

Part II
THE GOLDBERG/GELBERG STORY
A MLYNOV FAMILY STORY

mlynov

Version 29

From the desk of Howard I. Schwartz, PhD
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A note about the researcher/author: Howard I. Schwartz, PhD, is the grandson of Paul Schwartz and Pauline (Shulman) Schwartz, first cousins from Mlynov. Paul and Pauline's mothers were sisters and part of the large Demb family of nine children in Mlynov. Paul's mother Yetta Demb married Chaim Schwartz and Pauline's mother Pearl Malka Demb married Tsodik Shulman. The Demb patriarchs were Israel Jacob Demb and Rivkah (Gruber) Demb, Howard's great-grandparents on his father's side of the family.

After Howard's parents, Leon Schwartz and Joan (Schinker) Schwartz, passed away, Howard began researching his family roots, an effort which almost naturally expanded into an interest in the story of Mlynov in general, since almost every family married every other family in the small town of Mlynov.

Howard has been publishing the results of his research and interviews on a website about Mlynov and the adjoining town of Mervits, hosted by JewishGen (<https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/Mlyniv/>)

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When I first learned, from one of their descendants about a Goldberg family from Mlynov who had come to America, I started searching for records of their passage. And over time I found most of those records and learned what became of those four Goldbergs from Mlynov and their families who first started arriving in 1911. Their story is documented in Part I of this narrative.

As I was looking for their records, however, I started stumbling into records of Gelbergs from Mlynov, whom none of the first Goldberg descendants had heard of. As noted in Part I, it seems plausible that both of these lines were related to each other since back in Mlynov both family lines were in fact called “Gelberg.” And it is hard to believe that it was purely an accident that the first person to arrive in America from what became the “Goldberg” line was traveling on the same ship with one of the brothers documented in this second line who remained “Gelbergs.” Indeed, they were less than one page away from each other in US passenger manifest and on the same page on the German one. How could that be an accident in a small town like Mlynov?

Here in Part II, I explore what we know about this Gelberg line from Mlynov which retained the Gelberg name in America.

Part II The Three Gelberg Brothers from Mlynov

On December 23, 1911, one “Nussen Gilberg” from Mlynov arrived in New York and was heading to his son Gershen. Traveling with him was his daughter “Sima” (Sarah). They were traveling for fifteen days on the SS Grant from Hamburg, the same ship taken by Mlynov-born Moishe Gilberg, who was the first of the future Goldberg line to arrive in New York (see Part I). The names of Nussen and his daughter are less than one page further in the manifest than Moishe’s in the American manifest and on a different column of the same page on the German manifest.

The discovery of Nussen and Sima’s Gelberg’s passenger manifest provided the first clue to the presence of the three Gelberg brothers and many of their Gelberg children who were born in Mlynov and who had come to the US and settled in Jersey City.

Nussen, or “Nathan” as he was soon to be, was the first of the Gelberg brothers I found but he was not the first to arrive. After digging into his records, I tracked down one of his great-granddaughters, Amy Westpy, and with the help of her knowledge managed to begin piecing together the Gelberg family story.

When I first approached her, Amy was not certain her great-grandfather was from the same Mlynov town I was researching. There is in fact another Mlynov that is now in Poland, and not in Ukraine, where my family’s Mlynov is now located. The records, however, eventually confirmed that her Gelberg family was from the district of “Volyn” and that meant we were talking about one and the same Mlynov. This Mlynov (also spelled with many variations including Mlinov, Mlinow, among others) became part of Russia in 1793 with the Second Partition of Poland and returned to Poland only after WWI when Poland was recreated. Today it is called Mlyniv and is located in Ukraine.



Figure 1 A photo of Nussen (Nathan) Gelberg from Mlynov. Courtesy of Amy Westpy.

From Amy, I learned that her great-grandfather, Nathan Gelberg, had a brother named Abraham Gelberg. A hunt in the records turned up another brother, Joseph (Gedale) Gelberg, from Mlynov also, who was the earliest of the brothers to arrive in the US. One thing led to another and I eventually tracked down and connected to Joseph's granddaughter, Denise Gelberg, a writer now living in Ithaca upstate New York.¹

Besides sheer persistence and a crazy desire to tell these stories, the sleuthing involved in tracking down people like Amy and Denise requires a detailed understanding of family trees, which in turn relies on obituary and other historical records, plus an understanding of how to leverage the Internet and social media. It always baffles other people, and to be honest, even myself, why I bother, but the excitement of the chase and the heartwarming gratitude when I eventually unearth the stories of other families, pays me back in spades. Amy and Denise are both stumped about why I'm so interested in their family story and I can't really explain it either, except that I'm telling the stories of other families from Mlynov too and somehow I feel that by doing so I am illuminating my family's story as well.²

Once I found her, Denise confirmed parts of the story I had unearthed and when I connected Amy and Denise, the postulated third cousins who didn't know of each other, they found they had common memories of the same family get-togethers when they were little girls. There is something very satisfying about introducing distant cousins who

¹ <http://denisegelberg.forpr.net/>

² My research on Mlynov families is documented here: <https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/Mlyniv/>

don't know of each other, and especially ones whom I am not related to at all. I'm not sure why this is so exactly, but it feels a bit like a kind of "tikkun", a fixing of a rent in the universe which has been introduced by time, history and just the natural rhythm of life.

This is the Gelberg story from Mlynov that I was able to piece together based on my research and conversations with two of their descendants.

Nathan Gelberg and his wife Reisel

Nathan Gelberg, born in about 1858 in Mlynov, was the oldest of at least four Gelberg brothers. His seven children were also born in Mlynov. He wrote their names on his Petition for Naturalization in the US on June 23, 1927. By this point, six of his seven children had arrived in the US as well.

Only Nathan's oldest son, David Gelberg, still remained in Russia. I have found in my research of Mlynov families including my own that often it was the oldest children who didn't make it to the US. This was likely because the older children had often married, settled down, and had deeper roots that would have to be uprooted by immigration. Amy tells me that there were oral traditions in her family that David may have had a deformity that may have prevented his immigration with the rest of his siblings.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

ORIGINAL
78382
N. 2
S. 5
H. 12
Y. 01

GSH

In the Honorable the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of New York:

The petition of NATHAN GELBERG hereby filed, respectfully sheweth:

First. My place of residence is 503 Howard Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y. (Give number, street, city or town, and State.)

Second. My occupation is Hebrew Teacher

Third. I was born on the 15 day of May, anno Domini 1858, at Hamburg Volin, Russia

Fourth. I emigrated to the United States from New York on or about the 10 day of Dec.

and arrived in the United States, at the port of New York on the 23 day of Dec.

and arrived in the United States, at the port of President Grant

Fifth. I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on the 18 day of Nov., anno Domini 1920 in the Supreme Court of Kings Co. Brooklyn, N.Y.

Six. I am married. My wife's name is Rosie; she was born on the day of , anno Domini 1870 in Russia, and now resides at with me (Give number, street, city or town, and State.)

I have 7 children, and the name, date and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children is as follows:

David, born	1884	Russia	Russia
Sarah	1886	"	N.Y.C.
Morris	1890	"	Jersey City
Gussie	1893	"	Jersey City
Jacob	1895	"	Jersey City
Sadie	1897	"	N.Y.
Hannah	1900	"	U.S.

Figure 2 Nathan Gelberg's Petition dated June 23, 1927

Nathan wrote "Volin" as his birthplace on this naturalization record, which was an administrative unit of the time, equivalent to what today we would refer to as a county. Volyn was the district in which Mlynov, Russia was located when Nathan's children were born but had become part of Poland by the time Nathan signed his Petition. Nathan's birth in Mlynov specifically is recorded on his 1911 passenger manifest.

"Nussen Gilberg" (line 4) and his daughter "Sima" (Sarah) (line 6) travelled on the SS Grant from Hamburg to NY landing on December 23, 1911. As you can see, "Nussen," (line 4), age 51, described himself as a "dealer" and his daughter Sima, age 17 identified as a "Tailores". Oddly enough, there is an unrelated person in the line between them on the US passenger manifest, but Nussen and Sima are right next to each other on the German manifest.

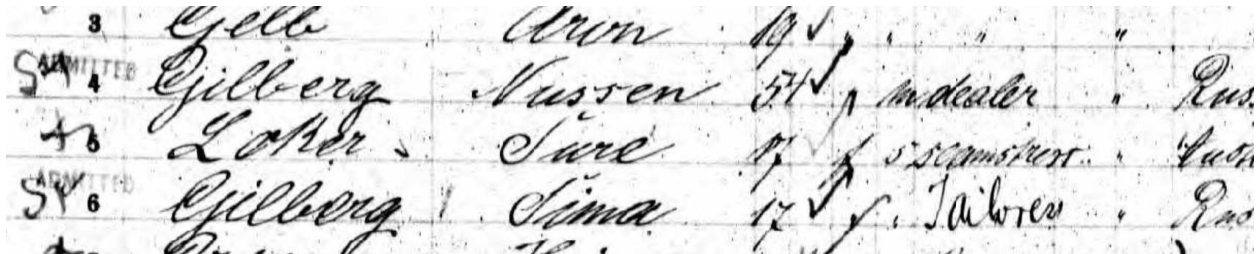


Figure 3 Nussen Gilberg (line 4) and daughter Sima Gilberg (line 6) arriving Dec 23, 1911 on the SS Grant from Hamburg to NY.

The right columns of the manifest indicate that Nussen left his wife "Reise Gilberg" (later Rachel) back in "Malynow". His daughter, Sima, two lines below, lists "Reisel" as "her mother". Both Nathan and Sima put Mlynov as their birthplace on the second page of the manifest.

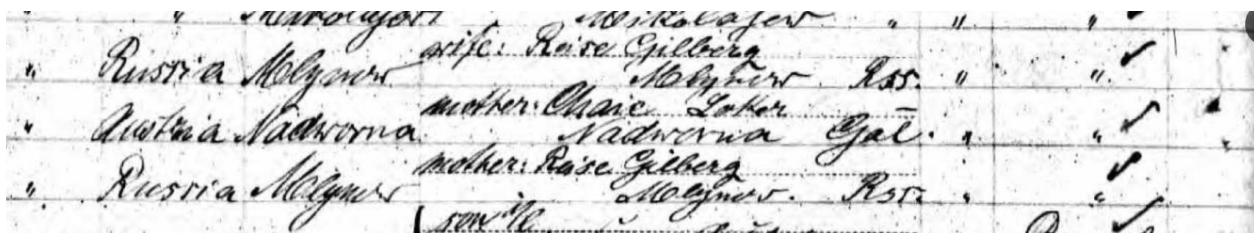


Figure 4 Nussen lists his wife Reise Gilberg back in Mlynov and Sima, two lines below, lists Reisel Gilberg as her mother.

The manifest indicates that Nathan and his daughter, Sima, were headed to Nathan's son and Sima's brother, Gershen Gelberg, who is living at what appears to be 184 ½ E.

7th Street, which I suspect is Jersey City since we shall see that Gershen had been headed there earlier. We shall learn more about Gershen below.

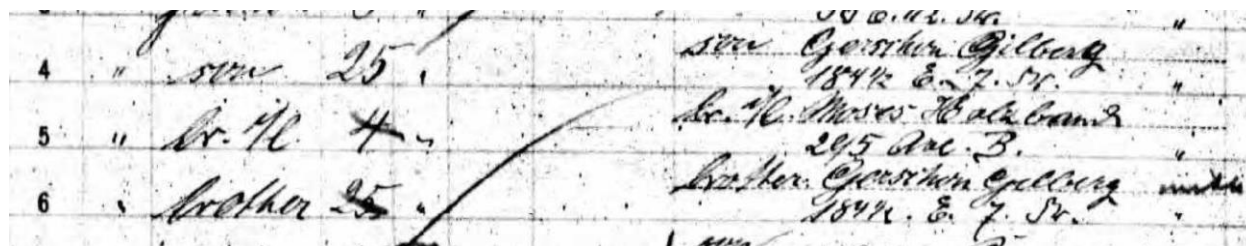


Figure 5 Nissen headed to son Gershen Gilberg at 184 ½ E 7th Street

Apparently Nathan and possibly his daughter Sima were retained in customs as a suspected “LPC” (likely public charge), as evidenced by this Record of Aliens for Special Inquiry. There are no notes indicating how Nathan convinced customs officials to admit him but, we shall see later that his brother who had already arrived had established a viable wagonmaking business and perhaps this helped convince custom officials that Nathan would not be a public burden. At any rate he was admitted to the Country.

23m	45	Picha, Alois	8	21	1	LPC
53m	46	Gelberg, Nissein	21	4-6	2	LPC
17f		daugh				Sime

Figure 6 Nissein Gelberg and “daugh” [daughter] Sime held for special inquiry in customs.

Nathan’s Wife Reisel Arrives in 1914

Nathan’s wife “Reisel Gelberg” would arrive in the US in 1914 with several of Nathan’s children, just a few months before WWI broke out. They managed to avoid the situation that confronted a number of other Mlynov husbands who came before the War, such as Moishe Goldberg discussed in Part I, who were subsequently separated for the duration of the War from their families they left behind in Europe. Reisel and children travelled on the SS Pretoria from Hamburg to New York and landed on US soil on March 16, 1914. War would break out at the end of July that same year.

