

*From Germany to
North America
Our Schram Family
Genealogy*

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*In memory of our Ancestors;
Many of whom were pioneers in both
Canada and the United States*

To Dawn Schram "ne" Ross

*This book could not have been written
without your help, immeasurable patience and
understanding of a man "who spends so
much time with the dead"*

Love John

Preface

The labour of this book is the result of the accumulated research I gathered over the past 15 years; gleaned from many old books and documents. It took me the better part of the last three winters to complete this project and it could not have been possible had it not been for the internet through which most of the documents were accessed. If I had known then, that I would have spent countless hours on the computer I might not have embarked on it. Disappointingly, very little information contained in this book was been passed down through my family. Sadly, I feel I know more about the ancestors of my distant past than those of the last three generations. But sometimes that is just the nature of genealogy. Truth be told not all families are forthcoming in sharing information on their families.

I have cited numerous references throughout the book in the hope it will withstand the scrutiny of any reader. In writing the history of our family my approach was always to reason "why" cultural, religious, political, and/or geographical conditions impacted our ancestors migration from Europe to North America and Canada. How successful I was in accomplishing that task I must leave to you as the reader to decide. As I am not a writer, I ask for you patience and understanding in that regard as this is my first attempt at writing a book. In the very least it is my hope that you enjoy the story that has been written and that it will serve as a historical reference, for future generations wishing to know something of the origin of the Schram family

This project could not have been accomplished without the help and support of my wife, who in the early stages tirelessly reviewed and corrected the first three chapters. I must credit her for helping me shape the earlier portions of the book. If there is any shortcoming in the final product they are the result of my own work and not hers. Finally, I would be remiss if I did not express my enormous gratitude to Mr. John Cardiff, the webmaster of the Norfolk Genealogy website, for granting me the opportunity to have my book posted on his website and allowing those doing genealogy research who visit his website free access to it. Thank you ever so much for the opportunity John.

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The Family Name

Today there are many companies making money by selling to people the origin and meaning of their family name. If I were to believe what the majority of these companies state, then Schram or any of its derivations means scar or scratch. Apparently the origin of Schram comes from some distant ancestor who had some type of disfigurement. Coincidentally the literal translation of the German word Schrammen to the English language is scratch or scar. Sadly I find it difficult to accept such a simplistic approach. Anyone who has taken the time to learn another language will tell you that the words or phrases in one language cannot be literally translated into another. Though I do not profess to know the root of names, my own included, I am somewhat skeptical about companies that profit by claiming they do.

Interestingly enough, the use of first names and surnames is actually a modern day convention. In most early European records individuals were usually linked by name to a place or region within a country. For example Johan Wilhelm von Essen meant that Johan Wilhelm was from the region of Essen. In most cases the name first name was patriarchal pertaining to a religious figure. In the example cited above, Johan referred to John the Baptist and would have been bestowed on the individual at the time of baptism. In the course of a lifetime the individual was never referred to using the patriarchal name. He would have been referred to using the second name. I have been fortunate to find that the Schram surname was present in the earliest records of our ancestors.

From where did the Schrams originate? My research has uncovered the existence of Schrams in over ninety records in several countries of present day Europe; including Belgium, Holland, France, Sweden, Denmark and England. They date as far back as the 14th and 15th century; the oldest record being from Germany in 1300.¹ There are numerous spelling variations of the Schram name. In the earliest records it was spelled Schram, Schramm, Schramme, Schrammen and Scram. I have found records where the same individual had his or her name spelled three or more different ways. Birth, baptismal, marriage, death, census and land records have uncovered the following additional variations; Scharm, Schran, Scran, Sham, and Scrahm. For the purpose of this book, I have used the following two variations: Schramm for our German ancestors and Schram for our North American ancestors.

Invariably the question of whether the family name can be linked to a Coat of Arms arises. I have discovered that Coats of Arms in what is now Germany existed for every class of family; from noble to peasant. In the early 12th and 13th centuries mainland Europe had hundreds of thousands of Coat of Arms. These have now become relegated to the past with the disappearance of knights under the feudal system. Today, Coats of Arms exist for countries, cities, towns and existing monarchies and are strictly regulated by the governments of most countries. A Family Coat of Arms is unheard of in North America and for the average family an unapproved Coat of Arms cannot be displayed publicly in any manner. The exhibition of a Family Coat of Arms is now a right reserved for nobility and in some cases the wealthy.

In medieval Europe a Coat of Arms was not only established to identify an armoured knight on the battlefield when two opposing forces met in battle but also out of the necessity to link individuals and families to their particular ruler at the time. In searching for a Coat of Arms it is important to have four components; a family name, a geographical location of the family, an ancestor within the family and a legitimate connection between all three. Johann Siebmacher, Anton Fahne and Prof Ernst Heinrich Kneschke were authors of several books dating from 1600 to 1800 that cited Coats of Arms of families in old Germany.

Their books link the Schramm name to no less than eight different Coats of Arms located in France, the Netherlands, and Germany. The earliest and oldest reference to a Coat of Arms for the family of Schramm is found on page 132 under the chapter of Knights and Noble persons in Johann Siebmacher's New Armorial published in 1605.² The Coat of Arms is described as follows; A diagonal red bar on white and a dog of white with a red bar on its neck mounted on the helm. In heraldry the use of white represents the colour silver. Hoeven today is referred to as Höven and is located just north of Düren Germany.



In Anton Fahne's book, History of Cologne, Duchy of Jülich and Berg of Cleves published in 1853 there is the following reference to a Schramm of Horrem Germany; "Schramm of Horrem, Horrem of Schramm. Leading a right slanted red bar on silver and on the helmet a silver dog with a red bar on the throat. ³ This reference cites Schramm's of Horrem in Hülchrath, Dormagen and in the Castle Hemmersbach; a Phillip Schramm of Horrem and his wife in 1463, and a Wilhelm Schramm of Büttgen in 1550." Though both these individuals are in our family tree; our family is descended directly from Wilhelm of the Schramm von Horrem family.

Two other references also cite the Schramm's of Horrem. The first is in the book "New German Nobility Lexicon" by Professor Kneschke who describes Schramm the family as "an old Rhineland noble family existing, until 1563, in the burgh of Hemmersbach in Horrem, near Bergheim west of Cologne" and records a Coat of Arms associated with the family describing it as "silver with a diagonal red bar from the right" ⁴ The second reference to the Schramms of Horrem is found in the Dutch heraldist Johannes Baptiste Rietstap Héraldique Armorial Vol. 2, published in 1884 and 1887. He cites the Schramm of Horrem in the Province of Rhine. The Coat of Arms is described as follows: "Silver with a band of red. Crest: Collar on the head of a dog bearing the arms of the shield." ⁵

The components of the crest and their meaning are intrinsic to the family. In the Schramm von Horrem Crest, the dog on top of the helmet was most likely that of a hound; the preferred hunting dog of most nobles (both major and minor) in the German States during the late Middle Ages. The use of a dog in the Crest depicts Courage, Vigilance and Loyalty of the individual and the family. The shield component of the crest is white with a red bar. White depicts the colour silver and signifies peace and sincerity. The pictorial depiction of the Schrammen von Hoeven Coat of Arms in 1605 so closely matches the description of the Schramm von Horrem Coat of Arms in the latter three references that I believe there is a strong likelihood of a connection between the two families; especially given the close proximity of Höven to Horrem.

I can say with certainty that the paternal (male) line of the family can be traced to what was and still is Germany. The maternal line of the earliest ancestors came from the Duchy of Geldern and Limbourg. Both these extinct Duchies are now part of present day Netherlands. While translating the old German texts, I discovered a written language utilizing words from both the German language and the language of the Netherlands. This dialect is

understandable given that the language in the Netherlands originated from the West Germanic language. I therefore think it is quite probable that the spoken language reflected the same dialect during this time period. Whether or not both cultures were entwined as well could not be determined, but there is no doubt in my mind, of a strong influence from what is now present day Netherlands.



Figure 1 – Schramm von Horrem Coat of Arms (Modern Day Illustration)

Footnote References:

- 1. State Archives Department in North Rhine-Westphalia - <http://www.archive.nrw>*
- 2. "New Armorial within the Holy Roman Empire of the German nation High potentates, Princes, Counts, Lords, Knights and the nobility of several old Patriarchal Coats of Arms etc., in number of 2400 detailing shield and helmet, clothing and their associated colors noting with special diligence that are made on copper plates", by Johann Siebmacher published in Nuremberg, 1605, page 132*
- 3. Geschichte der kölnischen, jülichschen und bergischen Geschlechter in Stammtafeln, Wappen, Siegeln und Urkunden, Ergänzungen und Verbesserungen zum 1. Teil und Stammfolge und Wappenbuch der clevischen, geldrischen und moersschen Geschlechter, soweit sie in dem Herzogtume Juelich Cleve Berg ansaessig waren. A-Z, Band 2, Köln 1853 Anton Fahne page 134.*
- 4. New general German nobility Lexicon, in company with several historians, editor Prof Ernst Heinrich Kneschke Eighth Volume. (Saackhen - Steinen) Leipzig, Friedrich Voigt's Bookstore 1868 page 332*
- 5. Armorial General, preceded by a Dictionary of Terms of Coat of arms Originally Published by J. B. Rietstap Volume II (Second Edition Revised and Enlarged) Gouda, 1884, 1887 pg 729.*

Germany

The borders of Germany today do not resemble what they did from 1300 to 1700. During that period, Medieval Germany was made up of hundreds of states consisting of kingdoms, dukedoms, counties, free cities, and bishoprics loosely controlled by the nominal rule of the Holy Roman Emperor by an appointed King of Germany. Its borders encompassed present day Holland and consisted of 216 individual states ruled by Archbishops, Counts, Princes, Dukes, Barons and 60 free cities.¹ Governing decisions for the German States as a whole were decided by the Reichstag, later termed the Diet (a gathering of the ruling Dukes, Counts and Princes of the German states). The map below depicts Germany in 1400. The area within red represents the boundaries of Germany today.

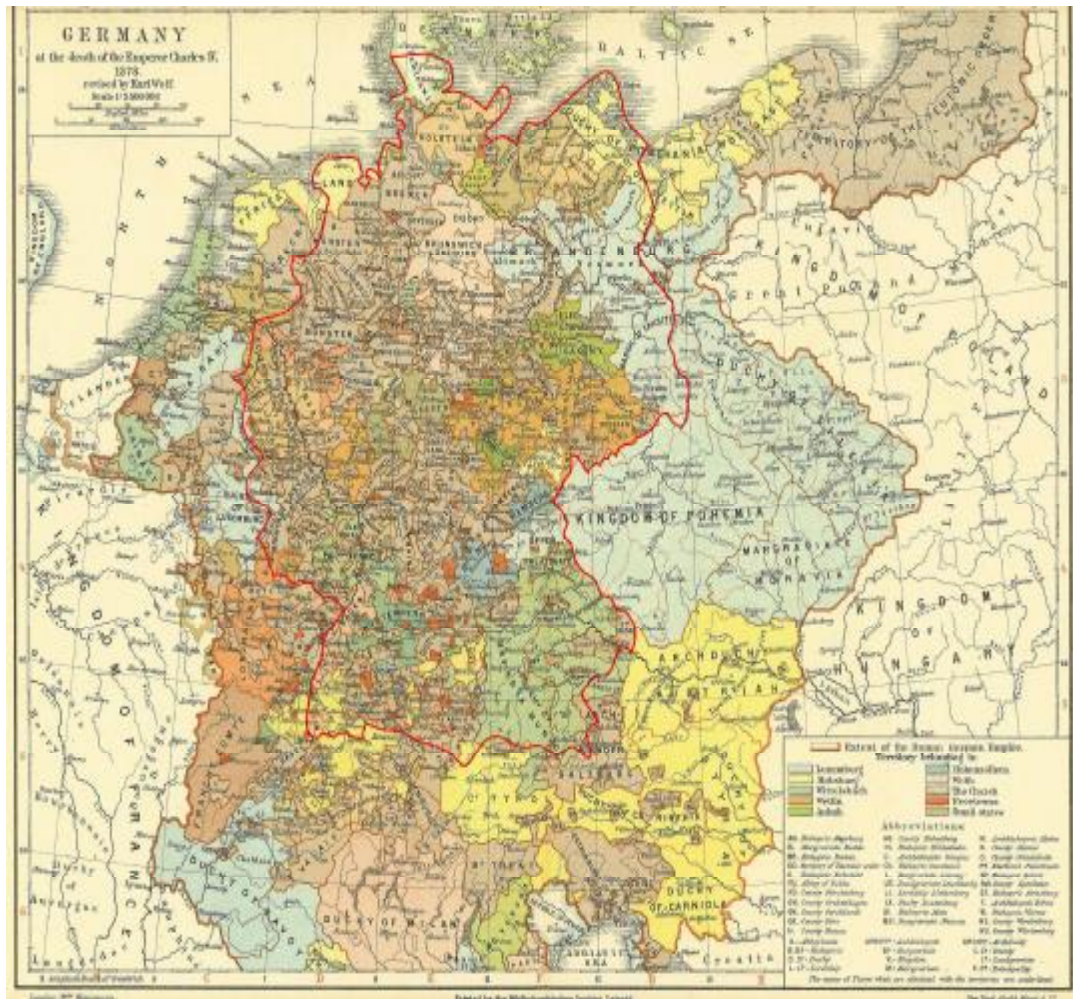


Figure 2 – German States of the Roman Empire in 1400

The German States from 1300 to 1700 were a medieval society and as part of the Roman Empire the prevalent religion was Roman Catholic. It was a very militant society in which each ruler had their own standing army of knights serving under them within a feudal governing system. Loyal service was rewarded to individuals with lands (fief) which they controlled and from which they made earnings; part of which was provided annually to the ruler in what was termed an annual pension. The payment from the lands ranged from bushels of grain to gold guilders (the currency of the period). Each guilder contained 3 ounces of 90 percent pure gold. In today's currency that equates to a value of about 4,000 dollars of gold per guilder. The grist mill was the centre of revenue production for water, grain, and wood. Castles and strongholds were prevalent throughout the land for protection; many of which were destroyed and rebuilt several times over the period.

Families of standing, both minor and major noble houses, managed the fields and forests that fed the mills and quarries that provided stone for the castles and strongholds. The mode of travel was by horse and wagon or carriage along dirt roads when the weather was fair. Small trips by today's standard took days, not hours, and usually included a small group of retainers and armed escort. The men were hard and fierce, spending a lot of their time honing their fighting skills or hunting with their hounds. In the winter they spent much of their time planning or settling accounts of the family interests and dealing with their Lords or masters. Marriages were arranged to benefit family interests both socially and financially. In most cases betrothed couples met on the date of their marriage.

During this period the region was subject to incursions by armies of France, Spain and England. These incursions were most prevalent along the River Rhine area where our ancestors originated. Accompanying these wars were wide outbreaks of famine, typhus, dysentery and the bubonic plague, which by 1700 had decreased the general populace of the German States by a third. People suffered untold hardships at the hands of these military armies in the name of religion, politics and the quest for power. It is in this harsh unforgiving society that our ancestors and their offspring lived before eventually migrating to North America.

As mentioned previously, our ancestors can be traced to Horrem Germany. In the historical records, Horrem has the following spelling variations: Horheym (oldest), Horheim, Horrum, and Hornum. Horrem in that early period was an important border town between the Electorate of Cologne and the Duchy of

Jülich. The border between the two ruling lands ran through the centre of Horrem, regardless of land borders. The former monastery of Knechtsteden in Horrem and the lands surrounding it was under the jurisdiction of the Electorate of Cologne. The other half of Horrem fell under the jurisdiction and control of the Duchy of Jülich.²

The earliest record of a Schramm of Horrem is that of a Heinrich von Horrem and his wife Sophia, who in January 1300 were on a certificate of sale for a farm and its furnishings in Golzheim at the Chapter (Church) of St. Gereon in Cologne.³ There is record of a Schram Archive in Neuss Germany that dates from 1302 to 1676.⁴ In 1413 there is a Godefried Schramm of Holzheim, near Neuss, who was a squire in Büttgen.⁵ In 1439 a Pauwels Schramm von Horrem was a Burgmann of Grevenbroich castle and a magistrate in Horrem.⁶ In 1440 a Henrich Schramm of Horrem was under the Lord of Tüschenbroich near Wegberg in the Electorate of Cologne.⁷ Though I have yet to find a connection between Godefried, Heinrich, and Pauwels, I believe they were related. The first fief of the Schramm's of Horrem can be traced to feudal village of Lüttgen (called Lüttenglehn today).⁸ The archival records of Neuss indicate that the Schramm's of Horrem were a minor noble family.⁹

It is from Pauwels Schramm of Grevenbroich that our family is descended. Described at the end of 13th century, Grevenbroich was a rich marsh area located near an old Roman road between the Rhine and Meuse rivers. It was in the territorial possession of the Counts of Kessel who "built on a gravel bar a fortified castle, surrounded by quarries, marshes and the river Erft". The hereditary line of the Counts of Kessel ended with Hendrik V and in the 1307 the castle and lands were awarded to the Counts (and later Dukes) of Jülich. The Counts of Jülich fortified the castle and held court there in the 1420s.^{10,11}

As a Burghmann of Grevenbroich castle, Pauwels would have been employed as a knight to defend the castle. He would have had to provide his own armour and weapons and was most likely paid for his services by receiving feudal land tenure. His military service to the Lord of the castle would have extended to his participation in the military campaigns against the Duchy of Geldern (specifically the Battle of Linnich in 1444) under the direction of Gerhard VII; the Duke of the combined Duchies of Jülich-Berg and also Count of Ravensburg from 1437-1475.^{12,13} His appointment as a magistrate in Horrem confirms that he held a high station in society. Part of his duties would have involved adjudicating land, civil and criminal disputes.

Pauwels was born around 1400 and sired two sons and a daughter: Johan, Phillip, and Wilhelma.¹⁴ He was involved in the joint ownership of a 55 acre farm some 40 miles east of Grevenbroich in Koningsbeemd of the Duchy of Limburg with Koen Prick, of the family Prickenis of Heerlen, in the early 1400s.¹⁵ His relationship with Koen Prick extended to the arranged marriages of his sons to the Prick family. One of the earliest records of Pauwels sons Johann and Phillip is in 1463. They are both listed as knights in service to the Archbishop of the Electorate of Cologne.¹⁶ It is most likely that they fought for "Ruprecht of the Palatinate", who reigned as the Archbishop of Cologne from 1463 to 1480.

Ruprecht fought to reduce the privileges of the cities under his jurisdiction which wanted to become independent from the church within the Electorate. He proved immensely unpopular as the Archbishop and by 1471 several major towns in the archbishopric, as well as Cologne, were on the verge of revolt. In 1471 Johann and Phillip were most likely in the Archbishop's forces when he and his knights occupied the city Zons to collect unpaid taxes.¹⁷ They would have fought in subsequent conflicts within the Electorate of Cologne when Ruprecht commenced the "Cologne Ecclesiastical Conflict" bolstered by the military and financial assistance from his brother Frederick I, Elector Palatine. By 1472, the majority of Ruprecht's vassals, including the citizens of Cologne, renounced their allegiance to him and asked both the Pope and Emperor of Rome Frederick III to intervene. In open rebellion, they proclaimed Landgrave Hermann of Hesse administrator and protector of the Archbishopric. Only a few minor lords remained loyal to Ruprecht. The Emperor of Rome attempted in December 1473 to mediate the conflict, but failed and in 1474, Charles the Bold, besieged Neuss, a stronghold of the rebels in which Hermann had taken refuge. The Reichstag (a gathering of the ruling Dukes, Counts and Princes of the German states) decided at Augsburg to go to war against Charles, and a general call to arms was issued within the German Empire. During the struggle for power both Johann and Phillip left the service of Ruprecht and fought in the defence of Neuss. The Siege of Neuss lasted almost a year and laid waste to the countryside. Charles was unable to capture it and eventually capitulated to mediation by the Pope. At the conclusion of the assault Ruprecht went into hiding but was subsequently arrested in 1478 and removed from his post as Archbishop in 1480.¹⁸

The youngest son Phillip was married to Lisa Prick von Geisbach originally of Heerlen¹⁹ and in 1453 is recorded as owning a farm in Eppinghoven of Neuss.²⁰ In 1468 he is on record as having a 12 year lease for property in Elfgen, of

Grevenbroich, that required an annual lease payment on Remigius Day (1st of October) of 54 gold guilders to the Order of St. Mariens of Cologne.²¹ The Order of St. Mariens was a branch of the Teutonic Knights. Phillip renewed his lease on the property for the same annual amount for another 24 years in 1481.²² In 1490 he is on record as having a dispute with William Seitz of Etzbach in the Duchy of Berg and holds a fief under the Lord of Grimlinghausen in the Electorate of Cologne.²³

Pauwels' oldest son Johann was married to Mechtild Prick²⁴ and on 1 Oct 1466 is recorded in the land records as having a 70 year lease on 102 ½ morgens (or 205 acres) of arable land in the mountains of Dingstuhl, which was located in Horrem on the border of the Electorate of Cologne and Duchy of Jülich and east of Burg Hemmersbach. In return for controlling the land, he made an annual pension payment of 30 bushels of rye to the Bailiwick of Koblenz 60 miles away. It is also mentioned in the record that he was making the same annual payment for land he controlled in Elsen of Grevenbroich.²⁵ Koblenz was under the control of the Order of Teutonic Knights during this period. Formed in the 12th century, the Teutonic Knights aided Christians on their pilgrimages to the Holy Land and provided medical aid to those in need. They were also as a crusading military order in the Middle Ages. They had a strong economic base and hired mercenaries from throughout Europe to augment their feudal levies. I could not find any records that indicated Johann was a member of the Order, but given that his brother Phillip paid to the Order of St. Mariens of Cologne an annual lease for property in Elfgen, it is clear he and Phillip were affiliated with the Teutonic Knights in some way.²⁶

At that time, Hemmersbach and the surrounding countryside, including Horrem, was under the control of the noble family Scheiffart von Merode, who in 1328, was awarded the Hemmersbach castle. This family was a vassal of the Duke of Jülich, and originated from the village of Merode near Duren (just south of Jülich). They remained in power in Hemmersbach until 1621 when the lack of a male heir resulted in it being granted to Heinrich von Vercken.²⁷ The records indicate that the Schramm von Horrem land holdings of the two brothers extended to no less than six separate locations. In 1473, Johann is recorded as having property 10 miles east of Horrem in Polheim (called Pulheim today).²⁸

It is from Johann and Mechtild Prick that our family line continues through their only son Pauwels, who was born about 1470.²⁹ Though not much else can be found in the records about Johann, the arranged marriage of his only

son, in 1490, to Mechildt von Bocholtz³⁰ indicates he was well connected to the ruling class of Lords. Mechildt's parents were Wilhelm II von Bocholtz and Elis von Hertefeld, who at the time of the marriage were residents of Waldniel located three miles north of the Lüttelforst where Johann controlled the operation of the mill. The Bocholtz Family was a very prominent and wealthy noble family whose lineage extends from Wibracht von Bocholtz, a vassal of the Duke of Geldern in 1127.³¹ There were two lines of the family of Bocholtz that settled in the Lower Rhine River area. One line retained the castle Bocholtz up to the 18th Century and from it came the family branches of Waldniel, Lüttelforst, Bush and Wachtendonk. The second line belonged to Burg Ingenhoven in Nettetal of the district Lobberich, Broeck, Horst and Tongerlo. Between the 14th and 15th century, the castle Ingenhoven, located in the centre of Lobberich Germany was the favorite residence of the Lords von Bocholtz. However the heavily fortified castle Bocholtz (just west of Lobberich) was used as a refuge during times of war.³² In 1474, their political influence extended to Gerhard von Bocholtz who was appointed the ruling Lord of Grevenbroich.³³

In 1503 Pauwels and Mechildt are recorded as living in the Schrammengut (Schramm Court) in Scherfhausen.³⁴ It is through this marriage that Pauwel's sons and some of their children became entwined with the Bocholtz family and their business ventures. Pauwels and Mechildt Bocholtz had three sons and a daughter: Johan, Phillip, Johanna and Wilhelm. In my search I have found very few records of Phillip and Johanna. However there are several records of his sons Johan and Wilhelm. Both sons strengthened the prosperity of the family during the 1500s. In 1529, following the death of their mother, the two sons dispute the withholding of the maternal and paternal inheritance of their mother by her brothers Arnold and Johan III von Bocholtz. Their uncles withheld the inheritance of 700 gold guilders; 200 by Arnold and 500 by Johan III, on condition that payment would be made if the Schramm brothers delivered 120 bushels of Malder rye from the mill they controlled at Lüttelforst to the mill Loess Ledich in Buren on St. Andrews Day (30 November). However, the mill at Lüttelforst burned down and the Schramm brothers could not deliver the rye. Though their uncle Arnold released the 200 guilders to them, their uncle Johan III refused the inheritance unless half the portion of the rye owed to him was delivered the following year on Easter and the other half on Remigius Day (1 October). Affixed to the legal document was the seal of Johan von Horrem Schramm, which is described in detail.³⁵

Johan, the eldest son, was born about 1507 and by his father's arrangement was married to Edeling Krevet of Xanten in 1534.³⁶ He is found in 15 records in the North Rhine Archives dating from 1539 to 1563. In 1539 he was a witness with his brother Wilhelm in the marriage contract of Anna von Bocholtz, daughter of Eduard von Bocholtz (cousin to his mother Mechildt) and Cecilie von Heidhausen.³⁷ He was a member of the Clevischer knighthood under the Duchy of Cleves and in possession of the House of Erprath (a medieval seat northwest of Xanten), from 1531 to 1550.³⁸ As a knight of Cleves he would have fought for Duke William, who ruled the combined Duchies of Jülich, Cleves and Berg and Duchy of Geldern, in his struggle to retain the control of Geldern in 1543 against Charles V, of the Habsburg Dynasty, and ruling Roman Emperor at the time.³⁹

Johan was involved with the "von Hetterscheidt" family of Xanten and became a legal guardian of Derrick von Hetterscheidt in 1547 following the death of Derrick's parents Evert von Hetterscheidt and Mathilde von Velrath.⁴⁰ As guardian, Johan managed several business affairs on behalf of Derrick von Hetterscheidt.^{41,42,43} Derrick von Hetterscheidt's close relationship with the Schramm family eventually extended to Derrick leaving (in his will in 1593) a long lease of land in Dingsthal Hemmeren (now Hemmerden) of the Duchy of Jülich to the brothers Paul, Hermann and Wilhelm; sons of Johan's brother.⁴⁴

As the head of the Union Clevischer Knighthood Johan struggled against the ruling prince over decreasing privileges of the knights.⁴⁵ In the Gelders Archive, there is a record that indicates Johan was in the service of the Emperor in 1552.⁴⁶ In May 1555 he is listed as a Captain in Capellan and dealt with riots in Echt (southwest of Roermond).⁴⁷ After his time in the Duchy of Cleves, Johan managed the Schrammenhof in the official Hülchrath with his brother Wilhelm. His untimely death in a hunting accident in 1563 left behind his wife and only son Wilhelm. His brother Wilhelm was awarded control and ownership of the Schrammenhof by Count Hermann von Neuenahr, also Lord of Bedbur (today called Bedburg) and fief Lord of the lands in which the Schrammenhof resided.⁴⁸ In 1572, Johan's widow, Edeling Krevet, made a final appeal to the Imperial Court at Dusseldorf on behalf of herself and her children, arguing that her husband bought his brother Phillip's portion for of the paternal inheritance for 2300 gold guilders and as such, owned half the estate.⁴⁹

Johan's brother Wilhelm, from whom our family line continues, was born about 1509 in Horrem. In 1538 Wilhelm was a signatory to a business transaction waiving the payment of inheritance of money owed to Johan von

Bocholtz, from the second wife of his father Eduard von Bocholtz.⁵⁰ In 1539 Wilhelm brokered an agreement between Joachim von Bockholtz and Mechteldt, the widow of Johan von Eyll, in which Joachim paid the widow 150 gold florins.⁵¹ Also in 1539, Wilhelm was a witness in the marriage contract between Jurgen von Hatzfeld and Anna von Bocholtz.⁵² In a decision of the Diet of Speyers in May 1542 Wilhelm was ordered to Captain 500 foot soldiers in the army of Charles V, who from 1519 to 1558 was the Holy Roman Emperor.⁵³ He was most likely in the muster for 20,000 troops from the Electorate of Cologne on 28 July 1543 that were employed in Charles third battle campaign against France.⁵⁴ Interestingly enough, even though Charles employed over 30,000 cavalry and foot soldiers from the German States in his campaigns against France, he had a low opinion of the Germans. He states:

“The insolence of this nation is almost incredible. They are impious towards God, and cruel towards their neighbours. I myself saw, in the French war how they turned churches into stables, and destroyed or burned with fire the image of our crucified Lord. They are insubordinate, proud and drunken. Few of them are worth anything, and many are quite insupportable, but all try to domineer over every one else. They are fearless of death, but can neither foresee, nor take advantage of any passing occurrence. In the assault of a city, where much skill and dexterity is required, they are the worst people that can be.

