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## A Biography of Daniel Gugel

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A BIOGRAPHY  
OF  
DANIEL GUGEL

A RESEARCH PROJECT  
PRESENTED TO  
DR. ROGER WARLICK  
ARMSTRONG STATE COLLEGE  
AS REQUIRED FOR HISTORY 300

EDITH T. BRUNJES

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## ABSTRACT OF THE LIFE OF DANIEL GUGEL

Daniel Gugel or (Gugle) was born on November 1, 1766, and died on April 10, 1832. He was the eight child out of nine. His parents, Anna Maria and John Christopher Gugel, Sr., were first generation Salzburgers. They settled at Ebenezer, Georgia around 1750. There is no information on the childhood of Daniel.

During his adult life, Daniel resided in Savannah, Georgia. In Savannah, he owned several pieces of property; earned his living as a blacksmith; belonged to The Lutheran Church of the Ascension; and had a wife named Maryann.

In general, I found very little detailed information on the life of Daniel Gugel. What I did find were the essential facts, such as: date of birth and death; his wife's name; a specific occupation; a church affiliation; and a Will. In other words, Daniel Gugel appears to have been an average citizen who was born, married, made an honest living, and went on to his greater reward through no unusual circumstances.

John Christopher Gugel, Sr. settled at Ebenezer, Georgia, about 1750, and died about 1788.<sup>1</sup> His wife was named Anna Maria.<sup>2</sup> Their son, Daniel, was born on November 1, 1766.<sup>3</sup> The exact location of his birth is uncertain. Daniel was the eighth child out of nine.<sup>4</sup> The names of his brothers and sisters were as follows: Salome, born 1752 (no date of death given); Hannah, born 1753, died 1806; Hannah Elizabeth (no date of birth or death given); John Christopher, Jr., born March 5, 1757, died December 2, 1819; Samuel, born September 3, 1758, died November 6, 1788; Christian, born April 1, 1761, died November 1814;; David, born January 21, 1764, died April 24, 1842; and Joshua, born September 28, 1768, died 1801.<sup>5</sup> Since the parents were among the original Salzburger<sup>6</sup>s, the children were second generation Salzburger<sup>7</sup>s.

There is no obtainable information on Daniel's childhood; therefore, I will proceed right into his adulthood. During the course of his adult life, Daniel purchased several pieces of property in the city of Savannah, Georgia.<sup>8</sup> On March 31, 1795, Daniel purchased a piece of property from D. Goutiera.<sup>9</sup> The property was located on Abercorn Street, Lot 6, in the Anson Ward.<sup>10</sup> On December 12, 1798, Mr. Gugel purchased another piece of property from one J. J. Waldhauer.<sup>11</sup> This piece of property was located on Whitaker Street, Lot 10, in the Heath Court Ward.<sup>12</sup> Sometime during the year 1801, Daniel purchased 150 acres of land from one M. Ash.<sup>13</sup> Mr. Gugel's last piece of property to be purchased was acquired on May 29, 1809.<sup>14</sup> This piece

of property, which became his permanent place of residence<sup>15</sup>, was purchased directly from the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Savannah.<sup>16</sup> It was located on South Broad Street, now Oglethorpe Avenue,<sup>17</sup> Lot 38, in the Liberty Ward.<sup>18</sup> The purpose for purchasing so much property is not indicated; however, there are no unusual circumstances involved in any of the transactions.

According to the Gugel Genealogy, Daniel's wife was named Maryann<sup>19</sup> (born October 10, 1712; died July 23, 1847).<sup>20</sup> Although no marriage license turned up during the course of my research, there is no doubt concerning the identity of his wife. Two major sources confirm the fact that Maryann was Daniel's wife.<sup>21</sup> There is no record of them having any children. Even the 1820 Census makes no reference to any children.<sup>22</sup>

Mr. Gugel was a member of The Lutheran Church of the Ascension.<sup>23</sup> His actual date of membership is uncertain; however, his date of death and burial are listed in the church records.<sup>24</sup>

Several sources indicate that Daniel made his living as a blacksmith.<sup>25</sup> According to his financial records, Daniel did very well as a blacksmith; for he always had money in the bank.<sup>26</sup>

Daniel Gugel died on April 10, 1832 at the age of 65.<sup>27</sup> The attending physician, Dr. Cuyler, described the cause of death as a liver ailment.<sup>28</sup>

Mr. Gugel's funeral announcement reads as follows:<sup>29</sup>

The friends and acquaintances of Daniel Gugel and Thomas Purse are invited to attend the funeral of the former, from his late residence in South Broad Street this morning, at 9:00.

Daniel was buried in Colonial Cemetery, Section B-116.<sup>30</sup> The

Epitaph of Daniel Gugel reads as follows:<sup>31</sup>

THE MEMORY OF THE JUST IS BLESSED.

The Will of Daniel Gugel is presently on file in the Chatham County Probate Court.<sup>32</sup> The Will was filed on April 19, 1832,<sup>33</sup> and recorded on February 7, 1833.<sup>34</sup> The Executors were David Gugel, Thomas Purse, and Hanford Knapp.<sup>35</sup> The major portion of the estate went to his wife, Maryann.<sup>36</sup> In the event of her death, the estate would then go to Eliza Purse,<sup>37</sup> the wife of Thomas Purse.<sup>38</sup> The exact relationship of Eliza Purse to Daniel Gugel is not indicated in the Will.<sup>39</sup> Her name does appear in the church records at Ascension Lutheran Church; where she is listed as Eliza Gugel.<sup>40</sup> Unfortunately, the connection between the two, Eliza and Daniel, is still obscure.

