

Peter Heitzelmann

Peter Heitzelmann was born February 1842 in Bavaria, Germany. He was the fourth of five children of Peter and Margaret Heitzelmann. Peter's father was a jeweler; their name was spelled various ways including Heinzelmann and Heintzelman. The family immigrated from Germany and sailed from Le Havre, France, to New York on the ship "Argo" and then went to Ohio. Their names were written the French way, so Peter was listed as Pierre Heinzelmann.¹ In 1850, the family of father, mother and four children were living in Racine, Racine, Wisconsin.²

By 1856, the family had moved to Julien, Dubuque, Iowa. Peter's father and brother were listed as watch makers.³ In 1873, Heintzelman's jewelry store was in Pioche, Lincoln, Nevada.⁴ On 1875 census, Peter was a watchmaker, living in Lincoln, Nevada.⁵ By 1876, Peter and P. Lehigh had a grocery store in a canvas tent in Leeds, Washington, Utah Territory.⁶ In 1877, Theodore C. Poujade left him in charge of his branch grocery store in Silver Reef.⁷

Peter had moved to Arizona and married Alice about 1880 and had one daughter.⁸ In 1881, he was a jeweler in Cochise, Arizona,⁹ and was registered to vote there.¹⁰ On the 1882 Arizona census, he was a jeweler living in Cochise County.¹¹ By 1900, Peter, his wife and daughter were living in San Francisco, San Francisco, California, where he was working as a jeweler.¹² It is not known when or where Peter or Alice died.

Research by Elaine Young, Silver Reef Foundation historian, 2017
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¹ New York Passenger Lists, 1822-1957; New York, Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1820-1850.

² United States Census, 1850.

³ Iowa State Census, 1856.

⁴ *Pioche Daily Record*, 30 January 1874.

⁵ Nevada State Census, 1875.

⁶ *Pioche Tri-Weekly Record*, 17 November 1876, p. 3.

⁷ *Silver, Sinners and Saints*, by Proctor and Shirts, 1991, p. 49.

⁸ United States Census, 1900.

⁹ Arizona, Voter Registrations, 1866-1955.

¹⁰ Arizona Voter Registrations, 1866-1955.

¹¹ *Ibid*; Arizona Territorial Census Records, 1864-1882.

¹² United States Census, 1900.