The German cavalry are armed in two modes; the greatest numbers are clad in steel after the fashion of men at arms, and carry a lance and a sword. They are mounted on horses which have a particular pace or slow trot; just as the foot soldiers of this nation have a particular style of march. Their saddles are very low, and are made with two crossed bars of iron against which they rest their backs. The remaining number of the horsemen are similarly equipped and mounted, but they carry in addition a small arquebuss (“a hook gun”) and a boar-spear hanging at their sides and attached to their saddle. These men were very much feared by the French, on account of their being, as it were, doubly armed ; since they could do some damage by firing off their guns first, and the instant after be as fully prepared for an encounter as all the rest.”⁵⁵

Following his service in the Emperor’s army, Wilhelm married Bela von Essen and sired a family late in life. In 1560, he is on record as a co-guardian of John von Bocholtz, son of Wilhelm’s cousin Arnold von Bocholtz of Waldniel.⁵⁶ In the aftermath of the death of his brother Johan in 1563, Wilhelm continued running the Schrammenhof in Büttgen, of the Electorate of Cologne. The last

reference to Wilhelm in the records, is found in 1573 where, at the Imperial Court in Dusseldorf his widowed wife Bela von Essen, on behalf of her and the children, disputed her sister in law Edeling Krevet's claim to the Schrammenhof of Büttgen.⁵⁷

During the period 1400 to 1570 our ancestors were fighting men; first as knights then as soldiers in the Holy Roman Emperor's employ. The family interests and holdings ranged in an area west of Heerlen, in The Duchy of Limburg, to the Rhine River and north, from Xanten to Cologne in the south. The success of their prosperity was greatly influenced by two main factors: the close association with the Bocholtz family and secondly, the stable political environment in the Region. The Bocholtz family that Pauwels Schramm married into, in 1500, controlled extensive holdings in Lobberich, Wadnie, Wanckum and Duren. Marrying into the family provided access to the Bocholtz family controlled mills and interests. This close relationship extended beyond business ventures in that both Pauwel's sons, Johan and Wilhelm, became guardians to a number of children in various Bocholtz families.

The political stability of the region however, was the greatest contributing factor to the successful expansion of the family fortunes. During this period the area in which our ancestors resided consisted of five distinct princedoms: the Duchies of Jülich, Berg, Cleves, Gelden and the Electorate of Cologne. The most significant of these five was the Duchy of Jülich, ruled by the upper nobility of the House of Jülich. In 1356, the lands the House of Jülich ruled, on behalf of the Empire, was raised to a Duchy by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV. The Duchy of Geldern came under the control of the House of Jülich from 1377 to 1402. In 1423, the Duke of Jülich, through marriage became the ruling Duke of Berg and in 1511, the Duchy of Cleves. The newly created United Duchies of Jülich, Cleves and Berg came under one ruler.⁵⁸ The three Duchies were ruled by the House of Jülich from 1511 to 1609, making it one of the strongest ruling families in all the German States during the 1500s. This political stability provided the stable environment enabling both the Schramm and Bocholtz families to expand their holdings and interests. The map, at Figure 3, shows the holdings found on record, of the direct line of our ancestors, during this period as well as those of other lines descended from Pauwels Schramm of 1400.

Wilhelm and Bela von Essen had four children: Mechtelen, Wilhelm, Hermann and Pauwels. The death of Wilhelm before 1573, left his wife Bela von

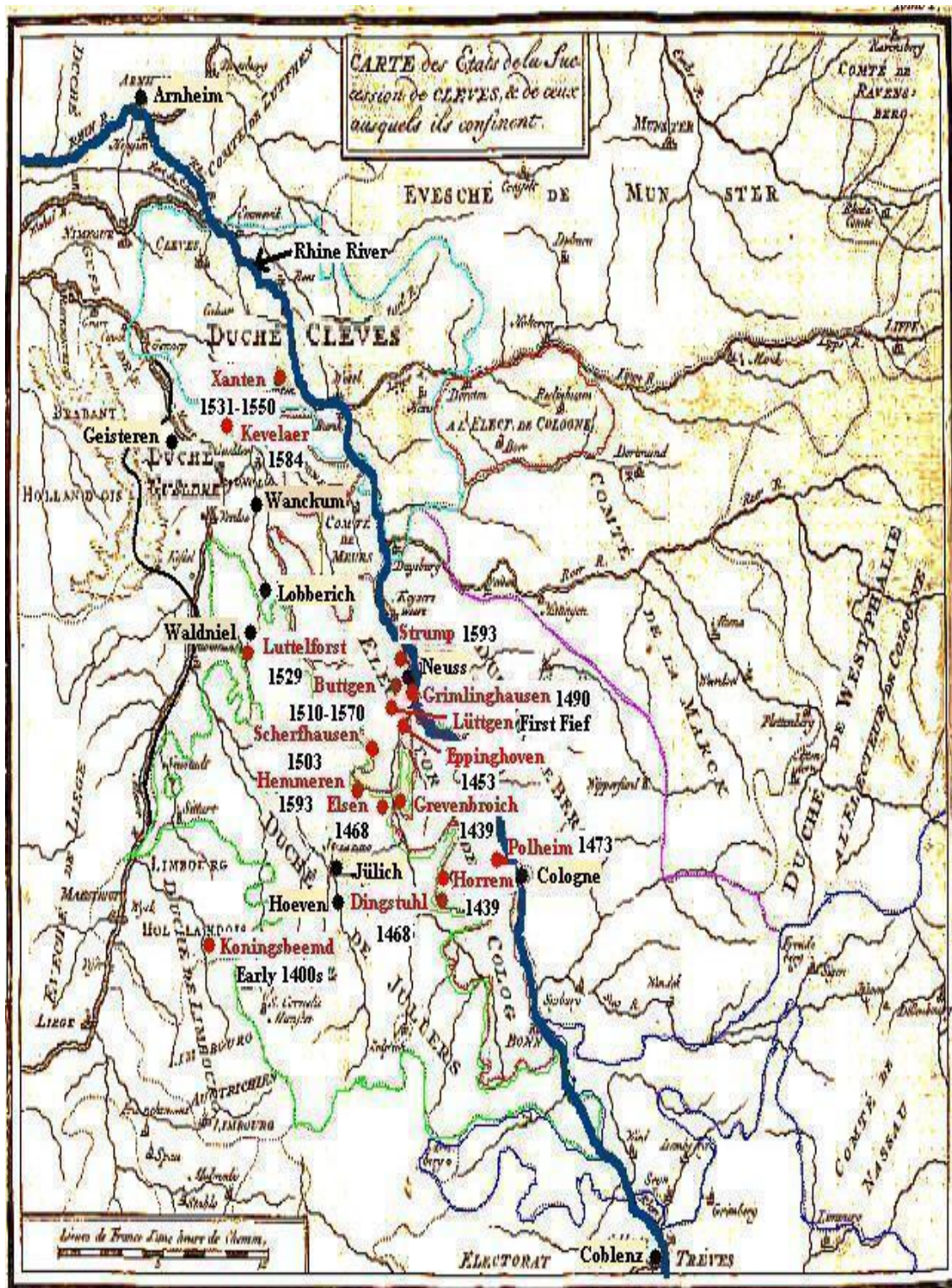


Figure 3 – Locations of Schramm Land Holdings from 1400-1590 in the Regions Electorate of Cologne and Duchies of Jülich, Cleves and Berg

Essen a widow with four young children to raise. Mechtelen, the youngest, was born about 1566, married Werner von Schlickum and gave birth to one child, before dying at a young age.⁵⁹ Wilhelm was born about 1559 and married Loeff von Eyll. Through this marriage he came to possess the House Gesselen in Kevelaer.^{60,61} In July 1584, during the Dutch War of Independence, the House Gesselen was attacked and destroyed by Baron Hohensachsen, a colonel in the United Provinces (future Netherlands) forces. Wilhelm surrendered to Hohensachsen in exchange for the freedom of his wife and children. He was held as a prisoner in Gelders until December when a ransom of 6000 gold florins was paid for his release.⁶² Descendants of his family migrated to Hesse in the 1650s and settled in Lohra Germany in the 1700s.⁶³ Hermann, the youngest son, was born about 1561 and married Adelheydt van Haeften, the daughter of a Protestant family of the Reformation movement, whose origins were from Utrecht in the United Provinces. Pauwels, the oldest son, through whom our family continues, was born about 1557 and married Adelheydt's sister Elizabeth Ann van Haeften. Pauwels and Elizabeth had four children: Margaretha, Wilhelmos, Martinus (1590) and Thomas (1597).^{64,65,66} At the time of his father's death, Pauwels was only 15 or 16. The Schramm family since 1400 had been staunch Catholics, supporting the church and the Roman Catholic rulers under which their holdings were held. Marriages in the family had been arranged with other Catholic families. Though I cannot find any records to explain the marriage of Pauwels and his brother into a Protestant family, the change in religious affiliation had a significant impact on reducing the family fortunes and resulted in the migration of his descendants out of the region.

The Protestant Reformation Movement began in 1517 with Martin Luther's "Ninety Five Theses" which raised issues about the indulgences of the Catholic Church. It struck such a chord with the lower class that war erupted between the Roman Emperor and Protestant leaders within the German Empire and eventually ended in 1555 with the Peace of Augsburg Treaty. The Peace of Augsburg allowed each ruler in the German States to select either Lutheranism or Catholicism in the domains they controlled, reaffirming the independence they had over their states. However subjects, citizens, or residents who did not wish to conform to each State ruler's choice of religion were given a period in which they were free to emigrate to different regions in which their desired religion had been accepted. Many people who chose to leave had their land rights and belongings confiscated and redistributed.⁶⁷

Four forces contended for supremacy in the Holy Roman Empire in the aftermath of the Peace of Augsburg. States and governing bodies supporting Lutherism sought to extend the rights they had won in 1555 to parts of Germany that were still Roman Catholic. Calvinists, having been excluded from the Augsburg settlement, strove for recognition and made major territorial gains from 1560 to 1580. Adherents of the old faith, invigorated by the Catholic Reformation (1545 to 1563) issued from Spain and Rome, attempted to turn back the Protestant advance by making common cause with strong Catholic States. Habsburg emperors tried to serve the Catholic cause by weakening Protestant princes wherever possible and by holding the line against Protestantism in their dynastic lands. Political conflicts were constant under these circumstances and wars frequent, since the empire's institutions were powerless to neutralize or channel these competing religions. The Emperors of the Roman Empire from 1555 to the start of the Thirty Year war in 1618 were so preoccupied with the intertwined problems of retaining the loyalty of their dynastic lands and securing the eastern borders against the Turks that they did not have the ability to maintain order within the German Empire. The period leading up to the Thirty Years' War was one of constant strife in nearly all parts of the German States, the largest being the Eighty Years' War (1568 to 1648). This war coupled with the Cologne War (1583 to 1588), the Thirty Years' War (1618 to 1648), the Franco Dutch War (1672 to 1678) and Nine Years' War (1688 to 1697) resulted in religious, political and economic instability in the region well into the late 1600s.⁶⁸

In July 1586, the destruction of Neuss and subsequent religious persecutions by Spainard Alexander Farnese, the Duke of Parma and grandson of Pope Paul III,⁶⁹ forced Pauwels Schramm to flee 180 miles south to Neustadt an der Haardt (today called as Neustadt an der Weinstraße).⁷⁰ Parma made no effort to restrain his soldiers; on their rampage through the city; Italian and Spanish soldiers slaughtered the rest of the garrison, even the men who tried to surrender. Once their blood-lust was satiated, they began to plunder. Civilians who had taken refuge in the churches were initially ignored, until fires in the churches forced them into the streets where they faced rampaging soldiers. Contemporary accounts refer to children, women, and old men, their clothes smoldering or in flames, trying to escape the conflagration, only to be trapped by the enraged Spanish. If they were fortunate enough to escape the flames and the Spanish, they were cornered by the enraged Italians. Parma wrote to King Philip that over

4000 lay dead in the ditches (moats). English observers confirmed the report and that only eight buildings remained standing. Parma had gone to Neuss prepared for a major assault and had proven their overwhelming fire-power by reducing the city to a pile of rubble. In 1587, Parma's army and allies to the Catholic cause encircled and took the fortified towns in the Oberstift, recapturing Bonn, Godesberg, Linz am Rhein, and dozens of smaller fortified towns, villages and farmsteads throughout the region. Throughout, soldiers from both parties marauded and plundered throughout the countryside, searching either for important officials, booty, or other valuables. Jesuits efficiently identified any recalcitrant Protestants and converted them to Catholicism. The Counter-Reformation was thoroughly applied in the lower Rhineland, with the goal that every Protestant, whether Lutheran or Calvinist, would be brought back into the Catholic fold. For their efforts, the Spanish acquired important bridgeheads on the Rhine River, securing a land route to the rebellious United Provinces (future Netherlands).⁷¹

Pauwels while in exile is mentioned in the records in the drafting of the will of Derrick von Hetterscheidt in 1587. In this record he is a beneficiary to the rights of the land holdings in Strump upon Derrick's death.⁷² When Derrick died in 1593, Pauwels and his brothers Wilhelm and Hermann, in addition to controlling land in Strump, were given a long lease to the Winckensteiner farm in Dingsthal Hemmerden, in the Duchy of Jülich.⁷³ Their inheritance from Derrick von Hetterscheid was contested in the courts by his widow, Dorothea von Tinnen, who later married Rosier de Wendt.^{74,75,76}

In 1601, Pauwels and his wife, once again residents of Büttgen, are on record as the guardians of Fyth Hendricks Van Haeften, the son of Elizabeth's brother, Hendrick van Haeften.⁷⁷ In 1605, Pauwels as heir of his nephew, pledged feudal oath to Walraven III van Brederode.⁷⁸ In March 1614, there is a record of Pauwels requesting permission to transfer the remains of his wife Elizabeth to Rheindorf; which he did at his own expense because his wife was not of the Catholic faith.⁷⁹ He is found in the records as a member of the Saint Sebastian Sharpshooters Society from 1605 to 1625.⁸⁰ This suggests that although his wife was of Protestant faith that he remained a Catholic. In 1614, Pauwels and his brother Hermann are found in the records of the Committee for Houses and Charities, concerning rent owed with respect to poor houses they controlled that had been destroyed in a fire as a consequence of the War of Julich-Cleves Succession.⁸¹

The war of the Jülich-Cleves Succession (1609 to 1614) contributed significantly to political and economic instability in the region in which our ancestors had land holdings. When Duke John William of Jülich-Cleves-Berg died on March 25, 1609, leaving no legitimate heirs to succeed him, it became a political and military conflict between Wolfgang William, Duke of Palatinate-Neuburg (supported by Spain and the Catholic League) and John Sigismund; Elector of Brandenburg (supported by the protestant United Provinces and the Kingdom of England). Hostilities ended on 12 November 1614 with the signing of the Treaty of Xanten which resulted in Jülich-Cleves-Berg being divided between Duke Wolfgang William of Neuburg and John Sigismund of Brandenburg.⁸²

Following the siege of Jülich, Spanish Troops (of Catholic faith) occupied and controlled territory just east of Neuss from 1621 to 1628 during the Eighty Years' War⁸³ This was done through support of the new Duke of Jülich, Duke Wolfgang William. As a consequence of Pauwels and Hermann's Protestant marriages, Johanns von Rhemen ruled on behalf of the widow Dorothea von Tinnen and appropriated the Schramm brothers inheritance and rights received from Dietrich von Hetterscheid in 1621.⁸⁴ The remainder of Schramm land rights and holdings in the territory of the Duchy of Jülich, came under scrutiny as well. The war not only destroyed many towns, villages and castles, but higher taxes and diversion of food and supplies to maintain the armies during the war was an additional burden placed on the general population. It was after the death of Pauwels in 1630, that his son's Thomas and Hermann left the region. By 1670, the Schrammenhof in the town Büttgen was in possession of the Von Steprath Family of the House Steprath.⁸⁵

Of Pauwel's four children, the descendant's of Martinus and Thomas are most prominent in the historical records. Martinus the oldest, fled the region settling 145 miles south to Alzey (just north of Worms) and became a vicar of the Reformed Church.⁸⁶ It was not until 1737 that some of his descendants returned to the Rhine region settling in Krefeld to become prominent merchants, saddle makers and silk manufacturers.⁸⁷ Thomas, from whom our family line continues, most likely fled the war torn region by river transport up the Rhine and Sieg rivers and settling 85 miles east in Wilgersdorf under the Count of Nassau-Siegen (Figure 4).

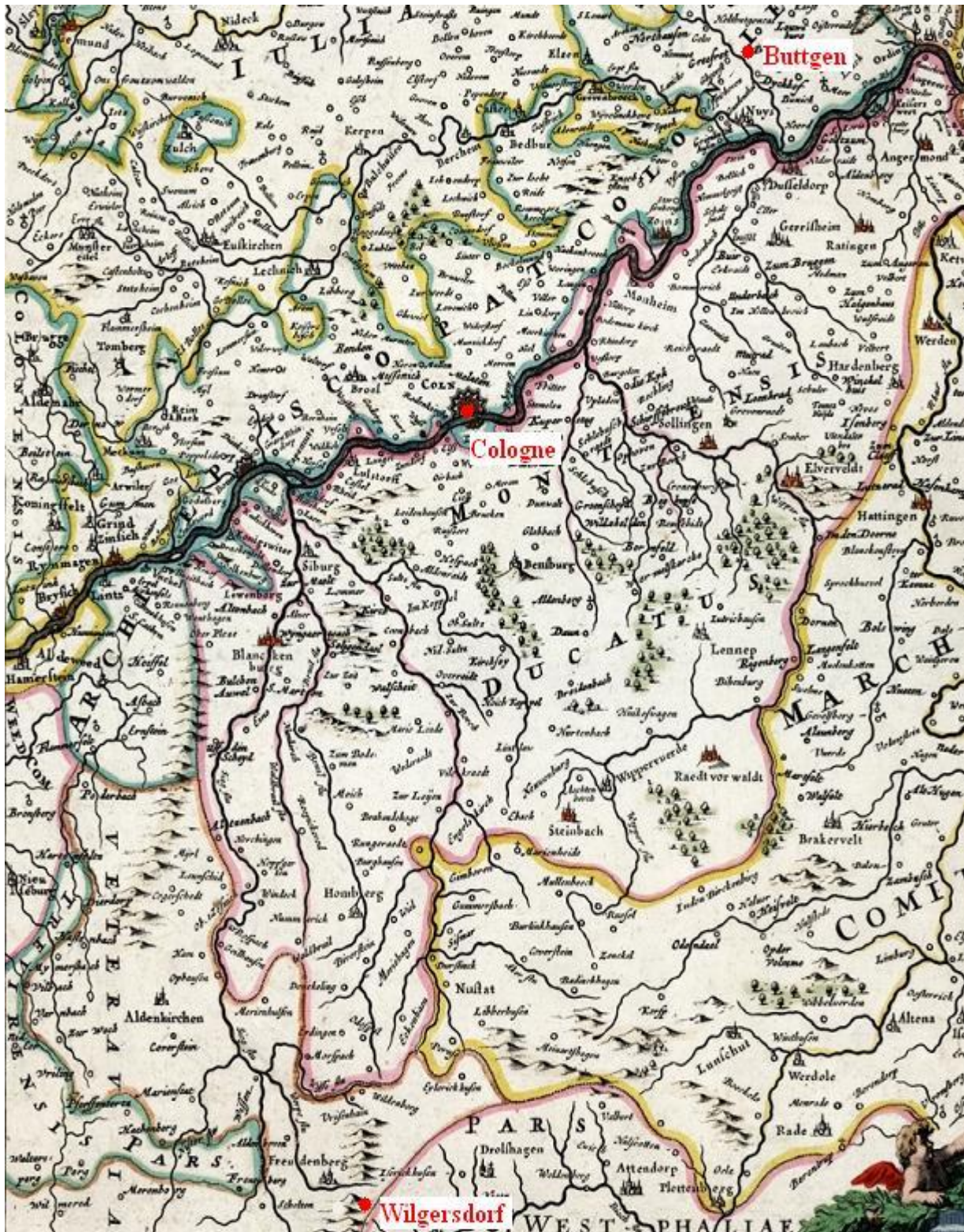


Figure 4 – Thomas' Migration to Wilgersdorf of Nassau-Siegen

As a result of the widespread destruction caused by the Thirty Years' War (1618 to 1648) few records can be found of Thomas and his children. Though it was a religious war between Protestants and Catholics disputes over internal politics and the balance of power within the German States made it one of the longest and most destructive wars in European history. Entire regions were denuded by the foraging armies of Spain, France, United Provinces, Denmark, Sweden and England. Famine and disease also significantly decreased the population of the German States. So great was the devastation brought about by the war that the population of the German Empire by wars end was about 12 million; a decrease of 18 million from the turn of the century (1600).⁸⁸ In the last decades of the war, both typhus and dysentery were endemic throughout Germany. Much of the destruction of civilian lives and property was caused by the cruelty and greed of mercenary soldiers; up to 2,000 castles, 18,000 villages and 1,500 towns making up over one-third of all the towns in the German States.⁸⁹ Residents of areas that had been devastated by the conflict itself, crop failures, famines and plagues, were quick to blame these calamities on supernatural causes and allegations of witchcraft against fellow citizens resulting in a major outbreak of witchcraft persecutions from 1626 to 1633. It started in Würzburg and spread west along the Rhine River Region stretching from Baden in the south to Cologne in the north.⁹⁰

The region of Nassau-Siegen (in which Thomas resided) was a Protestant region under the control of John VII, Count of Nassau-Siegen until the Count's death in 1623. Following his death, the region was divided between the Count's two sons John VIII and John Maurice. John VIII had converted to Catholicism in 1618. The brother's inheritance included the country south of the river Sieg, in which Thomas and his descendants lived, and the original castle in Siegen, called the "Upper Castle". Johan Maurice, who remained Protestant, received the part of the county north of the river Sieg. He built a new castle in Siegen, called the "Lower Castle".⁹¹

In 1623, John VIII occupied Nassau-Siegen at the head of a Habsburg Army to start the Contra-Reformation in the region against his protestant brother John. Fortunately for the Protestants in the area both brothers were called away in 1625 to fight in the United Provinces: John VIII for Spain and John Maurice on the side of the United Provinces. The absence of rulers during the war, allowed both Protestants and Catholics of Nassau-Siegen to live in relative peace.

The Thirty Years' War and Eighty Years' War were ended by the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. It was a series of peace treaties signed between May and October 1648 in Osnabrück and Münster involving the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand III (of the House of Habsburg), the Kingdom of Spain, the Kingdom of France, the Swedish Empire, the now recognized Republic of the Seven United Provinces (Netherlands), the Rulers of the German States and Sovereigns of the free imperial cities under the Roman Empire. The Treaty of Münster forced all parties to recognize Peace of Augsburg Treaty which allowed both Protestants and Catholics to practice their religion and brought an end to the religious prosecution of persons who followed the new religion of Protestantism.⁹² The wars weakened the German States such that they were only a shadow of their former glory in 1500.

The Peace of Westphalia also resulted in Wilgersdorf being combined with Röedgen (of Obersdorf) and Wilnsdorf, to form one Administrative region governed on behalf of Prince of Nassau-Siegen by the Noble Family Kolbe of Wilnsdorf. The Family of Kolbe were the Vögte (Reeves) of the Princes of Nassau-Siegen over broad parts of the Siegerland during this period.⁹³ During my research, I could not find any records indicating Thomas' way of life in Wilgersdorf. The first settlers of Wilgersdorf are reported to have come from the Rhine River Region. They built homesteads, tended crops and livestock or dug and forged metals from the ore and iron stone in the surrounding mountains.⁹⁴ Though unconfirmed, it most likely Thomas took up one of the two ways of life described above. It is in 1632, that Thomas married Maria Dollman and from this marriage had two sons: Heinrich and Tillman. Heinrich was born before 1636, when hunger and disease reduced the population of Wilgersdorf by 45 percent, while Tillman was born later in about 1637.^{95,96}

Our family line continues through Tillman, who in 1658, married Anna Gros. They had four children: Margaretha (1660), Gehl (1662), Johann Heinrich (1667) and Thomas (1670).⁹⁷ All four children were baptized at the Evangelisch (Protestant Reformed Church) in Röedgen, suggesting that Tillman left Wilgersdorf sometime before 1660.

Our ancestors' move to Nassau-Siegen to escape the consequences of war was short lived. Louis XIV of France, the most powerful monarch in mainland Europe, moved to expand his empire during the the Franco Dutch War and sent troops beyond the Rhine Region into Nassau-Siegen and surrounding territories.

Between 1672 and 1673 his armies laid waste to the countryside as they marched their way to victory from Bonn, to Werl and Sinsheim.⁹⁸

Again during the Nine Years' War (1688 to 1697) King Louis XIV of France set about to impose religious unity in France, and solidify and expand his frontiers in the German Rhineland. In September 1688, thirty thousand French troops crossed the Rhine River and laid siege to fortress of Phillipsburg. Louis XIV's army proceeded to take Speyer and Mannheim (which surrendered on 11 November), shortly followed by Frankenthal. Other towns that fell without resistance were Worms, Bingen, the fortress of Mainz and Frankfurt. By December, the army attacked just 50 miles southwest of Wilnsdorf at Coblenz, which despite heavy damage from cannon bombardment, did not surrender.⁹⁹ The German Princes united against the threat and in 1689 formed three armies along the Rhine. The smallest of these, initially under the Elector of Bavaria, protected the upper Rhine between the lines north of Strasbourg to the Black Forest. On the middle Rhine stood the largest army under the best Imperial general, and commander-in-chief, Charles V, Duke of Lorraine.¹⁰⁰ In the face of the three armies the French decided to retreat leaving a path of destruction. On 8 March 1689 they destroyed Mannheim, followed by Worms on 31 May, Speyer on 1 June, and Bingen on 4 June. In all, French troops burned over 20 substantial towns as well as numerous villages in their retreat to the south.¹⁰¹ Charles V marched his German army south through Siegerland and cleared away the French threat at Frankfurt and opened trenches around Mainz in July. Mainz was retaken in September after a bloody two month siege.¹⁰² Battles were won and lost along the Rhine for remainder of the war. Despite having 400,000 troops in the field by 1693, France did not make any significant advances.¹⁰³ The Armies of both sides supported themselves in the field by imposing what was termed "contributions" (taxes) upon hostile and neutral territories through which they freely moved. Subjecting a particular area to "contributions" was deemed more important than pursuing a defeated army from the battlefield to destroy it. It was primarily financial concerns and availability of resources that shaped campaigns, as armies struggled to outlast the enemy in a long war of attrition.¹⁰⁴

Our family line continues through Johann Henrich who in 1691 married Ann Kiffel, daughter of Johann Haerich Kiffel and Katharina Schneider at the Evangelisch (Protestant Reformed Church) in Röedgen.¹⁰⁵ From this marriage they had six children, all of whom were baptized in Röedgen: Liesbeth (1692), Friederich Wilhelm (1695), Johannes Henrich (1698), Catharina Christina (1700),

and Johan Henrich (1702), and Maria Elisabetha (1706).¹⁰⁶ Once an aristocratic family our ancestors were by the late 1600's struggling to make a living. Johann Heinrich's daughter Liesbeth was a casualty of the struggle dying a year after her birth, in 1693. The continual destruction and rebuilding of strongholds, villages and drain of resources to support the armies during the wars, effectively crippled the general populace. People who were not caught in the struggle fled their homes ahead of the armies with little more than the clothes on their backs only to return to rebuild their lives again after the armies disbanded.

