

John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk

Compiled by Michael E. Byczek
4x-great-grandson

Chicago, IL
michael@byczek.pro
<https://michaelbyczek.pro>

John (Jan) Winikaytys and Catherine (Katarzyna) Mituk raised their family in Meyszmy (Maišymai) within the Urdomin Catholic Parish of present-day Lithuania. Their children settled in the nearby village of Klejwy within the Sejny Catholic Parish of present-day Poland.

The present-day name for Urdomin is Rudamina within Alytus County of Lithuania. There is a present-day village very near Rudamina called Maišymai, which is presumed to be the equivalent of what was spelled as Meyszmy at the time.

Michael E. Byczek has recognized the spelling of Winikaytys as an accurate version of the family surname, which has been spelled several different ways. These include Winikajtis, Winikajtys, Winikajec, Winikajn, and Winikajci. More information is needed to determine the original spelling of their surname as the family would have used in Lithuania.

The surname Mituk might also be spelled as Miłuk or Miłok. Michael E. Byczek has recognized the spelling of Mituk until more documents are verified as to the most accurate spelling for the surname.

John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk had six known children. All were born in Meyszmy except Matthew and Paul. Matthew appears to have been born in Mitniskzi, according to his marriage record, but this has not been verified. The location of Paul's birth was listed on his death record as Kybartai.

Child	Birth	Location	Notes
Paul (Paweł)	1798	Kybartai (unconfirmed)	Identity verified through record analysis
Marianna	1801	Meyszmy (Urdomin)	Baptism verified
Joesph (Józef)	1808	Meyszmy (Urdomin)	Marriage verified
Matthew (Mateusz)	1809	Mitniskzi (Urdomin)	Marriage verified
Lawrence (Wawrzyniec)	1812	Meyszmy (Urdomin)	Marriage verified
Rosalie (Rozalia)	1813	Meyszmy (Urdomin)	Marriage verified

Their daughter Marianna married Lawrence (Wawrzyniec) Sidor in Sejny in 1820. They are Michael E. Byczek's 3x-great-grandparents.

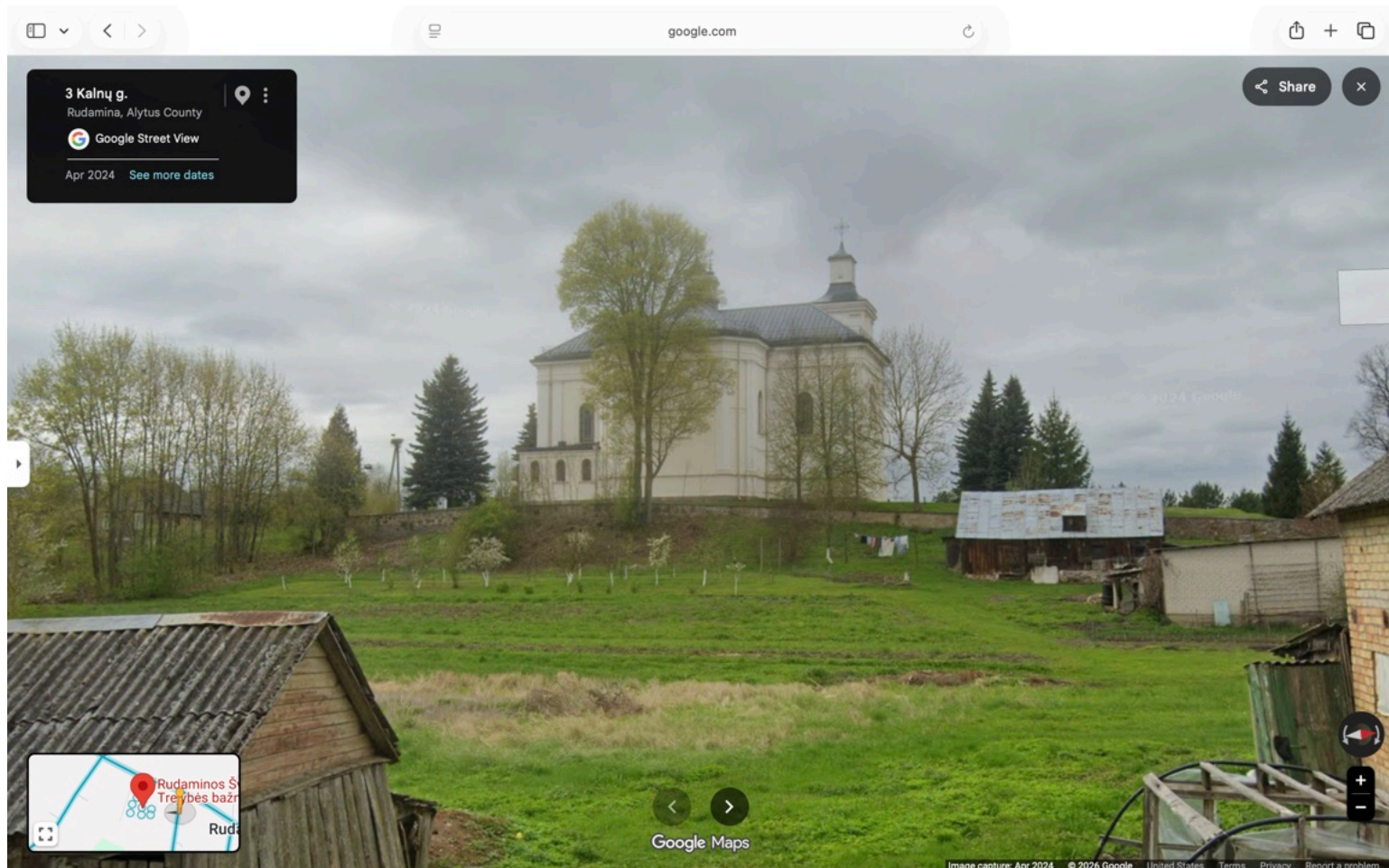
Documents are split as to where John and Catherine Winikaytys lived at the time that their children were all married in Sejny. These documents do not show a clear consensus as to whether they lived in Meyszmy or Klejwy. It seems more plausible that they resided in Klejwy since that is where all of their children lived.

