840s*, 2018. *Thackray Museum of Medicine* (<https://thackraymuseum.co.uk/life-in-leeds-during-the-1840s> : accessed 5 July 2023). Citing Edwin Chadwick’s 1842 report on sanitary conditions.

Shipley, Rev. C. E., general editor. “The Churches of the Leeds District,” *The Baptists of Yorkshire: Being the Centenary Memorial Volume of the Yorkshire Baptist Association*. United Kingdom: W. Byles, 1912. [Google Books](https://www.google.com/books).

[Old Maps Online](https://www.oldmaps.com/). Period maps of Leeds, including overlays.

Background information about Oregon in the 1840s and 1850s:

U.S. Department of the Interior. [Bureau of Land Management](https://www.blm.gov/). General Land Office Records, patent search results for Downs, James (Heirs of).

U.S. Department of the Interior. [Land Status & Cadastral Survey Records](https://www.blm.gov/). Willamette Meridian – Oregon and Washington, for period township maps and field notes. This site also has links to excellent articles that explain the terms and measurements used in land descriptions.

Christy, John A. and Alverson, Edward R. “[Historical Vegetation of the Willamette Valley, Oregon, circa 1850](https://doi.org/10.1086/34288),” *Northwest Science* 85: 2 (2011).

Douglas, Jesse S. “[Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850](https://www.jstor.org/stable/4111111),” *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41: 2 (April 1950)), accessed through JSTOR at [Research Tools of Multnomah County Library](https://www.researchtools.org/).

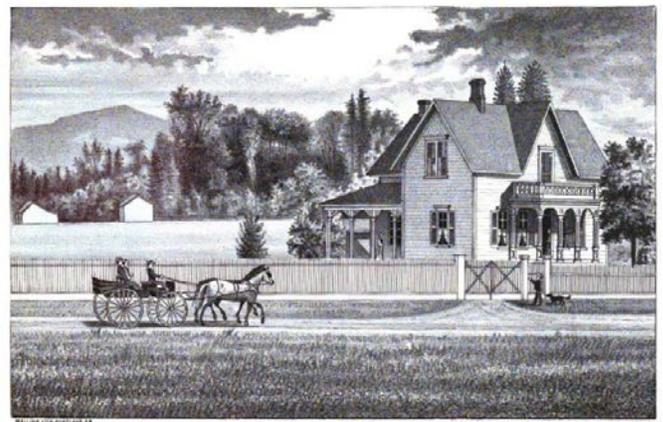
Friedman, Ralph. *In Search of Western Oregon*, 1990.

Walling, A.G. *Illustrated History of Lane County, Oregon, 1884*. [Google Books](https://www.google.com/books).

Butchers.

Asquith Benj. Meadow lane
Atkinson Benj. Armley
Backhouse Saml. Beeston
Beckett Saml. 12, Duncan street
Bickerdike Joseph, Chapelown
Blakey Geo. 10, Duncan street
Bower Geo. 33, Duke street
Briggs Geo. Hunset lane
Briggs Thos. Armley
Briggs T. Holbeck, & 20, Shambles
Bulmer Saml. 6, Duncan street
Butler John, 98, Kirkgate
Butler Thos. Mill street
Clapham Joseph, 28, Shambles
Clark Joseph, 20, Duncan street
Clarkson Wm. 15, Shambles
Cooper Geo. 24, Duncan street
Cooper Wm, 23, Duncan street
Cooper John, 36, Shambles
Cooper Thos. Quarry hill
Crosland Christ. 12, Market place
Crosland John, 8, Shambles
Crosland Joseph, 14, Duncan street
Crosland Thos. 39, Shambles
Crosland Wm. 38, Shambles
Darby J. S. 47, Shambles
Dixon John, 19, Shambles
Dixon Joseph, 94, Kirkgate
Dixon Joshua, Meadow lane
Dixon Thos. Hillhouse Bank
Downs Geo. 20, Duncan street
England John, 3, Shambles
England Thos. 46, Shambles
England Edward, 25, Duncan st.
Ellerby Richard, 5, Shambles

From “UK, City and County Directories,” 1817, [Ancestry](https://www.ancestry.com).



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC COOK, 1 MILE EAST OF JUNCTION CITY, LANE COUNTY, OR.

What might have been. Isaac Cook bought the rights to James Downs’ claim from the estate. From *Illustrated History of Lane County*, page 145.

Bible Records Add Details for People Enslaved by the Hooten Family of Clark County, Kentucky, and Audrain County, Missouri

Nanci Remington

The information about Lucy and her family was recorded in the Hooten family Bible. Two Bible pages, photocopied decades ago, were transcribed as part of the Family Bible Project at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. The copies were found in the Lionberger Manuscript Collection. They accompanied notes about the Hooten family who settled in Clark County, Kentucky, in the 1790s.

Lucy was an enslaved woman born in 1827, probably in Clark County, Kentucky. She had four known children, three daughters and a son, born between 1845 and 1854. Other enslaved people in the household included Ann, who was born in 1825, and a boy who was “bought” in 1841 when he was six years old.

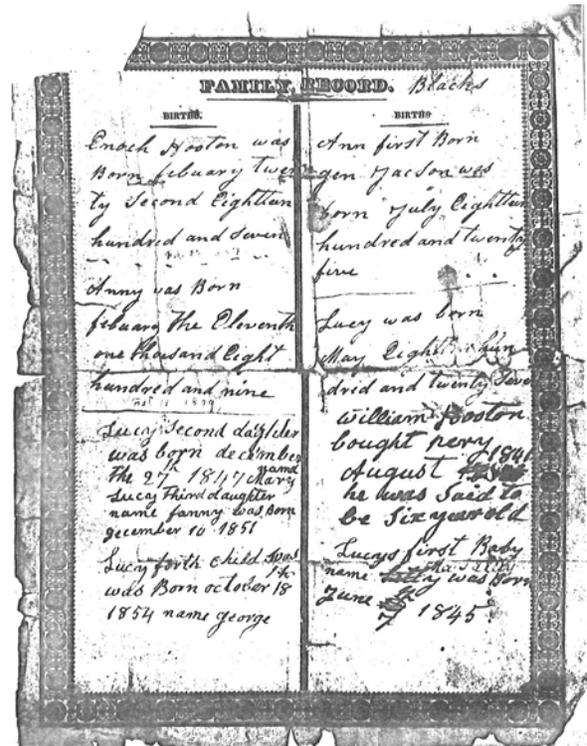
The Bible page titled “Deaths” has one entry, the death of William Hooten on 17 December 1856. The page titled “Births” gives the dates of birth for two of his children, Enoch and Anna. The rest of the page records the births of enslaved people. The top of the second column is labeled “Blacks.” The entries are as follows:

*Ann first born
gen [?] Jacson
born July Eightteen
hundred and twenty
five*

*Lucy was born
May Eighteen hun-
dred and twenty seven*

*William Hooten
bought nery [?]
August 1841
he was said to
be six years old*

*Lucys first Baby
name Letty [illegible] was born
June 7th 1845
Lucy second daughter*



Family Record page from the Hooten Bible.

*was born December
the 27th 1847 namd Mary
Lucy Third daughter
Name fanny was born
December 10 1851
Lucy fourth child was
was Born october 18th
1854 name George*

OTHER RECORDS SHOWING THE SLAVES OF THE HOOTENS

The Slave Schedule for 1850 listed nine people enslaved by William Hooten—four males ages 40, 40, 22, and 14, and five females, ages 40, 30, 25, four, and one, so it is apparent that not all of the slaves owned by the Hootens were recorded in the Bible.

29	William Hooten	1	40	M	B
30		1	40	M	B
31		1	22	M	B
32		1	14	M	B
33		1	40	F	B
34		1	30	F	B
35		1	25	F	B
36		1	4	F	B
37		1	1	F	B

1850 Slave Schedule for William Hooten, Clark County, Kentucky.

The 1870 census for Clark County listed Ann Outen, age 70, Black, who was a domestic servant. Mr. Comstock concluded that the Ann on this census was the same as the woman formerly enslaved by the Hootens.

The spelling of her surname is probably Hooton (or Hooten). She is almost certainly the Ann Hooton who was included in the Providence Baptist Church records on July 4, 1868 and who had previously been owned by William Hooton and, after his death in 1856, for a short time by his son Enoch Hooton.

