



SEARCHERS



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"Preserving Our Past Since 1988"

No. 18, Summer 1997

The Parish of Grodziszczko and the Deanery of Kostrzyn (Poznań, Poland)

By Kathi White

The search for my Kaczmarek and Waligóra marriage records in Drzonsgowo (Kostschin) Posen, lead through what is now Drzązgowo, Poznań. Drzązgowo was one of 10 towns and villages which belonged to the parish in Grodziszczko in the Deanery of Kostrzyn.

In 1888, Kostrzyn was one of 24 Deaneries in the Archdiocese of Poznań and Gniezno. The Deanery of Kostrzyn, roughly 13 miles southeast of the city of Poznań, encompassed 14 Roman Catholic parishes in an approximate three-mile radius of the city of Kostrzyn, itself. The Deanery served 16,797 worshippers and included four Catholic hospitals. The parish in Grodziszczko was dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

In the early part of the sixteenth century, the Curate, Marcin Zesławski, built the church of wood. In 1767, Jan Guzowski was parish priest and, in 1867, the church was tended to by the Curate, Antoni Kurowski. Father Kurowski was born in 1818, became a priest in 1847, and was appointed to the church in 1858. The parish was restored and embellished by the parishioners under his care and included an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the altar as of 1888.

Referencing the historical 1888 compilation; *Brevis Descripto Ecclesiarum Archdiocese Gnesne-nis et Posnaniensis* and the *Family History Library Locality Catalogue* (FHLLC), produces intriguing results. Combining these resources, we now have a

comprehensive outline of the following:

1. The 14 Roman Catholic parishes within the historical boundaries of the Deanery of Kostrzyn.
 2. German place name in brackets "[]", if available.
 3. How each parish is currently listed in the FH-LLC.
 4. Historical boundaries of the towns and villages in each parish as of 1888.
 5. Family History Library film numbers, where available (in condensed format).
- (Birth, Marriage, and Death abbreviated as B, M, D).

The 14 parishes in the Deanery of Kostrzyn were:

1. **Czerlejno - [Scheringen]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Czelejno (Środa)
Czerlejko, Czerlejno, Kłony, Ługowiny, Mikuszyn, Poklatki, Trzek, Węgierskie [Wengierskie], Wydzierzewice.
Some B, M, D (1875-1900) available on film Nos. 1194687 and 1194688.
2. **Giecz - [Giecz]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Giecz (Środa)
Dominowo, Giecz, Maryanowo, Michałowo, Orzęszkowo, Poświętne, Rusiborz, Rusiborek, Rusiborski Huby, Szrapki.
Marriage only (1801-1890) available on film No. 1189018
FHLLC lists additional town of Borzejew in this film. *Brevis Descripto* lists Borzejewo as part of the parish of Grodziszczko, not Giecz. FH-LLC also lists additional spellings of Poswientne as Poswiontno or Póssiatna.
3. **Grodziszczko - [Grodziszczko]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Grodziszczko (Środa)
Andrzipole, Biskupice, Borzejewo, Chłapowo,

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Due to the large amount of mail received, please take note when writing us for assistance:

The PGSWNY will answer ONLY correspondence that includes a self-addressed, stamped reply envelope. All correspondence should be directed to:

The Polish Genealogical Society of Western New York, 299 Barnard Street, Buffalo, New York 14206.

If you wish to contact one of our committees, please write the committee name on the front of the envelope.

Thank you

Deadline dates for submitting articles to the Searchers are as follows:

Spring Edition—**January 30** for March mailing; Summer Edition—**May 30** for July mailing.

Fall Edition —**September 30** for November mailing

Submissions may be sent directly to the editor—either hard copy or disk (Microsoft Works document).

Membership Dues. . . A reminder from the Treasurer:

Dues are \$15 a year in the U.S. and \$18 in Canada, and \$25 overseas. This entitles you to three editions of the Searchers. New members will receive a *Getting Started* package and back issues of any publication printed prior to joining during that membership year.

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Meeting Schedule for 1997

Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Villa Maria College Cafeteria, 240 Pine Ridge Road, Cheektowaga, New York.