Around 1700, pamphlets produced by English Land Agents on behalf of Land Companies in the colonies in America had begun to appear and were widely distributed all over Germany and the Low Countries with tales of a better life in a land that described as having a "more temperate climate than in Germany. A life most desirable, where strife never came, where all creeds were tolerated, where kings and priest craft were unknown, where universal freedom prevailed, and where wealth could be made by any industrious hard working settler".¹⁰⁷ The Land Companies had received large tracts of land from the British Government in Nort America and were looking to emigrants to make their land grants a revenue producing enterprise.¹⁰⁸

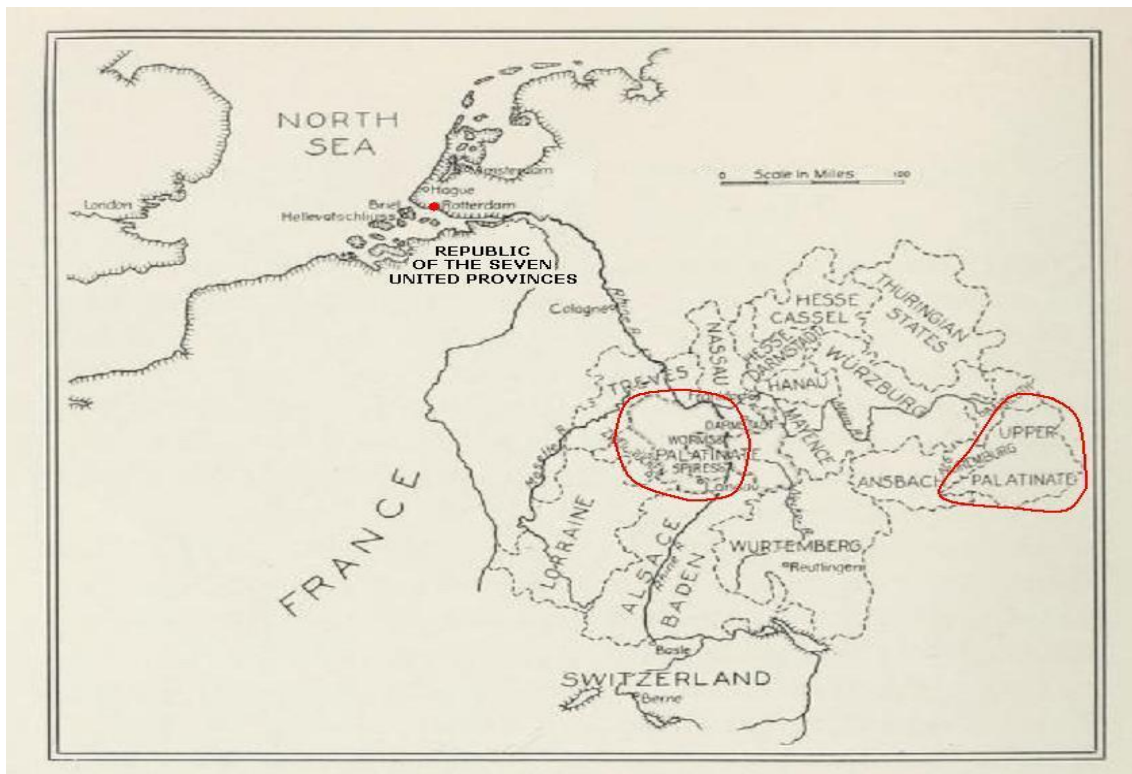
In 1702 War between with French returned again in the Rhine River Region from Bonn to Mannheim and south to Ulm during the War of Spanish Succession.¹⁰⁹ French forces continued their devastation and occupation in southern Germany until the end of 1707. The general populace in the German principalities were once again required to support the war against the French through heavy taxation. People in the midst of the struggle fled their homes as refugees after rebuilding what was lost during the previous French invasions.¹¹⁰

Those suffering in the aftermath of war were then faced, unexpectedly, in the winter of 1708-09 with the coldest weather Europe had seen in 500 years. Temperatures plummeted in early January followed by heavy snows. Throughout the continent, from Norway to Italy and Romania to France, rivers and the seas froze, animals died in their barns and unfortunate travelers froze to death in their clothes. The deep freeze lasted only three months but was enough to cause the death of all crops planted the year before, triggering a significant chain of events that culminated in widespread famine resulting in riots over food, which was at the time in short supply. Animals reportedly died from the cold, even when farmers provided them heat every night from fires. The soil froze up to an unprecedented depth of 1 meter, or more, destroying vineyards and numerous

trees.¹¹¹

In the aftermath, Johann Henrich (trying to raise a family in the midst of such turmoil and hardship) must have decided it was too hard to continue living in Nassau-Siegen. In July or September of 1709, he made the difficult decision to leave his relatives and homeland for England in hopes of a better future elsewhere. He joined the thousands of Germans escaping the ravaged Palatine regions in the south as part of the Palatine Emigration of 1709.¹¹²

The Palatine Emigration of 1709 was the single largest exodus of Germans from continental Europe. Between April and October of that year between 13,000 and 15,000 Germans sought to escape the ravages of war, high taxation and famine. Those who decided to leave made their decision despite an order out of the Palatinate, threatening the confiscation of goods and penalty of death to any of his subjects who quit their native countries.¹¹³ In almost all the literature the refugees from the German States have been erroneously referred to as Palatines. The fact is the majority of them came from regions surrounding the Lower and Upper Palatinate (see Figure 5). To correct this misconception I have chosen to



*Figure 5 – Regions Affected by the Palatine Emigration of 1709
(Lower and Upper Palatinate in Red Circles)*

refer to them as German refugees. The mass emigration out of Germany was greatly facilitated by the passing of England's Naturalization Act in March 1709 requiring foreign persons to take an Oath of Allegiance to England. It recognized the refugees and their children as natural born subjects of England, and gave them the same rights and privileges.¹¹⁴

It is important to know the details of the mass exodus in order to appreciate the challenges and difficulties facing Johann Heinrich on his journey to leave his homeland. The trip to Rotterdam for most Germans consisted mainly of obtaining a recommendation from a local authority, gathering up their few possessions and securing water transportation down the Rhine River with whatever savings they had at their disposal. The trip took anywhere from 4 to 6 weeks and was fraught with delays along the way, as tolls and fees were demanded at different junctures along the Rhine River.¹¹⁵

In early April as the German refugees began arriving in Rotterdam the English government, excited by the prospect of immigrants, took charge of sustaining them, providing them passes and transporting them to London. By end April, the first convoy of four ships left Rotterdam for England with 852 people aboard arriving in London on 5 May. Their condition on arrival, reported to the Council of Trade and Plantations by Lutheran Ministers John Tribbeko and George Ruperti, was that they were in dire circumstances; many of which were almost naked and some sick, all in need of necessary sustenance.¹¹⁶ By 12 May, another 1,283 Germans left Rotterdam on military transports destined for London. There were 600 more waiting transport in Rotterdam that were poor and very sick.¹¹⁷ In mid May word reached Rotterdam that two boats were seized by the Elector Palatine on the Rhine and the emigrants imprisoned.¹¹⁸ The seizure of the boats did nothing to deter the flood of people traveling to Rotterdam because by 24 May there were 2,000 refugees in Rotterdam awaiting transport. On 31 May a third convoy of ships left for England carrying 2,926 people.¹¹⁹

By early June refugees were arriving in Rotterdam at a rate of about 1,000 per week; this rate continued until late July.¹²⁰ A fourth convoy of ships left Rotterdam on 10 June with 1,794 people, bringing the total number transported to England at over 6,000.¹²¹ The English government resources were being stretched to its limits as the cost of supporting the new immigrants was staggering. On 24 June the Secretary of State sent a dispatch to the British agent, James Dayrolle, who was handling affairs in Rotterdam, with instructions to transport Protestant Germans and turn away those who were Catholic. The large

numbers flooding into Rotterdam made it too difficult a task to undertake as some families were both Catholic and Protestant.¹²²

On the 4 July a fifth convoy of ships left for England with 2,776 refugees. On 5 July another 500 arrived in Rotterdam followed shortly thereafter by 1,200 in the second week.¹²³ By 15 July the number of German refugees in Rotterdam had grown to 2,000.¹²⁴ On 17 July the sixth convoy of ships left for England with 1,433 Germans, bringing the total transported to England to just over 11,000. Having received dispatches from Dayrolle on 11 July (via the fifth convoy from Rotterdam) the Secretary of State sent a letter to Dayrolle informing him to stop transporting German refugees at the English Crown's expense. The burden of supporting them in London had become too much; Dayrolle received the letter on the 19th, two days after sending the sixth convoy.¹²⁵

In late July Dayrolle informed the Secretary of State in England that Rotterdam authorities were planning to send more refugees to England without passes and that there was nothing he could do to prevent it. Then on 12 August a letter from Dayrolle informed the Secretary of State that a seventh convoy carrying 1,000 Germans had sailed for England at private expense.¹²⁶ On 23 August, the Secretary of State sent a letter to Rotterdam authorities informing them to cease sending the refugees to England. He followed this up with a letter to Dayrolle on 26 August, informing him to tell the Rotterdam authorities that any further refugees sent to England would be returned to their shores. Dayrolle sent a formal request to the States General of the Republic of the United Provinces on behalf of the Secretary of State of England to stop the transportation of Palatine refugees to England. Dayrolle informed the Secretary of State that the States General said he could not prevent those Palatines already in Rotterdam from crossing over to England, but would have his ministers in Frankfort and Cologne make it known publicly that the emigrants should stop coming to Rotterdam.¹²⁷

In late September 2,252 Roman Catholic refugees were shipped back to Rotterdam.¹²⁸ At the same time in September 1500 refugees held in Rotterdam petitioned the Secretary of State in England, in which they stated they had been enticed to leave their homes by what they had learned, to be false promises made by the Queen of England.¹²⁹ Furthermore in making their way to Rotterdam they had spent all their savings and if they were not admitted to England their wives and children would perish. On 11 October the eighth and last recorded convoy bearing 1,082 refugees set off for England, including a letter from Dayrolle with

the refugee petition for the Secretary of State.¹³⁰

In the end English documents recorded a total of about 13,500 German refugees sailing on the eight convoys from Rotterdam to England. They braved the 4-6 week river trek from their homes to the coast, where they waited several days or weeks before taking the 6-8 day journey by ship to London. Of the eight convoys, only the names of individuals transported on ships in the first six convoys were recorded by the government of England.¹³¹ The names of individuals in the last two ship convoys were not recorded because they were neither sanctioned nor funded by the crown.

Though a search of the personnel lists of the first six convoys does not show the presence of our ancestor Johann Heinrich, his presence on the New York Subsistence List indicates that he was part of the migration out of Europe.¹³² He and his family were passengers made it to the shores of England on a ship unrecorded by the English government. He would have left Nassau Siegen in early



Figure 6 – Johann Heinrich's Route from Nassau Siegen to London England

July or September travelling down the Sieg River to the Rhine, following its course to Rotterdam and onward to London (Figure 6).

Before concluding this chapter, I would like to mention that a comparison of the 2,262 names of Roman Catholic Germans sent back to Rotterdam with the personnel lists of the first six convoys, revealed that over 1,500 of them were not part of the over 11,064 refugees that reached England between April and August of 1709.¹³³ As the last two convoys to England left Rotterdam at about the same time these individuals were returned to Rotterdam, these refugees must of reached English shores on ships by private means and were unrecorded by the English government. This discrepancy in the records makes the actual number of German Emigrants reaching England between April and October closer to 15,000. It is interesting to note that there have been several writers, the most prominent of them, Franz von Löher, who believed the actual number of Germans who reached English shores was closer to 32,000.¹³⁴ However, for the purposes of this book, the actual number who left their homeland for a better life elsewhere will have to remain a mystery.

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134. Diffenderffer 1897 Appendix F pg 131

Sojourn in England

The Germans arrived in London in poor miserable condition. After four to six weeks of exhausting travel they encamped outside of Rotterdam, living in shacks made mostly of reeds, surviving off the meager charity of England and those in Rotterdam awaiting ships bound for London.¹ In truth they were "refugees", fleeing from war torn Europe.

By 1700, London was the commercial centre of England handling 80 percent of its imports and 69 percent of its exports.² Its population was approaching 600,000 when the first refugees arrived. From the first arrivals in early May, to the last arrivals in October, they arrived at the St. Katherine's Docks.³ The first convoy arrived in early May and were housed near the docks and around the London Tower at St. Katherine's Tower Ditch, Aldgate, Wapping, Nightingale Lane and East Smithfield.⁴

On May 3rd, Queen Anne made it known to parliament that she felt it would benefit her Kingdoms more if the Germans could be settled in some form of livelihood in England rather than transported overseas to the plantations in America. The Council of Trade and Plantations was directed to look into the feasibility of the Queen's proposal as well as determining the number and condition of the refugees.⁵ This was conducted by Lutheran Ministers John Tribbeko and George Ruperti who on the 9th of May submitted their findings to the Council of Trade and Plantations.

Such was the refugee's poor condition that out of the 852 who had left Rotterdam, 26 died on the voyage to London and 68 were very sick due to overcrowding on the ships. The ministers recorded 210 family heads, the number of members in each family and their religion. Of the 210 able bodied men, 150 were agriculturalists, the rest tradesmen and mechanics. There were also 12 widows and six unmarried females. They proposed that £16 (pounds) a day, if evenly distributed, would provide them sufficient support. This subsistence amount was approved by the Queen and distribution was determined to be as follows: Each man and woman over 20 years, 5 pence; to those individuals under 20 but above 10 years, 4 pence and to those under 10 years, 3 pence.⁶ These funds were to be distributed twice a week on each Tuesday and Friday.

The second group of refugees arrived two weeks later on 19 May and had to remain on the ships at Woolwich until arrangements could be made to house

them.⁷ Their condition was no better than the first group. Of the 1283 that left Rotterdam only 1193 survived the trip to London.⁸ Given their unhealthy condition it was proposed that they be housed outside of the city in tents at Greenwich, Lambeth, Fulham or the large rope yard in Deptford.⁹ About the same time a Committee for lodging and relieving the German refugees submitted a report to the Board of Trade that arrangements could be made to rent 4 barns and a large house at Walworth and 8 barns in Stockwell.¹⁰ Eventually this second group was housed at Walworth.¹¹

The third group that arrived in London numbered 2,756. Of those that had departed Rotterdam 170 lives were lost on the trip across the channel. Of the fourth group that arrived mid June, 46 out of 1,794 that left Rotterdam lost their lives.¹² By mid June, of the 6,855 who departed Rotterdam, 335 had lost their lives at sea or shortly after arrival in London. In just over a month, the people of London found themselves dealing with 6,520 refugees and support from the government had grown to £80 a day.¹³ Of the total number, women and children made up more than half the number (3,470) while men numbered 1,332.¹⁴

In order to deal with the large numbers of refugees Mr. Tribbeko and Mr. Ruperti, on 23 June, requested assistance in dealing with the subsistence payments and finding accommodations for them. Reporting that the support from the government met only the needs of some 4400 refugees not the number of about 6600 currently in London they submitted a request to increase the subsistence amount. They were concerned that if an increase in funds was not made that refugees would be starving or begging in the streets.¹⁵

In order to deal with the increasing support required for the newly arrived refugees, the Queen issued a Royal Brief at the end of June which authorized the agents providing support for the German refugees the power and authority to ask, receive or collect alms from Her subjects; "not only within the households, but servants, strangers and lodgers travelling within her realm. Furthermore she directed that all Parsons, Vicars, Curates, Teachers and Preachers of every congregation within the realm read her brief to their congregations requesting they contribute to the charity of the Poor Palatines". By 27 July, 100 Lords, gentlemen and well placed people within the realm were appointed as Commissioners and Trustees to deal with providing for and settling the Germans.¹⁶

As the number of refugees grew, so too did the need to house them. Accommodations in barns and cheap houses were purchased in Kensington and Bristol Cansey.¹⁷ Over 1,600 tents, issued by the Board of Ordinance, were used

to establish encampments at Camberwell, Greenwich and Black Heath.¹⁸ Another 1,400 refugees were lodged in September in St. Olave for four months in a warehouse owned by Sir Charles Cox.¹⁹ The living locations for the refugees in London are displayed in Figure 7 on the following page.

By the end of July approximately 11,000 refugees, many of whom spoke only German, are recorded as arriving in the bustling city. The pamphlets, which had been distributed by the thousands in Europe over the past few years, had the German refugees believing that immediately on arrival in England, they would be dispatched to the colonies across the ocean. However, no one in England was ready to carry out such action given the large numbers that had arrived. The pressure to relocate them was enormous as the cost of supporting them was onerous, given that England was waging war with France.

In response to the growing numbers of refugees, the Board of Trade received several proposals for relocating them. On 23 May, the United Governors, Assistants and Society of London for Mines Royal proposed to send Germans to Merionethshire Wales, where some would work in the copper and silver mines while the rest cultivated the surrounding wasteland.²⁰ On 26 May, there was a proposal from the Lords and Proprietors of Carolina to relocate refugees between the ages of 15 and 45 to Carolina.²¹ On 30 May, the Board proposed that consideration be given to granting forest and wasteland to the refugees in England, with free license to build cottages on the lands and to cultivate them; thereby creating new productive townships.²²

By 1 June, the Board of Trade informed the Crown and High Treasurer that a hindrance to settling the refugees in England, was that the majority of them were women, children and the aged; who were past their productive years.²³ In spite of their frustration, the Board continued to review proposals for settling the refugees in Great Britain. On 11 June, the Board of Trade entertained a proposal by Lord Chamberlain, the Marquis of Kent, to settle 100 refugees in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire at a cost of £15,000.²⁴ On 27 July, the Board of Trade considered the proposal of Sir Gracedieu to settle 200 families in Jamaica.²⁵ It was during the discussions of the Jamaican proposal in August that the members of the Board of Trade, along with the Chancellor of Exchequer, considered settling some refugees on the Hudson River in New York. They suggested in a letter to the Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain that German refugees might be sent to the frontiers of New York, if the venture to Jamaica

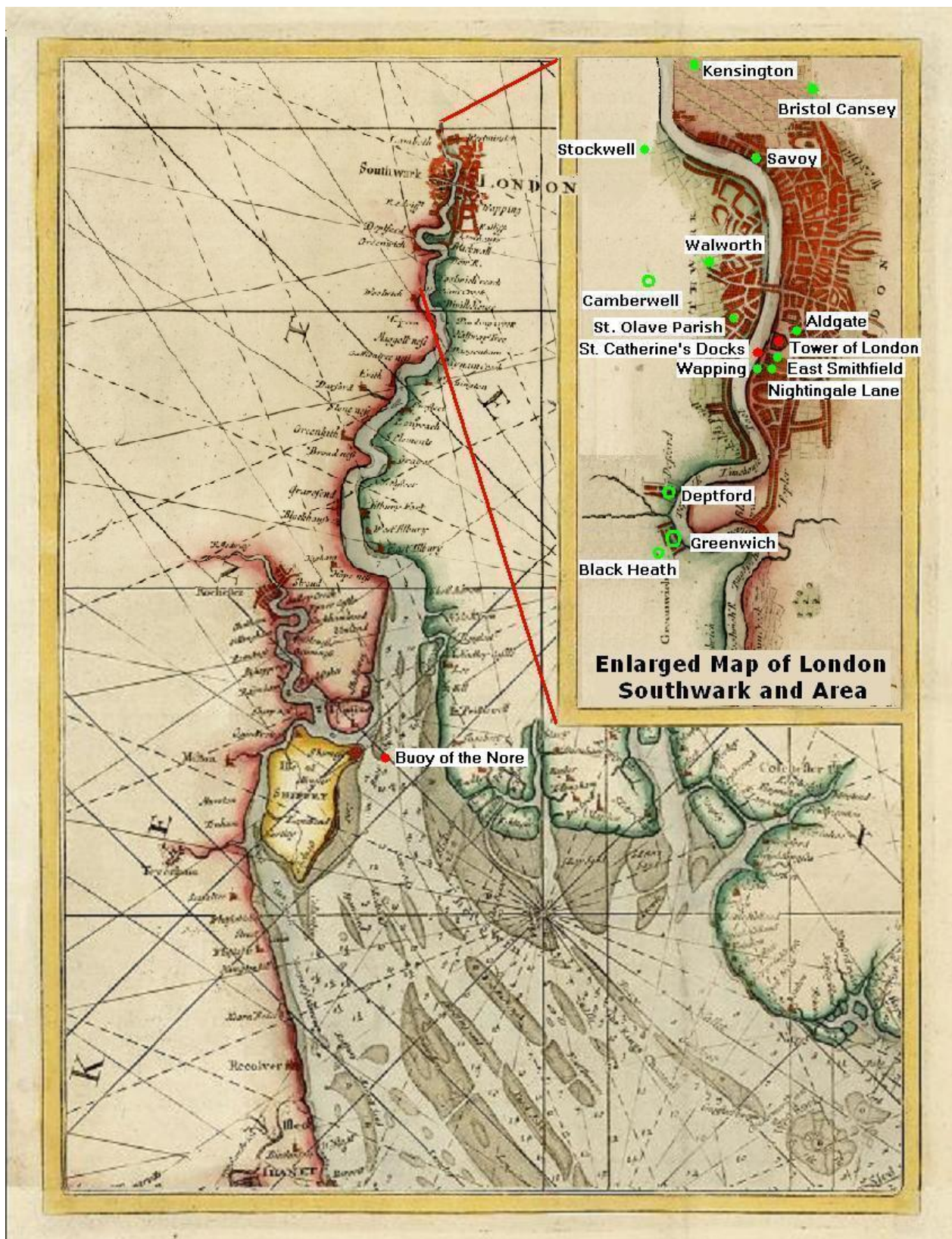


Figure 7 – Living Locations of German Refugees in London

proved too costly.²⁶ The New York proposal was set aside, while the Jamaican proposal was discussed at length by the Board of Trade, from August until the end of November.²⁷

By 6 August, the Queen and High Treasurer expressed concern that the Board of Trade was too slow at settling the refugees and urged them to do so as soon as was possible, in order to lessen the financial burden on the government.²⁸ In reply, the Board of Trade, on 9 August, informed the government that the Parishes of England were hesitant to receive or employ any refugees even when offered a subsidy of £5 for each individual.²⁹ The Commissioners for the Relief and Settlement of the Poor Palatines had sent letters throughout Great Britain encouraging towns to find ways to settle the immigrants. Liverpool accepted 130 refugees and even though the government offered to subsidize the settlement of the Germans, this approach saw little success.³⁰

Meanwhile, in July, the Queen accepted a proposal from the Council of Ireland to send Protestant refugees to Ireland to strengthen the Protestant cause. Subsequently, 500 families numbering 3,000 were sent to Ireland. On 8 August, the first of them departed by wagons for Chester for embarkation to Ireland.³¹ Their departure left about 8,000 German refugees in the London area, while another 1,000 were en route from Rotterdam (who arrived mid August). By 22 September, the final details of the North Carolina proposal were finalized and 600 Germans were selected to go to North Carolina.³² On 21 September and 6 October, two transports were sent down the Thames with 450 refugees destined for the Sicily Islands.³³ About 320 men entered military service, 56 young people became domestic servants and 141 children (most likely orphaned) were purchased like slaves, by English families.³⁴ As mentioned in the previous chapter 2,252 Roman Catholic Germans were returned to Rotterdam at the end of September leaving approximately 4,000 refugees to be relocated.

Months after the first Germans had set foot on English soil, Johann Heinrich and his family arrived in London. Amidst the flurry of activity he and his family most likely were settled in one of the encampments at Greenwich or Black Heath. He joined his fellow countrymen for a prolonged stay, living in over crowded conditions at the charitable mercy of not only the government but that of the general populace. The living conditions were terrible. As on ship the refugees were packed like cattle in very close quarters within a small living space sleeping on straw beds. There was a shortage of bread and the only meat that could be bought was "coarse and cheap". The poor quality of food and living conditions

resulted in fevers and diseases breaking out among them. It is estimated that 1,000 to 3,000 refugees died and are buried in unmarked graves at the encampment at Black Heath and other places where they resided.³⁵

The stipend allowance from the government was insufficient to maintain the refugees and many were reduced to begging on the streets. So bad were the living conditions that some shopkeepers donated shoes, shirts and material for clothing. As with the rest of his fellow countrymen, Johann Heinrich and his family faced not only a shortage of food and cramped living conditions, but little or no work.³⁶ It was not as if the Germans were unskilled. Of the first six convoys that landed in London 1,838 were husbandman and vinedressers, 477 masons, 124 carpenters, and 99 butchers. There were blacksmiths, tanners, millers, saddlers and even two surgeons.³⁷ The refugees on the last convoy from Rotterdam were also described as being mostly tradesmen.³⁸

Though the majority of the German men were skilled tradesmen, I was unable to determine which craft, if any, that Johann Heinrich practiced when he left for Rotterdam and arrived in London. To add to their difficulties, the German refugees were confronted by the hatred of the poorer classes who claimed they came to eat their bread and reduce the scale of wages from 18 to 15 pence a day. The encampments were occasionally attacked by London mobs accompanied by general rioting. On one occasion it was reported that over 1,000 Londoners armed with axes, scythes, and smith hammers attacked one of the encampments striking down any who did not flee from them.³⁹ In this environment Johann Heinrich and his family struggled to survive while the British government deliberated how to relocate them.

The failure of the Jamaican plan in early November and the urgency of the British Government to rid itself of the remaining refugees prompted the Earl of Sunderland, the Secretary of State, to action on 4 November. He directed his secretary, Mr. Pringle, to submit an order to the Commissioners of Transport for two men of war (ships) as escorts for a convoy of 3,000 Germans to New York.⁴⁰ On 10 November, the Board of Trade was advised of the decision made to send 3,000 German refugees to New York in mid December.⁴¹ On 29 November the Board of Trade was informed that newly appointed Governor Hunter (of the Province of New York) would submit a proposal to relocate the Germans in New York. The Board met with Governor Hunter and after direction by Earl of Sunderland they approved the proposal on 1 December.⁴² The expedient time in which the proposal was approved may well have been attributed to Earl

Sunderland's negative experience with 16 German families he relocated in England that subsequently became slaves.⁴³

Unlike the Carolina proposal in which the German refugees received land to settle upon, free from any fees for 10 years,⁴⁴ the New York proposal for settling the Germans required indentured service in the manufacturing of Naval Stores (tar and pitch) for Great Britain. To ensure their compliance with the proposal, Governor Hunter proposed the German's be placed under contract (termed Covenant), before departing for the Province of New York. A draft of the Covenant was submitted to the Board of Trade on 19 December, forwarded to the Attorney General for review and by 23 December in Earl Sunderland's hands for the Queen to review.⁴⁵ The Covenant, apparently signed by the Germans, required that they work in producing Naval Stores until such time that they repaid the Crown for the expenses of settling and sustaining them while accomplishing the work. Governor Hunter was given free reign in determining when such payment was complete and upon completion of the repayment of expenses he would grant 40 acres of land per person per family without any fee for seven years.⁴⁶

In effect the German refugees that went to New York were servants of the crown. They had no rights or freedoms until they had repaid their debt; as deemed by Governor Hunter,. They were cheap slave labour in a business venture devised by the Governor and their lives were under his full control. At no time could any of them leave the Naval Stores venture without the approval of the Governor. With limited knowledge of the English language, I can only surmise that Johann Heinrich and his fellow countrymen agreed to the document thinking their employment in New York would be short lived, after which they would have land granted to them. A copy of the draft Covenant is provided as Appendix B.

Henry Bendysh, secretary to the Commissioners and Trustees dealing with providing for and settling the refugees, informed the Lord High Treasurer that he had executed charters with ten ships to carry almost 3,300 refugees to New York. This was contracted at £5 and 10 shillings per head (half the rate it cost to send the German refugees to Carolina)⁴⁷ The captains and their owners agreed to take the Germans on board between 25 and 29 December and to rendezvous 50 miles from London at the Buoy of the Nore, on around the 2nd of January 1710. Mr. Bendysh arranged with the ship owners to have the convoy sail at that time without stopping at any port or place in England. Failure to set sail at the agreed time would result in demurrage charges to the crown.⁴⁸

The ten ships (Lyon of Leith, Lowestoffe, Fame, Mary, Hartwell, Baltimore, James and Elizabeth, Sarah, Medford and Berkley Castle⁴⁹) transporting the Germans were on the Thames at the specified time between 25 and 29 December. With his family, Johann Heinrich and over 3,000 Germans were once again loaded onto ships in tight quarters like cattle. When the convoy reached the Buoy of the Nore on 2 January 1710, there was a delay in sailing until Governor Hunter awaited final directions from the Earl of Sunderland; which he received on 26 January. The details of which follows:

(1) That upon their arrival in New York, the Palatines be Naturalized without fee or reward such that they have the same privileges and advantages of the inhabitants of the New York Province. The Palatines in New York are to be settled on a 50 mile by 4 mile tract of land on the Mohaques (Mohawk) River and on a tract of land on a creek running into the river that was 24-50 miles long. If however the land is unsuitable then there are two tracts of land on the east (12 by 70 miles) and west (20 by 40 miles) sides of the Hudson River.

(2) As the Palatines have no way to maintain themselves they are to be supported by the crown at a rate of 6 sterling for each man and women per day and 4 sterling for each child under the age of 10. That after their houses are built and the ground cleared for making their settlements they be employed in making Turpentine Rozin Tar and Pitch and that each man should be able to produce 6 tuns (tonnes) of naval stores per year such that 7,000 tuns is produced each year.

(3) In addition the Palatines are to be instructed in the production of the naval stores and that 3-4 persons from England are found, sent with the ships to America and paid £200 New York money per annum. If no one can be found in England to send with the Palatines then it was recommended that the Surveyor General Mr. Bridges who went to New England in North America be sent to New York to instruct the Palatines and take with him 3 to 4 people to assist him to be paid £100 per annum. In order to oversee the work of the Palatines supervisors were to be hired at a salary of £100 per annum; the number required to be determined by the Governor.

(4) It is recommended that each settlement have a storehouse constructed to lodge the naval stores until it can be sent to New York for shipment. That there shall be appointed in New York a Commissary, at a salary £200 per annum, who is to receive and record all the naval stores manufactured and ship them to the port of London at a cost of £4 freight per tun.

