

## CURTIS-STARK

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**John J. Curtis, Sr.** and his wife **Louisa M. Stark** lived in Baychester in the 1920s at **2327 Baychester Avenue**<sup>1</sup>, down the block from the author's grandfather's home.

John J. Curtis was born on May 28, 1892 in Manhattan, New York, son of Irish immigrants **Morris Curtis** and **Bridget Burk**<sup>2</sup>. He probably spent his formative years in Manhattan. On March 13, 1918 in the Bronx, New York John Curtis married Louisa M. Stark. Louisa was born in Manhattan, New York in April 1895, daughter of Bronx-born **John Christian Stark, Sr.** and Michigan-born **Mary Platte**<sup>3</sup>, but grew up in Baychester, Bronx, New York<sup>4</sup>.

Following their marriage, John and Louisa lived at 2327 Baychester Avenue, where Louisa grew up<sup>1</sup>. By the time of their marriage, however, Louisa's father had passed away. John worked as a stone carver at that time. They had three children: Eloise (b. 1919), John Jr. (b. 1912), and Beryl (b. 1928).

By 1930 John moved his family to Nutley, New Jersey where he continued to work in the stone industry, eventually having his own stone building business.<sup>5</sup>

It is unknown what happened to the family after 1940. No known death records, burial records or marriage records for the children have been found.

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<sup>1</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MJPZ-R48> : accessed 11 May 2018), Louise Curtis in household of John J Curtis, Bronx Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York, United States; citing ED 358, sheet 2B, line 92, family 38, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1139; FHL microfilm 1,821,139.

<sup>2</sup> "United States World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XRVC-T2P> : 9 March 2018), John Joseph Curtis, 1942; citing NARA microfilm publication M1936, M1937, M1939, M1951, M1962, M1964, M1986, M2090, and M2097 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>3</sup> "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829-1940," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/244F-VVY> : 10 February 2018), John J. Curtis and Louise M. Stark, 31 Mar 1918; citing Marriage, Bronx, New York, New York, United States, New York City Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 1,941,354.

<sup>4</sup> "United States Census, 1900," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MS2D-7KL> : accessed 7 November 2017), John Stark, Borough of the Bronx, Election District 3 New York City Ward Annexed Dist., New York County, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 1052, sheet 2B, family 38, NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1972.); FHL microfilm 1,241,127.

<sup>5</sup> "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X46W-Z9P> : accessed 11 May 2018), Louise M Curtis in household of John J Curtis, Nutley, Essex, New Jersey, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 559, sheet 7A, line 21, family 161, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1344; FHL microfilm 2,341,079.