

**MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY**

PO Box 241
New Windsor, MD 21776
<http://www.magsgen.com>

Our mission: To stimulate and facilitate research on Germanic genealogy and heritage in the mid-Atlantic region

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded in July 1982. Annual dues are only \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Add \$5 if you desire a printed copy of **Der Kurier** each quarter. Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. A membership application appears on the back cover and on our website. Benefits include:

Spring & Fall Conferences and Workshops

– Featuring expert speakers, member discounts

Der Kurier – Our award-winning 40-page quarterly journal

Outstanding members-only website

– German research aids, searchable databases

Stumped Roots - Individualized research help

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Submissions to Der Kurier: Articles concerning Germanic genealogy and heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region are welcome, as are "Letters to the Editor." Research articles should document conclusions with appropriate citation of primary sources. MAGS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and style. Unless previous arrangements are made with the editor, material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to: James M. Beidler, *Der Kurier* Editor, MAGS, PO Box 241, New Windsor, MD 21776. E-mail: newsletter@magsgen.com

VOM HERAUSGEBER

FROM THE EDITOR

Let's Do Lunch: MAGS to Sponsor Event at FGS Conference in D.C.

The two national conferences of the American genealogy scene rotate around the country so it's not every year when one comes to Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society territory. And no part of the MAGS turf is more prime than Washington, D.C., where the Federation of Genealogical Societies' national conference will be August 21-24. MAGS is taking advantage of this geographic opportunity by sponsoring a luncheon on the Thursday (August 22) of the conference.



James M. Beidler

I will present on behalf of the several board members a case study about a unique individual found in consulate records that MAGS has pioneered using, titled "Henry Müller's *Verrückte Welt*: Records That Will Help You, Too." Herr Müller's comings and goings are documented by a large variety of records throughout Europe, Canada and the United States—ones you should be using, too.

The FGS conference has a great lineup of speakers on the day the luncheon—there will be a track of Mid-Atlantic topics that includes MAGS board member Debra A. Hoffman and FamilySearch Chief Genealogical Officer David E. Rencher—and while attending the luncheon requires only signing up for a single-day conference registration, I hope many of you will consider coming to the entire four-day event as well.

But please come at least for at least Thursday to attend the luncheon and hear an important announcement about MAGS getting ready to advance the legacy of our late former President John T. Humphrey. Reserve your spot now!

Carol Carman and Charlie Hessler worked a MAGS table at the Harford County Public Library's conference in Belair, MD, this spring.



VOM PRÄSIDENT**FROM THE PRESIDENT****Membership Growth!**

This issue of *Der Kurier* is packed with great information and exciting visual images; therefore, my remarks need to be brief. I often write that MAGS is moving forward, and that continues to be true. Gunter Schanzenbacher, MAGS membership chair, reported membership is growing, up 10 percent. Help us spread the word about MAGS! We hope to return membership to 500-plus by next year this time; 35 new members and we'll hit our goal. The spring conference was a hit. Both the Friday workshop and Saturday main conference day received rave reviews. Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, Saturday's speaker, gave us good information and kept attendees interested throughout the day. Remember, we have a workshop in Laurel, MD, in July focusing on DNA. Check the website for more details and instructions on how to register.

**Kenneth W. Heger**

Don't forget our fall conference. Conference chair Carol Carman found us a great new venue in Martinsburg, WV, and reports the hotel's new and has great amenities. Information about that conference is also on the MAGS website. Finally, keep your eyes open for upcoming national conferences where MAGS members will be speaking and spreading the word about MAGS, especially the Federation of Genealogical Societies annual conference which takes place in Washington, D.C., this year.

Walter von Bodecker's Journey to America**Part 1****BY BOB GREINER**

What was possibly going through Walter von Bodecker's mind on that early September day in 1902 as the ship lurched through the rolling North Sea? He was not feeling very well, and even the most experienced sailors were a bit seasick. It certainly was an inauspicious start to a long voyage. The ship *Hercynia* had left Hamburg for a one-month journey to Colon, in the Province of Panama, Colombia.¹ The ship was originally built to carry trans-Atlantic passengers, but it now sailed the Central American route with cargo and just eleven passengers.

Bodecker's destination was beyond the Panamanian isthmus, however, and it would take him another month to arrive in southern Mexico. He was headed there to begin working on the Finca Covadonga, a farm high in the mountains in the state of Chiapas. Following his graduation from the German Colonial School, an agricultural college, he would be helping the Mexican government to improve farm production in their country.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

Verzeichniss

der mit dem Dampfschiffe *Hercynia* am 12. September 1902
 direkt nach dem Hafen *Central America* befohlerten *Passagieren* (Abfahrt *Amerikaner*)

Nr.	Zuname	Vornamen	Geschlecht		Alter für die Einkaufs- steuer oder das Erzeugnis [§ 35 des Abgenges.] verpflicht.	Familienstand (Heirath = x, w)	Bisheriger Wohnort	Staats- angehörigkeit	Ziel		Deren sind:	
			weiblich	männlich					in bisherigen Berufs	in neuer Berufs	Erwachsene über 18 Jahre	Kinder unter 18 Jahre
1	Blanc											
2	Latz	Ella		1	30		Hamburg					
3	Blauke	Theodor	1		33		Hamburg					
4		Egonie		1	33		La. Union, Salvador					
5		Wahle		1	5							
6	Greve	Luise		1	3							
7		Auguste		1	35		Guatemala					
8		Laura		1	32							
9	Bunge	Antke		1	29		Wismar					
10	Drees	Frans		1	34		Barth					
11	Ehlen	Karl		1	30		Putzart					
12	von Bodecker	Walter		1	21		Lehrberg					
					56							92

Hamburg, den 12. September 1902.