(5) On repayment of the costs to the Queen the Governor of New York under the seal of that Province shall grant without fee or reward 40 acres per head to each family after they have repaid by the produce of their Labour the charges of settling and subsisting them. They and their heirs are to have and hold the lands rent free for 7 years from the date of the granted land with the proviso that within a reasonable time frame the lands are settled and planted or on failure the grant is void.⁵⁰

The delay in sailing from England was over 3 months and resulted in demurrage charges that the owners demanded before sailing to America. After boarding the ships in late December, the refugees remained on board the ships while they slowly moved along the south coast of England to Portsmouth then Plymouth (410 miles from London by sea) where, on 10 April, they finally departed for New York. In the closely packed quarters the Germans suffered terribly. There were reports of 80 deaths on one ship and 100 sick on another ship before leaving Plymouth. All the ships were ravished by what was then called "Palatine Fever"; known today as Typhus.⁵¹

Of the 13,000 to 15,000 German Refugees who left Rotterdam for England several hundred died before reaching her shores. Though it is unclear how many died while in London, I estimate the number between one and two thousand. Of those sent to Carolina over half perished on the ships or shortly after arriving.⁵² Of the 3,800 (3,000 in the fall of 1709 and another 800 in February 1710⁵³) sent to Ireland over half returned to London on their own accord by the end of November 1710.⁵⁴ It is most likely that several hundred died for want of subsistence, while the greater number of them were sent back to Rotterdam 5 March 1711.⁵⁵ Exclusive of the numbers that perished in the group that went to New York a total of 4,000 Germans died in their search for a better life.

Footnotes References:

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- 5. N.A.U.K / P.R.O.C.O. 388/76. Nos. 54, 55, and P.R.O.C.O. 389/36 pgs 398, 399 & 409*
- 6. Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 388/76, Nos. 56, 56i, ii and P.R.O.C.O. 389/36 pgs 401-403*

Note: Prior to 1971 there were 240 pence to each pound hence £16 equated to 3840 pence per diem.

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17. *Knittle 1937 pg 67*
18. *N.A.U.K / Public Records Office State Papers 44/108, 93*
19. *Diffenderffer 1897 pgs 40, 41*
20. *N.A.U.K / P.R.O.C..O. 388/76. No 58*
21. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 5/1264, No. 68, P.R.O.C...O. 5/1292. pg 136 and P.R.O.C..O. 5/289 pg 219*
22. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 389/36. pgs 411, 412*
23. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 389/36. pgs 414-420*
24. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 388/76 Nos. 66 i., 66 ii, 67 and P.R.O.C..O. 389/36 pgs 423–426*
25. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 137/8 Nos. 45, 45 i. and P.R.O.C..O. 138/12 pgs 420–424, and 427-433*
26. *Journal of Commissioners of Trade and Plantations 1708-1714 pgs 65,72 (Hereafter referred to as Jour. of C..T. 1708-1714) and ECC Vol. III 1902 pgs 1796, 1796*
27. *N.A.U.K / P.R.O.C..O. 137/8 Nos. 47, 48, 55-57, 57i, 60, 60j, P.R.O.C.O. 5/1121 pgs 387–391, P.R.O.C..O. 138/12 pgs 434-448, 450, 451, 453, 454-468, 475-480, 496, 498,499, P.R.O.C..O. 138/13 pgs 1-3, 15-30, 67-73*
28. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 388/76 No. 84 and P.R.O.C..O. 389/36 pg 439*
29. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 389/36 pg 440-443*
30. *Knittle 1937 pg 76*
31. *Diffenderffer 1897 pgs 73,74, Knittle 1937 pg 82, and Brief Historical Relation of State Affairs from September 1678 to April 1714 Volume VI by Narcissus Luttrell Oxford 1857 pg 474*
32. *Knittle 1937 pgs 101-103*
33. *N.A.U.K / P.R.O.S.P. 44/108. 151,162, 168, 188*
34. *Knittle 1937 pg 78*
35. *Ibid pg 80 and Diffenderffer 1897 Appendix F pg 135*
36. *Ibid pgs 70, 71*
37. *Diffenderffer 1897 pg 65*
38. *Knittle 1937 pg 74*
39. *Ibid pg 70*
40. *Ibid pg 128*
41. *N.A.U.K / P.R.O.C.O. 5/1049 Nos. 133, 134, 134.i., P.R.O.C.O. 5/1121 pp. 447, 449, 450 and P.R.O.C.O. 5/210. p. 185*
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45. *Ibid P.R.O.C.O. 5/1049 No. 140, 141, 144, 144 i and P..R.O.C.O. 5/1121 pgs 488–492, 498-504*
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New York – The Promised Land

The Lyon of Leith was the first ship to arrive in New York. There were 330 Germans on board, who all at one time or another were sick during their voyage from England.¹ Shortly after its arrival the Council of the Province of New York had several meetings to deal with the newly arrived Germans. A petition from the Mayor of New York City expressed concern that the ill health of the refugees would endanger the health of the inhabitants of the city if they disembarked in the New York. An examination of the Germans by Doctors Law, Moore and Garran caused the Council to issue an order to disembark the ship's passengers on Nutten (pronounced Nooten) Island so that they could be quarantined from the general population. Two carpenters were assigned to determine how much material would be required to construct small huts for the families to live in. The Attorney General's office of New York was ordered to draft a Proclamation preventing the extortion of the price of bread and other provisions and to develop a plan for their governance on Nutten Island. It was soon decided to empower selected individuals amongst the refugees to hear and adjudicate small cases.²

The second ship Lowestoffe, carrying Governor Hunter, arrived in New York on 14 June.³ On 16 June Governor Hunter reported to England that all but three ships carrying the Germans had arrived and that the passengers were in "a deplorable sickly condition".⁴ It is no wonder considering they had been packed into the holds like cattle for over 3 months. These ships have been identified as the Fame, Baltimore, the frigate Tower, the Hartwell, James Elizabeth, and Mary.⁵ Of the remaining ships, the Sarah arrived on 24 June followed by the Medford in July and the Berkley Castle in August. Reconstructed passenger lists of the ships identified Johann Heinrich as a passenger on the ship Baltimore.⁶

It soon became apparent that deaths had resulted in a number of orphan children and widows. Governor Hunter did not want to support anyone who could not contribute to the naval stores project. In a meeting on 20 June the New York Council, dealing with the refugees, met to discuss ways to apprentice out orphaned children and even children of large families and appointed Dr. Staats and Mr. Van Dam the authority to do so.⁷ As the labourers in the Naval Stores Project were men, any widows and young children with no ties to a family head were not going to be moved to the naval stores camps. Orphans and widows were identified as being useless and as such the colonial authorities wanted to support as few as possible. Of the 70 children apprenticed by Governor Hunter between 31

August 1710 and 2 June 1711, 41 were orphans, 19 were children of widows (One widow lost all four of her children). The remainder of the children came from families deemed too large to support. The youngest was 3 and the oldest was 16. They were apprenticed in various locations in the Province of New York, never to be seen again by their German countrymen. Not surprisingly, it created a great deal of mistrust between the Germans and Governor Hunter. Most likely Governor Hunter would have liked to of apprenticed all the children but doing so would not have been accepted by the German refugees.⁸

As women were not expected to contribute to making naval stores and they would not be supported by the Governor a large number remarried quickly. They were at least 50 marriages by 1711, 39 involved people who had been widowed during the voyage or shortly after they had arrived in New York. Seven marriages involved previously unmarried women whose fathers had died to widowers.⁹ The marriages in many cases were done to protect families from losing their children. Had the marriages not taken place most likely more children would have been apprenticed and widows left to their own devices to make a living.

On 24 July, Governor Hunter reported in a letter on to the Lord Treasurer of Great Britain that of the 2,814 Germans that had departed England 470 had died during voyage and that the tent stores for establishing encampments for the refugees were damaged with the sinking of the frigate Herbert off the East end of Long Island.¹⁰ The loss of almost 1,000 Germans, represents almost a third of 3,300 that boarded the ships in December. Given the high death rate it is a miracle that Johann Heinrich and any of his children survived the ordeal. Though he and his children survived, his wife did not. She succumbed to Typhus shortly after arriving on Nutten Island. Johann Heinrich with four children and faced with the unenviable prospect of them being apprenticed quickly remarried.

Though the initial plan in housing them on Nutten Island was to have carpenters build huts, most likely the 600 tents initially intended for their quarters, were salvaged from the wreckage of the Herbert and used instead. The majority of Germans, in such miserable condition with Typhus and mourning the loss of their relatives, were forced to settle down and care for the sick and dying. Doctors John Kristopher Kurtz and John Phillips Ruger attended to their needs.¹¹ Initially the Germans were grouped according to the ships that transported them and the Listmaster was placed in charge of providing the provisions to each group. The Listmaster was the chief intermediary between the group and the colonial authorities. As the German immigrants slowly recovered over the summer, they

were allowed to visit New York City. Overcoming their illnesses as a group who for the most part only spoke German, they grew closer and developed a strong German community.

While the refugees were interned on Nutten Island Governor Hunter set about looking for a tract of land to settle the Germans; a tract which contained a large number of Pitch Pine in which to manufacture pitch for the British Naval Stores. He sent Surveyor General Mr. Bridges and several men to survey the tracts of land along Schoharie River, a tributary of the Mohawk River. They reported in July that though the land was good there were few pine trees. It was also unsuitable for settlement due to it being too remote a location.¹² Governor Hunter eventually settled the Germans a 100 miles north of New York on 6,000 acres purchased from Robert Livingston on the east side of the Hudson River and 800 acres of land purchased from Thomas Fullerton (the Fullerton Tract) on the west side. It was adjacent to 6,300 acres of Crown land containing pines as was the 6,000 acres on the east side.¹³

The Germans stay on Nutten Island lasted until the last week of September, in which time 250 people had died from Typhus.¹⁴ When they left to settle on the Hudson River about 350 remained in New York City; mostly widows, single women and children who could not be employed in making tar and pitch.¹⁵ By mid November, the Germans were settled in five towns on the Hudson River; three on the east side located 2 miles south of Roloff Jansen's Kill on Robert Livingston's Land Patent; Hunters Town, Queensbury and Annsbury, and two on the west bank of the Hudson east of Sawyers Creek; Elizabeth Town (near Wanton Island) and George Town (near Eve's Point).¹⁶ By July 1711 the town of Haysbury was added on the east side and New Town on the west side. The ship Listmasters continued in each town as representatives for the families and liaised regularly with Mr. Cast and Mr. Bagge to deal with issues when they arose.

According to the census in the winter of 1710 Johann Heinrich and his family were settled in the West Settlement. His family consisted of six people; himself, a woman, two boys aged 9-15 and two girls aged 9-15. The total number in the West Settlement numbered 257 of which 77 were men and 84 women.¹⁷ He and his family are recorded on Governor Hunter's subsistence list in both 1710 and 1712.¹⁸ The majority of the Germans, numbering about 1,200, were settled in the East Settlement. Though the work for the Naval Stores was conducted on both sides of the Hudson River, the bulk of it was done on the 6000 acres

purchased on Livingston Manor on the east side .¹⁹ Figure 8 is a partial map of the Province New York Province and depicts the German Settlements on the Hudson River.

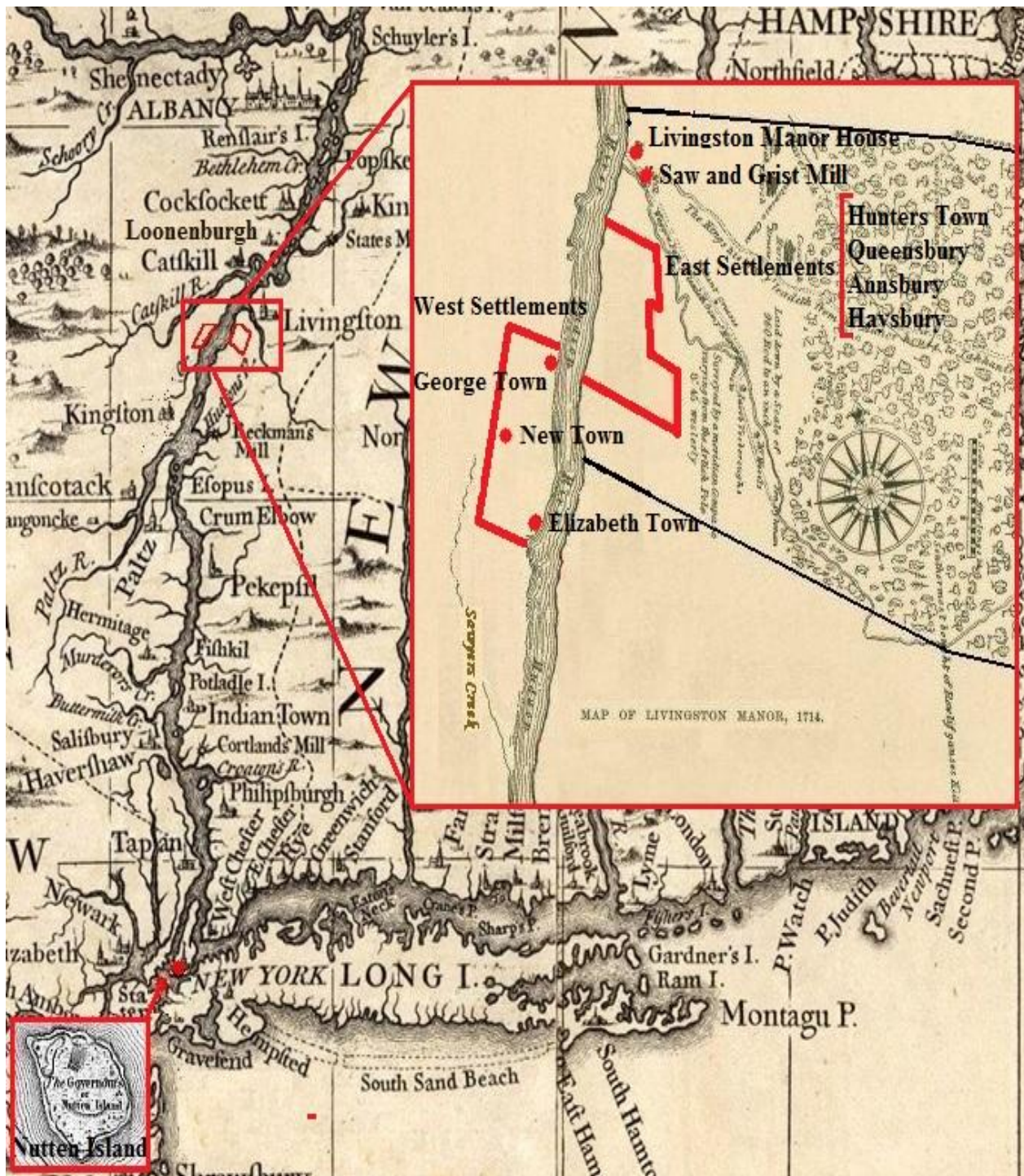


Figure 8 – New York and the German Settlements

Soon after arriving at the West Settlement, Johann Heinrich and his German countrymen were provided with tools (probably axes and saws) to clear the land. Each family was allotted a 40 by 50 foot lot on which he built a small hut made out of rough logs.²⁰ The log huts were likely the same design as those in the log camps of the New York militia. The huts were constructed with the trunks of trees cut into various lengths depending on the size required and firmly connected by notches cut at each end in the manner of dovetailing. The space between the logs was filled with plastering consisting of mud and clay. The roof was formed with similar pieces of timber and covered with hewn slabs of wood. The chimney was situated at one end of the hut nearest the door and made with smaller timber in which both the inner and outer sides were covered with clay plaster to protect the wood from fire. The door and windows were formed by sawing away a part of the logs of a proper size and moved on wooden hinges. The construction of these huts required no nails and was done with just an ax and saw, at little expense to the Crown. The huts were arranged in straight lines forming a uniform compact village. The furniture consisted of a rough hewn table and slab chairs at which to have meals while the beds consisted of straw, reeds, or pine boughs for bedding and a blanket. Bedding spaces would have been divided using blankets hung on a small wooden frame.²¹ Religion and schooling was an important aspect in the lives of the Germans as a church was built in the West Settlement and a school in the East Settlement the first winter.²²

To feed the families, a six month contract was drawn up with Robert Livingston to provide for them from November to March 1711. This contract was extended for the duration of the Naval Stores Project. The provisions consisted mainly of meat, bread and beer. John Cast was responsible for supplying provisions to East Settlement and Andre Bagge was responsible for supplying provisions to West Settlement.²³ The food was to be distributed as follows: A daily ration for each person was to be 1/3 loaf of bread, and a quart of low grade ship beer.²⁴ Beef and/or pork (usually salted), fish or butter, cheese, flour or peas were the other food staples provided that were to be provided.²⁵ However from the start, the provisions were provided irregularly; at times 2 to 5 days worth of provisions was given at once. Sometimes weeks passed before families received their allotment. Not everyone received the same provisions in equal amounts as there were insufficient quantities to do so. In April 1711, the shortage of bread allotted in the West Settlement caused residents to request making their own bread. The subsistence allowance of 6 pence a day for adults and 4 pence a day for

children under ten was just as irregular and sometimes never paid. Governor Hunter saw no reason why he could not use the subsistence funds to pay the salaries of those employed in running the Naval Stores venture, as the money would have to be repaid by the Germans in any case.²⁶ In October, Governor Hunter sent a letter to the Council of Trade and Plantations in England requesting £15,000 (pounds) a year for two years to support the German families as the procedure for extracting the tar and pitch required the debarked trees to stand for two years before producing pitch and tar.²⁷

A year and a half after escaping the war torn territory of his homeland with the promise of free land and a new life in the colonies, our ancestor Johann Heinrich and his family were bound as indentured servants to Governor Hunter and the English Government; no better actually than the slaves owned by Robert Livingston. The prospect of not starting work until the spring added another six months of expenses by the Crown which he would have to pay back through the product of his labour. Sitting idly in his log hut over winter, he and the rest of the Germans had a lot of time to think about their future. How long would they have to work before they were given the freedom to live on their own? Would they ever see the 40 acres of land that was promised them?

In March 1711, some of the Germans in the East Settlement were overheard by Mr. Cast (reported it in a letter to Governor Hunter on 27 March 1711) discussing the prospect that they may never see the lands they were promised. One of the men made the comment, "We came to America to establish our families. To secure lands for our children on which to support themselves after we die. And that we cannot do here." It caused Mr. Cast to enquire of Joshua Kocherthal, the spiritual leader of the West Settlement, about "his" people. Pastor Kocherthal informed him that the people as a whole were busy and though they did not like their current situation they knew it was too dangerous at the moment to re-settle on the frontier and for that reason alone they were "willing to have patience for a couple of years".²⁸

In late spring, the residents of East Settlement refused to plant their gardens. Discussions started circulating among the Germans that there was better land on the Frontier; specifically the land that was surveyed on the Schoharie. Upon hearing about the problem, Governor Hunter hastened to the settlement. Soon after arriving he ordered Mr. Cast (who spoke German and was Hunter's interpreter) to read the Germans the contract they had signed in England aboard the ships. Hunter demanded to know whether the Germans were going to abide by

the contract they had agreed to. After deliberating amongst themselves they agreed to abide by the contract.²⁹ As they relied on Governor Hunter for their survival what choice did they really have?

After the confrontation, Mr. Cast reported to Hunter that although the Germans continued to clear their small plots of land and plant crops (corn, peas, onions, carrots, beets turnips and cabbage) there was still an underlying tension in the Settlements on both sides of the river. There was tension between the residents of Elizabeth Town and George Town over tools received in clearing the land. In Annsbury residents fought between each other over the settlement of newly appropriated land for those coming from New York. The overall underlying issue within the German Settlements was whether to remain on the shores of the Hudson or move on their own to Schoharie; to settle on lands they expected to receive when their labour was completed.³⁰

To make worsen matters, on 1 May 1711, Mr. Cast reported to Governor Hunter that 20 barrels of pork received for the Germans was heavily salted ("salt consisted 1/8 of each barrel") and of poor quality. He also reported that the barrels used to distribute the flour to the German families actually weighed between 17 and 21 lbs instead of the 16 lbs. As a result the families received less flour than was to be allotted. The problems with the provisions increased the German's general mistrust of Governor Hunter and Robert Livingston, who was providing the provisions to the Naval Stores Project. At the time, a census of both Settlements conduct indicated there were a total of 1,761 Germans, of which 1,178 were in four towns on east side of the Hudson River and 583 were in three towns on the west side.³¹ The sheer number of the Germans was in their favour had they decided had quit the Project. However, divisive opinions and the lack of strong leadership among them prevented it from happening.

In mid May when the Naval Stores work was to begin, Mr. Bridger refused to return to New York to oversee the operation. To further complicate things the Germans again refused to work. With 60 troops from Albany Governor Hunter arrived at the East Settlement and called for the Listmasters. He demanded to know from them why they were hampering the surveyor's work for establishing lots on newly appropriated land (the Fullerton Tract) in the West Settlement.³² They replied that the land was not worth surveying and demanded of the Governor that each family be settled on 40 acres in the Schoharie Valley as was promised in the contract read to them in England. They stated as whole that the contract read " seven years after they had given to them 40 acres a head given to

them they were to repay the Queen by hemp, mast trees, tar and pitch or anything else, so that it may be no damage to any man in his family." They informed the Governor that these were the terms they would agree to provided they also receive the promised clothing, household goods, working tools and the subsistence money owed to them since their arrival in New York. In addition they demanded Mr. Cast be replaced in his position by someone else, as he had threatened to make them slaves if they did not do as they were told.³³

Governor Hunter, clearly fed up with them, denied their demands and with the aid of the British troops regained control of the Settlements and ordered they were to remain where they were until they fulfilled their obligation to the contract. Furthermore he revoked the authority of the Listmasters in each town to govern themselves and on 12 June established a "Court" over the Germans which gave the men running the Naval Stores Project the power and authority to punish any German (by confinement or corporal punishment) who transgressed or disobeyed anyone in the production of Naval Stores.³⁴

Under martial law, the work finally started on 24 May. Robert Sacket, a local farmer, convinced Governor Hunter that he knew the method of how to extract tar from trees and in the absence of Mr. Bridges he assumed control of the operation. Johann Heinrich and the other men went into the woods to learn the process of debarking trees (a process which would take two years before any pitch could be extracted). Johann Heinrich and his 16 year old son Friederich Wilhelm started the work of debarking on 28 May and within a week every German family learned that that no tar would be produced from their labours for at least two years. Already two years indebted to the English government it would be another two years before their work would begin to pay back the debt to the English. How many years would it be before the Germans would be free men? By June, pine knots were being collected by the wagon load for making pitch and tar. On 13 July, Mr. Cast reported to Governor Hunter that though the work was going well the Germans still voiced their discontent with their work and the poor quality of the provisions being supplied to them.³⁵

In July the British war with the France extended to the North American colonies. The shortage of troops in the Province of New York resulted in Governor Hunter enlisting, without pay, 300 German men, from July to September, to supplement troops to the frontier of Canada. All the able bodied men in the four towns in East Settlement left with the troops, leaving the bulk of the work for the Naval Stores Project on the shoulders of the men in West Settlement. During

the men's absence Governor Hunter's funds for bread and beer was exhausted and subsequently by early August Robert Livingston refused to provide any provisions to the Germans, despite complaints from Mr. Sacket that his workers needed to be fed. Upon returning from the frontier in September, the German men discovered to their dismay that their families had not received any provisions in the two to three months they had been away. It was only after assurances from Governor Hunter that the English Treasury would eventually pay for the provisions, that Robert Livingston resumed supplying food to the families.³⁶ In spite of all the difficulties, Governor Hunter reported to London, in October, that almost 100,000 trees had been prepared.³⁷

In order to deal with the lack of provisions Governor Hunter allowed German families to earn income by working the harvests of nearby farms that fall. Discontented by what had happened over the summer, nine families left the West Settlement and settled on Henry Beekman's Rhinebeck Patent on the East side of the Hudson; renting land for 25 bushels of wheat per year.³⁸ Fortunately for Governor Hunter, most of the Germans, our ancestor Johann Heinrich included, remained in the towns of the Settlements over the winter. Unknown to the Germans, a report from New York to the Board of Trade in December estimated that Tar production from the debarked trees would not commence until 1713 and that it most likely would "take seven years after the year 1713" for the Germans to completely repay their debts to England.³⁹ Had the Germans known that the New York officials planned to keep them as indentured servants of England until 1720, it is unlikely any of them would have remained in the Settlements.

The food shortages were exacerbated again in February when Robert Livingston's Grist Mill was damaged and he could no longer make flour. As a result of the food shortages, twelve Germans broke into the food storehouse in West Settlement.⁴⁰ The mistrust of the Germans continued to worsen such that, by 31 March, Governor Hunter ordered troops from Albany, in May, to maintain order and discipline. In addition he issued a detailed directive of how the Germans were to be employed during the second year.⁴¹

When work commenced the second year in May it was under strict martial law. Both Johann Heinrich and his son Friederich Wilhelm (now 17) went back to the woods debarking trees while his other children (now all over 8 years of age) were put to work collecting pine knots. In June, Governor Hunter reported to the Board of Trade that the pitch and tar were being produced from the pine knots, that the debarking of the trees was on schedule and by years end trees would be

ready for processing.⁴² As no further funds had been received from England since his arrival in New York in 1710, the financial strain of provisioning the Germans during the summer resulted in Governor Hunter issuing an order that the beer allotment be provided to only the working men, not the families.⁴³

By September Governor Hunter's credit was finally exhausted. With no sign of funding from England he decided, on 12 September, to stop all work on the Naval Stores Project. Hunter was unaware that an English parliamentary committee determined that over 100,000 pounds had been expended on all the German refugees that were accommodated in London in 1709/10 and recommended to Parliament that no further funds be expended.⁴⁴ Governor Hunter directed Mr. Cast to inform the Germans they would have to venture out to nearby farms to support themselves. Though he gave them leave to find employment elsewhere they had to be ready to return to the project when, or if it commenced again. Families who chose to leave the Settlements were required to secure a "Ticket of Leave" from Mr. Cast which informed him of their destination. The information was recorded in a ledger and any who did arrive at their recorded destination were threatened with punishment.⁴⁵ Governor Hunter then informed the Board of Trade on 31 October 1712 of the actions he had taken. Though he continued to remain hopeful over the next two years that work would resume, it never did.⁴⁶ After two years of hard labour over 100,000 trees were left standing. In the end, all that was produced by the venture were 200 barrels of pitch and tar; all from pine knots collected by the German children.⁴⁷

Some German families found work at nearby farms and used the additional money to purchase supplies to supplement the crops they had planted. Fifty families left the East Settlement for the Schoharie Valley where they negotiated with the Mohawk Indians for land.⁴⁸ With winter on the horizon, it was too late for most to resettle elsewhere. The majority of the families decided to stay in the Settlements where they had been living the past two years. The towns were German in every sense of the word as the residents continued their German culture and dealt with each other in German. Those that stayed in the East Settlement had a hard time under Robert Livingston. Despite selling to the crown 6,000 acres of land for settling the Germans, according to the deed, Hunter remained in control of the land and the tenants living there.⁴⁹ Even though they improved his lands, Livingston's opinion of them from the start was "to a man and woman, they are nothing more than shiftless parasites out to bleed the Livingston family and resources to death".⁵⁰

Johann Heinrich was one of many who stayed in the West Settlement. Having been settled there for two years he made close friends and made it his home. Though he did not own his land he and the other Germans were free to live and develop the lands as they saw fit. Being early autumn, crops from the garden plots were harvested and firewood cut for the winter. The log huts and lots vacated by those who decided to leave were most likely used by those who remained. His son Friederich Wilhelm, now a young man, most likely moved into one of the vacated huts and helped his father and family get through the winter. The first few years were the hardest as the lack of any subsistence funds from the crown left Johann Heinrich and the other Germans on their own. In a foreign land, speaking a foreign language the settlers most likely worked as co-operative farmers; assisting each other in the working of their small parcels of land. They would also have lived off the land, hunting and fishing to supplement any crops they could grow. The two spiritual leaders, Pastor Kocherthal and Reverend Haeger were instrumental in unifying the communities following the collapse of the Naval Stores Project.

A census taken from June 1713 to June 1714 by the minister of the East Settlement Johan Haeger, recorded total of 260 people in 66 families in the three towns of the West Settlement. Of this number, 27 families resided in New Town, 25 in George Town and 14 in Elizabeth Town. Over half of 583 people who had resided in the West Settlement towns in 1711 had left for a new start elsewhere. Of the East Settlement 160 families remained and over 120 families had moved to the Schoharie Valley.⁵¹ By 1718, only 91 families (357 people) remained in the East Settlement. In the Schoharie Valley 170 families (680 people) had made permanent homes and another 35 families had moved to the Rhinebeck Patent, south of Livingston Manor. Only 36 families and a total of 144 people remained in the towns of the original West Settlement; 14 of those families in New Town, 13 in George Town and 9 in Elizabeth Town. Although only 500 people were in the two Settlements, another 400 lived just north or south of the Settlements on the Hudson River. The total numbers in 1718 did not include widows or orphans.⁵² Most of the families who left West Settlement moved south to Kingstown (now called Kingston) and Kingstown Sopes, where land could be purchased for \$2.50 an acre or leased for ten years at 2 fat hens per year after which when the land was farmed a peck of wheat per acre each year.⁵³ By 1720, there were 1,000 Germans in 160 families settled in the Schoharie Valley and another 3,000 Germans in 500 families elsewhere in the Province of New York.

