

Ukrainian Homecoming

GENEALOGICAL FIELDWORK IN UKRAINE

FIELD REPORT

Prepared for ██████████
Subject: ██████████ of Budaniv (Budzanów)
Fieldwork: **9 and 10 September 2026**
Family interview: **11 September 2026**
Reference: ██████████

1. WHAT THIS REPORT ANSWERS

You came with two requests: photographs of the family graves in Budaniv, and a line traced through **the women of the family who married and changed their surname**. This report covers the archival half of that work. The cemetery day follows in late autumn, after the first frosts.

Two days of work in the registers produced four things that were not previously on paper:

- ██████████'s widow and his daughter ██████████ are found, alive, at a named address — ██████████, in the 1941 household register. ██████████'s date of birth in the book is **1 March 1873**, matching your record to the day.
- ██████████, ██████████ and ██████████ are found together in a household of their own in 1941, with ██████████'s patronymic recorded for the first time.
- ██████████ is identified as ██████████'s daughter, married into the ██████████ family and living at ██████████ — and her son ██████████ is in the household with her.
- ██████████, son of ██████████, died **6 January 1935** at ██████████ — the record that gave us the family's address and the thread everything else hangs on.

A telephone conversation on 11 September with ██████████, ██████████'s granddaughter (§3.3), added what the registers cannot give: **the family crypt in the Budaniv cemetery exists, and eight people are buried in it**. What she remembers is set out in §8 and marked as memory, not record.

2. RECORDS EXAMINED

FOND / FILE	CONTENTS	RESULT
██████████	Deaths, Budaniv, 1935 – July 1944 (Greek Catholic)	Read in full; 39 entries of the six target surnames extracted
██████████	Deaths, Budaniv, 1898–1944 (Roman Catholic)	Examined; relevant entries photographed
██████████	Deaths, Budaniv and Skomorokhy, 1874–1942	Identified and characterised — see §6
██████████	Household register, Budaniv village council, 1940	Read; ██████████ households located

Household registers, 1941 (six volumes by street)	Read; four households located
Household registers, 1947–1949	Read for the six surnames — beyond the agreed scope, included at no charge

3. THE HOUSEHOLDS

In the nationality column every member of every household, and of 's household in \$4, is entered as **Ukrainian**. The clerks spelled the surname two ways in the same year: for 's household, for 's and 's. It is one family written two ways — worth remembering when searching later Soviet documents, where either spelling may turn up.

3.1 's widow and — , 1941

NAME	RELATION	BORN	NOTES
, daughter of	head of household	1 March 1873	Ukrainian, illiterate
, daughter of	daughter	1913	Ukrainian, illiterate

Three things follow from this single page.

First, the date of birth confirms the identification beyond argument: 's wife, born 1 March 1873. Second, — the daughter against whom your list carries "d. ???" — was **alive and unmarried in 1941**, living with her mother and still under her father's surname. Third, and least expected: **himself is not in the household**. The holding stands in his widow's name.

That last point changes the search for . A household registered to a widow in 1941 indicates he had died before that year — not after July 1944, as the absence of any record for him in the death register 1935–1944 had suggested. His death therefore belongs either to the years before 1935, or to a register of a different rite. It is not, as previously assumed, a matter for the Soviet civil registry.

Порядковий №	ПРІЗВИЩЕ, ІМ'Я, ПО БАТЬКОВІ	Відношення до голови сім'ї	Стать	Рік і місяць народження	Національність	Письменність	В якій школі вчиться тепер
1		Голова	жін.	1/III 1873	україн.	неписьм.	
2		дочка	жін.	1913	україн.	неписьм.	

Household register, 1941 — . Line 1: , daughter of , head of household, female, born 1/III 1873, Ukrainian, illiterate. Line 2: , daughter of , daughter, female, born 1913. Fond .

