

ROCHESTER HISTORY

Edited by Ruth Rosenberg-Naparsteck

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Family History More Than Genealogy

by Lawrence W. Naukam



106 Lowell	boards 408 East Main
Ernestina, widow John C. h. 106 Lowell	Heffron Cassius M. parers, b. 174 E. Main
Frederick H. cutter, 40 Centre, boards	Hefner Anthony, keeper, Monroe County
106 Lowell	Penitentiary, boards do.
John (<i>Heckel & Bolton</i>), 40 Centre, house	Elenora, clerk, 692½ N. Clinton, boards
12 Carl park	810 do.
& Bolton (<i>J. Heckel and A. J. Bolton</i>),	John, shoemaker, b. 14 Stepheny's park
shank manufs. 40 Centre	Mary Mrs. house 810 North Clinton
Hecker Abraham, cutter, 129 North St. Paul,	William J. cutter, 2 Centre, house 14
house rear 56 St. Joseph	Stepheny's park
Heckert Margaret, knitting, h. 139 N. Clinton	see also Haefner and Hafner
Heckler Caroline, tailoress, bds. 137 Carter	Heft Wilhelmina, widow John, boards 6
John, farmer, house 187 Carter	Terhaar park
John jr. driver, boards 137 Carter	Hefil John J. clerk, 244 Lake avenue, house
William, driver, boards 137 Carter	24 Leavenworth place
Heckman Clarence E. foreman, L. V. R. R.	Hefty John M. canvasser, 608 E. & B. bldg.
house 53 Hamilton place	house 271 Hudson avenue
Heckner George, grocer, 98 Thomas, b. do.	Hegaman Edward C. bds. 251 Bronson av.
Heckroth George H. cutter, 19 Mill, house	John E. laborer, house 251 Bronson av.
232 North avenue	Heger Horace, lather, h. r. 111 N. Clinton
Henry, plumber, bds. 12 Lochner park	Hegnauer Albert, machinist, 330 Lyell av.
Henry, shoemaker, 19 Mill, house 228	boards 50 Weld
North avenue	Jacob, laborer, house 50 Weld
Mary, tailoress, boards 12 Lochner park	Jacob R. filer, 193 Mill, house 52 Weld
Peter, tailor, house 12 Lochner park	John, blacksmith, 330 Lyell avenue,
Hedding M. Elijah, pastor Cornhill M. E.	house 8 Murray
Church, house 20 Tremont	Verona, boards 17 Lincoln
Hedditch George, butcher, 471 State, house	see Hagnauer
137 Saratoga avenue	Hehir John, fireman, 45 Redfield, h. 79 Lewis
Henry, market, 471 State, h. 434 Lyell av.	Hehnlein John, jr. fireman, h. 18 Langham
Henry, jr. shoemaker, 192 Mill, bds. 434	Leopold, laborer, boards 18 Langham
Lyell avenue	Hehr Frederick, clerk, 312 North, boards 53
Hedge Henry, shoemaker, 111 Mill, h. 2 Diem	Ontario
Hedges Alonzo M. (<i>L. A. Hedges & Sons</i>), 55	Heib Jacob, barber, 354 Monroe av. house
East avenue, boards do.	193 Chatham
Clarence E. (<i>L. A. Hedges & Sons</i>), 55	Heiber Albert, machinist, boards 96 York
East avenue, boards do.	Charles M. warehouseman, Whitney
Elihu, undertaker, 55 East av. house do.	Mills, house 69 Silver
Lucy A. & Sons (<i>C. E. and A. M. Hedges</i>),	Fred, tanner, 76 N. Water, h. 3 Hickory
undertakers, 55 East avenue, b. do.	Geo. cutter, 428 West avenue, b. 96 York
Otho, agent, boards 75 Chestnut	Lena, widow John, house 39 Syke
Hech Barthel, farmer, boards 67 Gregory	Margaret, widow John, house 96 York
Heeg Lawrence, cooper, house 298 Campbell	William, boots and shoes, 428 West av.
Mary, spinner, boards 298 Campbell	house 44 York
Hecks John, tinsmith, 10 Ely, h. 83 Clifford	Heiby Carl, salesman, 250 Hudson avenue,
HEENAN MARTIN M. cloaks and suits,	house 42 Ontario
furs, muslin underwear and corsets,	Heid David, saloon, 254 St. Joseph, h. do.
38 E. Main, b. 7 Gibbs.—See page 982	Oswald, metal worker, 344 N. St. Paul,

Above: The city directory is one of many sources of information that help to "flesh out" a family member.

Cover: Family genealogy makes use of cemetery records, but goes beyond these to a "full flesh" biography. Photograph from Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester Public Library Collection.

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Rochester Last, Die and Pattern
WORKS.

LOEWER & FREY,
PROPRIETORS,
208 Mill Street, Rochester, N. Y.

MANUFACTURERS OF
LASTS, DIES, AND SHOE PATTERNS.

TRADE
LOEWER & FREY
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

The city directory and newspaper advertisements can be used to study the workplace, level of technology and lifestyle of a family member.

The Many Roads to a Family History

With the great increase in people interested in tracing their family history and then writing about it, especially in the nearly 15 years since *Roots* was published, librarians, archivists and record custodians have learned to accept, understand, and help these researchers. But there are far more record types than the few which seem to be used preponderantly by most family researchers, such as census enumerations, church records, and "classic" family histories.

Writing a family narrative is more than simply listing vital statistics data on a sheet of paper or restating the facts as shown on official documents. It consists at the least in providing a reasoned interpretation of facts as they were found, showing contrasting points of view if they occur, explaining why various assumptions were made or denied, and rendering the whole document readable and interesting. It has been said that research is 90% and writing is 10%, but the writing should produce new

knowledge using many sources, instead of a mere rehash. Explaining why and how choices were made, and providing clues and glimpses of persons now part of our past is more enlightening than a recitation of found facts. Persons have spirits; so should the writing about them.

To illustrate this, we can take an imaginary journey with an immigrant from Europe to America in the nineteenth century. Various kinds of records and circumstances will be discussed, and the reader can use these in researching, organizing, and writing his own interpretive and analytical family history. While this particular journey is a fabrication, all of its parts have been found during actual research.

It is important to remember, when doing a family history, that statements (especially other than those of fact) and inferences should be clearly declared as such, and the probability of an occurrence or inference should be stated. Since we are writing and evaluating for the most part many years after events have occurred, we cannot ask the persons involved what their reasoning or feelings actually were. We are dependent upon the evidence we find and that is always open to correction or clarification.

