

SIEGEL FAMILY FOUR GENERATION REPORT

Objective: The report aims to document four generations of the Siegel family in Allen County, Indiana, and Holmes County, Ohio. The first generation starts with Waneta Reath Siegel, born on 11 April 1918 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana,¹ and died on 26 June 1993 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana.² This report establishes the relationships between the four generations by documenting Waneta's paternal lines while identifying the missing links, gaps, and incorrect information.

Background: Initial information about the Siegel family came from Merri-Lee (Miller) Lindley. She asked her father, Ernest Miller, to create an autobiography about his life.³ Following completion, Merri-Lee distributed the autobiography to family members. In Merri-Lee's contribution to the autobiography, she compiled several unsourced family group sheets based on her genealogy research.⁴

Merri-Lee struggled to find information about her grandfather, Henry Miller, who died before she was born. After Henry's second divorce in October 1923 from Merri-Lee's grandmother, Emma Miller,⁵ Henry was never mentioned again by anyone in the family. However, Merri-Lee wrote on the family group sheet that Henry had a first wife, Catharine Siegel. Henry and Catharine had one child, Lucy Otilia Miller, who lived in Allen County, Indiana.⁶

To begin researching Henry Miller and Catharine Siegel, one unsourced tree for Waneta Reath Siegel, the couple's grandniece, may lead to other clues about who Henry Miller and Catharine Siegel were.

Several documents contain both the Siegel and Seigel surname spellings, with the younger generations using Siegel and the older generations using Seigel. Siegel is used in this report. When referencing or quoting a document, the spelling was retained exactly as in the original.

¹ "Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 November 2020), entry for Waneta Seigel, 11 April 1918; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 17154.

Document 4.

² "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 November 2020), entry for Waneta Seigel Holben, 26 June 1993; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 93-021692. **Document 7.**

³ Ernest J. Miller, "Untitled Autobiography" (WY, Cheyenne, 1985), 200 pages; privately held by author, address withheld for identity, Salt Lake City, UT, 1999.

⁴ Merri-Lee Miller, "Henry Miller family group sheet," undated, privately held by author.

⁵ Denver, Colorado, Denver County Court file 46292, Emily M. Miller v. Henry Miller, "Divorce case with final decree," Colorado State Archives, Denver.

⁶ Merri-Lee Miller, "Henry Miller family group sheet," undated, privately held by author. Also, 1880 U.S. census Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 15 (handwritten), dwelling 127, family 127, Catharine and Lucy Miller in the household of Henry Miller; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020).

FIRST-GENERATION - WANETA REATH SIEGEL

The initial phase begins with an online search for already documented genealogies or online family trees for Waneta Siegel, Charles Siegel, or Dovie Elliott.

Several sources record events in Waneta’s life from birth to death to identify her, her husband, her children, and her parents.

WANETA SIEGEL AND HER PARENTS

CENSUS

Census records are among the primary records to identify family relationships. Census data varies yearly, with recent censuses providing the most detail. These records provide genealogy-rich information, such as names, approximate birth years, marriage status, birthplaces, and parents’ birthplaces. Later censuses asked more questions such as immigration and naturalization, homeownership, literacy, education, childbearing history, and neighborhood makeup.

The 1920 census was the first after Waneta’s birth in 1918. Waneta was Charles and Dovie Siegel’s daughter. Waneta’s brother, Wilber R., was also recorded.⁷ Using a reverse date calculator, one can approximate when someone was born as the year and months of their ages are listed in the enumeration.⁸ According to this calculator, Waneta’s approximate birth date was 14 April 1918. As a result, Waneta was one year and nine months old on the census date, 14 January 1920.

Locality		1920, Cleon Township, Copemish Village, Manistee County, Michigan							
ED, Sheet No.		ED 60, Sheet 8 A							
Date		14 January 1920							
House	Family	Name	Sex	Relationship	Age at last birthday	Birthplace Self	Birthplace Father	Birthplace Mother	Occupation
1	1	Seigel, Charles	M	Head	30	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Drayman at Livery Stable
		----, Dovie	F	Wife	29	Iowa	Indiana	Iowa	None
		----, Wilbur R	M	Son	3 11/12	Indiana	Indiana	Iowa	None
		----, Waneta	F	Daughter	1 9/12	Indiana	Indiana	Iowa	None

We can further confirm Waneta’s birth using the 1930 census. According to this census, her birthday was 3 April 1918.⁹ Waneta and her mother’s birthplaces were listed as Michigan, which differed from Iowa, listed on the 1920 census. In addition, Waneta’s name was spelled differently on this census than on other documents. Sometimes, the individual who provided the information was

⁷ 1920 U.S. census, Manistee County, Michigan, population schedule, Copemish town, p. 40 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 60, sheet 8-A, dwelling 1, family 1, Charles Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020). **Document 1.**

⁸ “Date Calculator: Add to or Subtract From a Date,” *timeanddate.com*, n.d., <https://tinyurl.com/k7wkwk6>.

⁹ 1930 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Kentucky, population schedule, Louisville, p. 3 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 56-15, sheet 3-A, dwelling 44, family 47, Carl R. Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020). **Document 2.**

unknown. The enumerator wrote Waneta's name as they thought and was unaware of her unusual spelling. The pronunciation of Waneta was Juanita.¹⁰

Locality		1930, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky							
ED, Sheet No.		ED 56-15, Sheet 3 A							
Date		3 April 1930							
House	Family	Name	Sex	Relationship	Age at last birthday	Birthplace Self	Birthplace Father	Birthplace Mother	Occupation
1428 E Breckinridge	47	Seigel, Carl	M	Head	40	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Piano Salesman
		----, Dovie	F	Wife	39	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	None
		----, Wilbur	M	Son	14	Michigan	Indiana	Michigan	None
		----, Juanita	F	Daughter	12	Michigan	Indiana	Michigan	None
		----, Virginia	F	Daughter	7	Michigan	Indiana	Michigan	None
		----, Carl	M	Son	4 10/12	Tennessee	Indiana	Michigan	None
		----, Goldie E	F	Daughter	1 6/12	Kentucky	Indiana	Michigan	None

On the 1940 census, Waneta's estimated birth year was 1919.¹¹ However, when comparing the censuses, the 1920 and 1940 coincide with the correct information. Waneta Siegel was born in April 1918 in Indiana.

Locality		1940, Union Township, Auburn City, DeKalb, Indiana				
ED, Sheet No.		ED 17-23, Sheet 1 A				
Date		2 April 1940				
House	Family	Name	Sex	Relationship	Age at last birthday	Birthplace
112 E Madison	47	Seigel, Dovie	F	Head	48	Iowa
		---, Wilbur	M	Son	24	Indiana
		----, Waneta	F	Daughter	21	Indiana
		----, Virginia	F	Daughter	17	Michigan
		----, Carl	M	Son	14	Tennessee
		----, Goldie	F	Daughter	11	Kentucky
		----, Norma	F	Daughter	9	Kentucky

A search on *Ancestry.com* revealed Waneta's birth certificate. According to the record, Waneta was born on 11 April 1918 in Wayne (Ft. Wayne), Allen County, Indiana. Charles Siegel and Dovie Elliott were her parents. The family lived at 331 E. Washington Street.¹² A birth certificate gives

¹⁰ Dan Holben (ddholben2@gmail.com) to the author, email, 20 July 2021, "Name Pronunciation," Personal Correspondence Folder, Siegel Research Files; privately held by the author, (email address for withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

¹¹ 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Auburn City, Union Township, p. 233 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 17-23, sheet 1-A, dwelling 112, family 2, Waneta Siegel in the household of Dovie Siegel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 November 2020). **Document 3.**

¹² "Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Waneta Siegel, 1918. **Document 4.**

first-hand knowledge of an event. The birth certificate provides first-hand information compared to a death certificate, which only includes secondary information about a birth date.

WANETA SIEGEL AND RICHARD CARMEN HOLBEN

Searching Indiana marriage records for Waneta's marriage certificate yielded no results.¹³ This finding implies Waneta married elsewhere. However, some couples may choose to marry in a location with fewer marriage requirements. These locations are called Gretna Green.¹⁴ South Bend, St. Joseph County, Indiana, was one location for a Gretna Green marriage for Indiana residents. A search in this county also yielded no results.

Another location to search for a marriage announcement is in historical newspapers. For example, in Auburn, Indiana's *Garrett Clipper* stated Waneta, Dovie Siegel's daughter, married Richard Holben, Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Holben's son, on 7 June 1941. Waneta returned to Auburn after their wedding, while Richard remained at Camp Shelby (Forrest County, Mississippi).¹⁵

Searching Forrest County, Mississippi, for a marriage certificate also yielded no results.¹⁶ Finally, Waneta's online tree contributor provided the couple's marriage license and certificate.¹⁷ The marriage occurred on 7 June 1941, performed by Ira E. Williams, a Methodist Minister.¹⁸ However, the parents' names were missing on the certificate.

Thirteen months after their wedding date, Richard filed for divorce on 20 July 1942.¹⁹ The decree stated he lived in Forrest County, Mississippi, for the past year, and the defendant, Waneta, left him on 2 July 1941. During the previous year, Waneta stayed away.²⁰ The pair, however, found a way to make their marriage work over the following two months, with the case dismissed on 28 September 1942.²¹

¹³ The microfilmed indexes for Indiana marriages in Allen County and surrounding counties from 1937-1943 were searched. No reference to the Waneta Siegel/Seigel name was found. Refer to the Waneta Seigel research log for a list of these searches.

¹⁴ "Gretna Greens in the United States," *FamilySearch Wiki* (<https://tinyurl.com/4fty9h8j> : accessed 17 July 2021).

¹⁵ "Auburn friends have received word. . .," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 16 June 1941, p. 3, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://newspapers.com> : accessed 15 November 2020). **Document 5.**

¹⁶ The microfilmed indexes for Hattiesburg marriages in Mississippi from 1937-1943 were searched. No reference to the Waneta Siegel/Seigel name was found. Refer to the Waneta Seigel research log for a list of these searches.

¹⁷ "Public Member Trees," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020), "Holben, Gable, Lancaster, Combs Family Tree," entry for Waneta Seigel (1918–1993); submitted by RastaDan48.

¹⁸ Mississippi Department of Health, Division of Vital Records, marriage certificate of Richard C. Holben and Waneta Seigel, 1941, no certificate number; image copy supplied by Dan Holben, Indiana, 20 July 2021, by email to author.

Document 6.

¹⁹ "Non-Resident Notice," *Hattiesburg American* (Mississippi), 21 July 1942, p. 2, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive.com* (<https://www.newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 November 2020).

²⁰ Forrest County, Mississippi, Chancery Court, divorce file 8849 (1942), Richard Holben v. Waneta Holben, Bill of Complaint; Hattiesburg Chancery Court, Mississippi, privately held by author, (address withheld for identification).

²¹ Forrest County, Mississippi, Chancery Court, divorce file 8849 (1942), Richard Holben v. Waneta Holben, Final Decree; Hattiesburg Chancery Court, Mississippi, privately held by author, (address withheld for identification).

CHILDREN OF WANETA SIEGEL AND RICHARD HOLBEN:

- i. Son Holben was born on 18 August 1943 in Florida.²²
- ii. Son Holben was born on 6 July 1948 in Indiana.²³
- iii. Son Holben was born on 28 May 1953 in Indiana.²⁴

For more information about these children, see Waneta Siegel and Richard Holben's Family Group Sheet.

WANETA SIEGEL HOLBEN DEATH

The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) shows a death notice for Waneta. This database lists deceased individuals with Social Security numbers whose deaths were reported to the Social Security Administration. According to the SSDI, Waneta died on 26 June 1993. It also confirmed her birth on 11 April 1918, and her surname was Holben.²⁵

Waneta's death certificate shows she died at DeKalb Memorial Hospital on 26 June 1993 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, at 75 years old. Her burial was on 29 June 1993 in Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana. Waneta's birth date was 11 April 1918 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The certificate showed Charles Siegel and Dovie Elliott as her parents: Richard Holben, the informant.²⁶

The death certificate included basic information such as when and where Waneta died, her internment, and her parents' names. However, because Richard was not present at her birth and her birth information was provided several years after her birth, the certificate only gave secondary information regarding her birth date.

Finding Waneta's obituary stated she died at seventy-six on 26 June 1993. Her survivors were her husband, Richard, three sons, three sisters (Goldie Cramer, Virginia Refner, and Norma Mumy), and a brother (Carl Siegel). Her interment was at Woodlawn Cemetery.²⁷

²² "U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 7 May 2021), entry for Living Holben, born 18 August 1943; citing Voter Registration Lists, Public Record Filings, Historical Residential Records, and Other Household Database Listings.

²³ "U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 7 May 2021), entry for Living Holben, born 6 July 1948; citing Voter Registration Lists, Public Record Filings, Historical Residential Records, and Other Household Database Listings.

²⁴ "U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 7 May 2021), entry for Living Holben, born May 1953; citing Voter Registration Lists, Public Record Filings, Historical Residential Records, and Other Household Database Listings.

²⁵ Social Security Administration, "U.S. Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 December 2020), entry for Waneta R. Holben, 1993, SS no. 307-01-9121.

²⁶ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," *Ancestry.com*, entry for Waneta Seigel Holben, 1993. **Document 7.**

²⁷ "Waneta R. Holben," obituary transcript, *GenealogyBank.com* (<https://tinyurl.com/2rm3mks4> : accessed 20 December 2020); citing original publication in *The News-Sentinel* (Indiana), 28 June 1993. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 20 December 2020), memorial page for Waneta Seigel Holben (1918 - 1993), Find A

SUMMARY

Charles Richard Siegel and Dovie Alice Elliott's daughter was Waneta Reath Siegel. Waneta's birth date was 11 April 1918 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, confirmed by her birth certificate created at the time of birth, which included first-hand information proving her birth and her parents' names. Her death certificate, a secondary but confirming source, established her parents' identities and provided corroborating information on her birth date. Waneta appeared in her parent's household, Charles and Dovie Siegel, according to the 1920, 1930, and 1940 censuses.

Waneta married Richard Carmen Holben on 7 June 1942 in Forrest County, Mississippi. Richard's parents were Russell Holben and Buncie Combs. Waneta and Richard are parents to three children born between 1943–1953. Waneta died on 26 June 1993 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana.

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Waneta appeared on the Social Security Death Index (SSDI), meaning she completed a social security card application. The application includes information about parents' names, the applicant's birthdate and location, the applicant's employer at the time of application, and may contain the applicant's signature. To obtain an application copy, complete Form SS-5 by mail or online. The application must include a death certificate and a \$21 fee.

