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THE WPA AND THE CCC IN INDIANA



Men Constructing New Sidewalk and Curbing
Works Progress Administration

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SUBMISSIONS

Submissions concerning people who were in Indiana at one time are always welcomed. Material from copyright-free publications is preferred. For information on accepted file formats, please contact the editor.

WRITING AWARD

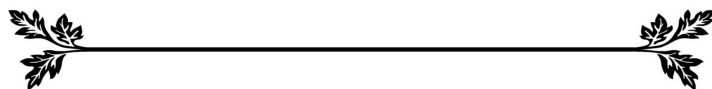
The Indiana Genealogical Society may bestow the Elaine Spires Smith Family History Writing Award (which includes \$500) to the writer of an outstanding article submitted to either *Indiana Genealogist* or *IGS Newsletter*. Submitters need not be a member of IGS. To be eligible for consideration, the article must be at least 1,000 words (or a series of articles on the same topic that totals 1,000 words.) Abstracts, transcriptions, indexes, or other forms of genealogy data are not eligible for consideration. Articles must be submitted by 31 December of each year, and the winner will be recognized at the IGS annual conference in April. Multiple submissions are welcome. The IGS Publications committee will judge all eligible entries and decide the winner. IGS reserves the right not to bestow the award in a particular year.

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EDITOR'S BRANCH

Welcome to the Summer edition of the *Indiana Genealogist Quarterly Journal*. This issue explores President Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and their effect on our state during the Great Depression.

Have you ever wondered about those rugged lodges and structures standing in rustic beauty throughout our state parks? Most were built by fellow Hoosiers working for Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930s.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) also helped many families make it through the Great Depression by providing jobs building roads, buildings, and bridges across the state.

My grandfather, Robert (Bob) Dellinger of Vincennes, worked for the WPA in 1931, building the Lincoln Memorial Bridge across the Wabash River. We never crossed that bridge without Grandpa recalling stories of his time with the WPA, and there was always a note of pride in his voice about being able to build something so beautiful and functional for his city. It meant so much that the government offered his generation a chance to provide for their families while making their communities better.

In Mark Sullivan's article, we'll discover how Greenfield's men spent their time in the CCC camps. Teresa Mills researches the life of her ancestor, Susan Earl, and Jon Wardlow completes his research into the German origin of the Iler/Euler and Ritzius families.

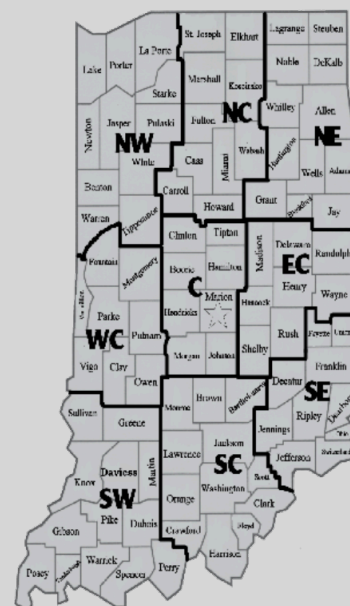
Grab a glass of lemonade and settle in as we travel back in time to explore our Hoosier roots.

Joy Neighbors

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NW = Northwest

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NE = Northeast

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EC = East Central

SW = Southwest

SC = South Central

SE = Southeast

NEW INDUCTEES WELCOMED INTO THE SOCIETY OF CIVIL WAR FAMILIES

The Society of Civil War Families of Indiana (SCWFI) honors those who served in an Indiana Civil War Union military or naval unit, and those Indiana residents who served in non-Indiana Union units.

The 2022 Inductees into the Society of Civil War Families of Indiana

Susan J. Bukowski (M148) of LaPorte honoring her ancestor C166, Frederick Cramer of Pulaski County serving with the 12th IN Vol. Cav.

Willard M. Stalcup Jr. (M149) of Sedona, Arizona honoring his ancestor C167, Jesse Stalcup of Orange County serving with the 59th IN Vol Inf.

William F. Laut (M150) of Indianapolis, honoring his ancestor C168, Hermann H. Nienaber of Marion County serving with the 9th IN Vol. Cav.

Benita Steyer (M169) of Fort Wayne honoring her ancestors C169, John O. Calvert of Greene County serving with the 53rd IN Vol Inf., and her ancestor C170 Sylvester Sheets of Porter County serving with the 151st IN Vol. Inf.

Laura Michele Harris (M152) of Ripley, Maine honoring her ancestor C171, Grigsby Tracy of Madison County serving with the 75th IN Vol. Inf.



Eight Unidentified Soldiers of the 34th IN Inf. Reg.

NEW INDUCTEES WELCOMED INTO THE TERRITORIAL GUARD OF INDIANA

Marcia Powell (TG 29) of Gross Point Farms, Michigan honoring her ancestors TR 50, William Shields of Harrison County; TR51, Elizabeth A. Logan of Harrison County; TR52, Nancy A. Shields of Washington County; TR53, James Elliot of Washington County.

Peggy Bennett Salitros (TG30) of Brazil, Indiana honoring her ancestors TR54, Joel Charles of Orange County.

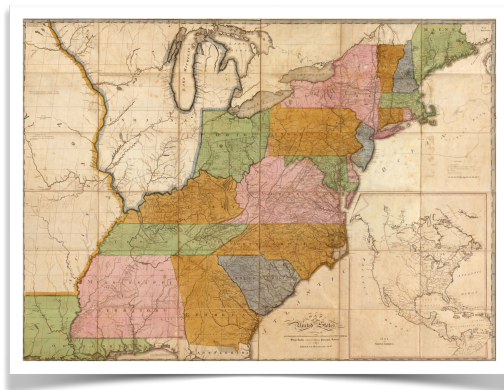
Winona L. Rivers (TG31) of Pace, Florida honoring her ancestor TR 64, William Sparks of Fayette County.

The following are members of the Territorial Guard Society of Indiana who have added ancestors.

Vikki M. Sordean (TG18) of West Terre Haute honoring her ancestor TR49, James Johnson of Knox County.

Susan Tucker Hedges (TG28) of Peoria, Arizona honoring her ancestors TR55, Jesse Enlow of Harrison County; TR56, Ann Highfield of Harrison County; TR57, Matilda Enlow of Harrison County; TR58 Welton Williams of Knox County; TR 59, Joseph Williams of Knox County; TR 60, Jane Welton of Knox County; TR61, Isaan Westfall of Knox County; TR62, Thomas W. Westfall of Knox County, and TR63, Elizabeth Pugh of Knox County.

The Territorial Guard Society of Indiana honors those who lived within the boundaries of present-day Indiana on or before December 11, 1816, the date of Indiana statehood.



1804 Map of the United States

Indiana Genealogical Society members who are direct descendants of someone who served with an Indiana Civil War Union unit, or of an Indiana resident who served with a non-Indiana Union unit, are eligible to apply for membership in SCWFI. For more information and to download an application form, visit the SCWFI section of the IGS web site: <http://www.indgensoc.org/SCWFI.php>.

ELAINE SPIRES SMITH FAMILY HISTORY WRITING AWARD FOR 2021

Congratulations to Amy McVay Abbott, the recipient of the Elaine Spires Smith Family History Writing Award for 2021. Her article, “Reporting for Duty,” was published in the September 2021 *Indiana Genealogist*.