If we are not to simply restate facts found in documents of various kinds, we have to try to think our way into the milieu of the people we are writing about. We have to consider the world as they knew it, not with the hindsight that the late 20th century gives. They didn't know for sure what would happen in the future, any more than we do. What we see as trends were the day to day life about them. And certainly, though most of our ancestors were not the well-informed high and mighty, we must remember that the average individual was not a quaint caricature from a Victorian magazine but a real person.^{1,2}

We can begin our imaginary journey by introducing Johann Bauer, a workman in a milk processing building in a small German village of the mid 1800s. He has a house in the village, and has lived there all his life. He has a family, relatives in the village and the surrounding area. They were mostly middle-class artisans and merchants. His ancestors came to the area after the upheaval of the Thirty Years' War in the mid 1600s. What else might we look for to understand him and his milieu? Many kinds of records can exist in the "old home town." Europe has a long history of settlement and culture, and it is not unusual for books or written annals from the year 700 to still exist in museums and archives, including even Roman Empire coins, artifacts, or buildings.

So to better understand Herr Bauer before he begins his journey to America, we can examine the life about him. Where does he live? In what part of the country, under the rule of which nobleman or government? How stable has the area been, or has it continually seen war and devastation? What is the lay of the land? Mountainous, cold areas, or watery locales give rise to different ways of making a living than do hot, dry areas. The clothes that are made and worn, the kinds of food that are grown and eaten, and the kind of dwellings that are used all form part of the total picture of a person's life. The way that the family developed is a result of choices that he as well as his descendants made.

Looking to this spiritual life, we find that the local church, in this case a Protestant one because of the ruling nobleman's religion, has records of births (actually noted as christenings), marriages, and deaths (burials) from the year 1600. Within these records we find not only the actual day data that give a bare-bones statement of the length of Herr Bauer's ancestors' lives, but also the names and occupations of the adult participants (including the sponsors) in these religious rites, even comments on drinking habits and indiscretions ranging from talking in church to illegitimacy. Perusing the bookshelf in the church office further, we find a volume containing nothing less than what we today call a family group sheet register—kept from the earliest times of the parish. Within its pages the vital records that are noted in the other church record volumes are grouped by family: father, mother, and children along with the appropriate dates of birth, marriage and death. Noted in the margins are such items as where orphaned children were sent to live (often with relatives in nearby towns) and a physical description of what the person actually looked like (as might be given on a passport).

Anything that we don't have as an actual presented fact should be clearly labelled as an educated guess, an inference, and interpolation or whatever we wish to describe it as. We may find material that falls into categories that Kyvig³ has decribed succinctly as follows:

1. immaterial evidence - this includes beliefs and practices (spiritual attitudes, daily work practices). Families often have stories about the persons in them, and these stories can provide insights.

2. material evidence - things, artifacts, buildings (the objects one uses to live, where one lives and works). Where the family resided, especially if the area has not changed in

character very much.

3. written evidence - letters, journals, manuscripts (thoughts and feelings committed to a permanent form, comments, observations, family records). The attic could have commonplace items that allow us to peer into the daily life of our forefathers.

4. representations - such as photographs (what people, places, and things looked like at a certain time and place).

Of course, we make some assumptions as to the reliability and authenticity of such evidence. If they are not out and out fakes, or created for a deceptive purpose, we can use them to make further assumptions about the person's life. We are also faced with the decision of how much detail is desirable. If we are writing a biography or even a short story about one person, even including their immediate family, there are different choices to be made that if the goal is a chronicle covering 400 years and 2,000 persons. This is even more true (especially regarding costs) for those engaged in the area of self publishing using home-based computer technology. In most cases it is not practical or feasible to track down every fact about every person. Besides cost, the cooperation of living family members and governmental regulations or religious groups' rules about access to official records will greatly affect what is retrievable. What could be found about Johann Bauer might be more than is desirable for a specific project. At the other end the spectrum, if there is a lack of certain data, the researcher needs to evaluate how crucial the information is, what the effort needed to find it would be, and if the data truly is required or can be dispensed with.

While we may choose not to go into the same amount of detail for everyone that is researched, we have an overview of how we might place ourselves in the world of an ancestor. We can try to find the circumstances of a life, the cost of living in effect at that time, any diseases that were prevalent in that time and place, the foods that were eaten, the traditions that were followed, and how even the weather may have affected the crops or the lifestyle of the people in the area. We seek to answer questions such as: What did Johann do in his town of origin? What was his social life like? What did he and his family eat? Where did they live and under what circumstances? What would make him decide to leave?

The answers to these queries should be formed and molded into a coherent, cohesive, and focused account or story. Facts should be attributed and conjecture, supposition or theory identified as

such. Proper citations of sources or explanations thereof should be given.⁴

Elements or research can be family-grouped, such as church records; legal documents (guild, tax, census, property, military); educational records; and miscellaneous types found in various repositories. Maps show locations of buildings, natural phenomena, and property. Johann would be surprised to find that in the late 20th century a bank had reprinted several maps from the 1500s through recent aerial photographs and distributed them to its customers, complete with a printed key to locations. He might even be amused to read the descriptions of his home town given in encyclopedias⁵ in local libraries and archives, or the *Heimatl*-bücher (local histories, complete with stories of how monuments and streets got their names) that would be written after WW II by German citizens as public works projects. Many times the authors and titles of these works can be found by writing to the provincial (state) archives and asking for the bibliographic information. American sources will generally not be as useful as simply asking someone on the scene.

We can also examine the information that we find and use quantitative techniques to describe our assumptions about mobility (geographical and economic), occupational choices and careers, educational attainment, family size, and longevity. We can make statements about the economic and social patterns of these families as we see them. For example, several studies of this type have been done for communities in Alsace, and have been published in journals dealing with Alsatian local history and genealogy. Some of these titles are in the New York Public Library, and copies of articles may be obtained through inter-library loan. We can even use old sources like maps to make observations about physical growth patterns and land use in the area of origin, to help us understand the background and life of our soon-to-be-mobile Herr Bauer.

Discovering Johann Bauer

We have identified Johann Bauer and used a number of sources to place him in his milieu of space and time. For our purposes, we say the year is now 1848 — when the rebellion against the monarchic way of rule in Germany was in full sway. Up till this point, the farms in Johann's area had been blessed with good crops, the cows that provided the milk for the business where

Johann worked had been well-fed, and the business itself was solvent. But with a change in the weather so that crops were not good, an outbreak of disease among the herds, and many people leaving the country to emigrate to the New World, business was not good any longer.

Germany at this point was fragmented into many small states. Political power was in the hands of the rich and the aristocrats, the average person had little real representation in government.⁶ Also, Johann's son, Franz, was of draft age. Serving in the military would cost him the chance to continue his apprenticeship with a master shoemaker in the village. With the uprisings, there was a constant need for men in the armed forces, with the possibility that harm might come to his progeny and that they might have to take action against their very neighbors. Johann had often read advertisements in German newspapers which gave sailing schedules, costs, agents' names, and generally touted America as the solution to the problems of living in poverty under a nobleman's rule. He had even seen some of his acquaintances' names printed in letters of thanks to the travel agent that had arranged their passage. (In the 1980s many of these would be indexed and published by German genealogical groups doing emigrant studies). When his life had been going more smoothly, he had not thought of emigrating. But almost a tenth of the village's population had left. In some of the poorer surrounding districts, 30 to 40 per cent of the inhabitants had left to try their luck in America. Though he had deep roots in his village, perhaps now was the time to try to better his family's lot elsewhere.