August 14	Membership Meeting 7 p.m.	November 13	Membership Meeting 7 p.m.
September 11	Research and Library Hours 7-9 p.m.		(Nominations for 1998 Officers)
October 9	Research and Library Hours 7-9 p.m.	December 11	Christmas Party 7 p.m. (Election of Officers)

The Parish of Grodziszczko and the Deanery of Kostrzyn

- Drzągowo, Gablin, Grodziszczko, Karólewó, Maryanowo (in part), Wystawice.
Some B, M, D (1804-1891) available on film Nos. 1199960 and 1199961.
4. **Gułtowy - [Gułtowy]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Gułtowy (Środa)
Gułtowy, Klonowskie Huby, Nowojewo, Sokolniki, Sokolniki Drzągowskie.
Some B, M (1728-1858), and D (1724-1902) available on film No. 1199964
 5. **Iwno** - Listed as POL, Poznań, Iwno (Środa)
Buszkowice, Chorzalki, Glinka Pańska, Glinka Księża, Iwno, Młynek Siedlecki, Podgaj, Rujse, Starogóreckie Olędry, Wiktorowo.
Some B, M, D (1784-1894) available on film Nos. 1199965 and 1199986.
FHLLC lists town of Cegielna as included in this film.
 6. **Kleszczewo - [Wilhelmshorst]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Kleszczewo (Środa)
Kleszczewo, Nagrodowo
M (1898-1934) available on film No. 1194965.
Civil Registrations (1874-1884) available on film Nos. 1191083, 1538595, and 1538596.
FHLLC lists additional towns of Gwarzewo, Gulcz, Janikowo, Komorniki, Konarskie, and Tanibórz as included in these films.
 7. **Kostrzyn - [Kostschin]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Kostrzyn (Środa)
Gwiadzdowo, Jagodno, Izdebno, Kostrzyn, Libartowo, Pyszczykowo, Sokolniki, Strumiany, Tarnowo.
Some B, M, D (1776-1900) available on five films: Nos. 1199977-No. 1199981.
Civil Registration available (1874-1884) on six films: Nos. 1191338-No. 1191340, 1457336, 1551865, and 1551866.
 8. **Nekla - [Nekla]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Nekla (Września)
Barczyna, Chłapowskie Olędry, Gierlatowo, Kokoszki, Mystkowskie Olędry, Nekla, Nekielskie Olędry, Rajmundowo, Starczewo, Starczewskie Olędry, Stroszki, Targowieckie Olędry, Wygoda.
Some B, M, D (1682-1900) available on film No. 1191118-No. 1191120. FHLLC lists additional towns of Altana, Starczanowo or Starczynowo, Zawodzie or Zawodzie Nekielskie as included in these films. Civil Registration (1874-1884) available on five films: Nos. 1191368, 1191369, 1609136-1609138. FHLLC lists additional towns of Labenau, Opatówko, Stempocin, Targowagorka, and Tischdorf as included in these films.
 9. **Opatówko - [Offenberg]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Opatówko (Września)
Małagórka, Opatówko, Podstolice, Żerniki, Żernickie Olędry.
Some B, M, D (1750-1903) available on film Nos. 1191431 and 1191432.
 10. **Siedlec - [Siedlec]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Siedlec (Środa)
Brzezie [Briesen], Brzeskie Huby, Siedlec, Siedleckie Huby, Siedleckie Olędry.
Some B, M, D (1779-1820) available on film Nos. 1197840 and 1197841.
 11. **Sierkierki** - No known microfilmed records as of 1996.
Rabowiece, Sierkierki Małe, Sierkierki Wielkie, Tulipan.
 12. **Swarzędz - Schwersenz]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Swarzędz (Poznań)
Gortatowo, Gruszczyn, Jasień, Kruszczewo, Łowęcin, Nowawieś [Neudorf], Nowymłyn (alias Antoniewo), Paczkowo, Swarzędz op., Swarzędz villa, Zalasewo, Zieleniec.
Some B, M, D (1772-1901) available on film Nos. 0764048-0764050, 1194516, 1194517, 1194597, 1194598, 1194776. Civil Registration (1874-1884) available on film Nos. 1552365 and 1552366, 1600235-1600237. Evangelical record (Protestant) Some B, M, D (1702-1874) available on film Nos. 0764051-0764051, 1194722, 1194723, 1194776.

