Bobeyka Family

Overview
Bobeyka Family
Emigration & Passport
Birth, Death Marriage
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Occupations

NOTE: Appendices contain supplemental information about the various peripheral family lines and locales – they add a little more color and detail to the main document. For Appendices … see separate document

Appendix A … Kamiak/Kaminsky Family
Appendix B … Matskevichi, Minsk, Russia (Belarus)
Appendix C … Anna Wengerski Polish Obituary
Appendix D … Holy Trinity Church, Chicago, Illinois
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Endnotes
We start this story with Ann (Mary) Bobejko … or is it Bobeyko …. or is it Bobeiko …. basically, however it can be spelled, it probably has been! She married Ted Ovcarić … or is it Owczarek … or is it Ozark (the current form) … you get the picture! These names were rarely spelled the same way twice! For information on the Owczarek/Ozark family, see a separate write-up.

You will notice that currently her mother doesn't have a surname … this is because I am still not sure what it is. It would appear to be Kamiak or Kaminsky or Kominsky based on family lore and some documents for siblings, yet, there is no found document that gives Anna's maiden name … she liked to use the name Anna Bobeiko which was actually her name after her 2nd marriage! This and other mysteries of the Kamiak (or is it Kaminsky) family can be found in Appendix A.

There is some family lore associated with Andreu. These are presented on the page 5.
Though, we do include here a wedding photo of Andreu and Anna since it’s one of the few photos of either Andreu and the youngest photo of Anna!

Emigration & Passport

Pictured on the following page are parts of the Passport of Andreu Bobeyko -- pages 1&4 and then 2&3.
The passport is very significant as it gives his father's name and it gave a clear spelling of the town he came from (and what district it was in) so that it could be found on a map! Family lore had always said that he was from Minsk ... well, he was from Minsk province though the town is actually not real close to Minsk proper. The maps on the next page give you a sense of where Matskevichi is and Appendix B has some information about the Resources (genealogical) available for this area.

So looking at what we do have, here is a translation of the passport:

**Passport**

Indefinite

Issued by police officer of Bystritsa district Slutsk county Minsk province on 20 of December, 1909 to peasant from village Matskevichi, Matskevichi community district Bystritsa.

Page 2.

1. Name, father's name, family name:
   Andrei Stepanov Bobeyko
2. Dignity
   peasant
3. Date of birth
   9 of July, 1888
   or age:

Page 3.

4. Confession (religion)
   orthodox
5. Residence
   village Matskevichi, district Bystritsa, Slutsk county, Minsk province
6. Marital status
   Single

Page 4.

7. Military service
   military service was served in time
8. Documents on basis of which the passport was issued
   On the basis of list No. 28 of Matskevichi community

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**Family Rumors**

>>He (Andreu) was an officer of the Czar, emigrated from Russia, Left $5000 buried in his backyard. Similarly ... Andrew received an apartment building from the Russian government for his exemplary service in the army. Supposedly, he buried gold in the back yard before he came to Chicago and intended to go back someday and get it. It is not known if this apt building was in Minsk or some other city.

>> Anna and Andrew each came from different little farm villages on the outskirts of Minsk, White Russia (also known as Bella Russia). But they met in Chicago. Andrew was a drunk, didn't work, and gambled a lot. He got in a bar fight and died from a broken neck in 1925.
The map to the left shows where Minks is with respect to the Western Part of Russia. The map above gives a modern-day perspective on the location of Matikevichi. You will see that is it considered to be in Belarus and that Minsk is shown just off the northern edge of the map. [Latitude: 53.0000  Longitude: 27.0333 from www.mapquest.com via shtetlseeker (www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSeeker/)] (include overall map of Russia, Eastern Europe to show where this is!)

This map gives you a close perspective of Matskevichi and the communities that are closest to it!

So, Andreu left that town and traveled to Bremen, a very popular German port and traveled to New York (Ellis Island) and then to Chicago.

