Family of Mariola and Romuald Łukaszewicz

Right: seven generations of ancestors of both, Romuald's above (the Vilnius region), Mariola's below (Kaszubia). Left: their shared descendants. Under each person are their known siblings, under each couple their number of children.

HOW THIS TREE WAS MADE

On Mariola's side, the family knew her parents and grandparents. In June 2018 took both lines further. On Romuald's side we read church registers of over a dozen parishes of the Vilnius region, revision lists of 1795-1912, proofs of nobility from the Vilnius archive, the Kowno baptism register of 1715-1736 from the National Library of Belarus and records from offices in Postawy, Podbrodzie, Minsk and Ilawa. In all we downloaded over **450 archival units** and **132 thousand scans**, of which over 50 thousand have been read so far, giving over **370 thousand entries** in Latin, Polish and Russian. On Romuald's side we read the records of the Prussian civil registry Kartuzy, Przodkowo, Pomieczyno, Mirachowo, Kamienica Szlachecka) from the State Archive in Gdańsk and the registers of the parishes of Chmielno, Sianowo, Przodkowo, Kleśno and Stężyca from microfilms of the Diocesan Archive in Pelplin on Family Search, in German, Latin and Polish. Together in another **60 units**, **2.2 thousand scans** and about **6 thousand records read**, plus 46 thousand lines of genealogical indexes.

Only dates from baptism records are given as birth dates. Where only the age from a marriage or death record is known, it says "b. c." . **Of the 470 people on this chart (ancestors and their siblings), we have between 80 and 447 were found in 2018.** On Romuald's side the oldest line of the Markowicze family (Bożica area) a decree of 1819 starts the line with Łukasz, named under the year 1732. The Trabuć proof of nobility of 1850 names Jerzy (baptised 1694), his father Maciej and grandfather Andrzej. In the Łukaszewicz family the oldest is Łazdja (b. c. 1734), mother of Kazimierz. The Gaul line goes back to Stanisław, who had his son Kazimierz baptised in Kruki in 1732. On Mariola's side the oldest are Grzegorz Bobkowski (b. c. 1741) and Mathias Blok of Borzestowo (m. before 1784). We do not know the parents of the Blaczkiewicze and Wołentynowicze families or of Maria née Bolesz, as their registers are in Belarus, nor the parents of Ewa Kenkel, whose death record omits her father.

THE CHART AND CHRONICLE ONLINE

Scan the code or type the address **exarchivia.com/samp1a**. The site has this chart to zoom in on, the family chronicle with documents and maps to read and listen to, plus files to print.

How close we were to the Pilsudskis

There are five points of contact and none is kinship. The first four are the closeness of manor and parish, attested by documents. The fifth is family tradition.

1. The same parish. Józef Piłsudski's baptism record of 1867 is in the same register of the church in Suwałpol as our family's records.

2. Rozalia Witkiewicz was born on 10 Jul 1870 in the village of Zułów. She was ten when the Marshal was born in the manor there.

3. Zofia Walentynowicz was born on 7 Aug 1883 **in the very manor** at Zułów, in the year Maria Billewicz married Józef Piłsudski. Her family most likely served on the estate.

4. Godparents from the manor, three times. In 1862 **Antoni Markowicz**, Bolesław's brother and Dominik's uncle, was held at the font by **Antoni Billewicz** and his daughter **Maria**, owner of Zułów and the future **mother of the Marshal**. In 1863 **Józef Walentynowicz**, Zofia's father, was held by **Józef Piłsudski, the Marshal's father**, with his sister **Julia**. In 1877 **Anna Walentynowicz**, Zofia's younger sister, was held by eight-year-old **Adam Piłsudski**, the Marshal's brother, later deputy mayor of Vilnius. Antoni Markowicz later stood godfather to **Dominik** (1897), Alina's father.

5. From family stories. The family remembered that one of our relatives was a friend of Józef Piłsudski and played with him as a child in the manor yard. This was told to her grandchildren by **Leokadia Markowicz**, retold to us by Alina's daughter (account of 6 Aug 2018).

The story does not say who it was. Records show that **Zofia Walentynowicz**, mother of Dominik and grandmother of Alina, was born in 1863 in the manor itself at Zułów, four years before the Marshal. By 1871 her family already lived in Wojtkany.

Alina also quoted words, most likely of her grandmother Leokadia, that **Markowicz family were "of higher birth"**. This agrees with the records, which listed the Markowicz family as nobility for a century.

Two noble decrees: the Markowicz and Trabuć families

Left, the start of the Markowicz decree (Bożica area) of 16 December 1819. Right, the start of the Trabuć proof of nobility (Jelita area) of 17 August 1850. Lithuanian State Historical Archives in Vilnius, fonds 390.

