

NICKLAS

The Nicklas family in the Tavistock area traces back to Johann Niclas(1) (1762-1828) married to Anna Elisabeth Rotharmel (1751-1803). They were born, married and died at Nieder-Ofleiden, Germany.(2) They were members of the Evangelical Lutheran faith.(See notes on page 6)

Johannes Niclas, b. 15 Apr 1762, at Nieder-Ofleiden
d. 12 Apr 1828, " "
m. 15 Mar 1787, " "
Anna Elisabeth Rotharmel, b. 18 Aug 1751, at Nieder-Ofleiden
d. 1 Apr 1803 " "

Children:

I. Elisabeth Niclas, b. 12 Mar 1788; m. 1813; d. 22 Feb 1831

II. Johann Henrich Niclas, b. 15 July 1790, Nieder-Ofleiden
1853

m. 6 Feb 1817, " "
2m. 5 Feb 1819, " "

Margarethe Zinkann, b. 12 May 1792; d. 22 Mar 1818, Nieder Ofleiden

Anna Katharine Peil, dau. of Johann Henrich Peil and Marie Elisabetha Weil
b. 22 Sep 1793,
d. 6 Jan 1869

Children:

A. Anna Elisabetha Niclas, b. 1 Aug 1817; d. 5 Aug 1817, Nieder Ofleiden

B. Elisabetha Niclas, b. 6 Sept 1819, Nieder Ofleiden

C. Anna Elisabeth Niclas, b. 2 Oct 1821, " "

D. **Johannes Niclas**, b. 1 Oct 1823, " "

E. Anna Marie Niclas, b. 12 Jun 1826, " "

F. **Georg Adam Niclas**, b. 5 Mar 1829, " "

G. Katharina Niclas, b. 16 Nov 1831, " "

H. Johann Henrich Niclas, b. 13 Apr 1834 " "

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D. Johannes/John Niclas/Nicklas, b. 1 Oct 1823, Nieder Ofleiden, Germany(3)
9 Oct 1824 (family record)

d. 3 Nov 1895
m. 1855

Caroline Elschner, b. 30 Jan 1835, Reitzengeschwenta, Kreis Ziegenrik/
Zeigenruck, Bezirk Eufert, Germany

d. 14 Nov 1915, East Zorra

Children:

1. Johannes Nicklas, b. 1 Jan 1856; d. 10 Jun 1863

2. Henry Nicklas, b. 19 Feb. 1859, East Zorra
d. 25 May 1925, East Zorra
m. 8 Apr. 1885, South Easthope

Annie Mansz, b. 25 May 1861, South Easthope
d. 23 June 1921, East Zorra

Place of residence: Lot 30, Concession 16, East Zorra

Son: Ezra Henry Nicklas, b. 29 Apr. 1888; d. 12 Mar. 1954
m. Cora May Battler, b. 20 Jun 1895; d. 21 Dec 1977

a. Ada Melinda May Nicklas, b. 19 Apr 1920; d. 24 Apr 2007
m. 24 Jun 1950
Clinton Wilhelm Hoffmeyer, b. 2 Jan 1912; d. 7 Apr 1990
Place of residence: R.1, Bright, Ontario

i. Carol Ann Hoffmeyer, b. 8 Dec 1952
m. 22 Sep 1972 (separated)
Terrence Kauth, b. 11 May 1949
Place of residence:, Carlingford, Ontario.

b. Ross John Henry Nicklas, b. 4 Feb 1924; d. 21 Sept 1993
m. 20 Apr 1946
Violet Marie Dietrich, b. 12 June 1927; d. 23 Sept 2007
Place of residence:, Tavistock, Ontario

i. James Ross Nicklas, b. 11 Feb 1957
m. 20 Dec 1997
Christine L. Brenneman, b. May 1967
Place of residence: Tavistock, Ontario

Nathan Brenneman, b. 11 May 1987
Travis Brenneman, b. 19 Jun 1989
Danny Brenneman, b. 13 Dec 1991

c. Carl Russel Nicklas, b. 10 Nov 1925
m. 1 Jun 1963
Mary Lorraine Wiffen, b. 17 Oct 1936
Tavistock, Ontario

i. Sharon Margaret Nicklas, b. 14 May 1964
m. 28 Jun 1998
Alexander Anonech, b. 17 May 1961
Place of residence: R.1, Tavistock, Ontario

Zachary Nicklas Anonech, b. 19 Mar 1999
Alexis Mary Helen Anonech, b. 10 May 2002

ii. Kenneth Arthur Nicklas, b. 17 Nov 1966
m. 26 Dec 1992
Janis Ellen Gibson, b. 19 Apr 1965
Place of residence: R.1, Tavistock, Ontario

