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Summary

These are my notes for research on the ancestry Apolonia Nelec [3]. Her descendants in my generation are my 3rd cousins.

Peter Latusek [2] matched DNA with me at 23AndMe.com, and sent me a message. We established email contact on 22 Jul 2020. Within 2 weeks of email communication and research, we established that his grandmother Anna Maria Gwozdz [2] is the sister of Jozef Gwozdz [2], whom I remember as my grandfather's 1st cousin. In my generation, Jozef's descendants are 2nd cousins of Anna Maria's descendants.

I became interested in the mother of Anna Maria Gwozdz, Apolonia Nelec, who married Andrzej Gwozdz [2], brother of my great grandfather Maciej Gwozdz [2]. Hence this document.

Format

[Hot links] are page numbers in [brackets] for jumping around this document.

I find it impossible to do such research without a notes document like this. It goes quickly for me because I have done several of these over the years. To start this one, I just made a copy of a previous one, deleted most of it, edited the basic framework, and added more information in the same format. A big reason for documents like this is a reminder to me of what I did; so the style may be a bit cryptic for readers who are not experienced with genealogy. If you have a question, please send it to me pete2g2@comcast.net.

Descendancies follow starting on page [2], Gwozdz and Nelec first, then the others in alphabetical order, following the typical format of tabs for children, whereby the generations are aligned in columns. On each line, after a person's name, birth date is first, followed by death date if available. Then marriage date, place, and spouse if available. The number in (parenthesis) after a date is the house number. Sometimes I add short notes to the line for a person.

After *Descendancies* are *Notes* [4] for the family names, in the same order.

The *Pedigree* on the last page ties it all together, with [hot links] for most individuals to the *Descendancies*. Most links in the *Descendancies* go to the *Notes*.

I composed this in Word, docx. I use a pdf version on-line. The Word pop up for the Bookmark list serves as an alphabetical index, which is not available in the pdf version. Word sometimes has line break and page break variations, and tab (column) issues, when viewed on a different computer, so printing may be better from pdf. On my computer, the mouse needs the Ctrl key to jump to a link in Word.

I use a number as part of a name when there is more than one individual in a family with the same name.

Example: Anna Maria has a brother Jozef Gwozdz [2]; my grandfather also has a brother Jozef, so for this document I call him Jozef 2 Gwozdz [2].

At gwozdz.org, I have 7 documents similar to this one. I have about a dozen other similar documents, all from similar genealogy projects, but those others are not in shape for posting on the web. I'm hoping someday to combine all my Wadowice Gorne parish [9] documents into one for the web.

My family tree is on-line [9] but future updates will not include all this detail about the Nelec family, because they are not my ancestors. I became interested in Apolonia Nelec because of the large number of my 3rd cousins that I have identified in her *Descendancy* [2]. Most of these are not included here because for on-line documents I delete names of living people from my master copy. The exception is those who specifically ask to be included - mostly with the word "Source" as an indication that they provided data to me.

Follow Up

I add "Follow Up" items to *Notes* topics as suggestions for readers who are interested in extending the research. I am not planning to follow up on those items.

Gwozdz

Michal 1765? - 20 Jun 1830. m 1794? Jadwiga Gut

Wojciech [5] 13 Apr 1810 (63) - 20 Jul 1885 (62d). m 9 Nov 1835 (62&53) Katarzyna Gula

Maciej [4] 9 Feb 1837(-) - 1918? m 20 Feb 1865 Maryanna Kmiec

Aniela 11 May 1867. 2nd m 24 Jan 1891 Jozef Topor. Chicopee, MA

Jozef 2 24 Dec 1869 - 1934 Cohoes, NY. m 17 Oct 1898 Antonina Kartz

Michal 2 lived for a while in MA. returned to the ancestral cottage in Poland

Anna 14 Feb 1875 - ? m Kazimierz Kolano

Jan 2 15 Sep 1877. m 7 Jan 1901 Chicopee MA, Agnieszka Gula

Wojciech 2 12 Mar 1880 - 24 Mar 1938 Chicopee Falls MA. m 25 Sep 1906 Julia Kozak

Stanislaw 2 23 Mar 1883. Chicopee Falls MA. never married

Piotr 6 Apr 1886 - 23 Feb 1956 Adams MA. m 3 Feb 1909 MA, Bronislawa Banas

Stanley Adams, MA

Author: Peter 11 Nov 194. m 16 Aug 1969 Essex MO, Barbara West

Andrzej [5] 12 Oct 1839 (-) - 8 Mar 1924 (122). m 1 Oct 1866 Apolonia Nelec [3]

Stanislaw 24 Sep 1867 (63d). 1892 abstract note in his birth record - might be emigration

Kazimierz [4] 6 Apr 1870 (62d). m Antonina Deren. Podborze, Poland

4 children

Jozef [4] 3 Feb 1873 (-) - 30 Dec 1958 Cheshire MA. m Helena Nida

8 children

Wawrzyniec 10 Aug 1875 (122d) - 26 Dec 1896. Probably never married.

