

180°

120° W

60° W

0°

60° E

120° E

180°

90° N

FREY / GAISER / ZIMMERMAN

Johann Adam Gaiser
& Christina A. Frey

Johann Adam Gaiser and Christina Frey were born five years apart on the same date—July 7—in Schoenegrund, near Röt in Württemberg’s Black Forest region. Johann was born in 1848, the son of Gottlieb Gaiser and Rosina Magdalena Finkbeiner. Christina was born in 1853, the daughter of Johann Bernard Frey and Catherine Finkbeiner. Their families had lived in and around the regional communities of the Black Forest for generations.

Johann and Christina married on November 23, 1873, in Röt, Württemberg. Their eldest child, Anna Mary Rosina Gaiser, was born on January 8, 1874. She was followed by nine more children, creating a large household whose daily life required both hard work and cooperation.



The Village Butcher and the Heart of His Home

Book source pp. 152–153, 156

CONCEPT 02

180°

120° W

60° W

0°

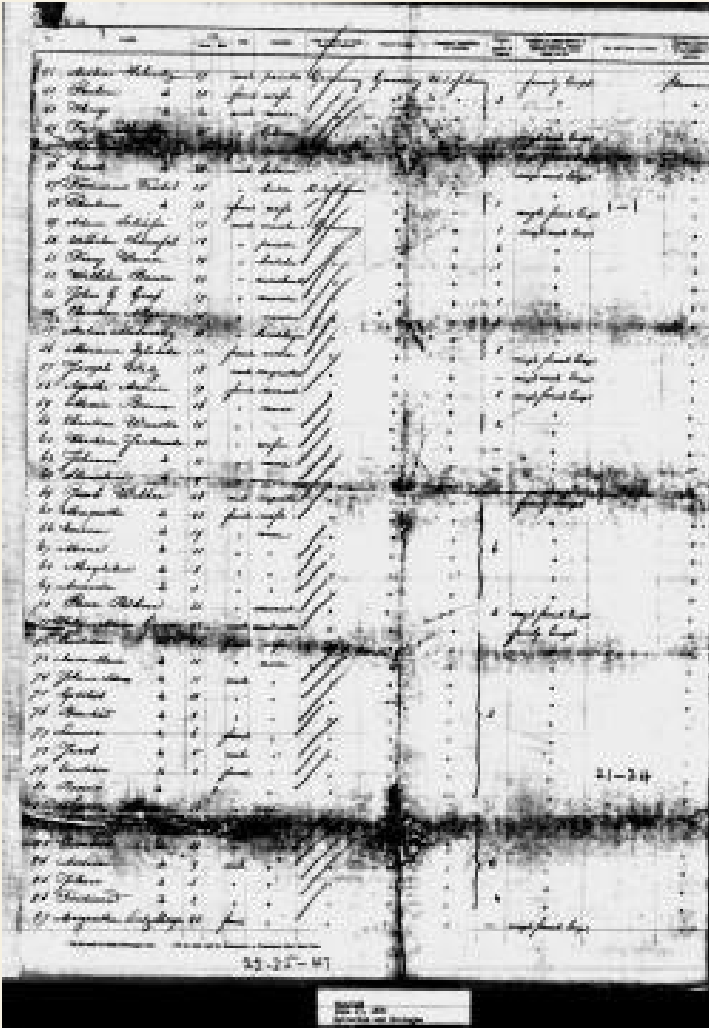
60° E

120° E

180°

90° N

The Gaiser Family’s Arrival in America — 1890



Johann Adam Gaiser and his family arrived in New York aboard the steamship Maasdam on June 23, 1890. Their passenger manifest records the family’s journey from Germany by way of Rotterdam and Boulogne-sur-Mer—and the beginning of their life together in America.

Book source p. 156

CONCEPT 02



John Zimmerman

John Zimmerman was born on January 26, 1896, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the son of German-American parents who made their home in the Brewerytown section of the city. He spent his early years in Philadelphia and came of age during a period of tremendous change in America.