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Surname Search



Member and nonmember researchers wishing to submit surnames for this page are asked to send submissions to the Searchers Committee.

To submit listings for publication, please send your name and address, the surnames you're researching, and location, if known.

Nonmembers please include \$3.

David Pavlock, 7340 Mimosa Dr., Pensacola, FL 32526, e-mail: arro-dave@gulf.net

Surnames

Emborsky
Hanson
Imborski
Kehoe

Koniak
Pawlak
Peterson
Wawrejko

Family Search

Marilyn Collins, 19610 N. 97th Lane, Peoria, AZ 85382.

Seeking information on:

Relatives of maternal grandparents—John Gniot b. 1862 in or around Poznan (m. Emily ?, b. 1871 in or around Poznan). They arrived in the United States in 1903 and settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. John worked for the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad. They had seven children: Lorenz, Frank, Konstancya, Mary Marcelle (born in Poland), Ludwik, Anasztasza, and Jennie (Jeanne) who were born in the United States. All are deceased, except Jeanne. Cousins may have settled in or near Albany, New York.

Attention!

We have lost our president and our vice president due to other commitments. This matter will have to be resolved at our August meeting. In order to survive, our organization needs members who are willing to serve as officers. Please give this some thought.



The Genealogy Computer Page

By Dave Pavlock

What do microwave ovens, video recorders, and computers have in common?

They are all complicated to learn, at first. Later, you find that you cannot live without them. What! You don't have a computer? Even worse, you have one and don't use it?

Today, you can find anyone in the United States who has a listed phone number, free, with a computer. You can look up a city (almost) anywhere in the world on a computer, while you are microwaving dinner.

How do you find the obit of someone who died in Las Vegas 10 years ago?

You post it on the Internet and ask someone in Las Vegas to look up the name in the obits of their local paper for a death that occurred 10 years ago? Most times, you will get a response.

Need a translation of a birth certificate written in German?

Type it out on the Internet and you will get your translation back from someone, somewhere in a few hours.

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The Parish of Grodziszczko and the Deanery of Kostrzyn

13. **Targowa Górka - [Konigshof]** Listed as POL, Poznań, Targowa Górka (Września)

Amikarowo, Chwalszyce, Dzierzchnica, Gąsiorów, Mystki, Raclawki, Stępcin, Targowa Górka.

Some B, M, D (1665-1879) available on film Nos. 1194956, 1191241, 1191242. FHLLC lists additional town names of Mała Wieś, Opatówko, Podstolice as included in these films.

14. **Uzarszewo [Usarzewo]** Listed as POL, Poznań Uzarszewo (Poznań)

Bugaj, Góra, Janków, Sarbinowo, Święcinek, Uzarszewo, Urarzewskie Huby, Urarzewskie Olędry.

Some B, M, D (1786-1891) available on film Nos. 0764432, 0764433, 1194802, 1191243, 1194855, and 1194858.

FHLLC lists additional towns of Biskupice, Holedry Biskupskie, Wierzejewice as included in these films.

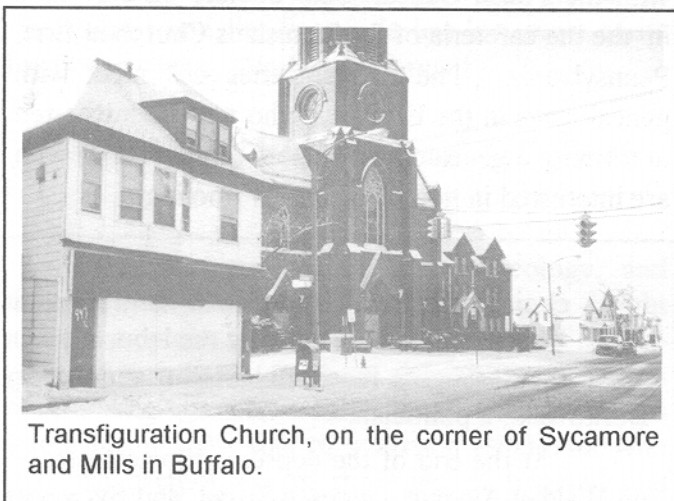
East Side Nostalgia—Buffalo's Vanishing Heritage

