

# Genealogy of the Bucovinian Pioneers of Lennard Manitoba: the Voloca Church Records

*by Jim Ungrin*

## Introduction

Most people who attempted to do genealogical research on their ancestors from Bucovina before ~2002 often hit a very difficult stumbling block. Very little information was available other than that obtained by word of mouth from their ancestors, many of whom emigrated to Canada in the 1899-1912 era. Many of the ancestors could neither read nor write and until the more modern era little emphasis had ever been placed on birthdates, accurate ages etc.

Starting in 2002, however, an enormous store of genealogical information from Bucovina began to become available. The Church of the Latter Day Saints (LDS) (The Mormons) were able to visit many villages in Bucovina and were able to microfilm the original church records or copies deposited in other repositories. These records cover births, marriages and deaths recorded by the churches. The LDS has graciously made these microfilms available for all to view at their Family History Centers across North America and many researchers have benefited greatly from their efforts.

As of September 2010, almost all records from 1800 to ~1920 have been made available. The only exceptions for Voloca are births between 1832 and 1839 and marriages before 1840. These records are the original handwritten ones and are not readily computer-searchable. They must be individually read in the original handwriting. Some may be transcribed by researchers over time and be published but that is not the case at present.

The website [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) is the starting point for this source of information. Under the Library Catalogue tab on the homepage one can find the information that has been filmed for Voloca and for many other villages in Bucovina.

## Examples of Records

Our interests have been largely limited to Voloca and we will expand on the records from there. Bucovina was annexed by the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1775. The Austrians had a great reputation for accurate record keeping and set up an excellent system.

The houses or family holdings were numbered and records were carefully recorded at the churches. Many of the early records are recorded in Cyrillic (Russian alphabet) and present a bit of a challenge to read. Dates are recorded on the Julian Calendar that was used in that era. Spellings for a specific family vary greatly with time and with the era and the capabilities of the church recorder. The spellings used in this document are one possible choice. Other spellings should be regarded as equally valid. (The practice of shortening and altering names carried on in Canada as well, at



Father was Teodor Penteliciuc of Voloca, mother Maria, Godparent Akelina, sotia (wife of) Aftanasi Holovach, mid-wife Maria Onufreiciuc (unclear) and priest Ioan Hackman (again unclear).

Some of the challenges of reading the handwriting are evident here!!

This second example from 1874 shows some changes.

Haus- Nr.  Name- post Kostl	Periode der Geburten Врѣмѣ Нѣгѣтїи			Namen des Kindeſ  НѢМЕЛКЕ ПРѢНКѢЛІИ	Religion Акоу Бї- сепїтїи		Ge- schlecht Платьї		Urschrift Die dıeont. mense Urschrift Акоу де мense
	Jahr Аноу	Monat und Tag der Geburt Аноу ми зїон де мense де мense	Monat und Tag der Taufe Аноу ми зїон де мense де мense		Orientalisch Роскопїтїан	Occidentalisch Аноуан	Männlich Брѣтїанскїи	Weiblich Дѣвїанскїи	
174	1874	29. Mai	30. Mai	Maria	/				

  

Weiter Нѣспїтїи		Vater Кѣмстрїи		Vor- und Zu- namen der Gebamme, dann ihre Wohnort		Eigenhändige Unter- schrift des Pfarrers, der die Taufe besorgte	
Vor- und Zunamen, dann Stand oder Gewerbe des Vaters  Name, mi Нопенїа Тате, ми Брѣтїан ми Аноуан де мense де мense		Mutter		Vor- und Zunamen, dann Stand und Wohnort  Name, mi Нопенїа, Брѣтїан ми Аноуан де мense де мense		Name, mi Нопенїа Моуїл ми Аноуан мende- пїл еї	
Teodor Basilie Ungurean sotia Gura Gura		Marica		Marica		Cassian Stratulat	

The columns ask for the same information, but now more Romanian is evident in the titles. The writing is now more Roman as well.

On page one of our example we now have:

House 174, 1874 May 29 Maria, Orthodox, female and legitimate was born (baptized on May 30.)