Gelberg	Reisel	43	✓	f. m. wife	yes	yes	Russ
"	Gittel	18	✓	"	milliner	"	"
"	Chane	11	✓	"	child	"	"
"	Rachel	8	✓	"	"	"	"

2-27387 ✓
2-376808-2-16-35
2-376809-2-16-35

Figure 7 Reisel Gilberg and three children arriving on March 16, 1917

Reisel lists a brother-in-law "Yossel" as her closest relative still living back in Mlynov, suggesting that her husband Nathan had at least one brother still there.

Russia	Habrow	Russia	} Mlynov	} br. i. l.: Yossel Gelberg Mlynov	
5"	"	Rach			4/17/39
"	"	"			"
35"	"	Rach			4/17/39

I suspect this "Yossel Gelberg" might be the same person listed in the Mlynov Memorial book under the "Martyrs of Mlynov" (p. 433): "Yosef Gelberg/ Goldberg, Sarah Devorah his wife, her sister Leah, their grandson Meir (a branch of this family is in Israel: grandson Yitchak son of Abraham Gelberg)."

It seems likely too that three of the reflections in the Mlynov Memorial book are about this very same Yossel, though they are not all consistent. The first is not very complimentary but reflects the class tensions between the very poor, which constituted the majority of Jews in Poland and in Mlynov at the time, and those few who were better off. Two of these memories are from Joseph Litvak, who escaped the Nazis and eventually made his way to Israel. Writing from Jerusalem in 1970, he recalls:³

The only wealthy Jews in town were those businessmen who dealt in grain and textiles. Of these people, there was only one who was truly rich, and he was Reb Joseph Gelberg, owner of the mill. He was one of the biggest suppliers of flour in the entire region. Even though he was quite wealthy, he was considered very miserly and cheap. This annoyed the Jewish populace. However, the end came quickly for Mr.

³ Joseph Litvak, "The Town of Mlynov," Mlynov-Muravica Memorial Book, pp. 53-59. English in Sokolsky, eds., *Translation*, pp. 16-17.

("Reb") Gelberg. In September 1939, following the Soviet takeover of Mlynov, the Soviet government confiscated the mill without giving Mr ("Reb") Gelberg adequate compensation. Then, three years later, following the Nazi invasion, he was killed by the Germans. In fact, his entire family was killed, except for one grandchild who managed to escape, and he is now living in Israel.

Litvak goes on and provides a more positive recollection:

In the beginning of the 1930's, Kehillot (Jewish governing councils) were established throughout Poland....From the time the Kehillot were established until the destruction of the Mlynov Jewish population in World War II, there were three leaders of the Kehilla. The first leader was Mr (Reb) Joseph Berger, once a wealthy man who lost his fortune and property after WWI. Since that time, he owned a small store which sold kitchen goods. He was a clever and respected individuals who always maintained a neat appearance. He served as community leader until his death in 1935.

Ashur Teitelman recalls the ultimate destruction of Gelberg's mill as occurring in June 1942, when the Soviet Army, who had been occupying the Eastern part of Poland since 1939, fled town after being attacked by the German army. He writes:

That night the Soviet army escaped after a very hard battle. They left through the northern part of town. At that time, the new mill, the one built by Reb Joseph Gelberg, was destroyed. In addition, electricity ceased to function in town, and this was only the beginning of things to come.⁴

But those events came later. In 1914, near the start of WWI, Reisel and the kids traveling with her were headed to her husband and the childrens' father, "Nissen Gelberg", living in Jersey City at 230 Van Horne, an address where we shall find other Gelbergs below.

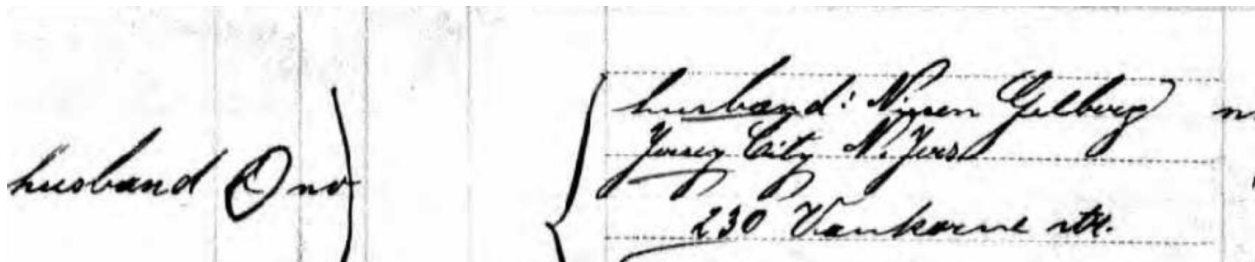


Figure 8 Reisel and the children are heading to her husband and their father Nussen Gelberg

⁴ Quoted in Ashur Teitelman from Haifa, "The Massive Shoah", p.39. In *Mlynov-Muravica Memorial Book*, pp. 38-41; Sokolsky, *Translation*, p. 12.

Reisel / Rachel (Steinberg) Gelberg

From Amy Westpy, Nathan's great-granddaughter, I learned that Reisel (soon to be Rachel and also lovingly called "Rosie") was Nathan's second wife and that two of the three girls traveling with her were from Nathan's first wife. Both Gittel (Gussie) Gelberg (Amy's grandmother) and Chane Gilberg were both children of Nathan's first wife, whose name is sadly no longer remembered.



The last child listed, Ruchel Gilberg, was Reisel's own daughter. A later social security death record suggests that Nathan's wife Rachel was daughter of Hyman and Rose Steinberg, a familiar family name from the town of Mervits, which was just a mile away from Mlynov.⁵ A tombstone of "Reisel daughter of Mr. Hyman" would seem to confirm her father's first name and the probable association with the Social Security identification. However, as we shall see below, Rachel appears to have been born in another town and may not be related to the Mlynov Steinbergs.

Piecing the story together with Amy, it appears that Nathan married a first wife in Mlynov, her name now unknown, and they had seven children, all of whom are listed on Nathan's Petition for Naturalization viewed above. The youngest, Hannah, was born in 1900. Sometime after this, Nathan must have married his second wife, Reisel, in Mlynov. From the records, it is clear that

Nathan's second wife Reisel was quite a bit younger. Nathan was born in 1858 and Rachel, about twelve years younger, was born in 1870.

Reisel's 1914 manifest says she and her daughter Ruchel were born in Mlynov too. But according to her naturalization papers, which Amy had located, Rachel was born in "Studinka." Studinka is about a 4 1/2 hour drive from Mlyniv on the maps today which would have been quite a distance in the early 1900's when they got married. We don't know how Nathan met her, whether he brought her to Mlynov or Rachel arrived there for some other reason. Rachel's naturalization paper says she and Nathan were married by 1902. That would seem to make Nathan the father of Reisel's daughter, Ruchel, who

⁵ I have been in contact with other Steinbergs from Mlynov and Mervits. The story of the Steinberg survival story is told by Shoshana Upstein, a descendant, in a Hebrew book entitled, A Struggle To Survive. I am working with the family now to translate the volume to English. I have also found that a Steinberg from Mlynov married my great-grandfather's sister, Sarah Hannah Shulman, and I've documented this Steinberg relationship in my essay, "The Search for Simon Steinberg" and connected with one of their grandsons, Larry Steinberg in Chicago.

was born in 1906. But matters don't seem so clear cut, which is often the case with old records. It is not clear if Ruchel was Nathan's daughter or step-daughter, the latter suggested by the fact that he does not list her as one of his children in his 1927 Petition for Naturalization, though she is still living with Nathan and Rachel in the 1930 census under the name Rose.

The 1930 census does confirm that this was a second marriage for both of them. The census asks for their age at their first marriage. Nathan, age 72 at the time, puts down age 20 as his marrying age, which would have been the year 1880. Rachel, age 58 in 1930, indicates her marrying age was 22, which would have meant she married in 1892. This reconstruction seems to confirm the fact that they both had earlier marriages. What happened to either of their earlier spouses is not known.



Figure 9 Gussie Gelberg Miller (right) with her favorite younger sister Chana (Anna Curtiss).
Courtesy of Amy Westpy

Gershen Gelberg, son of Nathan, Arrives in 1907

As noted earlier, Nathan was not the first person from this Gelberg line to arrive in the US. On his passenger manifest in 1911, he and his daughter Sima are headed to "Gershen Gilberg," Nathan's son and Sima's brother (lines 4 and 6). Gershen was living at the time at what appears to be 184 ½ E. 7th Street, which I suspect is Jersey City for reasons that become clear below.

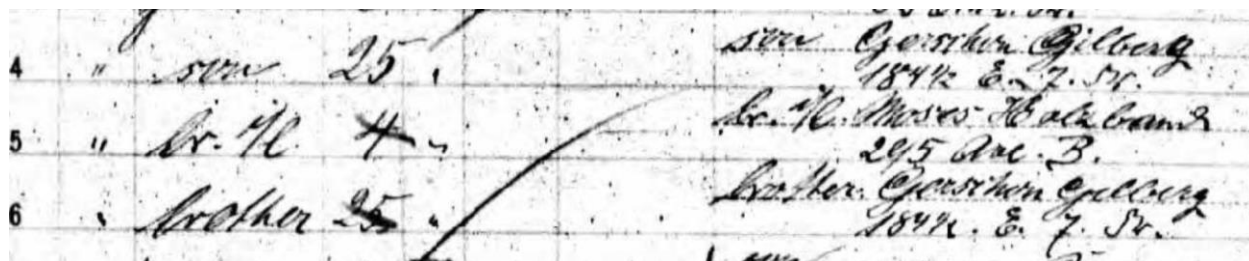


Figure 10 Nathan and daughter Sima heading to son/brother Gershen Gilberg

multiple times and helped identify another one of Nathan's brothers, Joseph, who turns out to be the first of this line to arrive in the US.

It is true that Gershen's manifest says he was going to his "brother" Joe Gelberg. But I suspect this was misinformation to help him get through customs. Based on ages and other records, I believe Joseph Gelberg was Gershen's uncle, not his brother. The reasons for this conclusion take us into the complexity of the records and a discussion is placed in the appendix for those who are interested in that level of detailed analysis.

In brief, I came to the conclusion that Gershen is indeed Nathan's son, which is how Nathan's passenger manifest identifies him. Of Nathan's two sons listed on his 1927 Petition, I believe Gershen is the son Nathan identifies as "Jacob" rather than the one he identifies as Morris, who would have been Moishe. We know from the other Goldberg line discussed in Part I, that the name Gershen morphed into Joe/George in one case and Jack in another. Morphing here to Jacob seems entirely plausible and seems to align with the later records.

In 1910, Gershen Gelberg is one of two boarders living with a family named Zindler who were living at 461 Jersey Avenue in Jersey City. Gershen is listed as a painter in a carriage business, which is consistent with his manifest that identified him as a painter. We shall see that his uncle Joseph Gelberg, who was living at 457 Pacific, was a blacksmith in the wagon making business and his address is less than a mile walk to where Gershen was living.

Green	461	Zindler Abraham	Head	Pa	29	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		—	Lyna	Wife	F	25	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
			Berta	Daughter	F	16	8													
			Kowitz Alice	Boarder	F	11	8													
			Bloom Abraham	Boarder	Pa	29	5													
		Gelberg Gershen	Boarder	Pa	18	5														

Figure 14 The 1910 census for Gershen Gelberg, who is boarding with the Zindler family on Jersey avenue

After 1910, Gershen appears in the records as Jacob Gelberg. Jacob's records align with this line of analysis, where he continues to appear as a painter.

Before following Gershen's evolution into Jacob, and tracking down Nathan's other son, Morris, we must first introduce another character in the story, Abraham Gelberg, a brother of Nathan, whose records will help us unravel more of the Gelberg story.

The Arrival of Abraham Gelberg in 1907

From Nathan's great-granddaughter Amy Westpy, I learned that Nathan had a brother named Abraham. This was an important lead that opened up the story of Abraham's

family. Searching the records, I discovered Abraham and his family had arrived even before his brother Nathan and just before Nathan’s son, Gershen, in 1907.

The records reveal that Abraham Gelberg was supposed to take, but actually missed, a passage to the US in June 1907. His name with all his details is scratched out in a manifest of the SS Petersburg that sailed from Rotterdam on June 1 and arrived in NY on June 14 (some records say June 12th).

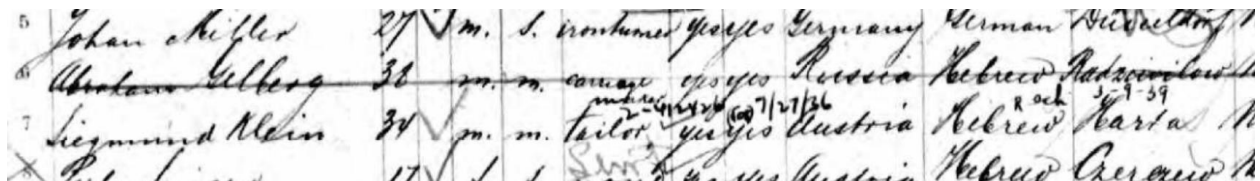


Figure 15 Abraham Gelberg’s name is scratched out on the manifest of the SS Petersburg in June 1907

We do not know why Abraham missed the passage on the SS Petersburg. But he appears a month later on the manifest of the SS Carmania leaving from Liverpool, arriving in New York on July 30, 1907. He arrived just a month before Nathan’s son Gershen. Abraham’s information on both his manifests is almost identical.

