

Naše rodina

“Our Family”

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The Power of Water – The Water Mills of Slovakia

by Ron Matviyak

It is surprising that only 57 water-mills in Slovakia are recognized as cultural heritage sites today.²² The accompanying map shows some 19 of these are UNESCO recognized mill sites. Mills were so numerous and so much a part of everyday life in Slovakia for so many centuries

that many worthy topics can only be brushed upon here.

Today there are 2,890 villages in Slovakia; in 1872 some 4,427 operating water mills were recorded on Slovak lands. This is a surprising ratio approaching 2 mills per village. However, as far back as

1086 the Domesday Book listed 5,624 mills for 3,000 villages. Returning to more recent times, neighboring Galicia had 4,022 mills around 1880, and Transylvania a similarly high number. These numbers emphasize the importance in everyday life and how widespread and common the need for mills.

The end of the 1800s was the era when steam power was becoming popular, and by 1906 water-

Continued On Page 131

Mapa 2: Geografické rozloženie mlynov ako kultúrnych pamiatok na Slovensku
Map 2: Geographic distribution of mills as cultural heritage sites in Slovakia



Zdroj: Pamiatkový úrad SR (2010)

Locations of mills as recognized as cultural sites in Slovakia. Source: *Geografické informácie* 16, 1/2012. “Vodné Mlyny na Slovensku ako Fenomén Kultúrneho Dedičstva” (in Slovak) or “Water Mills in Slovakia as a Cultural Phenomenon Heritage” Academic paper; multiple authors.

Theme of This Issue: Czech & Slovak Mills and Millers’ Guild

- 129 – The Power of Water – The Water Mills of Slovakia
- 130 – President’s Message
- 139 – Family Mills in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands
- 146 – Unravelling Occupational Threads
- 154 – Czechs in the Northwest US
- 157 – 2023 CGSI Conference Details
- 158 – The Liebezeit Family’s 200 Years at the Water Mills of the Mšec Area
- 167 – 2021 CGSI Financial Statements
- 168 – The Librarian’s Shelf
- 173 – Library Donations Sponsors
- 174 – Sales Order Form
- 175 – Calendar of Events

Naše rodina

Quarterly Publication for the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI) members

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Naše rodina promotes genealogy of the ethnic groups that comprise Czechoslovakia as it was formed in 1918. We accept articles of historical and cultural information, but they must have genealogical significance and all are subject to editing. The deadlines for submitting articles to Naše rodina are:

January 15	March issue
April 15	June issue
July 15	September issue
October 15	December issue

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President's Message

By Kevin Hurbanis

Thirty years ago on December 31, 1992, the dissolution of Czechoslovakia took effect completing the self-determined split into the independent countries of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. When residents woke on New Year's Day 1993 they were no longer "Czechoslovaks."

It's hard not to use the calendar change to a new year as a fresh start, and I know for many people that means trying to dedicate yourself to better habits. This might include more exercise, healthier eating, or getting organized. One of the ways CGSI can help you get your family history organized is to participate in our Family Certificate program.

The Family Certificate process is straightforward: you submit details and supporting documentation for your ancestors and a certificate is issued to designate either Pioneer (awarded to an applicant who is directly descended from an immigrant ancestor who entered the North American continent prior to 1871) or Century (awarded to an applicant who is directly descended from an immigrant ancestor who entered the North American continent more than 100 years prior to the date of application). Why participate? Two reasons. First, completing the Family Certificate is a good incentive to organize and document your research. Second, your information gets added to the almost 500 certificate applications helping provide potentially useful information to others. You can view an index of these applications in the CGSI Digital Library at CGSI.org.

2023 also means the return of the in-person CGSI Conference. This multi-day event focuses on Czech and Slovak genealogy and culture. Attending the conference not only gives you access to dozens of experts in areas you care about and want to learn more, it means you are also surrounded by hundreds of people with interests similar to yours. We learned a lot holding last year's conference virtually, including how to connect and share online. For the 2023 Conference, attendees will have the opportunity to network together online ahead of the in-person conference. We know this extra time getting to know your other conference participants ahead of time will prove beneficial. Please look for more information about the conference in this issue and on our website (www.cgisi.org).

Another CGSI milestone that will be achieved in 2023 is the 35th anniversary of the founding of what was then called Czechoslovak Genealogical Society. The birthdate was March 26, 1988. The International designation in our name was made in fall of 1991 when we were separately incorporated and no longer a branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society.

In September I enjoyed a beautiful day working at the CGSI table at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual festival. There was good music, dancing, food, and beverages, but what I enjoyed most was talking to some current and (hopefully) future CGSI members. At one point I was allowed to share a few words to the audience about our society. I asked the crowd how many knew the name of the ancestral village of their emigrant ancestors and about a quarter raised their hand. Very unscientific, but it points to something that we need to keep in



mind: some of us are (relatively) far along in our family research and many more are in the initial stages.

Finally, if you are looking for a last-minute gift it's not too late to purchase a CGSI gift membership. These are available to purchase on our website and are a great way to connect someone to Czech and Slovak genealogy, history, and culture.

Happy holidays to all and cheers to a prosperous new year.

Kevin Hubbard

The Power of Water – The Water Mills of Slovakia

Continued From Front Cover

mills decreased to 3,960, and steam mills had increased from 62 to 209, with 39 reported as steam-water. Similar drops were reported in the Galician lands.^{1a, 2, 23}

Beginnings

The versatility of water power is shown in the wide variety of “mill” that was developed over time: Grist, Saw, Paper, Powder, Fulling, Wind, Ship, Water, and later designations such as Motor sawmill, Steam sawmill, Steam mill. To this we can add all of the industries that developed with water power: ore crushing hammer mills, foundries with water powered bellows, and mines depending upon water pumps.

It is quickly apparent that while milling for flour and other agriculture products accounted for a majority of those mills, a substantial number of mills were developed and heavily used to support the many mines and industry in the Slovak areas of Old Hungary. Along with Transylvania, Slovakia accounted for the vast majority of industry and mineral wealth that powered the Hungarian kingdom in the Middle Ages, and it was water mills that powered the harvesting of that wealth.

Grain mills have been in use for centuries, and as the earliest, hand mills are attributed to the Celtic times, and continued in use at least into the 19th century. Dry mills turned by human or animal power are also recorded in ancient history, and today water mills are recognized as the first step humans took away from pure muscle power, harnessing the power of nature. Ancient China records water power, Egypt used it by the 2nd cen-

tury BC, and there is record of a water driven grain mill 63 BC. Most famously, in 27 BC Vitruvius describes early water mills in his Tenth Book of Architecture.

The earliest grinding of grain appears to have used a movable stone on top and a stationary stone on the bottom, grinding with a back-and-forth motion. Over time this was replaced with rotating stones, eventually developing into the Huzul grinder. With the advent of water power to rotate the grind stones, we arrived at a technology that served well for 800 years until the advent of steam power, to be followed in short order by the newer power sources we use today.



An example of a quern displayed in the Stará Lubovná open air museum. Photo courtesy of Ron Matviyak.

One source summed up the progress: “Cereals were ground in mills. Hand-mills (quern, žarno) and grindstones existed throughout the period, and in remote corners remained in use up to the 1900s. Water mills appeared around the end of the 11th century. Their number and importance growing from the middle of the twelfth century... Moreover, forests started to be cleared, especially during the 13th century.” - Which again would increase the need for milling and the number of mills.¹⁰

Building a mill was costly, and siting by a reliable water source assured a best return on investment. One

estimate puts cost of steam powered milling at 1/10 of the cost of water milling! The mountains and plains of Slovakia proved a fertile land for power generation, and relatively consistent flow of water. When combined with advances in technology and mineral resource development, Slovakia developed into one of the industrial heartlands of Hungary.

Technical limits included location and construction and the high maintenance demanded by the mills. While the advent of the watermill was revolutionary, the arrival of steam power put an end to the limits imposed by weather, freezing, drought and the attendant disruptions of milling due to these events, not to mention the disastrous effects of floods and landslides during extraordinary wet periods.

Some of the earliest European references to water mills appear in Roman times, with horizontal grindstones, one on top of the other, and the top stone driven by water flow powering a paddle wheel attached to the upper stone.

Under Frankish influence the water mills likely entered Slovak territories during the Greater Moravian / Nitrian period.

Water mills spread to Central Europe from south and west Europe in the 1000s to the 1300s and developed into forms referred to as a Pannonian mill, characterized by an undershot wheel on a flat-water stream, and the Carpathian mill, often on a mountain stream or brook. Each was most often made out of local materials, brick in the flatlands or wood timbers where forested lands provided economical material.

Water mills come from ancient times and revolutionized human existence, the first-time natural power was harnessed, breaking past the limits of animal or human muscle. Once established, the development of mills in the Slovak lands kept pace with technical development and improvements in other European lands, and the profitability of this newly harnessed power led to its quickly spreading throughout the land. Slovakia, with its many mountains and hills, had a power advantage over the great plains of Lower Hungary and this massive harnessing of power was applied in many ways to support the industry in the north.

Miller

The many languages in our history brought us many words for miller, befitting these multi-craft, broadly skilled and respected members of the community.

Miller = molendinarius, pistrinarius, molitor, molnar, müller; simply miller the skilled trade that gave rise to the title millwright.⁷ The craft was not just in grinding grains, which demanded intimate knowledge of each type and quality of grain, the moisture content and special handling of each to attain the best product, but also in planning and executing all that went into an operating mill. Determining the location and the source of water, for quantity and reliability for as long a season as possible. Quality of the water was also critical for paper mills. Designing and constructing the dams, sluices and gates and diversions of the waterway to assure the water supply while not harming the effectiveness of adjacent mills or infringing on competing legal water rights. Building and operating the machines and power trains that drove the millstones, and even cutting or dressing millstones as necessary. Millers were on the leading edge of technology in their time, as railroads would later become, and computers are for us today.

A whole specialized, skilled industry developed in the construction of mills, with specialists in dam and sluice building, wheel and machine building with transmission wheels and gears, to transmit the energy most efficiently to the millstones. When guilds were disbanded in Hungary the largest guilds were for shoemakers, tailors and millers.¹² In mills, distilleries, paper factories, etc., the shifts are usually 12 hours. In glass works the employees often work 15 hours without interruption, after which they rest from 28 to 36 hours.¹

As skilled tradesmen they generally lived better than their neighbors and carried the attendant status. They might own the mill or work it for the owner, be it a noble or a village or monastery. Payment could be in cash or kind, with a percentage of the product, as well as collecting the dues for the mill owner. These skills came with special responsibilities and taxes as well as duties. As a skilled specialist the miller could be called upon in war to build fortifications or other items. In peace there were special duties.

In a report dated 18 December 1569 we read: It is written that in Velky Tapolcán (Tepličany): millers are required to serve with axes for two weeks each year, where they are requested. And in 1608: » The miller in it is also required to serve the group with his craft. It is very common in old censuses to mention millers who serve as carpenters.⁷

With the development of cogs and cams came the ability for transmitting power in a single direction. This permitted operation of hammers, forges and bellows in

industry, along with stamping “walking” for felting and fulling cloth all skills that comprised millwrighting.

Millstones

Manufacture of millstones was a healthy side industry, with one major production center located at Hlohovec and Hlinik in Slovakia, in southern Hungary. With the cost and difficulty of transporting heavy loads over often existing roads, there was every incentive to develop new quarries as close to the need as possible. Comments in the journals of early tourists exploring the “Wild East” of Europe, as Hungary was then known, tell us of the infrastructure that existed and supported the milling industry. This first example demonstrates how each location could have many names, each in a different language, as well different measures for distance.

In 1818 M Beudant describes an experience in “*Travels in Hungary*”: “Leaving Tynau / Trnava, ...my guide had lost the road, I was six hours, however, in reaching Freystadt / Freistadt / Galgócz / Hlohovec, a distance of only four leagues (ca. 22km). At Freystadt I noticed a considerable magazine of mill stones, conveyed from the quarries of Konigsberg/Nová Baňa/Uj Banya.

At and around Konigsberg are rocks that are worked into for (sic) mill-stones; they bear the name of Muhlstein. They are found also at Hlinik, which is about four leagues on the banks of the Gran./Hron. The trade in these mill-stones is very considerable throughout all the S. W. parts of Hungary.” Subsequently, as he is traveling near Saros Patak (Hungary), and diverges “to visit a mountain, at some distance, famous for its mill-stone

quarries. On our arrival, I observed a striking-similitude, in all the varieties and accidents of geological circumstances, between these quarries and those of Konigsberg and Hlinik.” Still more distant in Hungary he encounters “Quarries of mill stones were formerly worked here, and were still occasionally used, though considered as inferior to those of Saros Patak, and Hlinik, ...” Considering the cost of transporting heavy millstones, it was necessary to find local sources when possible.

Monument Office of the Slovak Republic

We cordially invite you to the Open Day at the Monuments Office in Bratislava. The event is intended for the general public, especially families with children. We are preparing a rich educational program for children and youth, through interesting demonstrations, visitors can get acquainted with the practical activities of our staff in the process of monument protection. We will present the latest technologies used in monument research, as well as traditional ways of working with historical artifacts.


When? 10/2/2021 (Saturday) 10:00 - 17:00
Where? in Bratislava at the seat of the Monuments Office of the Slovak Republic, Cesta na Červený most 6.

PAMIATKOVO

KEDY: 2. 10. 2021 10:00 - 17:00
KDE: Cesta na Červený most 6, Bratislava

Program: Zábava aj poučenie na celý deň pre rodinky archeológovia, laserové skenovanie, depozitáre, drony aj pamiatkarská sanitka

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Organizuje: PAMIATKOVÝ ÚRAD SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY

Advertisement for museum display “History of Mills on Rivers.” Courtesy Pamiatkový Úrad Slovenskej Republiky).

Ship mills

Ship mills are a special category of water mills and have their own romantic atmosphere. They were common throughout Europe until the dangers they created for river traffic led to their regulation and restriction. On the Danube they were most common below Bratislava and Budapest, and many early travelers commented on their presence. They also populated the lower reaches of the Váh River.

Numerous complaints about the many corn (grain)-mills occupying the navigable river channels finally drew government attention. Mills were placed anywhere and the boats could scarcely avoid running into them. On the Danube itself, below Pozsony (Bratislava), there were no fewer than 528 of them.³ In response, Baron Lawrence Orczi, appointed Royal Commissary to investigate the danger posed by the ship mills wrote:

“Full many a mill will rue the evil fate
That me towards Homonna doth precipitate.”

N.B. : in Hungary there are still numerous floating mills. (ca. 1835)³

Author’s note: (*Homonna* = *Humenne*); *N.B.* = *Nota Bene*, meaning please note

An early descriptions of ship mills was published in 1835 by Paget in volume 1 of his travels.

“... another moment, and Preßburg (Bratislava) was running away from us: ... In the first few miles we passed, I think, some hundred watermills. They are but rude structures, though they seem to answer tolerably well the purposes for which they are intended.

They are composed of two deck-boats, containing the mill-works, with a clumsy wheel between them, which is moved by the force of the current. They are generally in rows of eight or ten fastened together at a short distance from the bank. In winter they are drawn up high and dry ashore.”⁶

Paper Mill

In 2010 the Magyar Posta issued a stamp honoring “700 years of paper use in Hungary.” Of course, this proves to be another demonstration that Hungarian history is Slovak history. “The stamp design shows the first deed on Hungarian watermarked paper issued in Pozsony (Bratislava) by the papal legate Cardinal Gentilis de Monteflorum ... The first Hungarian documentation of the history of paper is contained in the diary of the magistrate of Lőcse (Levoča), Konrád Sperfogel. Kept between 1516 and 1537, he recorded a genuine account of how the first paper mill in Hungary burnt down. ... The first mention of Hungarian paper merchants dates from 1542 which records the activity and names of traders in paper from Pozsony (Bratislava), Pest, Debrecen and Szikszó”.... and as a final example recognizing Slovakia, “... The first royal privilege for the operation of a paper mill was issued to Sámuel Spillenber, the found-

er of the paper mill in Teplic in historic Upper Hungary, in 1615. ... “

For a fuller report on the first paper mill burning to the ground, we have a report by István Bogdán: “In 1530, according to the testimony of old writings, autumn ... burdened the countryside with “overcast weather,” and only the preparations for Catherine’s Day stole a little smile on the faces of the people of Lőcse (Levoča). ... trouble ... was already lurking under the walls: their old enemies, the citizens of Késmárk (Kežmarok), rushed them with foreign mercenaries. The people of Lőcse woke up late, to the noise of the battle, and to the fire bell: the city is on fire! The fire spread unstoppably, and the red rooster soon crowed at the paper mill as well. Master Tamás and his lads barely had time to save themselves. The paper mill burned down with its equipment, and all the beautiful white paper turned to black ash.”²¹

In 1548 there is mention of an active paper mill in Bardejov.¹⁵ In Gomor László Bartolomaeides wrote about early paper making and paper mills in an 1806 county history.¹⁶

Military Mapping of Mills

The Military Mapping of the Austrian Empire from 1769 to 1883 graphically recorded the countryside, as well as the development of mills in Slovakia. Accuracy improved in each of the three-map series, and the number of mill symbols multiplied as mill identification became more specific. The general graphic cog-wheel mill symbol was to be standard “unless noted adjacent to the symbol.” The adjacent note could be graphic, as in saw, hammer and ship mills, or written, as in oil and paper mills. To the joy of the genealogist-historian, the village-by-village descriptive text document accompanying the maps, called the *Opisy Krajiny*, provides statistics and details of mills and villages not to be found elsewhere.

Flour

The quality of bread in Slovakia and Hungary prior to the advent of rolling mills is reflected in this 1869 commentary about Hungarian bread encountered in a market, from *Pictures of Hungarian Life* by William Pitt Byrne.¹³

“There is another market-place, through which we had to pass; but, whereas the first was for fruit and vegetables, the latter is devoted to general wares, including

bread, the chief article dealt in there. In this description of provision, there can be no greater contrast than between Spain and Hungary, for while the commonest household bread provided in the barracks and work-houses of the Peninsula is of the finest and most delicate texture, and white almost as snow, the bread of Hungary, in common use, is of the roughest, coarsest, darkest description, made in enormous loaves, and apparently eaten at any date after it first sees the light. Each vendor has beside him or her a number of these circular loaves, standing edgeways, and one against the other, like millstones; the purchaser buying occasionally a whole one, but more often asking for so many pounds, which are weighed off the loaf, a steel-yard being generally employed in the transaction. As nearly as we could calculate, the price seemed to be two pence the pound. The fancy-bread provided in the better most shops, and in the hotels, is of first-rate quality, and more delicate than either the French or English fancy-bread; more, in fact, like the German rolls. ...”¹³

The first flour rolling mill in Hungary was established in Šurany in 1835, and by some reports it is the first roller mill in all of Central Europe as well. In 1841 an imported Swiss rolling mill was installed in Budapest. Rapid improvements in technology were combined with patented iron casting techniques in the railroad industry, and this shortly led to replacement of porcelain rollers with specialized cast iron rollers. The rapid spread of this technology throughout Hungary greatly increased the quality of flour produced in Šurany, the roller mill at Nižné Repašte as well as the large mills in Budapest.¹² The high-quality flour “formerly grayish in colour, is now noted for its purity and excellent taste. In 1878 the mills of Buda-Pest won the Grand Prix (gold medal) at Paris.” Local milling persisted, producing its artisanal, healthy full grain flour, and when “fine” bread was desired, it was made with fine flour imported to the villages.

Both levels of industry continued through the end of the century. Markets disrupted by WWI led to crisis in the larger mills with their export markets. Local mills continued in production, but water power was slowly supplanted by more reliable steam and electrically powered milling.¹² With the arrival of sugar mills in the late 1800s Šurany was destined for additional industrialization²⁴, along with Sared’ and Trnava.

After Hungary won the Paris Grand Prix prize for flour, one Milwaukee, U.S.A. miller made a grand attempt to match the Hungarian product. In 1876 or 1877 he imported a Hungarian milling engineer to build

an addition to his mill. After testing, the process was quickly simplified and the variety of flours produced modified to American standards, with machines brought in to handle the flow of materials that was executed by men and boys in the Hungarian system. In the end, there were too many different types of flour generated to be sold profitably, and the processes was further modified for efficiency!⁴ Another report estimates the combination of scale of production and labor efficiency later brought the price of American flour to ¼ that of Hungarian flour.

