

Windsor History Mystery Episode 1 The Primary Source Case

This history mystery meets Colorado Academic Standards in Social Studies for 2nd-5th grade. For a full list of standards met, email kmercier@windsorgov.com.



Hello, friends! My name is Ima Tymetravl'r and I need your help! Ever since I found a time machine at the bottom of Windsor Lake, I have been traveling across the world solving history mysteries—but the best mysteries are found here in Windsor. Can you help me solve The Primary Source Case?

Whoa! I've uncovered a crazy mystery this time. To solve it, we're going to need to go back to 1904.



Windsor sure looked different back then! This is taken at 4th and Main St facing west toward the mountains. Take a close look at the photo. What are some things that look different from Windsor today? Can you find anything that looks the same? List your answers below!



Primary Source: Photo Taken in Early 1900s

A History of Windsor from 1900-1920

By Ima Tymetravlr

Windsor has been inhabited for thousands
The earliest evidence of human occupation
Bison Bone Bed that was excavated by

Secondary Source: my paper, which was written
after the time it is talking about!

Ima's Fun Fact!
The photo you just looked is called a **primary source**. Can you say "primary source" out loud? Primary sources are papers, photos, documents, or other sources of information that were created at the time their events happened! The photo of Windsor taken in the early 1900s is a primary source. If I write a paper today about Windsor in 1904, that is a secondary source. Secondary sources can include primary sources!

We can use primary sources to solve mysteries from the past!

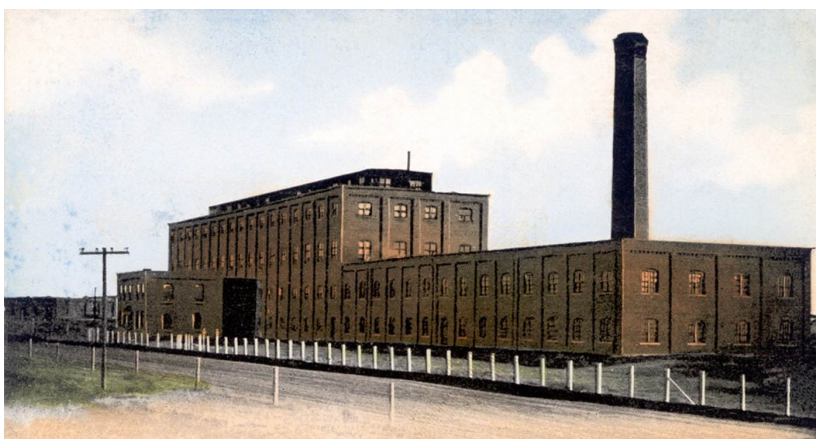
In 1904, something very important happened in Windsor. Scientists and farmers figured out that Windsor was the perfect place to grow **sugar beets**. Do you like to eat food that has sugar in it? What is your favorite dessert?

Your favorite dessert is probably made with sugar from a sugar beet! Sugar beets are a plant that can be processed into sugar. Just like you, sugar beets have favorite places to live and grow. Sugar beets love to grow in Windsor because it so sunny and has nice soil.

One company built a factory right here in Windsor to turn sugar beets into sugar!



This picture of sugar beets was taken at a local fair. They are large and not very pretty!



A picture from the early 1900s showing the Great Western Sugar Company's factory. Have you ever been to Chimney Park? The chimney there is from the sugar factory, and that's what the park is named after!

Do you think this is a primary source?

Take a look at the photo below. This shows the inside of the Great Western Sugar Factory right here in Windsor around 100 years ago.
How many sugar bags do you think are in this photo?



Fun fact: **one sugar beet only produces 3 teaspoons of sugar!** Have you seen a teaspoon before? If not, go find one in your kitchen.

One of these bags contains thousands of teaspoons of sugar. Can you imagine how many sugar beets were needed to make all these bags of sugar? Millions and millions of sugar beets!

It takes a lot of work to grow millions of sugar beets. Are you ever a picky eater? There are some things you don't like to eat or do. Sugar beets are the same way. They need certain conditions in order to grow. It takes a lot of work to make the conditions perfect.

It also took a lot of work to harvest the beets. Since you can't make sugar with the tops of sugar beets, workers would have to pull the beets up and chop off the tops. This was very hard work, and it took a lot of people.

In 1904, about 300 people lived in Windsor.

