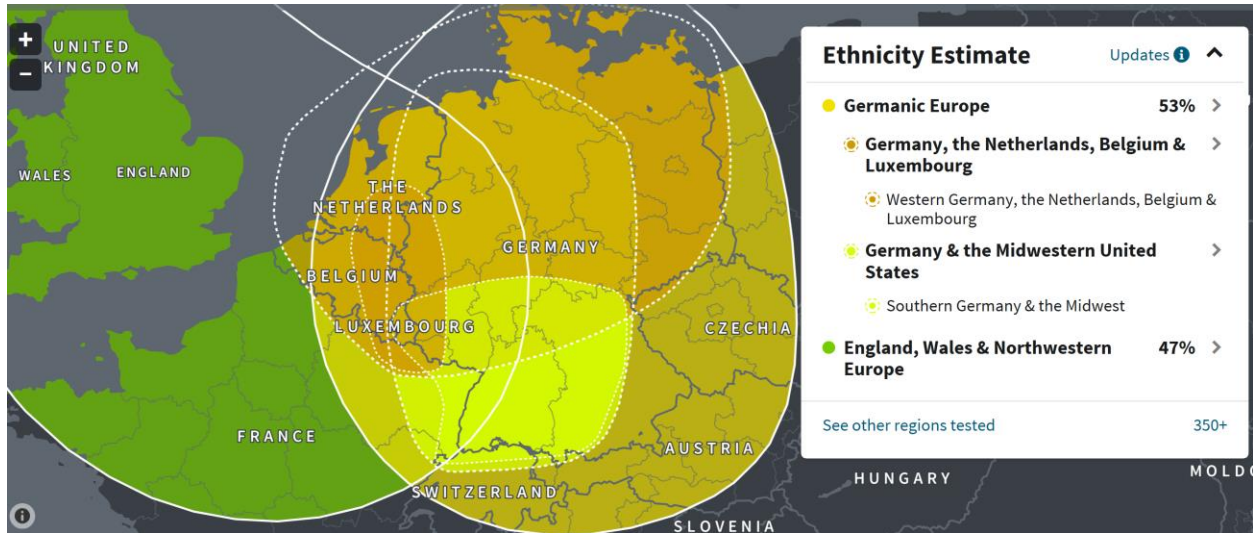


The Ancestry of Suzanne Walech and her siblings

The DNA Ethnicity Estimate of Suzanne Walech and her siblings¹ reveals what would be expected after reviewing their recent ancestry. If you look at the area where the Germanic Europe (and its subset regions) and the England, Wales & Northwestern Europe regions overlap, you will in fact find where most of the immigrant ancestors of Suzanne and her siblings immigrated.



The Walch/Weber Paternal Side

The Walch/Wallich/Walechs (and other assorted spellings) had been in Luxembourg since the early 1700s when Christian Walch emigrated from Austria². Little is known about Suzanne's 2nd Great Grandfather Pierre Weber. It can only be assumed, as family tradition states, that Weberhof had been in the family for generations and that the farm descended down through the line until Pierre's daughter Ann Margaret and her husband Jean Wallich inherited the farm. By this time all adult siblings of Ann Weber Wallich had emigrated to Iowa, and specifically to the Dubuque area. One generation later, three of the five adult children of Ann Weber and Jean Wallich followed the Webers and emigrated to the Dubuque area. Only Jean Wallich's son John Pierre Walech (who inherited Weberhof and daughter Marie Walech who married Jean Pfeffer remained in Luxembourg.

¹ While DNA transfer from parents to each child is not exactly 50% from each parent, it would be close enough to consider the DNA Ethnicity Estimate for Suzanne to be similar to her siblings.

² Christian Walch's father was Stephan Walch, born 1648 and died 1716 in Innerwald, Tirol, Austria

Weberhof

Located just outside Medernach, the farm itself was a multiconnected/multifunctional building, indicative of the architecture of the time.



Weberhof about 1917.

Weberhof in 2000. During the Battle of the Bulge (16 December 1944 – 25 January 1945,) Weberhof was destroyed as the Allies. It was later rebuilt, as it stands today. Jean Pierre Walech's daughter Victorine Helen inherited the farm, but being childless and there being no other Walechs who wished to inherit the farm, it has either passed or will soon pass out of the family.



Webershof in 2001

A brief Historical Background of Luxembourg and how Charles Walch ended up in Luxembourg

The Eighty Years' War (1568–1648) was a revolt of the Seventeen Provinces of what are today the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg against Philip II of Spain, the sovereign of the Habsburg Netherlands. And while borders were sometimes fluid, it culminated with Luxembourg remaining under Spanish Habsburg rule as part of the Southern Netherlands (also called the Spanish or Habsburg Netherlands.) Thirty-five years later, the War of the Reunions (1683–84) was a short conflict between France and Spain and its allies. It was fueled by the long-running desire of Louis XIV to conquer new lands, many of them comprising part of the Southern Netherlands, along France's northern and eastern

borders. It included and culminated with the Siege of Luxembourg, a large mortar bombardment of the Fortress in Luxembourg and surrounding area. After the War, Luxembourg remained part of the Southern Netherlands, which passed to the Austrian line of the Habsburg dynasty in 1713, under Charles VI, Holy Roman Emperor, King of Bohemia, King of Hungary and Croatia, Serbia and Archduke of Austria.

Due to the near constant fighting, much of Luxembourg was decimated in the 17th century. And rebuilding the country would take many years. Conventional wisdom is that Charles, and particularly his wife Empress Elisabeth Christine, and later his heir to the empire Maria Teresa and the last Habsburg Monarch to Luxembourg, needed masons and architects to facilitate the rebuilding process. It appears that Charles Walch, son of Stephan Walch from Austria, was recruited to move to Luxembourg to assist in the rebuilding process. An architect, Christian (at least one of his sons was an architect as well) was born in Austria, but appears in Echternach, Luxembourg for his wedding in 1726., immigrated to America.

The Maternal Rupp/Schiffman/Schwab Side

The Rupp and Schiffman ancestors of Suzanne Walech and her siblings originated in various locations in Prussia/Germany, Including Bavaria and the Rhine. This side of the family were mostly farmers (and miners.) They immigrated to the United States in the early to mid-1800s.

Immigrating to Potosi, Grant County, Wisconsin, just a short distance from Dubuque. these ancestors were active in their community and remained in the area the balance of their lives. Just a generation or two later, some of the children of John and Elizabeth Winter Rupp & Peter and Gertrude Schiffman, including Charles & Mary Ann Schiffman Rupp moved to Dubuque.

It was in Dubuque that Suzanne and her siblings grew up.