

The Genealogy of the Walter Family

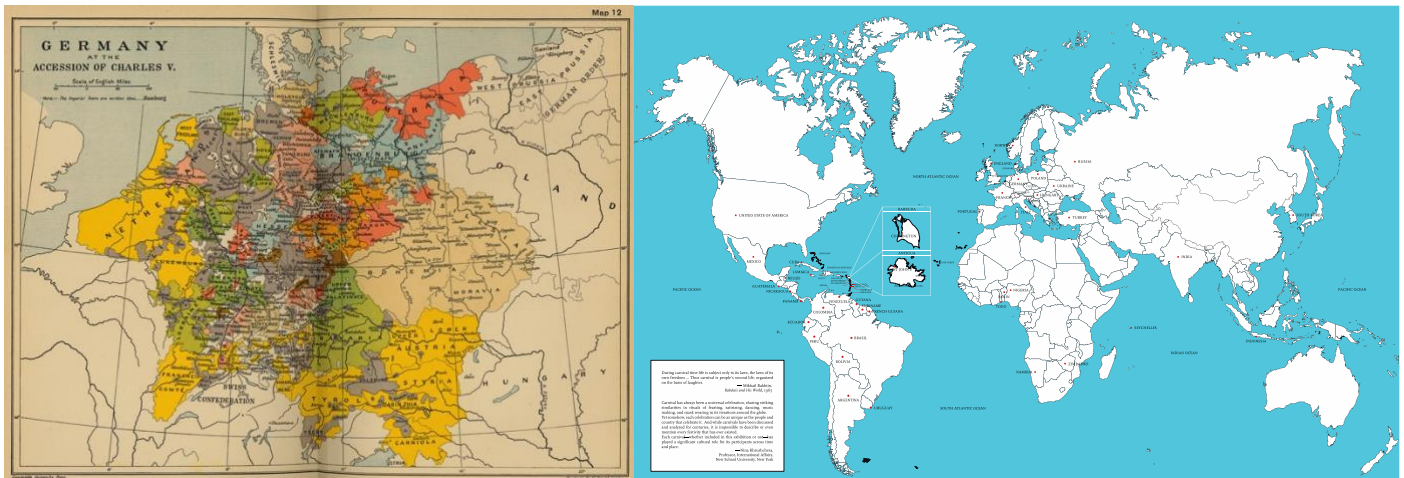


INTRODUCTION

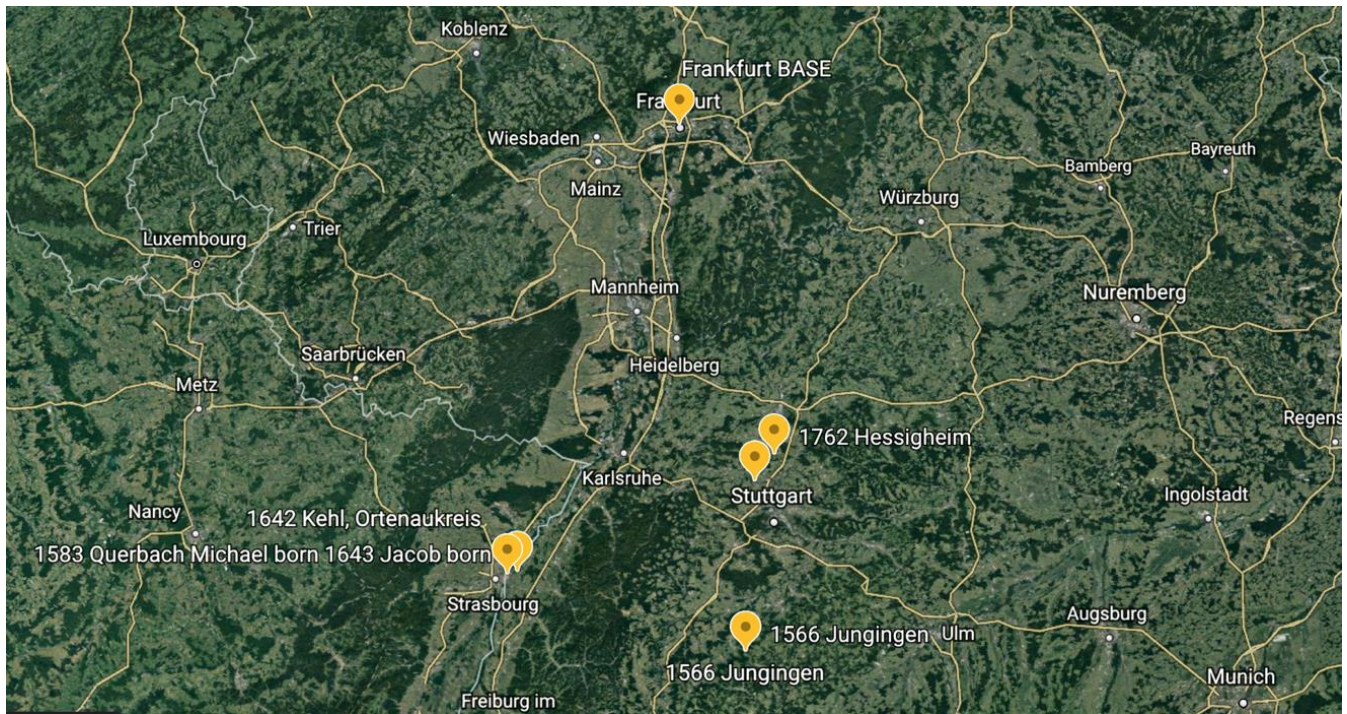
Genealogy was always at the center of Frank Walter's inquiry. The remarkable genealogy of the Walter family of Antigua spans the globe, and has been the subject of interest since the pioneering work of descendant Australian MIT Professor Perry Miles. Among Dr. Miles's forbears was Christina Walter-Steigenberger, an Antiguan born woman who traveled to London, where she passed for white and married a prosperous merchant, eventually resettling in Australia. In the process, she reinvented her family as wealthy white plantation owners. This was in fact truthful, however she omitted the information regarding her racially mixed forebears. Working from the solid foundation of Dr. Perry Miles's extensive research, and with American-born Richard Walter's well documented Walter Family Tree posted on [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), one can now trace the Antiguan Walter family as far back as the mid 16th century. Twelve generations are hereby established.

In general, the Walter family history commences in Germany near the Rhine, in the rich farmlands around Eckartsweier, Querbach, Kehl, and Ortenaukreis in Baden-Wurtemberg. Kehl is on the Rhine River, directly across the German border from Strasbourg. The Antiguan branch of the Walter family lived there for over two hundred years from the mid 1500's, before emigrating to Antigua via London and Baltimore. According to a Walter genealogist, descendants are everywhere, and everyone in that region is more or