ZIMMERMAN



Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel Zimmerman

Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel was born on November 17, 1899, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and spent nearly her entire life in southeastern Pennsylvania. On July 29, 1921, she married John Zimmerman, beginning a partnership that would span more than sixty-seven years. Together they raised their family through the Great Depression, World War II, and the extraordinary changes of the twentieth century.

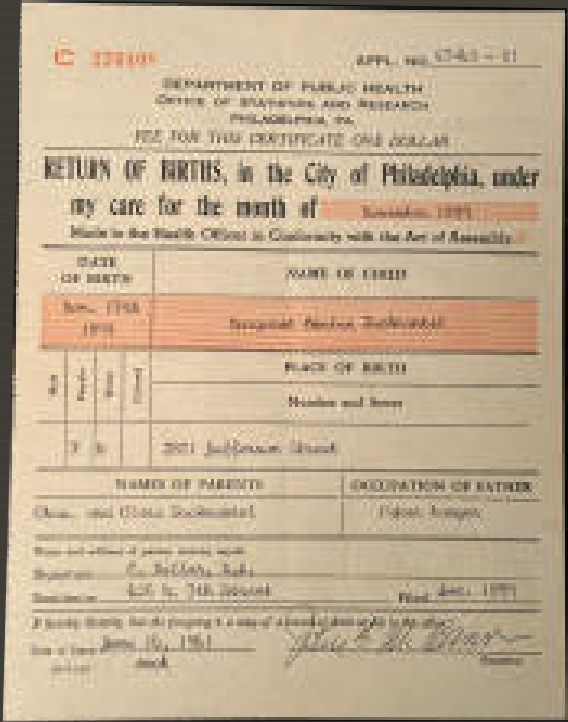
TUCKMANTEL / ZIMMERMAN

LIVES REFLECTING UPWARDS / FAMILY KEEPSAKES

The Quiet Center of the Family



Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel Zimmerman



While my grandfather’s personality often filled the room, my grandmother’s influence was felt in quieter but equally important ways.

She possessed a warm, gentle nature and formed close personal connections with the people around her. Margaret was genuinely interested in others. She listened carefully, asked thoughtful questions, and made each conversation feel important. While my grandfather’s influence was often felt throughout the household, my grandmother influenced people one conversation, one visit, and one relationship at a time.

TUCKMANTEL / ZIMMERMAN / CONNELLY

Book source pp. 174–176

CONCEPT 04

THE AMERICAN PORTRAITS / TUCKMANTEL

Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel Zimmerman

November 17, 1899 – December 22, 1995

Maternal Grandmother

Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel was born on November 17, 1899, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and spent nearly her entire life in southeastern Pennsylvania. On July 29, 1921, she married John Zimmerman, beginning a partnership that would span more than sixty-seven years. Together they raised their family through the Great Depression, World War II, and the extraordinary changes of the twentieth century.

She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother whose life revolved around home and family. She never learned to drive, having grown up in Philadelphia where there was little need for an automobile. Later in life, my grandfather handled the driving while Margaret devoted herself to family, church, correspondence, reading, baking, and creating a welcoming home.

One of her greatest talents was baking. She was a skilled and disciplined baker who took pride in sharing recipes and techniques with her daughters and granddaughters. Her Jewish Apple Cake, apple crisp, cinnamon buns, Christmas cookies, and holiday pies became family favorites. Food was one of the ways she expressed love, and many family traditions were built around meals she prepared.

TUCKMANTEL / ZIMMERMAN / CONNELLY

Book source p. 175

CONCEPT 04

The Quiet Center of the Family



Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel Zimmerman

C 270308 APPL. NO. 67463 - 01

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICE OF STATISTICS AND RESEARCH
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
FEE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE ONE DOLLAR

RETURN OF BIRTHS, in the City of Philadelphia, under
my care for the month of November, 1899
Made to the Health Officer in Conformity with the Act of Assembly.

