
The Poundstone (Pfundstein) family

The name Poundstone is the Americanized version of the German name Pfundstein. Pfundstein, as is the case with many European names, is a name derived from a person's specific occupation — in this case, a job involving the operation of balance scales and the reference weights or (pfund) pound (steins) stones used for weighing commercial goods. As this occupation was widespread, it's not surprising to find early references to Pfundsteins in several regions of modern-day Germany, and this is likely the reason for multiple assumptions regarding the family's origins. At long last, lengthy research allows us to establish the family's geographical roots.

Various family members attribute the family's origin to Mecklenburg, a low-lying, swampy region on the Baltic Sea in northern Germany; Baden-Baden near the Black Forest in the modern-day German state of Baden-Württemberg; the region of Baden on the east bank of the Rhine River and part of the modern-day Baden-Württemberg; and finally, the southwestern German village of Framersheim across the Mainz River from the modern-day city of Wiesbaden.

Some of the confusion is understandable. Baden-Baden and Baden are frequently discussed as though they are one and the same. In fact, they are not. Baden is a German region while Baden-Baden is a village within that region. The idea that the Poundstones came from Baden-Baden village is likely the result of someone improperly believing that a person from Baden must automatically come from Baden-Baden.

Interestingly, though, the Baden region lies directly across the Rhine River from another German region called the Palatinate where Framersheim is located. With two-family references to the family's origin being Baden, there is a geographical coincidence that shouldn't be ignored. It's important to acknowledge that the regional borders we recognize today did not exist until more recent times. The boundary between Baden and the Palatinate was a fuzzy line in the 16th through 18th centuries, and it would have been difficult for even local residents

near the borders of those two regions to be sure exactly where they lived—even if they cared.

Today, there are Pfundsteins living within 50 miles of Framersheim but none in Mecklenburg. In addition, the Palatinate (not Baden, Baden-Baden, or Mecklenburg) was the primary source of German immigrants to Fayette County, Pennsylvania. It's there in the 1700s that the Poundstone family name first appears in America.

The family tree created by George C. Poundstone in 1929 states that the family came from Mecklenburg. Despite this document and all the other family beliefs, though long-held, birth records indicate that both of the family's immigrant ancestors were born in Framersheim.

The earliest documented patriarch of the Poundstone family appears to be Yost Stein, who was born in Framersheim about 1614. He died there in 1691. Yost and his wife Christina (1619 – 1696) gave birth to a son they named Johan Nicholas Stein (1659 – 1720). Johan married a girl named Walburgis (1662 – 1720), and they had a son in 1695 who they also named Johan Nicholas. This Johan Nicholas married a girl named Maria Sybilla Haster. Johan and Maria had two children named Maria and Rheinhardt (1736 – 1799). The Poundstone family history in America begins with Rheinhardt, who was Martha's fifth great grandfather. He was born on January 15, 1736.

Many immigrant stories have their beginning in times of hardship, and the Poundstone story is no different. The 122 years between Yost's birth and that of his great-grandson Rheinhardt was marked by frequent wars and unrelenting political instability. The 30 Years War (from 1618 to 1648) lasted for nearly the first half of Yost's life. The last of the religious Wars of the Reformation, it was also the most destructive. Entire areas of the Palatinate and the neighboring region of Alsace were completely devastated and depopulated. It took decades for much of what would become Germany to recover from this

Conflict. Most church parishes were not sufficiently populated to allow renewal of regular religious activities and record-keeping until nearly the end of the 17th century. That's why early genealogical information from the Palatinate is somewhat scarce.

War between the continent's major powers erupted repeatedly during much of the 18th century, too. While not as destructive as the Wars of the Reformation, the constant turmoil caused considerable economic hardship for most common people. The disruption to lives, coupled with 18th century population growth, prompted many in the Palatinate to consider leaving. Unfortunately, they could not escape their calamities by merely fleeing to another part of continental Europe. They needed someplace that was farther away. In 1709, Queen Anne of England, concerned about a growing Catholic population in her American colonies, invited non-Catholic Europeans to settle in North America. Nearly 10,000 Palatinates, all Lutherans, eventually responded. In the decades that followed, a great many more joined them. Seeing a way out of despair, Rheinhardt followed their lead and left Germany for the Colonies.

From Framersheim to Philadelphia

Like most immigrants at the time, Rheinhardt made his way to the Rhine River and boarded a boat bound for Rotterdam. There he found an English ship waiting to carry him to England and on to America. At least one family history indicates that Rheinhardt traveled aboard an English ship named the Neptune, which arrived in Philadelphia on September 30, 1754. A close examination of three different transcriptions of the Neptune's passenger list for this 1754 voyage shows no one named Pfundstein (or anything remotely like it) aboard, so no official documentation for this assumption exists. Exactly which ship carried Rheinhardt to America may never be known. In any case, his journey would not have been a luxury cruise. Three to four hundred people were often crowded into these tiny wooden ships. Stuffed into every nook and cranny were their possessions, provisions, and assorted cargo, which might include everything from weapons to livestock. The voyage, usually made during the summer months, took 8 to 12 weeks. Most of these early English ships landed in Philadelphia,

and Rheinhardt's first sighting of America would have been Cape Henlopen and Cape May at the entrance to Delaware Bay.

A personal account of the Atlantic crossing was made by a Gottlieb Mittelberger, a German immigrant who, just four years before Rheinhardt, made the journey aboard the Osgood in 1750. Mittelberger arrived in Philadelphia in August of that year. His story relates in part:

"Passengers were packed in like herring, and there was no fresh food or water, only foul worm-infested salt meat and biscuits and brown stinking water. Lice and rodents were a constant menace, and disease was rampant. On this voyage, at least 32 children died and were cast overboard. Many adults also died and a high percentage arrived ill. During a fierce storm we all feared we would perish."

The German currency at the time was the florin. The cost of provisions, fees, taxes, and passage to America usually cost around 200 florins or about as much as the immigrant could get by selling his tiny house or his herd of 30 sheep. In other words, it took nearly all of one's worldly fortune to come to America. These people made such sacrifices and endured such hardship for one simple reason. They wanted to escape a semi-feudal and poverty-ridden society in which population growth and military conflict threatened to make their miserable circumstances even worse.

The New World promised an abundance of land, the possibility of maintaining their agrarian way of life, a greater chance of prosperity, and escape from war and conflict. Only 18 at the time of his arrival, Rheinhardt had time to establish his new life in America before, ironically, what he had fled would again catch up with him just 20 years later when the colonies declared their independence from England. (See sidebar) Even before Rheinhardt's arrival, German immigrants were coming in great numbers. A real mass migration was underway. In 1751 alone, 16 vessels brought 4134 Germans to the Port of Philadelphia. Large parts of Pennsylvania as well as the northern part of Maryland soon had a thoroughly German character. Many English colonists in Pennsylvania

There is little historical record to tell us about Rheinhardt's first two years in the North American colonies. The only thing that's certain is that he arrived in 1754, and his resettlement in Pennsylvania is documented as 1756 — just 20 years before the American Revolution. By the time he arrived in Pennsylvania, he had changed his name to Richard Poundstone. It's possible to speculate on his life during the missing first two years.