less Walter. Upon the marriage in 1762 of Christopher Walter to Maria Magdalena Neuhausen, daughter of a baker, the Walter family moved north, settling in the village of Markgroeningen. Their son John Jacob Walter traveled to Antigua where he became a wealthy baker (he was awarded the lucrative contract to supply bread to the Royal British Navy), and began the long line of Antiguan Walter family.

How ironic to reflect upon the fact that Frank Walter traveled through this countryside, absorbing the landscapes, intellectual history, and legends of the Rhein. And almost surreal to think about how Walter's first museum-based retrospective should be in Frankfurt, a place less than two hours away!



Left: Map of Germany; Right: Map of the World showing Antigua at its Center



Map of the Early Walter Family German Settlements near the Rhine River

1566

(9th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

Michael Walter (1566-1629) Born on 23 June, 1566 in Jungingen u. Neenstein, Wurttemberg. The earliest recorded Walter from Frank Walter's direct line (John Jacob Walter of Antigua's ancestor) is Michael Walter. Family genealogies state that Michael Walter died in Querbach (Wurttemberg Germany), however he could have been from a nearby region and eventually died in Querbach as that is where his son was born. He had a son (Jacob Walter) in 1583 in Querbach. Michael died on 4 January, 1629. Michael's father is recorded as Michell (GGGGGGGGGG Grandfather of Frank Walter), and he was married to Anna Walter. Other than their son Michael's birth certificate, one can find no records about Michell or Anna.