Maryanna 25 Dec 1877 (122d). not known if married

Apolonia 28 Jan 1880 (122d) - 5 Apr 1882 (122). Died infant

Anna Maria Gwozdz [4] 15 Sep 1882 (122d) Wadowice Dolne Poland - 23 Jul 1971 New Bedford MA (**NB**)
m Albert (Wojciech) Bryda (1880 Poland - 19 Apr 1934 NB)

Boleslaw Bryda 17 Aug 1905 NB - 8 Jul 1964 NB. m 1934 Hedwig Szatek

Frank Bryda 30 Nov 1919 NB

Victoria Bryda 6 Jul 1912 NB - 25 Mar 1972 NB. m Stanislaus Rudnick

Alyce Bryda 1919 NB - 23 May 1997 Hialeah FL. m Stanley Latusek

Source: Peter Latusek b NB. lived from age 9 in Miami, now in NY State

_ Alyce 2nd m

son m Holland

Zofia Anna Bryda 2 Nov 1915 NB - 30 Jul 1981 Miami. m 3 Sep 1932 Edouard Henri Halle

Lillian Halle 12 Jun 1933 NB - 19 De 2016 Bettendorf IO.
m 1952 (**Source**) Henri Chapdelaine. liv IO

_ Anna's 2nd m 1939 Tomas Szatek

Maryanna 2 6 May 1841 (61). m 21 Nov 1864 Michal Wachta. This family not studied yet.

Jan 1 19 Mar 1843 (61) - 1938 m 6 Nov 1872 Zofia Nowak

10 children

Apolonia 2 1845. m 10 Nov 1869 Jozef Morytko. Not studied.

Jozef 3 23 Nov 1848 (61). m 26 Nov 1876 Anna Gula

4 children

Michal 2 16 Sep 1851 (61). m 12 Feb 1877 Maryanna Rydzowska. Not studied.

3 children

Anna 2 6 Jan 1858 (62) - 2002?. m Turek. Poland, near Mielec

4 children

_ Anna 2nd m 18 Jun 1890 Piotr Bigda

2 children

Piotr 2 27 Jan 1861. m 29 Aug 1883 Apolonia Piksa

2 children

Nelec

Stefan [5]	m Agnieszka Wojcik [6]
Wojciech [5]	m 12 Feb 1838 (1) Katarzyna Zajac [3]
Maryanna	17 Nov 1838 (-)
Kazimierz	17Jan 1841 (50WW)
Jozef	21 Feb 1843 (50) - 29 Apr 1843
Apolonia [5]	1 Mar 1844 (50) - 23 Jul 1971 New Bedford MA. m 1 Oct 1866 (62 & 50) Andrzej Gwozdz [2]

Czarny

Szymon [6]	
Zofia [6]	1760?? (Luszowice). m Jakub Zajac [3]

Padykula

Sebastjan [7]	1726?? m Katarzyna [7] (1728 - 18 Apr 1788 (14))
Marcin [7]	1756?? m 23 Nov 1778 (74) Katarzyna Zasadzinska [3]
Jozef	16 Mar 1780 (76)
Lucja	10 Dec 1781 (74)
Katarzyna	2 Nov 1783 (76)
Zofia [7]	15 Apr 1786 (74). m Maciej Zajac [3]
Jozef 2	16 Jul 1788 (-)
Anna	21 May 1790 (74) twins
Maryanna	21 May 1790 (74)
Jadwiga	1758?? m 9 Aug 1778 (88) Jakub Gula
	8 children in my Database [9]
Magdalena	1759?? m 7 Nov 1779 (74) Jakub Galica
	6 children in my Database [9]

Zajac

Michal [8]	1713 - 11 Nov 1793 (-). m Maryanna [8] speculative (1724 - 25 Jul 1794 (-))
Jakub [8]	1758?? m 17 Jan 1780 (64). m Zofia Czarny [3]
Andrzej	30 Oct 1780 (64)
Maciej [8]	16 Feb 1783 (59). m 17 Feb 1805 (76) Zofia Padykula [3]
Maryanna	28 May 1809 (78)
Agnieszka	10 Sep 1811 (89)
Katarzyna [3]	15 Nov 1817 (78). m Wojciech Nelec [3]
Szymon	22 Aug 1820 (70)
Wawrzyniec	5 Aug 1785 (59). m 13 Oct 1805 (88) Maryanna Gula
Katarzyna	28 Mar 1789 (59)

Zasadzinski

Jan [3]	
Katarzyna [8]	1758?? m Marcin Padykula [3]

Gwozdz Notes

Anna Maria Gwozdz. [2] I'm not sure if Maria is her middle name, or if Anna Maria is considered her first name. The source documents provided to me by Peter [2] and Henri [2] use Anna Maria, so that's what I'm using. Generally, I try to use the name form actually used by a person, but I don't know what name she used in her daily life. Anyway, Anna is a very common first name in my Book [9], so using Anna Maria for her is a good way to distinguish her.

