



AZUBA SMITH 7195
Research Report

Prepared for
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April 2015

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RESEARCH REPORT

OBJECTIVES

The client's objective is to determine the parents and ancestry of Azuba (possible maiden name Smith), the mother of Milo Andrus. It appears to be undisputed that Milo Andrus (1814-1894), a prominent figure in the LDS Church and in the establishment of Utah and Idaho, was the son of Ruluf Andrus and his wife Azuba. Most previous research has focused on Milo and his father's Andrus family line, and attempts to locate facts about Azuba and her ancestry have been limited.

In this project, the client wanted a fresh look at the question of Azuba's origins, in the hope that new perspectives might reveal information and sources about her ancestry that previous researchers had overlooked. Thus it was necessary to make a careful analysis of previous research and beliefs about Azuba, before moving forward with new research. It is important to review some of the previous scholarship, and to clarify the known facts, assumptions, and working hypotheses that guided this project, so to put the results of this research session in context.

KNOWN FACTS and WORKING HYPOTHESES

The inscription on Azuba's gravestone at the Andress Cemetery, Henrietta township, Lorain County, Ohio, is: "Azubah, wife of Ruluf Andress Born 1777 and died 1832 age 55 years 4 months."¹ Her age at death was consistent with birth in 1777. Little else was known with certainty about Azuba.

¹ Ancestry.com tree link provided by client, the "LauraKayAnderson" tree, <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/38216267/person/19203253168>, provides a photo of the gravestone in the profile for Azuba Smith; see also FindaGrave.com, Memorial #20884120, found in pre-research. Document 1.



At the start of this project, it appeared that promising leads for further research about Azuba might be found in records purportedly created by Azuba's son, Milo Andrus. For example, a timeline posted at the "LauraKayAnderson" tree at Ancestry.com, in the profile of Ruluf Andrus ("Ruluf time line") quotes from or abstracts portions of an autobiography of Milo Andrus. The timeline states that this autobiography was written between 1870 and 1874; (the autobiography may be the same as cited in sources at the timeline page of MiloAndrus.org.)²

² Under "Sources" at "Timeline of Milo Andrus' Life," Official Site of the Milo Andrus Family Organization, <http://miloandrus.org/milo-timeline/>, accessed Feb 2015, is: Andrus, Milo, "Autobiographical Sketch." In *Milo*

The autobiography identifies Milo's parents, states that his mother's name was Azuba Smith, and describes the family's migrations and the parents' deaths, including:

Milo Andrus, the author of this biography, is the son of Ruluf Andrus and Azuba Smith. My father is a native of Hartford, Connecticut, and my mother of Rutland, Vermont. . . . They shortly after marriage . . . moved to Essex County . . . state of New York. . . . My parents then moved up the lake into the state of Ohio, . . . township of Henrietta. . . . My mother died January 1st, 1830.

Although the death date for Milo's mother Azuba was 1832, according to the gravestone inscription (discussed above), it can be presumed that Milo probably knew his mother's maiden name, and thus the autobiography may be strong circumstantial evidence of that fact. Milo may not have been correct about his father's birthplace (although Ruluf's origins probably were in Connecticut); in any case, Milo's autobiography probably is the basis for the assumption by some of his descendants that Azuba was born in Rutland, Vermont. However, that birthplace also has been questioned by researchers. No birth record has been found (although official records of births from early Vermont are scarce), and Rutland was a dangerous area during the Revolutionary War; many people had fled the town and county by 1777.³

It is also widely reported in previous family accounts that Azuba married Ruluf Andrus at Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, in 1795. No documentation appears to be available about the marriage.⁴ The date and place may be an assumption based on the likely birthdate of the oldest child, Sybil, and the family's residence at Poultney by 1800. A "Rufus" Andrus appears in the 1800 U.S. Census for Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont⁵ (see bottom line of the image

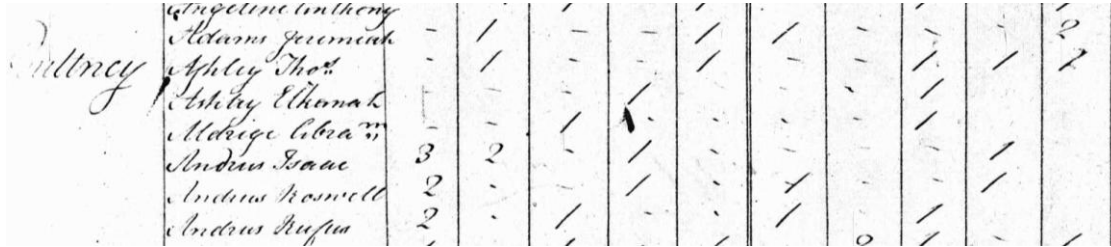
Andrus Genealogy. Edited by Milo Andrus, Jr. Reprinted in *Andrus Recorder* 1, no. 1 (Oct. 1964).

³ A source provided by Genealogists.com, "The History of Ruluf Andrus" (date and author not indicated), stated, p. 7, that a "thorough reading of Rutland (City or Township) Vermont records revealed no information concerning an Azubah Smith born in or near Rutland, Vermont in 1777," and that "Rutland birth and Church records fail to mention Azubah Smith." No sources were cited for those birth and church records. The same report cited *History of Rutland, Vermont* (but no page or detailed source citation), for the information that "Rutland was abandoned in 1777 as Burgoyne swept Americans south to Bennington and Saratoga, New York. Rutland was not reoccupied by Americans until about 1778." See Calvin-Andrus-Research.pdf, provided by Nancy Douglas.

