



# Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter

Volume 16 No. 4 Fall 2018

To Search and to Share

1857 Custom House and Post Office, as it appeared c. 1908

## Presidential Musings

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Dear Friends: I hope you are all well and enjoying the Fall. We are especially happy here in New England to enjoy the beauty of the foliage, as well as the cooler temperatures. The Summer of 2018 was exceedingly hot and humid here, so we are looking forward to some more temperate weather.

As I am sure you know, we held our annual meeting on August 4th. The meeting was a great success with members from around the country in attendance. **Dan Sides and his mother Barbara from Texas: three generations of the Kinsell Family - Sey and Jeff from California, Kirk from Florida, and Kirk's son Kyle from Georgia; Jane and Brian Johnson from North Carolina;** along with many New Englanders in attendance. I would like to thank everyone who attended the meeting, particularly those who travelled thousands of miles to attend. I hope we did not disappoint! I hope all of you will plan to attend next year's annual meeting. The meeting is a great event and it gives you a chance to make new friends and to see firsthand the important work our group is doing discovering and preserving the genealogy and history of Waldoboro for the future generations of Waldoboro descendants.

We all enjoyed the fascinating and informative presentation on the history of Maine's movement to statehood by our featured speaker, **Professor Liam Riordan of the University of Maine. Jean Lawrence, President of the Waldoborough Historical Society,** brought along an artifact from the museum for everyone to enjoy. I mentioned this artifact in the last newsletter. It was the passport issued on April 10th, 1753 to **Demnar Johannes Kohler of Nenderoth Germany** granting him permission to emigrate to America. This is a rare artifact that provides us with some insight into the world our ancestors left behind in Europe. There was plenty of time after lunch for everyone to socialize and exchange information. **Lucille Walker, her son Philip Thibault and his wife Pat of Cumberland Maine,** brought some old pictures of various members of the **Benner Family** to share with other Benner descendants. After the meeting adjourned, Jean took a group to the historical society museum for a tour of the museum and its artifacts. I took Jane and Brian Johnson to view the site of the original Moravian Meeting House which is marked by a fine sign provided by our group.



As mentioned in the last edition of the newsletter, the Penobscot County Genealogical Society asked me to speak to their members about our group and the history of Waldoboro. I travelled to Bangor Maine on September 19th and was pleased by the interested and lively reception I received from the group. My thanks to **Pam Beveridge** and **Elizabeth Stevens** for inviting me. I would also like to thank longtime OBBFHA member **Marilyn Burrill** for attending and lending me some moral support. There were several attendees with Waldoboro roots, so I hope I have recruited a few new members.

It's great to be able to inform you that our website is back online. My thanks to **Webmaster Fred Snell** for his patience and diligence in dealing with this matter.

A warm welcome to the following new members: **Jane Johnson of North Carolina, and Mark McKenzie of Virginia**. Welcome aboard folks, we look forward to getting to know you and assisting you on your genealogical journey.

I would like to thank the following people for making donations of money or food to defer the costs of the annual meeting: **Janet Feyler, Sey Kinsell, Ruth Riopell, June Hussiere, Jean Lawrence, Dale Gunn, Renee Seiders, and the descendants of the Welt Family**.

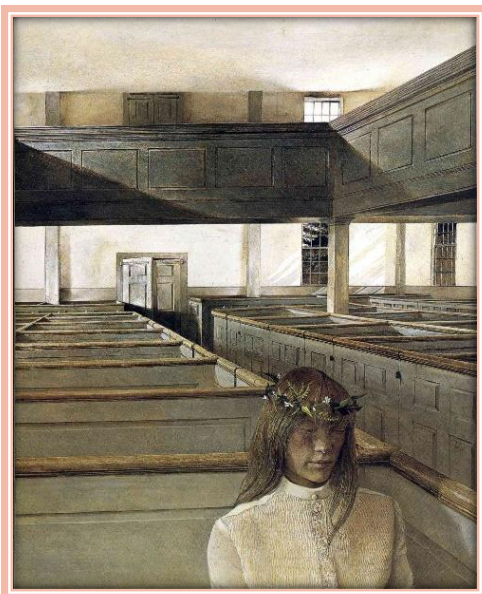
In closing, if any of you are interested in helping with some project, or if you have an idea you would like to offer, please feel free to reach out to me via phone or email. Additionally, please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have about your Waldoboro ancestors. If I can assist you I will be glad to do so. [dputnam925@msn.com](mailto:dputnam925@msn.com)