Within 10 years of setting foot on the shores of North America the German community had more than doubled and the Germans, once refugees, had become productive citizens of the Province of New York.⁵⁴

In the years following 1712, Johann Heinrich, a member of the Lutheran Church in New Town, was able to successfully raise his family in what remained of West Settlement. In February 1715, he is found in the records of the West Camp Lutheran Church as a sponsor in the baptism of Johann Henrich Maerten. On 12 February 1716, he was present at the marriage of eldest son Friederich Wilhelm to Anna Maria Kuester in the West Camp Lutheran Church. In December 1716 he was a sponsor at the Lutheran Church in the births of Anna Elisabetha Schlemmer on the 2nd and Johann Heinrich Weller on the 16th.⁵⁵

In September 1715, five and a half years after leaving the shores of England, the passing of the Naturalization Act in New York enabled him and his sons Friedrich and Johannes to take the British Oath of Allegiance at Kingstown, New York and finally become British citizens.⁵⁶ The last record of him is found in September 1728, where he and his wife were sponsors in the baptism of their grandson Heinrich Fuhrer in Kiskatom; the son of his daughter Catharina and son in law Valentin Fuhrer.⁵⁷ After working the first two years of his life in North America with no land to show for his efforts, he at least gave his children a fresh start in a new land. Though there is no record of his death the record of 1728 indicates that he lived past the age of 60 and was one of the last remaining Germans to live in what was the West Settlement. He was most likely buried at either the old burying ground north of the Lutheran Church or the old community burial ground east of the church..

Of his five children: Johannes Heinrich married Catrina Weding 24 June 1722 in Kingstown New York and raised a family there. He is found in 14 records of the Old Dutch Church of Kingstown; the last one dated 1749. He and his most of his children raised families in Kingstown. In 1738 he was a member of the Militia in Kingston.⁵⁸ Descendants from this line were pioneer settlers in Kinderhook New York and fought during the American Revolution against the British. Catharina Christina married Valentin Fiero, started a family in New Town, moved to Kiskatom before eventually purchasing around 1735 a farm in Kaatsbaan located near the source of Sawyer Creek called the "Steene Herte Fountain (Stone Heart Spring)". She and her husband were members of the Kaatsbaan Reformed Church and are found in records of the church from 1735 to 1768.⁵⁹ Descendants from this line stayed in the Kaatsbaan/Kingston New York

area into the late 1800's. Of Johan Henrich no New York records could be found. Maria Elisabetha married John Beneway and raised a family in Kingstown New York. In 1758 he enlisted in the First Regiment of Ulster County during the French Indian War.⁶⁰ Descendants of this line settled north of Albany in Schaghticoke, New York. Johann Heinrich's eldest child, Friederich Wilhelm, with whom our family line continues, married Anna Maria Kuester, whom he had gotten pregnant, on 12 February 1717 in the Lutheran Church of New Town (now West Camp).⁶¹ Today the only remnant of the West Settlement is a plaque at West Camp New York commemorating the families of the Palatine Emigration to New York who resided in the West and East Settlements. The Schram name is listed in the names of families for West Camp.

Imagine what it would be like being born in the midst of war and living six of your first eleven years in a war torn land. Being born in 1696, this was how Friederich Wilhelm spent the early years of his childhood. His early memories were most likely of the sights and sounds that the devastation of war brings. Struggling in abject poverty to survive, he was six when the second French invasion into the German States in 1702 brought war for another five years. Just two years later, in 1709, he endured, with his parents and family, the harshest winter Europe had seen in 500 years. He then survived the dangerous 4 to 6 week journey to England, the six month stay in London (and on ship) before a long three month voyage across the Atlantic to New York. At only 14, he watched his mother succumb to Typhus on Nutten Island in New York. Shortly thereafter he was introduced to a new mother before being settled with his family, on the west bank of the Hudson River. In his first two years in the West Settlement, he was old enough to work in the woods beside his father where he learned the hardships of making a living at a young age. In the time spent working side by side with his father I expect he developed a close relationship with him. By the end of the Naval Stores Project, at the age of 16 he had more than enough hard memories to last him a lifetime. I cannot even begin to fathom his strength of character. It truly makes me appreciate the life that I live today.

The first three years after the failure of the Project he likely continued to help his father in establishing the family in New Town. In April 1716, he is found in the records as a sponsor in the baptism of Johann Friedrich Aigner at the Lutheran Church in New Town.⁶² His marriage in February 1717 was followed four months later with the birth of his first child Johann Wilhelm on 22 July.⁶³ His second son Johann Heinrich, named after his father, was born and baptised 5

December 1718 in New Town.⁶⁴ On 26 April 1719, he was a sponsor in the baptism of Friedrich Schaib in the Lutheran Church of New Town.⁶⁵ The death of Pastor Kocherthal in 1719, left the Reformed church in New Town without a full time minister and in November 1720 his third child Hieronymus was baptized at Zion's Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh (now Athens).⁶⁶ There is no doubt that death of the spiritual leader at New Town contributed to the departure of families from the West Settlement.

Then in the early 1720s Friederich is found living in Kingstown with another woman named Marytjen Kiever. There is no record of him being divorced from Anna Kuester or one of him marrying Marytjen Kiever. However from this union that he had another two sons. The first, Johannes, was baptised 10 November 1721 in the Old Dutch Church of Kingstown. Friederich's brother Johannes, for whom the child was named, was a sponsor at the baptism.⁶⁷ In 1724, a second son named Frerik was conceived by Marytjen and baptised, on 12 April, in the Old Dutch Church of Kingstown.⁶⁸ On 22 Nov 1724 he and Marytjen were sponsors, at the Old Dutch Church of Kingstown, in the birth of her nephew Willem Kiever.⁶⁹

After living three years in Kingstown with another woman he was once again reunited with his wife Anna Maria Kuester. He and Anna Maria continue to expand their family. They are found in the records of Zion's Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh in the baptism of their first daughter Marietje (Maria) on 25 November 1725.⁷⁰ This is followed with baptisms in Loonenburgh of Catharina on 2 March 1728, Heinrick on 16 February 1730, Margreta on 2 April 1732 and twins Velter (Valentine) and Johann Pieter on 31 March 1734.⁷¹ In total Friederich Wilhelm had 11 children, with two women, between 1717 and 1734..

Friederich is also recorded as a sponsor in the baptisms of his nieces Catrina Schram (daughter of Johannes Schram and Catrina Weding) in Kingstown in 1725 and Anna Maria Fiero (daughter of Valentine Fiero and Catharina Schram) in New Town in 1726.⁷² In 1729 he and his wife Anna Maria settled on the Platte Kill (today called Plattekill Creek) in 1729 where he purchased 42 acres along side the land of Tunis Osterhoudt and adjoining Cornelius Langendyke's farm (1/4 mile east of the present elementary school in Mt. Marion New York).⁷³ It is in this record that the our name is spelled "Scram" for the first time in New York. Though the Province of New York had been settled for almost 75 years most of the land outside of the travel routes along the Hudson River were undeveloped wilderness. The streams and creeks feeding the

Hudson were filled with beaver and trout. The forests were filled with live game including bear and mountain cats. The trees having not been hewn by a man's hands were broad of girth and tall in height. It was land as yet untamed and one in which only people of stout heart and determination were able to make a living.

The first thing to accomplish on the Platte Kill would have been the clearing of land in which to build a log house for his large family. There was no chainsaw or equipment as there is today. With just an ax and maybe a saw, trees were felled and hauled into place by a horse or oxen if he had one. It was a long process that required working from sun up to sundown for days on end until it was completed. Johann Wilhelm, who turned 12 that summer would have pitched helping his father as did neighbours, friends, or members of the church congregation. It would have been a simple one room log house with a stone lined hearth for cooking and warmth. It most likely had a dirt floor that over the next few years were replaced by rough sawn boards from one of the mills operating in the area. With the help of his son and neighbours, he and Anna Maria established a farm and raised their family in relative peace until the commencement of the French Indian War in 1755. Though Friederich was a Reformist by faith and his wife Anna Marie a Lutheran they would hitch up their wagon and travel north to Loonenburgh, every week or two, to attend services at the Zion Lutheran Church; where his last four children were baptized. Though I searched extensively through numerous New York records I could not find any records pertaining to his death. A number of other genealogists report his death to have been in 1760. Though I doubt he died a young man, I have been unable to substantiate the date. The last record in September 1736 indicates he was a member of the church congregation in Kiskatemenesy.⁷⁴

Of Friederich's eleven children, half of them lived in and around the vicinity of the Katskill Land Patent. The oldest child, Johann Wilhelm was first married, on 19 August 1739, to Maria Liese Spaan in the Zion Church records of Loonenburgh (now Athens, N.Y.). He then married Catherine Lehman on 23 November 1745, in her father's house in Kiskatom.⁷⁵ In 1766 Johann Wilhelm is found in the New York Colonial records submitting a land petition with Johannes Trumbour for "a tract of 2,000 acres of land in the county of Albany, on the west side of the Hudson river, on Countryman's creek" (referred to as Countryman's Kill).⁷⁶ The Land Petition was never surveyed or settled because in September 1781, he is found living in Loonenburgh as a tenant farmer on the Mathys Van Loon farm.⁷⁷ I have not been able to find any further records on Friedrich's second

and third child Johann Heinrich and Hieronymus. Mayhap they both died at a young age. His fourth child Johannes married Catharina Kreisler 17 Dec 1749 at Kiskatom Reformed Church and lived in Kiskatesmesy (part of Kiskatom) where they raised their family.⁷⁸ His son Frerik (sometimes called Frederick) married Christina Lehman, the daughter of Clement Lehman and Anna Wolf, 23 December 1746 in Loonenburgh. He raised his family in Katskill, fought during the American Revolution against the British and lived to be 81.⁷⁹ The descendants of this line were early settlers in the town Catskill when it was established in the Great Imboght District. Marietje married Andreas Eckler 24 Nov 1749 in the Zion Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh and resided first in Katskill and then Coxsackie in 1775.⁸⁰ Catharina married Frederick Lampman 6 Nov 1748 in the Zion Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh and lived in Coxsackie New York before moving to Upper Canada during the American Rebellion of 1776. She lived to the age of 83 and was buried in the Lampman Burial Plot with her husband at 4491 Garner Road, near Shriners Creek, west of Niagara Falls. The headstone dates 1789 (the year her husband died) and is the oldest Schram family member headstone I have found in existence.⁸¹ Heinrick married Annatje Margrieta Frölich on 25 May 1753 in the Zion Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh, lived and raised his family in Katskill and attended the Katskill Reformed Dutch Church. He was on the Katskill Tax List in 1766.⁸² Anna Margrietje married Jacob Lehman, the son of Clement Lehman and Anna Wolf, 26 February 1751 in the Kaatsbaan Reformed Church. She and Clement settled in Katskill where they raised their family.⁸³ Valentin married Geertje Merkel 28 December 1761 in the Old Dutch Church of Kingstown. He is in records as residing in Katskill in 1772.⁸⁴ His twin brother Johan Pieter married Frederick Lampman's sister Marietje Lampman in the Zion Lutheran Church in Loonenburgh and resided in Katskill.⁸⁵

It is through Heinrick Schram that our family line continues. Through his marriage with Annatje Margrieta Frölich, of German descent, he had seven children. The eldest son Frederick was baptized 7 Feb 1754 in the Zion's Church in Loonenburg. His second son Johannes was baptized on 7 April 1755 in the Zion's Church in Loonenburg.⁸⁶ This was followed with the baptism in the Reformed Dutch Church of Katskill of Clement on 6 February 1757,⁸⁷ of Catharina on 1 April 1759,⁸⁸ and of Marietje on 30 July 1761.⁸⁹ His fourth son Abraham was baptized in the Zion's Church in Loonenburg on 15 November 1763.⁹⁰ His last child Felte was baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church of

Katskill on 29 Dec 1765.⁹¹

The year of 1754 saw the commencement of the French Indian War in the North American British Colonies. The war was an extension of continued hostilities between France and Britain and was fought over disputed territories in North America until 1763. Though most of the battles in New York were fought largely on the frontier north and west of Albany, the end of the war resulted in continued Indian uprisings in the New York territory until the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768. The Supplementary Militia under Sir William Johnson were organized of men to protect their own homes because the governing body the Assembly of New York refused to make provisions for troops or funding for the protection of settlers outside of New York.⁹² The politicians of the Assembly was made up of large land owners and wealthy merchants and were not much different than politicians today. They acted more for their collective self interest than that of the people for whom they governed. The main duty of the supplementary militia consisted of patrolling the villages, towns and countryside in which they resided keeping watch for any Indian disturbances. In 1767, Heinrick was employed in Captain Cornelius Dubois' Company in the Katskills along with his brothers Johan Pieter, Frederick, and Valentine.⁹³ In 1779, Heinrick is last found on the Land Tax records in the District of Coxhacky (Coxsackie) where the value of his real estate was 20 pounds.⁹⁴

At the conclusion of the French Indian War the land holdings of the wealthy British representatives in North America were significantly increased. It was also the precursor for the Rebellion of the 13 British Colonies as the cost of the war resulted in the passing of the Stamp Act in Britain. The Act set about to raise money for the cost of the French Indian War by taxing the movement of material and restricting illicit trading through the smuggling of goods by wealthy merchants. By the end of the French war 90 percent of the tea, wine, sugar and molasses was being smuggled into the colonies without any payment of duties to the Crown. The Act was strongly opposed by the political representatives of the 13 colonies, who so happened to be greedy merchants and lawyers. Though this group profited the most from the French Indian War they felt that they should not be responsible for supporting the costs of the British Army, have their trade (smuggling) restricted, and pay the necessary custom taxes. In response the British government sent troops to enforce their will. The situation escalated and consequently it led to the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and prompted the beginning of the American Rebellion. The fact that it was indeed a Rebellion and

not a fight for Independence has been long been lost in the annals of American History.⁹⁵

The rebellion divided families; the Schram family included. While some supported separating from Britain, others wished to remain a British colony. There is a general consensus by those who have written on the subject that most people wanted to remain neutral and just go about their every day lives. From the signing of the Declaration to the end of the war Loyalists who wished to remain neutral were fearful for their lives. Those supporting the rebellion were hateful and vindictive to those who sided with the Loyalist viewpoint and those wished to remain neutral. People were robbed, hanged and even tar and feathered for being against the rebellion. Families whose relatives had joined the British were watched and tortured at the end of a rope in an effort to get information about the location of them. Families suspected of sympathies with the British had their homes stripped bare in the winter and burned to the ground. There were even instances of families being burned within their homes. All this was done in the name of Freedom and Liberty.⁹⁶ This was the state in which John and those who sympathized with the British had to live. Such actions eventually led to the flood of Loyalist refugees into Canada⁹⁷ and consequently the settling of our nation.

There were eleven Schrams that took active participation, on the British side, in the war. Seven of those were young men who served with the British during the Rebellion. Hendrick's sister Catharina was the wife of Frederick Lampman who fought as a soldier in the infamous Butler's Rangers.⁹⁸ Heinrick's brother Johann Wilhelm had six sons join the war; three of them in Butler's Rangers.⁹⁹ Of Heinrick's own children: His daughter Catharine was married to John Henry Stoner who became a soldier in the Butler's Rangers.¹⁰⁰ His sons Abraham and Johannes were also loyalists. His eldest son Johannes, with whom our family line continues also fought with Butler's Rangers. In his land petitions of Upper Canada there are statements from Ralph Clench, an Officer of Butlers Rangers, and David Secord stating that he fought with Rangers. Prior to the war Johannes married Margrietje (Margaret) Stauffer.¹⁰¹ His first child Johan (John) Wilhelm was born in 1773 and baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church Katskill.¹⁰²

The "Infamous" Butler Rangers were formed in September 1777 by Colonel John Butler following orders to raise a Battalion of eight companies; two of which were made up of Indian Warriors from the Iroquois Six Nations; primarily Mohawk, Cayuga, Onondaga and Seneca. Men recruited to the Rangers were

hardy men familiar with living in the woods and acquainted with the ways of the Indians with whom they fought beside.¹⁰³ By Dec 1778 six full companies of Rangers were established and billeted at Fort Niagara for the winter.¹⁰⁴

There are numerous documents and books detailing the activities of the Butler's Rangers. The main role of the Rangers was to create havoc and destruction on the supply lines and fortresses of the rebel forces in the western frontier of New York. The Rangers were accused by many American historians of participating, in 1778, with Joseph Brant's Volunteers during the Wyoming Valley massacre and the Cherry Valley massacre of white settlers (women and children).¹⁰⁵ Though unfounded these actions earned Butler's Rangers a reputation for exceptional savagery throughout the duration of the war. Most likely fluent in the Indian language and well acquainted with the ways of the Indians John fought the war separated from his family, who remained in the Catskills in constant fear of their lives.

At the close of the war in 1783 John returned to Coxsackie where he continued to raise his family in a country that passed legislation that made anyone who sided with Britain during the war traitors to the newly established United States.¹⁰⁶ There are many written accounts of well to do Loyalists who lost property and possessions but none of those in the class of John who, before the war, was a farmer that led a simple life of hard work. Regardless of the conditions it is clear that he attempted to stay in New York after the war. In 1787 he is found, with his wife Margrietje, in the Reformed Dutch Church of Catskill records in the baptism of his son Jacob on April 30th.¹⁰⁷ On 23 November 1788 he and his wife are found his son in the Zion's Church records in Loonenburg in the baptism of his son Wihelm.¹⁰⁸ In the 1790 United States Census of Coxsackie he has a wife and five children; three boys and two daughters.¹⁰⁹ I have been unable to find any records for one son and the two daughters.

The map on the following page depicts the locations where our Schram relatives settled along the Hudson River Valley. The geographical names depicted on the map are from that period and are different than those of today. For example Catskill applies to the Catskill Land Patent and should not be confused with the present town of Catskill which was formed in 1788. The Reformed Dutch Church of Catskill which was attended by a good number of Schram families was built in the Great Inboght District near the Hudson River in 1733. The Schrams and many other German settlers traveled rough forest roads to

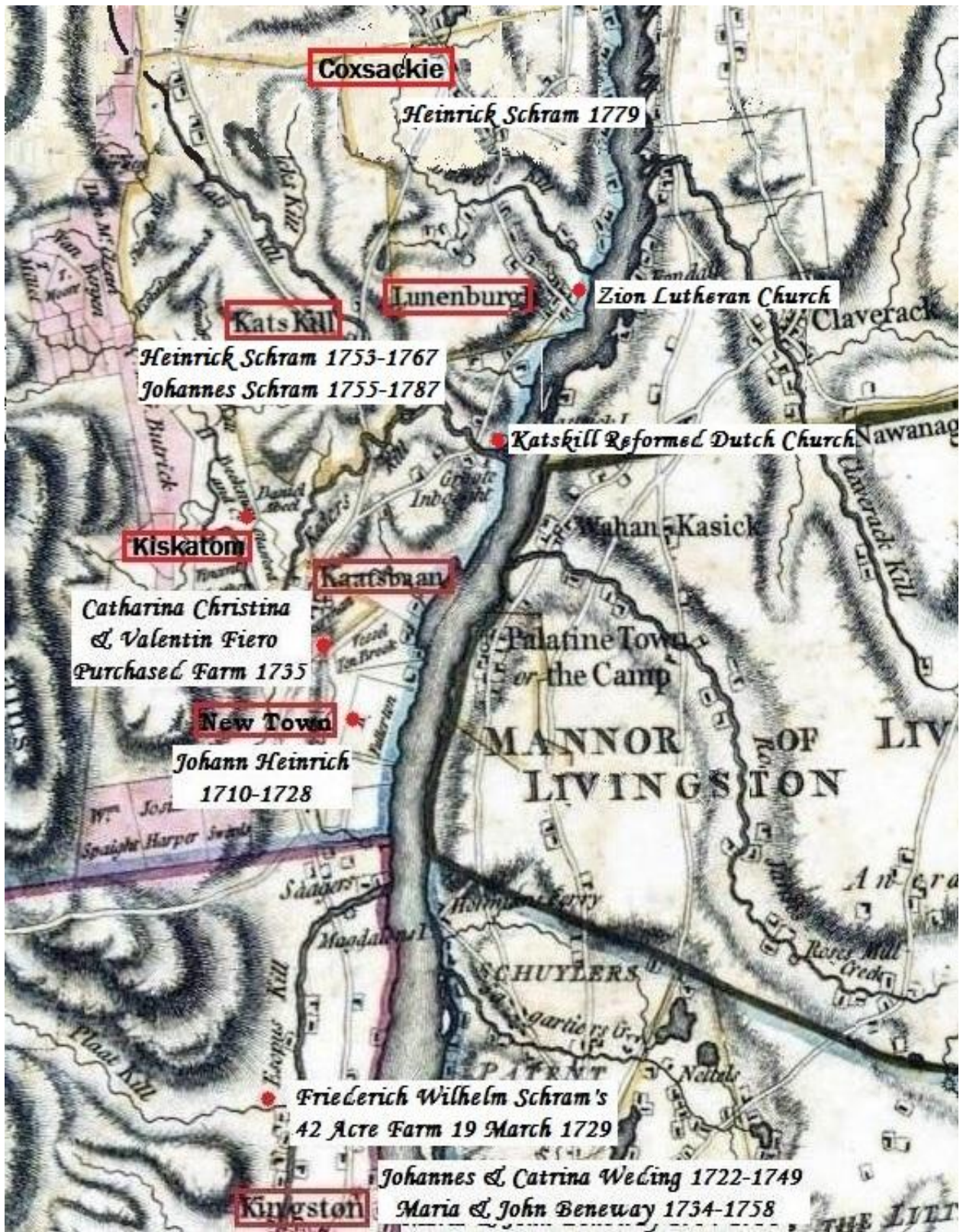


Figure 9 – Schram Family Locations Along the Hudson River Valley in New York

attend services there. References to Loonenburgh (the original spelling variation) refers to the portion of the Lunenburg Land Patent owned in part by the Van Loon family. The Zion Lutheran Church located there was established in 1704. In 1815, the town of Athens was established in the southern part of the Lunenburg Land Patent. Kiskatemenesy was within the Kiskatom Land Patent which was granted to Henry Beekman. It was in close proximity to where I have marked Kiskatom on the map. References to Coxsackie applies to the District of Coxsackie which was situated between the Katskill and Loonenburgh Land Patents and should not be confused with the town of Coxsackie which was formed in 1788.

In concluding this chapter, I think it is important to note that in 1710 Johann Heinrich Schramm in all likelihood knew nothing of the English language when he landed in New York. He and many of the other German refugees relied heavily upon the spiritual leaders and those supervising the Naval Stores Project in the first two years that they laboured to forge a new life for their families. Our German ancestors likely spoke German in the home, within the homes of their friends, neighbours and in the church congregation. Both of Johan Heinrich's sons Friederich Wilhelm and Johannes had seven sons between them; who in turn had twenty five sons and just as many daughters. Today many of their descendants still make a living in the Hudson River Valley.

Footnotes References:

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30. *Ibid No. 832i and ii*
31. *Otterness 2004 pg 98 and Doc. Hist. Vol III 1850 pgs 659, 660*
32. *Proceedings of the New York State Historical Society Volume XI Published by the New York State Historical Association 1912 pg 141*
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41. *Ibid pgs 678-679*
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44. *Knittle 1937 pg 183*
45. *Doc. Hist. Vol III 1850 pgs 683, 684*
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Move to Upper Canada

The exodus of Loyalists from the United States to Lower and Upper Canada took place between 1783 and 1800. There were no less than a dozen Schrams that left New York for a new life in Upper Canada. the oldest of this group was Catharina who married Frederick Lampman. Most all of them sons and daughters of Johan Wilhelm and Heinrick Schram; both sons of Friederich Wilhelm. Our forefather John was one of the last to make the trip north. His sister Catharina (wife to John Stoner), brothers Abraham and Frederick and cousins Frederick, John, Valentine, and Jeremiah left for Upper Canada soon after the war and are found on the Return of Loyalists and disbanded troops settled in the District of Niagara in the September 1787.¹ It is in the documents of Upper Canada that our surname first appears with the spelling "Scram" in Canada.

John left Katskill New York sometime between 1790 and 1793 to make the long journey to Upper Canada. Unlike his cousins, brother and sister he most likely did not travel lightly. I expect that he loaded up everything he owned (household items and farming tools and equipment) in an ox pulled wagon traveling overland. The trip was over 340 miles by road and if the weather was good and no major breakdowns occurred he would have been able to travel 10-20 miles a day. He would have taken the military road north 40 miles to Albany. From there he would have turned northwest on the road through the Mohawk River Valley stopping overnight at Schenectady and Stone of Arabia before reaching Fort Schuyler in about a week. After obtaining provisions at the Fort he would have traveled west for 30 to 40 miles through Oneida Indian Territory to Deep Springs. Continuing on the road from Deep Springs he and his family would have continued west on the military road crossing rivers and streams reaching before reaching Geneva, sixty miles away, in several days. With few permanent settlements between Deep Springs and Geneva he and his family would have had to make camp at night somewhere along the road. From Geneva it was another 40 miles to Kanawages, stopping overnight at Canandarqua village (the halfway point). At Kanawages village he would have bought or traded for provisions for the final 70 miles of the trip west following the Niagara Road through the wilderness to the Niagara River. The final stretch of the journey would probably have taken another one to two weeks. At the Niagara River he would have ferried

his wagon and family across the waters by boat. Once across the river he would have traveled to Newark en route to Grantham Township where he would stayed until he got things settled. The figure below outlines the two to three week journey John and his family would taken from Katskill New York.

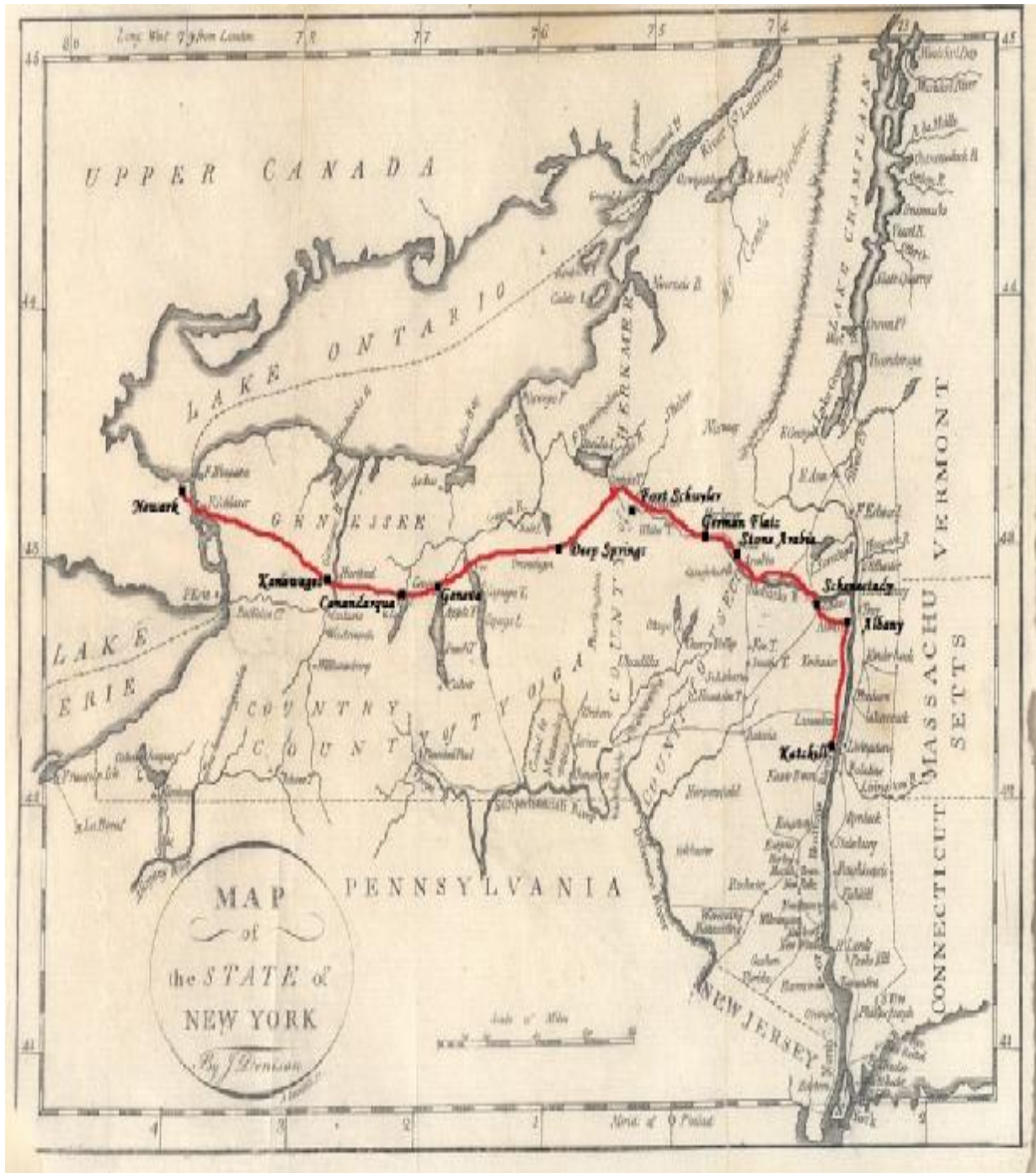


Figure 10 – Overland Travel Route to Upper Canada

It was quite a challenge trying to determine where John settled when he arrived in Upper Canada. There has been some confusion between him and his cousin Johannis (also called John) who had married Nancy Ann Darby and fought for the British in Col. Eaton's Corps. The earliest land records for a Schram date 1791. There are three 100 acre land certificates for lot 14 on concession 2, lot 13 on concession 3, and lot 16 on concession 3 in Grantham Township.² The Canadian Archives attributes these three land petitions to the John Schram who married Nancy Ann Darby.³ On a 1791 and 1794 map of Grantham Township there are found four lots with the name John Scram (lot 14 concession 2, lots 13, 16 concession 3, and lot 15 concession 4).⁴ Based on this information I believe our ancestor John initially settled on lot 15 of concession 4 in Grantham township and raised his family there until 1794. I have yet to find documentation supporting my theory. In the early stages of the Land Grant process the sole proof of title was often the "fading script on the yellowing scrap of paper originally issued". The fact is ten years after the first land allotments were made in Upper Canada scarcely a single land grant had been ratified.⁵

The first land petition for our John is found in August of 1794. In his petition he states that he was a private in Butler's Rangers and requested two lots in Township No. 10. (Hope Township) where his sister settled with her husband John Stoner. He was subsequently approved for 300 acres of land by the Land Board.⁶ I believe it was about this time he moved to Hope Township and settled on the two lots in his petition. In Jan 1797 he submitted a second land petition to the board. In it he reiterated that he was a soldier in Butler's Rangers and had only received 100 acres of land and requested the remainder due to him as is customary for soldiers.⁷ He further stated that he had married the daughter of Henry Staufer who went to Lower Canada during the war and that he had five children, four of which were born prior to 1789. It appears that the Land Board did not action his request until he provided his discharge papers with a 3rd land petition on 25 April 1797.⁸ The third petition contained a statement from Ralph Clench, an ex-officer of the Rangers, supporting his claim of military service with Butler's Rangers. In the Land Board records of 25 April 1797 the Board "Ordered 200 acres in addition to complete petitioners military lands." He received a warrant for 200 acres owed to him the next day.⁹ Copies of the three land petitions are included in Appendix C.

