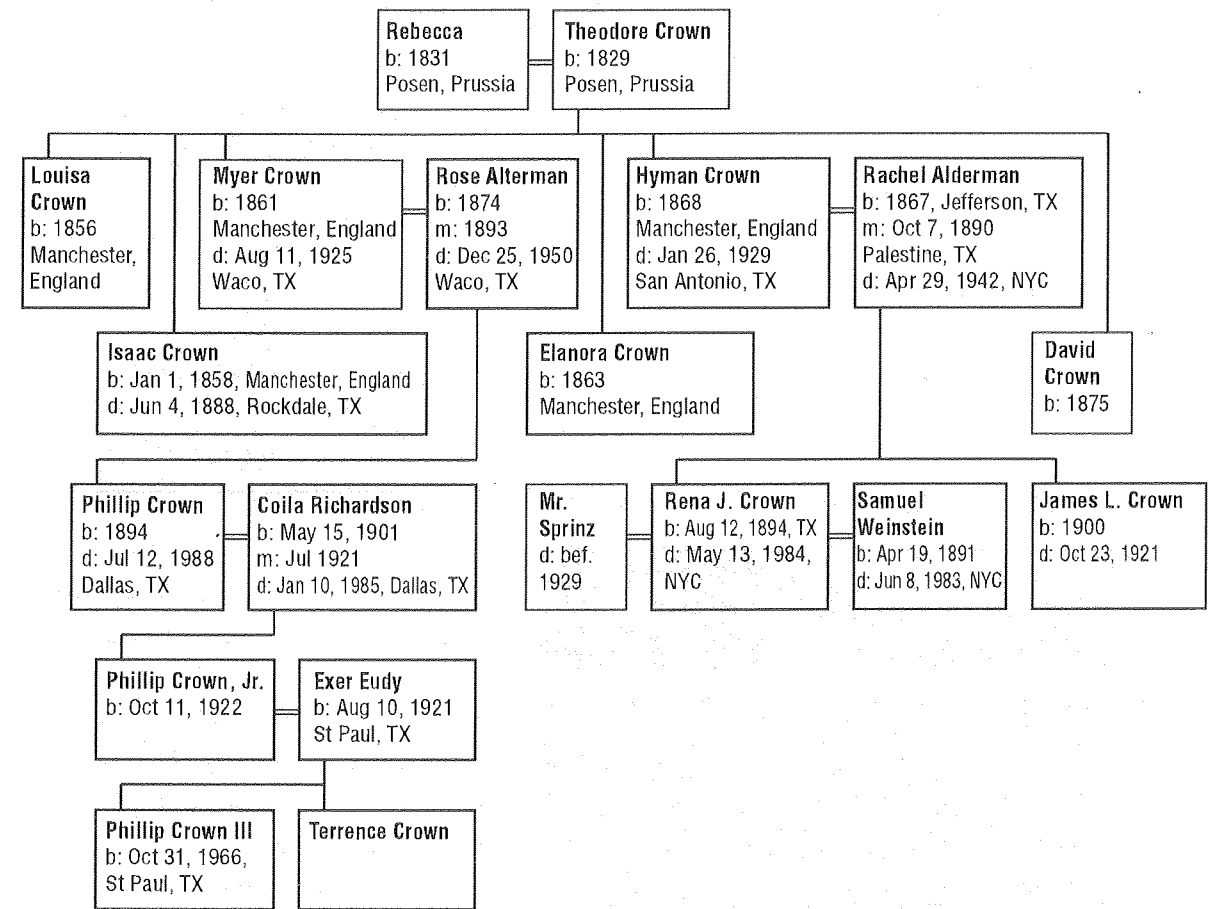


THE CROWN FAMILY

The Crown Cousins



It has been interesting and fascinating to trace the history of the Crown family. We share a common background going back to the 1850s in Manchester, England and before that to Prussia which the Crohns and Baums left seeking a better life. From the middle of the 19th century until 1900, where there is mention of a Crohn or a Baum there is often also a Crown relative. The different spelling of the family name is not relevant.

I have communicated with Krohns who told me that their first generation spelled the family name with a 'C'. Since families were large in the 1800s, we can assume that Morris Crohn and his father Myer had brothers and sisters or uncles and aunts with the same or similar family name.

The Manchester branch came to England before 1856, about the same time that Morris Crohn went to the United States. Ernestine Crohn (Morris' wife) spent time in Manchester with her relatives who helped her and her three children (Theodore, Marcus and Lena) continue to the United States in 1861 where she hoped to find her husband who had left for America ten years earlier.

The Crown relatives were **Theodore** and **Rebecca Crown**. They had at least six children: **Louisa**, **Isaac**, **Myer**, **Eleanora**, **Hyman** and **David**. Of these, Isaac, Myer and Hyman were in Rockdale and Palestine, Texas, together with the Crohns and the Baums.