Is 300 people enough to plant, care for, and harvest millions and millions of sugar beets? **No!**

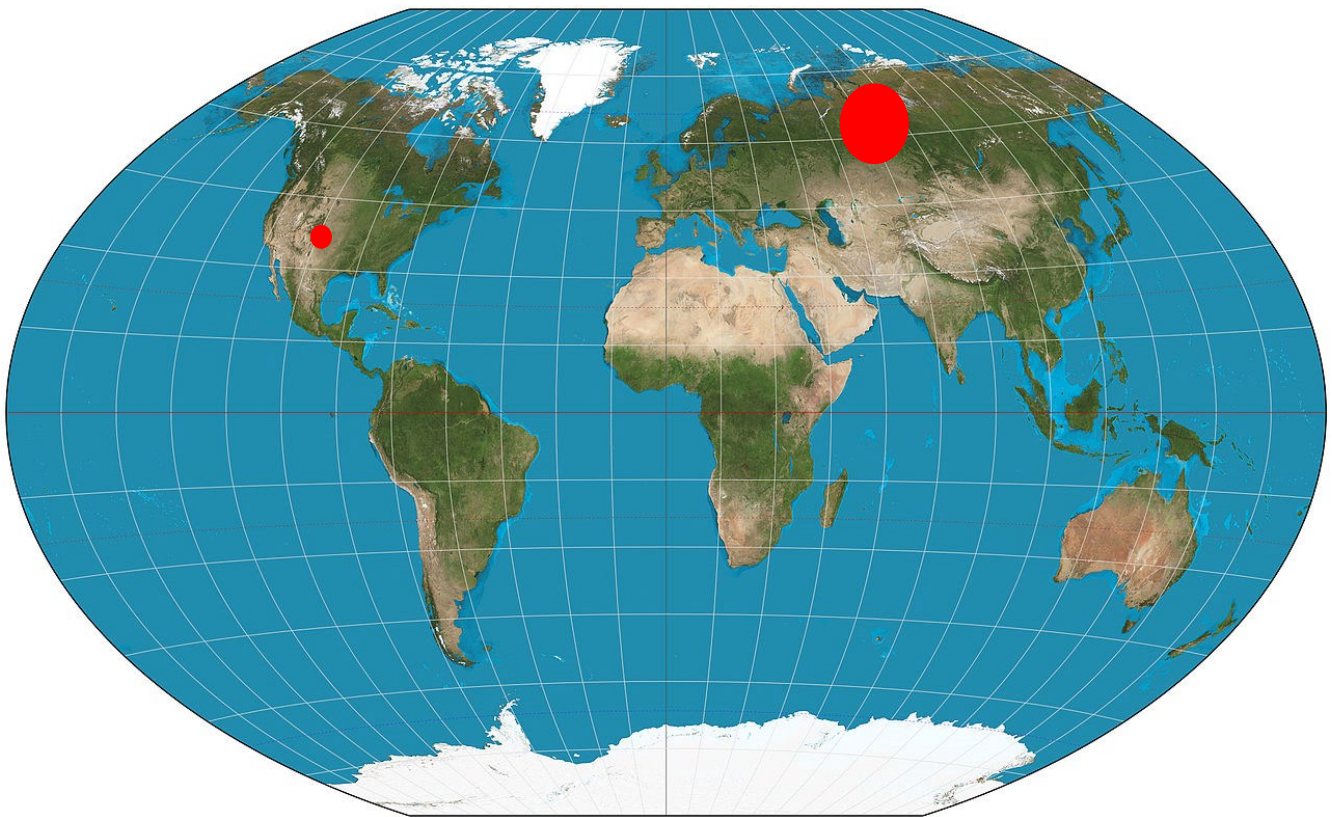
So how did Windsor harvest millions of sugar beets to make all those bags of sugar? What do you think?

The answer to the sugar beet mystery is something called **immigration**. When a person leaves their home in one country to live in a different country, that is **immigration**. People who leave their home to move to a different country are called **immigrants**.

People chose to move to a different country for a lot of different reasons. They may want to look for a better life in a new country, or they may not feel safe in their home country. They might have friends or family living in another country and want to move to be closer to them.

People left other countries and moved to Windsor. This gave Windsor enough people to work in the sugar beet fields and other areas in the town! But who were the people coming to Windsor?

Take a look at this map of the world. Can you circle the United States on the map? Ask your parents for help if you need it!



Map of the world from Wikimedia Commons with the location of Windsor and Russia in red.

The big red dot on the map marks the location of a country called **Russia**. The small red dot marks the approximate location of Colorado.

Many immigrants who came to Windsor came from **Russia**. They were called **Germans from Russia**.