Technology

The simple two-stone grinding of grain likely arrived in Slovakia with the Celts. The first recorded water mill is in 1135 at Pavlova (earlier Brzovik) on the Hron River. During the colonization time, rights to mill were sometimes included in the village charter, along with duties and shares of ownership. At the same time, wind mills were rare – recorded in the Zahori and occasionally in southern Zemplín.

The efficiency of water mills continued to improve through the centuries – more energy was harnessed – as the undershot wheel gave way to the breast wheel and on to the overshot wheel. Each captured more energy bringing an increase in productivity and further profitability. A 1908 study of industry determined that “(a total of) 1914 water motors accounted for an average of 10.8 horsepower; they are mostly water wheels of small water mills.”⁵ While our perspective is formed around autos with hundreds of horsepower, we have to be mindful of the vast jump from a one-horse dry mill to a 10 horse power watermill.

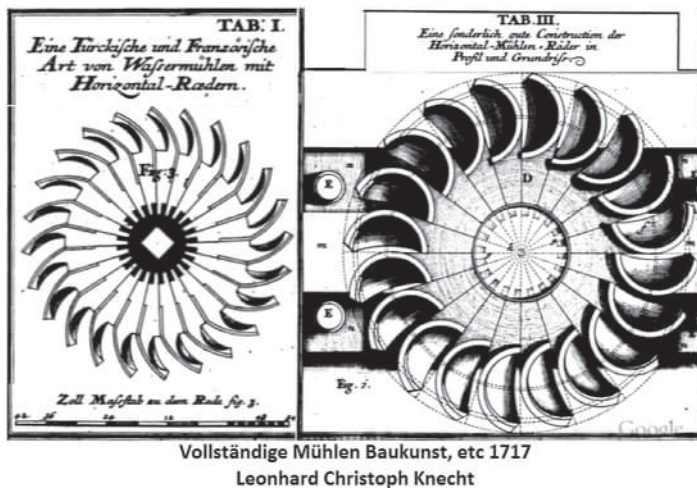
In *Travels in Hungary*, Townson in 1793 describes a mill for stamping flax: “I finally left Kesmark (Kežmarok) the next morning, the 20th of August, and continued my tour westward. ... Flax is a staple commodity; and there is a method in use here of breaking and beating it, after it has been steeped and dried, which appears to me very convenient: this is by the means of stamps, such as are used in pounding of ore before it is washed on the hearth, only these are entirely of wood, as the bottom likewise is on which they fall: velocity of motion rather than weight is required. They are in general an appendage to a corn(grain)-mill; and to such they are but a very trifling additional expense. The owners of the flax manage it themselves; and all they have to do is to put it under the stamps, turn it about, and take it out again. The *douceur* to the owner of the mill is very trifling.”

Water would reign supreme until the advent of steam power in the 1800s, enabling revolutions in agriculture and nutrition, metallurgy and machinery. All of the revolution was not in technology, however. Development of cheap and abundant paper from the water powered paper mill resulted in paper for the printing press following a few decades later, and the famous Gutenberg Bible led to revolutions in Christian faith.

Horsepower and Turbine

It is easy to imagine watermills in the traditional image of flat wooden wheels driven by a traditional mill-stream, however the centuries of development allowed for led to surprisingly advanced designs. An accompanying sketch shows several of these, anticipating modern turbine-form cups to catch and efficiently capture the energy of the flowing water. They were not economically competitive against the low technology at the time.

Undershot wheels are far less efficient than overshot, but on flat water streams were quite adequate and still profitable. Overshot wheels in mountainous areas were located in streams with sufficient flow and fall of the stream allowed the vertical wheels to capture the maximum energy from gravity as well as the energy from the water flow. Surprisingly, the often-overlooked horizontal wheel designs anticipated the sophistication of a modern turbine form. The accompanying illustration from a 1717 publication shows two examples.



Vollständige Mühlen Baukunst, etc 1717
Leonhard Christoph Knecht

Turbine-like water wheels from a 1717 German publication.

Law Disputes

Early law disputes give us a window into the early sophistication of the technology and operation of the industry, where water rights and river access were protected, shipping could not be interrupted, and a new mill could not infringe upon or reduce the effectiveness of existing mills. At times roving water specialists were consulted in locating a mill on a stream to assure success and compliance with the laws of the time, and they were also called in occasionally to arbitrate disputes when one miller found himself harmed by another.

In addition, the Urbarium issued by Maria Theresa forbade “Soc mill,” or the obligation to grind at the lord’s mill, “as likewise all other demands than those specified by this law.”

Watermills took a lot of capital, effort and skill to construct, and this tended to restrict ownership to nobles, or villages & towns with sufficient resources. However, peasants also owned mills, as indicated in a 1500-1514 survey. The king commanded a review of common law and practices, and the compilation by Werbóczy became known as the Tripartitum.^{18,6} A peasant could sell his rights to property that was the ‘wage and fruits of his labour’ (property that the peasant acquired himself, commonly cleared land but also including the ‘fields, meadows, mills or vineyards’). In addition, Werbóczy made clear that peasants’ rights and obligations varied to such a degree that it was not possible to adequately account for them in any written law, and while the Tripartitum codified common practice, it was never granted the king’s seal, and thus did not have the weight of formal law.

Forge and Industry

While the vast majority of mills in Slovakia were likely to be village or manorial mills for the grinding of local grains (corn in the European usage), Slovakia and Transylvania, with their metals and mineral resources, were the industrial centers and sources of vast wealth in Hungary during the Middle Ages. It is here, in the midst of mines and foundries that the water mill powered the heart of industry. Cogs added to a drive wheel enabled trip hammers to crush ore for processing as well as hammers to beat impurities out of the raw iron sponge and to forge solid ingots and tools for the workmen, farmers and warriors. While muscle power enabled a blacksmith to forge as well, the watermill could power vastly heavier hammers at much greater speeds without tir-

ing, resulting in great improvements in productivity and the lowering of cost of the final product.

The rich gold, silver and copper mines of Slovakia had the profitable resources to take full advantage of the latest technological developments, and the latest in water mill development would have quickly been adapted. They, in turn, then served as a center for further dissemination of advances more rural mills, as maintenance and replacement became necessary.

Where the hammer and stamping mills worked in mining is described:

“The process used for separating gold and silver from the matrix in which they are held, is similar to that used for lead or copper. The metal is for the most part mixed up with the stony mass in such very small particles that it can only be separated perfectly by smelting; but, to prepare it for this, it is first of all broken by the hammer to about the size of the pieces Macadam recommended for roads. It is then exposed to the stamping-mill, where it passes under huge blocks which fall alternately and reduce it to the consistence of mud; it is next made to pass with water over slanting frames, where the heavy metal-bearing particles rest, while the lighter run off.⁶ The product is then turned over to the smelter.

From the 18th century cereals provided much of the staple food in the Carpathian Basin. Different kinds of dishes were prepared of wheat and rye flour, or their mixture, millet, barley and maize flour. In many places, even in the early 20th century, the fresh meal for the porridge was ground by hand, by mortars, pounders or hand-mills.

Among the Remaining Mills Today

Sikenica The overshot water mill in Bohunice is located on the Sikenica River. First commissioned in the mid-1700s, it was used to mill flour and barley, and passed through many hands until it stopped operation in 1950. The river flowing to the mill is spanned by a Baroque bridge from the 17th century. It lies in Bátovce village.¹¹

Jelka is celebrated on a Slovak postage stamp. This mill was originally a ship mill, but was moved to the riverside of the Little Danube after the Water Act of 1885, which cleared rivers to enhance commercial shipping. Between 1899 and 1906 the mill was

converted to operate on shore, and continued in service until 1951.¹⁹

Dunajský Klátov, now located in a protected area on the Little Danube, and owes its preservation to being forgotten. An official once issued an order to disassemble the mill, and the miller replied that his sons were in the military and that he had no help to dismantle the mill. Nothing more was done. The mill was forgotten until 1986 when title was transferred and the mill was converted into a museum in 1987.⁹

Trades were abolished in 1951, and with it the special designation of “miller.” Along with technical changes and modern power sources, old mills were abandoned, converted to summer cottages, or disappeared entirely. We are fortunate for the few that have been preserved as museums today.

Waterbooks as Research Documents

A hitherto unidentified source of information for genealogists and historians may exist in the “Waterbooks” or “Vodnej Knihy/vízi könyv” in the State Archives. These books generally exist for the years 1885 to 1918 in Hungarian, and in the Czechoslovak period from 1918 to about 1950 in Slovak. Along with technical descriptions of water buildings and equipment, the recorded permits may offer some interesting tidbits for genealogists and historians, while identifying or describing millers, tenants, and other people involved in the water usage. The books may include property disputes, emigration to Argentina, the rights and obligations of a miller, and a variety of other, usually technical information.¹²

Closing

We are approaching the 900-year anniversary since the first water mill was recorded in Slovakia. What does the future look like? Rather promising, it seems. Slovakia has a good foundation to carry water power well into the future. The traditional mill has disappeared, its wheels have quietly been replaced with modern turbines that harness the power of the water and convert it into electricity that is transmitted distances unimaginable in the days of cogs and drive axles.

It seems Slovakia is well endowed with a robust system of



Postage Stamp celebrating the river water mill at Jelka. Photo courtesy of Vojtech Jankovič. <https://www.postoveznamky.sk/>

small (less than 10MW) hydroelectric generating plants, and distinct opportunities to expand the system.

The MVE system in Slovakia - malé vodné elektrárne – currently has 226 small hydroelectric plants in operation, with about 166 MW installed power. There is a potential to build an additional 118 MVE with a potential total of 392 MW being generated without causing permanent damage to the environment. With dispersed locations scattered around the country, these modern power mills provide local employment for a skilled set of the population.

According to Marcela Morvová from the Department of Astronomy, Physics and Meteorology of Comenius University, water energy makes up almost 90 percent of all energy generated from renewable sources (in Slovakia), which provides 16.6 percent of the country's energy consumption.⁸

MVE Sulín is one example, generating 0.95 MW at its location in the Poprad River Gorge along the border with Poland. It has operated since 1997 and recently underwent a major renovation to introduce the latest technology. It takes advantage of a very tight bend where the river takes 2km to flow around the mountain ridge. Entering a 3.6m diameter tunnel, water flows under the mountain ridge to the turbines, arriving 6 meters above the downstream river level. Passing through the turbines the water continues its journey to the Baltic Sea. All the while the captured energy is transmitted through the country.

Slovakia is in a good position to continue with water power well into the future.

About the Author:

Ronald Matviyak, P.E. (Ret) is a retired Professional Engineer in Alaska who spent 10 years of his career in Europe from Germany to Lithuania. His first of many trips to Czechoslovakia was in 1970. Retirement has allowed him to indulge a lifelong interest in the history of the Carpathian region.

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Family Mills in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands

By Richard J Maresh, Greensburg, PA

Given that I have a couple lines of ancestors who were millers in “Bohemia” in the 18th and 19th centuries, I have a particular interest in the history of the milling industry there. I recently happened to watch an episode of the British program, *Time Team*, which focused on an archeological dig centered on a mill in Devonshire, on the south coast of England (Season 14, Episode 9). While this episode had nothing to do with the Czech nation in particular, there were many observations which might help contextualize this article regarding mills, so I’d like to begin with a few comments along those lines.

Humans have ground grain into flour, which could then be baked as bread or pasta or other forms of baked goods, for millennia, but in the beginning all the work would have been done by hand, which was hard on the grinders and very time-consuming. They would have to rotate one round millstone over another stone and have a way to put the grain between the two stones so that flour would be produced.

The idea of using waterpower to turn a water wheel, which would turn a cogwheel to make a millstone rotate, making the flour, was a remarkable step forward. The location of the mill was key – you needed a dependable source of running water, for one thing. In this case they dug a “mill race” or “mill leat,” a small channel which took water from the river through the millwheel and then back into the river. The mill also had to be near a road so that local farmers could reach it with their grain. In the specific instance presented in the *Time Team* episode, the mill was the most valued

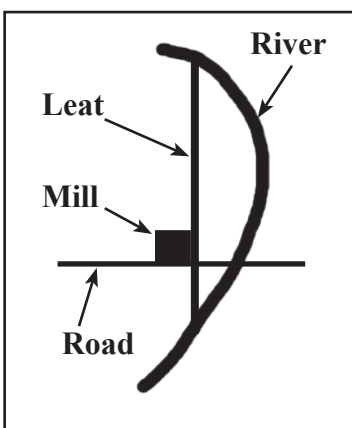
piece of land in the entire parish, based on the taxation records. The building which housed the mill also contained living space for the family of the miller.

It was back in the late 1970s that I became interested in researching my family history. I was blessed to have parents with an interest and several relatives who had already put together genealogical documents of one sort or another. Rather than beginning at ground zero, I had a nice table of descendants of my second great-grandmother on one of my Czech lines of ancestry. Over the 45 years since that time, I have learned more details and filled out my tree, all the time learning techniques and strategies to do so.

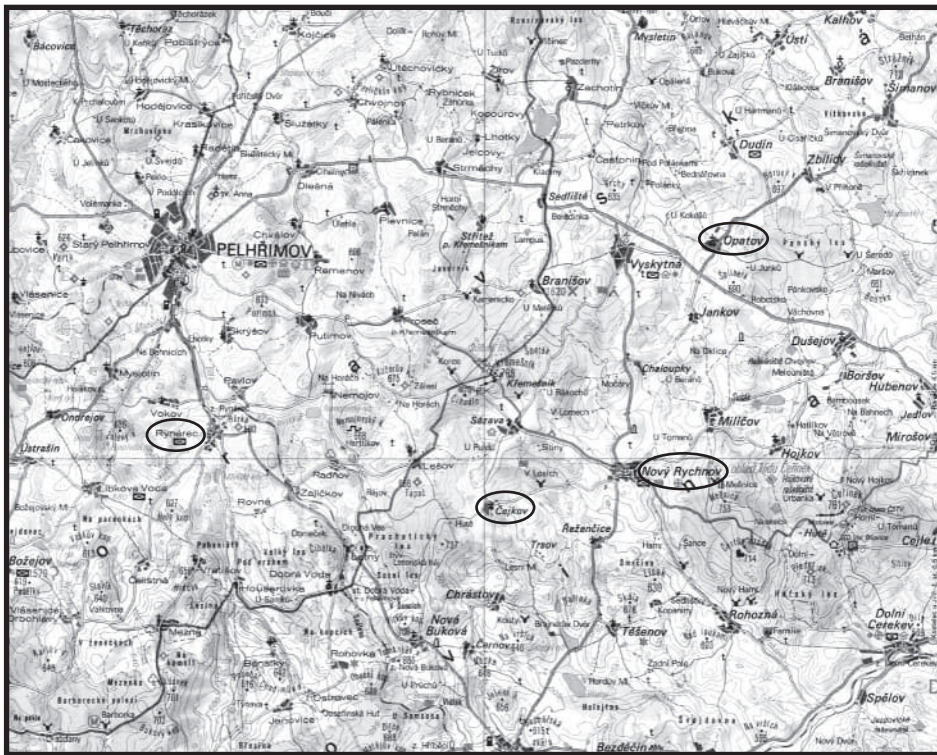
This process led to the “trip of a lifetime” in 2011, when my wife and I made a trip to the Czech Republic, which allowed us both to visit the various little villages in which our immigrant Czech ancestors had been born and raised. I had the good fortune to make the acquaintance of a Czech woman by the name of Jaroslava Paulusová who was a schoolteacher but who in her retirement has written a number of histories of villages close to her home near Opatov. She helped us set up that trip and enabled us to see the various places in which I had an interest.

On the next page which shows the towns where my Czech ancestors lived. This is in the Pelhřimov district in the Vysočina (Czech-Moravian Highlands) region. This map is of a smaller size than you might imagine; it is only 9 miles from Rynárec (Rin-AR-etz) in the west to Dušejov (Du-SHAY-off) in the east. I found it very

‘The diagram here should provide a sense of what I’m saying.’

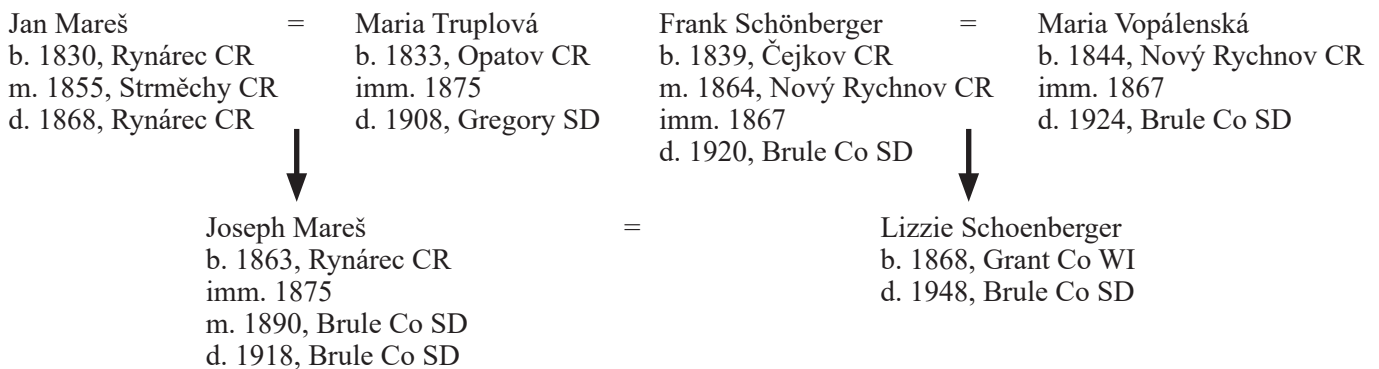


The four key components for effective Milling operations. Drawing submitted by Rich Maresh.



Map of the Pelhřimov District of Vysočina Region. Source: Českomoravská vrchovina Pelhřimovsko, Soubor Turistických Map, Geodetický a kartografický podnik v Praze, 1986. 1:100000 scale.

The brief chart below shows my ancestral situation:



interesting when I learned that all of my Czech ancestors came from such a small region.

Joseph Mareš and Lizzie Schoenberger are my great-grandparents. You can see from this chart that my Mareš (Maresh) line was from Rynárec, my Trupl line was from Opatov, my Schoenberger line was from Čejkov, and my Vopálenký line was from Nový Rychnov. I suppose I should say that the immigrants to America were from these places; as you look back in time from immigration, you find more distant ancestors living in various towns in the general area.

This article will focus on my family mills in the Czech Republic. I suppose by this time it seems that I have wandered far afield, but I can now put my wheels on track. It turns out that Maria Truplová's family had owned and operated several mills just outside the village of Opatov for several centuries, and that Maria Vopálenká's family had owned and operated mills in Dušejev, Boršov and Nový Rychnov. In fact, they were both born in their family mills, mill #3 at Opatov and mill #98 in Nový Rychnov, respectively. My specific Mareš family ran an inn in Rynárec and Frank Schoen-

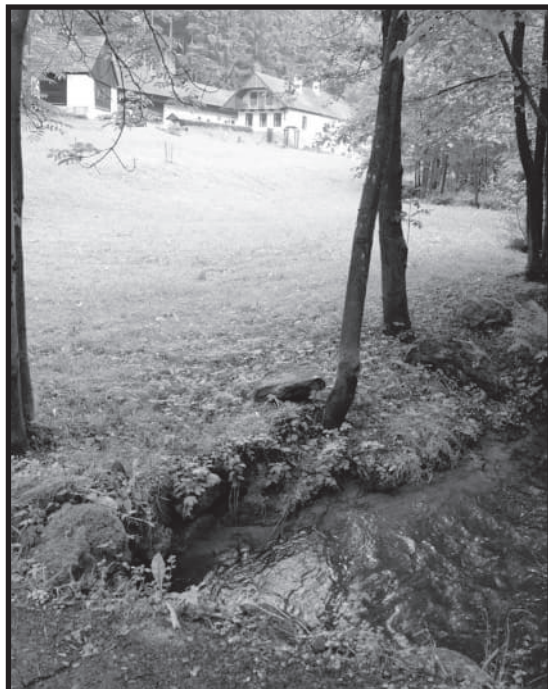
berger's mother had worked in a glass factory just outside of Čejkov.

I took the photos here on that trip in 2011. The first one is the dwelling at Trupl Mill #3 just outside of Opatov.¹



Trupl Mill #3 near Opatov. Photo courtesy of Rich Maresh.