Maris Ysenia Rose Nicklas, b. 25 Oct 1994
Kyle Gibson Liam Niklas, b. 8 Mar 1995

iii Lynne Mae Nicklas, b. 14 May 1970

m. Apr 1993
Terry Andrew Ross, b. 5 Aug 1964
Place of residence: R.5, Embro, Ontario

Jillian Mae Ross, b. 2 Dec 1994
Drew William Nicklas Ross, b. 14 Aug 1996
Jessica Marguerite Ross, b. 16 Nov 1998

d. Ruth Kathleen Nicklas, b. 26 Apr 1929
m. 21 Jun 1952
George Charles O'Dell, b. 11 Jan 1917; d. 8 Apr 1996
Place of residence: R. 6, Woodstock,,Ontario

i Larry George O'Dell, b. 6 Feb 1954
m. 14 Sept 1991
Karen June Alyea, b. 6 Jul ____

ii Keith Allan O'Dell, b. 9 May 1955

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F. George Adam Niclas/Nicklas, b. 5 Mar 1829, Nieder Ofleiden, Germany(3)
4 Mar 1828 (family record)
d. 25 Nov 1899, East Zorra Twp., Oxford Co., Ontario
bu. 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra
m. 15 Apr 1854, Wilmot Twp., Waterloo Co.
Marie/Mary Christner, dau. of Christian and Elizabeth Christner
(See pages 4 and 5 for the Christner story)
foster dau. of Jacob Gordner and Barbara Litwiller
b. 20 Jul 1833/34, Wilmot or Waterloo Twp.
d. 27 Feb 1911, East Zorra, bu. 19th Line Cemetery

Children:

1. Henry George Nicklas, b. 19 Feb 1855, Wilmot
d. 17 Nov 1936, East Zorra, bu. 19th Line
1m. 11 Oct 1895, Berlin (now Kitchener)
2m. 2 Dec 1899, Stratford
Margaret Mohr, dau. of Henry and Anna Mohr
b. 1869/70
d. Mar 1896/97
Catherine Miller, dau. of John Miller and Catherine Dippel
gr.-dau. of Christian Miller and Barbara Christner
b. 19 Mar 1868/71, North Easthope Twp.
d. 19 Oct 1926, East Zorra Twp., bu. 19th Line

a. George Nicklas, b.23 Dec. 1896
d.24 Dec.1941, East Zorra
m.3 Aug. 1829to Clara Berger (1900-1982)

i. Henry Nicklas, b. 29 Dec 1931; d. 16 June 2003
ii. Marjorie Nicklas, b. 24 Apr 1933
iii. Ivan Nicklas, b. 29 Apr 1934
iv. Dorothy Nicklas, b. 8 Dec 1937

- b. Henry Nicklas, b. 13 Mar 1897
 d. 1901, bu. 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra
 (died of sunstroke) (no tombstone survives)
- c. John Nicklas, b. 31 Jan. 1900, East Zorra Twp.; d 10 Dec.1971
 m. 28 Sept. 1927 to Oleva Brodrecht(1904-1991)
- i. Jane Nicklas, m. Howard Wittig
 ii. Earl Nicklas m. Susan Swartzentruber
- d. Louise Nicklas, b. 8 Aug 1901, East Zorra Twp.
 m. Albert Metzloff
 a son and daughter
- e. Mary Ann Nicklas, b. 28 July 1903, East Zorra Twp.
 (unmarried) d. 1978, bu. 19th Line Cemetery
- f. Pearl Nicklas, b. 23 Apr 1905, East Zorra Twp.
 d. 14 Dec 1989, bu. Trinity Luth. Cem., Sebastopol
 m. 30 Sept. 1930 to Hebert Henry Berger
 no children
- g. Margaret Nicklas, b. 17 Dec 1906, East Zorra Twp.;d. 5 Apr. 1983
 m. Sept. 1946 to Joseph Rejeski (1903-1967)
 one son
- h. Levi Nicklas, b. 29 Nov 1908, East Zorra
 d. 25 July 2005
- m. 16 Nov 1939, St.Paul's Lutheran parsonage, Elmira
 Laura Margaret Reist, b. 12 Nov 1911
 d. d. 12 Nov. 2003
- i. Shirley Margaret Nicklas, b. 29 July 1943
 m. 19 Dec 1970 to Ramsden Blake Smith
- ii. Doris Kathryn Nicklas, b. 26 Apr 1948
 m. 14 Sept 1968 to Terry Clifford Uptigrove
- iii. Bruce Henry Nicklas, b. 29 July 1950
 m. 23 Jan 1984 to Darlene Faye Ruby, b. 13 Feb 1966
 Bruce and his family continue to farm the Nicklas homestead.
- (a) Denver George Nicklas, b. 29 Aug 1984
 (b) Wade John Nicklas, b. 7 Mar 1987
2. Catherine Nicklas, b. 1/6 Apr 1856, East Zorra
 d. 3/8 Jul 1869, bu. 19th Line Cemetery
3. Louisa Nicklas, b. 22 Jun 1866, East Zorra
 d. 1934, bu. Lingelbach Cemetery, SEhope
 m. Jacob Kennell, son of John and Anna von Kennell
 b. 24 Apr. 1870
 d.22 Mar. 1934, bu. Lingelbach Cemetery