He could not simply pack the family's bags and leave. Should he or his family ever want to return to visit, or even resettle in the old town, he would have to apply to the proper authorities and leave legally. Since the authorities were not overjoyed at having their citizens leave, they often required a dozen or more permits (which we might find today) in order to allow emigration. He would have to get a release from the local court stating that he was not indentured to someone else, and get an emigration permit (which might contain a complete physical description as well as the legal permission to leave) from the regional court authority. His taxes would have to be completely paid up. These records would be kept indefinitely. He had to pay a "removing duty" which would be kept on file in the annual local government accounts.

Since Johann planned on leaving and permanently settling on America, he saw no reason to keep his land and property. Renting

it out would only be more expense and bother for him to keep informed about. The land-transaction records of his village, then, would contain the deed showing the sale of his land and house. For that last year, his name would show up on the list of village citizens (bürger) and in the tax collection files. The church parish registers would have a notation entered in the margin: "ausgewanderte nach Amerika" (emigrated to America).

Being an industrious person, Johann accomplished all of this. He and his family selected what they would take with them, engaged the services of an agent to book passage to New York, paid the fees, and took the last necessary steps. He had a notice published in the newspaper to the effect that he was emigrating, and that anyone with legal or financial business to transact with him should do so before his departure date. In the late twentieth century, workers from German genealogical associations and universities would examine these notices, indexing and printing them to further aid their own emigration research. These names would also be made available to American researchers tracing their family roots.⁷

Coming to America

Finally the day of leaving was upon Johann Bauer and his family. With their baggage, they took a horsecart some ten miles to the nearest river port town; there they boarded a river craft which took them to Frankfurt. In the large facilities at Frankfurt, they changed again to a boat which sailed down the Main to the Rhine, and changed one more time for the passenger craft that took them down to the mouth of the Rhine at Rotterdam, in the Netherlands.⁸

Until about 1815, the Dutch ports at the mouth of the Rhine had been the main points of departure. From then until about 1830, French cities like Le Havre took up the influx of passengers coming overland from Germany through Strasbourg, Paris and thence to the seaports. (Much of Le Havre's trade was with the Southern American states, and many Germans went to New Orleans from there. Not liking the climate or work possibilities, many went on to the Midwest by going up the Mississippi. The Midwest was much more like the area they had left behind). After 1830, many north German emigrants used ports such as Bremen, Bremerhaven, (both of whose records have regrettably not survived intact, having been destroyed in the bombings during World War II) and Hamburg. Bremen especially took good care of

Nach allen Häfen
Nord- & Süd-Amerika's

Edwards vortreffliche Reisebeschreibungen bei mir abgehoben werden, und bis ich in Kaufmannsreisen
der Art Zeit gerne bereit. Nach befohlen Kunden Herrn auf Wunsch gute Wechsel auf solche amerikanische Häfen.
Mittelstadt, im Januar 1861. Hermann Joseph.

Anzeige-Blatt für den Kreis Erbach, Nr. 27, vom 3. 4. 1861

AMERIKA.

109 Mark über Rotterdam  **113 Mk. 70 Pf. über Antwerpen**

von Darmstadt bis New-York
befördert, sowie über alle übrigen Häfen billigt

Adolph Rady vorm. C. Gerschlauner.
Darmstadt, Marienplatz, gegenüber der Dragoner-Caserne.
Auskunft erteilt auch: J. Weichel K. in Rönig. (613)

Erbacher Kreisblatt Nr. 49, vom 18. 6. 1861

Agents attracted passengers to emigrate to "Amerika". Many such advertisements appeared in newspapers in the 1800s luring people to land, work and a better life. From author's collection

the emigrants passing through by using official agents, housing, and special newspapers.⁹

Being from middle Germany, the Bauers went the Rhine route. In earlier times, there had been many tolls to pay, and customs officials to pay as well. A picture of the life of the emigrants during the time of their travel can be obtained from various kinds of sources that might be located. The places that the emigrant stayed or the sort of rude or comfortable conditions they endured or enjoyed would give an idea of their economic status and the way that they looked upon spending resources for travel on the way to starting over in a new country. The materials we might find would include hotel registers and accounts of emigrant accommodations in the cities that were major departure ports. In Rotterdam, though, wars since the mid-19th century have destroyed the records of passengers that passed through.¹⁰

The Bauers were very fortunate in that they were not among the very poor who wanted to emigrate and were contracted as indentured servants for the cost of their passage. They had enough money to pay their fares and did not lose it en route. They

were not taken advantage of by unscrupulous agents. Emigrant agents would set themselves up in business in Germany, and advertise that laborers could make \$15 or \$20 per day!¹¹ At last, the Bauers boarded the ship that would take them to the New World - New York City, to be exact. The ship's captain, as he always did, made a list of the names of his passengers. Unlike most, he inquired as to where their town of origin in Germany had been. Though the captain did not think of it at the time, this would be a source for later researchers to locate the town of origin of their immigrating ancestors. Often the listmakers asked only the country of origin. Fortunately for the Bauers and their fellow passengers, the journey across the Atlantic was without difficulty. Those of us accustomed to air travel should realize that most ocean crossings in the 19th century took from 35 to 50 days, not a half dozen hours.

Germans were often skilled persons, though not all were. As skilled or experienced workers, new immigrants could expect to have a better chance of finding work than could rural peasants. Many lesser merchants and many apprentices in Germany had difficulty in finding suitable employment in a still largely agrarian society. The freedom to enter any trade in Germany wasn't established until about 1870.¹² There were various restrictions upon becoming a citizen, various fees to pay and one had to overcome the opposition of those persons who saw their livelihoods jeopardized by competition.¹³

While making the decision to emigrate, Johann had read about the opportunities for German workers in the New World. He knew that there were towns that had large German populations, thriving churches, and kept the home culture alive even though the people had left their native land. He knew also that several of his co-villagers had settled in the growing town of Rochester, New York, and that the town and its environs resembled his home village. He felt that he and his family would have a good starting point in Rochester, and had written to his former neighbors to tell them of his decision.

The Bauers were fortunate. They had been employed, saved their money, and gotten a fair price for their German property when they left. They also had managed to keep their cash during the trip, and could pay for transportation and services as the need arose. They were somewhat taken aback by the size of New York City. Though they had been to the large German city of Frankfurt, some 30 miles from their village, the size and busyness

of the American metropolis reinforced their wish to continue on to a smaller and more understandable area. Johann purchased passage on an Erie Canal passenger boat¹⁴ from New York to Rochester, and the family loaded their belongings onto the craft and began the voyage up the Hudson River and the Erie Canal to their new home.

How were the Bauers going to support themselves in Rochester? Again, they were quite fortunate. They were literate, industrious, and had marketable skills that put them in good stead when they arrived in Rochester. Johann had the experience of working in the milk supply business, and knew also about raising livestock, both for giving milk and to be sold to meat packing enterprises and butchers. His eldest son, Franz, had learned the shoemaking trade that his uncles had practiced for many years. Rochester was a good place to have that skill, as there were several expanding shoemaking concerns in the city.

