

Ungvar Family Mystery

by Martin Swartz

My great-great-grandmother Hermine ROSENBAUM was born in Ungvar in 1850. According to our family's information, Hermine had a brother named Leo who later moved to Kisvarda, a brother named Bernard who moved to Beregszasz (Berehovo) or Mezokaszeny, and three sisters, about whom I have little more information. The parents of Hermine, Leo, Bernard, and their sisters were Joseph ROSENBAUM and Charlotte née TIRMAN (might be MITTELMAN), apparently both of Ungvar.

Around 1870 Hermine married my great-great-grandfather Adolf KARFUNKEL of Gálszécs, Hungary (today Sečovce, Slovakia). Hermine died in 1941 and is buried in Sečovce; her husband Adolf died in 1935 in the same town.

According to family tradition, Hermine's grandmother was born in 1799, and lived until 1915 or 1916 (or maybe just 1905 or 1906), having reached the age of 116 or 117 (or maybe only 106) and seen three centuries!! We are pretty sure that she died in Ungvar, but we're not sure if she was born there. We also think that the woman was the grandmother on Hermine's maternal side, meaning that her married name was either Tirman or Mittelman. We don't know what her maiden name might have been.

So the question is whether anyone out there with a connection to Ungvar—with or without connections to the Rosenbaum, Tirman, or Mittelman families—has heard this story before. Or perhaps someone has access to the Uzhhorod's Jewish death records and could check.



Hermine Rosenbaum, around 1890