Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

PSG-MN Presentations:

*The Polish-American Churches Of Rural Minnesota
a photographic presentation by DOUG OHMAN.*
On Saturday, January 16, PSG-MN members were treated to a
fine slide presentation by Doug Ohmann, proprietor of Pioneer
Photography & Services. Doug has photographed many
churches throughout Minnesota including many established by
our Polish immigrant forbears. Doug's beautiful photographs are
available for purchase (See Doug's card in the advertising insert
of this newsletter).

*St. Adalbert's: Polish Mother Church of St. Paul
early history and biography by JOHN RADZIŁOWSKI.*
Saturday, February 20, 1999, 10:00 a.m.,
*Roseville Branch, Ramsey County Suburban Public Library,
2180 Hamline Avenue North, Roseville:*
John is the current president of the Polish-American Cultural
Institute of Minnesota, and a PGS-MN board member. St.
Adalbert's was the first Roman Catholic parish of Polish
ethnicity in the Twin Cities, and the "mother church" of all other
Polish-American parishes in the St. Paul area. John will present
findings on the founders and early history from research for his
doctoral dissertation. *Jointly presented by PGS-MN and PACIM.*

*We have preliminary information on two PSG-MN
presentations scheduled for the early Spring:*

We will participate in the Minnesota Genealogical Society's
annual all-day Branching Out meeting on **March 20, 1999,** at
Bloomington Kennedy High School. Our units will include:
*Patterns of Polish Settlement in Minnesota: A Look at the 1910
Census* by Paul Kulas; *Reconstructing Vanished Polish-
American Communities* by Greg Kishel; A session for research
and questions on Polish names (first and last) and geography.

On the evening of **April 15, 1999,** Greg Kishel will present
Polish-American Genealogy, Starting from Scratch, at a meeting
of the Dakota County Genealogical Society at the Dakota
County Historical Society's Museum in South St. Paul.

*We will provide further information when it becomes available,
via flyer mailed to members in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and
neighboring states.*

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

A Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society

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http://www.mtn.org/mgs/branches/polish.html

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Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter

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The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Submission of items for publication is encouraged. Deadlines for inclusion of submitted material are March 1, June 1, Sept. 1 and Dec. 1 respectively. All articles, letters, book reviews, queries, news items, advertisements, etc. should be sent to: **Paul Kulas, PGS-MN Newsletter, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316-2145** or to e-mail: **kkulas@ties.k12.mn.us**

President's Letter   by Greg Kishel

We are wrapping up another year of activities for our organization, and are looking forward to beginning another one. My message this time around is simple, but serious: to carry it forward, *we could use some help.* There are three different ways in which you members could lend a much-needed hand.

The first is in growing some new leadership. Our society came together in early 1992. I joined that fall, and was appointed as secretary the following spring. During those six years, I have seen that at any given time all of the work of keeping the organization together has been done by no more than four to six people, all of them officers or board members. This is a rather thin base for a group of 200 to 250 members. From time to time we have had to scramble to fill board and committee positions, as people have had to leave due to health difficulties or other commitments to work or family. It's left the whole organization vulnerable to disruption. Our past success in promoting Polish-American genealogy in Minnesota could be jeopardized, if we cannot assure some continuity in leadership. Simply stated, we need to increase the number of people familiar with our activities, involved in our educational and preservation work, and committed to continuing all of them.

As I write these words, the loss of several members of our 1998 board has left us short at the top. We have a vacancy in the vice-presidency for 1999. We need one or more committee chairs for the upcoming year--most prominently, for the Research Committee. Finally, we would like to recruit some members for the committees, so the chairs do not end up doing all the work; our most pressing need is for help on our Computer Committee, to assist in updating our webpage.

In the aggregate, it's a lot of work to run this organization and to make its offerings available to members: managing the money, arranging programming for meetings, building the library collection, recruiting new members and publicizing the group, and publishing the newsletter. No single part of this is overwhelming, however; it just requires the wish to help other members as the Society has helped you, and a commitment to put in a few hours every month in working with them. And, contrary to what you may think, it's a lot of fun--I will attest to the pleasure I've had in promoting our hobby, and the good friends I've made among our colleagues.

In sum, then: we need to fill our immediate vacancies. More

importantly, *we need a few volunteers with a commitment to assume some of the leadership of our group in the year 2000.* Can we have your help in that regard? I'm glad to discuss it with anybody; just call me at home (651-690-3329) in the evening.

Our second need, as always, is for new content for the newsletter you hold in your hands. All of us involved with its production take great pride in the finished product. Over its six years of publication, we've built up a stable of a half-dozen regular writers, who hold forth well and frequently on topics both Polish and Polish-American. I have started bragging that in some respects we are becoming, *de facto,* a Polish-American Historical Association of Minnesota as well as a genealogical society--on the strength of our newsletter offerings on the history of Polish-American settlement and institutions in Minnesota as well as our effort to collect and preserve source materials in our library collection. But this does not mean that we don't need more, and more varied, submissions for publication. Having regular submitters gives a fine professional stamp to our publication--but no one has a monopoly on our table of contents, and no one should.

That means that we not only want you to share your research and your genealogical experiences with our other members, we need you to do so. If you have discovered a new research source or technique, write it up so others can try it. If you had a rewarding experience trying to get documents from archives in Poland or elsewhere in the United States--or even a frustrating one--let us know about it. If you found something noteworthy in your own ancestry that you're proud of, prepare an article to share the joy of your discovery. And if you think that your own Polish-American community in Minnesota has been slighted by a lack of coverage so far: spend some time at the Minnesota Historical Society or the Immigration History Research Center to get your data, write up a bit of its history, and we'll publish it. And we encourage you to send in old Polish or Polish-American pictures, graphics, lettering, or documents that you think would add color and variety to the look of the newsletter. Remember, this is a publication for *all of you,* whose subject is *all of your interests.*

Finally, we would really like to see a few members volunteer to help with projects to carry out our larger mission of organizing and preserving our Polish heritage in the North Star State. Several of our sister societies in other states have long-term efforts to assemble and organize source data; they are compiling such valuable aids as indexes of the naturalization documents filed by Polish immigrants in their areas, compilations of genealogical data from church, school, and fraternal benefit society records, and transcriptions of census entries for Polish-American communities in their states. We have several opportunities for such

projects right here in Minnesota. While there is no immediate danger that the data will disappear if we don't get involved, there is always the chance. Can we appeal to the amateur historians among you out there, to lend a hand in this sort of effort? It may not help you expand your own family tree, but you'll help build something much bigger.

So how about it? Can we ask more of you to get involved? Contact me, or any of the other members of our board, if you are willing to give some time to keeping the PGS-MN alive--and growing.
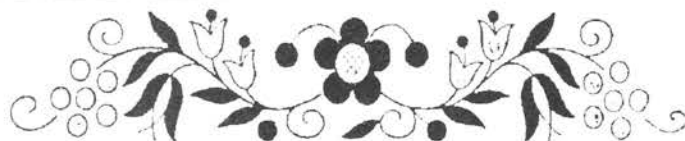
The Bulletin Board

**YOUR 1999 DUES are now due. Please renew now!**

This spring, we will be experimenting with sending MEETING NOTICES BY E-MAIL. If you wish to receive notices and reminders in this way, make sure to give your e-mail address to us when you pay your 1999 dues.

ELECTIONS FOR PGS-MN officers and board were held at the annual meeting in November. Elected were: Greg Kishel, President; Mary Ellen Bruski, Secretary; Barbara Rockman, Treasurer; Harry Fleegel, Genny Zak Kieley and John Radziłowski, Directors. We have a vacancy in the Vice-President's office. This position will be appointed by the newly elected executive board.

THE WEBSITE OF THE FEDERATION OF EAST EUROPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES, at **www.feefhs.org**, is a great resource for anyone with roots in the area that spans Germany to the Ural Mountains, and Finland to Greece. Of particular interest to us in Minnesota are two pages posted by PGS-MN member **Ray Marshall**. The first, *The Polish Churches of Duluth, Minnesota,* at **www.feefhs.org/ pol/mn/duluthpc.html**, is a survey history of the parishes of interest to us in the Zenith City, both Roman Catholic and Polish National Catholic. The data for the second, *Polish Churches in Minnesota before 1910,* at **www.feefhs.org/pol/mn/mn-polch/ html**, is extracted from the original Polish-language edition of Father Wacław Kruszka's *The History of the Poles in America.*

The Bulletin Board is continued on the advertising insert.
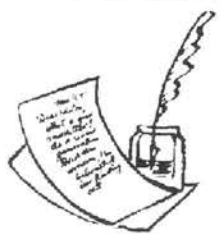
Letters to the Editor
Listy do Redaktora

Meaning of the Pluskwik surname

I'm currently working on a slight revision of the 2nd edition of *Polish Surnames: Origins & Meanings*. I thought I'd incorporate a little new material I've received. I noticed I'd made a note to check on the question you mentioned in the Summer 1998 issue of the *PGS-MN Newsletter*, regarding the meaning of *Pluskwa*. Bernd Pluskwik of Buchenbach, Germany, had written to you that in Silesian dialect *pluskwa* means "water wagtail," a kind of bird, rather than the standard Polish meaning of "bedbug." Well, I checked in my 8-volume Polish-language dictionary, and sure enough, under *Pluskwa* was mentioned that it was a dialect equivalent of standard Polish *pliszka,* which does indeed mean "wagtail." So Mr. Pluskwik appears to be absolutely right: the meaning I gave in the 2nd edition is correct for standard Polish usage, but in some dialects *pluskwa* appears to be related to *pliszka* rather than *plusk,* "splash." I like to include information on dialect usages when I can, especially when it can affect the meaning of the name. In this case I think Mr. Pluskwik's note is relevant, and I will mention it in the reprinted version of the second edition. Thanks for contacting me about this question, it's an interesting one, and I'm delighted to add this little bit of data--which is not so little if you happen to have roots in Silesia!

Fred Hoffman <WFHOFFMAN@prodigy.net>

Our website unites relatives!

I am originally from St. Aldabert's parish in Silver Lake, MN. Bob Prokott is a cousin of mine. He has done a tremendous job of helping me to get started with this fine Polish Genealogical Society. I want to get involved when I semi-retire--if the good Lord allows that. I just received a letter from a cousin named, Christian Jaskowiak, who lives in The Netherlands. He said you were the kind lady to share my address with him. Would you be so kind as to share his e-mail address. I thank you for your kind help.