SECOND GENERATION – CHARLES RICHARD SIEGEL

Listed on Waneta’s birth and death certificates are her parents, Charles Richard Siegel and Dovie Alice Elliott. Waneta was listed as a daughter in the 1920, 1930, and 1940 federal censuses. The next generation focuses on Waneta’s father, Charles Richard Siegel.

CHARLES RICHARD SIEGEL AND HIS PARENTS

Charles “Carl” Richard Siegel was born on 29 September 1889, in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana, to Philipp H. Siegel and Catharine Schlemmer.²⁸ The 1900 census was the first after Charles’s birth to find him with his parents, Philipp and Catharine Siegel.²⁹ However, a fire and subsequent water damage destroyed most 1890 census schedules. Only fragments from the 1890 census remain. Indiana’s census, however, was destroyed.

Locality		1900, Madison Township, Allen County, Indiana							
ED, Sheet No.		ED 16, Sheet 7 A							
Date		12 June 1900							
House	Family	Name	Sex	Relationship	Date of Birth	Birthplace Self	Birthplace Father	Birthplace Mother	Occupation
122	122	Siegel, Philip	M	Head	June 1856	Ohio	Germany	Germany	Farmer
		-----, Catharine	F	Wife	April 1863	Indiana	Germany	Germany	None
		-----, Charles	M	Son	September 1889	Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	At School
		-----, George	M	Son	May 1893	Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		-----, Matilda	F	Daughter	June 1895	Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		-----, Henry	M	Son	March 1899	Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None

²⁸ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020), entry for Charles R. Siegel, 15 October 1933; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 29468.

Document 8. Also, Debbie Ruth, Marion Public Library, Indiana (druth@marion.lib.in.us) to the author, e-mail, 16 December 2020, “Request Genealogy Records,” Personal Correspondence Folder, Siegel Research Files; privately held by the author, (email address for withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah. **Document 9B.**

²⁹ 1900 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Madison, p. 35 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 16, sheet 7-A, dwelling 122, family 122, Charles Siegel in the household of Philip Siegel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020). **Document 10.**

The family unit changes in the 1910 census. Charles left the house, his brother Philipp H. was born, and a boarder, Philipp Schlemmer, joined the family.³⁰

Locality		1910, Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana								
ED, Sheet No.		ED 17, Sheet 6 B								
Date		2 May 1910								
House	Family	Name	Sex	Relationship	Age	Number of Children Born, Number living	Birthplace Self	Birthplace Father	Birthplace Mother	Occupation
81	81	Seigel, Philipp	M	Head	53		Ohio	Germany	Ohio	Farmer
		-----, Kate	F	Wife	47	6, 5	Indiana	Germany	Germany	None
		-----, George W	M	Son	16		Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		-----, Tillie L	F	Daughter	14		Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		-----, John H	M	Son	11		Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		-----, Philipp H	M	Son	7		Indiana	Ohio	Indiana	None
		Schlemmer, Philipp	M	Boarder	84		Germany	Germany	Germany	None

CHARLES SIEGEL AND DOVIE ALICE ELLIOTT

Charles married Dovie Elliott in Marion, Grant County, Indiana, by Justice of the Peace Alfred McFeeley, on 18 February 1913.³¹

A marriage certificate contains basic information regarding a couple's marriage, such as the date and location. The most helpful marriage records provide maiden names, parents' names, birth information, and more. A marriage register is sometimes the only source of information regarding an ancestor's marriage. A clerk records the marriage information from the officiant's returns in the marriage register book. A clerk recording of the information can introduce errors. For example, Charles and Dovie's marriage recording in the register, the clerk wrote Earl instead of Carl and Dovie's mother's name as Hilda Mark instead of Hulda Meek.³²

Further research yielded a marriage application providing additional information on the couple. Carl (Charles) Richard Siegel was born on 29 September 1890 in Monroeville, Indiana. His father, Philipp Siegel, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, and his mother, Kate Schlemmer, was also born in

³⁰ 1910 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 24 verso (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 17, sheet 6-B, dwelling 81, family 81, Philipp Seigle; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). **Document 11.**

³¹ "Marriage Records, Circuit Court, Grant County, Indiana, 1831–1955," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 3 October 2020), entry for Carl R. Seigel to Dovie Elliott, 18 February 1913; citing Marriage records, Circuit Court, Grant County, Indiana, vol. 19, April 20, 1912–June 9, 1914, FHL microfilm 2,442,740, image 163.

³² "Marriage Licenses, Grant County, Indiana, 1840-1919 and Returns of Marriages, 1882-1946," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 3 October 2020), marriage record return of Earl Seigel and Dovie Elliott, 18 February 1913; citing Record of Returns of Marriages, Circuit Court, Grant County, Indiana, April 1, 1899-June 27, 1913, FHL microfilm 7,743,997, image 467.

Holmes County. Carl signed the application. On some documents, Charles uses the name Carl.³³ Carl is an atypical nickname for Charles, although a common variant for Charles in Germany and Scandinavia.³⁴

Charles's birth date on the marriage application showed 29 September 1890. Charles was twenty-three when he married Dovie. However, the couple married just before Charles's twenty-fourth birthday (if he married after his birthday, the birth year is 1889). The birth year listed on the marriage application was possibly a calculation error by the person filling out the application.

Dovie Alice Elliott was born in Riverton, Iowa, on 28 December 1890. C.F. Elliott, her father, was born in Fairmount, Indiana. Hulda Meek, Dovie's mother, was born in Riverton, Iowa. This was Dovie's first marriage.³⁵

NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers are a great way to learn more about our ancestors' lives since they provide social commentary about an individual or their neighbors' activities. In one such entry, *The Fort Wayne Sentinel* reported, "Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seigel, of Marion, are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Seigel, south of town."³⁶ This detail confirms Charles's father's name.

MILITARY DRAFT

World War I started in mid-July 1914 among the Central Powers. The United States tried to remain neutral for almost three years. Finally, in 1917, the United States joined the war. "Some six weeks after the United States formally entered the First World War, the U.S. Congress passed the Selective Service Act on May 18, 1917, giving the U.S. president the power to draft soldiers."³⁷

Charles appeared at the local draft board on 5 June 1917 in Fort Wayne to fill out his draft card. He stated his birth date as 29 September 1889 in Monroeville, Indiana, worked at a Dry Goods Company, and needed to financially support his wife and child.³⁸

On 13 July 1917, Charles's draft number was called, and he went to the local board to complete his military physical.³⁹ As reported in the *Fort Wayne Sentinel* on 13 August 1917, Charles passed his examination but filed a claims exemption as the sole supporter for his wife and child.⁴⁰

³³ Debbie Ruth, to the author, e-mail, 16 December 2020, "Request Genealogy Records." **Document 9A.**

³⁴ Abby Sandel (appellationmountain), "Charles Nicknames: Charlie, Chase, Huck," *Appellation Mountain Where Every Name Has A Story* (blog), 14 July 2022, <https://tinyurl.com/4w5vrtkh>.

³⁵ Debbie Ruth, Marion Public Library, Indiana, to author, e-mail, 16 December 2020, "Request Genealogy Records."

³⁶ "Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seigel," *The Fort Wayne Sentinel* (Indiana), 23 January 1915, p. 3, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 21 July 2021). **Document 12.**

³⁷ History.com Editors, "U.S. Congress passes Selective Service Act," *History, A&E Television Networks*, May 15, 2020, <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/u-s-congress-passes-selective-service-act>.

³⁸ "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 11 October 2020), card for Charles Richard Seigel, serial no. 1132, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana Draft Board. **Document 13.**

³⁹ "Names of Men Drawn in Draft," *Fort Wayne Sentinel* (Indiana), 13 July 1917, p. 22, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive.com* (<https://www.newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 November 2020). The number 1132 listed in the newspaper article matches the number on the World War I Draft card.

⁴⁰ "Decrease in Exemptions, District 3," *Fort Wayne Sentinel* (Indiana), 13 August 1917, p. 14, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive.com* (<https://www.newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 November 2020).

AFTER WORLD WAR I

By 1920, Charles and his family relocated to Michigan, where he worked as a drayman for a livery stable.⁴¹ “A drayman was historically a dray driver, who drove a low, flat-bed wagon without sides, generally pulled by horses or mules that were used to transport all kinds of goods.”⁴² “A livery stable was an area where horses, buggies, and wagons were available for hire. Livery stables usually connect to boarding houses or hotels, and horses could board briefly.”⁴³ However, as more cars came onto the roads, people were less likely to use the services of a livery stable.

The 1920 census showed the family’s new location in Copemish, Manistee County, Michigan. Charles and Dovie now have two children, Wilber, almost four, and Waneta, nearly two.⁴⁴

A handwritten census record on a grid background. The entries are as follows:

Siegel Charles	Head R	MC 20 30 M						Indiana
Dovie	Wife	4 27 M						Indiana
Wilbur R	Son	3 4 S						Indiana
Waneta	Daughter	1 12 S						Indiana

Wilber was born around 1916 (age three years and eleven months). Charles and Dovie married in 1913. Typically, the first child arrives during the first two years of marriage. However, another child possibly lived and died before Wilber’s birth.

Research at the Marion (Indiana) Public Library History and Genealogy website showed transcribed death information for Lucille Seeigel [*sic*], born on 2 October 1914 in Center Township, Marion City, Grant County, Indiana, and died on 3 October 1914. Her burial occurred at I.O.O.F. cemetery, with no stone found.⁴⁵ Further research located a birth⁴⁶ and death certificate for Lucile Irine Sigel.⁴⁷ Both certificates state parents are Charles Siegel and Dovie Elliott. The death certificate noted no known reason for her passing, except she was premature by two weeks and had a general weakness.

⁴¹ 1920 U.S. census, Manistee County, Michigan, population schedule, Copemish town, p. 40 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 60, sheet 8-A, dwelling 1, family 1, Charles Siegel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020).

⁴² “Drayman,” *Wikipedia* (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drayman> : accessed 10 November 2020).

⁴³ Marshall Trimble, “Livery Stables in the West,” *True West: History of the American Frontier*, 3 May 2017, <https://tinyurl.com/4msa9he9>. Also, Jack Klasey, “The wealthiest liveryman in Chicago came from Kankakee,” *Daily Journal*, 1 October 2016, <https://tinyurl.com/edbd7e9t>.

⁴⁴ 1920 U.S. census, Manistee Co., Mich., pop. sch., Copemish town, E.D. 60, p. 8A (stamped), dwelling 1, family 1, Waneta in the household of Charles Siegel.

⁴⁵ Marion Public Library, “Cemetery Record (PID85562-EID109440),” *Marion Public Library History and Genealogy Database* (<http://gen.marion.lib.in.us/Default.asp> : accessed 28 November 2020), entry for Seeige Lucille.

⁴⁶ “Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940,” digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 November 2020), entry for Lucile Irine Sigel, 2 October 1914; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 16510.

⁴⁷ “Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011,” digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 November 2020), entry for Luceal Sigel, 3 October 1914; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 264.

After Waneta's birth, Charles and Dovie experienced another loss. On 31 January 1921, their son Charles, born in Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan, died a few days later, on 3 February 1921, from spina bifida.⁴⁸ "During the 1920s and 1930s, an epidemic of neural tube defects occurred. Delivery records revealed a baseline prevalence of these defects of 2.0 children per 1,000 births (average age). From 1930–1935, the figure increased to 4.7 children per 1,000 births."⁴⁹

CITY DIRECTORIES

Using city directories in genealogy research fills in the gaps left by census records. Censuses occur every ten years, whereas most city directories are updated yearly. Initially, city directories were developed to help craftsmen and salesmen reach out to locals and potential clients about their wares. Tracking an ancestor year by year can assist in discovering when they arrived or left an area or whether their economic situation changed.

Sometime between 1921 and 1923, Charles met restaurant proprietor Milton D. Westfall, and the pair, along with their families, moved to Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan. Together they operated Siegel and Westfall, a potato chip manufacturing company.⁵⁰ Charles and Milton ran the business for less than two years, as Milton was absent from the Lansing city directory by 1924.⁵¹ Charles and his family moved again by 1925 to Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, when his son Carl Junior, was born.⁵² By this time, Charles worked as a George Cole Motor Company mechanic.⁵³ Three years later, the family relocated to Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, where Charles worked as a salesman.⁵⁴

⁴⁸ "Michigan, Death Records, 1867-1952," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 November 2020), entry for Charles R. Seigel, 31 January 1921; citing Michigan Department of Community Health, certificate number 12847.

⁴⁹ Ann Aschengrau and George R. Seage, *Essentials of Epidemiology in Public Health* (Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, 2003), 109, <https://tinyurl.com/36z4m89f>.

⁵⁰ "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 26 November 2020), entry for Chas R. (Dovie A.) Seigel and Seigel & Westfall Co (C R Seigel and M D Westfall); citing "Lansing City Directory, MI, 1923 (Lansing, MI; Chilson, McKinley & Co., 1923)," p. 818. Charles and Milton live in the apartment complex at 310 S Grand Ave.

⁵¹ "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 26 November 2020), entry for Chas R. (Dovie) Seigel; citing "Lansing City Directory, MI, 1924 (Lansing, MI; Mc-Kinley-Reynolds Co., 1924)," p. 866. No M. or Milton Westfall listed.

⁵² U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 November 2020), card for Carl Junior Seigel, serial no. W220, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana Draft Board. Also, "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry for Carl Junior Seigel to Christeen Elizabeth (Bohlen) Corbett, 28 June 1947; citing Marriage records, vols. 120-121, 1947, FHL microfilm 2,130,529, image 297.

⁵³ "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 26 November 2020), entry for Chas R. (Dovie) Seigel; citing "Nashville City Directory, TN, 1926 (Commerce, TN; Marshall-Bruce-Polk Company, 1926)," p. 662.

⁵⁴ 1930 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Kentucky, population schedule, Louisville, p. 3 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 56-15, sheet 3-A, dwelling 44, family 47, Carl R. Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 October 2020).

CHILDREN OF CHARLES SIEGEL AND DOVIE ALICE ELLIOTT

- i. Lucile Irine Siegel was born on 2 October 1914 in Center Township, Marion City, Grant County, Indiana.⁵⁵ She lived eighteen hours and died on 3 October 1914.⁵⁶ Her internment occurred at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Marion, Indiana.⁵⁷
- ii. Wilber Richard Siegel was born on 20 February 1916 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.⁵⁸ He died on 15 November 1988 in Auburn, DeKalb, Indiana,⁵⁹ and burial at Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn.⁶⁰ He married on 31 March 1942 in Florence, Florence County, South Carolina, to Violet Louise Kleemann.⁶¹
- iii. Waneta Reath Siegel was born on 11 April 1918 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.⁶² She died on 26 June 1993 in Auburn, Indiana, and buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn.⁶³ Waneta married on 7 June 1941 near Camp Shelby, Forrest County, Mississippi, to Richard Carmen Holben.⁶⁴
- iv. Charles Richard Siegel was born on 31 January 1921 in Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan.⁶⁵ He died on 3 February 1921 in Traverse City, Michigan, and buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Traverse City, Michigan.⁶⁶

⁵⁵ "Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Lucile Irine Siegel, 1914.