Figure 1- Hamburg passenger list for ship *Hercynia*, 12 Sep. 1902. Bodecker is on line 11.

Walter von Bodecker was born on December 10, 1881, in the farm village of Gemirren, at the time within East Prussia². Gemirren was part of a noble estate (Rittergut) centered in the village of Bansen.³ Walter's father Friedrich Bernard von Bodecker was the tenant, or manager (Gutspächter) of the farm. Friedrich was born in Lauenstein, Kingdom of Hannover, where his ancestors had been foresters. For some unknown reason, Friedrich moved far from his home to East Prussia.⁴

At the age of eighteen Walter enrolled at the German Colonial School (*deutsche Kolonialschule*) on the Wilhelmshof estate in Witzenhausen an der Wehre, Grand Duchy of Hesse. The school's mission was to train young men in modern farming and horticulture methods, eventually sending them to German colonies and other distant lands to improve farm production in those locations.

Walter studied two years at the school—from April 1900 to March 1902. After spending the summer at his home, he prepared to relocate to his assignment in Mexico. Although not a German colony, the Mexican president had invited foreign countries to help establish and improve farms in the extreme southern part of the country, near Guatemala. There were already graduates of the Colonial School at the Finca Covadonga when Walter arrived.

As the *Hercynia* passed through the English Channel, the weather improved and the passengers' outlook brightened. The ship headed across the Atlantic, passing the Azores, on course for St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. They arrived on October 1 – their first stop after nearly three weeks at sea.

The passengers took advantage of the short layover to visit St. Thomas City, or Charlotte Amalie. While the tropical harbor appeared to be one of the most beautiful places Walter had seen, he was less impressed by the appearance of the city itself. After a brief visit, the passengers reboarded the ship, which departed before evening for Jamaica.



Figure 2- German Colonial School - Witzenhausen

In a day they were in Kingston, which definitely made a much greater impression on Walter. There was an electric tram, which the voyagers rode through the well-kept city to visit a garden outside the city.⁵ They spent the evening in the bustling marketplace.

The *Hercynia* left early the next morning and headed almost due south for the coast of Colombia. It stopped first at Sabinilla, the port for Barranquilla, where Walter observed firsthand evidence of the ongoing

revolution in Colombia.⁶ The passengers were relieved that the ship quickly moved on to the port of Cartagena. Here they again toured the city and surrounding countryside, but reported that it was very run down.

The following day the ship left for Colon, where it arrived two days later on October 10th, 1902. At the time Panama was still a province of Colombia. There was no canal at the time. Although France had started construction in 1881, the project was a failure and the company went bankrupt in 1889. The United States would not begin construction until 1904, after helping Panama gain independence from Colombia. Bodecker and others immediately boarded a train on the Panama Railroad, which took them to the Pacific Coast of the isthmus. From there they took a steamer up the coast of Central America to their final destination. But there was much more adventure in store for Walter and his fellow travelers.

Soon after he arrived at Finca Covadonga on November 11, Walter wrote a letter describing his adventurous journey to Herr Fabarius, director of the Colonial School. That letter was published in the biannual edition of *Der Deutsche Kulturpionier*, the newsletter and catalog for the school. It regularly included letters from school alumni who worked on farms in the colonies and other far flung countries. Walter wrote more letters to the school in 1903 and again in 1904 describing the ongoing work at Covadonga.

Der Deutsche Kulturpionier was published continually from 1900 through 1960. The issues included lists of students, professors, and alumni, with information about their age, birthplace, previous education, and father's occupation. The alumni lists also included their present address in foreign countries. In addition to these lists, the catalog contained course descriptions and daily schedules for the students as well as articles and photos about the school itself.

All issues of this publication have been digitized and published online by the German Institute for Agriculture in the Tropics and Subtropics, which is still headquartered in Witzenhausen. Each article in every issue is available as a PDF file.⁷ Of course, the articles were printed in German using the standard Fraktur typescript, but names can be found easily. With a

little knowledge of the German language, one can glean sufficient information from these articles to understand a bit about the school.

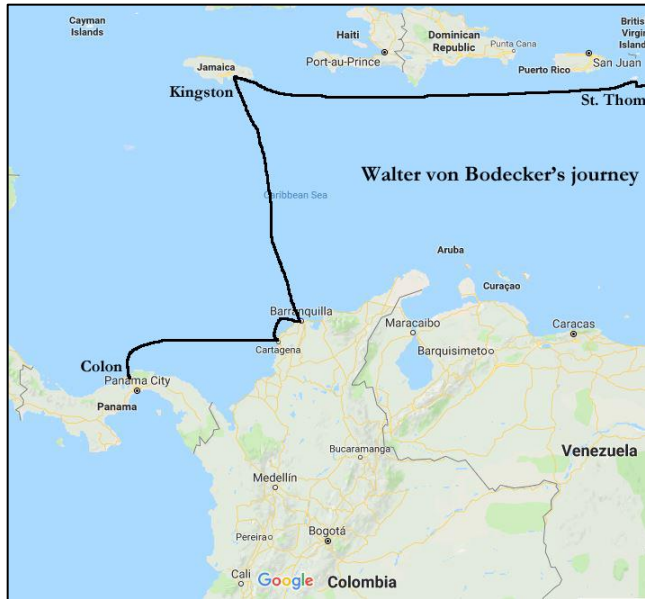


Figure 3- Map data (c) 2008 Google, INEGI

Walter von Bodecker's letter describing his journey was published in the issue numbered 1903, Year 3, No. 3-4.⁸ The article was entitled *Briefe des Kameraden v. Bodecker, Covadonga*. In the translation below you can read the first half of the letter in his own words. Bodecker paused writing at this point because he was already busy with work on the farm. In the second half, which will be published in the next issue of *Der Kurier*, he described the incredible remaining part of his journey to Finca Covadonga, Mexico.