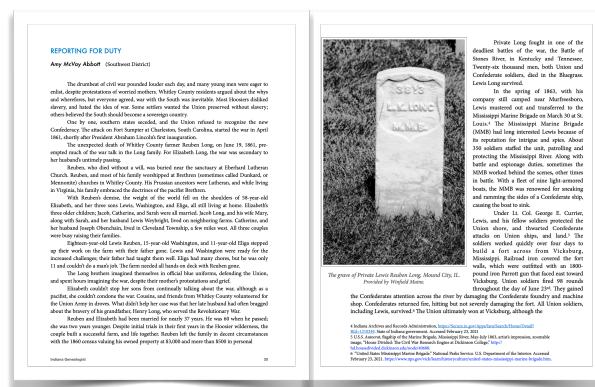
Amy McVay Abbott is a native Hoosier. She is the author of seven books, including three about her Hoosier heritage: “Centennial Farm Family,” “Always Carl,” and “Whitley County Kid.” Amy is a graduate of Ball State University with a bachelor’s and master’s degree in journalism. She is a retired healthcare executive and lives in southwestern Indiana with her husband.



Amy McVay Abbott

One of the judges noted “I liked the way Amy wove a story from the historical findings that pulled the reader in. At the same time, she applied footnotes from her research to validate her claims. It was a great combination of family research that told a story of interest to genealogists.” Congratulations Amy!

The Elaine Spires Smith Family History Writing Award goes to a writer who submits an outstanding article to the *Indiana Genealogist* or IGS Newsletter. The winner is also awarded \$500. To be eligible, the article must be at least 1,000 words in length. The author does not need to be an IGS member. Multiple submissions are welcome. Please see more guidelines on the IGS website or in the *Indiana Genealogist* on page two.



GREENFIELD'S CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS BOYS: LETTERS FROM THE CAMPS

Mark Sullivan, (East Central District)

Out of the economic chaos of the Great Depression emerged the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The mission of the CCC was to help conserve the natural resources of the country and employ our young men. Today, the CCC is recognized as a conservation success story and a model for modern conservation programs. The work of these young men dramatically saved the natural resource treasures that dot the American landscape.

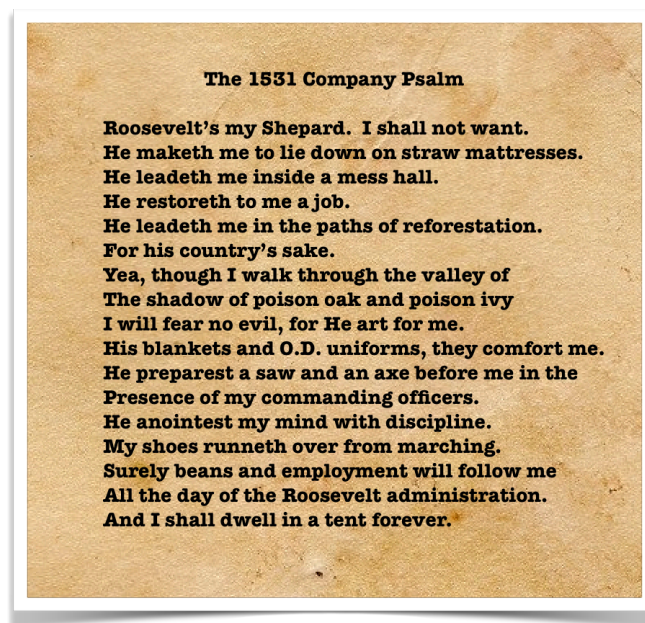
Counties across the country were given allocations for the number of men who could apply for work with the CCC. Hancock County received quotas from the very start of the program, filling three slots in June 1933. The men were paid \$30 per month along with room and board at a CCC camp. Two of the early Hancock CCC workers wrote letters back home describing their experiences at the Camps.



Noble Curry, of Greenfield, has three sons in the service. They are Private Kenneth Curry (left), Private Charles E. Curry (middle), and Private James Lee Curry (right). Private James Lee Curry was a member of the National Guard unit at Shelbyville. When the unit was transferred to active service he was sent to Mississippi for training. He is now at Camp Livingston, La. Private Kenneth Curry and Private Charles E. Curry entered the service several weeks ago. Both are stationed at Camp Haan, Calif. Kenneth was employed by the T. H. Eaton Transfer Company before entering the army and Charles was employed at the Delco-Remy in Anderson.

The Hancock Democrat, April 1, 1943

Kenneth P. Curry from Greenfield in Hancock County wrote a letter to his mother, Mrs. Noble Curry. Kenneth was stationed at San Pierre, Starke County, Indiana, working on forest projects. He wrote this interesting take on the 23rd Psalm.¹



Kenneth Curry later served during WWII in the US Army along with his two brothers.² He worked for the Coffin Trucking Company in Greenfield for over 25 years after the war, passing away in September 1967.

Lieutenant Herbert B. Murnan was in the US Army in 1933, working with the members of Company 538, CCC Camp at Beaumont, California. He was the mess officer, athletic officer, welfare, motor transport, entertainment, and publicity officer of the camp. Murnan wrote a letter home about life in the camp.³

“California is very different than Indiana. We are at an elevation of more than a mile, with not a level spot in sight. Most of the area has been burned over in forest fires in the past and our job is to build fire lanes and the trails over which men could pass in event of another fire. Horse trails for the carrying of packs are being built through the burned over areas and small trees are being cleared around their base to give them a chance to grow.”

¹ *Hancock Democrat*, June 24, 1933.

² *Hancock Democrat*, April 1, 1943.

³ *Hancock Democrat*, August 10, 1933.

"We have an exceptionally fine group of boys and men in camp. My work is not hard, but I am busy practicality all of the time. I am the mess officer and as such have charge of purchasing food for the camp, which is composed of 200 men and 9 officers. Last week I took a trip to Mexico and bought a truckload of water-melons. I went to Los Angeles Friday night to buy fruit and vegetables and bought a whole truckload of carrots, cabbages, lettuce, pickles, and sweet corn for less than \$5.

Coming back from Los Angeles, I passed through several cities which were struck by the earthquake in February. Many of the buildings have not been repaired since the quake.

Our life in camp is very enjoyable. We have athletic contests on weekends and sometimes talent shows, one or two nights a week. Our camp will move to Indio, a desert section. We will start irrigation work in this section. I have hope of being assigned on the second tour of duty there."

Lt. Murnan coached a team of Indiana boys at the CCC Camp at Oak Glen, Yucaipa, California, in March 1934. The team won twenty-six straight games against CCC teams from all over the country.⁴

Herbert Murnan would serve a long and distinguished career in the Army, serving through WWII, retiring on November 1, 1959, as a full Colonel. He graduated from Greenfield High School, class of 1926. Attended Butler University, participating in the ROTC program there before joining the US Army. His state-side assignments included the Pentagon, Texas, Georgia, and Ohio. His overseas tours include Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia, Saipan, Guam, Philippines, and Okinawa. He settled in California after his retirement.⁵



The Indianapolis Star, March 26, 1934



Mark Sullivan is a native of Schoharie, New York. He retired as a Command Sergeant Major from the US Army in 2009, having served for 25 years, and currently works as a Department of the Army Civilian at the Finance Center on Fort Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana. He is a frequent contributor to the Hancock County Historical Society's "Log Chain," and has written articles for many other historical journals. Mark lives in Greenfield, Indiana.