The expense of coming to the colonies was much more than most German immigrants could afford. Most were impoverished, which is why they left the Palatinate in the first place. Historical records of the time are clear that the English Crown had established a network of labor camps in Pennsylvania and Virginia where new immigrants could work off the cost of their passage to America. A great number of German immigrants served a two-year period of indentured servitude in these camps before they were allowed the freedom to settle where they wished. It's likely that this is why Richard was in America for two years before he appeared in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

By the time the Revolutionary War arrived, Richard was an "old" man at 40. Nevertheless, records show that on August 26, 1777, a Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gaddis administered the oath of allegiance to a Richard Poundstone and 85 other frontier militia for the purpose of suppressing a Tory uprising. Gaddis was in charge of the Manongalia County, Virginia third militia, and he lived in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. It appears that Richard served his new country in some capacity as a militiaman, but the extent of his service is not clear.

Military conflict, which he had fled in his native Germany, did not spare Richard's descendants either. Eleven of his great grandsons fought in the Union Army during the Civil War. Other Poundstone descendants served in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf. Most notable were Alexander M. Poundstone, a Civil War captain who commanded company D of Ohio's 5th U.S. Colored Regiment and Richard's fifth great-grandson (and Martha's cousin) Thomas Richard Poundstone, Chief Warrant Officer 2, who died when the helicopter he was piloting crashed and burned in Binh Dinh province of South Vietnam on September 16, 1969 — Tommy's 25th birthday.

were disturbed to see the steady flow of non-English settlers pouring through the Port of Philadelphia, and they soon became afraid a "German element" would come to dominate. Even Benjamin Franklin was quoted as saying, "Why should the Palatine Boors be suffered to swarm into our settlements, and by herding together establish their language and manners to the exclusion of ours? Why should Pennsylvania, founded by Englishmen, suffer to become a colony of foreigners who shortly will be so numerous as to Germanize us instead of us Anglicizing them?" The colonists in the 1700s saw the Germans in much the same way as the Irish and English in New York would later view the Italians and Norwegians, and in the same way that many Americans still view immigrants today. How little some things seem to change!

What they did not see is that the majority of the Palatine immigrants were industrious, simple farmers who injected new blood and energy into a developing American culture. They lived together in closed settlements out of convenience and as a means of preserving their dialect and customs. Even today, the "Pennsylvania Deutsch" maintain many of the practices of their earliest immigrant ancestors.

In order to keep this perceived "movement" under control, the 1727 assembly passed a law that all Palatine males (Palatine was their generic term for German immigrants) age 16 and over were required to take an *Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown* and to sign an accompanying *Declaration of Abjuration Against the Pope and the Stuarts* — documents inherited from the paranoia that followed the Reformation and the English Civil War in the 1600s. Between 1740 and 1756, there were 30,000 male adults who signed both oath and declaration. Rheinhardt would have been among them.

This should be our opportunity to verify Rheinhardt's origin, his ship, and his arrival date since he would've been required to sign such papers. Each ship captain was required to provide three lists upon arrival. The first, or A list, was a basic manifest for all passengers. The second, or B list, was a list of all those who had taken the required oath. The third, or C list, was a list of all those who had signed the

Colonial Oaths Required of German Immigrants

Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown

I _____ do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will be true and faithful to King George the Second and do solemnly sincerely and truly profess testify and declare that I do from my Heart abhor, detest and renounce as impious and heretical that wicked doctrine and position that princes excommunicated or deprived by the Pope of any authority of the See of Rome may be deposed or murdered by their Subjects or any other whatsoever. And I do declare that no Foreign Prince, Person, Prelate, State, or Potentate has or ought to have any power jurisdiction superiority, preeminence, or authority ecclesiastical or spiritual within the realm of Great Britain or the dominions there to belonging.

Declaration of Fidelity and Abjuration Against the Pope and the Stuarts

I _____ do solemnly sincerely and truly acknowledge profess testify and declare that King George the Second is lawful and rightful King of the Realm of Great Britain and of all others his dominion and countries thereto belonging. And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that I do believe the person pretending to be Prince of Wales during the life of the late King James, and since his decease pretending to be and taking upon himself the style and title of King of England by the name of James III or of Scotland by the name of James VIII or the style and title of King of Great Britain has not any right or title whatsoever to the crown of the realm of Great Britain nor any other the dominions thereunto belonging. And I do renounce and refuse any allegiance or obedience to him and do solemnly promise that I will be true and faithful and bear true allegiance to King George the Second and to him will be faithful against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his person crown and dignity and I will do my best endeavors to disclose and make known to King George the Second and his successors all treason's and traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be made against him or any of them. And I will be true and faithful to the succession of the Crown against him and the said James and all other persons whatsoever as the same is and stand settled by an act of entitled an act declaring the rights and liberties of the subject and settling the succession of the Crown to the late Queen Anne and the heirs of her body being Protestants, and as the same by one other act entitled An Act for the Further Limitation of the Crown and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject is and stand settled and entailed after the decease of the said late Queen and for the default of issue of the said late Queen to the late Princess Sophia Electoress and Dutchess Dowager of Hannover and the Heirs of her body being Protestants; and all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge promise and declare according to these express words by me spoken and according to the plain and common sense and understanding of the same words without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever. And I do make this recognition acknowledgment renunciation and promise heartily willingly and truly.

Beginning in 1727, a non-British immigrant to the American colonies was required to swear two oaths. An Oath of Allegiance declared loyalty to King George the Second. The Declaration of Fidelity and Abjuration was begun in 1729 and required the taker to renounce any previous connection to the Pope. Both of these oaths grew out of the English Reformation which had occurred more than 100 years earlier and the English Civil War which followed. In 1709, fearing that a growing Catholic influence in her American colonies might ultimately influence a return of Catholicism to the English throne, Queen Anne moved to dilute that influence by importing German Lutherans to colonial America. Working through William Penn, the first 3000 German immigrants from the German Palatinate arrived in Pennsylvania. They were followed the next year by 3000 more. Over the next 100 years, thousands more followed them. Their descendants today are frequently referred to as the Pennsylvania Dutch — a perversion of the German word “Deutsch”.

declaration. Unfortunately, only a tiny fraction of these lists survives, and many that do are incomplete. As a result, it's possible to document fewer than half the German passengers to Philadelphia, and Rheinhardt cannot be found among them.

After his arrival, some historical notes suggest that Rheinhardt spent his first two years in a Virginia labor camp where he paid off his passage and adopted the name Richard Poundstone, but this cannot be documented. What few specifics we can document about his life in America come from a book titled **The Genealogical and Personal History of Fayette and Greene Counties**. Using historical records of the time, it was published in the early 1900s by John Wolf Jordan. According to Jordan, Rheinhardt arrived in America from Germany in 1754 and came to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1756. By this time, he was already known as Richard Poundstone. There, he met a young immigrant girl from Framersheim named Anna Margaretha Becker. Anna's birth in Framersheim is documented as June 1, 1741. Anna was five years younger than Richard, and the two were married in 1764. They raised five boys and one girl. Their sons Philip and Jacob later carried the family name to Ohio, and their son John brought it to Indiana. Richard and Anna both died in 1799. The location of their grave isn't known but is assumed to be somewhere in Fayette County. Richard's will, which was obviously written just prior to his death, is shown at right.