The second picture is the stream which flows by the mill. On the Google Maps site, I find this creek called “Jankovský Potok,” or Jankov Creek. Jankov is a small village just south of Opatov, which is where this creek originates. The mills, #1, #2 and #3, were built along



Jankovský Potok (Jankov Creek), water source for Mill #3 and Mill #2. Photo courtesy of Rich Maresh.

that stream. Mill #3 is called “Horní Trupl,” because it is up on a hill, and Mill #2 is called “Dolní Trupl.”^{1,6}

None of the family mills are any longer active mills; the buildings are used for dwelling space. The owner of the Trupl Mill #3 is a Trupl descendant, a 4th cousin of mine – he uses it as a weekend getaway, almost like a mountain cabin, except that it's much nicer than a cabin.

A Brief History of Czech Mills and the Millers Guild

This essay is an anecdotal look at a few specific mills in the Czech Republic; rather than discussing the history of mills in general, I am focusing on mills which my ancestors and their families operated, specifically, Mills #1, #2 and #3 just north of Opatov, where my Trupl family were millers, and Mills #14 and #15 in Boršov and Mill #98 in Nový Rychnov where my Vopalenský family were millers. I do, however, want to briefly trace the history of milling in the Czech lands.

The first millers were monks, who provided them as a service to the larger community. Later, towns and rural lords took over the management of the mills, giving the mills on a temporary or hereditary lease to the millers. In my particular case, my ancestral families took the mills on a hereditary basis, and they would remain in the families for many generations.

In the Middle Ages, craftsmen created associations to carry on the work of their craft and to train new members. These organizations were called Guilds, and you would find a butcher's guild, a blacksmith's guild, a shoemaker's guild, a miller's guild, and so on. The guild structure continued in “Bohemia” until 1859, when they were abolished. At that time, the trade regulations came into force. The millers were members of the “Association of Millers,” which issued licenses for the operation of a mill business in a particular area. As of 1883, milling became a free trade.

The trainee stage was called an apprenticeship. Before a miller could be accepted into the guild, he had to pass a demanding test which would show that he was capable in the craft. He would also pay a substantial fee to enter the guild. The guilds also issued a guild order, which concerned the technical equipment of the mills, which had to be kept in good condition – there

were regular inspections. The guilds also supervised the quality of the grain milling, the correct proportions of weights, the obedience and respect of the millers to the master miller. They also provided for grain milling payments (this varied according to area and local conditions). The guild was headed by an elected guild master and the guild members met several times a year to tend to the smooth running of the guild.

Each guild had its own coat of arms. The miller's emblem has 3 crossbars (wooden planks) in the right half and a compass and a mill wheel in the left half. The miller's coat of arms is pictured here.²



Millers Coat of Arms (Mlynářský erb). Source: <<https://www.vodnimlyny.cz/mlyny/objekty/detail/3813-pravcuv-mlyn>>

In 1885, there were 7,227 mills registered in Bohemia and 10,000 workers worked in them. At the beginning of the 20th century, the number of mills decreased to 6,069, while still 552 of them stood idle. At present, as is the case in most of the western world, we see basically just industrial production; the era of small water mills is over. We never think too much about mills, probably because in these times the milling process is

done out of sight, in a large plant somewhere. The farmers ship their grain crop off to a factory and it is made into flour and then bakeries use it to make bread and we go to a store and make our purchases.

The Trupl Mills, Opatov

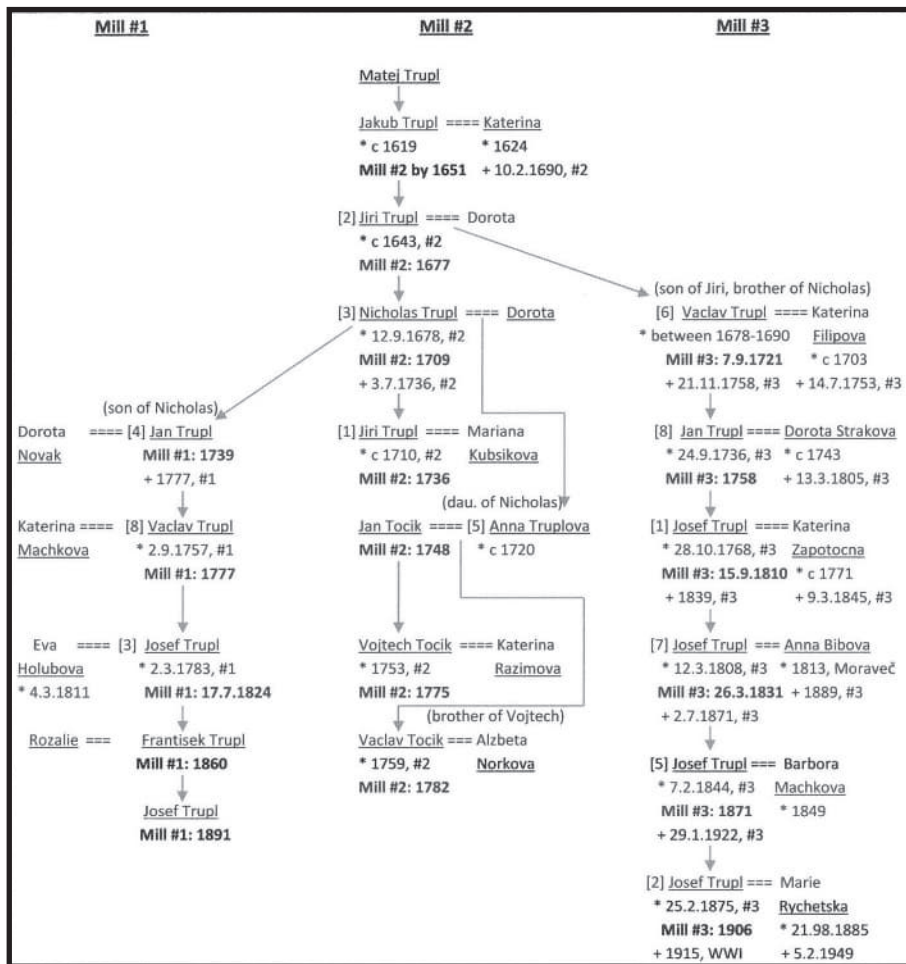
But we are talking here about two or three centuries ago. Imagine that it's 1750 and you operate a farm in "Bohemia." Humans are always engaged in problem-solving. What happened out in the rural setting was that people saw the need for milling and would take a creek and use the waterpower to turn a wheel, which would in turn rotate a grindstone to make flour. A miller was an important part of life at that time, much the way a blacksmith or a shoemaker would have been.

To briefly trace the history of these specific family mills, I have put together a couple of charts which show the various family members who worked the mills in question. I mentioned Jaroslava Paulusová at the beginning of this article – she has published a history of Opatov and has included the Trupl mills #1, #2 and #3. The book is in Czech, which complicates things for me, but between communicating with her (in English) and using translation software for the book, I have a fair idea of the basic content.³

The first chart on page 143 indicates that by at least 1651, Jakub Trupl (born 1619) had taken over the running of mill #2 just outside of Opatov. We get this information from the 1651 census (Soupis poddaných podle víry) of Opatov. Jaroslava writes, "It appears that this mill is the place where we can first find the Trupl family in this region. You also find Trupls in the surrounding mills and neighboring villages."

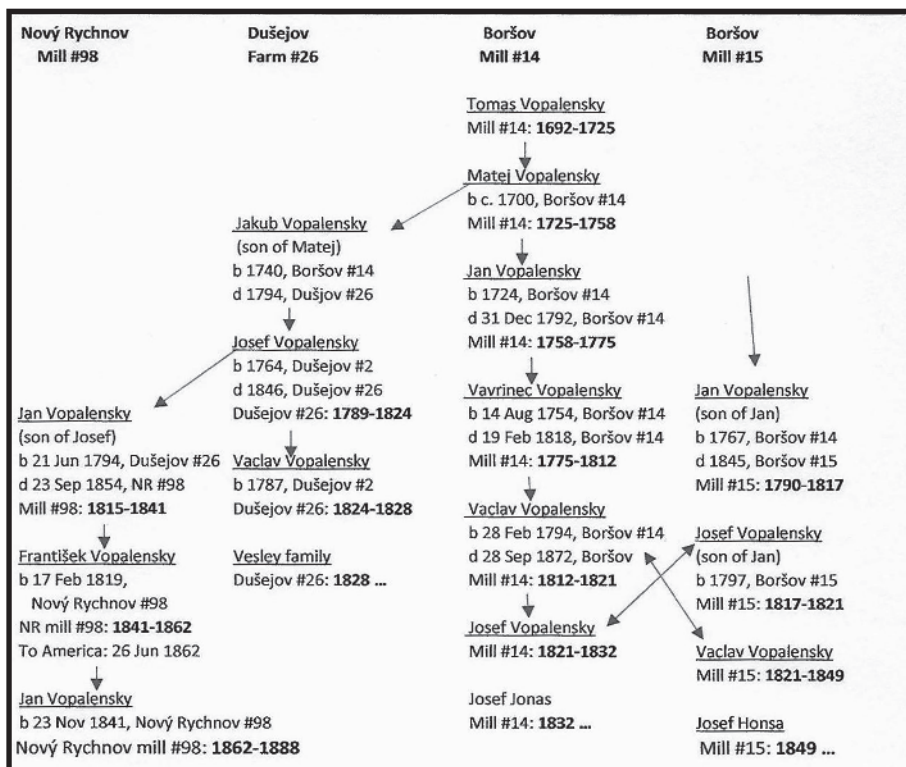
Records from the year 1654 (Berní rula) tells us that Jakub owned 1 mill wheel, had a 15-acre field, 2 breeding oxen, 3 cows, 4 heifers and 1 pig. His oldest son, Jiří (George) took over the mill in 1677, when he was 24 years of age. I'm not going to work my way through the entire chart in the text, but please feel free to do so yourself.

Jiří's son Nicholas (born 1678) took over mill #2 in 1709, and his son Václav, a brother of Nicholas, took over mill #3 in 1721. Nicholas's son Jiří took over mill #2 in 1736, and his son Jan took over mill #1 in 1739. At this point, then, all three of these mills were operated by members of the Trupl family. If you follow the chart, you will see that mill #1 was handed down from father to son for five generations, up until the turn of the 20th century. Mill #2 remained in family hands until



Top Image at Left: Trupl Family Mills near Opatov. Photo courtesy of Rich Maresh.

Bottom Image at Left: Vopálenský Mills near Nový Rychnov. Photo courtesy of Rich Maresh.



about 1800, although it passed to Nicholas's daughter Anna, whose married name was Tocik. The first Trupl to take over mill #3, Václav, in 1721, is my 6th great-grandfather; Maria Truplová, the daughter of mill #3 owner, Josef Trupl, born in 1808, the second of four consecutive owners named "Josef Trupl," was the person who married Jan Mareš in 1855, and was the first American immigrant in this family. Maria was thus born in the house where her father, grandfather, great-grandfather and second-great-grandfather had all lived and worked. This woman, my second great-grandmother, understood the trade of a miller.

What is striking to me is that these mills were a family industry for such a long period of time, nearly three centuries – and mill #3 remains in the hands of a Trupl descendant yet today, although it is no longer a working mill – times have changed and none of those little country mills are operated any longer.

The Vopálenský Mills, Nový Rychnov, Dušejov and Boršov

The other ancestral family I am discussing is Vopalenský, whose members were living in Nový Rychnov when they immigrated to Wisconsin. I mentioned earlier that Maria Vopálenká and her husband František Schönberger were my immigrant ancestors, but

Frank's mother and Maria's parents also immigrated. As was the case with the widow Maria Truplová and her children, these second great-grandparents of mine first settled in Grant County, Wisconsin and after about 15 years there, moved out to Brule County, Dakota Territory in 1883 (South Dakota wouldn't become a state until 1889), where they settled on homestead claims.

The situation back in Bohemia for my Vopálen-sky ancestors is remarkably similar to the Trupl situation. You will see from the chart on bottom of page 143, that as early as 1692, Tomáš Vopálenký, my 7th great-grandfather, was operating mill #14 in Boršov. Boršov (BOR-shoff) is a little over 3 miles northeast of Nový Rychnov and a little under 3 miles southeast of the Trupl mills near Opatov. Dušejov (du-SHAY-off) is about a half-mile north of Boršov.⁴

Mill #14 in Boršov was operated by a Vopálenký miller at least from 1692 until Josef Jonas took it over in 1832. Mill #15 was a Vopálenký mill from 1790 until at least 1849, and the mill #98 in Nový Rychnov was taken over by Jan Vopálenký (born 1794, my 4th



Dwelling at Mill #98, Nový Rychnov. Photo courtesy of Rich Maresh.

great-grandfather) in 1815, at which point in time all three mills were run by a Vopálenký. Jan's son František (1819-1906) operated the mill from 1841 to 1862,

at which time he made the move across the Atlantic to America, living first in Grant County, Wisconsin, and then Saunders County, Nebraska. When František left his Czech homeland, his son Jan (1841-1900) took over the mill and operated it until 1888, at which time he retired and moved into the village of Nový Rychnov, living at house #27.

The photo here shows mill #98 from an angle which allows you to see the stream. It was here on 17 Jan 1819 that my 3rd great-grandfather, František, took his first breaths. You can imagine my delight at being there!¹

The mills I have been discussing are at the edge of a village or a little bit out into the farmland, which seems to have been a good arrangement. At least, from my perspective, these mills provided a livelihood for many of my ancestors for several centuries.

These last two photos have nothing to do with Czech mills, but I enjoyed the logic of this system too much to omit it. These two signs are at the southern edge of Nový Rychnov along the road out in front of Mill #98 – when I took that first picture, turning my head to the left would have me looking at the mill. The first picture is what you see if you are heading into town and the second is what you see as you leave town. Isn't that clever?¹



Top Photo: Sign entering Nový Rychnov. Bottom Photo: Sign leaving Nový Rychnov. Both photos courtesy of Rich Maresh.

About the Author:

The Czech ancestors of Rich Maresh came to America from the Pelhřimov district of Východní in the 1860s and 1870s, immigrating first to Grant County, Wisconsin, and then moving in 1883 to Brule County, South Dakota. Rich was born in Mitchell, South Dakota shortly after WWII and went with his parents to southern California when he was very young. He developed a taste for mathematics and ended up working as a professor in a college in La Crosse, Wisconsin, living there for 35 years. After retiring, he moved to southwest Pennsylvania to be closer to his daughter and grandchildren.

By the late 1970s he became interested in family history and was fortunate to have parents and other relatives who had a similar interest. By now, his Ancestry tree contains over 78,000 individuals, including both his side and his wife's side. The motivation for this article was a trip he made to the Czech Republic in 2011, when he was able to see the places from which his ancestors had come.

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Unravelling Occupational Threads

By Jean Svoboda

Up until recently I had no knowledge of my Czech family. With too few stories, no photographs, even my Czech grandparents were unknown to me. The starting point of my quest were two documents that fortunately survived World War II. One is an extremely dilapidated small booklet containing my father's Czech army details, the other is his high school graduation certificate from 1930. I would like to firstly explain some background about my parents, especially my Czech father, who was the starting point of the journey that eventually revealed my milling heritage.

Jiří Svoboda (1912-1989), my father, who had studied engineering and was a Second Lieutenant in the Czech army, moved to Prague in May 1939. In October 1939, the anniversary of the creation of Czechoslovakia as an independent country, people took to the streets to honor the event. Unfortunately, due to the brutality of the Nazi security forces, who were trying to stop the demonstration, my father, though he wasn't part of the demonstration, was included in the round up of citizens. He was taken from the streets of Prague and sent to Heilbronn, Germany to 'aid' the German war effort by doing heavy laboring, building roads. That is all he told me and I have made a presumption that he was living in a forced labor camp.

My father was a man of few words, he never spoke much about his early life in Czechoslovakia, or the period between 1939 and 1945. He spoke very little about the period between 1945 and 1950 when he was living in displaced persons camps in and around Nuremberg, Germany. It was in one of these camps where he met my mother Valija Jasaitis (1926-2015) born in Jelgava Latvia.

My maternal grandmother chose to leave Riga in 1943, which is when their grueling walk began. They ended up in Heiligenbeil East Prussia, living in a labor camp where my grandmother was a translator and my mother was riveting aircraft, just like 'Rosie the riveter.' Luckily, they had a handful of photographs, obviously treasured and protected on this long, arduous journey. I understand my parents silence was probably to hide the pain caused by occupation of their homelands, the physical and emotional suffering caused by being displaced

from their birth countries and families. And they probably wanted to protect me from the horrors they experienced during World War II.

Exploration into my ancestry began in September 2020, during Victoria's Covid lockdown. A genealogical novice with determination, and no Czech language skills, apart from a few words like kalhoty, boty, pes, kočka, (trousers, shoes, dog, cat) I started my research. The goal was to find any information about my Czech grandparents, so I could try and understand who they were and what my father's life was like prior to 1939. I have been very lucky to find additional information about my grandfather, his siblings and my grandmother's family, but that is another story.

I started searching the Moravian Archives Act-publica and finally found my father's birth record. Being extremely unaware of what these parish registers contained, to my surprise, the names of my great-grandparents, including their occupations and towns of residence were recorded. Furthermore, my grandparents' birth dates and marriage date were also recorded. The possibility of finding out who they were and what could have contributed to who I am became an obsession and my journey into the past began.

In the towns of Velké Meziříčí, Šlapanice, Radňovice, Moravské Křižánky it seems that most of my family, between 1845 to 1955 were either teachers or musicians, or both. And in Dušejov, Řeženčice, Rohozná and Hojkov, they were farmers and some were also Reeves or mayors of their towns.

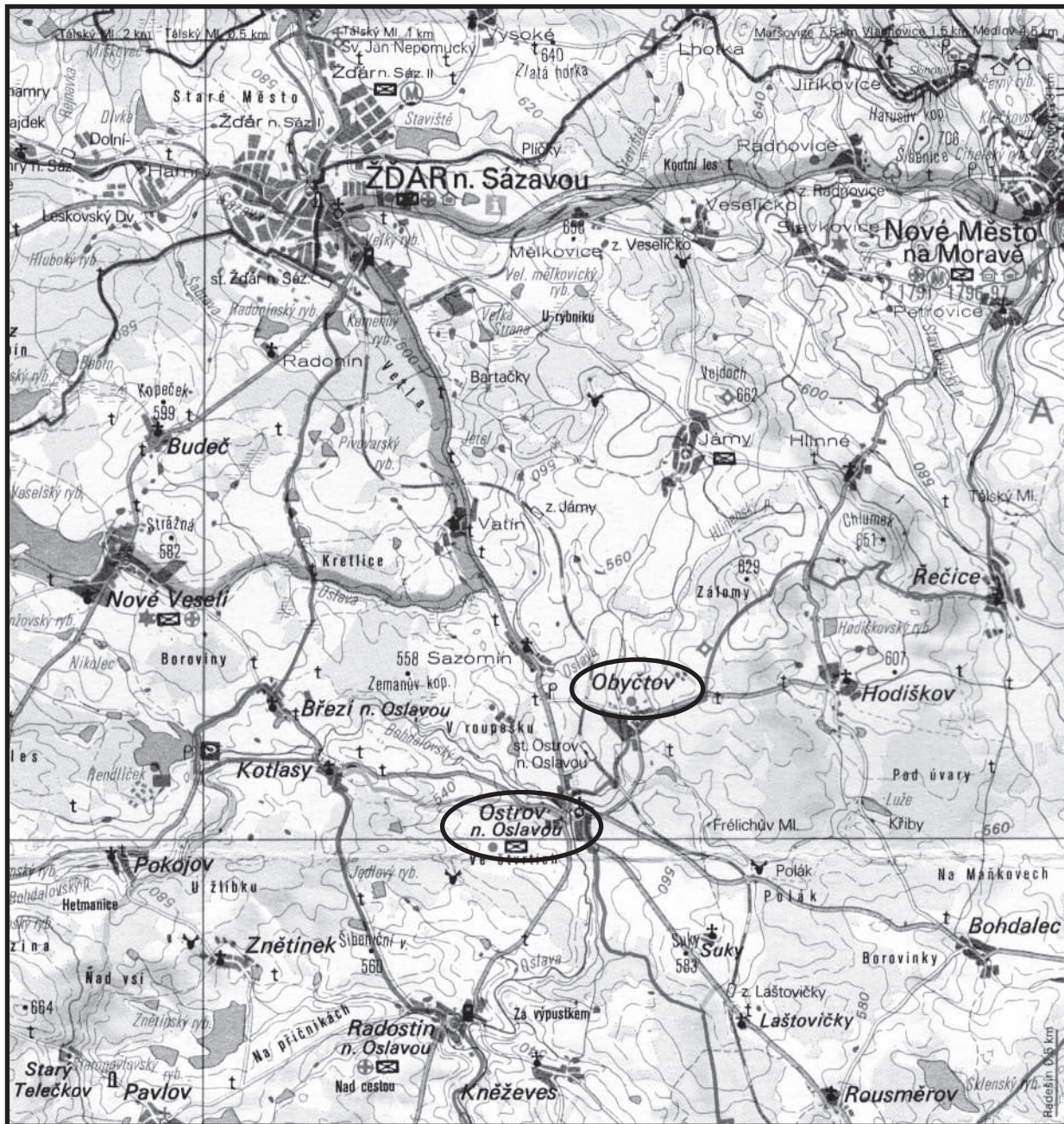
Generations before that, there were weavers, and of course millers. Of the millers there was the Svoboda family line from Obyčtov in the Žďár nad Sázavou district. In the maternal family lines and also from the Žďár nad Sázavou district, my 4th great grandmother Anna Hajcmanová from Obyčtov and my 3rd great grandmother Mariana Hájková from Ostrov nad Oslavou. And from Opatov in the Jihlava district there was my 4th great grandmother Anna Truplová.