There were several conditions (found in Appendix D) settlers had to follow

in order to obtain title to the land they were granted. The foremost of these was that the settler had to clear a minimum number of acres and build a structure in which to live within 12-18 months upon receiving their warrant for land. In June 1797 John is found in the Return of Settlers of Hope Township with his wife, two sons and 4 daughters.¹⁰ However he did not settle in Hope because in 1799, the Return of Hope Township state that John "settled in the County of Lincoln, where it is said he has located on 100 acres".¹¹ There is no record of John having ever received a land title deed for the lots in Hope Township. The Crown deeds for lots he requested in his land petitions were awarded to a Myn Harris in 1801.¹²

It is clear from the land petitions of his children that John settled and raised his family in Pelham Township. It so happens that there exists an abandoned and untended Schram Family Burial Plot at the northern edge of Lot 9 of the 2nd concession in which his gravestone and that of his son Wilhelm resides.¹³ Family cemetery use in Upper Canada began with Loyalist families creating private burial grounds on their newly acquired land in the late 1700s. By the 1850s, families began transitioning to the use of public cemeteries and many family cemeteries became neglected and forgotten as the generations sold their land.¹⁴ Following this premise on Family Burial grounds suggests that the Schram Family Burial Plot was on the land in which John Schram settled in Pelham Township. The records however indicate that the lot on which the burial plot rests was granted to William Disher, a Loyalist who fought in Col. Butler's Rangers.¹⁵

Where John settled in Pelham can best be explained in the land records of his cousin Jeremiah who also settled in Pelham Township. Jeremiah, who fought with John in the Butlers Rangers submitted a land claim in 1794 about the same time as John. In his land claim he requested 600 acres in Hope Township on lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the 1st concession¹⁶ and had settled there in 1794. However, Jeremiah never received the land certificates for the lots he settled on until he submitted a second land petition in 1797. When he did received his warrant for land, Jeremiah decided move his family to Pelham Township where he settled on lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the 1st concession next to his nephew William who had settled on lots 15 and 16.¹⁷ Our John purchased lot 9 off his cousin Jeremiah when he moved to Pelham with his family in 1798. As the Schram Family Burial Plot is located on the northern edge of lot 9 of Concession 2 the property line dividing lot 9 on concession 2 from that of lot 9 on the 1st concession was mistakenly identified.

The surveying of the lots in Upper Canada on occasion were not very

precise. It was not unheard of for the surveyors to misjudge their measurements especially when most of Upper Canada including Pelham Township was a vast wilderness. When I try to imagine the wilderness of Upper Canada I think about an ancient stand of trees I frequently walk in the nearby woods close to where I currently live. A good many of those trees tower over 100 feet in height, have a girth well over ten feet and date 300-400 years. One can only imagine the difficulty the land surveyors faced with mature forests containing such trees as those I have seen with little more than a compass, surveyor chains and an axe to blaze trees to mark the property lines.¹⁸ In addition to dealing with old stumps, tree deadfalls, a thick undergrowth of brush, creeks and streams it is amazing that they were accurate at all. In the clearing of the land it was not unheard of for markers to be removed altogether. Combined with the fact that in 1792 the remnants of a Hurricane leveled many trees in Pelham Township¹⁹ it is no surprise that the property line was misjudged.

At the time John moved to Pelham there were very few roads into or for that matter within the Township. Travel through the dense forest was "made by ox team along trails blazed by the woods man's axe" and that bears and wolf prowled the forest in abundance.²⁰ Few records that exist detailing the lives of the first settlers lives during that time. John's lot ran the upper portion of 15 mile creek and the forest of contained maple, birch, hickory, pine and spruce trees. Clearing the land and building a home for his family would have been the first priority. This was done with the help of the community (called working bees) involving nearby family, friends and neighbours. Land was cleared to create space for crop farming, and to supply timbers to construct buildings. With the help of Jeremiah, John would have inspected hard and softwood trees on his lot with the more experienced members of the community and chosen the preferred logs for his home. The trees were then felled to use for building a log cabin; a one room building no bigger than 20' by 15' with no cellar or foundation. There were no blue prints or building codes to follow; just good old fashioned common sense. The height of the walls most likely reached eight or nine feet on top of which smaller logs were used as rafters to support a slanted roof of wood slabs or overlapping pieces of bark. A large hearth lined with stone was made near at one end of the home to keep the cold at bay during the winter. Three sides of the hearth was made with stone or if unavailable with small timbers plastered with mud or clay on both sides. The smoke escaped either through a chimney constructed of the same

materials as the walls of the hearth or barring a chimney just a hole in the roof. The floor was usually of dirt which eventually became wood slabs.²¹

Once completed he would have built a shelter for any livestock he may have brought wit him. It took several year to clear the land and this also was accomplished with the help of everyone within the community. The abundance of wood was burned, some of it to make potash, to make soap and baking soda. As the land was cleared wheat and corn was sown in the spring in fields usually full of stumps. Though the crops were tended, much of their food came from the wilderness; fish, live game made up of rabbit, muskrat, wild pigeon, ducks, rabbits raccoon and even bear. The creek was full of trout and even salmon. In the spring and summer roots of the bull rush, fern shoots, wild strawberries, and wild herbs like mint and white tarrow. In the fall blackberries and nuts were gathered in the fall. Wood from the fields was cut and stacked in preparation for the winter. Life was one of hard physical work for everyone, the children included; unlike today when much of our time is spent in leisurely pursuits. The Six nation Indians who came north with the Loyalists taught many a settler how to tan the hides of deer and use sinew to make clothes. It was not an easy life by our standards today, but to them it was just something that had to be done. Though today we consider it a hard life to them it was simply their way of life.²² The few roads that existed in Pelham township, with the exception of the Old Pelham Road (currently route 69), were just paths cleared through the forests. The clay sub base of the land was good when it was dry in the summer or frozen in the winter but terrible in the spring, fall and rainy weather.²³ This would remain the case well into the late 1880s.

From this point until his death there are no further records of John. I don't know what he farmed, whether or not he was active in the Pelham community, or even whether his children attended school. I do know that he could read and write in English because he signed his land 1797 petition. According to the land petition records of his children John and Margaret had five more children in Pelham Township. Utilizing the petition submission dates and Canadian Census records their birthdates were determined as follows: Catherine born 1799, John born 1800, Jeremiah born 1801, Margaret born 1806 and Hannah born 1810.²⁴ About the time Margaret was born John's oldest son Jacob married Catherine Patterson. He had been living in Pelham farming with his father. In 1807 Jacob raised a land petition as the son of a Loyalist and received a warrant for 200 acres in 1808²⁵ eventually settling to the west in Gainsborough Township.

In 1808, the government of Upper Canada were receiving reports about American's immigrating into the country who were promoting open revolt against the British. By November 1809 reports indicated the United States were planning to attack. In response the British Government started mobilizing their navy and instituted plans to bolster militia units comprised of men from the general populace.²⁶ In 1810 John's brother Jeremiah left Pelham and moved to Westminster Township and was one of the first settlers of Wahoo (present day Lambeth).²⁷ By 1811 the militia units were being mobilized along the border. John's son Jacob joined the 2nd Regiment Lincoln Militia serving in Captain George Keefer's Company and fought during the War of 1812. In the Battle of Queenstown Heights on 13 Oct 1812, he fought in Capt Hamilton's Flank Company of the 2nd Lincoln Battalion.²⁸ His father John having fought during the American Rebellion had a young family at home and did not do any militia service.

At the conclusion of the war in 1815 life returned to normalcy. About this time William Disher built a mill on 15 Mile Creek just south of the Schram Burial Plot. The mill was in operation until the late 1800s. ²⁹ Over time the portion of 15 mile creek that the mill operated on became known as Sawmill creek . At the same time the mill was established Sawmill Road was cut through the forest subsequently dividing concession 1 and 2. When the new road annexed the burial ground from John's property it become apparent that John had encroached on William Disher's land. Though I completed an exhaustive search, there are no records to indicate how the situation was resolved. I surmise that William having been a "brother in arms" with John in the Butler's Rangers during the American Rebellion overlooked the matter or received some sort of compensation from John in order to leave the Burial Plot in his possession. Whatever agreement existed between the two men was extended at least until John's death in 1851 when he was interned there.

About 1817 John's daughter Catherine married John Smith and moved to Gainsborough Township. In July 1819 she submitted a land petition asking for 200 acres of land as the daughter of a United Empire Loyalist and was issued a land patent in November.³⁰ Courtship and marriage during this early period in Upper Canada was somewhat restricted by the geography and transportation routes. Two out of three men and women married someone within their own community. Generally the sons and daughters of families knew each other from social gatherings such as work bees, schooling and church and it was generally

through these meetings that marriages were arranged.³¹ The marriage of his son John to Julia Ann Oille³² about 1820 was one such example. She was the daughter of Nicholas Oille and Eva Frank. Nicolas Oille's ancestors immigrated to America from Germany. During the American Revolution Nicolas served with the Continental Troops in the Artillery of the Fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Line. He married Eva Frank in the year 1786. After the war, Nicholas Oille brought his wife and their children to Upper Canada. He was granted 400 acres of land in Pelham Township. The first map of Pelham carries the name of Nicholas Oille on Lots 6 and 7 of concessions 1 and 2.³³ In 1822 John's son John submitted a land petition as the son of a Loyalist and was granted 200 acres in Gainsborough Township where he and his wife settled on lot 19 concession 3 in 1823.³⁴ In 1829 John's daughter Margaret at the age of 23 submitted a land petition and was granted 200 acres in 1832.³⁵ It is interesting to note that on her land petition is a statement from Joseph Disher attesting that she is was a resident of Pelham Township. Joseph Disher worked the farm with his father William and received lots 9 and 10 on concession 2 when his father passed away in 1835. I recently found evidence that suggests that the Margaret Schram married George Pattison. George's brothers John and Jacob settled in Pelham Township in the early 1800s and it may be through them that Margaret may have met George. In 1831 John's son Jeremiah at the age of 21 submitted a land petition, received 200 acres in November 1831 and settled on lot 18 of concession 3.³⁶ It was there that he raised a family with his wife Catherine Sarah Pranke. Catherine his wife is found on the 1901 Canadian Census John's daughter Hannah (sometimes referred to as Sarah) who had married Alexander McQueen, raised a land petition in July 1831 and was granted 200 acres in July 1832.³⁷ They settled in Woodhouse Township Norfolk County in 1851 where they had a son John.³⁸ As for John's last son Wilhelm, no land petition is recorded. There is a record of a William Schram marrying Eve Bradt and settling in Louth Township. But I have not been able to make a connection. The only other record that exists for Wilhelm is his burial in the Schram Family Burial Plot in 1834.³⁹ Given his burial there it is most likely he lived with his parents tending the farm with them in their elderly years. His death at the time left his father, at the age of 79, with a farm difficult to manage alone.

In the early 1840s John sold his farm to Peter and Louisa Guintier, German immigrant who had come to Canada in 1837.⁴⁰ In 1862 Peter's name is found on lots 9 and 10 of concession 1 and in 1876 his son David.⁴¹ It was about this time

John and Margaret moved to Gainsborough Township to live with their eldest son Jacob. He and his wife are found on the 1851 Canadian Census in Jacob's household. Margaret at 95 years of age was still alive while John was listed as a male death at 96 years old. His cause of his death was old age.⁴² He was buried in the fall of 1851 in the Schram Family Burial Plot. According to his headstone he had lived to be over 96 years of age. It was in November 2015 that my sister Alice and I visited the Schram Family Burial Plot for the first time. John's grave marker had fallen from its upright position and was lying flat on the ground. His headstone reads:

"John Schram Died Sept. 17 1851 96 years 5 mos. & 10 days".

A photograph of his headstone is provided in Appendix E. Sadly the marker for his son Wilhelm was not present. Disappointingly the farmer in possession of the property had been harvesting the field of hay with total disregard for any of the remaining grave markers. Soon no physical record will exist to indicate John ever lived there. Of his children, I have been unable to find the records of the 4 daughters listed on the Hope Township Return of 1797. The figure on page 79 is a map depicting where John and his three sons settled in Upper Canada.

It is through John Schram and Julia Ann Oille that our family continues. John and Julia Ann had ten children. Their first child Eve was born in 1821. Eve died in 1844 at the age of 23 and is buried in the Riverside/Wellandport Cemetery.⁴³ Their oldest son John Nicholas was born 22 Feb 1823.⁴⁴ He married Rebecca Dawdy in 1842⁴⁵ had six children and took over the farm about 1860. John and Julia's second son William Henry was born in 1825⁴⁶ and settled on lot 6 of the 1st concession in Canborough Township.⁴⁷ He was married to the following three women: Emeline Robbins, Elizabeth Anna Miller and lastly Johanna Coleberry in 1883.⁴⁸ He had three children with his first wife Emeline Robbins and two children with his second wife Elizabeth Anna Miller. John and Julia's third son Simeon was born in 1833⁴⁹. He married Eve Johnson and settled in Charlotteville Township.⁵⁰ They had two children before he passed away in 1874. In 1835 John and Julia's fifth child Julia Ann was born.⁵¹ She married Hanson Gracey, settled in Wainfleet Township and had nine children.⁵² In 1836 John and Julia's sixth child Lovina was born.⁵³ She died at the age of 20 and is buried in Fairview Cemetery Charlotteville.⁵⁴ John and Julia's seventh child Emmanuel was born in 1842.⁵⁵ He married Theresa Johnson,⁵⁶ sister of Eve

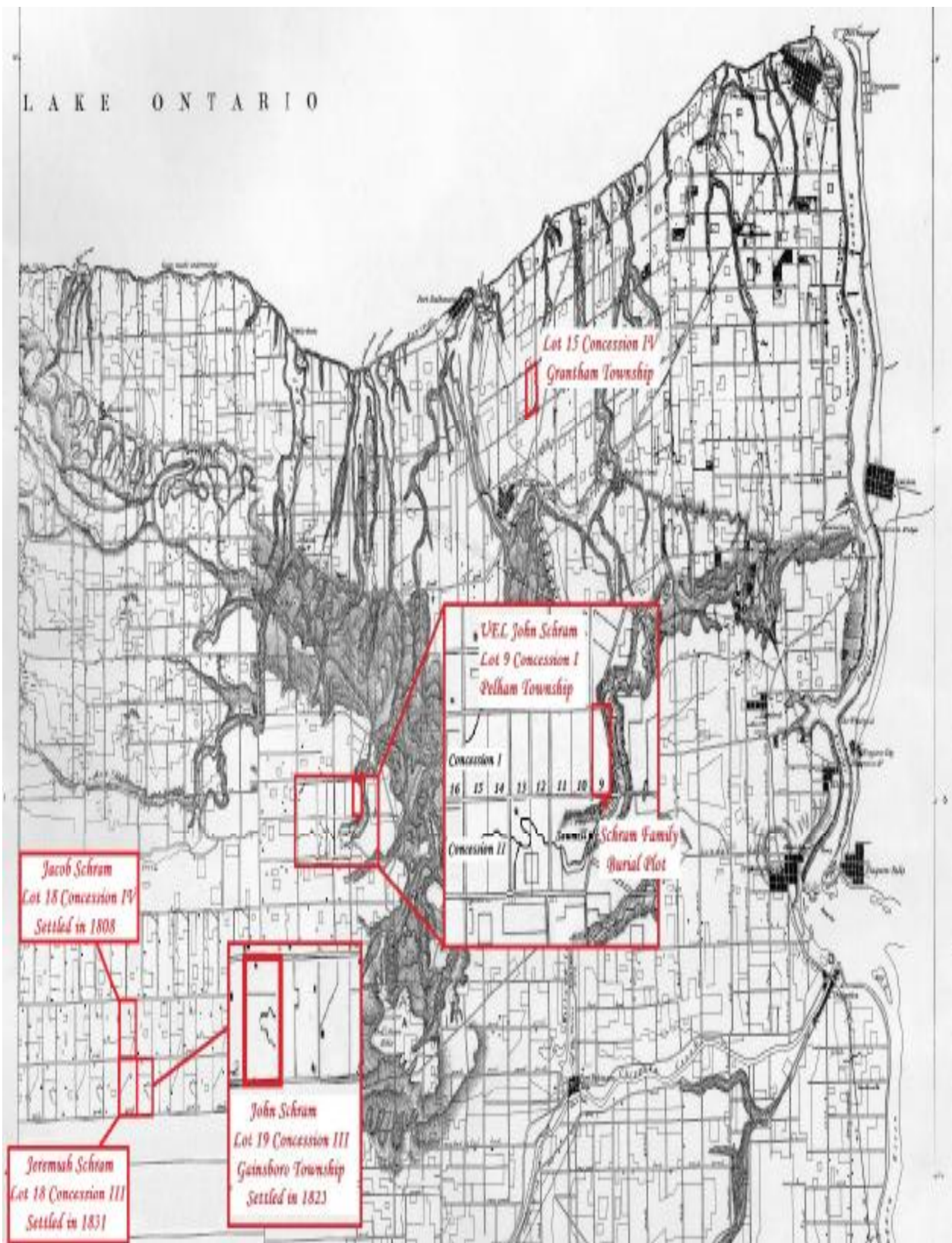


Figure 11 – Locations where UEL John Schram and his sons settled

Johnson, and settled in Charlotteville Township.⁵⁷ They had eight children, the last of which lived 24 years of their life in Vittoria Ontario. In 1843 John and Julia's eighth child Nathaniel was born.⁵⁸ He married Sarah Burke and settled in Walsingham Township.⁵⁹ They had seven children; three of which died before the age of twenty. John and Julia's ninth child Elijah was born in 1848.⁶⁰ He married Edith Johnson, the sister of Eve and Theresa Johnson and eventually settled in Michigan United States.⁶¹ They had eight children, four of which were born in Canada.

When John settled in Gainsborough Township in 1823 he built a frame house rather than a log home. His lot was located kitty corner to his brother Jacob's lot. There is no doubt that Jacob helped his younger brother get settled. In 1832 their brother Jeremiah received his land grant and located next to them. Their three parcels of land formed a large 600 acre tract of land. The figure below depicts where the three brothers settled on lands granted to them, by the Crown, as loyalist sons. Between 1832 and 1862 the three brothers and their children formed a cooperative farming group intrinsic to many of the early German settlers. In 1876 the original homesteads for each of them was still in existence running under the capable hands of their descendants.⁶² The mid to late 1800s was a period of unprecedented growth for the rural farming community; one in which John, his brothers and their children thrived. It was hard, healthy work from sun up to sundown which produced the fruits of their labour. Born of noble German origins 450 years ago, the Schram family by the mid 1800s had become humble servants of the land.

As with many a family during that period John had to live through some difficult times. In 1834 he lost his brother William who had been living in Pelham working the farm with their father. In 1844, he and Julia faced the one nightmare most parents dread; the loss of a child. Eve their daughter died at the age of 23. It was followed seven years later by the death of his father in September 1851 and that of his wife Julia Ann in January 1852, at the age of 50.⁶³ The death of his wife was too much to bear too much for him to bear. One cannot imagine what it must have been like for him to lose his father and wife within 6 months of each other. Despite the support he must have received from his brothers there were too many memories in the house he and his wife had lived for almost 30 years. Shortly after his wife's death, John sold what was left of the farm to his oldest son John Nicholas and moved west to settle in Charlotteville Township of Norfolk County.

He still had a young family so he could not just lay down and die. The farm he sold to his son remained in his family into the 1900s.

John bought 200 acres in Charlotteville and in 1856 he is found on lots 9 and 10 of concession 1 and lot 9 of concession 2 of Charlotteville Township.⁶⁴ At the age of 52 with his six children (Simeon age 19, Julia Ann age 17, Lovina age 16, Elijah age 14, Nathaniel age 9 and Emmanuel age 8) he started over again. For four years he worked the land with his sons and daughters; the older girls looking after the younger ones. In 1856, disaster struck yet again when his daughter Lovina passed away at the age of 20.⁶⁵ This was followed by the marriage of Julia Ann to Hanson Gracey about 1857, as her first child Martha was born in 1858.⁶⁶ About the same time Simeon married Eve Johnson and went to live with the Johnson's. This left John with only Elijah, Nathaniel and Emmanuel at home to help run the farm.

In 1860 John married on 23 April 1860 31 year old Hester Revely (ne: Stratton), a woman half his age.⁶⁷ Into the family came Hester's daughter Jemima. By 1861, Nathaniel, who was 18, left home to live with his distant cousin David Schram on concession 4, leaving only Elijah and Emmanuel to work the farm.⁶⁸ On 14 August 1862 John's last child Thomas Sylvester was born.⁶⁹ Thomas Sylvester married Annie Laura McBride and settled in Port Dover.⁷⁰ By 1871, John's sons Emmanuel and Elijah had married and left the farm and he had relocated to Walsingham Township.⁷¹ It was on October 1877 John died, according to his death certificate, at the age of 77.⁷² By 1881 Hester, going by the name of Estar, is raising her Thomas by working in a tollhouse in Charlotteville.⁷³ It is from the death announcement in the British Canadian Newspaper that his full name was first discovered to be John "Nathaniel".⁷⁴ On census records he always used his first name but it appears from this record that he went by the name Nathaniel. He is buried beside his first wife in the Fairfield Cemetery in Charlotteville Township. A photo of his headstone and Julia Ann are found in Appendix E. On the 1881 Canadian

It was during John's generation that the Schram family began marrying outside the German ethnic society. The paternal and maternal lines in the generations up to and including John had historically both been of German descent. This changed with John's children; three of which married into the Johnson family and one into the Dawdy family, both of which were descended from Holland. Hanson Gracey and Sarah Burke were both descended from Ireland

and Annie Laura McBride was descended from Scotland. Of the John's children I could not find one that had married a spouse with German origins.

It is through Nathaniel Schram and Sarah Elizabeth Burke that our family line continues. In the 1861 Nathaniel was no longer living at home. At 18, he left the farm to work as a teamster (wagon driver). His ability to work a team of horses is something he would have learned working on the farm. Nathaniel's employment as a teamster opened up a new world to explore; a world outside of the farm and Township in which he grew up.

Teamsters played a crucial roll during the war of 1812 and in the development of Canada in the early 1800s. However, it was not until 1874 that the Canadian government recognized the importance of the teamsters in their role during the War of 1812.⁷⁵ Teamsters were in great demand in the mid to late 1800s as new roads were being constructed and old ones improved. In an age before the automobile they were essential in the transportation of goods to the railroad companies in Ontario, the first of which was the Great Western Railway.⁷⁶ I suspect it was through his job that he met his wife Sarah Elizabeth Burk. Her parents had moved the family from Mulmur Township, just east of Lake Simcoe, after 1861 to settle in Bertie Township in Welland County.⁷⁷ It was in Bertie Township that Nathaniel married Elizabeth on 15 April 1866.⁷⁸ He worked as a teamster while residing in Charlotteville, until about 1880 when he returned to farming in Walsingham Township.⁷⁹

Nathaniel and Elizabeth Burk had seven children. In 1867, Alice Jane was born. She married on 7 November 1888, James Streets, a Locomotive Fireman.⁸⁰ They settled in Bridgeburg Village in Welland County and had five children.⁸¹ Their second child Rebecca Ann was born in 1868. She married on 7 August 1888, in Port Rowan, William Wood of Bertie Township.⁸² He became a Railway Engineer and they settled Bertie Township where they had a son.⁸³ In 1872 Nathaniel and Elizabeth's third child Maud was born. She married on 28 December 1898, in St. Williams, Patrick Chambers.⁸⁴ They settled on lot 20 of the 7th concession in Walsingham, working the 100 acre farm with Patrick's uncle John Chambers.⁸⁵ On the 11th of February 1876, while on a visit to her parents in Willoughby Township, Elizabeth gave birth to twins George Nelson and John Nicholas.⁸⁶ Sadly the older twin George Nelson died a day after the birth.⁸⁷ Just under two years later, in the fall of 1877, Nathaniel's father passed away. Nathaniel and Elizabeth did not have their sixth child, William Henry, until the 11th of March 1883.⁸⁸ Around this time Nathaniel bought a 25 acre farm in

Walsingham Township and returned to farming. He settled next to his in-laws on lot 20 of the 7th concession and is found listed in the Farmers Directory for Norfolk County in 1886.⁸⁹ The year 1888, was a year to celebrate as Nathaniel and Elizabeth's daughters Rebecca and Alice were married in the fall. Over the next several years John and his family settled down to a life of farming in Walsingham Township.

In the early 1890's, John Nicholas met Rosilla Bouck. Though they reportedly married the only record to confirm it is their headstone in the Langton Baptist cemetery. On August 29th 1893, Nathaniel's last child Walter Clayton was born.⁹⁰ It was not an easy birth for Elizabeth as complications resulted in her and the baby being hospitalized. Though the doctors tried desperately to improve her condition she passed away on 15 September, two weeks after the birth at the age of 46. Her cause of death was listed as "blood poisoning due to confinement".⁹¹ Walter Clayton followed his mother to the grave just five months later in February.⁹² It was a terrible time for Nathan and the family. Both were buried together in Morden Cemetery. Nathaniel married two years later, on 25 September 1895, 22 year old Martha Ann Wilkins. No children came from the marriage and by 1901 she was no longer in the household.⁹³ In 1898 Maud married Patrick Chambers moving to the Chambers farm next to Nathaniel's. At the time of the 1901 Canadian Census Nathaniel was leasing the farm to his son John and worked as a farm labourer earning 230 dollars in 8 months. Nathaniel and John are listed as being Canadian with a Dutch origin. How this came about is unknown because both parents of John's father were of German descent and that of his mother Irish. In 1904 Nathaniel's son William Henry died, in his 22nd year, after a nine month battle against bright's disease and was laid to rest in Morden Cemetery.⁹⁴ Nathaniel died six years later on 8 July 1910 at the age of 67 years 2 months and 16 days. His cause of death was Mitral regurgitation (Heart disease) and Myocarditis (Infection of the heart muscle)⁹⁵ Myocarditis would eventually kill his brother Emmanuel and son Sylvester. He was laid to rest in Morden Cemetery beside his wife Sarah Elizabeth. A photo of their headstones can be found in Appendix E.

