



a.k.a.

Can't find your
ancestor on the
passenger lists?

DID THEY COME UNDER AN
**ASSUMED
NAME** 

by Marietta M. Glauser

Growing up, I knew who my grandfather was. He was Nick Diamanti, sheep man and resident of Helper, Utah. He was born and raised in Maurolitharion, a little village in the mountains of central Greece. He immigrated to the United States in the early 1900s. He had brothers who immigrated before he did and one who came after him. My grandmother, Maria Florias, emigrated¹ from the same little village several years after my grandfather. They were married February 1, 1914² in Helper, Utah, by the local Greek Orthodox priest. They had six children born between 1914 and 1923, four sons and two daughters, the last being my mother.

I had heard stories of my grandmother's trip to America. Before her death I used to ask her if she would ever like to return to her hometown in Greece. The answer was always the same, in very broken English, "No. All I left there was poverty." They were not wealthy people.

It wasn't until years after I was married and my grandparents had long since passed away, that I began to take an interest in the past. My uncles told me their version of the story of Grandpa's coming to America. When Grandfather was a young man living in Greece with his family, he was sent to tend his father's flock of sheep. Apparently, a man came to the place where Grandpa kept the sheep, intent on stealing some sheep. There was a struggle and not too long afterwards Grandpa found himself on a ship to America where he joined his brothers who were living in Utah. Years later when my mother was visiting relatives in Greece, she was told by one of them that Grandpa stayed with them until his boat left for America. After Mother's revelation, my curiosity got the better of me and my search began.

I found Grandpa in the 1910 U.S. Census for Helper, Carbon County, Utah.³ According to the census record, he was listed as the "head of household," he immigrated in 1907 and his younger brother, who arrived in 1910, was living in the same household. The 1920 U.S. Census for Helper, Carbon County, Utah,⁴ again listed him as "head of household," with his wife and three sons and recorded that he had immigrated in 1909 and Grandmother in 1913. A search of the passenger lists for New York for the years 1907 to 1910 revealed nothing. I checked the

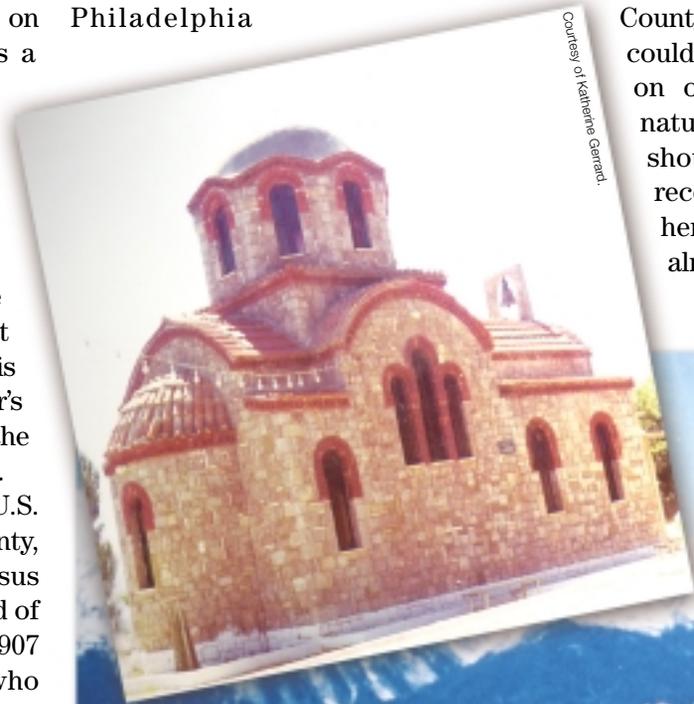
Soundex for any and all spelling variations of Diamanti that I had seen or could possibly come up with. Nothing. I checked the book *Greek Immigrant Passengers, 1885-1910: A Guide and Index to Researching Early Greek Immigrants*. Again, nothing.

