

# SKWORCZ / SKWORTZ

WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME: **HOFFMANN**

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HUSBAND'S NAME	Joseph Skwortz
BIRTH DATE	Circa 1809-1811
MARRIAGE DATE	10 January 1847
MARRIAGE PLACE	Św. Wawrzyńca (St. Lawrence), Strzelce Opolskie, Poland
OCCUPATION	Texas: farmer
RESIDENCES	Jemielnica, Poland; San Antonio and Las Gallinas, Texas
BURIAL DATE	1 October 1888
BURIAL PLACE	St. Joseph Cemetery, Las Gallinas, Texas

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WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME	Sophia Hoffmann
BIRTH DATE	Circa 1825
RESIDENCES	Jemielnica, Poland; San Antonio and Las Gallinas, Texas
DEATH DATE	14 September 1906
DEATH PLACE	Las Gallinas, Atascosa County, Texas
BURIAL PLACE	St. Joseph Cemetery, Las Gallinas, Texas

## Sources and Additional Information

MARRIAGE	Św. Wawrzyńca, Strzelce Opolskie, Poland, p. 66, entry #1 (LDS Microfilm #0937502)
SHIP AND PORT	<i>Weser</i> arrived Galveston, Texas, on 3 December 1854.
TAX ROLLS	Texas: wife in 1863 and 1865-1867 Atascosa County
LAND RECORDS	Bexar County Deeds, Volume S1, p. 316, date of instrument: 8 August 1860, date filed: 9 August 1860 (San Antonio Lots #17 and #18 in Block #6 bought by Sophie Skwortz for \$500 from John W. and Nora McConnell); Atascosa County Deeds, Volume A, p. 438, date of instrument: 3 October 1860, date filed: 9 October 1860 (160 acres bought from Louis Zork for \$250 by Sophie Skwortz of Bexar County); Bexar County Agreement Record, Volume T1, pp. 451-453, date of instrument: 13 July 1865, date filed: 20 July 1865
FEDERAL CENSUS	Texas: 1870 and 1880 Atascosa County
DEATH RECORD	Wife: Atascosa County, Texas, Volume 1, p. 100
BURIAL RECORD	Husband: St. Joseph Catholic Church, Las Gallinas, Texas, p. 93, entry #3 (LDS Microfilm #0025278)
OBITUARY	Wife: <i>Southern Messenger</i> , 27 September 1906, p. 5
TOMBSTONE	Wife: St. Joseph Cemetery, Las Gallinas, Texas
PROBATE	Wife: Atascosa County, Volume D, p. 439, Will, date of instrument: 26 March 1897
VARIATIONS	Surname spellings include: Skworcz, Skwortz, and Skworz Wife's maiden name spellings include: Hoffmann and Hoffman

*Submitted by:* Sr. Jule Adele Espey, C.D.P., San Antonio, Texas



**S**ophia was the daughter of Gottlieb and Maria Hoffmann. According to family history, Sophia was baptized in the Evangelical Lutheran Church and later was baptized and made her first Communion in the Roman Catholic Church. She married Joseph Skwartz at Św. Wawrzyńca in Strzelce Opolskie in 1847. Nearby in Himmelwitz (present-day Jemielnica), Sophia was a cook in a castle where Joseph was a bodyguard (Recollections of Adeline Skwartz Espey).

They had two sons, and in 1854 they sailed to Texas on the *Weser*. Travelling with them were Sophia's young niece, Marianna Kotulla, and Marianna's grandmother, Maria Kotulla. Two years later, Sophia's sister Rosalia immigrated to Texas with their mother, Maria Hoffmann (see second Thomas Haiduk profile).

The Skwartz family settled in the Las Gallinas area of Atascosa County. Sophia registered cattle brands twice, once in 1857 and again in 1869. She also purchased two lots in San Antonio (Bexar County Deed Records, 8 August 1860, Volume S1, p. 316). During 1865-1867, she paid taxes in Atascosa County. In 1870 Joseph owned 160 acres of land valued at \$2,000. In addition he owned 4 horses, 50 milk cows, 200 other cattle, 20 sheep, and 50 swine (U.S. Agricultural Census, Atascosa County, 1870, p. 15). The family was enumerated in the 1870 Atascosa County census, and Sophia's 100-year-old mother, Maria Hoffmann, resided with them.

Sophia's brother Carl, who remained in Poland, was working in a metal factory. He wrote to his sister in Texas expressing his sorrow after their mother had gone to America. He said his sorrow was that he "...could not cry at the grave of my mother..." because it would be so far away from Silesia (Letter in possession of Sr. Jule Adele Espey, C.D.P., San Antonio, Texas).

### **Baptism Records of Skworcz / Skwartz Children**

10 December 1848	Augustin	p. 333, entry #124	Wniebowzięcia NMP,
17 November 1850	Joseph	p. 403, entry #150	Jemielnica, Poland (LDS Microfilm #0957157)



## Skwartz Land Deed in Atascosa County

The State of Texas <sup>3 of</sup> No 395.  
County of Bexar Know all men by these presents that I Louis  
Zork of the County of Bexar, and State of Texas, for and in consid-  
eration of the sum of Two Hundred Dollars and fifty (\$250.00) to me  
in hand paid by Mrs Sophie Skwartz of the County of Bexar and  
State of Texas the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, before  
the signing, sealing and delivery of these presents, have granted  
bargained, sold, Released and Conveyed, and by these presents do  
grant, bargain, sell, Release, Convey, and deliver unto the said  
Sophie Skwartz her heirs and assigns, all that tract or parcel of  
Land Lying and being in the County of Atascosa, in the State of  
Texas, and described as follows to wit: One Hundred and Sixty  
Acres of Land on the Gallinas Creek, a branch of the Atascosa Creek  
about 22 Miles, South of San Antonio, Known as Survey No  
1123, in Section No 6. by virtue of Bounty warrant No 2061,  
upon which Patent No 313. Vol No 7 issued to Pablo Manzolo  
Thomas Leckie Assignee. And being the same Land Convey-  
ed to me by said Leckie, which said Conveyance as also said  
Patent are herewith delivered and made part and parcel  
hereof, together with all and singular the rights, members, re-  
dictaments, and appertinances to the same belonging or in any  
wise incident or appertaining. To Have and to hold all and  
singular the premises above mentioned unto the said Sophie  
Skwartz her heirs and assigns forever. And I do hereby bind  
myself my heirs, Executors, and administrators to warrant  
and forever defend all and singular the said premises unto  
the said Sophie Skwartz her heirs and assigns against every  
person whomsoever lawfully Claiming or to Claim the same  
or any part thereof. In testimony whereof I have hereunto  
subscribed my name and affixed my seal my using & crawl  
for a Seal, in the City of San Antonio, this third day of October  
AD One thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty.  
Signed Sealed & Delivered in Presence of  
C Griesenberg L. Zork. Seal

As a resident of Bexar County, Mrs. Sophie Skwartz purchased 160 acres of land in Atascosa County from Louis Zork for \$250 on October 3, 1860 (Atascosa County Deeds, Volume A, p. 438, #395).



Sophia Hoffmann Skwortz  
1825 - 1906



*Photograph courtesy of: Sr. Jule Adele Espey, C.D.P., San Antonio, Texas*