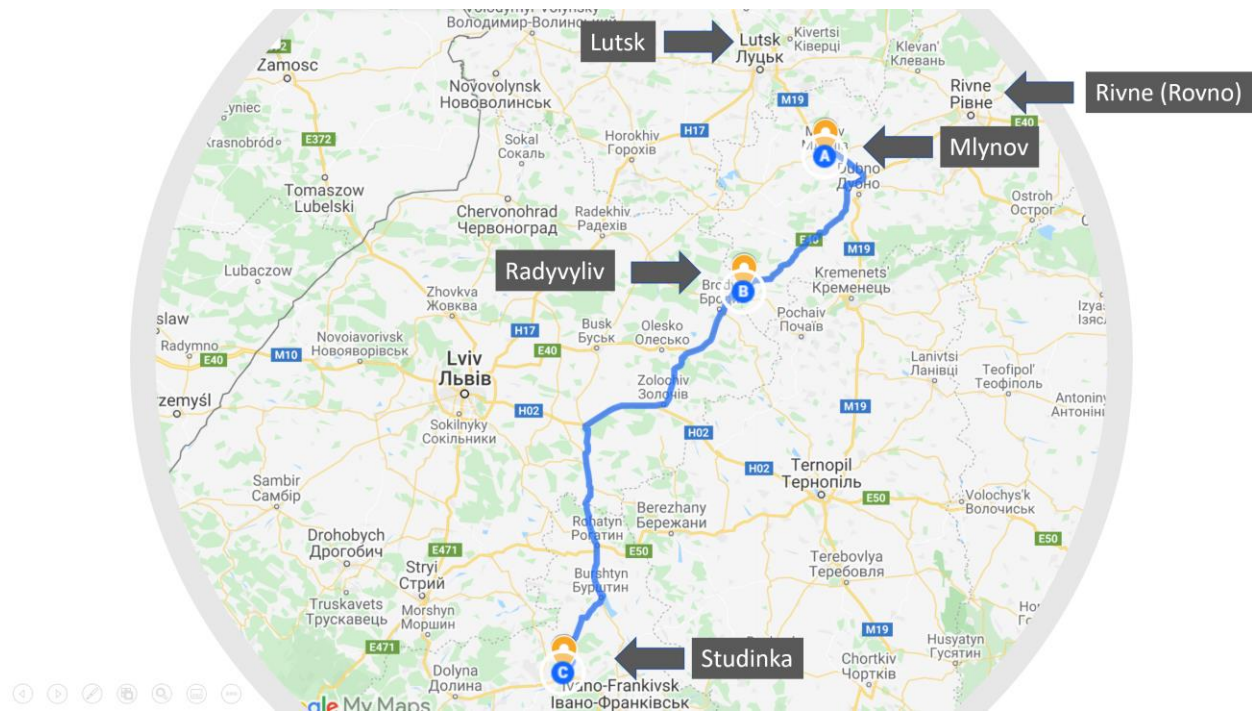


Figure 16 A map showing where Mlynov, where Abraham and Nathan were born, is located in relationship to contemporary Radyvyliv where Abraham was living with his wife and Studinka where Rachel Gelberg, Nathan’s wife, was from according to her Naturalization papers.

Both indicate he was 38 and born in “Malinow,” just like his brother Nathan. But Malinow was not his last residence. His last residence was “Radzinolow,” which is likely Radyvyliv, Ukraine today, 73 km ssw from Mlynov, about 1 ½ hour driving time today.⁶

In his first manifest, Abraham lists his occupation as “carriage” and in his second “blacksmith.” It is thus possible that the blacksmith and carriage business may have been in the family before he arrived in the US, though, we shall see, that Abraham’s brother Joe had already gone into those businesses in Jersey City and perhaps Abraham was trading on that knowledge.

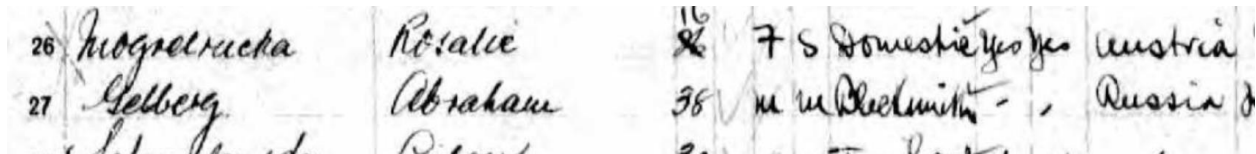


Figure 17 Abraham Gelberg arriving on July 30, 1907 on the SS Carmania from Liverpool to New York

Abraham’s manifest indicates his closest relative left behind in “Radzuilow” is his wife Pearl Gelberg (who also shows up in later records as Feige).

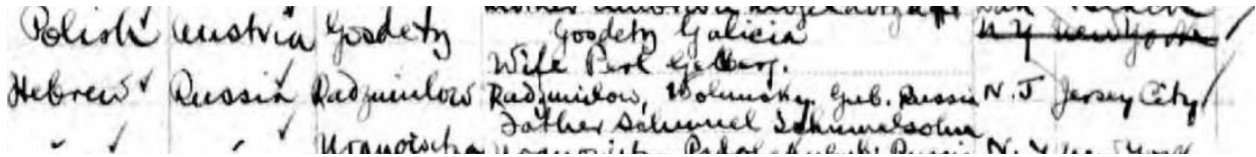


Figure 18 Abraham’s closest relative is Pearl Gelberg back in Radzuilow

On both manifests, Abraham indicates that he is headed to his brother Josef Gelberg. We have already encountered the name Joe Gelberg and the address 457 Pacific on the manifest of Nathan’s son, Gershen Gilberg, who arrived a month after Abraham. We will turn to Joe Gelberg at 457 Pacific soon. But first let’s find out when Abraham’s family arrived.

⁶ See Radyvyliv, Ukraine <https://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/community.php?usbgn=-1037228> as likely identification.

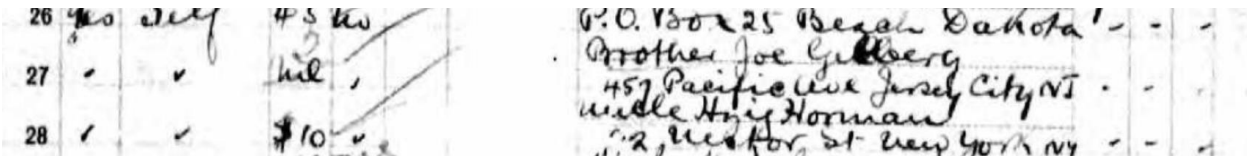


Figure 19 Abraham is headed to his brother Joe Gelberg at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City

Abraham's Daughter Itte Arrives in 1909

Abraham's oldest daughter Itte (later Yetta) was the next to arrive. She traveled on the SS Ryndam traveling from Rotterdam landing in NY on Aug 10th, 1909. Itte was sixteen and traveling alone. She arrived two years after her father and a year before her mother and siblings. She probably came ahead of her family to help set up the home for them.

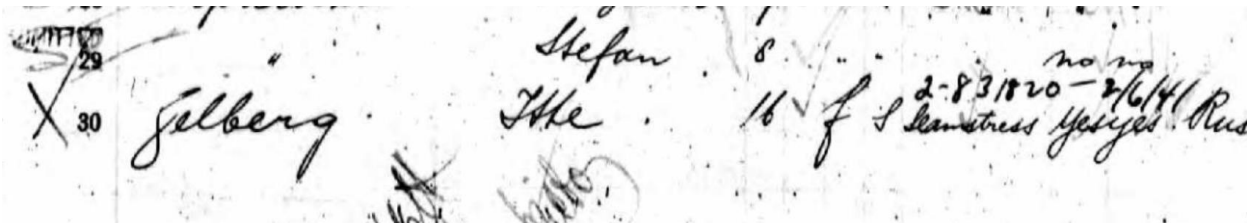


Figure 20 Abraham's oldest daughter Itte (Yetta) travelled on the SS Ryndam, arriving August 10, 1909

In her manifest, Itte is identified as single and as a seamstress. Like her father, her last residence was "Radzuilow" and she lists her mother Feige back there. Unlike her father, who was born in Mlynov, Itte was born in "Radzuilow," suggesting that Abraham had left Mlynov his hometown for Radzuilow by at least 1894 when she was born.

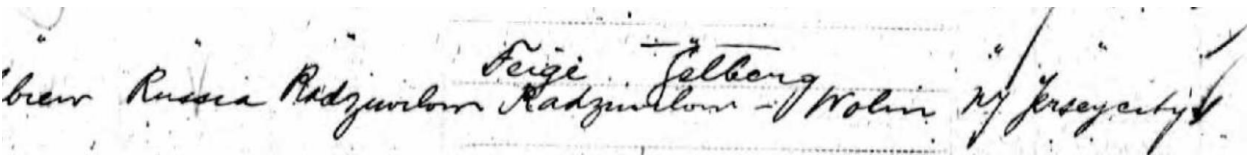


Figure 21 Itte left her mother Feige Gelberg back in Radzuilow

Itte is headed to her father Abram Gelberg who is still at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City, a record tying several of the Gelberg travelers identified so far to that address.

29
30
no self
Abram. Gelberg
457 Pacific Ave - Jersey City N.J.

Figure 22 Itte is headed to her father at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City.

The Rest of Abraham's Family Arrives in 1910

Abraham's wife and other children would land on July 12, 1910, almost a year after Itte arrived. They were traveling on the SS Nieuw Amsterdam from Rotterdam to NY. You can see that traveling with them (one line above) is a relative of Feige, perhaps her brother, named Hirsch Pollurak.

DEPORTED	Franka	Leona	30	f. Pollurak		
5	Pollurak	Hirsch	41	u. Hirsch		
6	Gilberg	Feige	35	f. Hirsch		
7	do	Sime	11			
8		Gishel	9		2-831815-3/18/41-505	
9		Mottle	7			
10		Lea	3			
11		Moses	3			

Figure 23 Abraham's wife Feige and children arrive on July 12, 1910 on the SS Nieuw Amsterdam

Abraham's wife, Feige (Pearl), was 35 at the time and with her were her children Sime (later Sadie Karsh), age 11, Gishel (later Gussie, but married name unknown), age 9, Mottle (Max), age 7, Lea (Lena), age 3, and Moses (Morris), age 3. Feige and her husband Abraham would have two more children in the US. Bertha was born in 1912 and Emanuel (Manny) was born in 1916.

The family's manifest also records their last residence as Radzuilow (Radyvyliv, Ukraine) and indicates Feige's mother is there, which shows that Abraham had been living in the town of his wife's family. Perhaps business or his marriage had brought him there.

Interestingly, Feige and the family are not headed to 457 Pacific where her husband and daughter had previously headed. That address must have been too crowded by this point to accommodate them. Instead, the family is going to "Avrum Gilberg, c/o Farber

228” [street name illegible but something like Mlefpolaim Ave] in Brooklyn. In reading this narrative, it dawned on Amy Westpy that the name of the street likely reads “Metropolitan,” a main street in Brooklyn. Indeed, it is clear from later records that the family is settled in Brooklyn by 1915 and perhaps the “c/o” suggests Abraham was in transition between residences at this point.⁷ At this point in time I do not know who the Farber family is or why Abraham left Jersey City to resettle in Brooklyn.

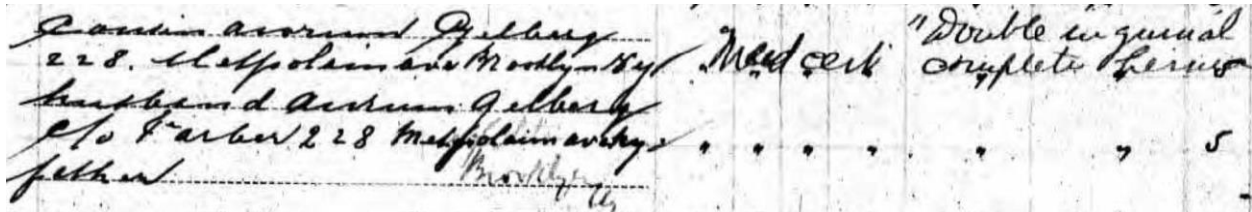


Figure 24 Feige and her relative Hirsch Pollurak are both headed to Avrum Gelberg in Brooklyn on what is probably Metropolitan Ave

As noted earlier, traveling with Feige and the children, in the line above them, is also Hirsch “Pollurak”, whose name is stamped “deported” on the manifest. It is possible that Hirsch was Feige’s brother, since he also indicates his mother was back in Radzuilow and that he too is headed to his cousin Avrum at the same address in Brooklyn.

Perhaps Feige’s last name was Pollurak or something like that at birth, though a later social security records suggests her family name was Lemelman. Handwriting next to his record suggests that Hirsch may have been deported for a medical condition having to do with a hernia.