Details for the birth, marriage, and death of both John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk have not been verified.

The following representative documents provide proof that each of the children named above were the son or daughter of John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk from present-day Lithuania (i.e. baptism, marriage, and/or death). These documents provide cross-reference to reconstruct the identity of each member of the family.

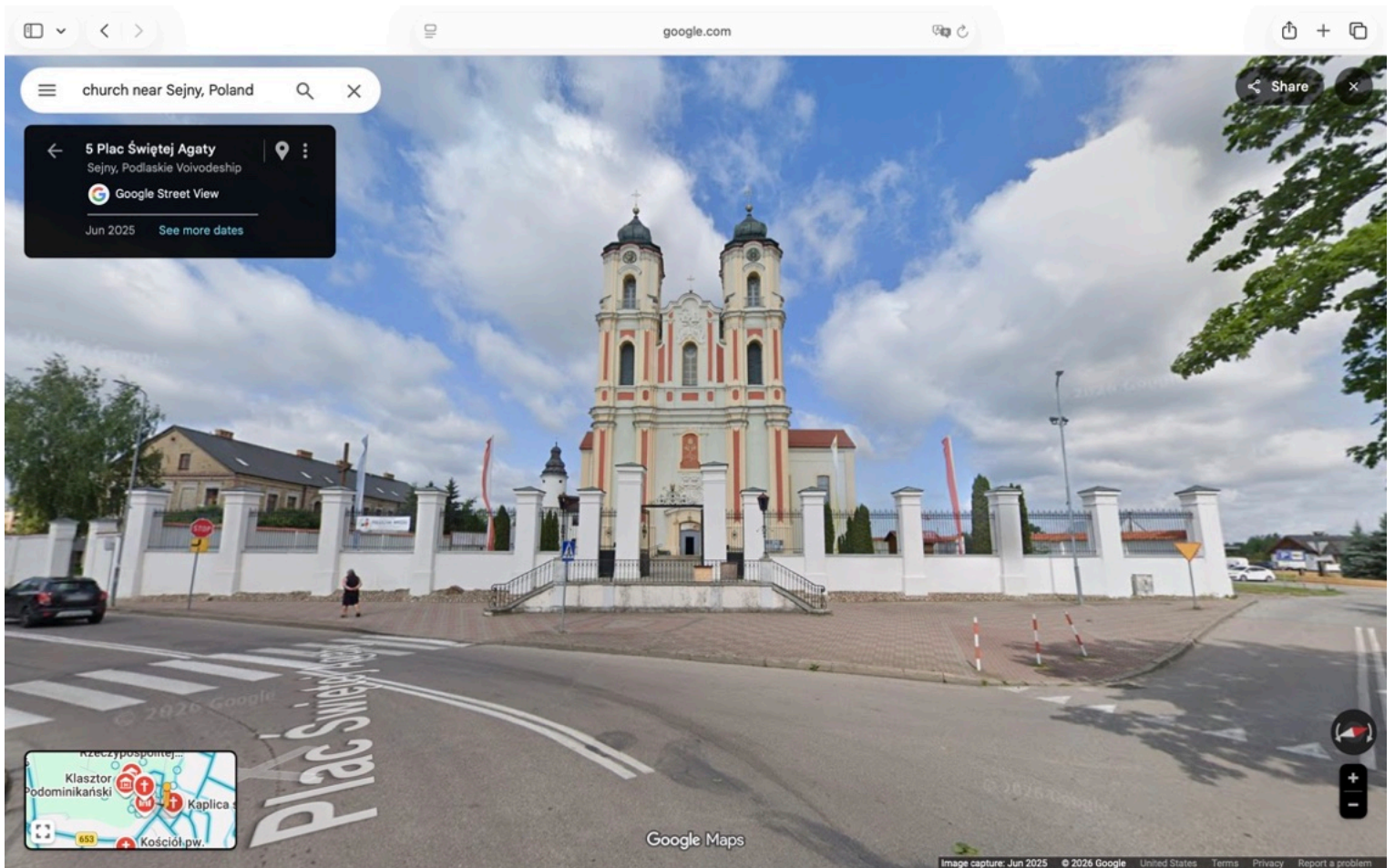
There is an inconsistency regarding Lawrence and Rosalie. Lawrence appears to have been older than Rosalie, but his marriage record lists his mother's name as Catherine Niew... versus Mituk. The names are very similar and Rosalie's mother was properly identified as Catherine Mituk in her own record. It is presumed that if Lawrence was older than Rosalie, the way that his mother's maiden name was spelled is an error on the document.