Finca Covadonga [Covadonga Farm], Nov. 14th. 1902

Dear Mr. Director!

It's been 3 days since we happily arrived on the Finca [farm] and I want to tell you now about the very interesting trip.

But first I would like to wish you, your dear family and all Wilhelmshof a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

So on the twelfth of September we left Hamburg and in the first two days on the North Sea we had weather as bad as can be imagined; our boat pitched and rolled horribly, so that we did not make more than 5 knots on average, and lost a lot of time. Of course, the seasickness set in immediately and even for the most seaworthy people it took courage. As we passed through the channel it got better and the closer we got to the south, the calmer the sea became. On the 22nd in the morning we passed the Azores. Unfortunately our steamer did not dock there and we had to get ready for St. Thomas. On the 1st of October we finally arrived there. We arrived in the evening, but could not go into the harbor, as it was already dark and the pilot could not come aboard. The overall impression of St. Thomas is wonderfully beautiful and I liked it best of all harbors seen so far, with the exception of the port Amapala in Fonseca Bay [Honduras], which I feel greatly surpasses St. Thomas.

After the usual business was done, you could go ashore, and we used the cooler hours to see St. Thomas. A Negro rowed us from the coal station to the city for 1 Mark per person (in St. Thomas, people accept almost all coins) and he had good work to bring us over in 20 minutes. We first made a short walk through the city, which stretches for 25 minutes along the shore, and admired the peculiarities of the tropics, which for the first time make a special impression on everyone. However, one thing stands out immediately: the city loses a lot of its beauty, especially those of almost all Spanish-American cities, which are best viewed only from afar, if you want a good picture. In St. Thomas you can still easily buy tropical items, such as a helmet, which is more practical to have than in Germany, and other things that you forgot to take with you. We soon retreated to a hotel to fortify

ourselves with a good bottle of Danish beer, and soon boarded the steamer again, as our captain had been ordered to go to Colon as quickly as possible to intercept a Pacific Mail steamer and get its cargo. It occurred to me: Originally I was in doubt, about whether it would not be better to travel Hamburg-New York and continue from there with the above line, which goes every 8 days to Colon. I am very glad not to have done it. According to several gentlemen, the food is so miserable that it is good to provide yourself with food if you do not want to go hungry; otherwise management of these steamers leaves a lot to be desired.

So we left at 4:45, and Kingston [Jamaica] was the next port of call. On the next day at 10:30 AM we boarded the pilot who had driven far out to meet us, since the channel, which is very difficult because of many sand bars, requires maneuvering to make it safely. A few weeks ago, a steamer had to work there for 6 days to get away from a bank. At 12:30 we stopped and could land in 1/2 hour. Kingston is more accessible, as you do not need to cross over by boat, as the dock is right on the mainland.

The city definitely makes a big impression. A metropolitan tram with electrical equipment, which you will not frequently find in Europe, provides sufficient transit. The houses and streets are in good condition, the latter with a faultless pavement, which is hard to find. We sat in the "Electric" and drove out of the city to "Hope Garden" to see the botanical garden there. All the plants are kept very well and well maintained. We were sorry that we could not find any more time to look at the different species. Unfortunately, in 1 hour we had to go back to the city to arrive there before dark. As we got out of the car, we saw the setting sun behind us. The mountains were shimmering bright red, the delicate palms were sharply pointed against the sky, and to the left in the background one could see the sea. A magnificent picture!

The life and bustle in the evening on the main roads is quite lively. Incidentally, the market halls were also very interesting, in that everything flowed together in the cool evening hours to provide one's kitchen with fresh food for the coming day. At 9:30 we went back on board.

The next morning on awakening I was still in bed when I heard the engine already working. We had just left the country, and I threw myself quickly into my clothes to greet the splendid Kingston. It was too beautiful there, and we would have liked to stay one more day.

Sabanilla, the port of Baranquilla, was the next place we touched; the first on American soil. As you know, Colombia is still in a state of revolution and we had the pleasure of seeing a Colombian cruiser bringing soldiers to Karthagena.

It was actually a pleasure to look at such a thing. Earlier it must have seen and had better days than any American's pleasure yacht; now it made a very modest or better said, lousy impression. The soldiers, many of whom were barely able to carry their gun at the age of 12-14, were extremely funny and amusing. There was absolutely nothing going on in the harbor itself, so we were glad that we arrived the next day in Karthagena [Colombia].

We got permission from the "jefe de la plaza" [dock master] to go ashore, and then went back on board, and went to the city in the afternoon, when the heat was over. We first went to the post office and learned about the extreme monetary conditions of Colombia. The means of payment is paper, and indeed the price is relative to American gold (i.e. for 1 dollar gold you get 80 paper). One can conclude from this the sad condition of the whole state.

