

John Nowakowski and Bridget Mętlewicz

Compiled by Michael E. Byczek
5x-great-grandson

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John and Bridget Nowakowski raised their family in Opatowice within the Radziejow Catholic parish.

There is uncertainty about Bridget's maiden name:

1. There is a marriage from Radziejow in 1793 between Jan Nowak and Brygida Szymkowna. The marriage is listed under Opatowice. This is the best candidate for their marriage, but that surname does not appear in any other document. It is possible that Bridget was a widow (Szymkowna/Szymkowski was her married name), or that these are two different families.
2. Their son Vincent's baptism record in 1808 listed his mother's maiden name as Mętlewicz. Given the time period of baptism records for Radziejow, this may have been the first baptism where the mother's maiden name was identified. The witness and godfather for Vincent had the same surname.
3. John Nowakowski's death record appears to list a surname similar to Gralikwicz. However, this surname does not appear in any other document.

Vincent Nowakowski is verified to have been the son of John and Bridget Nowakowski (without a maiden name) from Opatowice and was born about 1808.

Therefore, based on balance of probabilities, Bridget's maiden name was Mętlewicz pending further review of documents for the Radziejow parish.

It's possible that John Nowakowski's surname may have been Nowak in earlier times, but the 1793 marriage would be one of the only documents that did not use Nowakowski.

Based on Vincent's baptism record in 1808, it would appear that John was born around 1768 and Bridget in 1778. These numbers are close to their death records. The best candidate death record for John shows an estimated birth of 1763 and Bridget as 1776.

It appears, from the presumed death record of John Nowakowski, that his parents were Frank and Rosalie Nowakowski. Rosalie's maiden name was not listed.

John and Bridget Nowakowski had at least seven children, all born in Opatowice (Radziejow parish):

Child	Birth
Luke Nowakowski	1798
Ignatius Nowakowski	1801
John Nowakowski	1802
Martin Nowakowski	1804
Vincent Nowakowski	1808
Thecla Nowakowski	1814
Francisca Nowakowski	1817

Their son Vincent Nowakowski married Hedwig Mordel in 1827 at the Radziejow church. They are Michael E. Byczek's 4x-great-grandparents.

The best candidate death records for John Nowakowski is 1840 and Bridget in 1842. Both were living in Opatowice (Radziejow parish).

naul pnu. n.
Februarius 1793.
Episcopus u. B. Ego Franc. Salernus Hof
senfhi. S. P. P. ad benedicti. Matrimoniu
inter S. b. Joh. Nowak et Bridget
Symkowsa Celib. Presentibus S. b.
Andrea Gzelak et Jacoba Marka ex
hac Villa. B.

1793 Marriage of John Nowak and Bridget Symkowski
Radziejow Parish

Opatowicz. This took place in the city of Kołobrzeg on the twenty-first day of February, 1840, at nine o'clock in the morning.

32. Jan Nowakowski, forty years old, and Wimińky, twenty-seven years old, both farmers, settled in Opatowice, appeared and declared that on the twentieth day of this month, at ten o'clock in the evening, Jan Nowakowski, a Catholic, a farmer born in Opatowice, died, and his wife, Rozala Nowakowski, seventy years old, left a beautiful wife, Bygih, from Gralilwez. After learning of Nawaleie's death, this act was read by the presenters, who were not able to write.

Ab Brozdniki Kobhadza

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Opatowice. Maria Altiw kępsia Brigidy Nowakowskiej. Świą-
 ce religijno-uwielbionych parafii Sulciwskiej. -
 13. Sulciw. Miasto Opatowice, w Sulciwie dnia dziesiątego kwi-
 etnia roku osiemnastego drugiego roku, o godzinie
 trzeciej popołudniu. Starwili się Ciąg Antonij Dym-
 ucha lat trzydziści osm mający, Kommandant Polu-
 ta pro Cyrkuskiego w Sulciwie, Franciszek Potyński
 lat trzydziści pięć liczący obywateli zamieszkałych w
 ul. Nałazce i świadczących dnia dziesiątego kwi-
 etnia bieżącego o godzinie dwunastej uprzednio
 umarła tu w Sulciwie. Brzydka Maria Nowakowa
 lat sześćdziesiąt sześć mająca, wdowa, córka rodu,
 córka stawiającym nieświadomości - po przechowaniu
 się, narocznie brzydki Nowakowskiej, Altiw stawiają-
 cym przekazy i przekazy wraz z niemi podpi-
 sany i notat - / podpis / R. Marcin Nowakowski Pro.
 Sulciw. -
 R. A. Dymchuk. Kom. Sulciw.
 F. Potyński. Originat na
 papierze białym, w Świątku na papierze wyrazonym
 i pisany, przy wyświadczeniu pieczęci i urzędu i tamte-
 szym podpisem świadczący. - Sulciw. 12 Kwietnia 1842 r.
 / podpis / R. Marcin Nowakowski Pro. Sulciw.
 Za zgodności Kopii z opisem niniejszym, na papierze,
 nie prostym wydany, z urzędu zaświadcza -