DATE OF BIRTH		NAME OF CHILD	
Nov. 17th 1899		Margaret Emilie Tuckmantel	
PLACE OF BIRTH		Number and Street	
Male Female White Colored		3801 Jefferson Street	
NAMES OF PARENTS		OCCUPATION OF FATHER	
Chas. and Clara Tuckmantel		Paper hanger	
Name and address of person making report			
Signature E. Miller, M.D.			
Residence 625 N. 7th Street Filed Dec. 1899			
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a copy of a record of birth on file in this office.			
Date of issue June 16, 1961			
25-V-122 cmoh Registrar			

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The Quiet Center of the Family

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MARGARET EMILIE TUCKMANTEL ZIMMERMAN

LIVES REFLECTING UPWARDS / FAMILY MEMORY

The Quiet Center of the Family

Margaret also expressed her creativity through folk art. During the 1960s she created a collection of hooked rugs and decorative folk-art pieces. Many survived for decades and have since been carefully preserved, allowing future generations to enjoy a tangible connection to her creativity and gentle nature. One of my favorites depicted a small house on a hill with a winding driveway covered in fresh snow. It hung for years in my parents’ dining room overlooking countless Sunday dinners and holiday gatherings, quietly watching over the family as the years passed.

Margaret was an avid reader who always seemed to have a book nearby. Her shelves held popular fiction and contemporary bestsellers rather than literary classics. She enjoyed following new novels and discussing them with friends. Afternoons often included television talk shows hosted by Merv Griffin or Dinah Shore before settling in to watch the evening news.

Margaret died on December 22, 1995, at the age of ninety-six. She lived long enough to witness extraordinary changes in the world, yet remained rooted in family, loyalty, kindness, and tradition.

She rarely sought attention for herself. Instead, she made her impact one conversation, one visit, and one relationship at a time.

TUCKMANTEL / ZIMMERMAN / CONNELLY

Book source pp. 175, 177, 179

CONCEPT 05

TUCKMANTEL / A TANGIBLE CONNECTION



“Crimson Home on the Hill” preserved and framed by Matthew Connelly. The folk-art piece by Margaret Zimmerman resides at Mariann Schwartz’s home in Perkasio, Pennsylvania.

TUCKMANTEL / ZIMMERMAN / CONNELLY

Book source p. 178

CONCEPT 05

KERRIGAN / A FAMILY ENTERPRISE

The Kerrigan Business



A surviving business card bearing the name “W. F. Kerrigan” documents the scope of the family’s Boarding and Livery Stables in Bryn Mawr. The business provided carriages, coaches, and cabs for hire; transportation for weddings, parties, and receptions; and hauling services for the surrounding community.

KERRIGAN / CONNELLY

Book source p. 197

CONCEPT 06

THE AMERICAN PORTRAITS / KERRIGAN

Building a Life Along the Main Line

The card also advertised “odorless excavating by improved method.” Although the phrase sounds unusual today, it referred to the removal of privy waste before the development of modern sewer systems. It was an essential service that demonstrated the Kerrigans’ willingness to meet the practical needs of a changing community.

Perhaps the most striking detail on the card is its telephone number: “Phone 2.” Such an early number reflects how quickly the Kerrigan enterprise adopted telephone service in Bryn Mawr. It also supports the

family’s recollection that the stable was among the community’s earliest businesses to embrace the new technology.

The card shows that the Kerrigans were far more than horse owners. They operated a full-service transportation, hauling, and community-service business woven into everyday Main Line life. William represented the second generation of that enterprise, carrying forward the foundation established by his immigrant parents while helping it respond to a new era.

After completing the eighth grade in a one-room schoolhouse, Bill joined his father in the family business. He cared for the horses, assisted with hauling, and later unloaded coal delivered by rail. Through this work, he learned the practical skills and responsibilities necessary to serve a community that was gradually changing around them.