The city itself is very romantic and must have been nice once; now everything is very run down and disintegrated. We drove around on the awkward pavement in a miserable carriage, which soon threatened to overturn on the left and on the right, to look at some of the beautiful buildings, for The Church of La Madre, for example, is worth seeing and shows, like several public buildings, the remains of ancient Spanish culture. Unfortunately, the port entrance, which is excellent by nature, is artificially submerged, and you have to make a 6 nautical mile detour.

Out of the city we went through a gate of very strange style. In front of it is a kind of avenue of victory, not quite as grand as the one in Berlin, but one could almost assume that the latter was designed according to that pattern. Outside the city there are again the blessings of the better people, of which there are very few here. We asked our coachman about the wages, which are very minimal in line with the other conditions.

The people make a very sad impression; the only thing about the whole society are the beautiful, black eyes with which they stare in astonishment at the strangers. When there was a heavy thunderstorm in the mountains, we decided to retreat, and arrived at the ship again at 7 o'clock.

In the evening we received the most gratifying message that we should take 400 oxen to Colon. As it was only a day and a half, most of the passengers calmed down, uncomfortable as it was to have the entire upper deck full of the cattle. The cattle were even above our cabin, which was so dusted with agriculture that we preferred to sleep on deck. The transfer of the animals on board was very original: two animals were tied together by a chain on the horns and simply lifted onto the deck with the steam winch. The animals got on very well, and the whole thing happened quickly. Fortunately, we had perfectly calm seas, so everyone got to Colon safely. The next day in the morning after we arrived, and after we all said goodbye to everyone, we took the early train to get the ride behind us before the heat of the day. The prices of Panama Rail Road are simply outrageous. For the short distance it cost 11 dollars Gold each with 2 cartons of luggage, which is probably a bit much. It is very necessary that competition be encouraged, so it is better in this regard. The railway was accompanied by a group of American military officers in the middle of the train who were issued a machine gun to prevent any attacks. There are about 28 stations, so the train stops every few minutes. For a distance the train goes close to the canal, and you can see the huge difficulties that confront the construction. One could almost believe that the canal would never be able to be achieved, as important as it would be commercially and, in particular, financially. The obstacles of various kinds are almost insurmountable; in the miserable climate no one can work long, so it is also conceivable, as one of the Panama-Colon railway construction people said, that every threshold would cost a human life.

It is already the 28th, so my letter is already 14 days without being completed. So you will certainly understand, dear Director, if I am a little brief now and report on Panama, the West Coast ports, and some others, perhaps later. I will only describe the days that we spent willy-nilly in the vicinity of the Santa Maria, because of the general interest.

[To be continued...]

¹ Panama did not gain its independence from Colombia until 1903.

² Now Wólka, Poland

³ Now Bęsia, Poland

⁴ See their family tree at FamilySearch.org. Walter's ID is [KN6R-9X8](#).

⁵ The Hope Royal Botanical Gardens was established in 1873 and is still an attraction in Kingston today.

⁶ The Thousand Days' War lasted from 1899 until a treaty was signed on November 21, 1902 aboard the American battleship *Wisconsin*.

⁷ See www.jarts.info/kulturpionier

⁸ http://www.jarts.info/former/03-1903_3-4_complete/vol03_3-4_p50-58_nachrichten-kameradenkreise-2-brief-bodecker-covadonga.pdf. The PDF images of the original publications were published online by the Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Tropics and Subtropics under the [Creative Commons license](#). Walter von Bodecker's letter was translated from the original German by the author, with the welcome assistance of MAGS member Kenneth Weaver.

Finding Ancestors in the Hamburg Passenger Lists

BY ANNETTE UNRAU ADAMS

There might be five million reasons you would want to look for your immigrant ancestor in the Hamburg Passenger Lists. That's because there really are five million individuals in those passenger lists. But the most pressing reason to search them is to find *your* immigrant ancestor's hometown or last place of residence.

During peak European emigration, there were two key German ports from which to leave: Bremen and Hamburg. Bremen was, by number of emigrants, the leading port for departures. 80 percent of these were bound for America, 30 percent were German, and the rest were from Eastern Europe and Scandinavia¹. Very few Bremen records exist. Whether it's arrival or departure lists, passenger lists provide valuable information such as names, ages, occupations, and relatives' names, among others. If you know your ancestor's arrival date to the US, you can figure out their departure date. Once the departure date and your ancestor have been found on a passenger list, you may have just located their hometown or last place of residence, which means you can extend the family tree!

Ancestry.com has created a searchable database in partnership with the Hamburg State Archive. The database includes images of the passenger lists digitized from microfilm. This database is available online through Ancestry.com, which is a subscription site.

The following passage from Ancestry.com explains what the HPLs are and gives some background on them²:

This database contains passenger lists of ships that departed from the port of Hamburg, Germany from 1850-1934 (with a gap from 1915-1919 due to World War I). The database includes images of the passenger lists digitized from microfilm in partnership with the Hamburg State Archive, available here for the first time online.

The database also includes a partial index, covering the years 1850-1914 (up to the start of WWI) and 1920-1926. This index is complete for the years it covers. The index was created by the Hamburg State Archive, using the original lists in their collection, as part of an ongoing project begun in 1999. The indexing project is mainly financed by the "Hauptfürsorgestelle", an institution of the City of Hamburg that supports training programs for handicapped persons.

The Hamburg Passenger lists are a unique source for genealogical research as well as the study of the history of emigration and immigration. The lists include approximately 5 million records of individuals, approximately 80% of whom were destined for the United States. Ca. 475,000 traveled to South America, ca. 214,000 to Canada, ca. 100,000 to Africa, ca. 54,000 to Australia, and ca. 10,000 to Asian countries. Most of

¹ "Research Outline: Germany." Page 26.