⁴ A 1 November 2013 research report about Ruluf Andrus by Genealogists.com indicated, pp. 9-11, that no vital records were found for Poultney prior to 1864, and no marriage record was found in research about Rutland City and Rutland area church records. However, that report lists several possible sources that apparently were *not* searched, including Poultney and Rutland town clerks and historical societies, West Parish Church records of Rutland, and New England Historic Genealogical Society sources. See Andrus Final Report.pdf, provided by Nancy Douglas.

⁵ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 186, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Feb 2015); in Ruluf Andrus' profile at the "LauraKayAnderson" tree at Ancestry.com. Document 2.

below) with 2 males under 10, 1 male 16-25, 1 female under 10, and 1 female 16-25 (Azuba would have been about 23).



Name	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age	Age
Elizabeth Anthony	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Adam Jeremiah	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Abigail Thos	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Abigail Elkanah	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alldridge Libra	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Andrus Isaac	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Andrus Roswell	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Andrus Rufus	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Another source mentioned in the “Ruluf time line” is a journal of Milo Andrus, and an entry purportedly made by him on 15 October 1849, while he was in Liverpool, England.⁶ In the journal entry, Milo reported receiving a letter from Ohio:

... bringing the news of the death of my father who departed this life on the 1849, 27th of June, ... in the Township of Henrietta, Lorain Co., Ohio. He was buried by the side of my [m]other, who departed this life on the 1 Jan 1831 in the township of Norwalk, Huron Co., Ohio, in the fifty-seventh year of her age. ... They are interred in the Church yard in Henrietta near my brother’s house.

Again, although the date of his mother’s death and her age are not quite the same as the gravestone, Milo’s account of the burial place is basically consistent with the gravestone evidence. (If Azuba’s age was 57 in 1831, however, her birth year could have been as early as 1774.) Azuba’s death location also is consistent with census evidence, since husband Ruluf’s household (with a female of the right age to be Azuba) was enumerated in the 1830 U.S. census at Norwalk, Huron County, Ohio.⁷

Evidence identifying Azuba’s parents—widely reported by previous researchers as John Smith and his wife Sarah—was more speculative, but it was considered at the beginning of this project that a promising source on that issue might be records of early baptisms performed by Milo Andrus. Those baptisms, and other possible leads, were mentioned (without source citations) by a previous researcher who corresponded with the Genealogists.com. The following are excerpts from that researcher’s comments:

⁶ Although no source citation for the journal is provided in the timeline at Ancestry.com, the timeline at MiloAndrus.org indicates that Milo was in Liverpool between 1848 and 1850. It appears that the journal has been transcribed and is available at MiloAndrus.org; see “Identified Sources,” below.

⁷ 1830 U.S. Federal Census, Norwalk, Huron Co., OH, NARA Roll M19_133, p. 331; Ancestry.com, accessed Feb 2015; in Ruluf Andrus’ profile at the “LauraKayAnderson” tree at Ancestry.com.

Azuba Smith is the daughter of John and Sarah Smith. Milo did the baptism in Nauvoo for his grandparents John and Sarah and for his cousin Smith Hancock son of Uriah and Polly (Smith) Hancock. John had land across the street from where Ruluf did. So in order to have a family for Azuba you have to fit Polly into that family. Many of the family have taken a family that has 2 Azubas in it already and stuck our Azuba in it and taken that family way back but the only hard facts that we have are the ones mentioned above.

By the way Milo Andrus was not born in Wilmington in 1814 as Wilmington was organized out of Jay Essex [New York] in 1822. I do believe he was born on John and Sarah's farm as Ruluf had lost his rented farm just 6 weeks before Milo's birth and John and Sarah are right across the street. One last thing there I think it is James Smith living next to Ruluf and Azuba in the 1800 census who is living next to Uriah and Polly in the 1810. He is also listed in a document getting Ruluf out of jail with John Smith. If you can find Azuba and Polly in a family that would be the correct one . . . [The previous researcher stated that no such family had been found, despite much research in Vermont and in Essex County (presumably New York).]

The previous researcher's comments suggested that baptisms performed by Milo, in Nauvoo, Illinois, identified his grandparents as John and Sarah Smith. It was assumed, at the start of this project, that those baptisms probably occurred between 1842 (there is evidence that Milo was living at Nauvoo by that year)⁸ and 1846 (when Milo moved to Iowa).⁹ If Milo did indeed identify the names and relationships of his grandparents and cousin in these baptisms, that would be important circumstantial evidence of Azuba's family origins. Although Milo's grandparents undoubtedly had been long deceased by the time of the baptisms, Milo was of an age that he may have known his grandparents personally, and could be assumed to know their names.

Milo's purported cousin, Smith Hancock, was born 1799 and died 1831 (buried at the same Henrietta township, Lorain County, Ohio cemetery as Azuba, according to a gravestone photo in the "LauraKayAnderson" tree at Ancestry.com). Milo would have been a teenager when Smith Hancock died, and could be assumed to have known him personally (and his relationship to the family). If Milo identified Smith Hancock as a cousin in a baptism, that could be circumstantial evidence that Smith's mother was a sister of Milo's mother, Azuba, and further evidence for the Smith maiden name. The "LauraKayAnderson" tree shows Smith Hancock's parents as Polly or

⁸ Nauvoo, Illinois Tax Index, 1842, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Feb 2015); in Milo Andrus' profile at the "LauraKayAnderson" tree at Ancestry.com.

⁹ <http://miloandrus.org/milo-timeline/>, accessed Feb 2015.