(source for map to right … http://famytree.hypermart.net/region.htm)
have access to an aerial map of the region that shows Leshnya, Matskevichi and the town of Blevchitsy (NE of Matskevichi ... came across someone whose family came from that small town! http://www.jeffdemarco.com/Blevchitsy.jpg

There might be some records for this area in the archives ... Metric books of the Orthodox and Uniate (Greek Catholic) churches Slutsk uyezd Minsk province, http://archives.gov.by/EMk/eMK_slutsk.html

| Leshnya | 1835 – 1855, 1858 – 1865 | 136 / 14 |
Looks like this page has the church in Leshnya (Лешня) and yet it appears to be dated in 1910 which would be as Andreu was leaving … [http://globus.tut.by/leshnya/](http://globus.tut.by/leshnya/) and his family would probably have worshipped here … (translation provided via, [http://www.freetranslation.com/](http://www.freetranslation.com/) Russian to English)

The Church in Leshnya …

Лешня  
Area Kopylsky, the Minsk area  
Date of construction: 1910  
Elements of a modernist style

Apparelntly, Kievichi also had a church (lower left hand corner of aerial photograph) … though, whether it’s the same Kievichi or another … it’s hard to say. We have found that town names are used more than once and are distinguished by what district and Gubernia they are in!
The prior images are of Andreu’s passenger record.

Andrei Babjka Passenger Record, Zieten, Bremen to New York, Departed Feb 19, 1910 & arrived March 5, 1910

The key information includes:

Age = 22, Farm Laborer
Russia, Russian
From: Markewicz, Russia
Person in Country that leaving: Mother: Michelina Babajko, Markewicz, Minsk, Russia
Final Destination: Chicago Illinois
$10
Going to: brother il Gregor Vowik, 1949 ?? Street, Chicago, Illinois
5'5", fair, brn hair, blue eyes

Typically, the person whom the emigrant is going to visit is normally a very helpful clue. So, far, in this case it hasn’t been! This person is not found in the 1910 census (not surprising since the existing index only lists Head of Households and he is probably a boarder). Since we know nothing of Andreu’s siblings and cannot find this person in 1920 either, it’s kind of a dead end.

This is a picture of the ship Andreu traveled on ….
Birth, Marriage & Death

The information we have is based on the aforementioned records for Andreu as well as his death record.

Stepan Bobejko, Matskevichi, Minsk, Russia and Michalina Kamekova, Lednig Russia had at least one child, Andreu Bobeiko, born 9 July 1888, Matskevichi, Minsk, Russia.

Marriage

Though it is somewhat difficult to read, this is the marriage certificate for Andreu and Anna. He is listed as Andrew Bobbeiko and she is listed as Mrs. Anna Makazenja and they were married by the rector of the Russian Church, Holy Trinity on 20 February 1911. So, is Makazenja the surname of Anna’s 1st husband?
NOTE: we have tried to contact the church via e-mail and regular mail and have yet to receive a reply. For some history on the church, see Appendix D.

The pictures of Holy Trinity below are from 1906 and 1905 respectively and so only a few years before their marriage. The color postcard image is from 1946 and the picture below is fairly modern.
Children

WLADYSLAW BOBEJKOVii
b. 09 Feb 1911, Chicago Illinois
d. 22 Aug 1912, Chicago Illinois
Burial: 23 Aug 1912, Elmwood Cemetery (he is not buried with his father. It’s possible that he was buried in a “term grave” (see Owczarek write-up for more on this topic)

This is consistent with some known information which is that there was an older brother who died young. Also, Bobeyko (no matter how you spell it!) was not a common name at all. The mother is listed as Anna Kamak (another variant of Kamiak/Kaminsky?) and the father as Henry Bobejko … don’t know where that comes from and nothing surprises us regarding names!
Annie BOBEJKA (hand-corrected by her as Ann Bobeyka)
b. 28 Sep 1913, Chicago Illinois
d. 29 Nov 2000, Chicago Illinois (family and SSDI\(^VIII\))
Burial: ..................Elmwood Cemetery

Note that this birth certificate wasn’t issued until 1931. It was not unusual for delayed birth certificates to be filed … often when the individual needed proof of birth for something like Social Security or similar. Father is given as Andrey (versus Andreu or Andrew) and mother is given as Anna Kamiak.
Jennie BOBEJKA (hand-corrected by her as Bobeyka)
b. 3 June 1915, Chicago Illinois
d., ............. Chicago Illinois
Burial: .................Elmwood Cemetery

NOTE: mother again listed as Anna Kamiak .... Note that this certificate is dated 1915 yet wasn’t filed till 1935! So, whose knows for sure when these certificates were actually filled out!