⁴ *The Daily Reporter*, March 26, 1934.

⁵ *The Daily Reporter*, October 29, 1959.

THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS IN INDIANA

Joy Neighbors, (South Central District)

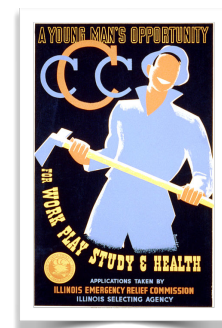
The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a voluntary work relief program put in place by the government from 1933 to 1942. To work for the CCC you had to be male between the ages of 17-28, single, and unemployed. Men signed up for renewable 6-month terms. During its 9-years in operation, more than 3-million men were employed by the CCC nationwide at a time when national unemployment was at 25-percent.

Jobs with the CCC included forest management, conservation projects, flood control, and developing state and national parks, forests, and historic sites. The men received food and lodging, an education, training, and 30-dollars a week, of which \$25 was sent to their families. But what mattered most was the opportunity to earn a living by contributing to projects that are still valued today.

In Indiana, the CCC was under the command of the U.S. Army. Men learned about soil conservation, land management, and park construction. Workers built roads, bridges, shelters, restrooms, and gatehouses in our state parks along with fire lookout towers. They dredged canals, stocked lakes and streams with fish, maintained public lands, and created airport landing fields.

There were 56 CCC companies in Indiana made up of 256 camps, eight of which were African American. More than 63,000 Hoosiers took part in the CCC during the nine years it existed. The largest company was the 517th made up of 250 men serving at what is now O'Bannon Woods State Park near Corydon. The CCC crews worked in fourteen Indiana state parks including:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| • Brown County | • Quabache |
| • Clifty Falls | • Pokagon |
| • Fort Harrison | • Salamonie Lake |
| • Indiana Dunes | • Shakamak |
| • Lincoln | • Spring Mill |
| • McCormick's Creek | • Turkey Run |
| • O'Bannon Woods | • Versailles |



Employment records for the CCC can be found at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. Also, visit the Indiana State Library, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for more information.

- NARA (<https://www.usa.gov/federal-agencies/national-archives-and-records-administration>)
- National Personnel Records Center (<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>)
- Indiana State Library (<https://indianamemory.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16066coll49>)
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources (<https://www.in.gov/dnr/state-parks/cultural-resources-and-history/the-new-deal-and-indiana-state-parks>)

SUSAN EARL, DAUGHTER OF NEHEMIAH DANFORTH AND ELIZABETH (DIMMIT) EARL

TERESA A. (ALLEN) MILLS, CG

A National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) lineage application submission requires an analysis (proof argument) when no direct evidence can establish a parent-child relationship. One analysis is allowed for one parent-child connection in the line of descent.¹

Using authored, unsourced lineages for proof of parentage on a lineage application is problematic; they lack necessary sources. Often census records provide the only official documentation of a family. They play an essential role in tracking our ancestors' lives and furnish quality circumstantial evidence of links between family members.² They help solve several problems. Consecutive censuses can provide information about an ancestral family unit's makeup over several decades, birth year estimates, migration paths of the family, and approximate move dates. The Earl family's Indiana and Iowa Census records are examples. However, censuses before 1880 are not acceptable proof of parentage for an NSDAR lineage application. Other evidence is required to support an implied parent-child relationship.³ By skillfully correlating censuses with other records, a complete picture appears to confirm that relationship.



Susan Earl Foutch

A Lack of Records

An unsourced Danforth Genealogy by Nicholas and William Danforth names Susan as the oldest child of Nehemiah Earl and Elizabeth Dimmitt; "born 27 Feb. 1840..."⁴ Mrs. Susan Foutch's obituary identifies her maiden name, Earl, and confirms her birth date but no parental identities. An unsourced family genealogy, compiled by Flossie Fern (Foutch) Allen, reiterates the

¹ Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), "Analysis for Lineage on NSDAR Application"; Form RGG-1010 (PDF), [dar.org \(https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/RGG-1010.pdf\)](https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/RGG-1010.pdf); 2 September 2019).

² Greenwood, Val D., *The Researchers Guide to American Genealogy*, 4th Edition (Genealogical Publishing Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2017), p. 380.

³ Also, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), "DAR Guidelines, Part Two," p. 40, par. 3; [dar.org \(http://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/RGG-4001.pdf\)](http://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/RGG-4001.pdf).

⁴ Nicholas and William Danforth, *Danforth Genealogy* (1902), p. 132. The Nehemiah Danforth Earl family grouping is misprinted. The children listed are given the surname Dimmitt instead of Earl. In various documents, Nehemiah's name is written as N. D. Earl, Nehemiah Earl, and Nehemiah D. Earl. His father was known as Nehemiah Earl. For clarity, the name written on each specific document will be used. In general discussion, the name Nehemiah D. Earl will be used.

obituary birth date and agrees with parental information in the Danforth Genealogy.⁵ To date, no birth or baptism records have been located for Susan.⁶ She appears in two censuses with Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl.⁷ But her 1857 marriage record does not identify any parents.⁸ She does reside near them at later censuses, however.⁹ No deed, probate record, or other obituary identifies Susan as the daughter of Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl.¹⁰ Additional evidence is required to support an implied parentage.

⁵ "In Memory of Mrs. Susan Foutch," *Bethany Republican* (Harrison County, Missouri), obituary, 8 Apr 1909, p. 6, col. 3; Foutch-Allen Lineages, circa 1970s; privately held by Teresa (Allen) Mills, [address for private use] Virginia Beach, Virginia, 2018. Lineage was given to Flossie's son Lee R. Allen Jr. (1927-2005), circa 1970s. Lineage was given to Lee's daughter Teresa (Allen) Mills, circa 1980s. Hereafter referred to as Foutch-Allen Family Lineages.

⁶ UMC-West Point M. E. Church; Indiana, DePauw University Archives. Also, "US UMC, 1837-1970," search 1840 birth of Susan Earl, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 7 April 2021). Also, Ottumwa Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church (Iowa), 1872-1906; 1899-1905, browsable images, search for Nehemiah or N. D. Earl, Susan Earl or Susan Foutch, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 27 May 2021), FHL microfilm 4,265,471.

⁷ 1850 US Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, District 13, p. 422A, dwelling 304, family 304, Nehemiah D. Earl: image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 2 April 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M432, roll 189. Also, 1856 Iowa State Census, Wapello County, Population Schedule, Nehemiah Earl, l. 17; images through "Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 2 April 2019); citing the Historical Society of Iowa.

⁸ Iowa (Wapello County), Marriage Register, p. 159, line 17, Foutch-Earl marriage (1857); "Iowa, County Marriages, 1834-1934," FHL microfilm 430,9597.

⁹ 1860 US Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Highland Twp, p. 167 (handwritten), dwelling 1139, family 1109, Abraham Fouch [sic] household; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M653, roll 343. Also, 1860 US Census, Wapello County, Iowa, agricultural schedule, p. 5 (handwritten), l. 17, N. D. Earl; accessed via "US Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedule, 1850-1880," image, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication T1156, roll 5. Also, 1870 US Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Highland Twp, p. 141B (121 handwritten on page), dwelling 80, family 80, Abraham Foutch household; image, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593, roll 422. Also, 1870 U. S. Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Dahlonga Twp, p.112A (112 stamped, no letter A), dwelling 5, family 5, N. D. Earl household; Image, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593, roll 422.

