

Kashubian Genealogical Bibliography

compiled by Keith A. Kaszubowski

In the course of time genealogical researchers, and those interested in the subject of onomastics, find themselves constantly referring to the same reference works again and again for help with their research. These works become the "staples" for their research. The following bibliography contains listings for material published primarily in English which concerns Kashubian genealogy and its related subjects.

An Anthology of Kashub-Polish Family Names in Poland, Canada, U.S.A. - Fr. Aloysius Rekowski (1995). 28 pages. Price: \$7.00 Canadian. An excellent work covering 254 surnames. Rev. Al Rekowski
211 Avenue O South
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7M 2R6

The Cassubian Civilization - Friedrich Lorentz, Adam Fischer and Tadeusz Lehr-Splawinski (1935, reprinted in 1983) Preface by Bronislaw Malinowski. ISBN #0-404-16603-2. 407 pages. Ill. Available through intraloc. This book could be considered as an ethnographic bible on the subject of the Kashubs.

The Eaglet - Official Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan (May 1986). This issue contains genealogical information in regard to the Ontario Kashubs, including cemetery inscriptions for the new cemetery in Wilno.

The Eaglet - Official Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan (May & Sep 1995). These issues contain excellent genealogical information in regard to the Kashubians of St. Albertus parish in Detroit, and the Kashubian parish of Puck where many emigrated from.

The Fisherfolk of Jones Island - Ruth Kriehn (1988). ISBN #0-938076-09-4. 142 pages. Ill. Price: \$15.75. Excellent book concerning the Kashubs and Germans who lived the Jones Island peninsula in Milwaukee. Most of the Kashubs there were from the Puck area and the Hel peninsula in Kaszub.

Milwaukee County Historical Society
910 North Old World Third Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

Gazetteer of parish and civil jurisdictions in West Prussia (based on the Gemeindelexikon für das Königreich Preussen, 1905) - compiled by Stephen Barthel (1987). 315 pages. Out of print. Available on 4 microfiche at Family History Centers. Listings for locations are recorded with German place names.

Germanizacja Nazwisk Polskich na Terenie Gdańska w Latach 1874-1944 [Germanization of Polish Surnames in the region of Gdańsk during the time period 1874-1944] - Robert Świętochowski (1966). 125 pages. This book only covers the immediate area near the city of Gdańsk. Many Kashubian surnames are re-

corded. The context of the information is fairly easy to understand for non-Polish readers. Available through intraloc.

History of Polish Pomerania - Publication of the Society of Lovers of History, Poznań. Edited by Dr. Kazimierz Tymieniecki (1929). 181 pages. Two maps. Excellent book, in English, second only to *The Cassubian Civilization* in regard to the history of Eastern Pomerania. Available through intraloc.

The Kashubs From Pomerania, Prussia to Wilno, Canada and Beyond, The Palubicki Story and Genealogy - Rev. Joseph Palubicki C.R. (1992). Price: \$20.00 Canadian. A history of the Palubicki family who emigrated to Canada in 1872. Includes Coat of Arms and some Kashubian history. Write to the following address for availability.

Beverly Palubicki Sieber
252 Dumfries Avenue
Kitchener, Ontario N2H 2E8

The Kashubs-Origins and Emigration to the U.S. - Jan L. Perkowski, Polish American Studies Vol. XXIII, No. 1 (January, June 1966). An excellent article.

The Kaszub Region-Home of the Polish Pioneers of Portage County, Wisconsin - Adeline M. Cope/Sopa, Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (May 1996). Pages 3-7.

The Key Problems of the History of the Kashubs Against the Background of Pomeranian History - Professor Gerald Labuda, Polish Western Affairs Vol. 30, No. 1 (January 1989). 30 pages. This is recommended reading material according to the Kashubian - Pomeranian Association. Available through intraloc.

The Lipusz Peplinski book (1801-1995) Second Edition - Jim Peplinski (1995). Price: \$20.00 Canadian. Third edition may be available by now. Over 2,000 Peplinski descendants recorded.

Jim Peplinski
412 Oakwood Drive
Burlington, Ontario L7N 1X2.