Johann and his family arrived in Rochester knowing the address of some other Germans from their village. When they disembarked from the canal boat, Johann managed to make a horse driver understand which address he wanted to be taken to, in order to contact his former neighbors, the Kreh family. When he arrived at the Kreh household, glad welcome awaited him. The Krehes then went to the docks and helped the family bring the luggage to their home.

With the aid of the Kreh family and other German immigrants who knew the city and some of its industries, and spoke some English besides, Johann was able to find rooms to live in. He and Franz applied themselves to finding work as soon as possible. Johann found a position with the Muhlhauser family business, which raised livestock both for milk and for slaughter; Franz was hired by the Schmidt shoe works in Rochester.^{15, 16}

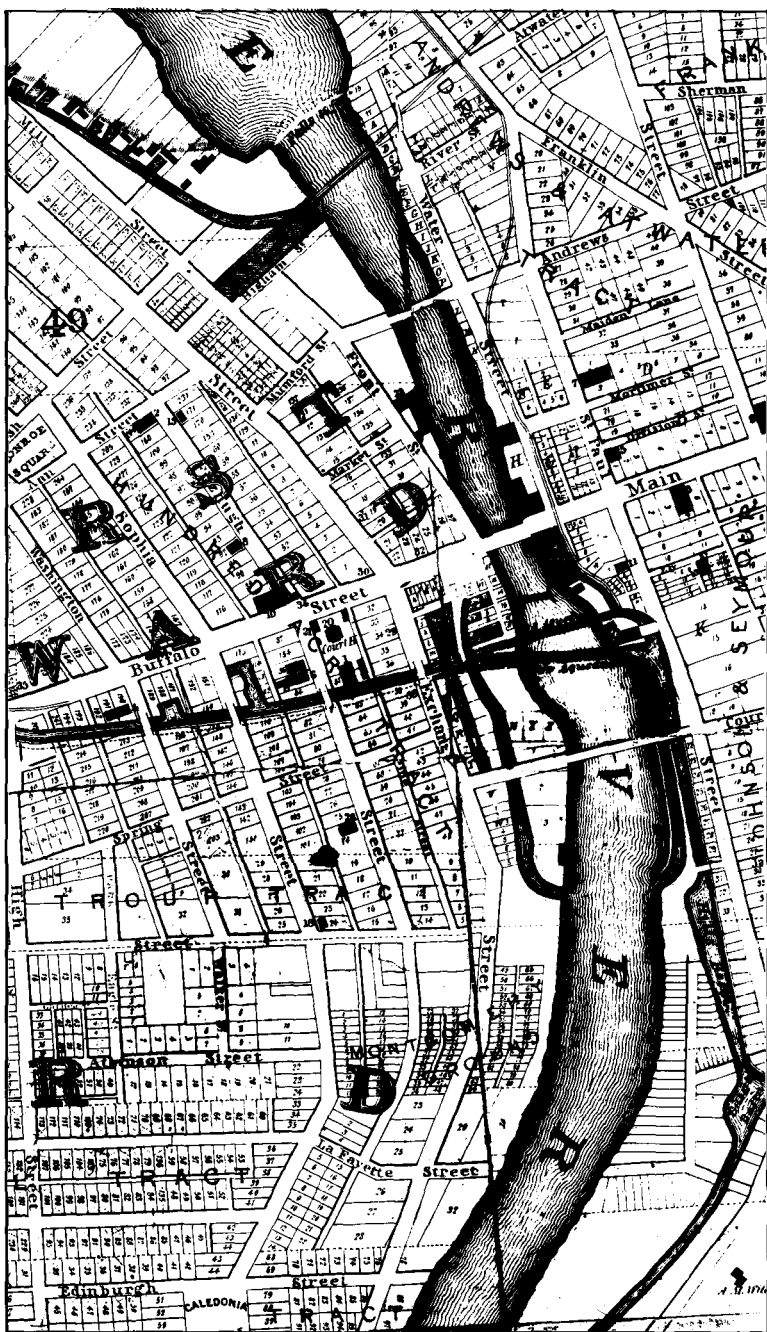
Since both of these jobs were with small, privately held firms, there would normally not be much likelihood in finding records of a specific company. However, account books for various kinds of firms have survived to the present day, and may sometimes be found in the collections of archives, libraries, and museums.¹⁷ They can give the prices of items sold, the kinds of credit extended and to whom, at what terms. Using city directories, for example, to see what kind of position a person worked at, and the section of the city that they lived in, can give an idea of the relative economic status of the family. If the records that the researcher finds happen to be of a clothing store, one might even see what kinds of

apparel were purchased over a period of time. The U.S. and state censuses also asked questions as to how much a person was worth, of what the sales of a business were, or the value of the crops grown on agricultural land. There is obvious data gained from reading the information about name, age, and origin in the census. By comparing the economic data over a period of time, the relative gain (or loss) of a family's fortunes can be followed.

After the Bauers had been in Rochester for a few years, they decided to make the purchase of a house and some land. Upon locating some acceptable property, Johann made arrangements to purchase not only the land for a house, but enough land surrounding it, so that they could grow some fruits and vegetables. Perhaps in future years, as the town expanded, they would sell some of the land to others for other houses or businesses. (It is not unusual to find this has happened, where apartments have been built on land once owned by earlier settlers and landowners and used for agriculture). The plat maps, kept in lawyers' offices, at the county registrar of deeds, and in some public libraries,¹⁸ show a bird's-eye view of the city and surroundings containing views of streets, houses, and natural phenomena such as lakes and rivers. The property borders are given, along with the dimensions in feet and the acreage. These books have been kept until the present day, to show the historic derivation of land ownership in a area. Also, by studying the various amounts of property taxes that were assessed against the land over the years, a researcher can see if the land gained, lost, or stayed even in value. The amounts and location of the property can speak about the relative fortunes of the family; they may reveal a continuing upward trend, a loss by foreclosure, or no property at all.

Although they worked for German employers, Johann learned enough English to conduct his trade. Franz realized that as a younger man, he would be working for a longer time. He could not, in his more urban trade, shut himself out from the stream of business by speaking only his native tongue and only minimal English. He applied himself diligently and became fluent in the new language. Established as residents and landowners, the Bauers had not forgotten their spiritual or cultural roots. There was a German Protestant church that they joined, and they regularly attended its services.

By examining the parish registers of this church, a researcher could find the records of the marriages and deaths of the immigrants. (Births, other than for fertility purposes, wouldn't



Plat maps show details that help us to reconstruct a neighborhood, workplace or even an entire city. Many maps detail services such as sewerage, water, street cars, gas and electricity. They also reveal the construction material of a building. Rochester Public Library.

be as important, since by definition the children were born in America, and the focus here is on where the immigrants originated.) This is a common way to determine the origin of the foreign-born. The pastor of this church wrote the exact town and province of origin of the bride and the groom; these can be examined to see how many persons were from each area of Germany, for example. If there is more than one church, then the parishioners have a choice; if not, unless they chose to attend a different denomination or to be unchurched (both of which options were exercised often), this is the likely place to search. The death records of this church yielded information as well. Although the parties to the marriage were obviously alive at the time of marriage and gave their own information about origin, parents, and age, the death records can also give a place of birth or even the parents' names. Of course, this information is often given by a child or grandchild who is under a time of stress because of the death, and the data should be taken as more of a clue than as fact.