*KEEP ON SEARCHING AND SHARING!*

## The Old German Church and Andrew Wyeth

By Jean Lawrence

In 1973, Andrew Wyeth painted local South Waldoboro girl, Elaine Benner in the Old German Church. The painting is his famous "Maidenhair" which is owned by the Wyeth family and often on loan for exhibits. It also is available online if you Google the title with the name of the artist.



For some time, Wyeth had been thinking about painting a local person in the church and happened to see Elaine on Friendship Road riding her bike home after a lawn mowing job. His asking her mother's permission to have Elaine sit for him was the beginning of a long friendship between the two and the first of many sketches and paintings that Wyeth created using Elaine as his model during summer months.

For the past two weeks, I have hosted ten classes of school children at the Old German Church in connection with the Farnsworth Museum's Educational Program, "Stories of the Land and Its People." My role has been to tell the story of the immigrants who came to the area, built the church across the Medomak River, and how it got to the present site. I go on to tell them the connection between Elaine and me.

Back in the fifties, Elaine's dad and my husband were school chums and long-time friends, so I have known Elaine since she was a toddler. Later, when I taught at Medomak Valley High School, she and her sisters were my students. We have kept in touch over the years, and now she is a mother and grandmother. She has shared many memories of sitting for Wyeth and his many kindnesses to her and her four siblings, including buying and

sharing ice cream at home after each sitting. While many folks think the girl in the painting is a jilted bride, I know better. Elaine admits that she often thought of her family and how fortunate she was to have been selected to sit in the beauty of the old church with all its history and memories. She never had the wreath of flowers on her head as she sat; Wyeth added them later. He and his wife were very generous to Elaine and later purchased Benner Island, the first home of Elaine's ancestors, and built a home there.

I share this because the history of Waldoboro's founders as well as its local citizens are still relevant in today's world. Telling the story of the church and the painting at the site also gives me an opportunity to share the Conrad Heyer story, (the kids always ask about the photo of the grumpy - looking old man on the wall) and to mention the many veterans, whose graves are marked by American flags, resting along with their ancestors in the cemetery. It's a privilege that I cherish.

NOV 11



## *A Wedding and its Terrible Aftermath - 1853 - 54*

(Part Two)

Part one of this story found the inhabitants of Dog Lane in Waldoboro (now Pleasant Street) excited about the wedding of Ella Clark, 21, daughter of the millionaire shipbuilder Joseph Clark to respected educator and newly appointed lawyer Albion Oakes, 27 - October 15, 1853. Joseph and Mary Clark now had four married children - Caroline (to lawyer Alden Jackson), Mary (to farmer and future Civil War hero Atherton Clark), young Joe (to Abby), and now Ella. Two teenagers, Celeste, 16 and Edwin, 14 still lived at home. Father Joseph's businesses - shipbuilding and ship owning, stores, a farm, and landholdings had increased his wealth enormously - he paid twice the taxes as anyone else in town. Waldoboro was enjoying the fruits of his and other ambitious men's hard work - never in her history was she to be so well off - a truly major shipping point in New England.

But May of 1854 saw the beginnings of the unraveling of this happiness - in town and in the Clark family. In May, Mrs. Mary Clark, Joseph's wife of 30 years, mother of the six children, supporting partner, suddenly took sick from one of the many diseases plaguing the village and died. And then, on August 25, 1854, the third great fire of the decade struck - beginning in the stable of the Tavern on lower western Main Street, rushing with the dry wind east to Jefferson Street, then vaulting over Main and onto Friendship Road, burning everything in its path on both sides all the way south to the site of the brick schoolhouse and westward to the river, destroying two of the Clark vessels and an enormous amount of lumber. In approximately 40 minutes most of the town had been lost with only about a third covered by insurance. Seventy families were left homeless.