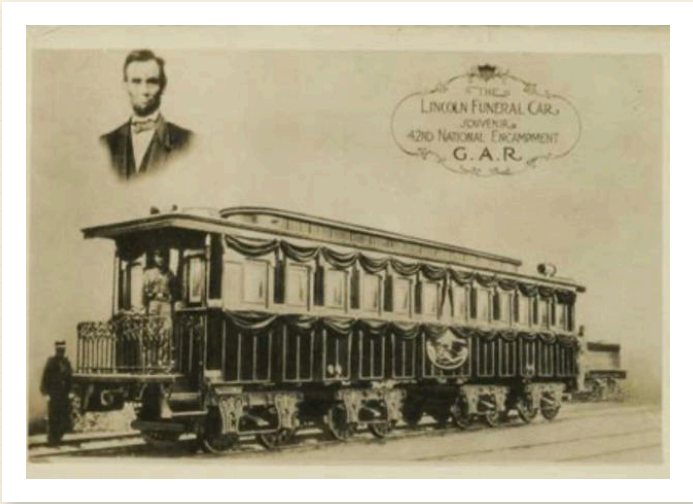
KERRIGAN / CONNELLY

Book source pp. 195, 197

CONCEPT 06

KERRIGAN / A BOY WATCHES HISTORY PASS BY

A Boy Watches History Pass By



One of the most memorable stories preserved in my father’s memoir concerned an event that Bill witnessed as a child. According to the family account, eight-year-old William accompanied his father in April 1865 to see the funeral train carrying President Abraham Lincoln.

