

Are John and William related?

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Johann/John Jonas lived in Park Ridge, only a few miles from Morton Grove where our Jonas line lived. My goal with this is to try and prove/disprove they were related. John's obituary does not list any siblings. Looking through birth certificates of his children and William's, they came from the same part of Germany, Pommerania to be exact. There is a large age gap between the two men. John was born in 1844 and William was born in 1863. So, they are 19 years apart. Or maybe William is son of John.

According to the 1910 Census, John arrived in the US in 1871. Research on William shows he arrived in 1885. Johanna (John's wife) information shows that she too arrived in 1871. That would make William 8 years old. So, looking at just these records I would doubt William would be there son. Would they send him to the US with another family member?

According to research on the children of John and Johanna, I have their first child, Freida, born in 1873 in the US. 10 years is a large gap not to be having children. Plus, in 1893 John and Johanna give birth to a son they name William. Does not seem that their relationship will be parent and child.

This brings me back to my original question, are they brothers? And, will we be able to make the connection?

William died in 1915, many years before John died, (which was in 1927). It would make sense that if they were brothers John's obituary did not mention William. However, an obituary for William has not been found, to date.

Burial records cannot be consulted to see if there is any information because they disappeared many years before with the caretaker of the cemetery.

Next step will be to visit the Park Ridge Historical Society to see if they have any information on John and his family that will assist in my research.