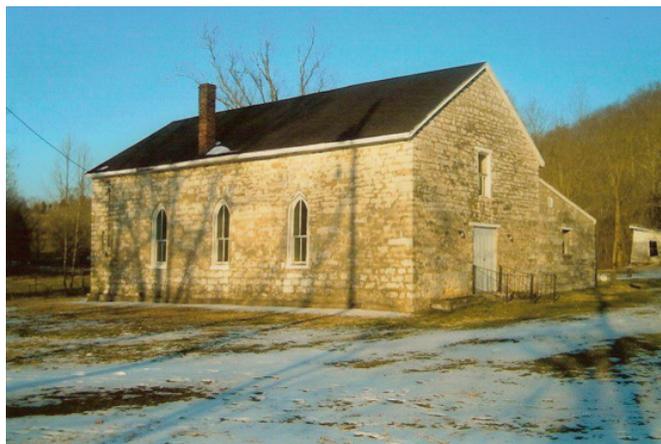
Hopefully, the Bible pages add to the record and help family members learn a little more about their ancestors.

RESOURCES

The research papers collected by Elaine Lionberger are available through the Genealogical Forum of Oregon's Manuscripts Collection. The images and transcript of the Hooton Bibles can be viewed on the GFO website.

The census records can be found at FamilySearch.org or Ancestry.com.

The probate records were found on the FamilySearch website by searching historical records by place: Kentucky > Kentucky Probate Records 1727–1990 > Browse > Clark



Old Providence Church, Clark County, Kentucky.
Wikimedia Commons.

County > Settlements, Will records 1855–1857. Though the collection is not indexed, each book has an index and references the pages with the probate information.

The book *Before Abolition: African-Americans in Early Clark County, Kentucky* was found by searching Google Books for “Clark County Kentucky history.”

The FamilySearch Wiki has an article that links to resources for finding Bible records.



The Genealogical Forum of Oregon is pleased to announce the award of a grant from

THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS FOUNDATION

for the enhancement of GFO's collection of manuscripts and other archival materials.
Our heartfelt thanks for this generous support.

Iowa Probate Papers for Maria, Administratrix: Including the Will of Jacob Brawand (1802–1870), the Estate of Joseph Eigerman (1827–1872), and the Estate of Peter & Mary Brawand, Minors, Part 2

Mark Grafe

INTRODUCTION

This is Part 2 of the transcribed probate records obtained from the Muscatine County Genealogical Society. A chart from Otto P. Schinnerer’s 1935 text, *Beginning German*, helped decipher the text. Twenty-three items, transcribed in two *Bulletin* articles, are viewable through the [Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library Catalog](#); for the search term, enter “Brawand.”

The court-assigned administratrix of the estates of Peter Brawand and Joseph Eigerman was their widow, Maria. Maria, whose maiden name was Kirchhofer, was also called Mary. Maria “Mary” Louise (Kirchhofer, Brawand, Eigerman) Lang remarried twice in Iowa and inherited the Muscatine Brewery from Joseph Eigerman. Swiss-born Maria stepped up as administratrix and demonstrated self-confidence, some previous education, business skills, and some knowledge of the English language.

SUMMARIES AND TRANSCRIPTIONS

Jacob Brawand’s Will

Probate File 154, the Estate of Peter Brawand, included the four-page “Copy of Jacob Brawand’s will.” Jacob Brawand, of Louisa County, Iowa, wanted to give one-third of his property to John Blower [Blauer], son of Frederick Blauer. Frederick Blauer and Jacob Brawand possibly married sisters from the Rubi family; a family chart follows.

Jacob requested that the property Blauer inherited benefit his grandchildren: John Brawand, Mary Brawand, and Peter Brawand. He stated they were the “orphan and minor children of Peter Brawand”; that did not mean Maria Brawand was deceased. Jacob requested the distribution of funds to his grandchildren when they turned twenty-one. He favored his grandchild, John Brawand, with “a larger share than one-third.” Jacob also asked John Blauer to be the sole executor of his will. Jacob signed the handwritten copy on 17 August 1870. He probably died on 12 October 1870, and his will was “probated 20 March 1871.”

Highlight: The signature of my third great-grandfather, Jacob Brawand, was conveyed with an “X.” Jacob’s will is not part of his probate documents from April 1871 on film 2,070,968 at FamilySearch.



Maria Lang

[1870.8.17]Bwillp4]

Copy of
Jacob Brawands
will

1

[1870.8.17]Bwillp1]

In the name of God Amen

I Jacob Brawand of Louisa County and State of Iowa being of sound mind and memory and conscious of the uncertainty of life and certainty of death do make and discharge my last will and testament that is to said-

1st I give and bequeath to John Blower of Keokuk Co State of Iowa son of Frederick Blower and of said Louisa County one third of my personal property both real and personal. and all credits and effects that I shall die seized of – and of which I may be in possession of or entitle to possession.

This will and request to the said John Blower is made however for the special benefit and interest of my grandchildren to wit John Brawand[,]

2 Mary Brawand and Peter Brawand. Orphan and minor children of Peter Brawand late of Muscatine Co. and State of Iowa-

3 It is my will and request that said John Blower shall take possession of one third of my money[,] property or effects at my death and hold the same in trust for the use and benefit of my grand children John[,] Mary and Peter Brawand during their minority

[1870.8.17]Bwillp2]

It is my will that the said John Blower shall invest whatever money shall come into his possession at my death at such a rate percent interest and on such a manner at in his judgement may [illegible] to the best advantage for said grandchildren and make such disposi

tion of my other property that I may die seized of. and on his discretion shall seem expedient to the promotion of the interests of said grand children

4 It is my further will and bequest that my trustee John Blower aforesaid shall divide and distribute among my said grand children at their majority or at the age of twenty one years of age. When of them in equal shares all the property here by bequeathed and devised [illegible] [illegible] Louisa named towit John Blower shall in the excuse of a sound discharge and on Justice to say said grand child John Brawand shall deem it desirable to give my said Grand child John a larger share than one third of the property hereby devised and bequeathed-
Lastly I hereby nominate and ap

[1870.8.17]Bwillp3]

point the above named John Blower my sole executor of this my last will and testament-

In witness where of I have here unto set my hand this 17 day of August

AD 1870-

[illegible initials]

Jacob Brawand

X mark

Probated March 20 1871.

Objections to Report of Mary Eigerman, Administratrix

“Objections to the Report of Mary Eigerman, Admx,” presented in November 1871, were submitted on two pages almost three years after Maria’s “1st Report” to the Court. John Blauer (administrator of Jacob Brawand’s estate) hired attorneys “Cloud & Broomhall.” Blauer claimed Peter Brawand owed Jacob Brawand money. The Estate of Jacob Brawand filed suit against Mary Eigerman, Administratrix of the Estate of Peter Brawand, in a case numbered 611. The objections were filed on 14 November 1871 by J. D. Walker.

Highlight: Peter Brawand died in 1867 before his father, Jacob Brawand. Jacob’s death in 1870 meant Peter’s estate now owed money to Jacob’s estate.

[1871.11.14d13p2]

Cloud & Broomhall

Attys for John Blaur

Exr/. of Est of

Jacob Brawand, Decd/.

[Cover Page written sideways]

Est of

Peter Brawand

Decd”

Objections to

report of

Mary Eigenman

Admx/.

Filed Nov 14 1871

J.D. Walker

Clerk

R638

Cloud & Broomhall,

Attys for

John Blaur Exr of

Jacob Brawand Decd

[1871.11.14d13p1]

In the matter of the Estate of Peter Brawand, Decd. In

Circuit Court of Muscatine County, State of Iowa.

Causes John Blauer, Executor

of the estate of Jacob Brawand, Decd

and objects to that part of the report, fi-

led Sep 11/71 of said Mary Eigenman, Admx.

wherein she sets out that the

Estate of Jacob Brawand has no

claim against said Peter Brawand

Estate, for the reason that as objector

represents said claim is a valid and

subsisting and unpaid debt

against said Estate and one which

claim a suit is now pending in

this Court wherein John Blauer

as Exc. of Est of Jacob Brawand

Decd is pl ff [plaintiff] and Mary Eigenman

Admx. of Est. of said Peter Braw-

and decd. def. [defendant] which case is

Numbered 611 and is undeter-

mined.

Objection is also made to the

pages of said report, wherein

an order to make distribution

of the balance remaining in

the hands of said Admx and her

discharge is prayed.

Second Report of Administratrix

Maria Eigerman’s five-page “Second Report of Administratrix” was signed on 31 October 1872. She charged herself \$1,270.33 and spent \$615.60, with \$654.73 remaining. She said that she paid all claims with one “adjusted.” The sale of land in Keokuk County grossed \$1,905.50. Maria used two-thirds of that amount,



Jacob Brawand’s mark, centered.