Death

Andrew Bobejko ... Died 28 April 1925 at Alexian Brothers Hospital, Chicago. (see death certificate on next page)
Note that the father’s name is given as Sephen Bobejko … consistent with Stepanov as listed in Andreu’s passport. Now here the mother is listed as Magdelina Kamekowa versus Michalina … given that the name Michalina was given on his passenger record, that should be a more credible reference. Note also that the father’s town of birth is listed as Markiewicze … we now know that Andreu came from Matskevichi … also, his mother is said to be from Lednig. There is no such place and so we are trying to determine what town this was!
He died at the Alexian Brothers Hospital. Here are two historic pictures of the hospital.

The above are pictures of the Alexian Brothers Hospital.

**Census**

Andreu is not found yet in the 1910 census. He would have arrived in the U.S. before census day in 1910. Was he still in transit? Or, more likely, he was living as a boarder -- at this time the index for the 1910 census is only for heads of households! What a nuisance.

He is found in 1920 with his family.


2137 Robey Street

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andreu Bobieko</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Laborer-Harvester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie “ “</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie “ “</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallie “ “</td>
<td>4 6/12</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This lists the emigration date as 1912 and we have no reason to believe this is true. We know that Andreu emigrated in 1910 and we have reason to believe that Annie emigrated earlier! Though Annie is listed as 36 corresponding to a birth date of 1884 … so, maybe somewhat close to reality!
Ann and Children After the Death of Andreu

After the death of Andreu, Anna married Ignatz Wengerski. Unfortunately, by 1926 the marriage certificates are just as uninformative as they were in 1911! Note that Anna used her name from her marriage to Andreu as her name … so, no clues as to 1st marriage name or maiden name!

![ Marriage Certificate ]

1930 US Census, Illinois, Cook County, Chicago
2914 Diversey Avenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wengerski, Ignatz</td>
<td>Head</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>own ($14,500) 1907-NA Metal Polisher-factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wengerski, Anna</td>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobejka, Anna B</td>
<td>Stepdaughter</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Started: 051605, Updated: 051605
Bobeyko Family: Russia → Chicago

Bobejka, Jennie    Stepdaughter    14    Illinois
Laborer-Candies

Index for census lists them as Wegerski!

Here are some undated photos of Ann & Ignatz Wengerski ....

To the left is a photo of Jennie, mom Anna and Ann

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Elmwood Cemetery

This is a picture of Elmwood Cemetery in 1909 just around the time the Bobeyko and affiliated and Owczarek Families were settling in Chicago.
Tombstone
Andrei Bobeyko
From Minsk province
Village Matskevichi
Born 9 July, 1888
Died 28 April, 1925

Nearby is the tombstone of the Wengerski, Skord & Ozark Families …. (see next page for pictures taken c. 2001). There is an amalgam of related family members buried or listed.

When the matriarch, Anna, died she was married to Ignatz Wengerski. Though Ignatz is listed on the tombstone as father, he is actually buried with his 2nd wife in St. Joseph Cemetery. Skord refers to the married name of Jennie Bobeyko who married Joseph Skord – it is his photo and death info you see. Beloved mother Ozark refers to the married name of daughter Ann who married Ted Ozark (who is buried with his family in St. Adalbert Cemetery). Also seen is reference to a son, Richard, who died in 1985.
NOTES

1 Translation of Tombstone & Passport (provided by Vidmantas, 1/19/05)
2 http://www.jewishgen.org/Belarus/
3 www.ancestry.com
5 http://cdm.digitalpast.org/cgi-bin/viewer.exe?CISOROOT=/lakecoun002&CISOPTR=1780
6 http://www.oca.org/DIRlisting.asp?SID=9&KEY=OCA-MW-CHIHTK
7 Death Certificate for Wladyslaw Bobejko, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, Registered No 21901 -- died of Gastro Enteritis, Father listed as Henry Bobeyko, Russia, and mother as Anna Kamek ... since we know that Anna's maiden name was some version of Kamiak or Kaminsky ... and no other Bobejko's are in Chicago at the time ... seems like a good fit -- address was 2166 Elston Ave, Ward 16.
11 http://cdm.digitalpast.org/cgi-bin/viewer.exe?CISOROOT=/lakecoun002&CISOPTR=1752
12 Translation of Tombstone & Passport (provided by Vidmantas, 1/19/05)