Wolf Ber Kratz

by Jordan Krantz, USA

Wolf Ber Kratz, my great-grandfather, was a Train Engineer who was laying Tracks, etc. for the new Railroad going thru the Carpathian Mountains.

Around the pleasant village of Luh---then known as Lonka---he met a woman, married and decided to settle there.

He used his savings to have a Temple built and the *Mikvah* (Ritual Bath house) built.

Jews who then settled in the village now had a Temple/*Mikvah*.

Wolf Ber Kratz did his best to form a Community of Jews. Over the Years before WWII, more Jewish families settled here and had children.

By 1939, there was an estimated 180 Jewish families in and around the village.

Wolf Ber Kratz was also a porter who owned 4 beautiful white horses.

The Crown Prince of Hungary, who owned a small Hunting Lodge on the outskirts of town (pictured below), always relied upon Wolf Ber Kratz for his transportation to and from the lodge.

