

Answers to Questions and Comments

28 January 2025 Webinar

German Immigration in the 18th and 19th Centuries to Western Ukraine and the Discovery of My Grandfather Kindraczuk's German Ancestry - Part II

General Information From the Presenter

Here is the link to the Galziengermansdescendants.org where you can find the link to the Galizien Village Family Books.

<http://homegalziengermansdescendants.org/>

I began my research of my ancestry back in 2002 before digital records.

I began my search at familysearch.org

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

For my research I used microfilms at the Family Search library centre in Toronto. Church registry books (Birth/Baptism, Marriage, Death) had been microfilmed by LDS (Mormon Church of Latter Day Saints in Utah) and could be ordered and delivered to local Family History Library Centres. Later in 2006,2007, 2009, 2011,2013,2018 I travelled to Ukraine, Poland and Austria where I visited archives and libraries where original records are located. Since then, many of these church books (metrical records) have been digitized.

Question:

1. *Are RC included in the village books?*
2. *For instance, in Kaltwasser near Lviv some were RCs and some were Lutherans. So would bot be in the village book for Kaltwasser or only Lutherans?*

Answer: Kaltwasser is one of the German Galizien villages included in the Galizien Village Family Books. There is a list of villages/cities and also an index of surnames (in some cases, separate index for female and male surnames) for each village.

The German Galizien Village Family Books are lists of German inhabitants but there are also spouses and children of mixed marriages (mostly Roman Catholic)

<https://www.galziengermansdescendants.org/cms/en/component/edocman/listeofb/viewdocument/48>

Question:

3. *How long did it take to complete this project?*

Answer: It took me one year to research one branch - the maternal German Polish branch (Polanski, Femmel, Rudloff) of my maternal grandfather (Kindraczuk) using microfilm records that I ordered at the LDS Family Search Centre in Toronto.

As for my book on Dr. W.S. Kindraczuk, it took 16 years (2002-2018) and many trips to libraries and archives in Toronto, Ukraine, Poland and Austria.

Question:

4. *Do you use the on-line subscription sites such as [MyHeritage.com](https://www.myheritage.com) ?*

Answer: Yes I have subscriptions to MyHeritage.com and Ancestry.com but I found that actual historical research in archives is more accurate.

Question:

5 *Have you had much experience (and success) using researchers who specialized in Germans migration to Ukraine?*

Answer: I have not relied on any other researchers. I have done all my research myself.

For researching German settlers in Ukraine it is important to first identify whether the German settlers were in the part of Ukraine that was part of the Russian Empire (Mennonites) or Galicia Germans (mostly Lutheran or Calvinist) who were settlers in Galicia which was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. I covered this in Part 1 of my presentation. There is a genealogy organization for Galician Germans.

<https://www.galziengermansdescendants.org/cms/index.php/en/>

Question:

6. *My paternal grandfather was born in 1889 in Kopazynce Ukraine and immigrated to Canada in 1906. I have seen a photocopy of his birth certificate but I'm not sure how to find documentation of his parents (whose names I know) in Ukraine. Do you know if documents from this area (in the Ternopil Oblast) are digitized in the [Familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) database?*

Answer: For the records of the parents of your paternal grandfather who was born in 1889 Kopychyntsi Ukraine, they should be in the Ternopil archive. They might also be in the Lviv state archives. Try (Ukraine, Lviv, Metrical Books, 1786-1937) at

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/4426190>

Question:

7. *I wonder if I can ask what might be a personal question? If your father's family was Roman Catholic, how did he hand up Ukrainian Catholic? Was he allowed to follow his mother's religion or could he choose with the concordat no longer being enforced or did I miss something?*

Answer: As the focus of the topic of this presentation was on the German Lutheran Protestant branch of my maternal grandfather Dr. W. S. Kindraczuk's maternal ancestry, I only concentrated on that branch and did not trace in detail the religious affiliation of each family member in my family tree.

Dr. Wolodymyr S. Kindraczuk's mother was Roman Catholic but he was baptized Greek Catholic as his father Johannes (Ivan, Jan) Kindraczuk (who was a postal clerk in Horodenka, Ukraine) was Ukrainian Greek Catholic, in keeping with the Concordat. Dr. W. S. Kindraczuk was born in 1882 in Horodenka.

I go into more detail with documents and sources in my book:

Dr. Wladimir Sylwester Kindraczuk: Forgotten Chemist of Łańcut and Pioneer of Probiotics: Discoverer of the probiotic bacterium "Bacillus carpathicus" in Hutsul huslanka. Dr. Włodzimierz Sylwester Kindraczuk: Zapomniany aptekarz miasta Łańcuta i naukowiec-pionier probiotyki: odkrywca probiotycznej bakterii "Bacillus carpathicus" w huculskiej huślance

(Toronto: Pages Books, 2021, Reprint of 2018 edition) Bilingual English-Polish edition, 344 pages.