

We Found a Home in Canada

by Mervin Weiss and Adele Wagner

Foreword:

While I have written these words, this is Adele's story, written from her perspective. It is an incredible story of family love, hope, perseverance, and persistence. My input has been to position her memories and oral stories into an historical context and timeline with the geographical background of the turbulent times into which she was born.

– Mervin Weiss, August 2020.



It was the map. Yes, it was the map that my brother Paul had drawn from memory of our village in Ukraine where we once lived. It was September of 2017 and I was returning from a trip to Ukraine, the country of my birth. It was not an easy journey, the express purpose of which was to visit the village where I was born. But it was an amazing experience, and not until the long flight home, did I have time to reflect on what the trip meant to me. Paul's map lay open on my seat-tray. I could see where the community well was, the school, the store, our home, Grandpa Brühler's place, the cemetery, and more. I really have no personal memories of our village. I was not yet eight years old when we were forced to leave our village, to leave our home, to leave almost everything behind. But after studying Paul's map and after visiting our village, I was overwhelmed by a flood of memories from the years which followed. Perhaps for the first time, I was able to reflect on my life with a clearer focus on its beginnings. If you wish to read more https://saskgermancouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/We-Found-a-Home-in-Canada_FINAL-website.pdf.