It is through John Nicholas, the only surviving son of Nathaniel and Rosilla Bouck, that our family line continues. Rosilla was the daughter of John and Margaret Bouck of Walsingham Township.⁹⁶ The Bouck family were descended from Germany and came over to North America during the Palatine migration at which time their name was spelled "Bauch".⁹⁷ So it was with their

marriage that our family's maternal and paternal lines were German. John and Rosilla had eight children. Their eldest child Pearl born in 1894.⁹⁸ She married William Hosner had five children by 1921, two (Irene and William) of which died in a fire.⁹⁹ They settled in North Walsingham where they raised their family.¹⁰⁰ Their second child Elsie May was born in 1898.¹⁰¹ She married, in Walsingham, on 25 December 1913 her first husband William Jenny.¹⁰² In 1900, John's third child Elizabeth Jane was born.¹⁰³ She married in Courtland Ontario, on 27 February 1919, Elford Rutledge; the son of John Rutledge and Elizabeth Reid.¹⁰⁴ In 1902, John's first son John Leslie was born, followed by William Cecil in 1905, Archie in 1907 and Walter Melvin in 1911.¹⁰⁵

John Nicholas (my great grandfather) grew up farming and was a farmer in Walsingham Township his whole life. My father told me that he used to visit his grandfather's farm as a child. He fondly remembers his grandfather wearing neckties. Outside of that I know very little about him. In 1911, his eldest daughter Pearl worked in Port Rowan employed full time as a dining room girl. In 1914 the first World war broke out and the country began mobilizing troops. According to my father in 1918, the last year of the war, John Leslie attempted to enlist but was denied because of his age. John, Rosilla and his children survived the 1918 Flu pandemic (Spanish Flu) that followed the war. By 1921 his three daughters were married, and sons John and Cecil were employed on the farm. He and Rosilla lived in a single storey wood frame house with six rooms and were staunch Baptists.

In 1928 John's wife Rosilla was admitted to the Welland County hospital on 20 February. She was diagnosed with cervical cancer and multiple metastasis and died three weeks later at the age of 55.¹⁰⁶ She is buried in the Langton Baptist Cemetery in North Walsingham Township.¹⁰⁷ A year after her death came the Great Depression of 1929 hit the country. In the Depression John took up trapping, hunting and fishing to feed his family. On the heels of the Depression came the second World War during which rationing was implemented to sustain the war effort. It was in 1945 at the close of the war that John Nicholas passed away.¹⁰⁸ He was buried beside his wife in Langton Baptist Cemetery. A photo of their tombstone can be found in Appendix E.

It is through John Leslie, my grandfather, that my family line descends. My grandfather went by his second name Leslie or "Les". In 1916, at the age of 14 he was incarcerated in the Simcoe jail for stealing a bicycle.¹⁰⁹ He was a troublesome youth in his teenage years. In October 1925, at the age of 23, he

married a 16 years old girl named Myrtle Bonser¹¹⁰ and from their union a son was born in 1927.¹¹¹ I have been unable to find any information about his marriage to Myrtle Bonser. A few years after the birth of his son my grandfather left Myrtle and his son and had very little to do with them. There is no record that they ever divorced. In fact when Myrtle died in 1977, her tombstone was inscribed with "w/o Leslie Schram".¹¹²

My grandfather moved to Yarmouth Township in Elgin County sometime in the early 1930s at the start of the Depression. He was an avid trapper and hunter who sold animal pelts to make a living. It was during this time that he met my grandmother Marie Rose "Viola" Durocher. It was with Viola that he had a 45 year common law marriage and had six children. My grandmother, a French Canadian, was born and baptized in Hawkesbury Ontario.¹¹³ Her father Eli Durocher and mother Alexandria Thibeault were his first cousin.¹¹⁴ Eli's mother Louise Martel was the sister of Amanda's mother Marguerite Martel. Eli and Amanda left Hawkesbury and moved to Sarnia Ontario where he worked as Rigger for the Municipality.¹¹⁵ I don't know how my grandparents met.

In the first ten years of their relationship my grandparents were very transient, moving every couple of years. They lived in five different places in and around St. Thomas Ontario. From 1932 to 1936 they rented a house on Horseshoe Hill where their first two children were born. In 1937, they moved to the corner of Burwell Road and Talbot Street where they rented a house until 1939. Their third child was born there in 1938. The house has long since been demolished. From 1940 to 1943 they rented a Farmhouse on Concession 10. It was there that their fourth and fifth child were born. In 1944, their last child was born when they were renting a farmhouse on Highway 4 across from the old Ford Plant. In 1945 they moved to Elm Line to settle in a small 4 room house where they lived until their deaths. The old 4 room house they lived in was condemned and demolished following an electrical fire in the mid 1970s. The map on the following page depicts the five locations where my grand parents lived in and around St. Thomas.

Hunting and trapping helped my grandfather feed his family during the Depression and second World War. My father told me that growing up squirrel, duck, goose, rabbit and raccoon were regular staples of the dinner table. Besides providing meat to the larder my grandfather sold animal pelts. According to the family, my grandfather had an intimate relationship with the Six Nation Indians; of which tribe I was never told. There was never a shortage of stories about medicinal remedies that grandfather had learned from the Indians; the details

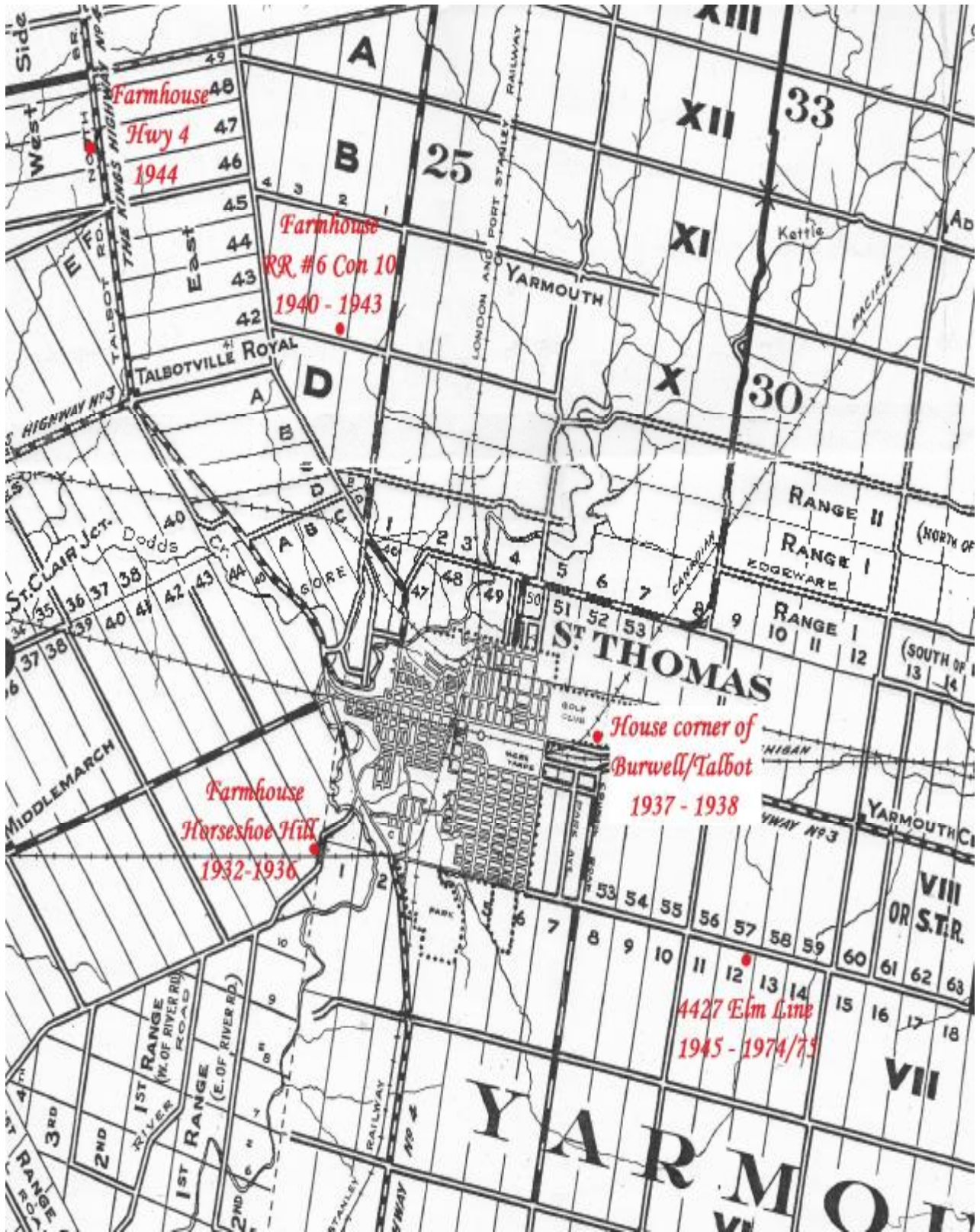


Figure 12 – Where John Leslie Schram and Viola Durocher Resided

of which (if they existed) were never passed on to his children and have long since been lost.

When my grandparents moved to Elm Line around 1945, my grandfather had been working at the Canada Iron Foundry in St Thomas. The foundry produced cast iron products such as sewer grates, fire hydrants and wheels for rail cars. My grandfather worked in the foundry yard until 1967 at which time he retired at the age of 65. In the 1970s, the Iron Foundry became known as Cannon¹¹⁶ and in 1988 it stopped operations and closed its doors. Today there is only an empty lot where the foundry once stood.

It was in December of 1968, just a year after he retired that my grandfather passed away.¹¹⁷ Though he died when I was only seven, I remember vividly the times my parents took us to visit. His death hit us all hard but no one more so than my father. They had spent a lot of time fishing and hunting raccoon together and when grandfather died, my dad hung up his 22 gauge rifle on the wall never to take it down again and lost interest in fishing for the longest time. After my grandfather's death our visits to our grandparents house stopped. Though I never asked about my grandmother, I had always assumed following my grandfather's death that she had moved out of the old house and lived with one of my aunts or uncle. It was not until last fall when visiting my father that I found out she had remained in the old house on Elm Line until the mid 1970s. Not only did my grandmother lose her husband when he died, but that she lost her grandchildren as well. It was in 1976, eight years after my grandfather's death that my grandmother quietly passed away.¹¹⁸ Some of my fondest childhood memories will always be of the times I spent at their home playing outside with my twin brother and two older sisters. My grandparents are buried beside each other in South Park Cemetery in St. Thomas. A photo of their gravestone is included in Appendix E.

Footnotes:

- 1. Return of Loyalists and disbanded troops settled in the District of Niagara from Mill Creek prepared by Robert Hamilton. Superintendent of the Western District 17 Sep 1787*
- 2. Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 3 Petition Numbers 55, 204, & 239*
- 3. Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 7 Petition Numbers 28*
- 4. 1791 Grantham Township Map and 1794 Grantham Township Map*
- 5. Historical Narratives of Early Canada - Land Allotment and Registry Offices*
- 6. Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle Miscellaneous 1788-1794 Petition Number 36*
- 7. Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle Miscellaneous 1783-1818, Petition Number 20*
- 8. Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 3 Petition Number 18*
- 9. Land Book C pg 14*

10. *Township of Hope Return made by Messrs. J. Walton, Abraham Walton and Elias Smith in 1797 in Upper Canada Land Book C pgs 98 & 99*
11. *Letter of Elias Smith to His Honor Peter Russell, Esquire, President administering the Government of Upper Canada In Council dated 1799*
12. *History of the Township of Hope by Harold Reeve published by The Township of Hope 1992*
13. *The Heritage of Life and Death of Family Cemeteries in Niagara Ontario Ph'D Thesis of Catherine Patterson 2013 McMaster University pg 197*
14. *Ibid pg 2*
15. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "D" Bundle 2 Petition Number 78 and History of the County of Welland Ontario: Its Past and Present Welland Tribune Printing House 1887 pgs 438,484*
16. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 1 Petition Number 66*
17. *Annals of the Forty No. 8 Published by the Grimsby Historical Society 1957 pg 23*
18. *History of the Settlement of Upper Canada by W.M. Canniff published by Dudley & Burns Printers Toronto 1869 pg 179*
19. *History of the County of Welland Ontario: Its Past and Present Welland Tribune Printing House 1887 pg 293*
20. *Ibid pg 292*
21. *History of the Province of Ontario (Upper Canada) by W.M. Canniff published by A.H Hovey Toronto 1872 pgs 185-190*
22. *Ibid pg 202*
23. *History of the County of Welland Ontario: Its Past and Present Welland Tribune Printing House 1887 pg 291*
24. *1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township, Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 12 Petition Number 270, Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 13 Petition Number 168, Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 17 Petition Numbers 37, 22 and Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "M" Bundle 17 Petition Number 175*
25. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 8 Petition Number 147*
26. *Upper Canada Sundries C4505 pgs 3608-3611, 3425-3427*
27. *Vanished Villages of Middlesex by Jennifer Grainger 2002 published by Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc. Toronto pg 305*
28. *Queenston Heights by Ernest Cruikshank W.T. Sawle & Company Welland 1890 pg 19*
29. *Pelham Historical Calendar 1988 "Some Old Man-made Landmarks in Pelham"*
30. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 12 Petition Number 270 and Land Book K pg 305*
31. *Courtship Love and Marriage in Nineteenth Century English Canada by Peter Ward 1990 McGill-Queen's University Press Kingston pgs 61, 71*
32. *Ontario Marriages, 1869-1927 Film #1869762*
33. *Annals of the Forty No. 7 Published by the Grimsby Historical Society 1956 pgs 13,14*
34. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 13 Petition Number 168, Land Book L pg 35, and 1851 Canadian Census Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 3*
35. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 17 Petition Number 37, Land Book P pg 91*
36. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "S" Bundle 17 Petition Number 22, Land Book P pg 47*
37. *Upper Canada Land Petitions LAC "M" Bundle 17 Petition Number 175, Land Book P pg 225*
38. *1851 Census Canada West Norfolk County Woodhouse Township pg 26*
39. *The Heritage of Life and Death of Family Cemeteries in Niagara Ontario Ph'D Thesis of Catherine Patterson 2013 McMaster University pg 197*
40. *History of the County of Welland Ontario: Its Past and Present Welland Tribune Printing House 1887 pg 493*

41. Tremaines' Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland Canada West 1862 and Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland, Ont. Toronto published by H.R. Page & Co., 1876 Pelham Township Map
42. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pgs 2, 3
43. Riverside Wellandport Cemetery - Headstone of Eve
44. Ontario Deaths 1886 Schedule "C" Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 101 Reg.#010282
45. Ontario Archives microfilm MS 248, reel 1, vol. 4 Marriages in the Gore District, 1842 -1855
46. Ontario Deaths 1906 Schedule "C" Haldimand County Canborough Township pg 7 Reg.#011906
47. 1871, 1881, 1901 Canadian Census for Canborough Township County of Haldimand/Monck and Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Haldimand, Ont. Toronto published by H.R. Page & Co., 1876 Pelham Township Map
48. Ontario Marriages, 1869-1927 Film #1869762
49. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 5
50. 1861 Census Canada West Norfolk County Charlotteville Township pg 38
51. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 5
52. 1871 Canadian Census Monck County Wainfleet Township pg 53
53. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 5
54. Fairview Cemetery Charlotteville Headstone of Lovinia Schram
55. 1861 Census Canada West Norfolk County Charlotteville Township pg 50
56. 1856 Norfolk County Marriage Records
57. Ontario Deaths 1928 Schedule "C" County of Norfolk Charlotteville pg 3 Reg.#024888
58. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 5 and Ontario Deaths 1910 Schedule "C" Norfolk County North Walsingham pg 521 Reg.#021651
59. 1881 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County Charlottesville Township pg 34
60. 1851 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pg 5
61. 1880 US Census, Michigan, Iosco County, Township of Au Sable pg 2
62. Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland, Ont. Toronto published by H.R. Page & Co., 1876 Gainsborough Township Map
63. Fairview Cemetery Charlotteville Township - Headstone of Julia Ann Schram
64. Ontario Historic County Maps - Norfolk County Map (1856)
65. Fairview Cemetery Charlotteville Township - Headstone of Lovina
66. 1861 Census Canada West Monck County Wainfleet Township pgs 37, 48
67. County Marriage Registers of Ontario, Canada, 1858-1869 Volumes 34-37 by Elizabeth Hancocks Generation Press 1979 pg 73
68. 1861 Census Canada West Lincoln County Gainsborough Township pgs 44,50 & 51
69. Province of Ontario Certificate of Registration of Death Reg.#025256
70. 1911 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County Port Dover pg 2
71. 1871 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County Charlottesville Township pg 71 and 1871 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County Walsingham Township pg 64
72. Ontario Deaths 1877 Schedule C Norfolk County Gainsborough Township pg 391 Reg.#009644
73. 1881 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County Charlotteville Township pg 50
74. British Canadian Newspaper dated 17 October 1877 pg 3
75. Statutes of the Province of Canada and Dominion of Canada Part 1 Published by the Province of Ontario by John Notman 1876 pg 457
76. Great Western Railway of Canada by David Guay published by Dundurn Publishers Toronto 2015 Chapter 2
77. 1861 Census Canada West Simcoe County Mulmuir Township pg 7 and 1871 Census of Canada Ontario Welland County Bertie Township pg 51

78. *County Marriage Registers of Ontario, Canada, 1858-1869 Vols 34-37 by Elizabeth Hancocks*
Generation Press 1979 pg 74
79. *1871 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County Charlottesvillle Township pg 12 and The Union Publishing Co.'s Farmers and Business Directory for the Counties of Haldimand, Lincoln , Norfolk, and Welland 1884-85 Vol. I Printed by K. Rowland at Tribune Printing House Thames Street Ingersoll 1884 pg 141*
80. *Ontario Marriages 1888 Norfolk County Reg.#008171*
81. *1901 Census of Canada Welland County, Bridgeburg Village pg 3*
82. *Ontario Marriages 1888 Norfolk County Reg.#008202*
83. *1891 Census of Canada Welland County Bertie Township pg 33*
84. *Ontario Marriages 1899 Norfolk County Reg.#011119*
85. *1901 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 9*
86. *Ontario Births 1876 Welland County Reg.#032363 & 032364*
87. *Ontario Deaths 1876 Welland County Reg.#017083*
88. *Ontario Births 1883 Norfolk County Reg.#021573*
89. *The Union Publishing Co.'s Farmers and Business Directory for the Counties of Haldimand, Lincoln , Norfolk, and Welland 1884-85 Vol. I Printed by K. Rowland at Tribune Printing House Thames Street Ingersoll 1884 pgs 133 & 141*
90. *Ontario Births 1893 Norfolk County Reg.#021884*
91. *Ontario Deaths 1894 Norfolk County Reg.#011648*
92. *Morden Cemetery South Walsingham Township - Headstone of Sarah E wife of Nathaniel*
93. *1901 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 8*
94. *Ontario Deaths 1904 Norfolk County Reg.#019154 and Morden Cemetery South Walsingham Township Headstone of Walter Clayton*
95. *Ontario Deaths 1910 Norfolk County Reg.#021651*
96. *1881 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County Walsingham Township pg 33*
97. *The Bouck Family of Schoharie Valley in NY and of Ontario Canada pgs 4 & 5*
98. *1901 Census of Canada Ontario South Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 8*
99. *Ontario Deaths 1915 Norfolk County Reg.#022662 & 022665*
100. *1921 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 3*
101. *1911 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 5*
102. *Ontario Marriages 1913 Norfolk County Reg.#010449*
103. *1911 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 5*
104. *Ontario Marriages 1919 Norfolk County Reg.#018341*
105. *1911 Census of Canada Ontario Norfolk County North Walsingham Township pg 5*
106. *Ontario Deaths 1928 Welland County Reg.#035810*
107. *Langton Baptist Cemetery North Walsingham Township - Headstone of Rosilla Bouk*
108. *Langton Baptist Cemetery North Walsingham Township - Headstone of John N Schram*
109. *Simcoe Reformer dated 30 Nov 1916 - Items of Local Interest pg 7*
110. *Ontario Marriages 1925 Norfolk County Reg.#015598*
111. *St. Thomas Times Journal Newspaper dated 7 May 1927 pg 7*
112. *Kelvin United Cemetery Norfolk County - Headstone of Myrtle Bonsir*
113. *Ontario Catholic Church Records Saint Alphonsus Liguori Parish Hawksbury 1910-1914 B29*
114. *Ontario Marriages 1908 Prescott County Reg.#016553*
115. *1921 Census of Canada Ontario West Lambton County City of Sarnia pg 35*
116. <http://electrosiren.webs.com/canron.htm>
117. *St. Thomas Times Journal December 1968*
118. *South Park Cemetery St. Thomas Ontario - Gravestone of John Leslie Schram and Viola Rose Durocher*

Appendix A - Schram Family Tree

♂ Pauwels Schramm B. About 1400 D. U/K

Married U/K

Children

1 ♀ Wilhelma B. U/K D. U/K

1 ♂ Philipp Schramm von Horrem B. 1433 in Horrem Electorate of Cologne D. U/K

Married (Lisa) Elizabeth Prick von Geisbach B. U/K D. U/K

1 ♂ Johann Schramm von Horrem B. 1435 in Horrem, Electorate of Cologne D. U/K

Married Mechteld Prick von Geisbach B. U/K D. U/K

(Daughter of the Prickenis Family of Heerlen)

2 ♂ Pauwels Schramm von Horrem B. About 1470 in Horrem, Electorate of Cologne D.

About 1540

Married 5 Dec 1500 in Büttgen, Electorate of Cologne

Mechteld von Bockholtz (Boickholdt) B. 1480 D. About 1529

(Daughter of Wilhelm von Bocholtz and Elise von Hertefeld)

3 ♂ Phillipsen B. About 1505 D. U/K

Married U/K

3 ♀ Johanna Schramm B. U/K D. U/K

3 ♀ Katharina Schramm B. U/K D. U/K

3 ♀ Elizabeth Schramm B. U/K D. U/K

3 ♂ Vincenz Schramm B. U/K D. U/K

3 ♂ Johansen (Johan or John) Schramm B. About 1507 in Büttgen, Electorate of Cologne D.

1564 (Haus Erprath)

Married in 1534 Edeling Krevet B. U/K D. 1589

3 ♂ Wilhelm Schramm von Horrem B. About 1509 in Horrem D. August 1573 in Büttgen,

Electorate of Cologne

Married 1545 Bela Von Essen B. 1520 D. After 1573

4 ♂ Wilhelm Schramm B. 1559 in Büttgen D. U/K (Haus Gesselen)

Loeff von Eyll B. U/K D. U/K

4 ♂ Hermann Schramm B. 1561 in Büttgen D. U/K

Married Adelhey van Haefften B. 1565 D. U/K

4 ♀ Mechtelen Schramm B. 1566 D. U/K

Married Werner von Schlikum B. U/K D. U/K

4 ♂ Pauwels Schramm B. 1557 in Büttgen D. 1630 in Büttgen, Electorate of Cologne

Married in 1590

Elizabeth Ann van Haefften B. 1561 D. 1614 in Büttgen, Electorate of Cologne

(Daughter of Cracht Van Haefften)

5 ♀ Margaretha B. U/K D. U/K

5 ♀ Wilhelmos B. U/K D. U/K

Married Reale Von Niess B. U/K D. U/K

- 5 ♂ *Martinus B. 1590 in Büttgen D. 1663*
Married Anna Bruchhausen B. U/K D. U/K
- 5 ♂ *Thomas Schramm B. 1597 in Büttgen Electorate of Cologne*
D. 1674 in Wilnsdorf, Nassau-Siegen
Married in 1632
Maria Dollman B. 1600 in Wilgersdorf D. 1662 in Wilnsdorf Nassau-Siegen
- 6 ♂ *Henrich (or Hans) Schramm B. About 1634 in Wilgersdorf Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
- 6 ♂ *Tillman Dollmann Schramm B. About 1637 in Wilgersdorf*
D. 1701 in Wilnsdorf, Nassau-Siegen
Married 17 August 1658 Anna Gros(s) B. 1640 in Wilgersdorf D. 5 Oct 1701 in Wilnsdorf
(Daughter of Thomas Gros/Gross)
- 7 ♀ *Margaretha Schramm B. 12 Feb 1660 Röedgen, Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
Married 3 Oct 1677 Johan Borges B. U/K D. U/K (Son of Henrich Borges)
- 7 ♀ *Gehl Schramm B. 2 Feb 1662 Röedgen, Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
Married 17 Jun 1698 Johannes Winckel B. U/K D. U/K
- 7 ♂ *Thomas Schramm B. 1670 in Röedgen, Nassau-Siegen D. 4 Oct 1681*
- 7 ♂ *Johann Henrich Schramm B 18 Dec 1667 in Röedgen, Nassau-Siegen*
D. After 1728 in West Camp Province of New York
Married 2 Jul 1691 at Evangelisch in Röedgen, Nassau-Siegen
1st Wife Anna Els Kiffel B. 18 Sept 1671 in Wilgersdorf D. 1710 Nutten Island, NY
(Daughter of Johann Haerich Kiffel and Katharina Schneider)
Married 2nd Wife Anna Margaretha B. U/K D. After 1728 in Province of New York
Children from marriage with Anna Elizabeth (Els) Kiffel
- 8 ♀ *Liesbeth (Elisabetha) Schramm B. 1692 in Röedgen Nassau-Siegen*
D. 8 May 1693 in Wilnsdorf
- 8 ♂ *Johannes (Hans) Henrich Schramm B. 1698 in Röedgen Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
Married 24 June 1722 Anna Catharina Weding B. 1702 in Hoogduysland D. U/K
- 8 ♀ *Catharina Christina Schramm B. 1700 in Röedgen Nassau-Siegen D. After 1768*
Married 1719 Valentin Fiero (Fuhrer) B. 1696 D. Feb 1770
- 8 ♂ *Johan Henrich Schramm B. 1702 in Röedgen Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
- 8 ♀ *Maria Elisabetha Schramm B. 1706 in Röedgen Nassau-Siegen D. U/K*
Married John Beneway B. 1704 D. U/K
- 8 ♂ *Friederich Wilhelm Schramm B. 12 Jun 1695 in Röedgen*
D. After 1734 in Kingston, New York
Marytjen Kiever B. U/K D. U/K
- 9 ♂ *Johannes "Hannes" Schramm B. 10 Nov 1721 in Kingstown, New York D. U/K*
Married 17 December 1749 Catharina Kreisler B. 5 Mar 1733 in Loonenburg NY D. U/K
- 9 ♂ *Frerik (Friedrich) B. 10 April 1724 in Kingstown NY D. After 1805 in New York*
Married 23 December 1746
Christina (Christyna) Lehman B. 1726 in New Town NY D. U/K

- 8 ♂ *Friederich Wilhelm Schramm* B. 12 Jun 1695 in Rödgen
 D. After 1734 in Kingston, York
 Married 12 February 1717 in Lutheran Church, West Camp, Province of New York
 Anna Maria Kuester B. 1696 in Darmstadt Hesse D. U/K
 (Daughter of Johann Wilhelm Kuester)
- 9 ♂ *Johann Wilhelm Schram* B. 22 Jul 1717 in New Town, NY
 D. 8 Jan 1785 in Loonenburgh, NY
 Married 19 August 1739 in Zion Lutheran Church, New Town, Ulster County, New York
 1st Wife Maria Liese Spaan (Spahn) B. 6 March 1715/16 in West Camp, NY D. 1745
 2nd Wife Annatje Catharina Lehman B. 12 Feb 1720 in Loonenburg D. 1784 in
 Loonenburgh. NY
- 9 ♂ *Johann Henrich Schram* B. 5 Dec 1718 in New Town, New York D. U/K Married U/K
- 9 ♂ *Hieronymus Schram* B. 1 Nov 1720 in Loonenburg, New York D. U/K Married U/K
- 9 ♀ *Marietje (Maria) Schram* B. 25 Nov 1725 in New Town NY USA D. 1760
 Married 24 Nov 1749
 Andrew Eckler (Eigler) B. 1732 in Albany D. 1806 in Albany New York
- 9 ♀ *Catharina (Katrina) Schram* B. 2 Mar 1728 in New Town
 D. 1811 Stamford Twp Upper Canada
 Married 6 Nov 1748
 Frederick Lampman B. 1724 in New Town D. 1789 in Stamford Twp **Loyalist**
- 9 ♀ *Anna Margrietje (Margirta) Schram* B. 2 Apr 1732 in Kiskatom, NY
 D. After 1791 in New York
 Married 26 February 1751
 Jacob Lehman B. 12 Mar 1733 in Loonenburg D. 1791 in New York
- 9 ♂ *Valentin or Velter (Felte) Schram* B. 31 March 1734 in Kiskatom, NY D. U/K
 Married 28 Dec. 1761 in Kingston NY Geertje Merkel (Markle) B. 20 Jun 1742 D. U/K
 Married Christina Elisabeth Kreisler B. 24 May 1735 in Loonenburg NY D. U/K
- 9 ♂ *Johann Peter Schram* B. 31 Mar 1734 in Kiskatom, NY D. U/K (Twin of Veltin)
 Married 24 February 1758
 Marietje (Maria) Lampman B. 21 April 1734 in Kisketemesy NY D. U/K
- 9 ♂ *Heinrick (Henrich or Hendrick) Schram* B. 16 Feb 1730 in New Town New York D. U/K
 Married 25 May 1753 in Loonenburg, Ulster County, New York
 Annatje Margrieta Frölich B. 3 Jan 1736 in Loonenburg NY D. U/K
 (Daughter of Johannes Valentin Frölich and Maria Anna Margaretha Lehman)
- 10 ♂ *Frederick* B. 6 Feb 1754 in Loonenburg NY D. U/K **Loyalist**
 Married U/K
- 10 ♂ *Clement* B. 6 Feb 1757 in Catskill NY D. U/K
 Married U/K
- 10 ♀ *Catherine* B. 1 Apr 1759 in Catskill NY D. U/K
 Married John Henry Stoner B. 1741 in Pennsylvania D. 16 Nov 1830 in Upper Canada
- 10 ♀ *Marietje* B. 30 Jul 1761 in Catskill NY D. U/K

