

THE LUNAU - LUNO CONNECTION

This is an attempt to document the Lunos of Oxford County. Although it is by no means complete, it leaves a record to which others may add.

The date of the first arrival to Oxford of a member of the family has not been determined, but Elizabeth (Betsy Lunau) Schell died in West Oxford in 1843.

Charles Philip Luno is recorded in the 1851 Census of West Oxford. In Markham Township he was known as Carl Philip Lunau, son of a German immigrant, Joachim Lunau.

Since there was so much material available on the early life of Joachim, it has been included here. Through a settlement scheme of William Pulteney of London, England, a man named William Berczy arranged to have two ship loads of immigrants sail from Hamburg, Germany in 1792, to Philadelphia. From there they went to the Genesee Country in New York State. Unable to own land there, they came to Markham Township in the new Upper Canada, arriving in 1794.

Charles Philip travelled from Markham in an ox-cart, according to his grandson, Edward E. Luno.

The names Lunau and Luno may be found all over North America, but these are some of the descendants of Charles Philip Luno, as researched and documented by two of his great-grandchildren.

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Philip Sidney Luno

Margaret (Luno) Nagy

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JOACHIM LUNAU 1770 - 1841

In the spring of 1792, Joachim sailed from the port of Hamburg, Germany on the ship Catherina, along with one hundred and thirty-odd others. He was twenty-two years of age, single, and was part of a scheme by Sir William Pulteney to bring settlers to North America. The man chosen by the "German Company" of London, England to bring them to Philadelphia was a Saxon by the name of Willhelm von Moll de Berczy - or William Berczy, as he became known.

On the 17th of July, Berczy convinced the Captain to sail to "New Port" (Newport, Rhode Island) rather than continue to Philadelphia, because there was a shortage of drinking water. As a result, the ship did not arrive in Philadelphia until August 3rd, 1792.

The destination of the group was Genesee Valley, New York, hundreds of miles away, with winter approaching. The track ran over mountains and was so poor in places, it had to be rebuilt in order to carry the heavy wagons. Berczy's people arrived at their destination late in December, 1792.

Joachim probably married his wife, Helena in 1792, as their first child Johanna was born in 1793, according to the 1803 Census in Markham.

Charles Williamson, the Pulteney representative in Genesee, and William Berczy could not come to terms. Land was not available for the unhappy settlers, who, in turn, created a disturbance that caused them to be put in jail. Berczy had them released, with an injunction from the Supreme Court, but all haste was made to flee to Upper Canada, where John Graves Simcoe was advertising for settlers.

Berczy's people, along with others, arrived at Queenston in September, 1794. A large amount of supplies was ferried across the river, requiring 15 or 20 boats. Berczy had hired men to drive about 200 head of cattle, mostly oxen, from Connecticut, which was more than 500 miles away. Joachim and another man attended the cattle at Burlington Bay, until an agreement was made with Simcoe as to the land where the settlers would stay.

Land was granted west of the Grand River, but was exchanged for land in Markham Township. For many years, a great deal of confusion took place in the registry of land. Lots were drawn by number, but land was exchanged so friends and relatives could be near one another. Joachim is shown by Berczy in November, 1794 on Lot 14, Concession I, but Concession I lay along Younge Street, which was a Military Road, and that land had no doubt been allocated to people other than "Germans and Republicans", so Joachim's land was in Concession II, as shown in 1803.

Berczy paid Joachim 163 Pounds for the 200 acres in 1803, so Berczy could pay off his debts. Joachim farmed Lot 8 in Concession IV until 1826, when he petitioned successfully for ownership, which he received in October, 1827. It would appear that clear title was required so he could divide his land among his sons.

In the record book of the Lutheran Church is shown "January 1841 buried Jacob Lunau of Markham 80 years 11 days old in the burying ground of the Methodist on the fourth concession Lot N15", that is, the Buttonville Cemetery. There is no record of the burying place for Helena.

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