¹⁰ Wapello County (Iowa) Death Records, 1880-1917, browsable images, search for N. D. Earl FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 27 May 2021). Also, Cedar County, Iowa, General Probate Index, 1839-1909, vol. 1, browsable images, search for N. D. Earl - daughter Susan Earl, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 27 May 2021), FHL 7,597,373 Also, Cedar County, Iowa, Index to Register of Deaths, 1880-1897, browsable images, search for Nehemiah or N. D. Earl death, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 27 May 2021), FHL microfilm 8,545,329. Also, Cedar County, Iowa, Index to Misc. Records, 1850-1980, v. 1, v. 2. pp. 1-465, browsable images, search for Nehemiah or N. D. Earl, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 27 May 2021), FHL microfilm 8695412. Also, email dated 6 April 2021, Jamie Dunn to Teresa Mills, Indiana State Library, Newspaper Microfilm Holdings, negative findings, obituary for Nehemiah D. or N. D. Earl. Also, email, Lisa Bradley to Teresa Mills, 1 April 2019, search Special Collections, Metropolitan Library System and Oklahoma Historical Society Collections, Oklahoma City, for newspaper death notice or probate records of N. D. Earl in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.

Earl Migration from Ohio to Indiana, then Iowa

An 1888 Tippecanoe County, Indiana, compiled history tells the story of the Earl family migration and Indiana settlement.¹¹ Deed records support the story. In Crawford County, Ohio, Nehemiah Earl (the elder) and his wife Rebecca sold a parcel of land to their son Asa Earl in 1828, and another to Dr. Dunn in 1831.¹² Asa Earl sold the land he acquired from Nehemiah and Rebecca Earl in 1832.¹³ A transcribed Earl family Bible record indicates Nehemiah Earl died in 1832 or 1839. The document identifies Asa (b.1804), Daniel (b.1812), and Nehemiah (Nehemiah Danforth, b.1814) as three sons of fifteen children born to Nehemiah and Rebecca (Danforth) Earl.¹⁴ A Nehemiah Earl FindAGrave memorial indicates his death was 1839. There is no headstone.¹⁵



Nehemiah Earl

Son Daniel Earl sold his Crawford County, Ohio land in 1835.¹⁶ He was in Tippecanoe County by 1837.¹⁷ Asa Earl purchased 34 acres in Tippecanoe County, 4 March 1839, in Township 22, Range 6 (eventually Wayne Township).¹⁸ That same month Nehemiah D. Earl

¹¹ Lewis Publishing Company, *Biographical Record and Portrait Album of Tippecanoe County, Indiana* (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1888), Asa Earl, pp. 542-47, Adams Earl, 556-56.

¹² Crawford County, Ohio, Deed Records, 1826-1886, Nehemiah Earl-Asa Earl deed, vol. A, p. 52; browsable images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 March 2019), FHL microfilm 7209590. Also, Crawford County, Ohio, Deed Records, 1826-1886, Nehemiah Earl-Dr. Dunn deed, vol. B, p. 6; browsable images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 March 2019), FHL microfilm 7209590.

¹³ Crawford County, Ohio, Deed Records, 1826-1841, Asa Earl-Thomas Wallace, deed, vol. B, p. 128; browsable images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 March 2019), FHL microfilm 7209590.

¹⁴ Bible Record Transcription-Explanations, Earl-Earl binders, Tippecanoe County Historical Association; Alameda-McCollough Research Library, Lafayette, Indiana. This Bible transcription was done by Alice Earl, daughter of Adams Earl sometime in 1935. No Bible has been located. For her parentage see "Indiana, US, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," database with images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 28 July 2021), certificate image, Alice Earl Stuart, 27 July 1937, no. 224274; citing Indiana Archives and Records Administration, Indianapolis.

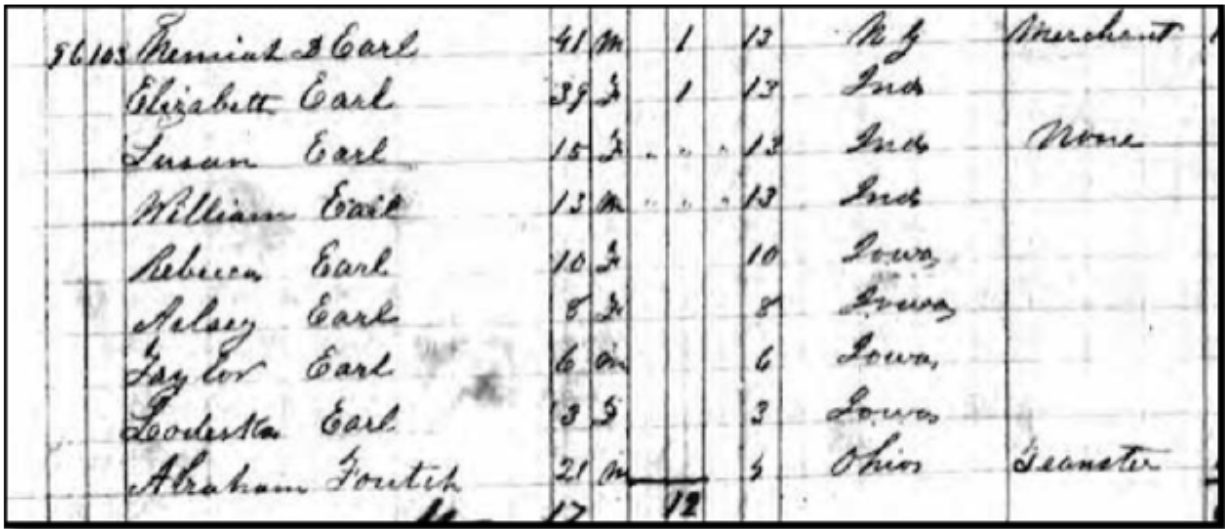
¹⁵ Find A Grave, image (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 30 March 2019), memorial 61285975, Nehemiah Earl (1771-1839), Alum Creek Friends Cemetery, Morrow County, Ohio. No tombstone photo added.

¹⁶ Crawford County, Ohio, Deed Records, 1826-1841, Daniel Earl-Peter DeWitt, deed, vol. A, p. 286; browsable images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 12 March 2019), FHL microfilm 7209590.

¹⁷ 1856 Iowa State Census, Marion County, Population Schedule, p. 514, Daniel Earl, dwelling 263, family 268; images through "Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 2 April 2019); citing the Historical Society of Iowa. Daniel Earl's son Jonas was born about 1837 in Indiana.