There is a village in present-day Lithuania called Kybartai that is nearer to the border with Poland than Maišymai. There does not appear to be a village named Mitniskzi that can easily be located on a present-day map. There is a village called Miškiniai in present-day Lithuania that is very near to Sejny along the border between the two countries. The family's possible connection to these villages has not been determined. Only Meyszmy (Maišymai) within the Urdomin Catholic Parish is verified.

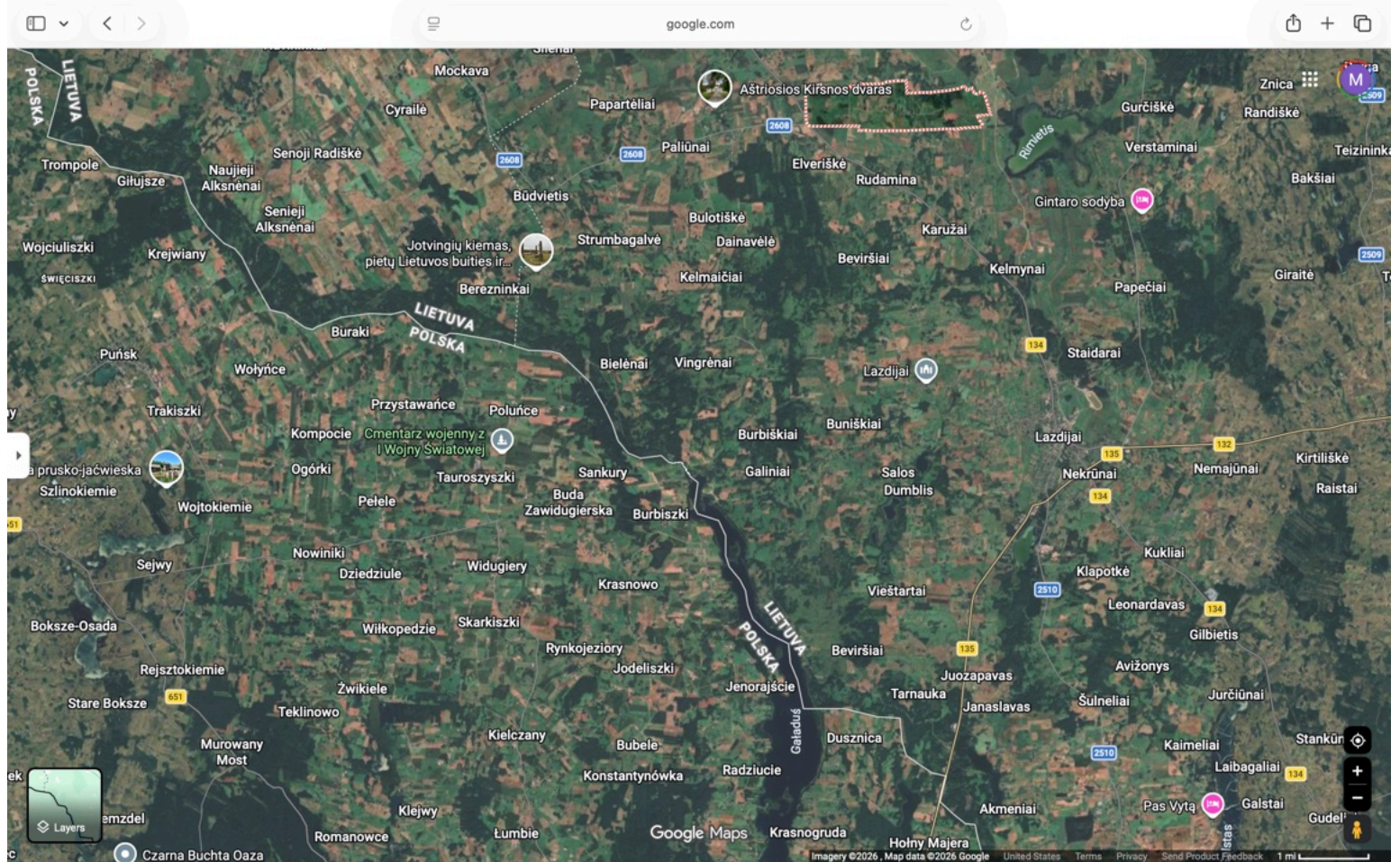


Present-day Catholic Church in Rudamina (Lithuania)
Rudaminos Šv. Trejybės Baznycia

Source: Google Maps (Street View)

