

Hi,

I discovered your Spermon website recently. I also saw where you have my g-g-g grandfather's immigration and naturalization records listed. You requested any information on the family and I might be able to help.

My ancestor, Francis Spermon, immigrated from France with a fellow Frenchman, Fiecre Coscor. They landed in Philadelphia, PA. on September 16th 1839. They both signed (with a mark "X") declarations of intent to become citizens of the United States. Francis' age was 21.

I found my ancestor again, when on the 27th of October, 1841 when he signed a Seaman's Protection Act form. I don't know whether he became a sailor at this point in time, or whether he had been a sailor. I have a copy of the document. It is interesting that his name is spelled Spremen at this time. His physical description is as follows-

Age: 23
Height: Five feet, five inches
Complexion: Dark
Hair: Dark
Eyes: Light Hazel

The only remaining document that I have pertaining to Francis is his death notice, signed by Dr. John Gegan listing his cause of death as tuberculosis, age 31 on Dec. 28, 1848. He was buried in the "Bishop's Burial Ground" of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. The cemetery is no longer around. The physician spelled his name Spreman at this time.

I have been unable to locate a marriage certificate or record for Francis. He owned no property and was never imprisoned. I have requested any records the Catholic Church might have, but as yet have not heard of any.

Francis had one son, Francis Mather Spreman. He was born in 1846. His mother's name was Hannah. He attended and graduated from Girard College in Philadelphia, a college established by Stephen Girard for young orphan "white" boys to teach them a trade. It was after he graduated from Girard College (as a plumber) that he married and permanently changed his surname to Spreeman.

The Spreeman family has not been blessed with many male children. Francis Mather Spreeman and his wife had one son (and several daughters) who survived infancy. This son, John Henry Spreeman had two sons, but one died tragically in an accident before he married. My grandfather and grandmother had only one child, my father, and I am one of three girls. The name ends with my Dad.

I would love to be able to figure out where Francis ties into the Spermon family in Europe. I have never searched for records abroad other than what I can access on the internet. I hope that I have been of some help. If you have any further questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me.

Sandra Spreeman Klinger

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