¹⁸ NSDAR, Indiana, General de Lafayette Chapter, *Deeds and Patents Abstracted from the Second Entry Book of Tippecanoe County, Indiana 1839-1842* (Lafayette: n.p., n.d.), entry for H. Q. Jennison-Asa Earl, Deed, 4 March 1839, p. 43; Digital images, archive.org (<https://archive.org/details/deedspatentsabst184042daug/page/43/mode/1up> : accessed 5 August 2020).

married Elizabeth Dimmitt in the county.¹⁹ Based on the timeline presented, the 1832 death date for Nehemiah Earl (senior) is likely. The family matriarch, Rebecca (Danforth) Earl, died in Tippecanoe County (Wea Plains) in November 1842.²⁰ Her probate record named Nehemiah (D.) Earl and her other living children as heirs. Rebecca's youngest son, Adams Earl, is named Executor of the estate.²¹ Rebecca's and two children's graves are in the same cemetery; Adams is buried in Lafayette, supporting their familial relationship and long-term residency in Tippecanoe County.²²



A handwritten document titled "1856 Iowa Census of Earl Family and Abraham Foutch". It is a table with 7 columns. The first column contains names, the second column contains ages, the third column contains genders (M or F), the fourth column contains birth years, the fifth column contains birthplaces, and the sixth column contains occupations. The entries are as follows:

Name	Age	Gender	Birth Year	Birth Place	Occupation
Nehemiah Earl	41 M	M	1815	Ind	Merchant
Elizabeth Earl	39 F	F	1816	Ind	
Lusan Earl	15 F	F	1841	Ind	None
William Earl	13 M	M	1842	Ind	
Rebecca Earl	10 F	F	1846	Iowa	
Sally Earl	8 F	F	1848	Iowa	
Jaylor Earl	6 M	M	1850	Iowa	
Leodesta Earl	3 F	F	1853	Iowa	
Abraham Foutch	21 M	M	1835	Ohio	Seamster

1856 Iowa Census of Earl Family and Abraham Foutch

¹⁹ Indiana, Tippecanoe County, Marriage Registers, 1811-2007, p. 104, Earl-Dimmitt marriage, database with images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 7 April 2021).

²⁰ Find A Grave, image (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 30 March 2019), memorial 58842138, Rebecca Danforth wife of Nehemiah Earl (1771-1842), Sherry Cemetery, Tippecanoe, Indiana; photograph added by "rebecca d." Also, Bible Record Transcription-Explanations, Earl-Earl binders, TCHA. The Bible transcription indicates Wea Plains as the township of Rebecca's death location.

²¹ Tippecanoe County, Indiana, Probate Record for Rebecca Earl, document number 9631340, in documentation file supporting membership with National Number 836834; National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Office of the Registrar General, Washington, D. C.

²² Find A Grave, image (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 30 March 2019), memorial 58842009, Asa Earl (1804-1890), Sherry Cemetery, Tippecanoe, Indiana; photograph added by "rebecca d." Also, Find A Grave, image (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 30 March 2019), memorial 58842955, Emmeline Earl wife of Jacob Sherry. (1817-1862), Sherry Cemetery, Tippecanoe, Indiana; photograph added by "rebecca d." Also, Find A Grave, image (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 30 March 2019), memorial 8090098, Adams Earl (1819-1898), Spring Vale Cemetery, Tippecanoe, Indiana; photograph added by "MRS."

Nehemiah Earl is in Tippecanoe County at the 1840 census.²³ One female under age five, probably Susan, and a female near Nehemiah's age, presumably his wife, Elizabeth, are present in the household. The calculated age of the child is about four months, born within the first year of Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth's marriage. By 1846 Nehemiah was in Wapello County, Iowa, where he purchased 160 acres in 1848.²⁴ Susan's obituary mentions a move earlier in 1844, which is possible.²⁵

Susan is an Indiana-born ten-year-old in Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl's 1850 household. Four other children are also present: William, Rebecca, Alsa [Alice], and Zachary T.²⁶ At the 1856 Iowa Census, Susan appears again with Nehemiah D. (a merchant) and Elizabeth Earl. She is age fifteen, born in Indiana. William, Rebecca, Alsey [Alice], and [Zachary] Taylor are there too, with an additional child Lodeska. Teamster, Abraham Foutch is a boarder.²⁷ He married Susan in 1857.²⁸

Nehemiah and Abraham

Abraham Foutch probably came to Iowa with his brother, James M. Foutch, following James' 1851 marriage to Jane Kibler in Ohio.²⁹ His association with Nehemiah and subsequent residence with the family was likely related to his occupation as a teamster transporting goods for Nehemiah D., a merchant, and possibly others. As a teamster, Abraham perhaps drove in a wagon train moving west, resulting in his settlement in the county.³⁰ He purchased land in adjacent

²³ 1840 US Census, Wayne Township, Tippecanoe County, Indiana, p. 210, l. 30, Nehemiah D. Earl; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 18 March 2019); citing NARA microfilm M704, 580 rolls.

²⁴ 1846 Iowa State Census, Wapello County, Population Schedule, Nehemiah Earl, l. 17; images through "Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 2 April 2019); citing the Historical Society of Iowa. Also, BLM-GLO, Nehemiah Danforth Earl, Decatur Co, IA, No 11267.

²⁵ "In Memory of Mrs. Susan Foutch," *Bethany Republican*, obituary.

²⁶ 1850 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sched., District 13, p. 422A, dwell. 304, fam. 304, Nehemiah D. Earl.

²⁷ 1856 Iowa State Census, Wapello Co., pop. sched., Dahlonga Twp. p. 121 (stamped), Nehemiah D. Earl household. Lodeska's name is spelled various ways in different records.

²⁸ Iowa (Wapello County), Marriage Register, p. 159, line 17, Foutch-Earl marriage; "Iowa, County Marriages, 1834-1934," FHL microfilm 430,9597.

²⁹ 1850 US Census, Hancock County, Ohio, p. 64B, dwelling 34, family 34, James Foutch family; image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 29 July 2020); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 692. James Foutch household, Abrem [sic] Foutch, age 17, James Foutch, age 20, both born in Ohio. Also, 1856 Iowa State Census, Wapello County, Population Schedule, Dahlonga Twp. p.125 (stamped), James Foutch household, family 76, dwelling 69; images through "Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 30 June 2021); citing the Historical Society of Iowa. Also, Ohio Marriage Records, 1850-1860, vol. 3, p. 77, Foutch-Kibler marriage; accessed through "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 1 July 2021), FHL microfilm 1,299,131; County Courthouses, Ohio.

³⁰ Wikipedia contributors, "Teamster," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Teamster&oldid=1016905687> : accessed 30 June 2021). Also, "The Mule and his Driver," *Dade County Advocate* (Greenfield, Missouri), 13 May 1875, p. 7, col. 1, accessed through Newspapers.com (<https://www.newspapers.com/> : accessed 30 June 2021).

Ringold County in 1856.³¹ Maybe Abraham rented out this property. He and Susan lived near the Earl's in 1860.³²

More Migration

The California gold rush drew Susan and Abraham there for an extended period. However, they returned to Wapello County by 1870 and lived near N. D. and Elizabeth. Next door to senior Earl's lived Z. T. [Zachary Taylor] Earl.³³ Rebecca (Earl) was in M. A. Dickens household in a neighboring township.³⁴ William Earl resided in an adjacent county.³⁵ No other Earl families lived nearby.³⁶

Susan and Abraham moved thrice more. First, they moved to Ringold County, Iowa, with their eight children. Nehemiah and Elizabeth migrated to adjacent Decatur County, Iowa.³⁷ N. D. Earl was there in 1884.³⁸ Second, Susan and Abraham lived in Decatur County in 1885.³⁹ But,

³¹ Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," database, General Land Office Records (<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/search/> : 2 April 2019), entry for Abraham [sic] Foutch, Ringold County, Iowa, nos. 9600, 9601.