Duane E. Kaczmarek <apple@pconllne.com>

*Editor's note: Our website continues to put researchers together--in this case, researchers on both sides of the ocean. **Mary Ellen Bruski** continues to monitor our website and faciliates contacts. The above e-mail was addressed to her.*

Flötenstein records

It was with GREAT interest that I read your article in the Autumn, 1998 *PGS-MN Newsletter* about the Floetenstein parish records. Is there anything currently being done to get permission to film these records? Is there any "movement" in the process of obtaining these records? It was very exciting to read that someone has actually seen these records. I would be very interested to hear more about the Floetenstein possibility.

Coleen Mielke <coleen@mtaonline.net>

Bartelsee, Prussia?

I just received my back issues to the *PGS-MN Newsletter* as a new member. In the Summer 1998 issue on page 5 is a note from Bonita A. Erickson of Madison Lake MN. She is asking about the town of origin on a passenger list (a portion of the list is reproduced there.) I believe the name of the town might be Bartelsee, Prussia.

The newsletter looks great--keep up the good work!

Karen B. Whitmer <whitmerj@aol.com>

*Editor's reply: Thank you for responding to our request for help in identifying the place of origin listed on the passenger list. I believe that you are correct. I checked **Deutsch-Fremdsprachiges** (see **PGS-MN Newletter**, Autumn 1998, page 8) and found that the Polish spelling of Bartelsee is Bartodzieje. It is located near Wągrowiec north of Poznań (See map below).*
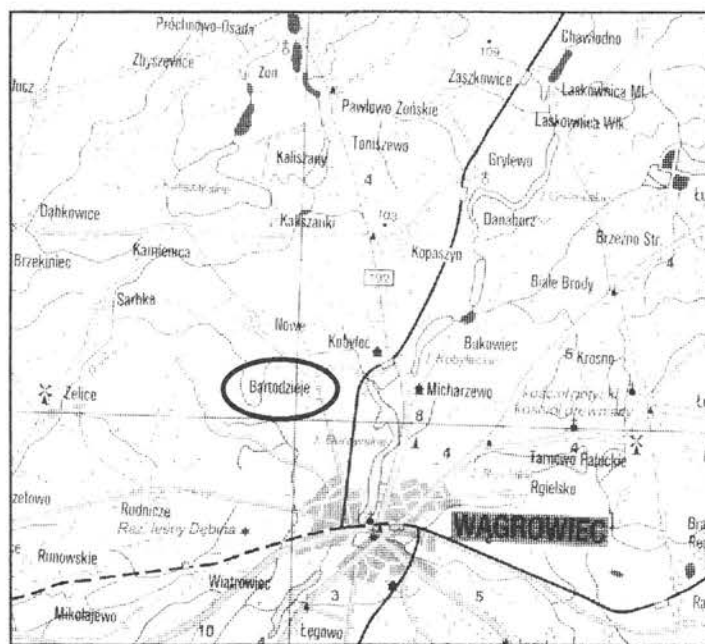
Location of Bartodzieje (Bartelsee). Source: Polska: Atlas Drogowy [Poland: Road Atlas], p. 89. A copy of this 1:200,000 scale atlas is in the Polish collection at the MGS Library (See article on pp. 6-7).

New edition of <u>Polskie B&B</u> coming soon

We are working on the second edition of **Polskie B&B, Inns, Country Manors.** There will be 1,000 listings in about 500 cities and towns. We have updated most of the telephone numbers (from 6 digits to 7 digits). However, we need to conform the book according to the new 16 Provinces (they were previously 49).

You have a great newsletter and I am happy to be a member of PGS-MN.

    Ray Kulvicki, President, Polskie B & B
    <kulvicrt@earthlink.net>

Research via e-mail

*Editor's note: At our membership meeting in November, **Bernice Mullen** <mull140@juno.com> asked me about obtaining information about the parish in Modliszewko, Poland. We looked up Modliszewko in Müllerowa, **Roman Catholic Parishes in the Polish People's Republic in 1984** and found that it was located in the Archdiocese of Gniezno. I mentioned that I had found an e-mail address for the archives of the Archdiocese of Gniezno, that I had used it and received a prompt reply. I told her that I would send her that address. An exchange of e-mail messages followed and they are reprinted here.*

Dear Bernice, The e-mail for the archdiocesan archive at Gniezno is <aagniez@po.onet.pl> You can write to them in English, but expect a reply in Polish. I am sure that they can answer your questions about the parish at Modliszewko. They probably also have a copy of the parish records. Sincerely, Paul Kulas

Dear Paul, I AM SO EXCITED!!! I received this message from Gniezno Archdiocesan Archives already by sending an e-mail to them using the address you sent me! Do you know where I could get this translated into English? Thank you again, so very much for your help. Sincerely, Bernice Mullen

Dear Bernice, I am sorry to have taken so long to reply but I needed help with the translation of your message. John Radzilowski helped me with the translation. It reads as follows:

Dear Madam:
In response to your e-mail of 13 Nov. 1998, we have uncovered information that Antoni Jablonski, a joiner/ cabinet-maker/carpenter and an orphan from Ochodza in the parish of Strzyzewo was joined in marriage in the parish church in Modliszewko on 23 Nov. 1881 to

Marianna Slomka, the daughter of a farmer from Deblowa, both age 21. Witnesses were Jozefa Wyrozumialska and Jakub Slomka. The name Marianna Slomka was not recorded in the baptismal book in 1860 or 1861. We also have information that it does not appear in the baptismal book for the parish Srzyzewo Church in 1860-1861.
Mgr. Jerzy Witkowski

Dear Paul, Thank you very much for your letter and your efforts in getting my e-mail translated. I just yesterday also received a translation from a Polish man who shops for goodies at our daughter's bakery in Willmar, MN. I truly appreciate them both. I will now go to Wilson Library to try to locate my grandfather's birthplace, Ochody, on the map as my maps do not show it and they should have maps that date back to the mid-1800s. It was a big surprise to learn that my grandfather was an ORPHAN. I hope someday I can find who his parents were and what happened to them. Thank you again very much for your help. Sincerely, Bernice Mullen
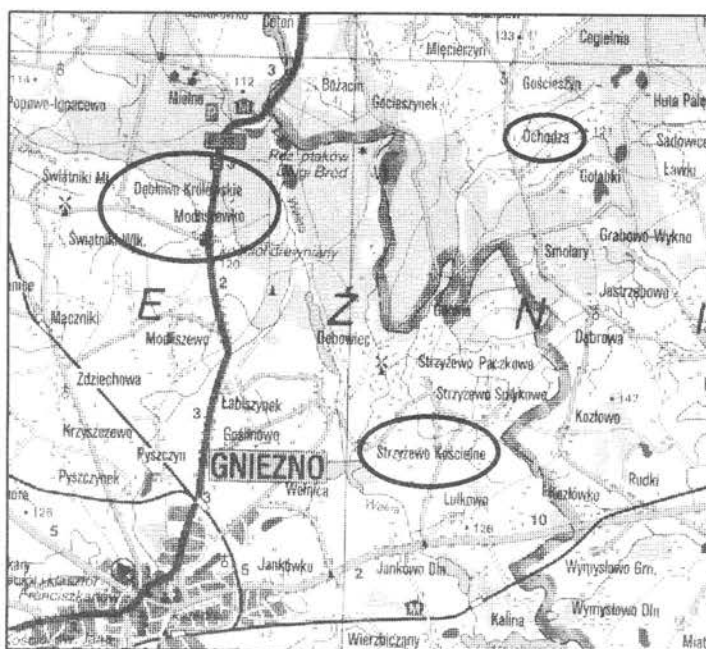
Location of Modliszewko, Strzyzewo, Ochodza and Dęblowa. Source: Polska: Atlas Drogowy [Poland: Road Atlas] p. 90. A copy of this work is available in the Polish collection at the MGS Library.

Editor's note: I checked the computer index of LDS records at the Family History Center in Crystal. The Roman Catholic church records for Modliszewko have been filmed from 1818 to 1874, and for Strzyzewo from 1828 to 1874. The indication on the marriage record that Antoni Jablonski was an orphan may mean that his parents were deceased at that time. It may not necessarily mean that he was an orphan from childhood.

Origins of the LAMCZYK, KLARKOWSKI and WRZESZCZ Surnames

by Paul Kulas

PSM-MN member **Bonita Erickson** has been searching for her ancestral place of origin in Poland for quite some time. In the Winter 1996-7 issue of this newsletter (on page 5) we printed a memorial card which she sent us wondering if it might contain a clue. Kornel Kondy translated the card for her and we concluded that the place of birth of that relative (Sister M. Marcina) might be Piesna in the Grand Duchy of Poznań. In our Spring 1997 (on page 4), we published a translation of the entry for Piesna from *Słownik geograficzny* which indicated that the parish church of Piesna was located in Łobżenica. Łobżenica is located in Piła province, north of Poznań province and very close to the border of Bydgoszcz province (I will continue to use the names of pre-1999 provinces in this series of articles because data from *Słownik nazwisk* is based on those boundaries). In our Summer 1998 issue (page 5) we printed a portion of a passenger lists which shows what is possibly the home village of an ancestor. She asked if anyone could read it (Karen Whitmer answers her in this issue--see page 4). Finally she asks us to search Hoffman's *Polish Surnames* and Rymut's *Słownik nazwisk* for the **Lamczyk, Klarkowski** and **Wrzeszcz** surnames to see if that might narrow the area of her search.

According to Hoffman's *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings* the **Lamczyk** surname is derived from the Polish verb *lamować* which means "to edge, pipe, border (with lace, trim, etc.)," Related surnames are Lama, Lamek, Lamish, Lamik, Lamka and Lamkowski. Lamczyk is a rather uncommon Polish surname. According to *Słownik nazwisk* by Kazimierz Rymut, the name Lamczyk appeared only 508 times in a governmental agency's records in 1990 (A map showing the provinces where the surname was in 1990 is shown on page 7). Even though the Lamczyk surname is widely distributed it occurs most frequently in the former German-occupied areas of partitioned Poland. It is very numerous in Bydgoszcz province. Piesna is located very near Bydgoszcz province. Perhaps the Lamczyks can be located in a parish in that vicinity. Kielce province (another province that contains a large number of people with the Lamczyk surname) should be disregarded because that province was in the former Russian and Austrian parts of partitioned Poland.

The **Klarkowski** surname is derived from the female name *Klara*. Related Polish surnames include Klar, Klara, Klarowski and Klarzynski. Like Lamczyk, Klarkowski is also a rather uncommon Polish surname. The name Klarkowski appeared only 331 times in a governmental agency's records in 1990 (See map on page 7). Again notice that the Klarkowski surname occurs most frequently in the former German occupied areas of partitioned Poland. Notice also that it is again most numerous in Bydgoszcz province. Based on this distribution it is possible that the Klarkowskis came from the same general area that the Lamczyks came from-- most probably Bydgoszcz province. Poznań and Toruń provinces are also possibilities.

