

THE CLARK'S

Census and tax records show that Clarks' have been living in Baltimore County for hundreds of years. The earliest ancestor found is Richard P. Clark, born in Baltimore County, Maryland in 1801. He married Mary Gallagher, born 1808, and had six children, Henry, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Robert, Charlott, and Ella. The eighteen sixty census shows Richard and Mary Clark living with a Cockeysville Post Office address. All the children were living at home and Robert, our direct line of descendantcy, was fourteen years old.

Henry (Harry)	born	1837/38	
Elizabeth	"	1839/40	married Ned Sparks
Benjamin	"	1843/44	
Robert	"	August 16, 1846	
Charlott	"	1848/49	married Charley Oriell
Ella "Nellie B."	"	May 30, 1852	married George "Bud" Zink

Two of the sons served in the Union Army during the civil war. Benjamin enlisted on March 16th 1864 in Company K, 7th Maryland Regiment and was later transferred to the 1st Infantry Company E. He was discharged July 2, 1865 having spent most of the time at small encampments with minor military engagements.

Uncle Harry's Army service was quite different. From my earliest remembrances the older folks said uncle Harry was wounded in the Civil War. Research proved this to be true. On May 27th 1861 Henry enlisted in the 1st. Maryland Regiment. His occupation was listed as farmer, a resident of Lutherville and he was twenty years old. The Regiment was formed in Cockeysville Maryland and all of the recruits were from the northern line of Maryland counties and signed to serve for three years or the war. By May 28, 1861, the regiment was accepted into the service of the United States at Elkridge Landing. On July the first the regiment assembled at Camp Harford, now Druid Hill Park.

Company G was actively engaged in the Civil War from the battle of Shepherdstown beginning September 9, 1861, until war ended at the battle of Appomattox Court House, Virginia, in April of 1865. The regiment was in combat from Western Maryland to West Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley. On February 12th 1864 Henry re-enlisted at Culpepper Virginia. By June of 1864 the regiment had reached Petersburg, Virginia in heavy fighting and suffered severe casualties.

Weldon railroad was one of the main arteries used in supplying Lee's Army. It is south of Petersburg, Virginia near the North Carolina border. On August 18, 1864 the battle of Weldon Railroad

commenced. The open field engagement lasted several hours and Henry's outfit suffered heavy casualties. fifty seven killed and wounded. with Henry being one of the wounded. The battle continued for three more days. Henry was wounded in the right arm on the first day of this battle. it was amputated August 19, 1864 at Petersburg Hospital, Virginia. Following the amputation he was moved to Whitehall Hospital. Bristol Pennsylvania.

During his stay at Whitehall Hospital, in September 1864, his Mother wrote the Surgeon General of the United States to request that her son be transferred to Jarvis Hospital in Baltimore. She said she could take better care of him and being close to home would speed his recovery. The transfer was denied and Harry was sent to a hospital on Christian Street, Philadelphia to be fitted with an artificial limb. However, because the arm had been amputated so close to the shoulder, he could not be fitted with an artificial arm.

Corporal Henry Clark was discharged February 8, 1865 from White hall hospital. In 1866 he was living in Lutherville receiving a disability pension of \$8 per month. Subsequently he moved to Baltimore City and lived at several addresses, the last being 1112 Winchester Street. He died august 14, 1908.

In 1874 Harry was living at 324 Franklin Street in Baltimore. My belief is that Robert was visiting his brother Harry and met Adelheid (Adeline) Wittkopf who was living with her Aunt and Uncle Karl Hellwig. Adeline came to Baltimore from Romulus, Michigan in eighteen sixty nine. The Hellwig's owned several rental properties and lived on Pratt street. This would have been in the same general area as where Harry Clark lived.

Robert Clark and Adeline (Adelheid) Wittkopf were married in 1875. The marriage produced twelve children six of whom lived to be adults.

Harry Richard	born 1877	married	Lillie May Turnbaugh
August Wittfopf	" 1879	"	Mary Elizabeth Turnbaugh
			Emiline R. Howard
Elinor Mary	" 1882	"	David Warfel
Grace Lillian	" 1883	"	John Warfel
			George Wittkopf (1st cousin)
Lelia May	" 1886	"	Frederick Weller
Robert Otto	" 1887	"	Sadie Robinson
George Benjamin	" 1897	"	Elizabeth Amanda Cole

So a good place to start the modern family history is with the picture of the Clark family farm taken about 1904. The picture was given to me by Katie Weller, Carl Weller's wife. Thank goodness for Katie as this is the only picture in existence of the farm. To my knowledge no one in my generation knows specifically where the Clark farm was, only that it was a location now covered by Loch Raven Reservoir in Dulaneys Valley, Baltimore County, Maryland.