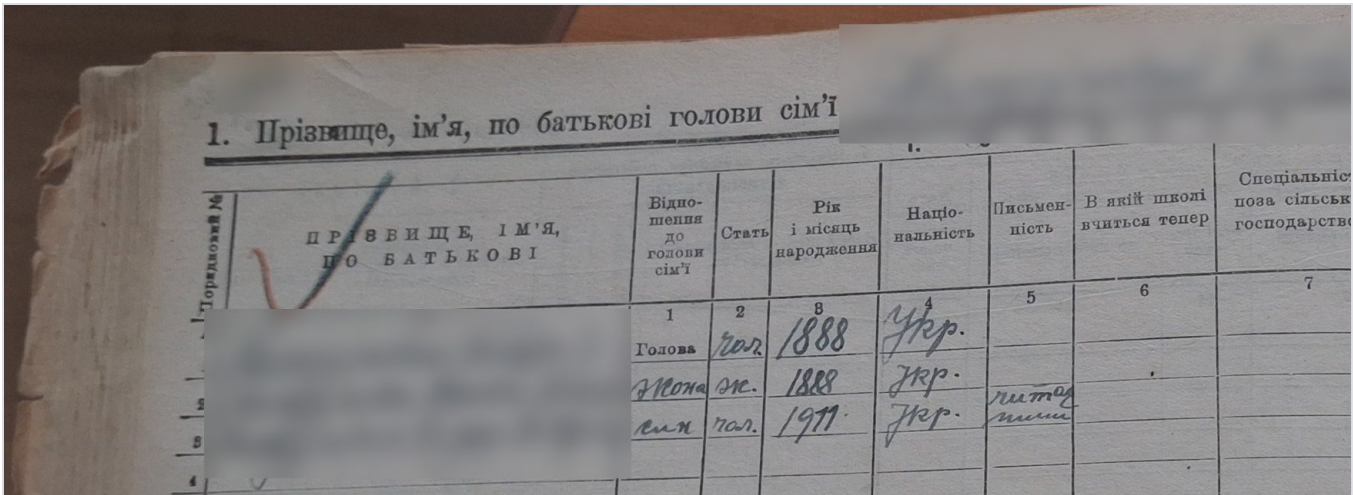
3.2 , and — , 1941

NAME	RELATION	BORN	OCCUPATION
, son of	head of household	1888	farming his own holding

_____, daughter of _____	wife	1888	the same
_____, son of _____	son	1911	dependent on his father

This is the household you have been reconstructing from Winnipeg: _____, who returned from Canada in 1912; his wife _____; and _____, born in Winnipeg in 1911, whose certificate was issued to the family in 2017. All three are alive in Budaniv in 1941. The register adds two things your papers did not have — _____'s **patronymic**, _____, and _____'s, _____.

One discrepancy should be stated plainly: your record gives _____'s birth as about 1880, the register gives 1888. Household registers took ages from the householder's own word and are not authoritative on dates. His birth record would settle it.



Household register, 1941. _____, son of _____, head of household, male, 1888; _____, daughter of _____, wife, 1888; _____, son of _____, son, 1911. Fond _____.

3.3 _____, son of _____ — 1940 and 1941

NAME	RELATION	BORN
_____, son of _____	head of household	1883
_____, daughter of _____	wife	5 September 1898
_____, son of _____	stepson	18 October 1924
_____	son	16 February 1930
_____	daughter	24 February 1932
_____	son	3 January 1935

A man born in 1883 whose patronymic is _____ cannot be a son of _____, who was ten years old that year. He belongs to _____'s **first marriage** — which is consistent with what you established independently, that _____ married three times. This is a branch of the family that had no names in it before: four of _____'s grandchildren, each with a date of birth.

A caution worth keeping: _____'s wife is also a _____, daughter of _____. She was born in 1898 and is a different woman from _____'s widow, born 1873.

Confirmed by the family. On 11 September _____ named her grandfather as _____ before anything from the register was read to her, and said of that generation that "they were all _____. This is her branch. Your great-grandfather _____ and her grandfather _____ were brothers, sons of _____'s first marriage.