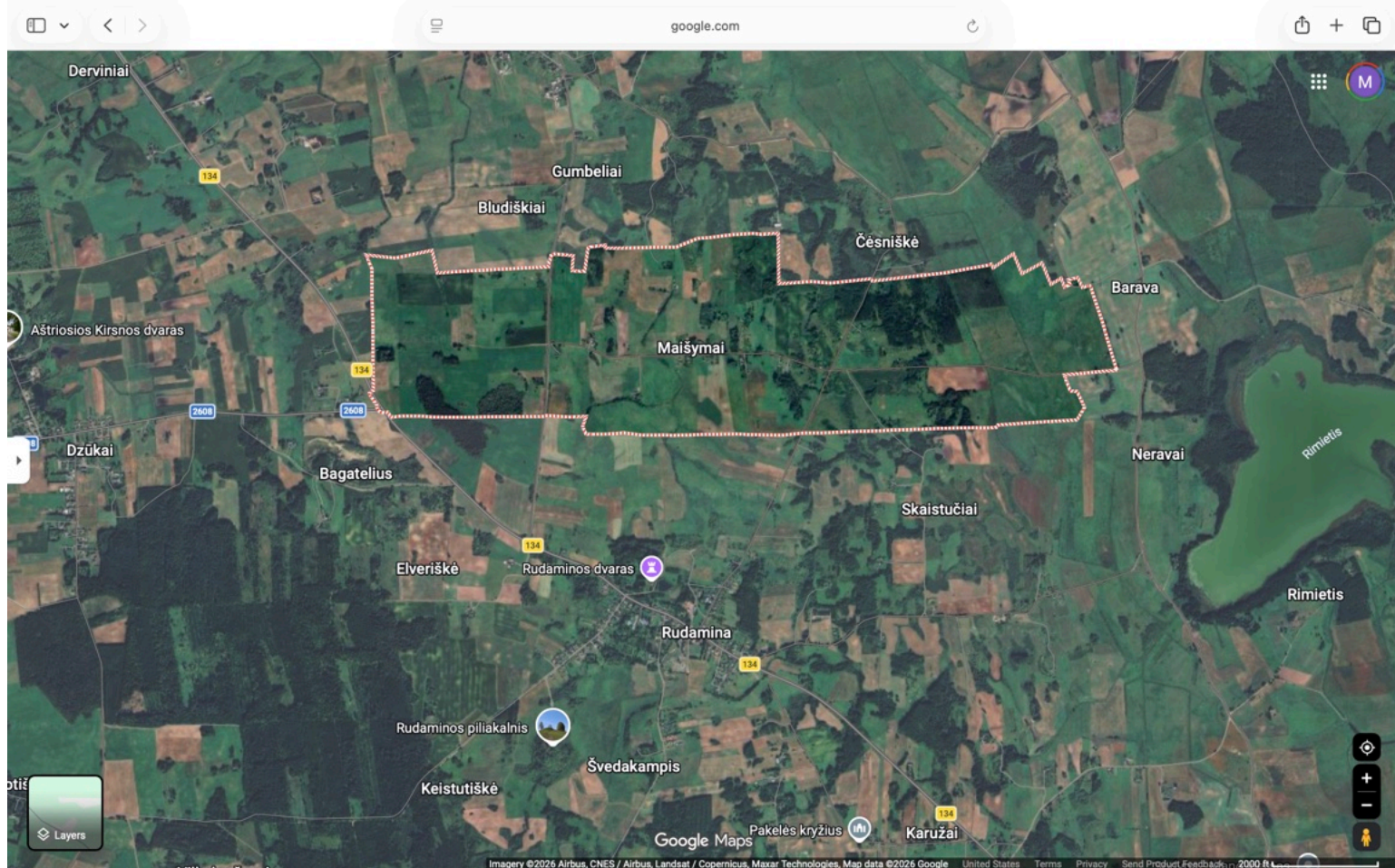


Present-day Catholic Church in Sejny
Source: Google Maps (Street View)



Maišymai on the Lithuanian side of the border is the dotted red box on top
Klejwy on the Polish side is along the left-bottom

Source: Google Maps



Maišymai
Rudamina is directly below Maišymai in this image

Source: Google Maps

Children of John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk

Representative documents are shown below.

Representative documents are shown below.

Divinam Benedictionem.
 JANUARIUS Diatrop
 N. 7mo
 Meyszymy Anno ul supra Di
 ama Januarij. Ego qui supra nap
 Hsac Infatem nomine Marianna
 LCC Patris Joannis Winikayis
 Agricole et matris Catharine Mi
 tulkowna. Levantes de s. forte, ar
 dreas Winikayis miles cum mar
 cella Pietralicnicowa
 Omnes de Meyszymy
 N. 11mo

1801 Baptism of Marianna Winikaytys
 Meyszymy (Urdomin Parish) - Lithuania
 The godfather was Andrew Winikaytys

Source: Direct request by Michael E. Byczek to the Lithuanian diocese archives

Baptismal Act: Marianna Winikaytys (1801)

- **Date of Baptism:** January 1, 1801.
- **Location:** **Mejszymany** (modern-day Maišymai, Lithuania), within the **Urdomin** parish.

The Family

- **Child:** Marianna.
- **Father:** **Joannis Winikaytys** (Jan Winikaytys), described as an *agricola* (farmer/husbandman).
- **Mother:** **Catharina Mitulowna** (Katarzyna Mitul).