The events that followed were tributes to the courage, fortitude, and generosity of a number of Waldoboro businessmen, all of whom refused to leave their broken town and, instead, banded together to build it back up again. Incredibly, by the next summer - 1855 - Waldoboro had risen - this time in greatly more insurable and more permanent brick instead of wood - particularly on Friendship Road. The following new town buildings appeared: Friendship Road - four business blocks - west, Sproul Block - east; Main Street - a Customs House, a 30 room hotel "The Medomak House"; Clark's Hall, an entertainment center for lectures, music, dances, shows (paid for by Joseph Clark but requested by his four arts - minded daughters); an enormous - "largest in Lincoln County" - granite four story business block - "Union Block" - corner of Main and Jefferson, and of course many homes. Town buildings were, for the most part, privately financed by these local businessmen. As Jasper Stahl was to say, "The town, like a Phoenix, had risen from the dead."

(Author's note - Except for the four Friendship Street blocks and the Customs House, all these structures are gone. The Union Block and the Medomak House succumbed to fires in 1900 and 1893; Sproul Block was rebuilt in the original footprint in 1982, and Clark's Hall, having been used over the years as a movie theatre, gymnasium, bowling alley, pool room, and restaurant was torn down in the early 1960's.)

Another more personal change occurred - within the confines of the Clark family and with little if any fanfare. In November of 1854, in a Rhode Island ceremony, Mr. Joseph Clark, 55, took for his second wife Miss Mary Genthner, up to this point a servant girl in his home. Miss Genthner, 24, was to live in the mansion with her husband and his children for 21 years until Joseph died in 1875. She was to produce a daughter, Josephine, in 1864, and at her husband's death was to inherit a very large share of the several million-dollar estate. She was to anger the other members of the family when she married again within a year of Joseph's death and at almost the same time had built a new and beautiful home further up Main Street for herself, her new husband, and Josephine. (This home is currently the Hall Funeral Home.)

Back down on Dog Lane in their attractive little house next to the Clark mansion, Albion and Ella began their married life so happily. Two daughters were born to them - Minnie and Carrie; Minnie unfortunately was to become infected by cholera and pass away in 1858 at only two months of age. Carrie would grow up, marry a Mr. Manville and move to Pennsylvania only to die at the young age of 30 after having one child, Keith, Ella's grandson.

Albion Oakes always professed good health. In a letter to his brother Abner, he remarked "While others around Waldoboro are groaning with pain, I am perfectly well and healthy - first rate - never better." And so, it was extremely sad that shortly after the death of little Minnie, Albion himself was taken by one of many stomach ailments and passed away a year later - 1859 at only 32 years of age. He left Ella, a 26-year-old widow to remain in Waldoboro, living adjacent to the family mansion for several years, and eventually moving in with younger sister Celeste. She enjoyed a long life, dying in 1904, and was remembered not only for her skills as a teacher and writer, but also for her ability to LISTEN - as was said of her "An excellent listener and an affinity for all that is good and true." (Author's note - What better compliment could anyone receive?)

For the families of little Dog Lane in Waldoboro - Samuel Jackson, the banker, Edward Benner, the businessman, Aaron Kaler and Alexander Young, shipbuilders, and the Clarks, the six years from October 1853 and the joy of Albion and Ella to 1859 amidst fire and deaths must have seemed like a lifetime of changes - for them, their street and their town.

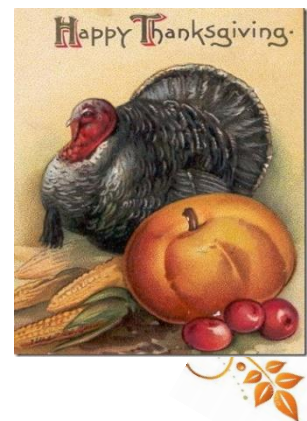
Published in Waldoboro Wanderings - November 2014

Sources for these two articles: The Letters of Albion Oakes - in possession of the author; Stahl's History of Waldoboro; Miller's History of Waldoboro; M.W. Biscoe's Merchant of the Medomak - Volumes I and II; Research by Mr. Mark W. Biscoe Jr. and Ms. Mary S. Biscoe

## Masthead: The U.S. Customhouse and Post Office



The U.S. Customhouse and Post Office is a historic federal government building in [Waldoboro, Maine](#). Built 1855-57, it is a fine local example of civic Italianate architecture. For much of the 20th century it housed the Waldoboro Public Library. It was listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) in 1974.