Those source documents include dates for her birth, marriage, and death. As an adult, she lived in New Bedford MA (here NB).

Those documents all say she was born 13 Sep 1882 in Mielec, which is the closest city to Wadowice Dolne [9], the village of my ancestors. On a map, the straight line distance from the Gwozdz ancestral cottage to the center of Mielec is only 8 miles. At first, I was encouraging Peter & Henri to find her marriage record, which should name her parents, so we could find and identify her Mielec birth record. Anna is a very common name, but the birth records have parents named, and usually all 4 grandparents. Then, I figured maybe she was really born in Wadowice Dolne but just said Mielec in the USA because it is a nearby city. I checked my paper copies of the Records [9]. I have the page from Sep 1882, with a red pen mark next to Anna Gwozdz born 15 Sep, baptized on the 17th. Apparently, I made that red mark back in 2006. The paternal grandparents in that record, Wojciech Gwozdz & Katarzyna Gula, are known to me as my 2-great grandparents. That Anna Gwozdz, a 1st cousin to my grandfather, should be in my Book, but she is not. That birth record is in my Database [9]. Somehow I missed it while compiling my Book.

When I emailed a jpg of that birth record to Peter, he responded that Anna Maria's death certificate names her parents as Andrzej Gwozdz [2] & Apolonia Nelec, the same names as in that jpg image, and names familiar to me as my great grandfather's brother and his wife. So that's convincing evidence, placing Anna Maria in my Gwozdz Descendancy [2].

I'll add Anna Maria at my next update to my on-line Book.

The 2 day discrepancy in her birth date is not a significant issue. I have found that many Polish people in the US use birth dates, and sometimes birth years, that do not match their record in Poland. Sometimes the family has the birth certificate that they ordered by mail from Poland in order to apply for citizenship, yet still the date is wrong in the family trees, and often wrong on the grave stone. Until modern times, most people were not as mindful of their birth date as we are today.

That birth record is not in the Microfilms [9]. I found those records in Tarnow [9].

I list Anna Maria as the youngest in her family, but I'm not sure of that. The book of birth records beyond 1885 for her village of Wadowice Dolne [9] has been lost. It's possible she has a younger sibling after 1885. Her mother Apolonia [3] turned 42 in early 1886.

Gwozdz Descendancy. [2] I copied that Descendancy from page 7 of my Book [9]. The 3rd column has the 9 children of Wojciech Gwozdz [2] and Katarzyna Gula. I abbreviated the details to fit this on one page. For more detail, see my Book, starting on page 8. The 1st child, Maciej Gwozdz [2], is my great grandfather.

The focus of this document is Apolonia Nelec, the wife of the 2nd child, Andrzej Gwozdz [2]; their 7 children are listed in the 4th column, below Andrzej. Discussion of those 7:

Anna Maria Gwozdz [2] is the youngest. This project was initiated in 2020 because of a new DNA match between me and Peter Latusek [2], one of the descendants of Anna Maria, so this document provides some details about the family of Anna Maria, as provided by Peter [2] and Henri [2].

Jozef Gwozdz [2] is the 3rd child in the family of Andrzej & Apolonia; my Book [9] has details about Jozef's family, well known to me since childhood.

Kazimierz Gwozdz [2] is 4th; I visited some of his descendants who live in Poland, who provided details for my Book.

That leaves 4 more children in the family of Andrzej & Apolonia. The daughter Apolonia died in infancy. I have no further information on the other 3. Maybe someday a descendant will match DNA with me.

Pedigree. [10] The last page here has the *Pedigree* for Anna Maria Gwozdz. This is also the *Pedigree* for her 6 siblings [previous topics], and a partial pedigree for their descendants.

Nelec Notes

I'm suspicious a Nelec ancestor moved from elsewhere into the Parish [9]. My Excel Database [9] has the oldest existing Records [9], 1777 - 1799 complete; there is no Nelec record in that time span. Geneteka [9] has no Nelec record from the Parish. FamilySearch [9] has 3 Nelec birth records from the Parish, 1838, 1843, 1844, which I added to the Nelec *Descendancy*; these 3 are siblings. That 1844 record is Apolonia's birth. I checked the Microfilm [9] marriages for early 1838 and immediately found the 12 Feb 1838 [3] marriage of Apolonia's parents. I checked the gap between 1838 and 1843 and quickly found the 1841 birth. That's 5 records total for the family. Perhaps there are more sibling records in this family that could be found by scanning through the Microfilms after 1844.