⁵⁶ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Luceal Siegel, 1914.

⁵⁷ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 28 November 2020), memorial page for Lucile Siegel (1914-1914), Find A Grave Memorial no. 85323866, citing Estates of Serenity Cemetery (also known as I.O.O.F. Cemetery), Marion, Grant County, Indiana; memorial page is created by Gerald Rhoades and maintained by contributor 47144241, L Young.

⁵⁸ "Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 November 2020), entry for Wilber Seigel, 20 February 1916; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 922.

⁵⁹ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 November 2020), entry for Wilber Seigel, 15 November 1988; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 88-841724.

⁶⁰ "Services today for Wilber Seigel, 72," digital image of obituary, *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 15 November 1988, *Garrett Public Library* (<https://tinyurl.com/58srexpw> : accessed 30 December 2020). Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 16 December 2020), memorial page for Wilber R. Seigel (1916-1988), Find A Grave Memorial no. 114319483, citing Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by 47599503, RastaDan48.

⁶¹ "Violet Kleemann and Corporal Seigel Wed," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 11 May 1942, p. 1, col. 6; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 15 November 2020). Also, "South Carolina, County Marriage Licenses and Certificates, 1911-1951," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 15 November 2020), entry for Wilber Richard Seigel to Violet Louise Kleeman, 31 March 1942; citing Marriage licenses & affidavits, C2146-C2787 --- ca. 1941-1942, FHL microfilm 2,210,818, image 855.

⁶² "Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907-1940," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Waneta Seigel, 1918.

⁶³ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Waneta Seigel Holben, 1993. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images, Waneta Reath Seigel Holben (1918-1993), DeKalb County, Indiana.

⁶⁴ Mississippi marriage certificate (no certificate number), 1941, Richard C. Holben and Waneta Seigel.

⁶⁵ "[Grand Traverse County, Michigan] Birth records 1867-1917; birth index 1856-1960," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 21 November 2020), entry for Charles Seigel, 1921; citing Birth index vol. 1 1856-1960, FHL microfilm 981,173, image 235.

⁶⁶ "Michigan, Death Records, 1867-1952," digital images, *Ancestry.com* for Charles R Seigel, 1921. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 20 December 2020), memorial page for Charles R. Seigel (1917-1917), Find A Grave Memorial no. 196966243, citing Oakwood Cemetery, Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan; memorial page is created and maintained by 46877368, Jack Franke.

- v. Virginia Kathern Siegel was born on 18 December 1922 in Traverse City, Michigan.⁶⁷ She died on 18 September 2011 in Blairsville, Union County, Georgia.⁶⁸ Virginia married on 23 November 1940 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, to Richard Leroy Refner.⁶⁹
- vi. Carl Junior Siegel was born on 19 July 1925 in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee.⁷⁰ He died on 18 October 2009 in West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Indiana,⁷¹ and buried in Indiana Soldier's Home Cemetery in West Lafayette.⁷² He married (1) on 23 June 1947 in Allen County, Indiana, to Christeen Elizabeth (Bohlen) Corbett,⁷³ and (2) on 31 August 1970 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, to Barbara Ruth Blazer.⁷⁴
- vii. Goldie Eugenia Siegel was born on 8 September 1928 in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.⁷⁵ She died on 13 September 2002 in Fort Wayne, Allen, Indiana,⁷⁶ and buried at

⁶⁷ "Birth records 1867-1917; birth index 1856-1960," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 21 November 2020), entry for Virginia Siegel, 1923; citing Birth index vol. 1 1856-1960, FHL microfilm 981,173, image 236.

⁶⁸ Social Security Administration, "U.S. Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 December 2020), entry for Virginia K. Refner, 2011, SS no. 313-14-8430. Also, "Mrs. Virginia Kathern Refner," obituary transcript, transcribed by The Tecumseh Herald administration, *The Tecumseh Herald* (<https://tinyurl.com/54t3rfkw> : accessed 10 December 2020); originally published 22 September 2011. Possibly cremated due to no burial information listed in the obituary.

⁶⁹ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 21 November 2020), entry for Virginia Siegel to Richard Refner, 23 November 1940; citing Marriage license applications, vol. 35 1939-1941, FHL microfilm 1,863,338, page 426.

⁷⁰ "U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, card for Carl Junior Siegel, serial no. W220, Fort Wayne Draft Board. Also, "U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 December 2020), entry for Carl Siegel; citing Beneficiary Identification Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS) Death File, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

⁷¹ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 November 2020), entry for Carl Siegel, 18 October 2009; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 031838.

⁷² *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 13 December 2020), memorial page for Carl Siegel Jr (1925-2009), Find A Grave Memorial no. 44746458, citing Indiana Soldiers Home Cemetery, Tippecanoe Township, Tippecanoe County, Indiana; memorial page is created by Debra Birge and maintained by 47303398, RDL.

⁷³ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Carl Junior Siegel to Christeen Elizabeth (Bohlen) Corbett, 1947.

⁷⁴ "Indiana, U.S., Marriage Certificates, 1960-2012," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry for Carl J. Siegel to Barbara Ruth Blazer, 31 August 1970; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 70-036448.

⁷⁵ "Kentucky, U.S., Birth Index, 1911-1999," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 December 2020), entry for Goldie E. Siegel, 8 September 1928; citing Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, certificate number 42688.

⁷⁶ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 November 2020), entry for Goldie Siegel, 13 September 2002; citing Indiana Board of Health, certificate number 030551. Also, "Goldie Cramer, 74," obituary transcript, transcribed by The Waynedale News Staff, *TheWaynedaleNews.com* (<https://bit.ly/3pQoJJK> : accessed 23 November 2020); citing *The Waynedale News* (Indiana), n.p.. Also, U.S. Social Security Administration, "Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 December 2020), entry for Goldie E. Cramer, no. 305-28-3188.

Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne.⁷⁷ Goldie married on 28 June 1952 in Allen County, Indiana, to Walker William Cramer.⁷⁸

- viii. Norma Mae Siegel was born on 9 February 1931 in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.⁷⁹ She died on 30 October 2013 in Amarillo, Potter County, Texas, and buried in Llano Cemetery in Amarillo.⁸⁰ Norma married on 1 October 1949 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, to Charles R. Mumy.⁸¹

CHARLES RICHARD SIEGEL'S DEATH

Charles's death certificate showed he died on 15 October 1933 in Seymour, Jackson County, Indiana, in Schnick Hospital from a car accident on U.S. Road 31.⁸² Charles's father was identified as Phillip Siegel, but his mother's identity was unknown. Dovie Siegel, Charles' wife, was the informant. Charles' birthday was 29 September 1890, born in Monroeville, Indiana. He was forty-three years old.

According to one newspaper article, Charles was perhaps blinded by bright lights from an oncoming car as he neared a steep curve. Charles overcorrected the vehicle, but it was too late. He collided with a post and overturned. The coroner recounted the event and claimed Charles fractured his skull due to the collision.⁸³ According to a funeral announcement, Charles's funeral occurred on Tuesday, 17 October 1933, and his internment at Eastern Cemetery. Dovie Siegel is listed as a spouse. Others who survive Charles are his two sons, Carl Siegel and Wilber Siegel; four daughters, Miss Juanita Siegel,

⁷⁷ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 21 December 2020), memorial page for Goldie E. Cramer (1928-2002), Find A Grave Memorial no. 65264018, citing Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 46984629, JC.

⁷⁸ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry for Goldie Eugenia Seigel, 28 June 1952; citing Marriage Records, vol. 142, May 1952–July 1952, FHL microfilm 2,450,733, image 799. Also, "Marriage Records by Name," *Allen County Genealogical Society* (<https://www.acgsi.org/marriage/22545.jpg> : accessed 21 December 2020), entry for Walker Cramer to Goldie Seigel; citing vol: 142, p. 352.

⁷⁹ "Kentucky, U.S., Birth Index, 1911-1999," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 November 2020), entry for Norma Seigel, 9 May 1931; citing Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, certificate number 56945. Also, U.S. Social Security Administration, "Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 December 2020), entry for Norma M. Mumy, no. 307-30-9884.

⁸⁰ "NORMA (SEIGEL) MUMY," obituary transcript, transcribed by Fort Wayne Newspapers, *FortWayne.com* (<https://legacy.co/3716gA2> : accessed 23 November 2020); citing original publication in the *Fort Wayne Newspapers* (Indiana), 2 November 2013. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 21 December 2020), memorial page for Norma Mae Seigel Mumy (1931-2013), Find A Grave Memorial no. 119628666, citing Llano Cemetery, Amarillo, Randall County, Texas; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 47114458, Edith Guynes Stanley. Also, U.S. Social Security Administration, "Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* entry for Norma M. Mumy, no. 307-30-9884.

⁸¹ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry for Norma Seigel to Charles Mumy, 1 October 1949; citing Marriage Records, vols. 131-132, 1949-1950, FHL microfilm 2,130,535, image 105.

⁸² "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Charles R. Siegel, 1933. **Document 8.**

⁸³ "Man is Fatally Injured in Auto Crash Near Here," *Seymour Daily Tribune* (Indiana), 16 October 1933, p. 1, cols. 1-2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive.com* (<https://www.newspaperarchive.com> : 3 October 2020).

Virginia Siegel, Goldie Siegel, and Norma Siegel; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philipp Siegel of Auburn, Ind. (Indiana).⁸⁴

In most cases, a search on *FindAGrave.com* reveals whether a memorial was established for a deceased person. Possible information includes a memorial, a tombstone photo, cemetery information, other family members, photographs, and newspaper clippings about the person. The information found on *FindAGrave* needs correlation with other records to corroborate the information.

Charles's memorial included Charles's picture and a tombstone photo. On the tombstone, it says, "Father Chas. R. Seigel, 1890-1933." The listing confirmed his burial at Eastern Cemetery in Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky. The plot location was Section 2, Range 23, Grave 6.⁸⁵ Other family members listed on the memorial were wife Dovie Alice Elliott Locander and children Carl Siegel and Norma Mae Siegel Mumy.

DOVIE ALICE ELLIOTT

Possibly right after Charles died in 1933, Dovie moved from Kentucky to DeKalb County, Indiana, to live near other family members.⁸⁶ Dovie and her children lived at 112 East Madison Street in a 914-square-foot home with a basement.⁸⁷ Close to Dovie's home was brother-in-law, Herman Siegel, and his parents, Philipp and Catharine Siegel. Herman lived at 119 East Madison. The residences were across the street, separated by a few houses.⁸⁸

DOVIE ALICE ELLIOTT AND OSCAR LOCANDER

Dovie's tombstone was a double gravestone with the surname Locander at the top, followed by Oscar L. (1889-1960) and Dovie A. (1890-1958). She was interred at Fort Wayne's Linwood Cemetery in Allen County, Indiana. According to the monument, she died on 26 August 1958 at sixty-seven. Her birthday was 28 December 1890.⁸⁹

A death certificate stated that Dovie died at a Fort Wayne hospital on 26 August 1958, born on 28 December 1890 in Iowa. Her parents were John C. Elliott and Hulda Meek; Oscar Locander, the informant.⁹⁰ The information provided on Dovie's death certificate coincides with other information

⁸⁴ "Siegel," *The Courier-Journal* (Indiana), 17 October 1933, p. 15, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 3 October 2020).

⁸⁵ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 3 October 2020), memorial page for Charles R. Seigel (1890 - 1933), Find A Grave Memorial no. 59283338, citing Eastern Cemetery, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky; memorial page is maintained by contributor 47176008, Jeff Morris. Also, Jillian Keowan, Louisville, Kentucky (ceminfo@louisville.edu) to author, e-mail, 15 September 2021, "Eastern Cemetery," Personal Correspondence Folder; privately held by author, (email withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

⁸⁶ 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb Co., Ind., pop. sch., Auburn, ED 17-23, sheet 15-A, dwelling 2, family 2, Dovie Seigel.

Document 3.

⁸⁷ Sheila Stonebraker, DeKalb County Assessor, "DeKalb County Parcel '17-06-29-177-002.000-025' Detail Report," DeKalb County (Indiana) Property Assessment (<https://tinyurl.com/364f58fx> : accessed 26 November 2020).

⁸⁸ "Directions for driving from 112 East Madison to 119 East Madison Auburn, Indiana," Google Maps, accessed 26 August 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/3ttccz7e>.

⁸⁹ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 4 October 2020), memorial page for Dovie Alice Elliott Locander (1890–1958), Find A Grave Memorial no. 85237344, citing Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is maintained by contributor 47599503, RastaDan48.

⁹⁰ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 November 2020), entry for Dovie Elliott, 26 August 1958; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 58-025133. **Document 14.**

about Dovie's birthdate, parents' names, and death date. Other documents showed Dovie's father as C. F. Elliott.

An obituary in the *Garrett Clipper* stated, "she had several strokes for weeks before her death. Her first husband was Charles Siegel, who died in 1933 from a car accident. Surviving children are Carl Siegel from Fort Wayne, Waneta Holben from Auburn, Virginia Refner from Tecumseh, Michigan, Goldie Cramer from Fort Wayne, and Norma Mumy from Ludlow, Ill."⁹¹

A search on *Ancestry.com* Indiana marriage database yielded an indexed record for Dovie Alice Siegel to Oscar Louis Locander, with reference to a Family History Library film number and page number to locate the marriage registration.⁹² Searching for the exact film yielded Dovie and Oscar's marriage application.⁹³

According to the marriage application and return, the couple married on 8 April 1950 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. Dovie's birth in Riverton, Iowa, on 28 December 1893. Her father, John Charles Fremont, was born in Fremont, Indiana, and her mother, Hulda Milovina, was born in Riverton, Iowa. Dovie stated she previously married, and he passed away sixteen years ago (1934). Her birth year and her mother's surname are listed incorrectly. No one knew Dovie's health conditions when she submitted her information. However, based on her handwriting, Dovie possibly had health problems when filling out the application.

Her husband, Oscar, was born in Helsingborg, Sweden, on 9 April 1889. His parents are Valdemar Emil Locander, born in Denmark, and Ida Locander (née Swenson) born in Sweden. Oscar had married four times prior (two divorces and two deaths). He had three grown children.⁹⁴

SUMMARY

Three sources reported Charles Siegel's birth date as 29 September 1890: his gravestone, death certificate, and marriage application. The death certificate and gravestone information might come from the same individual, considered a single source. However, according to Charles's World War I Draft registration card and the 1900 census, he was born on 29 September 1889.⁹⁵ Although no birth certificate or baptism was found, the 1900 census was the closest to Charles's birth date. Since the 1890 census was destroyed, there's no way to verify Charles's birth. The information on the 1900 census probably came from his parents, who knew Charles's birthdate. Therefore, Charles's birth probably occurred on 29 September 1889 rather than 1890.