The census shows the family living in the tenth election district in 1880. A notation "OF&C" appears in the margin apparently meaning that the farm was owned free and clear of financial incumbrances. I wonder where the money came from for the purchase or how they were able to pay off a mortgage in such a short period of time.

In 1988 I visited Marie Polly at the Schrewsbury Nursing home in Pennysylvania. Marie is Aunt Grace's daughter and Marie remembers going to the Clark farm when she was about eight years old. As she remembers, it was a large house, and the stairway had a long banister that all the children loved to slide down. Also remembered was the home baked bread and large meals.

Marie believes the house was located near the Loch Raven Dam and upstream from the number one bridge. As the waters rose from the damming of the Gunpowder River her Mother showed her the top of the farm house and the steeple from the school house still sticking out of the water.

The following newspaper account, saved by Aunt Lelia, of a party at the farm may give some idea of the goodtimes enjoyed there. My guess the date is about 1904. After reading this account you can see why it was saved by Aunt Lelia.

"Dulany's Valley, 10th District-A large number of young people attended a watermelon party at "Nonesuch," the home of Mr. Robert Clark, Wednesday evening, August 19th. The pallor was trimmed with cut flowers and plants and the colors of the watermelon, while the lawn was beautifully illuminated with Japanese lanterns. The tables at which the guests were seated were decorated with bunting. Prof. Andrew Kutzks' orchestra furnished music for the dancers. The party, which was greatly enjoyed, continued until a late hour. The dance was led by Miss Lelia M. Clark and Mr. Lawson Tyrie, Miss Margaret Steigler and Mr. Harry Bowers, Miss Mamie Velker and Mr. Robert Clark, Jr. and Miss Violet Gompf and Mr. Herbert Moreton. The guests were served with watermelon and other refreshments. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gompf, (1) Mr. and Mrs. David Warfel, (2) Mr. and Mrs. John T Ford, of Baltimore; Misses Grace L Clark, Margaret Steigler, Bessie Ford, Mabel and Anna Gompf, Christina and Minnie Laabes. Lonla Zink, Clark and John Zink. Willmer Wisnom. Burgan Dillworth, John Warfel, Tolley Patterson, Godfrey

Kolk. Emery Yoder. Alexander Bramble. Lawrence Bryan. Theodore Fornwalt. Thomas Turnbaugh. Charles Springer. George and Willie Clark. Clayton. Louis and Henry Gompf. Otto Ford. Maurice Dapprich. James Nau and many others."

(by D.V.)

(1-Christina Wittkopf} (2-Elinor Clark)

There must have been many special memories about the farm. Although my Father never discussed it at length, when any of the Aunts and Uncles were together there was always some happy comment about "on the farm." I guess the name NONESUCH had a meaning that there truly was no other place quite like it. On the many visits made to Aunt Lelia's and to Aunt Elinor's you could count on hearing about the farm.

One story I particularly remember my father talking about was Glen Ellen, a castle on the shores of the Gunpowder River. The spot was just off Providence Road west of where the first bridge now crosses Loch Raven. Daddy said he could see the castle from the farm and must have been suitably impressed. Here is why!

Robert Gilmore, a Baltimorean, after visiting the castle Abbotsford in England had dreams of building a castle for his bride Ellen Ward and therefore the name Glen Ellen.

Glen Ellen, uncompleted, contained twenty five or more bedrooms a large library, a circular ballroom and its chief glory a great drawing room that ran the entire width of the building at southern end. Also at the southern end two towers rose to give it a castle like appearance.

Glen Ellen was originally intended to be five stories but work stopped at the second story. For some unknown reason the castle was never finished. The cost at that point was approximately \$75,000. The original estate included five thousand acres, barns and slave quarters.

William, the second son, of Robert Gilmore was the one responsible for the eventual doom of Glen Ellen and many of the homes and farms located in Dulaney's Valley. He suggested that a dam be erected in the Gunpowder and made a source of water supply for the city. He is also given credit for naming the subsequent lake Loch Raven.

The remains of the foundation of Glen Ellen are still there. You can still get a beautiful view of Loch Raven from the now overgrown terrace that overlooked the Gunpowder Valley. I believe it was 1988 when Karen and I walked the fire trail from Glen Ellen Road back to the ruins of Glen Ellen. Now I can visualize what the Clark children saw on a hill not far from the farm.

The first dam at Loch Raven was completed in 1881 and a second dam was started twenty five hundred feet up stream in 1912. This dam was completed in 1915. Nineteen eighteen saw the annexing of fifty

square miles of land as the crest of the dam was to rise two hundred forty feet by 1923. With the flooding of Dulaney Valley Robert, Adeline and Robert Otto moved to Lutherville.