\$1,270.33, to pay the following: court costs, deed stamp, realtor commission, administrative allowance, real estate commissions, appraisements, and accounting reports. The report was notarized and signed by Henry Jayne. The document was filed by J. D. Walker and John Munroe on 22 November 1872 in Book T, page 417.

Highlight: Some information is missing; what claim was adjusted? Perhaps John Blauer's purchase of Keokuk land from Maria was related to the adjustment of Peter's debt to his father.

[1872.11.22d14p5]

No. 154
Estate of
Peter Brawand
Decd
Second Report of
Admx
Filed Nov 22 1872
J D Walker Clk
Jn Munroe Dpty.
T=417
Henry Jayne
For admx

[1871.10.31d14p1]

The State of Iowa
Muscatine County
To The Circuit Court for said
County
On the matter of the
Estate of Peter Brawand
Deceased

The undersigned pursuant to the order of this court herewith submits her second report as such She charges herself with the sum of \$1270. 33 moneys by her received and asks credit for the sum of \$615 60 moneys by her expended. leaving a balance in her hands of \$654. 73

She asks that her report may be ap-proved and allowed. And that the same be accepted as a final report. All claims paid one being adjusted very respectfully submitted

Maria Eigenman
Administratrix

[1871.10.31d14p2]

The Estate of Peter Brawand, late of Muscatine County deceased. In account with Mary Eigermann late Mary Brawand. Administrator of said Estate.

This accountant charges herself with this amount being two thirds of the proceeds of sale of land belonging to said decedent. situated in Keokuk Co. the gross amount of said sale being \$1905.50 towit \$1270. 33

Old German Type and Handwriting

ROMAN TYPE	GERMAN TYPE	GERMAN SCRIPT	ROMAN TYPE	GERMAN TYPE	GERMAN SCRIPT
A a	ꝺ Ꝼ		N n	ꝺ Ꝼ	
B b	ꝼ Ᵹ		O o	Ꝿ ꝿ	
C c	ꝿ Ꝼ		P p	ꝿ Ꝼ	
D d	ꝼ Ᵹ		Q q	Ꝿ ꝿ	
E e	ꝿ Ꝼ		R r	ꝺ Ꝼ	
F f	ꝿ Ꝼ		S s	ꝿ Ꝼ	
G g	ꝿ Ꝼ		T t	ꝿ Ꝼ	
H h	ꝿ Ꝼ		U u	ꝺ Ꝼ	
I i	ꝿ Ꝼ		V v	ꝼ Ᵹ	
J j	ꝿ Ꝼ		W w	ꝼ Ᵹ	
K k	ꝿ Ꝼ		X x	ꝿ Ꝼ	
L l	ꝿ Ꝼ		Y y	ꝿ Ꝼ	
M m	ꝿ Ꝼ		Z z	ꝼ Ᵹ	

Modified Vowels (Umlaute)

Ä ä Ȧ ȧ Ö ö Ȫ ȫ Ü ü Ȭ ȭ

Compound Consonants

ch ȥ Ȧ ȧ ss ꝿ Ꝼ tz ꝿ Ꝼ sch ꝿ Ꝼ ꝼ Ᵹ ꝿ Ꝼ ph ꝿ Ꝼ ck ꝿ Ꝼ st ꝿ Ꝼ

Distinguish carefully between ꝼ and Ᵹ, ꝿ and Ꝼ, ꝺ and Ꝼ, ꝼ and Ᵹ, ꝿ and Ꝼ, ꝺ and Ꝼ, ꝼ and Ᵹ.

The German capital form ꝺ stands for both I and J. When followed by a vowel it is read as J; when followed by a consonant, as I: der Juli, der Junge; die Jdee, die Insel.

The so-called final Ᵹ is used only at the end of words or syllables.

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Adapted from Beginning German by Schinnerer, Otto P., 1935

And she asks credit for the following sums of money by her expended for and on of said estate towit.
 For this amount paid Jno D Walker Clerk of Court for fees and charges and clerk of Keokuk County for same on the sale of Real Estate. 11.75
 for this amount paid for stamp on Deed 2.00
 For this amount paid JD Smith for 5% commission and con on sale of Real Estate 63.55
 For this amount due and allowed to this administratrix as so much overpaid as

[1871.10.31d14p3]

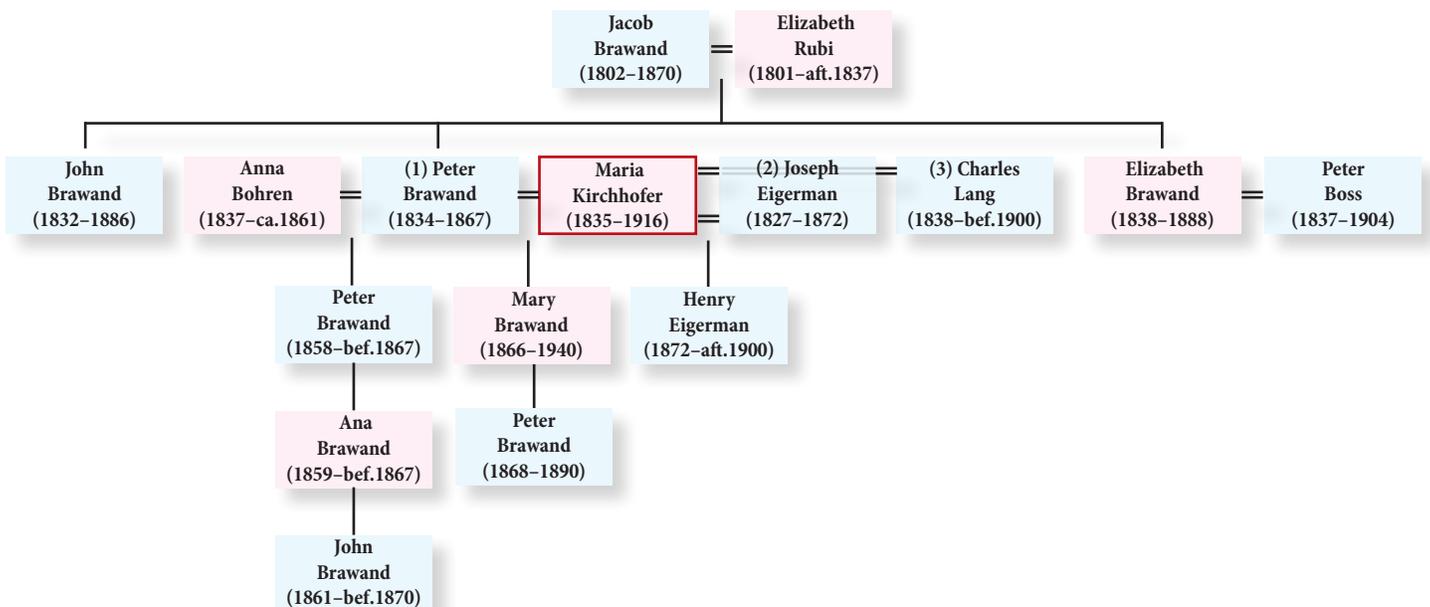
shown by her report filed herein Dec 23 1868 402.79
 For this amount being 5% commission on \$1000. of proceeds of Real Estate sold for the payment of debts 50.00
 For this amount being 2 1/2 %c on the excess of such sale 6.75
 For this amount being 5%c on amount of personal estate distributed as shown by this and former report. All compensation having been omitted in the first report filed. 40.71
 For the amount paid Jno D. Walker Clerk of Circuit Court for

this report 4.80
 For this amount paid for attaining appraisement of Real Estate from Co. Court 3.25
 For this amount paid Jno R. Aisly for attaining order to sell Real Estate from the Court 15.00
 For this amount paid to Henry Jayne for adjusting accounts and preparing and presenting this report 15.00
 Balance on hand 654.73
 \$1270.33

[1871.10.31d14p4]

The State of Iowa
 Muscatine County }ss
 I Mary Eigerman being duly sworn say that I have heard the foregoing report and know the contents thereof, and that the matters and things therein set forth are true just and correct as I verily believe
 Maria Eigerman
 Sworn to by the said Mary Eigerman before me and by her subscribed in my presence this 31st day of October A. D. 1872.
 Witness my hand and Notarial seal
 Henry Jayne
 Notary Public

Selected Children, Husbands (3), and In-laws of Maria Kirchhofer



Probate file 393, Estate of Joseph Eigerman, Cover Page

Documents for Probate File No. 393, the “Estate of Joseph Eigermann Deceased,” had a cover page dated 12 November 1874; Eigerman died on 19 December 1872. The court named Mary Eigerman as Administratrix, and the attorneys were Hanna and Fitzgerald. The cover page listed Fee Book A, page 131.