(Its historic past, traumatic present, and uncertain future)

By Ed Prabucki

Now, in the sunset of my life, I indulge in a relaxing pastime—nostalgia. Reminiscing is a means of escaping from the monotony of the present.

In the early part of this century, the East Side of Buffalo experienced economic growth. Its residents were God-fearing people with high moral standards. I recently drove through Buffalo's East Side until darkness settled upon it, turning back the pages of my mind, recapturing precious moments from my past.



Transfiguration Church, on the corner of Sycamore and Mills in Buffalo.

During the mid-1920's, Transfiguration Church, a colossal religious structure, played an important part in my life. I never missed evening novenas in May or October—traditionally devoted to honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary. I can still hear the sounds of the melodious Polish hymns played by Mr. Raszeja, the church organist.

Kowalewski's Tailor Shop, located at the corner of Sycamore and Mills, catered to an exclusive clientele. On the southeast corner was Wroblewski's, a dry goods store. There were also a number of physicians' offices located nearby—those of Drs. Szymoniak, Kaczmarek, and Kraska. Then there was the Felix Mioducki Insurance Agency, and across the street was Malecki's Grocery Store. The Missall Printing Co. and Dr.

Konowaski's office could be found on Mills Street. These were all bustling businesses in 1930. Where there once were ten professionals located in this area, there are none today.

My daily life evolved around Transfiguration School, where I was an altar boy and a boy scout in Troop No. 75. My movements through the East Side expanded as I grew older. My Grandma Petyk dispatched me on errands to Schunke's Pharmacy to fetch medication. James the Druggist was located at the corner of Sycamore Street and Fillmore Avenue. Across from there was Polish Falcon Nest No. 6, where I attended weekly gymnastics classes. Antoinette's Sweets, at the southwest corner, catered to those with a sweet tooth. On the second floor was the office of Dr. Czerwinski and his much-dreaded drill, with which he repaired my never-ending cavities. Further south on Fillmore Avenue, the Clara Milas Bridal Shop provided gowns for the blushing bride and her bridesmaids. A short distance away, the Jewish synagogue was filled with faithful followers each Saturday. The Polish Union Hall and the Boston Store were also popular spots on this block.

The Broadway-Fillmore shopping district was alive with people, especially on Thursday evenings or Saturday afternoons. One could walk from store to store for several blocks and could purchase a variety of goods. There was Goldin's, Inc.; Murphy's, Woolworth's, and Neisner's Five-and-Ten-Cent Stores; Charles, Erion's, and Jarhaus Braun; Zolte's Furniture Store, Kobacker's; and the famous "one-stop shopping store"—Sattler's. My father was convinced that superior, sturdy furniture could only be purchased at Kolipinski's Furniture Store and the best wearing apparel could be found only at Spolka's, which was located at the corner of Broadway and Woltz Avenue.

My father took my brothers and me to the grand opening of the New York Central Terminal, a historical event in East Side history (The building is now in a dilapidated, run-down condition). On Sunday afternoon walks to Becker's Airport, at Genesee and Union Roads, we passed the Harugari Temple, the W. T. Grant Store, the Basil Genesee

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POTPOURRI

Ancestral Village Photography

Now you can get photographs of you ancestral town without traveling there. James A. Derheim, owner of **European Focus Photography** takes photos of towns in Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Norway, Great Britain, and Poland. He will also do other countries by special arrangement. For more information contact:

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E-mail address: JDerheim@aol.com
Phone number is 1-800-401-7802

FEEFHS News

Annual International Convention to be held at Best Western Plaza Hotel (formerly Howard Johnson's), Salt Lake City, Utah, September 27-30, 1997. The program is to include information on the Ethnic, Religious, National Index; Location (address) Index; Map Room; Master Index Page; FEEFHS *Front Page*; and Website Index.