Nov 22

**“Waldoboro Ships” 18 months calendars 2019-20 are still for sale. Great Christmas gift! Order WH Society, PO Box 110, Waldoboro, ME 04572. \$10 each plus \$3 for mailing.**

## Immigrant Gross/Grosz Family

By Tracie Gross Ott

The data presented in this paper will correct errors in Whitaker and Horlach's *Broad Bay Pioneers*, highlight questions, and demonstrate a research path to breaking down brick walls, while evaluating evidence in print. Furthermore, another objective is to give credit to those hidden from documents possibly due to a disability, and to provide a glimpse of the true immigrant Gross/Grosz family.

### **This partially reconstructed 1752 St. Andrew Ship List<sup>[1]</sup>**

Provides the names of proven Gross/Grosz family members who are discussed in more detail, beyond just names on a list. Though, Bertram is the lead actor, playing the role of mystery man.

Johann George Gross, abt 46

w. Anna Catharina

s. Bertram, 20

d. Maria Ann, 14 or 16

s. Johann Peter, 8

d. Maria Elisabeth, abt 5

f. Johann Martin Gross, 74

### **Objectives**

(I) Correct errors stated in *Broad Bay Pioneers*: Mary Gross b. abt. 1753, and Joseph Gross b. abt. 1755, are *not* the children of Johann Georg "John" Gross and his wife Anna Catherinah of Old Broad Bay aka Waldoboro;

(II) Corrected version of the 1790 census;

(III) Question the accuracy of the *Ludwig Genealogy's* information about Bertram Gross.

### **(I) Reasons why Mary and Joseph are not children of "John" and Anna Catherinah Gross.**

- Not listed in will of John Gross,<sup>[2]</sup> even though Mary and Joseph were living in 1778.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Not included in the Old Birth Records of Waldoborough though, it's not all-inclusive.<sup>[4]</sup>
- No documentary evidence shows Peter, Mary, and Mari Elizabeth named a son, Joseph.
- More likely, Joseph and Mary are children of Ebenezer Gross & Abigail Treat.<sup>[5]</sup>

### **Will of Johann Georg "John" Gross**

In The Name of God Amen – The Ninth day of May in the year of our Lord 1778 I John Gross of Waldoborough in the County of Lincoln Blacksmith, being very sick and weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory thanks be unto God for the Same: and Calling to mind the mortality of my body. and knowing that it is appointed for all Men once to die do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament. That is to say principally and first of all I Give and recommend my Soul into the hands of God that Gave it, and as Concerning my body. I recommend it to the Earth to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Executors nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection to obtain everlasting happiness in the life to come: Through the merits and mediation of my blessed Redeemer Jesus Christ, And as touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I Give Devise and dispose of the same in manner and form following that is to say --

In the first place I Give and bequeath to Anna Catherinah my dearly beloved Wife all my Estate both real and personal during life excepting my blacksmith tools –

Also I Give to my well beloved Son Peter Gross all the Blacksmith Tools and my well beloved Son Peter Gross is to give to my well beloved Daughter Mari Elizabeth a Heiffer at 1 ½ or 2 years old --- --- ---

Also I Give to my well beloved Daughter Mary my Bible

Also I Give to my well beloved Son Peter Gross aforesaid after my dearly beloved wifes decease all my land and: Furthermore my well beloved Son Peter is to have the first offer for working the lands for the Halfs for my well beloved wife or to hired the land of my Wife - -

And I Do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul all and every other former Testaments, Wills and Legacies, bequests and Executors by me in any ways before this time named Willed and bequeathed ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the day and year first above written - - - -

his  
John X Gross Seal  
mark

Signed, Sealed, published, pronounced and declared by the said John Gross as his last Will and Testament in presence of us the Subscribers that is to say Jacob Winchenback, Godfred Bornheimer Jacob Ludwig

