

Melissa Ann Thomas (1860 – 1930)

Melissa Ann Thomas was born September 2nd 1860ⁱ to H. E. Thomas and Liddy Owens¹ in Sterling Whiteside County Illinois.²⁻³

On August 8th 1867, Martha Handlong, made her mark, attesting; she knew Melissa was born September 2nd 1861; that she saw Melissa the day after she was born, while Elizabeth was confined, and that Melissa was still living.

In 1870 Melissa lived with her mother Elizabeth, sister Christiana, and her 81 year old grandmother, Christiana Owens, in the Mount Top post office area of Wright Township in Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Living next door was Elizabeth's sister Mary Carey and her husband George.

By 1880 Melissa was still living in Wright Township with her mother and sister Christiana. Also living with them is Elizabeth's grandson, Samuel Cleary, who is the son of Elizabeth's daughter Christiana. There was also a Redmond Thomas living with Elizabeth.ⁱⁱ About four homes away where Elizabeth's sister, Mary Carey, and in another home was Elizabeth's son Daniel Thomas and his family.

Melissa married Conrad Stein about 1886, and they lived in Dorrance Township in Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Conrad was born December 25th 1861 to Henry Stein in Dickson City located in Lackawanna County Pennsylvania.⁴ Both of Conrad's parents were born in Hessen Germany. Conrad and Melissa lived their entire lives in Dorrance Township, Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

In 1920 the Conrad and Melissa lived in Dorrance, and living with them was their daughter Edith, who was single, and their grandson Martin Henry, who was 4 years old. Martin is the son of their daughter, Christine Stein. By 1930 the family still lived in Dorrance, and living with them was their son J. Henry, and their daughter Christine Stein and her family.

Melissa was 69 years old when she died December 14th 1930. She was laid to rest on December 17th in the Dorrance Cemetery,ⁱⁱⁱ in Ashley, Dorrance Township, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. The informant on her death certificate was her husband Conrad Stein.⁵ FAG#: 35737502

ⁱ Melissa's birth date is what was recorded on her death certificate. A different date for Melissa's birth; September 1st 1860, was recorded on Hezekiah's Civil War Widow Pension File.

ⁱⁱ There is no record of Redmond being a child of Hezekiah and Elizabeth in the 1867 Civil War Widow Pension affidavits.

ⁱⁱⁱ Emmanuel United Church of Christ Cemetery is also known as Dorrance Cemetery, and Emmanuel UCC Cemetery, which is located in Dorrance, Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

After Melissa died, Conrad lived with his daughter, Christiana Henry. In 1940 he was still living with them.

Conrad was 93 years old when he died November 30th 1955 in Rural Dorrance, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. He was laid to rest with his wife on December 3rd in the Dorrance Cemetery in Ashley. Harry Henry of Mt. Top Luzerne County was the informant on the death certificate. Harry is the husband on Conrad's daughter, Christine. ⁶ FAG#: 35737503

According to the 1900 and 1910 census records, Melissa and Conrad had six children who were all still living.

- i. George Leonard Stein (1887-1945). He married Lennie.
- ii. Gertrude May Stein (b. 1889). Gertie was with the family in 1900 and 1910.
- iii. Christiana Stein (1891-1980). She married Martin Henry.
- iv. Cora Agnes Stein (b.1892)
- v. John Henry Stein was born about 1898. He was single and lived with his sister, Christiana and her family in 1940.
- vi. Edith Winna Stein (1900-1990). She married Mr. Rinehimer.

George Leonard Stein (1887-1945)

George Leonard Stein was born September 9th 1887 to Melissa Thomas and Conrad Stein in Dorrance Township, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ⁷

George married Lennie, and they lived at 36 Manhattan Street in Ashley Luzeren County Pennsylvania.

George was 57 years old when he died March 18th 1945 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County Pennsylvania. He was laid to rest March 21st in the Maple Hill Cemetery, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Mrs. Philip Brown, of 302 Ridge Street Ashley, was the informant on his death certificate. ⁸

Christiana Stein (1891-1980)

Christiana Stein was born 1891 to Conrad Stein and Melissa M. Thomas in Wapwallopen, Conyngham Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

Christiana was 18 years old when she married Martin Henry on May 12th 1909 in Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ⁹ Harold Martin Henry ^{iv} was born August 25th 1888 to Miles Henry and Abbie L. Long in Sweet Valley, near Broadway in Union Township, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ¹⁰ Harold was sometimes recorded as Martin.

When Harold signed up for the WW I draft on June 4th 1917, he was a Forman for the National Rubber Company in Pottstown, Montgomery County Pennsylvania. The family had four children under seven years old, and they lived at 453 King Street in Pottstown. ¹¹ By 1920 the family was still living at lived at 453 King Street, and Martin was still working for the rubber company.