The **Wrzeszcz** surname is derived from the Polish noun *wrzeszcz* which means "agitator, brawler." The Wrzeszcz surname appeared 2336 times in a governmental agency's records in 1990. It is therefore a much more common Polish surname than either Lamczyk or Klarkowski. A map showing the provinces where the Wrzeszcz surname was found in 1990 is shown on page 7. Because the Wrzeszcz surname is a rather common one (apparently brawling is a common occurrence in Poland), it is widely distributed throughout Poland. Based on its distribution alone it would be impossible to guess where Ms. Erickson's Wrzeszcz ancestors originated. But notice that it is particularly common in the Piła, Bydgoszcz, Poznań triangle. When viewed together with the Lamczyk and Klarkowski distribution, it is likely that all of them came from this same general area in Poland.
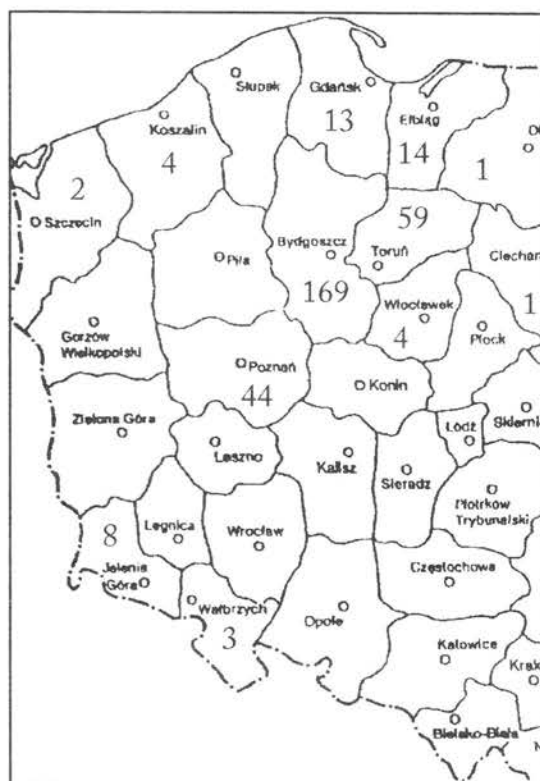
After a report was sent to Ms. Erickson regarding the distribution of her ancestral surnames, we received an e-mail from Karen Whitmer (see page 4) indicating that Bartelsee, Prussia was the probable village listed on the passenger list of one of her ancestors. And where is Bartelsee (Bartodzieje) located?--In the extreme southeast corner of Piła province very close to the borders of both Bydgoszcz and Poznań provinces. (I think we have it narrowed down pretty well, Bonita.) Bartodzieje is in the parish at Wągrowiec. The LDS Family History Library has filmed its Roman Catholic church records from 1593 to 1855 and its civil records from 1874 to 1945.

We continue our offer to research your Polish surnames in William F. Hoffman's *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings* and in Kazimierz Rymut's *Słownik nazwisk współcześnie w polsce używanych.* Send your request to: Paul Kulas, editor, PGS-MN Newsletter, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316. Include $10.00 per surname. Make check payable to PGS-MN.

Map at right:
Distribution of the
LAMCZYK surname
according to *Słownik nazwisk. . .*

Map at left:
Distribution of the
KLARKOWSKI surname
according to *Słownik nazwisk. . .*

Map at right:
Distribution of the
WRZESZCZ surname
according to *Słownik nazwisk . . .*
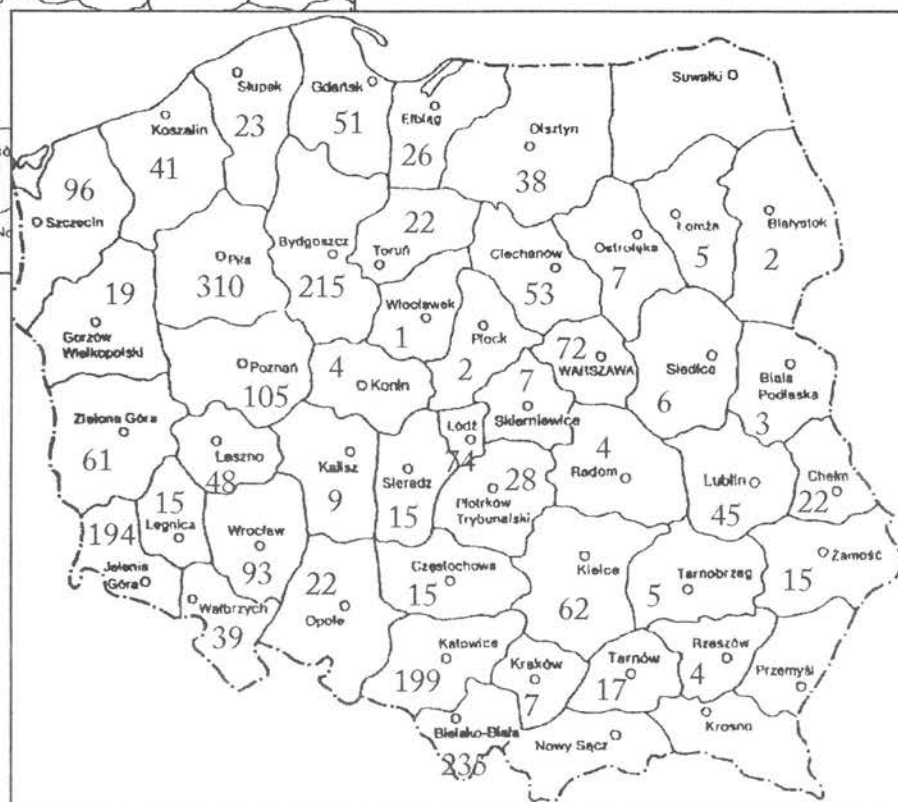
IS YOUR GREAT-GRANDMOTHER ON THE INTERNET?

by **Mary Ellen Bruski**

The Internet continues to provide pleasant surprises. The Minnesota Historical Society has 45,000 of its historical photos available to view on their website. Thousands more are described. Four years from now all of the MHS collection of 250,000 photos will be described with a fifth of them available for Internet viewing.

What can this mean for your family history research? Begin with a search at the site: **http://www.mnhs.org/** --then choose the photo collection option when you reach the MHS page. You will find an area to type in a "keyword." Try the names of the Minnesota localities where your ancestors first settled. I tried several of the communities of my ancestors and each had photos described, though none of them were available for immediate viewing. I could go to another area and fill out a form to order an 8x10 copy of a photo for $6.50 plus postage and handling. Each photo has a reference and negative number. With the reference number I can go to the Minnesota Historical Society and take a look at the actual photo before deciding if I want to order a copy. For anyone unable to make that trip, if the photo description sounds very intriguing and would bring interest to your family history, the $6.50 price is reasonable. Those photos that were available for immediate viewing on my screen appeared next to the description in postage stamp size. With a double click they expand to much larger sizes and print out quite clearly.

Here are some of the possibilities for using this site. The photo collection includes an 1854 photo of a ferryboat at Henderson, MN. My great-grandfather and his family arrived in Henderson in 1857 and I know that ferryboats played an important role in that area. I think a photo of this boat from that era would be an interesting detail to add to my family's story. By using "Main Street" as the keyword I found that there are 789 photos of the main street of Minnesota communities. Dozens of them were prior to 1900. Enter the keyword "church" and a photo of the church where your grandparents worshipped might be available. There are many church photos in the collection. Narrowing the focus to "Polish church" I found that there are photos described as Polish Cathedral, Duluth-1910; St. Stanislaus Polish Church and school, Winona-1905; Polish Catholic Church, Winona-1910.

With "St. Paul" as the keyword, one of the most unique photos was: "1895--Mrs. Vanderbosch and her daughter on wash day, 243 Smith, St. Paul." The photo of such an ordinary but important daily activity got me thinking about things my grandparents did in their everyday life. I remembered my Polish grandmother told me that she had spent many hours during WWI knitting socks for the Red Cross to distribute to soldiers. So I did a search with the words "Red Cross." Imagine my surprise to discover a photo entitled "1917-1918 Red Cross Knitting Projects"!

A 1905 photo, which you can view on screen, titled "Polish & Russian people in steerage during a crossing to the U.S." indicates that not every photo owned by MHS is of a Minnesota site. I also saw photo descriptions that had Canadian settings. With thousands of photos from 1854 to the present, the collection includes an 1872 German immigration poster distributed by Northern Pacific Railroad, as well as a photo of the 1965 Beatles press conference when they came to the Twin Cities for a concert!

So, back to my original question: Is your great-grandmother on the Internet? Was her name Vanderbosch?

Mrs Vanderbosch and daughter, Julia on washday, ca. 1895, 243 North Smith in St. Paul. From the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society. Reproduced with written permission of MHS.

THE LEGACY OF ANDREAS KLESCZ

by Robert Prokott

Andreas Klescz was born in Falkowitz (now Falkowice), Silesia in 1755. He was a farmer who spent his entire life there and died on May 1, 1833 at the age of 77 years. He married **Maria Klich** on October 26, 1779 and between 1781 and 1804 they had a total of thirteen children. Maria died on November 23, 1812. Within several months he was remarried to **Jadwiga (Hedwig) Pietron**. She was born on September 20, 1789 in the neighboring village of Dammratsch (now Domeradz). During their marriage he fathered an additional nine children who were born between 1814 and 1832. The youngest child was born on January 25, 1832 when the father was 76 years of age. Five of the children from the first family and two of the children from the second family died in infancy. Hedwig lived in Falkowitz as a widow following the death of Andreas for a period of nearly nineteen years until her death on December 12, 1851. The remainder of the children stayed in the same part of Silesia, in the farming area located to the north of the city of Opole.

Among the children were **Thomas Klescz**, born December 11, 1792, and **Christina Klescz,** born on February 18, 1801. Thomas Klescz married **Maria Mazur** on June 6, 1820. They had a total of ten children of which one, **Albert Klisch,** born April 19, 1841, came to America in 1872 after his marriage to **Bridget Symala** on October 28, 1867. They settled in Morrison County, Minnesota and their descendants continue to reside in the Bowlus, Minnesota area down to the present time.

Christina Klescz married **Johann Kroll** on July I, 1829 and they had six children. Three of those children came to America and settled in Morrison County, Minnesota. They were **Paul Kroll,** who married **Josepha Fushy (Fussy)** on May 5, 1861, **Rosalia Kroll** who married **Nicholas Lasota** on January 28, 1866, and **Margarethe Kroll** who married **Gregor Gallus** on September 6, 1863. They all came to America about 1875. These three families had a total of 27 children and descendants are numerous, many continuing to live in the Morrison, Stearns and Benton counties of Minnesota.