Of the stepson, she remembers him as her grandmother's son from another marriage, and believes a () is still living; her father called him "uncle". The register has , **born 1924** — a man who would now be over a hundred — so may be 's son rather than himself. She has no telephone number for him.

Прізвище, ім'я, по батькові

Порядковий №	П Р І В В И Щ Е, І М' Я, П О Б А Т Ь К О В І	Відно- шення до голови сім'ї	Стать	Рік і місяць народження	Націо- нальність	Письмен- ність	В якій школі вчиться тепер	Спеціаль- на поза сім'ю господаре
A		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1		Голова	м.	1883	укр.	м.		
2		матері	ж.	1898 5/IX	-	укр.		
3		нащад	м.	1924 18/X	-	-		
4		матері	ж.	1930 16/X	-	-	б. і м. м. м.	
5		нащад	м.	1932 24/X	-	-		
6		матері	ж.	1935 3/I	-	-		
7								

Household register, 1941. , son of , head of household, 1883; his wife , daughter of , 5/IX 1898; a stepson born 18/X 1924; and the children (1930), (1932) and (1935). Fond .

3.4 and —

NAME	RELATION	BORN	OCCUPATION
, daughter of	head of household	1869	farming
	husband	30 September 1896	carter, Budaniv co-operative society

's patronymic is — the same as 's in §3.2. On the balance of the evidence they are brother and sister, children of a . That is a generation standing above anything in your present tree, and it gives the Winnipeg a sibling who stayed.

1. Прізвище, ім'я, по батькові

Порядковий №	П Р І В В И Щ Е, І М' Я, П О Б А Т Ь К О В І	Відно- шення до голови сім'ї	Стать	Рік і місяць народження	Націо- нальність	Письмен- ність	В якій школі вчиться тепер	Спеціаль- на поза сім'ю господаре
A		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1		Голова	м.	1869	укр.	м.		
2		матері	ж.	1897	-	-		
3								

Household register, 1941, — , daughter of , head of household, female, 1869; , male, 1897, carter at the Budaniv co-operative society. Fond .

4. , AND THE QUESTION OF

The 1940 register records, at , :

NAME	BORN
_____, daughter of _____ — head of household	15 February 1900
_____, daughter of _____	17 December 1920
_____, daughter of _____	12 December 1928
_____, son of _____	not entered
_____, son of _____	not entered

_____'s patronymic is _____, and every child in the household is a child of a _____. She is therefore _____'s daughter, married to _____ — and the "_____ born 1932" of your papers is _____, **her son**.

This also settles a false lead. The surname appears in the parish registers as _____, and on the register evidence alone it looked like an unrelated Polish family. It is not the family that is unrelated — only the surname is foreign. The mother is yours.

What is missing is small but real: **the register of 1940 leaves _____'s and _____'s years of birth blank**. The identification of _____ with the boy born in 1932 therefore rests on the household, the mother and the given name, and not yet on a date. The war-year household registers, where he would appear as a boy of twelve or thirteen with his date of birth entered, would close that gap; §7 explains why that is harder than it sounds.

Family memory adds a place. _____ says _____ married _____ **"into Mohylnytsia"**, the neighbouring village, and did not think she lived in Budaniv. The 1940 register nonetheless places _____'s own household in the Budaniv council books, at Pidlisy no. 7. Both can be true — a husband from Mohylnytsia, a household later in Budaniv — and it makes Mohylnytsia, whose Roman Catholic books you have already asked Warsaw for, the place where _____'s own family would be looked for. Of _____'s descendants the family knows nothing.

The only person entered as Polish anywhere near the family is a _____, born 1918, in _____ — on the _____ side, not the _____.

