

GERMAN

The first white settlers in south Salt Spring beat Henry Ruckle by over 13 years. In 1850-60, four Germans moved in.

1860 report

The Anglican Bishop of Victoria, George Hills, met them on his canoe-tour after holding services in central and northern settlers' homes. He kept a diary, else we wouldn't have known how early they took up claims, since records before 1869 are spotty and don't include these fellows.

On 1860 Sept 11, Tuesday, Bishop Hills wrote of the Fulford Harbour Settlement:

At eleven we reached Fulford Harbour. Captain and myself went on shore. A neat cut road led up to the dwelling of four Germans. These industrious men are occupied with cutting shingles for roofing and staves for salmon casks from the cedar. They are friends who came out from Germany together, who lived at the mines in California together & who have come here & intend to remain. They are Roman Catholics, one a Protestant. They appear quiet & respectable. I spoke of the obligations of religion. They said, when a man had opportunity, it was disgrace not to go to church. The chief speaker was a fine young man who unhappily, several times, took the name of God in vain.

They have no land yet under cultivation. They take their work to Victoria and bring back food. They clear three and a half dollars on the 1000 shingles. They have a constant supply of venison. A deer just killed was hanging up. Abundance of deer skins showed how good their supply was. They have also grouse.

The spot is pleasant. Some Englishmen lived a short distance off but have left for a while. I should think good land might be found in the west side of the harbour.

A small stream runs into the sea, which flows from a lake three miles up.

Hills seems to have found all four Germans living in one house, fairly close to shore. In time, they each claimed and built their own places.

A handful

We know that three of these venturers were Theodore Trage, Heinrich Spieckerman, and Henrich Meinerstor, but the fourth could be one of the following two.

Trage and a fellow named Wilhelm Tras [Trees?] Heinrich weren't entirely set to stay on Salt Spring long term. Following the brutally hard winter of 1862, they pre-empted land Galiano Island that September.

Then in 1864, Theodore Trage, Henry Spickerman (one of several spellings), and Hardwig Menge pre-empted land on Pender Island.

Thus, Bishop Hills likely met a Wilhelm or a Hardwig, who, in any case, didn't stay on Salt Spring.



Bishop George Hills

Trage

Theodor (original spelling) Trage was born in Braunschweig (Brunswick in English), Germany in 1834 October 11.

a rare -- for early Salt Spring newcomers -- old photo of Theodor with his German family



"Bird-merchants" from German to New York

In 1854 December, he left Germany, according to the passenger list of the ship *Sylphide* that carried him from Bremen, Germany to New York, New York. He was 20 years old.

Paul Rosenthal	25.	.	Jr.	Braunschweig
August Rosenthal	24.	.	Jr.	Jr.
Ernst Brand	18.	.	Jr.	Jr.
Theodor Trage	20.	.	Jr.	Jr.
Heinrich Pente	19.	.	Jr.	Jr.

Trage on the Sylphide manifest

He and four other young men from Braunschweig claimed to be bird-merchants. Were they selling German chicken stock, pet birds, feathers, or ...? He was apparently a horticulture graduate from Heidelberg University, but this isn't verifiable. None of his Salt Spring compatriots were on that ship.

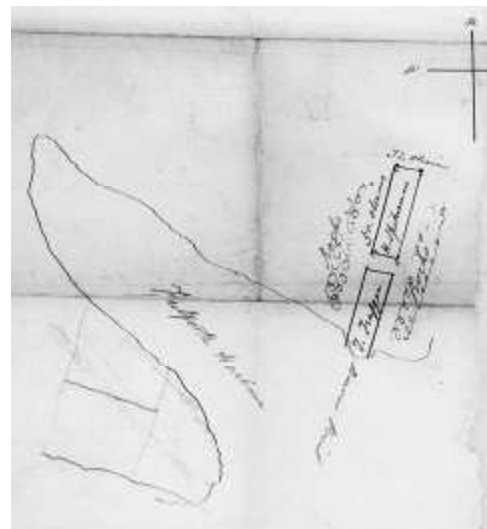
bird-merchants

New York, California, Salt Spring

In New York, he worked as a cook, then travelled to California looking for gold. In 1860, he came to British Columbia's Fraser Valley. Late that summer, he met Bishop Hills on Salt Spring.

Since the four German men had a house already, it seems that one or more of the other three must have arrived some seasons before.

first sketch of Trage's and Spikerman's land, good enough to get a licence to pre-empt



Fire, camas, and pigs

Trage told his children that a great fire had burned through the island before he arrived,

since the bases of the large trees were all blackened. This speaks to the original islander's cultivation of camas plants for their edible bulbs. They kept the forest burned to create sunny fields and enhance production.

These burned area, cleared of all but the largest trees, made settlement far easier than on heavily forested land. They also provided a crop for one of the first farm animals raised, the pig. They ate up the camas bulbs in short order, ending long centuries of camas harvesting.

Water and new crops

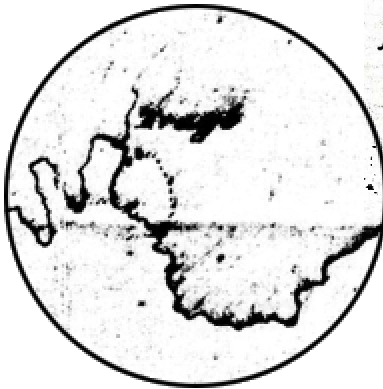
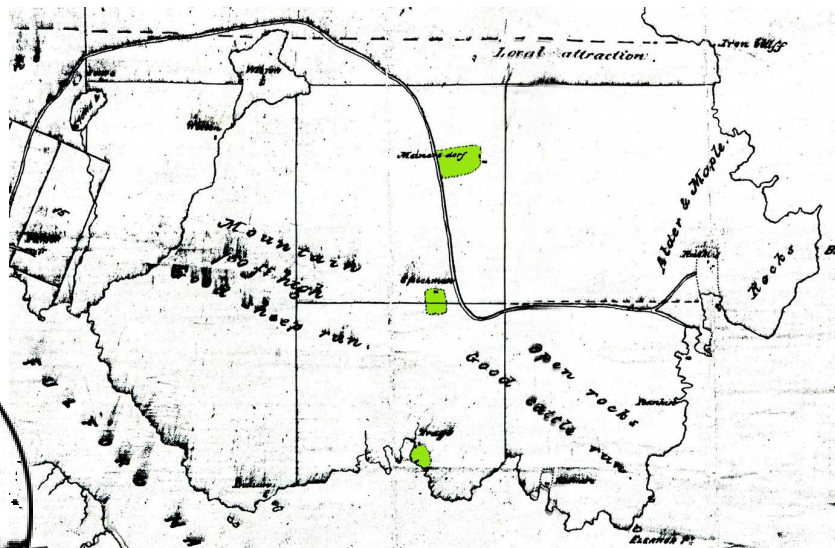
The stream by Trage's property and general abundance of water northward of on some fairly flat land must have been a major reason for pre-empting there, rather than head of Fulford Harbour, which has a considerably larger creek flowing into it.

Trage planted a fruit-tree orchard, then, while waiting for the young trees to yield a marketable crop, grew strawberries to sell on Vancouver Island.

Trage lived on his land for eight more years before getting his Certificate of Pre-Emption in 1868 November 06.

1874 survey report

In September, Crown surveyor Ashdown Green put their homes more or less correctly on the map. He didn't survey the boundaries of their properties.



left: close-up of Ashdown's map showing Trage's cultivated area

Ashdown Green met Trage's wife and noted that she was an Indian, but didn't record her name. Trage married Susannah George, also known as Musiqwiaht, a native Cowichan woman 10 years his junior.