Germans from Russia

Germans from Russia are people who originally lived in a country called Germany. In the 1700s, many people from Germany moved hundreds of miles away to Russia because Russia promised them wonderful things, like free land and never having to go fight in a war. However, Russia changed its mind in the 1800s and decided that the Germans who lived in Russia did have to go fight in wars and learn how to speak in Russian.

Imagine if you had moved somewhere because of promises that someone had made, and then those promises were broken. How would you feel?

The Germans living in Russia were very unhappy, and many of them decided to move in the early 1900s right when sugar beet farming was starting in Windsor. Many families moved to Windsor, which was hiring people to work in the sugar beet fields.

Let's meet one of those families!



Meet the Fritzlers! This is the Fritzler family working in a sugar beet field. Mom, Dad, and the kids are working together.



The Fritzlers arrived in the United States from Russia in April 1907. They crossed the ocean in the USS Noordland. Look at the map on the previous page to see how far they had to come.

This photo of the USS Noordland is from norwayheritage.com.

How do we know that the Fritzlars arrived in 1907? Have you ever taken an airplane? If you have, you know you need to have a ticket to board an airplane. The Fritzlars needed tickets for the S.S. Noordland, and their names were recorded in the ship's log.

[illegible]

It's amazing how we can read primary sources from the past to solve history mysteries!



The Fritzlers farmed sugar beets around Windsor for many years. This photo was taken in 1939.

All photos from the Town of Windsor Museums Permanent Collection.



The Fritzlers had two children, Paul and Louise. Here they are in 1924!



Just like you, Paul and Louise had school. Here is Paul's class photo from 1922.

Just like the Fritzlers, many Germans from Russia moved to Windsor. All of these families helped provide enough labor to plant, care for, and harvest millions of sugar beets.

What happens when more people start living in one place?

Those people need goods and services—businesses like grocery stores and clothing stores. Think of the stores we have today. What kinds of stores do you like visit today? List or draw your answers!

People needed stores like that in the past too. Many Germans from Russia started their own stores in Windsor.

I need some help figuring out what businesses Germans from Russia ran in the past. Use the clues given to see if you can figure out what kind of store the families opened! Hint: you can have an adult do some of the reading if you need help!

Let's meet a man named Henry Nazarenius!



This is a photograph of Henry Nazarenius and his wife.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

No. 19 13201

CERTIFICATE OF ARRIVAL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the immigration records show that the alien named below arrived at the port, on the date, and in the manner shown, and was lawfully admitted to the United States of America for permanent residence.

Name: **HEINRICH NAZARENUS**
 Port of entry: **Detroit, Michigan**
 Date: **Oct. 3, 1913**
 Manner of arrival: **Canadian Pacific Railway**

I FURTHER CERTIFY that this certificate of arrival is issued under authority of, and in conformity with, the provisions of the Act of June 29, 1906, as amended, solely for the use of the alien herein named and only for naturalization purposes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Certificate of Arrival is issued

April 11, 1941 **H. R. LANDIS, District Director,**
 (Date Immigration and Naturalization Service
 St. Albans, Vermont)

By W. Norton
 In charge statistical division

258-106-25
rfc/jah

Form 160-Im. U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-1832 529 of 978

Henry arrived in the United States after he immigrated here from Russia. Today, you can read his certificate of arrival. Can you guess what year he arrived in the United States? Hint: read the middle column to find out!

Henry Nazarenus and family of Almata, Kansas, arrived here Tuesday evening to make their home. Mr. Nazarenus purchased the Farmers Grocery here some time ago and his son, Henry, Jr., has been managing the business.

This article was published in Windsor's newspaper, *The Windsor Beacon*, in 1926. Read this article for some clues about what Henry did in Windsor!

NAZARENUS' MARKET AND GROCERY

WE HANDLE ONLY CORN
FED BABY BEEF

SATURDAY SPECIALS

A COMPLETE LINE OF
STAPLE GROCERIES

No. 2½ RED DOT Sliced Pineapple
Per Can..... **26c**

No. 2½ RED DOT Yellow Cling
Peaches, per can..... **22c**

No. 2½ RED DOT Sliced Cling
Peaches, per can..... **22c**

No. 2½ LILLY' Apricots
Per Can..... **26c**

No. 2 RED DOT Blackberries
Per Can..... **25c**

No. 2 RED DOT Red Raspberries
Per Can..... **25c**

1-lb. Can Maxwell House Coffee
For..... **55c**

1-lb. Can "Old Thirty" Coffee
For..... **50c**

Large Can Van Camp's Pork
and Beans for..... **20c**

Medium Can Van Camp's Pork
and Beans for..... **10c**

Small Can Van Camp's Pork
and Beans, 2 for..... **15c**

BANANAS, Special Price
3 pounds for..... **25c**

CHOCOLATE BON-BONS
2 pounds for..... **45c**

All Kinds of Fresh Meats, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in Season

Here is an advertisement published in the newspaper in April 1927. This is a great clue! What kind of store do you think Henry ran?