Page two tells us:

Father Georgi, son of Vasilie, Ungurean from Voloca and mother Parascheva Guraliuk also of Voloca. Godparents were Marica, sotia (wife of) Teodor Ungurean and Katrina daughter of Georgi Paulenko, both from Voloca. Mid-wife was Maria Hincivici of Voloca and the priest was Cassian Stratulat.

We have a bit more information here about the mother as well as easier-to-read handwriting.

## Deaths

Two sets of headings and examples are shown, one early and one later.

Haus- No. № до- ма	Zeit des Absterbens Время Ръкоизрѣнїи		Vor- und Suname des Verstorbeneu und dessen Wohnort Имя и Покла Ръкоизрѣди, и докда ѣи ундѣ метѣ.	Stand oder Gewerbe Станъ сво Ръчїа	
	Jahr Годъ	Monat und Tag des Absterbens Мѣсяцъ и число дѣи ѣи рѣкоизрѣтѣ			Monat und Tag der Beerdigung Мѣсяцъ и число дѣи ѣи погребѣтѣ
127. 848.	21	Мартинъ	23.	Anna Czizig <i>анна Чижикова</i> Wohnort Городъ Волоча	Убогая

Religion Вѣра Вѣра	Geschlecht Полъ		Alter Вѣкъ	Todes Ursache Причина Смерти an welcher Krankheit дѣи ѣи ѣи болѣзи дѣи ѣи рѣкоизрѣтѣ	Eigendändige Fertigung des Pfarrers, der die Beerdigung besorgte Дѣи ѣи ѣи Покла дѣи ѣи рѣкоизрѣтѣ
	Свѣтъ Свѣтъ	Тѣнь Тѣнь			
1	—	—	57	9	Иванъ Покла <i>Иванъ Покла</i>

This set is an example of the two page headings from 1848. Starting in the upper one the columns on page one are for:

- 1) House number, 2) year, 3) month and date of death, 4) month and date of burial and 5) name (including village). The final column is for place of death.

In our example:

House 127, on 1848 March 21 Anna, sotia (wife of) Nicholai Onufreiciuc, resident of Voloca, died. She died in Voloca. She was buried March 23.

Page two follows with:

- Religion, column 7) Greek Orthodox or, 8) Roman Catholic followed by sex, 9) male or 10) female and 11) age. Column 12) is used to indicate "natural cause", followed by 13) giving death cause and finally 14) clergy for funeral.

In our example:

Anna was Orthodox, female and 57 years old. Cause was natural and "of the cough". The clergy is believed to read "Ioan Hackman".

This second example from 1885 shows some changes.

Haus- Nr. Numărul casei.	Zeit des Absterbens Timpul repausării		Tauf- und Zuname des Verstorbenen und dessen Wohnort. Num ele de botezu și de familie al repăusatului și domiciliul lui.	Stand oder Gewerbe. Starea sau meșeria.
	Jahr. Anul.	Monat und Tag des Absterbens. Luna și ziua repăusării.		
120	1885	11 März	Elie fiul alți Vasilie Dumitric Paulenco din Voloca	Saracu

Religion Religiunea	Geschlecht Sexul	Todesursache Cauza morții		Eigenhändige Fertigung des Priesters, der die Beerdigung besorgte. Subscrierea propriă a preotului, carele au inmormental.
Orthodox Orientală	weiblich Härb. Atroc Weiblich Femineas	an welcher Krankheit. Feliul bolii.	Alter. Estat.	
1	1	13	de cori	Cassian Stratulat paroch

The columns ask for the same information, but now more Romanian is evident in the titles.

On page one of our example we now have:

House 120, 1885 March 11 Elie, son of Vasilie, (in turn) son of Dumitru, Paulenco of Voloca. He died in Voloca and was buried March 13.

Page two tells us:

Elie was Orthodox, male 1 and 2/3 years old and died of "cori" (translation unknown). Clergy for the funeral was Cassian Stratulat.

We have a bit more information here about the person's father.

## Marriages

Two sets of headings and examples are shown, one early and one later.