Anna Truplová (1771-1805) my 4th great grandmother was the daughter of Jan Trupl (1736-1821) and Dorota Straková (c.1743-1808) from the Horní Trupl, Polánecký mill at Opatov #3. Jan Trupl is my 5th great grandfather and is also the 5th great grandfather of Rich Mareš (Mareš). In 1788 when Anna married Jakub Hodač (1765-1828) a farmer, she left her home at the mill and moved to Jakub's family home, U Štěpánů at Dušejov #9, which was approximately four kilometers from the mill in Opatov.

Václav (Hayczman,Hajczmanowsky,) Hajcman (c.1722-1772) my 5th great grandfather was at different times, both miller and reeve, or magistrate at Obyčtov #22. And even today on mapy.cz ‘rychta’ is written on the homestead. On the Indikační skici (Indicator Sketch) of 1835 the land behind #22 continues to the southeast and included the Rychtářův, Hajcmanův mill at Obyčtov #42. Within the Hajcman family the occupations were split between millers and reeves. Also, the name

Rychtářův mill would strongly suggest that this was the reeve’s mill.

Václav and wife Dorothea had nine children between 1751 and 1770. On the birth records of the last three children, Barbara, Victoria and Františka, Václav’s occupation was miller. On his death record in 1772 his occupation is ‘judex.’ And although he had died, on five of his children’s marriage records ‘judicis’ and ‘Richter’ are recorded after his name. Ignác (1752-1821) the



Area of Moravia where the milling villages of Obyčtov and Ostrov nad Ostravou are located. Soubor Turistických Map, Českomoravská Vrchovina Třebíčsko. Geodetický a kartografický podnik v Praze, n.p., 1983.



Frölichův, Frejlichův mlyn or Frölichmühle at #44 Obyčtov. MZA v Brně, fond D 9 Stabilní katastr – indikační skici, sig. 1799 (katastrální mapa obce Obyčtov). Courtesy Moravian Provincial Archive, Brno.

eldest son became a reeve and lived at Obyčtov #22, and Jiří (1757-1828) the second son became a miller and continued at the mill until his death. It appears after Jiří's death that the Hajcman family were no longer working the mill. Around 1828 Jiří's son Jan (1796-1856) who was also a miller, moved to the Šmerdův mill at Pokojov #14. According to the 1921 census continuation of this family line was still at the mill in Pokojov.

Anna Hajcmanová, eldest daughter of Václav and Dorothea is my 4th great grandmother who married Kašpar Svoboda from the mill at Obyčtov #44. Anna's younger sister Catharina (1762-1820), at the age of fifteen married Jan Kment (1745-1795) of the Benešovský, Kmentův mill at Obyčtov #38. Two months after her husband died from consumption, Catharina having young children, married Franz Zajíc, a miller from Skřítkův mill Vatin #33, who was ten years her junior. This enabled her to stay at the mill until her eldest son Mathais took over. At the time of Catharina's

death, she was not living at the mill. The Kment family were still at the mill at the time of the 1921 census.

The third of the three mills in Obyčtov, was known as Frölichův, Frejlichův mlyn or Frölichmühle at #44. On the Indicator Sketch, Svoboda is written within the parcel of land next to the mill (circled). The property, consisted of nine hectares (22 acres) of fields and forest and was situated next to a pond and the Hodíškovický stream. As well as the mill there was a barn and a separate homestead, and again referring to the Indicator Sketch these buildings were all constructed of timber.

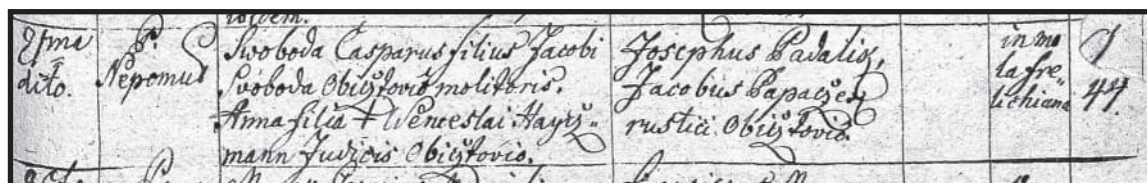
Prior to 1767 Karel (Caroli) Frelich, was the miller from 'Frölichiana' and he died on 23 December 1767 at the age of seventy-eight. In 1771 Jakub (Jacobi) Svoboda, my 5th great grandfather, purchased the Frölichův mill at Obyčtov #44 from the nobility for 400 zl. (gold). Very little is known about the Frölichův mill, which was in a rural setting and situated approximately two kilometers south-east of the actual township of Obyčtov, which belonged to the estate of Žďár nad Sázavou. The mill was approximately two kilometers east of the Havelkův mill at Ostrov nad Oslavou #64 in the estate of Nové Veseli.

Kašpar (Casparus) Svoboda (c.1737-1797) my 4th great grandfather and Anna Hajcmanová (1755-1815) from the mill at Obyčtov #42, married on 21 February 1773. The marriage record of Kašpar and Anna confirms that Jakub Svoboda is the father and miller at 'mola Frölichiana #44.'

Kašpar and Anna had eight children, Jakub (1774-1852), Maria (1776-1849), Vaclav (1779-??), Libor

(1781-1806), Katherina (1783-1863), Jiří (1786-c.1845) my 3rd great grandfather, Josef (1788-1855) and Františka (1790-1852), all who survived into adulthood. Jakub was the first child born and first son, he with his wife Rosalia Padalíková, (1773-1847) from Obyčtov #6 married on 18 November 1800 and took over working at the mill.

The family line of Jakub and Rosalia, continued to live and work at the mill at Obyčtov #44. Of the birth of their ten children, only five survived. The first three children, Mariana, Jakub and Václav all died of small-



Marriage Casparus Svoboda to Anna Hajzmanová (Hayczmann) in 1773. MZA v Brně, fond E 67 Sbirka matrik, sig. 16 614 (záznam sňatku v obci Obyčtov). Courtesy Moravian Provincial Archive, Brno.

pox before 1806. Of the five surviving children three were females, Františka, Katherina and Anna and two were males, Jan and František. On the marriage record of Jan (1810-??), the elder son, it states that he was a cottager. Jakub's younger son František (1814-1891) married Mariana Krejčová on 3 July 1838 and on the marriage record he is also a miller at #44.

Josef, another son of Kašpar and Anna, at the time of his death in 1855, was also a miller at the Frelichův mill. On the death record of Andreas Svoboda in 1796, he was fifty-eight, which makes him a similar age to Kašpar and could be his brother. The record shows he was at #44 and he was a miller. Because I have so far been unable to find the birth record of Kašpar Svoboda, it has made it difficult to confirm where Jakub Svoboda originated and whether Andreas belongs to my Svoboda line.

The census record of 1857 reveals that František Svoboda and Mariana Krejčová and their five children Johann (1839-??), Maria (1841-1914), František (1845-??), Mathias (1848-??) and Katherina (1850-??) were living at the mill. By 1869 the mill had passed to their eldest son Johann and his wife Maria Růžičková from Bohdalec #32 who had married on 10 February 1863. It is thought that at some time towards the end of the 1800s that 'water came in rupturing the dam and flooding the mill.'

By the 1880 census, #44 is 'uninhabited' and #43 was 'collapsed.' Jan and his family are no longer at

the mill, and are not recorded living in Obyčtov at the time of the census. František (1814-1891) by now a widower, had returned to live at the property together with his daughter Maria. Unable to restore the mill after the flood, the Svoboda family farmed the nine hectares of land that surrounded the homestead. Prior to the 1890 census his second son, František Jr. had also moved back to the property. The census reveals that the 'mill was demolished by flood' and father and son were farmers and daughter Maria was the housekeeper.

Included on the farming property were four pigs, one

horse, two cows, one of them in calf and three calves under a year.

František Jr. (1845-??), married Maria Musilová (1862-??) from Obyčtov #7 on 21 August 1894. The family continued to live at the homestead, this is confirmed by the census of 1900 and 1910. At the time of the 1921 census, Maria has been widowed and was still at the property with their three children. Farming the land proved more and more difficult, when eventually, before the outbreak of World War II they were forced to sell because of mounting debt.

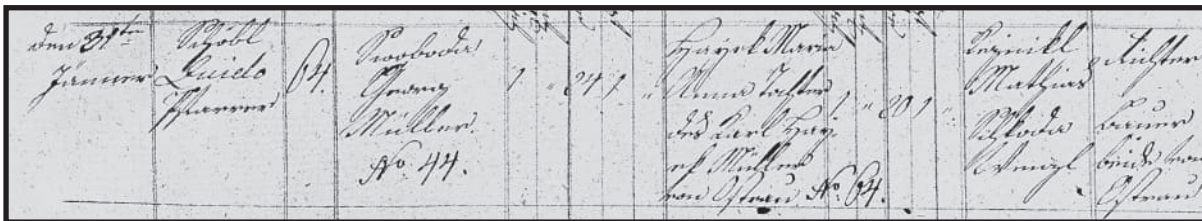
Under the communist regime, after the farm of nine hectares had been incorporated into the collective farm, the homestead was demolished. Included on the Czech website vodnimlyny.cz there are aerial photographs from the Czech National Archive of Surveying. In the photograph taken in 1953 the buildings appear to still exist, but by 1964 two of the buildings have been totally demolished. All that remained of the mill and homestead at this time were the walls of one building. Photographs taken by Helena Špůrová in 2014 show further deterioration of the site, there is only a pile of stone rubble covered with moss and nature's detritus of dried leaves and branches from nearby trees. Also, a comparison of the Indicator Sketch of 1835, with the current Google satellite map, reveals the pond has shrunk to approximately a fifth of the size of the original pond. Another son born to Kašpar Svoboda and Anna, Jiří (Georg Josef 1786-?), my 3rd great grandfather, married Mariana Hájková on 31 January 1808. As Jiří was also a miller and the fourth son, he moved to Mariana's home,

which was the Havelkův mill at Ostrov nad Oslavou.

The Havelkův mill at #64 was situated on the edge of the Ostrov nad Oslavou township. The mill had access to water from the Oslava and the Bohdalovsky streams, which allowed for two drives to operate the mill. Around 1900 the mill burnt down and was rebuilt. Electrification of the village was between 1931 and 1933, before this in the 1920s a generator was purchased to supply power to the mill, as well as to a hotel nearby. The mill was still being used during World War II, but it was in the spring of 1947 that the mill was last used for grinding. The local collective farm in the 1960s, used the building for shredding and storing grain. In a violent storm in the 1970s the roof blew off and the building was left to deteriorate. Eventually, in the 1980s, the building was demolished and now in its place is the COOP VM co-operative store, similar to an Aldi supermarket.

Karel Hájek Jr. and her husband Jiří Svoboda continued operating the mill together. On all the birth and death records at the Havelkův mill at #64, the father's occupation is miller, which appears to verify that both the Svoboda and Hájek families lived and worked together at the mill during this period.

Jiří Svoboda and Mariana Hájeková gave birth to eleven children and five survived. The last child to be born was Jiří (1829-1829) and from the birth record Jiří and Mariana had moved from the mill and were living with Mariana's sister Anastasia and her husband Šimon Lejsek at #39. Mariana died from tuberculosis, on 11 May 1829, a month after giving birth to son Jiří, who died on 8 September 1829. Mariana's death left husband Jiří with the surviving children Anton (2), Franz (6) Vaclav (11) and Josef (15) and Johann (1808-1866), my 2nd great grandfather. Johann changed the direction of occupations for my direct line of descendants by

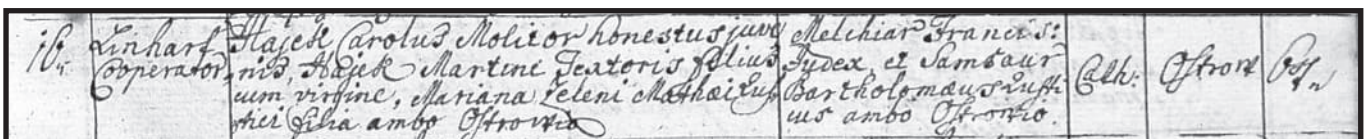


Marriage Georg Svoboda to Maria Anna Hájková in 1808. MZA v Brně, fond E 67 Sbirka matrik, sig. 15 979 (záznam sňatku v obci Ostrov nad Oslavou). Courtesy Moravian Provincial Archive, Brno.

Karel (Carolus) Hájek (1745-1821), my 4th great grandfather was the son of Martin Hájek, a weaver in Obyčtov. Karel married Mariana Zelená (1757-1806) from Ostrov nad Oslavou on 16 November 1777 and on the marriage record he is a miller at Ostrov nad Oslavou #64. Together they had eleven children, of which six survived. Of the six, only two were males, Karel Jr. and Šimon. Daughter Mariana (1787-1829) was ten years older than her brother Karel, so when she married Jiří Svoboda, from the Frelichův mill in 1808 they lived at the mill in Ostrov nad Oslavou, where Jiří worked as a miller, together with his father-in-law. My 4th great grandfather Karel Hájek died from tuberculosis in 1821. And between 1818 and 1827 Mariana's younger brother

becoming a teacher and choir master. In 1845 when he married Pavlina Zelená, also a teacher, he was living at the school in Radňovice #54 and they later moved to the school in Moravské Křižánky #92.

Widower Jiří, having small children in his care, remarried within a year of Mariana's death. On the 15 February 1830 Jiří married Theresia Zelená from Ostrov nad Oslavou #5, who was the niece of Karel Hájek's wife Mariana Hájek nee Zelená. They had four children and on three of the birth records Jiří's occupation had changed from being a miller to a cottager. All four children born to Jiří and Theresia were born at different houses, which might suggest that they had moved several times.



Marriage Carolus Hájek to Mariana Zelená (Zeleni) in 1777. MZA v Brně, fond E 67 Sbirka matrik, sig. 15 957 (záznam sňatku v obci Ostrov nad Oslavou). Courtesy Moravian Provincial Archive, Brno.

The Havelkův mill ownership stayed in the Hájek family until the 1921 census. Karel Hájek Jr. (1797-1862) married Barbara Valenta on 20 January 1818 and on the birth record of Anna, their first child, born on 25 February 1819 it has Karel Jr. as miller at Ostrov nad Oslavou #64. Then Johann (1821-1882) the first-born son of Karel and wife Barbara, continued at the mill. Johann married Vincenzia Chocholáčová from Střítež #15 and it was again, that their first-born son Josef, became the miller.

Josef Hájek (1853-1887) married Maria Nevřklová from Rousměrov #6 on 5 September 1882. They had three daughters Maria Anna (1883), Ludmila (1884) and Anastasia (1886). Josef died in April 1887, at the age of thirty-four, from a 'hardened and lifeless stomach.' Maria didn't remarry immediately, which seemed unusual as her daughters were very young. Rather than someone else taking ownership of the mill and the family having to move, on 9 July 1889 Maria married Adolf Hrubý, a miller and the son of Antonín Hruby the miller from the Hrubého mill at Nížkov #54.

Adolf Hrubý, Maria, with her three daughters and mother-in-law Vincenzia Hájeková were residing at the mill in the 1900 census, so there is still a Hájek connection through Maria and Josef's three daughters, Maria Anna, Ludmila and Anastasia. The family ownership doesn't end when their stepfather, Maria's second husband Adolf Hrubý dies in 1905.

By 1910 the census reveals that there is a new miller, Josef Meloun son of Karel Meloun, miller from Sýkorov's mill #26 Dobrohostov. Josef and his wife Kateřina, were at the Rokosův Petrovický mill at #35 in Petrovice and arrived at the Havelkův mill in 1909, he is the miller, but not the owner of the mill. The new mill owners were Josef Havelka and his wife Ludmila who were living at #42. They were married on 20 June 1905, and yes, the bride is Ludmila Hájková, Josef Hájek's daughter. On the marriage record it states that Ludmila is 'in the father's home,' even though he had died eighteen years earlier. The thread of the Hájek family was diminishing, but ownership of the mill at Ostrov nad Oslavou #64 was still connected to the family by Ludmila. Unfortunately, by the 1921 census the mill ownership was only in the name of Josef Havelka, even though Ludmila Havelka nee Hájková was still alive, and living with her husband at #42.

Focusing on the occupation of milling while exploring my family history, I was made aware of not only my heritage, but also the impact that births, marriages and deaths had on changing property ownerships and occu-

pations. Widows would remarry another miller, rather quickly and sometimes a much younger miller, or be faced with moving from their mill home as in Catharina Kment nee Hajcmanová. Or Jakub Svoboda purchasing the mill, which may have impacted the family of Caroli Frelich. Also, how in some cases daughters still retained their inheritance, which then passes to their husbands when they marry, as in the case of Ludmila Havelková nee Hájek. And within a family, especially if there were numerous sons the occupations also changed, which was the case of Karel Hájek a miller, whose father and two elder brothers were all weavers. Though this exploration has answered some questions about my heritage and shown me how my family is linked together through occupational threads, it has also exposed the enormity of what there is still to uncover and document.

Acknowledgements

I thank Jaroslava Paulusová for help with the Svoboda family translations and for her enormous researching capabilities to produce the books 'Dušejov' and 'Opatov.' CGSI members, Paul Makousky and Susan Chapman were also extremely helpful by providing further contacts and information. Helena Švecová from the Velké Meziříčí Genealogy Club emailed pages from a book "Mlýny a mlynáři na Velkomeziříčsku" by Vladimír Makovský. The Moravian Archive in Brno for granting permission to use scans of marriage records and indicator sketches and providing swift service, emailing scans within two working days of ordering and payment. Additional information came from the extensive and exceptional Czech website <www.vodnimlyny.cz>. I am also grateful to Rudolf Šimek, an administrator of the site, who gave me permission to use the photographs taken by Helena Špůrová.