Meeting in Erie, Pennsylvania

On Saturday, August 9, members of the Polish Genealogical Society of New York State will meet with the Polish Genealogical Society of Cleveland in the cafeteria of St. Stanislaus Church in Erie, Pennsylvania. The two societies will meet with genealogists in the Erie area who may be interested in forming a genealogical society there. Those who are interested in going will be car pooling.

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East Side Nostalgia—Buffalo's Vanishing Heritage

Movie House, Wick's Chocolate Shop, Stegmeier's Bakery, and Shea's Bailey Theater. Schiller Park, which was also along the way, was always a beehive of activity.

Humboldt Park (now Martin Luther King Park), where the Buffalo Museum of Science and the Floral Gardens are located, was the site of other Sunday outings. In the summer time, the wading pool provided hours of recreation. Bike races were held here on weekends; and in the winter, these activities were replaced with ice skating and tobogganing.

When the depression came, my father was among those who were laid off from Blaw-Knox, Inc. He was eventually employed by the W.P.A. (Works Project Administration) working on government projects. In the meantime, I was offered three

meal choices—oatmeal, cornmeal, and miss-a-meal. This prompted me to enter the labor market, passing out slingers for Taffel Studio and Ansley Borkowski, a politician.

At the end of the depression, vacant stores on Walden Avenue, Genesee Street, and Sycamore Street were once again occupied by new owners and tenants. The neighborhood became alive again as people began to devote more time to mowing lawns, scrubbing porches and stairs, and sweeping dirt from curb edges (a practice still continued in Poland today). In my walks to the corner grocery store, I greeted neighbors as they sat in chairs and rockers on their porches. When I was a newspaper carrier and made my collections in the evening, I could hear President Franklin Roosevelt's "Fireside Chats" on the radio, coming through the open windows.

Although Catholic churches like Transfiguration, St. Luke's, St. Joachim's, and Queen of the

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East Side Nostalgia—Buffalo's Vanishing Heritage

Most Holy Rosary have closed their doors and Holy Mother of the Rosary, the Polish National Catholic Church, has moved to a new location in Lancaster, others still remain. Churches like Corpus Christi, St. Stanislaus, St. Adalbert's, St. John Kanty's, and St. Ann's are still functioning, though the number of parishioners of each has decreased. The Broadway Market, Dom Polski, Spolka Clothes, and Cohen's Bakery are still in existence.

As a youth, I felt as though the neighborhood would always remain as it was, but the Germans, Italians (mostly in the Fillmore-East Ferry area), and the Poles eventually answered the call to the suburbs and the East Side has lost most of its European charm. Nothing is forever.

Adam Mickiewicz—Poet and Patriot

By Laurie Bialoglowicz

History, Archaeology, Anthropology, and Genealogy are related subjects that give us insight into the way our ancestors lived. Writers of historical novels help us to learn about the past in an entertaining manner. John Jakes wrote a series about the descendants of a French immigrant who was the bastard son of the King of England and William Shakespeare wrote plays about the lives of the Kings and Queens of England.

Adam Mickiewicz, Poland's most famous poet, wrote about historical events in Poland. As is true of most European literature, his writings had political undertones. He was born in 1798 in Nowogrodek in Lithuania after the third partition of Poland, when the Respublica disappeared from the map. It was also during this time that the Polish National Anthem was written by Jozef Wybicki, an officer in the Polish Army.

Mickiewicz led a frivolous, carefree life as a student at the University of Wilno, which in 1816, was considered to be one of the best universities in Russia. He lost his mother while he was still a youth, and the girl he fell in love with, the sister of a classmate, married a young man who held a higher

station in life than he did. Though he did get married, the union was not a happy one.