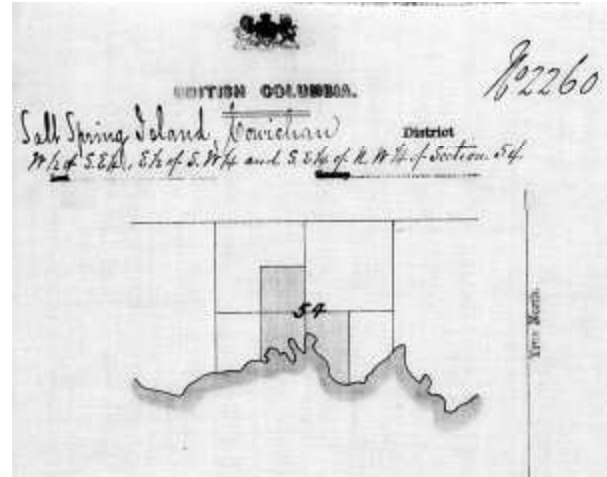
In 1874 Sept^{br} 21st, Green noted:

... In the afternoon moved map to the Germans; about 2 miles from Beaver point. The ground passed by today is much better than usual but still could not be



recommended as a farming country. There is plenty of water on it and some good saw logs might be obtained but not in such quantities as nearer the head of the harbor.

Green refers to what's now Beaver Point Road as the Beaver Point trail, little more than a crude foot path through the towering forest.



map accompanying Trage's Crown Land Grant, after he purchased the property in 1879

Trage family

Susannah had at least nine pregnancies, with four children surviving childhood diseases to live long, productive lives.

Henrietta Susanna Emma 1866-~1934

Clara Paulina Minnie 1878-1967

Adolphus William 1882-1954

Bertha Emma 1884-1960

Clara, Adolphus, Theodore, Bertha, circa 1888



left: Theodore and Susannah Trage's house on his 1868 claim, circa 1910, no longer exists

below: Trage's barn, circa 1910



left: painting of Trage's barn by Maude Bridgman, descendent of Weaver Bridgman, who bought Trage's property in 1902



Trage's barn, 2016

left: Trage's "View Toward Russell Island", 1921 painting by Maude Bridgman

Trage bought a great deal more land nearby with Henry Spikerman, his long-time partner. His adult children continued to live on the western parts of these large holdings, building their homes near Fulford village.

Trage children's Salt Spring homes

right: son Adolphus Trage's house overlooking Fulford Harbour



left: Clara Trage-David Maxwell house, Fulford Harbour, home to the third generation of Trage-Maxwells

right: Trage-Maxwell house and apples, 2016



End of an Era

In 1902 November, Theodore Trage died at age 67 of "erysipelas--heart failure". Where he was buried isn't readily traced.

Son Adolphus inherited his father's original pre-emption, which he sold to Weaver Bridgman, a Victoria lawyer and businessman. They operated the farm until World War I. A waterfront piece of the property became the summer home of Mr. Longstaff.

In 1907, widow Susannah testified in a murder trial -- see Williams section -- speaking in her native language. She was a stalwart of the Trage family and well-respected in the community. She lived until 1932, dying at age 90 at Fulford Harbour, matriarch who'd lived for 60 years on Salt Spring, leaving three children (two daughters and a son on Salt Spring, a daughter in Vancouver), 17 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Spikerman

Hamburg to New York

In 1850 Oct 12, at age 26, a Henry Spiecherman arrived in New York from Hamburg, Germany on the ship *Rhein*. He was German, born in Denmark.

California to the Gulf Islands

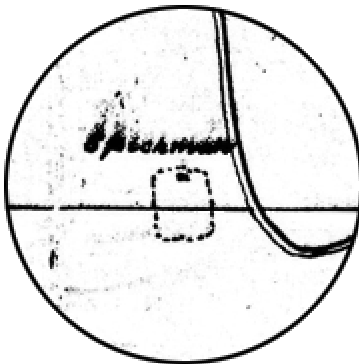
In the 1860 U.S. census, Henry Spickerman, age 36, born in Denmark, worked as a miner in Sierra, California. He lived with Henry Mange, 39, doubtless the Hardwig Menge who pre-empted land on Pender Island in 1862. Trage and Meinerstorf don't seem to have been counted in that census.

Salt Spring Land Claim

Spikerman's Certificate of Pre-Emption is dated 1874 February 02.

In 1874 November, as Green finished up his south Salt Spring survey, he wrote:

Finished section lines 8 and 9. ... Passed over a potatoes patch belonging to Trage and Spickman [Spikerman]. Around this patch there is a little land but very limited in extent perhaps 20 acres altogether.

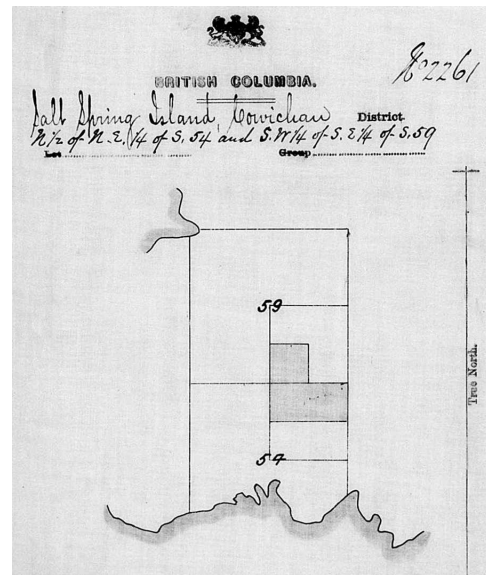


left: Green's sketch of Spikerman's home turf

By 1877 July, Harry, as he was called by friends, was paying installments for 120 acres, having foregone the NE 40 acres, clearly too

steep and densely treed with low-value Douglas-firs for farming purposes, even sheep run.

right: Spikerman's surveyed, owned property, 1880



In 1880 Nov, he had paid in full \$130 for his 120 acres, including \$10 survey fees, and signed the receipt for payment.

Henry Spickermann

Trage-Spikerman partnership

Together, Trage-Spikerman bought another 621 acres. They were direct purchases, proof of their success as farmers.

They built a skiff together to transport their produce to Vancouver Island markets, then added a wharf at Fulford Harbour, for their own use and as a business serving others.

Industrious farmers

In the early days, while waiting for young fruit-tree plantings to mature, the Trage and Spikerman grew and sold strawberries. By the 1890s, when Rev. Wilson reported on crops and sales in his monthly church newsletter, nothing that Trage was shipping about 1,500 to 3,000 boxes of apples to market, rivaled only by a north-end farm.

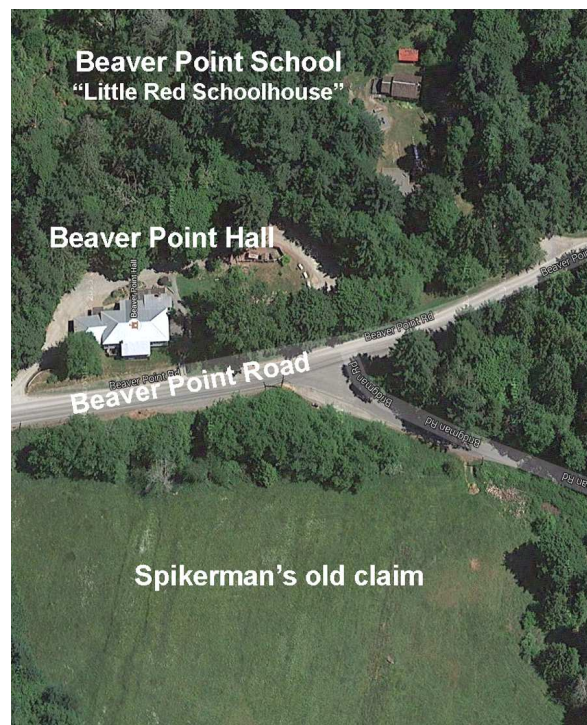
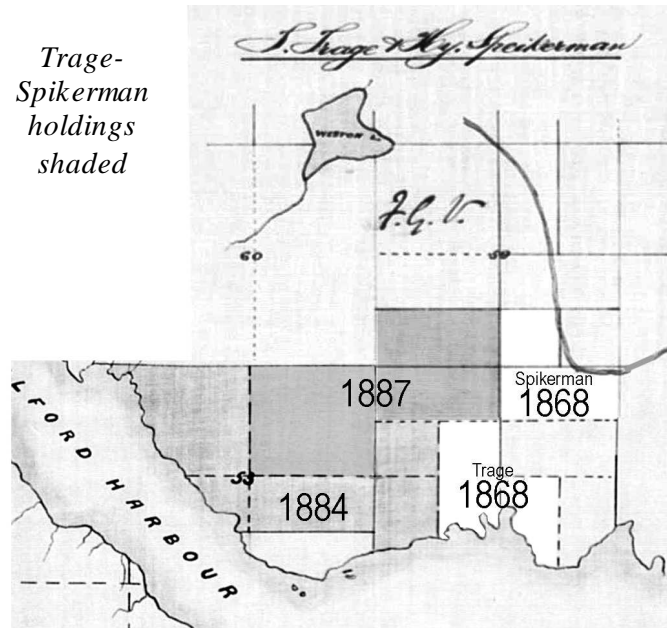
Spikerman in the community