³² 1860 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, ag. sch., p. 5 (handwritten), l. 17, N. D. Earl. Also, 1860 U. S. Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sch., Highland Twp, p. 167 (handwritten), dwell. 1139, fam. 1109, Abraham Fouch [sic] household.

³³ El Dorado County, California, Great Registers, 1866-1898, p. 13, Abraham Foutch, age 34, birthplace Ohio, wood and coal dealer, 23 April 1867, sworn, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 4 Jun 2021); California History Collection No. 4-2A, roll 12; California State Library, Sacramento. Also, 1870 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sched., Highland Twp, p. 141B (121 handwritten on page), dwell. 80, fam. 80, Abraham Foutch household. Also, Warner, George E., 1826-1917, Harrison & Warner, Worley & Bracher, and F. Bourquin & Co, *Map of Wapello County, Iowa* (Oskaloosa, Iowa: Published by Harrison & Warner, Phila.: Printed by F. Bourquin, 1870); Highland Township Map, loc.gov. (<https://www.loc.gov/item/2012587715/>: 30 August 2019). Location in Section 15. Foutch surname misspelled. Also, 1870 U. S. Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sch., Dahlonga Twp, p. 112A (112 stamped, no letter A), dwell. 5, fam. 5, N. D. Earl household. Z. T. listed in adjacent household.

³⁴ Wapello County, Iowa, Marriage Records, Book C (1844-1866), p. 353, Dickens-Earl; Family History Library microfilm (FHL), 97,958. Also, 1870 U. S. Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Compentine Twp, p. 107B (page no. not identified), dwelling 131, family 131, M. A. Dickens household; Image, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593, roll 422.

³⁵ 1870 U. S. Census, Monroe County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Albia Twp, p. 434B (page no. not identified), dwelling 325, family 332, William D. Earl household; Image, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593, roll 412.

³⁶ 1870 U. S. Census, Wapello County, Iowa, Population Schedule, search for all Earl households in Wapello County, images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593.

³⁷ 1880 US Census, Ringold County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Athens Twp, Enumeration (ED) 202, p. 126D (letter D stamped, no page number 126), dwelling 232, family 229, Abraham Foutch household; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 22 July 2021); citing National Archives microfilm publication T9, roll 362. Also, 1880 US Census, Decatur County, Iowa, Population Schedule, Bloomington Twp, Enumeration (ED) 060, p. 292C (letter C, number 292 stamped), dwelling 328, family 328, Nehemiah Earl household; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 27 August 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication T9, roll 336.

³⁸ Decatur, Iowa, General Index, Circuit Court, N. D. Earl-Case, 27 March 1884, vol. 4, p. 225; Decatur Clerk of Court. Last known record of Nehemiah D. Earl.

³⁹ "Iowa, U. S., State Census Collection, 1835-1925," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 December 2020), entry for Abraham Fautch [sic] (age 51), Bloomington, Decatur, p. 9, 1885; citing State Historical Society of Iowa.

Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl were not located.⁴⁰ Elizabeth Earl appears in the 1890 Oklahoma Territorial Census with her son William D. Earl. She is a 74-year-old widow.⁴¹ The couple's final move was to Harrison County, Missouri, sometime after the 1885 census.⁴² They were in Harrison County at the 1900 Census, noting Susan, married forty-three years, gave birth to thirteen children with eight still living.⁴³ Abram [sic] died there in 1902.⁴⁴ Susan died there in 1909.⁴⁵

Susan Earl's Siblings

Vital records provide critical evidence of parentage for four children in Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl's 1850 and 1856 households.

- Rebecca Earl married Malachi Dickens on 26 March 1865 in Wapello County, Iowa. N. D. Earl gave requisite proof of age for Rebecca. The record does not mention Elizabeth Earl.⁴⁶
- The 1919 Death Certificate of William D. Earl indicates his birth as Tippecanoe County, Indiana, his father as Nehemiah Earl, his mother ____ Dimmitt.⁴⁷
- Alice Chapman's 1925 Death Certificate indicates her birthplace as Wapello County, Iowa, her parents as Nehemiah Earl and Elizabeth Dimmitt [sic].⁴⁸
- Zachary Taylor Earl's 1929 Death Certificate indicates his birth as Iowa, his parents as Nehemiah Danforth Earl, and ____ Dimitt [sic].⁴⁹

⁴⁰ "Iowa, U. S., State Census Collection, 1835-1925," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 December 2020), search for Nehemiah D. (all variations) and Elizabeth Earl; citing State Historical Society of Iowa.

⁴¹ 1890 Oklahoma Territorial Census, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, Population Schedule, Township 12, Enumeration (ED) 32, p. 387 (stamped), dwelling 261, William D. Earl household; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 16 September 2019); citing National Archives microfilm publication M1811, 1 roll.

⁴² "In Memory of Mrs. Susan Foutch," *Bethany Republican*, obituary. Also, "Iowa, US, State Census Collection, 1835-1925," database, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 December 2020), entry for Abraham Fautch [sic] (1885).

⁴³ 1900 US Census, Harrison County, Missouri, Population Schedule, Union Twp, Enumeration (ED) 110, p. 3B, dwelling 69, family 69, Abram Foutch household; image Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 5 August 2020); citing National Archives microfilm publication T623, 1854 rolls.

⁴⁴ "A. Foutch," obituary, *Ridgeway Journal*, 6 Feb 1902, p 3, col 3, Foutch-Allen Lineages.

⁴⁵ "In Memory of Mrs. Susan Foutch," *Bethany Republican*, obituary.

⁴⁶ Wapello County, Iowa, Marriage Records, Book C (1844-1866), p. 353, Dickens-Earl marriage.

⁴⁷ Texas, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate no. 33849-92, William D. Earl (1919); Department of State Health Services, Austin. The birth year is incorrectly reported probably because the informant was not familiar with the precise year the deceased was born.

⁴⁸ Oregon State Board of Health, Death Certificate no. 364-238, Alice M. Chapman (1925); Department of Human Services, Salem. The birth year is incorrectly reported probably because the informant was not familiar with the precise year the deceased was born.

⁴⁹ California, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate no. 2688A, Zachary Taylor Earl (1929); California State Archive, Sacramento. The birth year is incorrectly reported probably because the informant was not familiar with the precise year the deceased was born.