After having settled in their adopted land, Johann and Franz decided that they should become citizens, and gain the right to vote in the elections that affected their lives. They filed declarations of intention to become citizens, and these were put on file in the county clerk's office. After the legally required time had passed, and they had met the standards required to become citizens, they renounced their allegiance to their former ruler in Germany, and took the oath of allegiance to the U.S. government.¹⁹ The naturalization papers were also recorded and put on file in the county clerk's office. Since the Bauers were doing this in the mid-19th century, the papers did not give their town of origin, only the kingdom or government whose original citizenship they were giving up.²⁰

The county clerk's office where they registered their land and their citizenship also contained many other kinds of useful records. The civil court dockets were kept there, showing the proceedings of court cases over minor disputes, insurance matters, etc.²¹ The divorce and incompetency files were also indexed there, as well as the miscellaneous records of varying description, the court judgments for money damages, the foreclosures, assumed business names — a wide and useful collection of sources for pursuing the business and official dealings of the Bauer clan over the years.²²

When reading through this information, though, it is important that the researcher keep in mind whether they are

finding and intending to restate facts, or whether they are going to sift through this data for information that will provide grist for a good story, and that will also tell something about the character and personality of the person whom it concerns. The writers must decide whether they will be analytical and factual or highly interpretive of the findings.²³

Though Franz Bauer had emigrated partially to avoid the draft in his native land, he was of a different mind when the Civil War broke out. He had experience with animals, and was a good horseman. He enlisted in a New York State cavalry unit and served for four years, seeing action throughout the South. Years later, he filed a claim for a soldier's pension for some injuries that he received in the course of duty. His descendants were able to get copies of that file from the National Archives in Washington. The Official Records²⁴ give a brief entry for his service and a summary of the unit's action through the War. His descendant researchers would be fortunate in that the local public library has a huge index to the newspapers of the 19th century, covering both "regular" news and the military actions.²⁵

Several notices of Bauer family marriages appear in that newspaper index, as do entries for the deaths of Bauer family members, some of their political successes and defeats, and entries for the start, conduct, and finish of some of their business enterprises. Johann, Franz and their families did not think consciously of all the kinds of records that were being created as they lived. When they joined men's fraternal clubs and participated in their activities, as they had done in Germany, it was for pleasure and pastime. They didn't laboriously factor in the influence that this had on their lives, the business contacts (though this had to have crossed their minds) and friends that they made, the sons and daughters-in-law that resulted from meetings at church and club. The patterns that the later researcher sees are different than when they are lived.

A later writer can deduce things from educational attainment, and how it relates to employment and the general economic status of the family. The location of the family's residence and the neighborhood it becomes are important factors too. Outlandish guesses and explanations are not proper ways of explaining actions and motivations. If a problem in tracing or explaining a family occurs, a good researcher should try to piece together the facts about individuals, events and relevant ideas that would make logical and sequential sense. If the writer has to make an educated guess, then that should be clearly apparent and not left

dangling as if it were a found fact. Also important is sifting through those facts for what is essential to explain the essence of a family.

Mere recitation of a series of unconnected and frankly boring items doesn't help a reader to know more about the people that make up the family. There are numerous examples of this in any local history or genealogical library. Unlabeled photographs, family group sheets in random order, and unexplained photocopies of official documents combine to form an amateurish collage that would need to be re-researched in order to make sense of the information and documents presented. There may also be cases where information is left unsearched, because adequate detail is not available or the time and effort required to find a small item would not justify such effort nor add to the explanation of the family. And of course, there are situations where relating facts or stories might be considered callous or insensitive to the living or to the memory of the deceased.

Various types of records that would illuminate the lives of the Bauers *père et fils* could still exist as a result of their cultural and social life. Church records often still exist, providing information about dates of birth, marriage, and death. They often mention the witnesses (or godparents) to these events. Non-religious groups can also provide information. Some groups were purely social—such as kaffee-klatsches or singing societies.^{26,27}

Local militias quite likely kept membership records. If a member of the organization passed away, there could have been a memorial tribute with statements about the activities of the deceased. The same is true for local volunteer fire societies. Mutual benefit groups, such as those that provided life or property insurance to their members could be sources. Example of this are the Masons, Odd Fellows, or other fraternal organizations. These groups not only provided conviviality, but also were useful for making business and social connections as well.

If the immigrants did well, they often do contribute to the civic well-being by helping to establish useful organizations such as schools²⁸, hospitals, museums, old-age homes, and orphanages.²⁹ Records of contributors, laudatory articles and so forth might give statements about the people who donated time or money to the foundation of these enterprises. There are also manuscript collections³⁰ in public and university libraries, historical societies, and so on, that can give a glimpse into the personal letters and papers of an individual, as well as, perhaps, give account books of

		Brought over
		360.
1	Spring Wagon	3.
1	Bean Harrow	20.
1	Lumber Wagon	10.
1	Phaeton	3.
1	Road Cart	2.
1	Lumber Sleigh	12.
1	Butter	5.
1	Fanning Mill	1.
1	Whulbarrow	.25-
1	old Harrow	2.00
1	Wagon with oak	15.
1	& horse plow grain drill	30.
80	cedar fence posts	5.00 4.
1	Grindstone	1.
1	grass seed	1.50
1	Spade	.25-
1	Grain Cradle	.25-
1	Cross cut Saw	1.
1	Axe "10" 1 Buck saw "25" 1 old stove "25"	.60
1	Block "1.00" 1 Extension table "2.00"	3.
8	Chairs "40" 1 Lounge "10"	.80
1	Kitchen range "10." 2 Tables "1."	11.00
1	Cupboard	.25-
	Dishes & Crockery	4.
1	Bureau "50" 1 Parlor stove "2."	2.50
1	bench "3." 1 Rocker "10" 4 Chairs "40"	3.50
1	Stand "25" 1 Bedstead "1" 4 Pictures "10-40"	1.65-
	Brought over	698.25-

The inventory of belongings at the time of death often reveals family wealth.
 Author's collection

their business. Even court records or commitment papers can provide a look at the people of the past and help us think of them as more than mere figures described on a page.

When our ancestors lived, as well as where they lived, are factors in researching them and filling in the family data. Our fictional friend Johann Bauer, for example, remembered his own great-grandfather. That worthy soul had been born in the early 1700s, and when Johann was a young boy told him that his own father, born in the late 1600s, was never able to even sign his name in the parish registers. The pastor did that for the parishioners when they could not do it themselves at births, marriages and deaths. In the aftermath of the Thirty Year's War, survival and rebuilding had been a priority, not the immediate rebuilding of schools.³¹

Johann himself had been born in the century year of 1800 and had married in his mid-twenties. His eldest son, Franz, was born in 1826. When Johann died in Rochester in 1875, he left behind him letters received from his friends and family in Germany (until they had lost touch; though many families did manage to correspond and even visit, for a hundred years or more) and papers such as his records of contributing to the maintenance of the famous cathedral in the large city of Köln, where he had visited in Germany.