1842 Death for Bridget Nowakowski
 Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)
 Version I

Opatowice Ropia Act of the Descent of Bregida Romałowska from the Religious and Civil Books of Sulciowska's wife Sulejów City. It took place in the City of Sulejów on the 1st of March, 16th, 1842, at three o'clock in the afternoon. Antoni Dysiewicz, thirty-eight years old, Commander of the Cistercian Church in Suliejów, and Franciszek Rotyński, thirty-five years old, a citizen of the village of Kafasze, appeared and declared that on the fourteenth of March of this year at twelve o'clock in the afternoon, Brigina Rowakowska, sixty-six years old, daughter of unknown parents, died here in Suliejów. This act was read to the appearing people and signed by us together with them.
Signed by 8 Marien Nowakowski
Provost Suliewski
N. A. Dysiewicz Hon Suliewski

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Version II

Children of John and Bridget Nowakowski

Representative documents are included below.

Opatowice d. 7. Ego Idem qui sup
pra baptisavi Infantem Nre
Lucam Labb. Joannis et Brigit
Nowakowskich d. L. C. Filium
Patris suæ Joachimus Kon
cyn'ski Scultetus de Stary Radz
cum Marianna Barnaszkowa
de Opatowice. 85.

1798 Baptism of Luke Nowakowski
Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)

Februarius. 1801.

Opatowice d. 1. Ego Norbertus
Lewickowski S. Presb. ac Adm. Pa-
roch. baptisavi Infantem Nre Igna-
tium Mart. Labb. Joannis et Bri-
gidæ Nowakowskich d. 1. Filium
Patris fuere d. Gregorius Grabi-
czak, cum Agnete Nizkiewicz-
wina. 6.

1801 Baptism of Ignatius Nowakowski
Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)

Majus 1802.

Opatowice d. 16. Ego Norbertus Loo-
wiczowski, S.P. Presb. ac Adm. Paroch. ba-
ptisavi Infantem Nre Joannem
Lab. Joannis et Birgittæ Nowa-

nowskich d. C. Filium. Patrim fuere
Lab. Blasius Reszka, cum Lab. Ca-
tharina Cieslikowa. AM.

1802 Baptism of John Nowakowski
Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)

Opatowice d. 11. Ego Item qui
Supra, complevi Ritum Ban-
ptismi, Super Infantem
Nre Martinum, ab Obstetri-
ce baptisatum ex aqua, Labb.
Joannis et Birgitta Nowako-
wskich L.L. C.C. Filium. Pa-
trini fuere Lab. Andreas
Haick Sultetus de Villa
Czotowo, cum Marianna
Nowakowska Puella. 91.

1804 Baptism of Martin Nowakowski
Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)

Opatowice 1808. d. 16. Junii. ⁶⁹ Pater Andreas
Wysocinski baptizavit Infantem M^{re} Vincentium
natum d. 14. Junii d. e. Joannis et Brigitte Nowa-
kowskich. Filium Patris Jacobi Josephus
Blaszyk et Rosalia Sigiszkowa. 42.

1808 Baptism of Vincent Nowakowski
Opatowice (Radziejow Parish)
Version I

Note: It is unclear why there are two sets of godparents, unless one of the ledger entries was an error.