Periode K r e m e				Bräutigam M i r t a k										
Haus- Nr.	der Aufkündigung K e n d e n t e n			Erauung K e n d e n t e n		Vor- und Suname dann Wohnort H S M A T, P O R K A A W H L O K S A, A T Y N D E M E T T E	Stand oder Gewerbe C T A P I C A B B P K I A A	Religion A u f k. K o n f. g r u n d			Alter E k e r t e B i n g e r	Ledig K o e r m o	Widmer B e k a n n t	
	Monat und Tag der ge- schehenen Aufkündigung M o n a t u n d T a g d e r g e s c h e h e n e n A u f k ü n d i g u n g M e n a c h u n d z i w a A k a r i c a b k e t e t			Monat und Tag der Erauung M o n a t u n d T a g d e r E r a u u n g M e n a c h u n d z i w a A k a r i c a b k e t e t				Jahr J a h r	Orthodox P a r t h o r e s a	Catholic R o m a n i s c h				Other A n d e r e
	1te 1 M	2te 2 M	3te 3 M											
226 60	16	23	30	30	30	1845				23	1			
	L e m m i n g e n			L e m m i n g e n										

  

B r a u t M i r t e k						Z e u g e n H e n n i n			Eigenhändige Un- terschrift des Pfarrers der die Erauung besorgte A p k e r t a u n d z i w a M e n a c h u n d z i w a T o d a n k a r i c a b k e t e t
Vor- und Suname dann Wohnort H S M A T, P O R K A A W H L O K S A, A T Y N D E M E T T E		Stand oder Gewerbe C T A P I C A B B P K I A A	Religion A u f k. K o n f. g r u n d	Alter E k e r t e B i n g e r	Widmer B e k a n n t	Vor- und Suname dann Wohnort H S M A T, P O R K A A W H L O K S A, A T Y N D E M E T T E		Stand oder Gewerbe C T A P I C A B B P K I A A	
P a r a s h e v a d o t t e r d e r D u m i t r u S a u s i u c d o t t e r v o n V o l o c a			Orthodox P a r t h o r e s a	22		S i m e o n P a u l e n k o u n d P a r a s h e v a d o t t e r v o n V o l o c a			
				1					

This set is an example of the two page headings from 1845. Starting in the upper one the columns on page one are for:

- 1) House numbers (top for groom lower for bride) , 2) 3) and 4) month and date of bans in church, 5) month and date of marriage 6) year, 7 name of groom (including village), 8) nationality, 9) and 10) Greek Orthodox or Roman Catholic, 11) age and 12) bachelor or 13) widower.

In our example in page 1:

Houses (of couple) 127 and 60. On 16, 23 and 30 September 1845 bans were announced and marriage on September 30 for the union of Ioan, son of Vasilie Holovach, Orthodox, 23 years old and bachelor and

On page two the information given is:

Column 14) Brides name, 15) nationality 16) Greek Orthodox or, 17) Roman Catholic 18) age, 19) single or 20) widow, 21) witness for the wedding, 22) nationality and finally 23) clergy for marriage.

In our example:

Parasheva, daughter of Dumitru Sausiuc, was Orthodox, 22 years of age and single. Witness was Simeon (?) Paulenko and his wife Parasheva of Voloca. Clergy was 'Ioan ??'.



The format of the records is largely unchanged over the period from 1840 to 1920.

### **St Elijah District Families from Voloca**

By following the House Number (Numero de casei) and the sequence of names which often lists the father as well as the grandfather, one can work back in time for a given family. Our particular interests followed my four grandparents' families: the Ungurian family from House 340, the Hlopina Family from House 276, and the Onufreiciuc House from House 171 and the Penteliciuc Family from House 400.

During the extended search for these family details on the microfilms (many hundreds of hours), there were many incidental findings as well for other families who emigrated to the Lennard-Shell Valley-McNutt area. Because there are many families of the same last name, however, it is necessary to find some supplemental information to zero-in on the relevant family. There are particularly many Onufreiciuc, Penteliciuc, Gorda, Ungurian and Holovach families, for example. No cross-links between some of them has been found going back to 1800.

The excellent book *Once upon a Century*, put out by the R.M. of Boulton in 1984 has been of enormous help. Also over the years many individual family histories have been written and have provided valuable dates and information.

Using the microfilms and these sources, information has been found on the following families listed below in alphabetic order. Many details have been collected but will be of interest to only a smaller sub-set of people. Anyone having an interest may contact the author of this note at the contact point listed at the end of the article.

