

# Buracker & Boraker

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## Our German Ancestors

Newsletter No. 9 mentioned that **Daniel and Elizabeth Buracker** (spelled “Burricker” in many records) had thirteen children. Most, of not all, Buracker, Buroker and Boraker families in Virginia, Ohio and Indiana are their descendants. Fortunately, these thirteen children are named in the following deed record of Shenandoah County, Virginia:

*DB V pp. 675-678, 27 May 1815* – In this deed Henry, and his wife Anna Burricker along with Michael Burricker, with his wife Barbara, sell 1/3 part of 40 ½ acres and 2/13 part of 157 acres to Martin Burricker: “the said 40 ½ acres is the Dower of the widow Elizabeth Burricker widow of Daniel Burricker deceased the said 157 acres is that part two thirds which is divided into thirteen parts amongst the legatees of said deceedant...namely Eve Prince, late Eve Burricker, Christianna Griffith, late Christianna Burricker, Polly Tressler, late Polly Burricker, Martin Burricker, Susannah Harshbarger, late Susannah Burricker, Adam Burricker, the said Michael Burricker, the said Henry Burricker, Joshua Burricker, John Burricker, Philip Burricker, Elizabeth Burricker and Joseph Burricker...” The land was on the Big Hawksbill Creek near Blosser’s Mill and Varner’s mill or what was later known as Blosserville Stoneyman.

Daniel Burricker died in 1801. The Boraker families are direct descendants of his son **Henry Burricker** mentioned in that deed. But who was his grandfather? We need to dig for the roots of that family. From the starting date of 1800, let’s go back in time from record to record. Before

1800, the family name was often spelled with a “P.” In German surnames “P” and “B” were often used interchangeably, thus: Pixler and Bixler, Piedler and Biedler, **Porocker** and **Borocker**.

One striking exception, however, is *Heads of Families – Virginia, 1783* where “**Daniel Boraker**” is listed as the head of 8 whites in Shenandoah County. But notice these other land deeds:

Northern Neck Grants Book Q, p. 119 – 25 Nov. **1778**: Daniel and Elizabeth **Porucker** sell 206 acres to Christopher Comer that was granted on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1777. on p.160 of the same book for 1<sup>st</sup> July 1777: The Right Hon. Thomas Lord Fairfax, Baron of Cameron in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, Proprietor of the Northern Neck of Virginia, grants Daniel **Porucker** of Dunmore County a tract of waste and ungranted land on both sides of the Great Hawksbill – corner to Michael Comer and **Michael Porucker** – on the north side of Piney Mountain – in John Crum’s line – cross’d the Great Hawksbill – to Crum’s corner in **Porucker’s** line – 206 acres.

Notice that the land granted to **Daniel Porucker** was next to the land of **Michael Porucker**. Was Michael Daniel’s father?

Between- **1774-1776 Michael Porrocker/Poroker** paid 5 shillings rent on 200 acres. (Virginia Rent Rolls for Frederick and Dunmore Counties). Going back further in time, we come to:

Frederick Co. Va. Deed Book 10, p. 471 – 3 June **1765**: **Michael Porucker** and Eve his wife sell 50 acres of his 250 to Philip Summers for 5 shillings. It is on the north

side of Baker's Run and adjoins Conrad Rick and is part of land deeded to **Porucker** 5 Oct. 1763.

In **1764 Michael Porucker** is on the Virginia Rent Rolls for Frederick County for payment of 5 shillings on 200 acres.

Northern Neck Grants Book M, p. 196 – 5 October **1763**: Thomas Lord Fairfax, etc., grants **Michael Porucker** of Frederick Co, Va. 250 acres on the Great Hawksbill bounded as by a survey made by Mr. John Bailey [sic]– adjoining Coomer's patent land in the low grounds of Baker's Run – on the south side of the Hawksbill – Land rent is one shilling sterling for each 50 acres.

#### A Land Record for 1749

Gertrude E. Gray refers to the following land record: "G-350 – Conrad Rich of Augusta Co. 384 A. in said Co. Surv Mr. John Baylis including Plantation where he lives, adj Henry Crum, **Michael Porucker**, at Foot of Blue Ridge. 18 Jan **1749**" (p. 40, *Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants Volume II 1742-1775*).

Virginia Bird recently found a similar land record pertaining to **Michael Porucker** of Frederick County, dated 12<sup>th</sup> October **1749**:

"Pursuant to a warrant dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of September **1749** granted to Frederick Summa of Augusta for four hundred acres of land joining Coomers land upon the great Hawk's Bill where he now lives but having made the same over to **Michaell Porucker** by virtue of a Bargain of Sale – have surveyed the land accordingly – [a detailed description of the 250 acres that adjoins the lands of Conrad Rich and Henry Crum]. Surveyed the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1749 by John Baylis (*Northern Neck Surveys 1749-1779* on film 2027916, LDS Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah).

