

ELI POCOCK

Eli Pocock was born on March 29, 1796 in St Johns Parish, Baltimore, Maryland. We have his birth date recorded on his gravestone and in the Births and Christenings Index from St James and St Johns Parish records. I believe Eli is the third of twelve children born to Jesse Pocock and Catherine Price. My reference for that listing of children consists of the Births and Christenings of St James and St Johns Parish where ten of the twelve children are listed and the will of Jesse Pocock. Two of the sons, James and Jesse, are not found in the parish records, but they are both recorded in Jesse's will.

At some point as a young man Eli moved west into Tuscarawas County, Ohio. We find record of him marrying Catherine Knestruck on July 5, 1819 in Tuscarawas County, Ohio when he is about 24 years old.

I find Eli in the US Federal Census each decade from his marriage on through his death. The first several census years do not list household members, but based on family information we know, I am able to make some educated assumptions.

The 1820 Federal Census lists Elias Pocock in Wayne, Tuscarawas, Ohio. This Elias has four people in the household. 1 Male 16 – 24 (Eli), 1 Female under 10 (Mary), 1 Female 16-15 – Catherine, and one Female Slave age 14-25. It is possible that this female slave is also an indentured servant rather than a traditional slave, but further research would be required to determine for sure. Part of why I think this may not be a person we typically think of as a slave is because the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 specifically stated: "There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted....". The Ohio Constitution also outlaws slavery. I'm not sure who this person in the Pocock household would have been in 1820 – possibly one day I will know the answer for sure but the Tuscarawas County Genealogy Society believes that this person was most likely an indentured servant.

The 1830 Federal Census lists Elias Pocock in Walnut Creek, Holmes, Ohio with seven people in the household, no slaves listed in this census or in any others. Holmes County borders Tuscarawas County on the west side and the family member names and ages match the census brackets so this is most likely the correct family.

The 1840 Federal Census lists "Eli Peacock" in Wayne, Tuscarawas, Ohio with ten people in the household. Again the names and ages of the people listed match the known children of Eli and Catherine.

The 1850 Federal Census now lists the names of all the people in the household. We see Eli Pocock enumerated in Clinton, Fulton, Ohio. Fulton County, Ohio is on the Northwest side of Ohio bordering Michigan. Eli lists his occupation as Farmer and a value of \$400 listed for his real estate. Based on the value others in the census listed, this is on the smaller side

with some people nearby listing values up to \$2000. The first three children have married and moved to their own homes, and the remaining six children are listed by name. Catherine died the prior year and is not listed in this census.

The 1860 Federal Census enumerates “Eli Potock” in Clinton, Fulton, Ohio and living with his son Israel.

Eli Pocock died on October 8, 1865 and is buried in Bayes Cemetery, Fulton County, Ohio as provided in his Find A Grave Record. So far, I have not yet located a will or probate document for Eli

Eli Pocock and Catherine Knestrick had nine children to the best of my knowledge. I will admit that I don't have concrete records of the first three children. The names have been provided by other researchers, and they fit the census records and Ohio Marriage Records. Most of the children die before death certificates are recorded that might include the names of their parents, and so far I haven't found obituary information or other pieces that would "prove" the first three children. The remaining six children are all listed in the census with Eli in 1850.

- **Mary Pocock (1820 – 1905)**
- **Henry Pocock (1824 -)**
- **Sarah Ann Pocock (1826 – 1893)**
- **Jesse Pocock (1828 – 1897)**
- **Israel Pocock (1830 – 1888)**
- **Elias Pocock (1833 -)**
- **Margaret Pocock (1836 – 1863)**
- **John Wharton Pocock (1838 – 1920)**
- **Lucinda Emaline Pocock (1843 – 1918)**

CATHERINE KNESTRICK

Catherine Knestrick was born on September 18, 1799 likely in Washington County, Maryland. The only record I currently have for Catherine's birth date comes from her gravestone. Although her Find A Grave record puts her birth in Ohio, it looks like her father was enumerated in the 1800 Federal Census in Washington County, Maryland. The book "Knestrict Family 1741-1948, Washington Co, MD to Hancock Co, OH" by Anne Woods Riker and held by the Allen County Library also provided good information on the Kenstrick family.

Frederick Knestrick's will from Tuscarawas County, Ohio in August of 1811 lists his children by name and includes Catherine. She would not have been married at this point so there is no mention of a married name.

From these sources I believe that Catherine is the eighth of eleven children born to Frederick Knestrick and Margaret (Unknown Maiden Name).

As mentioned above, the first official record we see of Catherine is her marriage to Eli Pocock in 1819. For reference, her father died in 1811, and her mother Margaret Knestrick is listed in the 1820 Federal Census in Wayne, Tuscarawas, Ohio which is the same location as Eli and Catherine after their marriage.

The only other record I currently have of Catherine is her death. Her Find A Grave record shows that she died on September 18, 1849 and is buried in Bayes Cemetery in Fulton County, Ohio.