

THE WEILERS OF MARYHILL

The Weilers, who first settled in New Germany/Maryhill, emigrated from Unzhurst, Baden. Each descends from Philip Weiler (1619-1653) and Anna Friedmann who married in Unzhurst in 1644.

The first Maryhill Weiler family consisted of five siblings: Andrew Weiler (1795-1885), his wife Johanna Allgeier; Joseph Weiler (1800-1888), his first wife Magdalena Lehmann and his second, Helena Uhrig; Ignatius Weiler (1803-1880), his wife Regina Allgeier (sister to Johanna); Maria Elizabeth Weiler (1806-1893), her husband Carl L. Zuber; and Xavier Weiler (1813-1894), and his wife Margaretha Hauck. Their father, Ignatius Weiler (1767-1840), a widower, accompanied them. He carved a statue of Mary, the mother of Jesus, to invoke her intercessory protection for the treacherous Atlantic crossing. These Weilers (only Andrew was married before immigrating) were among Maryhill's founding families and arrived in two crossings, one about 1829, and the other in 1831 with the statue. The statue is presently here in St. Boniface Church.

Their first cousin, Joseph Weiler (1806-1893), came here around 1829, purchased land in 1833, married Magdalena Steffler in 1834 and lived in Maryhill until 1842 before resettling in nearby St. Agatha, Ontario.

In 1847 the brother of Joseph Weiler (1806-1893), Valentine Weiler (1811-1896), his wife Maria Anna Doll and family members immigrated to Maryhill. Also in 1847, and probably on the same ship, a third half-cousin once removed to all the above Weilers, Thomas Weiler (1810-1896), his wife Marianna Ernst and family members settled among extended family here. The Valentine and Thomas Weiler families lived in Maryhill until about 1857 before most resettled in the Formosa and Mildmay areas of Bruce County, Ontario.

In August 2000, 500 descendants of all these Weilers came to Maryhill from across Canada and the U.S.A. to discover and celebrate their roots.

In appreciation for the faith, vision, perseverance and pioneering spirit of these original Maryhill Weiler families, the Maryhill Weiler Descendants' August 2000 Reunion Planning Committee donates this plaque. So many are blessed by so few.