Now, Lutherville and Lutherville Female Seminary (now Manor Care) and Lutherville was named after Martin Luther. Several histories of Lutherville are in my files. The school and the village were founded without any idea of financial benefit, but was established entirely for educational purposes. The female seminary conducted childrens classes, as there was no public school. A few years later, however, Dr. Morris made a proposition to the school board in Baltimore County and promised to lease a lot on Bellona Avenue, presently 1508 Bellona Avenue, to put up a school building.

In 1907 Grandfather purchased a house and property, known as the Old Schoolhouse from Emanuel Herman. This property was formerly a part of Ridgley's Conclusion. The large sum of \$ 1200 purchased 29/100 th's of an acre, now 1508 Bellona Avenue. As you may have guessed Grandfather purchased the old schoolhouse. Interestingly Grandmother signed the deeds to this property, as well as others, with an X. It was not important in the 1850's for women to receive an education and we may assume that she did not go to school.

Grandfather Clark started a laundry business here. A telephone directory from 1913 shows the listing "Robert Clark and Son Steam Laundry, telephone number 182 K." Marie Polly believes that Uncle Gus operated the laundry and that Grandfather Clark did not move to that house until 1913 or 1914. By 1915 Grandfather Clark was about sixty seven years old, all the children had married and left home except Robert.

We have a postcard from Dad to Mother in December 1917 before they were married. Mother must have been visiting her sister Lillie in Providence Rhode Island as that is where the card is addressed. Dad said "I am back home again expect to stay until spring." The card is postmarked Lutherville. My only conclusion is that he was away working someplace.

By 1917 World War I had begun. I would like to add here that all the records for my Dad were lost due to water damage from a fire at a Saint Louis, Mo. depository. The War records Commission, 1933, in Baltimore contains the following:

Clark, Robert Otto
Lutherville, Baltimore Co.
Dulaney's Valley, Md.: 6/18/87
Inducted 5/14/18 Pvt.
Co. D Tng Det Pittsburg Univ;
Btry C 78 FA 7/5/18
Hon disch 6/27/19
Overseas 7/14/18 to 6/19/19

There is a picture of him on a post card from Grenoble, France in the album. I remember him saying that his outfit was the next to go to the front lines. there is also a story, from several sources, of him being gassed but it has not been verified.

The old schoolhouse property was sold in 1920 and the Clark's bought the house across the street from their daughter Elinor and son in law David Warfel. The property is now known as 1507 Bellona Avenue. This house was built by a carpenter who used building materials that were left over from other houses he was building. In later years when Mother had storm windows installed, none of the eighteen windows were the same size.

In the meantime, Daddy (Robert Otto Clark) had become engaged to Sadie Robinson. This was an eight year engagement that began about 1912. Mother always said she would not get married until they could afford to buy a house. Well things did not work out just the way she planned. My grandparents, having moved across the street, had the deed recorded Robert Clark, Adeline Clark and Robert O. Clark. It is not quite clear if there was a mortgage or why my Dad's name was on the deed. So, on June 23, 1920, exactly two months after the move across the street, Sadie Robinson and Robert Otto Clark were Married at Saint Johns Methodist Church in Lutherville.

However when mother received money from the sale of her Mothers place in 1925 it either paid the mortgage or paid off my father brothers and sisters for their share since the house was recorded in my fathers name. I don't know, however Mom and Dad married in June of 1920 and lived in the same house with Dad's parents.

As I learned just recently from Margaret Allen Schwanebeck, the living arrangements were probably a little cumbersome. My Grandparents lived in what we knew as the dinning room and kitchen or the two back rooms. There was a staircase in the dining room that led upstairs to the back bedroom. (It later became my bedroom.) My Mother and Father lived in what I knew as the front room and parlor, a front staircase led to the two front bedrooms upstairs. One of these bedrooms became my sister Deanes. Both of these staircases were enclosed and had doors that were usually kept closed. It was necessary for Mother to bring in water to cook and bathe from the kitchen as that was the only source of running water in the house. There was no central heating, and no indoor plumbing. Pot bellied stoves were in two rooms downstairs, one for each so-called apartment.

Mother said Grandfather Clark was a big eater, that it was nothing for him to eat a half dozen eggs, a pound of sausage, and half a loaf of bread for breakfast. Then he would complain that he did not get enough to eat. He would then take a walk down the street to Aunt Grace's for an early lunch. Why?, because Mother was a strict Methodist, a tea totler and never had any alcohol to drink in the house. (although Deane said she reneged in later years with creme

sherry) So grandfather Clark would go to Aunt Grace's because she would give him a beer with lunch.

Dad worked at many different occupations beginning at the family laundry. We have a picture of him working in the heat treat department at Black & Decker. He also worked as a carpenter, was employed by the Sherrif's department in Baltimore County, and in 1929 was a gas station attendant, although my birth certificate says gasoline salesman. The gasoline station was a part of Brooks Price Buick dealership at the corner of York Road and Towson Avenue in Towson.