Spikerman remained single all his life. If any photos were taken of him, none are available.

From 1875 to 1900, Heinrich/Henry/ Harry Speichermann/Spickerman/ Spikerman appeared in Salt Spring directories, voters' lists, and census reports.

Circa 1885, he was credited with donating the NE 40-acres of his land for the Beaver Point School, which opened that September (now a pre-school called Little Red Schoolhouse). That corner remained unpre-empted Crown land since 1877, so perhaps his input was suggesting this use. For a bachelor used to quiet, it was generous to welcome a school that also served as a meeting place, dance hall, and church

Trage-Spikerman holdings shaded



Spikerman disappears

... from the record after 1901. Trage's daughter Clara said that she could "remember when my father's partner went away; my father kind of sold him, gave him so much, you know" She wouldn't say more, perhaps a family sore point after many years. Went where? Why? Then what? Public records haven't yielded clues.



Spikerman's land, looking north, 2016

Meinerstorf

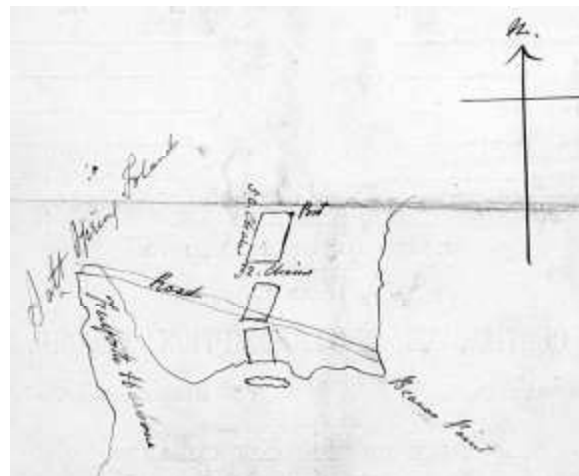
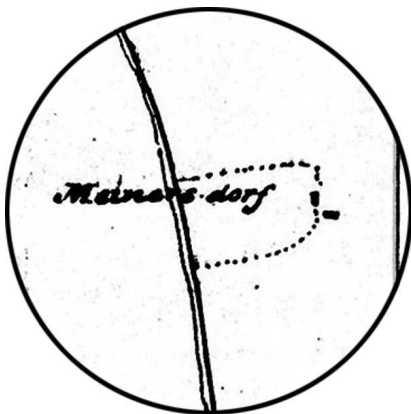
Henry Meinerstorf is elusive in the public record, aside from his land claims. Few people in the world have his name, and no Heinrich/ Hardwick/Henry Meinerstorf shows up, by any spelling variant, in any era.

He stayed out of all Salt Spring directories, voters' listed, and censuses. All we have is his signature on land documents.

In 1874 November 16, Green wrote of Meinerstor's property and efforts:

On the west of it [section line 7] lies Meinersdorfs pre-emption. Tho' this man has only been on his place a year, the work he has done would shame many an old set[t]ler. In addition to good buildings he has cleared and fenced about 8 acres of thick swamp besides making a ditch nearly 1/4 of a mile long....

Meinerstorf's sketch of his claim, made to obtain a licence to pre-empt



left: Green's sketch of Meinerstorf's cleared acreage



Green's sketch superimposed on Google Earth view

Ashdown Green wrote that he'd spent the "evening at the Germans", doubtless enjoying a warm time of it during the last snowy days of his survey, spending his nights camping in tents with his crew. He clearly thought well of his hosts, despite his poor estimation, in general, of the farming potential of their rough land.

In 1880 October, Henry Ruckle and Theodore Trage vouched for Meinersdorf's improvements, and

in short order he paid \$160 for his 160 acres and signed the receipt.

right: Meinersdorf's survey map required for the 1880 purchase of his pre-emption

The 1881 census-taker noted of this property, "1 House and 2 Barns unoccupied. the owner died in March intestate. he was Henry Meinersdorf".

In 1882, Scotsman Alexander McLennan bought his property. Later, the Stevens family came to own the acreage. See those family sections.

Edward Stiller

Stiller

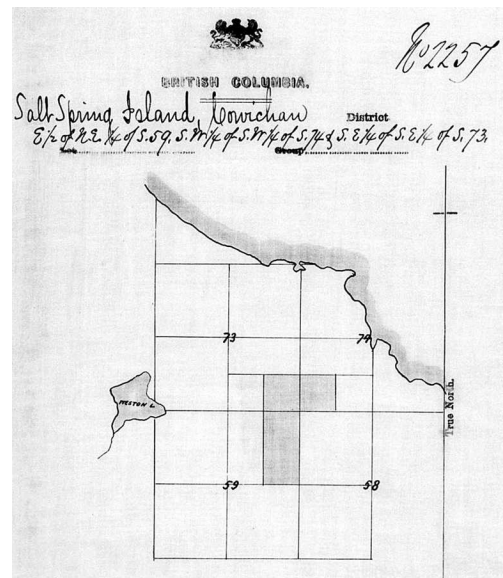
The fourth German to join the Trage-Spikerman-Meinersdorf community and stay was Edward Stiller, a Roman Catholic born in Germany in 1828. He received his Certificate of Pre-Emption in 1877 October.

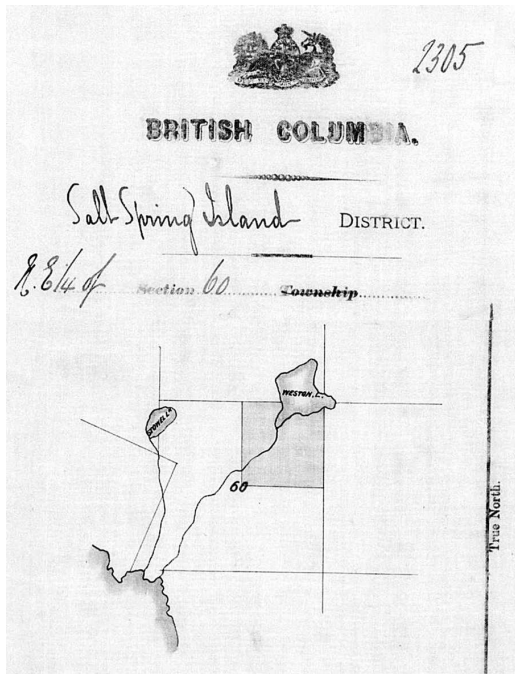
He married a Minnesota-born 14-year-old, Mary A. "Minnie" Miller, living with her Lutheran family who had moved to Oregon sometime before 1880.

By the 1881 Canada census, the couple lived on his Salt Spring land. By late that year, he had improved his 159 acres sufficiently to buy. Trage and Spikerman vouched for him, and he soon had his Crown-grant land title in hand.