The names are listed as connected to the known family member or members who came to Canada.

#### **Antosh Family**

The ancestry of Dumitru or Metro Antosh has been traced back to House 197 and Simeon Antosh who was born ~1782.

#### **Burla Family**

The ancestry of Georgi and Eli Burla has been traced back to House 279 and Vasilie Burla who was born ~1790.

#### **Ceuca Family**

The ancestor of the Pricopi and Tanasi Ceuca has been traced back to House 77 and Andrei Ceuca who was born ~1795.

#### **Gorda Family**

The ancestry of Ekaterina Gorda (later Mrs Ioan Onufreiciuc), Maria Gorda (later Mrs Ted Guraliuk), Eli and Tanasi Gorda, as well as Pentelei Gorda and his sons Gavriil, Georgi and Florea has been traced back to House 110 and Vasilie Gorda who was born 1803.

#### **Gorlick Families (2)**

The ancestry of Grigory and Pricopi Guraliuk has been traced back to House 388 and Georgi Guraliuk who was born ~1810.



Similarly, the family of Teodor Guraliuk has been traced to Stefan Guraliuk (born ~1790) of House 334.

No link has been found between the two families.

#### **Gudz (Goods) Family**

The ancestry of Teodor, Alexca and Anna (later Mrs Pentelei Gorda) has been traced back to House 96 and Dumitru Gudz who was born ~1770.

#### **Holovach Families (2)**

The ancestry of Tanasi, Nicholai and Pricopi Holovach has been traced back to House 232 and Grigori Holovach who was born ~1789.

The ancestry of Pentelei Holovach has been traced back to Ioan Holovach of House 127.

No link has been found between the two families.

#### **Hlopina Family**

The ancestry of Mihai and Nestor Hlopina has been traced back to Simeon Hlopina of House 276 who was born ~1803.

#### **Holunga Family**

The ancestry of Jacob, Nestor and Vasilie Holunga has been traced back to House 236 and Vasilie Holunga who was born ~1804.

#### **Mintencu Family**

The ancestry of Nicholai, Petrea, Domnica (later Paulencu) and Constantin Mintencu has been traced back to House 162 and Teodor Mintencu who was born ~1755.

#### **Onufreiciuc Families (4 )**

The ancestry of Ioan Onufreiciuc and his extended family (Paul, Eli, Isidor, Bill, Louis, Saveta (later Hlopina), Maria (later Manial) and Varvara (later Savliuk) has been traced to House 171 and Ioan Onufreiciuc who was born ~1781.

The ancestry of Magdalena Onufreiciuc (later Mrs Eli Dohie) has been traced back to House 53 and Vasilie Onufreiciuc who was born ~1769.

The ancestry of Nestor Onufreiciuc has been traced back to House 92 and Grigori Onufreiciuc who was born ~1765.

The ancestry of Pricopi Onufreiciuc and his children Elsie (later Cohan), Angelina (later Burlack), Nick, and Dora (later German) has been traced back to House 131 and Aftanasi Onufreiciuc who was born ~1797.

No connection has been found between these four families.

#### **Paulencu Family**

The ancestry of John and George Paulencu and their mother Domnica (nee Mintencu) has been traced to House 153 and Teodor Paulencu who was born ~1760. The families of Elie Ilie and Marco Zilisky as well as that of Pricopi Axcenti are closely tied into this one.

#### **Penteliciuc Family**

The ancestry of Nicholai Penteliciuc has been traced back to House 32 and Ioan Penteliciuc who was born ~1775.

**Savliuk Family**

The family of Nestor Savliuk has been traced to House 279 and Anton Savliuk who was born ~1805.

**Sadoway Family**

The ancestry of Nistor Sadoway has been traced back to House 39 and Mihail Sodovei who was born ~1785.

**Ungurean Family**

The ancestry of Dumitru Ungurean (later Ungrin) has been traced back to House 340 (also earlier 189) and Pentelei Ungurean who was born 1819.

Some, but fewer details have been collected on other families in the district. Many of these would need additional information from family members to confirm that they are the persons who emigrated to Canada.

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