

Three Rivers

Hudson~Mohawk~Schoharie

History From America's Most Famous Valleys

The Young (Jung) Families of the Mohawk Valley
1710-1946

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THEOBALD YOUNG (JUNG) FAMILY

By Clifford M. Young

Theobald Young arrived in this country in the Palatine immigration of 1710. According to the New York Subsistence list of Palatines in the Hudson River settlement, he was single on arrival and was still unmarried in 1712. The Simmendinger Register of 1717 records Dewalt (Theobald) Jung and wife Maria Catharine at New Hessberg (Fuchsendorf) Schoharie. The church record of Rev. Joshua Kocherthal (West Camp and Athens German Lutheran) states that he baptized John Adam Jung, born May 17, 1717 to Theobald and wife Maria Catharine Jung; sponsors Johann Jost (Joseph) Laux, Johann Adam Kopp and Catharine Frey. Adam was baptized with 17 other children in Schoharie June 6, 1717. Rev. Kocherthal died at West Camp in 1719 and unfortunately the births of other children of Theobald Young do not appear in available church records.

Theobald and Hendrick Young were naturalized in Albany in 1716 (Schoharie being then in Albany county). The records do not indicate that any other Palatine emigrants bearing the name Jung (Young) went from the Hudson Valley with their families to Schoharie, besides Theobald and Hendrick. In about 1722 these two Jung families migrated from Schoharie to the Maquas (Mohawks) country, with many others from Schoharie. They apparently took up residence in the vicinity of Canajoharie, as the Stone Arabia patent was almost immediately thereafter granted to Palatines; and in 1730 Col. Philip Schuyler of Albany, a land owner in the Valley, deeded to Hendrick Young 703 acres of land between what is now Palatine bridge and Nelliston; in 1732 the said Hendrick Young deeded the same land to Stephanis Groesbeck of Albany, and Theobald Young witnessed the signature of Hendrick Young. (See copy of deed elsewhere).

Theobald and Maria Catharine Young had other children besides Adam, but just how many is not clearly stated in the records. There were at least three other sons-Frederick, Andreas and Theobald, Jr. There were of record at least two daughters-Elisabeth and Catharine. The land papers on file in the state library indicate that Theobald Young, Sr., had a sister, but her name is not given.

So it appears that this family consisted of the elders, a sister of Theobald, Sr., four sons and two daughters. Of the children of Theobald the existing church records show only the birth of John Adam Young in 1717 in Schoharie.

There is no evidence that this family left the Canajoharie vicinity until after 1752, when the patent of 14,000 acres of land south of German Flats was issued to Theobald Young, his three sons and several others. In the meantime two of the sons had married, or were married very soon thereafter. While Frederick was one of the patentees, it does not appear that he ever lived on any part of the Theobald Young patent but remained in the vicinity of Canajoharie. The early maps show the lots belonging to Theobald to be at the south end (Warren) and to Adam and Andreas at the north end-Kyle or Youngsfield. French's Gazetteer of 1860, referring to small settlements in Herkimer county in 1775, called Startville, VanHornesville and Smith Corners, mentions, "another settlement commenced at the Kyle, so-called, and there lived the families of Walrath and Adam Young who were early settlers."

It should be stated that a deed is recorded in the Albany County Clerk's office, dated 1754, deeding 13,000 acres of the Theobald Young patent of 14,000 to Jacob Timmerman. (See Book 6 in safe). This would indicate that this Young family was not such an extensive land owner in that vicinity during the Revolution, although it is probable that the additional 1,000 acres had been retained by these people. This land was a part of Albany County, up to March 12, 1772, when Tryon County was erected, which accounts for the fact that the deed in question was recorded in Albany county. When Tryon county came into being, the Theobald Young patent was in the Town of Canajoharie, and later in the Town of Minden, before the towns of Warren and Stark were so designated as parts of Herkimer county. The town of Warren was taken from German Flats February 5, 1796 and the town of Stark from Danube April 28, 1828.

The Theobald Young family appears to have been of unusual rank and influence among these early settlers, as the Herkimer county historians state that "certain shrewd and far-sighted men of the Mohawk Valley, such as John Jost Petrie of German Flats and the Young's of Canajoharie had it in common with capitalists in Albany and New York to whom they pointed out the desirability of obtaining these grants." (Large land patents.)

The Herkimer County Historical Papers, and histories of that county by W. F. Beers, N. S. Benton, and Hardin and Willard are exhaustive and most valuable to students of New York State history. They direct attention to the fact that the YOUNG family living in the present town of Warren (Little Lakes section and Kyle) were friendly to the Loyalists.

It should be borne in mind that the crucible of the Revolution which made possible this great land of the free, was not only a matter of England against the Colonists but of Colonists against one another. Loyalists and Patriots resided in the same community, neighbor was arrayed against neighbor, and sometimes brother against brother. What may have been the motives for certain acts of our ancestors in those remote periods of history cannot be stated with fair discernment in research of this nature. We are gratified that no record has been found of a JUNG having been hanged for "hoss stealin."

A review of the land papers on file in the State Library in Albany shows that the Younges had received generous consideration from the Crown in land deals. Besides the 14,000 acre patent mentioned in the foregoing, dated August 25th, 1752, they had received also large land grants not far distant. It could therefore hardly be expected that Theobald, who was an aged man at the time of the Revolution, if still living, would be able to take any active part in the war, or that he would be unfriendly with the British for the reasons stated. Land papers of 1789 refer to him as "the late Theobald", indicating that he had departed this life very close to the Revolutionary War period, quite probably several years before.

His sons were approximately between the ages of 45 and 62 in 1779 at the time of Brant's raid of the vicinity in question. The historians mentioned state in substance that the buildings of a man named House and those of Theobald Young's family at Little Lakes were spared by the raiders of nearby refer and this so enraged the members of the militia and patriotic neighbors who survived the raid but lost everything they had, that they proceeded to the settlement in question and retaliated by destroyed their property.

Canadian records show that Adam Young of the Kyle*, and sons John, Henry, Daniel and David, were Loyalists and went to Canada at Niagara, taking up residence after the war on the Grand River, Haldimand

* The Kyle or Chyle or Chylt derived its name from a depression or hole where a stream disappears and was known to the Indians as Theogsowone. (Simms says this meant a wedge). This peculiar phenomenon may be seen today from the adjacent highway.

County, south of the city of Hamilton, Ontario. Adam's property in the Kyle was confiscated.