The earliest records of emigrants we have so far are from the works of Rupp and Strassburger. The book by Prof. I. Daniel Rupp is entitled, "A Collection of upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 to 1776 etc." On page 149 is the following entry:

"Oct. 17, **1741**. Palatines imported in the ship Molly, Thos. Oliver, Commander, from Rotterdam, last from Deal.

Joseph Hobian  
Michael Miller  
Martin Giese  
**Michael Boracker**  
Etc.

The Rupp lists were revised by Ralph Beaver Strassburger, edited by John Hinks and published as *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* in 1934 by Pennsylvania German Society. It was reprinted in 1966 and 1975 by the Genealogical Publishing Company. Vol. I, p. 310 says:

"(List 87A) A list of all the men from 16 years and upwards. On board the ship Molley, Thomas Olive, Master. (Qualified October 16, 1741.)" The list includes the name: **Michal Broke**, age 28.

Page 311: "(List 87C) At the Courthouse Philadelphia, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 1741. Present: William Allen and Samuel Hasel, Esquire. The Palatines whose Names are underwritten, imported in the ship Molly, Thomas Olive, Commander from Rotterdam, but last from Deal, did this day take the Oaths to the Government, VIZ: **Michael (X) Borocker** [among others]

From the above records, we find that a **Michael Borocker**, age 28 (born about 1713) and illiterate since he signed with an "X", left the port of Rotterdam in Holland in 1741 stopping off at Deal in England. He was in Philadelphia by October 17<sup>th</sup> of that year. It appears that he was originally from the Palatine or Rhineland area of

Germany. Eight years later, **Michael Porucker** owns 250 acres in Virginia.

We have seen that the variations of our ancestor's surname was Burricker, Borocker and Porocker. Both **Boracker** and **Purucker** families can be found in the United States today. (I recently have seen German websites called "Boracker.de" and "Burucker.com".) Surprisingly, both **Burucker** and **Purucker** surnames are also frequently used in books about German genealogy. A researcher in Germany once sent me the following sources:

#### Purucker/Purrucker in German Sources

1. Familiengeschichtliches Such- und Anzeigenblatt, 2.(5.) Jahrgang, Leipzig 1926.
2. K. Meyerding de Ahna, Die Meisterbuecher des Bayreither Meurerhandwerks, Berlin 1930. Also **Burucker**.
3. Verzeichnis der Familiengeschlechter der heute unterfraenkischen Stadt Hammelburg von 1527-1873, 5. Jahr., 1930, H.4
4. Gefallenenengedenkbuch der Stadt Nuenberg 1914-1918, Nurenberg 1929.
5. Die Geislichen.
6. E. Grimm, Grimm, Familiengeschichtliche Mitteilungen. Heft 1-20, Hannover 1924/27.
7. H. Engelhardt, Das Bayreuther Ordinationsbuch 1612-1821, Muenchen 1934.
8. Katalog der fuerstlich-Stolbergischen Leichenpredigtensammlung, Band IV, Teil 1+2, Leipzig 1932-35, Register der Verfasser der Trauer- und Trostgedichte.
9. Dr. B. Koerner, Deutsches Geschlechterbuch, Band 92, Goerlitz 1936. Also **Burucker**.
10. Deutsches Familienarchiv, Bands 8, 46, 59, 64.

#### Puruckherr in German Sources

1. C. Dels, Auszug aus den Kirchenbuechern der Haupt- und Residenzstadt Altenburg vom Jahre 1562-1852, Altenburg 1853.
2. Jacobische handschriftliche Sammlung No. 2, Band 7, page 19.
3. G.V.Selle, Die Matrikel der Universitaet zu Goetlingen von 1734-1837, Leipzig 1937.
4. Voigt, Namensverzeichnis der auf der Universitaet zu Jena Studierden, No. 16-18.

#### Burucker/Burrucker in German Sources

1. H.D.v. Diepenbroik-Grueter, Allgemeiner Fortraest-Katalog, Hamburg 1931-1935.
2. Allgemeine Deutsche Wappenrolle, Band IV, page 111, Berlin 1971 ff.
3. Mitteilungen des Roland, 25, Jahrgang, Dresden 1940.

#### Boracker in German Sources

1. Suchblatt fuer den Familienforscher, Band II, Leipsig 1929-31.

Crossing the Atlantic and finding our ancestral home town is the next major obstacle ahead of us.

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See further details on Ken Gissy's website for Buracker, Buroker, Boraker Genealogy. Go to [www.RootsWeb.com](http://www.RootsWeb.com) then to the "WorldConnect Project Main Page". Type "kgissy" for the data base.

*Happy Holidays!*

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