⁹¹ "Wilbur Seigel's Mother Dies At Age of 67," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 28 August 1958, p. 8, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 4 October 2020).

⁹² "Indiana, U.S., Marriages, 1810-2001," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry of Dovie Alice Elliott to Oscar Locander, 8 April 1950; citing Marriage Records, vols. 131-132, 1949-1950, FHL microfilm 2,130,535.

⁹³ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 December 2020), entry for Dovie Alice Siegel to Oscar Locander, 8 April 1950; citing Marriage records, vols. 131-132, 1949-1950, FHL microfilm 2,130,535, image 262. **Document 15.**

⁹⁴ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Dovie Alice Seigel to Oscar Locander, 1950.

⁹⁵ 1900 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Madison, ED 16, sheet 7-A, dwelling 122, family 122, Philip Siegel. **Document 10.** Also, "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," database, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Charles Richard Seigel, serial no. 1132, Fort Wayne Draft Board. **Document 13.**

Charles Richard Siegel was born in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana, to Philipp Siegel and Catharine Schlemmer, as evidenced by his marriage application, a newspaper story indicating Charles and his wife traveled to visit his parents, census records, World War I draft card, and death certificate. On 18 February 1913, Charles married Dovie Alice Elliott in Marion, Grant County, Indiana. John Charles Fremont Elliott and Hulda Meek were her parents. Charles and Dovie had eight children born to them.

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Order a birth certificate for Charles Richard Siegel, born on 31 January 1921, from Grand Traverse County for a \$15 fee. Website to order record - <https://tinyurl.com/9kudyemb>
- Order a birth certificate for Virginia Siegel, born 18 December 1922, from Grand Traverse County, for a \$15 fee. Website to order record - <https://tinyurl.com/9kudyemb>. Information for the certificate is in book 4, page 161.
- Inquire from Grand Traverse County if Jane Ellen Siegel, born in 1924, found in the index on book 4, page 182, was Charles and Dovie's daughter. If so, follow the methods above for ordering a birth certificate.
- Order the birth certificate for Carl Junior Siegel, born 19 July 1925, from the Tennessee Department of Health to confirm the birth date and parents' names. Birth certificates under 100 years old are available to the named person or certain family members. If ordered less than 100 years, the cost is \$15, and available to order online at <https://tinyurl.com/cx4a9pr9>.
- Order birth certificates for Goldie and Norma Siegel from Kentucky Health and Human Services to confirm the birth date and parents' names. Goldie's certificate number is 42688, and Norma's certificate number is 56945. The records are \$10 each and are available to order at <https://tinyurl.com/h47nukyj>.
- Order Norma Mumy's death certificate from the City of Amarillo, Texas Vital Statistics to confirm the death date and parents' names. The cost is \$20, along with an application at <https://tinyurl.com/r7s47vcw>. Only an immediate family member can order.
- Order Virginia Siegel Refner's death certificate from the Georgia Department of Public Health. The cost is \$25, and the application is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2zcpe74r>. Only an immediate family member can order.

THIRD GENERATION - PHILIPP HEINRICH "HENRY" SIEGEL

As stated on Charles's marriage application, 1900 census record, and death certificate, his parents were Philipp Henry Siegel and Catharine Schlemmer. Therefore, the next generation will follow Charles's father, Philipp Siegel.

PHILIPP HENRY SIEGEL AND HIS PARENTS

Birth records for Holmes County, Ohio, began in 1867, and statewide compliance for birth registration began in 1908.⁹⁶ Church confirmation or a baptismal record are other resources to find birth information, possibly, since the baptism sometimes occurred shortly after a person's birth.

Philipp's baptism occurred about a month after his birth, on 24 August 1856, at the Zion Church in Winesburg, Ohio. The baptismal record stated he was born on 22 June 1856. His name was Philipp Heinrich Singel [*sic*], Reichert and Catharine (Reidenbach) Singel Jr's son. The baptismal sponsors were Philipp Singel and Margaretha Reidenbach.⁹⁷ The source for this information was a transcribed record, a derivative of the original record. A derivative source created from primary records introduces errors because the informant or source creator was absent when the event occurred. The transcriber stated the surname was Singel, not Siegel, and Reichert, not Richard (or German Reichard). The original baptismal record is missing.

Almost a year after Philipp's birth, the family moved south to Bucks Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where Philipp spent his youth learning the farm life.⁹⁸

As families needed farm labor during planting and harvest, Philipp attended school until the sixth grade.⁹⁹ Midwest rural schools "throughout the nineteenth century and sometimes into the twentieth (century) held two terms: winter and summer."¹⁰⁰ "The use of children as laborers in Ohio's agricultural and industrial occupations occurred from the beginning of the state's history. American Indian societies commonly relied on children to assist in hunting, growing crops, and other tasks. European farmers continued this tradition, relying on children to assist in the fields and other chores."¹⁰¹

By the time Philipp was thirteen, the family moved again to Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, possibly seeking better land opportunities and better circumstances as it was hard to

⁹⁶ "Holmes County, Ohio Genealogy," *FamilySearch Wiki*, n.p., <https://tinyurl.com/6297y3u>.

⁹⁷ Marguerite Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2003), 57, <https://tinyurl.com/3hp9m5kc>. **Document 16**.

⁹⁸ Holmes County, Ohio, Deed Records vol. 27 (1865-1866), pp. 506-507, Richard and Catharine Seigel to Adam Stilgenbauer, 4 April 1857; digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org>; accessed 24 February 2021); citing FHL microfilm 432,043, image 262. **Document 18 A-D**. Also, 1860 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 187 (handwritten), dwelling 1098, family 1252, Richard Siegel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>; accessed 26 December 2020).

⁹⁹ 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Union Township, p. 233 verso (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 17-23, sheet 1-B, dwelling 119, family 9, Philip Seigel in the household of Herman Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>; accessed 24 December 2020).

¹⁰⁰ Paul Theobald, "Country School Curriculum and Governance: The One-Room School Experience in the Nineteenth-Century Midwest," *American Journal of Education* vol. 101, no. 2 (February 1993), 8, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1085684>.

¹⁰¹ "Child Labor," *Ohio History Connection*, https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Child_Labor.

establish profitable farms.¹⁰² The fertile land in Indiana was essential for farmers to grow their crops.¹⁰³

Philipp had his confirmation (public affirmation of faith) on 9 February 1873, at age seventeen, in the German Lutheran Church in Monroeville. The confirmation entry included Philipp's birth as 22 June 1856.¹⁰⁴

PHILIPP SIEGEL AND CATHARINE SCHLEMMER

LAND RECORDS

Land records help trace a family's migration and perhaps provide parental evidence. For example, an 1880 Monroe Township land parcel plat map displays land divisions and names landowners, showing R. Seigel in Township 28. Diagonally across was P. Schlemmer in Township 20.¹⁰⁵ The Schlemmer No. 7 school, German Lutheran Church, and cemetery were at this intersection.¹⁰⁶

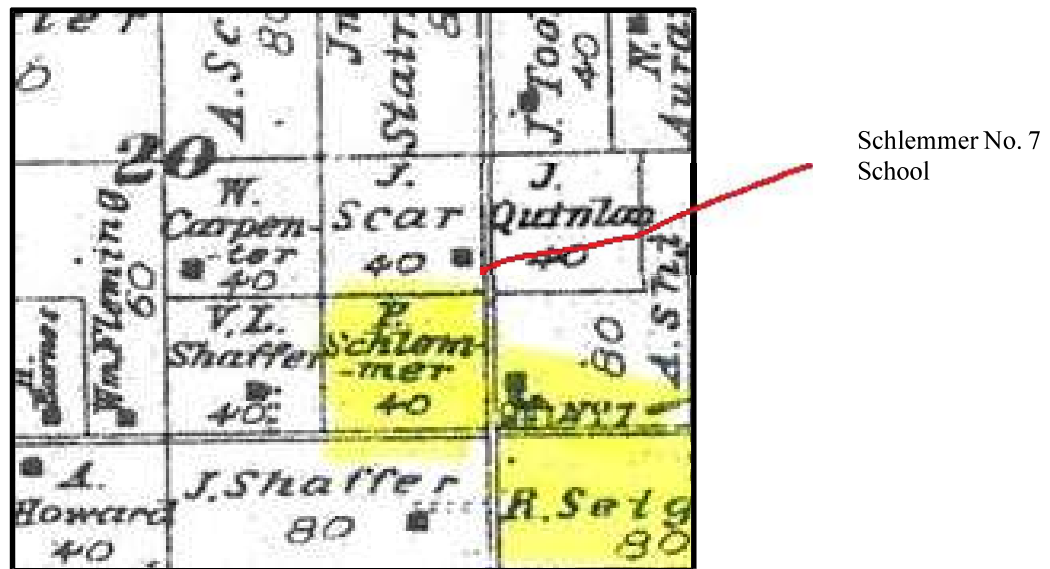


Figure 1. 1880 Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana Plat Map, <https://www.acgsi.org/>

¹⁰² 1870 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p.582 (stamped), p. 13 (handwritten), dwelling 93, family 91, Philip Segal in the household of Richard Segal; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 24 December 2020).

¹⁰³ Elfrieda Lung, "Ohioans in Northern Indiana before 1850," *Indiana Magazine of History*, vol. 49, Issue 4, December 1953, 5, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/27788143>.

¹⁰⁴ Allen Franz (afranz@mail.com) to the author, e-mail, 20 March 2021, "Church Records for Siegel/Seigel family;" privately held by the author, (email address for withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah. **Document 17.**

¹⁰⁵ "1880 Monroe Township Plat Map," *Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana* (<https://www.acgsi.org/maps/monroe.1878.pdf>: accessed 16 March 2021). **Document 19.**

¹⁰⁶ Adam J. Barrone (adam@barrone.net) to the author, e-mail, 19 March 2021, "Monroeville Church on Christ Hoffman's Land;" privately held by the author (email address for withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

MARRIAGE

Philipp lived and worked on the family farm¹⁰⁷ until he was thirty-one when he married the girl next door, Catharine Schlemmer, on 23 August 1888 in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana.¹⁰⁸ Catharine was born on 28 April 1863 in Allen County, Indiana.¹⁰⁹ The 1870 census inferred Catharine as a daughter in her parent's household. The 1880 census listed her as a daughter.¹¹⁰ Also, based on an excerpt from Philipp Schlemmer's will, he listed Catharine as a daughter.¹¹¹

“Third: It is further my will, that should my beloved wife Catharine Schlemmer, survive my son Charles J. Schlemmer, then in such event, at the death of Catharine Schlemmer, the farm or property aforesaid bequeathed to Charles J. Schlemmer shall go to my beloved sons and daughters, namely: Christena Eling: Catharine Siegle: Lizzie M. Earhardt: Henry Schlemmer: Marthy Garthow or their heirs and the heirs of Charles Schlemmer, Share and Share Alike.”

CENSUS

Philipp and Catharine are listed with four children in the 1900 census in Madison Township, Indiana: Charles, George, Matilda, and Henry.¹¹² The following questions on this census assist in finding more information about a person – how long a couple was married, birth month and year, birth location, and how many children were born to the wife with how many are living?

¹⁰⁷ 1880 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 13 (handwritten), enumeration district (ED) 112, sheet A (stamped), dwelling 120, family 120, Richard Seigle; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). Philip unmarried, still lived with his parents, and worked on the family farm. Philip's future father-in-law, Philip Slemmer, lived in the home and worked on the farm. **Document 20.**

¹⁰⁸ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 December 2020), entry for Philip Siegel to Catharine Slemmer, 23 August 1888; citing Marriage records, vols. 15-17, 1882-1890, FHL microfilm 2,111,521, image 314. **Document 21.**

¹⁰⁹ Lucy Funk and Arlene Goodwin, "Early Births from Pension Records Auditors Office," *DeKalb County IN GenWeb Project*, <https://tinyurl.com/3fswuyhe>. **Document 22.** Also, 1900 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Madison, ED 16, sheet 7-A, dwelling 122, family 122, Catharine Siegel in the household of Philip Siegel. **Document 10.**

¹¹⁰ 1870 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 13 (handwritten), dwelling 96, family 94, Catharine Slammer in the household of Philip Slammer; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 24 December 2020). **Document 24.** Also, 1880 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 14 (handwritten), dwelling 126, family 126, Catharine Slemmer in the household of Philip Slemmer; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). **Document 25.**

¹¹¹ "Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 16 March 2021), will for Philip Schlemmer; citing Indiana County, District and Probate Courts Probate Will Record, vol. 9, January 1896–September 1898, pp. 508-510. Philip mentions his daughter and wife in his will. **Document 23 A-D.**

¹¹² 1900 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Madison, ED 16, sheet 7-A, dwelling 122, family 122, Philip Siegel. **Document 10.**

NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. INCLUDE every person living on June 1, 1900. OMIT children born since June 1, 1900.	RELATION. Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.									Place of birth States, Place of birth Foreign
		Color or race.	Sex.	DATE OF BIRTH.		Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years married.	Mother of how many children.	Number of these children living.	
				Month.	Year.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Siegel Philipp	Head	w	m	June 1856	43	m	10				Ohio
Catharine	Wife	w	f	Apr 1863	37	m	10	5	1		Ind

Figure 2. 1900 U.S. census, Madison Township, Allen County, Indiana, Ancestry.com

This census showed Catharine had five children born to her and one child living. Four children appear as born to this couple when considering the other children listed. The information about how many children were born to Catharine and how many are living seems inaccurate. The children named most likely belong to Philipp and Catharine. The unknown informant to the enumerator possibly misheard the question and stated four children had passed away versus four children living.

A 1910 census review might modify the story even further. This census showed Catharine had six children born to her, five who lived.¹¹³

Seigle Philipp	Head	M	W	53	M
Kate	Wife of	F	W	47	M
George W.	Son	M	W	16	S
Thelma L.	Daughter	F	W	14	S

Figure 3. 1910 U.S. census, Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, Ancestry.com

When the two censuses are compared, as well as their 1888 marriage year and the birth dates of their additional children (1889, 1893, 1895, 1899), it appears Philipp and Catharine had a child born between 1890–1892, in 1894, or between 1896–1898. There were three years eight months, two years one month, and three years eight months between the births of all four children. The birth and death of a child would fit in these time frames.

