



The sign on NH Route 156 for Dolloff Dam Road

A Sign of the Present and the Past

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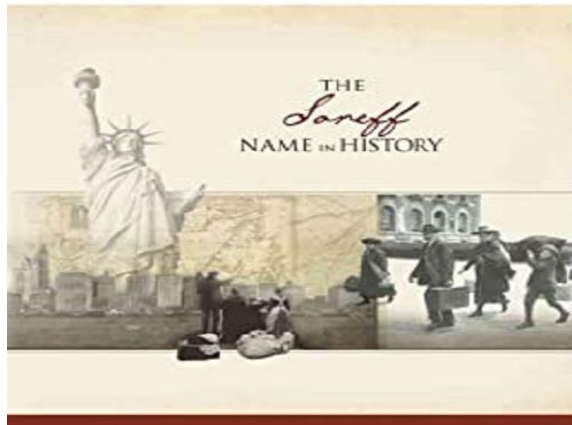
This story has two parts. The first one recounts the adventure of my road's sign, Dolloff Dam. The second section shows how that sign's story is linked to my past.

To begin, Peggy Tucker and I have lived for well over a decade on Dolloff Dam Road, in Nottingham, New Hampshire. And, yes, when I am giving my address to someone, I often add "it's a dam road" and ask this question. "What did the fish say when it hit the brick?" The answer is "dam!" As you can see having the word "dam" on the sign often leads to a variety of responses. And, that is exactly what has happened over the years we have lived here. People have "taken" aka stole the sign on several occasions.

That is exactly what occurred this spring. It was gone yet again. I reported it to the town administrator and it was replaced. But the new sign was one spelled Dollof. It was missing an F. We, the road residents, did not mentally register the mistake until Kelly Dallaire of the Town Office noticed the one F while driving to Raymond on Saturday, August 6, 2022. With this appreciation of the error, the town added it to all the new E-911 new signs being secured. And, in late August, the corrected spelling Dolloff Dam Road was restored to its rightful spot. And, that should be the end of the story, right?



The new wrong sign with only one F.



From [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) (Author)

But, F story, it turns out that also is linked to my name and my family history. The following ridicule illustrates the connection. “What do Dolloff and Soreff have in common?” The answer is they both end in double F=ff, my last name, Soreff. However, now it gets both more complicated and direct. Let me show you how.

My grandfather, Samuel Mayer Soreff, came to America in 1905. He settled in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Before that, he and his family lived in the *shtetl* of Belozerka, Ukraine. Ukraine then was part of Russia and the Czar did not like Jews. The storyline of *Fiddler on the Roof* dramatizes the history of [pogroms](#). It demonstrates why he and other Russians came to the United States. I grew up knowing only many neat relatives named Soreff. Yet, also we were aware of a group of Sorefs (with one F) who lived in the Mid-west.

Finally, in this era of tracing your roots and ancestry searching, family members worked on the relationship. They discovered that the Soreff and Soref had a common great grandfather. They were second cousins. Later, we held three Soreff-Soref reunions. It turns out the Soref in Milwaukee, Wisconsin founded the [Master Lock](#) company. Furthermore, I have relatives around the world including in England and Israel.

Thus, the F and FF allowed me to link Dolloff and Soreff in another way.