Abraham and Fannie Settle In

By the 1915 Census, Abraham and Feige Gelberg and children are all settled together in Brooklyn at 301 Hooper Street. At this point, their daughter Bertha, who was first to be born in the US, is now present at age 4. Their names too had been Americanized. Feige is now Fannie, Itte has become Yetta, Lea is now Lena, Muttie is now Max, and Moses is now Morris. The Americanizing trend continued when their next son Emanuel (later Manny) was born on October 14, 1915 after the 1915 census was taken.

⁷ The 1939 Petition for Naturalization of Sadie (Gelberg) Karsh, Abraham’s daughter, suggests that her birth location was Dubno, which may suggest the family had moved around as their children were being born, though this record was many years later and perhaps Sadie had forgotten the name Radzuilow, the birthplace listed on her passenger manifest, just as she also forgot the name of her ship in that record.

301	Gelberg	Abraham	head	w m	43	Russia	9 al	woodworker	
	"	Fannie	wife	w f	41	Russia	5 al	housework	X
	"	Sadie	daughter	w f	19	Russia	5 al	feathers & flowers	w
	"	Gussie	daughter	w f	17	Russia	5 al	feathers	w
	"	Max	son	w m	14	Russia	5 al	school	X
	"	Lena	daughter	w f	11	Russia	5 al	school	X
	"	Morris	son	w m	9	Russia	5 al	school	X
	Gelberg	Bertha	daughter	w f	4	U.S.	4 al	no occupation	X
	"	Jacob	son-in-law	w m	22	Russia	9 al	sign painter	w
	"	Yetta	daughter	w f	21	Russia	7 al	housework	X
	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	broken	w

Figure 25 1915 Census of Abraham and Fannie's family showing son-in-law and nephew Jacob (Gershen) Gelberg

Their oldest daughter Itte, now called Yetta, has also gotten married by this time to a man named Jacob Gelberg, which is why her last name is still Gelberg after marriage. This is how two Gelberg family lines merged back together.

Jacob is listed as a son-in-law in the household in the 1915 census. This Jacob Gelberg, I believe, is none other than Nathan's son, the one who was earlier called Gershen. Consistent with what we have already learned about Gershen, Jacob is listed here as a painter. Perhaps this marriage explains why Gershen (Jacob) and Abraham arrived only a month apart in 1907. Perhaps Jacob was already courting Abraham's daughter Yetta back then or perhaps he got acquainted with her in Jersey City while they were all living in Jersey City.

Such first cousin marriages are not terribly uncommon among first generation Mlynov immigrants. My grandparents, for example, were first cousins and another first cousin marriage occurred in the Mlynov Goldberg family line discussed in Part I. I have documented at least three other first cousin marriages among Mlynov families within recorded memory, suggesting they were routine in earlier generations.

By 1916, Abraham had apparently moved his family across town in Brooklyn, as evident by his 1916 Petition for Naturalization. He indicates that he and his children are all living 1845 Sterling Place in Brooklyn. He is still listed as a wagon maker and again lists his birth location as "Mlinof."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

27371

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of the State of New York:

The petition of Abraham Gelberg hereby filed, respectfully sheweth

First. My place of residence is 1845 Sterling Place City of New York, Borough of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Second. My occupation is Wagon maker

Third. I was born on the 26 day of July anno Domini 1810 at Milinoj Russia

Fourth. I emigrated to the United States from Liverpool England on or about the 31 day of July anno Domini 1807 and arrived in the United States at the port of New York on the 7 day of August anno Domini 1807 on the vessel Carmaria

Fifth. I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on the 11 day of November in Man N.Y. in the Supreme Court of N.Y. New York County N.Y. anno Domini 1911

Sixth. I am married. My wife's name is Fannie Gelberg 43 yrs She was born in Russia and now resides at 1845 Sterling Place City of New York, Borough of Brooklyn, N.Y.

I have 5 children, and the name, date and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children is as follows:

<u>Fella</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1894</u>	<u>Russia</u>
<u>Sadie</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1896</u>	"
<u>Max</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1898</u>	"
<u>Lena</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>1902</u>	"
<u>Mary</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1906</u>	<u>Man, N.Y.</u>
<u>Bertha</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1912</u>	<u>Bklyn</u>
<u>Miriam</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>Bklyn</u>

Seventh. I am not a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government or a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching Atheism in any manner.

all reside at
Bklyn N.Y.

Figure 26 Abraham's Petition signed June 17, 1916

In 1917, Abraham and Fannie's son-in-law, Jacob, signed his draft registration card. He was living at 422 Saratoga Ave in Brooklyn. He notes that his birth location was "Mlinoff, Velnor" (=Mlynov Volyn). The tell-tale "wagon painter" appears as his occupation and he was working for a business concern of Viola Ber.

Form 1 6109 REGISTRATION CARD viola

1	Name in full <u>Jacob Gelberg</u>	Age, in yrs <u>23</u>
2	Name address <u>422 Saratoga Ave Bklyn</u>	
3	Date of birth <u>Sept 25</u>	<u>1893</u>
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <u>Russia 1810 before</u>	
5	Where were you born? <u>Mlinoff Velnor Russia</u>	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <u>Wagon Painter</u>	
8	By whom employed? <u>Viola Ber</u>	
9	Where employed? <u>962 W South St Bklyn</u>	
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, wholly dependent on you for support (specify which)? <u>married + 1 child</u>	
11	Married or single (which)? <u>Married</u> Race (specify which)? <u>White</u>	
12	What military service have you had? Rank <u>none</u> , branch <u>none</u>	
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <u>Support White wife & child</u>	

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Jacob Gelberg
(Signature or mark)

Figure 27 1917 draft registration card of Jacob (Gershen) Gelberg

Like almost all the other Mlynov immigrants whose registration cards I have found, Jacob requested exemption from the draft because he needed to support a wife and a child. As noted above, by this time he has married his first cousin Yetta Gelberg and they have had their first child, Lillian Mae (Gelberg) Vortreflich, who was born in October 23, 1915. Amy Westpy recalls Lillian as her growing up. She laughs and tells me, her mother and aunt called her cousin "Diamond Lil", because she wore cocktail-sized rings on four fingers."



Figure 28 Lillian (Gelberg) "Vort", as a young girl

In any case, by 1920, Abraham and Fannie have moved to 830 Elton or Cleveland Street in Brooklyn. As noted previously, their eldest daughter, Yetta, has moved out with her husband Jacob and is living elsewhere. We shall rediscover them shortly. Abraham and Fannie's second eldest daughter, Sadie, has now married Abe Karsh and the two of them are living with the family. Also with them are the rest of their children, Gussie, Lena, Morris, Bertha and Manny.

830	47 34	34	Gelberg	Abraham	Head	M	M	27	20	48	M	1908	na
	34	48		Fannie	Wife			7	20	45	W	1908	na
				Gussie	Daughter			7	20	21	S	1908	na
				Lena	son			20	20	22	S	1908	na
			Karsh	Sadie	Daughter			7	20	23	M	1908	na
			Karsh	Abe	son-in-law			20	20	26	M	1908	na
			Gelberg	Mary	son			20	20	18	S	1908	na
				Lena	Daughter			7	20	16	S	1908	na
				Morris	son			20	20	14	S	1908	na
				Bertha	Daughter			7	20	8	S		
				Manny	son			20	20	4	S		

Figure 29 The 1920 census of Abraham and Fannie Gelberg and family

This is the first record in which we see the appearance of a son named Sam Gelberg, who is age 26, which would put his birthdate in 1894. According to this record Sam arrived in the States in 1908. At first, I assumed that this was just another child of Abraham and Feige who just had been living elsewhere and only now showed up living with them. But when Amy shared with me Abraham's 1916 Petition, she pointed out to me, there is no Sam listed among his children (see above). And this Sam supposedly arrived in the States in 1908 so it would have been odd for Abraham to leave him off his Petition in 1916. It seems plausible, therefore, that this was a Gelberg relative boarding with them and who was listed as or passed himself off as a son.

"Well," I thought to myself, perhaps then this Sam Goldberg is one of the unidentified Simon Goldbergs from Mlynov discussed in Part I of this narrative who arrived in 1907 and 1909. But neither the birth dates nor addresses seem to match, so at the time of this writing the identity of this Sam Gelberg and the Gelberg line he is from remains uncertain.⁸

⁸ The Simon Goldberg who arrives in 1909 was 35 (birth year about 1874) and the one who arrived in 1907 was 38, implied birth year of 1869. This Sam Goldberg, age 22 in the 1920 census, would have been born in 1898.



Figure 30 Jacob "Gershen" Gelberg, son of Nathan, married his first cousin Yetta daughter of Abraham

Figure 31 On left, Abraham's daughter, Yetta Gelberg, wife of first cousin Jacob Gelberg, with Nathan's daughter and sister-in-law Gussie (Gelberg) Miller at a Catskills cousin get together.



Figure 32 Nathan's daughter, Gussie (Gelberg) Miller and with her daughters Dorothy (left) and Nancy (right). Courtesy of Amy Westpy.



Figure 33 Children of Nathan's daughter, Gussie (Gelberg) Miller: Dorothy (top), Isaac (right), and Nancy (bottom)



Joseph (Gedale) Gelberg, the First Brother to Arrive

In the course of learning about the arrival of Nathan and Abraham families, it became apparent that another brother “Joseph” Gelberg had arrived before any of them and that his address at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City had become a landing place for those who followed. Abraham was headed to that address in 1907, as was Nathan’s son Gershen. Abraham was still living there when his daughter Itte arrived in 1909, though he was in Brooklyn by the time the rest of his family arrived in 1910.

Who was this Joe Gelberg, I wondered, to whom Gershen and Abraham were headed in 1907? When I questioned Amy Westpy, Nathan’s great-granddaughter, she had known about Nathan’s brother Abraham, but nothing about Joseph Gelberg. What else could I learn about him?

The clue to Joe Gelberg’s story came from his early address and his profession as a blacksmith who made wagons. After searching for records, I turned up a 1905 City Directory for Joseph. He is listed as a wagon maker with an address of 457 Pacific Ave. In that year, he had a wagonmaking business with Abraham Hyde that styled itself “Gelberg & Hyde.” By 1906 Joseph has separated his business address at 457 Pacific Ave from his home address at 458 Grand St. These addresses continue up through 1910.

So Joe Gelberg had a business in the US by at least 1905. When did he actually arrive?

1905	<p>Gelberg Joseph (Gelberg & Hyde), N Y Gelberg & Hyde (Joseph Gelberg and Abram Hyde), wagonmkr, 457 Pacific av Gellman Nathan, watchman. 65 Wayne</p>
1906	<p>Gelbach Wm R, phys, 809 Hudson, H Gelberg Joseph, wagon bulder, 457 Pa- cific av, h 458 Grand Gelbka Edward, nainter 184 Lambek av</p>
1908	<p>Florentino Vittorio, 9 Center Gelberg Joseph, 457 Pacofic av Gerleit Frederick, 219 Clinton, H Gerleit Julius, 235 Erie Houck Henry Co, 200 200 Van West</p>

1909	<p>WAGON BUILDERS. Anderson John 106 Greenville av Black Adam 55-57 Cambridge av Brennan R M 488 Whiton Ehgott & Eckhoff 340 Newark av Farley Michael 178 7th Florintino James 14 Porter Gelberg J 457 Pacific av Gerleit I 225 Erie</p>
1910	<p>Florentino Jas, 12 Porter Gelberg Jos, 457 Pacific av Gerleit Fredk, 219 Clinton, H</p>

Later records provided some additional clues. A 1917 draft registration card identified Joseph Gelberg as a “wheelright” working in the Federal shipyard at the time, now living at 219 Van Horne in Jersey City. More importantly, Joe’s 1917 registration card provided the name of his wife, Lena, which unlocked further insights about him and his family. I would later learn from her granddaughter, Denise, that Lena was known in the family as “Hannah” and that her grandson Harris is named for her.

REGISTRATION CARD				
SERIAL NUMBER	3967	ORDER NUMBER	298	
1	Joseph Gelberg			
2	219 Van Horne Jersey City Hudson Co NJ			
3	Age in Years	4	Date of Birth	
	40		Apr. 15 1878	
RACE				
5	White	6	7	8
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
U. S. CITIZEN				
10	11	12	13	14
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?				
16 PRESENT OCCUPATION		EMPLOYER'S NAME		
Labor Wheelright		Federal Ship yard		
18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS				
Hearsey Hudson Co NJ				
NEAREST RELATIVE	19	Lena Gelberg		
	20	219 Van Horne J.C. Hudson Co NJ		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE				
				Joseph Gelberg

Figure 34 The 1917 draft registration card of Joseph Gelberg, Wheelright

The 1918 City Directory for Jersey City continued to identify 219 Van Horne as Joseph’s home address, and indicates he still had the blacksmith business with Abraham Hyde which had moved to a new address at 406 Johnston Ave.