Markowicz family, Bożica area, no 1732. The decree of 16 December 1819 recognises as noble **Stanisław Markowicz** with his sons, among them **Tadeusz**, Dominik's grandfather. It names Stanisław's father **Bartłomiej**, son of **Kazimierz** , grandson of **Łukasz**. Łukasz had an estate in the Vilnius district inherited from forebears. A statement of claim of 23 February 1752 names it. On 22 December 1577 he pledged the estate for 40 kopa of Lithuanian groszy, then the price of forty working horses. The family never redeemed it. It is the earliest date on the whole chart.

Rotmistrz. Records of 1812 and 1813 call Stanisław rotmistrz (cavalry captain) of Wilkomierz district. Of over 2,500 entries in his parish register, only three give this title. Stanisław's mother, **Anna née Baniewicz**, is known from his siblings' baptisms in Podbrzezie in 1783-1787.

Trabuć family, Jelita arms, to c. 1600 Stanisław's wife was **Agata née Trabuć**, who died on 3 May 1830 in the zaścianek of Lipowo near Korkuciszki. Her parents, **Antoni Trabuć** and **Marianna née Dauksza** of Dworciszki, are listed with her in 1795, when she was 14. The proof of 27 Aug 1850 recognises Antoni and sons and names forebears: he was son of **Jerzy** (baptised 1694), grandson of **Maciej** , son of **Andrzej**. The dates in the proof and in the 1795 revision list differ, so there may in fact have been one more generation between Jerzy and Antoni. In 1672 Maciej sold the Lotteryński estate in Gadwany, which he had inherited from his father. Andrzej thus lived about 1600.

Their life. Both families were petty nobility who had long lost their own land and farmed on other people's. The Trabuć family held manor farms in pledge and on lease. One of them was for eight years a guard on the estates of Prince **Dominik Radziwiłł**. Printed armorials do not know the name Trabuć.

People of the decrees. The Markowicz decree copy is signed by Józef Strumiłło, secretary of the governorate nobility, creator of a famous Vilnius garden. The Trabuć proof was signed by marshal Michał Römer, himself of Jelita arms, made mayor of Vilnius by Napoleon in 1812.

How to read

person and kinship confirmed by a document

descendants known from family knowledge

A question mark by a first name or surname marks uncertainty: either the handwriting is unclear, or the person is known only from an earlier family tree and is not yet confirmed by documents.

A line joins each person to the social estate given in the record. It is reduced to two terms: **nobility** and **peasants**. The originals have in Polish "Urodzeni" and "Pracowici", in Latin "nobles" and "laboriosi", in Russian "dvoriane" and "krestiane". **Serfs** are peasants bound to an estate, not free to leave.

Old words: zaścianek (zaśc.) is a small settlement of petty nobility, of a few farms. **Manor farm** (folw.) and **myza** is a manor with land. **Parish** (par.) is a church district whose registers recorded baptisms, marriages and deaths. **Arms** (h.) is a noble family's hereditary emblem. **Estate** is the landed property of one owner: a manor and its serfs' villages.

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILDREN

ROMUALD AND MARIOLA

WHAT HAPPENED IN THESE LANDS

Why were there Poles here? The Vilnius region was Polish from the 1385 Union of Krewo to the 1795 third Partition, which from its union with Poland (1569, from 1386 as one state, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth) shared law, the Catholic faith and the official language with the Crown for 210 years. Even after 1795 the nobility and much of the nobility, including the petty nobility of the zaścianki, but also in the Catholic villages and towns, spoke Polish at home. Most parishes were kept in Polish and Latin. After the partitions (1795) Russia took these lands, but the people stayed. In 1900-1914 the area of Święciany, Podbrodzie, Zułów, Kosnap and Mirachowo was still over 90% Polish in all previous Only after 1945 did the new border and departures to Poland (our family left in 1958) change who lived here, though a Polish minority remains in the Švenčionys district. Our Lithuanian cousins live in Vilnius, like the Piłsudski family of nearby Zułów.

Until 1795 This was the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, from 1569 one side with the Polish Crown. Kosnap lay in Oszmiana district, Kowno province, Mirachowo in Trocki district. Land belonged to magnates and nobles (Oskwiscze to the Radziwiłłs, then the Sapiehas; Kosnap to the Sapiehas; Mirachowo and Jasiły Bielewicz families). Peasants were serfs of the manor. The petty nobility lived on their own zaścianki, like Łukaszewiczyzna, which they farmed themselves.