Palatinate immigrants on the Rhine River in the 18th century

Last Will and Testament of Rheinhardt Pfundstein

In the name of God, Creator of Heaven, Earth, the Oceans, and all the quick and dead thence may His bountiful mercies be with us all and particularly with me being very sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God. I Rheinhardt Pfundstein have been living in the world where all things is mortalizing and become to ashes in George's Township, Fayette County and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania where the expiration of my material life seems to terminate. I therefore make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend by and through the great mercies of our Lord Jesus Christ my soul into the hand of Almighty God that gave it, and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried after our custom in direct Christian burial nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

First, I give and bequeath to Margaret my dearly beloved wife the bedstead, bed, and bedding or all the furniture belonging to one bed, I have in my own use, the dressur with all and singular the kitchen furniture, my black mare, one cow, and two sheep, which she may think proper to take out of the stock, the dwelling house with the garden next thereto is for her use and living during the time of her natural life.

The three books, the first with the title Friedrich Christoph Steinhoffer's*, *Evangelistisch EGR 61*, the second with the title *Genioetens Einbeissen*, the third is the Hymn Book, which he owns besides and exclusive the third share out of all what the law directs I give to my well beloved Son Philip Pfundstein, 100 acres of land, it being that part of my plantation where on I now dwell including the Orchard which piece of land he is to have for himself, his heirs, and assigns forever with all and singular the improvements thereon erected and made subject as follows to whith he shall have no possession of the house where I now dwell neither of the garden till after the expiration of the natural life of his mother. He is also to give the use of the spring and other waters to her as also he is doing he shall plow and cultivate as much ground as may be requisite for one peck of flaxseed on the said hundred acres where she may deem proper as well as the said garden he is to plow and cultivate yearly and every for the use of her. The necessary firewood he must for his mother find as much as may keep her comfortable, warm, and for her other use during the life of her. Fifty pounds of pork and fifty pounds of beef he is to feed for her yearly and every year and is to keep in pasture, feed, and stable one horse creature, one cow, and two sheep for the use and benefit of his mother during her natural life. All this he must do without any charges and give her yearly and every year
(continued on next page)

Rheinhardt and Anna's second son George was born in 1768. He was Martha's fourth great grandfather. According to Jordan's biographical sketch, George was the first man to ever drive a team of horses over the Allegheny Mountains, which, at the time, were nearly impassable. After his first successful trip, he continued to haul freight for most of the rest of his life, frequently going as far as Cumberland, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. He also invested in land and eventually owned nearly 600 acres. According to Jordan, he became an influential man in Fayette County. George was one of the main supporters of the Jacobs Lutheran Church. He married Susanna Messmore in 1789. Together they raised five boys and three girls. Susanna died in the spring of 1834, and George followed her just 11 years later in the summer of 1845. Both are buried in the cemetery of the Jacobs Lutheran Church in Fayette County.



Janine Hebner (L) and Martha Ver Mulm (R) with the gravestones of their 4th great grandparents George and Susanna Poundstone at the Jacobs Lutheran Church Cemetery in Fayette County, PA.

the third out of the said land according to law as above said as also he is to give yearly and every year the third of the fruits out of the Orchard on his land to his Brother Nicholas Pfundstein during the natural life of his mother and is to pay the sum of one hundred ten pounds after the expiration of the natural life of his mother. Thirty-six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence to his Brother George Pfundstein and thirty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence to his Sister Catherine Pfundstein of which the remaining thirty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence of which he is to pay to his younger Brother John Pfundstein. I also give him one sheep besides the equal share of the movables as the law directs, two pair of horses, two collars and plow and irons thereto and Doubletree. He is also to receive besides his equal share as aforesaid as well as one sheep to my well-beloved son Nicholas. I give the residue of my plantation to have and to hold with all and singular the home thereon erected and made to the only proper use of himself, his heirs, and assigns forever for which he is to contribute and pay yearly and every year to his mother one full bushel of salt during her lifetime and is to pay the sum of forty pounds, two pounds six shillings and eight pence of which he is to pay to his sister Catherine Pfundstein one year after the expiration of my life the remainder he is to pay after the expiration of the natural life of his mother, thirteen pounds six shillings and eight pence to his Brother George Pfundstein and the remainder of which thirty pounds six shillings and eight pence to his youngest Brother John Pfundstein. Also, I give to my son Nicholas the sum of five pounds in cash to be levied out of my movable effects besides the equal share he is to receive accordingly to law whom I likewise constitute make and ordain the sole executor of this my last will and testament. My much-esteemed son George Pfundstein is to receive the sum above said of his brothers Philip and Nicholas at the time severally appointed for payment besides the equal share of the movables he is entitled to. To my only well-beloved Daughter Catherine I give the roan young mare with a woman's saddle, one cow with calf, and a yearling steer, a bedstead, bed, and beddings or all the furniture belonging thereto and receive the sum above mentioned for her Brother Philip and Nicholas as the payments severally are appointed and obtained the equal share of the movables directed by law and also a spinning wheel is for her excepted and likewise two sheep.

I ordain also my much beloved youngest son John Pfundstein to live with his mother till he is arrived to the age of 16 years and there he is to choose himself a Trade to learn and give him all and singular my clothing, the black stallion colt, and one sheep and receive the sum above said of his brothers Philip and Nicholas at the several payments appointed and go in equal share divided by law. Further I ordain that the grain in the fields or otherwise on my plantation shall remain for the necessary food and nourishment of the family now living with me, also the meat, the several books I do it wish to be sold but to be divided as they best can agree for them. Milehert Basker, my trusty friend, I ordain, condition, and make him also my sole executor of this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this 28th day of January A.D. 1799. -- **Rheinhardt Pfundstein**

George and Susanna's eldest son John was born in 1790. He was Martha's great, great, great grandfather. John's primary occupation was farming, and like his father, he was influential in the community. In 1842, he served as a school director, and he filled the office of County Assessor in 1845. He was active in Democratic politics and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Fayette County. According to Jordan's biographical history, John married Nancy Funk from Allegheny, Maryland, in 1811.

John and Nancy had 13 children in all — two girls and 11 boys. The infant mortality rate in their family was high. Six of their 13 children died in infancy. The causes of their deaths are unknown, but there was a nationwide epidemic of Asiatic cholera in 1831 and 1832, which most likely claim the lives of two of their boys. The rest of the children may have fallen victim to any of a number of ordinary childhood diseases, which are easily prevented today. Their eldest daughter Susanna died at the young age of 27 in 1840, leaving just six children who are mentioned in John's last will and testament on the next page. Curiously, John and Nancy purportedly both died on the same day exactly one month later on February 25, 1861. John was 70 and Nancy 66. In the *Genius of Liberty*, a local newspaper published in Uniontown, Pennsylvania from 1839 to 1917 was found a brief obituary for John, which reads,

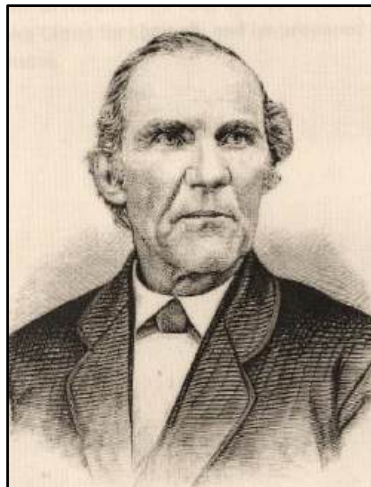
"On 25 February, 1861, at his residence in German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, Mr. John Poundstone, in the 71st year of his age — he was an honest, industrious, upright, citizen and had enjoyed good health until about one year since, during which time he was a great sufferer; but we trust that his afflictions were sacrificed to his spiritual well-being, as his thoughts in mind were turned to spiritual and heavenly things, and he has left behind him the testimony that he has gone to be with his blessed Savior. He has left a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn their loss, but let them not mourn as those who have no hope, but take Christ for their all, and be prepared to meet him where partings shall be no more.