Mary Smith and Uriah Hancock (but does not cite sources for their marriage or for Smith's birth, although the tree states that Smith Hancock was born at Granville, Essex County, New York).¹⁰

As noted above, the previous researcher refers to 1800 and 1810 census records that might provide circumstantial evidence of Azuba's purported Smith relatives. Although the 1800 U.S. Census for Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, shows a "Rufus" Andrus household,¹¹ that census enumerated households alphabetically, and no James Smith is shown "living next to Ruluf and Azuba," as suggested by the previous researcher. (James Smith does not appear anywhere in the 1800 census for Poultney, although there are other Smith households listed in the "S" section of the 1800 census for that town, as discussed in the "Results" section of this report.) The "LauraKayAnderson" tree lists a James Smith as a speculative brother of Azuba and Polly, and a birth year for him of 1780, but sources posted at the tree do not appear to support that birthdate.¹² The "LauraKayAnderson" tree has no 1810 census record for Uriah Hancock or James Smith. Perhaps the previous researcher had reviewed land records or other sources that might provide support for the identity of Ruluf and Azuba's neighbors at Poultney in 1800, or records about Uriah Hancock and a James Smith in 1810, but those were not available in preparing the research plan for this project, nor was the "document getting Ruluf out of jail with John Smith."

The "LauraKayAnderson" tree shows a John Smith born 1740 and wife Sarah born 1745, both at Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, but those dates and place appear to be entirely speculative, and no sources are cited. (Note: Poultney was established in 1761,¹³ and although some settlers may have arrived earlier, it is unlikely that Poultney could have been the

¹⁰ Previous research cited in "The History of Ruluf Andrus" (date and author not indicated), p. 8, cites a birth record for Uriah Hancock (VR Litchfield, CT, Barbour Index, Vol. 1, p. 141), see Calvin-Andrus-Research.pdf, provided by Nancy Douglas of Genealogists.com.

¹¹ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 186, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Feb 2015); in Ruluf Andrus' profile at the "LauraKayAnderson" tree at Ancestry.com. Document 2. *Note:* Ancestry.com's citation for this record states that it is a census record for the town of "Pitsford," and the record appears online as the last of 17 census pages for Pittsford, but the record clearly shows that it was for the town of Poultney (spelled "Pultney" on the original document). That page, with the "Rufus" Andrus household, is missing at the beginning of the Poultney set of census records at Ancestry.com, which begins with "B" names; obviously Ancestry.com posted the "A" entries with the wrong town.

¹² James Smith's profile in the tree posts a typed page from Middletown, Rutland County, Vermont Extracts From Land Records, Volume 1 & 2, 1785-1813, p. 94 (from Rutland Free Library, Rutland, VT) which refers to a marriage of a "___es Smith" to wife Hannah in 1780. That record does not appear to be obviously relevant to the issue of Azuba's parents and family, or to support birth of a brother of Azuba's in 1780 named James. Other entries on that page refer to a James Smith and Caleb Smith, but little detail.

¹³ Michael J. Leclerc, ed., *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*, 5th ed. (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2012), p. 390.

birthplace for John and Sarah Smith, if indeed there was such a couple, or any English colonists born in the 1740s.)

Other researchers also have considered the possibility that a John Smith and wife Sarah were Azuba's parents, and apparently have searched for evidence about Smiths in Rutland County, Vermont (although it does not appear that previous Vermont research about Azuba's ancestry was extensive). For example, "The History of Ruluf Andress" stated that "there were several prominent Smith families (Samuel, John, and John Jr.) in the Rutland area which were listed in the 1790 Vermont Census" (probably referring to the U.S. Federal Census for that year, but no sources were cited). That report also stated that "an I. (J? for John or James?) Smith . . . is listed as owning a plot of land in Rutland, a subdivision of Judge Sam William's Farm, on North Main Street," according to a 1790 deed plan.¹⁴

That same report noted previous theories that Azuba's parents were John Smith (1751) and Azuba June (1753) of Stamford, Connecticut, and that a James Smith and Azubah Gunn were married at Westfield (Massachusetts?) in 1734, but there appears to be no evidence to strongly connect them with Azuba, the mother of Milo. An earlier research report pointed out that Ruluf and Azuba named their second daughter Sarah, speculating that the naming pattern was consistent with the possibility that Azuba's mother also was named Sarah.¹⁵

Based on this extensive review of previous research, which showed that few definite facts were known about Milo's mother, Azuba, this project began with several working hypotheses:

- Azuba's maiden name was Smith.
- Azuba was born about 1777 (or possibly as early as 1774). Her birthplace may have been in the Rutland County, Vermont area, and/or she was living there by the time of her marriage to Ruluf Andrus about 1795.
- Azuba died at Norwalk, Huron County, Ohio (but was buried at Henrietta, Lorain County, Ohio). She may have died on 1 January 1832, or possibly 1830 or 1831.
- Azuba's parents may have been named John and Sarah Smith.
- Azuba may have had a sister named Polly (or Mary) Smith, who married Uriah Hancock; they may have had a son named Smith Hancock.

¹⁴ "The History of Ruluf Andress" (date and author not indicated), p. 7, see Calvin-Andrus-Research.pdf, provided by Nancy Douglas of Genealogists.com. The source cited for the deed was Robert West, ed., *Rutland in Retrospect* (Rutland Historical Society, 1978).