<http://files.lib.byu.edu/family-history-library/research-outlines/Europe/Germany.pdf>
(accessed 13 December 2018)

² Ancestry.com. <https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1068> (accessed 13 December 2018)

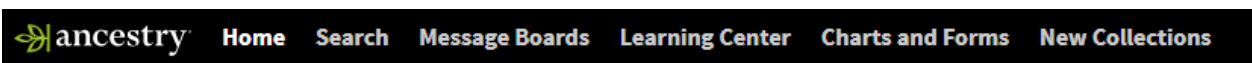
the lists include the last place of residence and often the place of birth as well. This makes them an enormously valuable source for family history research.

To search these valuable records, all you need is your own Ancestry.com subscription, access through a FamilySearch Family History Center, or a local affiliate library near you. This is easy!

Here's how we search the HPLs:

Open your own account at Ancestry.com and log in, or go to the main search page of Ancestry.com if you are at a FS Family History Center or affiliate library.

Here you see the Ancestry.com black ribbon bar. Currently **Home** is underscored in green.



1. Click on **Search**
2. A drop-down box with a menu will appear. Find **Immigration and Travel**.

3. Click on **Immigration and Travel** – this is where ALL Immigration and Travel records are gathered. If you search here, you search ALL collections.

4. This is the **Immigration and Travel** page. To the right of the main **Immigration and Travel** search box, you will see two boxes with bold titles, **Narrow by Category** and below it, where you will search the **Featured data collections**, for the **Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850 - 1934**.

The Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934 these are second to the last on the list.

5. Click on **Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850 -1934**

6. This is the main search page for the **Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850 - 1934**. The image to the right shows you what this page looks like. Orient yourself to this search page.

Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934

Hamburger Passagierlisten, 1850-1934

i **These records are in German**
For best results, you should search using German words and location spellings.

Search
 Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)	Last Name
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Birth	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Lived In	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Arrival	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Departure	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Any Event	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Destination	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Keyword

e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers" ▼

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Year

Choose... ▼

Month

Related data collections

[Hamburg Passenger Lists, Handwritten Indexes, 1855-1934](#)

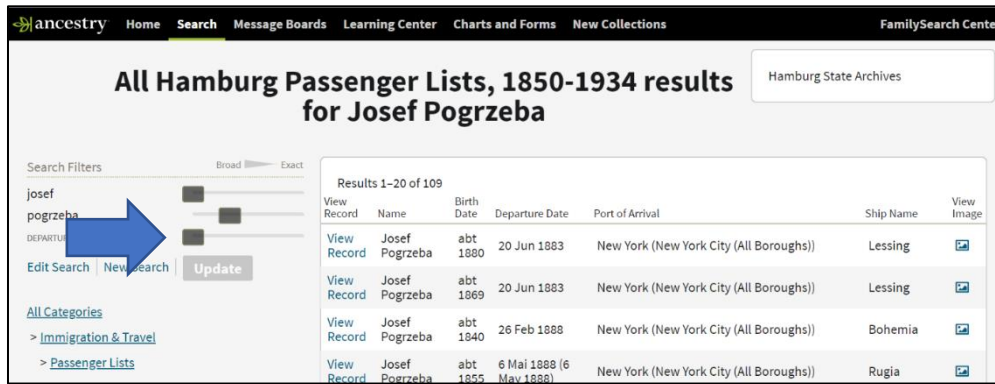
This database contains handwritten indexes to the passenger lists of ships departing from Hamburg, Germany. These handwritten indexes can assist you in finding your ancestor in the original passenger lists for the years 1855-1934, and are especially helpful for locating records for those years that have not yet been electronically indexed.

Note: Title at the top, **Search** box,

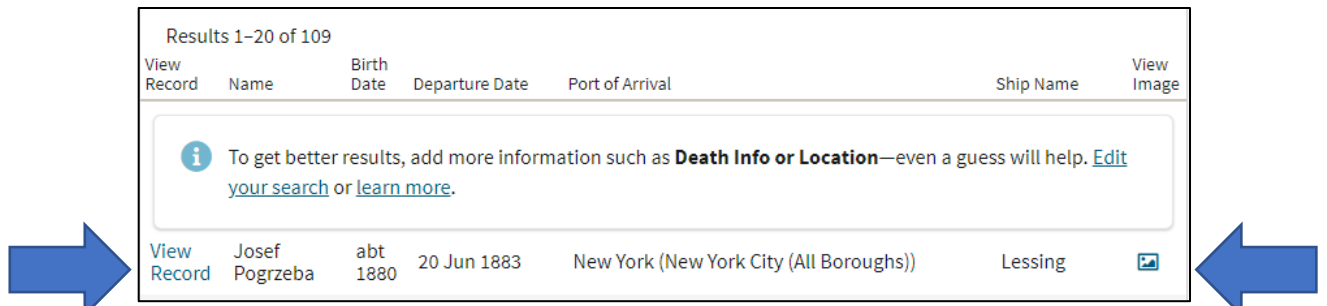
below left, and to the right you will see **Browse this Collection** in its own box. This is useful if you know what year, month and day your ancestor departed from Hamburg.

You must click on a year to see which months these ships departed. You'll note the words **Direkt** and **Indirekt**, which indicate whether the ship took a direct or indirect route. Below it, is the **Related data collections**. These are important if you are needing passenger arrival dates.