Franz Bauer had been a shoemaker, not a man ordinarily given to outward displays of bravado. But he felt deeply enough about the issues to enlist and fight in the American Civil War as noted above. When he returned to the city, he remained in his old house with his growing family for ten years. After caring for his father until the older man died, Franz decided to seek a living place that more closely resembled the fertile Hessian fields from which he had emigrated. The 1875 plat (property) map of the city of Rochester showed the land that he had owned on the northeast side of Rochester, near the abundant water power of the Upper Falls. He sold the land, and moved to a hundred acre farm lot in the town of Caledonia, in Livingston County. While not isolated in the far reaches of a rural area, the location was quiet and rural enough for him to make a living (albeit not as financially remunerative as he might have made in the city) by growing and selling farm crops. He continued in this life until his own death in 1892.

Although he sold the lot he owned in Rochester, his name remains to the present day on the maps of the time, and on the smaller maps made by a surveyor when the land was resold and

subdivided. His name also appears on the plat maps of Livingston County, as a farmowner. Until the name of the road was changed after WW II, the farm property was located on a thoroughfare that came to be known as Bauer Road. Tax assessment rolls, along with the appraised value of the land, also tell us about the fortunes (so to speak) of the Bauer clan. Each year the assessment roll can be read and the value of the property seen. The census of New York State taken in 1865 also shows the value of the crops raised in the area.

A reading of Franz's will, found in the county surrogate's office, gives the usual information about date of death, survivors and their relationship to him, and when the estate was finally probated. Very importantly, it also contains an inventory of his belongings and the farm at the time of his death. This informative document gives the reader a snapshot view of the number, kind, and dollar value of his belongings, enabling a comparison with others of his own time, and showing his descendants a true picture of the family at that point.

Franz's son Heinrich was the first of the Bauers to be born in America, in 1852. Early on, he learned English and only spoke German with his family or in the German language services at his church. He went by the name of Henry in all his worldly dealings. He moved to the country with his father, but by the mid 1880s, he decided that being a farmer was not what he wished to work at for the rest of his days. He moved back to Rochester and opened a dry goods store in the German section in the near northeast side of town where many Germans lived. He also sold German reading materials (books and magazines) which he had imported.

Although he appears in the church records, as many immigrants do, there are many other places to look for descriptive information about him. When he ran for city councilman in his ward (and won two terms) there is information about his doings in the city archives and minutes of meetings. After that civic duty, he returned to the sale of books and writing supplies, until his death in 1935. His marriage and the assimilation of this children into American life mirrored the common experience of many other immigrants after the first few generations have settled into their new country. His own grandchildren had to look long and hard to find Franz's gravestone in the small Presbyterian churchyard in Caledonia, (where his surname was misspelled!), since the overt Germanness of the family had shrunk to not much more than holiday recipes and dimly remembered phrases. Even

their town of origin in Germany was forgotten, only to be discovered by descendants looking through musty, disintegrating church books a century and a quarter later.

In the 1980s, after finding the German home town in the church records, and then on a map, his descendant researchers wrote to the provincial library and archives in Germany and asked if there had been any local history books, town histories, or Ortssippenbücher³² published for their ancestral home. They got an affirmative answer, and then wrote to the Bürgermeister's office to see if the village still had any for sale. They were delighted to receive a copy (for free, in this case). With a continuation of good fortune, the town history had a whole chapter on families who had been early settlers there, and the Bauers were among them. The Bürgermeister also gave their letter to a local family member whom he knew was interested in the Bauer family history. When Bauers on each side of the ocean began corresponding, much information was exchanged. The "reunion" was capped by a visit of the American Bauers to their old "heimat," where several social gatherings were held to celebrate. They brought with them the voluminous material that they had compiled from their research in America, and presented copies to their delighted kinsmen in Germany.

The Bauer family, then, was typical without being mundane. They had left their home in Europe with the expectation of improving their quality of life in America. Their family had grown and prospered without undergoing the rags to riches fantasy often described by chroniclers of a family's history. They had left traces and records in likely repositories, but a clear and enlightening picture can be drawn from the ancillary records mentioned above.

The patriarch Johann had tried to keep in contact with some friends and family in the old village, but since he never travelled back contact with the remaining family and friends was inevitably broken. The letters and pictures were eventually discarded because no one in Rochester knew or remembered who they were from. They were just "from the old country." The only memorabilia kept was a humorous one: a membership card for the "Cheap and Hungry Germans" dining club in Rochester, dated 1881.

When Johann Bauer's grandson, Henry, showed mobility by moving first to the country with his family and then back to the city to further his education and later his business prospects,

various kinds of records were created by family members, but were then scattered in divergent locales and differing offices. As the family felt more at home in the new world, their horizons broadened. They left the smaller world of immigrant life and became more a part of the larger, Americanized community life. They worked at widely varying trades and lived in many different places, much differently than they might have. Had they stayed in the old village in Germany, the family members might well have lived closer together, stayed in the same locale, and been in the same trades because of guild rules.

Conclusion

We have talked about a German example here. For comments on other nationalities, see the Appendix.

What can be said in recapitulation about alternate sources for fleshing out a family narrative? Use a good guide to research sources, and use more than just the same few items such as censuses, Bible records and news clippings. Cite those sources accurately.³³ Examples of badly photocopied, disorganized and undocumented hodge-podge “genealogies” are to be found in many libraries. If a person takes the effort to compile information, go the last mile and make sense of it. It is fine to relate anecdotes that illustrate a family’s cohesion and way of looking at and dealing with the world. A good story has a definable ploy, as it were. Accounts of life past can be illustrative to present readers. But clearly label family legends, yarns and tall tales as such; give explanations of reasons for assuming certain items as fact when actual proof is lacking. Get the facts as correctly as possible. Document them so that others can understand your work and not have to re-search in order to find whatever you thought was obvious. Write a work that you will be proud to call your own, and that will last as your gift to posterity.

Appendix Notes

Because Rochester had such a large German immigrant population, many of the imagined happenings above and sources following deal with that nationality. However, there are many works on how to research Polish, Czech, English, French - that is, most European nations. Several of these volumes are listed as follows:

Baxter, Angus. *In Search of Your European Roots*. Genealogical Pub. Co., Baltimore, MD. 1985

Baxter, Angus. *In Search of Your German Roots*. Genealogical Pub. Co., Baltimore, MD. 1987

Briggs, Noel Currier. *Worldwide Family History*. Routledge & Kegan Paul, Boston, MA. 1982.