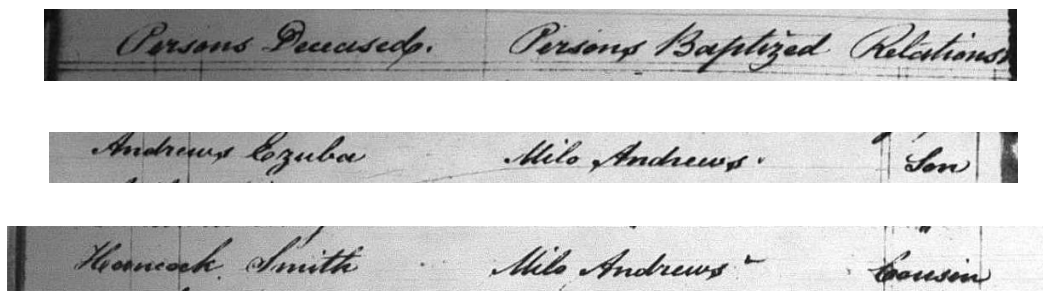
¹⁵ 17 May 1996 research report, p. 4, see Craig Jensen previous research.pdf, provided by Nancy Douglas of Genealogists.com.

RESULTS

Nauvoo Baptism Records

As a first step to try to verify whether Azuba's maiden name was Smith, and to determine whether there might be documentary proof for the persistent belief that her parents were John and Sarah Smith, a search was made for records of the early baptisms purportedly performed by Milo Andrus in Nauvoo, Illinois. A previous researcher claimed, as discussed above, that Milo performed baptisms there for his grandparents and a cousin, which if true, could provide important circumstantial evidence of Milo's beliefs about these relatives at a time when Milo would be presumed to remember the names.

The early Nauvoo Temple "Baptisms for the Dead" were indexed, and only two baptisms performed by Milo "Andrews" were found,¹⁶ both in the years 1840 to 1841. One baptism for his mother, "Ezuba Andrews," and the other was for Smith Hancock, specifically identified as Milo's cousin.¹⁷



No baptisms by Milo for his grandparents, however, were found in the Nauvoo baptism records. Although many Smiths were baptized at Nauvoo,¹⁸ including a John and Sarah Smith baptized by their nephew, Joshua Smith,¹⁹ there appeared to be no obvious connection or relationship with Milo. Thus, it appears that the previous researcher's contention—that Milo baptized grandparents John and Sarah Smith at Nauvoo—was incorrect, and the baptism records provide no direct evidence on the issues of Azuba's maiden name or the names of her

¹⁶ Baptisms for the dead, 1840-1845, Nauvoo Temple, Index to Proxies, FHL #485753, item 2, Index 2, "A" entries, Family History Library; accessed Feb 2015. Document 3.

¹⁷ Baptisms for the dead, 1840-1845, Nauvoo Temple, Vol. A, 1840-41, pp. 7, 47, FHL #183376, Family History Library; accessed Feb 2015. Documents 4a, 4b.

¹⁸ Ibid., pp. 333-341.

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 338. Document 4c.

parents. However, since Milo clearly identified Smith Hancock as his cousin, further research about that relationship and Smith Hancock's family may provide leads to Azuba's ancestry. The unusual first name, Smith, provides circumstantial evidence that his mother—and Azuba—may have been Smiths.

Early New York Research

Although Azuba is believed to have been born in Vermont, and to have married Ruluf Andrus in the Poultney area, where the family was living at the time of the 1800 census, they soon moved to Essex County, New York. In the interests of a fresh approach to the search for Azuba's ancestry, some time was spent investigating early New York resources, since it was not clear whether previous researchers might have overlooked clues about Azuba in records from the period between the family's New York residence and their move to Ohio. For example, since relatives often migrated together, possibly some of Azuba's kin relocated with the Andrus family from Vermont to New York.

By the time of the 1810 census, the Ruluf Andrus family was living at the town of Jay, in Essex County, New York:²⁰ 2 males under 10, 2 males 10-15, 1 male 26-44, 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-15, 1 female 26-44 (if Azuba was born in 1777, she would have been about 33 years old). On the theory that Azuba's maiden name might have been Smith (perhaps strengthened by the baptism evidence that Smith Hancock was Milo's cousin), the 1810 Jay census was examined for the presence of other Smiths who might have been Azuba's relatives. Several Smiths appeared on the same page of the census with the Ruluf Andrus household:

- James Smith (immediately below Ruluf, although the position on the census page did not necessarily mean that they lived next to each other): 3 males under 10, 1 male 26-44, 2 females under 10, 1 female 10-15, 1 female 26-44. The adults in this household were the same age range as Ruluf and Azuba. Was James a possible brother of Azuba? (Previous researchers have theorized that she had a brother named James Smith.)



Ruluf Andrus	2	2	"	1	"	1	1	"	1	"	"	40
James Smith	3	"	"	1	"	2	1	"	1	"	"	40

Other Smiths, above Ruluf Andrus and James Smith, were:

- John Smith: 1 male 16-25, 2 females under 10, 1 female 16-25, another young family.

²⁰ 1810 U.S. Federal Census, Jay, Essex Co., NY, NARA Roll M252_27, p. 19 (image 2 of 4), *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Mar 2015). Document 5a.

- Timothy Smith: 1 male under 10, 2 males 10-15, 1 male 16-25, 1 male 45-over, 1 female under 10, 2 females 15-25, 1 female 45-over. Could the elder male and female in this household be the parents of the others Smiths at the town of Jay?

One more Smith (with family members in Ruluf and Azuba's age range) appeared on another page of the census, the Adna Smith household: 1 male under 10, 1 male 26-44, 1 female under 10, 1 female 16-25, 1 female 26-44.²¹

Since land records sometimes provide clues about family relationships, Essex County land records also were reviewed,²² but no early deeds that appeared to involve any of these Smiths were found. Only one deed for Ruluf was found, by which he sold land at Jay in 1808, but that record had been transcribed by previous researchers and did not appear to provide leads about Azuba's ancestry.