For the most part, Daniel was not a very prominent person. There is no evidence of any special or unusual event happening during his lifetime. Upon his death, Daniel left behind his wife, Maryann; one brother, David; several nieces and nephews; and a handful of cousins.<sup>41</sup>

Unfortunately, I found no living descendant of the late Daniel Gugel.<sup>42</sup> I did contact the only Gugel presently living in Savannah. He is listed as J. W. Gugel, 504 E.48th Street.<sup>43</sup> As it turns out, Mr. J. W. Gugel is Irish-Catholic.<sup>44</sup> Bearing this factor in mind, it is very unlikely that he is related to the late Daniel Gugel.

## END NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Pearl R. Gnann, Georgia Salzburgers and Allied Families, p. 150.
- <sup>2</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>3</sup> Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America, comp., Some Early Epitaphs in Georgia, p. 55.
- <sup>4</sup> Pearl R. Gnann, Georgia Salzburgers and Allied Families, p. 150.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> Chatham County Superior Court, Index to Grantees, F-L, 1785-1910.
- <sup>9</sup> Chatham County Superior Court, Record of Deeds, Book U, Folio 429.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid., Book V, Folio 311-12.
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> Ibid., Folio 336.
- <sup>14</sup> Ibid., Book 2-G, Folio 437.
- <sup>15</sup> Funeral Notice, The Daily Georgian, April 12, 1832, p. 2, c. 6.
- <sup>16</sup> Chatham County Superior Court, Record of Deeds, Book 2-G, Folio 437.
- <sup>17</sup> Harry A. Chandler, comp., Map of a Portion of Historical Savannah (1917), Chatham County Public Library, Bull Street Branch.
- <sup>18</sup> Chatham County Superior Court, Record of Deeds, Book 2-G, folio 437.
- <sup>19</sup> Pearl R. Gnann, Georgia Salzburgers and Allied Families, p. 150.
- <sup>20</sup> Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America, comp., Some Early Epitaphs in Georgia, p. 55.
- <sup>21</sup> Chatham County Probate Court, The Last Will and Testament of Daniel Gugel, File No. 106; Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Some Early Epitaphs in Georgia, p. 55.

## END NOTES

- <sup>22</sup> The 1820 Georgia Census, Index No. 12-258; Georgia Historical Society. ( The Census made no reference to children, slaves, etc. In fact, it was of little use in my research).
- <sup>23</sup> Church Records of The Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Georgia Historical Society.
- <sup>24</sup> Ibid., Church Office, 21 E. State St., Savannah, Ga.
- <sup>25</sup> Chatham County Superior Court, Record of Deeds, Book U, Folio 429; Book V, Folio 311-12 & 336; Book 2-G, Folio 437.
- <sup>26</sup> Chatham County Probate Court, The Last Will and Testament of Daniel Gugel, File No. 106. ( Note: The word "bank" is used figuratively ).
- <sup>27</sup> Chatham County Health Dpt., Vital Records, Records of Death Certificat. ( Gugel, Daniel; 1832 ).
- <sup>28</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>29</sup> Funeral Notice, The Daily Georgian, April 12, 1832, p. 2, c. 6.
- <sup>30</sup> Colonial Park Index, 1750-1850, Georgia Historical Society.
- <sup>31</sup> Georgia Society of Colonial Dames of America, comp., Some Early Epitaphs in Georgia, p. 55.
- <sup>32</sup> Chatham County Probate Court, The Last Will and Testament of Daniel Gugel, File No. 106.
- <sup>33</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>34</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>35</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>36</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>38</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>39</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>40</sup> Church Records of The Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Church Office, 21 E. State St., Savannah, Ga.
- <sup>41</sup> Chatham County Probate Court, The Last Will and Testament of Daniel Gugel, File No. 106.



END NOTES

<sup>42</sup>I consulted the Savannah Telephone Directory, March 1980; and the Gugel Genealogy, Pearl R. Gmann, Georgia Salzburgers and Allied Families, p. 150.

<sup>43</sup>Savannah Telephone Directory, March 1980.

<sup>44</sup>J. W. Gugel, Telephone Conversation, July 25, 1980.

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2. Church Records of The Lutheran Church of the Ascension. Church Office, 21 E. State St., Savannah, Ga.
3. Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America, comp. Some Early Epitaphs in Georgia. Chatham County Public Library, Main Branch, Ga. Case, Ref. 929.5.
4. Gnann, Pearl R. Georgia Salzburgers and Allied Families. Chatham County Public Library, Main Branch, Ga. Case, Ref. 929.1.
5. Historical Research Project, Georgia, comp. General Index to Wills, Estates, Administrations, etc., in Chatham County, Court House, Savannah, Ga. Chatham County Public Library, Main Branch, Ga. Case, Vol. I, Ref. 929.3.
6. Records of Death Certificates. Vital Records, Chatham County Health Dpt., Eisenhower Dr., Savannah, Ga. Gugel, Daniel; 1832.
7. The Daily Georgian. Funeral Notice. April 12, 1832. p. 2, c. 6.
8. The Last Will and Testament of Daniel Gugel. Chatham County Probate Court. File No. 106.
9. Warren, Mary B. , comp. Marriages and Deaths, 1763 to 1820. Chatham County Public Library, Main Branch, Ga. Case, Ref. 929.3.
10. Wilson, Caroline P., comp. Annals of Georgia, Important Early Records of the State. Chatham County Public Library, Main Branch, Ga. Case, Vol. 3, Ref. 929.3.