Roku Tysiącznego Ośmsetnego Osmego Dnia Sierpnia - Opatowie.
tego Miesiąca pierwsza o godzinie Dwunastej w Półdnie. 4

Przed Nami Proboszczem Radziejskim sprawującym
obowiązek Duszpasterza Stanu Cywilnego Gminy Radziejskiej
Prowincja Radziejskiej w Departamencie Bydgoskim
stawił się Jan Nowakowski Włościanin liczący lat bliżej

Czterdziestu w Opatowicach samizdaty i chrzest nam Dzie-
ciś Pci i Małżby, które się urodziło w Domu jego pod Na-
merem siódmym ode Dworu na Dniu pierwszym pier-
wsza Roku Pierwszego, oświadczając iż jest synem z niego
i Przemysła i Mykławiczów bliżej Trzydziestu lat mający
jego Małżby; i że zyczeniem jego jest nadać mu Imię
Wincenty. Po użyczeniu powyższego oświadczenia i chra-
nia Dzieciścia w gwałtowności Grzegorz Gralik Włościa-
nina herzecego lat czterdziestu w Półdnie samizdaty,
tutajże Bartłomieja Mykławicza Włościanina a Włoski Opa-
towie w Gminie Radziejskiej pasterziny, którzy Rok Dwu-
dziesty Jacek Słoniński, lat minijęcy urodzenia stawiający
przeprytany i podpisany został grzech nas tylko, bo ani Cy-
wie Jan Nowakowski, ani świadkowie Grzegorz Gralik i Bar-
tłomiej Mykławicz grisać miemniej.
Kiedy Sędzią Włoskim Proboszcz Radziejski sprawa-
jący obowiązek Duszpasterza Stanu Cywilnego.

Czotowo.

Roku Tysiącznego Ośmsetnego Osmego Dnia Sierpnia.

In the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, on the sixteenth day of Opatowice, at twelve o'clock noon, the Radziwiłł Podbasiński, acting as the Civil Registrar of the Radziwiłł Commune, the Radziwiłł Provost in the Bydgoszcz Department, appeared before us, Jan Nowakowski, a forty-year-old peasant residing in Opołowice, and presented us with a male child born in his house under the mayor on the seventh day of June of the current year, declaring that he was the son of himself and Brigitta Mętlewicz, née Mętlewicz, who was near thirty years old and had been his wife, and that it was his wish to name him Wincenty. After making the above declaration and presenting the Child in the presence of Grzegorz Grolík, a forty-year-old peasant residing in Czołowko, and Bartłomicz Mętlewicz, a peasant from the village of Opcatowo in the Radziciowskie commune, which occurred in the year twenty-fourth, this birth certificate was read to the appearing persons and signed only by us, because neither Father Jan Nowakowski nor the witnesses Grzegorz Gralik and Bertłomiej Mętlewicz can write. Prince Leopold Wnorowski, Priest of Radziciowski, performing the duties of a Civil Registrar, in the year one thousand eight hundred eighth day of the twentieth.

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Version II

Additional Information

John Nowakowski and Bridget Mętlewicz are Michael E. Byczek's 5x-great-grandparents. Their son Vincent Nowakowski (4x-great-grandfather) married Hedwig Mordel in 1827 in Radziejow. Their son John Nowakowski (3x-great-grandfather) married Catherine Kocinski in 1857 in Radziejow. Their daughter Victoria Nowakowski (2x-great-grandmother) married Joseph Piotrowski in 1876 in Radziejow. Their daughter Margaret Piotrowski (great-grandmother) married Joseph Bykowski in 1907 in Witowo prior to settling in Chicago, IL. Their son Roman Bykowski (grandfather) arrived in the United States when he was three years old. The family lived in the Bucktown neighborhood of Chicago. Roman married Antoinette Murzynowicz/Marynowski in 1936 at St. Stanislaus Kostka in the Pulaski Park neighborhood. Their daughter Betty A. Bykowski (mother) married Michael M. Byczek in 1974 at St. Helen's on Augusta and Oakley in Chicago. They have two children, Michael E. Byczek (the eldest) and Katherine S. Byczek, both born in the Bridgeport neighborhood.

Google Maps

Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship in central Poland:

- Radziejów is a town and capital of Radziejów County
- Opatowice is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Radziejów, within Radziejów County

Michael E. Byczek has been compiling actual records for the Nowakowski family through Catholic church records in Poland for over the past ten or more years with direct messages to diocese archives and access to digitized microfilm. He has gathered an extensive collection of documents. This compiled documentary is an accurate source of genealogy for John Nowakowski and Bridget Mętlewicz.

Feel free to send a message for more information or genealogy collaboration.

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