If you went to his store, what would you buy?

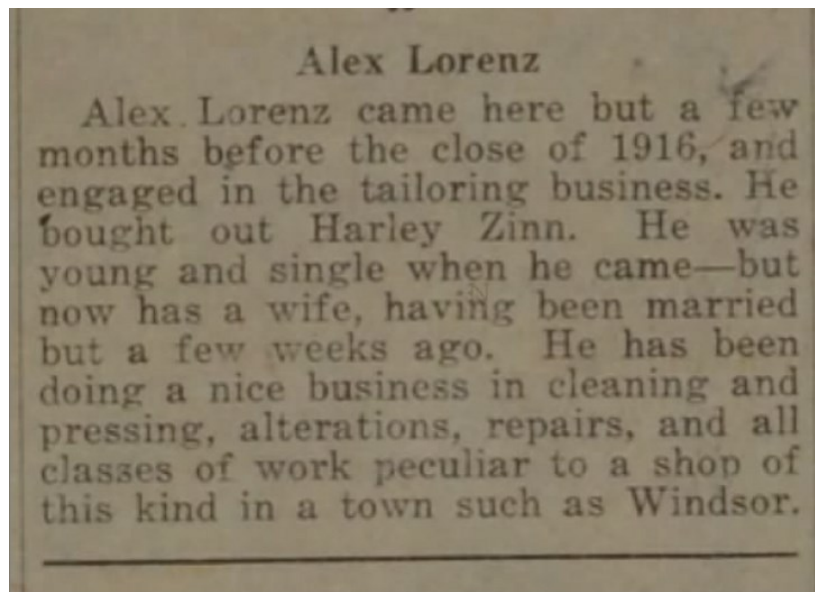
Let's meet another person who immigrated to Windsor from Russia. **His name was Alex Lorenz.** He arrived in Windsor around 1916.

Here is a photo of Alex inside his shop in 1927. Look closely at the photo. Can you make a guess about what kind of shop this was? Hint: look at what is hanging in the back of the photo.



Can you guess what kind of shop Alex Lorenz ran? List your guesses below.

Here's an article written about Alex in Windsor's newspaper in April 1917.



From studying primary sources, we can figure out that Alex Lorenz was a **tailor**. A tailor could make clothes for you back before there were shopping malls. Tailors could make your pants longer or shorter, fix holes in your shirt's elbows, or iron your clothes for you. Alex ran his shop for a very, very long time-over 60 years!



Here is an advertisement Alex ran in the newspaper in 1981!

It was very important for Windsor to have a tailor! Because Alex Lorenz came to Windsor, the people who lived here could purchase nice, custom clothes and get them repaired.

Because of Germans from Russia who immigrated to Windsor, the town changed forever. There were farmers, workers, and shop owners who helped make Windsor into a busy town. What other immigrants changed Windsor by coming here?

Let's meet another family! **Henry Mayer** and his family immigrated to Windsor from Russia in 1913. Read the advertisement to see if you discover what kind of store Henry ran in Windsor!

For All Kinds of
MEATS
Come around and see
us—our prices are right.

—

*Here are a few of our
regular prices:*

Hamburger, 18c a pound,
2 pounds for ----- **35¢**
Boiling beef, per pound **12¢**
Beef Roast, per pound --- **16¢**
Steak, all cuts, per pound **22¢**

