

It is unclear as to who is Otto's mother. Is he the son of Fritz & his first wife or the son of Fritz & Ernestine? I believe that Otto is the son of Frederick Regenberg and his first wife. Ernstina, per the 1900 United States Federal Census, states that she is the mother of 8 children - 7 living (George, Emma, Anna, Mattie, Karl F., Edith, Frank). However, Karl died at 7 days old on Christmas Eve 1880. She lost another child, but I have no idea when/where. Was she counting Otto?

Otto was born in Germany on 14 September 1865. After Fritz's first wife died he and Ernstina married in Germany (assumption). Otto used the last name Regenberg. His obituary states that he is the son of Fritz and Ernestine Regenberg. However, Ernstina was born in 1847; if she was the birth mother of Otto, she would have only been 18 years old at the time. This conjecture is attributed to the dates of birth: Herman was born in 1850 and Otto born in 1865 - a long time span for babies in those days. I am assuming that Fritz's first wife died (date unknown). He then married Ernstina in Germany (assumption); they then immigrated to America and arrived at Castle Garden, New York, on 6 October 1872; Ernstina became pregnant with George shortly thereafter as George was born 11 August 1873. Ernstina was 26 years old when George was born. Ernstina raised Otto as if he were her biological son. Herrman Regenberg's obituary states that he leaves "a brother in Iowa". Otto, George & Frank were all born and residing in Iowa at the time of Herrman's death in 1894 in Illinios. However, we know for a fact that George & Frank were his half brothers. Edith Regenberg's obituary states that two half brothers predeceased her (Herrman, Sr and Otto?), and Frank Regenberg's obituary also states that he was preceded in death by two half brothers. (Again, Herrman and Otto?).