Lincoln Ss. June 19. 1781 Then this Instrument being presented to me for probate. The said Jacob Ludwig one of the subscribing witnesses to the same made Oath that he saw the said John Gross the Testator sign and Seal the same and heard him declare it to be his last Will and Testament and that he the said Jacob together with Godfred Bornheimer & Jacob Winchenback the other subscribing Witnesses subscribed

Thereto as Witnesses at the same time in presence of the Testator and that according to the best of his Judgment the said Testator was then of sound disporing mind and memory

Before Jon a Bowman Judge Probt

Commonwealth of ( Massachusetts -----) By the Honorable Jonathan Bowman Esq.

Judge of the Probate of Wills and for Granting letters of Administration on the Estates of

Persons deceased having Goods, Chattles Rights or Credits in the County of Lincoln within the Commonwealth aforesaid –

To all unto whom there presents shall come Greeting -- --

Know ye that upon the day of the date hereof before me at Pownalborough in the County aforesaid the Will of John Gross late of Poinalborough in said County yeoman deceased a Copy whereof is to these presents annased *sp?* was proved, approved and allowed who having while he lived.<sup>[6]</sup>... [p. 127 not copied].

Note: The will of John Gross can be found in *Broad Bay Pioneers*.<sup>[7]</sup> This version is identical to the *edited and compiled* book, The Probate Records for Lincoln County, Maine. 1760-1800, which left out part of the document and changed some punctuation and spelling from the orig<sup>[8]</sup>

Inventory By Joseph Weaver, Godfried Burnheimer and Francis Miller, all of Waldoborough, 7 Sep., 1781, £98: 10: 1. [vol. 2, p. 212].<sup>[9]</sup>

**Receipt of the Heirs of John Gross, Deceased<sup>[10]</sup>  
Waldoborough July ^20. 1795**

Received of Peter Gross thirteen pounds Six Shillings & eight pence L. M. as a Legacy of our father’s last will and testament. vs [sp?] John Gross late of said Waldoborough deceased; also Twenty shillings L. M. of the personal estate left by our Mother wife to the said John Gross in full we say received by us -

Attest *Christoph Newbert*  
Jacob Winchenbach her  
Isaac Sarges Mary X Newbert  
mark

Examined by Jon Bowman Jr, Reg<sup>f</sup>

## Waldoborough Decem ^ 10 ^ 1795

Received of Peter Gross thirteen pounds Six Shillings & eight pence lawful money as a Legacy of our father last will & testament. vs [sp?] John Gross late of said Waldoborough deceased. also Twenty Shillings lawful money of the personal estate left by our Mother. Wife to the said John Gross, in full we say received by us

In presence of

*Paul Mink*

Thomas Waterman

Mary Lissabot Mink

Caleb Turner

her X mark

John Kinssel

Examined by

John P. Gross

Jon Bowman Jr, Regr

### Children of Johan Georg Gross and Anna Catharina<sup>[11]</sup>

“1. Maria Anna Gross b 6 Feb 1737/1739. d 6 Sept 1830/1833 Waldoboro. She md Christopher N [s/o Zacharias Newbert & Anna Dorothea Huhn].

2. John Peter Gross b 1745, d bef 1814. He md abt 1759 Anna Maria Bornheimer [d/o Joachim Jacob Bornheimer & Anna Margaretha Leonhard]. He is probably the soldier in the Revolutionary War [aka] John Gross, a pvt in Capt Joseph Smith’s Co, enlisted 19 July 1775, discharged 3 Dec 1775, served 5 mos, 25 days, in defense of the seacoast. Also a pvt in Capt Benjamin Lemont’s Co, Col John Allen’s Reg’t. Enlisted 3 Oct 1777, discharged 20 Nov 1782, served 5 mos, 12 days Eastern Department. [Note: Tracie believes the Rev War pvt is probably John Gross of Camden, son of Joseph Gross and Abigail Treat.<sup>[12, 13]</sup>

3. Mary Elizabeth Gross b abt 1748. She md abt 1776 Peter Paul Mink [s/o Johann Georg Mink & Katherina Gertraud Zickler].