Gelberg Jos (Gelberg & Hyde) h 219 Van Horne
" & Hyde (Jos Gelberg Abraham Hyde) blksmiths
406 Johnston av

Figure 35 The 1918 listing of Joseph Gelberg in the Jersey City Directory



Figure 36 A replica of a wagon similar to what Gedale Gelberg made, Courtesy of his granddaughter, Denise Gelberg

The 1919–1921 City Directories are not available and so we can't check those records. By 1922, however, we can see that several of the Gelbergs are in business with each other. Joseph and his wife Lena are still at 219 Van Horne. But now first cousins Jacob/Gershen (Nathan's son and Joseph's nephew) and his wife Yetta (Abraham's daughter and Joseph's niece) are living with them at 219 Van Horne and have started a "Five Corners Auto Painting Co."

n 451 Bergen av
Gelberg Jacob (Yetta) (Five Corners Auto
Painting Co) h 219 Van Horne
" Jos (Lena) (Gilberg & Hyde) h 219 Van
Horne
" Morris (Becca) blksmith h 206 Woodward
" & Hyde (Jos Gelberg, Abraham Hyde) blk-
smith 331 Van Horne

Figure 37 1922 Jersey City Directory showing Joseph, Jacob and Morris Gelberg

Also appearing in this record is one "Morris Gelberg" who is married to a Becca. This is the first record which provides a reasonable basis for identifying the other son of Nathan's whom I had not been able to isolate among the many other Morris Gelbergs listed in the records. Morris's presence in this list as a blacksmith, and the identification

of his wife, provide reasonable grounds for tracing his identity. We'll return to him below after finishing the early history of Joseph.

Figure 38 Tombstone of Joseph Gelberg, Gedaliah son of Pinchas Meir, d. Oct. 7, 1956 Mount Moriah Cemetery, Fairview, Bergen County



[The Discovery of Gedale Gelberg and the Candy Store](#)

Ultimately, it was the discovery of a possible name of Joseph's wife's (Lena) on his 1917 draft registration card that helped to unlock the rest of Joe Gelberg's story from a record much later in time. The record was a 1942 WWII draft registration that listed Lena's name and revealed Joseph's Yiddish name: "Gedale Joseph Gelberg." "Gedale," was short for Gedaliah, which later turned up on his tombstone (photo below).

At first, I wasn't sure this later record belonged to the same Joseph Gelberg because it indicated he was living on Baldwin Avenue and had a candy store. How could he have gone from being a blacksmith to owning a candy store? Not long afterwards, I tracked down his granddaughter Denise Gelberg and confirmed that in fact her grandfather had a candy store that she fondly remembered visiting in her youth. Denise indicates that for a while her grandfather had had a robust wagonbuilding business and had actually invented the way to carry glass on horse-drawn wagons. But at some point the horse-drawn business was starting to decline and this led to his switch to the candy store.

How ironic that one of the latest records in the series revealed one of the critical missing bits of information that unlocked the earliest records. It was the name "Gedale" on this 1942 record that allowed me to find his earliest records.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER U 335 1. NAME (Print) Gedale Joseph Gelberg ORDER NUMBER _____

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 398 Baldwin Av. Jersey City, Hudson N.J.

(THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL)

3. MAILING ADDRESS Same

4. TELEPHONE _____ 5. AGE IN YEARS 63 6. PLACE OF BIRTH _____

DATE OF BIRTH April 15 1878 _____

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS (Mrs) Lena Gelberg (wife) same

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Candy store owner

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 398 Baldwin Av. Jersey City Hudson State

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42) (over) 16-21630-2 Joseph Gedale Gelberg (Registrant's signature)

What made Joseph's Yiddish name Gedale (short for Gedalia) creep back into the records in April 1942? Was it WWII and the hostility to Jews by the Germans? Was it simply that comfort living as a Jew in the new country had grown and he was willing to acknowledge that name? We can only speculate. Or perhaps Joseph was always using Gedale but only rarely did that name appear in the American records. In fact, only much later did I learn that Joseph used the name "Gedale" at least one other time: when signing as a witness on his brother Abraham's naturalization papers in June 1916. That record, which I had never discovered, had been located by Amy Westpy, who like me, likes to sleuth after family records. This is another record that validates the assumption that Gedale/Joseph was the sibling of Abraham.

AFFIDAVITS OF PETITIONER AND WITNESSES.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
County of Kings, } ss:

The aforesaid petitioner being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the petitioner in the above-entitled proceedings; that he has read the foregoing petition and knows the contents thereof; that the said petition is signed with his full, true name; that the same is true of his own knowledge except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters he believes it to be true.

Gedal Gelberg, occupation Blacksmith residing at 230 Van Horne St. Jersey City, N.J.
and Abraham Samuel Blum, occupation Tinsmith residing at 317 Grand St. Jersey City, N.J.

Abraham Gelberg, the petitioner above mentioned, to have resided in the United States continuously immediately preceding the date of filing his petition, since the 17 day of January, anno Domini 1916, and in the State in which the above-entitled petition is made continuously since the 17 day of July, anno Domini 1910; and that he has personal knowledge that the said petitioner is a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and that the petitioner is in every way qualified, in his opinion, to be admitted a citizen of the United States.

Gedal Gelberg (Signature of petitioner.)
Abraham Samuel Blum (Signature of witness.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the above-named petitioner and witnesses this 17 day of June, anno Domini 1916.

William E. Kopp (Signature of Clerk.) Deputy Clerk.

[SEAL.]
F. F. B.
P. T. Q.

Figure 39 Joseph signs his name "Gedale" on his brother Abraham's petition for naturalization in 1916

In any case, the name “Gedale” opened up the earlier history of Joseph (Gedale) Gelberg. With “Gedale” in hand, I searched and found his New York naturalization papers. He had signed it on May 1901. It was one of the older kinds of records which didn’t have as much detailed information as later style records. But it did reveal an important fact. The records indicated Gedale had landed in New York on December 15, 1898.

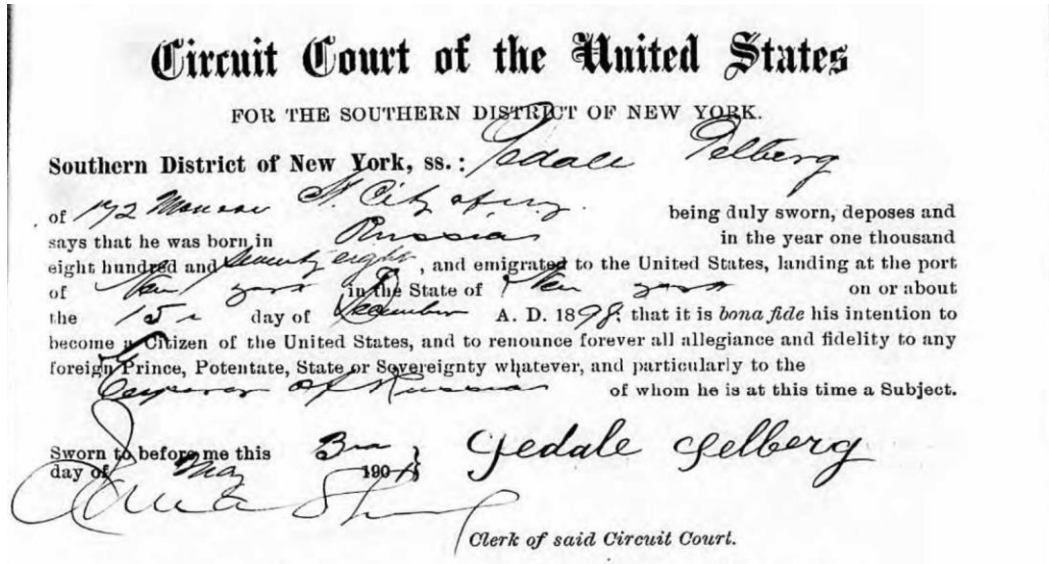


Figure 40 May 1901 Naturalization record of Gedale Gelberg, Southern District of New York

Realizing Joseph/Gedale had arrived by 1898, I concluded that a 1905 census from Jersey City must have belonged to him as well. Listed as Joseph and Lena “Gelburg” they were living at 458 Grand St. in unit #193. Joseph is listed as born in 1878 and Lena as born in 1881. Joseph is also already listed as a blacksmith and they have two children, Sara, born in 1903, and John, born in 1904. Also living with them is a boarder named “Aplan” who is also a blacksmith.

193	Gelburg	Joseph	25 th St. July	1878	27	44	St. Helena	Irishland
—	—	Lena	25 th St. Apr.	1881	24	44	Irishland	Irishland
—	—	Sarah	25 th St. Aug	1903	2	0	N. Y.	Irishland
—	—	John	25 th St. Nov	1904	1	0	New York	Irishland
—	—	Aplan	25 th St. Apr.	1875	30	3	St. Helena	Irishland

Figure 41 1905 Census for Joseph and Lena Gelberg

Although this 1905 record identifies the family as Irish, the information matches other records and I believe it belongs to Gedale/ Joseph and his family. A New York marriage record that seems to belong to them shows that Joseph Gelberg and Lena Edelson got married in 1902. The dates seem to fit. The 1905 census page shows that they were living among a number of other Irish families which could explain why they were thought by the census taker to be Irish or perhaps they passed themselves off that way.

By this point, I had tracked down Joseph's granddaughter, Denise Gelberg, and confirmed enough of the details to know I was on the right track. Denise confirmed that her grandfather had made wagons when he had come to the US and had lived in Jersey City. In fact, she had found a replica to scale of the kinds of wagons like he made, a photo of which she shared with me. She also indicated that her grandmother was remembered in the family as a Hannah Adelson (not Lena Edelson).

At this point, I really wanted to find Gedale's passenger manifest; perhaps it would reveal other Gelbergs who came to the US.

Searching produced nothing under Gedale Gelberg. Denise told me she also had not found the record when searching earlier. I can get really obsessive when searching for passenger manifests. They are often so hard to find, and persistence combined with creative searching sometimes pays off.

About to give up, I played with other variations of his name for several days and finally found it under "Gedalie Gelber;" the "g" had fallen off in the manifest.



*Figure 42 Joe "Gedale" Gelberg
in front of his candy store.
Courtesy of Denise Gelberg*

Figure 43 Joe's wife Hannah (Lena) and grown children Milton, Pearl and Jake
Courtesy of Amy Westpy



The dates matched. Gedale was 19 and a “cartwright.” Someone scribbled in lighter writing the word “wheelright.” Bingo. This was the same Joe Gelberg, the wheelright, whom I had found on the 1917 draft registration.

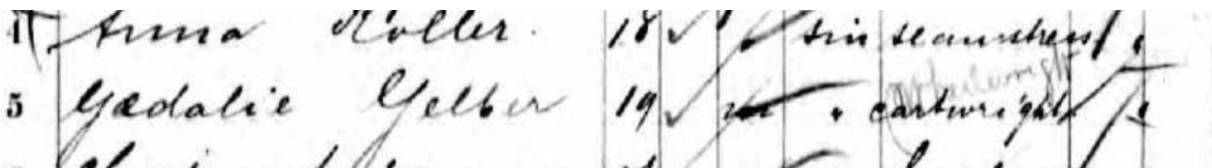


Figure 44 “Gedale Gelber” arriving on the SS Amsterdam on December 13, 1898

Joe/Gedale Gelberg left Amsterdam on November 30th on the SS Amsterdam arriving in NY on Dec. 13, 1898. His record lists his last residence as Dubno and indicates he was headed to Brooklyn, with \$8 in his pocket. Dubno is a town that is within walking distance to Mlynov and we have many stories of other individuals from Mlynov visiting Dubno, to buy pretty things for the holidays, to go to the doctors or to catch a train to America.

Gedale’s record does not give a birth location and thus we don’t have any record that indicates he was born in Mlynov. But since his older brothers Nathan and Abraham

were born there, according to their records, and they still had a brother Yossel Gelberg back there, we can make an educated guess that he was born there too.



Figure 45 Gedale Gelberg indicates his birth location is Dubno and he was headed to Brooklyn.

Joe/Gedale was headed to what looks like an uncle “B Tepper at 112 Belmont Ave in Brooklyn.” This was a new name I have not encountered previously. Perhaps one day we will know who he is. I wonder where he was from and when he came.

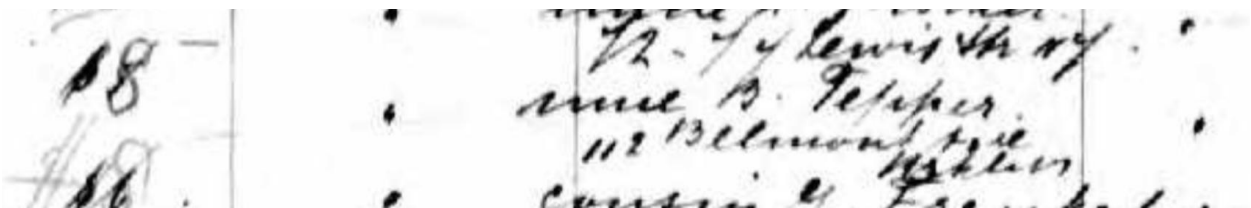


Figure 46 Gedale Gelberg headed to uncle B. Tepper at 112 Belmont ave in Brooklyn

This may not have been the only time Joseph/ Gedale came to the US. Denise recalls a family oral tradition that Gedale emigrated to the US twice and may have spent time in England. The story goes that he came to avoid being conscripted into the Russian army, didn't like it here in the US, and returned. He came back to the US and stayed when it became clear he couldn't avoid the military conscription back in the old country.

