



*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, emigrated<sup>1</sup> from the same little village several years after my grandfather. They were married February 1, 1914<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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,<sup>4</sup> 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

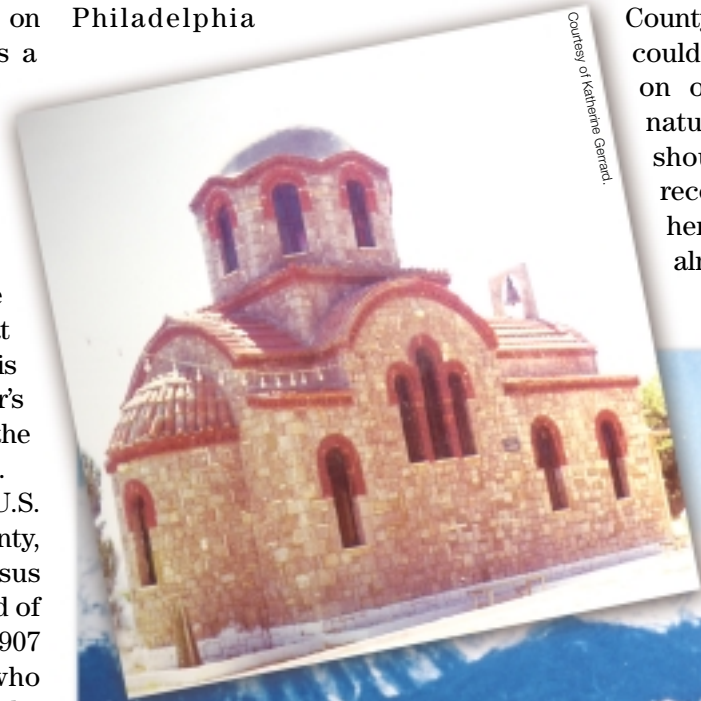
Soundex for any and all spelling variations of Diamanti that I had seen or could possibly come up with. Nothing. I checked the book *Greek Immigrant Passengers, 1885-1910: A Guide and Index to Researching Early Greek Immigrants*. Again, nothing.

I did find my grandmother (spelling wrong of course) with her cousin and uncle on the S.S. *Martha Wassington* [sic] ship manifest<sup>5</sup> 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 1914<sup>6</sup> 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

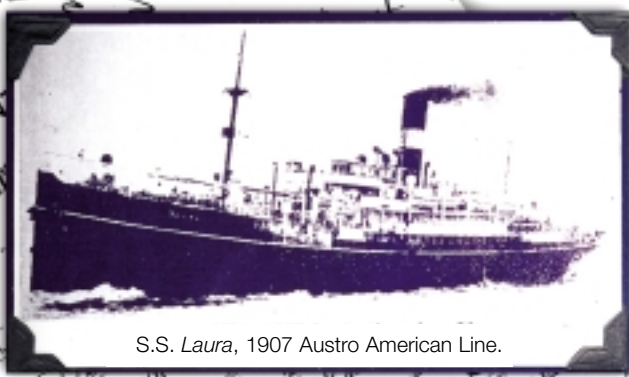


Courtesy of Kallirhoe Gerardi

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 ss:  
 State of Utah  
 County of Carbon  
 occupation Sheep Man  
 description is: Color White complexion Brown,  
 weight 130 pounds, color of hair None  
 other visible distinctive marks None  
 I was born in Marasolihari, Greece  
 on the 10 day of October  
 at Helper, Carbon County, Utah  
 I emigrated to the United States of America from Austro American Line  
 on the vessel Mary Mattarolihari, Greece  
 foreign residence was the Hellenes, New York  
 of my wife is Mary she was born at Mattarolihari, Greece  
 and now resides at Helper, Carbon County, Utah  
 It is my intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign  
 state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Constantine  
no Domini 1908; on or about the 26  
 of July; I am not an anarchist; I am not  
 of polygamy; and it is my intention in good  
 of America and to permanently reside in  
the  
day  
of  
anno



Nick and Maria Diamanti, about 1914.

