

*Lipinski family*

## Lipinski – Dudkiewicz to America

by Paul R. Lipinski

[This is the story of the life of my great grandparents Valentine Lipinski and Marcyanna Dudkiewicz. It is reconstructed from my research records.]

On 27 Jan 1836 at about 8 a.m. Barbara nee Kubiak Lipinski, wife of Mathew gives birth to a boy. The family lives in the village of Z\_otniki, Znin, Bydgoszcz, Poland. On 30 Jan. the priest at St. Dorothy Catholic Church in Rogowo christens the child Valentine. Godparents Antonius Rydlewich and Scholastica Plewa attend the ceremony. Valentine's already has a sister, Marianna born five years earlier on 13 July 1831. A brother Andrew is born 25 Oct 1854 in Bia\_e B\_ota, a nearby village.

At the time of Valentine's birth Poland does not exist as a country. It has been divided and its territories taken over by its three



oppressive neighbors; Prussia, Russia, and Austria-Hungary. The area in which he is born is known as the Grand Duchy of Poznan. In 1772 this area is "partitioned" (a euphemism used by historians to mean taken by force) by Prussia. By 1795, the so-called last partition of Poland has taken place. During this period of Poland's partitions America declares its independence on 4 July 1776. While freedom blossoms in America it

is suppressed in Poland. The conquerors are primarily interested in keeping the country as an agricultural resource. Their desire is to keep Poland a source of food and raw materials. This results in a surplus population of between 6-7 million people who can not be absorbed into the agricultural production. Valentine's father, Mathew earns his living as a farmer. He labors on any farm/manor where he can find work. Mathew too has known only oppression in his lifetime. He was born circa 1802. Valentine's grandfather was born circa 1780 and also was named Valentine. He too never knew what it was to live in a free Poland.

- \_ 1831 First Asiatic cholera epidemic
- \_ 1834 Ordinance prohibiting use of Polish language in the schools of Pomerania.
- \_ 1842-46 Growth of conspiratorial activities for Polish independence in the Grand Duchy of Poznan
- \_ 1847-48 Typhus and cholera outbreaks
- \_ 1848 Uprising in Poznan
- \_ 1849 Grand Duchy of Poznan is denied the autonomy promised earlier.
- \_ 1850 Polish deputies to Berlin Parliament refused to swear allegiance to the new Prussian constitution and resigned in protest against making the Grand Duchy of Poznan a part of the Prussian State.
- \_ 1852 Decree banning Polish associations and newspapers; new rules designed to hamper the Polish press.
- \_ 1854 The Great Cholera epidemic

When he is 28 Valentine marries Antonina Chmilewski. She is the daughter of Mathew (an overseer) and Dorothy Chmilewski. Antonina is born in the village of Nimczerzyn<sup>1</sup>. Valentine and Antonina are married circa 1864. They were probably married in St. Bartholomew, Szczepanowo, Bydgoszcz, Poznan. Two years later on 11 Oct 1866 she gives birth to their first child a son. Andrew is born in S\_aboszewko, Bydgoszcz. She gives birth to a daughter, Mary 1871-1873. She gives birth to a son John on 13 Dec 1873. Three years later on 26 Feb 1876 Antonina gives birth to another son

<sup>1</sup> The Nimczerzyn village name is from a German document recording the death of Antonina.



Joseph. The pregnancy and birth must have been a difficult one. Joseph dies a day later on 27 Feb. Fifteen months later Antonina dies on 21 May 1877.

Valentine at age 41 is now a widower. He has three children to care for, Andrew (10), Mary (5), and John (3).

Two months after the death of Antonina he marries Marcyanna Dudkiewicz (age 25), my great grandmother. On 22 July 1877 Valentine and Marcyanna are married in St. Bartholomew's church in Szczepanowo.

Marcyanna (Marianna) is the daughter of Nicholas Dutkiewicz (a blacksmith) and Marianna Smo\_koska. She was born on 01 Aug 1852 in the village of S\_aboszewo. S\_aboszewo is just east of the village of S\_aboszewko. The priest at St. Bartholomew church christened Marcyanna on August 08. Casimir Augustiniak and Marianna Maleska are the godparents attending Marcyanna at the christening. Marcyanna is the fourth of seven children. Two of her brothers Michael and Jacob later followed her to America.

