

Biographical Notes and Lineage for John Valentine Bressler/Preslar



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The Bresslers/Preslars of Niederhochstadt

Regarding the sons of Valentine and Christina

Bressler /Preslar , we find the following information as given by a Preslar descendant, Robert Allen, who defines for us that the two sets of Preslars living in Anson County, NC, are not only the children of Andreas and Antje Wills, but of Hans Jurie Preslar, brother of Andreas. It appears that the descendants of Hans Jurie kept the "Preslar" surname while the descendants of Andreas seem to have shifted over to Pressley and Presley, perhaps to differentiate between the two families. Allen writes that "... Valentine Preslar, the founder of the family in America, was born in the Palatinate, Germany, 1669 in the village of Hochstadt (where the Preslar family was first mentioned in 1494);

Family should correct record here to show the new information added by Henry Z. Jones; to wit:
"Valentin and Christina lived close by that town near Hambach..." (read Page 2 for info.)

Valentine was employed there as a vine dresser; he married Christina Franse and immigrated to New York in 1710; In the early generations of the family the German surnames were often turned into English (in parenthesis); after the mid-1800s many members of the family changed their last name to Pressley or Pressly."

John Valentine Bressler/Preslar Line

Children of Valentine and Christina:

Anna Elizabeth Preslar b. 1696
Anna Gertrude Preslar b. 1698
Andreas (Andrew) Preslar b. 1701
Anthony Preslar b. 1705
Maria Agnes Preslar b. 1710
Hans Jurie (John) Preslar 1713-1777
Martinus Preslar b. 1716
Pieter (Peter) Preslar b. 1717

Andrew Preslar (son of Valentine) m. Antje (Ann) Wills of Staten Island, New York, in 1727, moved through New York through PA to Maryland and then to Anson Co. NC.

Children born and baptized in St. Stephen's Parish, Cecil County, MD:

Christian Preslar b. 1725
John Valentine Preslar b. 1726
Sarah Preslar b. 1728
Thomas Preslar b. 1730
Andrew Preslar, Jr b. 1732

Hans Jurie (John) Preslar (son of Valentine) m. Mary ____.
He settled in Anson Co. NC. where he made his living as a haberdasher and made his will when "very sick," Dec. 16, 1777.

(cont'd...)



The King of Rock and Roll



The Bresslers/Presslers of Niederhochstadt

(Near Hambach Castle)

The Presley Brothers...

Andrew Presley, Jr. Line - first generation NC/SC/TN/MS {Elvis direct line for those following this course}

Andrew Jr., younger brother of Thomas, was born 1732. His children, according to existing and various documents, were: Charles, John, Andrew, III, Peter, and Joseph. John, born in Rowan County, NC in 1748, served in the American Revolutionary War for his brother, Peter, born in 1756. After the war, John relocated to Monroe County, TN, where he filed for a pension and received it beginning 1833. He was 84 years old. John was in Monroe County, TN, at the same time as Dunning Presley and Dunning, Jr. who was born in Monroe in 1827. However, John, it was said, moved there to be close to his children. Charles Presley also served in the American Revolution along with his wife, Polly Keziah.

John Presley, son of Andrew, Jr. is the father of Dunning (Dunnan) Presley. We do have Dunning, Sr. listed by himself on the 1810 Buncombe County Census, and on the 1820 census record for Buncombe County, NC, along with John Presley. It is now believed that John Presley may have been married to a Casiah/Keziah, daughter of Dunning Casiah, the neighbor of Andrew Presley, and whose other daughter, Mary Polly Keziah, married Andrew's eldest son, Charles. John's son, Dunning John Presley, providing that his mother was a Casiah, would have been, in Tuscarora tradition, named for the maternal grandfather, in this case, DUNNING Casiah.

Interesting to note here are the census records and applications for Rev. War pensions that show us Andrew Presley/Priestly with Charles, John, and Anthony, and Andrew, III, born in 1754, also a son of Andrew, Jr., also had a son named John, both of who also moved to TN. Both Andrew Presley and his brother John were given Bounty-Land Warrants which is why they moved to SC and TN from NC. We have Charles Presley/Priestly who served of his own accord but also stepped in to serve in the stead of both Andrew and John, his brothers. John had recalled in his pension that he had served in the stead of his brother, Peter.

