MISLED BY RECORDS: Identifying Adam Cosner's Parentage

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Descendants of Adam Cosner (1763-1849) of Lancaster County Pennsylvania have been searching for years for proof of his German ancestry. Many suspected he was connected to the family of Philip Peter Cosner of Thaleischweiler-Froschen Pflalz, Bayern, Germany and Hardy County, [West] Virginia. Two sources support the Cosners' German origins but differ on where they first settled. Pennsylvania and Ohio genealogical records connected with those for a German immigrant who died in Virginia reveal Adam's parents and his most likely birthplace. Note: numerous spellings used include Cosner, Casner, Kastner, Castner, Cossinor, Cossinour.

EARLY CLUES

- > 1903 letter from Adam Cosner (NE) to Henry Cosner (ILL)
- History of Sacramento County California- biographical sketch of Robert Cosner

RECENT CLUES & RESEACH

- "Pennsylvania and New Jersey Church and Town Records, 1708-1985," database, Ancestry
- ➤ 1800-1840 research and analysis
- copies of John & Ann (White) Cosner bible records, family of Adam & Elizabeth Cosner
- Cosner/Kastner tax & deed research Chester Co PA & Hardy Co (West) VA

CONFLICTING EVIDENCE

- (Philip) PETER Cosner of Bucks Co, & Chester Co, PA
- > PHILIP (Peter) of Chester Co, PA & Hardy Co, (West) VA
- Revolutionary War Service of Philip Peter Cosner and other Cosners
- Questionable German record transcription on ancestry.com database

THREE COSNER/COSTNER/KASTNER 18th Century Families from Germany to PA

- (Philip) PETER Cosner/Castner, arrived 1732 aboard the Pink *Plaisance*
- ➤ George ADAM Cosner arrived 1748 aboard the *Patience*
- > PHILIPP (Peter) Kastner arrived 1763 aboard the Chance

CONCLUSION

- Kastner and Related Spellings Y-DNA Project
- 8 sources giving proof to Adam's parentage

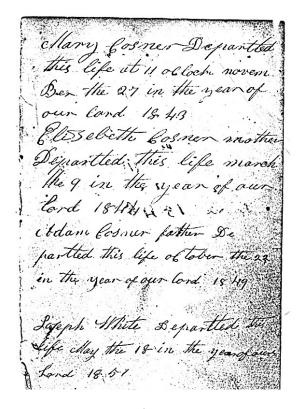
Clark (lebo July 54 1908 WOb Comer Dengance Ile Dean Sin Brothingave me your letter to read a few days age requested me to answer it, & don't know any of the Corners you have named in your letter my fother and family wer all from Ohis. Fut formerly from Jakesten Do Dun Grand Jothen ross a Bensylvania Detchman. therer was five toys John the oldest remained til Denn my fot ther Joseph, Unklis Wethias William Pharles mooved to this settled in Richland lo east of Manofield 12 miles, near Hay Fill now ashland 60

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of Jother, name henry Corner
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Mansfield Chis) moved from
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letter not long ago from a man
if the name of B. D. Corner who
is Mi malter at Grand Rapids

1903 Letter from Adam Cosner of Clarks, Nebraska to William H Cosner of Kewanee, Illinois

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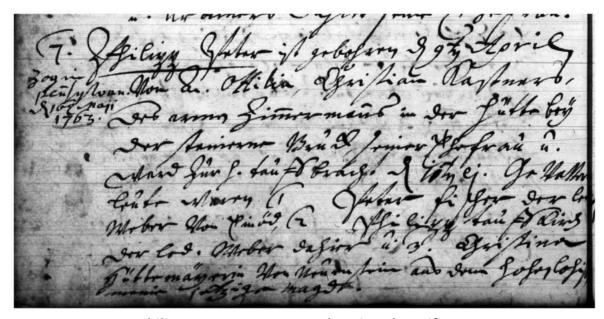
Family births page from John Cosner bible



Family deaths page from John Cosner bible

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Adam Cosner 1841 Power of Attorney to nephew Daniel F Cosner



Philipp Peter Kastner 1732 baptismal certificate

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Alvin L. Anderson, *Vass and allied families: the descendants of John and Mary (Cosner) Vass* (Canton, Ohio: Anderson, 1975).

J.M. Guinn, *History of the State of California and Biographical Record of the Sacramento Valley, California* (Chicago: The Chapman Publishing Co., 1906), p. 337–38.

John Vestal Hadley, *History of Hendricks County, Indiana: Her People, Industries and Institutions* (Indianapolis: B.F.Bowen & Co., 1914).

Laban Miles Hoffman, Our Kin Being A History Of The Hoffman, Rhyne, Costner, Rudisill, Best, Hovis, Hoyle, Wills, Shetley, Jenkins, Holland, Hambright, Gaston, Withers, Cansler, Clemmer and Lineberger Families (Charlotte, NC: Daniel E. Rhyne, Laban L. Jenkins, L. M. Hoffman, 1915), p. 231-267.

Dr. Frederick Krebs and Milton Rubican, *Emigrants from the Palatinate to the American Colonies in the 18th C* by Dr. Frederick Krebs and Milton Rubincan, Pennsylvania German Society Special Study, no. 1 (Norristown, Penn.: Pennsylvania German Society, 1953).

Daniel Rupp, A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 to 1776 (Philadelphia: Leary Stuart & Co., 1898), p.77-78.

Ralph Beaver Strassburger, 1883-1959, and William John Hinke, *Pennsylvania German Pioneers: a Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals In the Port of Philadelphia From 1727 to 1808* (Norristown, Penn.: Pennsylvania German Society, 1934), p.383.

WEBSITES of INTEREST

Ancestry.Com databases, "Pennsylvania and New Jersey Church and Town Records, 1669–2013" "Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, 1768-1801"

FamilyTreeDNA, Kastner and Related Spellings Y-DNA Project

https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/kastner/about/background

Genealogy.com, Re: Descendant of Adam Costner from Costner Forum

https://www.genealogy.com/forum/surnames/topics/costner/280/

Kurt Kastner, compiler, Kastner and other families in Pennsylvania,

https://www.kastners.info/pennsylvania.html

Sandy Norton compiler, website on The Kastner Family in Thaleischweiler-Fröschen

https://web.archive.org/web/20151230023545/http:/sandysfamily.rootsweb.ancestry.com/Philip_Peter.html

PA Historical & Museum Commission, Oaths of Fidelity and Abjuration and List of Oath Takers http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/documents/1681-1776/oaths-fidelity.html
ProGenealogists, Inc., The Palatine Project,

https://web.archive.org/web/20051018071352/http://www.progenealogists.com/palproject/pa/1748pat.htm