FINDING THE MISSING CHILD

Searching for a birth and death certificate for the missing child in Allen County and Indiana state produced no results.¹¹⁴ Allen County birth records began in 1882 for those born within Fort Wayne

¹¹³ 1910 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Monroe Township, ED 17, sheet 6-B, dwelling 81, family 81, Philipp Seigle. **Document 11.**

¹¹⁴ The microfilmed indexes for Indiana births and deaths in Allen County and Indiana state from 1888-1905 were searched. No reference to unknown infant Siegel/Seigel name was found. Refer to the Philip Seigel research log for a list of these searches.

city limits and 1887 for those born outside the city limits. Death records for people who died within the city limits began in 1871, and those who died outside the city limits began in 1907. There was no requirement to record a birth or death record.¹¹⁵

Seeking cemetery records in Monroe Township located a Schlemmer Cemetery (also known as Hoffman Cemetery). In this cemetery, the Daughters of American Revolution cemetery project volunteers provided a tombstone photo and a transcription for Mary E. Siegel, born 29 June 189[?] and died 17 July 18[?].¹¹⁶ Additional research located transcribed records. The transcribed records are in alphabetical order, making it hard to identify tombstone arrangements to know where Mary's gravestone was in relation to other tombstones around hers. Grave proximity is necessary since family plots are often purchased simultaneously, and tombstones near each other may indicate family relationships.

The other three Siegel members in the cemetery are Mary's grandparents, Reichard (Richard), born 1825, and Katharina Siegel, born 1834, and Reichard's sister Anna Siegel. A search for additional records for this cemetery resulted in the same abstracted information about Mary's birth and death. The Schlemmer Cemetery has no burial records and is no longer used.

A *FindAGrave* memorial stated Mary's parents were Reichard Siegel (1873–1912) and Wilhelmina "Minnie" D. (Germann) Siegel (1876–1952).¹¹⁷ Mary's parents listed on *FindAGrave* are likely incorrect.

Reichard and Minnie were married on 5 June 1898 in Van Wert County, Ohio, twenty-three miles away from Monroeville.¹¹⁸ Minnie and Reichard resided in Reichard's father's household, Richard Siegel, according to the 1900 census for Monroe Township. Minnie, identified as a daughter-in-law, claimed one child was born to her. This child, Roland, born April 1899, was still alive.¹¹⁹

By 1910, Minnie had two children born to her. Both children were still alive on the census enumeration date; the enumeration included daughter Elanora, born in 1901.¹²⁰ If the information about Minnie bearing only two children was correct, then Mary E. Siegel possibly belongs to Philipp and Catharine Siegel.

¹¹⁵ "Birth and Death Records for Allen County, Indiana," *Allen County Indiana GenWeb Project*, 2 September 2020, <https://www.acgsi.org/genweb/county/records/birth-death-records-allen-county-indiana.html>.

¹¹⁶ Mary Penrose Wayne Chapter NSDAR, "Allen County Indiana Cemetery Project, Schlemmer Family Cemetery," *RootsWeb: P. Mary Penrose Wayne Chapter NSDAR* (<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~inallcem/monroe/schlemmer.html> : accessed 27 December 2020).

¹¹⁷ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 27 December 2020), memorial page for Mary E. Siegel (29 June - 17 July), Find A Grave Memorial no. 19338400, citing Hoffman Cemetery, Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 46897434, Trina.

¹¹⁸ "Ohio Marriage Records, 1840–1951," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org>: accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Richard Siegel to Minnie D. Germann, 5 June 1898; citing Marriage records vol. 9, 1897-1899, FHL microfilm 1,952,877, image 444.

¹¹⁹ 1900 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, enumeration district (ED) 14, sheet 5-B, dwelling 95, family 95, Richard Seigel Sr; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020).

¹²⁰ 1910 U.S. census, Van Wert County, Ohio, population schedule, Pleasant Township, enumeration district (ED) 96, sheet 3-A, dwelling 53, family 53, Minnie D. Siegel in the household of Richard Siegel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020).

PHILIP'S FATHER'S PROBATE RECORD

Probate records are an excellent source, especially if the land was involved, to determine who obtained the land and/or who purchased items at an auction to raise money to settle an estate. Probates may contain a will, a legal document created by the individual near death, outlining real and personal property distribution. Wills frequently include information on the decedent's spouse, children, and/or other property. Not everyone made a will, and not every will was recorded. Probated wills take place at the court which held jurisdiction over the deceased person's residence at the time of death.

Philipp's father, Richard, wrote his will on 20 April 1905, declaring his desire to divide his assets amongst his children:

“. . . to my beloved children; Phillip H. Siegel; Annie Hoffman; Mary Markley; George Siegel; Richard Siegel, or their legal heirs; and the legal heirs surviving, of Catharine Miller and Louisa Hoffman, deceased, all my property real, personal and mixed, of every kind. . . in fee-simple, absolute, in equal shares, (or share and share alike . . . said bequeath of real estate, shall not go as be in force and effect until after the Tenth day of October 1908. The date to which I had prior to my death or making of this will leased to my son Richard Siegel Jr., the land owned by me for a period of Four years. and it is my will that said lease be complied with.”

The witnesses were John D. Alleger, Adam Baker, and Philip Schlemmer.¹²¹

The person who writes a will, the testator, must sign the will in front of witnesses to make the will valid. The executor and witness names may hold essential information as these individuals are likely related to the deceased. For example, Philipp Schlemmer was Catharine's father.

A TIME OF CHANGE 1900-1929

In the 1920s, over half of Indiana's farm households owned vehicles, and two-thirds owned telephones. Farm women valued the advances made possible by modern transportation and communication. Before this change, their lives were more isolated and lonelier than their husbands. Women spent long hours cleaning, cooking, and sewing without this modern technology, such as washing machines, dryers, electric stoves, and ready-made clothes. Mail-order corporations offered a way for individuals to buy mass-produced consumer items, alleviating the drudgery of rural existence for many farm women and reducing their burden.¹²²

Possibly due to this increase in technology and being lured again by better land opportunities, Philipp, his wife, and two children left Indiana for Wexburg Township, Wexford County, Michigan,

¹²¹ "Allen County, Indiana, Index to Wills, 1824–1899; Inventory, 1900–1920," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 July 2021), entry for Richard Siegel Sr, 1905; citing Inventory, Nowek, Edward - Stahlhut, Charles, FHL microfilm 2,116,723, images 2237–2241. **Document 26 A-D.**

¹²² Indiana Historical Society, "Hoosiers and the American Story Chapter 5," *IndianaHistory.org*, <https://tinyurl.com/3v492yfa>.

to live on a farm he mortgaged.¹²³ Philipp's son, Charles, moved to Copemish, a town 17 minutes away, a few years later.¹²⁴

Philipp and Catharine left Michigan shortly after that, and by 1922, the couple moved in with their son, Herman, Herman's wife, Myrtle, and two kids. Everyone lived at 119 Madison Street in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana.¹²⁵ When the average house was 700 - 1000 square feet, the 1632 square foot three-bedroom, one-bathroom home was larger.¹²⁶

CHILDREN OF PHILIPP HENRY SIEGEL AND CATHARINE SCHLEMMER

- i. Charles Richard Siegel was born on 29 September 1889 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.¹²⁷ He died on 15 October 1933 in Seymour, Jackson County, Indiana,¹²⁸ and buried in Eastern Cemetery in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.¹²⁹ He married on 18 February 1913 in Marion, Grant County, Indiana, to Dovie Alice Elliott.¹³⁰
- ii. George William Siegel was born on 29 May 1893 in Allen County, Indiana.¹³¹ He died on 3 April 1980 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana,¹³² and buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in

¹²³ 1920 U.S. census, Wexford County, Michigan, population schedule, Wexford, p. 277 verso (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 223, sheet 4-B, dwelling 86, family 87, Philip Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 24 December 2020).

¹²⁴ 1920 U.S. census, Manistee Co., Mich., pop. sch., Copemish, ED 60, sheet 8-A, dwelling 1, family 1, Charles Seigel. See Generation Two for information about Charles Siegel.

¹²⁵ "Philip Henry Seigel, 85, Dies At His Home in Auburn," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 26 January 1942, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). The obituary states that the family moved to Auburn in 1922. **Document 28**. Also, 1930 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Auburn, p. 188 verso (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 17-23, sheet 14-B, dwelling 367, family 395, Phillip H. Seigel in the household of Herman Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). Also, 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Union Township, enumeration district (ED) 17-23, sheet 1-B, dwelling 119, family 9, Catherine Seigel in the household of Herman Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020).

¹²⁶ DeKalb County Assessor, "DeKalb County Parcel '170629180008000025' Detail Report," Property Tax Assessment, DeKalb County, Indiana, 2006, <http://counties.xsoftin.com/dekalb/parceldetail.aspx>.

¹²⁷ 1910 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Monroe Township, ED 17, sheet 6-B, dwelling 81, family 81, Philipp Seigle. Also, "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," database, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Charles Richard Seigel, serial no. 1132, Fort Wayne Draft Board.

¹²⁸ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Charles R. Siegel, 1933.

¹²⁹ *Find A Grave*, database and images, photograph, gravestone for Charles R. Seigel (1890 - 1933), Jefferson County, Kentucky.

¹³⁰ "Marriage Records, Circuit Court, Grant County, Indiana, 1831-1955," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Carl Seigel and Dovie Elliott, 1913.

¹³¹ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 22 October 2020), entry for George W. Seigel to Mabel M. Guilford, 22 December 1915; citing vol. 9 (to p. 203) 1915-1916, FHL microfilm 1,863,089, image 27. The marriage application shows George's full birthdate. Also, "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 12 October 2020), card for George William Seigel, serial no. 702, Wexford Township, Wexford County, Michigan Draft Board.

¹³² "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 January 2021), entry for George Siegel, 3 April 1980; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 80-012277.

Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana.¹³³ He married on 22 December 1915 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, to Mabel M. Guilford.¹³⁴

- iii. Matilda “Tillie” L. Siegel was born on 21 July 1895 in Allen County, Indiana.¹³⁵ She died on 3 July 1969 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana,¹³⁶ and buried in Roselawn Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana.¹³⁷ She married on 1 March 1916 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, to Ernest W. Bieberich.¹³⁸
- iv. John Henry Siegel was born on 23 March 1899 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.¹³⁹ He died on 2 March 1976 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana,¹⁴⁰ and buried in West Jamestown Cemetery in Jamestown Township, Steuben County, Indiana.¹⁴¹ He married (1) on 2 December 1919 in Copemish, Manistee County, Michigan, to Gladys Carpenter¹⁴² and (2) on 17 April 1922 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, to Miriam Saylor.¹⁴³
- v. Herman Philip Siegel was born on 24 May 1902 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.¹⁴⁴ He died on 11 November 1988 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana,¹⁴⁵ and buried in Woodlawn

¹³³ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 17 January 2021), memorial page for George W. Seigel (1893 - 1980), Find A Grave Memorial no. 117702872, citing Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 48070055, DLC.

¹³⁴ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for George W. Seigel to Mabel M. Guilford, 1915.

¹³⁵ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 October 2020), entry for Tillie L. Siegel to Ernest W. F. Bieberich, 1 March 1916; citing Marriage records, vol. 43, 1915-1916, FHL microfilm 2,130,027, image 146. The marriage record shows Tillie's birth date.

¹³⁶ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1900-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 October 2020), entry for Tillie L. Bieberich, 3 July 1969; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 69-024800.

¹³⁷ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 17 January 2021), memorial page for Tillie Siegel Bieberich (1895 - 1969), Find A Grave Memorial no. 141547757, citing Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 47341148, PLS.

¹³⁸ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch*, entry for Tillie Siegel to Ernest W F Bieberich, 1916.

¹³⁹ "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 12 October 2020), card for John Henry Siegel, serial no. 1961, Cadillac, Wexford County, Michigan Draft Board. Also, "U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 October 2020), entry for John Siegel; citing Beneficiary Identification Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS) Death File, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

¹⁴⁰ "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 October 2020), entry for John Henry Siegel, 2 March 1976; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 76-007362.

¹⁴¹ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 17 January 2021), memorial page for John Henry Siegel (1899 - 1976), Find A Grave Memorial no. 114761110, citing West Jamestown Cemetery, Jamestown, Steuben County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 47341148, PLS.

¹⁴² "Michigan, Marriage Records, 1867-1952," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 17 January 2021), entry for John H. Siegel to Gladys M. Carpenter, 2 December 1919; citing Michigan, Marriage Records, 1867-1952, Michigan Department of Community Health, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics.

¹⁴³ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : 17 January 2021), entry for Henry J. Siegel to Miriam Saylor, 17 April 1922; citing vol. 15, 1918-1925, FHL microfilm 4,476,654, image 162.

¹⁴⁴ "U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 March 2021), card for Herman Philip Siegel, serial no. 1345, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana Draft Board. Also, Social Security Administration, "U.S. Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 March 2021), entry for Herman Philip Siegel, 1988, SS no. 307-01-8717.

¹⁴⁵ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 22 March 2021), entry for Herman P. Siegel Sr., 11 November 1988; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 88-041721.

Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana.¹⁴⁶ He married on 16 April 1927 in Auburn, Indiana, to Myrtle Mary Kalb.¹⁴⁷

DEATH RECORDS FOR PHILIPP AND CATHARINE

Philipp and Catharine spent their retirement years watching their sixteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren grow up. Four houses from Herman's house were Philipp's daughter-in-law, Dovie Siegel, and her five children.¹⁴⁸ One block behind Herman's house was daughter Tillie and her family; sons George, Henry, and their families were two miles away.¹⁴⁹

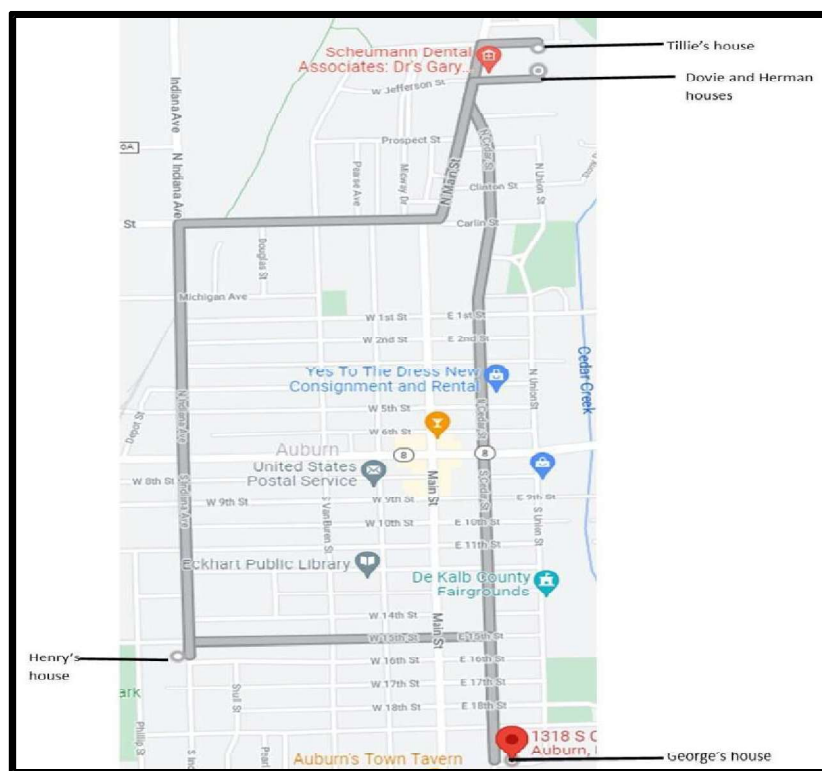


Figure 4. Street Map of Auburn, DeKalb, Indiana, <http://maps.google.com>

Also, Social Security Administration, "U.S. Social Security Death Index," *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Herman P. Seigel, SS no. 307-01-8717.