A search of Essex County probate records was similarly inconclusive.²³ Although an 1842 will for a David Smith of the town of Jay was found and reviewed,²⁴ there appeared to be no obvious connection with Azuba or any of the Smiths in the 1810 census. Other Essex County resources were explored, including a published county history, and newspaper abstracts; see the notes in the accompanying Research Calendar for further detail about the probate research. More Essex County and early New York resources were identified for possible future review, but since no promising leads had emerged, another approach to the research was attempted.

Newspaper Obituaries

It was not clear whether previous researchers had attempted to find newspaper obituaries for Azuba or her children (particularly the oldest children born in Vermont or New York), which might provide family lore or new clues about Azuba's ancestry. In recent years, many old newspapers are being indexed or posted online, making obituaries more accessible to

²¹ 1810 U.S. Federal Census, Jay, Essex Co., NY, NARA Roll M252_27, (image 1 of 4), *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Mar 2015). Document 5b.

²² The earliest grantee and grantor indexes with entries for Andrus, Andrews, and Smith were copied for future reference: New York, Land Records, 1630-1975, Essex County, Grantee Index 1800-1873, Vol. 1, 1800-1852, *FamilySearch.org* (www.familysearch.org; accessed Mar 2015), Documents 6a, 6b; and New York, Land Records, 1630-1975, Essex County, Grantor Index 1800-1873, Vol. 1, 1800-1852, *FamilySearch.org* (www.familysearch.org; accessed Mar 2015), Documents 7a, 7b.

²³ The Smith entries in the Essex County "Will and Letter Index" were copied for future reference. New York, Probate Records, 1629-1971, Essex County, Will and letter index 1799-1938, *FamilySearch.org* (www.familysearch.org; accessed Mar 2015). Document 8.

²⁴ New York, Probate Records, 1629-1971, Essex County, Wills 1843-1852, Vol. C-D, C: 310-14, *FamilySearch.org* (www.familysearch.org; accessed Mar 2015).

researchers. One of the best sources for finding Ohio obituaries is the Ohio Obituary Index²⁵ of the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center Library in Fremont, Ohio, which includes newspapers from as early as 1810, and counties such as Lorain, Erie, and Huron, where Azuba, Ruluf, and some of their children lived and died.

No obituaries records were found for Azuba, Ruluf, or their eldest children known to have died in Ohio, nor was an obituary located for Milo's cousin, Smith Hancock. However, the Ohio Obituary Index had listings for two obituaries of Azuba and Ruluf's son Almon, who died at Birmingham, Ohio in 1884, and copies of those records were obtained. Unfortunately neither of those obituaries mentioned Almon's parents. One of the obituaries, in the *Sandusky Daily Register*,²⁶ called him "one of the old pioneers." The obituary in the *Norwalk Daily Reflector*²⁷ noted that Almon had been a member of the "Disciple church" in that town since he was eleven years old. Since Almon was born about 1800, this record suggests that Almon was a member of the Disciple church since 1811, implying that he and his family moved to Ohio earlier than previously believed.²⁸ The obituary may be incorrect about the years, but if Almon and his parents had a long association with that church, perhaps there are church records, or other records from the town of Birmingham, that might provide leads about Azuba's ancestry.

One more obituary was found, of Azuba and Ruluf's son, Orin Andress, who died October 1874 at Winterset, Iowa.²⁹ That record mentioned nothing of his parents or ancestry.

Vermont Resources

While further research in New York or Ohio resources may ultimately yield leads about Azuba's origins, it seemed prudent to turn some attention in this project to the place where the earliest records of the Ruluf Andrus family have been found: Rutland County, Vermont. Their household

²⁵ Ohio Obituary Index, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, (<http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/index.asp>: accessed Mar 2015).

²⁶ "Birmingham," *Sandusky Daily Register*, 24 Jun 1884, p. 4, col. 5; obituary of Alon Andress, obtained from Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Mar 2015. Document 9.

²⁷ "Birmingham," *Norwalk Daily Reflector*, 23 Jun 1884, p. 4, col. 4; obituary of Almon Andress, obtained from Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Mar 2015. Document 10.

²⁸ According to the "Ruluf time line" posted at Laura Anderson tree at Ancestry.com, "History of the Henrietta Baptist Church" states that "Ruluff Andress and family came from New York State in 1817." This suggests that the obituary about Almon was incorrect about how long he had been a member of the Disciple church in Ohio. Was the Disciple Church related to the Henrietta Baptist Church?

²⁹ *The Winterset Madisonian*, 15 Oct 1874, p. 5, col. 2, Digital Archives of the Winterset Public Library, (<http://winterset.advantage-preservation.com/>: accessed Mar 2015). Document 11.

was enumerated in the 1800 census at Poultney, Vermont,³⁰ it is family tradition that Azuba and Ruluf were married there about 1795, and their son Almon's death record states that he was born at Poultney (about 1800).³¹ Previous Vermont research about Azuba's ancestry does not appear to have been extensive, yet there are many early Vermont resources available to trace early families of that region. Thus, a start was made, in the time remaining for this project, to see whether new leads about Azuba's origins could be generated in Vermont.