Tetanus

Alas, by July of 1882, he died at age 54 of "lockjaw from gunshot wound".





left: Stiller's 160 acres; right: Google satellite view 2016

In the spring of 1884, widow Minnie married Charles Ohlsen, Henry Ruckle's hired man since at least 1881, a Lutheran from Sweden.



above: Stiller's land, 2012 Google street view

The Ohlsens, better-known as Olsons, continued living on the Stiller-Miller land. They had no children.

Minnie's older brother John and his 15-year-old wife, Addie, joined them in the mid-1890s. Their daughter, Melby, was born on Salt Spring.

In 1905, the Olsons and Miller family sold the property and moved to Vancouver. By the 1911 census, Charles and Minnie lived in a boarding house, and he worked as a logger.

Arnold

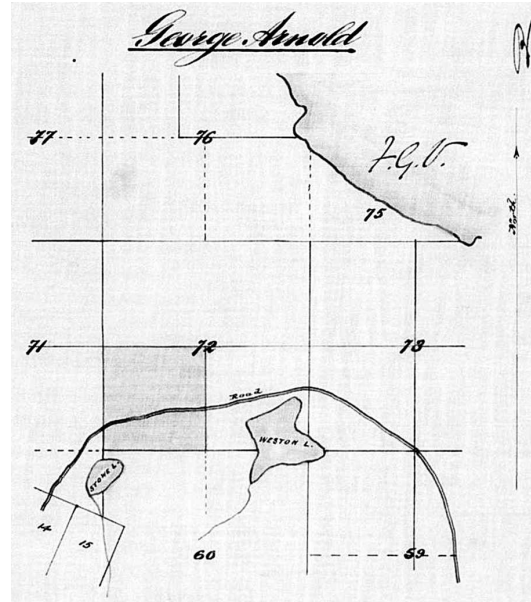
Born in Germany in 1838, George Arnold arrived in Canada in the early 1880s. In 1885 February, he pre-empted Cyrus Stowe's abandoned claim, just NE of what remains of his eponymous Lake.

Arnold was enumerated in three censuses, his last in 1911. According to these reports, he lived alone in a shanty, farmed sheep, and once recorded that he could neither read nor write, perhaps true, or perhaps a survey issue.

He appeared in B.C. directory listings for Salt Spring, Fulford, and Beaver Point from 1895 to 1912, first as a farmer, then a fruit grower.

He worked with a road crew, according to the note accompanying the photo below, from the early 1910s.

These are the only traces he seems to have left in the public record.



below: "road-menders" from left, Hamilton, Gyves, Johnson, Arnold, circa 1910



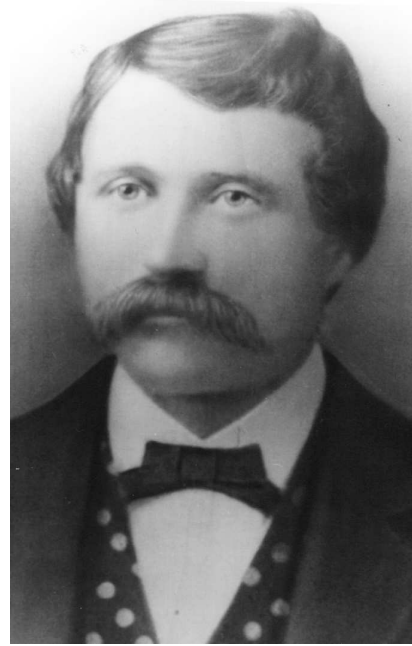
Arnold land, Google satellite view 2012

Pappenberger

Ruckle's next-door neighbours

In 1886, 22-year-old Thomas Pappenberger moved next door to Henry Ruckle, taking over the property from Abel Douglas after he and Maria Mahoi went separate ways. There was no hope in those days that an estranged wife could continue to live there or be granted, through any court, a portion of the land. She had to move on, partnering with George Fisher soon after leaving the place, if not before.

Five years before, Thomas and his brother John, age 11, had been living in the Comox-Alberni district with a schoolmaster, his wife, and four other young boys from two families. Thomas and siblings had lost their father, George Pappenberger, just months before. They were the children of George Pappenberger.



George Pappenberger, 1850s

Father George, Bavaria to the New World

George was born in 1832 in Marktheidenfeld, Bavaria, shown below, about 80 km SE of Frankfurt. He left for America in 1857, when he was around 25 years old, doubtless drawn by the Pappenbergers who had thrived in Pennsylvania since a family of five settled there in 1755. They had spread throughout the state and beyond.



Victoria Fish Man and Cowichan wife

Perhaps drawn by the Fraser River gold rush, he ended up in Victoria, where he was counted in the 1871 Vancouver Island census as a "fish man" on Store Street west with three males and four females in his household. There were two unnamed children, one boy, one girl, one in school. No other Pappenbergers, by any other spelling, lived in B.C.

One of the females in the household was probably his wife, Mary Peatson. Her father was Captain Pierre Hulkanutkstun/Xulqualastan, sometimes using surname Pielle, for Pierre, and Captain for ferrying people and goods in his canoes. Her mother was Polly Capilano, possibly the daughter Homulcheson and Chief Joe Capilano, namesake of the Capilano

River and other landmarks on Vancouver's north shore. Her birth date and place weren't recorded.

Mary had two sisters, Lucy Peatson, born on Salt Spring Island and married to early north-end pre-emptor, Henry Sampson. See Whims section. Her other sister was Sarah Anne, born 1861 Kuper Island, now Penelakut Island. See Purser and Fisher sections.

George and Mary had at least seven children:

Leonilla 1862–1880

Thomas 1864–1904

George 1866–1960

Annie 1869–

John 1871–1960

Cathelina 1876–

He may also have had a daughter Emma, traceable only by a single record, the baptism in Victoria in 1880 September of Maria King, born on Salt Spring Island to Emma Poppenberger and John Basile. George's family were the only Pappenberger's, by any spelling, in B.C. at the time.

Thomas Pappenberger's neighbour in the bay to the west was Joseph/John King, a Greek whose birth surname was likely Basile. He and his Songhees wife Maria/Mary had a daughter named Maria, called Mary in census reports, also born in 1880 September. This Emma Poppenberger remains a mystery, although she seems to be the link that explains why Thomas Pappenberger bought land on Salt Spring, rather than Vancouver Island.

Pennsylvania demise

In 1880, George Pappenberger and daughter Leonilla were in Altoona, Pennsylvania, about 130 km E of Pittsburg. They doubtless connected with family there. Leonilla died in July at age 17 years and nine months old. He died just after Christmas.

Since a common treatment for TB is relocation to a dry climate, and since Pennsylvania has a long hosted many TB sanatoria, perhaps that's why George and Leonilla travelled so far from home. Their bodies were shipped back to Victoria and buried in the Ross Bay Cemetery, marked with a tall, handsome stone.

Pappenberger daughters in Victoria

In 1881, while sons Thomas and John lived in Comox-Courtenay with a schoolmaster, their sisters, Annie, 10, and Kate, 5, lived at the Presbyterian Orphanage in James Bay Ward of Victoria. Brother George missed the census that year. Emma "Poppenberger" had given birth on Salt Spring the year before, but isn't in that census

In 1883, 14-year-old daughter Annie died, no cause given, but likely TB, as she had been a patient in the James Bay Ward, Victoria, since 1881 or earlier.

Thomas and John on Salt Spring

Thomas Pappenberger is said to have set up near Beaver Point in 1886, although there are no records of him living on Salt Spring at any time. That year, at age 22, he and 16-year-old Marie Emma Purser had a son named Edward.



John Pappenberger

Emma Purser's family lived near Stowe's Lake. Emma and Thomas had no further children together, suggesting they did not remain a couple. See the Purser section.

