Subject: Martha Artes-Daughter of Wilhelm (William) Artes and Dora Korsch (Korosch?)
Posted by Arthur2026 on Thu, 19 Nov 2026 15:23:14 GMT
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Hello Everyone,

I'm hoping a kind soul out there can help a troubled family historian with a brick wall I've encountered in my family research. I have been trying to find the family that Martha belongs to for several years.

My apologies, I do not speak Polish. I can copy any replies and paste them into a translator, and then copy my translated English reply translated into Polish and paste it here, but I don't know how accurate the translation will be, so it may become obvious very quickly that Polish is not my primary language. I'm happy to try though, if it makes it easier for you to reply.

Martha Artes was born in Prussia in December 1857. She departed Hamburg, Germany to arrive in New York, United States of America aboard the steamship "Lessing". She departed by herself, 17 February 1884. Her residence was recorded in the passenger list as Danzig, Westpreußen. She arrived in New York on 4 March.

My Great-Great Grandfather was Valentin Kreft. he was born in Groß Roschau, also in December 1857. He arrived in America before Martha, most likely because he already had a sister who had travelled to America with her husband and was established here a year earlier.

Martha at the time was pregnant, and single. When she arrived in America on 4 March 1884, she was married on 29 April 1884 to Valentin at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Buffalo, New York. A copy of the church record give her parents as William Artes and Dora Korsch (or Koroch). Her home country was recorded as Prussia. Martha gave birth to a son on 4 June.

Given the fact that Martha was pregnant, I'm guessing her and Valentin probably knew each other (very well) before they came to America. I've researched my Great-Great Grandfather Valentin, and his family. Valentin's baptism record can be found here on page 361:

https://genbaza.pl/metryki/c7mpm4j5dp/ap-gdansk-10/godziszew o-kat-1562/0001-1839-1865/361#zoom=2.0467&x=0.3508&y =0.2616

I looked through this book to try to find and entries for Martha or any possible marriage records for her parents, but couldn't find anything. I also tried looking at other churches in the area and discovered that the surname "Artes" isn't very common. I tried looking for variations. I didn't find anything.

I have a profile to Martha on my ancestry account here, which I hope is visible to anyone that wishes to see it.
https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/184146749/p erson/392658096566/facts

Thank You for any help,