Continuing with the working hypothesis that Azuba's maiden name might have been Smith, and considering the possibility that she was born in the Poultney area or living there about the time of her marriage, further research focused on early Smiths at Poultney who might have been family members. According to an old published history of Poultney, a James Smith Jr. was among the residents who signed a petition there on 14 June 1773, urging the settlement of a midwife in the community.³² Since Azuba was born between about 1774 and 1777, James Smith Jr. could be a candidate for her father; James' wife may have been of childbearing age and needing the services of a midwife.

**“POULTNEY, June the 14—Y. 1773.
“WE, the Subscribers that have hereunto set our hands, have
Covennanted as follows: for To Bare our Equelle Part in giving**

³⁰ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 186, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Feb 2015). Document 2.

³¹ Certified Copy of Death Record for Almon Andress, from Vol. 2, p. 37, Erie Co., OH; image posted Laura Anderson tree at *Ancestry.com*. Document 12.

³² J. Joslin, B. Frisbie and F. Ruggles, *A History of the Town of Poultney, Vermont, from its Settlement to the Year 1875, with Family and Biographical Sketches and Incidents* (Poultney, Vt.: Journal Printing Office, 1875), pp. 25, 26. Document 13.

one fifty acres of Land out of our undevied Land or Cays, To Be Payd in some sort of Murchantabell Speesheys our Equaletey, for the Settlement of a Midwife. If those that Dont Bare their Part in Land, they are To Pay thare Part to those that Let the Land grow, and the Speeshay for To Be Paid In three Months from the Time the Land Is given. As Witness our hands,

Ebenezer Allen,	Elkanah Ashley,	Elijah Owen,
Ebenezer Hyde, Jr.,	Enoch Ashley,	Joseph Hyde,
Seth Allen,	Robert Green,	Zebulon Tubbs,
Henry Adams,	Ichabald Marshall,	John Owen,
John Tilden,	Heber Allen,	Isaac Ashley,
John Richards,	James Brookins,	Azel Holms,
John Ashley,	John Grant,	Isaac Craw,
Thomas Goodwin,	Thomas Ashley,	Cotton Fletcher,
James Hyde,	James Smith, Jr.,	Jacob How.
	Zebadiah Dewey,	

Although many early Poultney tax lists of town residents were destroyed in a fire, a list dated 4 October 1781 survives, with three Smith names—James, John, and Nathaniel (the latter identified as one of the “Listers,” probably a town officer)—and the amounts of their taxable estate.³³

“STATE OF VERMONT.

“ *Poultney, October 4, A. D. 1781.*

“A List of the Poles and Rateable Estate of the Inhabitants of said Town, maid up by us,

ABISHAI MOSELEY,	} <i>Listers</i> <i>under</i> <i>Oath.</i>
WILLIAM HOOKER,	
NATHANIEL SMITH,	

Smith, James	.	.	.	17	0	0
“ John	.	.	.	35	10	0
“ Nathaniel	.	.	.	36	0	0

³³ Ibid., p. 43. Document 13.

All of those men would have been adults, and since Azuba would have been a young child in 1781, it is possible that one of those men was her father—perhaps John Smith, consistent with family lore.

Another publication, titled *Vermont 1771 Census*, but actually a distillation of records from many sources, listed many early Vermont Smiths,³⁴ including three at Poultney: James Smith Jr. (who signed a petition in 1773, undoubtedly the petition noted above), and James Smith and Nathaniel Smith (both Poultney residents in 1777, source not cited). Further review of the Smiths cited in this publication, in other towns, may be helpful.

Previous researchers have discounted the possibility that Azuba could have been born at Poultney or Rutland County in 1777, since many people fled the town and county in that year due to the dangers of the Revolutionary War. However, as shown in well-researched books by local Vermont author Margaret R. Jenks about early Poultney families, Azuba's birth at Poultney in 1777 would not have been impossible or improbable; people were still living at Poultney in 1777, although the women and children of the town all fled on 6 July 1777 when word came that Burgoyne's army was approaching. Jenks' publications provide much information and resources to reconstruct the families of early Poultney (although there was not time to follow up on all of these leads). As Jenks explained the circumstances in 1777:

In the summer of 1777, all the men of town, except one, an invalid, had joined Ethan Allen at Hubbardton as Burgoyne and the Indians moved south. One Sunday afternoon while the women and children were at church, word reached town that the men were retreating and the women should evacuate. Most started off toward Bennington without even going home for provisions.... They stopped in Pawlet on the way to Bennington. When the Battle of Bennington began, they moved on to Pownal, and most continued from there to their old homes in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The men arrived home in Poultney, and finding the women gone, gathered provisions and headed for Bennington to join their wives and children. Most were engaged in the Battle of Bennington. After the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga, the settlers gradually returned to Poultney.³⁵

According to Jenks, in her fascinating book, *The Women and Children of Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, Fleeing Burgoyne's Forces, 6 July, 1777*,³⁶ "Poultney tradition says thirteen

³⁴ Jay Mack Holbrook, *Vermont 1771 Census* (Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1982), pp. 78-79. Helpful information about Vermont resources is included in the introduction to this book, and a few Andrews/Andros/Andrus names appear in the listings, which also were copied for reference. Document 14.

³⁵ Margaret R. Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions Rutland County Vermont* (Granville, N.Y.: by author, 1996), p. vii; excerpts copied and provided with this report. Document 15.