By this time the German authorities have enacted civil registration laws. This is shown in that their marriage which had been recorded by the church was now also recorded by the German Registrar in the village of Barcin, Bydgoszcz, Poznan.

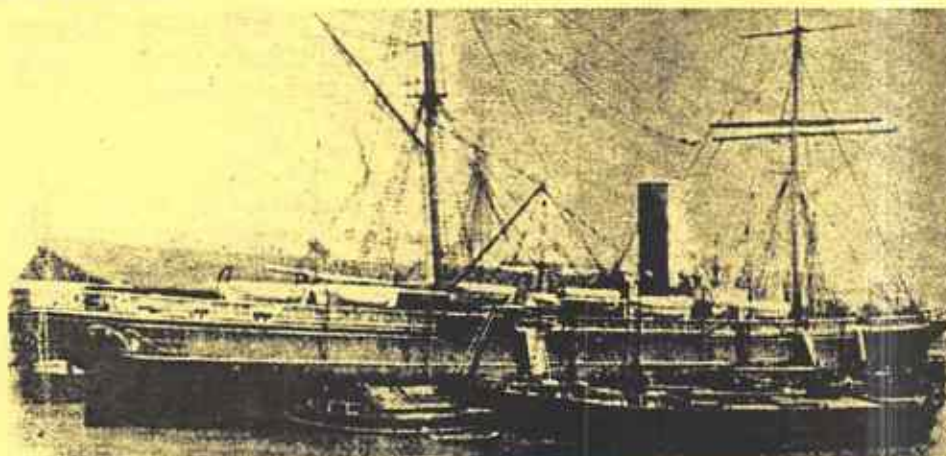
Stanley (Stephen)<sup>2</sup>, the first of four children, is born circa Apr 1878 in S\_aboszewo. For some reason the records from both St. Bartholomew's parish

<sup>2</sup> Grandma referred to grandpa's brother as Steve. Records I found show Stanley most of the time except for the ship manifest.

in Szczepanowo and Barcin Registrar are missing for 1878.

- 1867 Prussia incorporates West Prussia and Poznan: Prime Minister Otto von Bismarck begins *Kulturkampf* (Culture Struggle)
- 1871-1878 *Kulturkampf*, anti-Catholic policies of the Berlin government for imposition of "blood & iron" hegemony of Prussia over the rest of Germany. In Polish areas *Kulturkampf* lasted past 1878 and it was connected to the forced Germanization of Poles.
- 1877 German language imposed on the Sejm of the Grand Duchy of Poznan packed with Germans.

Conditions must have been very harsh. Valentine and Marcyanna make the decision that the family will move to America. In 1880 Valentine (age 45) leaves Z\_otniki and travels by train to Bremen, Germany. Ship records show he sails on the SS Hermann. This journey of over 5,000 miles across the North Atlantic takes some 3\_ weeks. He arrives on 02 Nov 1880 in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. [Had he arrived in New York he would not have seen the Statue of Liberty since the statue was not erected there until 1886]. He then travels by train to



S.S. HERMANN, 1865 North German Lloyd  
Courtesy The Peabody Museum of Salem

Chicago. He finds a place to live and a job. Shortly afterward his family joins him in Chicago. Ship documents show that they also travel on the SS Hermann. Departing from Bremen they arrive in Baltimore 21 Sept 1881. On their journey Marcyanna (25), Stephen (Stanley) (2\_) and a Stanis\_awa (4

months) travel together. The three children by his first marriage, Andrew (15), Mary (10), and John (8) stay in Poland to emigrate later.

— 1877-1881 Rutherford B. Hayes is president of the United States

— 1881-1885 Chester Arthur is president of the United States

After coming to Chicago Valentine finds work in the “packing houses” of the stockyards.



Butchering Hogs in a Packing House

Valentine and Marcyanna's next three children are born in Chicago. Marcyanna gives birth to Vincent [my grandfather] on 29 Mar 1885. On 5 Apr. the Rev. Leopold Moczygemba at St. Mary of Perpetual Help Church christens him. Godparents attending Vincent are Antonius Konczek and Apolonia Pluczynska Two years later on 22 Mar 1887 Marcyanna gives birth to twins Stanislaw (Stanley) & Theofilum (Teofil). The Rev. Jan Zy\_a christens them the same day in St. Mary of Perpetual Help Church. Stanislaw's godparents are Martin Kozzielczak and Franciska Dusinska. Theofilum's godparents are Marcin Czivcdrak and Rozalia Konczer. Theofilum dies less than three months later on 7 May. Stanislaw lives a little longer but dies at age 1 year 7 months, on 30 Oct 1888.

