The origin of Andreas Killian

by: Mac Hayes - July 2003

This report has been outdated by new research by William McCreight (2009 - 2010)

[Harumph!]

Mr. McCreight makes no mention of the Salzburg Expulsion:

"... in Salzburg, Austria. In 1723, Roman Catholic Archbishop Leopold von Firmian felt committed to rooting out Protestantism in his territory. To accomplish this, he issued a proclamation promising to compel all Protestants in Salzburg either to become Catholics or to leave the territory. This turned some 30,000 Lutherans into refugees.

"Then, in order to sweep Salzburg clean of Protestant elements, the Archbishop issued his notorious 1731 expulsion order, mandating that all remaining Protestants, some 21,475 people, leave at once."

That was from this web site:

http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/read/EXULANTEN/1999-10/0939347523

The time of the expulsion order, 1731, seems to be a close fit for the year attributed to "our Andreas" arrival in Philadelphia on the ship Adventurer. The expulsion also might explain why the immigrants came via the Netherlands rather than ports in Germany.

As for the variety of name spellings - another genealogy line in my family has a considerable amount of documentation of Dutch names in the 1600s, and the Latinized spelling, Andreauss Killiaen, fits very well with what a Dutch shipper's record-keeper might write in that era. I doubt very much that passengers were asked how their names were spelled; a bureaucratic trend which seems to have carried over in the US to at least as late as the 1860 US Census.

I would like to see Mr McCreight do some research on the Salzburg Expulsion. He should also do a bit more research in North Carolina; I believe there is more than enough evidence in Catawba and Lincoln Counties to confirm the German-ness of Andreas/Andrew Kilian/Killian.

Mac Hayes