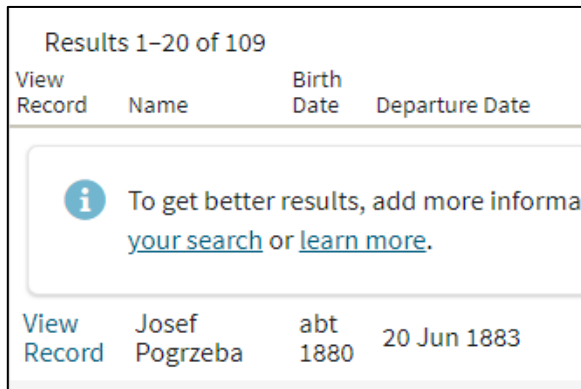
7. As a practice example, we are going to do a basic search for Josef Pogrzeba, who emigrated in 1883. He was about 14 years old. Enter his given name into the **First & Middle Name(s)** and his surname into the **Last Name** box.
8. You will enter his emigration date, 1883, into the **Year of Departure** box. Don't worry about calculating his age. Sometimes, too much data overwhelms the search feature. A broad search is often better because it will return more people. The **Search** feature is not case sensitive.
9. Click on the orange **Search** button.



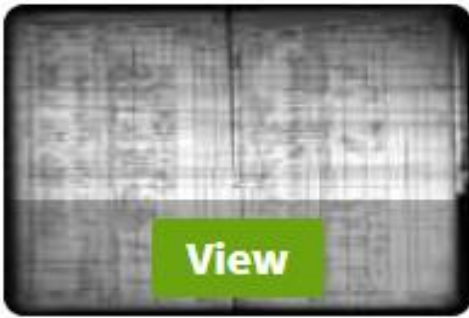
- 10. You will see All Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850 -1934 results for Josef Pogrzeba. You will also see a list of 20 individuals out of 109 results who fall into these basic search criteria. **Please note:** Search Filters (left of the results) have toggles which can be moved left and right, to broaden your search or make it more exact. Don't be too exact. Again, being too exact can limit your results.
- 11. On this page you will see **View Record, Name, Birth Date, Departure Date, Port of Arrival, Ship Name and View Image.**




Note: **View Record** can be found on the left, and the icon for **View Image** is on the right; both are in blue and are hyperlinks. If you hover over **View Record** without clicking on it you will see a thumb nail image of the passenger list and an indexed list of what is visible. The last place of residence is indicated as Kl. Döbern, Schlesien (Slaskie). You can scroll within this box.



- 12. Click on **View Record**, this will take you to a larger version of the index and will include the **Source Citations, and Source Information** and a **Description**. Scroll down the index list and see who Josef is traveling with. Under **Household Members:** you will see names highlighted in blue, which are hyperlinks. If you click on any one of these hyperlinks or people, it will change your focus person to the person you just clicked on. Their details will be changed based on existing passenger list information.



 Add alternate information

 Report issue

13. On the left you will see a thumbnail image and **View** highlighted in green. Click on **View**.

14. The image you see is of two actual side-by-side pages of one of the HPL books. At the top of the page you will see twelve columns with entries printed in German. The columns are exactly the same on both pages. The format is pre-printed script. The entries are, however, handwritten. For your convenience, below is an image of the numbered column headers; use Google Translate. You can also check the Hamburg Passenger List Terminology in the FamilySearch Research Wiki.³

N ^o	Die zu einer Familie gehörenden Personen sind unter einander zu notiren und durch eine Klammer als zusammengehörig zu bezeichnen.		Geschlecht		Alter	Bisheriger Wohnort.	Im Staate oder in der Provinz.	Bisheriger Stand oder Beruf.	Ziel der Auswanderung, Ort und Land ist angegeben.	Zahl der Personen	Davon sind		
	Zuname.	Vorname.	männlich.	weiblich.							Erwachsene und Kinder über 10 Jahre	unter 10 Jahre	unter 1 Jahr
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	

Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934 for Josef Pogrzeba

1880-1889 > Direkt Band 048 (1 Apr 1883 - 29 Jun 1883)

N ^o	Die zu einer Familie gehörenden Personen sind unter einander zu notiren und durch eine Klammer als zusammengehörig zu bezeichnen.		Geschlecht		Alter	Bisheriger Wohnort.	Im Staate oder in der Provinz.	Bisheriger Stand oder Beruf.	Ziel der Auswanderung, Ort und Land ist angegeben.	Zahl der Personen	Davon sind		
	Zuname.	Vorname.	männlich.	weiblich.							Erwachsene und Kinder über 10 Jahre	unter 10 Jahre	unter 1 Jahr
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	
1	Pogrzeba	Josef	1	1	34					1			
2	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	22					1			
3	Pogrzeba	Paul	1	1	11					1			
4	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	9					1			
5	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
6	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
7	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
8	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
9	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
10	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
11	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			
12	Pogrzeba	Anna	1	1	1					1			

³ FamilySearch Wiki. https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Hamburg_Passenger_List_Terminology (accessed 13 December 2018)

15. Carefully check both sides of the image. We find Josef Pogrzeba on line number 2 on the second page, right-hand side. Josef's name is bracketed together with others, which indicates this is his family. Under the columns 5 and 6, *Bisheriger Wohnort* and *Im Staate oder in der Provinz*, we find Josef's family comes from Kl. Döbern, Schlesien.
16. Source and cite your information when you save it so that you will know where to find it again.

What if I can't find my person?

