

JOHANN JACOB MAUSER

Johann Jacob Mauser was born on May 18, 1833 in Burgstall, Germany. We know this from the church Family Tables in Württemberg and the Württemberg Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages and Burials. His birth and death dates are included on his grave, but to date, no official death certificate has been found in either Nebraska or Colorado. Jacob, as he was known in the United States, was the son of Georg Adam Mauser and Elisabetha Katharina Walter. I have hired professional research help to research the family, and we focused primarily on the direct line and not all of the siblings, so I'm not sure how many siblings Jacob had.

We know that on Jun 8, 1858 Jacob married Eva Katharina Meister. Eva died in 1866 and then Jacob married her half sister Eva Rosina Meister on November 13, 1866.

An interview with Pam Foster Erickson states that the Mauser family left a 3 story, roughly 4000 square foot home on an acreage. Her research shows that the family was wealthy at the time and were industrious. We surmise that they left Germany because of the class structure and that as part of the "peasant" class they would never socially be any higher. At the recommendation of a German Genealogist, I read the book, *Our Daily Bread, German Village Life, 1500-1850* by Teva J Scheer that would affirm that statement. Without Lord status, most people were laborers who were required to pay taxes to the Lord and follow their requirements. Pam stated that when she was in Germany they went to the Castle where taxes were paid.



Mauser Home in Germany from Pam Foster Erickson, built in 1787

Jacob, Rosina and the family sailed to the United States on the ship EMS and arrived in New York on March 22, 1886. The passenger list includes Pauline, Carl, Mathilde, Anna, Nanele and Emil. In the book *Germans to America Volume 52, Page 330* they are listed as a Cabin Passenger. I need to better understand the break down of the ship passenger list. When I scan through the ship,

the list starts with First Cabin, Second Cabin, and then has a heading titled “Steerage” that is divided into Cabin 1, Cabin 2, and Cabin 3. Jacob and family were in Cabin 2. The final tally of the ship says that the First Cabin had 48 Passengers, Second Cabin had 13 passengers, and the Steerage had 283 adults, 19 children and 6 infants for a total of 369 passengers. If I’m reading the numbers correctly the family came with 3 pieces of baggage to transplant their entire life to a new continent. Pam Foster Erickson in a phone interview stated that the family did not go through Ellis Island and did not travel in Steerage, which is why I need to understand the ship structure better. One of the family stories mentions that one of the sons, we believe Carl, played accordion for the captain.

Gottlob’s full sister Katherine Louise isn’t included in the passenger list with the family as she came over in 1881, the same year Gottlob came over. Jacob Frederick also isn’t included in the family list when sailing, as he came over in 1884. Once Jacob and Rosina arrived, the entire family was now in the United States.

One of the family stories says that one day Gottlob was called to the train station to help with a family that only spoke German, and it was his family. It’s possible, but not confirmed.

The US homesteads database in Ancestry doesn’t currently have Colorado listed, but thanks to the Bureau of Land Management website it looks like Jacob homesteaded Township 8N, Range 43W, Section 34, NE 1/4. His application was #346 and the Homestead Certificate Number is #1209. At some point I’ll be able to get a copy of the entire application. Final approval was granted on April 22, 1899. Jacob also bought TWP 8N, Range 43W, Section 28, NW1/4 on August 5, 1890. Both of these parcels are just outside of Amherst, Colorado.

Jacob died on September 16, 1914 in Venango, Nebraska and is buried in the Venango, Nebraska cemetery according to his Find A Grave record.



The Germany Family Tables show that Jacob and his first wife Eva Katharina Meister had 5 children with two surviving to adulthood

- **Unnamed (1859-1859)**
- **Gottlob Christian Mauser (1860-1956)**
- **Katharina Louis Mauser (1861-1908)**
- **Frederich Jakob Mauser (1864-1866)**
- **Carl Frederich Mauser (1866-1866)**

The Germany Family Tables show that Jacob and his second wife Eva Rosina Meister had 5 children with two surviving to adulthood. Eva Rosina is a half sister to Eva Katharina with the same father, and different mother. They had 7 children, all of whom survived to adulthood.