KERRIGAN / CONNELLY

Book source p. 196

CONCEPT 07

THE AMERICAN PORTRAITS / KERRIGAN

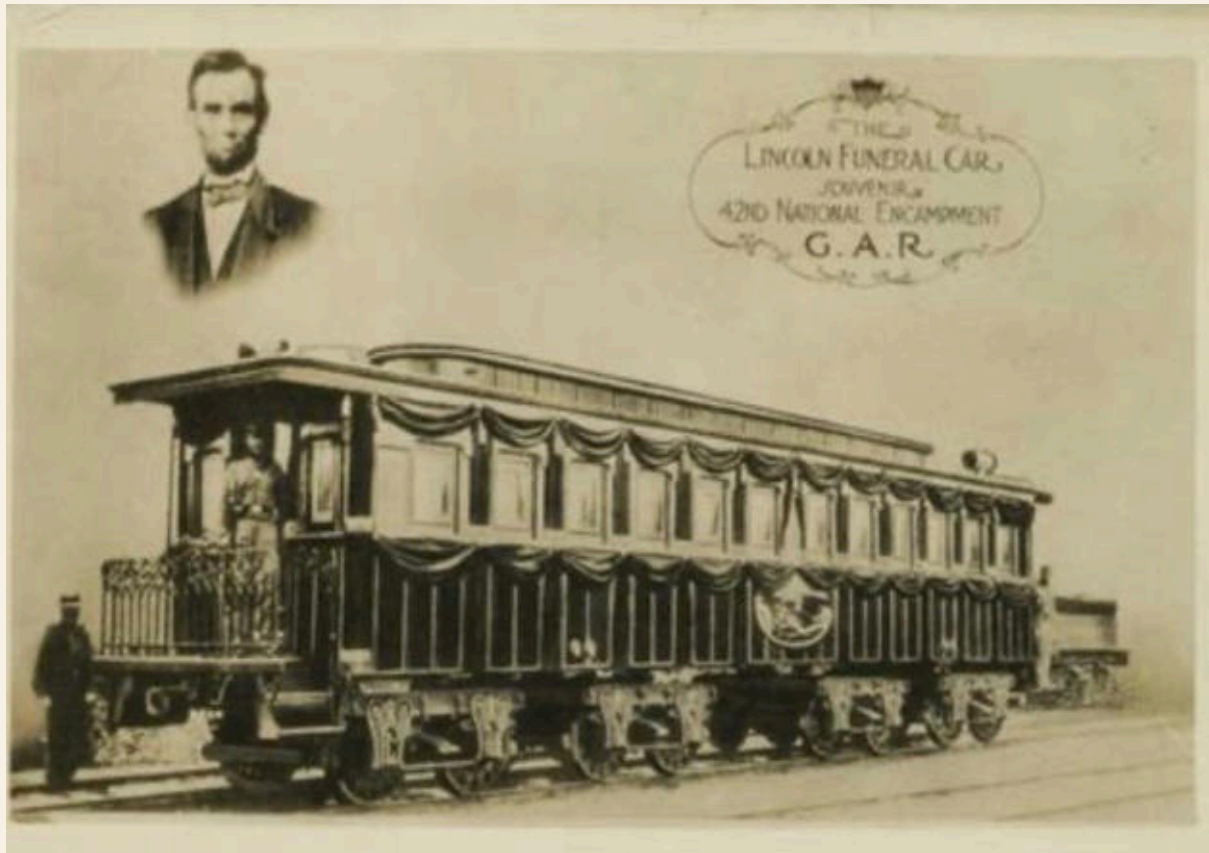


Father and son joined the thousands of Americans who gathered along the train’s route to mourn the assassinated president. Although Bill was only a boy, the experience connected an ordinary family moment with one of the defining events in American history. The memory was passed through the Kerrigan family and ultimately preserved in writing by my father.

KERRIGAN / CONNELLY

Book source pp. 196–197

CONCEPT 07



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CONNELLY / THE MAIN LINE

The Mechanic Who Never Quit



John Henry Connelly, second to the left, standing in Madden’s Garage during the 1920s.

WALSH / CONNELLY

Book source p. 252

CONCEPT 08

THE AMERICAN PORTRAITS / CONNELLY

When I look at the photograph of my grandfather standing inside Madden’s Garage, I see much more than a mechanic.
I see a husband.
I see a father.

One of the most meaningful photographs preserved in our family shows my grandfather standing second from the left inside Madden’s Garage during the 1920s. Dressed in grease-stained mechanic’s clothes and surrounded by the automobiles of the day, the photograph captures him doing the work that supported his family. More than a family photograph, it preserves an important moment in Bryn Mawr’s history as automobiles replaced horses and carriages throughout the Main Line.

WALSH / CONNELLY

Book source pp. 255, 257

CONCEPT 08



John Henry Connelly, second to the left, standing in Madden’s Garage during the 1920s.

JOHN HENRY CONNELLY

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THE MECHANIC WHO NEVER QUIT



Jenna Schwartz



Collin Cusick



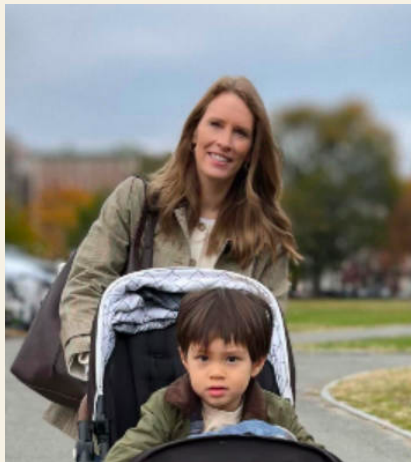
Claudia Gilmore



Kyle Phillips



Katie Plagianakos



Christine Hsieh

THE GRANDCHILDREN

Special Tribute

Through the Eyes of Shirley and Jack’s Grandchildren

The greatest measure of a life is often found in the memories left behind. These reflections from Jack and Shirley’s six grandchildren preserve the gestures, sayings, traditions, and quiet moments through which Mom Mom and Pop Pop made each of them feel loved.

Jenna Schwartz

“Who loves you?”

“Pop Pop.”

Without hesitation, that was always Jenna’s answer, spoken with a smile.

Claudia Gilmore

“He was the kind of grandfather I wished everyone could have.”

“He would tell amazing stories and always had a little something to give you that came with a back story.”

“Sometimes I’d sneak sugar into the hospital and hide it in his shoe because that’s where he told me to put it.”

“Mom Mom always had those little seashell candies.”