In bringing the descendancy down to the present day, note that Albert Klisch had a son named **Vincent** and one of Vincent's sons was **Roman Klisch.** One of the daughters of Roman Klisch was **Marlene Klisch.**

Margarethe and Gregor Gallus had a daughter, **Maria,** who married **Peter Prokott.** One of their sons was **Joseph Prokott,** the father of **Robert Prokott,** who married Marlene Klisch on September 4, 1957. This discovery of having common great-great-great grandparents was quite amusing but not real unusual since the same situation exists for others in our relationship.

The total number of descendants of Andreas Klescz has not been calculated but certainly would be in the thousands. The descendants in Minnesota alone number in the hundreds including families named **Klisch, Gallus, Prokott, Oldakowski, Krych, Klosowski, Miller, Kalis, Zwack, Smieja, Noe, Bobick, Pollock, Borash, Schlichting, Hennick, Sobiech, Czech, Karpinski,** and others.

Records of six Stearns County Catholic parishes are located at Opole

by Robert Prokott

Parish records for Catholic churches in **Holdingford, St. Anna, Arban, St. Wendell and Opole** are all now located at the Opole parish offices. They are available for review (call the office at Opole [320-746-2449] for an appointment). Appointments are encouraged for Mondays and Tuesdays and discouraged on Thursdays and Fridays.

All of these parishes historically have had varying degrees of Polish membership. The **Church of the Immaculate Conception** in St. Anna and the **Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** in Opole were historically almost exclusively Polish. Of the two Holdingford parishes--the **Church of Saint Hedwig** ("the Polish church") was primarily Polish with a Slovak minority, while the **Church of Saint Mary** ("the German church") was basically German with a few Irish and other ethnic members. The **Church of Saint Columbkille** in St. Wendell was founded by Irish Catholics but they were soon greatly outnumbered by the more recently arriving Poles. The **Church of the Sacred Heart** in Arban, located just a few miles from St. Anna, was founded by German Catholics but had a significant Polish element comprised mostly of Poles who had intermarried with their German neighbors.

The parish in Arban has been closed for a decade or so. The other five churches remain open but are now served by a pastoral staff based in Holdingford.

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PATTERNS OF POLISH SETTLEMENT IN MINNESOTA, 1910: BUYCK TOWNSHIP, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

By Greg Kishel

Minnesota genealogists who are interested in their ancestors' immigration are fortunate to have an excellent background resource, in the form of *They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups*.(1) This book is comprised of 32 essays, each one covering a different ethnic group whose members settled in our state. The essays are enriched by maps and charts that show the presence of each group, township by township, by the percentage it held of the general population.

The late Professor Frank Renkiewicz authored *They Chose Minnesota*'s chapter on the Poles. His narrative on Minnesota focuses on Winona and the Twin Cities, and says relatively little about other areas of significant Polish settlement. Even with that limitation, however, he did a reasonable job of covering the gamut of Polish-American community institutions.

In two presentations he gave for the PGS-MN at St. Cloud and Ivanhoe in 1997, Paul Kulas explored a suspicion that had come to him during his close review of Renkiewicz's work: the chapter's table and map, representing the patterns of Polish-immigrant settlement just before World War I, may have substantially undercounted our forebears. Paul noted that Renkiewicz had taken only one count for the period between 1890 and 1930, and had used data from the 1905 Minnesota state census for it. He recalled that the enumerators of the 1905 state census usually took down just "Germany," "Russia," and "Austria" for the national origin of those who had been subjects of those polyglot empires, rather than inquiring about their ethnic identification or language.

Paul then remembered that the 1910 federal census was the first one, state or national, to use more precision than that in Minnesota; immigrant subjects were identified by their native language or ethnicity, *and* the sovereign they had left behind. To test his suspicion, he digested the 1910 census tables for Stearns, Benton, Morrison, Lincoln, Lyon and Swift Counties. As Paul's audiences saw, he proved himself right in one way: the distinctive Minnesota communities of Polish extraction in both areas that were present in the mid- and late 20th century were indeed descended from concentrated Polish settlement that was well in place by 1910--which Renkiewicz had not depicted as present in such concentrations in 1905. Paul illustrated his corrective work by redoing Renkiewicz's maps of those counties, using the same shading-by-township of the originals.(2)

After hearing Paul's presentations, I was prompted to explore his thesis in the part of Minnesota in which I

am interested--the Arrowhead Country of the northeast. I knew that Polish immigrants had settled there in Duluth, in my hometown of Virginia, and in several parts of Carlton County. To run a quick test sample on an area of very manageable size, however, I chose the rural town of Buyck, which lies between Lake Vermilion and Crane Lake in far northeastern St. Louis County.

When we were kids, my father told us about the small Polish-American community in Buyck. His parents had had close friends among several families who had homesteaded the area, most prominently Julian and Emilia Block. Dad still tells stories of the long trip over Depression-era gravel roads for summer weekend visits, dinners of home-raised chicken and home brew, and deer hunting in the fall. Prompted by them, I had driven up to the area one summer afternoon in the early 1980s, just to check out the place. Fifteen years later, I couldn't remember much, other than my impression that there had been a lot of Polish names in the cemetery. That, however, was enough to propel me into the 1910 federal census for what was then officially named Buyck Township.(3) First, I reviewed what I knew about the area from other sources.

The country around Buyck was still boreal wilderness at the turn of the twentieth century, trackless and almost inaccessible.(4) Several of its first settlers were Belgian immigrants, who had probably come through Quebec.(5) The township itself was named after one of them, Hipoleit Buyck.(6) Interestingly, the Polish settlement at Buyck was not an offshoot of the closest preexisting Polish-American community, in Virginia

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(1)Edited by June Drenning Holmquist, this thick volume was published by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1981. It is still in print as of this writing.

(2)Strictly speaking, this sort of analysis does not reveal whether Renkiewicz's depiction of 1905 was wrong, as a snapshot of the conditions of that very year. It would take a name-by name, entry-by-entry review of both censuses' schedules to determine this. After all, the discrepancy could have been due only to the undercounting-by-ethnic misidentification, to a continuing influx of Poles in the five intervening years, or to both.

(3)The local governmental unit now bears the name of "Portage Township."

(4)A wagon road connecting Buyck to the Duluth, Rainy Lake & Winnipeg Railroad at Pelican Lake was not cut until early 1907. *The Virginian* (Virginia, Minn.), Fri., Jan. 8, 1907, p. 3.

(5)"History of the beginning of St. Joseph's Parish in Buyck, Minnesota," in *Golden Jubilee 1905-1955 Financial Report of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Virginia, Minnesota* (Virginia, Minn., 1955) (henceforth abbreviated "'History of the beginning,' GAFR"), p. 47. My father, F.A. Kishel, recalls being told of the Belgians' Canadian origins when he was a child. The 1910 census schedules contain a number of surnames identified as being of Belgian origin, including DEVOSSE, DECAIGNY, DANIELS, CLAUS, ROGERS, and COPPINS.

(6)"History of the beginning," *GAFR*, p. 47 names Hipoleit as the first settler. Warren Upham, *Minnesota Geographic Names*,

Church of Saint Joseph
Buyck, Minnesota

This church is now a mission of the Church of the Holy Cross in Orr.

Address:
Holy Family Catholic Community
PO Box 218
Orr, MN 55771-0218

Holy Cross Church in Orr also serves the Church of Saint Mary in Cook, MN.

some 45 miles to the south; rather, it came out of the one in Superior, Wisconsin.(7) The Poles who came in from Superior seem to have quickly outnumbered the earlier-arriving Belgians--though the latter left their mark via names on the land, and certainly left descendants behind.(8)

So I found the seven pages of 1910 schedules for Buyck in the microfilm room at the Minnesota History Center.(9) The first thing that jumped out at me was how strongly the bare census schedules bespoke this place as one in Minnesota's North Country. The schedules showed a lumber camp within the township, cutting the white pine that then still covered most of northern Minnesota. The camp's "'jacks" were a polyglot mixture, with French-Canadian and Finnish predominating among the foreign-born majority.(10) Too, the schedules included a page for the Indian Census; it shows a Chippewa family within the township, headed by a 75-year-old grandfather who gave trapping as his occupation.(11)

The presence of the lumber camp, though, confronted me with a methodological question right away: in determining the strength of the local Polish presence, should I count the camp's employees as part of the overall population? Ultimately, I decided not to; since I sought to determine the extent of Polish *settlement* like Renkiewicz had tried to do, the seasonal occupants of a temporary economic installation like the camp just shouldn't count. The Native American family, however, was clearly a different case--they and their people had been in the area a lot longer than any European-descended settler. Thus, I included its members in my general total for the population.

Getting down to business with a breakdown on ethnicity, I found that by April, 1910, there was a very

Minnesota Historical Society Collections, v. XVII, p. 478 (St. Paul, 1920) gives his first name as "Charles," but does ascribe the name of the township to him. *See also* Charles E. Aguar, *Exploring St. Louis County's Historical Sites* (Duluth, 1971), p. 34. Old Hipoleit became the first treasurer of the new township after its formation, and apparently was somewhat loose in the use of public funds to construct a highway between his lands and the nearest railroad. (This may have been the road cited earlier at n. 4.) The resulting dispute between him and the township board went all the way to the Minnesota Supreme Court. The Court's decision reiterated the right of a municipality to recover wrongly-used funds from the misappropriating officer; it is reported as *Town of Buyck v. Buyck*, 112 Minn. 94, 127 N.W. 452 (1910). Hipoleit apparently returned to Canada after his loss at law.

(7)"History of the beginning," *GAFR*, p. 47.

(8)Just above Buyck on the Vermilion River are two white-waters bearing the names "DeCaigny's Rapids" and "Belgium Fred Rapids." *See W.A. Fisher Co. Superior-Quetico Canoe Maps*, no. 111 (Virginia, Minn., 1952 ed.) My father remembers the name of "Belgian Fred" being mentioned in the 1930s, though he never met him. As one can see from the transcription from the Buyck cemetery that accompanies this article, the DeCaigny and Daniels families stayed in the area for decades.

(9)The schedules for the township are denoted Supervisor's District no. 8, Enumeration District no. 137, for St. Louis County; they are found on Roll 122 of the Minnesota Population Schedules.