About the Author:

Jean Svobodová was born in Melbourne Australia and holds an Honors Degree in Fine Arts from the University of Tasmania. Her major areas of study were designing and making furniture and design theory. Having retired she made the decision to escape from the suburbs of Melbourne and move to the small historical goldmining town of Maldon in central Victoria, where there is a tourist steam railway. She follows in her father's footsteps with a love of steam trains. Her interests include photography and architecture and as a recent member of

Continued on page 155



Frelichův Svoboda Mill #44 - (Mill Pond #44/1 of 6)

Hráz a rybník nad mlýnem, 2014 (Dam and pond above mill, 2014) Obyčtov #44

© Helena Špůrová

Prvky na obrázku: rybník (Elements of picture: pond)

Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>



Frelichův Svoboda Mill #44 - (Mill Wall #44/2 of 6)

Zbytky zdi mlýna, 2014 (Remains of mill walls, 2014) Obyčtov #44

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Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>



Frelichův Svoboda Mill #44 - (Mill wall #44/3 of 6)

Pohled z hráze rybníka na místo, kde stál mlýna, 2014

(View from the dam of the pond to the place where the mill stood, 2014)

Obyčtov #44

© Helena Špůrová

Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>

Rychtaruv Hajcmanův Mill #42 (Mill #42/4 of 6)

Rybník nad mlýnem, 2014 (Pond above mill, 2014) Obyčtov #42

© Helena Špůrová

Prvky na obrázku: rybník (Elements in picture: pond)

Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>



Rychtaruv Hajcmanův Mill #42 (Mill #42/5 of 6)

Rychtářův mlýn v údolí, 2014 (Rychtářův mill in valley) Obyčtov #42

© Helena Špůrová

Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>



Rychtaruv Hajcmanův Mill #42 Photo 6 of 6 (Mill #42/6 of 6)

Zchátralá budova mlýna u potoka pod hrází rybníka, 2014

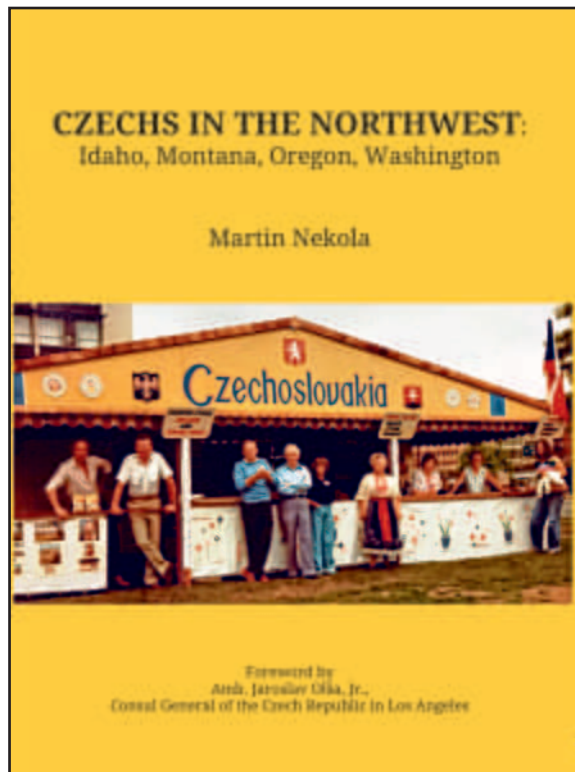
(Dilapidated mill building by the stream below the dam of the pond, 2014) Obyčtov #42

© Helena Špůrová

Photo courtesy of <www.vodnimlyny.cz>



Continued on page 155



Czechs in the Northwest US

Review of *Czechs in the Northwest: Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington*, by Martin Nekola, with forward by Ambassador Jaroslav Olša, Jr., Consul General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles. Published by the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles, 2022. (ISBN 978-1-7361199-4-5), 93 pages.

Reviewed by Evelyn Funda

Czechs in the Northwest is a slim volume offering a basic overview of the Czech settlements in the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The booklet is written by Martin Nekola, a trained historian, political scientist, and lecturer who received his PhD from Charles University in Prague. Nekola has previously written or presented about Czech immigrant settlers in New York and Chicago, and he continues work on documenting how Czechs have historically settled throughout the US.

As introduction to the topic, the booklet offers generalists some useful information about compatriot communities in the region. In each section on the individual

states, he provides a guide to the history of the main Czech settler communities, and he lists Czech family names associated with those communities. In addition to descriptions of the community life, he provides short biographies of the community's influential and accomplished Czech-Americans, includes historical photographs of people and places, and traces the economic factors for settling in their chosen communities. Also of interest to family historians will be his discussions of specific research resources available in each state.

In general, writes Nekola, the four northwestern states were not common destinations for Czech immigrants, and most of the Czech enclaves there were made up of Czechs who had first settled elsewhere in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries—in the cities like New York, Chicago, or Cleveland or on farms in the Midwest where weather extremes made farming difficult. They were attracted to the Northwest by cheaper land and reliable water for crops (because of better climate or irrigation initiatives) or by other prospects for employment in mining and the timber industries, as well as opportunities for opening their own businesses as brewers, merchants, bankers, etc. Advertisements and other booster efforts appeared in national Czech publications like *Hospodář* and *Pokrok Západu*, variously promising that you could “Plant Dimes—Harvest Dollars in Idaho!” or that “people never got sick in Montana except from overeating” (28, 41). Moreover, Czechs proved themselves to be desirable citizens, as expressed by an 1899 news article that Nekola quotes from *The Santium News* (published in Scio in Linn County, Oregon), that reads:

Within the past six months twenty-five Bohemian families have located at Scio, and many more are coming. They have invested over \$60,000 in real and personal property. They have built a hall and organized a lodge of the Bohemian Fraternal Society. They have an excellent brass band.... They are thrifty and industrious people, and will develop the many resources of our country (59).

Nekola rightly credits some of these settlements to the work of Omaha publisher Jan Rosický and others who established the Czech Colonialization Club, which “undertook several exploratory journeys” into the region in order “to find a large section of irrigatable land in the western states, suitable to establishing a model, prosperous Czech colony” and “work for the material and moral good of all members who buy land in the new settlement” (34, 64). While the dream of a model Czech colony was never fully realized, Neko-

la describes several vibrant Czech neighborhoods and sub-communities that maintained strong cultural ties through churches and fraternal organizations that held language schools, musical programs, gymnastic competitions, lectures, Czech dances and plays, beer halls, and other types of social and cultural events. Sadly, most of these accounts end with the all-too-familiar story of the slow dissolution of these Czech enclaves over time as the generations assimilate and move away from their family's cultural background.

Published as promotional material by the office of the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles, Nekola's book includes a foreword by Ambassador Jaroslav Olša, Jr. of the Czech Consulate in Los Angeles, who contextualizes Nekola's research within the history of previous Czech writers, artists, and thinkers, depicting the Northwest in art, travelogues, periodicals, fiction and poetry, about diaries and autobiographies about their experience, dating back to Josef Francel's first adventures in the Northwest in the 1850s.

While the book isn't available for direct sale, you can check your local library or contact Dr. Nekola about accessing a copy at <info@czechoslovaktalks.com>. Dr. Nekola also has an Instagram account at <instagram.com/czechoslovak_talks>.

- detail/9288-benesovsky-kmentuv-mlyn-a-pila>
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- <https://www.mza.cz/actapublica/matrika> - Births, Marriages and Death records
- <www.mza.cz/scitacioperaty>. Census Records 1857 to 1921
- https://www.mza.cz/indikacniskici/skica/ (Indicator Sketches)

Continued on page 156



Unravelling Occupational Threads

Cont. from page 151

CGSI she has now also become an obsessive researcher, searching her Czech family roots and heritage.

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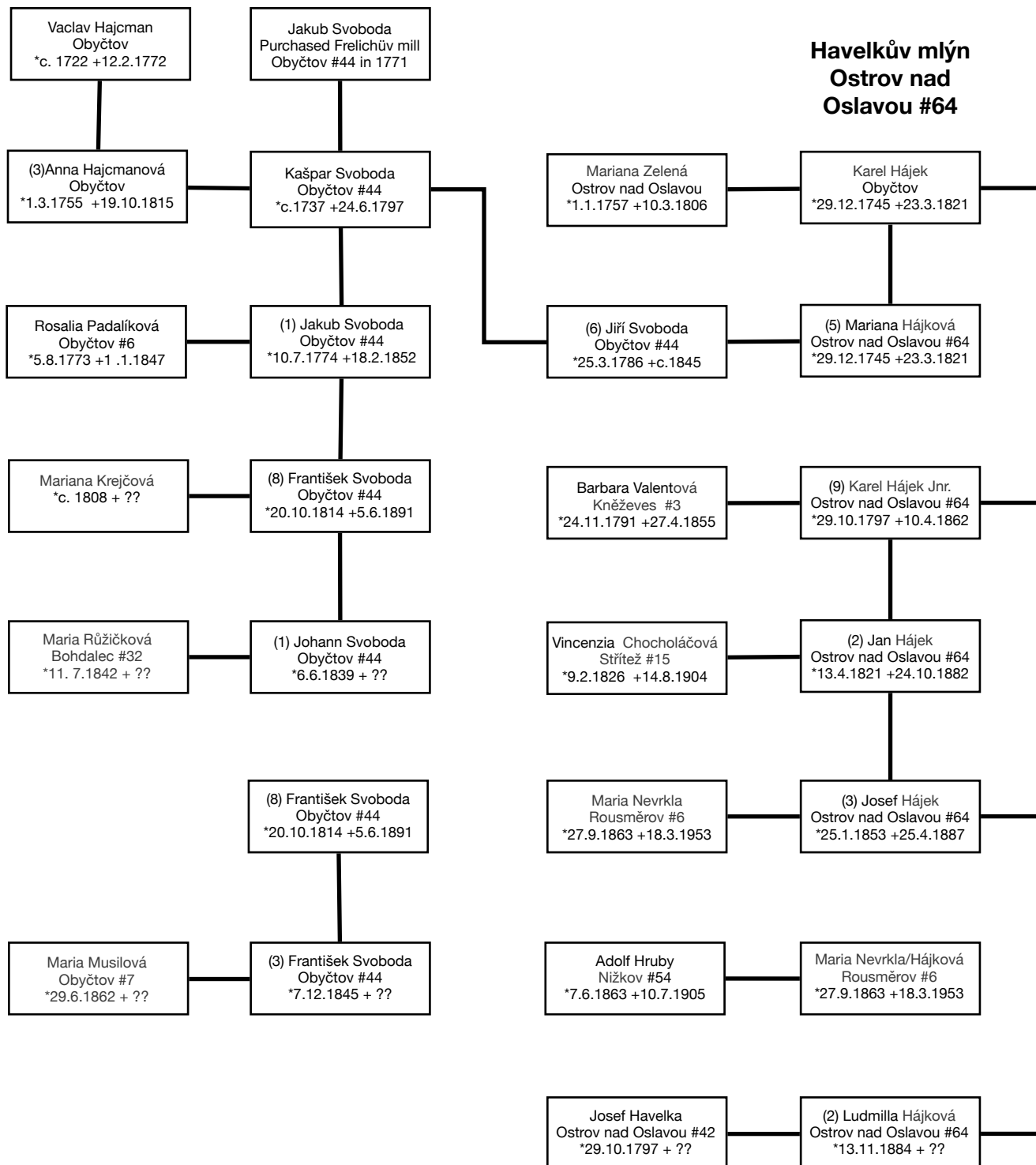
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Obyčtov #42**

**Frelichův,
Frejlichův mlýn;
Frölichmühle
Obyčtov #44**

**Havelkův mlýn
Ostrov nad
Oslavou #64**



CGSI's 2023 Milwaukee Conference Activities

By Paul Makousky, Conference Chair

Planning is in full swing for the 19th Genealogical and Cultural Conference of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. Whether you are regular conference attendee or a first-time attendee this is a can't miss event. We are happy to announce that we will be back to our in-person conference. This will not be a hybrid event.

You can see the list of the Conference presentations on the CGSI website, <<https://cgsi.org/2023-conference/2023-conference-hotel>>. There are 48 regular presentations and 11 small group workshops. They are also on page 117-118 of the September issue.

Here are the other events that are part of the 2023 Program:

Coach Bus Tours

Three tours will be offered during the conference. We are finalizing tour itineraries and will determine the registration fees for them in the coming two months.

Tour #1 Tuesday October 17, 2023 in Caledonia and Racine

This tour will include Czech ethnic and historic visits to: The Bohemian National Cemetery in Caledonia, the 1888 Bohemian Schoolhouse, Caledonia Historical Society (either drive-by or stop), St. John Nepomuk church in Racine for tour and lunch, drive by of Karel Jonas statue and Karel Jonas house, and tour of Racine Heritage Museum. This area had one of the earliest Czech rural settlements in the US and was a stopping off point for significant settlements further west.

Tour #2 Tuesday October 17, 2023 in Milwaukee (General Tour)

This tour will include highlights of Milwaukee including, The American Geographical Library at UW – Milwaukee to see the historic map room; the Milwaukee Art Museum to see the Chihuly (Slovak) chandelier and the Santiago Calatrava wing (an architectural wonder); short driving tour of downtown including Fonz and Deer District, Third Ward and Milwaukee Public Market, lunch at Mader's German restaurant; tour of Basilica of St. Josaphat, and a stop on the way to hotel at Oscars Custard Shop.

Tour #3 Wednesday October 18, 2023 in Cudahy and Milwaukee (Ethnic and Historical Tour)

This tour will include influences of Slovak, Czech and German-Bohemian genealogy, history and culture. The stops will include: Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society and Museum, Cudahy Historical Society, Milwaukee County Historical Society, drive by of St. John de Nepomuc Catholic Rectory, drive by of the Zeidler Union Square, Lunch at Maders, stop at Milwaukee Public Museum, and Milwaukee Public Library Central Branch (The Frank P. Zeidler Humanities Room).

Czech Baking Workshops at Blessed Sacrament Church, Milwaukee (Wednesday October 18)

Koláče and More (9 am – 12 pm)

The small group hands-on workshops requires a separate registration fee. Participants in the koláče class will leave with one dozen koláče.

Double Feature Film Festival, Wednesday October 18 (7 pm – 9:30 pm)

Filmmakers Susan Marcinkus and Larry Jacobs of Manifest Films will present "Pictures from the Old Country" a 30-minute Slovak film and "Czechs of Chicago" a 90-minute documentary about the history of Czech people in Chicago, from their immigrant experience to the highlights of the community today.

Document Identification and Translation Night, Thursday October 19 (7 pm – 8:30 pm)

The CGSI will solicit registrants for copies of family documents and select representative ones of various types and languages. Conference speakers and other language specialists will demonstrate their approaches to first interpret and then translate the documents. This is a new program for the Conference and replaces the Regional Networking Sessions we have had at past conferences.

Parade of Kroje, Friday October 20 (7 pm – 8:30 pm)

This popular fashion show will feature conference participants modeling folk dress from the Czech and Slovak lands. Program will be emceed by Helene Cincebeaux and Ann Cramer.

Folk Entertainment from local dance and musical groups, Saturday October 21 (7 pm – 9 pm)

CGSI has approached two folk dance groups in Milwaukee to perform and is looking at musical options.

Hotel reservations can now be made at The Ingleside Hotel using the link on the CGSI website, <<https://cgsi.org/2023-conference/2023-conference-hotel>>. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Liebezeit Family's 200 years at the Water Mills of the Mšec Area

By Wesley Johnston

Kings and members of the nobility sought wives from the same class. That did not include water mill operators' daughters. But for sons of water mill operators, the daughter of another water mill operator made a good match. And when a mill operator had no heirs to operate the mill, sons of other mill families were prime candidates to continue operation of the mill. While not nobility, water mill operators held positions of esteem, cemented by marriages within mill families and other esteemed families of nearby villages.¹

A village normally had only one or two mills. Thus, intermarriages provided alliances with other mill families in nearby villages. Just as estates remained in noble family's generation after generation, so water mills remained in the same family generation after generation. And the branches of a single family could include millers at many nearby mills. Over the course of generations, the inter-connected mill families formed an impressive network.

And so, it was for my Liebezeit ancestors² who operated the village mill at Hřešice #41 from the 1600s to the 1800s. They were a branch who came from the nearby Kalivody mill where the family had already been millers for two generations.

Hřešice was one of a dozen villages in the vast Mšec (German: Kornhaus) Estate. Following the defeat of the Czechs in 1620, their estates were taken and given to Austrian nobles. The Mšec Estate was one of many estates all over Bohemia given to the Schwarzenberg family. They brought in many skilled ethnic German colonists with German surnames (such as Liebezeit) to populate their estates. But those originally German families soon inter-married with the indigenous Czechs.

The Water Mills of the Mšec Estate and Vicinity

Before looking into the specifics of the family connections and their water mills, these first two sections set the context for that deeper dive by looking at the water mills of the area and the generations of the family before they moved to Hřešice.

While Americans may think of an estate as a large manor house, surrounded by extensive grounds, the Mšec estate was vastly larger. It included 12 separate villages spreads over many miles. Many of those villages had at least one water mill.

Since water mills were so much a part of the family, geography is very important in researching them. Figure 1 shows a map of the area, highlighting the location of villages with water mills and three other village.³ Hřešice is about 30 miles (50 kilometers) northwest of Prague. The two streams (the Bakovský potok and the Loděnický potok) mark the key locations of Liebezeit family mills.

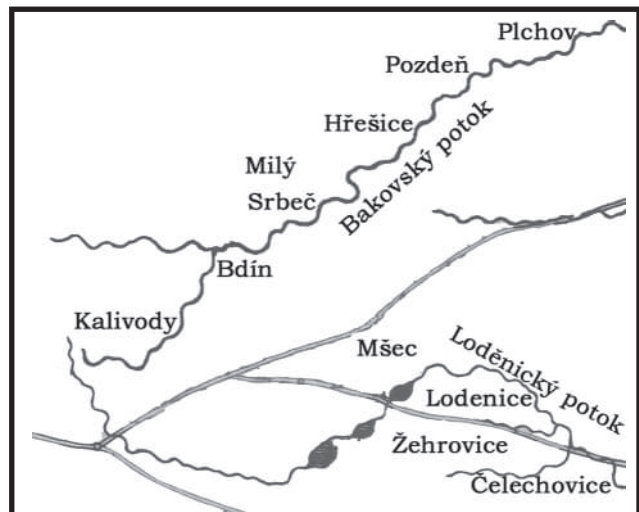


Figure 1 – Waterways and Water Mill Villages of the Mšec Estate and Vicinity

Kalivody: the first known Liebezeit Family Mill

The earliest known Liebezeit family location was at the village of Milý, which has no waterway and no water mill. Mathias Liebezeit and his wife Anna lived there, and he died there by 1665 since the 1665 Seigniorial Register shows him deceased.⁴ His son Hans/Jan is noted as being the miller at Kalivody. And Mathias' daughter Magdalena remained at Milý with her husband Mathias Mansfelder and their 3 daughters as in place of her late father. (As we will see below, Magdalena's family later moved to Hořešovice, another village on the Mšec estate.)

I do not know how or when their son Jan, also called Hans in the records, came to operate the mill at Kalivody. It is the very last mill along the Bakovský

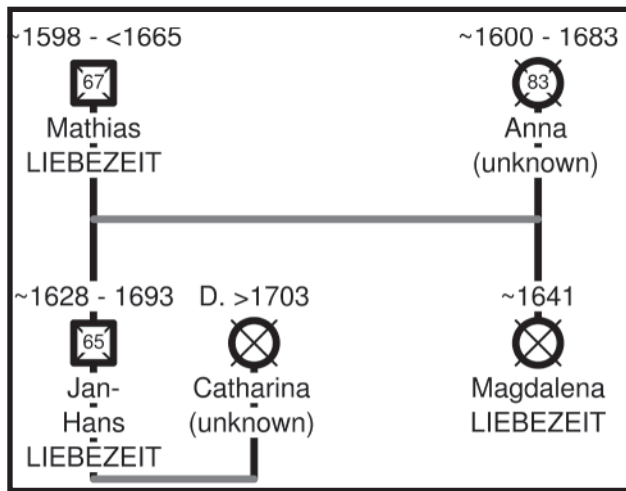


Figure 2 – The Earliest Known Generations (1 and 2) - at Milý and Kalivody

stream. I believe his first child Magdalena was born at Kalivody about 1655.