¹⁴⁶ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 22 March 2021), memorial page for Herman P. Seigel (1902-1988), Find A Grave Memorial no. 90226054, citing Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 4763070, Natalie.

¹⁴⁷ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Herman P. Siegel to Myrtle M. Kalb, 1943.

¹⁴⁸ 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb Co., Ind., pop. sch., Union Township, ED 17-23, sheet 1-A, dwelling 119, family 9, Phillip and Catherine Seigel. Also, 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb Co., Ind., pop. sch., Union Township, ED 17-23, sheet 1-A, dwelling 112, family 2, Dovie Siegel. Dovie lived 180 feet from her brother-in-law, Herman Siegel with his family; her sister, Tillie Bieberich; her brother, George Siegel; and her in-laws, Phillip and Catharine Siegel.

¹⁴⁹ 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Union Township, p. 233 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 17-23, sheet 1-B, dwelling 120, family 15, Ernest Bieberich; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020). Also, 1940 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Indiana, population schedule, Union Township, p. 302 (verso), enumeration district (ED) 17-26, sheet 13-B, dwelling 1318, family 291, George W. Seigel; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020).

PHILIPP'S DEATH

Philipp's death certificate, found on *Ancestry.com*, was largely illegible except for the cause of death. Another copy from the DeKalb County Clerk's office confirmed the semi-illegible information. Philipp Henry Siegel died in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, on 23 January 1942 at eighty-five years and seven months. His birth occurred in Ohio, and his parents were unknown. The informant was George Siegel (son). The burial was at Roselawn Cemetery in Auburn.¹⁵⁰

Philipp's obituary in the *Garrett Clipper* stated that he died in his son Herman's home at 119 Madison Street in Auburn and was a Trinity English Lutheran church member. The funeral was held at the house, and the burial was in Roselawn cemetery. The obituary stated Philipp was "born in Holmes County, O. (Ohio) on 22 June 1856 and moved to Auburn in 1922 from Harlan, Michigan. He spent most of his life in Allen County, near Monroeville. He and Catharine Schlemmer were married on 23 August 1888. Surviving is the widow and four children: Mrs. Ernest Bieberich, George Seigel, Henry Seigel, and Herman Seigel, along with sixteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren."¹⁵¹

CATHARINE'S DEATH

Catharine's poor health over the years and her age contributed to her death. She died over a year after her husband, Philipp, on 17 May 1943, in Herman's home from chronic myocarditis, chronic interstitial myocarditis, and heart inflammation.¹⁵²

According to her obituary, Catharine's funeral occurred at Trinity Lutheran Church in Auburn. She was laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery. Catharine was born in Allen County (Indiana) on 28 April 1863. She reached her eightieth birthday. Her husband was Philipp Siegel, whom she married in August 1888. Survivors include sons Herman, George, and Henry; daughter Tillie Bieberich; brother Chas. Schlemmer.¹⁵³ Philipp and Catharine lie together at Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁰ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020), entry for Philip Henry Seigel, 23 January 1942; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 598. **Document 27A.** Also, DeKalb County Health Department, death certificate 1942-010 (1942), Philip Henry Seigel; copy privately held by the author. **Document 27B.**

¹⁵¹ "Philip Henry Seigel, 85," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 26 January 1942, p. 1, col. 2. **Document 28.**

¹⁵² "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 December 2020), entry for Kathryn Seigel, 17 May 1943, Auburn; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 14754. **Document 29.**

¹⁵³ "Services were held. . . Mrs. Catherine Seigel," *Garrett Clipper* (Indiana), 20 May 1943, p. 5, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 27 March 2021). **Document 30.**

¹⁵⁴ *Find a Grave*, database and images, (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 24 December 2020), memorial page for Phillip Seigel (1856-1942), Find A Grave Memorial no. 141551301, citing Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 47341148, PLS. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 24 December 2020), memorial page for Catharine Seigel (1863-1943), Find A Grave Memorial no. 141551272, citing Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor 47341148, PLS.

SUMMARY

Philipp Heinrich Siegel's parents were identified as Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach by a baptism record, census records, and his father, Richard Siegel's, will. Philipp Siegel's birthday and location is 22 June 1856, in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio, confirmed by his baptismal record, church confirmation record, an entry for Early Births in DeKalb County, and a death certificate. Philipp married Catharine Schlemmer on 23 August 1888 in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana. Philipp Schlemmer and Catharina Scär are Catharine's parents. Philipp died on 23 January 1942 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, and Catharine died on 17 May 1943 in Auburn, Indiana. Philipp and Catharine had five children.

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Search for not-in-use cemeteries in Winesburg and Paint Township for the burial location for Carl Siegel and Johannes Siegel, Richard Siegel, and Catharine Reidenbach's children.
- On-site research in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, to locate church records for Schlemmer Church, also known as Zion German Lutheran Church. Some repositories are unable to locate the record collection. A personal visit may aid in determining the location of these records.
- Research Catharine Schlemmer's parents, Philipp Schlemmer and Catharina Scär, to extend the pedigree line on both sides.

FOURTH - GENERATION – JOHANN REICHARD “RICHARD” SIEGEL

A baptismal certificate, a church confirmation document, census data, and a will from Richard Siegel established the preceding generation, naming Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach as Philipp Heinrich Siegel’s parents. As a result, the final generation focuses on Johann Reichard (Richard) Siegel.

BAPTISMAL RECORD

Without information about Richard’s birthplace, studying collateral ancestors may provide the necessary information about the direct line ancestor. For example, research on Richard’s sister, Anna, led to her obituary. Her obituary stated she was born in Meckenbach, Meisenheim Glan, Coblenz, Rheinland, Preussen.¹⁵⁵ This information led to Johann Reichard Siegel’s baptismal record.¹⁵⁶

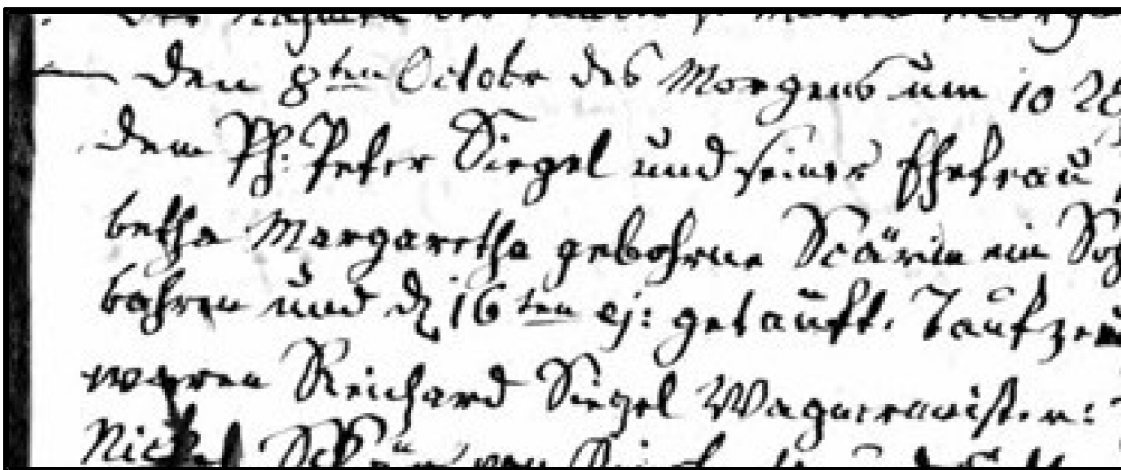


Figure 5. Johann Reichard Siegel baptism, *Ancestry.com*

The translated record states:

On the 8th of October (1825) in the morning at 10 o'clock, a son of Pastor Peter Siegel and his wife, Elisabetha Margaretha, née Scär, was born, and on the 16th of the same month was baptized. Baptismal witnesses were Reichard Siegel, master wagon builder, and Johann Nickel Sckär from Kirschroth, and Catharina, the legitimate daughter of Johann Nicolaus Küstner. The name of the child is Johann Reichard.

¹⁵⁵ "Obituary Miss Anna E. Siegel," *The Monroeville Breeze* (Indiana), 31 October 1907, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 21 April 2021).

¹⁵⁶ "Rhineland, Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1533-1950," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 April 2021), entry for Johann Reichard Siegel, 8 October 1825, Meckenbach; citing *Lutherische Kirchenbücher, 1533-1950, Evangelisches Kirchenbuchamt Hannover*, Film Number: 493213, p. 13. **Document 31 A-B.**

Additional information on the baptismal record showed Richard emigrated to America around 1846 and died there.

German naming customs stated the child received two given names at birth. During a child's baptism, the first given name was considered spiritual. The second given name was the child's common name.¹⁵⁷ Johann Reichard Siegel became Richar Siegel.

FAMILY RECORD BOOK

Another source to prove family units is Ortsfamilienbuch (a town family book), which includes information about birth, marriage, and death data for all people discovered in local records assembled into families during a specific time. Possible sources for this information include local parish registers, civil registration documents, court and land records, and occasionally published material. The value of Ortsfamilienbuch saves researchers time by automating reconstructing family histories vs. performing the same research by hand.¹⁵⁸

Johann Reichard Siegel's family unit appears in the Ortsfamilienbuch for Meckenbach, Germany, in Philipp Peter Siegel and Elisabeth Scär household, which includes Richard's siblings, proving family relationships.¹⁵⁹

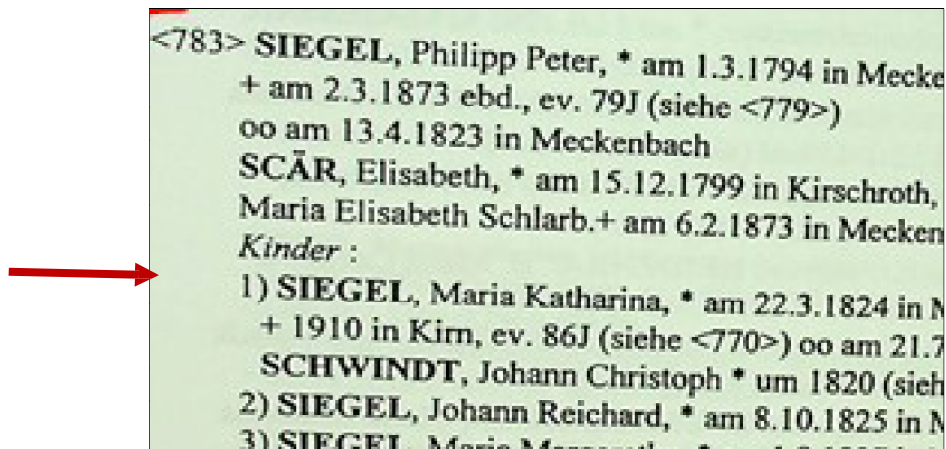


Figure 6. Meckenbach Ortsfamilienbuch, *Family History Library*

PASSENGER LIST AND IMMIGRATION

While Germany and thirty-eight nations were forming the German Confederation, Germans either fled Germany to avoid persecution or pursue better economic opportunities. Those who suffered

¹⁵⁷ Charles F. Kerchner, Jr., "18th Century PA German Naming Customs," *Penn Pal, Newsletter Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Chapter of Palatines to America*, vol. 38, February 2018, <https://tinyurl.com/2ta9x3wx>.

¹⁵⁸ J. Knodel and E. Shorter, "The Reliability of Family Reconstruction Data in German Village," *Annales de démographie historique* (1976), 115; electronic edition, *JSTOR* (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/44384524>; accessed 9 May 2021).

¹⁵⁹ K. Herbert Küstner and Paul Gerhard Wagner, *Einwohner in Meckenbach* (Verbandsgemeinde Kirm-Land, 1999), 278; citing FHL Book 943.42 M15 D2k. **Document 32.**

land seizures, joblessness, and expanded rivalry from British products learned about better opportunities in America. In the late 1840s, many German immigrants arrived in the United States due to Germany's political upheaval.¹⁶⁰ Richard's family left Germany during this difficult time.

Passenger lists offer information about an immigrant, such as where they originated from, the ship's name, which ports the ship arrived at, and personal information such as name, age, gender, occupation, and nationality. Over time, as more immigrants arrived in America, more information about them became available.

A passenger list for Richard, age sixteen, stated he left Hessen, Germany (part of Landgraviate of Hesse-Homburg), along with possible other family members (Richard Siegel, forty-seven; Charles Siegel, twelve; Catharina Siegel, ten; and Philipp Siegel, eight). After leaving Hessen by carriage or train, the group boarded their ship (Burgundy) in Le Havre, France, and arrived in New York on 21 June 1843.¹⁶¹ A passenger list occasionally includes information on the desired destination.

However, the only question answered on this passenger list was which country the person wished to become a resident of. In this case, it's the United States.

MIGRATION

A search for German migration in the United States may aid in determining where the Siegel families moved to after landing in New York. The first large German immigration began around 1710 and lasted until the end of the Revolutionary War. This group resided in the Atlantic states. In 1825, the second immigration wave migrated to the Midwest, following the Ohio, Missouri, and Mississippi valleys. One German community developed in Zoar, Tuscarawas County, Ohio.¹⁶²

CENSUS RECORDS

Beginning in Ohio for censuses records to locate Richard Siegel resulted in two men named Richard Siegel. Both men lived in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio, in 1850. One Richard was fifty-three, a farmer, and with a family. The other Richard was twenty-five, a blacksmith who lived next to John Reidenbach's family.¹⁶³

Richard, fifty-three, possibly had two children living with him – Charles, twenty, and Philipp, fifteen. All three men's names and ages in this family coincide with those who immigrated together in 1843 (Richard Siegel, forty-seven; Charles Siegel, twelve; and Philipp Siegel, eight). The other Richard is age twenty-five. When the younger Richard immigrated with the others, he was about sixteen years old. However, we don't know who provided the census enumerator with the age information.