One very important source for research, especially for overseas locations, is the branch library/family history center system of the Mormon (Latter Day Saint) church. There are very good guides to this system and its resources, such as Ancestry Inc.'s *The Library*. Worldwide sources, including some which are hundreds of years old, are available there.

While the specific clues as to a nationality's cohesiveness in the New World, or records that might be available in the Old, may differ, the general logic of search strategy and interpreting one's findings remain the same. Persons looking up black family history face different kinds of search problems because of the the slavery status. Distinctive guides have been written to help such researchers. One such title is: *Black Genealogy*. By Charles L. Blockson, Prentice-Hall, 1977.

As an addendum to the main narrative above it is important to mention that there are other developments, sources and clues that a researcher might use in his work. Many of these sources, etc., could or have already inspired written articles about them. As such, only cursory mentions are made, and some guiding references are given.

One important development that has occurred in the 1980s is the wide acceptance of personal computers in the home. At the beginning of the 1990s, one can have on their desktop a great deal of storage and capability that was only a dream ten years ago. This is important to research because large amounts of data can be stored and manipulated quickly and efficiently, allowing us to work with that data in ways that we would not attempt if we had

done so by hand. This includes accurate citations attached to our work in a standard format (made much easier and more consistent by automation), the ability to search large amounts of data quickly and accurately, and the sharing of data electronically with other searchers (both within the US and also worldwide via telecommunications networks). For numerous examples of various uses of computers in genealogy, the reader is referred to the magazine *Genealogical Computing*³⁴, and to two other useful works^{35, 36}.

Specific articles in *Genealogical Computing* are:

Using a Database Program with your Genealogy Program,

Vol.6, no.3, p.9ff Jan/Feb/Mar 1987

Searching Online Databases in a Genealogical Mood,

Vol.6, no.4, p.7ff April/May/June 1987

Going Online for Family Information

Vol.8, no.4, p.26ff April/May/June 1989

Other sources to consider are foreign bibliographies or reference tools which are likely to be found in academic libraries. These include the equivalents of "Books in Print" or "Cumulative Book Index" for whatever country the researcher is interested in. Certainly books go out of print, but by examining each yearly cumulation for keywords such as town names, one might find a published town history. Because so many items are published locally and privately, the searcher is advised to write directly to a foreign library, archives or town hall to ask if any useful publications have been printed.

That bibliographic information might be available online. If a library or book database can be searched from home via a computer connection, the searcher can get the bibliographic information directly. Local publications that the writer has seen have contained economic descriptions of the town over a long period of time, together with amusing extracts of town lore (Alsation town histories, available in periodicals in the collection of the New York Public Library), or charts showing the prices of goods and the contemporary wages.³⁷

There are a large number of guides to researching someone's service in the Civil War, since we had Franz Bauer serving in a New York regiment. Two such guides are:

Aimone, Alan C. *The Official Records of the American Civil War; A Researcher's Guide.*

Schweitzer, George K. *Civil War Genealogy: a basic research guide for*

tracing your Civil War ancestors, with detailed sources and precise instructions for obtaining information from them, published by the author, Knoxville TN 1988. (latest edition)

Other often-used sources for actual individual data are:

The "O.R." (Official Records), actually *The War of the Rebellion: a compilation of the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies . . .*, prepared under the direction of the Secretary of War by Robert N. Scott, published by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1880-1900. This has been reprinted by the National Historical Society, Gettysburg PA in 1971-72 in 128 volumes.

New York State Adjutant General's Office. *A Record of the Commissioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates of the Regiments which were organized in the State of New York . . .* Albany, NY, (Comstock and Cassidy, printers), 1864-1868.

The Civil War, of course, is not the only conflict which may have generated records. For a good overall guide to American research in general, see Eakle, Arlene, and Johni Cerny (eds.), *The Source: a guidebook of American Genealogy*, Ancestry Pub. Co., Salt Lake City UT, 1984.

Other methods of finding or exchanging information can come from joining groups and advertising in appropriate periodicals, especially ones published in the country from which the ancestor came. For our German example, the German Genealogical Society of America (Los Angeles, CA) is one such group. Their monthly newsletter contains, among other things, a description of new additions to their large library of research material. One of the standard German genealogical magazines is "FANA" — *Familienkundliche Nachrichten*, a supplement to most German genealogical magazines, and read by many overseas researchers. Another is "PRAFO" — *Praktische Forschungshilfe*. Most libraries of any size will have guides and indexes to international periodicals, and directories of US and overseas genealogical groups. Addresses and subscription costs may be obtained thusly.

American scholarly groups, such as the Society for German American Studies, compile bibliographies of useful and noteworthy publications which can illuminate our understanding of the immigrants' lives, the times they lived in, and the forces that shaped their world. Again, your local library is the place to start finding these groups for various nations; foreign language departments at colleges also may have suggestions about such organizations.

There are also groups seeking descendants of emigrants. Various European universities and work groups have advertised for American descendants to contact them. Historically minded organizations overseas have created displays of material received from such descendants in a "where they went" presentation. (In 1988, one such was set up at Schloss Lichtenberg, in the Fischbachtal section south of Frankfurt in Germany. People in "the old country" also are interested in what happened to the families that left the area. Individuals have compiled and published very useful works on emigration from their areas. As one example, Ella Gieg, a postmistress in Lutzelbach, has already published the first two books of a five volume set entitled *Auswanderungen aus dem Odenwaldkreis*, each with more than 200 pages of emigrants from 19 towns southeast of Frankfurt. She has even included a letter from a woman who settled in nearby Buffalo, NY.

Lastly, we have yet to see how the momentous changes in the Eastern European political systems at the end of 1989 will affect genealogical research. Access from the West may be easier and more sources of information may become available.

Endnotes

1. see especially Gouldrup, Lawrence P. *Writing the Family Narrative*, Ancestry, Inc., Salt Lake City, UT 1987.
2. for an excellent detailed guide to research, see Baxter, Angus. *In Search of Your German Roots: a Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in the Germanic Areas of Europe*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 1987.
3. Kyvig, David E. and Myron A. Marty, *Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You*, American Association for State and Local History, Nashville TN, 1982.
4. An excellent sourcebook for this purpose, written with the individual researcher in mind, is: Lackey, Richard S. *Cite Your Sources: A Manual for Documenting Family Histories and Genealogical Records*. Polyanthos, Inc., New Orleans, LA. 1980.
5. *Der grosse Brockhaus*, in twelve volumes, Brockhaus (Co.), Wiesbaden, Germany, 1977-1982, has brief articles on towns, and some are illustrated.
6. Franck, Irene M. *The German-American Heritage*. Facts on File, N.Y., N.Y. 1989, p.35.
7. As one example, Friedrich Wollmershauser, a genealogist in the state of Württemberg, has compiled over 100,000 of these.
8. For a very readable account of an emigrant's journey, see "Germany to America in 1852: an account" by Ellen Hahn Grabb in *Hear Ye-Hear Ye*, Volume 10, No.3, Fall 1989, published by the Rochester Genealogical Society. The article reprints a letter written by Katharina Eckstein, who emigrated to Rochester from Weisenbach, Baden, passing through Antwerp, Belgium and New York City on her trip. Her impressions and prose are vivid.
9. Frantz, *ibid.*, pg. 52.
10. "Passenger Departure Lists of German Emigrants, 1709-1914," speech given by Friedrich Wollmershauser of Ostelsheim, West Germany, April, 1987. Also, see his "Finding the Origin of 18th Century German Emigrants from Southern Germany", published as pg. 633-646 of the proceedings of the XV Congreso Internacional Genealogia y Heraldica, (1981?).