There are a few reasons you may not find your person:

- Your relative may not have emigrated through Hamburg.
- The database includes digitized images of the passenger lists and a partial index covering the years 1850-1914 (up to the beginning of WWI) and 1920-1926, which means you will need to browse through the images.
- Incorrectly indexed
- Misspelled
- Name on a different page

Ancestry suggests looking in the **Handwritten Indexes, 1855-1934**⁴:

To access records for the years that have not yet been indexed, you may want to begin by browsing the companion database, [Hamburg Passenger Lists, Handwritten Indexes, 1855-1934](#). Using the handwritten indexes, you can look up the name of your ancestor alphabetically by year and find the departure date or page number of the passenger list. Then you can return to this database and browse to the images by selecting the year of departure, then selecting the particular volume (Band) that covers the date range when your ancestor sailed, then browsing to the image that matches the departure date or page number found in the handwritten index. If you already know the departure date you can browse directly to it from here. Browsing to the images is also an alternative means of accessing the records for the years that have been indexed.

Quick Tips and Research Suggestions for finding Departure and Arrival Dates:

Immigration and U.S. Passenger Lists:

For U.S. arrivals, you'll need to check the U.S. passenger arrival lists⁵.

⁴ Ancestry.com. <https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1166> (accessed 13 December 2018)

⁵ Ancestry.com. <https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=7488> (accessed 13 December 2018)

Tips and tools: Naturalization

If your ancestor became a US citizen, do you have their naturalization⁶ date? Have you found the three documents of naturalization?

1st Declaration of Intent (Form 2202),

2nd Petition of Naturalization, (Form 2204),

3rd Certificate of Naturalization (Form 2207).

Please check these naturalization records for more information, including possibly a picture. If your relative naturalized before September of 1906 they could have naturalized at any local court. After September 1906, naturalization records were standardized. The records may be found at the local district court level or in online databases, including Ancestry.

Tips and tools: U.S. Census Records

If your relative was in the United States from 1900 on, you will want to comb through key U.S. census records. These include 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940⁷. These provide invaluable insights concerning immigration and naturalization dates. Please take careful note of your findings; you may find conflicting data which will find explanation by way of where these people originated.

About the HPLs:

- Not all lists are handwritten; the later lists may be typed.
- Some indexed lists are alphabetized by surname. Only so many names were assigned per page, so you may have to keep looking a few pages beyond where you think your ancestor should be.
- Only certain years are indexed; you may have to browse the images.
- Departures dates are at the top.
- Direct Lists: passengers traveled from port of departure to port of arrival. No stops.
- Indirect Lists: passengers switched ports after departure. Cheaper fares, longer trips.
- Direct and Indirect Passengers are only important if you want to figure out if your ancestor stopped somewhere along the way.

We learned how easy it is to search through Ancestry.com's online database simply by clicking **Search, Immigration & Travel**, and then to **Related Data Collections**, where we find the **Hamburg Passenger Lists** second to the bottom. Once we've clicked on the **Hamburg Passenger Lists**, we can then enter basic data which we already know about our ancestor. We keep the entry basic to not overwhelm the search, and then click **Search**. A new page opens, and we see a list of results, usually twenty per page, and quick hyperlinks; **View Record** option, or click on the picture option to look at the Hamburg Passenger List. We know the records are in German, printed and handwritten. Once we've found and documented our emigrant ancestor, we have a reliable source to

⁶ Ancestry.com. <https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1193> (accessed 13 December 2018)

⁷ Ancestry.com. <https://www.ancestry.com/search/categories/usfedcen/> (accessed 13 December 2018)

cite, and can now add our newly found information to our tree and family stories. Finally, we also have free online resources to help us evaluate this information and continue our research. See for further reading.

In summary, we know about 5 million passengers departed through the port of Hamburg. If your relatives came over between 1850 and 1934 and you don't know where they came from, check the HPL's. The Hamburg Passenger lists are an excellent source to search for the last place of residence, or hometown. Without a hometown, we have no point of reference to know which parish or civil records to check to extend your family tree.

For Further Reading:

“Hamburg Passenger Lists.” FamilySearch Wiki.

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Hamburg_Passenger_Lists

“Research Outline: Germany.” Family History Library, Salt Lake City, 1994, 2004.

<http://files.lib.byu.edu/family-history-library/research-outlines/Europe/Germany.pdf>

“United States Census.” FamilySearch Wiki.

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Census

“United States Emigration and Immigration.” FamilySearch Wiki.

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Emigration_and_Immigration

“United States Immigration Online Genealogy Records.” FamilySearch Wiki.

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Emigration_and_Immigration

“United States Naturalization and Citizenship.” FamilySearch Wiki

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Naturalization_and_Citizenship

As a native German from Hamburg, Adams takes immense interest in German genealogy and emigration and consulting others in discovering their German heritage. She is also currently genealogy student at Brigham Young University Idaho and former intern with the German Research Consultant team at the Salt Lake City Family History Library.

VORSCHRIFT IST VORSCHRIFT**STICK TO THE SCRIPT**

Your A-Z Guide of Abbreviations in German Genealogy

Abbreviations. The bane of any genealogist's existence. How are we supposed to know what those random letters on our ancestors' records mean? Fortunately, there are certain abbreviations that appear again and again in German genealogy. If you keep this list with you, those tricky letter combinations will become much clearer as you decipher your ancestors' documents.



