

Jacob Frysinger House, 507 S. Bench St., 1845

Summary



Jacob Frysinger was born 11 May 1818 in York, Pennsylvania.

Agnes Caughy was born circa 1824 in Maryland.

Jacob and Agnes married in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1837. That same year, they moved to Galena. They made their home in Galena for a dozen-plus years. A daughter, Agnes Frysinger, was born and died in Galena, not quite two years old. She is buried in Old City Cemetery.

Jacob Frysinger worked in three different trades in his life. As a young boy, he learned to be a tanner. In Galena, he worked in the mercantile trade. When the family moved to Rock Island, Illinois, Jacob and some of his sons worked in the wholesale liquor trade.

He seems to have been successful in Galena, perhaps building up capital for erecting distilleries and warehouses in Rock Island and Milan, Illinois, and Davenport, Iowa.

Like many river towns along the Mississippi, Rock Island business—and life—could be rough-and-tumble. Some of Jacob and Agnes' children struggled: one with “dissipated habits,” in this case morphine, another apparently trying to skirt the law.

Agnes Frysinger died in (assumed) Rock Island; however, there seems to be no tombstone for her in the Frysinger family lot in Chippiannock Cemetery in Rock Island. It's possible she's buried in Baltimore.

Jacob Frysinger moved to Baltimore to live with his son, Harry, in 1897. He died there of blood poisoning. His place of burial is also unknown.