The name Kalivody probably means *kalna voda*, which is muddy or murky water.⁵ Was this mill, at the end of the stream, the least productive mill and thus “low-hanging fruit” for a non-miller to enter the profes-

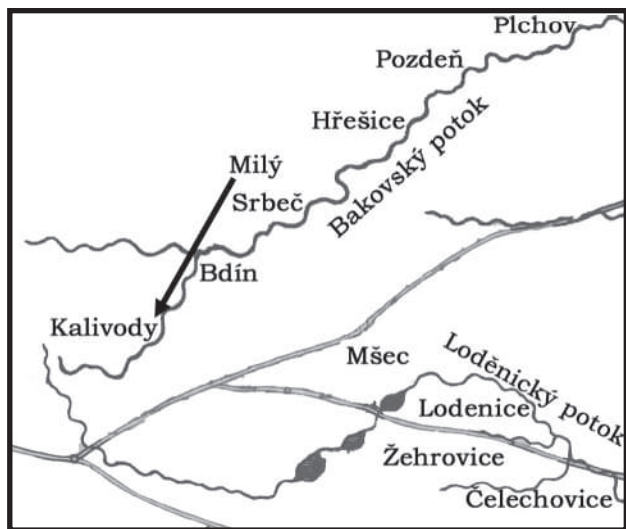
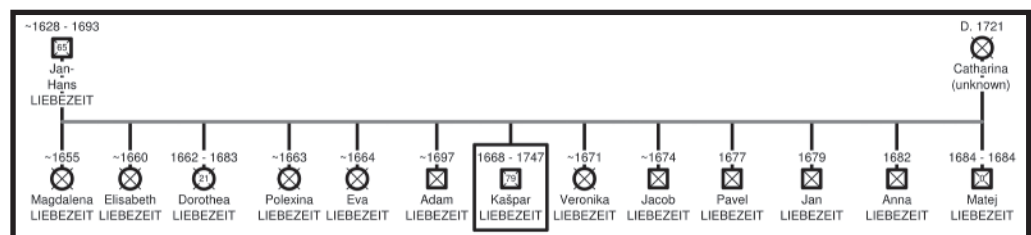


Figure 3 – Jan Liebezeit’s Move from Milý to Kalivody by about 1655

Figure 4 – Generations 2 and 3 The family at Kalivody of Jan/Hans and Catharina



sion? Or did Jan apprentice at the mill and then become the miller at the death of the master? I do not know when he became miller at Kalivody, but it was probably before the Seigniorial Registers began in 1665.⁶ The Seigniorial Register of 1683 shows him as a miller at Kalivody.⁷

For these earliest generations, I have no information on the wives’ families. As noted above, daughter Magdalena married Mathias Mansfelder and in 1665 still lived at Milý. But by 1683, they had moved to Hořešovice where they were recorded in the Seigniorial Register.⁸

Jan and his wife Catharina had a large family (Figure 4). Their son Kašpar, in the box, is the key person for the Hřešice mill and really the focal person for this report. (See figure 4 below).

Kašpar’s move to Hřešice left his older brother Adam as the apparent miller at Kalivody. I have no information about their younger brother Pavel.

It appears that after younger brother Jan married about 1705 that Jan and his wife moved from Kalivody to Hřešice where Jan worked with Kašpar as a miller. At some point between 1713 and 1716, based on the locations of Jan’s children’s births, Jan became miller at the mill north of Čelechovice (more on this below).

Earliest Connections to Other Water Mill Families

Even the records this far back show connections with other water mill families.

- The godfather of Kašpar’s sister Dorothea at her 29 January 1662 baptism at Dolní Ročov was Petr Zimmerman.⁹
- One of the witnesses at Kašpar’s 2 December 1668 baptism at Nové Strašecí was Jiří Zimmerman (spelled Czymemon) of the Spálený mlýn (Spaleny Mill).¹⁰
- Were Petr Zimmerman and Jiří Zimmerman related to each other and thus both connected to the Spaleny Mill? More research is needed to answer this question.

Hřešice: the second known Liebezeit Family Mill (Kašpar born 1668)

Three years after his father died, Kašpar bought the Hřešice mill from Jan Kalivoda on 25 January 1696.¹¹ In 1620s and 1679 sale records, the mill was called the Babinovský Mill, but neither the 1689 sale to Jan Kalivoda nor the 1696 sale by him refer to the mill by any name. So, it is simply the Hřešice mill.



Figure 5 – Kašpar Liebezeit's Move from Kalivody to Hřešice

Kašpar remained at Hřešice for the rest of his life. He and his first wife Ludmila¹² married about 1694 and had ten children before she died in 1722. I have yet to find the marriage record for this marriage so that I do not know Ludmila's maiden name nor whether her family were also millers.

Kašpar remained a widower for 9 years before marrying 13 Nov 1731 with Kateřina Bechinská who was 32 years younger than him. She was born 12 Sep 1700 at Velké Hořešovice with no indication in the record of her father's profession.¹³ She and Kašpar had 3 more children, making a total of 13 known children of my 7th great grandfather Kašpar Liebezeit. Figure 6 shows all the children and wives. Tomáš has his own box because he became miller at Hřešice after Kašpar died.

Connections of Kašpar's Children to Other Water Mills or Significant Families

I have not yet found records to trace all of Kašpar's children, but several did have connections to other water mills.

Václav Liebezeit left the family home 17 Feb 1720 and, with permission, left the Mšec estate and moved to the dominion of Vraný, about 10 miles north of Hřešice.¹⁴ As with the Mšec estate, this dominion had 12 water mills at 8 different villages. I do not know if Václav went there to work in one of the mills since I have yet to trace him, but it is a strong probability that he did.

Jan Liebezeit, the second son with the name, remained at Hřešice. However, in 1741, he is shown as a miller at Ouholice (about 21 miles ENE of Hřešice). In 1742, he was at a place that I have yet to figure out. But he came back home by 1743 and remained there until 1745, when he is crossed out of his childhood family.¹⁵

Dorota Liebezeit married Jakub Wolf 11 Jan 1724.¹⁶ He was the son of Václav Wolf, rychtář of Hřešice. The rychtář was the head of the village, akin to a mayor in modern terms but chosen by the estate owner and thus serving at his behest and interests.

The next sections give the connections of his son Tomáš, who succeeded him as the miller at Hřešice.

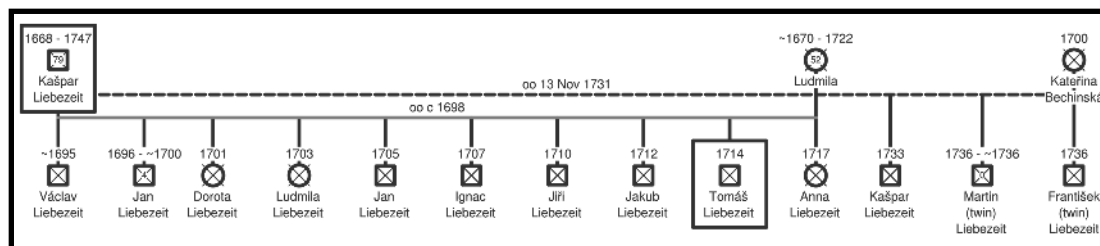


Figure 6 - Generations 3 and 4 – The family at Hřešice of Kašpar and his wives

Kašpar's Successor at the Hřešice Mill

Kašpar died in 1747 at about age 78 after 51 years as the miller at Hřešice.¹⁷ The 1752 Seigniorial Register for Hřešice shows only one miller: Kašpar's 9th child and 6th surviving son Tomáš.¹⁸ So, how did it come about that one of the older sons of Kašpar did not become the miller at Hřešice?

From what I can tell, it appears that their father's tenure of more than half a century at the Hřešice mill

led to this. His four older surviving sons (the first son named Jan had died in 1700; son Jiří died in 1726) all grew up and began lives of their own, following a different occupation (Ignac became a maltmaker [sladovnik]) or moving elsewhere. This resulted in Tomáš, the oldest son left at home when Kašpar died, inheriting the role as the Hřešice miller.

Primogeniture usually meant that a farmer's oldest son inherited the farm. But for the Hřešice water mill, that did not happen. I do not know whether this was the case at other water mills, but water mill operation clearly differs from operation of a farm so that it seems that this could well have been the general way of succession for water mills: the oldest son still living at home inherited the mill.

Tomáš: The Second Generation at the Hřešice Mill (born 1714)

Tomáš had far fewer children than his parents and grandparents.

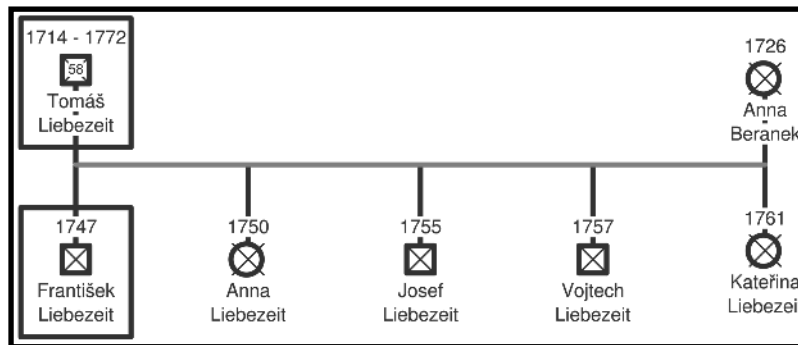


Figure 7 - Generations 4 and 5 – The family of Tomáš at Hřešice

Connections of Tomáš's Children to Other Water Mills or Significant Families

Tomáš's children continued the connections of earlier generation with other water mills and esteemed families below the level of nobility. A water miller was not as esteemed as the village head (rychtář) who was not as esteemed as a pension master (důchodní). But the sponsors at the family events and sometimes the spouses crossed these lines.

- At Anna Liebezeit's baptism 19 August 1750 at Mšec, the levans (the [person who lifted the child at the baptism, after whom the child was often named] was Anna Knoblochová důchodnová, the wife of the důchodní.¹⁹

- Members of the Rozikov family sponsored the baptisms of several of the children. One shows the woman as a sládková, female of sládek which means a brewer.²⁰
- The next sections give the connections of his son František, who succeeded him as the miller at Hřešice.

František's Family: The Third Generation at the Hřešice Mill (born 1747)

František's first wife bore all but one of his children that I have found. He remarried a widow and had one more daughter. His first wife, Kateřina Brejcha, was the daughter of the miller at Bílichov, about 2 miles north of Hřešice, on a different stream. They married 30 May 1775 at Bílichov. The record is in the register of the parish of Pozdeň.²¹ Pozdeň is just upstream from Hřešice and, as we will see below, their grandson became miller there. After his wife died, František remarried about 1798 with Barbora, widow Slavik, making him the step-father of her sons Johan and Anton Slavik.²²

František Junior: The Fourth Generation at the Hřešice Mill (born 1778)

František's eldest son Frantisek succeeded him as miller at Hřešice. The father died some time between the 1800 Seigniorial Register and the 20 February 1803 marriage of the son at Pozdeň #35. He married his second cousin Barbora Brejcha who was the daughter of the miller at Pozdeň – yet another vital event shared with another miller family.²³

I have yet to determine when Frantisek died. The 21 January 1835 baptism of his daughter Anna's son Frantisek Šubrt (the author's 2nd great grandfather) at Hřešice #5 shows her as his daughter with him indicated as the miller at Hřešice.²⁴ However, the 1842 Seigniorial Register shows the only Liebezeit reference as the two Slavik stepsons of the then-deceased František in the "orphans" section with no other mention of the Liebezeit family nor any mention of Hřešice #41, the house number of the mill.²⁵

So, it appears that sometime between 1835 and 1842, the Hřešice Mill that had been operated by the Liebezeit family since Kašpar purchased the mill in 1696, a span of about 140 years, no longer had a Liebezeit as the miller.

Josef at Pozdeň Mill: The Fifth Generation (born c1804)

What had happened was that František's long tenure at the Hřešice miller led to his son Josef becoming the miller at Pozdeň (where the mill was house number 5), apparently when Josef's mother Barbora Brejcha's father died. Her father Václav Brejcha had been the miller at Pozdeň.

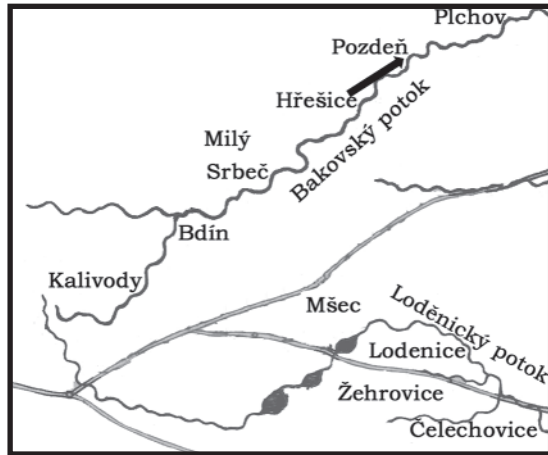


Figure 8 – Josef Liebezeit's move from Hřešice to Pozdeň

I have not yet researched the death of Václav Brejch, but by the 16 October 1827 marriage of Josef and Marie Kubat (daughter of Martin Kúbat a landowner at Hřešice #14), Josef was identified as the miller at Pozdeň. The marriage was at the Hřešice Mill which was then still operated by Josef's father František.²⁶

I have not researched the more recent generations, since my ancestor was Josef's sister Anna. So, I do not know how long Josef and his descendants remained at the Pozdeň Mill.

Liebezeit Family Members at Other Nearby Mills

The generations of Liebezeit mill families had multiple sons who grew up learning to be millers. But only one of them would inherit the family mill. So, the Liebezeit sons provided a ready supply of expertise when other mills needed a new miller. While I have found Liebezeit sons at other mills, I have not systematically researched these. There may be more than I have found, and for those that I have found there may be more generations than I have found.

The circled locations on the map in Figure 9 are the locations from my main ancestral line as detailed above. The locations in boxes had Liebezeit sons discussed below.

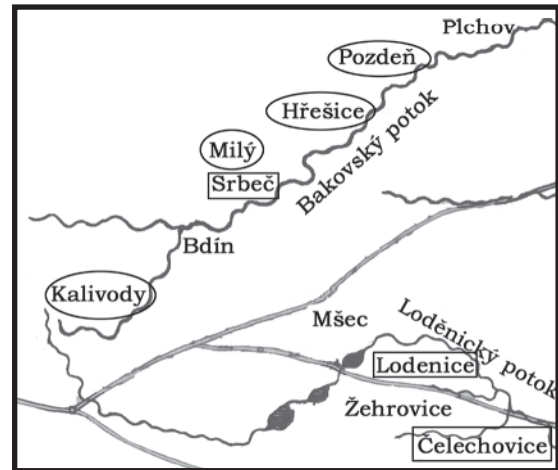


Figure 9 – Known Liebezeit Mill Family Locations (with Milý the non-mill village of origin) – Circled locations discussed above and boxed locations discussed below

Čelechovice

As noted above, sometime between 1713 and 1716, Kašpar's brother Jan Liebezeit became Miller at the Čelechovice mill. The mill is north of village.

The book "*Stochov rodiště sv. Václava*" ("*Stochov Birthplace of St. Wenceslaus*") has this partially erroneous account of the Mill at Čelechovice #36 (with definitely erroneous text underlined).²⁷

"In 1691 the mill was acquired by Eliáš Grüner and after his death his son Eliáš, who bought the mill in Kalivody in 1722, where he was for some time the estate miller. After the departure of Eliáš Grüner, Jakub, the son of the miller Kašpar Lieberzeit from Hřešice, became the miller at the mill in Čelechovice. In 1750 he bought a house in Nové Strašecí. After Jakub's death, his widow Anna bought the mill from Prince Schwarzenberg in 1759. Anna Lieberzeit remarried to Václav Volf of Hřešice, with whom she managed the mill for thirty years. In 1789 the mill was inherited by Jakub Lieberzeit's son Antonín, who married Marie Anna, daughter of Václav Vítoch, miller in Kačice. After Antonín, the mill belonged to his son Antonín (since 1826). In the 1840s, Antonín lost the mill, but in 1846 the authorities had to return it to him. In 1871, Antonín Dvořák bought the debt-ridden mill from Emanuel Lieberzeit."

I have researched only the transition from the Grüner to the Liebezeit family, and the above account is erroneous in that regard in more than one way. First, we know that Kašpar Lieberzeit's brother Jan became miller at the Čelechovice Mill by 1716. Second, the Jakub Liebezeit who later became miller at Čelechovice was the son of Kašpar's brother Jan Liebezeit and not the son of Kašpar.

It turns out that there is a possible very close connection of the Grüner family to the Liebezeit family. From what limited research I have done on this, the following timeline seems to be a viable conjecture.

Conjecture: When Hans/Jan Liebezeit passed away in 1693, the Kalivody mill passed to one of his sons (perhaps Adam). But about 15 years later, the Kalivody mill needed a miller, but all the Liebezeit sons were elsewhere. So, Elias Grüner, the son of the still living miller Elias Grüner at Čelechovice (possibly a relative in some way that I do not know) became the miller at Kalivody. When the older Elias died, the younger one was already situated at Kalivody. So, Hans/Jan Lieberzeit's son Jan Liebezeit who was helping his brother Kašpar at the Hřešice Mill (as was Elias Grüner Jr.'s brother Hans Georg/Jan Jiří Grüner), moved – sometime between 1713 and 1716 – to become the miller at Čelechovice.

Here are some of the facts.

Jan had first moved to Hřešice and worked in Kašpar's mill. His first children were born there, with the last one born there in 1713. But the 26 April 1716 birth of his son Jakub was at the Čelechovice Mill.²⁸

Furthermore, the 1712 Seigniorial Register of Čelechovice "orphan" section shows that the elder Elias Grüner had died and that his son Elias was the miller at Kalivody, with no one shown as the miller at Čelechovice.²⁹ Elias' sister Dorothea was with him at Kalivody. Their brother Hans Georg/Jan Jiří Grüner was at the mill in Hřešice (owned by Kašpar Liebezeit). Their brother Václav was with his brother, presumably Elias at Kalivody.

The next surviving Seigniorial Register is for 1718, which shows Jan Liebezeit as the miller at Čelechovice.³⁰ His son Jakub, the first one born at Čelechovice in 1716, later did become the miller after his father Jan died. The 1745 Seigniorial Register, for example, shows Jakub as the miller.³¹ And it was that same Jakub who later bought the house at Nové Strašecí where he died in 1855 at age 38.

Srbeč

Srbeč had a mill west of the village and another mill east of the village. By 1720, the miller at the east mill was Jakub Liebezeit.³² I have not yet determined how he connected to the family. I suspect he was the younger brother of Kašpar, born about 1674 at Kalivody.

Lodenice

I do not know if the Liebezeit family at Lodenice operated a mill. But the family had a large and enduring presence there. The 1720 Seigniorial Register recorded four Liebezeit families. Two were land owners: Adam Liebezeit (the author's 7th great grandfather on my other Liebezeit ancestral line) and Matej Liebezeit.³³ Two were "lodgers": Hans/Jan Liebezeit and Matej Liebezeit.³⁴

Much More Research Needed

The information in this report required a great deal of research. But, a great many more Liebezeit records for these places exist. As the records included here already show, the family had numerous connections to other mill families as well as families of higher status who served as sponsors at the baptisms of the Liebezeit children (and vice versa) or who married into the family. To tell the full story of the Liebezeit family requires a great deal more research.

Acknowledgments

This research would not have been possible without Zuzana Jičínská, partner of my distant cousin, Michael Kvapil. Zuzana was the first to discover and organize these records and families and very graciously helped me to decipher and translate them and to learn a great deal more than I had known so that I could then expand the research.

Nor would the map and the connection to the Čelechovice mill and a great deal more have been possible without the help of Pavel Taraba, found by my cousin Edward Rhodes. I am also very grateful to the members of the Czech Genealogy Facebook group who helped with reading some of the records. Any errors in this document are my own, and I am very glad to receive documentation to correct them.