³⁶ Margaret R. Jenks, comp., *The Women and Children of Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, Fleeing*

women fled with their children on Sunday, 6 July 1777. Only twelve are listed in the *History of Poultney...*,³⁷ including Mrs. Nathaniel Smith,³⁷ although Jenks believes that many more women and children fled Poultney that day. Excerpts of this book, which have been copied and provided with the report for future reference, indicate that Nathaniel Smith was a surveyor, who came to Poultney about 1773-1774 with his brother James and settled in the north part of the town. Nathaniel and his family evidently returned to Poultney after 1777, since Nathaniel was an appraiser of an estate there in 1779, and his wife, possibly Abigail Richards, was believed to have died about 1800, but Jenks noted no information about their children.³⁸ Jenks believed that James Smith Jr. of Poultney had three sons: Daniel, Peter, and Bliss (born between 1774-1781).³⁹ She noted brief information about other Smiths who may have had some connections with Poultney, including:

- Amelia Smith, who married Azariah Dewey (b. 1765-1832, son of a Poultney family).⁴⁰
- Azuba Smith, wife of Oliver Cleveland of Fair Haven, whose daughter Anna Cleveland married John Lewis (1763-1827, son of another Poultney family).⁴¹ Obviously this Azuba was not the same as Azuba who married Ruluf Andrus, but could Azuba have been family name repeated by Smiths who lived in early Vermont,⁴² suggesting that this woman was a relative?
- Orange Smith, of Swanton and Highgate, Vermont, who married Lucy Allen (born 1773, daughter of Poultney family Sarah Owen and Heber Allen, Ethan Allen's brother).⁴³

Since at least some of the Poultney soldiers and their families who fled in 1777 eventually returned to the town (including Nathaniel Smith, who was back by 1779), Azuba may have been among the Smith families who were living in Poultney at the time of the 1790 U.S. census (about five years before her marriage). A review of that census⁴⁴ indicates that several Smiths were residents of Poultney in 1790 (although no Andrus/Andrews names). All the Smith households included females (no ages noted for females in the 1790 census). Interestingly,

Burgoyne's Forces, 6 July, 1777 (Granville, N.Y.: by author, 2005), p. 1; excerpts copied and provided with this report. Document 16.

³⁷ *History of the Town of Poultney, Vermont*, p. 38. Document 13.

³⁸ *The Women and Children of Poultney*, pp. 15, 18, 19, 25. Document 16.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 27. Document 16.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 5. Document 16.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 12. Document 16.

⁴² Another Azuba Smith, who married Origin Packard, was found in the index to a another useful Vermont resource, Abby Maria Hemenway, ed., *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, 6 vols. with index (Burlington, Vt.: by author, 1868-91), citing v. pt. 3³, 20, but there was not enough time to follow up on that possible lead.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, pp. 23-24. Document 16.

⁴⁴ 1790 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M637_12, pp. 244-46, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Apr 2015). Documents 17a, 17b.

there was one female-headed Smith household, a Sarah Smith, perhaps a widow (maybe wife of the John Smith who appeared in the 1781 tax list but did not appear in the 1790 census?). The Smith households included:⁴⁵

- Ebenezer Smith, 1 male 16-over, 3 females
- James Smith, 2 males under 16, 2 males 16-over, 1 female
- Joel Smith, 4 males under 16, 1 male 16-over, 2 females
- Nathaniel Smith, 1 male under 16, 1 male 16-over, 5 females
- Peter Smith, 1 male under 16, 1 male 16-over, 8 females
- Sarah Smith, 1 male under 16, 2 females

By the time of the 1800 census, when the Ruluf and Azuba were married and living at Poultney,⁴⁶ there were still several Smith households at Poultney, including Ebenezer and Joel, although the other names from the 1790 census, including Sarah Smith, no longer appeared. Perhaps Sarah, James, Nathaniel, and Peter had died or relocated. An intriguing possibility, since a James Smith was found in the 1810 census at Jay, Essex County, New York, enumerated next to Ruluf's household, is that James Smith of Poultney relocated to New York in advance of Ruluf and Azuba, and they followed him.

One page of the 1800 Poultney census listed these Smith households:⁴⁷

- Dan^{II} Smith household, 2 males under 10, 1 male 16-25, 2 females under 10, 1 female 10-15
- Ebeⁿ Smith household, 1 male 16-25, 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-15, 1 female

Another page listed these Smiths:⁴⁸

- Joel Smith household, 4 males under 10, 1 male 10-15, 2 males 16-25, 1 male 26-44, 1 female under 10, 1 female 16-25
- Ezra Smith household, 2 males under 10, 1 male 26-44, [*two columns beyond this 26-44 male is another male – not clear how old, since 45-over should be the column before*], 1 female 10-15

⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 246. Document 17b.

⁴⁶ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 186, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Feb 2015). Document 2.

⁴⁷ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 198, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Apr 2015). Document 18a.

⁴⁸ 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Poultney, Rutland Co., VT, NARA Roll M32_52, p. 199, *Ancestry.com*, subscription database (www.ancestry.com; accessed Apr 2015). Document 18b.

- Joseph Smith household, 1 male under 10, 1 male 26-44 [*followed by 3 males two columns beyond, evidently 45-over?*], 2 females under 10, 1 female 16-25. *Note: It appears that Ancestry.com may have incorrectly abstracted both Ezra and Joseph Smith's households.*

In the time available, other leads were found in Rutland County, Vermont probate abstracts and Poultney cemetery inscriptions, which might ultimately help, with more research, to determine whether any of these Smiths could have been related to the Azuba who married Ruluf Andrus. Abstracts of Rutland County probate records for the Fairhaven District⁴⁹ (which would include Poultney) and the Rutland District,⁵⁰ were copied for future reference, since there were many Smith entries in the index, as well as Andrew and Andrus entries, which might be relevant. Although there was not enough time to review these records closely, 1808 probate for a Capt. Nathaniel Smith of Pawlet was found, which mentioned a widow Abigail but no heir named Azuba;⁵¹ perhaps he was the same as the Nathaniel Smith of Poultney. Similarly, abstracts of Poultney cemetery inscriptions listed many Smith, Andrus and Andrews graves, which may provide leads.⁵²

Summary

Although no definite conclusions could be reached, as a result of this project, about the identity of Azuba's parents and ancestry, many new leads and documentation were found that may help to advance the research.