Starting with the 1866 marriage [3] of Andrzej Gwozdz & Apolonia Nelec, my Database has this plus births of the children to that family; some of this is indexed in FamilySearch because my daughter Holly added lots of my data to their web site.

Usually, marriage records mention if the groom or bride are from another parish, but that's usually missing between 1784 and 1835. Apparently the priest-recorders were lazy; names of parents of groom and bride are also usually missing during that range of time. As part of this project, I scanned both grooms & brides from the Microfilms, 1835 - 1838; I spotted 2 grooms recorded as from another parish. However, I do not know if the priest recorders were consistent about recording this. Furthermore, I presume that if a man moved into the parish, then a few years later he married, that marriage would not be recorded as from another parish; however, I do not know how many years are needed to be considered a local resident.

I scanned through the microfilm marriage records 1800 - 1837 looking for a groom named Nelec. I found none. I checked all the marriages of the parish [9], including the Wampierzow [9] book.

I stopped when I found again the 12 Feb 1838 [3] marriage of Wojciech Nelec.

That marriage gives 24 as the age of Wojciech. I scanned the birth records for Wojciech (Adalbertus), 1812 - 1816; he's not there. As a double check, I scanned the birth records for any father named Nelec; 1807 - 1821; none found.

This does not prove that the 1838 marriage is the first Nelec record in the parish, but it sure looks like they moved in from somewhere else.

FamilySearch has no Nelec records before 1838, but of course, their database is incomplete. Between 1838 and 1868, they have 12 records, some duplications, including those 3 births that I listed in the Nelec *Descendancy* [3], and including births from the parishes of Zgorsko, Lubzina, and Braciejowa; Zgorsko is just south of Wadowice Gorne; the other 2 are not far away.

Apolonia Nelec [3] and Andrzej Gwozdz [2] are named as parents in the death certificate [4] for Anna Maria Gwozdz, as explained in the *Gwozdz Notes*. My Database [9] has 13 records with her name: marriage, birth of her children, her death, and even Andrzej's remarriage; those have all been in the Database for many years, going back to when I searched for grandchildren of my 2-great grandfather Wojciech Gwozdz [2].

As mentioned in the *Gwozdz Notes*, Apolonia Nelec is named as the mother in the birth record of Anna Maria Gwozdz.

I easily found Apolonia's birth record in 2020 as part of the project for Peter Latusek & Henri Chapdelaine; I found that record in some photos that I have from Microfilm [9] 1980467. Her parents and grandparents are named in that record.

The 1866 marriage records did not survive, but film 1980469 Item 15 is the banns record, where several years ago I found the banns for Andrzej Gwozdz & Apolonia Nelec; the marriage date 1 Oct 1866 is penned in at the right column. The house numbers are 50 and 62. 50 is the same as the house of Apolonia's birth, and the birth of her 3 siblings [3]. 62 is a house of many Gwozdz birth records, as explained on page 24 of my Book [9]. It's funny that the banns has 50 above 62, implying groom from 50 and bride from 62; obviously, the house numbers were recorded in switched order. Apolonia is recorded as age 22, which checks with her birth year; Andrzej is recorded as age 27; he married 11 days before his 27th birthday.

Wojciech Nelec [3] is named as father of Apolonia in her birth record and in her marriage (banns) record. He is also named as father in the birth records for those three siblings of Apolonia [a few paragraphs above]. He should be named in the birth records of his grandchildren, although I had only listed (years ago) his Gwozdz grandchildren.

In 2020 I located his 1838 marriage record from the Microfilms, as mentioned above.

Those records are in Latin, using Adalbertus for the Polish Wojciech.

As explained above, his birth record is not in the Microfilms.

The status for Wojciech is not recorded at his marriage, nor at the 1838 birth. At the other 3 births, he is recorded as "murarius" - a bricklayer, or perhaps a mason.

Stefan Nelec [3] is named as the father of the groom in Wojciech's marriage, and as paternal grandfather for those 4 children that I have listed for Wojciech. That's all I have for Stefan. It seems to me he lived in another parish.

Agnieszka Wojcik [3] is the wife of Stefan. My Database has only 1 previous Wojcik record, a bride Elzbieta Wojcik, who married 26 Nov 1786. So Wojcik was a very rare name in the Parish [9], which I consider to be additional evidence that Stefan & Agnieszka (or their son) moved in from another parish. Wojcik is not a rare Polish name. I have an ancestor Katarzyna Wojcik (page 182 of my Book); I remember a Wojcik family in my home town of Adams MA.