Uniontown, February 28, 1861"

1861 Last Will and Testament of John Poundstone

I, John Poundstone of German Township, Fayette County, State of Pennsylvania, being weak in body but of sound mind, memory, and understanding, do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making void all former wills by me at any time heretofore made. First, I direct that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid out of the first monies that shall come into the hands of my executor. I also give and bequeath to my wife Nancy Poundstone all of my real estate to hold during her natural life, and in order that she may not be troubled by managing said real estate, I therefore direct that my executor shall manage and rent out said real estate for her. Always reserving the right for her to live in the house where she now resides and to have her garden and what fruit she wants out of the orchard, and pasture for her cow. I also give and bequeath to her (my wife Nancy) my cow and calf and enough of my share of the grain now in the ground to bread her for one year. I further direct that during her lifetime there shall be no timber cut down or coal taken from the coal banks except that which is used on the farm and in the grind and sawmill. I further direct that all of the rents from my real estate are to be applied to maintaining my wife Nancy comfortably and to making all necessary repairs on the farm and mill. I further direct that all monies in the hand of my executor arising from the sale of my personal estate after paying all my debts shall be divided equally among my six children. I further direct that after the death of my wife Nancy all of the remaining above real estate shall be divided among my six children; David Poundstone, Adam Poundstone, Hugh C. Poundstone, Nancy Powell (wife of William Powell), Joseph Poundstone, and Wm Poundstone, so that they each have equal shares, those of my children who have received money from me at different times the set amounts received by them shall be considered as parts of their shares. My son David had received the sum of two hundred fifty dollars, my son Joseph F. has received the sum of four hundred thirteen dollars and ninety-seven cents. My son William has received the sum of one hundred ninety dollars, my son Hugh C. has received the sum of fifty dollars, my daughter Nancy Powell (wife of Wm Powell) has received the sum of four hundred forty dollars. All of said sums of money they are to hold without interest and I do hereby make and ordain my esteemed friend John Messmore of Solomon Executor of my last will and testament. In witness whereof I, John Poundstone, the testator, have to this my will set my hand and seal this 26th day of January A.D. 1861.

John Poundstone (Seal)



At left is John Poundstone and at right his headstone in the Jacobs Lutheran Cemetery near McClellandtown in Fayette County Pennsylvania. The stone illustrates a common occurrence. All the available family information places his and his wife Nancy's death on February 25, 1861, yet his headstone clearly says he died in 1860. This is even more at odds with his will, which is dated in 1861. In addition, a thorough search of the cemetery has not located the stone shown above. It's believed that the death year on the stone is incorrect. This is not improbable as other similar mistakes have been noted with errors of up to three years in birth and death dates.

John and Nancy's eldest son David R. Poundstone was born on November 23, 1814. David was Martha's great-great grandfather. In 1840, he married Rebecca Buchanan. Ostensibly, Rebecca was a relative of James Buchanan, the 15th president of the United States. This relationship, though, is a myth arising from the "Great Buchanan Estate Scam" of the 1930s, which led a large number of families across America to claim they enjoyed a similar relationship, and a claim to a part of President Buchanan's estate. Many lost their hard-earned money in the process.

As with his father John, David was involved with civic affairs. Fayette County records indicate that he was a school director in 1850.

David and Rebecca had six children named Mary, John, Christopher Buchanan, Robert, Albert, and David. There are no death records to confirm the specifics but it appears that both Robert and his mother Rebecca died sometime around 1852 in the area of Redstone and Menallen counties in Pennsylvania. Both Robert and Rebecca appear in the 1850 federal census, but disappear after that. Epidemics of influenza and yellow fever are documented to have occurred in Pennsylvania during this decade, so it's possible that both Rebecca and Robert died during one of the epidemics. No death or burial records have been found. However, it's possible to guess where they may rest.

In the same area, just a few miles west of New Salem, Pennsylvania, are the remains of the old Buchanan Woodward family cemetery. Here, piled between a wooded area and a farm field and on the edge of a deep ravine, are found just a few random headstones. One belongs to Rebecca's father Christopher, one to her mother Mary, and a third to her brother Robinson. None of the remaining stones can be identified as Rebecca's or Roberts, but it's documented that there were once at least 12 graves in this small cemetery before a farmer uprooted the stones to plant more crops. It can't be confirmed, but Rebecca and her son Robert are most likely buried in this neglected private cemetery in the country outside of new Salem, Pennsylvania.



The remains of the Buchanan Woodward family cemetery

From Pennsylvania to Illinois

Around 1860, David moved with his children to Farm Ridge Township in LaSalle County, Illinois. The 1860 federal census in July of that year shows the family was farming in Farm Ridge Township. He wasn't the first Poundstone in LaSalle County, however. His uncles, Richard and Philip, had moved there from Pennsylvania before 1860. Sometime after 1860, David moved the family to Grand Rapids Township where he farmed with his sons Christopher, Albert, and David, Jr. The 1870 census shows that he'd achieved considerable financial success since arriving in Illinois. He owned a farm valued at \$13,440 and his personal estate was worth \$1775. Together that's about \$550,000 in 2023. David died just a year later on November 11, 1871. He's buried in the Grand Ridge Mutual and Poundstone Family Cemetery just south of Ottawa, Illinois.

David died without a will, and his son, Christopher Buchanan, petitioned the LaSalle County court on December 23, 1871 requesting that he be named as the estate's executor and administrator. His petition was granted, and it mentions himself and his siblings John, Albert, David, Jr., and Mary as the sole heirs.

David's decision to not make a will, or his neglect in preparing one, means that today we have extensive information into the state of his financial affairs. The court's probate records comprise more than 50 pages of information. They show that the estate contained no real estate, and so it can be assumed that, in the years before his death, David somehow divided up his farmland amongst his five children. While the 1870 census information indicates that his assets were considerable, his debts listed in great detail in the probate records, were considerable, too. David had outstanding loans with LaSalle County banks and individuals, including his own children, often at interest rates as high as 10%. He also had unfulfilled pledges to the Grand Ridge M.E. Church of Grand Rapids.

In the end, the estate settlement papers show that David's household property, machinery, and livestock were appraised at \$1720 (about \$62,000 in 2023). Christopher paid \$33 for his coffin and funeral. After

paying all the bills, the balance sheet showed there was little left for the five children. Mary, John, Albert, David Junior, and Christopher each received a final distribution of \$187.71. That's equal to about \$6700 in 2024.



