

History of the Krasnostein-Bonshtein as pioneers of the “Holy Land” written by a second generation son, David Krasnostein

David Krasnostein (Father of Menachem Bareket), letter to Jack and Norma Krasnostein in Australia dated June 4 1968

Part One

When George Stephenson the discoverer of the locomotive started to build railways in England it spread afterwards into Europe. The Grandpa (the father of my father) his name was Pesach (after whom Uncle Paul of 368 Lord Street is named) He built all the Russian railways and during the curving into a tunnel he was killed.

When the tunnel came off his wife Grandma Yoota was killed also accidentally. They had a village outside Moscow and she used to love to milk the cows herself. One old cow killed her. This all happened in 1880.

They left two children. Uncle Mordechai Krasnostein the brother of my father who did not want to stay in Russia with the wealthy family and went over the Russian border into Rumania, immediately changed his name from Krasnostein (Krasnoshtein) into Bonstein (Bonshtein) which is the translation from Russian and German into French and German

Uncle Mordechai married a nice Rumanian lady called Chayah Rachel in 1882. He came into Palestine now under the Turkish Empire. At first he settled at Rosh Pina, north east Palestine. He did not stay there long and one son cousin Nachum was born in Rosh Pina

In 1883 Baron Rothschild colonized him in Tantura at the Mediterranean coast among the Arabs. He lived with his family among the Arabs for two years. In 1885 he was finally colonized in Zichron Yaacov and became one of the best to do farmers.

In 1886 he brought over from Russia my father Yitzchak Krasnostein who did not change officially his name from Krasnostein into Bonstein So I suggest that where ever comes Bonstein put like this, Krasnostein Bonstein together.

My father Yitzchak stayed alone a year and in 1887 he brought over from Russia my mother named Matleh of the house of Weinstein (a well to do family in Russia also during the Czar's regime)

My mother came over from Russia with Shaykeh Krasnostein a kid of five years old, Pesach (Paul) a kid of three and a half years old and two girls Yoota and Haya who both died very young.

Uncle Chayim Bonstein Krasnostein, his wife Chaya myself next and Uncle Les we were born at Zichron Yaacov. Uncle Chayim in 1897, myself in 1904, Les in 1905. We lived in the Yemenite quarter and in 1911 we moved into the center of Zichron Yaacov. My father was both farmer in Tantura among the Arabs and in Bereyky among the Arabs and in Syndyani among the Arabs. Also we were the first Egged people. We had two nice Hackney carriages who carried passengers from Zichron into Haifa into Yaffa and Tel Aviv, when Tel Aviv was only Herzl Street. Uncle Chayim remained all his life as a farmer and died there. His son Isaac Bonstein Krasnostein kept the farm and carried on the tradition

I served for several years in the civil post office with the British and later in the civil police force (called the Signals Branch. Palestine) I continued automatically with the Israeli Police until January 1 1961 the date I retired from the force.

Paul went to Australia in 1912 and Shaykeh in 1913. Paul was a bachelor, Shaykeh married to Malca Epstein and having a baby daughter called Rebecca. Here ends part one

Part Two

My mother's mother named Pearl Weinstein came to Israel in 1910. I was 6 years old then. She came with two sons. Uncle Shulim Weinstein the father of Israel and Abraham Weinstein of Zichron's great industrialists

Uncle Shulim married Malca Shechter the niece of the famous professor Shechter of the USA and England.

Uncle Mayer Weinstein went from Palestine to USA and died in 1966 in New York. Aunty Eva Weinstein still lives in New York City. The bobeh grandma died in Safed and I used to see her while I served there. She died in Safed in 1938

Aunty Chana my mother's sister went direct from Russia into the USA in 1898. Her children live in New York

The branch line from my mother's side was like this.

Abraham Shraga Epstein and his wife Keyleh Devorah (Auntie Devorah Atlas bears her name). They left Russia to Romania in 1878 and lived in Romania in a town called Tulchea. Their name was at first Sadowsky and changed into Epstein. In 1882 they migrated with the first colonists of Zichron to Israel with three children; one son Joseph Epstein married in Zichron Bat Sheva Zukerman

The other son Jacob Epstein married Chana Haimovitch in Zichron. These are the parents of Malca Epstein the mother of Jack, Amechi, Sol, Rebecca, Ada and Lily.

Joseph Epstein the uncle of Malca, the mother of Jack, Amechi, Sol, Rebecca, Ada and Lily Krasnostein was a "big shot" by the Turkish Government. He was like the mayor of the Town in that time.

After Joseph Epstein came Asher Bonstein as the mayor of Zichron and head of the agricultural commission. Asher Bonstein is a cousin of Shaykeh the father of Rebecca, Ada, Lily Jack, Amechi and Sol Krasnostein. Now the Bonstein's are our cousins through my father's side. "Krasnostein - Bonstein" and the Weinstein's are my cousins through my mothers side

Joseph Epstein died in 1928 in Zichron. Jacob Epstein died in 1916. He is the father of Malca who is mother to Rebecca, Ada, Lily Jack, Amechi and Sol Krasnostein

Jacob and Joseph Epstein had a sister called Malka. Malka Epstein wife of Shaykeh Krasnostein is named after her. She married a fellow called Shalom Spindler and they lived in Egypt and died there in 1918.

Jacob Epstein the father of the mother of Rebecca, Ada, Lily Jack, Amechi and Sol Krasnostein married Chana Hayimovitch in 1885. They had these children. Samuel, Abraham, Malka, Meir, Rachel, Shoshana, Nachman, Devorah and Isaac Epstein. These are the particulars I picked up today in the book of the history of Zichron

Yaacov which parts thereof I had already forwarded to you a few years ago. I hope this will give some satisfaction.

This document was typed from the original handwritten letter by Jeff Krasnostein, Perth, Australia in March 26, 2008.