1583

(8th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

Jakob Walther (1583-1643) was born in Querbach, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany. Son of Michael Walter and Agnes (nee Jockers) Walter. Jacob Walter died 29 March, 1643 in Kehl at age 60. (Jacob m first wife Anne Dilles (1596-1632 of Kehl) and had two children.) After Anna died in 1632, he married second wife Agnes Jockers (born 1596. She was the daughter of Sixt Jockers. She died in Kehl, 8 March, 1643, age 47). Jacob was 55 (his wife 42) when Hans Walter was born on 20 January, 1638.

1638

(7th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

Hans Walter (1638-1712). Born Kehl, Baden-Wurttemberg married Maria Luz (1642-1703). They married on 24 September, 1660 at Christuskirche, in Kehl. They were both buried in Kehl. (Hans Walter was the son of Agnes Jockers and Jacob Walter. He was born 20 January, 1638 in Kehl and died 20 February, 1705 in Kehl). Maria Luz (aka Lux) died in Kehl on 6 May, 1703 at age 61. Maria Luz was the daughter of Hans Luz (died 1660 in Eckartsweier), and she was born in Eckartsweier, Ortenaukreis.

1668**(6th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)**

JACOB WALTER (1668- 6 May, 1713) was born on 30 March, 1668, in Kehl, Baden-Wurttemberg. Jacob married Anna Rosser (1669-1707) and had issue Stephan Walter.

1700**(5th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)**

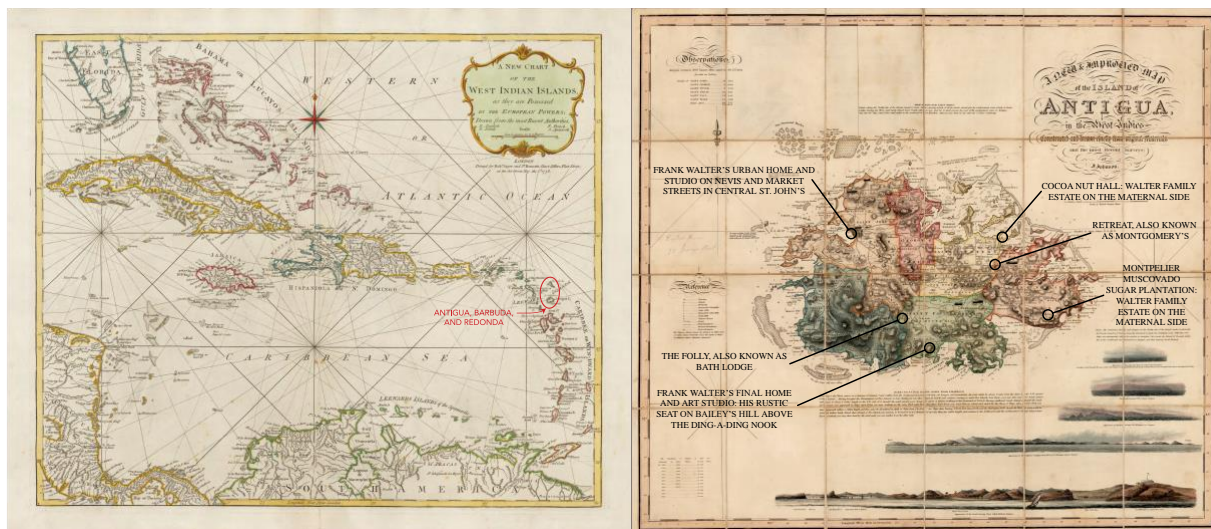
STEPHAN WALTER (born 1700, Kehl, Ortenaukreis, Baden-Wurttemberg) married Justina Margaretha Walter.