- **Jacob Frederick (1867-1947)**
- **Pauline Wilhelmine (1869-1911)**
- **Carl Wilhelm (1873-1944)**
- **Wilhelmine Mathilde (1876-1975)**
- **Anna Maria (1876-1975)**
- **Rosina Christiane (Nana) (1880-1964)**
- **Emil David (1884-1949)**

EVA KATHARINA MEISTER

We know little about Eva Katharina. The German church tables tell us that she was born on January 19, 1828 in Unterbrüden, Germany to Johann Frederick Meister and Christina Dorothea Erb. She was the third of four children born to this couple. Her mother died on March 19, 1830, the same day their final child is born, and that child is also named Christina Dorothea.

Johann Frederick then married Anna Marie Laier, and they had I believe 14 children. Johann Jacob's second wife, Eva Rosina, is a half sister to Eva Katharina with the same father, and different mother.

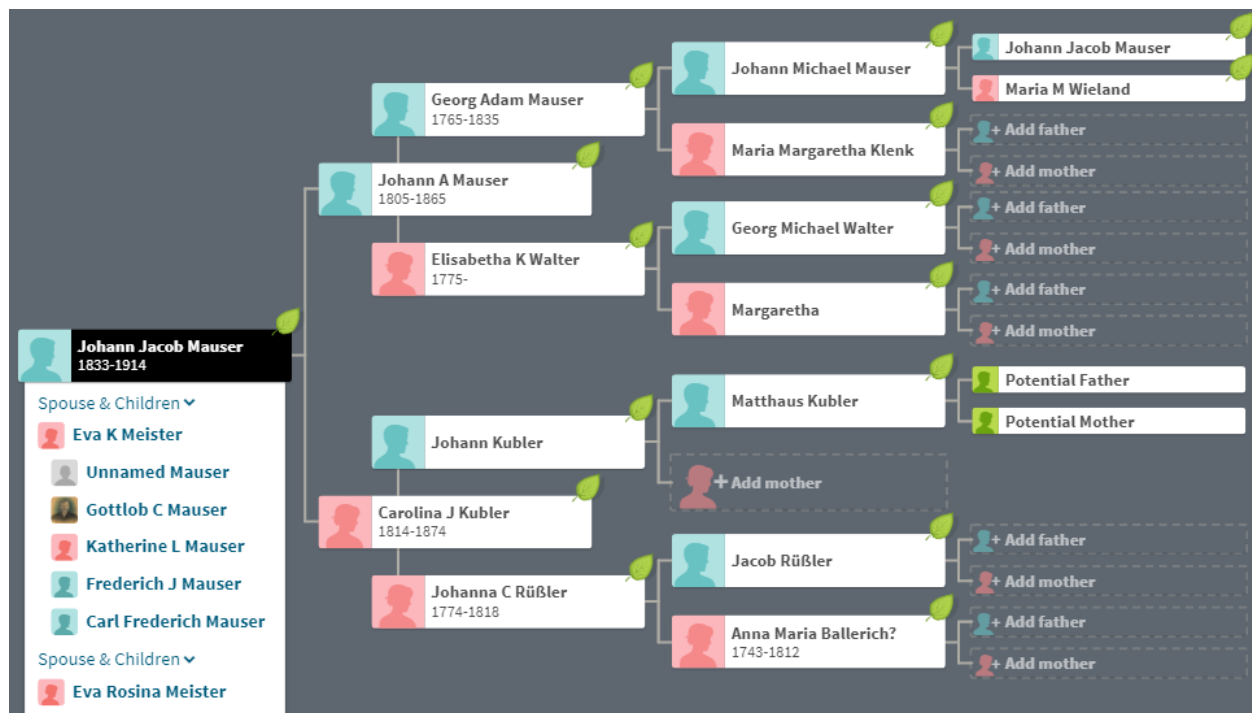
We then know that Eva Katharina married Johann Jacob Mauser.