In 1930 the family was back living in Dorrance Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Martin was a truck driver for a dairy company. The family was living with Christiana's parents, Conrad and Melissa.

In 1940 Martin was still a truck driver for a trucking company, and his family lived on Highway Route 404 in Dorrance, Dorrance Township Luzerne County. Living with the family was Christiana's father, Conrad, and her brother John H. Stein. Also living with the family was Martin's and Christiana's daughter, Bessie, who was married with two children.

^{iv} Harold Martin Henry's full name was derived from his children's marriage applications.

It's uncertain what happened with the family after 1940, but Christina and her sons, Harold Martin Henry Jr. and James Victor Henry were living in Los Angeles. It may be that Martin died and Christiana moved out to Los Angeles, and lived at 90280 South Gate, Los Angeles, California. ¹²

She died November 3rd 1980 in Los Angeles California.¹³ She was laid to rest at the Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, Los Angeles County, California. FAG#: 131851138

Christiana and Harold had these children.

- i. Gertrude M. Henry was born in 1910. She was with the family in 1920
- ii. Alice Abbie Henry was born November 30th 1912 to H. M. Henry and Christiana Stein in Wapwallopen, Conyngham Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Alice was 16 years old when she died September 3rd 1929 in Nanticoke Luzerne County Pennsylvania. She was laid to rest September 9th in the Dorrance Cemetery, Dorrance Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Her father was the informant on her death certificate.¹⁴ FAG#: ^v
- iii. Harold Martin Henry Jr. was born July 23rd 1914 in Plainfield New Jersey. ¹⁵Harold entered the US Navy in October 10th 1943, and served during WW II and the Korean War.

Harold died June 24th 1997 in Los Angeles California. ¹⁶ He was laid to rest June 30th in Section 56b Site 1148 of the Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard Riverside, California. ¹⁷ FAG#: 780911

- iv. Conrad Miles Henry was born in 1917 to Harold Martin Henry and Christiana Stein in Wapwallopen, Conyngham Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ¹⁸

Conrad worked as a laborer, and lived at 956 Green Avenue in Brooklyn New York. He was 20 years old when he married 17 year old Caroline Hughes on March 25th 1937, by Reverend B. E. Wentzel in Dorrance Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Caroline was born 1920 to Edward Hughes and Arline Burrirt in Ashley, Dorrance Township Luzerne County. When she married she was living with her parents at 119 Hartford Street in Ashley, Dorrance Township Luzerne County. ¹⁹

^v Find-A-Grave, FAG, is a web site for cemetery memorials, <http://www.findagrave.com>

- v. Bessie C. Henry was born in February 1919. She married Mr. Drasher.

Bessie's children

- a. Arthur Drasher was born in 1938
 - b. Patsey Drasher was born March 1940
- vi. Glenmore Harry Henry was born in 1920 to Harold Martin Henry and Christiana Stein in Wapwallopen, Conyngham Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ²⁰

Glen was 22 years old when he married 20 year old Elizabeth Eicher on September 19th 1942, by Minister William H. Geiger, in White Haven, Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Elizabeth was born in 1922 to Jacob Eicher and Gertrude Brenner in Wilkes-Barre Luzerne County. ²¹

- vii. James Victor Henry was born 1923 to Harold Martin Henry and Christiana Stein ²² in Wapwallopen, Conyngham Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

James was 30 years old, living at 7532 Ira Avenue in Bell Gardens Los Angles when he married 27 year old Treva Lee Suggs-Bridges on August 3rd 1952, by Reverend Margaret Butterworth, in Compton California. Trava was born in 1926 to Adolphes Suggs and Stella Smith in Florida. Treva was previously married. When she married, Treva was living at 6871 Ira Avenue Bell Gardens Los Angeles. ²³

- viii. John M. Henry was born 1925.
- ix. Charles Henry was born February 1926.
- x. Luther Henry was born February 1929.
- xi. Robert L. Henry was born November 1928.
- xii. Edward Henry was born in 1931

Edith Winna Stein (1900-1990)

Edith Winna Stein was born May 27th 1900 to Conrad Stein and Melissa Thomas in Dorrance, Dorrance Township Luzerne County Pennsylvania. ²⁴

Edith married George Morgan Rinehimer ²⁵ on September 15, 1920. George was born September 13th 1893 in Luzern County Pennsylvania.

George died December 27th 1967 in Luzerne County. He was laid to rest at the Emmanuel United Church of Christ Cemetery, Dorrance Township Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. FAG#: 35887027

Edith died May 15th 1990 in Luzerne County Pennsylvania. She was laid to rest with her husband at the Emmanuel United Church of Christ Cemetery. FAG#: 35887026

Bibliography

1. Hezekiah Thomas Civil War Widow's Pension Application Claim#: 10222 and Pension Certificate #: 30229, National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001.
2. 1850 Hezekiah Thomas Census: Hanover, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
3. 1860 Henry Stein Census: Blakely, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
4. 1870 Elizabeth A. Thomas Census: Wright, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
5. 1870 Conrad Stein Census: 1870 Conrad Stein Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
6. 1880 Elizabeth Ann Thomas Census: Wright, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
7. 1900 Conrad and Vilissa (Melissa) Stein Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
8. 1910 Conrad and Melissa Stein Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.