In 1891 Oct, Thomas transferred the land, for \$1800, to his younger brother John (Cowichan name, Siinusustun). He had married Mary Ann Pielle (Q'ut'q'it), a Penelakut woman born in 1866 on Kuper Island. They had eight children. John was the first mail carrier for Beaver Point.

Farmer John Pappenberger appears in the Beaver Point directory listing in 1894. By 1897, he was a farmer *and* fruit grower. He, Mary, and two children, Thomas and Annie, were counted in the 1901 census.

Morning Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1904.

TRIUMPH IS LOST

Sealing Schooner Had 25 Souls Aboard.

THIRD VANCOUVER WRECK

Name Board Comes Ashore at Mouth of Quatsino Sound.

GOES DOWN IN RECENT GALE

Inhospitable Island Coast is strewn With Wreckage From the British Ship Lamorna and the Schooner Kallius.

UCLUELET, B. C., April 12.—(Staff Correspondence.)—Wreckage from three vessels which carried crews of about 60 men and represented a property valuation of over \$200,000 has been drifting in on the west coast of Vancouver Island for the past three weeks. Over all three of these disasters, which have resulted in such an enormous loss of life and property, hangs an air of mystery which may never be cleared up.

Considerable has been printed regarding the loss of the British ship Lamorna and the schooner Kallius, but thus far the public has not yet been informed of the absence and probable loss of a vessel carrying a larger crew than that on board either of the other vessels. This latest addition to the ranks of the missing is the British sealing schooner Triumph, and there is very strong circumstantial evidence that she was pounded to pieces in the same gale that is supposed to have destroyed the Lamorna.

Last Seen of the Triumph.

The Triumph, after several weeks' sealing off the Oregon and Washington coast, headed north for Hesquiat, late in February, under orders to call at the Indian port on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, March 25, where supplies and equipment for her fishing sea cruise awaited her. So far as known, she was last sighted off Point Armon by the schooner City of San Diego, now lying in Clapnet Harbor, but the master of the schooner Jessie, which was at Ucluelet a few days ago, believes that he saw her off the Columbia River just before the big gale which swept over the North Pacific about March 15.

With the exception of the Triumph, all of the sealing vessels that were out in that terrible battle with the elements have since put into the West Coast ports, and none of them escaped some injury. While there was some uncertainty over the non-appearance of the Triumph immediately after the storm when the other vessels began arriving, no positive alarm was felt until a few days ago, when the name board of the vessel was picked up on Entrance Island at the mouth of Quatsino Sound.

On a Barren Coast.

The coast in that vicinity is much more isolated than that lying farther south, and for this reason no other wreckage has yet been found, and there has been no determined search for it. The vessel was in command of Captain Burns, of Victoria, and carried a crew of 25 hunters and crew, all whites. To avoid awakening primitive anxiety among the natives of the crew, the matter has been kept very quiet in Victoria, but it is a matter of grave concern all along the west coast, especially since the finding of the name board.

Positive evidence of the loss of the British ship Lamorna is still wanting, but there is such an overwhelming mass of circumstantial evidence that there seems hardly a shadow of a doubt that the big four-masted has been lost with all on board. The Indian houses at this place are rapidly filling up with wreckage from all parts of a big ship, and while as yet parts coming ashore which would be vital to the safety of the vessel have not borne the name of the Lamorna, the fact that they drift in with comparatively unimportant wreckage that does bear her name is pretty conclusive evidence that all of it came from the same ship.

Washed Up by the Waves.

Among other wreckage, which I examined here today, was an oak hatch beam 12 inches wide, six inches thick, and about 12 feet long. There was also a piece of polished casting which had apparently encased the mixer, where it passed through the cabin. Battered into short lengths was about 30 running feet of scroll work, such as is used over stateroom doors for ventilation, and with it was a number of cabin doors with brass locks and knobs still attached.

Large quantities of deck plank from both main and poop decks is piled up around this Indian rancherie. It is an little water-worn that the poop decking, which is painted white on one side and unpainted on the other, shows hardly any effect whatever from the water, so brief a period was it submerged.

The most of this poop decking was picked up off Shelter Island, and between Shelter Island and Double Island a booby hatch was picked up afloat. Hand Island, just southeast of Ucluelet, was littered with wreckage from the deckhouse, dead chickens, pigs, rabbit panes, etc., and there was also considerable barley chaff floating on the water in the vicinity of this island.

Struck on Starlight Reef.

The general belief among both the whites and the Indians in this vicinity is that the Lamorna struck Starlight reef just off the entrance to Ucluelet Harbor during a heavy southwest gale, accompanied by blinding snow squalls. A vessel answering the description of the Lamorna appeared six miles southwest of Ucluelet two days after the mysterious vessel was sighted and reported off Cape Beal about March 17. She had but little canvas on her, but when last sighted before the snow squalls hid her from view seemed to be making an effort to claw off shore.

This was the last that was seen of the strange vessel, but a day or two later wreckage began coming ashore. There is deep water off Starlight Reef and a strong tide setting to the west, and it is thought that the vessel sunk immediately after striking and the light wreckage was quickly carried ashore by the wind.

There is such an endless amount of coast line around this nest of rocks and islands that it would be only an accident if any of the victims were discovered for many months, and the bodies may never be found. The identification of the Lamorna's boats is, of course, complete, and as no other vessel of a description tallying with the kind of wreckage found was known to be in this part of the world at the time this wreck happened, it may as well be accepted as a fact that the Lamorna has been lost with all on board.

Kallius Hull Came Ashore.

The third of the victims of this March hurricane, the schooner Kallius, only partially cleared up the mystery of her fate by drifting ashore in sections, with nothing to give an inkling of the fate of her crew. The hull of the Kallius came ashore near Maguina point, bringing with it about 100,000 feet of lumber, which was saved by the Indians. The house and some of the rigging was picked up on Grassy Island, 40 miles farther up the coast.

This "Graveyard of the Pacific" has claimed many victims in the past, but it is doubtful if there has ever before been such a wholesale destruction of life and property in a single gale, and but few of the victims of former gales have passed out of sight leaving their exact fate quite so much a mystery as now surrounds the disappearance of the Lamorna, Kallius and Triumph.

Some of the men may have been picked up and carried to far-away ports, but as the days pass hope of this kind becomes fainter, and it is more than probable that vessels and crews have found a common grave in the depths of the ocean off this terrible coast.

(Continued on Page Seven.)

TRIUMPH IS LOST.

(Continued from First Page.)

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Struck on Starlight Reef.

The general belief among both the whites and the Indians in this vicinity is that the Lamorna struck Starlight reef just off the entrance to Ucluelet Harbor during a heavy southwest gale, accompanied by blinding snow squalls. A vessel answering the description of the Lamorna appeared six miles southwest of Ucluelet two days after the mysterious vessel was sighted and reported off Cape Beal about March 17. She had but little canvas on her, but when last sighted before the snow squalls hid her from view seemed to be making an effort to claw off shore.

This was the last that was seen of the strange vessel, but a day or two later wreckage began coming ashore. There is deep water off Starlight Reef and a strong tide setting to the west, and it is thought that the vessel sunk immediately after striking and the light wreckage was quickly carried ashore by the wind.

There is such an endless amount of coast line around this nest of rocks and islands that it would be only an accident if any of the victims were discovered for many months, and the bodies may never be found. The identification of the Lamorna's boats is, of course, complete, and as no other vessel of a description tallying with the kind of wreckage found was known to be in this part of the world at the time this wreck happened, it may as well be accepted as a fact that the Lamorna has been lost with all on board.

Kallius Hull Came Ashore.

The third of the victims of this March hurricane, the schooner Kallius, only partially cleared up the mystery of her fate by drifting ashore in sections, with nothing to give an inkling of the fate of her crew. The hull of the Kallius came ashore near Maguina point, bringing with it about 100,000 feet of lumber, which was saved by the Indians. The house and some of the rigging was picked up on Grassy Island, 40 miles farther up the coast.

