

The Hoback Men....a beginning of the Journey

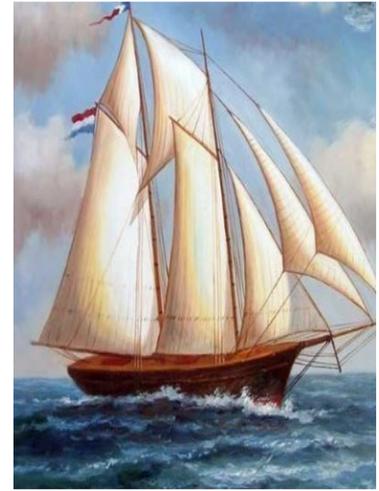
.....In Twelve Generations



Jacob Hoppach Sr.
1638—1714
Christina J Hoppach
1640—1680



Jacob Hoppach Jr
1685 - 1763
Anna Appollonia
1689- 1764



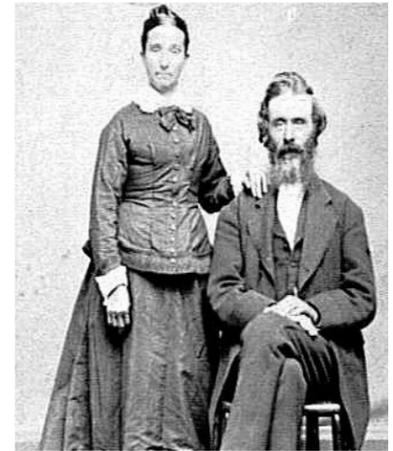
Peter Hoback
1740 - 1819
Margaretta Frasher Gutekunot
1745 - 1834



Wilhelm (william) Hoback
1765 - 1814
Margartea Hoback
1765—1764



John Franklin Hoback
1793 - 1874
Mary Ann Orr
1794 - 1869
Camp Creek Virginia



Robert Orr Hoback
1821 - 1900
Lousia Clark Hoback
1822 - 1885
Virginia to Nebraska



John Wesley Hoback
1845 - 1885
Mary Amy Reynolds
1850 - 1929



Lester Marvin Hoback
1883 - 1965
Lena Etta Williams
1886 - 1965



Lynn LeRoy Hoback
1909 - 1988
Mary Wilkinson Ruhge
1908 - 2003

The Hoback Men....a beginning of the Journey



Richard Lynn Hoback

1943

Charlotte Elaine Kottmeyer

1943 2021

Dorothy Jean Johnson 1946



Alan Scott Hoback

1964



Frederick Karl Hoback

2002

Note: The first five generations pictures are of course Placeholders, as photographs were not available in those years. Photos selected were on the likely livelihood of them at the time.

From Germany to their new home in Nebraska—The Journey

The Journey

The Family Crest indicates that the Hoback's of Germany were primarily farmers. They would not have farmed large parcels of land as we know a farm now. Farming is a general description. It could mean that they raised wheat for flour or barley and hops for making beer. They could have raised garden vegetables and potatoes, knowing that GG Grandpa Robert Orr Hoback did as he and his family arrived in Nebraska. He sold them to wagon train folks as they entered Nebraska at Nebraska City.

Middle names were apparently not used for men in Germany as I do not find them in my search. I imagine they might have used Jacob, son of Hans, or Jacob, son of Jacob. For purpose of differentiating them as Jacob Sr. and Jacob Jr., father and son. We need to bear in mind that countries were small and divided into sections of the county. Families were not mobile then and remained close to where they were born. If Jacob was a boy walking down the road, people knew that it was Jacob, son of Jacob. ☺

Jacob and his wife, Christina Hoppach, then in Honebach, Germany (in the Rhineland), had started their family when the decision (for whatever reason) was to take passage on the Good Ship Thistle. They were located in central Germany and departed from likely Hamburg or from the Netherlands. From either port, it would have been a 400-mile walk. When departing they had small children and Christina was pregnant. They had to have a strong faith in their move. The reason that they left Germany is not known for sure, however 65,000 German immigrants came to Pennsylvania to escape religious persecution and for economic opportunities.

The trip across the Atlantic's rough waters was nearly two months. On arrival, they were required to take the oath of allegiance to the Queen of England as at that time, it was English land they arrived on. That also meant that they gave up their allegiance to their homeland, Germany.

During that trip, Jacob Hoback Jr married Anna Catherine Geiger onboard the ship. Notice the change in spelling now.

When arriving after the nearly 3-month voyage, besides needing a bath, they were required to register and take the pledge of allegiance to the queen of England as the new country was still a possession of the Crown. It was then the name spoken in German, sounded like Hoback. At some point, through to be in church records, the spelling was changed to our now spelling HOBACK. That took place with a few years as records such as obituaries or death records was recorded as Hoback.

It was not written about what the family worked as, when first arriving in Pennsylvania. They were farmers in Germany, however since they were among the 65,000 others arriving, employment was likely difficult. They might have worked as day laborers at tasks such as dock workers. It was not long before they moved on to Virginia to find a new home and farming again.

Not much is known or at least written about the activities of the Hoback's for many years.