This story has an air of plausibility since there are other stories from Mlynov family descendants of ancestors (such as Ben Zion Polisuk) who didn't like it in the US and returned to Mlynov and of Mlynov immigrants who commuted for a while back and forth from Mlynov to the US (like David Hurwitz the husband of Bessie Demb).⁹

By 1930, Joseph and Lena (now Anna) are still living in Jersey City at 346 Baldwin Ave with three of their apparent four children. Jack (earlier John), age 22, was born in New York; Milton, age 18 and Pearl age 13, were born in Jersey City.

⁹ I heard the story of Ben Zion Polisuk returning to Mlynov from his niece, Mlynov-born Helen (Nudler) Fixler. The story of David Hurwitz is documented in the memoir of his daughter, Mlynov-born Clara Fram, which is available on the Mlynov website. <https://kehillalinks.jewishgen.org/Mlyniv/>

84	396	46	125	Gelberg Joseph	Head	R	40 ⁰⁰	R	No	M	W	51	M	23	No	Yes	Russian	Pa
85				Anna	Wife - at				✓	F	W	49	M	21	No	Yes	Russian	Pa
86				Jack	Son				✓	M	W	22	S		No	Yes	New York	Pa
87				Milton	Son				✓	M	W	18	S		Yes	Yes	New Jersey	Pa
88				Pearl	Daughter				✓	F	W	13	S		Yes	Yes	New Jersey	Pa

Figure 47 1930 Census of Joseph and Anna Gelberg and children.

Sarah, their older daughter, is not in the house. Another family tree online suggests that she may have died in 1921, and Denise writes to me that Sarah died suddenly at the age 18 at home of unknown causes. Denise reflects on family memories of Sarah:

The only thing I recall besides the shock of her death was that she was a good piano player. My father Milton loved music. His father, Gedalia [Joseph], played the clarinet. Gedalia paid for music lessons for the children - the girls on the piano and my father on the violin. (I don't recall the other son, Jack, playing any instrument.) My father carried it forward, getting me lessons on the accordion (no room for a piano in our tiny Brooklyn apartment). The musical thread ended there, with none of Gedalia's great grandchildren showing an interest in music, despite having music lessons.

I remember when my grandfather died, the question arose of who would get his clarinet and his gun with a pearl handle. The gun freaked the survivors out, so they wrapped it in newspaper and threw it in the trash. The clarinet...I don't know where that ended up.

When I receive these reflections from Denise, I paste them into this narrative. I love memories such as these and wonder too where that clarinet of Gedale Gelbeg is now. Is someone still using it?

Denise also recalls that another daughter of Joseph and Anna died as a baby and speculates that these deaths may explain why the only surviving daughter, Pearl, was sheltered from the outside world and never got more than a third grade education. Pearl never married and ended up taking care of the home for her father and brother Jack until their deaths.

Joseph and Anna's sons, Jack and Milton, were both still living at home on Baldwin Street in 1942 when they signed their WWII draft registration cards. Milton refers to his father as Mr. Gidale Gelberg.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921)

SERIAL NUMBER 811 1. NAME (PRINT) JACOB SOLOMON GELBERG ORDER NUMBER 10473

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (PRINT) 398 BALDWIN AVE JERSEY CITY HUDSON NJ

3. MAILING ADDRESS SAME

4. TELEPHONE [checked]

5. AGE IN YEARS 31 DATE OF BIRTH JULY 1 1904

6. PLACE OF BIRTH NEW YORK CITY NY

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS JOSEPH GELBERG 398 BALDWIN AVE JERSEY CITY NJ

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS JOSEPH GELBERG

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 398 BALDWIN AVE JERSEY CITY HUDSON NJ

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. Form 1 (Revised 1-1-42) 10-2100-1 Jacob Solomon Gelberg

Figure 48 1942 draft registration card of Joseph and Anna's son Jacob.

SERIAL NUMBER 973 1. NAME (PRINT) MILTON PETER GELBERG ORDER NUMBER 996

2. ADDRESS (PRINT) 398 BALDWIN AVE JERSEY CITY HUDSON NJ

3. TELEPHONE [checked]

4. AGE IN YEARS 30 DATE OF BIRTH Aug 3 1910

5. PLACE OF BIRTH Jersey City NJ

6. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mr. Mrs. Miss [checked] Gelberg Father

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON Mrs. Sadie Gelberg 398 Baldwin Ave J.C. Hudson, NJ

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME Sadie Gelberg

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 398 Baldwin Ave J.C. Hudson NJ

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

REGISTRATION CARD D. S. Form 1 (Revised 1-1-42) Milton Gelberg

Figure 49 1942 draft registration card of Joseph and Anna's son, Milton Peter Gelberg.

Milton Gelberg would go on to marry Rebecca G Polakewitz on December 23, 1945. They had two children: Harris Gelberg and Denise Gelberg. Denise, the writer, is the descendant whom that I was able to track down and who graciously shared memories with me.

Joseph's Father's Name

There is one last wrinkle to the Gedale/Joseph story that I want to share that potentially ties two parts of Mlynov Goldberg/Gelberg story together. I found Joseph / Gedale's tombstone in Mount Moriah Cemetery, in Fairview, Bergen County, New Jersey (see above).¹⁰ In Hebrew, the tombstone reads "Gedaliah son of Pinchus Meir / Died October 7, 1956."

Gedale's father's name was Pinchus Meir. Denise tells me her father Milton's Hebrew name was Pinchus Meir as well and realizes now that he was named after his grandfather, Joseph's father. A death record of Joseph's brother, Nathan, lists his father's name as "Myer" (apparently truncated from Pinchus Meir), which also appears on Nathan's tombstone. The same death record lists Nathan's mother's name as Sadie. So it appears that the names of the three brothers' parents back in Mlynov were Pinchus Meir and Sadie Gelberg.

¹⁰ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/154917534>

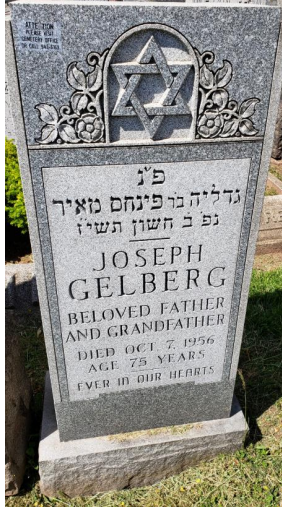


Figure 50 Joseph Gedale's Tombstone reads "Gedaliah son of Pinchus Meir"



Figure 51 Nathan Gelberg's Tombstone reads: "Nisan son of Pinchus Meir."

The name "Pinchus Gelberg" it should be noted was also the name of the oldest son in the Labish Gelberg line from Mlynov, the one that became Goldbergs in the US (discussed in Part I). This connection is one of the pieces of evidence that hints of the possibility that the Gelberg/Goldberg lines from Mlynov may have been related, though the families no longer know about each other and there is no recollection of a relationship. In the end, it doesn't matter since all the Mlynov families appear to have intermarried among each other anyway and whether we remember the marriages or not, we all seem to be related.

Morris Gelberg, Nathan's Other Son

There is one son of Nathan's, namely Morris Gelberg, who has been unaccounted for so far in this narrative and to whom I had promised to return. Morris has been left to last because I was only able to identify him through a triangulation from other records. As noted earlier, the 1922 City Directory in Jersey City is the best clue as to which of the many Morris Gelbergs is the son of Nathan. Here again is that record.

n 451 Bergen av
 Gelberg Jacob (Yetta) (Five Corners Auto
 Painting Co) h 219 Van Horne
 " Jos (Lena) (Gilberg & Hyde) h 219 Van
 Horne
 " Morris (Becca) blksmith h 208 Woodward
 " & Hyde (Jos Gelberg, Abraham Hyde) blk-
 smith 381 Van Horne

Figure 52 1922 Jersey City Directory showing Joseph, Jacob and Morris Gelberg

I couldn't prove that the Morris Gelberg, blacksmith, listed here is Nathan's son. But it seemed like a reasonable hypothesis given that every other Gelberg on this record is a relative, and blacksmith was also the occupation of his uncle Joseph. Working with that assumption, we can track this Morris Gelberg with the wife Becca through the records.

Morris and his wife "Bebecca" [Rebecca elsewhere] appear in the 1920 census in Jersey City at the 210 Woodward Street (in dwelling unit 64) with two children, Samuel, age 7 and Bernard, five months old. Both children were born in the US. Morris is here listed as a blacksmith for horseshoes under his occupation. He and his wife are both said to have arrived in 1905 and are still "A" or aliens in this 1920 census. A brother-in-law is living with them named Benjamin Simon who is twenty years old and perhaps Becca's brother.

137	Kassner Ella	Daughter		F	W	1 1/2	8				No	No	No
138	Gelberg Morris	Head	Rx	M	W	30	M	1905	Al		Yes	Yes	
	Bebecca	Wife		F	W	30	M	1905	Al		Yes	Yes	
	Samuel	Son		M	W	7	8				No	Yes	Yes
	Bernard	Son		M	W	5	8				No	No	No
	Simon Benjamin	Brother-in-law		M	W	20	8	1910	Pa		Yes	Yes	

Figure 53 The 1920 census of Morris and Becca Gelberg and children

Working backward we can now locate Morris and Rebecca in the 1915 census living in a tenement with a lot of other people at 10 Westervelt St. in Jersey City. The location is only a half-mile from Van Horne where his uncle Joseph Gelberg lived. Morris is listed here as a blacksmith and the couple's son, Sam, is listed as born in 1914 in New Jersey. The record indicates here that they have been in the States for eight years at this point, suggesting an arrival date of 1907.

31	10 36 86	Gelberg Morris	W	W	Dec	1890	25	M	Russia
32	10 36 86	Gelberg Rebecca	W	F	Jan	1891	24	M	Russia
33	10 36 86	Gelberg Samuel	W	M	Aug	1914	1	S	New Jersey
34	10 36 87	Klein Louis	W	M	Feb	1886	29	M	Russia

Figure 54 The 1915 census of Morris and Becca Gelberg on Westervelt Street

I have not identified other records of Morris and Rebecca with certainty. I believe this 1930 census record belongs to them, which lists them as “Goldbergs” living on Van Horne, the same street as Joseph Gelberg. Their children, Sam and Bernard, are present but now two other children Everett and Lillian are present. Rebecca has become “Rose” and Morris is listed as an iron worker in a shop.

60	- Block 221 41 203	Goldberg, Morris	Head	28	33	M	W	40	M	21	No	No	Russia!
61		Rose	Wife #			F	W	35	M	16	No	Yes	Russia
62		Sam	Son			M	W	16	S		Yes	Yes	New Jersey
63		Bernard	Son			M	W	10	S		Yes	Yes	New Jersey
64		Everett	Son			M	W	5	S		Yes	Yes	New Jersey
65	Lillian	Daughter			F	W	17	S		No			New Jersey

Figure 55 The 1930 census of Morris and Rose on Van Horne Street.

By 1940, this same family appears to be living on 98 Harmon Street, again just a few blocks away. Morris shows up as “Maurice,” Sam has left the house; Everett is listed as Edward, and Maurice is listed as a “Body Maker” in an Auto Body Co.

HARMON	98 38 R 30	No	Goldberg, Maurice	Head	0	M	W	48	M	8			Russia	Ma Samokov
			Rose x	Wife	1	F	W	46	M	8			Russia	Ma Samokov
			Bernard	Son	2	M	W	21	S	43			New Jersey	Samokov
			Edward	Son	2	M	W	16	S	42			New Jersey	Samokov
			Lillian	Daughter	2	F	W	11	S	7			New Jersey	Samokov
			May	Daughter	2	F	W	11	S	7			New Jersey	Samokov
HARMON	98 39 R 40	No	Maurice	Head	0	M	W	70	M	8			Kentucky	Samokov
			Lucie	Wife	1	F	W	73	M	8			Kentucky	Samokov

Figure 56 the 1940 Census of Morris Gelberg (list as “Maurice”) and family on Harmon St.

I believe the following obituary of this Morris Gelberg ties together all of these stories and provides good probability that the Morris we have been tracing is indeed the son of Nathan. The obituary is from the *The Record*, in Hackensack, New Jersey from May 17, 1965 (p. 34).

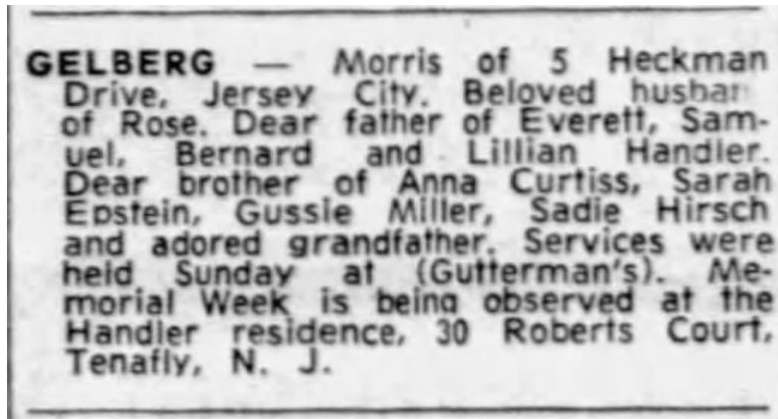


Figure 57 Obituary of Morris Gelberg, May 17, 1965

The Morris of this obituary is clearly the same Morris of the 1930 and 1940 census records, because the names of children there are the same here: Everett, Samuel, Bernard and Lillian. It is from this record that we learn that this Lillian's married name became Handler.