11. Knosel, H. "Vor Hundert Jahren Ausgewandert," in *Alfelder Zeitung* (Alfeld, W. Germany), Jan. 11, 1965.
12. Raff, Diether, *A History of Germany from the Medieval Empire to the Present*, Berg Pub., Oxford, England, 1988.
13. Struve, Walter. *German Merchants, German Artisans, and Texas During the 1830s and 1840s*, Yearbook of German-American Studies, Vol. 23 (1988), Society for German-American Studies, Lawrence, KS, Pg. 92. Another excellent source with detailed information about the guilds and occupational systems in the homeland is:
Walker, Mack, *German Home Towns: Community, State, and General Estate 1648-1871*. Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca NY, 1971.
14. The Canal Museum in Syracuse, NY has 900,000 manuscripts dealing with canal boat itineraries, survey maps, correspondence, newspaper clippings, passenger lists, land papers, and stock certificates, to name some of the holdings. See Gouldrup (above), page 23 for more detail.
15. The standard history for German settlement in Rochester is by Pfafflin, Hermann F.W. *Hundertjährige Geschichte des Deutschtums von Rochester*, Deutsch-Amerikanische Bund von Rochester und Umgegend, Rochester, NY, 1915. This is available only in German.
16. The Local History Division of the Rochester Public Library has compiled a bibliography entitled *Sources Relating to Immigration and Rochester*, as part of the *Ethnic History in Rochester* folder. Clement Lanni deals with Italians; Blake McKelvey with the Germans, Irish, Italians, and general ethnic change; Albert Ramaker with the Germans; and James Pula with general ethnic change.
17. The Baker Library at the Harvard University School of Administration has the R.G. Dun (now Dun & Bradstreet) Co.'s old credit registers covering 1840 to 1890, with 900 volumes covering New York State outside of New York City alone. They are indexed by county.
18. The Rochester Public Library's Local History Division has a fine set of these maps. Some of the Latter Day Saints Church's genealogical branch libraries also have copies. These maps can also show ward boundaries for census research.

19. There are several pages (in chart form) which detail the major changes and requirements pertaining to naturalization and the effective dates, in Eakle, Arlene, and Johni Cerny (eds). *The Source: a Guidebook of American Genealogy*. Ancestry Pub. Co., Salt Lake City, UT, 1984.
20. Generally, giving an exact birthplace was not a specific requirement until 1906.
21. In New York State, all cases which have gone to the state Court of Appeals have been published, including testimony and evidence. They appear to go back as far as 1850 and be as recent as 1974. *Abbott's Digest* indexes case from 1803 forward.
22. A classic example was found in the Monroe County clerk's office. A simple notice of distribution of the proceeds of a life insurance policy was found in the indexes normally used for mortgage foreclosures. Perhaps the filing clerk couldn't think of where else to record it, though "miscellaneous records" certainly seems like a good alternative.
23. Kyvig, *ibid*.
24. THE "O.R." are actually *The War of the Rebellion: a compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies . . .*, prepared under the direction of the Secretary of War by Robert N. Scott, published by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1880-1900. Reprinted by the National Historical Society, Gettysburg, PA, 1971-72, in 128 volumes.
25. The Local History Division of the Rochester Public Library has prepared a bibliography for Civil War soldier research. It includes how-to guides, standard works in the field, and holdings in Local History, U.S. History, and suggestions of other resources.
26. Franck, Irene M. *The German-American Heritage, (America's Ethnic Heritage series)*, Facts of File, N.Y., N.Y. 1989, pg. 118.
27. It should be noted that information survives also on such groups as the dining club which named itself "The Cheap and Hungry Germans."
28. School records are generally kept in the clerk's office of the school district where they are created.
29. Franck, pg. 122.
30. For a good description on locating and using manuscript collections, see: Bell, Mary McCampbell. *Finding Manuscript*

Collections: "NUCMUS, NIDS, and RLIN," National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 77, no.3, Sept 1989, pg. 208-218. NUCMUC is the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections; NIDS is the National Inventory of Document Sources; RLIN is the Research Libraries Information Network. Another reference to finding elusive but useful records is:

Hinckley, Kathleen W. *"Locating the Living: Twentieth-Century Research Methodology."* National Genealogical Society Quarterly. Vol. 77, no.3, Sept 1989, pg. 186-196.

31. Published town histories will often deal at length with milestones in a community's history, such as religion, schooling, and other important factors. Not the least, they often give numerous names and dates concerning the people who made these things happen. Further, there can also be a chapter or two devoted to enumerating the first appearances of long-resident families. Though towns have often been settled for 1500 years in Europe, the earliest name-records may only date from the 16th or 17th centuries due to lost or missing records.
32. These are books which have reconstituted the families in a given town, arranging the persons by the family that they belonged to, in addition to simply alphabetizing pre-existing records. While many were done under the Nazi regime for the motive of "proving" Aryan descent, many others have been compiled and published in recent years by German family history research groups. One archival resource is the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen in Stuttgart, which has over 325,000 volumes, 4,500 newspapers, and 6,000 microfilms of various records. *Ortssippenbücher* can also be purchased commercially. One such source is the Interessengemeinschaft Badischer Ortsippenbücher in Lahr-Dinglingen in the state of Baden.
33. Stevenson, Noel. *Genealogical Evidence: a Guide to the Standards of Proof to Pedigrees, Ancestry, Heirship, and Family History*, Aegean Park Press, Laguna Hills, CA, 1989.
34. published quarterly by Ancestry, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah.
35. Andereck, Paul, and Richard Pence. *Genealogical Computing*, Ancestry, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah, 1985.

36. Clement, Charles, (ed.). *Genealogy & Computers: Proceedings of the RASD History Section, Genealogy Committee Program, Reference and Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 9 July 1985.* American Library Association, Chicago and London, 1986.
37. The writer has seen and used such items. They were obtained by writing to overseas libraries and archives asking for bibliographic citations to works about specific towns. The Archives Departmentales du Bas-Rhin in Strasbourg, France and the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen in Stuttgart, Germany are two examples of very helpful sources.



Mr. Naukam was a local history librarian and has several years' experience in European genealogical research. He frequently gives workshops on the subject. He is a librarian with the Rochester Public Library.

Back Cover: Family photographs reveal family resemblances, style of dress and sometimes add personality to a family. Kit Carson Cody, son of Buffalo Bill Cody, is a fine example of a family photograph with character and personality. He and his family lived in Rochester 3 years and three Cody children are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery. Rochester Public Library.