Peter was born of Jacob Jr and Anna on the ship en route to America. Peter and Margarette were married and bearing Wilhelm (also known as William). Wilhelm married Margarethe, bearing John Franklin Hoback. John and Mary Ann Orr were married, bearing Robert Orr Hoback. This all took place in Virginia and West Virginia.

Robert Orr Hoback married Louisa M. Clark. This is where our story began. They lived in West Virginia for many years, bearing 4 children in the Virginia's. Seeking new horizons and places to live, they began their journey west.

Now think about it. They traveled with a large covered wagon 800-900 miles which was pulled by Oxen. Oxen did not Steer while sitting on the seat of the wagon. They were led by the wagon master or Grandpa Hoback. Louisa and the older children walked also with only the smallest riding. I have not walked 900 miles on one hike but understand well, how weary they were be after 2 or 3 miles per day. I have read that they stopped for a while en route. Arriving in Nodaway county in northwestern Missouri in the mid 1840's. They built their home from logs and assumed that they farmed there while their children grew, adding more to their family. Learning of new opportunities in the west, they left their home. Following the Missouri River north, they arrived in Iowa across from Nebraska City.

The Boulware Ferry crossed the river there. It was established to carry army personnel and equipment across the river to the fort at Nebraska City. There were many others traveling west and there was a waiting line to be able to cross the river. Many were without resources and needed to sell some of their belongings to pay for the fare for the crossing. Robert and Louisa may have found themselves in the same situation. My mind wonders what it might have been that they had to give up.

The ferry was large. The large wagons with a large team of oxen was perhaps one trip, livestock and other belongings on another. The trip across the river was in a two part and two ferries. The first crossed the widest part to an island in the river, then changing ferries to cross the shorter body of the river.

Following the creek, they found Fort Kearney and Nebraska at last! The fort had been built as an outpost in the western front. It had become more of a Welcome Center to the wagon train folks traveling through. It gave directions and other things such as filling their water barrels with fresh water and a place to rest before they moved on. The year was 1850.

The Journey... con't

Robert found the opportunity to raise, providing produce and other provisions for those travelers. He built a log cabin for his family of 6 or 7 near the Fort. He harvested the logs from the wooded area along the river. That area is now called the Riverview park now in Nebraska City. The city was developing well by now.

By the mid 1850's the fort was needed to move to its current location, south of Kearney Nebraska. The old fort was disassembled, loaded on huge freighter wagons to be hauled west. These freighter wagons were each pulled by a team of up to 12 oxen. Of course, an experienced team master was needed. Robert was just that and helped with moving them west. By 1857, they had moved to the farm southwest of Union, NE where they homesteaded the farm and finished raising their 8 children.

Rebecca at age 8, died and the Pleasant Grove Cemetery was established and deeded. She was buried there. Louisa had gone blind and was very despondent over Rebecca's death. It is said that she quit responding and died. She was buried next to Rebecca. She shares a tombstone with her son John Wesley Hoback who died in his late 30's.

Robert later sold the farm and moved to live with his son's family. He remarried and had a daughter that was named Rebecca also. He was 58 then.

John Wesley Hoback fathered Lester Marvin who fathered, Lynn LeRoy Hoback.

This has been the Hoback Journey to Nebraska.

As seen by Richard Lynn Hoback

John Valentine Hoback a/k/a “Trapper John Hoback”

Cousin Marion Williams traveled from his home in California to many destinations across the country, from the Teton Valley, Wyoming to Kentucky and Virginia to research the Hoback history in America. This is information that he had extensively uncovered in his travels. He is a cousin through Grandma, Lena Etta Williams.

John was a farmer and plantation owner, growing tobacco. He hired Negroes but had never ‘owned a slave’. After his wife had died and his children all grown with their own families, John decided to join his friends, Edward Robinson and Jacob Reznor to travel west, hunting and trapping. They went as far as St. Louis where they agreed to travel west, trapping and gathering furs for the Missouri Fur Company. At the same time, Lewis and Clark had been employed to map the newly purchased Louisiana Purchase, doing so from the waterways west. Seattle by that time had already been established. Nothing was known about the purchase, west of the Mississippi River. Lewis and Clark employed the trio as guides, hunters and trappers, walking the land ahead of the boats on the Missouri River.

They did this to a point referenced, however not on the map. Then, the trio departed the expedition to travel west overland. My thoughts that it might have been at Plattsmouth. The expedition camped there, sending scouts west to see this new river was navigable. The report after several days that the river was too shallow for the boats. The trio might have then traveled west along the Platte.

At some point, they have found the conflicts with the Indians were more than they wanted so were returning with their furs toward St. Louis. It was along this route that they encountered the Astorian Party, directed by Wilson Price Hunt. This expedition was to map the purchase via overland rather than by waterways. Having seen much of the intended travel for the party, the trio was hired to guide the party westward. The Astorians encountered and made peace with many Indians along the way, trading items with them.