About the Author:

Wesley Johnston began family history research in 1954,

when he inherited the Johnston Family Bible. He holds Master's degrees in History and Mathematics. His mother's grandparents came to Chicago from Central Bohemia in the 1870s. Wesley visited the Czech lands in 1981 and 2011. He has written many articles and books about family history, local history, World War II history and art history. His family history web page is at <www.wjohnston.net/famhist> where his most recent Czech effort is the reconstruction of all the families of Modřejovice <www.wjohnston.net/famhist/modrejovice-all.htm>

Endnotes:

- 1 When the records identify the person as a miller, they do not tell if he is the primary miller, the owner of the mill, or a worker at the mill. The sons of the primary miller were often identified as millers when it was their father who was the primary miller. Since I write here about the water mills and the millers, I include anyone identified as a miller. Sometimes, I can clarify their status, but if the records identify them as a miller, I include them here. I also include millers who married into the family, although in some cases I cannot tell whether they were millers before marriage or if they became millers through the marriage.
- 2 I will use standardized modern spellings for the given names and surnames. The actual spellings in the original documents varied greatly. Kašpar Liebezeit who bought the Hřešice mill (later numbered Hřešice #41) in 1693 was my 7th great grandfather: Kašpar 1669-1747 > Tomáš 1714- > František 1747- > František 1778- > Anne 1815-1876 > František Šubrt 1835-1896 > František Šubrt 1861-1941 was my great grandfather. I have not researched every branch of the very large Liebezeit family so that I may well have missed some important connections of other branches to water mills.
- 3 The mill locations are based on the <<https://www.vodnimlynny.cz>> website about Czech water mills
- 4 SRA Třeboň 1665 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #1, image 22, no page number at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54446/22>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 5 Thanks to Gabriela Vcislo Svatos of the Czech Genealogy Facebook group and to Pavel Taraba for this.
- 6 The Třeboň Regional Archive of South Bohemia (Jihočeský) now holds the Schwarzenberg family's estate records, including the Seigniorial Registers and other records (such as Land Registers) of the Mšec Estate. The Mšec Estate Seigniorial Registers include (with gaps) 1665-1842, making it possible to trace the water mill ownership very closely, although the millers are not always identified in the Registers.
- 7 SRA Třeboň 1683 Seigniorial Register Velkostatek Mšec #8, image 66 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54453/66>> accessed 18 May 2022 (page is numbered 446 at bottom)
- 8 SRA Třeboň 1683 Seigniorial Register Velkostatek Mšec #8, image 90 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54453/90>> accessed 18 May 2022 (page is numbered 470 at bottom)
- 9 SOA Litomerice "N • 1654-1662 O • 1654-1667" signature 32/1 inventory number 1538, image 96 which has page number 184 at the top and 427 at the bottom at <<http://vademecum.soalitomerice.cz/vademecum/permalink?xid=09ddd7cea03b9b8d:4e496e4e:12216bae987:-76c8&scan=c98246bd39b949f6ae9cbada89e8abe6>> accessed 25 May 2022
- 10 SOA Praha Nové Strašecí 01 church register, image 32, page 61 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/10249/32>> accessed 25 May 2022
- 11 SRA Třeboň 1622-1708 Land Register Velkostatek Mšec #3, image 407 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/720615/407/5504/1436/41/0>> (Accessed 18 May 2022): The entry for the Hřešice water mill covers 4 pages. Kašpar Liebezeit's purchase is on pages 2-3. Page 2 is numbered 1352 at the bottom. Page 3 is numbered 520 at the top. Thanks to Zuzana Jičinská who found this record and alerted me to it and to Pavel Taraba for providing enough of the reading and translation to understand the different sales.
- 12 The 17 Jun 1696 birth/baptism record of Kašpar's son Jan shows Kašpar's wife as Alžběta. (SOA Praha Mšec 01 church register, image 89, page 98 recto at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8933/89>> accessed 12 Jun 2022) The same register's pages of death records contain no 1696-1699 death record for Alžběta. (SOA Praha Mšec 01 church register, images 187-189, pages 212-213 starting at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8933/187>> accessed 12 Jun 2022. The absence of any other record showing Kašpar's wife as Alžběta leads to my working conclusion that the priest recorded the wrong name for Kašpar's wife in the 1696 birth/baptism record and that the correct name of Kašpar's wife should have been recorded as Ludmila.
- 13 SOA Praha Mšec 01 church register, image 94, page 90 verso at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8933/94>> accessed 12 June 2022. Katerina is also shown in the 1700 Seigniorial Register of Hořešovice at age ¼ but with her father again not shown with a profession (SRA Třeboň 1700 Seigniorial Register Velkostatek Mšec #13, image 95 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54458/95/1711/2629/53/0>> accessed 12 June 2022 (page is numbered 861 at bottom).
- 14 SRA Třeboň 1719 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #22, image 129, page 921 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54467/129>> (Accessed 22 Jun 2022). Thanks to Richard D'Amelio of the Czech Genealogy Facebook group for his extensive help on this record.
- 15 SRA Třeboň 1741 (#35, image 141, page 1206 <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54474/141>>, 1742 (#36, image 134, folio 66 <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54475/134>>, 1743 (#37, image 171, page 162 <<https://digi.ceskearchivy>

- cz/54482/171> and 1745 (#39, image 165, page 344 <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54484/165>> Seigniorial Registers for Velkostatek (Accessed November 2019).
- 16 SOA Praha Mšec 02 church register, image 299, page 59 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8934/299>> accessed 12 June 2022.
- 17 Kašpar's 29 Aug 1747 death record gives his age as 81, but his birth record allows calculation of his actual age as 78 years, 8 months, 27 days since his 2 Dec 1668 baptism. (SOA Praha Mšec 02 church register, image 523, page 538 verso at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8934/523>> accessed 15 June 2022)
- 18 SRA Třeboň 1752 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #40, image 153, page 514 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54485/153>> (Accessed 18 May 2022)
- 19 SOA Praha Mšec 03 church register, image 34, page 30 verso at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8935/34>> accessed 12 June 2022.
- 20 SOA Praha Pozdeň 02 church register, image 146, page 280 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/12927/146>> accessed 12 June 2022
- 21 SOA Praha Mšec 03 church register, image 34, page 30 verso at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/8935/34>> accessed 12 June 2022.
- 22 SRA Třeboň 1800 Seigniorial Register Velkostatek Mšec #70, image 79, page 76 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54515/79/1971/1085/56/0>> accessed 18 May 2022.
- 23 SOA Praha Pozdeň 13 church register, image 84, page 83 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/12938/84>> accessed 12 June 2022. His wife Barbora Brejcha was his second cousin. His mother Kateřina was the first cousin of Barbora's father Václav Brejcha whose father Josef Brejcha was the brother of Kateřina's father Tomáš Brejcha. Thanks to Pavel Taraba for researching this connection.
- 24 SOA Praha Pozdeň 16 church register, image 47, page 46 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/12941/47>> accessed 12 June 2022.
- 25 SRA Třeboň 1842 Seigniorial Register Velkostatek Mšec #71, image 377, page 189 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54516/377>> accessed 18 May 2022.
- 26 SOA Praha Pozdeň 16 church register, image 60, page 59 at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/12941/60>> accessed 12 June 2022
- 27 <<https://www.celechovice.eu/o-celechovicich/blanka-lednicka-kniha-stochov-rodiste-sv-vaclava>> accessed 18 May 2022
- 28 SOA Praha Smečno 02 church register, image 123, page 30 (also numbered 240) at <<https://ebadatelna.soapraha.cz/d/12268/123>> accessed 29 July 2022
- 29 SRA Třeboň 1712 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #20, image 60, page 547 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54465/60>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 30 SRA Třeboň 1718 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #21, image 70, page 704 at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54466/70>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 31 SRA Třeboň 1745 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #39, image 84, page 41 (numbered 266 at bottom) at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54484/84>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 32 SRA Třeboň 1720 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #23, image 121, page 58 verso (numbered 1052 at bottom) at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54468/121>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 33 SRA Třeboň 1720 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #23, image 70, page 33 recto (numbered 1002 at bottom) at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54468/70>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).
- 34 SRA Třeboň 1720 Seigniorial Register for Velkostatek Mšec #23, image 73, page 34 verso (numbered 1006 at bottom) at <<https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/54468/73>> (Accessed 29 July 2022).

Continued on page 166

Group Online Course
Beginner's Czech Language & Culture I
 10-week, 15-hour course with Instructor, Anna Cooková

Mondays 8am-9:30am (Central Time)
Mar 27th – June 5th, 2023
 Skip Memorial Day

–**Vítáme Vás!** (We welcome you!) –
Learn to read, write & speak in Czech!



CZECHTALK.COM
 Maximum of 20 students
 Easy Online Access
 Course Materials Provided

CGSI Member: \$230
 Non-member: \$255
 (Compare to Private lessons for \$550)

A Systematic Approach Using Parts of Speech

Contact Anna Cooková for a Registration Form by emailing:
annacookova@gmail.com or call **715-651-7044**
 Sponsored by Czechoslovak Genealogical Society, Int'l

The Liebezeit Family's 200 years. . .

Continued From Page 165

Information about Seigniorial Registers, what they are, and where the register sourced in Wesley Johnston's endnotes can be found on the CGSI website using this url:

<<https://cgsi.org/digital-library/liebezeit-familys-200-years-water-mills-msec-area>>.

Also, the author has included comments on the assimilation of his Germanic families to Czech in this document.

Cadastral Map User Aids

For persons who are interested in finding the cadastral map(s) for their villages please use the following link that is courtesy of Richard D'Amelio. The document created in 2021 by Richard is called "Basic Instructions for accessing cadastral maps, etc in the website of the Archive of the Czech Land Survey Office." To see an example of a cadastral map, go to page 148 of this issue. It lists the property owners and the originals have color used to distinguish the different kind of material used to construct the buildings, and other geographical items, such as fields or forests.

The CGSI has been provided permission to house the cadastral map document in the Members' only section of our website. The link to get you to the Castral map document is here:

< <https://cgsi.org/digital-library/basic-instructions-accessing-cadastral-maps-more>>.

Please note that thanks to Jerry Martinek, CGSI Board Member and past Education Chair there are links to seven (7) other documents, articles, or presentations that contain information about Cadastral maps found on the bottom of this landing page. It is highly recommended that you watch the video presentations by Helmuth Schneider and by Blanka Lednická.

Sponsorship Benefits

- One on One consultation for 1-hour time with choice of European speaker.
- \$50 gift certificate to be used at the CGSI sales table
- Complimentary gift membership or extension of individual membership in CGSI
- Special CGSI Thank You gift
- Public Recognition of your sponsorship level (4 levels will be available)

CGSI's 2023 Milwaukee Conference Individual Sponsorship Program

The CGSI has two types of Conference sponsorships that we solicit funds for to help support the various types of expenses to supplement the conference registration fees. First, we have a corporate sponsorship program and we have a list of Czech, Slovak and Rusyn organizations that we connect with every other year.

Secondly, we started an individual sponsorship program for our 2019 Lincoln, Nebraska Conference. Each sponsorship level for both the corporate and individual have different benefits they receive in return for their financial support.

For the largest individual sponsors (\$1,000 or more) at the Passport Level, we are offering the contributor the opportunity to participate in a one-on-one consultation with the international speaker of their choice to discuss genealogy, DNA, Slovak or Czech culture or history, current day events, etc. These consultations will be held at a day and time arranged between the sponsor and the requested speaker.

Speakers to Select for one-on-one consultation

Rev. Jan Dus Czech or Slovak Genealogy, tour recommendations

Miroslav Koudelka Czech or Slovak Genealogy or Czech History, tour recommendations

Marek Blahuš DNA assistance, recommendations
Gabriela Bereghazyova Czechoslovak and Slovak History, Culture, Folklore

Zuzana Palovic Czechoslovak and Slovak History, Culture, Folklore

Each sponsorship level has a different package of benefits they receive in return for their financial contribution. The other sponsor levels are:

Patron Level \$500 - \$999 supports evening entertainment and tours

Donor Level \$100 - \$499 supports conference technology

Contributor Level \$50-\$99 supports refreshments and koláče

We hope that each of you will consider sponsoring the 2023 Milwaukee Conference. The official Sponsorship document will be posted to the CGSI website and a link sent in an upcoming CGSI e-News sent through MailChimp service.

CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2021

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS			
CASH – CHECKING	\$ 184,304		
CASH – SAVINGS	\$ 65,772		
CASH – PETTY (FOR SALES)	\$ 250		
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	<u>\$ 67,554</u>		
TOTAL CASH/INVESTMENTS		\$ 317,880	
MERCHANDISE INVENTORY	\$ 48,525		
LIBRARY COLLECTION	\$ 25,211		
WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT COSTS	\$ 42,690		
CZECH IMMIGRATION DISPLAY	\$ 4,599		
CZECH GENEALOGY EXHIBIT	\$ 1,231		
PREPAID BULK MAIL POSTAGE	<u>\$ 887</u>		
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>\$ 123,143</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS			\$ 441,023
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL			
DEFERRED MEMBERSHIP FEES	\$ 50,370		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 703		
FUTURE INT'L CONFERENCE	\$ 150		
TRAVELING LIBRARY/EDUCATION	<u>\$ 17,543</u>		
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 68,766	
RETAINED EARNINGS	\$ 371,084		
CURRENT EARNINGS (LOSS)	<u>\$ 1,173</u>		
TOTAL CAPITAL (EQUITY)		<u>\$ 372,257</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL			<u>\$ 441,023</u>

INCOME STATEMENT
1/1/21 THRU 12/31/21

INCOME		EXPENSES	
LIBRARY DONATIONS *	\$ 8,081	2021 CONFERENCE EXPENSES	\$ 27,677
2021 CONFERENCE FEES	\$ 47,339	NAŠE RODINA	\$ 43,204
MEMBERSHIP FEES	\$ 67,710	WEBSITE MAINTENANCE	\$ 12,325
CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS	\$ 1,606	LIBRARY – RENT AND OTHER	\$ 9,968
SALES OF MERCHANDISE	\$ 3,790	COST OF GOODS SOLD	\$ 4,037
POSTAGE / HANDLING	\$ 3,655	AMORTIZATION – WEB EXPENSES	\$ 28,017
LIBRARY RESEARCH	\$ 255	INSURANCE	\$ 3,714
QUARTERLY MEETING FEES	\$ 10	EDUCATION	\$ 2,216
EDUCATION INCOME	\$ 1,830	DEPRECIATION	\$ 1,281
INTEREST INCOME	\$ 75	POSTAGE/SHIPPING	\$ 1,910
ADVERTISING	\$ 50	BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTING	\$ 5,875
TOTAL GRANTS/CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 1,330	CREDIT CARDS	\$ 1,674
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 145,731</u>	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$ 2,660
CURRENT EARNINGS (LOSS)	\$ 1,173	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 144,558</u>

NOTES TO PROFIT/LOSS STATEMENT: THE CGSI'S 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ACCOUNTED FOR A MAJOR PORTION OF INCOME AND EXPENSES. A LARGE PORTION OF THE 2020 WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT (NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED) COSTS WERE AMORTIZED DURING 2021. CGSI FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WERE PREPARED AND AUDITED BY ABDO LLP, EDINA, MN.



The Librarian's Shelf

By Janis L. Douglass

Theme of This Issue: Mills

The CGSI library does not currently hold any books dealing specifically with mills or milling. Therefore, this column will instead list some online resources that help understand the characteristics of traditional mills, describe aspects of the millers' trade and role, or assist in discovering what mills were located near ancestral villages. In addition, a large number of published books about historic mills and milling in the Czech lands have been published in Czech, and a webpage with an extensive list of such books is also included. While the CGSI library does not hold any of the materials listed, readers who may find one of them particularly relevant to their ancestral research may be able to purchase a copy from a Czech online bookseller. The scope of this column will be limited to traditional mills and the milling technology developed prior to the mid-19th century - no attempt is made here to include materials about the more modern forms of industrial mills.

Technology/Architecture/History of Traditional Mills

Traditional mills can be divided into three primary types: those powered by water, those powered by wind, and those powered by animals. While watermills are the most common type used in the Czech lands, windmills and animal-powered mills were also found there. Mills of these types employed largely the same technological principles all across Europe and the Americas. The following webpages provide a very good historical overview of each kind of mill and descriptions of the ways in which each type of mill functioned.

For water powered mills:

<<https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Watermill>>

For wind driven mills:

<<https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Windmill>>

For animal powered mills:

<https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Horse_mill>

The Social Position and Role of Traditional Mills, Milling and Millers

For greater depth about the subject of traditional mills and milling generally, the following books have the advantage of being in English and relatively easy to locate at American libraries or booksellers. Although there are inevitably differences between the social structures in England or Western Europe and the Czech lands, so that comparisons must be made cautiously, the following works provide a broad general overview of the role of mills and the work and social position of millers in traditional rural societies.

∞ *Stronger than a Hundred Men: A History of the Vertical Water Wheel*. By Terry S. Reynolds. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1983. Discussion of both the technical details and social settings of water mills from ancient times to the nineteenth century. Contains a lengthy bibliography.

∞ *The Mills of Medieval England*. By Richard Holt. Oxford: 1988. An account of the construction and working of water and windmills, with a detailed discussion of the economic, legal, and social structures that tied them to medieval English society.

∞ "The Advent and Triumph of the Watermills" Chapter 5 in *Land and Work in Medieval Europe* by Marc Bloch. London: 1967.

Materials specifically dealing with the role of millers and milling in the Czech lands are not as accessible to the English language reader. I have listed two of these that are both comprehensive and yet among the more accessible to find and purchase.

∞ *Dílo a život mlynářů a sekerníků v Čechách I. / Work and Life of Millers and Millwrights in Bohemia. Vol. 1*. By Luděk Štěpán and Magda Křivanová. ARGO, 2001. This extensive work deals with the life of Czech millers and millwrights and with their mills and other water, wind or animal powered equipment over many centuries. It includes plans, drawings and photographs illustrating the architecture and mechanics of their buildings and equipment. In Czech, with English and German picture captions, and an English appendix entitled "Short history of mills."

∞ *History of Millcraft in Bohemia*. By Ladislav

Blahnik. A brief description in English of the role of the mill and the life and work of millers in the Czech lands. This article was printed in *Naše rodina*, March 1991 Vol. 9 No.1, at pages 10-14. It is also now available online at <<http://www.blahnik.info/millcraft.htm>>.

☞ **What Life Was Like in the Mills of Czechia.** Reprinted from *Awake! Magazine*, December 22, 2004. A very short discussion in English of the life and work of millers in the Czech lands.

<<https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/102004928>>.

☞ **The History of the Centuries: A Genealogy of a Czech miller's family - Kysilka.** By Karel Kysilka. 1535-1880. This series of linked webpages provide a very interesting example of a genealogy of a millers' family over about 350 years. <<http://community.fortunecity.ws/victorian/durer/23/histal/en/kbegin.html>>

Online Databases and Lists of Mills in the Czech Republic:

There is considerable interest in the study of old mills in the Czech lands. Mill enthusiasts and researchers have created some webpages which are of immense value to anyone wishing to research the specific mills that were operated by or frequented by their Czech ancestors. Of particular importance are the following two sites, one of which deals with water mills and the other with windmills. These sites have a number of significant features that will be discussed here in some detail:

☞ **Vodnimlyny.cz / Czech Watermills.** This website maintains an extensive database of water powered mills in the Czech Republic <<https://www.vodnimlyny.cz/mlyny/objekty/>>, which can be searched by various criteria and lists almost 11,000 individual mills. All of the mills are also marked on an interactive map <<https://www.vodnimlyny.cz/mlyny/objekty/map/>> which can be filtered to show only the mills of specific kinds or conditions. A searchable database of almost 145,000 photographs relating to these mills is at <<https://www.vodnimlyny.cz/mlyny/objekty/images/>>.

Each of the entries on the map and databases have clickable links that open the first page of a set of seven webpages with detailed information about that specific mill. The individual pages for each mill are organized in seven tabs. The first contains general data (name of mill, location, GPS coordinates, physical description, any websites, etc). The other tabs include historical information (names of the millers who ran the mill, what historic maps the mill is shown on); architectural details; a description of the machinery; a page of pictures relating

to the mill; and a list of source materials, including links if online.

☞ **Povětrník.cz/Czech Windmills.** Because the website discussed above includes only watermills, a similar website was subsequently created by another group of mill enthusiasts to provide similar information about windmills. The website name is an obscure regional/local term for a windmill. The site's database contains 116 windmills, and the site largely follows the same plan as the watermill site. There is an interactive map of the Czech Republic with the windmills marked on the map <www.povetrik.cz/vetrne-mlyny/mapa> and map markers give links that open individual pages on each windmill with several tabs. The database of photographs contains over 2300 photos. The amount of information is somewhat less than on the watermill site, but nonetheless the site is a great resource in identifying windmills in ancestral areas.

☞ **Zaniklé obce a objekty. Mlyny/Lost Places and Objects. Mills.** A webpage for the subcategory of mills, showing links to entries for about 1900 lost mills, no longer extant, from a website that has a massive database of the former and lost places in the Czech Republic. Useful for finding location and other information about mills that may have existed at the time of your ancestors but no longer exist. The specific page with mill links can be accessed from the home page of the site, <www.zanikleobce.cz>, by going towards the bottom right of the page under "Objekty" and clicking on the term "Mlýn."

In addition to these three very detailed sites, there are several webpages on the internet that provide smaller lists of mills that could prove helpful in some instances:

☞ **Mills in the Czech Republic** is a Wikimedia page linking to 11 small lists of photos of Czech mills in various categories, such as watermills, windmills, ruined mills, mills in art, etc. It is located at <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Mills_in_the_Czech_Republic>. It includes a small list of six animal powered mills.

☞ **Seznam větrných mlýnů v Česku / List of windmills in Czechia** is a Czech Wikipedia page that provides links to short lists of windmills organized by Czech districts. Similarly, **Seznam vodních mlýnů v Česku/List of watermills in Czechia** provides similar information about some watermills. Both can be accessed from <<https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mlyn>>.