(10)After finding it on the census schedules, I had wondered whether this had been a camp of the Virginia and Rainy Lake Company, which dominated the white pine harvest in northern St. Louis County in the 1910s and 1920s. Aguar's *Exploring St. Louis County's Historical Sites* lists the company' s known headquarters and camps in an appendix at pp. 51-52; inspecting it, I found several entries for installations in Townships 65N and 66N, Ranges 17W and 18W, which comprised Buyck Township. The appendix, however, indicated that those camps all operated during years between 1914 and 1921--a bit later than the one enumerated on the 1910 census. Identifying it to a company, then, would take more research.

(11)The schedules even give the family members' names in their Anishinabe tongue: *Mishagihamigog, Miminokitang*, and the like.

strong Polish-American presence in Buyck Township, relative to the size of the permanent population.(12) I counted a total of 177 permanent residents of the township in the census.(13) Of them, 84 were either Polish-born or Polish-descended--very nearly 48% of the population.

The breakdown of their European origins in the three Partitions was also interesting. A total of 33 were identified with *"Austria Pol"* as their own or their parents' place of birth; these included members of the GRUSZKA, KULAS, MASSOK, POWROZNIK, WEDOK, WNUK/WNEK, and WOJCIECHOWSKI families. Fifty people, among them persons bearing the surnames of BLOCK, BORKOWSKI, LASCICH, MANKUS, MIESKY [MAJEWSKI], MIKUSEK, PARSICK [PARZYCK], and SOKOLOSKI, were identified as *"Russia Pol"* in familial origin. Only one enumerant was identified with *"Germany Pol"*-- Pauline SWETKO, the wife of John (who was born in the Russian Partition himself). This mix of geographic origins almost certainly reflects the origin of this little community in another such in the New World, rather than in a "chain migration" from a single closely-bound area in Europe. The Polish settlers of Buyck had been motivated by their desire to hold and work their own land wherever they could obtain it, on the frontier nearest to them;(14) they had received their opportunity after they had been mixed in a community in America, rather than by direct solicitation in Europe.

As I noted earlier, I omitted the employees of the lumber camp from my general and specific counts. It is interesting to note, however, that a couple of lumberjacks with Polish origins in the Russian Partition labored among them: men whose surnames were memorialized as BLAJESKI, ROOS, TEDEOROVITCH, and something that looks only like SANKPUAL from the unclear enumerator's handwriting and the indistinct microfilming. Two more 'jacks were identified with *"Russ Lith"* as their place of origin and parentage; the name of one of them, Tony LAPINSKI, suggests an ethnic origin common with ours.

All told, then, these census schedules show that Buyck Township would deserve a shaded block on any Minnesota map that purported to show the extent of Polish-American settlement in 1910; it would stand out there, in the far upper-right corner of St. Louis County, very probably by itself.

I inspected the relevant schedule from the 1905 state census only after completing my analysis for 1910. (15) I was surprised to see that it showed a division of the total population between Polish and non-Polish that was not much different from that in 1910, if corrected for the national origin of the Poles. The schedule showed that the families of Julian and Amelia BLOCK and Peter and Antonia GRUSKA

were living on Sections 3 and 5, respectively, of the township in July of that year.(16) Together they totalled 10 people--and constituted 46% of the survey township's total stated population of 22.(17) Thus, even though the total population of the township grew eightfold via settlement over the next five years, the proportion of Polish-Americans in it remained relatively constant.

Research and analysis like this does not give the genealogist anything of direct value to the family tree; it does not generally enable one to identify ancestors or the dates of their important life events. However, it is well worth the time expended on it--because it helps to reconstruct the broader environment in which those new immigrants found themselves in Minnesota. Were they part of a thickly-settled Polish-American community, which likely had strong church and fraternal institutions of its own? Or were they immersed in a sea of native-born Americans, or immigrants from other places? The answer can help to explain how quickly they and their children Americanized, and why their descendants married within or outside their ancestral ethnicity. For these reasons--as well as the sheer pleasure of reconstructing a past that is gone and mostly forgotten--we encourage all of you to study your own Minnesota home towns and counties in the same way. And, when you have results, we certainly invite you to share them with us in an article like this one!

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(12)The schedules indicate that enumerator Ole Kjostad did his on-site work on April 15, 16, and 18, 1910.

(13)This number includes everyone on Sheets 1A, 1B, 2A, and 4A, and the persons on Sheet 2B through Daniel Leino. After that began the long list of adult males, all noted as heads of their households but almost none with associated spouses or children, who gave "Lumber Camp" as the industry of their employment.

(14)Indeed, the motivation is preserved in the only historical account of Buyck's Polish settlement that I have yet found, and probably from the mouths of the participants themselves:

Our people in a Polish community in Superior, who had immigrated to this country were all farmers, so it was only natural that they wanted some land in their new country to carry on their livelihood.

"History of the beginning," *GAFR*, p. 47.

(15)The schedule for Township 65N, Range 17W is assigned Enumeration District no. 53; it is found near the end of Roll 154 of the Minnesota State Census for 1905.

(16)This bears out the statement in "History of the beginning," *GAFR*, p. 47, that there were probably no more than three Polish families on the land in Buyck in 1905, and only two with children--the remainder of the first settlers from 1903-04 having returned to Superior, discouraged by the great hardships they had undergone.

(17)In *Town of Buyck v. Buyck*, 112 Minn. at 96, 127 N.W. at 452, the Minnesota Supreme Court noted that the township had only about 20 inhabitants at the formation of its local government in 1906. The 1905 census data was probably the basis for this finding of fact.

Portion of Sheet 1A from Buyck census schedules, showing preponderance of Polish names.

A TRANSCRIPTION OF THE "POLISH SIDE" OF THE FOREST HOME CEMETERY, BUYCK, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

By Greg Kishel

After I completed my census study of Buyck Township, I decided to do an on-site recovery of genealogical data for interested PGS-MN members. Present-day Buyck straddles the Vermilion River along St. Louis County Roads 23 and 24, about 25 miles east of Orr. (Orr, in turn, is on U.S. Highway 53, about 45 miles north of Virginia and 110 miles north of Duluth.) The local residents are served by Forest Home Cemetery, which lies on a gravel road about a mile north of the Vermilion River. The cemetery is clearly marked by a large sign on County Road 24.

I visited the cemetery on September 6, 1998. It was one of those beautiful late summer days in the North Country, on which time seems to stand still; the sky was a brilliant azure blue, the sun was warm but not hot, the light breeze carried the scent of the forest, and there were no mosquitoes or sandflies. The cemetery itself is on a little sand ridge; it runs east and west alongside the road. It is surrounded by a mixed forest typical for the area: huge pines, a lot of balsam fir, some birch, popple (the local word for the poplar, or quaking aspen), and brush. To the south is a wetland that was intensely green in color.

The cemetery was evenly divided by a short access road. The surnames on the headstones to the west were a mix of English-, Scandinavian-, and German-derived ones, with the accent on the first two. Those on the east were mostly Polish, with a Belgian minority and a few of other nationalities. I recognized that the latter half was my subject, if I wanted to do a transcription for the PGS-MN's purposes. However, I started with a few rows on the west side--to get some practice before I got into my main object. (In the interests of completeness, I will finish that side next year for publication elsewhere--probably in the MGS's *Minnesota Genealogist.)*

After an hour's work got me through three of nine rows, I wondered if I shouldn't switch over; it was getting toward mid-afternoon, and my time was limited. I glanced up at the sky. A large raptor, with dark brown feathers and a wingspan approaching four feet, was sailing by just above the tops of the Norway and white pines. I couldn't get a good look at it, but it was clearly too big to be a hawk. Just that morning I had seen a bald eagle above my parents' lake cabin some 30 miles south, and it's well-known that the species has returned to northern Minnesota in respectable numbers. I mused that Lech, the legendary father of the Polish nation, was sending me a twin signal in an American version--a good omen for success, and an advisory to get going.

It took the better part of two hours to transcribe the "Polish side" with the detail I wanted. I hadn't recognized that almost none of the memorials predated the early 1930s, though the earliest Polish settlement in Buyck had been in 1906. After I thought I'd finished, I looked down the center line of the cemetery, and saw that the road led into the woods a bit. Just down the hill, and sheltered by a massive white pine, I found the earliest gravesites of the Polish community in Buyck.

The markers for the seven graves were quite distinct from the familiar granite monuments of the main part of the cemetery; they bespoke an earlier day, poorer and harsher conditions, and a people closer to the ways of the Old Country. Anthony Block (1906-1925) lay far from where the rest of his Buyck-pioneer family was interred, in Calvary Cemetery in the city of Virginia. The monument for little Stanley Kowalczyk (1914-1917) was a wooden cross, still standing though now wired together, with a stamped-metal crucifix nailed to it. The headstone and enigmatic footstones for the Mikusek family were linked by a rounded chain of small fieldstones--a custom from the Old World, perhaps? The last bourne of Joseph Gruska (1888- 1916) was covered by a heap of small glacial rocks, now sinking into the soil; and the infant Jeanette Sokoloski (1940) rested beneath a sunny patch covered by greenery. The time spent preserving their memories was an evocative end to an afternoon of small but significant discovery.

I used the following notation system. I counted ten rows of gravesites on the "Polish side"; two sets of five rows are separated by an open area. I numbered the rows from the center road toward the east. I then assigned numbers to each group of plots within a row, cumulating the group numbers over the whole side. I numbered the groups from north to south.(1) I have organized the transcriptions by the name of the individual. The location of the data is signified as "HS," if a headstone, and "FS," if a footstone. Where groups have both markers, I have denoted the individual with "FS, under HS," with the family name given on the headstone. A surname in brackets means that the footstone does not give a surname; in such cases I have assumed that the surname is given on the group's headstone. "PM" means "plot marker," my term for the temporary plastic signs from the Cook funeral home that showed recent burials. The seven graves at the old site are identified with "OS," without numbering.

To preserve the information verbatim, I have included the full inscriptions on all markers, with all associated text and all spelling variations.(2)

(1)Under my numbering system, row 1 begins with group 1; row 2 with group 7; row 3 with group 14; row 4 with group 18; row 5 with group 23; row 6 with group 27, row 7 with group 29; row 8 with group 31; row 9 with group 33; and row 10 with group 36.