 - *Note: The suffix "-owna" indicates she was an unmarried woman/daughter of Mitul at the time of her own birth/maidenhood.*

Witnesses and Godparents

- **Godfather:** **Andreas Winikaytys**, noted as a *miles* (soldier).
- **Godmother:** **Marcella Pietrulewiczowa**.
- **Residence:** All parties are noted as being from **Mejszymany** (*Omnes de Mejszymany*).

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Representative documents are shown below.

Marriage Act: Mateusz Winikaytys & Agata Malukiewicz (1829)

- **Date of Marriage:** February 17, 1829, at 3:00 PM.
- **Location:** Recorded in the **Sejny** parish.

The Groom: Mateusz Winikaytys

- **Status:** A bachelor (*kawaler*) and farmer residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 20 years old (born approx. **1809**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Mikniszki** (Mikniškės), in the **Urdomin** (Rudamina) parish.
- **Parents:** Son of **Jan Winikaytys** and **Katarzyna née Mitul**, farmers residing in Mikniszki.
 - *Note: This confirms he is a younger brother to the Marianna born in 1801.*

The Bride: Agata Malukiewicz

- **Status:** A maiden (*panna*) residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 21 years old (born approx. **1808**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Ponczańce** (Pononce), in the **Metelska** (Meteliai) parish.
- **Parents:** Daughter of **Franciszek** and **Helena née Malukiewicz** (maiden name matches paternal name), farmers in Klejwy.