1. Прізвище, ім'я, по батькові							
П Р І З В И Щ Е, І М' Я, П О Б А Т Ь К О В І		Відношення до голови сім'ї	Стать	Рік і місяць народження	Національність	Письменність	В якій школі вчиться тепер
а	б	1	2	3	4	5	6
1		доч.	ж	15/II 1900	укр	+	-
2			ж	17/XII 1920	укр	-	-
3			ж	12/XII 1928	укр	-	-
4							

Household register, 1940, _____ — _____. Line 1: _____, daughter of _____, head of household, female, 15/II 1900. Then _____, daughter of _____ (17/XII 1920), _____, daughter of _____ (12/XII 1928), and _____, son of _____, whose year of birth is left blank. Fond _____.

5. THE DEATH REGISTERS, 1935 – JULY 1944

5.1 _____, son of _____

The first entry in the entire volume:

_____, son of _____ and _____, *mercenarius loci* — a labourer without land of his own. House **182**. Greek Catholic. Born **30 August 1909**, died **6 January 1935**, buried 8 January. Cause: tuberculous meningitis. Buried by Fr. _____.

This is another child of _____ who stayed behind when the five emigrated, and it is the record that named the parents together — the same _____ who appears alive at _____ six years later. He died at twenty-five.

Число поховання Nrus positionis	Рік Annus 1935	Місяць і день Mensis et dies	Смерті Mortis	Похор. Sepult.	Число дому Nrus domus	Ім'я, назвище і заняття помершого Nomen, cognomen et conditio mortui	Вірствова. катол. Religio catholica	Пол Sexus	Літа життя Anni vitae	Недуга і рід смерті Morbus et qualitas mortis	Замітка Adnotatio
1.	6.	8.	January	1935.	182.	Annus Domini 1935	греко-катол.	Мужський Masculinus	30. VIII 1909	meningitis tuberculosa	

Deaths of Budaniv, 1935, entry no. 1. Died 6 January, buried 8 January, _____ : _____, *filius* _____ et _____
— Greek Catholic, born 30/VIII 1909, cause *meningitis tuberculosa*. Fond _____.

5.2 The other five surnames

Read continuously rather than by surname, the volume yielded **38 entries** across _____, _____, _____ and _____, each with parents, spouse, house number and cause of death. They are set out in full in the appendix. Two are worth naming here:

- _____ (b. 21 December 1874) and _____ (b. 11 June 1879) are brothers, both sons of _____ and _____ — two generations above the Poliwczuks in your tree.
- _____, entered 7 September 1941: "died in Lviv, in captivity", aged twenty-five. That is not an illness, and it is not a parish matter; it belongs to the repression records, which are a separate line of enquiry.

Of the six target surnames, _____ **does not appear in the death registers at all**, and _____ appears once — the entry above.

6. WHAT IS NOW SETTLED ABOUT _____ AND _____

File 1509 turned out not to be a second rite covering the same years, as its description suggests, but the **annually certified parish copy** of the same Roman Catholic register we already had in _____ — its first year opens "Copia parochialis, anno 1874" under the wax seal of the Budzanów parish, certified in April 1875. Its only unique content is the years 1874–1897, and the village of Skomorokhy.

The consequence for your search matters more than the file itself: **there is no Greek Catholic death register for Budaniv covering 1874–1934 in this fond at all**. Files 1059 and 1509 are both Latin. For Greek Catholics before 1935 there is only _____ — and you already hold those, and _____ is not in them.

Set against the household register, the picture is now consistent and closed on one side: _____ **was alive in 1941**, which is why he is absent from the deaths of 1935–1944 up to that point, and his death falls after the

registers in this fond end. [redacted], by contrast, was already gone by 1941, and his death lies in the years the surviving Greek Catholic books do not cover.

