

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Rensselaer, Indiana

November 18, 1977

Ms. Norma I. Pourchot
Rt. 1, Box 57AB
Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

In Re: Pourchot - Glardon Genealogy

Dear Norma,

I'm not really that useful - I don't know anything about the French in Butler County, Ohio. I'll see what help I can be.

I check the 1850 Census. There are two Porchot's listed, your George and Catharine and Louis. George and Catharine have a child b. ca. 1842, so I wonder about your marriage date of 1844. George was born about 1818 according to the Census data, and Catharine about 1824. Both are born in France. Glardon looks like an Irish name. I checked the Dictionary of French family names, and didn't find it.

However, were your ancestors Catholics? If they were then the oldest Catholic Church in Butler County was

Saint Stephan's Catholic Church
224 Dayton Street
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

The Pourchot's lived in Union Township, which is on the East side of the County, on the road that runs between Dayton and Cincinnati. It is possible that there was service from some other parish either in Dayton or Cincinnati for this section of Butler Co.

The area was predominantly Irish and German. I am not aware of any French settlements in that immediate area. Mr. Monhaven has suggested elsewhere that he knows of a French settlement in Butler Co. I am trying to check that out but have no information for you now.

Where did they come from? France is pretty big, but they probably came from Eastern France. The ending -OT is typical of the Franche Comté region of France. It is what is called a hypercoristic - implying an endearment. The word POURCH - OT looks like "little swineherd" to me, but I wouldn't swear by that interpretation. POUR is POR - pork!

GLARDON might be a corruption of Guerardon -- ON would be a diminutive also. Little guy strong in war!

Many of the immigrants to the U.S. settling along the Ohio River came in at New Orleans. I suggest that you need to consult the Ships Manifests for the Port of New Orleans around 1829/30. If it isn't there, then try the NEW YORK Port. There are indexes to both Ports.

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I didn't continue the religious affiliation question? Eastern France is about equally Protestant/Catholic. If the Pourchot's were protestant, then you would have to find out what the Protestant church were in the 1840 in the area. Most French were either Evangelical Reformed, or Presbyterian (Calvinist), occasionally Lutheran. If they were Protestant you could probably check with your public library, to find out if there is an Historical Society IN Butler Co. or maybe address a question to the Reference Librarian at the Public Library in Hamilton, Ohio.

There was a considerable migration of French from Eastern France beginning in the 1820's through the 1860's. They were both Catholic and Protestant. They had settlements in Ohio, but the ones I know were to the North of Butler Co in Shelby and Darke Co., Van Wert and Paulding. But there is no reason to deny a settlement existed in Butler Co. (That I am checking out).

I would suggest that there would be Naturalization Papers either at the Court House in Hamilton, or in Cincinnati, but they would not give you any specific information except the date of entry into the U.S. and the port. They don't tell the town of origin.

There was a Peter Persian listed in the 1840 Census living in Butler County Union Township. If Georg was born in 1818 (not 1812) and came to the U.S. at age 18, then he would be coming in 1836.

Louis Porchot, living with Peter Jacques, same page in 1850 Census, was born in Ohio in 1829. If he is brother to Georg, then Georg either was not born in 1818, but in 1812 as you suggest. Or he was not 18 when he came.

Could it be that George and Louis are brothers and the Sons of Peter Persian (which looks like a good corruption of Porchot).

What do I think? I think George and Louis are brothers, and that they came in by way of New Orleans about 1829/30 and came up the river. If they stayed anywhere, they probably stayed in New Orleans. However, there were several French settlements all the way up the river to Cincinnati (in fact even further up to Pittsburg). They could have stayed at anyone of these places before 1844.

I don't believe they were doing anything more than looking for the best opportunities for land that they could find or afford. There was plenty of land available all up and down the river, and up and down the Wabash-Erie Canal which also was along the line where they lived between Cincinnati and Toledo.

Frenchmen initially tended to join in French communities. But they weren't interested in colonizing, so much as trying to find a comfortable existence while they were getting used to the new country and learning the new language.

Write me again and tell me more about what you know of George and Catharine and possibly their parents. Have you contacts with other Glardon and Pourchot families in Ohio? Have you used any of the Ancestor Query publications?

Sincerely yours,



Charles Banet. C.PP.S

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Rensselaer, Indiana

November 18, 1977

Reverend Pastor
Saint Stephen Church
224 Dayton Street
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

In Re: POURCHOT - GLARDON Genealogy

Dear Father,

I called your rectory and asked about possibility of early records of Marriage and they advised that you were founded in 1832. I am seeking the marriage records, and subsequent birth (baptismal records) of children born to:

GEORGE POURCHOT and

CATHARINE GLARDON

Children:

Louis	b. ca. 1842
Mary J	1845
Sarah A	1849/50

The lived in Butler County, Union Township, on a farm with Peter Jacques family.

If the records are not at Saint Stephen is it possible that they would have been served by a church out of Dayton or Cincinnati.

I asked whether there was any kind of French community in the area. I am seeking this information elsewhere, but if you have any knowledge of even a small community in those early days, I'd appreciate hearing about it.

I am willing to pay the usual fees for records.

Sincerely in Christ,

Charles Banet, C.P.P.S.

Office of the President