Sadly, according to the German church records, Johann Jacob's wife Eva Katharina died on February 3, 1866 the same day as the birth of their son Carl Frederick who also died.

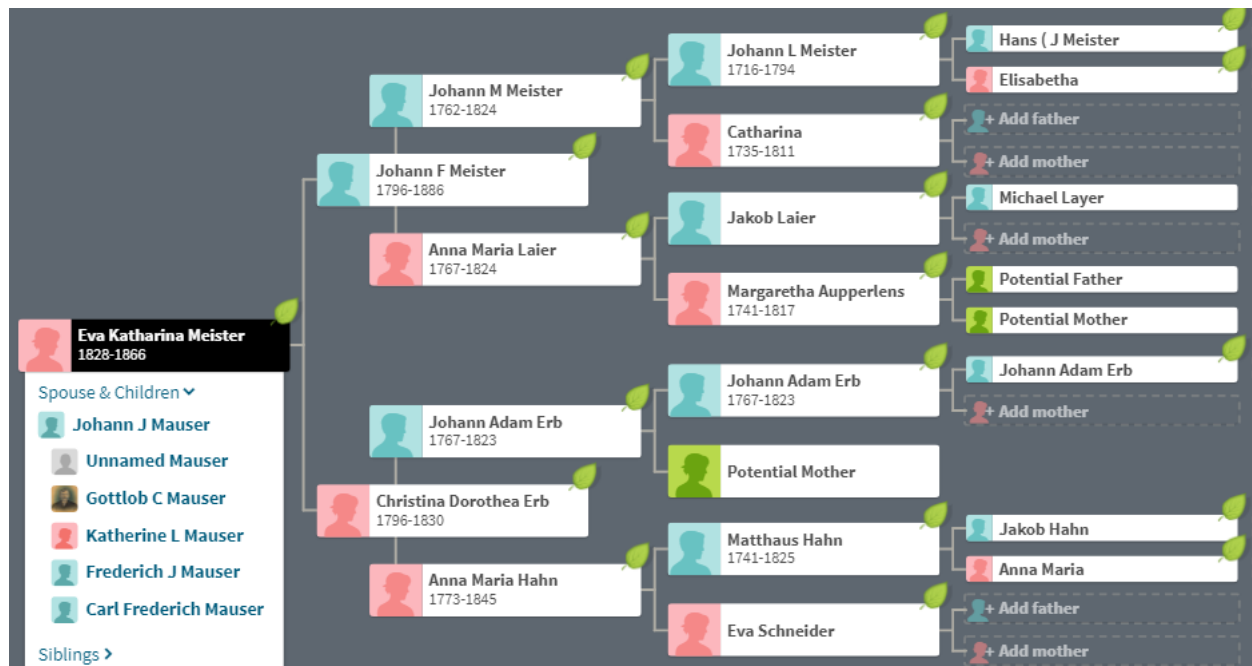
Eva Rosina, Jacob's second wife was born on April 19, 1842, married Jacob on November 13, 1866, and died on June 18, 1909 in Venango, Nebraska. She is buried in the Venango cemetery according to her obituary and Find A Grave record.

I have hired professional help to research the records in Germany and as I don't have specific details on the ancestry of Johann Jacob or Eva Katharina I will simply post a photo of the tree as I know it to be today. We continue to build on this and believe that the tree can still be traced back further. We continue to search for a connection to Peter Paul Mauser, the inventor of the Mauser Rifle, but so far, haven't identified a connection.

Johann Jacob Family Ancestry



Eva Katharina Family Ancestry



Note: I owe a huge thank you to so many people before me who gathered and shared photos. In addition to my immediate family A. Dale Aufrecht put together a Mauser Family History Book in 2000 from which I obtained many photos and details. Many family members contributed to that publication and made many photos and details available. I can share a copy of the book with anyone interested.