7. THE WOMEN WHO CHANGED THEIR NAMES — WHERE THE LINE STANDS

This was your second request, and it is the one the household registers were meant to answer. As matters stand:

WOMAN	STATUS ESTABLISHED
[redacted], daughter of [redacted], b. 15 February 1900	Answered. Married [redacted]; four children; [redacted]. By family memory, married into Mohylnytsia
[redacted], daughter of [redacted], b. 1913	Alive and unmarried in 1941 , at [redacted]. Her marriage falls after that year; she does not appear under her own surname in the 1947–1949 registers. [redacted]'s granddaughter does not know her married name either
[redacted] / [redacted], née [redacted]	Not found in the registers read to date

For [redacted] the gap is now narrow and specific. She was unmarried in 1941 and gone from her own surname by 1947. **The household registers of the war years, 1944–1945, are the record that covers exactly that interval**, and a married woman appears in them under her husband's surname with her own year of birth — 1913 — and her place of birth, Budaniv. That is how she would be recovered.

Those war-year volumes are listed in the inventory of the fond, but when I asked for them at the store on 10 September **they could not be found**. They exist somewhere — the books of those two years were kept and stored however the war allowed — but finding them means searching across the region. That is a real undertaking: it takes a great deal of time and effort, and I cannot say in advance where it ends. I would rather tell you that plainly than present it as one more day in a reading room.

8. WHAT THE FAMILY REMEMBERS — [redacted], 11 SEPTEMBER

I telephoned [redacted], [redacted]'s granddaughter, on 11 September, as promised; you had told her to expect the call. What follows is her memory, not a record, and it is marked as such wherever it is used above.

- **The crypt.** There is a [redacted] family crypt in the Budaniv cemetery — a crypt, not a single grave. **Eight people are buried in it**, among them her grandfather [redacted], his wife and her own father. It is the first fixed point for the cemetery day.
- **[redacted]'s first marriage had eleven children** by her count — six sons and five daughters. Your tree has ten. She noticed that your list carries **two** [redacted]; whether the eleventh child is hiding there, or is a child who died young, is a question for your papers rather than hers.
- [redacted] was her grandfather's sister and married into Mohylnytsia (\$4).
- [redacted]. She knows of an [redacted] among her grandfather's sisters, but only by her maiden name.
- [redacted] is her great-grandfather; she remembers his wife as [redacted]. Of his death she knows nothing — which fits the register finding that he was gone before 1941.
- **A living relative:** [redacted] ([redacted]) [redacted], connected through [redacted]'s wife (\$3.3). No telephone number.
- **A book.** She holds a thick Polish-language book on the families of Budaniv, over 800 pages, and is sending me photographs of it. I will read it for the six surnames and tell you what is there.

She lives in Ternopil and has agreed to come to Budaniv on the cemetery day, which means I will be taken straight to the crypt by someone who has stood at it.

9. OUTSTANDING ITEM

The enquiry sent on 3 September concerning the copies previously issued to the family — [REDACTED]'s in the 1960s and [REDACTED]'s in 2017 — **has not been answered**. Archives are not obliged to reply to enquiries of that kind and frequently do not. Nothing is owed for it and nothing further is expected from it.

10. WHAT IS DELIVERED WITH THIS REPORT

- **The register pages themselves** — the six entries on which this report turns are reproduced above, in the section each one belongs to, so that every statement here can be checked against the page it came from.
- **Photographs** of every page photographed on both days — 53 pages of the death registers and 236 of the household registers — rotated upright, not retouched, with the pages that carry the family named by what is on them. Each folder has a short note on how to read the form.
- **An appendix**, as a separate document, with: a transcript of every entry of the six surnames from the death registers — parents, spouses, house numbers and causes of death, translated from Latin, Polish and Ukrainian; household-by-household tables for the [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] holdings, 1940, 1941 and 1947–1949, with every resident and year of birth; and a list of the hamlets and streets of Budaniv as they are written in the registers, which is what converts a house number in a parish entry into an address in a household register.

One practical note for the cemetery day in late autumn. We now have an address for every branch — [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] — and, for the [REDACTED] household, the given names of four children born between 1920 and 1932. In a town of this size that is usually enough for the village council and the oldest residents to place the family, which is the part I do at no charge on the day.

Added since: the family crypt is confirmed, with eight burials, and [REDACTED]'s granddaughter has agreed to come on the day and show it.