4. Mary Gross b abt 1753, d 17 Aug 1824 Rockland, Knox, ME. She md abt 1773 Jonathan Lampson [b abt 1751 of Derry, Rockingham, NH, d 7 March 1835 Rockland] in Waldoboro.

5. Joseph Gross b abt 1755. He was in the Revolutionary War as a pvt in Capt William Reed’s Co. Enlisted 19 Aug 177 [sic 1777], discharged 28 Sept 1777, served 1 month, 10 days, in defense of Machias. Also a pvt in Capt George Ulmer’s Co, Col James Hunter’s Reg’t. Enlisted 8 June 1782 [sic 1778], discharged 24 Dec 1778. Served 5 [mos], 12 days in Eastern Depart. ...”

### Circumstantial Evidence

Whitaker and Horlacher of *Broad Bay Pioneers* attached the children of Ebenezer Gross to the Broad Bay Gross family.

“Abigail5 TREAT (Joseph4, Samuel3, Robert2, Richard1), born 10 March 1715-16, in Boston; ---married Feb. 22, 1736, Ebenezer GROSS5, born Aug. 13, 1713. He was supposed to have removed from Boston to *Maine, where three, at least, of his children settled*. Can find no trace of his family in Boston after 1746, except that his son Ebenezer, when married in 1763, is said to be of Boston, according to the Truro records [p. 227; image 296 of 706].

Children of Ebenezer and Abigail GROSS, *born in Boston and baptized in the Second Church:*

[2]. Joseph6, b. Dec. 20, 1739; bapt. Dec. 23, 1739; d. Jan. --, 1817, aged 80 (?). m. --- Tabitha Goodell. [See pp. 275-276, images 344-5]. Copied from a newspaper extract from the Bangor Historical Magazine Vol. 6, 1891, p. 156, Orland, Me.;

“*Married ---, Tabitha Goodell of Frankfort, Me. He is said to have married while a soldier at Fort Pownall. Mr. Gross was a soldier at Fort Georges, according to muster rolls, from May 31, 1758 to Aug. 23, 1758. ... He was also a soldier at Fort Pownall according to muster rolls, from Aug. 25, 1760 to July 5, 1761, and from Jan. 20, 1764 to Oct. 17, 1764.*”

[6.] John6, b. ---, bapt. Apr. 21, 1745, d. ---. Moved to Camden, Me.

[7.] Mary6, b. ---, bapt. Dec. 28, 1746, d. ---; m. ---, --- LAMSON, and lived in Camden, Me.

Preface. "After ten years of constant labor...The record will be found to be very full. No pains have been spared to make the work a complete one. Places of interest have been personally visited. Records of all kinds --- town, *church*, and probate --- have been carefully searched, and the old burying grounds examined." Note: Some of his information came from letters of related individuals. "The compiler is not always responsible for mistakes."<sup>[14]</sup>

## (II) Corrected 1790 Census<sup>[15]</sup>

Waldoborough = correct; [indexed as Nobleborough], Lincoln, Maine; Series: M637; Roll: 2; Page: 294; Image: 169 [=image 2 of 3]; Family History Library Film: 0568142. Page: 293; Image: 168 [*indexed as Bristol = image 1 of 3*]. [Tracie filled in probable individuals].

**GROS, Peter** [*When browsing*, image 1 of 3, lists Peter Gros, above is John Waliser, middle of the second p.=bottom p. Next image, Peter Gros is mostly cutoff with John Gros & Widow Gros.

Free White Males: 3) 16 + [Peter, Bertram, Conrad aka Cornelius]; 2 < 16 [John P & Jacob F].

Free White Females: 5) [Anna Mariah nee'Bornheimer, Mari Elizabeth, Mary] + [2, Unknown].

### **GROS, John**

Free White Males: 1) 16 + ["John" George, son of Peter].

Free White Females: 1) [wife, Elizabeth Sheffer].<sup>[16]</sup>

### **GROS, Widow**

Free White Males: 1) 16 + [who is this?].