Nauvoo baptism records provided no support for the contention by previous researchers that Milo Andrus baptized and identified his grandparents, but a baptism there of Milo's cousin, Smith Hancock, was a helpful lead. His Smith first name provides strong circumstantial evidence that the maiden name of Milo's mother could have been Smith.

Research in early New York records, and obituaries of family members, was inconclusive, but also provided possible leads. The most promising leads, however, appeared in early Vermont resources, which indicated that several Smith households were present at Poultney before and after Azuba's birth, up to at least 1800. A John Smith was a taxpayer at Poultney in 1781, when

⁴⁹ Margaret R. Jenks, *Rutland County, Vermont Probate Extracts, Fairhaven District*, Part 1., Vols. 3-6, 8, 10, 1797-1818 (Granville, N.Y.: by author, 2007); excerpts copied for reference. Document 19.

⁵⁰ Margaret R. Jenks and Danielle L. Roberts, ed. By Dawn D. Hance, *Rutland County, Vermont Probate Extracts, Rutland District*, Part 1., Vols. 1-8, 1781-1814 (Granville, N.Y.: by author, 2007); excerpts copied for reference. Document 20.

⁵¹ *Rutland County, Vermont Probate Extracts, Fairhaven District*, pp. 35, 41, 42, 108. Document 19.

⁵² Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions Rutland County Vermont*, pp. 74, 99. Document 15.

Azuba would have been a child, and a Sarah Smith was head of household there in 1790, perhaps John's widow. These records may be consistent with family lore that Azuba's parents were John and Sarah Smith, and further search may help to confirm or refute that theory. Another intriguing possibility raised by the census records: Since a James Smith was found in the 1810 census at Jay, Essex County, New York, enumerated next to Ruluf's household, was he the same as one of the James Smiths of Poultney (found in earlier census records there), who relocated to New York in advance of Ruluf and Azuba, where they followed him?

RECOMMENDATIONS

If the client wishes to continue the search for evidence of Azuba's parents and ancestry, many possible records and resources remain to be researched.

1. Continued search of early Vermont resources may be particularly promising, including further investigation of the probate and cemetery records discussed above, as well as many other records and publications available at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, such as:
 - *Vermont Genealogy*, journal of the Genealogical Society of Vermont. Call #F48.V48 1996.
 - Scott Andrew Bartley, ed., *Vermont Families in 1791*, 2 vols. (Saint Albans, Vt.: Genealogical Society of Vermont, 1997). Call #F48.V47 1992.
 - Jay Mack Holbrook, *Vermont's First Settlers* (Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1976). Call # F48.H74. This source provides information about settlement of early Vermont, including land grants, with citations to:
 - *State Papers of Vermont, Vol. Two: Charters Granted by the State of Vermont* (Bellows Falls, Vt.: P. H. Gobie Press, 1922).
 - Other records in the published *State Papers of Vermont* also may be useful, available at NEHGS. *Note*: The entire pre-1800 index to the manuscript Vermont State Papers (the "Nye Index"), which sometimes provides additional resources not available in the published papers, can be accessed online.
 - Marsha Hoffman Rising, ed., *Vermont Newspaper Abstracts, 1783-1816: Vermont Gazette* (Boston: NEHGS, 2001). Call #F48.R57 2001.
 - Alden M. Rollins, *Vermont Warnings Out*, 2 vols. (Camden, Me.: Picton Press, 1995). Call #F48.R64 1995.
 - Alden M. Rollins, *Vermont Religious Certificates* (Rockport, Me.: Picton Press,

2003). Call #F48.R637 2003.

- Abby Maria Hemenway, ed., *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, 6 vols. with index (Burlington, Vt.: by author, 1868-91). Call #F46.V583 H. P. Smith, *History of Rutland County, Vermont*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Higginson Book Co., 1998; reprint of 1886 ed.), Call #F57.R9 S6 1886.
 - Elijah Ellsworth Brownell, *Rutland County, Vermont, Genealogical Gleanings, Transcribed and gathered by Elijah Ellsworth Brownell* (Philadelphia, Penn.: by author, 1942). Call #F57. R9 B8.
 - Additional resources about Rutland County and towns in the area are available at NEHGS, as well as other Vermont resources, which may be useful to consult as the research progresses.
 - And since Rutland County was created in 1781 from Bennington County, resources about the earlier county may be useful in tracing early settlers. For example, the following resources at the NEHGS Library may be useful:
 - Elijah Ellsworth Brownell, *Bennington County, Vermont, Genealogical Gleanings, Transcribed and gathered by Elijah Ellsworth Brownell* (Philadelphia, Penn.: by author, 1941). Call #F57. B4 B7 1941.
 - Bennington County, Vermont Probate Records, Manchester District. Microfilm, beginning 1779, at Microtext Dept.
2. Further research to try to trace Milo's cousin, Smith Hancock, and his parents, may be a fruitful route to more evidence about Azuba's ancestry.
 3. Perhaps church or other records from early Ohio or New York areas where Ruluf and Azuba lived, may provide further leads about Smiths or other relatives associated with her, who may have migrated with the Andrus family.