Witnesses

- **Stanisław Gryguć**, age 27, a farmer from Klejwy.
- **Franciszek Sidor**, age 27, a farmer from Klejwy.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Representative documents are shown below.

1834 Dnia 24 w m. Sijennu
 24 set. przychodzącego wstającego roku o godzinie
 Slub przyjął pro. probandum - Władimir
 Augustyn Miszkienis i w obecności świadków Adama
 Sidor i Siostry lat dwudziestu i pięć uro-
 dzonego i Janu Miszkienisa lat trzydzie-
 ciat, siostrę urozoną obudwóch gospodarzy ze
 Winikaj i Klej, na dniu dzisiejszym zao-
 bawili warte zwyczajne religijne matrymonium
 Klej p. m. d. Augustyn Miszkienis i
 lat dwudziestu i pięć urozoną w Kłob-
 nowym synem Szymona i Katarzynę i
 Kłobnową matrymonium Miszkienisa
 urozoną w Kłobnowie i tamże na
 gospodarstwie zostają, a Rosalia Mi-
 nikaj i urozoną lat dwudziestu i jeden uro-
 dzoną p. m. d. Kłobnową Janu i Katarzynę
 i Kłobnową matrymonium Winikaj i urozoną
 Rosalię we Winikajach p. m. d. Winikaj
 szyn i tamże w Kłobnowie zostają, matry-
 monium do przeprowadzenia przy zgromadzeniu w Ko-
 ście Kłobnowym Sijennym w dniu
 ośmiastym, dwudziestym ośmym Pa-
 trystycznym i drugim Sijennym roku bi-
 szarego. Tamże matrymonium nie za-
 kłó. Matrymonium nowi oświadczają, że
 żadnej inną przedlubną nie zawarli.
 Ustnie swobodnie rodziców ich matry-
 monium nastąpiło. Tak też stawiają, że
 i świadkom przysięgają i przysięgane
 będzie przeprowadzanie zwyczajne, ile się
 pisze nie umiemy. —
 Adam Sidor Wielki Kłob.

1834 Dnia 25 w m. Sijennu
 25 set. przychodzącego wstającego roku o godzinie
 Slub przyjął pro. probandum - Władimir
 Augustyn Miszkienis i w obecności świadków Adama
 Sidor i Siostry lat dwudziestu i pięć uro-
 dzonego i Janu Miszkienisa lat trzydzie-
 ciat, siostrę urozoną obudwóch gospodarzy ze
 Winikaj i Klej, na dniu dzisiejszym zao-
 bawili warte zwyczajne religijne matrymonium
 Klej p. m. d. Augustyn Miszkienis i
 lat dwudziestu i pięć urozoną w Kłob-
 nowym synem Szymona i Katarzynę i
 Kłobnową matrymonium Miszkienisa
 urozoną w Kłobnowie i tamże na
 gospodarstwie zostają, a Rosalia Mi-
 nikaj i urozoną lat dwudziestu i jeden uro-
 dzoną p. m. d. Kłobnową Janu i Katarzynę
 i Kłobnową matrymonium Winikaj i urozoną
 Rosalię we Winikajach p. m. d. Winikaj
 szyn i tamże w Kłobnowie zostają, matry-
 monium do przeprowadzenia przy zgromadzeniu w Ko-
 ście Kłobnowym Sijennym w dniu
 ośmiastym, dwudziestym ośmym Pa-
 trystycznym i drugim Sijennym roku bi-
 szarego. Tamże matrymonium nie za-
 kłó. Matrymonium nowi oświadczają, że
 żadnej inną przedlubną nie zawarli.
 Ustnie swobodnie rodziców ich matry-
 monium nastąpiło. Tak też stawiają, że
 i świadkom przysięgają i przysięgane
 będzie przeprowadzanie zwyczajne, ile się
 pisze nie umiemy. —
 Adam Sidor Wielki Kłob.