This "Graveyard of the Pacific" has claimed many victims in the past, but it is doubtful if there has ever before been such a wholesale destruction of life and property in a single gale, and but few of the victims of former gales have passed out of sight leaving their exact fate quite so much a mystery as now surrounds the disappearance of the Lamorna, Kallius and Triumph.

Some of the men may have been picked up and carried to far-away ports, but as the days pass hope of this kind becomes fainter, and it is more than probable that vessels and crews have found a common grave in the depths of the ocean off this terrible coast.

E. W. W.

Uncle Thomas made his living from the sea. In 1904, he worked for the Victoria Sealing Company. That January 12, he and several other Salt Spring men set sail in the Triumph, a 74-foot schooner owned by the Victoria Sealing Company. The first report of its likely loss off Ucluelet, in a great storm on March 19, came from Portland, Oregon on April 15.

The *Victoria Daily Colonist* leapt to defend the sealing company and its 30-year-old vessel, chastising fear-mongers for spreading cruel rumours.

The ensuing silence, however,

told the truth. Thirty-year-old Thomas and shipmates weren't coming home again. The *Daily Colonist* wrote nothing more about the tragedy.

Another young loss

In 1910, John and Mary's 16-year-old daughter Annie died on Salt Spring of phthisis, which can be any wasting disease, although it commonly means tuberculosis turned consumptive. Could her Aunt Leonilla and Grandfather George have died of the same condition or illness?

local men lost in the "all white" crew of 30:

from Salt Spring Island
Thomas Pappenberger
Constantine King
Alexander King
from Portland Island
Arthur Palau

Second-generation at Beaver Point

By the 1911 census, Arthur Pappenberger, Thomas's son, was living next to Ruckles' farm with his 19-year-old wife, Susannah Jane Williams and their two young daughters. The year before, Susan had been working at the Owl Restaurant in Victoria. Her mother was Henrietta Susanna Emma Trage, her father American-born George Williams, who was in the B.C. Penitentiary for the 1907 murder of Alfred Douglass, son of Maria Mahoi and Abel Douglas. More in the Williams section.

Susan and Arthur had four children before she left him in about 1918, when daughter Juanita was five years old. Arthur had two more children with Mae Fletcher. When Mae left, Juanita had to quit school to take care of the little boys. Arthur spent his working life as a high rigger in the logging industry. He was buried at Sandwick, BC.

In 1921, John and Mary Pappenberger lived near Beaver Point with 17-year-old daughter Mary, a school teacher, and two sons still in school. John and children were noted as German extraction, wife Mary as English.

End of Pappenberger era

John and Mary continued at their south-end property until old age. John died in 1959, Mary in 1960; both were buried at St. Paul's Church cemetery by Fulford Harbour.

The Pappenberger estate sold in 1966 to buyers from Vancouver, ending nearly 80 years of Pappenbergers living next door to Ruckles.

John And Mary's eldest child, Thomas, continued living on island. He died in Ganges in 1976.

John Pappenberger with great-grandson

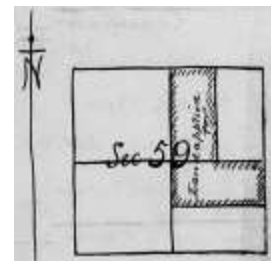


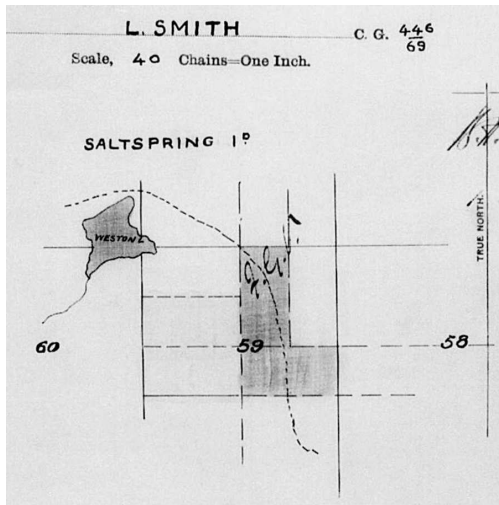
Smith

Louis/Lewis Smith joined the south-end German community before the 1891 spring census. He pre-empted 160 acres that July.

Smith's tidy sketch map to get a licence to pre-empt

He was 42 years old, a Lutheran born in Germany of German parents. He came to Canada in 1865 and became a naturalized Canadian in 1885.





*Smith land, 2012, steep, heavily treed,
one little arable patch*

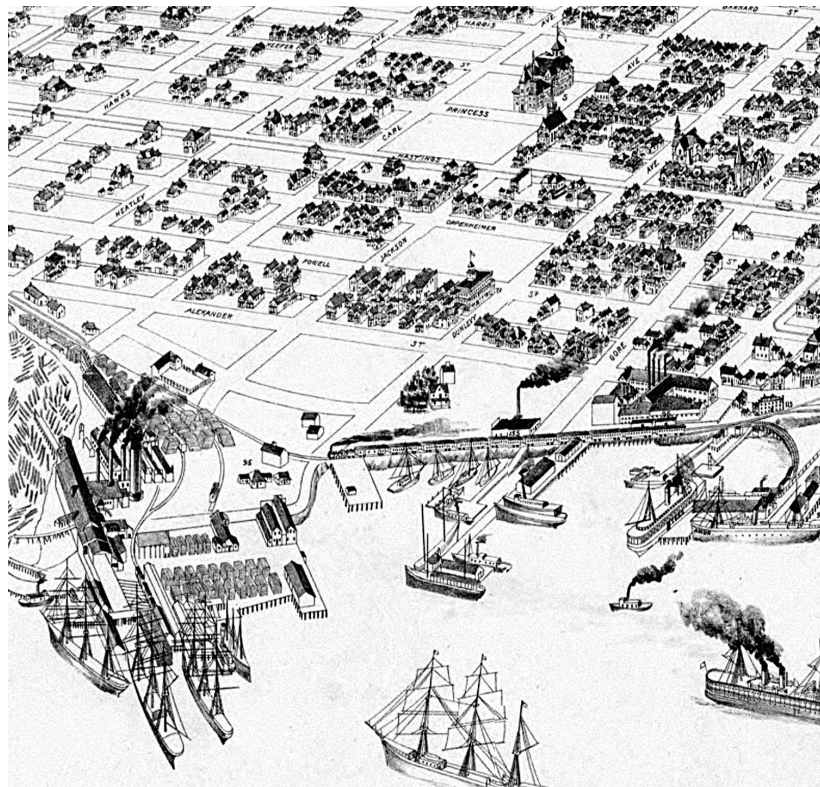
He was a farmer, but had worked as a steam engineer. He and wife Lucy had two sons and three daughters, from infant to seven years.

Lucy Nahanee Smith, sketch from photograph



Her father was Joe Nahanee, born in 1827, either in Hawai or in the Pacific NW, perhaps connected to the Naukana family. Joe worked for the HBC in the 1840s, then Stamp's Mill in Vancouver from the 1860s, which became Hasting's Mill in 1870. He sold them charcoal and worked in the boiler room. Hawai'ian millworkers who lived at Kanaka Ranch, on what's now Stanley Park had only a quick paddle across to the mill at the foot of Gore Street.

Joe Nahanee died in 1874 and may have been buried on Deadman's Island by Stanley Park, his grave later moved to a north shore Indian Cemetery.



Hastings Mill 1898



*Hastings Mill Store,
moved near Jericho
Beach in the 1920s after
the mill closed, 2016
Google street view*

Lucy's mother was Mary Nahu See'em'ia of the Katzie First Nation, if there's truth to a 1920 census of Lucy. Lucy was born in 1866, a member of the "Kanaka Ranch" families on Coal Harbour by Stanley Park.



Vancouver, 1885, facing Coal Harbour, Stanley Park, and Deadman's Island; note tiny Kanaka Ranch village on the middle treed shore, right side

*right: close-up of
Kanaka Ranch*



In 1893 Jan, Lewis, as he signed his name, paid \$165 for his Crown-land grant on Salt Spring Island.