She is recorded as Agata as grandmother in Apolonia's 1844 birth record, but she is recorded as Agnieszka in all 4 of those previous records. Agnieszka is Polish for Agnes. The record is in Latin, where the name is inflected as Agnetis. It's quite common for a grandmother's name to be wrong in these Records [9], and I bet Agnes vs Agatha are confused in some English records. Of course, a difference of 1 out of 5 makes us wonder, so we are not 100% sure of her name.

I found her family name Wojcik only twice, at the two 1838 records, where that name is highly inflected.

House Number 1. The 1838 marriage record [3] for Wojciech Nelec gives number 1 for the house. Cadastral Records [9] for Wadowice Dolne indicate house 1 is a complex of buildings where the local aristocratic ("noble", "gentry") family lived. I'm guessing Wojciech worked there, and lived in workers quarters in 1838; maybe he moved as a young adult directly to "house 1" from another town, into a service job. Another possibility is that his parents Stefan & Agnieszka worked there, but that would be after Wojciech was born somewhere else.

I searched through the marriage records for marriages with number 1 for the house: I searched 1828 through 1837, 10 full years before Wojciech's Feb 1838 marriage. I spotted 4 of them. Only one of those was obvious nobility, with the standard long paragraph format for nobles; the other 3 marriages seemed to be commoners, with family names familiar to me from the Records [9]. I also searched birth records for house 1, 1828 through 1830; I spotted 5; one of them was illegitimate, with mother named but not the father; two of them had fancy family names, unfamiliar to me, so I suppose those two may have been lesser gentry; the other 2 seem like commoners, with family names familiar to me; one of the 2 mothers is a half-sister of my ancestor Jozef Kmiec.

My Summary for house 1: It seems to me quite a few people lived at the local lord's complex of buildings, no doubt as household servants and other workers. It makes sense people might have been hired from near-by towns as well as from Wadowice Gorne parish.

The house recorded at marriage is number 1 for Wojciech & Agnieszka. There is no house number recorded for their first child, born Nov 1838. His other 4 children that I have listed are house 50 at birth. Apparently they moved sometime after marriage. Note that Apolonia was born in house 50 and married while living in house 50.

Only the 1841 birth record has "WW" in the margin indicating Wola Wadowska [9] as the village for house 50 where they lived; the map distance from the lord's estate location to the center of Wola Wadowska is only 2.5 miles, so it's possible Wojciech continued to work at the estate after moving.

I mentioned above that Wojciech was a bricklayer. It makes sense that a lord's estate would have many building projects with need for a resident bricklayer. We wonder if Wojciech started there as a worker and learned his trade, or if he learned his trade in another town and was hired by the manager of the Wadowice Gorne estate. Maybe his father Stefan was a bricklayer? This paragraph is just speculation.

My conclusion: It seems to me that Wojciech or Stefan Nelec moved from another town to the manor complex at Wadowice Gorne. This discussion here is not conclusive proof, but it seems to be convincing evidence.

Nelec Follow Up. Check the Microfilms [9] for Zgorsko and those other 2 towns; check a few years around 1814 for the birth of Wojciech Nelec, with parents Stefan & Agnieszka. Maybe check other parishes nearby. It might be possible to trace the Nelec ancestry to the mid 1700s. Watch for the family of Agnieszka Wojcik.

Search for Records [9] for more children and grandchildren of Wojciech Nelec & Katarzyna Zajac.

Check the death Records for Nelec.

Czarny Notes

We're lucky that the earliest marriage records have the fathers named for both groom and bride. The 1780 marriage of Jakub Zajac [3] to **Zofia Czarny** [3] names her father **Szymon Czarny** [3]. Those records do not record the ages, but that 1780 record uses the Latin word "Virgine" to indicate that Zofia was not previously married. I used 1760?? as a rough estimate of her birth year.

That marriage record indicates that Zofia is from Luszowice parish. Years ago, I did some research in the Luszowice microfilms [my Book page 40], because my Kmiec ancestor also moved from Luszowice to Wadowice Gorne Parish [9]. That 1780 marriage is the only Czarny record in my Database [9], which has all the earliest 1777 - 1799 records; there were no Czarny families in the Parish.

The word czarny means black.

Czarny Follow Up. Luszowice microfilms include data from the late 17th century; it might be possible to find data for the family of Zofia Czarny.

Padykula Notes

Padykula has a crossed “f”, which is pronounced like the English “w”.

Padykula was the 4th largest family in the Parish [9] during the 18th century, according to my count of Records [9] in my Database [9], which has 62 Padykula birth records 1777 - 1799. That includes 2 Zofia Padykula, both born Apr 1786; their fathers are Marcin and Szymon.

The 1805 marriage of **Zofia Padykula** [3] to Maciej Zajac [3] does not name parents, but their children birth records 1817 and 1820 name Zofia’s father as **Marcin Padykula** [3]. So I’m taking the Zofia born to Marcin on 15 Apr 1786 as the Padykula of interest here.