1834 Marriage of Rosalie Winikaytys and Augustyn Miszkienis
 Adam Sidor was a witness
 Sejny Parish

Rosalie (left image) and her brother Joseph (right image) were married at the same time to
 another brother and sister, Augustyn and Elizabeth Miszkienis

Marriage Act: Augustyn Miszkinis & Rozalia Winikajtys (1834)

- **Date of Marriage:** November 4, 1834, at 5:00 PM.
- **Location:** Recorded in the **Sejny** parish.

The Bride: Rozalia Winikajtys

- **Status:** A maiden (*panna*) currently serving (*służąca*) in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 21 years old (born approx. **1813**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Mejszymany** (Maišymai), in the **Urdomin** (Rudamina) parish.
- **Parents:** Daughter of **Jan Winikajtys** and **Katarzyna née Mitul**.
 - **Note:** This birth location matches the 1801 baptismal record for her sister Marianna exactly.

The Groom: Augustyn Miszkinis

- **Status:** A bachelor (*kawaler*) and farmer residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 25 years old (born approx. **1809**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Klejwy**.
- **Parents:** Son of **Szymon Miszkinis** and **Katarzyna née Kajdar**.

Witnesses

- **Franciszek Sidor**, age 25, a farmer from Klejwy.
- **Jan Miszkielaniec**, age 31, a farmer from Klejwy.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Representative documents are shown below.

Marriage Act: Józef Winikajtys & Elżbieta Wiszniewska (1834)

- **Date of Marriage:** November 4, 1834, at 5:00 PM.
- **Location:** Recorded in the **Sejny** parish.

The Groom: Józef Winikajtys

- **Status:** A young man (*młodzieniec*) and farmer residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 26 years old (born approx. **1808**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in the village of **Mejszymany** (Maišymai), in the **Urdomin** (Rudamina) parish.
- **Parents:** Son of **Jan Winikajtys** and **Katarzyna née Mitul**.
 - *Note: His birth year of 1808 perfectly fills the gap between his sister Marianna (1801) and Mateusz (1809).*

The Bride: Elżbieta Wiszniewska

- **Status:** A maiden (*panna*) residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 20 years old (born approx. **1814**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Klejwy**.
- **Parents:** Daughter of **Szymon Wiszniewski** and **Katarzyna née Kajdar**.
 - *Note: Elżbieta appears to be the sister of **Augustyn Miszkinis** (who married Rozalia), though the groom's surname is written as "Miszkinis" and the bride's as "Wiszniewska". This is likely a variation of the same family name within the local community.*

Witnesses

- **Szymon Sidor**, age 26, a farmer from Klejwy.
- **Wawrzyniec Winikajtys**, age 29, a farmer from Klejwy.

1834 Marriage of Joseph Winikajtys and Elizabeth Wisnikanis (Elżbieta Wiszniewska)
Lawrence Winikajtys and Simon Sidor are witnesses
Sejny Parish

AI translation (Google Gemini)
The actual image is included above for Rosalie Winikajtys

Representative documents are shown below.

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Marriage Act: Wawrzyniec Winikaytys & Agata Chmielewska (1836)

- **Date of Marriage:** November 15, 1836, at 5:00 PM.
- **Location:** Recorded in the **Sejny** parish.

The Groom: Wawrzyniec Winikaytys

- **Status:** A young man (*młodzian*) residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 24 years old (born approx. **1812**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Mejszymany** (Majszyszki/Maišymai), in the **Urdomin** (Rudamina) parish.
- **Parents:** Son of **Jan Winikaytys** and **Katarzyna née Nieuk**.
 - *Note: This is likely a variation of the surname **Mitul** or **Mitulowna** seen in other records, or perhaps a second wife of Jan, though the birth location remains consistent.*

The Bride: Agata Chmielewska

- **Status:** A maiden (*panna*) residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 20 years old (born approx. **1816**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Lawance** (Lauvanai).
- **Parents:** Daughter of **Jan** and **Agata née Alsz** (Alesz) **Chmielewski**, residing in Klejwy with her parents.

Witnesses

- **Maciej Sidor**, age 38, a farmer from Klejwy.
- **Maciej Miszkinis**, age 26, a farmer from Klejwy.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Representative documents are shown below.

Death Act: Jerzy Masianis (1854)

- **Date of Recording:** June 2, 1854, at 4:00 PM.
- **Date of Death:** June 1, 1854, at 5:00 PM.
- **Location:** Recorded in **Sejny** for the village of **Romanowce**.

