

# Ancestors of William Henry Strack

## *Generation No. 1*

**1. William Henry Strack**, born 26 Jun 1887 in New York, New York; died 30 May 1932 in East Cleveland, Ohio. He was the son of **2. Karl Heinrich Strack** and **3. Amelia Lawrence**. He married **(1) Viola Charlotte Rex** Abt. 1912 in Cleveland, Ohio. She was born 13 Jan 1893 in Cleveland, Ohio, and died 02 Sep 1968 in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. She was the daughter of Gustav Rex and Justine "Auguste" Lunau.

Notes for William Henry Strack:

While the record we have indicates that William was born in New York City, his parents were married in or near Cleveland, Ohio. And since William grew up in the Cleveland area, it's reasonable to think that he was born in the Cleveland area rather than in New York City.

More About William Strack and Viola Rex:

Marriage: Abt. 1912, Cleveland, Ohio

## *Generation No. 2*

**2. Karl Heinrich Strack**, born Abt. 1862 in Germany. He married **3. Amelia Lawrence** 18 Aug 1883 in near Cleveland in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

**3. Amelia Lawrence**, born Unknown.

Notes for Karl Heinrich Strack:

On October 9, 1879, Karl Strack appeared in the Court of Common Pleas for the city and county of New York and applied to the court to be a citizen of the United States of America. The court granted his citizenship request on the same day. I have the original certified copy of Karl Strack's citizenship document. This would imply that Karl Strack came to America to New York City during the 1870s.

The 1875 through 1888 volumes of "Germans to America -- Lists of Passengers Arriving at U. S. Ports" lists five immigrants by the name of Karl Strack arriving in New York City for 1879 through 1884. Of these, only the first one could be our Karl Strack. That particular Karl Strack, age 17 and a laborer, arrived on the ship "City of Montreal" on June 30, 1879, after having departed from Liverpool. If this arrival is our Karl Heinrich Strack, then he earned the right to citizenship in just a little more than three months. This immigration record would also put Karl Strack's approximate birthdate in the 1862 timeframe.

According to genealogist Richard A. Newhouse, an immigrant had to file a Declaration of Intention (DI), and then wait 2-3 years before applying for citizenship. Laws varied somewhat during the 1800s. However, children under 18 were exempt from the DI requirement and could apply for citizenship when they turned 18. This means the 17-year-old Karl Strack who arrived on June 30, 1879 could have had his 18th birthday within the 3-4 months after his arrival, but prior to October 9, 1879 and then applied for citizenship. If so, it's likely this immigrant is our Karl Strack, and he would have been born around October 1, 1861.

Identifying Karl's connections back to Germany will prove difficult. Microfilm records gathered the Mormon Church offer several possibilities as to Karl's origins in Germany. I transcribed the following from microfilm records at the Family History Center of the Mormon Church in York, PA, on April 20th, 1996. There's presently no way of knowing if any of these records has any connection to our Karl Strack.

These christenings could possibly be connected to our Karl:

Karl Heinrich Strack, son of Karl Strack and Katharine Stolbroch, was christened Dec 5, 1852, 25th and 28th Regiments, PR, Rheinland, Aachen, Germany. Looks like he was born while his father was in service with the German Army.

Karl Heinrich Strack, son of Johann Christian Strack and Anna Katharina Himmelmann, was christened May 27, 1841 at the Evangelis Church, PR, Westfalen, Vemmingen, Germany.

I suspect the following two marriages involve a Karl Strack who married twice, and it would seem to indicate his first wife died within a year or two of marriage:

Karl Heinrich Wilhelm Stracke married Wilhelmine Christina Holener on Oct 2, 1859, PR, Hessen-Nassau, Bad Wildungen, Germany.

Karl Heinrich Wilhelm Stracke married Marie Magdalene Beerlwitz on Oct 20, 1861, PR, Hessen-Nassau, Bad Wildungen, Germany. This couple would be an excellent possibility to be the parents of our Karl Heinrich Strack, especially since our Karl Heinrich Strack named his first son William, which would be Wilhelm in German. And especially since it appears our Karl Strack may have been born about one year after their marriage.

This record probably has no connection to our Karl Strack:

Karl Heinrich Stracke married Maria Annalie Holtschmidt on October 7, 1870 at the Evangelis Church, PR, Westfalen, Schwelm, Germany.

More About Karl Heinrich Strack:

Emigration: 30 Jun 1879, New York City, New York

Event 1: 09 Oct 1879, Citizenship, New York City, New York

More About Karl Strack and Amelia Lawrence:

Marriage: 18 Aug 1883, near Cleveland in Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Children of Karl Strack and Amelia Lawrence are:

1.
  - i. William Henry Strack, born 26 Jun 1887 in New York, New York; died 30 May 1932 in East Cleveland, Ohio; married Viola Charlotte Rex Abt. 1912 in Cleveland, Ohio.
  - ii. Annie Strack, born Unknown.
  - iii. Mathilda Strack, born Unknown.