P-898

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

P-898

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

Diamanti, Nick

Nick Diamanti

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

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
 PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

Book 2247  
 Vol 6

Wife for Naturalization  
 Filed 23 Oct 1927  
 Docket 14 Feb 1922

In the District of Utah, County of Carbon Price Utah  
 The petitioner Nick Diamanti  
 of the County of Carbon, State of Utah  
 do hereby respectfully declare  
 that I am born in the 10 day of October 1882 at Mariolathari Greece  
 and arrived in the United States, at the port of New York on the 7 day of January  
1908, on the vessel Laura  
 I declare that I am a native born citizen of the United States and that I have never been  
 naturalized in any other country  
 I was born in the 10 day of October 1882 at Mariolathari Greece  
 and arrived in the United States, at the port of New York on the 7 day of January  
1908, on the vessel Laura  
 I declare that I am a native born citizen of the United States and that I have never been  
 naturalized in any other country  
 I was born in the 10 day of October 1882 at Mariolathari Greece  
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 naturalized in any other country

third cards were the “jackpots.” The second card was a name change card. On it, the family name was “DIAMANTI, Changed from (DELIBASSIS), the given name “Nick Changed from (Dimitrios).”<sup>10</sup> It referenced his previous petitions in the District Court, Price, Utah. The port and date of arrival were

Left page: The Declaration of Intention for Nick Diamanti dated July 1916. Overlaying that, shows the ship Nick immigrated on, the S.S. *Laura* (Austro American Line). Below that are the three index cards referring to his naturalization process.

This page, above, Nick Diamanti Declaration of Petition. Below: The court order denying his petition.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

I, Nick Diamanti, do hereby declare that I am a native born citizen of the United States and that I have never been naturalized in any other country

State of Utah  
 County of Carbon

Nick Diamanti  
Bank Clerk  
Price Utah

Price Utah  
Price Utah

Nick Diamanti  
Bank Clerk  
Price Utah

Price Utah  
Price Utah

ORDER OF COURT DENYING PETITION

Upon consideration of the petition of Nick Diamanti and the evidence thereon, it is ordered that the said petitioner, who has taken the oath required by law, be, and hereby is, admitted to become a citizen of the United States of America, this 17 day of October 1927.

It is further ordered, upon consideration of the petition of the said Nick Diamanti, that his name be, and hereby is, changed to Nick Diamanti under the authority of the provisions of section 8 of the act approved June 27, 1907 (34 Stat., pt. 1, p. 202), as amended by the act approved March 2, 1911, entitled “An act to amend a Department of Justice.”

By the Court:

George Christensen Judge

the same as those given on the petitions. The third card was exactly the same as the first with the following exceptions: “DELIBASSIS, Changed to (DIAMANTI)” and the given name “Dimitrios Changed to (Nick).”<sup>11</sup>

Armed with the information Mother gave me, I was able to go to the Family History Library and find the ship’s manifest for the *Laura*<sup>12</sup> and there, as big as life, on page 185, line 25, was Grandpa “Dimitrios Delibassiss a.k.a. Nick Diamanti.”

I eventually made my own trip to the District Court in Price, and made copies of all of the information regarding Grandpa’s naturalization. He had applied several times before he was naturalized. His petition was denied in 1923. Then the name change information was revealed and he was finally naturalized on 6 January 1927.<sup>13</sup>

chanted: “Guess what I found, guess what I found!” Then she proceeded to tell me that she had found the “Declaration of Intent”<sup>7</sup> and “Petition for Naturalization”<sup>8</sup> for my grandfather. On both the Declaration and Petition he had given the *Laura* as the ship’s name and the date of arrival as the 26th of January 1908.

That gave me some hope. Sleuth that I am, I quickly decided that all I had to do now was go to the date of arrival and ship’s name and,

bingo, I’ll find him! But Mom wasn’t finished—the best part was yet to come. It was not the Declaration and Petition that were the missing pieces to my puzzle, but the three index cards she found referring to his naturalization process.

The first card was the “Date of order of admission”<sup>9</sup> dated January 6, 1927 gave all of the pertinent information about Nick, his family, and his citizenship. The second and



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.’<sup>11</sup>

- 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.

man x dark brown  
 very dark  
 large light brown  
 dark brown  
 boys x light brown  
 very dark brown  
 gray hair  
 tie blue and  
 white  
 brown d



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



**GENETIC GENEALOGY** Family Tree DNA is the pioneer in providing DNA testing for genealogists. Your ancestors left clues to your genealogy in you and other descendants. Unlock the clues with DNA testing.

**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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