— 1887 Decree on removal of Polish language from all schools in Poznan, Pomerania, Warmia, and Mazuria.

— 1885-1889 Grover T. Cleveland is president of the United States

— 1889-1893 Benjamin Harrison is president of the United States

Valentine's son Andrew (age 17) emigrates to Chicago in 1883. Andrew marries Katherine Sakwinski 1890 in SS Peter & Paul<sup>3</sup> church. Their children include Frank (1890), John (1892), Benedict (1895), Joseph (1897), Walter (1899), Agnes T. (1903), Peter (1905), a seventh son Andrew (1907), and the last child Mary Ann (1911). In the 1900 Census Andrew and family are living at 2568 Stark St. In the 1910 Census Andrew is listed as a Teamster working for a packing company. He lives at 5122 Throop St. World War I draft registration records<sup>4</sup> show that in 1917 Frank (age 27) is working as a clerk at the Armour Soap Works and that John Andrew (age 24) is a machinist at the Pieser Livingston Co. Both are living at 4843 S Throop St. Benedict (age 22) is a coal teamster working for Olsen & Van allen. Joseph (age 21 in 1918) is unemployed. Benedict and Joseph are living at 5122 Throop St.

— 1893-1897 Grover Cleveland is president of the United States

— 1897-1901 William McKinley is president of the United States

— 1901-1909 Theodore Roosevelt is president of the United States

— 1909-1913 Howard Taft is president of the United States

Valentine's daughter Mary also emigrates sometime between 1880-1890. Mary Lipinski marries Michael Sobocki in 1890 in Chicago. Their children are John [Michael] (1896), Eva (1901), and Edward (1903).

Valentine's son John emigrates circa 1895. John Leon marries Theresa Wroblewski 1897 in Buffalo, NY. Children include Valentine (1898) and Leon (1899) born in Buffalo. Somewhere in 1899-1900 John's family moves to Chicago where the remaining

<sup>3</sup> May have been St. Adalbert's or St. Casimir. I could not find the source I have for this marriage.

<sup>4</sup> The WWI Draft registration required all males between ages 18-45 to register.

children were born. They include Lillian (1900), Joseph (1903), Edward (1904), son Floryan (1907), Paul (1909), Theodore (1910), Genevieve (1911), Frank (1913), and John Jr. (1919). In the 1917 World War I draft registration<sup>4</sup> Valentine William (age 20) lists his occupation as Asst. Foreman at Armour Co. Packing house. John Leon (age 45) lists his occupation as a Union Stock Yards butcher at Armour Co. Both are living at 4924 S Marshfield Ave.

Sometime in 1884 Valentine decides to become a citizen of the U.S. He files a Declaration of Intention on 27 Mar 1884. He takes and signs the "Final Oath" in the Circuit Court of Cook County on 24 Oct 1893. He is now a citizen of the United States of America. A Wojasch Kaykowsky, living at 4836 Fraser St. signs as his witness.

Under the Naturalization laws of that period family living with him at the time, his wife, Marcyanna and son Stanley (born April 1878 in Poland Germany, also became citizens. At this time Stanley (age 15) is also working as a laborer in a packing house).

Vincent born May 1885 in Chicago, Illinois is a citizen by birth.

Valentine's family appears on the 1900 Census. They are living at 4839 Throop St. According to this Census, Valentine birth is shown as April 1835 and he is 65 years old [actually he is only 64]. He is shown as being married to Marianna (Marcyanna) for 38 years [This is an error. Marcyanna's christening certificate shows that she was born in 1852 not 1843 as reported in this census. Likely this was the number of years since his marriage to his first wife.] She is listed as having 11 children, 5 of them living as of 5 June 1900 [Marcyanna only had 4 children, 2 are living at that time]. Valentine's place of birth is shown as Poland/Germany. This is the same for his parents. Even in 1900 Poland is still partitioned and is not

recognized as a country on the map of Europe.

According to the 1900 Census Vincent (age 15) is a laborer working in a packing house.