The Deceased: Jerzy Masianis

- **Status:** A laborer (*wyrobnik*) residing in **Romanowce**.
- **Age:** 50 years old (born approx. **1804**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Potele**.
- **Family:** Left behind a widowed wife, **Marianna née Winikajtys**, and sons **Jerzy** and **Antoni**.

Witnesses (The "Link" Informants)

1. **Paweł Winikajtys:** Age 63, a farmer from **Klejwy**, identified explicitly as the **brother-in-law** (*szwagier*) of the deceased.
2. **Kazimierz Wojciechowski:** Age 65, a farmer from Romanowce.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

260 Klejwy. Działo się w Mieście Sejmach dnia tego-
 ugo / przedmarstego / Października, fizyze 18 m. uel
 przedwiezłego czwartego roku i godzinie exwar-
 tej i południa stawili się Mawryncie Sidor gospo-
 darni lat trzydzięści i dwóch. Michał Sidoraka wy-
 rabnik lat czterdzięści masy, obydwu we wsi
 Klejwach zamieszkał i uwiadczyli, że wexora
 i godzinie siódmej rano umarł Paweł
 Winikajtys gospodarz lat przedwiez
 sześć masy, urodzony w Kibarkach a zamiesz-
 kały we wsi Klejwach rozbiwiny proste
 uwiadczą jako Krystyna i Sidorowa. Po prze-
 komanu się i ucerowania świadków o rozpięciu
 Pawła Winikajtysa. Aktem stawiającym
 świadkom nieprisoniernym perrextany
 przez Nas tylko podpisany notat -
 H. B. Billunier W. K. Kachur.

1854 Death of Paul Winikajtys
 Klejwy (Sejny Parish)

It is unknown whether this is the correct Paul Winikajtys, but the witness was Lawrence Sidor

Paul's wife was Christina (Krystyna) Sidor (the Sidor connection is unknown).

Paul and Christina Winikajtys died at the same time, as did a young child John (Jan) Sidor.

Lawrence Sidor was the witness for all three.

It is unclear whether the location of Paul's birth is accurate.

Death Act: Paweł Winikajtys (1854)

- **Date of Recording:** October 15, 1854, at 4:00 PM.
- **Date of Death:** October 14, 1854, at 7:00 AM.
- **Location:** Recorded in the city of **Sejny** for the village of **Klejwy**.

The Deceased: Paweł Winikajtys

- **Status:** A farmer (*gospodarz*) residing in **Klejwy**.
- **Age:** 56 years old (born approx. **1798**).
- **Birthplace:** Born in **Wikarkach** (likely **Vinkšninkai**, Lithuania).
- **Family Details:** He left behind a widowed wife, **Krystyna née Sidor**.

Witnesses (Informants)

- **Wawrzyniec Sidor**, age 31, a farmer from Klejwy.
- **Michał Szczuka**, age 40, a laborer (*wyrobnik*) from Klejwy.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Additional Information

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney and managing real estate broker, has compiled original records for genealogy since 1992. Research and analysis have been published on family websites for over 30 years. A project to compile comprehensive digital, print, and video documentaries for every direct blood ancestor began in September 2024 for accurate online genealogy.

John Winikaytys and Catherine Mituk are Michael E. Byczek's 4x-great-grandparents. Their daughter Marianna Winikaytys (3x-great-grandmother) married Lawrence Sidor in 1820 in Sejny. Their son Frank Sidor (2x-great-grandfather) married Agnes Gryszkiewicz in Sejny in 1857. Their daughter Rose Sidor (great-grandmother) married Frank Murzyn in Sejny in 1897. Their daughter Antoinette Murzynowicz (grandmother) was born in Chicago, IL. The Murzyn family permanently settled in Chicago, IL in 1908 after traveling back and forth between Poland. They interchanged the surnames Murzyn, Murzynowicz, and Marynowski until the entire family adopted Marynowski by the 1940s. Antoinette married Roman Bykowski 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 is the eldest and was born in the Bridgeport neighborhood.

Rudamina is a small town in Alytus County in southern Lithuania.

- There is a village named Maišymai very near Rudamina

Sejny County, Podlaskie Voivodeship, in north-eastern Poland:

- Klejwy is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Sejny
- Romanowce is near Klejwy
- Sejny is a town in north-eastern Poland and the capital of Sejny County

Revision History:

7/9/2026
4/5/2026
3/31/2026
4/7/2025

michael@byczek.pro
<https://michaelbyczek.pro>

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