David R. Poundstone



The Poundstone family home at Grand Ridge, IL
(Identity of the people in the picture is unknown)

APPRAISERS' BILL.				
Estate of <u>David R. Poundstone</u>			Deceased.	
<u>STATE OF ILLINOIS,</u>	} In County Court <u>La Salle</u>	Term, 1871		
<u>La Salle</u>				
An Appraisement Bill of Goods, Chattels and Personal Estate of <u>David R. Poundstone</u> late of said County, deceased, so far as the same has come to our sight and knowledge, which appraisement has been made by us by virtue of the annexed Warrant from the County Court of said County; we having first been duly sworn as required by law.				
	ARTICLES.	DOLLARS.	CENTS.	
13	Chairs	8	00	
	Clock	2	00	
2	Looking Glass		75	
	Stone & Pipe	2	00	
	Beaver & Glass	3	50	
	Rifle	7	00	
4	Beds Bedding Bedstead	80	00	
20	yds of Carpet	5	00	
	Stair		75	
	Cupboard	4	00	
	Table	1	75	
	Cooking Stone	8	00	
	Set of Table ware	10	00	
20	Milk Cruck & jars	2	00	
18	Glass Cans	4	00	
5	Barrels	5	00	
1	Bot of wheat	3	00	
	Spade Shovel Hedges Augers long knife	5	00	
	Syth & Smith			
	Shovel & Hoe			
	Roofing Cutters			
	Grindstone			

\$187.75

Received of _____

At left is an excerpt of the Appraiser's inventory of the personal goods in David R. Poundstone's estate. Among his possessions are a clock valued at \$2 and two mirrors (looking glass) worth 75 cents each.

At right below is the receipt John Poundstone signed in return for payment of his fifth of his father's estate. Similar receipts were signed by his sister Mary and his brothers Albert, David, Jr., and Christopher Buchanan. On the surface, \$187.73 does not seem like much money. It's about \$4500 in 2023. However, it should be remembered that the 1870 census showed that David owned a farm. The probate papers filed after David's death declare that there was no real estate involved. It's safe to assume that David divided up his farmland between his children in the year before his death. If this is so, and if each of the children received an equal share of the farmland, each of the children would have received an additional inheritance worth about \$60,000 in 2023.

\$187.73	La Salle County, Illinois,
	Grand Rapids Dec 26 1871
Received of	J. R. Poundstone
Administrator of the Estate of	David R. Poundstone
deceased, the sum of one hundred eighty seven 187.73 Dollars,	
in full of my claim against said Estate.	
No.	John Poundstone

David and Rebecca's eldest son was named John. John was born on May 7, 1843. He was Martha's great-grandfather. In 1860, John was helping his father on the Farm Ridge property. His older sister Mary and his younger brothers Christopher, Albert, and David were all living at home. By 1870, John, while still single, had begun farming his own property in Grand Rapids Township not far from his father. A LaSalle County farm atlas from the time shows that the farm occupied 80 acres in the southwest corner of Section 20.

In 1874, John married Bellzora (Belle) Eliza Ostrander, a local LaSalle County girl. Over the next 15 years, John and Belle had six children in all — five boys and one girl. Their second boy Arthur died at the age of four in 1881. Their youngest, a girl named Helen Mary, was born in 1889 and became Martha's grandmother when she married Mariel Scott on December 22, 1909. An 1892 LaSalle County farm atlas shows that John and the family were still farming the same 80-acre farm in Grand Rapids Township, and the 1900 census shows that John and Belle owned the farm, and there was no mortgage.

From Illinois to Iowa

In 1902, John and Belle along with their children Manning, Herbert, David, Harry, and Helen moved to Dayton Township of Wright County, Iowa just south of Clarion. The exact reason for their move from Illinois to Iowa isn't known. It's possible though that John may have wanted to expand his farming operation and that additional farmland just wasn't available in LaSalle County, Illinois. For farm-oriented families, land availability was often the primary catalyst prompting their migration.

In any case, the 1910 federal census and the 1912 Wright County farm atlas both show that John was renting a farm of 160 acres in the southwest corner of section 12 and 160 acres more in the northwest corner of section 13. His son Harry was farming 160 acres in the northwest corner of section 14 and 40 acres more in the northeast corner of section 12, just a quarter mile south of his father.

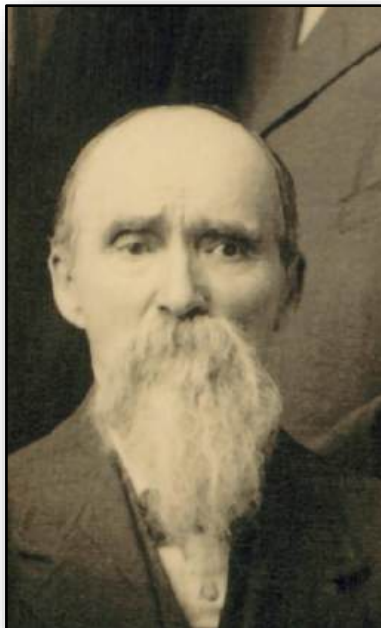
John's brother, Christopher Buchanan Poundstone is listed as farming 320 acres in the southern half of section 23. There is no evidence however that Christopher ever left LaSalle County, Illinois. Most likely he owned the Dayton County farm but had it farmed by his brother John or his nephew Harry. The exact circumstances are unclear.

John died of cancer in July 18, 1913 at age 70. His body was returned to LaSalle County. He is buried in the Grand Ridge Mutual and Poundstone Family Cemetery near his father David. John's obituary is shown on the next page.

In the 10 years following John's death, Belle maintained her formal residence in Wright County, Iowa. The 1920 federal census shows she was living on a farm in Clarion Township with her son David Russell, his wife Ada, their infant son Marion and a boarder named Fred Ramsey.

During the early 1900s, Belle kept up a regular correspondence with her only daughter Helen Mary. Helen had married Martha's grandfather Marielle Silas Scott in December 1909. They were living on a farm not far from Walnut Grove, Minnesota. All of Belle's correspondence survives and gives us a rare look into her thoughts about events of the day and the various activities that kept her occupied following John's death. She traveled frequently to visit her other children and from the letters, it's obvious that one of her favorite pastimes was shopping!

Following surgery for gastric and sigmoid ulcers, Belle died on September 25, 1923 at 68. She, too, was returned to LaSalle County where she is buried next to John in the family plot. Belle's obituary has not been located.



John and Belle Poundstone

DEATH CALLS ANOTHER MAN

**John Poundstone Finished Life's
Course and Passed Away
Last Friday**

SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE

**Body Taken to Old Home in Illi-
nois For Burial--Was a
Good Citizen**

The sudden death of John Poundstone, one of the well known and highly esteemed residents of Dayton township, last Friday afternoon was a great shock to his relatives and friends. It was not generally known that he was seriously ill. For a number of years he had been troubled with what he supposed was rheumatism of the hip and for several months had been in poor health. Finally it was thought best that an operation be performed to positively ascertain the trouble. This was done Friday morning and he was found to be suffering from the very worst form of cancer, which was beyond human skill, and he passed away that afternoon about 3:30 o'clock.

The deceased was born in Fayette county, Penn., April 7, 1843, and at the time of his death on July 13, 1913 was 70 years, 3 months and 6 days of age. When Mr. Poundstone was 17 years old he came west to seek a fortune and build a home, locating in LaSalle county, Ill. He lived there until 1902, when he moved his family to the present homestead near Clarion.

