

Duberstein Background

My paternal grandparents met in Minsk, Russia where my grandmother (a Beigelman) was working in a house with Riva Blacher who introduced her to son Alter Duberstein. They were married. Their first child and only daughter Mary was born in 1903 in Russia. My grandfather had already served in the Russian military as a draftee and was about to be conscripted again. It appears from research that many relatives on both sides of the families were building networks for successful immigration to the United States.

Alter arrived in New York in 1904 with a Laschow cousin listed on the passenger list as a relative. (The Laschows were your grandfather's aunt and uncle on his mother's side.) Before leaving Russia, my grandfather's family had arranged for my grandfather, Isaac (known as Alter) to travel from New York to Boston where another relative (the Isgurs) were working for a cornice company. He worked for that company too. In 1906, my paternal grandmother and my great-grandmother Riva Blacher Duberstein Levitman arrived in Boston. My grandparents produced 5 additional children - - sons. My father was the youngest born in 1915.

My grandfather died in 1945 at the age of 69. My middle sister Eileen (There are three of us in all with me being the oldest born in 1943.) was born in 1947 and named for him.