- a. Anna Kennell m. Homer Snyder
Children: Ward and Hilda
- b. Irene Kennell m. Victor Gabel
Children: Myrtle 1m. Lester Wilhelm; 2m. Oliver Reibling
June m. Wilfred Riehl
Grant m. Bette Shaw
- c. Eva Kennell (1901-1932) m. Lorne Luckhardt
2 or 3 sons, dau. Irene (1929-1931)
- d. Walter Kennell m. Olive Riehl
1 son and 2 daughters

More details on the Kennel family at the end of this Introduction

GEORGE NICKLAS AND MARY CHRISTNER

Mary Christner is believed to be the daughter of Christian and Elizabeth Christner, and that at the death of her father in 1836 (or 1834) in a tree-felling accident, the family was scattered, and Mary was taken into the home of Jacob and Barbara (Litwiller) Gordner. Jacob and Barbara had no children of their own, but took into their home several orphans or children whose fathers had died, and their mothers were not able to look after them. In the 1851 census of Wilmot Township, "Marie" Christner, age 17, was in the Jacob and Barbara Gardner home along with five others younger than herself. If Mary was taken into the Gordner home as an infant, it makes sense that she was bonded to them rather than to her birth family, and therefore was left with the Gordners when the rest of the family left for Indiana.

The Mennonite Christner family was carefully searched whether there was a Mary among them who might have married George Nicklas, but none was found. That, and the fact that George and Mary lived on and owned part of the Jacob Gordner property for a time indicates that the "Marie" Christner who was in the Jacob Gordner home as a child was the one who married George Nicklas.

In 1854, Mary married George Nicklas, a German immigrant. They were married by Jacob Van Linge of Wilmot. (marriage certificate in possession of Levi and Laura Nicklas) George and Mary acquired the southwestern part of Lot 24, South Bleam's Road from Jacob and Barbara Gordner, who still occupied the north part of the lot.

In 1862, George and Mary moved to East Zorra Township in Oxford County. They purchased the west half of Lot 33 as well as part of Lot 34 in the eighteenth concession from Henry Bitner. In 1885, they built a house of considerable dimensions and a new barn in 1906. The lane to their buildings enters from the 18th Line, East Zorra.

In both the 1851 and 1861 census, George and Mary were identified as Mennonites. Jacob and Barbara Gardner, Mary's foster parents, joined the Reformed Mennonites about 1850. George Nicklas and "Marie M. Christner" (as she appears on the tombstone) are buried in the 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra. In Mary's obituary, this cemetery was referred to as "Brennemans cemetery."

This burial ground was deeded to a cemetery board in 1872 by Jacob and Lydia Brenneman of South Easthope, who had purchased Lots 35 and 36 at the extreme northeast corner of East Zorra Township on which to settle two of their sons. This cemetery, although not all people buried there were Mennonites, is being maintained by the East Zorra Mennonite Church -- formerly an Amish Mennonite congregation and is now known as the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery, 19th Line.

Notes:

- 1) Spelling of name in German records
- 2) Information researched for Mary Nicklas by Gerd. W. Jungblut in the parsonage of the Evangelical Lutheran Parish in Ober-Ofleiden.
- 3) Information on this family received from Mary (Mrs. Carl) Nicklas
- 4) George and Mary (Christner) Nicklas's family list is a combination of Mary Nicklas's family outline, my (Lorraine Roth) research. Where there are conflicting dates (I usually give both) they are due to differing dates in the various sources.
- 5) See first draft of pages 1-4 with added information from Mary Nicklas - some of which contains more details than Lorraine's final draft as well as several pages of her print-out.