Sept. 9, 1874, he was united in marriage with Belle Ostrander and six children have been born to them, five sons and one daughter, one son having died at the age of four years. The children living are Manning, Harry, Herbert, David and Mrs. Helen Scott. Deceased is also survived by three brothers and one sister, Charles, Albert, David and Mrs. Harry Hibbs, all of Grand Ridge, Ill.

Thus has Wright county lost another good man. He was a member of the Methodist church and a good christian gentleman, his life being above reproach. He was a man who loved his home and family dearly and was therefore an ideal husband and father and possessed of many friends.

Rev. C. H. Van Metre conducted a short funeral service at the home Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock and the remains were taken back to the old home at Grand Ridge, Ill., and tenderly laid to their last rest among the scenes of his younger days.

The community bows in sympathy with the bereaved ones and feel that their loss is also a loss to the county. Such ordeals are hard to bear, but they must come, though the grief seems almost unbearable.



The Descendants of Jost Stein (Pfundstein)

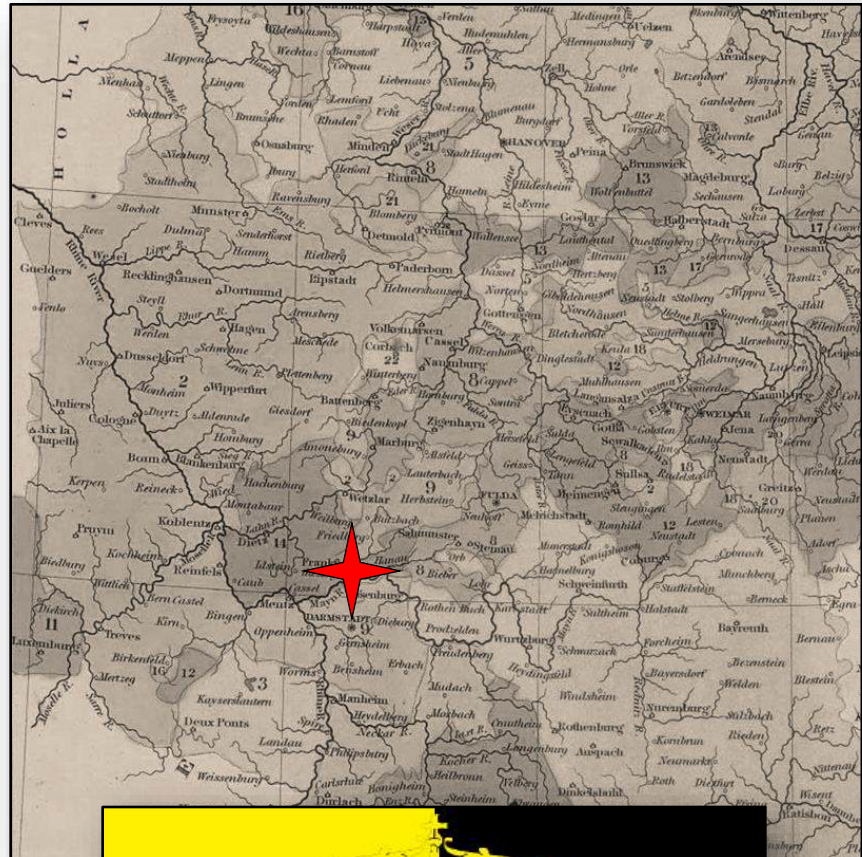
- Generation #1** - Jost Stein (Pfundstein) – b. about 1614, d. 1691 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany
& Spouse Christina – b. 1619, d. 1696 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany, m 1650 and had a child named
- Generation #2** – Johann Nicholas Pfundstein – b. 1659, d. 1720 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany
& Spouse Walburis – b. 1660, d. 1720 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany and had a child named
- Generation #3** – Johann Nicholas Pfundstein – b. 1695, d. ??, Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany
& Spouse Maria Sybilla Haster – b. 1700 – Hangen, Weisheim, Germany, d. 1753 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany and had a child named
- Generation #4** – Rheinhardt Pfundstein – b. 15 Jan 1736 – Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany, d. 3 Mar 1799 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
& Spouse Anna Margaretha Becker – b. 1 Jun 1741, Framersheim, Rheinland Pfalz, Germany, d. 1799 Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania and had a child named
- Generation #5** – George Poundstone – b. 1768 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, d. 2 Aug 1845 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
& Spouse Susannah Messmore – b. 12 Jan 1771 – Fayette, Pennsylvania, d. 9 May 1834 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, m. 1796 and had a child named
- Generation #6** – John Poundstone – b. 30 Oct 1790 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, d. 25 Feb 1861 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
& Spouse Nancy Funk – b. 22 Mar 1794 – Allegany, Maryland, d. 25 Feb 1861 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, m. 1811 and had a child named
- Generation #7** – David R. Poundstone – b. 23 Nov 1814 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, d. 11 Nov 1871 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
& Spouse Rebecca Buchanan – b. 26 Sep 1817 – Ireland, d. 26 Apr 1851 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, m. 1840 and had a child named
- Generation #8** – John Poundstone – b. 7 May 1843 – Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania, d. 18 Jul 1913 – Clarion, Wright, Iowa
& Spouse Bellzora Eliza Ostrander – b. 4 Mar 1855 – Grand Rapids, LaSalle, Illinois, d. 25 Sep 1923 – Clarion, Wright, Iowa, m. 9 Sep 1874 and had a child named
- Generation #9** – Helen Mary Poundstone – b. 26 Apr 1889 – Grand Rapids, LaSalle, Illinois, d. 27 Mar 1974 – Mason City, Cerro Gordo, Iowa
& Spouse Mariel Silas Scott – b. 18 Jan 1884, - Kendall County, Illinois, d. 12 Apr 1958 – Clarion, Wright, Iowa, m. 22 Dec 1909 and had a child named
- Generation #10** – Donald Rudolph Scott – b. 8 Sep 1919 – Springdale, Redwood, Minnesota, d. 8 Mar 1980 – Clarion, Wright, Iowa
& Spouse Edna Desdemonia Nauman – b. 31 Mar 1914 – Fair Dealing, Missouri, d. 7 Feb 1990 – Clarion Wright, Iowa, m. 1 Sep 1940 and had a child named
- Generation #11** – Martha Leu Scott – b. 14 Apr 52, - Clarion, Wright, Iowa
& Spouse Dennis Eugene Ver Mulm, b. 6 Jul 1952 – Sioux Center, Sioux, Iowa, m. 15 May 1976 and had children named
- Generation #12** – Scott Evan Ver Mulm – b. 10 Feb 1982 – Des Moines, Polk, Iowa
& Spouse Kasey Baker – b. 27 Feb 1979 – Dallas Center, Dallas, Iowa, m. 2010
- Generation #12** – Molly Erin Ver Mulm – b. 7 Nov 1986 – Des Moines, Polk, Iowa
-

Rheinhardt Pfundstein was born in 1736 in the small village of Framersheim, Germany, in a province called the Rheinland Palatinate. Today the name is the Rheinland Pfalz. Framersheim is just across the river from the modern-day city of Wiesbaden and not far from Frankfurt.