Age: That makes her 18 at the 17 Feb 1805 marriage, turning 19 two months later. The marriage record has her age as 16. I have noticed it’s common for brides to be recorded younger than true age. The groom turned 22 the day after the marriage, and he is recorded as 21. We can ignore Zofia’s age discrepancy, because the marriage was in house 76, which is the house number of birth for 2 of her siblings; her birth house was 74 [3].

My Database has all the earliest 18th century Records [9] 1777 to 1799, so I quickly found Marcin’s marriage to Katarzyna Zasadzinska [3]. I copied birth data for all 7 children in their family to their *Descendancy* [3].

Ages are not recorded in the earliest marriage records, but “Juvenis” indicates Marcin was a bachelor; I’m using 1756?? as an estimate for his birth year, which is well before the extant Records start in 1777.

Sebastjan Padykula [3]. We are lucky that these earliest marriage records name the father, providing the name of another ancestor from the early 18th century.

Blacksmiths. The marriage record uses “ferri faber” both for Marcin and for his father Sebastjan. This tells us they were both blacksmiths.

Katarzyna [3] is the wife of Sebastjan; I spotted her death record in my Database, where it gives her age 60, and specifies that she is the wife of Sebastjan Padykula. No maiden name. Not certain: There seems to be only one Sebastjan Padykula born before 1777 in my Database, but there is a slight chance this is a different Sebastjan Padykula without any existing data. The house for death is 14; 14 does not seem to be a Padykula house, but she could have been living with a married daughter or with another relative.

Jadwiga and Magdalena [3] seem to be sisters of Marcin. At Jadwiga’s marriage, her father Sebastjan is recorded as ferri faber, and it’s not likely there are 2 Sebastjan Padykula blacksmiths. At Magdalena’s marriage there is no profession for her father Sebastjan, but note the house 74 is where some of Marcin’s children were born. My Database has children for Jadwiga & Magdalena, but I did not copy that data to the *Descendancy*.

Padykula Follow Up. Padykula deaths after 1799 are not in my Database, so look in the Records after 1799 for deaths of Sebastjan & Marcin.

Zajac Notes

The word zajac means hare. An alternate spelling is Zaiac, which is more common in the 18th century Records [9], so Zaiac is the spelling I use in my Database [9]. I use Zajac here because that is the 19th century & modern spelling.

The “j” or the “i” are pronounced like “y” in English; the “c” is pronounced “ts”. The first “a” is pronounced “ah” like the “a” in father. The 2nd “a” has a lower accent - “Zajac”, which is nasal; there is no English equivalent; in this word it is close to the word “own”.

So Zajac is pronounced “Zahy-ownts”.

The name Zajac is not common in the Parish [9], but it’s not very rare either. My Database [9] has 7 Zajac births in the 18th century, 1777 - 1799.

Katarzyna Zajac. [3] At the 12 Feb 1838 marriage [3] of Wojciech Nelec [3] and Katarzyna Zajac, her parents are named as Maciej and Zofia Zajac. Maciej and Zofia are common names, so we should be alert to the low probability of confusion of different couples named Maciej and Zofia Zajac.

There is also the issue of Katarzyna’s age, which is recorded as 24 at her Feb 1838 marriage, pointing to birth around Feb 1814. During my search of the Records when I determined there was no Nelec birth before 1838, I happened to notice Katarzyna Zajac born 15 Nov 1817; that means Katarzyna turned 20 on 15 Nov 1837, being only 20 plus 3 months at that Feb 1838 marriage. I have noticed that it is common for a bride to be recorded younger than her true age, and a groom older; I wonder if they sometimes fib about their age. It’s not common for a young bride to be recorded as 4 years older than true age at her marriage. During that Nelec search I also noticed her sister Maryanna born 28 May 1809; I suppose there may be siblings before 1809, but I did not look. I checked FamilySearch [9], where Maryanna 1809 came up and also Agnieszka 1811 and also Szymon 1820; the FamilySearch database is incomplete. I verified the birth Record for all 4 of these siblings; all 4 have parents Maciej Zajac and Zofia Padykula; the 1817 and 1820 have the additional name Marcin Padykula for Zofia’s father.

To address the age issue, I looked through the birth Records Jun 1812 through Mar 1817. I checked father names, looking for Zajac; I also checked the separate Wampierzow [9] births; for no father I checked the mother. I saw a few Zajac births, but none with the child Katarzyna and no child to a father Maciej.

So I saw no evidence of another Maciej Zajac having children in that time frame in this Parish, and certainly no evidence of a Maciej Zajac married to a Zofia with a family name other than Padykula.

Before modern times, most people were not as mindful of their birth year as we are today.