Namesakes

Susan and Abraham Foutch named several of their children for family members. Susan's second child, Nehemiah Danford Foutch, was the namesake of Nehemiah Danforth Earl, with a spelling variation.⁵⁰ Three children listed in the household of Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl at the 1850 US Census and 1856 Iowa State Census were named: Alsa and Alsey (Alice) respectively; Zachary T. (Taylor); and Lodeska.⁵¹ Three of Susan and Abraham Foutch's children had the same given names: Alice Foutch had the same name as Alice (Earl) Chapman (1845-1925)⁵²; Zachary Taylor Foutch had the same given name as Zachary Taylor Earl (1848-1929)⁵³; Lodeska Foutch had the same given name as Lodeska (Earl) (Wright) Greene (b.abt.1853-d.abt.1880).⁵⁴

Conclusion

One unsourced published lineage, by a Danforth descendant, names Susan Earl as Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth (Dimmitt) Earl's daughter and supports other documentation. Nehemiah's 1840 Census Enumeration includes a female, under age five, in the household. Susan appears with Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl in two consecutive censuses with several of the same children. This information supports a family unit; the children's birth dates are regular at approximate 18-24 month intervals. Their birthplaces match the family's migration pattern. One census household includes Nehemiah D.'s associate, Abraham Foutch, who later married Susan Earl. The couple consistently resided near Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl and returned to Wapello County after living away for several years. Other records: Rebecca Earl's marriage record, death records of William D. Earl, Alice Chapman, and Zachary Taylor Earl connect them with one or both parents and support Susan as their sibling. Susan named her son, Nehemiah Danford, a variation of Nehemiah Danforth. Three other children were namesakes of Susan's siblings. These several items of evidence collectively demonstrate that Susan Earl is the daughter of Nehemiah D. and Elizabeth Earl.



Teresa Mills is a native of Idaho now residing in Virginia Beach, Virginia, with her husband Bob and two cats, Merry and Pippen. She has two adult children, Cory and Rory. She is a Certified Genealogist and enjoys focusing research on her female ancestors. (The words Certified Genealogist and its acronym, CG, are registered certification marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists®).

⁵⁰ Nebraska, Division of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate no. 0609466, Nemiah Danford Earl (1939); Department of Health and Human Services, Lincoln.

⁵¹ 1850 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sched., District 13, p. 422A, dwell. 304, fam. 304, Nehemiah D. Earl. Children : Susan, William, Rebecca, Alsa [sic], Zachary T. Also, 1856 Iowa State Census, Wapello Co., pop. sched., Dahlonge Twp. p.121 (stamped), Nehemiah D. Earl household. Same children are listed with additional child Lodeska. The name Lodeska is spelled differently in several records.

⁵² Also, 1870 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sched., Highland Twp, p. 141B (handwritten), dwell. 80, fam. 80, Abraham Foutch household, child Alsa [sic]. Also, Oregon State Board of Health, Death Certificate no. 364-238, Alice M. Chapman (1925).

⁵³ "Iowa County Births, 1880-1935," database, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 19 July 2021), entry for Fowtch [sic], 13 October 1881; citing Iowa, US; county district courts, Iowa; FHL microfilm 1,009,653. Also, Foutch-Allen Lineages, from the family group sheet of Abraham Foutch, "Twelfth child: Zachary Taylor Foutch, Born; October 13, 1881, Died: February 22, 1883." Supports 1881 Fowtch Birth Record. Also, California, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate no. 2688A, Zachary Taylor Earl (1929); California State Archive, Sacramento.

⁵⁴ 1870 US Census, Wapello Co., Iowa, pop. sched., Highland Twp, p. 141B (handwritten), dwell. 80, fam. 80, Abraham Foutch household, child Lodeska. Also, "Iowa (Wapello), US, Marriage Records, 1880-1951," textual records (images), Greene-(Earl)Wright marriage, 2 October 1880, vol. 306 (Union-Wright), p. 90-1025, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : 19 July 2021); Iowa Department of Public Health, Des Moines. 19 July 2021).

GERMAN ORIGIN OF THE ILER/EULER AND RITZIUS FAMILIES OF FULTON, MARSHALL, AND MIAMI COUNTIES (Final Installment)

Jon Wardlow (South Central District)

In 2017, a friend mentioned that he didn't know where his paternal ancestral line came from, other than somewhere in Germany. I had recently discovered the German-church-record website www.archion.de, and had enjoyed the challenge of finding and deciphering my ancestors' scanned original German-language records there. Though my friend hadn't asked me to, I couldn't resist looking for his German origins. That led to the research below, finding the German origins of two intertwined Hoosier families.

Children of Nicolaus Henrich¹ and Anna Catharina (Bierwirth) Ritzius:

i. Claus Henrich² Ritzius, known in America as Henry Ritzius, b. Weißenborn 16 Feb. 1832;¹¹² m. (1) by 1860 Anna Maria Merle of Ottrau, Hesse-Kassel;¹¹³ m. (2) Miami County 23 Oct. 1892 Catharine (Schafer) Myers.¹¹⁴

Henrich was the first member of the Schorbach Ritzius or Euler families to emigrate, arriving in America in 1853. While Henrich and Anna Maria had several children born in Indiana, we limit our scope to the one born outside the U.S.

German-born child of Claus Henrich² Ritzius and Anna Maria Merle:

1. Anna Catharina Merle, b. Ottrau 24 Aug. 1852;¹¹⁵ m. Indiana 24 Jan. 1869 William T. McGrew.¹¹⁶

¹¹² Weißenborn church registers [note 60], 1830–1861:1(baptisms):[4](#) #18.

¹¹³ While no record of Henrich and Maria's marriage has been found, they appear to be living together as husband and wife by the 1860 census—1860 U.S. census, Indiana, Miami Co., [p. 218](#) (Union Twp., p. 85), lines 38–39.

There is no doubt that Henry and Maria Ritzius of Indiana were Claus Henrich Ritzius of Weißenborn/Schorbach and Anna Maria Merle of Hattendorf/Ottrau.

- Even though their daughter Anna Catharina was born out-of-wedlock in Ottrau, her baptismal record explicitly says that her father was Claus Heinrich Ritzius of Schorbach. (Evangelical Church [Ottrau, 34633 Ottrau, Hesse, Germany], church registers, 1849–1879:1[baptisms]:[14](#) #55).
- Anna Maria Ritzius' gravestone in Fulton County says she died "Jan. 17, 1892,/AGED/66Y. 7M. 3D." That gives a birth date of 14 June 1825, an exact match for Anna Maria Merle's birth in her Hattendorf baptismal record. (Gravestone of Anna Maria Ritzius, Leiters Ford IOOF Cemetery, Leiters Ford, Fulton County, Find A Grave [#066054141](#); Evangelical Church [Hattendorf, 36304 Alsfeld, Hesse, Germany], church registers, 1814–1830:1[baptisms]:[1825](#).)
- Henry Ritzius' death certificate says he was born 2/16/1832 in Germany—matching the Weißenborn birth date of Claus Henrich Ritzius. (Indiana state death certificate [1905:104:232](#), Henry Ritzius.)
- The 1909 marriage license application of Caroline (Ritzius) McGrew says she was born 11 April 1856 in Miami County, to Henry Ritzius and Maria Merley. (Fulton Co. marriage license applications, [1909:84](#).)

¹¹⁴ Miami County marriage registers, [9:100](#). Catharine's maiden name is from her Indiana state death certificate, [1918:46380](#).

¹¹⁵ Evangelical Church (Ottrau, 34633 Ottrau, Hesse, Germany), church registers, 1849–1879:1(baptisms):[14](#) #55.

¹¹⁶ Marshall County marriage registers, [C:34](#).