While teaching at Kwano, Adam became a member of a patriotic society called "The Men of the Radiant Faces", which was forbidden by Russian authorities, and was exiled to Russia in 1823. He wrote *Forefathers Eve Part I* and was lauded by the young radicals in Russia. When he wrote *Konrad of Wallenrod*, the Russians were not immediately aware of the political aspects of the ballad but it placed him in imminent danger, so he left Russia and went to live in Italy for a year. After the November 1830 Rising, he went to Poznań.

During the Great Emigration, which followed the defeat of Poland in 1831, many intellectuals settled in France. Mickiewicz, who was fluent in French, settled in Dresden, where he wrote *Forefathers Eve Part III*. Later, he joined other Polish émigrés in Paris and wrote *Books of the Pilgrimage of the Polish Nation*. He was offered a position in the Classics Department of the University of Lausanne and was invited to occupy the first Chair of Slavonic Studies, created in western Europe at the Collège de France in Paris. As was his nature, he soon wandered from his theme and was compelled to resign this post after his third year.

In addition to being a poet, Mickiewicz was a teacher, a patriot, and a publicist. Although he loved his country, he returned to his homeland just once after his exile to Russia. He was an apostle of justice and an advocate of the underdog, but he preached war, rather than peace, because he wanted to see his country become an independent nation again.

Adam Mickiewicz was a child of world revolution—social, political, scientific, technical, and cultural. He never knew Warsaw, Kraków, or Częstochowa; never swam in the Vistula, never climbed the Tatras. What he wrote came from great agony and longing. It was from this background that *Pan Tadeusz*, his most famous work, came into existence. This epic, which he wrote quickly and with ease, told the story of the country life Adam knew as a boy. It portrayed a boisterous pattern of work and play, which was quickly disappearing.

The story begins when Pan Tadeusz returns home from ten years away at school. To him, it seems that everything is the same but is smaller and

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Adam Mickiewicz—Poet and Patriot

less beautiful than he remembered it. Pictures of patriots—Kosciuszko, Jasinski, and Korsak—line the walls of his home and the clock plays Dombrowski's Mazurka. The characters are members of the gentry having titles like Seneschal, Judge, Chamberlain, Apparitor, Wojewoda, Notary, and Assessor. During this period people apparently had little respect for the courts and felt that disputes were better settled with the sword and bullet.

Tadeusz was less interested in books than he was in shooting and the skill of the sword, but his uncle had summoned him home to become a farmer. When he arrives at the mansion, it is filled with carefree guests who spend their time hunting and feasting. It is an idyllic setting, and the most unsettling incident is a quarrel about which dog is the better hunter—Bobtail or Falcon. After such a dispute, the group goes out to gather mushrooms to allow for a cooling-off period.

On the day of his marriage to Zosia, she and Tadeusz serve their peasants at the banquet. Mickiewicz states that it was the custom at that time for the new owner of a farm to first serve the common folk. On this occasion, they also set the peasants free but are advised to pass their family crests on to the peasants; otherwise, the poor people would be heavily taxed.

Throughout the poem, the Russians are named in battles that take place. There was also mention of a rumor that General Dombrowski planned to invade the fatherland and that young men were disappearing from their homes and resurfacing in the Grand Duchy.

The national struggle against occupying powers in Poland was not limited to military operations. Artists and writers, who spread national awareness among the population, played an important role in this struggle. Adam Mickiewicz also accomplished this through his works. However, he fought with the sword, as well as the pen.

He was a member of a legion, composed of artists and intellectuals, that fought for the Italian cause against the Austrians in Lombardy. With the help of a friend, Armand Levy, he brought together the first Jewish military unit in modern times and was a member of a clandestine revolutionary committee organized by Poet Apollo Korzeniowski, father of English novelist Joseph Conrad.

Mickiewicz spent most of his mature life in exile, never possessed a home of his own, and took part in causes that had no hope of realization. While taking part in another attempt at gaining Poland's independence, he contracted cholera and died in December of 1855. He lives on in the hearts of the Polish people as one of the country's greatest poets and his works are an inspiration to the people of the country he loved.

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK

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