

Family from Dombroveny, Bessarabia

Written by Molly Arost Staub, Wellington, Florida, 2012



The photo of three people from Dumbraveni are (l to r) Florence (Faiga) Harast (Arost in U.S.), her mother Mintza (Minnie Shtofman Harast), and her brother Usher (Oscar) Harast -- my father.

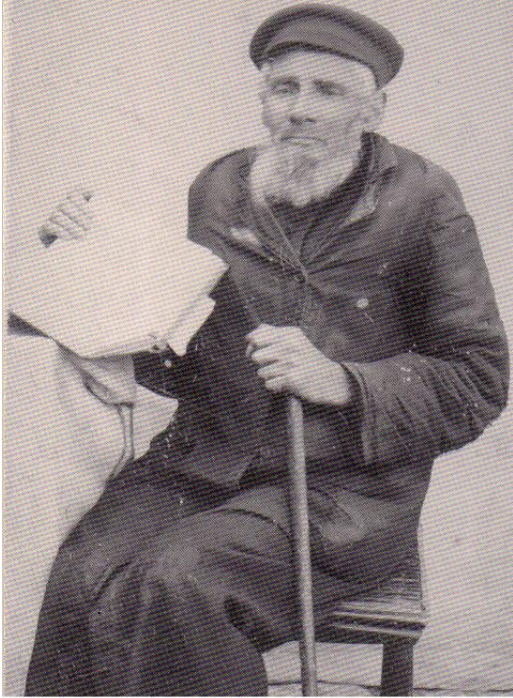
It was probably taken before they emigrated to the U.S. in 1920, settling in Philadelphia where other family members were.

The third son, Chaim (Herman) was in the army. The husband/father Ainoch (supposedly from Yaruga) is not there.

We know through family legend, and now the Jewishgen lists, that the family owned an inn and vineyards. Their records say their last home was Servio, but I can't find that anywhere.

Ainoch had gone to Phila. years before to earn money to bring the others over, and supposedly was robbed and a steel plate put in his head. He had amnesia for several years. but got word his father was dying, so he returned home where he died himself. I had a terrible time tracing Ainoch, but finally located him through HIAS; he had made his name Emil and sailed to England. Nobody knows much about Ainoch: genetic diseases, etc.

The older woman is my grandmother Mintza, as she looked in later years. The bearded man (see below) is her father, Reb Yitzhak (the redhead) Shtofman.



Reb Yitzhak (the redhead) Shtofman, father of Mintza (Minnie Shtofman Harast) and my grandfather.

My grandmother Mintza