- ii. Johann Wiegand Ritzius, known in America as John W. Ritzius, b. Weißenborn 12 Dec. 1833;¹¹⁷ m. Miami County 31 March 1861 Mary J. Grove.¹¹⁸ He arrived in America in 1857, aboard the Bessel.
- iii. Johann Heinrich Ritzius, known in America as John H. Ritzius, b. Schorbach 29 Nov. 1835;¹¹⁹ m. (1) by 1858 Christina Kiefer;¹²⁰ m. (2) Miami County 11 Nov. 1875 Anna See.¹²¹
- iv. Andreas Ritzius, b. Schorbach 8 Sept. 1837;¹²² d. Schorbach 6 Dec. 1837.¹²³
- v. Barbara Elisabeth Ritzius, b. Schorbach 30 Nov. 1838;¹²⁴ m. Frielingen 30 Oct. 1865 Nikolaus Klebe of Frielingen.¹²⁵
- vi. Anna Margarethe Ritzius, b. Schorbach 20 Feb. 1840;¹²⁶ m. Obergrenzebach, Hesse-Kassel, 30 Dec. 1866 Johannes Baumgardt of Obergrenzebach.¹²⁷
- vii. Andreas Ritzius, b. Schorbach 24 March 1842;¹²⁸ d. Schorbach 9 May 1846.¹²⁹

Children of Nicolaus Henrich¹ and Anna Gela (Euler) Ritzius:

- viii. Johannes² Ritzius, b. Schorbach 16 April 1858; d. 21 Jan. 1874; bur. Lutheran Cemetery.¹³⁰
- ix. Anna Katharina Ritzius, b. Schorbach 2 July 1860.¹³¹ No record of her has been found, after her arrival in the U.S. in 1863, and she is not mentioned in her father's 1867 will.
- x. Elizabeth Ritzius, b. aboard the ship Adolphine, on the Atlantic Ocean, 23 March 1863; m. Marshall County 22 Jan. 1908 Jesse B. Green of Vigo County.¹³²
- xi. Melissa Ritzius, b. Marshall County 14 March 1866; m. Plymouth, Marshall County, 30 Jan. 1895 Samuel Good of Mentone, Kosciusko County.¹³³



Jon Wardlow is an engineer, and lives in Columbus Indiana.

¹¹⁷ Weißenborn church registers [note 60], 1830–1861:1(baptisms):[10](#) #47.

¹¹⁸ Miami County marriage registers, [3:3](#).

¹¹⁹ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:1(baptisms):[14](#) #68.

¹²⁰ Denver Tribune (Denver, Ind.), 6 Sept. 1906, [page 1](#), column 4, “Deaths” (John’s obituary, with name of first wife). Evidently married by 1858, as their first child was age 2 in the 1860 census—1860 U.S. census, Indiana, Miami Co., [page 244](#) (Jefferson Twp., page 111), line 28.

¹²¹ Miami County marriage registers, 5:[336](#).

¹²² Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:1(baptisms):[18](#) #91.

¹²³ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:4(deaths):[11](#) #52.

¹²⁴ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:1(baptisms):[21](#) #104.

¹²⁵ Frielingen church registers [note 65], 1831–1992 marriages:[38](#) #124.

¹²⁶ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:1(baptisms):[27](#) #131.

¹²⁷ Evangelical Church (Obergrenzebach, 34621 Frielendorf, Hesse, Germany), church registers, 1830–1880:3(marriages):[56](#) #169.

¹²⁸ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:1(baptisms):[33](#) #159.

¹²⁹ Schorbach church registers [note 3], 1830–1878:4(deaths):[28](#) #131.

¹³⁰ Notes 38 and 39.

¹³¹ Anna Katharina Ritzius’ baptismal record [note 40].

¹³² Notes 41 and 42.

¹³³ Notes 43 and 44.

THE WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION AND THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

Joy Neighbors, (South Central District)

In May 1933, the country was in the throes of the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order creating the Works Progress Administration (WPA.) This was an American New Deal agency that implemented public works projects such as building roads and constructing public buildings. Millions were employed, mostly men.



The Historical Records Survey (HRS) became an independent part of the Federal Writers Project in 1936, providing needed employment to historians, librarians, researchers, writers, and clerical workers. These workers collected, identified, surveyed, indexed, and conserved any historical records found in archives throughout the United States. Most of the HRS information was either bound in book form or copied onto microfilm and placed in local libraries, genealogy societies, and historical organizations along with other federal depositories around the country. Individual states oversaw the projects from 1939 until 1943 when the HRS was terminated.

- Indexes to newspapers
- Vital statistics (county birth, marriage, and death records)
- Inventories of church records
- Cemetery lists
- County courthouse records
- Portraits of public building files
- Manuscripts found in private collections and libraries
- Historical indexes of slaves, Native Americans, and immigrants
- Naturalization catalogues
- Maritime records
- Federal and state census indexes

Thanks to the HRS, the documents of courthouses, town halls, and vital statistic offices were recorded and inventoried for all (then) forty-eight states. Of the information collected, here are a few highlights to look for:

Begin your search for HRS records locally. Many libraries, historical societies, and universities became the custodians of these records since the government hadn't set up a repository. The records were never well organized. Once reviewed, records were placed in boxes and file cabinets and stored out of the way for future generations. If local groups didn't have room, the records were usually boxed up and sent to a state's library, archive, or historical society.

The National Archives has a large collection of WPA and HRS records for Indiana with over 12,000 results on file. The National Archives has branch offices across the country, so requested files can be sent to a district office in your region. Also, check the Library of Congress for manuscripts and HRS records.

- National Archives (<https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=wpa%20in%20Indiana>)
- Library of Congress: WPA (<https://www.loc.gov/manuscripts/?q=%22WPA%22>)
- HRS (<https://www.loc.gov/manuscripts/?q=%22Historical+Records+Survey%22>)

"ONCE A HOOSIER... ALWAYS A HOOSIER"

For "Once a Hoosier," researchers are urged to submit details of former Hoosiers—people who were born before 1930, who were in Indiana for some portion of their lives, and who died in another state.

The companion project "...Always A Hoosier" records information on ancestors who were born before 1930 and were buried in Indiana. (They did not have to be living in Indiana at the time of death.)

If your ancestor meets these criteria, we'd like to hear more about them!

In 2015 the "Once a Hoosier..." and "...Always a Hoosier" projects were brought online as a blog. Ancestor submissions are now accepted at <http://oahblog.indgensoc.org/submit-your-ancestor/>. The editor is Teresa Kahle.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The *Indiana Genealogist* seeks submissions for upcoming issues!

Submissions may include, but are not limited to,

- Case studies that explore genealogical problems
- Biographies and family histories
- Features highlighting local genealogical or historical projects, records, and repositories
- Reviews of publications or technologies of interest to Indiana researchers

Illustrated material is especially welcome. Material of any length will be considered. Queries regarding article ideas are encouraged. Draft manuscripts should be submitted by email in Microsoft Word format. IG follows the *Chicago Manual of Style* for most source documentation.

Qualifying narrative submissions of at least 1,000 words will automatically be considered for IGS's Elaine Spires Smith Family History Writing Award, which is awarded annually and is accompanied by a \$500 prize.

For more information, please contact the editor:
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The Autumn issue of the Indiana Genealogist will explore prominent religions and little-known faiths that have existed in our state. Please submit your articles, abstracts, transcribed materials, and photos pertaining to religious collections, regional archives, and histories of regional faith in Indiana.

The Lincoln Memorial Bridge

Linking Vincennes Indiana and Lawrence County Illinois



Built by Indiana residents working for the
Works Progress Administration (WPA), 1931