Work in the packing houses (part of what was referred to as the stockyards) of Chicago is arduous labor indeed. If you want to know what life is like for Valentine and his sons, you should read the description of this



Sausage Making

[Note the young boys working here]

industry in Upton Sinclairs's 1906 classic novel, *The Jungle*. More than a novel, *The Jungle* was a report on the dirty conditions in the Chicago meat-packing industry. In this story Jurgis Rudkus, a young Lithuanian immigrant, arrives in America dreaming of wealth, freedom, and opportunity. He finds work in the flourishing but filthy Chicago stockyards, where his new world visions fade in the hopeless "wage-slavery" and in the chaos of urban life. This book won fame and fortune for the author. It also brought about social change in the industry when people learned of the horrors taking place in the packing houses. The public reaction to this book was so violent that a government investigation of the meatpacking plants of Chicago was launched. Subsequently, the food laws of America were changed. The

passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act in 1906 was a direct result of this book.

After a hard life in Poland, Valentine came to America and probably works as hard or harder but at least knew he is working for himself and his family, not some landowner magnate or conqueror.

He dies 30 Aug 1902 at 4839 Throop St. He is 66 years old. The death certificate lists cause of death as Carcinoma stomach and liver Ordinia, contributing cause, Ascetis. The death certificate is signed by S. L. Fridman M.D.; 4801 Ashland Ave; 30 Aug 1902. He is buried 2 Sept 1902 in St. Adalbert's cemetery, Chicago, in a leased (20-25 yr) grave. The lease ran out around 1922-27, near the beginning of the great depression. Apparently no one is able to purchase a permanent grave for him at this time or the family could not be reached. Today there is neither a grave nor headstone. His remains were moved to a common grave and the original gravesite reused.

Valentine lives to see eleven of his grandchildren born. These are from Andrew, Mary, and John the children of his marriage to Antonina. [See Valentine Lipinski Descendancy Chart, next page]

Stanley Lipinski marries Anna Plecka in Jan 1904. Their children include Victor (1904), Helen (1908), Ellinora (1910), Regina (1912) and Daniel (1914).

Vincent and Aniela (Angeline) D\_uski, my grandmother, are married on 24 Apr 1910 at St. John of God Catholic Church, by the Rev Louis Grudzinski. According to the 1910 Census they are living at 4103 So. Ashland Ave with Aniela's mother, Paulina (Apollonia) D\_uski and brothers Michael, Louis, Joseph, and John. Their children include Adam (my father) (1911), Clara (1912), Martha (1914), Rose (1915) and Leonard (1917). Adam and Clara are christened in Sacred Heart of Jesus church.

Adam's godparents are Andrew Lipinski and Joanna Paluch. Clara's godparents are Michael D\_uski and Anna Lipinski. The family then moves to 3731 So Kedzie. Martha, Rose, and Leonard are christened in the original Five Holy Martyrs church which later became St. Pancratius. Martha's godparents are John Paluch and Theresa Lipinski. Rose's godparents are Ludwig D\_uski and Zofia Byczek.

- 1914 June 28 Archduke Franz Ferdinand heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire is assassinated in Sarajevo and WWI begins
- 1913-1921 Woodrow Wilson is president of the United States

Unfortunately Valentine never sees any of his grandchildren from Stanley and Vincent. Valentine ultimately has thirty-three grandchildren from the children of his two marriages. Marcyanna has ten grandchildren from her two children and lives to see all the grandchildren born. [See Descendancy Chart]



The house at 4839 Throop Street in 1999

Marcyanna continues to live at 4839 S. Throop until her death on 7 July 1918.

She is 66 years old. Cause of death is listed as nephritis (kidney failure). She is buried 10 July 1918 in Resurrection Cemetery, [Section C, Lot 5, B-1]. The Lipinski family monument is here with Andrew Lipinski (her stepson) and his wife Katherine, buried here. In addition, Agnes T. (Andrew's daughter), Agnieska, Stanley & Leokadya, Mary Ann (age 2) and Andrew are buried here.