I did find my grandmother (spelling wrong of course) with her cousin and uncle on the S.S. *Martha Wassington* [sic] ship manifest⁵ for the year 1913, as was stated in the 1920 census. With the story about Grandpa floating around in the back of my mind, I searched any and all ports of entry for him from 1907 to 1910, from the ports of San Francisco to Cuba to Philadelphia

to Boston to New York, all to no avail. For all I knew, he could have been a "stow away" or jumped ship with no record of his arrival.

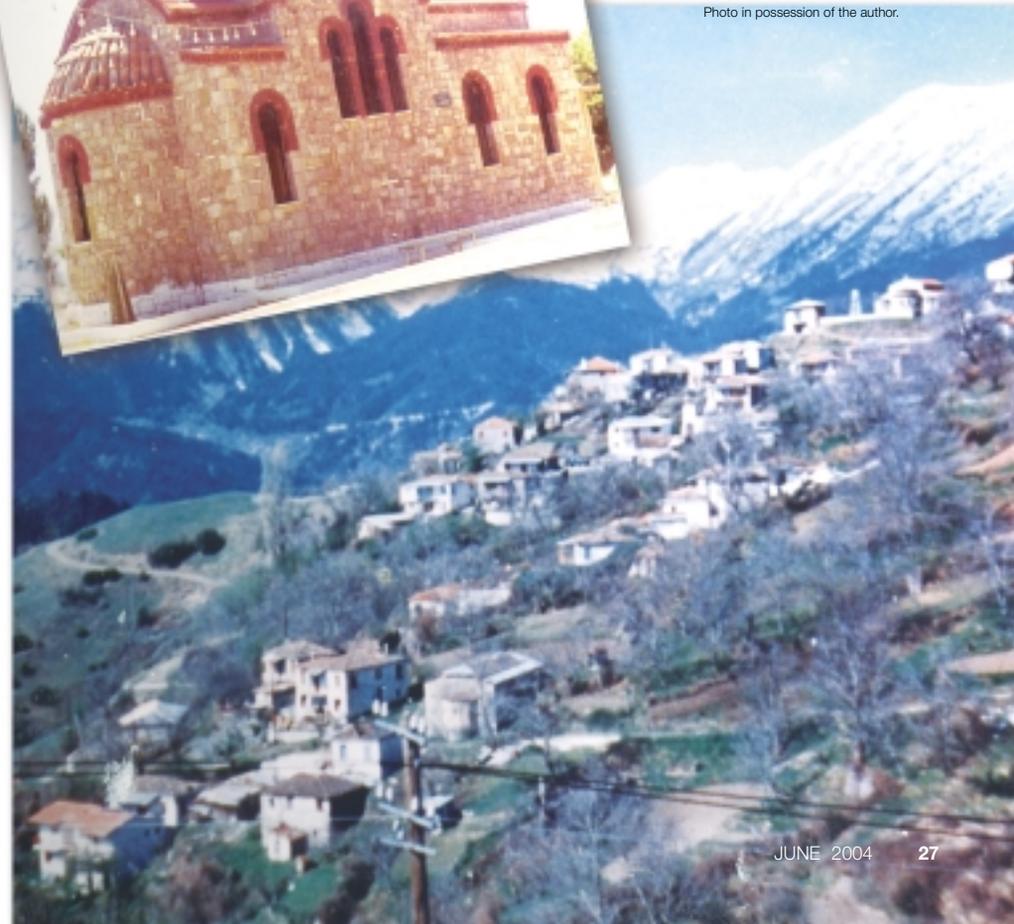
My grandparent's marriage record was of no help as "Nic Diumanti married Mary Florges" on 1 Feb 1914⁶ by the Greek Orthodox Priest with no other helpful information given. I searched the passenger lists again, and again I came up empty. I expressed utter frustration to my mother, who by this time was beginning to take an interest in her family history.