I wonder if sometimes marriage data was provided by the 2 witnesses, without immediate family present. Or maybe the priest made this record in the evening, alone, writing from his knowledge of the family. I don't know about this, but I have sometimes seen obviously wrong bits of information in vital records.

I suppose it is possible there was a different Maciej Zajac, married to a different Zofia, who had a daughter Katarzyna around Feb 1814 in another parish, and she was also working in house 1 [6] where she met and married Wojciech Nelec.

It's possible a different Maciej & Zofia Zajac had a daughter Katarzyna around Feb 1814 in this Parish, but the record is missing or I missed it.

I can think of yet other scenarios whereby I identified the wrong family. These all seem like unreasonable doubts to me.

Summary for Katarzyna Zajac: I placed her in the correct family [3] with reasonable genealogical confidence.

Maciej Zajac. [3] I tied him in the previous topic as father of Katarzyna, husband of Zofia Padykula, and father of those other 3 children I have listed under his name.

In the early 19th century records, parents are rarely named at marriage, and grandparents are rarely named at births. We are lucky that Maciej's father-in-law Marcin Padykula was named in the 1817 and 1820 births. We are not lucky with Maciej's 1805 marriage; his father is not named; I did not find his father named in those records of Maciej's children. However, I have indirect evidence for his father:

Jakub Zajac [3], and his wife Zofia Czarny [3] have 4 children in my Database [9], all in the 1780's, including the only Maciej Zajac. The other 3 Zajac births in the 18th century were 1795 - 1798: 2 to Tomasz Zajac & Franciszka Morytko, and 1 to the unmarried Malgorzata Zajac in Wampierzow. It seems like a safe genealogical assumption that Jakub is the father of the Maciej who married Zofia Padykula. Of course, this is not 100% certain, for example it's possible the Maciej Zajac who married Zofia Padykula moved into the Parish around 1800.

Michal Zajac [3] is named as father of the groom at the 1780 marriage of Jakub, because the priests were recording fathers at marriages in the earliest extant records. So we have very high confidence that Michal is father of a man named Maciej Zajac. Caveat: I mentioned less than very high confidence that I identified the correct Maciej above; I also expressed less than very high confidence above that I identified the correct Katarzyna. So Michal Zajac as ancestor of Apolonia Nelec is not high confidence, although this is well within standard genealogy practice, in my opinion.

My Database has a 1793 death record for an 80 year old man named Michal Zajac, where the house number was not entered. It's a good genealogy bet that this is the same Michal named in the 1780 marriage, but not high confidence.

My Database has a 1794 death record for a 70 year old woman named **Maryanna** [3] Zajac, where the house number was not entered. This record is in the Wampierzow book. So she died in a different village than Michal, but it's possible she moved in with a relative after Michal died if she was sickly. That Michal death record has "uxoratus" to indicate that he is the husband of a living woman; 8 months later, that Maryanna death record has "vidua" to indicate that her Zajac husband has died. I do not consider it acceptable genealogy to conclude this Michal & Maryanna were a married couple, but it's fun to identify a possible couple from the early 18th century, so I listed Maryanna with the word "speculative" next to her name.

More speculation: There are only 14 total records in my Database for 18th century Zajac. So maybe all the Zajac in the parish descended from Michal & Maryanna. If not, maybe the common Zajac ancestor for this Parish lived in the late 17th century.

Zasadzinski Notes

At the 1778 marriage of Marcin Padykula [3] to **Katarzyna Zasadzinska** [3], we are lucky that her father **Jan Zasadzinski** [3] is named, and Jan's status is recorded as organarii = organist; I suppose he played the organ at the church.

Ages were not recorded at that 1778 marriage; 1758?? is my rough guess for Katarzyna's birth year, assuming age 20; the record uses "Virgine" to indicate no previous marriage.

Other than that marriage, my Database has only one other Zasadzinski record: the 23 Dec 1799 death of Anna Zasadzinska, age 67, implying birth roughly 1732. That makes her old enough to be Katarzyna's mother, although this is very weak evidence of a link. That death was house (30 Wampierzow).

Mitochondrial Mom. Mitochondria have their own DNA. They are like bacteria in our cells, dividing without mixing their DNA. Through a mother's eggs, mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is passed down unchanged to all her children. This is just like the Y-DNA passed down unchanged by fathers (but only to sons). If you glance at the last page here, Katarzyna Zasadzinska is at the bottom, and you can follow the bottom *Pedigree* nodes from her all the way to Anna Maria Gwozdz, who inherited her mtDNA from Katarzyna Zasadzinska. In fact, all the children in the family of Andrzej Gwozdz [2] & Apolonia Nelec have this same mtDNA. (The males have the Gwozdz Y-DNA.) All the female line descendants (like Peter Lutasek [2]) have this same mtDNA, although Peter cannot pass it on.