## Valentine Lipinski Descendancy Chart

Valentine Lipinski, b. 1836 Jan 27, d. 1902 Aug 30

- +Antonina Chmilewski, m. circa 1864, d. 1877 May 21
  - |--- Andrew Lipinski, b. 1866 Oct 11, d. 1922 Jul 31
    - +Katarzyna Sakwinski, b. circa 1869, m. circa 1890, d. 1948 May 10
      - |--- Frank Lipinski, b. 1890 Sep 28, d. 1944 May 07
      - |--- John Andrew Lipinski, b. 1892 Sep 25, d. 1966 May 10
      - |--- Benedict A. Lipinski, b. 1895 Mar 10, d. 1981 Jul 05
      - |--- Joseph B. Lipinski, b. 1897 Mar 17, d. 1970 Feb 19
      - |--- Walter L. Lipinski, b. 1899 May 28, d. 1963 Jul 05
      - |--- Agnes T. Lipinski, b. 1903 Jan 16, d. 1970 Jan 31
      - |--- Peter Valentine Lipinski, b. 1905 Jun 22, d. circa May 1984
      - |--- Andrew Lipinski, b. 1907 Nov 28, d. 1971 Apr 24
      - \--- Mary Ann Lipinski, b. circa 1911 June, d. 1913
    - Mary Lipinski, b. circa 1873, d. 1973
      - +Michael Sobecki, b. circa Oct 1867, m. circa 1890
        - |--- John [Michael] Sobecki, b. 1896 Nov 04
        - |--- Ewa Sobecki, b. 1901 May 27
        - \--- Edward Sobecki, b. 1903 Oct 20
  - John Leon Lipinski, b. 1873 Dec 13, d. 1925 Feb 07
    - +Theresa Wroblewski, b. circa Dec 1877, m. circa 1897, d. 1931 Nov 17
      - |--- Valentine William Lipinski, b. 1898 Feb 14, d. circa Apr 1974
      - |--- Leon Lipinski, b. Jun 1899, d. 1911 Feb 05
      - |--- Lillian (Leokadia) Lipinski, b. 1900 Oct 04, d. circa 1985
      - |--- Joseph G. Lipinski, b. 1903 Mar 10, d. circa Jan 1956
      - |--- Edward Lipinski, b. 1904 Sep 18, d. circa Oct 1980
      - |--- Florence (Floryan) Lipinski, b. 03 Feb 1907, d. 1917 Mar 18
      - |--- Paul Lipinski, b. 1909 Jan 15, d. 1909 Jul 12
      - |--- Theodore (Ted) Lipinski, b. 10 Feb 1910, d. 09 Aug 1988
      - |--- Genevieve Lipinski, b. 1911 Nov 22, d. circa Mar 1985
      - |--- Frank Andreas Lipinski, b. 16 Feb 1913
      - \--- John Jr. Lipinski, b. 1919
    - \--- Joseph Lipinski, b. 1876 Feb 26, d. 1876 Feb 27
- +Marcyanna Dudkiewicz, b. 1852 Aug 01, m. 1877 Jul 22, d. 1918 Jul 07
  - |--- Stanley Lipinski, b. circa Apr 1878
    - +Anna Plecka, b. 1886 circa, m. 1904 Jan 17, d. circa 1917
      - |--- Victor Lipinski, b. 1904 Dec 13, d. circa Dec 1970
      - |--- Helen Lipinski, b. 1908 Dec 10, d. circa Mar 1980
      - |--- Ellinora Lipinski, b. 25 Mar 1910
      - |--- Regina Lipinski, b. 1912 Jun 15
      - \--- Dan Lipinski, b. 1914 May 03, d. circa Jul 1986
  - Vincent Valentine Lipinski, b. 1885 Mar 29, d. 1958 May 23
    - +Angeline Dluski, b. 1887 May 22, m. 1910 Apr 24, d. 1969 May 13
      - |--- Adam Vincent Lipinski, b. 1911 Apr 16, d. 1965 Oct 13
      - |--- Clara Lipinski, b. 1912 Aug 02, d. 1985 Jul 29
      - |--- Martha Eulalia Lipinski, b. 1914 Jan 02, d. 1992 Jun 08
      - |--- Rose Lipinski, b. 1915 Aug 04, d. 2003 Apr 30
      - \--- Leonard Lipinski, b. 1917 Mar 22, d. 1988 Mar 16
  - Stanislas Lipinski, b. 1887 Mar 22, d. 1888 Oct 30
  - \--- Theofilum Lipinski, b. 1887 Mar 22, d. 1887 May 07



Lipinski Family Monument  
Resurrection Cemetery, Justice, Illinois



Left side of monument showing Marcyanna and  
Andrew (Andrew and Katherine's seventh son)

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