Katie Plagianakos

“Sunday dinners, birthdays, Christmas Eve—that’s what togetherness looked like.”

“Mom Mom made me feel seen.”

“Looking back, they were honestly the parent figures we needed.”

“Pop Pop was the definition of a man—a dedicated worker who loved his family.”

THROUGH THE EYES OF SHIRLEY AND JACK’S GRANDCHILDREN

Collin Cusick

“Pop Pop always gave me half dollars and two-dollar bills. I still carry some of those two-dollar bills in a secret place in my wallet.”

Kyle Phillips

“No matter what, Mom Mom always made sure I was taken care of.”

“If she didn’t have my favorite snacks, we’d go to Henning’s to get them.”

“Every shift at Emil’s I’d look through the kitchen door and see Pop Pop sitting at the bar. We didn’t have to talk. His quiet presence spoke volumes.”

Christine Hsieh

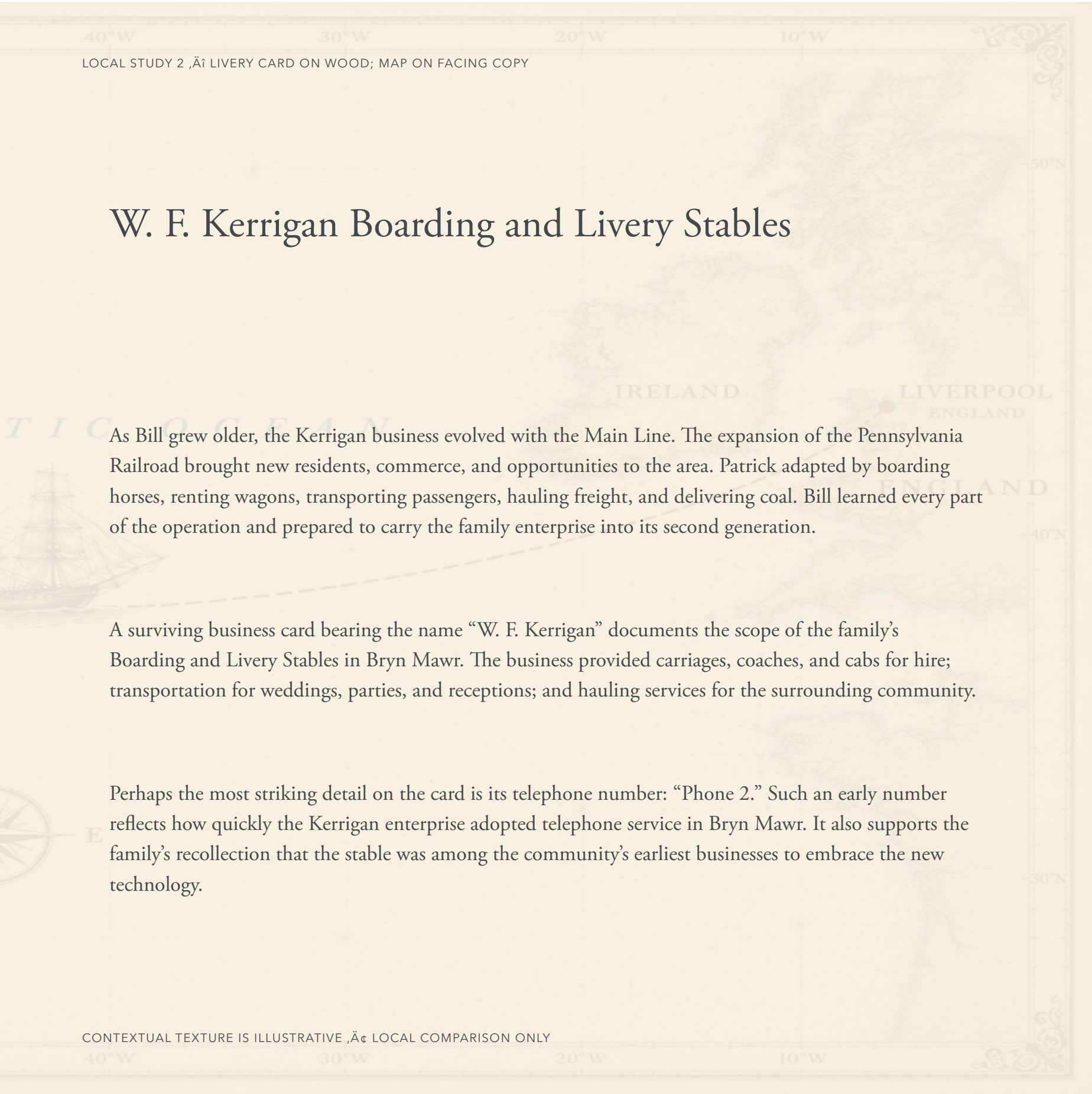
“One night after my shift at Montgomery Mall, Pop Pop was waiting in the parking lot just to make sure I got safely to my car.”