Highlight: Joseph Eigerman was about seven years older than Maria. Joseph was 43, and Maria was 35 when he died.

[1872.12.19CP]

No. 393 Probate.
MUSCATINE CIRCUIT COURT
ESTATE
OF
Joseph Eigermann
Deceased
Mary Eigermann
Admix
1873 Final Report
Nov 12 – 1874
Hanna & Fitzgerald
Attorneys
Fee Book A, page 131.

Administrator’s Bond

The two-page “Administrator’s Bond” listed Mary Eigenmann as principal; and Charles F. Kessler and John Schmidt as sureties, who posted fourteen hundred dollars. Maria was appointed Administratrix of the estate of Joseph Eigenmann, who died on 19 December 1872. Maria, Kessler, Schmidt, and court clerk J. D. Walker signed the document, notarized by Thomas Hanna. Walker filed the document in Book O, page 414.

Highlight: Although not stated here, city directories named Maria as the proprietor of Eigerman’s Muscatine Brewery. Later, Joseph and Maria’s son, Henry C. Eigenmann owned that business.

[1872.12.23d15p2]

ESTATE OF
Joseph Eigenmann
Deceased
ADMINISTRATOR’S BOND.
Mary Eigenmann
Administratrix
Filed and approved this 23rd day
of December...1872
J. D. Walker
Clerk Circuit Court
Hanna & Fitzgerald
Attorney.s
O 414

Letter issued Dec 23/72

[1872.12.23d15p1]

ADMINISTRATOR’S BOND.

Estate of Joseph Eigenmann Deceased.

Know all Men by these Presents, That *Mary Eigenmann*

----- as principal, and

Chas. F. Kessler and John Schmidt

as sureties, all of the County of Muscatine, in the State of Iowa, are held and firmly bound unto the County aforesaid, for the use of all persons herein concerned, in the penal sum of *Fourteen Hundred* dollars, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we do jointly and severally bind ourselves and our lawful representatives. Witness our hands this 23rd day of *December* A. D. 1872.

The condition of the above obligation is such, That, whereas, the above named *Mary Eigenmann* has been appointed by the *Clerk of the Circuit Court* of said County, sitting as a court of probate, *Administratrix* of the estate of *Joseph Eigenmann*, deceased, late of said County, who died intestate on or about the 19th day of *December* A. D. 1872. to administer all and singular *his* goods and chattels, moneys, rights and credits, according to law.

Now if the said *Mary Eigenmann*, shall discharge all the duties which are now and may be hereafter required of *her* as such *administratrix*, then these presents to be void; other wise to remain in full force and effect in law.

WITNESS our hand and seals the date above written.

L.S.
Maria Eigenman L.S.
John Schmidt L.S.
C. F. Kessler L.S.

The above Bond was filed and approved by me, this 23rd day of *December* A. D. 1872.

J. D. Walker

Clerk of the Circuit Court, Muscatine County, Iowa
State of Iowa, Muscatine County, ss;

I Mary Eigenmann do solemnly swear that as *administratrix*, of the above named Estate, *I* will to the best of *my* knowledge and ability faithfully discharge and perform the duties of *my* trust according to law and the conditions of the foregoing Bond.

s *Maria Eigenman*

Sworn to and subscribed by the said *Mary Eigenmann* before me and in my presence this 23rd day of *December* A. D. 1872.

Thos. Hanna NP

Probate File No. 407 Petition

“Probate File No. 407, the Estate of Peter Brawand and Mary Brawand Minors” began with a letter dated 20 May 1873; the cover page is on the back. Maria Eigerman signed the letter, penned and notarized by Henry Jayne. She stated: (1) that she was the mother of six-year-old Mary Brawand and five-year-old Peter Brawand; and (2) that her children “are entitled as heirs of their deceased

father to funds not exceeding five hundred dollars in value." Anna Bohren, the first wife of Peter Brawand Sr., was the mother of John. Maria asked the court to appoint Charles F. Kessler as her children's guardian. J. H. Munroe filed the petition on 24 May 1873 in Book T, page 609.

Highlight: File 407 does not mention John Brawand. His father, Peter Brawand Sr., died in 1867; his grandfather Joseph Brawand died in 1870; his step-father Joseph Eigerman passed away in 1872. In May 1873, John's half-siblings received a guardian.

[1873.5.20d16p2]

No 407
Estate of
Mary Brawand
Peter Brawand
Minors
Petition
Filed May 24" 1873
J H Munroe Clerk
Letter issued same day.
T 609
Hanna & Fitzgerald
Henry Jayne For Guardn

[1873.5.20d16p1]

The State of Iowa
Muscatine County }ss
To the Circuit
Court for said County
In the matter of the
Estate of
Mary Brawand and
Peter Brawand minors }

Mary Eigerman

represents to the court that she is the mother of the before mentioned minors who are aged respectfully 6 and 5 [corrected] years. are entitled as heirs of their deceased father. to certain personal estate not exceeding five hundred Dollars in value. And waiving her right to be appointed as such asks that Chas F Kessler may be appointed guardian of said minors.

Maria Eigenmann

Sworn to by the said Mary Eiger-
mann before me and by her sub-
scribed in my presence this 20th day
of May AD 1873. Witness my hand
and Notary seal
Henry Jayne
Notary Public

Administrator's Bond

A two-page "Administrator's Bond" for the estate of Joseph Eigerman listed Mary Eigerman as principal and Charles F. Kessler and John Schmidt as sureties for the sum of \$1,500 on 13 May 1873. Kessler, Schmidt, and J. H. Munroe signed the bond filed in Book O, page 424. T R Fitzgerald signed and notarized the document.

Highlight: Fifteen hundred dollars from 1873 has an equivalent value of just over \$37,000 in 2022. In the State of Oregon, administrators and executors are now called personal representatives.

[1873.5.23d17p2]

393. O, 424
ESTATE OF
Joseph Eigerman
Deceased

2nd

ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND.

Mary Eigerman

Administratrix

Filed and approved this 23 day
of May 1873

J H Monroe

Clerk Circuit Court

Hanna & Fitzgerald

Attorney.s

[1873.5.23d17p1]

(ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND.)

Estate of Joseph Eigerman

Deceased.

Know all Men by these Presents; That *Mary Eigerman* as principal, and *Charles F. Keßler and John Schmidt* as sureties, all of the County of Muscatine, in the State of Iowa, all are held firmly bound unto the County aforesaid, for the use of all persons herein concerned, in the penal sum of *Fifteen Hundred xxxx* Dollars, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we do jointly and severally bind ourselves and our lawful representatives. Witness our hands, this *13th* day of *May* A. D. 1873.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That, whereas, the above named *Mary Eigerman* has been appointed by the *Clerk of the Circuit Court of Said County*, sitting as a Court of Probate, *Administratrix* of the estate of *Joseph Eigerman* deceased, late of Said County, who died intestate, who died on or about the *19th* day of *December*, A. D. 1872. to administer all and singular *his* goods and chattels, moneys, rights, and credits according to law.

Now, if the said *Mary Eigerman*, shall discharge all of the duties which are now and may be hereafter required of *her* as such *Administratrix*, then these presents to be void; otherwise to remain in fullforce and effect in law.

WITNESS our hands and seals the date above written.

<i>Maria Eigenmann</i>	L. S.
<i>C. F. Kessler</i>	L. S.
<i>John Schmidt</i>	L. S.
	L. S.

The above Bond was approved and filed by me, this 23rd day of May A. D. 1873.

J H Munroe

Clerk of the Circuit Court, Muscatine County, Iowa.

State of Iowa, Muscatine County, SS.

I Mary Eigerman do solemnly swear that as Administratrix of the above named Estate, I will to the best of my knowledge and ability faithfully discharge and perform the several duties of my trust according to law and the conditions of the foregoing Bond.

Maria Eigenmann

Sworn to and subscribed by the said *Mary Eigerman* before me and in my presence this 23rd day of May A. D. 1873.

T R Fitzgerald N. P.

Guardian's Letters

This two-page document, "Guardian's Letters," stands out due to a dark red seal affixed to the bottom left with "Seal of the Circuit Court, Muscatine County, Iowa" and Lady Justice. The document written by John Munroe stated Mary and Peter Brewand (Brawand) were heirs of Peter Brewand and were entitled to property held in Muscatine County. Charles F Kessler was appointed "Guardian of the Estate of Mary Brewand and Peter Brewand" to "demand, sue for, and take possession of all money and estate belonging to" Mary and Peter. John H Munroe signed and affixed the seal. The court clerk filed the document on page 610 of Book T.