On a visit with her brother, Mother drove the short distance to Price (the County Seat and District Court for Carbon County, Utah) to see what she could uncover. I had told her on one occasion that his naturalization records should be in Price. I received a phone call from her that evening and in an almost singsong voice she

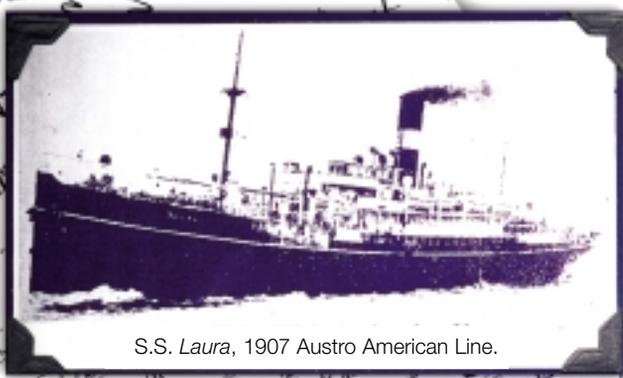


Courtesy of Katherine Gerard.

Photo in possession of the author.



Right top: A 1970 photo of the current Greek Orthodox Church which replaced the earlier one that burned.
Bottom: Maurolitharion, (Fokidof Nomos, or County) Greece.



S.S. Laura, 1907 Austro American Line.

To the Honorable the District Court of _____

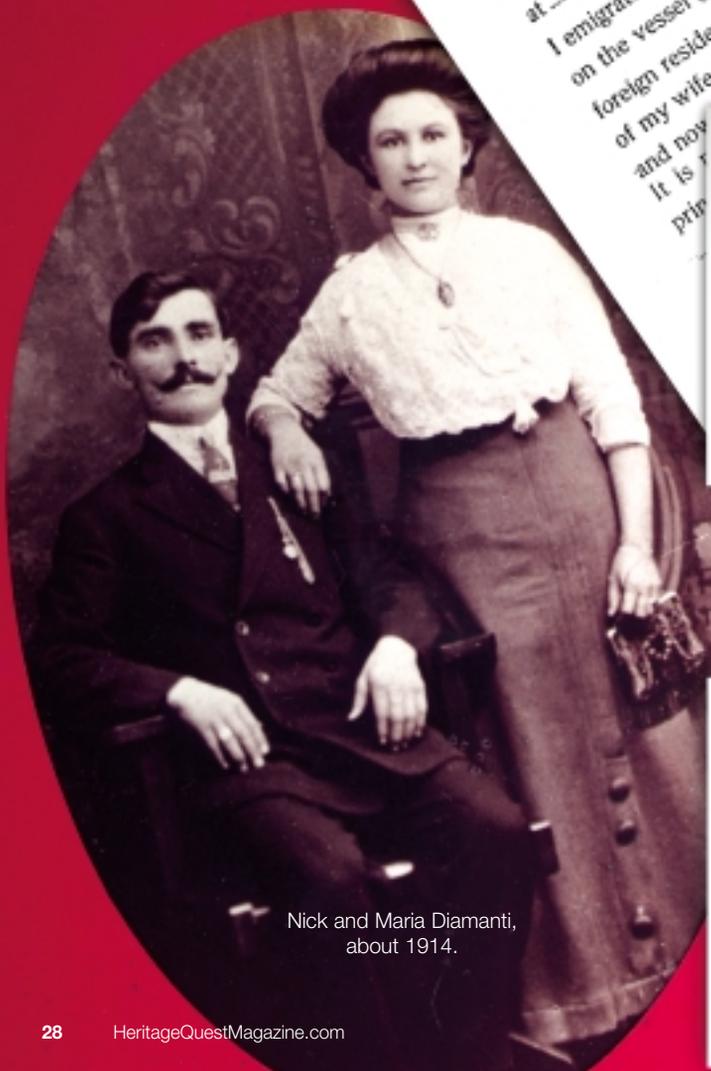
FORM 114—CERTIFIED COPY OF DECLARATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF INTENT