Martin Luther's religious concepts set the stage for the first Wars of the Reformation in the 16th century. These culminated with the 30 Years War, which set the Holy Roman Empire against the Protestant population and eventually drew Denmark, Sweden, and France into the fray. Even though the 30 Years War ended in 1648, conflict continued into the 1700s—resulting in devastation, poverty, and despair. To escape the misery and chaos of his life in continental Europe, Rheinhardt joined many of his fellow Palatinates and fled to the English colonies in America. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1754 and most likely spent his first two years in an English labor camp in Virginia to pay for his passage.

The first written record shows that he arrived in Fayette County, Pennsylvania in 1756 with the Anglicized name of Richard Poundstone. There he met another young German immigrant from Framersheim named Anna Margareta Becker. Richard and Anna were married in 1764 in Germantown, Pennsylvania, and began raising their family of five boys and one girl.

Their children took the family name to Ohio and Indiana. The next three generations spread the name to Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Colorado. Today, the name Poundstone is found throughout the United States.



The harbor and skyline of Philadelphia in 1750



The historic flag of the Palatinate

RHEINHARDT PFUNDSTEIN - *Family Group Sheet*

Rheinhardt Pfundstein

Birth: 15 Jan 1736 in Framersheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
 Death: 3 Mar 1799 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Parents: Johann Nicholas Pfundstein & Maria Sybilla Haster



Anna Margaretha Becker

Birth: 1 Jun 1741 in Framersheim, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
 Death: 1799 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Parents: Johann Nicholas Becker & Maria Appolonia Bayer



Marriage: 1764 in Germantown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

CHILDREN	SEX	BIRTH	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE	DEATH
Nicholas Poundstone	M	1766 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Elizabeth Everyly	1790 in Nicholson, Fayette, Pennsylvania	22 Jun 1856 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
George Poundstone	M	1768 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Susannah Messmore	1796 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	2 Aug 1845 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Catherine Poundstone	F	1770 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Joseph Schmahl		1850 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Philip Poundstone	M	7 Apr 1780 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Anna Krieger	1806 in Saltlick, Fayette, Pennsylvania	21 Jan 1858 in Bowling Green, Licking, Ohio
John Poundstone	M	27 Jul 1785 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			1848 in Union, Indiana
Jacob Poundstone	M	1810 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Desdamona Redburn		1898 in Bucyrus, Crawford, Ohio

GEORGE POUNDSTONE - *Family Group Sheet*

George Poundstone

Birth: 1768 in in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: 2 Aug 1845 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Parents: Rheinhardt Pfundstein & Anna Margaretha Becker



Susannah Messmore

Birth: 12 Jan 1771 in Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: 9 May 1834 in Germantown, Fayette, PA
 Parents: John Messmore & Susannah Weiss



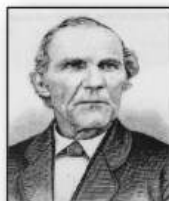
Marriage: 1796 in Germantown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

CHILDREN	SEX	BIRTH	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE	DEATH
John Poundstone	M	30 Oct 1790 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Nancy Funk		28 Feb 1861 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Susanna Poundstone	F	1792 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	John Denny	1814 in Fayette County, Pennsylvania	1889 in Fayette County, Pennsylvania
Jacob Poundstone	M	10 Apr 1795 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Mahala Core	27 Sep 1827 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	15 Dec 1868 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Phillip Poundstone	M	20 Jan 1797 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Eunice C. Harford	1832 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Dec 1882 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
Richard Alexander Poundstone	M	12 Feb 1799 in Redstone, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Elizabeth Caughenbaugh	1825 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	18 Oct 1865 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
Katherine Poundstone	F	1800 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Elias Freeman		1850
George Poundstone	M	13 Sep 1801 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Susan Stumm	1834 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	3 Dec 1884 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Amy Margareta Poundstone	F	1810 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Hiram Mincks	1830 in Fayette City, Fayette, Pennsylvania	1863 in Jackson, Ohio

JOHN POUNDSTONE - *Family Group Sheet*

John Poundstone

Birth: 30 Oct 1790 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: 25 Feb 1861 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Parents: George Poundstone and Susannah Messmore



Nancy Funk

Birth: 22 Mar 1794 in Allegany, Maryland
 Death: 25 Feb 1861 in Germantown, Fayette, PA
 Parents: John Funk & Christina (last name unknown)



Marriage: 1811 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania

CHILDREN	SEX	BIRTH	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE	DEATH
Susannah Poundstone	F	9 Aug 1813 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			1 Dec 1840 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
David R. Poundstone	M	23 Nov 1814 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Rebecca Buchanan	1840 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	11 Nov 1871 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
George Poundstone	M	25 Jul 1816 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			Aug 1816 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
George Poundstone	M	16 Aug 1817 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			Sep 1817 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
John Poundstone	M	6 May 1819 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			Jul 1819 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Adam M. Poundstone	M	2 Sep 1820 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Rebecca C. Allebaugh	8 Feb 1846	29 Apr 1892 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Hugh C. Poundstone	M	7 Nov 1822 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Mary A. Offord		22 Nov 1899 in LaSalle, Illinois
Nancy J. Poundstone	F	27 Dec 1824	William Powell		12 Nov 1901
Joseph F. Poundstone	M	17 Jun 1827 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Maria Eva Sprinkel	1853	30 Oct 1914 in Newark, Licking, Ohio
William S. Poundstone	M	5 Jan 1829 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Catherine Eve Caughenbaugh	28 Nov 1850 in Ohio	17 Apr 1908 in Jasper, Missouri
Benjamin Poundstone	M	16 Dec 1830 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			Feb 1831 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
John M Poundstone	M	3 Dec 1831 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			15 Jan 1832 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Robert S. Poundstone	M	30 Nov 1836 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania			13 Apr 1838 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania

DAVID R. POUNDSTONE - *Family Group Sheet*

David R. Poundstone

Birth: 23 Nov 1814 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: 11 Nov 1871 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
 Parents: John Poundstone and Nancy Funk



Rebecca Buchanan

Birth: 26 Sep 1817 in Redstone, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: After 1852 in Redstone, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Parents: Christopher Buchanan & Mary Ann Robinson



Marriage: 1840 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania

CHILDREN	SEX	BIRTH	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE	DEATH
Mary Poundstone	F	13 Jul 1841 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Lacy Hibbs	24 Oct 1861 in LaSalle, Illinois	9 Oct 1925 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
John Poundstone	M	7 May 1843 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Bellzora Eliza Ostrander	1874 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois	18 Jul 1913 in Clarion, Wright, Iowa
Christopher Buchanan Poundstone	M	29 Nov 1845 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Harriet Isabel Center	15 May 1878 in LaSalle, Illinois	25 June 1929 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
Robert Poundstone	M	1848 in Menallen, Fayette, Pennsylvania			After 1852 in Redstone, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Albert Poundstone	M	26 Jan 1850 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Agnes Elvira Dutton	9 Sep 1916 in Uniontown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	17 Oct 1930 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
David Poundstone	M	Oct 1852 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania	Myra Clements	3 Dec 1873 in LaSalle, Illinois	14 Feb 1948 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois

JOHN POUNDSTONE - Family Group Sheet

John Poundstone

Birth: 7 May 1843 in Germantown, Fayette, Pennsylvania
 Death: 18 Jul 1913 in Clarion, Wright, Iowa
 Parents: David R. Poundstone & Rebecca Buchanan