Free White Females: 1) Anna Catherinah.

**Note:** The above count is correct per viewing the image. (ancestry.com) incorrectly lists the household count that of Conrad Huier [Heyer] who is listed one below Widow Gros.

## (3) Bertram Gross, Immigrant

Longevity. "*As many of this German colony lived to pass the term of three score and ten, the time allotted to many to complete his earthly pilgrimage, and as many of them have reached the great age of one hundred years, and some of them even more, we subjoin the following table, with the date of death, and the age of those of eighty years and upwards who have died since the commencement of 1800.*"

**1827. Bertram Gross 94** [b. 1733, fits immigrant; where has he been?].

Explanation. "*We have done all in our power to obtain reliable information. Records have been consulted, and aged people have been conversed with, whenever they can be found and were known to possess anything of interest.*"<sup>[17]</sup>

### Summary

- Bertram's included in the reconstructed 1752 St. Andrew Ship List and just one year away from age of majority.
- Not included in 1778 will of his father, "John" Gross.
- 1790 corrected census: Widow Gros. Could the male of 16 + be Bertram? Or, a son of "Peter", Cornelius (Conrad) or Bertram? If so, who's is 3<sup>rd</sup> male in Peter's household?
- Of the Gross-related families (Newbert & Mink), the 1790 census for Stophal Newbert was the only one with an extra male of 16 + living in the household.<sup>[18]</sup>
- None of the census years 1800-1820 list a male who fits for Bertram living in the households of the Gross & related families.
- No primary records found: vital statistics, probates, or deeds list him or any other name variation. No other published books other than *Ludwig Genealogy* mention him.
- Bertram Gross, nephew is never listed as 2<sup>d</sup>. However, if Bertram b. 1732-1733 was an individual with disabilities and never owning anything, would there still be a designation 2<sup>d</sup> for his nephew?



- Bertram is not John Gross 1790 census: Camden, then=Hancock Co., Maine.<sup>[19]</sup>
- Checked every name index for OBBFHA newsletters: Found Bertram Wallag.<sup>[20]</sup>

After numerous hours of searching, I've concluded that the given name "Bertram" is very uncommon in the records surrounding the area of Waldoboro.

I'm digging deeper to discover if Bertram Gross is in fact, Bertram Wallace.

#### **Children of Johannes Walch, potter<sup>[21]</sup>**

"1. Peter m. Jane Hilt. A 1773 list of settlers names him as "Bertram Wallag," and I [Grindell] suspect that Bertram was one of those names the G[erman] considered interchangeable with some other (e.g. Conrad = Cornelius, etc.)".

#### **1752 St. Andrew Ship List<sup>[22]</sup>**

Johannes Walch, Breitscheid (potter) w. Anna Elisabetha (Werner), 28 s. Bertram, 6 [b. abt. 1746] s. Johannes Peter, 5 s. Jost Henrich, 3

### **Brothers, Bertram and Peter Walch**

"1. Bertram Walch b 23 Dec 1745... md abt 1767 Anna Christina/Maria Catharina Hilt [d/o Johann Peter Hilt & Anna Margretha Hensch].

2. Johannes Peter Walch b 10 Sept 1747... will probated 10 Sept 1795."<sup>[23]</sup>

1800 Census: Waldoboro. Head of Household, Anna Walch age 45 + <sup>[24]</sup> Bertram's widow? Another conundrum.

### **Analysis**

Ludwig's notation of Bertram Gross dying at the age of 94, remains a mystery because no death or cemetery records, to date, of any Gross male appear to exist for the year 1827. Plus, it seems unlikely the death record is for Bertram Walch/Wallace because of the 14-year age difference.

Quite a coincidence: What are the odds that an "aged" person would've provided M.R. Ludwig with the birth year that fits for Bertram, a very uncommon given name, combined with Gross?

Seems like there's an element of truth because, Bertram supposedly died in 1827, and *Ludwig Genealogy* was published 39 years later, no doubt, he started his research many years earlier. Note: Nephew, "John P" Gross died in 1869.<sup>[25]</sup> Was Bertram an individual with disabilities who lived his entire life shuffling between relatives' homes for his care?