(2)To enable me to alphabetize the list through the sort function on my word-processing program, I subordinated any descriptive inscriptions--"Rest in Peace," "Father," and the like--to the decedent's name in each entry.
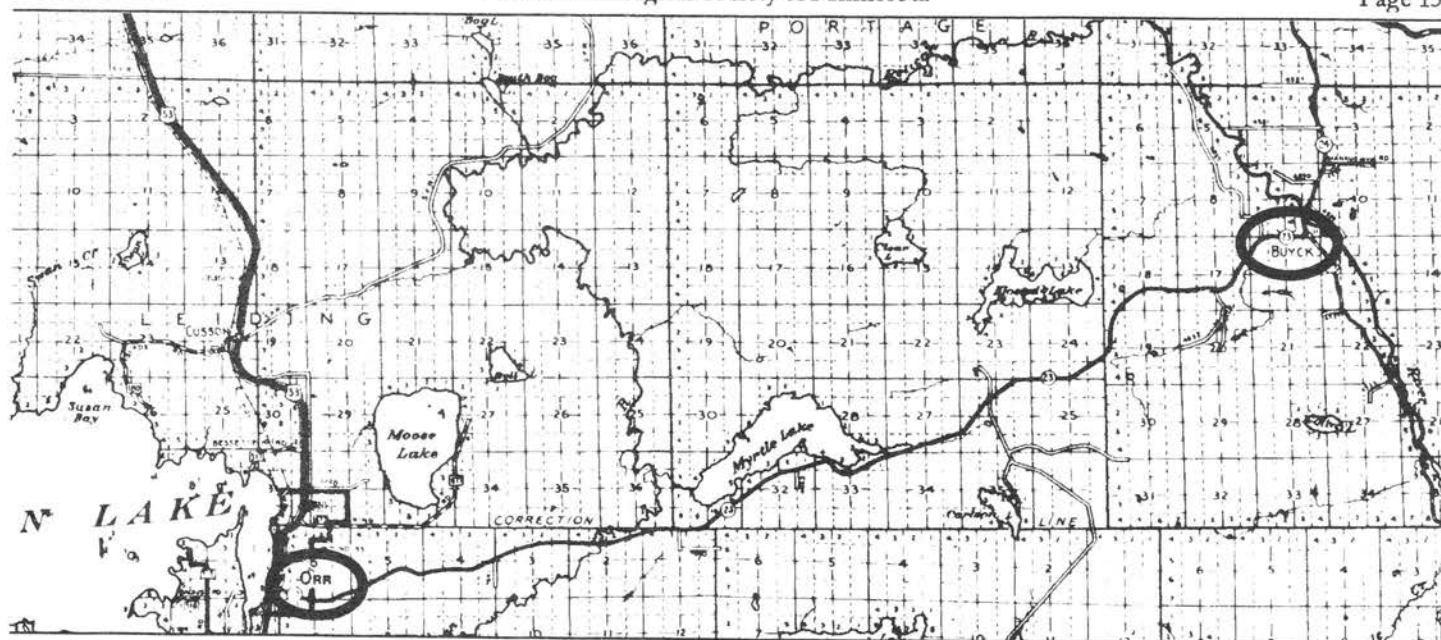
Location of Buyck, in relation to Orr and U.S. Hwy. 53. (Source: Map of St. Louis County, 1980 ed.)

And here are the Polish-American pioneers of *ziemia buyckowa* at Forest Hill, and the non-Polish neighbors who rest with them:

Fred BABIACH
1887 - 1948
R. 3; Grp. 15;
FS, under HS
POVROZNIK

Frank J. [BALIND]
1903 - 1972
Husband
R. 4; Grp. 21; FS,
under HS BALIND

Jhalmer H. BERG
Peace
1897 - 1981
R. 1; Grp. 6; FS

Josephine BERG
Peace
1908 - 1996
R. 1; Grp. 6; FS

Alexander C.
BLOCK
June 4, 1910
July 21, 1997
R. 9; Grp. 34; HS

Anthony BLOCK
Jan. 18, 1906
Mar. 18, 1925
Son
OS; HS

Bernice "Pat"
BUNDY
Mother
1918 - 1995

R. 9; Grp. 35; FS,
under HS BUNDY

Donald Lee BUNDY
Husband - Father
1913 - 1974
R. 9; Grp. 35; FS,
under HS BUNDY

Donna L. BUNDY
1948 - 1992
Wife - Mother
Grandmother
R. 9; Grp. 35; FS,
under HS BUNDY

Al [DANIELS]
Nov. 14, 1898
Dec. 30, 1968
Father
R. 5; Grp. 23; FS,
under HS DANIELS

Erma [DANIELS]
Nov. 3, 1897
July 12, 1958
Mother
R. 5; Grp. 23; FS,
under HS DANIELS

Hazel E. DANIELS
Wife - Mother
1926 - 1995
Grandma
Daughter of Mauno
& Ina Lumme
R. 5; Grp. 24; HS

Russell C.
DANIELS
Husband - Father
1926 -
Grandpa
Son of Al & Erma
Daniels
R. 5; Grp. 24; HS

Emma DECAIGNY
Grandmother
Aug. 3, 1880
Nov. 16, 1962
R. 5; Grp. 25;
FS, under HS
DECAIGNY

Amelia S.
[ECKMAN]
1904 - 1975
R. 4; Grp. 19; FS,
under HS ECKMAN

Ted S. [ECKMAN]
1896 - 1977
R. 4; Grp. 19; FS,
under HS ECKMAN

Verna Louise
EGGEN
3-30-1929
4-11-1997
Age 68; PM

Alice L. [GRBICH]
1931 -
R. 3; Grp. 16; FS,
under HS GRBICH

Nick A. GRBICH
Baby
1955 - 1957
R. 3; Grp. 16;
small HS, under HS
GRBICH

Nick T. [GRBICH]
1926 - 1979
R. 3; Grp. 16; FS,
under HS GRBICH

Henry GRUSKA
Husband
1890 - 1932
R. 1; Grp. 3; FS

Joseph GRUSKA
Father
May 3, 1888
June 21, 1916
OS; FS

Stella [GRUSKA]
Wife
1806 - 1973
R. 1; Grp. 3; FS

Tom GRUSKA
Son
1916 - 1985
K. 1; Grp. 3; FS

Albert J.
[HOFFMAN]
Son
1940 1955
R. 2; Grp. 7; FS,
under HS
HOFFMAN

Anthony J.

HOFFMAN
U. S. Army
World War II
Jan 17 1926
Jan 31 1994
R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Charles C.
HOFFMAN
Husband - Father
1931 -
Grandpa
Married
June 18, 1955
R. 7; Grp. 30; HS

Donald F.
[HOFFMAN]
Brother
Aug. 2, 1936
Mar. 23, 1984
R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Jeanette L.
HOFFMAN
Wife - Mother
1937 - 1989
Grandma
Married
June 18, 1955
R. 7; Grp. 30; HS

Stanley A
HOFFMAN
SN US Navy
Korea
Jun 18 1930
Jul 3 1995

R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Stanley J.
[HOFFMAN]
Husband - Father
1897 1975
R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Rose B.
[HOFFMAN]
Wife - Mother
1905 1988
R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Theodore Stanley
HOFFMAN
US Army
World War II
Nov 7 1928
Apr 8 1976
R. 2; Grp. 7;
FS, under HS
HOFFMAN

Gottfred L.
JOHNSON
Husband
1905 - 1964
R. 2; Grp. 11; FS

William F. KLUCK
U. S. Navy
World War II
Jul 22 1925
Jun 7 1991
R.3; Grp. 17; FS

Joseph
KOBALAWSKI
North Dakota
PFC Co E 18
Infantry
World War I PH
March 15 1888
Dec. 22 1959
R. 3; Grp. 17; FS

Lawrence M.
KOLBA
1909 - 1975
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Eva KOWALCZYK
1867 - 1940
R. 2; Grp. 9; HS

Joseph
KOWALCZYK
1862 - 1942
R. 2; Grp. 9; HS

Stanley
KOWALCZYK
Mar. 28, 1914
Feb. 7, 1917
*OS; wooden cross
and FS*

Sam KULAS
Father
1879 - 1974
*R. 2; Grp. 12; FS,
under HS KULAS*

Sophie KULAS
Mother
1879 - 1949
*R. 2; Grp. 12; FS,
under HS KULAS*

Janelle Lynn
LAMKE
Dec. 9, 1978
Apr. 14, 1979
Dau. of
Charles & Paula
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Margaret A.
LAMKE
Daughter - Wife
Dec. 19, 1948 -
Mar. 30, 1979
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Shawn Michael
LAMKE
April 27, 1978
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Frances C.
[LASCICH]
1870 - 1950
Mother

*R. 3; Grp. 14; FS,
under HS LASCICH*

Joseph [LASCICH]
1874 - 1960
Father
*R. 3; Grp. 14; FS,
under HS LASCICH*

Ben S. MAJESKI
US Army
World War II
May 18 1916 -
Oct 21 1990
R. 6; Grp. 28; FS

Robert Louis
MAJESKI
Son
Dec. 14, 1943 -
Mar. 24, 1992
*R. 6; Grp. 29; FS,
under HS for W.A.
& F.R. MAJEWSKI*

Adam MAJEWSKI
1884 - 1973
Father
Rest in Peace
R. 6; Grp. 28; HS

Eva MAJEWSKI
Mother
1885 - 1970
Rest in Peace
R. 6; Grp. 28; FS

Florence R.
MAJEWSKI
1905 [PM notes
1906-1998, age 91]
R. 6; Grp. 29; HS

Walter A.
MAJEWSKI
1906
R. 6; Grp. 29; HS

Anna MANKUS
1894- 1971
Mother
*R. 1; Grp. 2; FS,
under HS MANKUS*

John A. MANKUS
1893 - 1976
Father
*R. 1; Grp. 2; FS,
under HS MANKUS*

"Brother"
MIKUSEK
1919 - 1922
*OS; FS under HS
MIKUSEK*

"Father" MIKUSEK
1876 - 1926
*OS; FS under HS
MIKUSEK*

"Mother"
MIKUSEK
1881 - 1927
*OS; FS under HS
MIKUSEK*

John A. MURPHY
1900 - 1980
R. 4; Grp. 18; FS

Richard F. NAERT
Minnesota
Pvt Air Service
World War I
March 5 1888
Dec. 3 1965
R. 3; Grp. 17; FS

Richard F. NAERT
Mayor of
Belgiumville
1888 - 1965
R. 3; Grp. 17; HS

Clifford L. OLSON
1910 - 1975
R. 10; Grp. 37; HS

Mary OLSON
1916 -
R. 10; Grp. 37; HS

Mary [OPIELA]
1878 - 1946
Mother
*R. 1; Grp. 5; FS,
under HS OPIELA*

Michael [OPIELA]
1875 - 1934
Father
*R. 1; Grp. 5; FS
under HS OPIELA*

Gordon G.
OSTROWSKI
1941-
*R. 9; Grp. 35; FS,
under HS BUNDY*

Janice L.
OSTROWSKI
1944 - 1996
*R. 9; Grp. 35; FS,
under HS BUNDY*

Dean T. O'REILLY
In God's Care
Mar. 5, 1944
Feb. 13, 1986
R. 9; Grp. 35; FS

A. Walter [PARDA]
1908 - 1989
Son
*R. 2; Grp. 8; FS,
under HS PARDA*

Katherine [PARDA]
1875 - 1964
Mother
*R. 2; Grp. 8; FS,
under HS PARDA*

Zachary [PARDA]
1879 - 1942
Father
*R. 2; Grp. 8; FS,
under HS PARDA*

Adam PARZYCK
Apr. 7, 1888 -
July 24, 1960
Father
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under PARZYCK*