9. 1920 Conrad and Melissa Stein Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920; (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
10. 1920 Martin H. and Cristiana Henry Census: Pottstown Ward 5, Montgomery, Pennsylvania; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920; (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
11. 1930 Cunrad (Conrad) and Elizabeth (Melissa) Stein Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930; Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
12. 1930 Martin and Christine Henry Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930; Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
13. 1940 Harold M. and Crystine (Cristiana) Henry Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, T627, 4,643 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
14. 1940 Bessie C. Drasher Census: Dorrance, Luzerne, Pennsylvania; Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, T627, 4,643 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.

End Notes

¹ Hezekiah Thomas (1825-1862) Research Paper: Taylor-Graham Library, c/o Bob Graham, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

² Melissa Thomas Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from the Hezekiah Thomas Civil War Widow Pension File Application, Claim#: 10222 and Pension Certificate #: 30229, National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; Taylor-Graham Library, c/o Bob Graham, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

³ Melisa Thomas Marriage: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 117258, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁴ Conrad Stein Birth Date, Father's Name, and Birth Location: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 98491, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁵ Melisa Stein Name, Death Date, and Burial: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 117258, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁶ Conrad Stein Birth Date, Father's Name, and Birth Location: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 98491, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁷ George Leonard Stein Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 28140, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁸ Conrad Stein Death Date, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 28140, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁹ Christiana Stein Name and Marriage: The information came from her marriage application, Marriage Records 1885 to Present, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 200 North River Street Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18711.

¹⁰ Harold Martin Henry Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's names: The information came from his Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Note Jun 1937: Name listed as Harold Martin Henry, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

¹¹ Harold Martin Henry Name, Birth Date, 1917 Residence, Children, and Occupation: The information came from his United States Selective Service System; World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, National Archives and Records Administration, M1509, 4,582 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.

¹² Christiana Towner California Residence: The information came from her Social Security Death Index (SSDI), Social Security Administration's Death Master File Extract, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

¹³ Christiana Stein Name, Husband's Name, Parent's Names, California Residence, and Death Date: The information came from her State of California Death Index, 1940-1997, Sacramento, California, State of California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, PO Box 997377, MS 0500, Sacramento, California 95899-7377.

¹⁴ Alice Abbie Henry Name, Birth Date, Parent's Names, Death date, and Burial The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #: 93033, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

¹⁵ Harold Martin Henry Jr. Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from her Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Notes: Nov 1936: Name listed as Harold Martin Henry Jr.; 03 Jul 1997: Name listed as Harold M. Henry. Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

¹⁶ Harold Martin Henry Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Mother's Stein Name, Death Date, and Place of Death: The information came from his marriage application, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Birth, Death and Marriage Records Section, P.O. Box 489, Norwalk, California 90651-0489.

¹⁷ Harold Martin Henry Name, WWI and Korea War Service, and Burial: The information came from his burial records, U. S. Department of Veteran Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, Burial Location Request, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20420.

¹⁸ Conrad Miles Henry Name and Parent's Names: The information came from her marriage application, Marriage Records 1885 to Present, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 200 North River Street Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18711.

¹⁹ Conrad Miles Henry 1937 Residence and Occupation, Marriage, Place of Birth, and Details of Wife's Parents and Residence: The information came from her marriage application, Marriage Records 1885 to Present, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 200 North River Street Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18711.

²⁰ Conrad Miles Henry Name and Parent's Names: The information came from her marriage application, Marriage Records 1885 to Present, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 200 North River Street Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18711.

²¹ Conrad Miles Henry Name and Parent's Names: The information came from her marriage application, Marriage Records 1885 to Present, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 200 North River Street Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18711.

²² James Victor Henry Name and Parent's Names: The information came from his marriage application, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Birth, Death and Marriage Records Section, P.O. Box 489, Norwalk, California 90651-0489.

²³ James Victor Henry 1953 Residence, Marriage, Her 1953 Residence and Her Parent's Names: The information came from his marriage application, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Birth, Death and Marriage Records Section, P.O. Box 489, Norwalk, California 90651-0489.

²⁴ Edith W. Stein Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from her Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.

²⁵ Edith W. Stein Marriage to Mr. Rinehimer: The information came from her Social Security Applications and Claims, 1936-2007, Notes: 05 Oct 1972: Name listed as Edith W. Rinehimer, Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries at 1100 West High Rise, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore Maryland 21235.