Invalid for all purposes seven years after date of filing in the _____

I, Nick Diamanti of the State of Utah County of Carbon ss:
 occupation Sheep Man
 description is: Color White pounds, color of hair None complexion Brown
 weight 130 other visible distinctive marks None
 I was born in Marasolihari day of October anno Domini 1882
 on the 10 day of October at Patras Greece
 I emigrated to the United States of America from Austro American Line
 on the vessel Mary of Greece she was born at Marasolihari
 foreign residence was Marasolihari I am yes married; the name
 of my wife is Mary of Marasolihari
 and now resides at Helper, Carbon County, Utah
 I have the honor to declare that I am a native born citizen of Greece
 and intend to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign
 prince, sovereign, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Constantine
no Domini 1908; on or about the 26 day
 of July 1908; I am not an anarchist; I am not
 of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith
 to permanently reside in the
 United States of America and to permanently reside in the
 District of _____



Nick and Maria Diamanti, about 1914.

P-898

Family name Changed from DIAMANTI (DELIBASSIS)	Given name or names Changed from Nick (Dimitrios)
Address Helper, Utah	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) 2459505 - Pet. Vol. 9, P. 49	Title and location of court Dist. Court, Price, Utah
Country of birth or allegiance Greece	When born (or age) Oct. 10, 1882
Date and port of arrival in U. S. Jan. 26, 1908 - New York, N.Y.	Date of naturalization Jan. 6, 1927
Name and address of witnesses Stylian Staggs - Price, Ut.	

P-898

Family name Changed to DELIBASSIS (DIAMANTI)	Given name or names Changed to Dimitrios (Nick)
Address Helper, Utah	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) 2459505 - Pet. Vol. 9, P. 49	Title and location of court Dist. Court, Price, Utah
Country of birth or allegiance Greece	When born (or age) Oct. 10, 1882
Date and port of arrival in U. S. Jan. 26, 1908 - New York, N.Y.	Date of naturalization Jan. 6, 1927
Name and address of witnesses Stylian Staggs - Price, Ut.	

Diamanti, Nick

Nick Diamanti

Age, 44 years.	Petition No. 1562 898	Issued by—District Court of _____, at Carbon County Price, Utah
Date of order of admission: January 6, 1927	Issued by Clerk of the District Court of Carbon County _____, 1923	
Name, age, and place of residence of wife: Mary—32 years old—Helper is present residence		
Name, ages, and places of residence of minor children: Bill, May 11, Helper; Lee, 9, Helper; Christ, 7; Stella, 6; Catherine, 3 years of age. Now Residing at Helper, Utah.		
No. 2459505	Old Certificate No. _____	New Certificate No. _____

If you have searched passenger records inside and out, checking every possible spelling for your family name, try “Naturalization Records.” They will give you the name of the ship your ancestor traveled on and the date of arrival. Check all of the information tucked away in the file. You just may find that your ancestor was actually a.k.a. ‘Somebody Else.’¹¹

- 9 County Offices, Price, Utah.
- 9 Nick Diamanti, Order of Admission, Clerk of the District Court of Carbon County, 6 January 1927, number 2459505.
- 10 Diamanti, Nick (changed from Delibassis, Dimitrios) Immigration and Naturalization “Name Change” form N-35.
- 11 Delibassis, Dimitrios (changed to Nick Diamanti) Immigration and Naturalization “Name Change” form.
- 12 Dimitrios Delibassis entry; SS Lausa [sic] Passenger Manifest, 26 January 1908, page 185, line25; in Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving in New York, vol. 5018-5019, October 20, 1913. (Family History Library film #1399756).
- 13 Op. cit., Nick Diamanti, Order of Admission.