Maps and Records of St. Stanislaus Cemetery (Old Wilno Cemetery) Wilno, Ontario, Canada K0J 2N0 - compiled by Edward Chippior and others (1993). Price: \$10.00 Canadian. A transcript of the interments at the old pioneer cemetery in Wilno. Complete with a map of the cem-

etry. 968 people are recorded. Funds from pamphlets sold help to maintain the cemetery - a very good cause!

Edward Chippior
RR 1

Wilno, Ontario K0J 2N0
Reporter - Milwaukee County Genealogical Society publication Vol. 26 No. 2 (May 1995). Pages 54 through 60 pertain to the Milwaukee Kashubs and their ancestral villages. Includes information on the Kashubian parishes of Czersk, Brusy, Leśno etc.

Milwaukee County Genealogical Society Inc.
P.O. Box 27326

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227-0326

Mitteilungen der K. Preussen Archivverwaltung, Heft 19, Der Adel und der Adlige Grundbesitz in Pommern-Preussen zur Zeit der Preussen Besitzergreifung, Nach Auszügen aus den Vasallenlisten und Grundbüchern - Dr. Max Bar (1911). 274 pages. Basically - The Nobility and their Noble properties in Polish Prussia at the time of the partitions, based upon excerpts from the lists of land records, volume 19, by Dr. Max Bar, Director of the Archives in Danzig. I moved back three generations, to my 7th great-grandfather, with this book in one day, and established my relationship to a fifth cousin once removed (KANA member Diane Wysocky Anderson) the next. This book records nobility in the Kaszub region (in part) as recorded in the 1774-1776 time period. It includes an index to both villages and surnames listed. Even ages are recorded for the nobility at that time. My copy was obtained from the Library of Congress.

Native Realm, The Polish-American Community of Portage County, 1857-1992 - Michael J. Goo (1992). ISBN #0-938627-16-3. 159 pages. Ill. Out of print but may be available through intraloc. Excellent book. Published by the Worzalla Publishing Company.

The Peplinski in Canada, The First Families, The Lipusz, and Leśno Peplinski Families - Shirley Mask Connolly (1995). 75 pages. Price: \$14.00 Canadian. Excellent book published for the 1995 Peplinski family reunion in Barry's Bay, Ontario.

Shirley Mask Connolly
21 Granville Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 0M5

The Polish Hills - Compiled by Venetia Crawford (1989). 40 pages. Ill. Price: \$10.00 Canadian when I obtained my copy in August 1995. This book covers the Kashubian settlement in Pontiac County, Quebec.

Pontiac Print Shop
P.O. Box 4300
Shawville, Quebec JOX 2Y0

Polish Pioneer Families in the Parish of Brudenell to the Year 1870 - Shirley Mask Connolly (1995). 124 pages. Ill. Price: \$20.00 Canadian. Excellent book concerning the parish which the Kashubs belonged to in Renfrew

County, Ontario before they established the parish of St. Stanislaus at Wilno in 1875. She lists a number of interesting Genealogical sources.

Shirley Mask Connolly

21 Granville Avenue

Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 0M5

Polish Settlers in Winona, Minnesota - Paul Libera, Polish American Studies Vol. 15, No. 1-2 (January, June 1958). Pages 18 through 29.

Polish Surnames: Origins & Meanings - William F. Hoffman (1993). 295 pages. Price: \$25.00 (plus postage) US \$3.00 postage, Canada \$4.00, overseas \$5.00. Excellent work which also lists the origins and meanings of many surnames known among the Kashubs. Available from the Polish Genealogical Society of America. This new updated version of his last book is now available. It has been actually doubled in size to include over 30,000 surnames. Fred Hoffman is our "Friedrich Lorentz" of the 1990's.

PGSA c/o Marcia Bergman

926 Oxford Lane

Wilmette, IL 60091 USA

The Settlement and Activity of the Kashubs in the U.S.A. - Rev. Władysław Szulist, The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (May 1995). Translated by William F. Hoffman from *Z geografii osadnictwa i działalności Kaszubów w Stanach Zjednoczonych, Studia Polonijne*. Vol. 4, Lublin, 1981. One of the best articles available in English on the subject of the Kashubs in the United States.

Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich [Geographical dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and other Slavic countries], ed. Filip Sulimierski (1880-1902). 15 Volumes. Lists even the smallest villages in Kaszub. A great way to identify which parish your ancestor's village belonged to. The information for an individual location varies. It is available on microfiche and microfilm at Family History Centers. Microfiche is recommended because of the lower cost to obtain it. Another bonus is that all microfiche obtained at Family History Centers is maintained on indefinite loan. *Słownik nazwisk współcześnie w Polsce używanych* [Directory of Surnames in Current Use in Poland], ed. Prof. Kazimierz Rymut (1993). This ten volume set of reference books lists every surname found in Poland as of 1990. About 608,000 surnames are recorded. Each surname listing records the total number of people with that surname and breaks down that total among the 49 provinces of Poland. No given names or addresses are recorded. No further information is provided. Note: See page 8.

Who's Who in Polish America - Rev. Francis Bolek (1943). 579 pages. Contains over 5,000 biographical sketches of Poles living and dead who made their mark on Polonia in the Americas. Many Kashubians of note are recorded. The 1996-1997 edition of *Who's Who in Polish America* only lists a few Kashubians, namely: Burant, Czapiewski, Koss and Skwierawski.

Father Sychta

(continued from page 1)

theology in the seminary in Pelplin and at the University of Poznań. He was ordained in Pelplin in 1932 and Pelplin seems to have served as his headquarters till his death in 1983.

Kashubian culture interested him since his youth. As a high school student he wrote the first of many popular plays in the Kashubian dialect for the stage at his school. His multi-faceted talent was evident from his youth. He wrote poems, painted, did excellent drawing. But above all he was fascinated by language. He began recording and researching the various Kashub dialects.

Following their invasion of Poland in 1939, the Nazis confiscated Sychta's newly-published book, written in Kashubian, entitled: "*Budźcie śpiącymi!*" (Let Us Wake The Sleeping). They burned ten thousand copies of this book along with many other Polish books in the town square of Wejherowo. During the war, Sychta and many other Polish patriots had to remain in hiding to elude the Germans. After the war, Sychta started his work anew. He wrote plays and undertook again the painstaking task of researching his native Kashubian language. He collected and recorded anecdotes, idioms, stories, songs, *frantówki*, customs of various areas, as he toured all the Kashubian countryside. He made 25,000 entries in his notes as he went through the villages and towns, observing the rich tapestry of the language with all its ancient Slavic nuances. He was assisted in this arduous task by his sister Anna. Dr. Sychta spent over 30 years in this monumental task. Finally in 1967, the Polish Academy of Sciences published Sychta's seven volume: "*Słownik Gwar Kaszubskich*" [Dictionary of Kashubian Dialects]. The dictionary is now out-of-print, rare, and I am fortunate to own one copy of Vol. I, A-G.

Linguists, scholars, writers and poets heaped praise on this truly monumental work. The dictionary is of timeless, lasting value, especially as the various local dialects tend slowly to get swallowed by the classical languages. It is ranked among the best dictionaries in the world. Indeed it serves as an encyclopedia of the whole Kashub culture. And this vast study was accomplished by one, quiet, hard-working priest!

The Kashubian-Pomeranian Assn., which includes the most illustrious writers, scientists and artists of Pomerania, commemorated the publication of this outstanding work with a medal presented to Father Sychta. Kashubs are proud of this man who has so diligently recorded their everyday speech. The enemy forces burned Sychta's book: "Let Us Wake The Sleeping" but, through his work, faith and love for his country, Sychta has truly awakened the slumbering. The Nazis tried to wipe out Kashubian culture and its guardians. Today Kashubian and Polish culture has been enriched by Sychta's work. Through his Dictionary and other books, Father Sychta continues to serve his God and his country.

Fr. Rekowski's new book: "*The Saga of the Kashub People in Poland, Ontario and the U.S.A.*" will be available sometime this month. The book contains over 120 articles by Fr. Rekowski, which appeared in the *Barry's Bay This Week* newspaper, along with additional material, including over 100 photos and maps. To reserve a copy, write to: Fr. Al Rekowski, St. Mary's Rectory, 211 O South, Saskatoon, SK, Canada S7M 2R6.