¹⁶⁰ Beth Waterhouse, "Homes on the Prairie," *PBS*, <https://tinyurl.com/dbvseb3>.

¹⁶¹ "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 2 April 2021), manifest, *Burgundy*, LaHavre, France to New York City, arriving 21 June 1843, p. 2, Richard Siegel and family. **Document 33**.

¹⁶² Dieter Cunz, "The German Americans: Immigration and Integration," *One America, The History, Contributions, and Present Problems of Our Racial and National Minorities*, (New York: Prentice Hall, Inc., Third Edition, 1952), <https://tinyurl.com/4ct5rrcf>.

¹⁶³ 1850 U.S. census, Holmes County, Ohio, population schedule, Paint Township, p. 327 verso (stamped), dwelling 1078, family 1103, Richard Zeakle (indexed as Hakel); digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 26 December 2020). Richard, 53, and a farmer. Also, 1850 U.S. census, Holmes County, Ohio, population schedule, Paint Township, p. 329 verso (stamped), dwelling 1097, family 1122, Richard Zeakle; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 26 December 2020). Richard, 25, blacksmith, and lived next to John Reidenbach.

Therefore, Richard, aged twenty-five, living next to John Reidenbach's household, is the correct focus for this generational report.

MARRIAGE

Singles and widows/widowers had few choices when it came to courtship. The population on the frontier was sparse, and men had one or two viable options within a day's horseback ride. As a result, singles met in different ways: church, social gatherings, school, or through their parents. Luckily for Richard, he lived on the same farm or was a next-door neighbor to John Reidenbach and his family.¹⁶⁴ John's seventeen-year-old daughter, Catharine, married Richard on 10 January 1850 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio.¹⁶⁵

COUNTY HISTORY BOOKS

County history books are usually excellent sources for genealogical research. In the 1880s and 1890s, they were popular since they contained information on county history, often before American settlement, and were helpful for students studying local history. In addition, most included biographies for prominent or wealthy local citizens.

Searching county history books for Holmes County, Ohio; Tuscarawas County, Ohio; and Van Wert County, Ohio, includes no information about Siegel and Schlemmer families. However, two books, *History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties, Ohio*, and *History of Van Wert County, Ohio, and Representative Citizens*, did include the Reidenbach family, Catharine's family. In the *History of Van Wert County, Ohio, and Representative Citizens*, Peter Hertz married Mary M. Germann, Henry Germann, and Anna Reidenbach's daughter.¹⁶⁶

In *History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties, Ohio*, "Henry Jacob Germann was born on 22 January 1790, in Berweiler (Bärwiler), a Prussian village. He married Ann Elizabeth Reidenbach in 1810, immigrated to America in 1834, and settled in Holmes County, Ohio. During the fall of 1839, Henry and Anna's family relocated to Van Wert County, Ohio. In 1840, daughter Mary Germann married Peter Hertz."¹⁶⁷ Using the Reidenbach family's German origins led to a baptismal record for Catharine Reidenbach in Bärwiler.

CATHARINE REIDENBACH BIRTH

A search on *Ancestry.com* for "Rhineland, Germany Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials 1533-1950" located Catharine's baptismal record. Catharine was born on 9 February 1834 in

¹⁶⁴ 1850 U.S. census, Holmes Co., Ohio, pop. sch., Paint Township, p. 329 verso (stamped), Richard Zeakle.

¹⁶⁵ "Ohio, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1774-1993," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 March 2021), entry for Richard Seigle to Catharine Reidenback, 10 January 1850; citing Ohio Marriages, Various Ohio County Courthouses. **Document 34.**

¹⁶⁶ Thaddeus Stephens Gilliland, *History of Van Wert County, Ohio and Representative Citizens* (Chicago: Richmond & Arnold, 1906), 717-718, <https://tinyurl.com/476z7dje>.

¹⁶⁷ *History of Van Wert and Mercer Counties, Ohio* (Wapakoneta, O. (Ohio): R. Sutton & Co., 1882), 232, 235-236, <https://tinyurl.com/zn2jdfa6>.

Bärwiler, Meisenheim, Rhineland, Prussia, and was baptized on 16 February (1834). Her parents are Joh.(Johann) Nicholas Reidenbach and Catharine Scär.¹⁶⁸

LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

Catharine's father, John Nicholas, possibly as a wedding gift, gave the couple half an acre of land on lot twenty-eight in Paint Township, which John Nicholas obtained from Jonas Harshberger.¹⁶⁹

“... except a half an acre out of the north west corner of Said lot which has been conveyed by the Said Jonas Harshberger & wife to one Nicholas Ridenbach by deed bearing date the 20th day of April A D 1850 = the quantity of Land conveyed in this deed is estimated to contain forty nine acres and thirteen perches be the Same more or less.”

According to the Holmes County, Ohio deed index, there is no recording of Richard obtaining the land from his father-in-law by other means.¹⁷⁰

Two years later, the couple welcomed their first baby girl, Catharine “Kate” Siegel, in 1852.¹⁷¹ Also, this same year, Richard walked into the Common Pleas Court and proved to the court's satisfaction he had resided in the United States for five years and was an Ohio resident for at least one year. Accordingly, the court filled out the naturalization form and granted Richard citizenship in the United States.¹⁷²

Richard and Catharine had at least nine more children between 1853 and 1873: Carl, born in 1853; Johannes, born in 1854; Philipp Henry, born in 1856; Anna Carolina, born in 1859; Louise, born in 1861; Mary, born in 1864; George, born in 1867; and Richard, born in 1873.¹⁷³

Richard worked as a blacksmith, a vital trade for the village, for most of his life.¹⁷⁴ As talented craftspeople during the 1800s, blacksmiths offered significant assistance to growing communities. Rural blacksmiths had the option to work in distinct sorts of smithing. The more diverse a

¹⁶⁸ "Rhineland, Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1533-1950," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 April 2021), entry for Katharina Reidenbach, 9 February 1834, Bärweiler; citing Lutherische Kirchenbücher, 1533-1950, Evangelisches Kirchenbuchamt Hannover, Film Number: 493212, p. 37.

Document 35 A-B.

¹⁶⁹ Holmes County, Ohio, Deed Records vol. 20 (1853–1855), p. 212, Jonas Hershberger to Samuel Hoover, 20 April 1854; digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org>: accessed 24 February 2021); citing FHL microfilm 432,039, image 424. The deed mentions, “except half an acre out of the north west corner of Said lot which has been conveyed by the Said Jonas Harshberger & wife to one Nicholas Ridenbach.” **Document 36 A-B.**

¹⁷⁰ The deed indexes microfilmed for Holmes County, Ohio, from 1845–1885 were searched. No reference to Richard Siegel/Seigel obtaining land from any grantor. For a list of these volumes, see the Holmes County, Ohio Records of Deeds list at *FamilySearch.org* (<https://tinyurl.com/2p8pdufn> : accessed 24 February 2021).

¹⁷¹ Colorado State Archives, 1899 Death Book, death record for Catharine Miller, 1 September 1899; copy of death record in author's possession.

¹⁷² Holmes County, Ohio, Court of Common Pleas, Journals, vols. 8-9, 1850-1852, entry for Richard Siegel; citing FHL microfilm 1,294,029, image 246.

¹⁷³ Author, “Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach family group sheet,” created 21 September 2021.

¹⁷⁴ 1850 U.S. census, Holmes Co., Ohio, pop. sch., Paint Township, p. 329 verso (stamped), Richard Zeakle. Also, 1860 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Monroe Township, p. 187 (handwritten), dwelling 1098, family 1252, Richard Siegel.

metalworker's expertise, the more important he was to the community. Blacksmiths generally centered around making and fixing ranch gear, shoeing horses, making cooking wares, and dealing with vehicle equipment. The community would rely upon the blacksmith to make and fix most of the equipment families utilized each day.¹⁷⁵

After the Civil War, America saw an increase in goods manufacturing. As a result, people could purchase mass-produced products at lower prices, which decreased the demand for products made by the local blacksmith.¹⁷⁶

Possibly for better opportunities, Richard and Catharine sold their half-acre in Paint Township on 4 April 1857 and moved to Bucks Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio.¹⁷⁷ The family lived in the area for a few years. By the spring of 1862, they joined the Scär and some Schlemmer families in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana.¹⁷⁸

By 1870, Richard's occupation was a farmer.¹⁷⁹ "In the 1800s, each farmer grew enough food yearly to feed three to five people, and ninety percent of the population lived on farms."¹⁸⁰ Richard's farm, located on section twenty-eight,¹⁸¹ included thirty improved and fifty wooded acres, valued at \$3,000 (about \$65,000 in 2021).¹⁸²

On Richard's farm were two horses, five milch cows, two other cows, twenty sheep, and eleven swine. He grew winter wheat, hay, Indian corn, oats, and Irish potatoes. In addition, the family harvested sixty pounds of wool, made three hundred pounds of butter, and maintained a small orchard.¹⁸³

Over ten more years, Richard added fifteen more improved acres. As a result, the farm's value increased to \$4,000 (about \$111,000 in 2021). Richard continued the same crops as before, adding

¹⁷⁵ The Farmer's Museum, "Field Blacksmith Shop," *HarvestofHistory.org*, 2017, <https://tinyurl.com/vmp8vak2>.

¹⁷⁶ Y. U. Oladimeji, "Potentials of and the Socio-Economic Benefits of Blacksmithing Production in Promoting Agricultural Development and Poverty Alleviation in Kwara State, Nigeria," *International Journal of Modern Engineering Research*, vol. 3, Issue. 6, November - December 2013 pp. 3809-3817, <https://tinyurl.com/vtcwfey3>.

¹⁷⁷ Holmes Co., Oh., Deed Records 27: 506–507. Also, 1860 U.S. census, Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, pop. sch., Bucks Township, p. 187 [handwritten], Richard Segel.

¹⁷⁸ 1870 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, population schedule, Monroe Township, p. 582 (stamped) and p. 13 (handwritten), dwelling 93, family 91, Richard Segal; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 24 December 2020).

¹⁷⁹ 1870 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., pop. sch., Monroe Township, p. 13 (handwritten), Richard Segal.

¹⁸⁰ Waterhouse, "A Sustainable Future."

¹⁸¹ Allen County, Indiana, Deed Book vol. 33 (1863-1864), p. 448, Jacob and Elizabeth Crabill to Richard Siegel, 12 April 1862; digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 20 April 2021); citing FHL 4,165,592, image 539.

¹⁸² Samuel H. Williamson, "Purchasing Power Today of a US Dollar Transaction in the Past," *Measuring Worth.com*, 2021, <https://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/ppowerus/>.

¹⁸³ 1870 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, agricultural schedule, Monroe Township, page 7–8, line 9, Richard Seigle; Michael Vetman, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana (archives@iara.in.gov) to author, e-mail, 12 January 2021, "Agriculture and State Census," Personal Correspondence Folder, Siegel Research Files; privately held by author, (email withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

clover grass, chickens, sorghum (to make molasses), and an apple orchard.¹⁸⁴ On the same agricultural census page with Richard are Philip Schlemmer and John Scär.¹⁸⁵

During Richard's time in Monroeville, he became involved in his community by voting for local officials, serving on a Grand Jury, and being elected School Director for Schlemmer No. 7.¹⁸⁶

Richard returned to Germany to bring only one sister, Anna Elizabeth Siegel,¹⁸² to the United States. They arrived on 22 February 1883 aboard the ship *S.S. Nederland*.¹⁸⁷ She lived with Richard and his family until she died in 1907.¹⁸⁸

Ten years later, in May 1893, Richard and Catharine had their son, George, assessed by a judge, the judge's assistant, and two physicians, believing George had gone insane. Following the examination, they determined placement in a mental institution was necessary.¹⁸⁹

CHILDREN OF JOHANN RICHARD SIEGEL AND CATHARINE REIDENBACH

- i. Catharine Siegel was born about 1852, possibly in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio.¹⁹⁰ She died on 1 September 1899 in Denver, Arapahoe County, Colorado, and buried at Fairmount Cemetery in Denver, Colorado.¹⁹¹ She married on 11 July 1876 in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, to Henry Miller.¹⁹²
- ii. Carl Siegel was born on 27 January 1853 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio,¹⁹³ and baptized on 10 April 1853.¹⁹⁴ He died on 22 September 1853 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio.¹⁹⁵

¹⁸⁴ 1880 U.S. census, Allen County, Indiana, agricultural schedule, Monroe Township, page 9, enumeration district (ED) 112, line 5, Richard Siegle; Michael Vetman, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana (archives@iara.in.gov) to author, e-mail, 12 January 2021, "Agriculture and State Census," Personal Correspondence Folder, Siegel Research Files; privately held by author, (email withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

¹⁸⁵ 1880 U.S. census, Allen Co., Ind., agr. sch. Monroe Township, p. 9, Richard Siegle, Philip Schlemmer, and John Scar.

¹⁸⁶ Allen County, Indiana, "Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, Records, Poll Book, 1863," *Allen County Genealogical Society* (<https://www.acgsi.org/monroe/monroe.050.php> : accessed 21 April 2021), pg. 1. Also, The Monroeville Alumni Display Committee, Preserving the History of Monroe Township Schools, (Monroeville), 28; citing "Allen County Township Schools-Monroe Townships," *Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center* (<https://tinyurl.com/5czxkr9e> : accessed 21 April 2021). Also, "Tuesday: Grand Jury" news article, *Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette* (Indiana), 1 February 1894, p. 10, col. 3; digital images, *Newspapers.com*, (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 21 April 2021).

¹⁸⁷ "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 April 2021), manifest, *Nederland*, Antwerp, Belgium to New York City, arriving 22 February 1883, p. 1, Richard Siegel and Anna Siegel.

¹⁸⁸ "Obituary Miss Anna E. Siegel," *The Monroeville Breeze* (Indiana), 31 October 1907, p. 1, col. 5.

¹⁸⁹ "Your Honor, Esq. J. D. Alleger. . .," *The Monroeville Breeze* (Indiana), 25 May 1893, p. 5, col. 3; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com> : accessed 26 March 2021).

¹⁹⁰ Holmes Co., Oh., Deed record, vol. 27 1865-1866, 506-507. Catharine's parents, Richard and Catharine Siegel, sell lot 28 in Section 4, Township 10, Range 5 in Paint Township on 4 April 1857. No record close to Catharine's birth date shows when she was born. Her parents sell their land in Paint Township, showing their residency at the time of her birth.

¹⁹¹ Colorado State Archives, 1899 Death Book, death record for Catharine Miller, 1 Sep. 1899.

¹⁹² "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 March 2021), entry for Henry Miller to Catharine Siegel, 11 July 1876; citing vols. 12-14, 1876-1882, FHL microfilm 2,111,520, image 48.