Highlight: Peter Brawand's property in Keokuk County was sold. What property did he have in Muscatine County?

[1873.5.24d18p2]

*Estate of
M & P Brewand
Minors
Chas. F. Kessler
Guardian
1873*

T610



1873.5.24d18p1

[1873.5.24d18p1]

GUARDIAN'S LETTERS
STATE OF IOWA MUSCATINE COUNTY }SS

To all whom these Presents shall come:

WHEREAS, *Mary Brewand and Peter Brewand* residents of Muscatine County, State of Iowa, and infant heirs at law of *Peter Brewand* late of *Muscatine* County, State of Iowa deceased, are entitled to certain estate in *Muscatine* County; and Whereas,

and on the 24th day of May A. D. 1873, application was made to the Circuit Court for said Muscatine County for the appointment of *Charles F. Kessler* as Guardian of the estate of said minors; and the Court being satisfied that the said *Charles F Kessler* is in every respect fit and competent to act as such Guardian; and ..he.. having entered into bond with good and approved security with the sum prescribed by the order of said court, conditioned for the faithful performance of ...his.. duty, and having taken the oath prescribed by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, know ye and all whom it may concern, That the said, *Charles F Kessler*, is hereby Guardian of the Estate of *Mary Brewand & Peter Brewand* minors, as aforesaid, with full power to demand, sue for, and take possession of all money and estate belonging to his said wards., and in general to do all other acts which appertain to him in his said capacity, and as the law shall charge him.

Witness *John H Munroe* Clerk of the Circuit Court, aforesaid, with the

seal thereof hereunto affixed,

at Muscatine, this 24th day of May A. D. 1873.

John H Munroe

Clerk Circuit Court

Guardian's Bond

The two-page "Guardian's Bond" for the estate of Mary and Peter Brawand listed Charles F. Kessler as principal and Fred Lumpe as sureties for \$800. Kessler, Lumpe, and J. H. Munroe signed the document on 24 May 1873. Henry Jayne notarized this report on 24 May 1873. Munroe filed the document in Book O, page 182.

Highlight: These documents named friends, associates, and neighbors: Blauer, Boss, Kessler, Lumpe, etc.

[1873.5.24d19p2]

407. "O" 182
ESTATE OF
*Mary Brawand.
Peter Brawand
Minors
GUARDIAN'S BOND.
Given by
Chas. F. Kessler
Guardian
Fred Lumpe
Security.*

Approved and filed 24" May 1873

J H Monroe

Clerk Circuit Court

Jayne, Hanna & F attys

[1873.5.24d19p1]

GUARDIAN'S BOND
Estate of *Mary and Peter Brewand* Minor

Know all Men by these Presents: That *Chas F Kessler*

as principal and *Fred Lumpeas* sureties, all of the County of Muscatine, in the State of Iowa, all held and firmly bound unto Said County for the use of *Mary Brawand and Peter Brawand Minor children and heirs of Peter Brawand Decd* in the penal sum of *Eight hundred (800) Dollars*, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we do jointly and truly bind ourselves, and our lawful representatives. Witness our hands this *20th* day of *May* A. D. 1873

The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above named *Chas F Kessler*, who has been appointed Guardian of the said minors, shall faithfully discharge the office and trust of such Guardian according to law, and shall render a fair and just account of such Guardianship from time to time, whenever thereunto required by law, and render and pay to said Minors all moneys, goods, and chattels, title papers and effects, which may come to the hands or possession of said Guardian, belonging to such Minors when such Minors shall be entitled thereto, or to any subsequent Guardian, should such Court so direct, then this obligation to be void, or otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

ATTEST: *Charles F. Keßler*
Fread Lumpe

Clerk circuit Court }.

The above Bond was approved and filed by me, this *24th* day of *May* A. D. 1873

John H Munroe

Clerk Circuit Court, Muscatine County, Iowa

State of Iowa, Muscatine County, ss:

I do solemnly swear that as Guardian of the within named Minors I will to the best of my knowledge and ability, faithfully discharge and perform the several duties of my trust according to law and the conditions of the foregoing Bond.

Charles F. Keßler

___ Subscribed and sworn to before me and in my presence this *24th* day of *May* A. D. 1873 *Witness my hand and my Notarial seal.*

Henry Jayne
Clerk County Court
Notary Public

Administrator's Bond

The two-page "Administrator's Bond" listed Charles F. Kessler as principal for \$3,000 on 12 November 1874. Kessler was appointed administrator of the estate of Jacob Brawand.

Highlight: The guardian for my great-grandmother, Mary Brawand, was the administrator for her grandfather's estate. In Oregon, a Guardian may help a protected person with housing, healthcare, etc.; a Guardian of the Estate is now called a Conservator and helps make financial decisions.

[1873.11.12d20p2]

~~B ESTATE OF~~
Chas. F. Kessler Deceased
ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND

Administrat
Filed and approved this...day of...187
Clerk Circuit Court
Attorney.

[1874.11.12d20p1]

ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND

Estate of ___ Deceased.

Know all Men by these Presents, That *Chas F Keßler*

___ as principal, and ___

as sureties, all of the County of Muscatine, in the State of Iowa, are held and firmly bound unto the County aforesaid, for the use of all persons herein concerned, in the penal sum of *Three Thousand Dollars*, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we do jointly and severally bind ourselves and our lawful representatives. Witness our hands this *12th* day of *November* A. D. 1874.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That, whereas, there above named *Chas F Kessler*, has been appointed by the above named Circuit Court of said County, sitting as a Probate Court, Administrator of the estate of *Jacob Brawand* deceased, late of said County, who died intestate on or about the ___ day of ___ A. D. 18___, to Administer all and singular ___ goods and chattels, moneys, rights and credits according to law.

Now, if the said *Chas F Keßler* shall discharge all the duties which are now or may be hereafter required of *him* as such Administrator; than these presents to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect in law.

WITNESS our hands and seals the date above written.

C. F. Keßler L.S.
E. Borger L.S.
L.S.
L.S.

The above Bond was approved and filed by me, this day of A. d. 187 .

Clerk of the Circuit Court, Muscatine County, Iowa
State of Iowa, Muscatine County, ss:

do solemnly swear that as Administrat of the above named Estate, will to the best of knowledge and ability faithfully discharge and perform the several duties of trust according to law and the conditions of the foregoing Bond.

C. F. Keßler L.S.
E. Borger L.S.

Sworn to and subscribed by the said ___
before me and in my presence this ___ day of ___ A. D. 187___.

Application of Guardian for Discharge

The two-page "Application of Guardian for Discharge" stated that Charles F. Kessler was appointed guardian of Mary and Peter Brawand on 24 May 1873. Kessler said their grandfather Jacob Brawand's estate "was the subject of litigation among the heirs of Peter Brawand," their father, and "said litigation terminated adversely to the interests of said minors." Kessler asked the court to discharge him

from guardian duties. T. R. Fitzgerald signed and notarized the application. John H. Munroe filed the document on 16 November 1877 in Book W, page 348.

Highlight: It is unclear how the court divided Jacob Brawand's estate between John Blauer and Maria Brawand's children, Mary and Peter Jr.

[Cover page written sideways]

No 407

Estate of Mary Brawand – Etal Minors –
Application of Guardian for Discharge.
Filed Nov 16/77

John H Munroe Cck
W-348

[1877.10.24d21p1]

*In the Circuit Court of the State of Iowa
in and for Muscatine County.*

*In the matter of the Estate of
Mary Brawand*

and Peter Brawand, minors-

*The undersigned would
respectfully state that on the 24th
day of May 1873, he was by this Court
appointed Guardian of said minors
upon the application of their mother
which application stated that said
minors were entitled as heirs of
their deceased father to certain
personal estate- not exceeding five
hundred dollars in value-
Now the fact is at the time
of the appointment of this Guardian
the personal Estate above referred to
was the subject of litigation among
the heirs of Peter Brawand – deceased
who was the Grandfather of said
minors – that said litigation termi-
nated adversely to the interests of
said minors – and nothing was
realized therefrom, that said
minors have no property whatever
that has come to the hands or
knowledge of this Guardian*

[1877.10.24d21p2]

*That this Guardian was appointed
solely for the purpose of receiving
as the legal representative of
said minors any monies that
might be coming to them as heirs
of their deceased father out of
the Estate of their Grandfather
as aforesaid – and in as much as
no property or asets of any kind
has come into the hands of this*

*Guardian – and no necessity exists
for his longer acting in such capa
=city – he asks that he be by this
Court discharged from further
duty or liability as such Guardian.*

x C. F. Keßler

*Subscribed in my presence C. F.
Keßler and by him sworn to before
me – this 24th day of October A. D.
1877.*

*T. R. Fitzgerald
Notary Public*

Probate file 407, Cover Page

The cover page for Probate file 407, Estate of Peter & Mary Brawand, listed a “Final Report” dated 16 November 1877.