1739**(4th Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)**

CHRISTOPH FRIEDRICH Walter is the son of Stephan Walter and Justina Margaretha Walter. He was born 22 Jan 1739 in either Markgroningen or Kehl (baptized and died in Markgroningen in 21 September, 1801). He married Maria Magdalena Neuhausen [23 April, 1744-?], of Heutingsheim on 27 July, 1762. She was the daughter of a baker, Josua Neuhausen.

The status of baker is significant because upon his settling in Antigua, John Jacob Walter had set up a bakery that introduced European style white bread to the island. Listed in the archive as Christoph Friedrich Walter, registered as a carpenter, Heutingsheim (County Ludwigsburg), married 27 July, 1762 Mary Magdalena, daughter of the baker Josua Neuhauser also from Heutingsheim. They moved to Markgroningen in 1763, and began their family there:

1. CHRISTOPH FRIEDRICH, JR., born 29 June, 1765. In 1791, Christoph Friedrich Jr. married Katharina Beutenmuller (from Markgroningen). They produced John Jacob Jr., who was born 12 April, 1799; (provided for in John Jacob's will of 1821). (Mary Katharina Walter died a widow in 1832. Her sons Jakob Friedrich (age 36) and Johann Jakob (age 33) are mentioned under heirs with the reference "Place of Residence Unknown." Same document also contains her last will dating 1828 - she writes that "her two wayward sons Friedrich Walter and Jacob Walter have left some seven to eight years ago the paternal home without her consent or permission, leaving her behind as an old and ill woman without hope of future support." Both sons were disinherited, but for the compulsory portion
2. JOHANN MICHAEL, born 24 August, 1766; married Maria Magdalena (Maler), they issued Jacob Frederick, born 21 July, 1792; (provided for in John Jacob's will of 1821)
3. **ANCESTOR OF FRANK WALTER: JOHN JACOB WALTER, OF ANTIGUA AND LONDON**, born 16 October, 1767-21 December, 1828 (61 years) buried St. Mary Le Savoy, London [Perry Miles's 3rd great grandfather] + Ann Bean (1778-1873). Ann Bean was the beautiful daughter of John Daniel (Beyen) Bean (died 1794) and enslaved Barbara (1750-1794)
4. JUSTINIA BARBARA, born 2 February, 1769
5. MARIA MAGDALENA, born 12 September, 1772
6. CHRISTIANA DOROTHEA, born 23 April, 1774
7. EBERHARD FRIEDRICH, born 20 March, 1776



Left: Map of the Caribbean with Antigua highlighted in orange; Right: Map of Antigua showing Walter lands

1767

(3rd Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

JOHN JACOB WALTER, OF ANTIGUA AND LONDON, born 16 October, 1767 (baptized the next day) – 21 December, 1828 [Perry Miles and Frank Walter's 3rd great grandfather] 1784 Baltimore, 1792 Antigua Ann Bean (1780-1873)

In his early research, Professor Perry miles was struck by a note at the end of Vere Langford Oliver's 19th'c treatise, *The History of Antigua*. In the back of Volume Three was a passage referring to an 1830 petition to Parliament by "the Free non-white inhabitants" of Antigua for the granting of full rights, to include the right to hold a commission in the militia and to manage plantations. It was signed, amongst others, by Peter Philip Walter and Thomas Conrad Walter. A list of monies paid by Parliament in 1835 to former slaveholders showed payments to heirs of J. J. Walter, J. D. Walter, Ann Bean, Rebecca Bean and to Ann Bean and Jacob Daniel Walter, in combination. There was also a fragment of the will of John Daniel Bean in which he bequeathed monies and property to "my mulatto children."

Further research by the Antiguan archivist Dr. Marion Blair turned up important documents. In particular, the 1793 will of John Daniel Bean, the 1821 will of John Jacob Walter and it's revealing codicil of 1828. The first identified the names of the five mulatto Bean children and of John Bean's sister Elizabeth and her Askengreen family in Stockholm.

There was also the special act of Parliament that transferred John Jacob Walter from status as a citizen of Wurttemberg to official recognition as an Englishman. John Jacob Walter functioned as an English planter, but made so legally by a special act of Parliament as he was of German descent. The mother of his children, Ann Bean, while also being an English citizen, had been born enslaved, as the mulatto daughter of her Swedish-born father, John Daniel Beyn (1720-1794), and Barbara, his property and one of the women whom he owned.