1. **Oskwiscze.** Stefan and Rozalia's house stood here. Their son Józef Witkiewicz (1870-1941) was born in 1901. The village is now in Belarus.
2. **Kruki.** Gaul family village, birthplace of Józef (1826), his son Ludwig (1854) and his daughter Zofia (1894), Romuald's grandmother.
3. **Olechnicki.** Błaszkiewicz family village. Home of Józef Olechnicki, Łucja's wife, Romuald's great-grandmother.
4. **Kosnap.** The Gaul family's parish church. Here Józef (1826), Antoni (1834) and Zofia Gaul (1894) were baptised. Here Antoni Gaul and Józefa Jasiłowska married (1860) and here Jan Łukaszewicz and Zofia Gaul, Romuald's grandparents, in 1913.
5. **Zułów.** Zaścianek of Stefan and Rozalia Łukaszewicz. Their children were born here in 1901-1914. Rozalia died here in 1941, Stefan in Kazakhstan, Augustyn's grandfather, was born here.
6. **Chmielno.** Parish church of Borzestowo. Here married Paweł Bobkowski and Franciszka Kamińska (1862). Józef Block and Agnieszka Kąkol (1874). Here were baptised Grzegorz Block (1894), his son Mathias (1927), Mathias's grandfather Bolesław, Saul Block's grandson.
7. **Borzestowo.** Village of Mathias and Marianna Block, whose children were born here in 1927-1939. Home of Józef Block, husband of Jan Łukaszewicz and Zofia Gaul, Romuald's grandparents, in 1913.
8. **Zułów.** The Piłsudski estate. Rozalia Witkiewicz (1870), Romuald's great-grandmother, was born in the village. Zofia Walentynowicz (1863), Dominik's grandmother, was born here in 1863. Antoni Markowicz, brother of Alina's grandfather Bolesław, had Zofia's younger sister Anna Walentynowicz as godmother (1877, district landowner and marine officer) and his daughter Maria, who a year later married Józef Piłsudski. Here stood the manor house the Marshal.
9. **Wojtkany - Dumbagi.** The family's parish church. Here Rozalia Witkiewicz (1870) was baptised, Stefan Łukaszewicz and Rozalia married in 1887 and their children were baptised, among them Jan (1895). After the 1918 re-union with Poland, Jan and Augustyn, Romuald's father, and Józef Piłsudski was baptised in the same church in 1867.
10. **Kuciele(k).** Antoni and Alina's home in 1946-1958.
11. **Mirachowo.** Jan Łukaszewicz's home in 1913-1920. The family who visited its farm 2018 found only old plum trees where the house had stood.
12. **Gaze.** A village on Pre Mere whose Romuald Łukaszewicz (1901) was born. Jan Łukaszewicz born the family left for Poland in November 1918. Of about forty cottages, four are lived in today.
13. **Podwenciki.** The manor farm where Maria Billewicz married Józef Piłsudski, Alina's great-grandmother, died in 1913.

WHAT HAPPENED IN THESE LANDS

1795-1806. The enfranchisement reform gave peasants their land in exchange for labour and rent repayments. That is why 19th-century records call the ancestors „Bauer" (farmer) or „Eigenthümer" (owner). Old parents who had retired to a cottage (Pol. „chałupa", Lat. „cellula", „Mansion" (sens.)). In 1846 the Prussian authorities closed the Carthusian monastery.

1870-1914. The German Empire began in the so-called Kulturkampf. Bismarck fought the Catholic Church. In 1874 civil registry offices took over births and deaths; some registers of Catholic civil registry offices in German (hence the German records of the Bach, Kreft and Rompa families), and schools were German only. The state Catholic schools taught religion in German. In the German settlers, Mary Kaufhaltzer (1870-1) and Ewa Kenkel (1874-1) emigrated to America, the Westphalian mines or Gdańsk.

1914-1918. The First World War. Kaufhaltzers and Kenkels fled in the Prussian army. In 1915 the Treaty of Versailles gave Kartuzy district to Poland (Powiat Pomorski province), but neighbouring Kościerzyna and Mątawy went to the Free City of Gdańsk. The Kaufhaltzer family left Przodkowo. From Przodkowo and Dąbrówka Prus 1920 records are in Polish again.

1939-1945. After the Germans came in autumn 1939, thousands of Kashubians, priests and teachers were killed. The Kaufhaltzer family survived, and Kenkels and Kolinkas near Kartuzy. Men were later forcibly drafted into the German army. In March 1945 the front passed through. After the war came the Polish People's Republic.

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1795 and 1815. Two risings against Russia broke out. In 1795 the Kościuszko Insurrection, many insurgents, exiled them to Siberia and seized manors. He banned Polish print (1864-1904) and Polish in offices and schools. From 1846 records were in Russian, earlier in Latin and Polish, so the Łukaszewicz family switched to „working" and another „forename" (patronym).

1915-1918. In September 1915 the Germans broke the Russian front near Święciany. Then the trenches stopped by Lake Narocz, some ten miles from Mirachowo. They stayed for two years. Our villages were the German rear, with army billets, forced labour and requisitions. In the battle of Lake Narocz in March 1916 about a hundred thousand men died.

1918-1939. The war with the Bolsheviks came. Central Lithuania, from 1922 this was Poland and records were again written in Polish. In 1939 the Soviet came, in 1941 Germans, in 1944 the Soviets again. The new Polish People's Republic was created in 1945 on old parish in two Prussian-built and Kościuszko districts. Kosnap and Oskwiscze in Belarus, Zułów in Lithuania,