Highlight: It had been almost ten years since Peter Brawand died on 16 December 1867.

[1877.11.16CP]

No. 407 Probate.

MUSCATINE CIRCUIT COURT.

ESTATE OF

Peter Brawand

Mary Brawand

Et al Minors

Chas. F Kessler

Guardian

1873

Final Report [red ink]

Nov 16-1877

Fee Book A, page 138



Peter Brawand Sr.

CONCLUSION

My second great-grandfather was Peter Brawand Sr., not John Brawand, as reported in John's daughter's obituary. Peter Brawand Sr. died in 1867 before his and Maria's second child, Peter Jr., was born in 1868. Maria remarried on 26 May 1870 before her father-in-law, Jacob Brawand, passed away in October 1870. Then her second husband died on 19 December 1872.

The deaths of Peter and his father Jacob Brawand were followed by legal action titled “Estate of Peter and Mary Brawand, Minors.” Litigation among the heirs of Peter Brawand “terminated adversely” for said minors. Maria appeared knowledgeable concerning finances but needed legal advice. This tough cookie had a lot on her plate.

The probate documents listed family, associates, and neighbors, some also immigrated from Switzerland. Peter Boss, whose “B” also looked like an “L,” and Charles F. Kessler both signed their names with the German letter ß (eszett), but it looked like a þ (thorn).

The Brawand probate records are in the Genealogical Forum of Oregon's “[Digital Surname Vertical Files.](#)”

Book Review

The People of Perth and Kinross 1800–1850

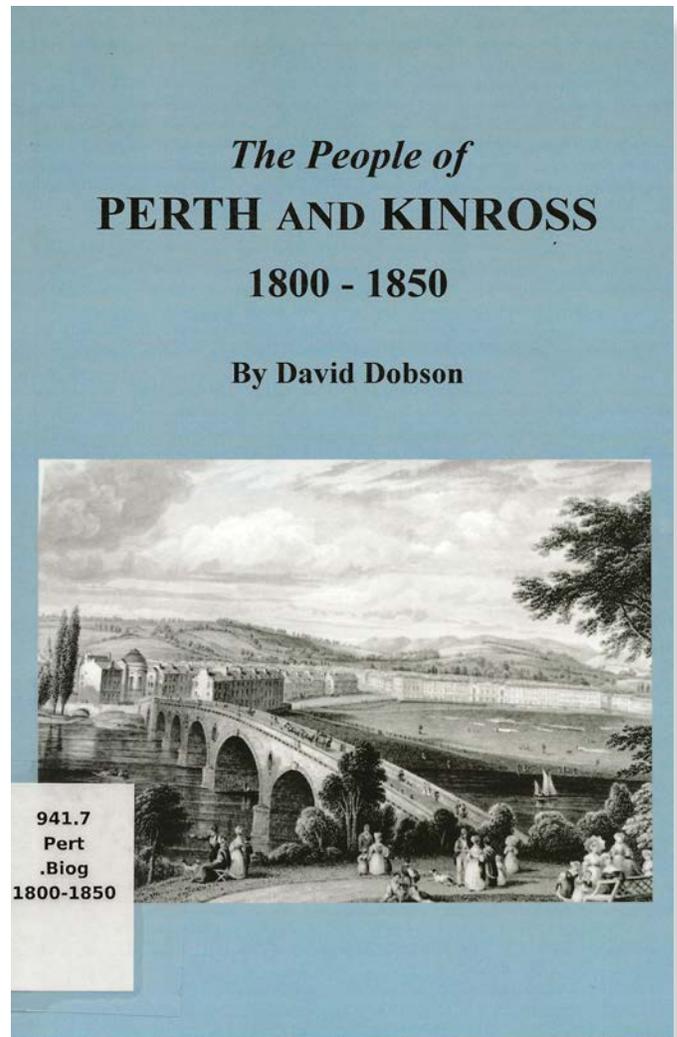
Reviewed by Anne Sharp

Author: David Dobson
 Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company
 Publication Date: 2021
 Pages: 140
 Price: \$25.00 + standard shipping \$7.50
 Order from: Genealogical.com
 GFO Call No.: 941.7 Pert .Biog 1800-1850

The *People of Perth and Kinross 1800–1850* is the latest volume from researcher and author David Dobson's series compiling information on the people of specific regions of Scotland. Dr. Dobson has spent over fifty years combing the archives and libraries of Scotland. In this book, he lists what he has found for many hundreds of people from Perthshire and Kinross-shire.

Dr. Dobson begins with a short introduction of the populations included and which references he consulted. He recommends accessing the Old Statistical Account and the New Statistical Report on the [website](http://www.nls.uk) of the National Library of Scotland for detailed historical context. He then lists, in alphabetical order, all those for whom he found information. The known facts differ from person to person but might include name, date and place of birth, birth order, family members, occupation or apprenticeship, immigration to or from a location, name of the ship if immigrating overseas, being the perpetrator or victim of a crime, court orders, or date and place of death. Each person receives one concise sentence of varying length plus the reference from which these facts were gathered.

Although the lives of the people are not fleshed out, the listings are far from being dry. Scottish legal terms such as "letters of horning," the crime of *hamesucken*, and "fire raising" lead us to interesting research. Punishments for crimes such as nine months in prison for concealing a pregnancy tell us about the culture of the time. His short history of this time of rapid agricultural and industrial change explains this period of high rates of immigration.



It is helpful that married women are often listed by their maiden name. Because spouses and others mentioned in an entry are not always cross-referenced, it would be important to look under known family members to find some who are not in the alphabetical listing.

This book will be an important reference for those researching both people who lived in what were Perthshire and Kinross-shire between 1800 and 1850 and immigrants from these areas. In addition, the resource lists and the historical context will be valuable to a wider range of researchers of Scottish families and history.

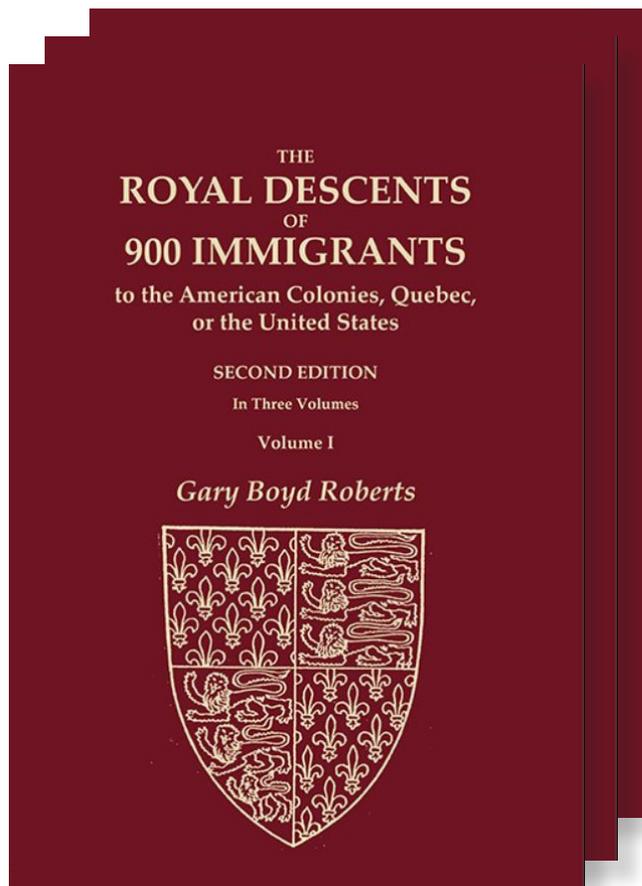
Book Review

The Royal Descents of 900 Immigrants to the American Colonies, Quebec, or the United States: Who Were Themselves Notable or Left Descendants Notable in American History

Reviewed by Phyllis Naish

Author: Gary Boyd Roberts
Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company
Publication Date: Second edition © 2022
Volume: Volumes 1 through 3
Pages: 1,725 total of all three volumes
Price: \$190 includes shipping
Order from: Genealogical.com
GFO Call No.: 929.7 Roya Amer Robe v1
929.7 Roya Amer Robe v2
929.7 Roya Amer Robe v3

This book is primarily focused on the royalty and their descendants who came to North America from Europe. If looking for connections to European royalty, *The Royal Descents of 900 Immigrants To the American Colonies, Quebec, or the United States* is very extensive. This three-volume set was specifically written and revised for family research. The book provides sources and researchers used in the development of this information. There is much information in the table of contents and indexes to help the researcher quickly find information relative to their family history. However, while many of us may be coat-tail relatives of royal families, Gary Boyd Roberts' books are focused predominately on royal lineage. The third book in the set is the most valuable as it lists the families and refers back to the other two books.