Married U/K
 10 ♂ Abraham B. 17 Nov 1763 in Loonenburg NY D. U/K **Loyalist**
 Married Maria Laurer B. 14 Sep 1767 in Catskill NY D. U/K
 10 ♂ Felte B. 29 Dec 1765 in Catskill NY D. U/K
 Married U/K
 10 ♂ Johannes B. 6 Jun 1755 in Loonenburgh, NY USA **Loyalist**
 D. 17 Sep 1851 in Lincoln Co. Upper Canada
 Married Margrietje Staufer (Stover) B. 1756 in Loonenburg Greene County NY D. U/K
 (Daughter of Henry Staufer of German origin)
 11 ♂ Jacob Schram B. 25 February 1786 in USA D. 11 Oct 1873
 Married Catherine Patterson B. 8 November 1790 in USA D. 3 March 1858
 11 ♂ Wilhelm (William) B. 23 November 1788 in Loonenburgh, Ulster Co. New York
 D. 19 Aug 1834 in Upper Canada
 11 ♀ Catherine B. 1799 in Pelham Twp D. U/K
 John Smith B. 1794 D. U/K
 11 ♂ Jeremiah Myron Schram B. 1801 in Pelham Twp D. 2 Feb 1876 in Lincoln Ont
 Married Catherine Sarah Pranke B. 9 Nov 1806 D. 8 Jun 1901
 11 ♀ Hannah B. 1803 in Lincoln Co. Ont. D. U/K
 Married Alexander McQueen B. 1802 D. U/K
 11 ♀ Margaret B. 1806 in Lincoln Co. Ont. D. U/K
 Married U/K
 11 ♂ John Schram B. 1800 in Wellandport Ontario D. 10 Oct 1877 in Forestville Ontario
 Married 1st Wife Julia Ann Oille B. 10 Feb 1801 D. 29 Jan 1852 in Forestville Ontario
 (Daughter of Nicholas Oille (born 1760 Germany) and Eva Frank)
 Married 2nd Wife 23 April 1860
 Hester Revely Stratton B. 1829 D. 1892 in Grand Rapids USA
 Children of John Schram and Hester Revely Stratton
 12 Thomas Sylvester B. 14 Aug 1862 D. 20 Jun 1935 in Port Dover Ont.
 Annie Laura McBride B. 14 Sep 1869 in Ont. D. 11 Mar 1925
 Children of John Schram and 1st Wife Julia Ann Oille
 12 ♀ Eve Schram B. 1821 in Ont. D. 5 Jun 1844 in Ont.
 12 ♂ John Nicholas B. 22 Feb 1823 D. 15 Jun 1886
 Married Rebecca Dawdy B. 1824 D. 1880
 12 ♂ William Henry Schram B. 8 Jan 1825 D. 8 March 1906
 Married 1st Wife Emeline Robbins B. 1832 D. U/K
 2nd Wife Elizabeth (Anna) Miller B. 11 Jul 1855 D. 1880
 3rd Wife Johanna (Anna) Coleberry B. U/K D. U/K
 12 ♂ Simeon Schram B. 1833 in Canada D. 19 Aug 1874 in Charlottetown
 Married Eve Johnson B. 1834 in Canada D. U/K
 12 ♀ Julia Ann Schram B. 1835 D. 1886
 Married Hanson Gracey B. 1836 in Ireland D. 1874

- 12 ♀ Lovina (Lavina) Schram B. 1836 D. 1856 in Foresthill Ont
- 12 ♂ Emmanuel (Emanuel) B. 5 Nov 1844 D. 27 Jan 1928
 Married 10 May 1863 Theresa Marilla Johnson B. 1840 D. 1929
- 12 ♂ Elijah Schram B. 1848 in Ontario D. 1921 in Michigan USA
 Married 13 April 1867 Edith Johnson B. 1847 in Ont. D. 1938
- 12 ♂ Nathaniel Schram B. 25 Apr 1843 in Williamsport Ont.
 D. 8 Jul 1910 in Walsingham Ontario
 Married 15 Apr 1866
 1st Wife Sarah Elizabeth Burk B. 18 Mar. 1847 New Brunswick
 D. 16 Sep 1893 in Walsingham
 Married 25 Sep 1895 in Simcoe
 2nd Wife Martha Ann Wilkins B. 1873 in Welland Ontario D. UK
 Children of Nathaniel and Sarah Elizabeth Burk
 (Daughter of James and Sarah Burk of Irish origin)
- 13 ♀ Alice (Allis) Jane Schram B. 7 Feb 1867 in Ont. D. U/K
 Married 7 Nov 1888 James Streets B. 27 Dec 1862 D. U/K
- 13 ♀ Rebecca Ann Schram B. 1868 in Ont. D. U/K
 Married 7 August 1888 William Wood B. 1859 D. U/K
- 13 ♀ Maud V. Schram B. 12 Mar 1872 in Ont. D. U/K
 Married 28 Dec 1898 Patrick Chambers B. 5 Sep 1866 D. U/K
- 13 ♂ George Nelson Schram B. 10 Feb 1876 D. 11 Feb 1876
- 13 ♂ William Henry Schram B. 1882 D. 1902 Died of Brights Disease
- 13 ♂ Walter Clayton Schram B. 29 Aug 1893 D. 8 Feb 1894
- 13 ♂ John Nicholas Schram B. 11 Feb 1876 in Willoughby Twp Ontario
 D. 10 Jan 1945 in Ont
 Married Rosilla Bouck B. 8 Mar 1875 in Ont D. 14 Mar 1928 in Wellandport Ont
 (Daughter of John and Margaret Bouck of German origin)
- 14 ♀ Pearl (Hattie) Schram B. 13 Jul 1894 Ontario D. 1965
 Married William Hosner B. U/K D. 1965
- 14 ♀ Elsie May Schram B. 1 Feb 1898 in Walsingham, Ontario D. 23 Mar 1979
 Married 25 Dec 1913 in Walsingham, Ontario
 Married 1st Husband William Jenney (Benner) B. 1888 in Walsingham, Ontario D. U/K
 Married 2nd Husband Archibald Roy Burk B. 1895 D. 1953
 Married 3rd Husband Alonzo Benner
 Married 4th Husband William Andrew Sipes B. 4 Nov 1900 D. 1983 in Armstrong BC
- 14 ♀ Elizabeth "Lizzie" Jane Schram B. 29 July 1900 in Ontario D. U/K
 Married Elford Rutledge B. 1899 D. 1984
- 14 ♂ William Cecil Schram B. May 1905 D. 1973
 Married Viola Myrtle Smith B. 1911 D. 1977
- 14 ♂ "Archie" Reginald Schram B. April 1907 D. 1967
 Married U/K

14 ♂ Sydney Ray Schram B. July 1908 D. 1987
Married Mabel Souter Dow B. 1919 D. 2000

14 ♂ Walter Melvin Schram B. Jan 1911 D. U/K
Married 1st Wife Mabel Underhill B. 1909 D. 1996
Married 2nd Wife Albertina Shoup B. 1910 D. U/K

14 ♂ John Leslie Schram B. 26 Jul 1902 in Ont D. 18 Dec 1968 in St. Thomas Ontario
Married 4 Oct 1925 in Waterford Ontario
1st Wife Myrtle Alda Bonser B. 11 Sep 1909 in Aylmer Ont D. 20 Dec 1977
(Buried in Kelvin Cemetery)

15 ♂ Unknown Son B. 28 Apr 1927 D. U/K
Common Law Wife
Marie Rose "Viola" Durocher B. 10 Mar 1914 in Ont D. 5 Jan 1976 in St. Thomas Ont
(Daughter of Eli Durocher and Amanda Thibeault of French Canadian origin)

Appendix B - Covenant For Palatines in New York

Covenant for the Palatines residence and employment in New
York.

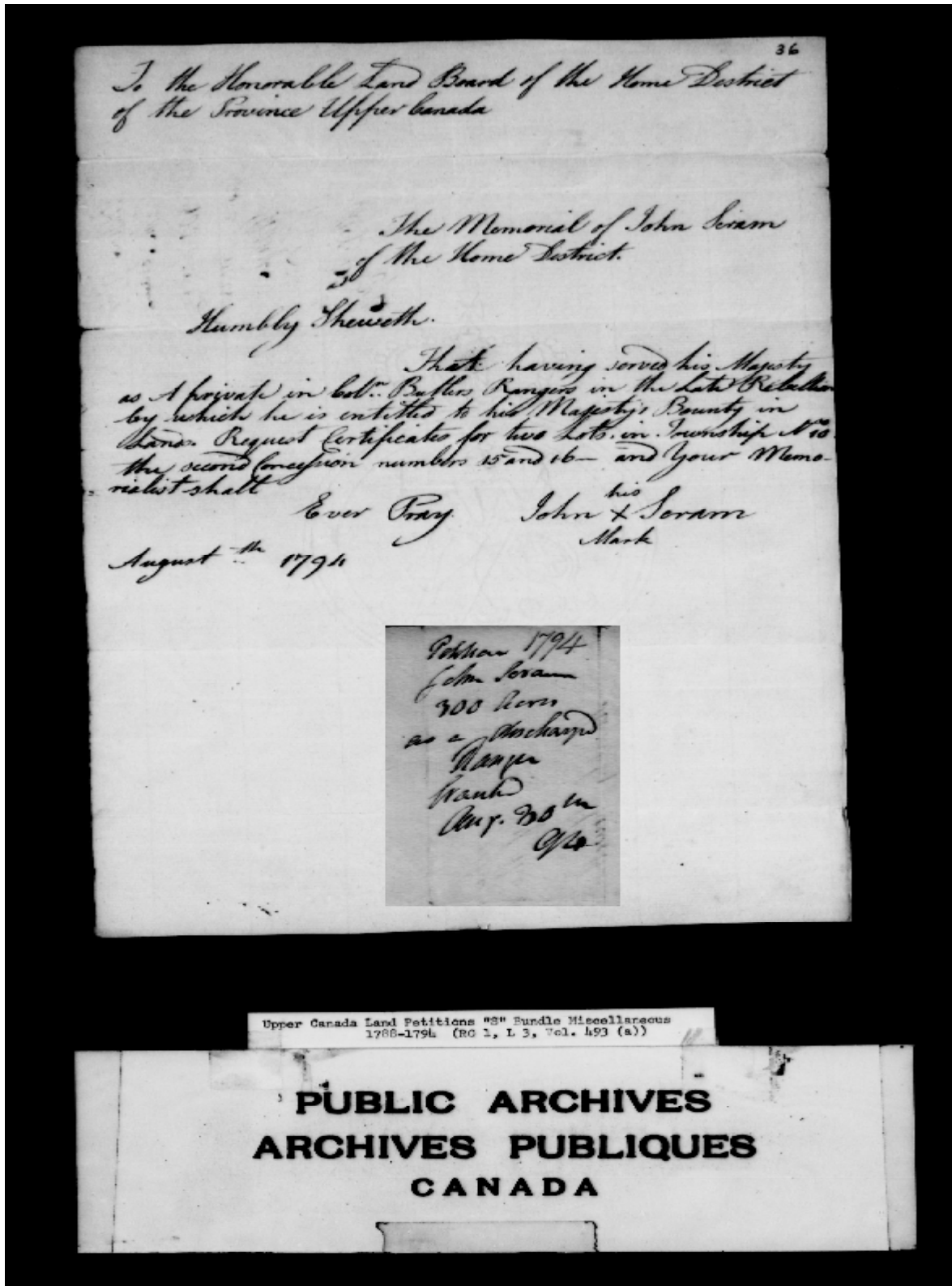
Whereas, we the under written persons, natives of the lower Palatinate of the Rhine have been subsisted, maintained and supported ever since our arrival in this Kingdom by the great and christian charity of her Majesty, the Queen and of many of her good subjects and whereas her Majesty has been graciously pleased to order and advance a loan for us and on our behalf of several very considerable sums toward the transporting, maintaining and settling of us and our respective families in her Majesty's Province of New York in America and toward the employing of us upon lands, for that intent and purpose to be allotted to us, in the production and manufacture of all manner of needful stores to the evident benefit and advantage of us and of our respective families and whereas her Majesty has been likewise graciously pleased to give her royal orders to ye Honorable Col. Robert Hunter, who has now her Majesty's commission to be Captain General and Governor in chief of the said province and to all Governors of the said province for the time being that as soon as we shall have made good and repaid to her Majesty, her heirs and successors (out of ye produce of our labors in the manufactures we are employed in) the full sum or sums of money in which we already are or shall become indebted to her Majesty, that then be the said Colonel Robert Hunter, or the Governor or Governors of the said province for the time being, shall give or grant to us and to our heirs forever, to our own use and benefit, lands to the proportion or amount of 40 acres to each person free from all taxes, quit rents or other manner of services for seven years from the date of such grant and afterward subjected only to such reservations as are accustomed and in use in that, her Majesty's said province.

Now know all men, by these presents that we, the said under written persons in a grateful sense, just regard and due considerations of the premises, do hereby severally for ourselves, our heirs executors and administrators, covenant promise and grant to and with the Queen's most excellent Majesty, her heirs and successors, that we with our respective families will settle ourselves in such places as shall be allotted to us in ye province of New York on the Continent of America and abide and continue resident upon the lands so to be allotted to us as aforesaid (in such bodys or Societies as shall be thought useful and necessary for carrying on ye manufacture of things proper for usual stores or for the defense of us, and the rest of her Majesty's subjects, against the French or any other of her Majesty's enemies)

And that we will not upon any account or manner of pretense quit or desert without leave from ye government of ye said province first had and obliged for so doing and will to our utmost power employ and occupy ourselves and our respective families in the producing and manufacturing of all manner of naval stores, so to be allotted to us, or on such other lands as shall be thought more proper for that purpose (and not concern ourselves in working up or making things belonging to ye woolen manufacture but) behave ourselves in all things as becomes dutiful and loyal subjects and grateful and faithful servants, to her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, paying all due obedience to the said Hon. Colonel Robert Hunter or the Governor or Governors of the said province for the time being, and to all magistrates and other officers who shall from time to time be legally appointed and set over us and toward repayment of her Majesty's her heirs and successors, all such sums of money as she or they shall at any time disburse for our support and maintenance till we can reap the benefit of the produce of our labors, we shall permit and suffer all naval stores by us manufactured to be put to her Majesty's store houses and shall be for this purpose provided under ye care of comissary who is to keep a faithful account of ye goods which shall be delivered and we shall allow out of ye meet produce thereof so much to be paid her Majesty, her heirs and successors as upon a fair account shall appear to have been disbursed for subsistance of us, or providing necessaries for our families.

In witness.

Appendix C - Land Petitions of UEL John Schram



To His Honor Peter Keppell Esquire Administrator
of the Government of Upper Canada No. 110

In Council
The Petition of John Seram

Respectfully shews -

That your petitioner served in Colonel Butlers
late Corps of Rangers during the greater part of the
American War, and has only received One hundred
acres of Land - That your petitioner married the daughter
of Henry Stauffer who came into this Province during
the War, and went down to lower Canada that
your petitioner has four Children four of which are
born previous to the Year 1789 prays your Honor
would be pleased for to grant him his residue as a
reduced Soldier and such further grant for his wife
and Family as your Honor may think proper, &
your petitioner with as in duty bound will ever pray

John Seram

Niagara 24th Jan 1797

I do hereby Certify that John Seram was a Soldier
in Colonel Butlers late Corps of Rangers and that he
has a wife and four Children four of whom were born
previous to the Year 1789 -

David George

Upper Canada Land Petitions "3" Bundle Miscellaneous
1783-1818 (RG 1, L 3, Vol. 446 (a))

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIC
CANADA

The Petition of John Seram -
rec'd 24th Jan 1797
To be on for the
G.R. List.
Henry Stauffer does
not appear in the
U & list

To His Honor Peter Bouché Esq. Administering the Government
of Upper Canada & In Council

The Petition of John Schram

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner served in Butler's
Rangers during the late American War as will
appear from his discharge. Your Petitioner has only
drawn one hundred Acres of land. therefore Humbly Prays
that the usual allowance may be made him as
is customary to be granted to Soldiers & your
Petitioner will as in duty Bound

Ever Pray
John Schram
his mark

John Schram served as a Private Soldier in Butler's
late Rangers Newark 25th April 1797

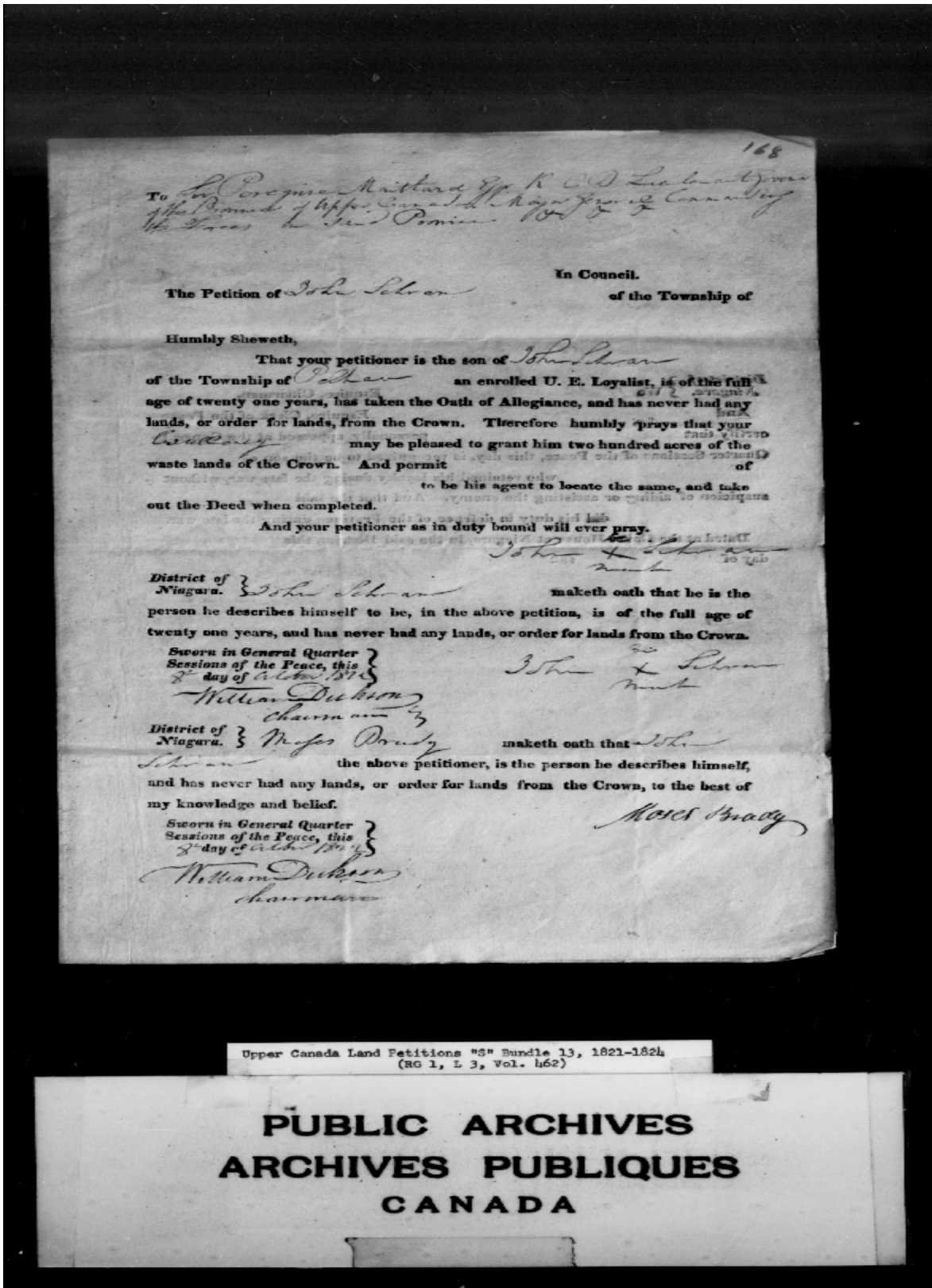
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Upper Canada Land Petitions "S" Bundle 3, 1797
(RO L, L 3, Vol. 450)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLI
CANADA

N^o 18
Petition John Schram
Recd. 25th April 1797
Ordered that
in addition to complete
Petitioner's military
lands if not granted by
P.L.
Geneva Vermont 26th Apr
1797 at 12 months -
Lutz

1822 Land Petition of son John Schram



To His Excellency Matthew G. R. C. D. Lieutenant Governor
of the Province of Upper Canada His Royal Highness's Council
The Hon. the Secy. Province 1822

168

The Petition of *John Schram*
of the Township of *Cochran*

Humbly Sheweth,
That your petitioner is the son of *John Schram*
of the Township of *Cochran* an enrolled U. E. Loyalist, is of the full
age of twenty one years, has taken the Oath of Allegiance, and has never had any
lands, or order for lands, from the Crown. Therefore humbly prays that your
Honour may be pleased to grant him two hundred acres of the
waste lands of the Crown. And permit
of *John Schram*
to be his agent to locate the same, and take
out the Deed when completed.
And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

District of } *John Schram* maketh oath that he is the
Niagara. } person he describes himself to be, in the above petition, is of the full age of
twenty one years, and has never had any lands, or order for lands from the Crown.

Sworn in General Quarter }
Sessions of the Peace, this } *John Schram*
2^d day of *October* 1822 }
William Dickson
Chairman

District of } *Moses Brady* maketh oath that *John*
Niagara. } Schram
the above petitioner, is the person he describes himself,
and has never had any lands, or order for lands from the Crown, to the best of
my knowledge and belief.

Sworn in General Quarter }
Sessions of the Peace, this } *Moses Brady*
2^d day of *October* 1822 }
William Dickson
Chairman

Upper Canada Land Petitions "S" Bundle 13, 1821-1824
(RG 1, L 3, Vol. 462)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

168a

District of Niagara } W^o William Dukson Esquire, Chairman,
 And Ralph Clout Esquire, Clerk of the Peace
 certify that John Schram personally appeared at the General
 Quarter Sessions of the Peace, this day, is recognized to be the son of
 who retained his loyalty during the late war, without
 suspicion of aiding or assisting the enemy. And that the said John Schram was too
 young to do his duty in defence of the Province during the late war.
 Dated at the Court House at Niagara, in the said District, this 8th
 day of October 1822

William Dukson
Chairman

Ralph Clout
Clerk of the Peace

168b

Sept 22
 This is to certify that John Schram
 of the Township of Pelham Son of
 John Schram of Pelham a W. L. Loyalist that he
 was duly taken and submitted the oath
 of Allegiance before me as the Com
 Registrar. Done at Niagara 8. October 1822

Ralph Clout
Com. Registrar

168c

Original & duplicate
 forwarded to Robert Rogers
 for the preservation of the
 Hon. Sec. of State's records
 J. M. P. 11/2/23
 Copy to be preserved in the
 records of the Hon. Sec. of State
 J. M. P. 11/2/23
 Original & duplicate
 forwarded to Robert Rogers
 for the preservation of the
 Hon. Sec. of State's records
 J. M. P. 11/2/23
 Copy to be preserved in the
 records of the Hon. Sec. of State
 J. M. P. 11/2/23

Appendix D - Conditions of Land Settlement in Upper Canada

Proclamation

7th February, 1792

His Excellency John Graves Simcoe, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the said Province, and Colonel Commanding His Majesty's Forces

To such as are desirous to settle on the Lands of the Crown in the Province of Upper Canada:

Be it known to all concerned, that His Majesty hath by His Royal Commission and Instructions to the Governor, and in his absence to the Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government for the time being of the said Province of Upper Canada, given Authority and Command to grant the Lands of the Crown in the same by patent under the Great Seal thereof; and it being expedient to publish and declare the Royal Intention respecting such Grants and Patents, I do accordingly hereby make known the Terms of Grant and Settlement be:

FIRST. That the Crown Lands to be granted be parcel of a Township; If an Inland Township, of Ten Miles square, and if a Township on navigable waters, of Nine Miles in Front and Twelve Miles in Depth, to be run out and marked by His Majesty's Surveyor or Deputy Surveyor General, or under his Sanction and Authority.

SECOND. That only such Part of the Township be granted as shall remain, after a Reservation of one seventh Part thereof, for the Support of a Protestant Clergy, and one other seventh Part thereof, for the future disposition of the Crown.

THIRD. That no Farm Lot shall be granted to any one Person which shall contain more than Two Hundred Acres; yet the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government, is allowed and permitted to grant to any Person or Persons such further Quantity of Land as they may desire, not exceeding One Thousand Acres over and above what may have been before granted to them.

FOURTH. That every Petitioner for Lands make it appear, that he or she is in a Condition to cultivate and improve the same, and shall besides taking the usual Oaths, subscribe a Declaration (before proper Persons to be for that purpose appointed) of the Tenor of the Words following, viz. "I A.B. do promise and declare that I will maintain and defend to the utmost of my Power the Authority of the King in His Parliament as the supreme Legislature of this Province.

FIFTH. That Applications for Grants be made by Petition to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Person administering the Government for the time being, and where it is advisable to grant the Prayer thereof a Warrant shall issue to the proper Officer for a survey thereof, returnable within Six Months with a Plot annexed, and be followed with a Patent granting

the same, if desired, in Free and Common Soccage, upon the Terms and Conditions in the Royal Instructions expressed, and herein after suggested,

SIXTH. That all grants reserve to the Crown all Coals, commonly called Sea Coals, and Mines of Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Iron, and Lead; and each Patent contain a Clause for the Reservation of Timber for the Royal Navy of the Tenor Following: "And providing also, that no Part of the Tract of Parcel of Land hereby granted to the said _____ and his Heirs, be within any Reservation heretofore made and marked for Us, Our Hei5rs and Successors by Our Surveyor General of Woods, or his lawful Deputy; in which Case, this Our Grant for such Part of the Land hereby given and granted to the said _____ and his Heirs for ever as aforesaid, and which shall upon a survey thereof, being made, be found within any such Reservation, shall be null and void, any thing herein contained, to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEVENTH. That the Two Sevenths reserved for the Crown's future Disposition, and the Support of a Protestant Clergy, be not severed Tracts each of One Seventh Part of the Township, but such Lots or Farms therein, as in the surveyor General's Return of the Survey of the Township, shall be described as set apart for these Purposes, between the other Farms of which the said Township shall consist, to the Intent that the Lands so to be reserved, may be nearly of the like Value with an equal Quantity of the other Parts to be granted out as aforementioned.

EIGHTH. That the respective Patentees are to take the Estates granted to them severally free of Quit Rent and of any other Expenses, that such Fees as are or may be allowed to be demanded and received by different Officers concerned in passing the Patent and recording the same, to be stated in a Table authorized and established by the Government and publicly fixed up in the several Offices of the Clerk of the Council, of the Surveyor General, and of the Secretary of the Province.

NINTH. That every Patent be entered upon Record within Six Months from the Date thereof, in the Secretary's or Register's Offices, and a Docket thereof in the Auditor's Office.

TENTH. Whenever it shall be thought advisable to grant any given Quantity to one Person of One Thousand Acres or under, and the same cannot be found by Reason of the said Reservations and prior Grants within the Township in the Petition expressed, the same, or what shall be requisite to make up to such Person the Quantity advised, shall be located to him, in some other Township upon a new Petition for that Purpose to be preferred. And of the said several Regulations, all Persons concerned are to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal in the City of Quebec, the Seventh Day of February, in the Thirty-second Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety-two.

*JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE
By His Excellency's Command Thos. Talbot,
Acting Secretary*

Appendix E - Cemetery Headstones of Schram Ancestors



John Schram and U/K Partial Stone in Schram Family Burial Plot Pelham Twp



John Schram and Julia A Oille in Fairview Cemetery Charlotteville Township



Nathaniel Schram and Sarah Elizabeth Burke in Morden Cemetery South Walsingham Township



*John Nicholas Schram and Rosilla Bouk Langton Baptist Cemetery
North Walsingham Township*



*John Leslie Schram and Viola Rose Durocher South Park Cemetery
St. Thomas Yarmouth Township Ontario*