Now, since Trapper John was age 66 he and his friends left, Kentucky, the trip was surely wearing on him. At a point along the Hoback River, he was left there to trap and wait for the party to return. Now this was after they had found Seattle and back to the Tetons. They (quote) found him destitute and failing, having been beaten and robbed by the Indians and left for dead. His musket is on display in the Jackson Hole museum, finding it in the Hoback river. He died and was buried on the side of the Hoback Peak, named after him. The writing below is pretty much what I have learned, but had never heard that there was a cabin. Charlotte, Alan and I traveled to Jackson Hole in 1966 to represent the Hoback family in dedicating the Hoback park campground on the river, near the site of his grave.

The following was extracted from the John Valentine Hoback record with Find-a-grave. I did add information about John’s daughter Christian though and clarification which was questioned. She was a granddaughter not daughter. I believe the Reznor’s name in the record as the French name Reznor. Some of this writing was paraphrased.

John Hoback was recorded in post American Revolution from 1790-1794 as being in the service of Kentucky as a scout and spy.

In 1810, five men joined the Astorians on the way upriver. Three of them, John Hoback, Jacob Reznor and Edward Robinson served as guides and trappers, wintered with Andrew Henry of the Missouri Fur Company on Henry’s Fork of Snake River in Idaho. These three men reached the Missouri River by way of Jackson Hole, Togwotee Pass, and the Bighorn Mountains. The other two, Benjamin Jones and Alexander Carson were returning from two years trapping on the upper Missouri.

Wilson Price Hunt of the Astor Expedition (also known as the Pacific Fur Company) originally planned to follow the route of Lewis and Clark, but after talking to the new arrivals, he decided to follow the route of Hoback, Reznor, and Robinson through the Bighorn mountains, up Wind River, over Togwotee Pass, and into Jackson Hole. It is believed that these three were the first white men to come across this area.

Several (some) areas are now named after him:

Hoback Basin

Hoback Bridge (Snake River)

Hoback Canyon

Hoback Peak

Hoback Range

Hoback River

Hoback Junction, Teton Co., Wyoming

The Astorians set the group (Hoback, Robinson, Reznor) up with supplies and hired them to trap. They again had misfortune and was heading back to Kentucky. They again met up with some Astorians and decided to stay in the west to trap.

Trapper John Hoback Con't

In 1813 they (Hoback, Robinson and Reznor) met up with some of their old friends from their first trip trapping. The friends were also being sponsored by the Astorians, so they formed a group with 2 cabins about a mile or so apart.

One of the men was married to an Indian woman. One day while she and her 2 children were visiting a nearby village she heard that some of the younger men were wanting to attack the trappers. She hurried back to warn the men. When she came upon the first cabin finding her husband and all others but one already dead. She took the survivor and her 2 children and headed for the other cabin only to arrive and find all dead. She then returned to the friendly village to hide from those who had killed the trappers.

A few days later another man who was with the Astorians came into the village. She told him what she had found. If it were not for that No one would have ever known what had happened to the trappers.

County: Teton

Latitude/Longitude: 431655N/1104702W

Elevation: 7539/2298 (ft/m)

Origin of Name: The land expedition, under Wilson Price Hunt crossed the northern boundary into the present State of Wyoming in August, 1811, and moved westward. They left the State by way of a canyon, to which they gave the name of Hoback for John Hoback who was a trapper. (WPA) Named for John Hoback, a trapper with Wilson P. Hunt's party. His grave is near the town. (Annals of Wyoming 14:3)~Also known as Johannes "Felty/Felt" Hoppach.

Parents:

Michael Hoback 1710 Hessen Germany - 1809 Westmoreland Co. Pennsylvania

Anna Martha Hoback 1710- Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Siblings:

Catherine Hoback ca 1743, Hessen, Germany

Andreas Hoback 1754, Hessen, Germany - 1787 Kentucky m. Catherine Elizabeth ?? 1760- 1789 LaRue Co., Kentucky

Children:

Margaret "Sophie Hoback 1765-1852 m. Peter Brewer 1760-1840

Michael Hoback 1767-1838 m. Margaret Elizabeth Howell 1766-1850

Isaac Jacob Hoback 1770-1860 m. Sarah Murphy 1778-1810

Sarah "Sally" Hoback 1771-1816 m. Robert Kilen 1767-1816

Catherine Elizabeth Hoback 1775-?? m. John Hall 1764-1853

Diana Hoback ca. 1776-?? m. Jacob Hoback 1773-1845

Anna Marie Hoback ca. 1776-?? m. Issac Harris ca 1773-??

Family Members

Spouse

[Catherine Elizabeth Van Benschoten](#)

[1745-1799 \(m. 1764\)](#)

The Common Connection between John Valentine Hoback and our Hoback branch is fairly certain through Peter and Margareta Hoback. His record name seems to be Valentin , a common German name.

Decedents of John Valentine Hoback

Children:

Christian Hoback Children:

Christian Hoback Stephens 17

Margaret "Sophie Hoback 1765-1852 m. Peter Brewer 1760-1840

Michael Hoback 1767-1838 m. Margaret Elizabeth Howell 1766-1850

Isaac Jacob Hoback 1770-1860 m. Sarah Murphy 1778-1810

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