Book Review

Generation by Generation: A Modern Approach to the Basics of Genealogy

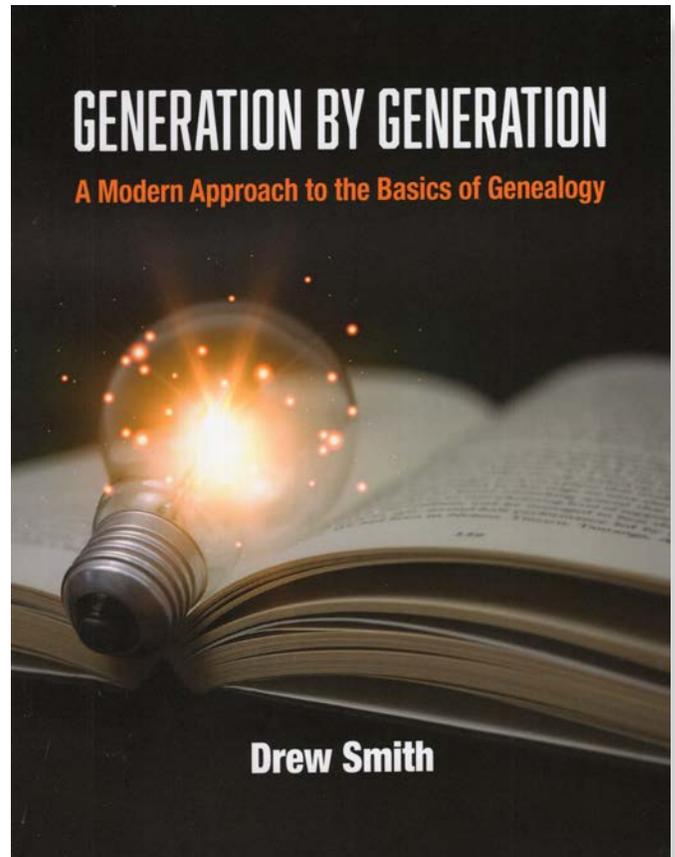
Reviewed by Anne Sharp

Author: Drew Smith
 Publisher: Genealogical.com
 Publication Date: 2023
 Pages: 170
 Price: \$20.95 eBook
 \$29.95 + \$7.50 shipping
 Order from: Genealogical.com
 GFO Call No.: 001 Smit 2023

As a professional genealogist and genealogy librarian, Drew Smith has helped many people research their family history. During his work as a genealogy educator, he learned about the problems beginning researchers encounter as they dive into their new interest. In his latest book, *Generation by Generation: A Modern Approach to the Basics of Genealogy*, he offers a new approach to beginning the journey of discovering one's family history by organizing his book to align with the steps a person takes in their research from the latest generation to the earliest.

Mr. Smith suggests that the reader and author are taking a journey together. His approach is disarming and relaxing. He uses his experience with learners to explain terms and processes clearly. Throughout the book, he uses personal examples and illustrates with large copies of records and detailed screenshots from computer programs.

Part I, "For All Generations: Preparing to Research," the first half of Mr. Smith's book, covers the needed preparation for making the most of one's research. He talks about goal setting, tools for organizing, and record-keeping conventions. He details vocabulary, chart types, information formats, and the Genealogical Proof Standard for research. He also makes the reader aware of complications one can expect, such as spelling variations of names, changing geographical boundaries, and differing calendar systems. He offers aid to surmount these hurdles. He recommends searching for previous research, warning of the challenges, and offering solutions for dealing with them.



A particularly valuable chapter explains the various types of DNA tests and what they bring to genealogical research. His clear, detailed explanations make a complicated scientific process comfortable for those just learning to use this tool.

With these basics covered, Mr. Smith turns to the process of doing the actual research in Part II of his book. Starting with the generations after 1950, he lists the resources one can use to learn about and record family history. For each previous generation, he recommends sources. Along the way, he explains interesting facts about these resources such as the changing legalities of naturalization for wives or how the census deals with changing boundaries in the country-of-origin question. He also recommends his favorite books and websites for more in-depth information about topics he covers such as historical maps, property records, and newspaper repositories. It includes a well-organized table of contents, an index of topics, and a wealth of additional recommended resources.

Although Drew Smith wrote this excellent book for beginners, it would also be a handy resource to have on hand for those wanting to extend, flesh out, or verify previous research.

Book Review

Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The Essential Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600–1800, 2nd edition

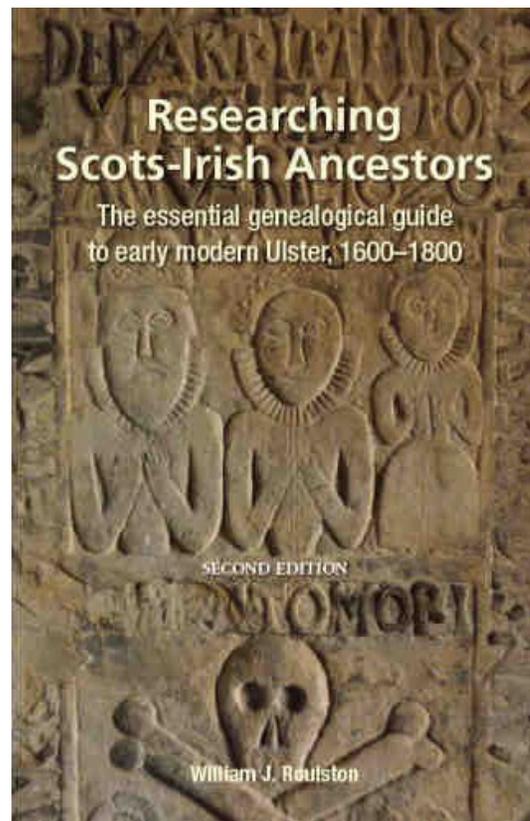
Reviewed by Mark Hochstetler

Author: William J. Roulston
Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company
Publication Date: 2022
Pages: xxxvi, 606
Price: \$34.95 + shipping
Order from: Genealogical.com
GFO call number: 941.90 .How-To Roul 2022

If you are pursuing Scots-Irish or Ulster-based genealogy research, *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The essential guide to early modern Ulster, 1600–1800*, 2nd edition is an invaluable resource. Although I didn't have access to the 2005 first edition of this book at the time of this review, I can tell you the second edition, at 606 pages, easily contains at least double the content of the first edition.

What is Ulster? It is one of the four historical provinces that consists of what we now know as Northern Ireland (counties Antrim, Down, Armagh, Derry, Fermanagh, and Tyrone), plus three counties of the Irish Republic (Cavan, Monaghan, and Donegal). This geographic area is very important to understand our Scots-Irish ancestors, but is very challenging because 1600–1800 represents a time period when many of our familiar record sets (census, church records, and civil registration) are simply not available. Add to this the ongoing destruction of records during Ireland's history, especially the 1922 Public Records Office fire, and research in this place and time can be quite challenging. Mr. Roulston's book attempts to remedy that situation and does it admirably.

The book is divided into roughly two halves. The second half is a series of appendices. The first appendix (110 pages) is a summary of the available genealogical records for every single civil parish in the nine counties. If you have some idea of where your ancestors resided in Ulster, an examination of that parish and the surrounding ones based on Roulston's work will provide you an excellent start to your research. The second appendix (96 pages) outlines the holdings of some 350 collections of Ulster estate papers. The third appendix contains information on most, but not all, of the archives and libraries



with 17th and 18th-century Ulster holdings. Finally, the fourth appendix is a list of Ulster places and includes a number of maps.

Now onto the main show, the first half of the book. Roulston does not organize his material geographically, but rather by record type and sources. There are full chapters devoted to the following record types: emigration, the Registry of Deeds, church records, gravestone inscriptions, military records, landed estate records, newspapers and books, wills and testamentary papers, parliamentary election records, and records relating to government and the legal system. A few chapters group similar record types: education, charity, and hospital records; business and occupation; diaries, journals, memoirs, and correspondence; and a chapter on records of organizations, clubs, and societies. Finally, there are a set of chapters that group

miscellaneous 17th and 18th-century records, including plantation records, military records, land or court records, census substitutes, and penal law records.