“Summer mornings meant pastries, bacon, scrapple, and breakfast with Pop Pop.”

“Mom Mom’s advice was simple: ‘Never turn your back to the ocean.’”

“I can still remember her Birkenstocks, her lipstick, and listening to ‘Midnight Train to Georgia’ together.”







LOCAL STUDY 3 ,Ä HEADSTONE PRINT ON WOOD; MAP ON FACING COPY

Beginning Again in Pennsylvania

George Freas, whose name appears in records in several forms, including Georg Friess and George Freiss, was born in Germany in 1729. In 1754, at about twenty-five years old, he immigrated to Pennsylvania. His name appears among the immigrants arriving that year, beginning the American chapter of a family that would remain rooted in southeastern Pennsylvania for generations.

By 1765, George was living in White Marsh, then part of Philadelphia County. A surviving record identifies George Freiss there in connection with the naturalization of foreign Protestants and records him as a juror. Only eleven years after his arrival, he had established a place within the community where he was building his life.

George and Ann Elizabeth made their home in the Whitemarsh and Upper Merion area. Their lives became intertwined with a growing German-American community of farms, churches, tradesmen, and neighboring settlements outside Philadelphia. By the 1800 census, George was recorded in Upper Merion.

Opposite Page: Burial location: Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery in Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania for Ann Elizabeth Hirsch Friese and George Friese Sr.

CONTEXTUAL TEXTURE IS ILLUSTRATIVE ,Ä LOCAL COMPARISON ONLY

[illegible]

A Life Cut Short

On August 24, 1900, William died suddenly of a heart attack. He was only forty-three years old. His youngest daughter, Alice, was not yet three.

His death left Hannah with six children and responsibility for the family business. Because she had worked alongside William and understood the enterprise, she was prepared to assume its leadership. With assistance from William's parents, Patrick and Sarah, Hannah kept both the household and business moving forward. She would eventually expand its services as plumbing, septic systems, electricity, and indoor bathrooms transformed life along the Main Line.

That remarkable continuation belongs principally to Hannah's story, but it also reflects the partnership she and William had created. The knowledge she gained during their marriage became essential to the family's survival after his death.

William was buried at Saint Denis Cemetery in Havertown, Pennsylvania. Family tradition holds that Hannah purchased a large double burial plot and an impressive monument to ensure that her husband would be permanently remembered. Their son William F. Kerrigan Jr., who died from appendicitis in 1910 at only fifteen years old, was also memorialized there.

The Stained-Glass Legacy

William and Hannah donated a stained-glass window to Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish in Bryn Mawr. Their names remain inscribed along its lower border, providing a lasting testament to their faith, generosity, and place within the parish community.

The Kerrigan name also became part of the local landscape through Kerrigan Lane, preserving the family's association with the land and community where Patrick and Sarah established their home and where William and Hannah raised the next generation.

Opposite Page: The 1900 census records William and Hannah Kerrigan with their children and identifies William as a livery keeper. Taken only months before his death, it provides a final documented view of the household and occupation around which their family life was organized.



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