Marietta Glauser put her education on hold to raise her children, returning to college in 2000 as a student of genealogy through Heritage Genealogical College/Salt Lake Community College. AS (magna cum laude) from Salt Lake Community College 2004. HGCC from Heritage Genealogical College 2003. Member of the Alpha Chi Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Scholastic Order. Marietta has volunteered at the Family History Library (international records) in Salt Lake since 1966. Volunteer at her local Family History Center 1966-2000. She loved hearing stories about her ancestors but got passionately interested in genealogy through her volunteer work. Areas of interest include Greece, Germany, France, and the United States.

Next to Nick stands his wife Maria. Children from left to right, William, Chris, Stella, Katherine, and Lee, taken in Helper or Price, Utah.

Left: The photographer wrote on the back of this photo noting details like color of hair and clothes.

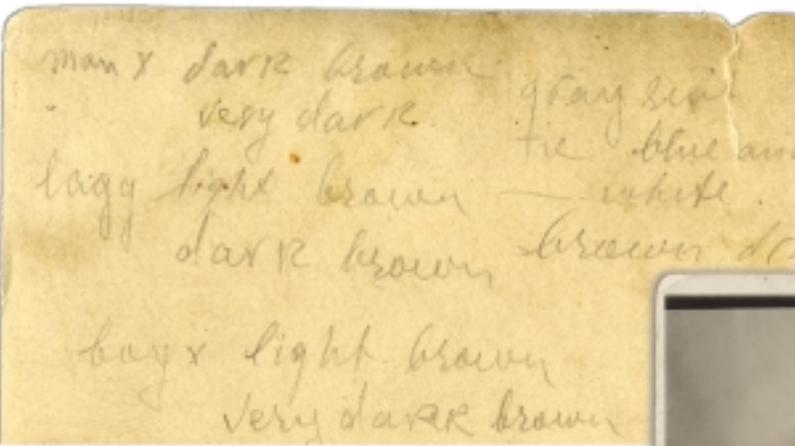


Photo in possession of the author.

Endnotes

- 1 Maria Florou entry; SS Martha Wassington [sic] Passenger Manifest, 20 October 1913, page 129, line10; in Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving in New York, vol. 5018-5019, October 20, 1913. (Family History Library film #1400887).
- 2 Diamanti-Floria marriage, Marriage Records 1894-1966, County Clerk, Carbon County, Utah, 1 February, 1914.
- 3 Nick Diamanti household, 1910 U.S. Census, Carbon County, Utah, population schedule, Helper Precinct, enumeration district 41, sheet 19A, dwelling 331, family 374; Family History Library film #1821862.
- 4 Nick Diamanti household, 1920 U.S. Census, Carbon County, Utah, population schedule, Helper Precinct, enumeration district 32, supervisor's district 1, sheet 217B, dwelling 17, family 19; Family History Library film #1375616.
- 5 Op. cit., SS Martha Wassington [sic] Passenger Manifest.
- 6 Op. cit., Marriage Records 1894-1966.
- 7 Nick Diamanti, Declaration of Intention, number 1562, Book 2202A, Vol. 4, District Court of Carbon County, Utah; Carbon County Offices, Price, Utah.
- 8 Nick Diamanti, Petition for Naturalization, number 609, Book 2204, Vol. 6, District Court of Carbon County, Utah; Carbon

Have you hit a brick wall?

It's time to try the latest technology
to solve your genealogical puzzle

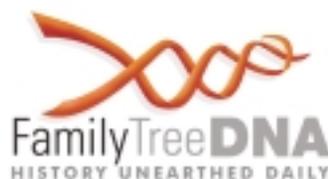


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SEARCH YOUR SURNAME With thousands of people tested, your Surname could already be part of a DNA project. If not, you may qualify to start a Surname Project. Family Tree DNA provides a full spectrum of management tools for those interested in focusing on a surname or subset of a surname to determine who is related to whom.

FAMILY TREE DNA ALLOWS TO:

- Determine if two people are related
- Determine if two people descended from a common ancestor
- Confirm your Family Tree
- Find out who with your surname is related
- Prove or disprove a research theory
- Find others to whom you are related
- Verify native American or Cohanim ancestry
- Obtain clues about your ethnic origin



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