What is impressive about Roulston's work is that he doesn't just provide a list of records and repositories, nor does he focus just on the major sources of records. Instead, he goes into a fair amount of detail about the issues and challenges inherent in these records, both in general and for particular records when warranted. He also sources a great number of minor or more obscure sources that the

average reader is probably unfamiliar with. He reviews issues like Irish spelling and the perplexing challenges of multiple Irish jurisdictional boundaries and tries to offer solutions and problem-solving approaches.

This is an excellent resource book if you are serious about Scots-Irish research. As an American, you will learn that many of these records are not available online and I predict you have a research trip to Ulster in your future if you follow-up on the many tantalizing possibilities Roulston outlines in this book.

GFO DISCOVER YOUR HERITAGE

HOW TO WRITE A
FAMILY HISTORY BOOK
 with *David Bruey*

author of
The Ancestry of Amelia Marilla Morley

DECEMBER 16 ♦ 2:30 PM PT
 Free Registration at gfo.org/gentalk

In Memoriam

James Russell “Jim” Morrow (1925–2023)

Long-time Genealogical Forum of Oregon volunteer Jim Morrow passed away on 11 January 2023. He was 97 years old. Jim was born on 22 April 1925 in Clarkston, Asotin County, Washington. His parents were Lloyd Henry and Lucile (Bagley) Morrow. The family moved to Oregon where Jim lived the rest of his life. He worked at Viewmaster and then at Tektronix where he was a purchasing agent. Jim married Glen Marie Halterman on 2 November 1947. She died on 3 May 1993.



Jim joined the GFO in 1993. He was soon involved as a volunteer in several areas. He worked on indexing projects, helped publish and distribute GFO periodicals and publications, took on maintenance chores as the facilities manager, and served as a research assistant. Jim was a member of the relocation committee and was instrumental in moving the library to its present location.

Jim was inducted into the GFO Hall of Fame in 2010. He continued to volunteer until he “retired” in 2018.

GFO volunteers remember Jim for his dedication to the GFO and his ability to see a need and fill it. Even more, they remember his smile and positive attitude.

My prominent memory of Jim Morrow is one of a quiet, helpful, and extremely organized personality. He researched very quietly and very effectively. He would occasionally engage me in discussion about places we had in common for research.

I recall that as he talked about the GOOD OLD DAYS, his facial expression and voice changed as he told me what it took to set up the printing machine, run the copies, and assemble each issue by hand. Jim had an excellent memory of the years he volunteered at the GFO and the various locations he worked at. He had a habit of going through all the GFO publications to ensure there was at least one copy available for purchase. If not, then he would print a copy. He also volunteered as a Research Assistant on Tuesday afternoons, a task he thoroughly enjoyed.

“We can do it!” This was Jim’s approach to problem solving—proposing a solution and assuring that “we” could do it. As an example: a concrete floor needed leveling. Jim said “we” could do it with Fix-It-All. So, we did. Then the floor needed finishing. Jim said “we” could lay linoleum tile. So, we did. This approach served him well when he was facilities manager ... and we learned a lot of new skills.

He was one of the kindest, gentlest people I’ve ever known. I loved his smile and his twinkling blue eyes. He had a great sense of humor. Jim dedicated thousands of hours to the GFO, filling several different roles. He was always willing to help. We frequently worked together and had lunch together many Wednesdays. I was sorry to lose touch with him during the COVID shutdown. I remember him being frustrated with me toward the end of his volunteer work—because I did not want him climbing to the top of a 6-foot ladder. I told him he was too valuable to break, and he told me he could do it, and to stop worrying!

Jim was one of the first people I met when I started volunteering at the GFO. I saw him regularly at the library. He was the nicest person, and I always looked forward to talking to him.

Jim died on 11 January 2023 in Gresham, Multnomah County, Oregon. He will be missed.



In Memoriam

Linda Elaine (Williams Eichorn) Janke (1943–2022)

Linda Janke died on 18 March 2022 in Battle Ground, Clark County, Washington. She was a member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon starting in 1994 and became a life member (with spouse Peter) from 2001 until her death. Additionally, she worked as a volunteer in the GFO library during the 1990s.

Linda was born during World War II in Pinehurst, Moore County, North Carolina, on 22 June 1943. Her father, Leslie E. Williams, was then training as a paratrooper for the 101st Airborne Division and died before her first birthday on D-Day, 6 June 1944, while parachuting into Normandy, France. After the war her mother Ruth (Douglas) Williams remarried to Frank Eichorn, another WWII veteran whose remarkable war experiences became another focus of research for Linda later in life. He was the only father she knew. With Frank, Ruth had four additional children and the family settled in Southeast Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

Linda attended local Catholic schools and graduated from Portland's Marycrest Academy in 1962. During her sophomore year she met then-candidate John F. Kennedy during a 1960 campaign stop and influenced him to give a speech at her school. After this, she became a lifelong Democrat. Marycrest also launched Linda's stage career with its production of *Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward, in which she starred as the eccentric medium Madame Arcati.

At age 19 Linda married art student Larry McEntee, and within five years they had three children. By 1971 they were divorced, and Linda found herself juggling temporary jobs and occasional stage roles while raising her children alone. She met Peter Janke while both were employed at the State of Oregon's Methadone Program. They married in 1980 and lived on Portland's favorite holiday street, Peacock Lane.

By this time Linda was deeply involved in community theater, performing in over forty stage plays by the likes of Arthur Miller, Eugene O'Neill, G.B. Shaw, Edward Albee, and others, to positive acclaim. In 2001 she won the Drammy Award for Best Actress in Miller's *All My Sons*.



After 2006, Linda and Peter retired to a family cabin in Oysterville, Pacific County, Washington. There Linda spent many hours completing genealogical research on all her family lines. A major focus was tracing the roles of her father and stepfather in WWII. She visited Normandy, France, three times, including with stepfather Frank for the 50th anniversary of D-Day, where she received a medal of gratitude from the French government regarding her father Leslie's sacrifice there.

Linda is survived by spouse Peter, three children, eight grandchildren, and her longtime theatrical family in the Northwest and beyond.

In Memoriam

James “Jim” Paul Freda, Jr. (1945–2023)

Jim Freda, Jr. died 14 September 2023. He was a member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon from 2010–2022 where he sometimes volunteered as a research assistant and helped with other short-term projects.

Born in Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California, on 16 August 1945, he was the eldest child of James and Gloria (Goldhammer) Freda. In 1967 he graduated from nearby Occidental College and from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1970. He served as pastor for churches in California, Grants Pass, and Lebanon, Oregon, followed by the Kenilworth Presbyterian Church of Portland, Oregon.

Jim was passionate about ancestry, religion, the Civil War, the environment, wild animals, and played the guitar well. His genealogical research included tracing his Freda ancestors to a town near Naples, Italy, and he found support in this effort from GFO’s Italian Special Interest Group.

Jim was outgoing, welcoming, and very devoted to his family. He grieved when spouse Susan predeceased him and is survived by son John Hong Freda and extended family including two grandchildren.



San Francisco Theological Seminary.

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2022–2023 Annual Report of Donors

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in the 2022–2023 fiscal year! Your generous support has made it possible to keep our organization as healthy as ever while keeping the membership price reasonable. Last year we were able to do everything we had planned, including maintaining acquisitions, scanning hundreds of periodicals, purchasing replacements for the two oldest computers, and conducting a full program of GenTalks and two seminars.

As we enter the Annual Appeal season for 2023–2024, please know that your contributions, whether cash, securities, used vehicles, or books, are well appreciated and help keep GFO going.

Sincerely,
Geoff Smith, President

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GFO DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS

Check the calendar for the URL to participate in online events: gfo.org/calendar.

Saturday, December 2

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Virginia Roots &
Vines
1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. German Group

Monday, December 4

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. RootsMagic

Wednesday, December 6

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Learn and Chat

Sunday, December 10

2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. The Writers' Room

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 13

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Great Lakes Group

Thursday, December 14

6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Q Review

Saturday, December 16

9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Genealogical
Problem Solvers
12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. African American
Ancestry
2:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. GenTalk-
How to Write a Family History Book

Wednesday, December 20

1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. DNA Q&A

Sunday, December 24

Library Closed

Monday, December 25

Library Closed

Sunday, December 31

Library Closed