Excerpts, "John Jacob Walter's Warrant and Appraisement," National Archives of Antigua, Box 2, #204 13 February, 1829

The Effects of the Late John Jacob Walter

Jacob Daniel Walter and Peter Philip Walter 2 Executors

[Indicates he was wealthy, with extensive detailed lists of all properties including the Division of Belfast, slaves, livestock]

Lots of furniture
 146 books in library
 1 full length picture Washington

Endless list of slaves,
 Including:

Washington, watchman
 Charity, a washer
 Jubba, grass gang

In the Division of St. John:

More slaves, including:

Bacchus, watchman
 Lovelace, field Negro
 Pompey, same

Rachel, doing nothing

Joan, one leg

One plantation inventories a windmill, large boiling house, dwelling house, with a parlour 22 x 20 feet, sick house of wood 60 long by 16 wide, a kitchen, a trash house, manager's house, necessary, smith shop, 75 Negro houses

Jacob Daniel Walter signed this document, 27 July, 1829, indicating his return to Antigua from Connecticut

Excerpt, "Will of John Jacob Walter," National Archives of Antigua, Box 3, #166

"I give and devise unto a Free Mulatto Woman named Ann Bean who has for several Years lived with me the sum of Two thousand Pound Current gold and silver money to be paid after my decease..."

1812

(2nd Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

GEORGE CHRISTIAN WALTER 1812-1870 (21 October)

(Frank Walter states that his Grandmother Tizzy Walter and her husband Theophilus "Uncle Tea" Walter resided with Tea's father George as well as his grandfather George.

NOTE: George Christian Walter married Louisa Brooks Brown Brooks and they're listed as having five children, none of whom are christened George. Explanation? Perhaps George was the "plantation" child reportedly born of another woman who was possibly enslaved at the time of his birth? Sarah Joseph (Ma Nelli's Daughter).

1848

(Great Grandfather of Frank Walter)

FRANCIS GEORGE ROBERT WALTER (1848-1928) Known by Frank as "George Walter."

He was on the Dr. Siegert ship when it shipwrecked off the coast of Trinidad in 1895. Married Alicia Harman. On his son Theophilus's birth certificate, it states that he worked as a mason. Frank Walter's grandmother told him that Francis George Robert Walter was the greatest sugar cane planter on Antigua (Harman Sugar Factory). Lived at Montpelier with Theophilus and Eliza.

Sir Alexander Moody Stuart stated that this particular George Walter was the famous planter from Montpelier ("Betty's Hope lecture notes," p. 82). Frank Walter resembled this ancestor George, however Frank Walter's complexion was darker (implying that George could pass for white, and that perhaps Frank Walter was from an illegitimate line).

1864

(Grandfather of Frank Walter)

THEOPHILUS STANLEY REGINALD MONTGOMMERIE WALTER (JUNE 29, 1864-Nov. 7, 1935). Married Elizabeth Ann Harman Lannis (nee Lewis). Her uncle was George Lewis of Farris Hill. Just prior to the birth of their son, Arthur, Eliza and “Tea” lived on his father’s plantation at Montpelier. Eliza ran the household there.

Both Eliza and her husband Theophilus descended from the same John Jacob Walter who first arrived in the 18th century. They were also known as “Uncle Tea” and “Aunt Tizzy.” She reported residing with both George Sr. and George Jr. Walter at Montpelier’s Harman Estates.

1894

(Father of Frank Walter)

ARTHUR DAVIDSON WALTER (25 March, 1894-10 June, 1970). Married Ann Alberta Maud Brown-Southwell of Baileys Hill and the Ding-a-Ding Nook. Death certificate exists for an Arthur Walter of Nevis Street (died 10 June, 1970). Listed as being an accountant.

1926

FRANCIS ARCHIBALD WENTWORTH WALTER (11 September, 1926-11 February 2009) Artist.