The sources for Mary Christner's family are as follows:

"The History of the Christner Family," received from Levi Nicklas, but author's name is not given.

A Biographical History of Waterloo Township by Ezra E. Eby, 1895/96. Revised edition by Eldon D. Weber, 1971. The Mennonite Christner family is found on pages 95 and 96. This source was used to establish that Mary was not of the Mennonite Christner family of Waterloo Township. Henry Nicklas's second wife, Catherine Miller, however, was a granddaughter of Christian Miller and Barbara Christner, who was a member of the Mennonite Christner family.

Our Immigrants, Christian and Elizabeth Christner's Family by H. Walter Christner, Sarasota, Fla., 1991. This publication lists Mary, with the notation "born in Canada," on page 7. It appears that Widow Elizabeth and all of her surviving children left Mary with the Gardners, migrated to the United States, but retained only the memory of her name and that she was born in Canada!

Lorraine Roth
Tavistock, Ontario
March, 2010

Not in new file

old version:

THE FAMILY OF GEORGE AND MARY (CHRISTNER) NICKLAS

George Nicklas, b. 4 Mar 1828, Germany
d. 24/25 Nov 1899, bu. 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra Twp.

m. 15 Apr 1854, Wilmot Twp.
 Mary Christner, dau. of Christian and Elizabeth Christner
 foster dau. of Jacob Gordner and Barbara Litwiller
 b. 1834, Canada (Wilmot or Waterloo Twp.)
 d. 27 Feb 1911, bu. 19th Line Cemetery

A. Henry Nicklas, b. 22 Feb 1855, Wilmot Twp.?
 d. 17 Nov 1936, East Zorra Twp., bu. 19th Line Cemetery
 1m. 11 Oct 1895, Berlin (now Kitchener)
 2m. 2 Dec 1899, Stratford

Margaret Mohr, dau. of Henry and Anna Mohr
 b. 1870
 d. Mar 1896

Catherine Miller, dau. of John Miller and Catherine Dippel
 gr.-dau. of Christian Miller and Barbara Christner
 b. 1868, North Easthope Twp.
 d. 19 Oct 1926, East Zorra Twp., bu. 19th Line Cemetery

1. George Nicklas, b. 1896, East Zorra Twp.
 d. 1940
 m. 1829?
 Clara Berger

a. Henry Nicklas, b. 29 Dec 1931
 b. Marjorie Nicklas, b. 24 Apr 1933
 c. Ivan Nicklas, b. 29 Apr 1934
 d. Dorothy Nicklas, b. 8 Dec 1937

2. Henry Nicklas, b. 13 Mar 1897
 d. 1901, bu. 19th Line Cemetery, East Zorra
 (died of sunstroke) (no tombstone survives)

3. John Nicklas, b. 31 Jan 1900, East Zorra Twp.
 m. Oleva Brodrecht

a. Jane Nicklas, m. Howard Wittig
 b. Earl Nicklas m. Susan Swartzentruber

4. Louise Nicklas, b. 8 Aug 1901, East Zorra Twp.
 m. Albert Metzloff
 a son and daughter

5. Mary Ann Nicklas, b. 28 July 1903, East Zorra Twp.
 (unmarried) d. 1978, bu. 19th Line Cemetery

6. Pearl Nicklas, b. 23 Apr 1905, East Zorra Twp.
 d. 14 Dec 1989, bu. Trinity Lutheran Cem., Sebastopol
 m. ?Hebert Henry Berger
 no children

7. Margaret Nicklas, b. 17 Dec 1906, East Zorra Twp.
 m. Joseph Rejeski
 one son

8. Levi Nicklas, b. 29 Nov 1908, East Zorra Twp.
 m. 16 Nov 1939, St. Paul's Lutheran parsonage, Elmira
 Laura Margaret Reist, b. 12 Nov 1911

- a. Shirley Margaret Nicklas, b. 29 July 1943
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- C. Louisa Nicklas, b. 22 Jun 1866, East Zorra
d. 1934, bu. Lingelbach Cemetery, South Easthope
m. Jacob Kennell, son of John and Anna von Kennell
b. 1866
d. 1947, bu. Lingelbach Cemetery
1. Anna Kennell m. Homer Snyder
Children: Ward and Hilda
 2. Irene Kennell m. Victor Gabel
Children: Myrtle 1m. Lester Wilhelm; 2m. Oliver Reibling
June m. Wilfred Riehl
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 3. Eva Kennell (1901-1932) m. Lorne Luckhardt
2 or 3 sons, dau. Irene (1929-1931)
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1 son and 2 daughters