But even more probative are the names of Morris's siblings here. They tie this record back to the Morris who was son of Nathan and they match the names of Nathan's children who had made their way to the States: Chane / Hannah (here Anna Curtiss), Sarah (here Sarah Epstein) Gussie (here Gussie Miller), Sadie (here Sadie Hirsch). Amy Westpy confirmed that her grandmother Gussie had indeed become a Miller, but she hadn't previously known the other married names of her grandmother's sisters.

Bingo. We now had connected all of these records together, Morris's obituary, the census records, and Nathan Gelberg's Petition for Naturalization. I now knew the married names of Nathan's daughters: Anna Curtiss, Sarah Epstein and Sadie Hirsch. The search continues to connect with their descendants and learn more of the stories passed on in their families. So far those I have tracked down have not responded. Perhaps they think I am a scam artist or troll, and perhaps I am.



Figure 58 Morris Gelberg with one of his grandchildren. Courtesy of Amy Westpy

Having tied all these records together, we can now turn to a record that misled me for the longest time. It is the 1942 draft registration card of one “Morris Gilberg.” We can now conclude that this is our same Morris Gelberg because he is living at 98 Harmon Street the same address that appeared on the 1940 census we looked at previously, where his wife also was called Rose. What confused me with this record was that the birthplace was listed as “Divna.” This is not a town whose name I recognize and I’m guessing that either Morris forgot the full name of the town “Mlinov” or it was corrupted or shortened in transliteration.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)			
SERIAL NUMBER U 2401	1. NAME (Print) Morris Gilberg <small>(First) (Middle) (Last)</small>		ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 98 Harmon St., Jersey City, Hudson, N.J. <small>(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)</small>			
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]			
3. MAILING ADDRESS Same <small>[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]</small>			
4. TELEPHONE none <small>(Exchange) (Number)</small>	5. AGE IN YEARS 51 DATE OF BIRTH 1-10-1891 <small>(Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)</small>	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Divna Russia <small>(Town or county) (State or country)</small>	
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Rose Gilberg - 98 Harmon St., Jersey City, N.J.			
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Adam Black & Son			
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 276 Tonnelle Av., Jersey City, Hudson, N.J. <small>(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)</small>			
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. <i>Morris Gilberg</i>			

Figure 59 Morris Gilberg's 1942 draft registration card

Summary

To summarize what we have learned, there were three Gelberg brothers from Mlynov who arrived in New York starting with Joe/Gedale Gelberg in November 1898, the first to arrive. He established a wagonmaking and blacksmith business by at least 1905 at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City and had an ongoing concern with Abraham Hyde that they called “Gelberg and Hyde.”

Relatives who followed him over, including his brother Abraham and nephew Gershen/Jacob (Nathan’s son) stayed with him when they first arrived and worked for him or with him during their early years here. Joe/Gedale married Hanna Adelson (also Lena Edelson) before 1903 and had four children Sarah (1903), Jack (1904), Milton (1910) and Pearl (1915).

Joseph’s brother, Abraham, arrived in August 1907 followed by Nathan’s son Gershen (Jack) in September 1907. Abraham was joined by his oldest daughter Itte (Yetta) by 1909 and his wife and other children by July 1910. First cousins, Jack and Itte got married by 1915.

The third brother, Nathan, arrived in December 1911 and was headed to his son Gershen, who was living with Nathan’s brother Joe, Nathan was joined by the rest of his children and his second wife Rachel in March 1916. Rachel’s manifest made clear that there was a fourth Gelberg brother, Yossel, back in Mlynov at the time.

By 1914, therefore, all the brothers and their families had arrived. Joseph remains consistently in Jersey City and is still there in 1930. Still living with him at the time is his wife, Hannah, and three of his four children, Jack, Milton and Pearl. Sarah or Sadie has passed away by this time.

Joseph’s brother Abraham had started out living with his brother in Jersey City too but by the time his family arrived he was in transitioned to Brooklyn. We don’t know why he left Jersey City for Brooklyn. In the 1915 census, he lists himself as a woodworker but reverts to Wagon Maker in his 1916 Petition and wheelwright in the 1920 census. In 1915, his oldest daughter Yetta has married her first cousin Jack (Nathan’s son “Gershen”) and they have taken up residence with Abraham and Fannie and the rest of the family on Hooper Street in Brooklyn. Their daughter Lillian was born that same year and by 1920, when their daughter Miriam is born, they have moved out and set up a household of their own.

In Abraham’s household in the 1920, all of his children (except Yetta) are still living with him. His second eldest daughter Sadie has for her part married Abe Karsh and he too is part of the household and is working in manufacturing in a millinery shop. By 1930, Sadie and Abe Karsh have four children of their own and have set up their own household and are still in Brooklyn. I am less clear about what became of Abraham’s other children as I have been unable to clearly identify them or connect with their descendants.

By 1930, Nathan has also moved to Sterling Place in Brooklyn, which is where Abraham and his family had settled as early as 1916. He is living with his wife Rachel and step-daughter Rose. There is no information about what happened to his oldest son David who had remained behind in Europe. The rest of the children have moved out of his home. Nathan would pass away that year on December 19 from heart complications. Nathan's daughter Gussie, the grandmother of Amy (Abramowitz) Westpy, married by 1922 when they had their first daughter Dorothy (Miller) Graff. Their son Isaac was born in 1928 and a daughter Nancy in 1931. As we have seen, Nathan's son Morris had married by 1913 and had two children Sam (1913), Bernard (1919), Everett (1924) and Lillian Handler (1929). By 1930, Morris and his family were still living on Van Horne Street in Jersey City. I have not been able to trace Nathan's daughters with certainty. We know only that their married names were Sarah Epstein, Anna Curtiss, and Sadie Hirsch. Perhaps with time we shall learn what happened to them and their descendants and add them to the Mlynov Descendants family tree.

Conclusion

In addition to Amy Westpy and Denise Gelberg, I have tried to track down other descendants of these Gelbergs from Mlynov. So far, no luck. I'm hopeful that one day, I shall talk to other descendants, particularly of Abraham Gelberg, who so far seem reluctant to engage. I imagine some great-grandson or great-granddaughter out there who is wondering about where the family came from and what their story is. Hopefully, one day this document will answer some of their questions and spur them to add to the stories.

The hypothesis that this Gelberg line from Mlynov was related to the Goldberg line from Mlynov seems plausible but at this point can only be verified by the discovery of other Russian census records or perhaps DNA tests. In the end, the connection of these two lines doesn't really matter. Most of the descendants of Mlynov families seem to be cousins of one sort or another to each other.

Appendices

Appendix I Generations of the Gelberg Brothers from Mlynov

The following table is based on a reconstruction from records. Only some of the names listed here have been verified by descendants.

The Descendants of Pinchus Meir and Sadie Gelberg		
Three Brothers	Their Children	Their Grandchildren
Yossel (Joseph) Gelberg married Sarah Devorah* (p. 433 Mlynov Memorial book)	• Meir Gelberg	
	• Abraham Gelberg	• Yitchak Gelberg (in Israel)
Nussen (Nathan) Gelberg (~1858–1930) married unknown first wife who was the mother of his children by 1884. His second wife, Reisel (later Rachel) (1870-1947), had a daughter Rose (Ruchel), who may have been Nussen's daughter.	David Gelberg (1884–?) stayed in Europe	• Unknown
	Sarah (Sima) Gelberg (1886–?) married Samuel Epstein (1888–?)	• Lena (1913–) • Rose Epstein (1915–) • Anna Hannah (1920–) • Leon Epstein (1921–)
	Moishe / Morris Gelberg (1890–1965) married Becca / Rebecca Gerson (1890-1968)	• Samuel Gelberg (1913–1998) • Bernard Gelberg (1919–1966) • Everett Gelberg (1924–2013) • Lillian Handler (1929–)
	Gershen (Jacob / Jack) (1892–1928) married his first cousin Yetta Gelberg (1894–1979), daughter of Abraham and Fannie Gelberg	• Lillian Mae Vortreflich (1915– 2004), daughter Gail Tolchinsky • Miriam Feitel (1920–2007) m Howard Feitel. No children.
	Gitel (Gussie) Miller (1893–1976) married	• Dorothy (Miller) Graff (1922–2011) • Isaac Miller (1928–)

	Aaron Miller (1882-1955)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy (Miller) Abramowitz (1931-2014)
	Chana / Anna Curtiss (1897-?) married unknown Curtiss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unknown
	Sadie Hirsch (1897-) married (hypothesis) Morris Hirsch (1895-)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milton Hirsch (1911-) • Lillian (1911-)
	Rose/ Ruchel, daughter of Nathan's second wife Reisel, possibly Nussen's daughter, (1905-1960) never married	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No children
<p>Abraham Gelberg (1869-?) married Fannie / Faiga (Lemelman?) (1894-1979)</p>	Yetta (Gelberg) Gelberg (1894-1975) married first cousin Gershen (Jacob / Jack) (1892-1928), son of Nathan Gelberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lillian Mae Vortreflich (1915-2004), daughter Gail Tolchinsky • Miriam Feitel (1920-2007) m Howard Feitel. No children.
	Sadie (Sarah) Karsh (1897-1977) married Abraham Karsh (1895-)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May (Karsh) Vosberg (1922-2018) m. Clarence Vosberg. • Melvin Karsh (1923- bef. 2018) m Elaine Loebel • Daniel Karsh (1929- bef. 2018) • Noreen (Karsh) (1930- 2008) m Edgar Milton Trenner (1921-2011)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samuel Gelberg (1898-?)* We are not positive he is a son or just a lodger/cousin with Abraham's family in the 1920 census 	?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gussie (1899-?) 	?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max (1902-?) married ? 	?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lena (1904-?) married ? 	?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morris (1906-?) married ? 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bertha (1912-?) married ? 	?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmanuel Manny Gelberg (1916-1994) married? 	?
<p>Gedale (Joseph) Gelberg (1878-1956 married Anna (Lena / Hannah) Edelson 1881-1943</p>	<p>Sarah (Sadie) Gelberg (1903-1921) never married</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No children
	<p>Jack "Jake" Solomon Gelberg (1904-1985) married Rosalind Pearlstein (1927-)</p>	?
	<p>Milton Gelberg (1910-2004) married Rebecca G Polakewitz (1918-2008)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise Gelberg • Harris Gelberg
	<p>Pearl Gelberg (1917-1997) never married</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No children

Appendix II: Who Was Gershen Gelberg?

Let's start with the facts as we know them.

- The 1911 manifest of Nathan Gelberg says he is heading to his son Gershen Gelberg, at 184 ½ E 7th (possibly Jersey City)
- Gershen Gelberg's 1907 manifest says he is heading to brother Joe/Gedale Gelberg, 457 Pacific
- Abraham Gelberg's 1907 manifest say he is heading to his brother Joe/Gedale Gelberg, 457 Pacific

These records make it look like Gershen Gelberg is the son of Nathan, the brother of Joe/ Gedale, and that Joe/Gedale and Abraham are also brothers. If that were the case, Nathan would have to be the father of Joe and Abraham as well. But I also know from speaking to Amy Westpy, Nathan's great-granddaughter, that Nathan had a brother Abraham.

I have come to the conclusion that Gershen is the son of Nathan and the nephew of Joseph (Gedale) Gelberg, not his nephew. I also believe Gershen is later named Jacob in Nathan's Petition for Naturalization and marries his uncle Abraham's daughter, Yetta. Here is the reasoning for my conclusion.

First, the birth dates of Joseph, Nathan and Abraham are closer in time and support the conclusion they are brothers, which is consistent with Amy Westpy's family memory that Nathan had a brother Abraham. Since Abraham says he is headed to his brother Joe, I suspect the three of them (Joe, Abraham and Nathan) are brothers, even though there is quite a span in time between "Nussen" and Joe.

NAME	YEAR OF BIRTH
Nussen (Nathan) Gelberg	1858
Abraham Gelberg	1869
Joseph/ Gedale Gelberg	1878
Gershen Gelberg	1892

It would seem plausible, on the other hand, that Gershen born in 1892 was a son of Nathan born in 1858. This would be consistent with the fact that Nathan's other children are also born in the 1890s.

If Gershen is Nathan's son, as I suspect, the question is, "Which son is he?" Nathan mentions two sons in his 1927 Naturalization Petition: Morris born in 1890 and Jacob, born in 1895. Gershen seems to match most closely to the profile of Jacob. Gershen is listed as a painter in his manifest and Jacob appears as a painter in later records. Morris by contrast is listed as a blacksmith in later records and we have a candidate for

Morris in later records as well. In addition, we know that the name Gershen morphs into Americanized names that start with a J. In the line that became “Goldberg” (see Part I), there are two Gershens, one who becomes Joe and one who becomes Jacob.