Ludwig's death record states death years for sister Mary Ann Newbert (1833; correct 1830), brother-in-law, Christopher Newbert (1828; correct 1829).<sup>[26]</sup> Puzzling.

### **Immigrants**

Johann Martin Gross/Mertin Grosz	Died: 11 Feb 1768. <sup>[27, 28]</sup> Old German Church
Johann Georg "John" Gross	Died: bet (will) May 1778 - (probate) June 1781.
Anna Catherina	Died: bet (census) 1790 - (receipt of heirs) July 1795.
Bertram Gross	Died: aft. Oct 1752 - No proof of 1827.
Maria Ann "Mary" Gross Newbert	Died: 6 Sept 1830. <sup>[29]</sup>
Maria "Mari" Elizabeth Gross Mink	Died: Unknown at this time. <sup>[30]</sup>
Johann "Peter" Gross	Died: bet. (census) 1810 <sup>[31]</sup> - (probate) Jan. 1814. <sup>[32]</sup>



## Sources

1. Wilford W. Whitaker & Gary T. Horlacher. *Broad Bay Pioneers: 18<sup>th</sup> Century German-Speaking Settlers of Present-Day Waldoboro, Maine*. (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1998), 67.
  2. Lincoln County, Maine. Probate Record Book, Will. 2:125-126. *Transcribed by Tracie Gross Ott, 14 Sept 2018*. Copied 2 Aug 2016, Lincoln County Probate Office, Wiscasset, Maine.
  3. Wilford W. Whitaker & Gary T. Horlacher. *Broad Bay Pioneers*, 544.
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- GROSS, John P. d. 11-18-1869. Age: 90yr.  
X Polly, 2nd wife d. 1-12-1881. Age: 81 yr.  
X Mary, (Wallace), 1st wife also buried on this lot. Graves of small child marked by field stones Uncovered May 1948 by Austin Wallace.  
Signature: M.L. Bradley. Date: 5-81 [1981]. Organization: MOCA.
26. M. R. Ludwig. *Ludwig Genealogy*, 212.

27. Samuel Llewellyn Miller. *History of the Town of Waldoboro, Maine*. (Waldoboro, Maine: Heritage Books, 1910), 211. Ancient tablet from old graveyard at Meeting House Cove.  
The inscription on this old stone is as follows: *'Hier licht begraben Herr John Mertin Grosz und ist geboren den 1 Februar an 1679 und ist gestoben den 11 Februar 1768 in 90 Tahr.'*"
28. Old German Meeting House (Church) on Bremen Rd (Rte 32), Waldoboro, Maine.  
[On display]. Viewed by Tracie Gross Ott, 3 Aug 2016.
29. Mary Newbert. Birth: 6 Mar 1739. [Photo] Inscription: MARY NEWBERT/DIED/SEPT 6, 1830/Æ 91Y 6 M.; Newbert Family Cemetery. Created by: Denise Witwer Lahr, 12 Dec 2010.  
(findagrave.com/memorial/62842901/mary-newbert).
30. Ancestry.com. *U.S., Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.  
Letter to Edith Mank, dated 8 May 1924. *"Madam, I advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War Pension claim S. 18126. ...There is no data on file as to his family nor does it appear that the pension was claimed by a widow."* Paul Mink d. 7 July 1839.  
*Respectfully, Commissioner.* [No signature or name written].
31. 1810 Census: Gross, Peter. Waldoborough, Lincoln, Maine; Roll: 12; Page: 85; Image: 00092; Family History Library Film: 0218683.
32. Lincoln County, Maine. *Probate Record Book*, 17:189. Copied by Tracie Gross Ott, 2 Aug 2016 at Lincoln County Probate Office, Wiscasset, Maine.



*First Day of Winter  
Dec 21*

*Postcard from the  
Collection of  
Barb Rogers*

#### Web Links and Contacts:

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: [www.rootsweb.com/~meobbfha/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~meobbfha/)  
Editorial comments & queries to [pmkriso@gmail.com](mailto:pmkriso@gmail.com)  
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**AND**





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