Frances PARZYCK
Mar. 26, 1887 -
Nov. 18,1957
Mother
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Frances
[PARZYCK]
Born April 16, 1930
Died April 17, 1930
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Mary R. PARZYCK
Aug. 31, 1910 -
Oct. 29, 1970
Mother
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Mary [PARZYCK]
Born July 14, 1933
Died July 15, 1933
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Raymond
[PARZYCK]
Born Dec. 1, 1926
Died Aug. 18, 1932
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Steve F. PARZYCK
FLT US Army
World War II
Dec 21 1913
Mar 28 1981
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Theophl A.
PARZYCK
(Phil)
July 6, 1906 -
Dec. 7, 1965
Father
*R. 1; Grp. 1; FS,
under HS PARZYCK*

Anna POVROZNIK
Grandmother
1882 - 1962
*R. 3; Grp. 15; :FS,
under HS
POVROZNIK*

Frank POVROZNIK
1913 - 1989
Father
*R. 3; Grp. 15; FS,
under HS
POVROZNIK*

John J.
POVROZNIK
Grandfather
1875 - 1955
*R. 3; Grp. 15;
FS, under HS
POVROZNIK*

Mary B.
POVROZNIK
Mother
Nov. 14, 1909 -
Sept. 29, 1989
*R. 3; Grp. 15;
FS, under HS
POVROZNIK*

Theodore H.
POVROZNIK
Father
Aug. 12, 1908 -
May 9, 1960
*R. 3; Grp. 15;
FS, under HS
POVROZNIK*

Chester "Punky"
PUNKIEWICZ
1923 -
"Together Forever"
R. 4; Grp. 22; HS

Jean C.
PUNKIEWICZ
1926 - 1988
"Together Forever"
R. 4; Grp. 22; HS

Michael T. RIISE
1939
Grandson
*R. 2; Grp. 13;
FS, under HS RIISE*

Thoralf RIISE
"Tom"
1897 - 1987
*R. 2; Grp. 13;
FS, under HS RIISE*

Frank
RUTCHASKY
Father
Aug. 31, 1915 -
Dec. 9, 1992
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Sigrid M.
RUTCHASKY
Mother
Apr. 17, 1919 - Feb.
7, 1977
R. 8; Grp. 33; FS

Edward SCHLEY
Pvt US Army
Dec 23 1894 -
Oct 9 1974
*R. 8; Grp. 32; FS,
under HS SCHLEY*

Elizabeth A.
SCHLEY
"Betty"
Daughter -
Granddaughter
1958 - 1992
*R. 8; Grp. 32; FS,
under HS SCHLEY*

Elsie A. SCHLEY
Wife - Mother
1899 - 1981
*R. 8; Grp. 32; FS,
under HS SCHLEY*

Leonard SCHLEY
Minnesota
TEC 5 US Army
World War II PH
May 23 1918
March 25 1974
*R. 8; Grp. 32; FS,
under HS SCHLEY*

Lucille J. SCHLEY
Wife - Mother
1922 - 1982
*R. 8; Grp. 32; FS,
under HS SCHLEY*

John SHUSTA
Husband
1901 - 1947
R.2; Grp. 10; FS

Bertha SOKOLOSKI
1911 - 1981
Married
Aug. 13, 1929
R. 4; Grp. 20; HS

Frank F.
SOKOLOSKI
1911 - 1985
R. 5; Grp. 26; FS

Jeanette
SOKOLOSKI
Feb. 9, 1940
Feb. 18, 1940
OS; FS

John SOKOLOSKI
1899 - 1978
Married
Aug. 13, 1929
R. 4; Grp. 20; HS

Margaret
SOKOLOSKI
1907 - 1986
R. 9; Grp. 36; HS

T. Clifford
SOKOLOSKI
Oct. 6, 1933 -
Jan. 3, 1989
Husband - Father
R. 10; Grp. 38; FS

Victor W.
SOKOLOSKI
US Air Force
Korea
Jul 1 1932

May 27 1996
R. 9; Grp. 36; FS

Walter
SOKOLOSKI
1897 - 1989
R. 9; Grp. 36; HS

Mary TEBO
Mother
1874 1957
R. 4; Grp. 18; FS

Roy A. TEBO
PFC US Army
World War I
Feb 10 1894
Nov 5 1978
R. 4; Grp. 18; FS

Edwin J. [TRYGG]
1893 - 1974
Husband
*R. 5; Grp. 26; FS,
under HS TRYGG*

Mary A. TRYGG
1903 - 1991
*R. 5; Grp. 26; FS,
under HS TRYGG*

Karl WALASZEK
1879 - 1961
R. 3; Grp. 15; FS,

*under HS
POVROZNIK*

John WENGKZYN
1877 - 1908
Father
R.1; Grp. 4; FS

John WISNIEWSKI
PFC
U. S. Army
World War II
Nov. 17, 1909
Oct. 28, 1976
R. 5; Grp. 27; HS

Paul WISNIEWSKI
"Cabby"
May 18, 1908
Nov. 29, 1991
U. S. Air Force
WWII
R. 5; Grp. 27; HS

Charles M. ZIDICH
1926 -
R. 7; Grp. 31; FS

Helen L. ZIDICH
1929 - 1996
[PM notes
12-24-1929 to
7-22-1996, age 66]
R. 7; Grp. 30; FS

several graves of children who died in the 1920s and during the Depression give more witness to the hardships of the place. On the other hand, the incidence of juvenile death in Buyck was almost minuscule compared to that shown in Polish church records from just sixty years earlier, in areas with a very similar climate.

From these things, we can safely conclude that the early settlers of Buyck got what they sought in leaving their European homeland: the boon of greater personal safety and security, in a free society where one could keep and enjoy the fruits of one's labors, but among people who shared their faith and traditions. And overall, my research and transcription clearly reveal Buyck as the smallest and most remote place of distinctively Polish settlement in Minnesota.

(3)William F. Hoffman, *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings* (2d ed., Chicago: Polish Genealogical Society of America, 1997)--held in the PGS-MN library collection and also available for sale from us.

(4)At the time of this writing, it's only conjecture that the members of the latter group had Polish roots. They could have been South Slavs who migrated up from the central Mesabi Iron Range. The truth awaits further research and inquiry.

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After reviewing my results, I was surprised to find even more surnames of Polish origin than I had expected. Of course, there were those who had identified themselves as being of Polish extraction in the l910 census, and their descendants--like the members of the BLOCK, GRUSKA, KULAS, LASCICH, MANKUS, MIKUSEK, PARZYCK, and POWROZNIK families. Others, whose names bore the familiar Polish suffixes of *-ski, -ewicz/-owicz,* and *-czyk,* were obviously *polskie* or *polsko-amerikanskie.* Others sure sounded like they could be Polish, even in their phonetic Americanized spellings, and a review of Fred Hoffman's book(3) bore out my suspicions; I found KOLBA, OPIELA, PARDA, and even HOFFMAN there in the very same spellings, and possible cognates in Polish spelling in the form of RÓŻYCKI, SZÓST/SZÓSTEK, WĘGRZYN, and ŻYDZIK.(4)
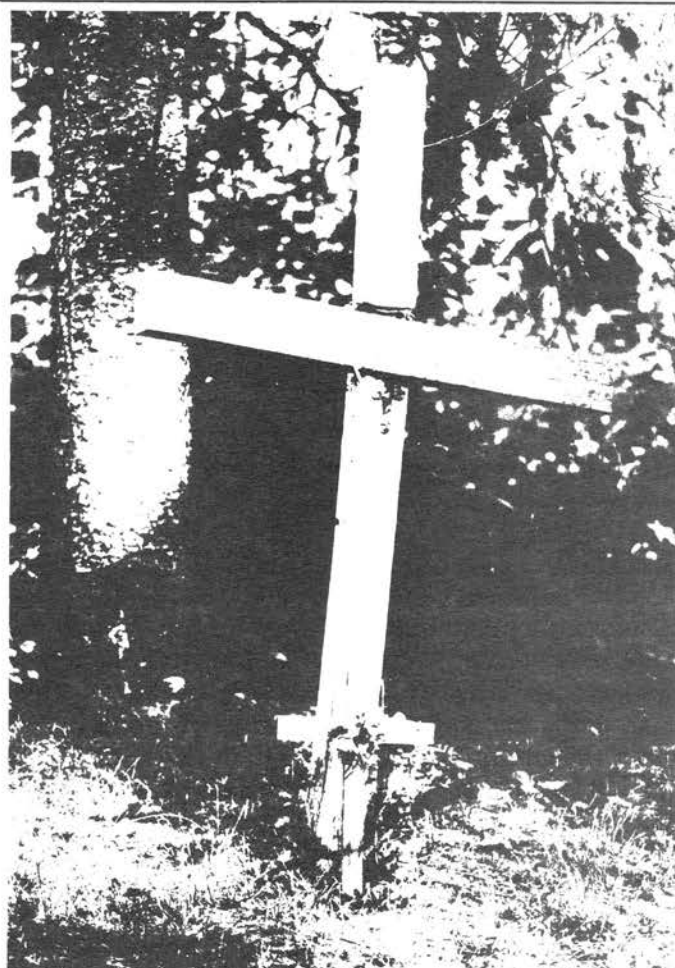
My results also give a hint about the lives of the Polish pioneers of Buyck. It's noteworthy that so many of the immigrant and first American-born generations lived to a fairly advanced age--despite the severity of northern St. Louis County winters, the lack of modern creature comforts and advanced medical care, and the relative poverty that came with establishing a new life in the remote wilderness. The

The weathered marker for Stanley Kowalczyk (1914-1917) in the old Polish cemetery in Buyck.