¹⁹³ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 47. Baptismal Sponsors: Carl Singel, Maria Elizabeth Reidenbach.

¹⁹⁴ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 47.

- iii. Johannes Siegel was born on 21 November 1854 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio,¹⁹⁶ and baptized on 11 January 1855.¹⁹⁷ He died on 26 April 1855 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio.¹⁹⁸
- iv. Philipp Heinrich Siegel was born on 22 June 1856 in Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio,¹⁹⁹ and baptized on 24 August 1856.²⁰⁰ He died on 23 January 1942 in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, and buried at Roselawn Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana.²⁰¹ He married on 23 August 1888 in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, to Catharine Schlemmer.²⁰²
- v. Anna Carolina Siegel was born on 9 April 1859, possibly in Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio.²⁰³ She died on 27 January 1922 in Pleasant, Van Wert County, Ohio,²⁰⁴ and buried at Evangelical Protestant Cemetery in Harrison Township, Van Wert County, Ohio.²⁰⁵ She married on 24 November 1883 in Allen County, Indiana, to John Jacob Hofmann.²⁰⁶
- vi. Louise Siegel was born on 29 November 1861 in Winesburg, Holmes County, Ohio,²⁰⁷ and baptized on 16 March 1862.²⁰⁸ She died on 29 November 1901 in Pleasant Township, Van Wert County, Ohio,²⁰⁹ and buried at Evangelical Protestant Cemetery in Harrison Township, Van Wert County, Ohio.²¹⁰ She married on 25 July 1889 in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, to Martin Henry Hofmann.²¹¹

¹⁹⁵ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 47. No source for his burial was found.

¹⁹⁶ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 52. Sponsors John Germann from Van Wert Co. O. and wife Maria (Youngermann).

¹⁹⁷ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 52.

¹⁹⁸ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 52. No source of his burial was found.

¹⁹⁹ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 57. Also, "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Philip Henry Seigel, 1942. Also, Allen Franz (afranz@mail.com) to the author, "Church Records for Siegel/Seigel family," e-mail, 20 March 2021.

²⁰⁰ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 57. Sponsors: Phillip Singel and Margaretha Reidenbach.

²⁰¹ "Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for Philip Henry Seigel, 1942.

²⁰² "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Philip Siegel to Catharine Slemmer, 1888.

²⁰³ "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.FamilySearch.org>; accessed 24 March 2021), entry for Anna C. Hoffman, 27 January 1922; citing Deaths, file no. 5801-8750, 1922, FHL microfilm 1,991,911, image 181. Death certificate states Wooster, Ohio. No church record was found for a baptism. Richard and his family lived in Bucks Township by the 1860 census enumeration date. Richard sold his land in Paint Township prior to Anna's birth.

²⁰⁴ "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Anna C Hoffman, 1922.

²⁰⁵ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 24 March 2021), memorial page for Anna C. Hofmann (1859 - 1922), Find A Grave Memorial no. 83142686, citing Evangelical Protestant Cemetery, Conway, Van Wert County, Ohio; memorial page is maintained by contributor 50149249, Boston Bulldog. Also, Ohio Genealogical Society, Van Wert Chapter, *Van Wert County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions* (Van Wert: Ohio Genealogical Society, Van Wert County Chapter, 1992), 150; citing FHL book 977.1413 v3v vol. 5.

²⁰⁶ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 March 2021), entry for Anna Caroline Siegal to John Jacob Hoffman, 25 November 1883; citing Marriage records, vols. 15-17, 1882-1890, FHL microfilm 2,111,521, image 215.

²⁰⁷ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 74.

²⁰⁸ Dickinson, *Winesburg, Ohio, Birth Records: 1833-1897*, 74.

²⁰⁹ "Death Records, 1867-1908 (Van Wert County, Ohio)," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Lucy Hofman, 29 November 1901; citing Death Records, 1867-1908, FHL microfilm 1,015,858, image 439.

²¹⁰ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for Louise "Lucy" Siegel Hofmann (1861 - 1901), Find A Grave Memorial no. 83466382, citing Evangelical Protestant

- vii. Mary Siegel was born on 4 May 1864 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.²¹² She died on 13 December 1932 in Harrison Township, Van Wert County, Ohio,²¹³ and buried in Evangelical Protestant Cemetery in Harrison Township, Van Wert County, Ohio.²¹⁴ She married on 16 June 1895 in Union Township, Allen County, Indiana, to William Merkle.²¹⁵
- viii. George Siegel was born on 5 July 1867 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.²¹⁶ He died on 11 April 1940 in Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana,²¹⁷ and buried in Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana.²¹⁸ He never married.²¹⁹
- ix. Reichard “Richard” Siegel was born on 10 October 1873 in Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana.²²⁰ He died on 18 August 1912 in Pleasant Township, Van Wert County, Ohio,²²¹ and buried in Evangelical Protestant Cemetery in Harrison Township, Van Wert County, Ohio.²²² He married on 5 June 1898, in Van Wert County, Ohio, to Wilhelmina “Minnie” D. Germann.²²³

Cemetery, Conway, Van Wert County, Ohio; memorial page is maintained by contributor #46859310, Corgilover. Also, Ohio Genealogical Society, Van Wert Chapter, *Van Wert County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions*, 151.

²¹¹ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Louise Siegal to Henry Martin Hoffman, 25 July 1889; citing Marriage Records, vol. 1888-1892, FHL microfilm 2,111,522, image 137.

²¹² "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Mary Siegal to William Merkle, 16 June 1895; citing Marriage Applications, vols. SM1-SN2, 1893-1896, FHL microfilm 2,130,632, images 229–231. The marriage register states Mary's age and her parents' names. Also, "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953" digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org>: accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Mary Merkle, 13 December 1932; citing Deaths, file no. 74201-76379, 1932, FHL microfilm 1,992,774, image 1570.

²¹³ "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953" digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Mary Merkle, 1932.

²¹⁴ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for Mary Siegel Merkle (1864–1932), Find A Grave Memorial no. 83429421, citing Evangelical Protestant Cemetery, Conway, Van Wert County, Ohio; memorial page is maintained by contributor #46859310, Corgilover.

²¹⁵ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2019," digital images, *FamilySearch.org* entry for Mary Siegal to William Merkle, 1895.

²¹⁶ "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 26 March 2021), entry for George Siegel, 11 April 1940; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 14914.

²¹⁷ "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2011," digital images, *Ancestry.com*, entry for George Siegel, 1940.

²¹⁸ *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for George Siegel (1867–1940), Find A Grave Memorial no. 101337472, citing Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is maintained by contributor #47070645, OPPSheryl.

²¹⁹ "Your Honor, Esq. J. D. Alleger. . .," *The Monroeville Breeze* (Indiana), 25 May 1893, p. 5, col. 3. The death certificate shows George died at the asylum hospital.

²²⁰ "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953" digital images, *FamilySearch.org* (<https://www.familysearch.org>: accessed 26 March 2021), entry for Reichard Siegel, 18 August 1912; citing Deaths, 1910-1923, FHL microfilm 1,952,877, image 334.

²²¹ "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953" digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Reichard Siegel, 1912. Also, "Farmer's Death Follows Accident," *The Fort Wayne Sentinel* (Indiana), 20 August 1912, p. 5, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com>: accessed 26 March 2021).

²²² *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for Richard Siegel (1873–1912), Find A Grave Memorial no. 83260058, citing Evangelical Protestant Cemetery, Conway, Van Wert County, Ohio; memorial page is created by Corgilover, maintained by contributor #49591729, Shelley Jo Boitnott. Also, Ohio Genealogical Society, Van Wert Chapter, *Van Wert County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions*, 151.

²²³ "Ohio Marriage Records, 1840–1951," digital images, *FamilySearch.org*, entry for Richard Siegel to Minnie D. Germann, 1898.

LATER YEARS

Catharine was afflicted for many years and eventually died from consumption (tuberculosis) on 14 December 1896.²²⁴ Tuberculosis was one of the leading causes of death in the United States, killing one in seven people at the time. Victims experienced extreme coughing, crippling lung pain, fatigue, and wasting away. Initially thought of as a hereditary disease, Robert Koch's discovery determined the disease was bacteria-based and spread through a single cough or sneeze by the infected person.²²⁵ Catharine's funeral occurred at the German Lutheran Church in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, and was laid to rest at the Schlemmer Family Cemetery.²²⁶ The only information found about Catharine's death was in her obituary, as stated above. Death certificates in Allen County, Indiana, started in 1870, with general compliance after 1917. The clerk's office was unable to locate Catharine's death record.

Less than seven years later, Richard developed paralysis²²⁷ and wrote his will on 20 April 1905, declaring his desire to divide his assets.²²⁸

DATE: 20 April 1905

PROBATED: 3 October 1905

DEVICES AND BEQUESTS:

“. . . to my beloved children: Phillip H. Siegel; Annie Hoffman; Mary Markley; George Siegel; Richard Siegel, or their legal heirs; and the legal heirs surviving, of Catharine Miller and Louisa Hoffman, deceased, all my property real, personal and mixed, of every kind and description, they to have and to hold the same in fee-simple, absolute, in equal shares, (or share and share alike. They to hold or dispose of the same and divide the proceeds derived from the sale of such property or they may deem best, proper and to their best interest.

. . . said bequeath of real estate, shall not go as be in force and effect until after the Tenth day of
or making of this will

October 1908. The date to which I had prior to my death ^ leased to my son Richard Siegel, Jr., the land owned by me for a period of Four years. and it is my will that said lease be complied [*sic*] with. I hereby appoint my beloved son, Richard Siegel, Jr., executor of this my last will.”

EXECUTOR(S): Richard Siegel, Jr.

SIGNED: Richard SIEGEL (his mark X)

WITNESS: Adam Baker and Philip Schlemmer (signed)

PROBATE: Recorded on pages 387-388 of the Record of Wills No. 12.²²⁹

²²⁴ “Monroeville, Ind.....Mrs. Richard Siegle,” *Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette* (Indiana), 24 December 1896, p. 4, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com>: accessed 26 March 2021). **Document 37.**

²²⁵ “The American Lung Association Crusade: Early Research and Treatment of Tuberculosis in the 19th Century,” *University of Virginia*, 2007, <http://exhibits.hsl.virginia.edu/alav/tuberculosis/>.

²²⁶ “Monroeville, Ind. . . .Mrs. Richard Siegle,” *Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette* (Indiana), 24 December 1896, p. 4, col. 4. Also, *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for Catherina Reidenbach Siegel, (1834–1896), Find A Grave Memorial no. 19338460, citing Hoffman Cemetery, Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor #46897434, Trina.

²²⁷ “Seigel,” *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* (Indiana), 16 September 1905, p. 2, col. 4; digital images, *Newspaper Archive.com* (<https://newspaperarchive.com>: accessed 23 March 2021). **Document 38.** Also, “Richard Seigel, Well Known Allen County Farmer, Is Dead,” *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* (Indiana), 15 September 1905, p. 10, col. 1; digital images, *Newspaper Archive.com* (<https://newspaperarchive.com>: accessed 23 March 2021).

²²⁸ Allen County, Indiana, "Index to Wills, 1824–1899; Inventory, 1900–1920, Inventory, Nowek, Edward - Stahlhut, Charles," entry for Richard Siegel Sr, 1905. **Document 26 A-D.**

On 13 September 1905, Richard died from encephalitis (brain inflammation).²³⁰ His funeral service occurred at Zion Lutheran Church,²³¹ and his burial was at Schlemmer Family Cemetery in Monroe Township, Indiana.²³²

SUMMARY

- The four-generation report's objective was to document and prove the patrilineal kinship of Waneta Reath Siegel to her great-grandfather, Johann Richard Siegel, and provide a research report placing the family in a specific time and place.
- Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach immigrated separately from Meckenbach and Bärweiler, Prussia, to Paint Township, Holmes County, Ohio; to Bucks Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and finally to Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana, with every move possibly looking for better farmland. Richard and Catharine had ten children born to them.
- Both Siegel and Reidenbach families remained close and continued to move to new areas together.
- Richard and Catharine's son, Philipp Siegel, married Catharine Schlemmer on 23 August 1888 in Indiana. Philipp and Catharine remained in Monroe Township, Allen County, raising their five children until about 1940, when they moved in with their son, Herman Philip Siegel. Herman lived near his siblings and other family members in Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana.
- Philipp and Catharine's son Charles Richard Siegel, who married Dovie Alice Siegel on 18 February 1913, was very mobile throughout his life, always seeking different job opportunities. Charles and Dovie bore eight children during their married years.
- Charles and Dovie's daughter, Waneta Reath Siegel, started working as a waitress, became a military wife, and then a mother of three children. Waneta married Richard Carmen Holben on 7 June 1941 during a tumultuous time.
- These four generations endured joys and sorrows through all of life's moments.

²²⁹ Andrea Griffin, Clerk of Allen County Circuit and Superior Courts, Indiana, (Andera.Griffin@co.allen.in.us) to the author, e-mail, 1 April 2021, "Richard Siegel Will and Probate File," Personal Correspondence Folder, Siegel Research Files; privately held by the author, (email address for withheld for identity), Salt Lake City, Utah.

²³⁰ "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899–2017," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 1 April 2021), entry for Richard Siegel Sr., 13 September 1905; citing Indiana State Board of Health, certificate number 169. **Document 39.**

²³¹ "Seigel," *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*, 16 September 1905, p. 2, col. 4.

²³² *Find a Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 26 March 2021), memorial page for Johann Reichard Siegel, (1825–1905), Find A Grave Memorial no. 19338477, citing Hoffman Cemetery, Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana; memorial page is created and maintained by contributor #46897434, Trina. Also, Mary Penrose Wayne NSDAR, "Schlemmer Family Cemetery," *Allen County Indiana Cemetery Project* (<https://tinyurl.com/ssepteb6> : accessed 1 April 2021), entry for Reichard Siegel.

FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

- On-site research in Winesburg, Holmes County, Ohio, to look for church records from Zion Lutheran Church for Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach's children: Catharine, Carl, Johannes, Phillip, Anna, and Louise. Need further correspondence from various sources to locate these church records. Visiting the repositories mentioned in the research log may aid in finding these records.
- Search for abandoned cemeteries in Winesburg and Paint Township for the burial location for Carl Siegel and Johannes Siegel, children of Richard Siegel and Catharine Reidenbach.
- Look at church records for Richard Siegel and Catharine Schlemmers' children at German Lutheran Church in Monroe Township, Allen County, Indiana.
- Further research into the Hofmann, Schlemmer, and Reidenbach families will widen the family tree. Also, some members of the Schlemmer and Reidenbach families lived in Van Wert County, Ohio, suggesting further research on these families in this county. Finally, searching the United States federal census, church records, and land records can assist in locating all possible family members.