If the Hawai'ian community on Salt Spring drew the Smith family there, it didn't hold them. Their land had few arable acres, and they were a good walk to a canoe or boat to get to friends.

By the 1901 census, they were in Burrard, Vancouver, living with three sons and three daughters, age 2 to 11. Louis worked as a fireman.

Tragedy struck in 1902 February. Louis, about age 50, was working as an engineer in Sidney, B.C. A coroner's jury deemed his death accidental, by carbon monoxide poisoning.

In 1920, Lucy was counted in a Squamish Band census, noted as a Hawai'ian-Katzie, husband was a German, Louis Smith. She was the matriarch of a large family there.

She died at the Mission Indian Reserve, in 1933 August.

GREEK

King

Joseph/John King was born in Smyrna (now Izmir), Turkey, in 1831 Aug 04, of Greek heritage. He went by Joseph and John. His birth surname may have been Kondrulos, according to grandson Andrew Stevens, or Basile. Two clues point to the latter.



Greeks began settling in Smyrna in the 1st century BC. It remained was an important Greek financial and cultural center until 1922, when the Turks won it through the Treaty of Sèvres following the four-year Greko-Turk War. By the late 1800s, 322 of 391 factories belonged to local Greeks, while 3 out of the 9 banks were backed by Greek capital. There were 67 schools for Greek boys and four for girls.

After the Greko-Turkish War of 1919-22, the Treaty of Sèvres awarded Smyrna to Turkey, after which Greek and Armenian centres were burned and many slaughtered.

Kontos?

'Kondrofilos', by any variation, appears not to be name anywhere in the world. The only Greek surname that's close is Kontos, the Greek word for "short"; *filos* means "affinity/love". *Kontos* is used in nicknames, eg. Kontogiannis for "short John". Joseph/John was a short, stocky man. Was his nickname, mispronounced, taken for a family name?

Basile/Basilio?

A prominent Greek shipping family based in Smyrna was named Basilio/Basiliou/Basilios. Further, the baptismal record of Maria King in 1880 September, born in August on Salt Spring to father John Basile and Emma Poppenberge,r matches when Joseph King's daughter Maria King was born, also on Salt Spring, with no other King family on the island. Did the person recording the baptism insist that the parents use their legal names? Was the baby's mother, Mary Tsish, legally Emma Pappenberger, oldest daughter of George Pappenberger and a Songhees wife? The mystery is likely unsolvable, but Giannis/John Basile.

In any case, John/Joseph arrived in Canada about 1870, according to the 1911 census.

Granddaughter-in-law Gladys King recounted his journey from Smyrna to Salt Spring in a 1977 interview. Following are key retellings.

Smyrna sailor

His family was an important exporting family. He went to school with the priests. He was very knowledgeable, and he spoke Greek, Latin, Arabic, and but not English

His family was into importing, exporting, shipping all over the world. His uncle was the captain of a ship. His nephew wanted more than anything to go to sea, but his father said he must be a doctor or a lawyer.

He stowed away on his uncle's ship. He popped his head out when they were well out into the Aegean Sea, and said hello. His uncle reassured him that it would be no joyride. He was a cabin boy, a seaman, and whatever it took. He loved it.

These trips took several years.

Jumped Ship in England

On a trip to England, he left the ship and stayed there for some time. He learned English and taught himself to read and write. Then he earned his way over on another sailing ship going to the States.

American Civil War

While he was there he fought in the American Civil War, but don't know which side he fought on.

The Horn to California

When the Civil War was over, he thought finding gold would be a marvelous thing. He was going to make a fortune and go back and show all these people back in Smyrna how smart he was. He didn't have to be a lawyer or anything else. So he got on another sailing ship and went around the horn and up to California. In San Francisco, they did a lot of *shanghaiing* at that time. He and another fellow got hauled off and put on a ship.

Official records documenting the direct and considerable involvement of Greeks in the American Civil War 1861-1865 continue to appear, in ever increasing numbers, with each passing year. These records outline the manner in which specific Greeks took an active role in both the Union and the Confederate forces.

The National Herald, NY, 2016 June 18

shanghaiing. Nautical. to enroll or obtain (a sailor) for the crew of a ship by unscrupulous means, as by force or the use of liquor or drugs.

Swim to Victoria

When they were in port, the ship stopped for provisions. About that time, Victoria had got gas lights, so of course it showed up the town quite well. The light reflected. He was on watch, and he said to the officer that was there, "What are those lights over there?"

He said, "That's Victoria".

He said, "Oh, is that in Washington Territory or Oregon Territory?"

"Oh no, that is in the British Colony."

The ship was at least three miles offshore as they were going by. It was night, and he got off watch, and he went down below deck, and he said to this Portuguese fellow, "I'm leaving, if you want to come, if you can swim you can come."

He put his clothes in a duffel bag, jumped overboard, and swam ashore. He wasn't a tall man, quite stocky, very broad shoulders, and so the other man came with him, and he helped him get ashore, and they got to Victoria where they spent some time.

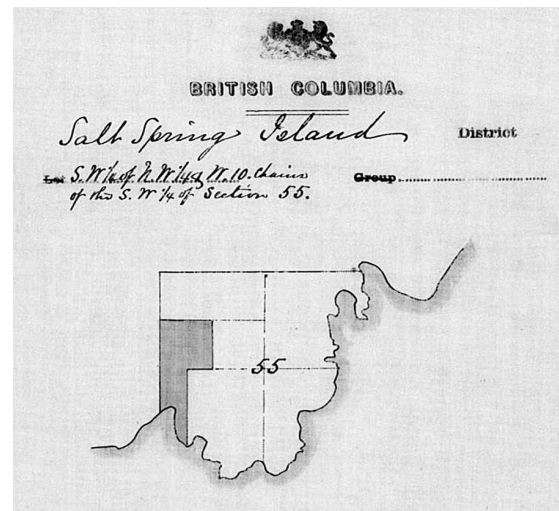


1860s, view of Victoria from Songhees village

They were opening up Salt Spring Island for settlement, so they had a look at it and he liked it, so he got some land. Being a man from the Agean, when everyone else was choosing inland territory he chose something on the water.

Salt Spring pre-emption

In 1878 Feb 05, Joseph King pre-empted land on Salt Spring, next to William Haumea. His wife, Mary Tsish/Chish from Songhees First Nation, presumably came with him.



Mary Tsish/Chish

Mary was born in 1851 Nov 07. A man called Chish -- no first name recorded-- was enumerated in the 1881 census. He was a Salish Straits hunter and trapper, 63-year-old (born ~1818), married and living in a house at Songhees Point, population 180. Her grandfather was said to have been Chief Tsish.

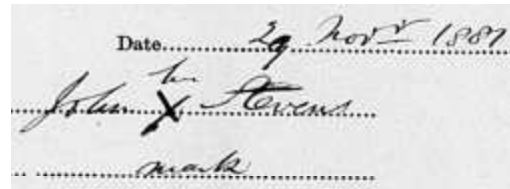
When she met Joseph, she was Mrs. Murphy, wife of an Irishman, with a young daughter Emma, born in 1871. Several Irish Murphy men lived in Victoria: Patrick, the unmarried

owner of two different saloons and a restaurant over the years; Peter, a labourer; Patrick, a married cooper with many children; Nicholas, a married blacksmith; T.G., a tailor in Theatre Building; Patrick, an old, married Esquimalt farmer; ... without marriage, birth, or baptism records, Emma's father remains obscure.

Improved and Bought

In 1881 Sep 08, Joseph and Mary earned his Certificate of Improvement. They'd built an 18' x 24' log cabin, cleared three acres, and fenced it. They had a good young orchard underway. Spikerman and Trage vouched for their work. By that November, Joseph had his Certificate of Purchase in hand.