0   km   300

LIVONIA
• Riga
COURLAND
SEMIGALIA
Dvinsk
(Dunaburg)
• Polotsk
• Vitebsk
• Potęga
SAMOGITIA
ŽMUDŽ
• Smolensk
Niemen (Nemen)
Troki • Wilno
WHITE
RUTHENIA
SMOLENSK
• Mstislav
Danzig
WARMIA
PRUSSIA
LITHUANIA
AUKŠTOTAI
POMERANIA
MAZURIA
• Grodno
• Minsk
Stettin
KRAINA
• Nowogródek
BLACK RUTHENIA
NEUMARK
• Bydgoszcz
KURPIE
• Białystok
SEVERSK
LUBUSZ
KUJAWY
Bielsk •
PODLASIE
LUSATIA
Poznań
• Gniezno
MAZOVIA
Bug
• Brest
Pinsk •
POLESIE
• Czernihów
WIELKOPOLSKA
• Warsaw
Pisek
Kalisz
• Łuków
VOLHYNIA
Dresden
Breslau
• Lublin
• Kiev
SILESIA
• Sandomierz
• Włodzimierz
UKRAINA
• Prague
MAŁOPOLSKA
RED
RUTHENIA
Cracow
Lwów
BESKIDS
PODHALE
PODOLIA
• Bractow
TATRAS
SPISZ
BIESZCZADY
• Kamieniec Podolski
ZAPOROZHE
CARPATHIANS
POKUCIE
WILD PLAINS
MOLDAVIA

Map # 1, The Polish Lands

Source: Norman Davies, <u>God's Playground: A History of Poland</u> (New York: Columbia University Press, 1984), vol. 1, <u>The Origins to 1795</u>, p. 2. This book is available in the Polish collection at the MGS Library.

Polish History Through Maps . . .   compiled by Paul Kulas

One of our members asked that we publish maps of Poland as it existed through various periods of its history. In our Summer 1997 issue we tried to show the changing boundaries of Poland with a series of maps on one page (see "Poland's Changing Frontiers," p. 7). Our reader, however, had in mind more detailed maps of the various periods. With this in mind, we begin in this issue a series called "Polish History Through Maps."

The above map is taken form Norman Davies comprehensive and highly readable two-volume history of Poland. We urge everyone to become

familiar with this work. It is only through an understanding of Polish history that we are able to understand fully our ancestors' Polish origins. Davies' history is available in the Polish collection of the MGS library or through any public library.

The above map shows the lands that have been part of the Polish nation at various times throughout its history. This includes most of central and eastern Europe stretching from the Baltic to the Black Seas including parts of what is now eastern Germany, virtually all of what is now Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine and portions of western Russia.

Missing Branches:

QUERIES: *Send to: Paul Kulas, editor, PGS-MN Newsletter, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316-2145* or to e-mail: *kkulas@ties.k12.mn.us*

NEW MEMBERS; *We welcome the following:*

Lianne M. Anderson, 1485 Brooks Ave. W., Roseville, MN 55113-3116 is researching ZAPOLSKI, PUCYTOSKI in Barglow and Tajno in Poland, Hatfield, MA, Duluth, Two Harbors, Finland, MN and Superior, WI.

Jean A. Blazek, 2309 Horizon Road, Burnsville, MN 55337-3061, e-mail: JBLAZEK@securitypro.com is researching the SABINASH, KULING, WILMA surnames.

Vernon Jaszewski, 2808 W. Armour Terrace, Minneapolis, MN 55418-2481 is researching JASZEWSKI, LIBOWSKI, KOLODZIEJSKI, KIERZEK in Kasubia and Poznan and in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Fred Knox, 40 Summit Lane, St. Paul, MN 55127-2547 is researching the PIEKUTOWSKI, OZYMKOWSKI, KNOFSKI and TRUSZKOWSKI surnames.

Kathy Kortus, 2340 16th Ave. E., No. St. Paul, MN 55109, e-mail; kmkortus@aol.com is researching KORTUS, KASPERZAK in Chludowo (N.W. of Poznan/Posen), in Posen, Poland and in Minnesota.

Lucy P. Kruchowski, 1100 - 6th Ave. So., So. St. Paul, MN 55075, e-mail: LKRUCHOWSKI@ PRODIGY.NET is researching WARZECHA, PHILLIPS/PHILLIPSEK surnames in Silesia and in Avon, Holdingford, Opole in Minnesota.

Donald J. Mackinac, 47 Pandolfo Pl., St. Cloud, MN 56303, e-mail CDMACK47@Hotmail.com is researching the MACHNIAK surname in Polaniec, Poland.

Cecelia McKeig, 11973 - 12th Ave NE, Federal Dam, MN 56641-9704, e-mail: cemckeig@hotmail.com is researching WITKOWSKI, ZIELINSKI in Chelmza, Poland and in Minnesota and Wisconsin and WANTA, KOTLOWSKI in Gowidlino, Poland and in Portage County, WI.

Lou Ochocki, 2835 Lale Diane Ct, New Brighton, MN 55112, e-mail: Diane@Goldengate.net is researching OCHOCKI, LIPINSKI, PARULSKI in Wilno and Ivanhoe, MN

Mrs. Heidi R. Phelon, 87 Sand Spring Dr., Eatontown, NJ 07724-2167, e-mail: iamhydee@aol. com is researching in KOSOCK, HYLLA, ROSSA, CZECH in Falkowitz and in NYC and KIEFERT, SICHE, RUSSMANN in Breslau (Wroclaw area).

Mary Ann Roberts, 2545 NW 111th Ave., Portland, OR 97229, e-mail: ROBERTSRM@JUNO.COM is researching WOJCIECHOWSKI, SOWA, ZIELINSKI, GUD/GLUD, SAJDAL/SAJDAK in Tarnow and Tuchow in Poland and in Nebraska, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Mike Stroncek, 615 Kenilworth Lane, Ballwin, MO, e-mail: MPStroncek@aol.com or Michael.P.Stroncek @boeing.com is researching STRONCEK, STACZEK, ZONDLO in Little Falls, MN.

Wm. M. and Sylvia H. Verkuilen, 5626 W. 139th St., Savage, MN 55378-1984 is researching WISNESKI/WISNIEWSKI, GROSHEK/GROSZEK, FLEES/FLIS in Chicago, IL., Sudbury, Ont., Wakefield, MI, Virginia, MN and Hatley, WI.

Lynne Visutskie, 1127 Church Street, Wilno, Ontario K0J2N0 Canada, e-mail: visutskie@mv.igs.net is researching WYSOCKI/VISUTSKIE in Wysoka, Zaborska and Lesno--all in Kasubi and in Wilno, Ontario, Canada.

RENEWED MEMBERS: The following are renewed members who indicated their e-mail address or more complete areas of research on their renewal forms.

Thomas J. Draus, 888 Hwy 11, Box 464, Hazel Green, WI 53811 is researching OPYD, KURAEJA, STEFANSKI, MADON surnames.

Mary Fehrman, 902 West Idaho, St. Paul, MN 55117 is researching the FELTZ, SKIBINSKI, SKURLINSKI surnames.

Linda Huggard, 9663 Virgil, Redford, MI 48239, e-mail: lmhug@aol.com is researching BLAZEJEWSKI, DREJMA in Posen and in Duluth, MN and WALKOWSKI, PERNASKI in Russian Poland and in Houghton, MI.

Michael Jarmuz, 808 Green Street, Hudson, WI 54016, e-mail: mjarmuz@pressenter.com is researching the JARMUZ surname in Juncewo, Murczyn and Znin, Poland.

Bernadine Zak Kargul, 26209 Elsinore, Redford, MI, e-mail: BKARGUL@AOL.COM is researching ZAK, BIELEJESKI, POKORNOSKI in Poznan or Pommerania and in McLeod and Morrison counties in

Minnesota and MROZIK in Silesia or Poznan and in Morrison Co. and LYSSY, LYSCHICK in Silesia and in Morrison Co.

John and Florence Myslajek, 1820 Long Lake Rd., New Brighton, MN 55112 are researching MYSLAJEK in Bielski, Galicia and in Mpls. and MIGACZ in Warsawskie and in Pennsylvannia and Mpls., MN.

Mary H. Rundel, 7935 W. Plainfield Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220-2840, e-mail: Mrundel@aol.com is researching BRZESKA/BREZA in Brusy, Poland and in WI and MN, SZMAGLIK/SMAGLIK in Lesno and in WI and Canada, WAS/WONS in Lag and in WI and WA, and KRAINSKI in Czersk and in WI

Marianne Springer, 14968 Dundee Ave., Apple Valley, MN 55124 is researching SLANGA/SLĘGA, DREGER, RYSZYK, ALBRECHT in Połajewo, Poznan and Lubasz, Poznan or Pila and in Silver Lake, MN; WITUCKI in Miesciska, Poznan and Podlesie Koscielne, Poznan and in Silver Lake; KELASH/KIELAS/KIELINSKI, GRUPSKI, POŁADNIEWSKI in Goraznin and Gorzyce, Bydgoskie and in Silver Lake and Benton County, MN; ZILKA, PIEKARSKI, LAPINSKI in Flensburg and Pike Creek, MN.

Rhonda Swanson, 2005 - 128th Ave., Coon Rapids, MN 55448, e-mail:Swanron@AOL is researching DUDEK, KOLONKO, JĘDRYSKO, PIETSKA, TOLIK, KŁÓSAK in Zyweic, Poland and in Mpls.. MN.

Bruno C. Syzdek, Rip Van Winkle Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89102-5768, E:mail: BSYZEK@AOL.COM is researching BIEL/BIELAMOWICZ in Sławęcin, Rzeszow, Aust/Poland and in Bremond, TX: DYKAS in Milwaukee, WI; FURMANEK in Rzeszow; GOCAL in East Chicago, IN; GOLEŃ, KALIK/KULA/KULIG/KULIK in Skołyszyn, Rzeszow, Aust/Poland; KAPCHINSKI/KAPCZYNSKI/ KAPZYNSKI in Miescisko, Poznan, Pru/Poland and in Bryan, TX; PANEK in Bączał Dolny in Rzeszow; PAPCIAK in Sławęcin; PUC/PUTZ in Poznan and in Bryan, TX; SYSDEK/SYSDECK/SYSDEK/SZYDEK in Opacie, Rzeszow, Aust/Poland and in Bremond, TX and also in NY, PA, IL, MA, CT; TRZESNICIŚKI/TRZUZESNIOWSKI in Rzeszow; and ZABAWA in Bączał Dolny and in Bremond.

Mrs. Barbara Walsh, 4841 Walsh Dr. SE, Alexandria, MN 56308, e-mail: barbmark1@juno.com is researching POLACZYK, KLIKUSZOWSKI, HUDOBA in Galicia, Poland, PODGORSKI, THALNOFSKI, KRZYZANIAK in Pozen, Poland and all in Mpls. and St. Paul.

Sacred Heart Church, *Combermere, Ontario was built in 1906-7 in a beautiful pine grove, overlooking the Madawaska River. PGS-MN member Shirley Mask Connolly's parents, Rita Lepinskie and Louis Mask were married here on September 14th, 1948. Drawing by SMC*