Louisa Crown was listed in the British census of 1881 as a Hebrew teacher. She married a man by the name of Mintz and lived in Manchester, England.

Elanora Crown was, according to the 1881 census, a school teacher.

According to the British census of 1881, the Crown family lived at 13 Sagar Street. His occupation was bootmaker. By then the family were British subjects, which indicates that they were fairly well off since naturalization fees were high.

Theodore Crohn, according to the 1964 Family Book, visited his birthplace in Poland and also the family in Manchester, England which helped him and his family reach the United States. In a paper written by Kate Lebow in 1990, Theodore became an American citizen in 1888. Perhaps soon after that he received his passport and went on his journey. In the Family Book we read that he visited with Leonora and Sissy. Sissy is not identified, though in a very old photograph we find Theodore and Rebecca Crown 'with Sissy'. At that time she was a very young girl and the Crowns were at least middle aged.



Theodore and Rebecca Crown with Sissy.

They had at least six children and at the time of the 1870 census were living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The first Crown identified in the United States is **Morris Crown**, who at the time of the 1870 US census was recorded as being part of the Israel and Lena (Crohn) Baum household in Oil City, PA. He, too, was born in Prussia. At the time he was 52 years old. In the census of 1880 there is a Morris Crown, age 62, living in Henderson, Texas, about 100 miles from Rockdale.

A new genealogical find being looked into is a Marcus Crown family, born in Prussia, that lived in Leeds, England. They too arrived in England during the 1850s. He was also a bootmaker.

*A more recent discovery is that of **Isaac Crown** and his wife Annetta who were born in Prussia in 1834 and 1836 respectively.*

Their first child was born in England in 1855 while the next son was born in Pennsylvania in 1860.



Myer Crown

Myer Crown is listed in the US census of 1880 as residing in the same Rockdale rooming house as Theodore Crohn. Meyer married Rose Alterman, moved to Waco (where he owned a novelty store) and fathered **Phillip Theodore**. He and his wife are buried at the Temple Emanuel Cemetery in Dallas.

One century later, the name Theodore is still the middle name of one of Meyer's descendents. We are happy that contact has been reestablished with Meyer Crown's descendents, who still live in Texas.

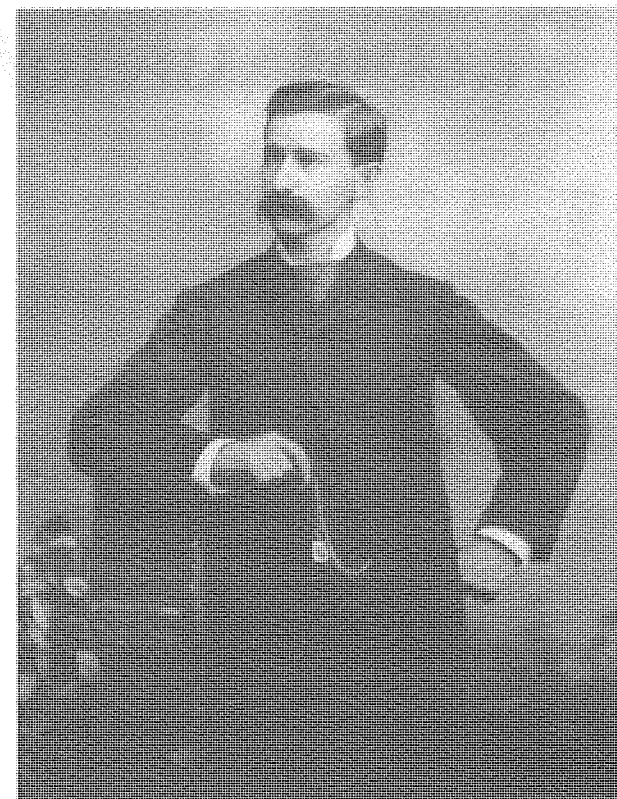
Isaac Crown died at the age of 30 in the Mundine Hotel fire in Rockdale, Texas, in 1888 and is buried in the Jewish Cemetery there. He was unmarried. There were a total of twelve fatalities. The three-storey brick hotel was located at the corner of Main and Railroad Streets. He may have lived in Henderson, Texas, at the time of the 1880 census.

The inscription on Isaac's grave says "second and beloved son of Theodore and Rebecca Crown, Manchester, England".

This raises the question of who was the first son. According to the probate of his estate, Isaac was a one-third owner of Israel Baum's mercantile business in Rockdale.

Hyman Crown lived in Palestine, Texas, and married Rachel Alderman of Jefferson, Texas. He, along with Marcus Crohn, was the executor of his brother Isaac's estate.

According to the Waco City directory of 1898-99, he was in business with his brother Myer and a David Crown. Since Hyman's youngest brother was David, it can be assumed that he, too, moved to Texas.



Hyman Crown