He signed the receipt with an 'X', witnessed by his Greek neighbour to the west. In the 1911 census, he claimed to be able to read and write, perhaps learned from his children, who attended the Beaver Point School, which opened in 1885 September.



King step-child and children

Joseph and Mary raised five children:

Emma 1871-1970
Alexander ~1876-1904
Leon 1878 -1958

Maria 1880 - 1920
Constantine ~1882-1904

"Aleck John King" was baptized in Victoria in 1876 August, father John, mother Maria Ktichou-en (for Tsish?). Leon's baptism and birth records aren't traceable. Maria was born on Salt Spring, as noted, to father John Basile and mother Emma Poppenberger. Constantine's baptism and birth records are missing. The last three kids were probably all born on Salt Spring.



1887-88, Beaver Point School, from left: Walter Pappenberger or a King boy, Alfred Ruckle, Leon King; see Beaver Point School section

Greek Stevens

In the mid-1880s, a young Greek man, Yiani Yiannaris, who went by John Stevens, met Joseph King on the Fraser River, both fishing for salmon. King brought Stevens to Salt Spring, and he soon married step-daughter Emma King. For a wedding gift, King gave Stevens a long narrow strip of his land to the west of the creek. More about this in the Stevens section.

In 1891 April, Alex resided with the Ruckles as a "domestic", perhaps a seasonal arrangement, or maybe longer-term. His family still lived in the original 18' x 24' cabin.

Joseph worked as a farmer, fisherman, and boatman. Apparently, Mary taught Joseph a great deal about fishing. Until the kids were old enough to help, she was the mainstay of the farm, garden, and family work.

While carrying a 200-pound bag of peas from the Beaver Point wharf (i.e. it was built in 1895), Joseph slipped, fell, and wrenched his back. All the rest of his life, the pain caused him to perspire so much that he wrapped in white linen cloths that had to be changed several times a day.

Ducks and down

The Indians would come in their canoes, and they would herd them [sea ducks] all up, and they would shoot them, and they would maybe get 500 of these divers, and they would take them home for a big potlatch.

If you asked them they would let you have the feathers. So you could make down pillows or down comforters, down comforters or down anything. Not only did you have the ones that you shot yourself and did, but they would just give you the down. ... Then they'd take them and have a potlatch.

Gladys King, Joseph's granddaughter-in-law

*Adolphus Trage between
the King brothers*



Music

Joseph had a beautiful singing voice. Greek friends from Vancouver came to Salt Spring to hear him.

Leon had a Cremona violin, from the 16th century. For long years, he played at dances, often accompanied by Alfred Ruckle on piano.

left: Leon on the right, likely with Constantine

Remaining children

Alexander and Constantine, as noted on page 77, died in the sinking of the *Triumph* sealing schooner in 1904, about March 19. Leon, was the only son to survive and raise a family.

At age 17, Maria/Mary married Joseph Silva, 18, at his family's home on Reid Island, just north of Gabriola Island. On the marriage record, her father was noted as George King, perhaps pointing to her connection to the George Pappenberger family.

Her father-in-law was Portuguese, from the Azores, and mother-in-law Cowichan First Nation. In the 1901 census, the couple lived in Chemainus, with nephew Demetrius Stevens, age 4, son of sister Emma King.



left: Emma Tsish-King, a powerful personality

Serene Sophie

In about 1904, Leon married Sophie Purser, the youngest child of Englishman George Purser and Penelakut First-Nation Sarah Annie Koltenalt. She was as thoughtful and kind as sister-in-law Emma was impetuous and sharp-tongued.

Sophie was three years old when her despairing, impoverished father committed suicide. See the Purser story for more about her young life.



Sophie Purser

She was set to marry one of Leon's lost brothers, then made a good match with Leon when he was 26 and she about 24.

Mary Tsish at rest

Mary Tsish died either before or shortly after the wedding. She was buried on the King's Salt Spring property.

King renewal

The newlyweds, according to their daughter-in-law Gladys King, "stayed here at the house with Grampa, and he taught Sophie how to cook because she had never learned how to cook at the convent. She could cook some stuff but he taught her all this Greek cooking and making pilaf. He taught her how to fish."

They lived in the little log cabin until the 1920s, then built a larger frame house using lumber from the mill at Cusheon Cove, where Leon worked. They used the logs from the original King house to build a barn.

Granddaughter Gladys said that, "She was a great one for anyone that was sick, she would go and look after them and help them. Sometimes she would go to [get] the doctor and Grampa looked after the children."

Sophie spoke well of everyone, even contentious sister-in-law Emma King Stevens Shepard. Of the Ruckles, Sophie said, " They're a very special family. They helped in the district so much. Everything in progress, they helped to do it. Very kind. They help everybody."

In an interview before her death in 1975, Sophie said;

I managed the farm, just with the boys, they were small, 10 and 12, but they tried to plow and get in the crops, the hay. I enjoyed that life immensely. I never felt grieved about anything, even when it hard work. I loved it just the same. I suppose that helped a lot, too, if I liked it, you know. ... We went along very smoothly, children grew up and left home, till I was left all alone, and they went away to work and different things.

Leon and Sophie had four children, two boys and two girls, in the early 1900s. A doctor attended the first one's birth, but Sophie said that for the others, "we managed ourselves. Sometimes a midwife and neighbour. I knelt beside my bed, and they were born."

Expanded land

In 1904, Leon pre-empted land to the west.

Leon King land, paid for by 1911

Patriarch's end

Grampa King called himself John in the 1911 census. He died in 1914, at age 83, also noted as John on his death record. He was buried in St. Paul's Church cemetery in Fulford.

Making a living

To keep fed, Sophie and Leon, of course, kept a garden. They also kept dairy cows and rabbits.

Sophie said that Leon, "did a little of everything. He became a logger. He had his own camp. He employed men, and he had horses; he logged with horses. Then he became a fisherman; he went to the Fraser River and fished, and then in the latter years, he became a boat builder, for quite a number of years, both of us. We both helped to build boats -- rowboats and small launches."

Leon in middle age

The Leon-Sophie team built 80 boats over the years. She said that, "The first boats we made, we made our own lumber. ... We'd both be down on the beach splitting the cedar, and when we'd bring it up ... I did



Rabbits

There used to be large numbers of wild rabbits around Salt Spring (introduced, not native). Daughter Vera King Luxton was a crack shot. She recalled shooting 29 one month. Unfortunately, she said, they had a strong flavour.



the first part of it, but my husband finished it. He planed it and got it in good condition. In making the boats, I always clinched the nails, that was my job. I had to help him put the lumber on. We'd steam it, and he'd be on one end, and I'd on the other, and then after, when he began nailing, I clinched all the nails. Some of the boats were riveted, copper riveted.

"The first two boats we made [the lumber], and then after, we bought lumber [from Cusheon Cove mill, in the 1920s]. They were caravel-built boats.



Ancylosserous, the Greek-named boat owned by neighbour James Monk, likely built by the Kings

The importance of boats to early Salt Spring life can't be over-emphasized. Canoe transport by native people, so vital at first, gradually gave way to private rowboats and launches.

In the early 1940s, Sophie took up carving driftwood into animals and other forms. She painted pictures as well. They were demand, although she resisted selling them, that not being her motive for making them. Bob Akerman eventually took all that she had to display in his private museum on the Fulford-Ganges Road.

a self-portrait and Sophie with her carving

Ends of the line

Leon died at age 81 of cancer, in 1958.

When their daughter, Vera King Luxton, married, her family gave her some acres of their land by Beaver Point Road. In middle



aged, the Luxtons moved there and built a small house. She worked as the chief cook at Lady Minto Hospital. After retirement and her husband's death, she lived there until old age. She died in a Ganges assisted-living home.

In 1975, Sophie died in Lady Minto Hospital in Ganges at age 95, after several years of "severe general disability", although she remained bright and beautifully spoken.

Vera as chief cook at Lady Minto Hospital