Appendix III Goldberg /Gelberg Migration from Mlynov: A Sequential View

Year	Name and Activity	Notes / Detail
Dec. 13, 1898	Gedale / Joseph Gelberg arrives in NY under name Gadalia Gelber. He is listed as a cartwright and someone has written over it “wheelright.” He lists his last residence as Dubno.	This date of Gedale’s arrival is given on his 1901 naturalization paper as Dec 15. On what appears to be his passenger manifest, he is headed to what looks like uncle B Tepper in Brooklyn at 113 12 Claremont Ave Brooklyn.
May 1901	Gedale Gelberg signs naturalization papers	The record gives his date of arrival as “on or about Dec. 15, 1898” and gives his birthdate in 1878. His address at the time is illegible but appears as something like 192 Mon? NY City though it could be N J city.
Apr 13, 1902	A marriage record suggests Joe Gelberg marries Lena Edelson (Hannah Adelson) in Manhattan on April 13, 1902	
1903	Joseph and Lena’s daughter Sarah Gelberg was born	
1904	Joseph and Lena’s son Jack Gelberg is born. Joseph’s name does not appear in the City directory for this year.	
1905-1910	By 1905 and through 1910, Gedale/Joseph is a blacksmith and wagon wheel maker in Jersey City at 457 Pacific Street. He has a business with Abraham Hyde and they call it “Gelberg and Hyde”	
1905 Census	Joseph “Gelburg” appears in what looks like their 1905 Census with wife Lena (same name in his 1917 draft registration below).	The census places them on 193 Grand Street. Ancestry labels him as from Ireland, in an Irish neighborhood, which was either a lie or a mistake. The kids names are Sarah, age 2 and John (Jack), age 1. Boarding with them is “Aplan” who is 30 and a blacksmith. The record suggests his last name is Gelburg too, suggesting he may be another Gelburg relative who has already arrived.
1905 Directory	Joseph Gelberg is listed as part of a business called “Gelberg and Hyde” which appears on 457 Pacific, Jersey City, NJ and is listed as wagonmakers. Another entry shows the partnership of Gelberg & Hyde was formed by the partners Joseph Gelberg and Abram Hyde, wagonmakers	
1905 Directory	Joseph Gelberg is listed on 457 Pacific	

The Gelbergs/Goldbergs from Mlynov—49

<p>1906– 1907</p>	<p>Nathan's son Morris Gelberg arrived in this period according to later census records but his manifest has not yet been found.</p>
<p>June 14, 1907</p>	<p>Abraham Gelberg was supposed to be a passenger on this ship, SS Petersburg sailing from Rotterdam on June 1 and arriving in NY on June 14 (some records say 12th).</p> <p>But Abraham's name is scratched out and he apparently caught a later ship in the summer arriving July 30th. The record lists his occupation as "carriage maker" and someone has written in faint lettering "wheelright."</p> <p>His last residence in Europe was Radivilov and his wife Pearl (also Feige and Fannie) Gelberg was back there. He was headed to his brother Josef Gelberg at 457 Pacific Ave in Jersey City. It says his place of birth was "Malinow."</p>
<p>August 7, 1907</p>	<p>Abraham Gelberg arrives on this date on the SS Carmania sailing from Liverpool to NY after missing a passage earlier in the summer in June (see previous record). The info on this record is consistent with what was written on that June record.</p> <p>Abraham is listed as a blacksmith, age 38, his wife Pearl (also called Fannie or Feige) is back in Radivilov, Volin. He is headed to brother Joe Gelberg 457 Pacific Av Jersey City. It says he was born in "Malinow"</p>
<p>Sept 19, 1907</p>	<p>Gershen Gelberg, Nathan's son, later called Jacob Gelberg, travels from Libau, Latvia on SS Moskova arriving in NY on this date.</p> <p>His last residence is what I believe reads "Wolyn, Merwitz" (=Mervits in the district of Volyn). Ancestry mistranscribes this as "Wilna." Back there is his relative N. Goldberg (likely Nathan Gelberg, probably his father). Like Abraham who arrived in August, Gershen is headed to "brother" Joe Goldberg—457 "Facific" (=Pacific) Ave Jersey City.</p> <p>See my discussion in the appendix why I think Gershen is Nathan Gelberg's son Jacob and not Joseph's brother.</p>
<p>May 22, 1907</p>	<p>An unidentified Goldberg from Mlynov arrives on the SS Niew Amsterdam traveling from Rotterdam to NY. The first name appears to be Simon [?] but the writing is a bit illegible.</p> <p>In the record, the traveler is male, age 38 (implied birth date implied 1869). His last permanent residence and place of birth is Mlinow. He is headed to a to brother-in-law whose name is illegible, but appears to be something like "F Nanfed" who lives 229 Second Street New York. This traveler is next to Isak Rubinstein from Dubno who may be a traveling companion.</p> <p>There are three other Mlynov immigrants on this ship: Moshe Schwartz (my great uncle), Isak Glebstein and Hyman Katz. Simon appears on list 29. Morris and Isak appear on List 38 (lines 11 and 19). According to later records, Chaim</p>

	<p>Yerukim Katz (Aleph Katz's father) was on this ship as well but I was unable to locate his name when reviewing the pages of the manifest.</p> <p>A photo in the Mlynov book shows Sylvia (Bardith) Goldberg, the future wife of Gershon / Joe Goldberg, with the mother of Aleph Katz, "Henia Arelas," confirming a relationship between the Goldberg family and the Katz family in New York.</p>
1908 City Directory	<p>Jersey City directory lists Joseph Gelberg at 457 Pacific listed under Wagon Makers in the Directory. He also appears in alphabetical listing under "Gelberg" at 457 Pacific and his home is listed as 458 Grand.</p>
1909 City Directory	<p>J Gelberg appears at 457 Pacific under Wagon Builders. In the alphabetical listing, his name appears with same address and his occupation is listed as wagon builder.</p>
April 9 1909	<p>Another unidentified S Goldberg arrives traveling with Mlynov-born Meier Fischman from Mlynov on the SS Alice from Trieste to New York. The Fishman family is a well documented family from Mlynov.</p> <p>The first name of this traveler appears to be Simon but the name is scratched out. He is age 35, which would put his birth year about 1874. The closest relative of S Goldberg is a wife Rifka back in Mlynov. He is going to a brother S or I Goldberg at 1135 [street name illegible] Ave, NY.</p>
Aug 10, 1909	<p>Itte (Yetta) Gelberg, the oldest daughter of Abraham and Fannie arrives on the SS Ryndam traveling from Rotterdam to NY July 31st – Aug 10th.</p> <p>She arrives two years after her father and a year before her mother and siblings. There are two records of her passage, one a passenger manifest and one a record of aliens detained in special inquiry.</p> <p>She is age 16, a seamstress, and lists her mother Feige Gelberg as living back in "Radjmilow" Wolin (today Radyvtliv). She is headed to her father Abraham Gelberg at 457 Pacific Ave Jersey Av, Jersey. She indicates she was born in "Radjmilow"</p>
1910 City directory	<p>Jos Gelberg is listed at 458 Grand (see 1908 above), which is his home address</p>
1910 July 10	<p>Abraham's wife Feige (also Fannie and Perl) and their five children travel from Rotterdam to NY on the SS Nieuw Amsterdam arriving in NY on July 10, 1907.</p> <p>Feyge is 35. The children listed are Sime-11, Gishel-9, Mottie-7, Lea-3 and Moses-3. Feyge lists her closest relative in "Radjmilow" as her mother and it appears her name is "Mindel." That her mother was living in Radivilov may explain why the family were living there and the children were all born there, even though Feyge puts her own birthplace as "Malanow."</p>

	<p>The family is headed to her husband Avrum Gelberg, c/o of a cousin's address, that appears to be something like c/o "Garber" or "Farber" at 228 something like "Melfiolaism Ave" in Brooklyn. It may be that Abraham was in transition between residences.</p> <p>There is another traveler with them, Hirsch Polluark, who was deported. It is possible he may be Feige's brother or a relative. He has a wife Reisel Pollurak back in Radivilov and who is headed to his "cousin" Abraham Goldberg at the same address as the Gelberg. I suspect he is Feige's brother. His birthplace appears to be "Malannov" (Mlynov?)</p> <p>It appears from page 2 of the manifest that Hirsch may have a hernia and perhaps this was related to his deportation.</p>
<p>1910 City directory</p>	<p>Jos Gelberg is listed on 458 Grand (see 1908 above), this is his home address</p>
<p>1910 Census</p>	<p>Gershen Gelberg in the 1910 census is a boarder on Jersey Ave in Jersey City with a family from Russia named Zindler. Another boarder is also there named Abraham Bloom.</p>
<p>Dec. 22, 1911</p>	<p>Nussen Gilberg (Nathan Gelberg) and his oldest daughter Sima (Sarah) arrive on the SS Grant traveling from Hamburg to NY, arriving Dec 22, 1911.</p> <p>Nathan is 54 years old and his daughter is 17. Nathan's occupation is listed as "dealer." Their last permanent residence and birthplaces are Mlynov and Reisel is listed as Nathan's wife and Sima's mother. Reisel is remembered by descendant Amy Westpy as the second wife of Nathan.</p> <p>Nathan indicates they are headed to his son Gershen at 184 1/2 E 7th St. I suspect this is Jersey City near historic downtown and only a mile from 457 Pacific where Joseph/Gedale Gelberg is living.</p> <p>Moishe Gelberg from the Goldberg Mlynov line, the son of Labish and Eta (Schuchman) Gelberg, was on the same ship and one page away on the same manifest. He belongs to the family line of Labish Gelberg (see next record)</p>
<p>Nov. 22, 1911</p>	<p>"Mojsche Gilberg" (later Morris Goldberg) arrived on SS Grant from Hamburg to NY arriving Nov 22, 1911. He is listed as 36 years old and a "joiner." Morris is the son of Labish and Eta (Schuchman) Gelberg.</p> <p>Morris is listed one page away from Nussen and Sema Gelberg. There are only 19 names between them on the manifest and had the page break fallen differently they could have been on the same page.</p> <p>It seems reasonable to assume that Moishe and Nathan and Sima are traveling</p>

	<p>together since they are all from Mlynov. The town was too small not for them to have known about each other. Moishe is headed to a cousin "Idel Goldberg" who has not yet been identified. Idel's street name is a bit illegible and appears to be 60 Grokerd St, NY. His place of birth is given as Mlynov.</p>
<p>1912 / 1913</p>	<p>Sarah Gelberg (later Spector), sister of Moishe (son of Labish and Eta) arrives in 1912 or 1913 according to her 1930 census. Family memories recall that her future husband Sam Spector paid for her to come over. According to family accounts, Sarah fell in love with someone else after she arrived and only after a dream agreed to marry Sam Spector.</p> <p>Her passenger manifest has not yet been definitely identified by those who have searched.</p>
<p>August 24, 1913</p>	<p>Joseph Schuchman, the brother of Labish Gelberg's wife Eta (Schuchman) Gelberg, arrived from Antwerp to Quebec on the SS Montreal, arriving Aug. 24, 1913. He was headed to 1152 E Lombard St in Baltimore to a cousin [Morris] Weinstein.</p> <p>1152 E Lombard was the landing address of several Mlynov immigrants including was my great uncle Israel Schwartz and his wife Sarah (Fishman) Schwartz as well as Meyer Fishman.</p>
<p>Mar. 16, 1914</p>	<p>Nathan Gelberg's wife Reisel or Reisel (later Rachel) arrives on the SS Pretoria from Hamburg to New York and landed on US soil on March 16, 1914.</p> <p>She was traveling with Nathan's two daughters Gittel (Gussie) Gilberg (Amy Westpy's grandmother) and Chane Gilberg. With them is Ruchel Gilberg, Rose's daughter and either daughter or step-daughter of Nathan.</p> <p>Reisel lists a brother-in-law "Yossel" back in Mlynov and is headed with the kids to her husband Nissen Gilberg in Jersey City who was living at the time at 230 Van Horne Street.</p>
<p>April 2, 1921</p>	<p>Gitla, the wife of Moishe (Morris) son of Labish, arrives with the kids. She is 42. Assisting her is Moishe's brother Gershen, age 21.</p> <p>They came on SS Rotterdam, from Rotterdam to NY arriving April 02, 1921. They are headed to Gitla's husband Moshe is at 24 Ludlow Street NY, father. Gitla lists a relative, possibly father or brother, Aaron Weizer back in Mlynov. Traveling with them is Charleya (Helen Dishowitz and later Helen Lederer) age 16, Sura (Sara Lewel) age 13, Gershon 8, Avrum 11.</p>
<p>July 17, 1921</p>	<p>Benjamin and Chaya (Anna Golberg) Gevantman arrived on July 17, 1921 on the SS Gdansk traveling from Danzig to NY. Chaya was pregnant with their first born Lewis Hyman (L.H. Gevantman)</p>

Oct. 16,
1921

October 16, 1921 **Silka Borodacz** (soon to be Sylvia Barditch, and the future Syvlia Goldberg) arrives from Luck with family on SS France from LeHarve