Bellzora Eliza Ostrander

Birth: 4 Mar 1855 in Grand Rapids, LaSalle, Illinois
 Death: 25 Sep 1923 in Clarion, Wright, Iowa
 Parents: John Barber Ostrander & Nancy Elizabeth Latham



Marriage: 1874 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois

CHILDREN	SEX	BIRTH	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE	DEATH
Wilbur Manning Poundstone	M	12 Nov 1875 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois	Emma C. Rinker	27 Dec 1905 In LaSalle, Illinois	9 May 1933 in Farm Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
Arthur A. Poundstone	M	1877 in Farm Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois			Feb 1881 in Farm Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois
Harry Elbert Poundstone	M	13 May 1879 in LaSalle, Illinois	Blanche Valetta Burton	10 Mar 1909 in Clarion, Wright, Iowa	May 1971 in Mason City, Cerro Gordo, Iowa
David Russell Poundstone	M	7 Nov 1881 in Grand Rapids, LaSalle, Illinois	Ada Cathryn Farmer		1 Feb 1965 in Borger, Hutchinson, Texas
Herbert Melvin Poundstone	M	3 May 1884 in Grand Rapids, LaSalle, Illinois	Margaret Emma McGaw		26 Dec 1978 in Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
Helen Mary Poundstone	F	26 Apr 1889 in Grand Ridge, LaSalle, Illinois	Mariel Silas Scott	22 Dec 1909 in Clarion, Wright, Iowa	27 Mar 1974 in Mason City, Cerro Gordo, Iowa



The Family of John Poundstone

Front row (L_R) Bellzora, John, Helen Mary

Back row (L-R) Herbert Melvin, Harry Elbert, David Russel, Wilbur Manning

The Charlemagne Connection

The Poundstone family is descended from royalty by way of Bellzora Poundstone's mother Nancy Ostrander. While the Ostrander family isn't included in these stories, it would be thoughtlessly neglectful to omit this lineage from the family story.

Charlemagne was the founder of the Carolingian Empire, reigning from 768 until his death in 814. Known as Charles the Great or Charles I in English, Carolus Magnus in Latin, and Konig Karl der Grosse in German, he expanded the Frankish kingdom by adding Italy, subduing the Saxons and Bavarians and pushing into Muslim Spain. Charlemagne was the first Emperor in Western Europe since the fall of the Roman Empire four centuries earlier.

Becoming King of the Franks in 768 following the death of his father, Charlemagne became the undisputed ruler of the Frankish Kingdom. He militarily expanded his kingdom into an empire that incorporated much of western and central Europe.

Charlemagne continued his father's policy toward the Papacy and became its protector. He forcibly Christianized the populations to his east and eventually subjected them to his rule. He reached the height of his power in 800 when he was crowned as Emperor by Pope Leo III on Christmas Day in Paderborn, Germany.

Charlemagne was called the "Father of Europe," and his empire united most of western Europe for the first time in centuries. His rule spurred the Carolingian Renaissance—a revival of art, religion, and culture through the medium of the Catholic Church. Through his foreign conquests and internal reforms, Charlemagne encouraged the formation of a common European identity. Both French and German monarchies considered their kingdoms to be descended from Charlemagne's empire. He is considered the founder of the 1st German Reich.

He died in 814 after having ruled as Emperor for almost 15 years. His remains are interred in a gold and silver casket in the cathedral of his imperial capital city of Aachen, Germany. A legend persists, however, that he was secretly buried beneath Mount Untersberg near Berchtesgaden in the Bavarian Alps, and that when he finally awakens, the last great battle of mankind will begin.

This myth is one of the main reasons Adolph Hitler chose the Obersalzberg, just above Berchtesgaden, as his mountain home. From his living room at The Berghof, Hitler enjoyed gazing out across the valley at the Untersberg and the mythical burial place of Charlemagne.

Charlemagne's palace in Paderborn, Germany is where Pope Leo III crowned him emperor in 800. Today, it is largely covered over by the Paderborn Cathedral. However, parts of the palace have been excavated, and the platform for Charlemagne's throne is on display.



The remains of Charlemagne's throne in Paderborn, Germany

The Lineage of Charlemagne

Generations 1-27 appear in the book **Americans of Royal Descent** published in 1883

by Charles H. Browning

#1 Charlemagne, Emperor of the West, had by his wife, Queen Hildgarde:

#2 Louis, King of France and third son, who had by his wife Queen Judith, daughter of Welfus, Count d'Altdorf:

#3 Charles the Bold, King of France and Emperor of Germany, who had by his wife Queen Ermentrudis, daughter of Odo, Count d'Orleans:

#4 Louis the Stammerer, King of France, who had by his wife Queen Adelheid, sister of Welfrid, Sovereign Abbot of Flavigny:

#5 Charles III the Simple, King of France, who had by his wife Queen Edgina, daughter of Edward the Elder and King of England:

#6 Louis IV (Louis the Transmarine), King of France, who had by his wife Queen Geeberg, daughter of Henry Auceps, Duke of Saxony, Emperor of Germany:

#7 Charles, Duke of Lorraine, who had:

#8 Daughter Gerberga who married Lambert, first Count de Mous and had:

#9 Lambert III, Count de Mous, who had by his wife Ode de Lorraine, daughter of Count Gothelon or Lorraine, son of he above Charles Duke of Lorraine:

#10 Henry II, Count of Lorraine, who had:

#11 Godfrey, Duke of Louvaine, who had by his wife Ida of Namar:

#12 Countess Adeliza of Louvaine, widow of Henry I, King of England, who married William d'Albini, Earl of Arundel and Sussex who had:

#13 William, Earl of Arundel and Sussex, who had:

#14 Lady Mabel d'Albini, who married Robert, Baron of Tattishill and had:

#15 Robert de Tattishill, Lord of Buckingham, who had by his wife Joan, daughter of Ralph Fitz-Ranulph:

#16 Emma de Tattishill, who married Hugh deCailley of Norfolk and had:

#17 William de Cayley of Normantown, Yorkshire, and had:

#18 Jeannette Cayley, who married John Lake of Normantown, and had:

#19 John of Normantown who had:

#20 John of Normantown who had:

#21 Launcelot of Normatown who had:

#22 John of Normantown who had:

#23 Launcelot of Normantown who had:

#24 John Lake of Erby, Lincolnshire, who had:

#25 Richard Lake, who had by his wife, Anne Morelly of Claxby, Lincolnshire:

#26 John Lake, who had by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Colonel Edmund Read:

#27 Hannah Lake of Erby, who married Captain John Gallup of Stonington, Connecticut, and had:

#28 Benadim Gallup, who had by his wife, Esther Prentice:

#29 Capt. Joseph Gallup, who had by his wife, Eunice Williams:

#30 2nd Capt. Joseph Gallup (Poundstone Revolutionary War ancestor) who had by his wife, Mary Gardner:

#31 Gurdon Gallup, who had by his wife, Sibill Capron:

#32 Mary Augusta Gallop, who married Lyman S. Latham and had:

#33 Nancy Elizabeth Latham who married John Barber Ostrander and had:

#34 Bellzora Eliza Ostrander who married John Poundstone and had:

#35 Helen Mary Poundstone



Charlemagne – Crowned Emperor of the Carolingian Empire in A.D. 800



Janine Hebner and Martha Ver Mulm with the statue of their 34th great grandfather at the Palace of Versailles outside Paris