References

My On-Line Book. <http://www.gwozdz.org/GwozdzFamilyTreeLivingDeleted.pdf>

The last page has my family *Pedigree*. Page 181 has most distant known ancestors for my Gwozdz branch.

That is the 31 Aug 2017 version. I hope to update this someday, although I'm in no hurry. An update will have the new Anna Maria Gwozdz [2] *Descendancy* data, with a reference to this document for more Nelec details, since Nelec is not my ancestry.

Records. I have an on-line list of the vital records that are available for the **parish of Wadowice Gorne**:

<http://www.gwozdz.org/WadowiceGorne/>

The parish includes the towns (or villages) of Wadowice Gorne, Wadowice Dolne, Wola Wadowska, and Wampierzow. These are described in more detail in my Book, pages 20 - 21.

I located the ancestral cottage of our Gwozdz ancestors, in **Wadowice Dolne**, just west of the border with Wadowice Gorne. It is about 8 miles from that cottage to the city of **Mielec**.

Wampierzow, north of Wadowice Gorne, has for a few centuries had a separate chapel where the priests traveled to say Mass, and perform baptisms, marriages, and funerals. In all these Records, Wampierzow has a separate book. In some copy books, Wampierzow records are separate pages at the end of each year.

Today, the road west from Wadowice Gorne passes through Wadowice Gorne, then through Wola Wadowska. I verified this was the case in the 1930s Maps [my Book page 170]. I expect the 1860's Cadastral Maps [below] have a road that follows the same route, although I have not yet taken the time to verify this.

Since 1911, **Wola Wadowska** is included in the parish of Wadowice Dolne. Before that, the Records for Wola Wadowska and Wadowice Dolne were combined in the same record book with Wadowice Gorne. It was only in 1858 that they started adding a note in the margin, Wg vs Wd vs WW, to indicate the village.

Most of the Records are available on **Microfilms**, which can be viewed at your local LDS Mormon Family History Library [my Book pages 175 - 176]. Many pages of the birth records from one of the microfilms have been digitized as jpg images for viewing at the computers that are available at these libraries. I use Indexes [9] as a first step when looking for a record; most records are not indexed, so for most cases we need to scan through the pages of the Records, from a microfilm or from the jpg images. I have studied most of these in Poland, so my computer has lots of jpg images from them, and my filing cabinet has extensive notes.

Tar is my short name for Records located in Tarnow, page 22 in my book. These are 1879 - 1885, so they include the birth records for Anna Maria Gwozdz [2], her sister Apolonia, and some of her cousins.

Indexes. I use 3 indexes [next items]: My Database, FamilySearch, and Geneteka.

My Database. I have an Excel Database with records from Wadowice Gorne Parish. I started this in 2001; most of the entries were in 2003; the last significant additions were in 2016. Now, 2020, there are 6,163 records. The data is from the Microfilms, and from some record books not filmed at Tarnow and at the parish rectory. All the records for the parish that are available, 1777 - 1799, are in this Database. After 1799, selected data has been added over the years, mostly for the families of my ancestors.

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/>. This LDS search is the largest genealogy database, but it is incomplete for data from the Microfilms [9]. Add "Wadowice Gorne" to the place field to restrict searches to these particular microfilms.

Geneteka. <https://geneteka.genealodzy.pl/index.php?op=gt&lang=&w=09pk&rid=8366>. That link goes directly to a Wadowice Gorne birth index that is clearly taken from the Microfilms [9], but this index is obviously incomplete.

Cadastral Records. These taxation records are very difficult to analyze, but they include maps for figuring out the name of the owners of land and houses. Many towns have 19th century cadastral records on the web, but Wadowice Dolne does not. In 2018, Kris Narog, an email correspondent of mine in Poland, visited the State Archives in Przemysl, where he photographed these Cadastral Records for Wadowice Dolne, and made them available on the web for me:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ErNN9ysP19Ou5wo0mS1tWrEbFFYftrvl>

(On my computer, this link does not work with a direct click, but it works if I copy and paste it to my Chrome browser.)

Those records are for 1860. I do not know if only Wadowice Dolne data for 1860 is available, or if other decades can be found in archives in Poland. That link from Narog also has data for Cadastral Records for Wadowice Gorne and Wampierzow.

I'm planning a detailed description of these records for my book. The current version of my book, 2017, says I did not know how to relate house numbers from the Records [9] to specific house locations; now I do.

DNA Matching. A genealogy match may not be a DNA match because of the possibility of cuckoldry, secret adoptions, illegitimacy, etc. Or a new DNA match might show up that does not fit in a pedigree constructed from vital records. Although DNA secretly mixing in is not very common at any particular generation node, a large *Pedigree* tree like on the last page here has many generation nodes, so the possibility becomes significant.

Pedigree Chart