☞ **Windmills in the Czech Republic** is another partial

list, found at an English windmill enthusiast site. The Czech list is <<https://www.windmillworld.com/europe/czech.htm>>. The same website has a list of windmills in Slovakia, but it contains only two entries and is therefore of little use.

Bibliography of Czech Books and Articles on Mills

Literatura/Literature. <<https://www.vodnimlyny.cz/zdroje/literatura/>>. This is a webpage from the Vodnimlyny.cz website discussed above, which gives access to an enormous searchable database of books, journal articles and other literature dealing with mills and milling in the Czech lands. There are more than 500 items in this list that are potentially useful sources for researching a mill or mills. The database contains more than 20 books and 165 articles on individual mills, and about 65 books and 50 articles on groups of mills by a specific town, river, or region. In addition, there are a number of books and articles dealing with specific miller families, with general historical aspects of mills and milling, and with the technology or architecture of old mills. A handful of translated titles listed here by way of example from the over 500 similar items will give an idea of the scope and potential genealogical value of this bibliographic database:

- Water Mills in Moravia and Silesia
- The Dyku family of millers from Plzeň.
- A list of owners of some mills in Polička
- Prague mills & millers at the end of the 17th and 18th centuries
- 500 years at the Parkanský mill
- Mills and millers at Litomyšl and on the town's estate
- Manorial mills on the Český Krumlov estate at the turn of the 17th & 18th centuries
- Memoirs of a miller, or from his native Tábor to the mills of Písek

The CGSI Library is Looking for Family Histories

If you have a family history and would like both to preserve it and share it with others who are conducting genealogical research, we would be pleased to add it to our collection. It must be submitted to us in a shelf-ready format, either as a bound volume or as punched papers in a sturdy three-ring notebook. We cannot ac-

cept looseleaf items. If you have only a digital copy of your family history, we will accept those for our digital library, with your written permission to post it on the members' only section of the CGSI website. Family histories may be sent to:

CGSI – Librarian
PO Box 16225
St. Paul, MN 55116-0225

Library Volunteers Needed

We are always looking for volunteers to serve on the Library Committee and to assist library patrons. We also need short-term volunteers to assist from time to time with various library projects. Such projects may include:

- Evaluating donations
- Updating holdings in the online card catalog
- Reviewing the usefulness of current holdings
- Creating CGSI library guides
- Reviewing books for surname and village indices

Time commitments vary depending on the project and number of volunteers involved. Some projects can be worked on independently on the volunteer's own time schedule. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact us. For contact information, see <<https://cgsi.org/contact-us>>.

CGSI Traveling Library Volunteers for 2023 Milwaukee Conference

The CGSI is looking for volunteers who will be attending the 2023 Milwaukee Conference at The Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee, Wisconsin to help with research consultations with fellow CGSI members. These consultations will be training on how to locate family vital records on the online archive records from the various Czech archives or the Slovak archive records available through the FamilySearch site. For volunteers who work during 4 time slots at the Conference CGSI will provide a complimentary registration. The number of volunteer slots is limited. Experience in using the online archive records is a requirement to volunteer. Interested persons should contact Paul Makousky, Conference Chair at pmakousky@cgsi.org.

Periodicals

We have issues of various periodicals that have been donated but are not on the shelves due to space limitations. These are stored in the CGSI office and if you have an

interest in examining them, please contact library@cgsi.org. The periodicals include *Hospodář*, *Ženské Listy*, *Jednota*, *Hlás Národa*, *Česká Žena* and *Přítel*.

Library Collection Research Policy

CGSI will do research on selected books and reference material in our library collection. Mostly, these are books with name indexes or are indexes themselves, such as Leo Baca's Czech Passenger Arrival Lists, the ZČBJ (Fraternal Herald) Death Index, the Nebraska/Kansas Czech Settlers book, and the telephone directories of the Czech and Slovak Republics.

A nearly complete list of the CGSI's book, microfilm/fiche, and map collection is available on the website, <<https://cgsi.org/resources/cgsi-research-collection>>. There are two pdf documents with the titles, one sorted by title and the second sort by author. Users can search either document using the combination of Ctrl and "F" keys and then entering your search word in the box in the upper right of your screen's device.

You can search the maps we have by typing "map" in the search bar. The Microfilms can be searched by entering "Mfilm" in the search bar. CGSI has microfilms of Czech, Slovak and German-Bohemian Church parishes from the St. Paul Archdiocese. If you wish to search for books on a particular state, you can do so by entering, for example, "US NE" to find those from the State of Nebraska. Books on immigration can be found by entering "US IMM".

We cannot accept open-ended research requests such as "tell me what you have on the Jan Dvořák family of Minnetonka, Minnesota." When making a research request you must specify which book you want researched and what family, castle, town, etc, for which you want information.

The fees for various research are as follows: Telephone Directories of Czech and Slovak Republics - \$5.00 for each surname provided (per directory) per member, or \$10 for each surname provided (per directory) per non-member, plus 25 cents for each address we find and extract from the book.

Other Sources/Books - \$10.00 per half hour of research for members or \$20.00 per half hour of research for non-members. Expenses for photocopies and additional postage will be billed. The minimum charge of \$10.00/member or \$20.00/non-member must accompany the request for information. Deposit can be made under Products on the CGSI website.

Copies of St. Paul Archdiocese Church Records

from our on-line database (up to 1934)

- The church name, microfilm number, page number and surname are required
- Members - \$5.00 for the first copy and \$2.00 for each additional copy on the same roll of microfilm
- Non-members - \$10.00 for the first copy and \$3.00 for each additional copy on the same roll of microfilm

Copies of St. Paul Archdiocese Church Records Post 1934 (from Films owned by CGSI)

- The church name, person's full name, type of record (baptism, marriage or death), and date or approximate timeframe +/- five years are required
- Members - \$10.00 per ½ hour of research
- Non-members - \$20.00 per ½ hour of research

Copies of Leo Baca's Czech Immigration Passenger Lists from the online database (volumes I-IX) and unpublished Baltimore 1900-1903:

- The volume number and surname are required
- Members - \$5.00 for the first copy and \$2.00 for each additional copy
- Non-members - \$10.00 for the first copy and \$3.00 for each additional copy

We will continue to provide at NO charge for members, help on deciphering town names on documents, locating town or villages, providing postal codes, and advising on correspondence to those in the Czech and Slovak Republics.

Research is conducted by CGSI volunteers. They will not be able to interpret any information for you that is found in a foreign language.

CGSI Library

The CGSI Library holdings are housed within the William J. Hoffman Library and Research Center (LRC) of the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS). The LRC is located at 1385 Mendota Heights Rd (NE Corner of Pilot Knob Road and Mendota Heights Road). Located about one-quarter mile north of Highway 494.

MGS Library telephone number:

(651) 330-9312 (call to verify library is open)

MGS Library 2022 hours

Wednesday 10 am - 4 pm

Thursday 10 am - 8 pm

Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Check out www.mnsg.org for more information on the library and to check the volunteer calendar. The library is closed if no volunteer is available.

The CGSI collection is accessible to MGS library patrons on a self-directed basis at any time the MGS library is open, MGS staff can direct you to the collection, but may not be able to advise you about how to use its books and other resources.

The first Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 pm is designated as a CGSI research day. On that day, the library is staffed by CGSI volunteers who can assist you in locating and using CGSI resources for your research. Assistance by CGSI volunteers at other times can sometimes be arranged in advance by visiting researchers on a special needs basis, subject to the availability of individual volunteers. To request such assistance, researchers should contact Library@CGSI.org well in advance of an intended visit.

**Please do not send mail to this address, instead continue to send it to the P.O. Box.*



*Minnesota Genealogy Center
Mendota Heights, MN*

ADVERTISING RATES

We will accept limited advertising. We generally do not accept ads for products, only services. The rates for the following ad sizes are:

- Full Page (7"x9") \$ 150
- Half Page (7"x4½") \$ 90
- Half Column (3¾"x4½") \$ 50
- Column Width (3¾"x2") \$ 35

Prices are per issue. All submitted advertisements must be camera-ready. Queries are free to members.

Ads must be approved by publications committee

Membership Form

On the back page of this issue, your membership number and expiration date is printed on the top of the address label.

If your membership is due within the next three months, fill out the following form and return to CGSI.

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Foreign members, excluding Canada, will receive their publications in electronic format only.

All foreign members please check pricing on CGSI website.

**Make checks payable to and mail to: CGSI, PO Box 16225
St. Paul, MN 55116-0225**

Term	Circle Choice:		
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1 Year	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$55.00
2 Year	\$65.00	\$70.00	\$95.00
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Srtka Jr., William Joseph	Sioux Falls, SD
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Opel, Judy (Kopecky)	Pasadena, CA
Otradovsky, Fred J.	Grand Island, NE
Schneider, Matthew	Baden, PA
Srtka Jr., William Joseph	Sioux Falls, SD

MAKE A DONATION OR BECOME A SPONSOR MEMBER AND



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How to Make a Donation

Members can make a donation to the CGSI from our website, www.cgisi.org.

Click on Get Involved in the top menu bar. Then in the dropdown list choose Support and Donate. Then scroll down to Financial Donation.



Charitable Giving

Founded in 1988, the goal of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International is to promote genealogical research and interest in ancestry for those tracing their family to the geographic area encompassing the Czech and Slovak Republics.

Help continue this legacy by including CGSI in your will or estate plan.

Contact your legal advisor for more information.

Sales Order Form

(All Items Include Shipping Costs)

1	Czech Dictionary and Phrasebook by M. Burilkova, 223 pp.	\$ 15.00
2	Latinsko Český Slovník pro genealogy / Latin-Czech Dictionary for Genealogy, 158 pp., paperback	\$ 25.00
3	Czech Proverbs by Joanne Asala. Contains many Black/white illust.	\$ 20.00
4	Czech/English & English/Czech Dictionary by FIN, Olomouc, CR 1102 pp., hardcover	\$ 34.50
5	Slavic Specialties from Pierogis to Kolaches all of Eastern Europe. Small spiral bound book.	\$ 9.00
6	My Slovakia, My Family by John Palka. Part genealogy, part historical analysis, and part immigrant story. 416 pp., 6" x 9"	\$ 25.00
7	History of Slovaks in America by Konštantín Čulen, 411 pp., hardcover.	\$ 49.50
8	Slovakia! Traditions Old and New by Helene Cincebeaux. Color photos, 172 pp., softcover.	\$ 26.00
9	Slovak-English & English/Slovak Dictionary and Phrasebook by S. & J. Lorinc, 155 pp.	\$ 15.00
10	Slovak/Eng & Eng/Slovak Dictionary by Nina Trnka, 350 pp., softcover.	\$ 14.50
11	Česká Republika Auto map, 1:500000 scale of the entire country.	\$ 8.00
12	Czech Republic Hiking maps (97 maps in series) 1:50000 scale. Buyer, identify your towns.	\$ 8.00
13	Czech Republic Atlas (1:100000) by Freytag and Berndt. 120 pp inc 18 city maps.	\$ 27.00
14	We Lack for Nothing Now, Czechs in Steele Co, MN by Mike Wolesky	\$ 23.00
15	Slovak-American Touches by Toni Brendel 150 Slovak recipes, dance groups, etc. 192 pp.	\$ 19.50
16	Slovakia auto map, 1:500000 scale of the entire country	\$ 8.00
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18	Slovak Republic Auto Atlas, 1:100000 scale w/postal codes, 176 pp.	\$ 27.00
19	The Emperor and the Peasant: Two Men at the Start of the Great War and the End of the Habsburg Empire by Kenneth Janda. Published January 2018, 287 pp., paperback.	\$ 40.00

21	Czechs Forever, A Biographical Guide, 139 pp.	\$ 19.00
22	Quality Czech Mushroom recipes, spiral bound small booklet	\$ 9.00
23	Quality Dumpling Recipes, spiral bound small booklet	\$ 9.00
24	Czech & Slovak Kolaches & Sweet Treats, spiral bound small booklet	\$ 9.00
25	Gateway to a New World – Czech/Slovak community in St. Paul, Minnesota's West End district. In format of a calendar.	\$ 11.50
26	New Prague, MN Cemetery Inventory (St. Wenceslaus and Bohemian National)	\$ 12.00
27	Pioneer Stories of Minnesota Czech Residents (1906-1930)	\$ 14.00
28	Prague, Saints and Heroes of the Charles Bridge, 110 pp.	\$ 15.00
29	History of Slovakia – A Struggle for Survival by Stanislav Kirschbaum.	\$ 25.00
30	History of the Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood, OH, 301 pp.	\$ 25.00
31	Czechs in Minnesota by Milan Woodrow Jerabek, 1939, 165 pp., softcover	\$ 25.00
32	Slovakia – The Heart of Europe, 55 pp., hardcover	\$ 30.00
33	Cleveland Slovaks by John T. Sabol and Lisa A. Alzo. Arcadia Publishing, 128 pp.	\$ 22.00
34	Slovak Recipes, small spiral bound. By Sidonka Wadina and Toni Brendel	\$ 9.00
35	Delicious Memories by Mary Stretton, 103 pp.	\$ 11.50
36	Cherished Czech Recipes by Pat Martin, 143 pp., small spiral bound	\$ 9.00
37	Czech and Slovak Touches by Pat Martin	\$ 14.50
38	The Good Soldier Švejk and His Fortunes in the World War by Jaroslav Hasek, paperback, 784 pp.	\$ 19.00
39	Pamatnik, Czech Protestant Churches in North America, 1900 by Vilem Siller, Vaclav Prucha and R.M. De Castello, 312 pp., hardcover.	\$ 41.00
40	History of Czechs in America by Jan Habenicht, 595 pp., paperback	\$ 35.00
41	Cleveland Czechs by John T. Sabol and Lisa A. Alzo, Arcadia Publishing, 128 pp.	\$ 22.00
42	Images of the Greater Mahoning Valley, by Susan Summers and Loretta Ekoniak, 127 pp.	\$ 22.00
43	Call of Dudy (52 minute DVD on ethnically diverse bagpipe traditions in Bohemia)	\$ 19.00
44	Czechs of Chicagoland by Malynne Sternstein, paperback	\$ 22.00
45	Czech and Slovak Family Tree, Fun Introduction to Genealogy	\$ 8.50
46	Castles and Palaces (Hrady a Zamky) Coloring and Activity Book by Daniela Mahoney and others.	\$ 8.50
47	Czech Republic Coloring and Activity Book by Daniela and Teresa Mahoney and others.	\$ 8.50
48	Find Your Czech and Slovak Ancestors by Stephen Szabados, 152 pp., paperback	\$ 22.00
49	Handy Czech-English Genealogical Dictionary by Jan Perez, Rev. 2 nd Ed., 2016, Paperback	\$ 25.00
50	A Treasury of Slovak Folk Dress by Helene Baine Cincebeaux, 140 pp., all color photos.	\$ 28.00
51	Czech and Slovak Immigration to America When, Why, How, and Where by Stephen Szabados	\$ 17.50

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Make check payable to CGSI, and mail to Czechoslovak Genealogical Society Int'l, P.O. Box 16225, St. Paul, MN 55116-0225. Prices subject to change without notice. Items may not always be available on demand. Refunds will be made for items which are not available. Orders shipped outside the U.S. require higher postage charges. Please e-mail sales@cgsi.org to obtain price.

To see photos of these items and some additional information please visit our website: www.cgsi.org

Calendar Of Events - *Mark Yours*

If you have a question write the webmaster at info@cgsi.org or call our number (651) 964-2322 to leave a voice mail message. Your call will be returned.

Current date – March 19, 2023

Exhibit: Magic and Mystery: Mardi Gras and Carnival Traditions

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library
1400 Inspiration Place SW, Cedar Rapids, IA
Further info: <<https://ncsml.org>>

February 4, 2023 (Saturday) 10 am Central CGSI Quarterly Program

How To Access and Use Czech, Slovak and Rusyn Archives

Several overseas and US speakers will share their expertise with the holdings. Full details coming soon.
Further info: Watch <cgsi.org>

February 4, 2023 (Saturday) 1 pm Central Czech & Slovak Research Discussion Group

Moderated by Iveta Blahútová, CGSI Education Chair. Format is informal, with the goal to have an open, inclusive discussion.
Go to <cgsi.org> for the link to the Meeting

February 12, 2023 (Sunday)

Czech Jaternice Dinner 2023

Sponsored by Sokol Milwaukee

Annual dinner with authentic Czech food, music and shopping.
Blessed Sacrament Church, 3100 S 41st St
Milwaukee, WI 53215
Further info: <<https://www.sokolmilwaukee.org>>

February 18, 2023 (Saturday) Noon – 18th Annual Masopust (Mardi Gras)

Pivo Brewery, 101 Huber Dr, Calmar, IA
Malek's Fishermen Band from Garner, Iowa
Traditional Czech dinner @ 5:30; Silent Auction
Info: Eileen Tlustý: elt52154@hotmail.com
Or call Eileen at 563-229-6049
Further info: <<https://northeastiowaczech.com>>

February 23 – June 4, 2023

Special Exhibit: Degenerate (Nazi propaganda)

Jewish Museum Milwaukee, 1360 N Prospect Ave
Info: <<https://jewishmuseummilwaukee.org/exhibits/>>

March 2-4, 2023 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) RootsTech Connect 2023 by FamilySearch

In Salt Lake City, Utah and online.

How will you experience RootsTech 2023? You decide.
<<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/event/rt2023>>

March 19, 2023 (Sunday)

Flavors of Slovakia Dinner

10-11 curbside pickup, 12:30 pm sit down dinner.
C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan St, St. Paul, MN
Reserve by March 15, 2023 <www.sokolmn.org>

March 24-25, 2023 (Friday, Saturday) Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Spring Gene-a-Rama

Trials and Tribulations of Coming to America
Featuring Katherine Wilson
The Lismore – A Double Tree by Hilton
333 Gibson Street, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Further info: <<https://wsgs.org>>

April 26-29, 2023 (Wednesday – Saturday) Ohio Genealogical Society Conference 2023

What Brought Them Here 1803-2023
Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, is Ohio's Largest Indoor Waterpark. Sandusky, Ohio
<<https://www.ogsconference.org>>

May 31 – June 3, 2023 (Wednesday – Saturday) National Genealogical Society 2023 Family History Conference: Virginia: The Deep Roots of a Nation

Richmond, Virginia and Online at Home
<<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/conferences/>>

October 17-21, 2023 (Tuesday – Saturday) CGSI's 19th Genealogical/Cultural Conference

Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Rd, Pewaukee, WI
Czech koláče class by Ann Cramer (off-site)
3 tours, Racine/Caledonia & Milwaukee/Cudahy
Double feature film festival: Pictures from the Old Country (Slovakia) and Czechs in Chicago
New Thursday night program: Documents ID
Parade of Kroje, Networking, Folk Dancers
Further info and hotel reservations: <www.cgsi.org>

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International
P.O. Box 16225
St. Paul, MN 55116-0225

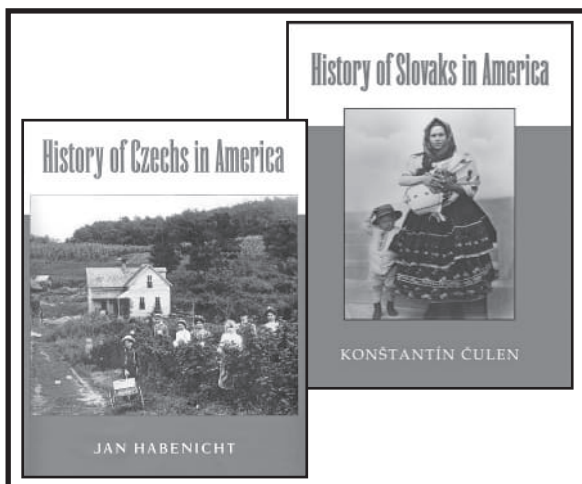
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Coming in the March 2023 issue -

- From the Mississippi to the Morava: CGSI's expanding international focus
- 35 Years of Service to Genealogists, 1988-2023
- CGSI and the Collaborative Genealogy Experience
- Easter Reminiscences
- A St. Paul Dairyman and His Family



Two CGSI published books, *History of Czechs in America* by Jan Habenicht (1996) and *History of Slovaks in America* by Konštantín Čulen (2007).



Dave Pavelka, Past President accepting on behalf of the CGSI the Silver Commemorative Medal of the President of the Czech Republic from Václav Havel at St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota. April 1999.

CGSI website: www.cgsi.org