—

**HENRY MAYER MEAT
MARKET**
Phone 139W
Windsor, Colorado

From the *Windsor Beacon*, July 1, 1926

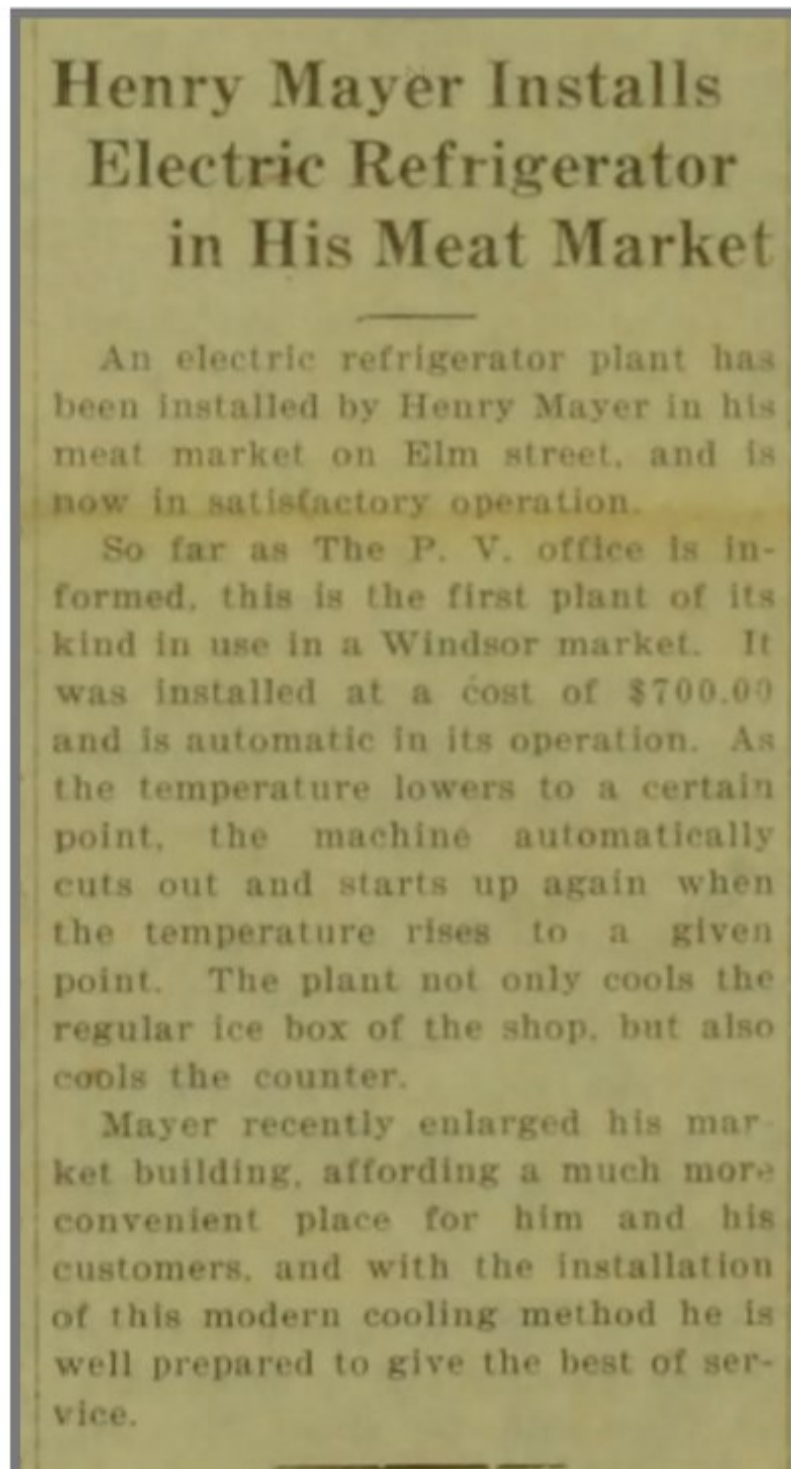
What kind of store did Henry Mayer run?

Read this article from the *Windsor Beacon* on July 15, 1926 for a fun fact about Henry and his family!

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mayer on Monday, July 5th. This makes the ninth child for Mr. and Mrs. Mayer, who are very proud of their large family.

How many kids did Mr. and Mrs. Mayer have?

Henry loved his family very much! He also spent a lot of time making his meat market the best in town. Read this article from Windsor's newspaper in 1926 to see if you can figure out what he did to make his meat market the best!



Do you have a refrigerator in your house? In 1926, refrigerators were new and not a lot of people had them in Windsor. This refrigerator system was the first ever installed in Windsor!

Wow, thanks to your detective skills, we know so much about some of the people who immigrated to Windsor and brought important changes to the community! From harvesting sugar beets to making clothes and selling food, the people who came to Windsor changed it forever. Because Windsor had so many people to farm sugar beets, the town grew. And because the town grew, more people moved here and started more businesses!

If you arrived in Windsor in 1904, what would you think of the town? How you feel having left your country to move to Windsor? What kind of work do you think you would do in Windsor?

List or draw your answers below!

Thank you for reading the clues to figure out how people shaped Windsor's community! I hope you had fun on this adventure.

I'm going to need your help again—stay tuned for the next Windsor History Mystery!

-Ima Tymetravlr