Katherine Schober

Abbreviation	German Word	English Word	Comments
a.d.	an der/auf der	on the	Seen before a geographical place name, such as a river or landmark
Bez.	Bezirk	district	
d.	den	the	This is often seen before a date, as in "d. 1.6.1851" – the first of June, 1851
Ehefr.	Ehefrau	wife	
ehel.	ehelich	legitimate	
ejuds.	ejusdem	in the same month/year as above	This is a Latin word.
ev./evan.	evangelisch	Protestant	
geb.	geboren	born/née	Usually seen before a woman's maiden name
Jgfr.	Jungfrau/Jungfer	maiden, unmarried woman	Usually seen before a woman's name
kath.	katholisch	Roman Catholic	
led.	ledig	unmarried	Usually seen before a name. If it's a woman's name, it will be written as "ledige"

männl.	männlich	male	Usually seen before the word "Kind" (child)
Pfr.	Pfarrer	priest/pastor	
Str.	Straße	street	
u.	und	and	
unehel.	unehelich	illegitimate	
ux.	uxor	wife	This is a Latin word.
v.	von	from	May be seen before a town
verh.	verheiratet	married	
weibl.	weiblich	female	Usually seen before the word "Kind" (child)
weil.	weiland	deceased/the late	This is an old-fashioned word.
Wwe	Witwe	widow	Usually seen before a name
Wwer	Witwer	widower	Usually seen before a name
z. Zt.	zur Zeit	now, at this time, for the time being	

While these are the most frequent abbreviations you'll see on German records, you may very well run into other abbreviations that are not as common. In those cases, there are two websites that I would recommend to help you find out what those letters mean:

- <https://abkuerzungen.de/main.php?language=de>
- <https://abkuerzungen.woxikon.de/>

Just type in your abbreviation in the search box, and the word or words that it stands for should appear (of course, there are some old-fashioned abbreviations that may not appear on these modern websites, but they are worth a try). If you don't speak German, you can then use an online German to English dictionary – I like dict.leo.org – to see what the German word means. Happy transcribing!

Schober is the author of the book, *Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting*, and has written curriculum for an online course on the old script. Her business is SK Translations, found on the web at www.SKTranslations.com.

UNSERE SPRACHBLÄTTER

OUR LANGUAGE LEAVES

What's in a Name?



Ken Weaver

In the last edition of *Der Kurier* we explored three of the various categories that classify German surnames: **occupations/professions** (the largest group), **geography/places**, and **personal peculiarities**.

In this installment, we'll take a look at one final group of surnames, as well as discuss some of the many variations that occur in names from one region to another.

The final group of German family names are those based on **personal names**, including patronymics. Many writers on this topic make patronymics a standalone category, but the practice of having a last name based on your father's first name and adding a syllable such as *-sohn* or *-sen* was pretty much confined to northern Germany, closer to the Scandinavian countries, and was outlawed there by the 1820s.

Throughout the rest of the German speaking lands, patronymics can be found, but not with the added *-sohn* suffix, but a first name plus *-s*, such as Behrendts or by adding the syllables *-mann*, *-inger*, or *-ler*, such as Heintzemann, Grissingner, Hertzler. In most of these cases, the name did not change like a true patronymic, but remained static from generation to generation.

The category of personal names as surnames is a fairly large one and the one of all the groups that exhibits numerous linguistic changes.

For instance, first names were shortened by dropping the last syllable as a last name: Hein from Heinrich. Similarly, they were shortened and the letter(s) *-i*, *-z*, *-k*, *--zl*, was added: Ebi from Eberhard (today most likely spelled Eby) or Welti (Welty) from Walter, Heinz from Heinrich, Lutz from Ludwig, Eberli (Eberly) from Eberhard, and Reitzel from Richard.

Included in this personal name group are many last names derived from the names of biblical characters and saints, including Klause from Nicholas, Hensel from Johannes, Bastian from Sebastian, and Martin from Matthias.

These variations to first names to make last names leads us to the issue of German dialects and their influence on German surnames. Because there was no one unifying German language when surnames were developing, there are numerous regional variations of surname suffixes that might be added to names, not only of the personal name category. Ernest Thode in his *Atlas of Germanic*

Genealogy (1983) published a map of German suffixes that are prevalent in the areas indicated. In the *Encyclopedia of German-American Genealogical Research* (1976), readers will find a lengthy list of dialectical clues in German surnames that may assist in pinpointing ancestors' locations by using the prefix or suffix found in the surname.

The list published in the *Encyclopedia* was reworked by Theola Walden Baker and republished in the *Missouri State Genealogical Association Journal* in 2005.

While space prohibits discussing the over 125 different dialectic syllables, a few examples include the diminutive suffix *-le*, found frequently in Baden and Württemberg or *-leb* found in surnames in Hesse, derived from the Saxon suffix *-leben*. While the *Encyclopedia* is out of print, the Baker article can be found online at <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~mstone/dialectical.html>.

Before we leave the topic of German surnames, one last important idea needs some discussion, and that concerns the meaning of German surnames.

While a German surname derived from a profession or occupation leaves little doubt as to its meaning, there is still margin for error. Take, for instance the many, many surnames that come from the word for farmer. Given the geography of Germany, a farmer in the north is very different from one in the Bavarian Alps and the words used as the surname carry a very different meaning.

It is important to keep in mind that not only dialectic language, but also history, geography and sociology play a role in the meaning of any German surname.

While there are many reference books available which provide the meanings of German names, Dr. Roger Minert, in an article originally published in the *Palatine Immigrant* in 2013, cautions that using such reference books may not help you determine the actual meaning of the German surname in your family tree.

Needless to say, the topic of German family names is indeed a very detailed one and I hope that I have been able to do it some justice in these two brief installments.

As a native Pennsylvania Dutchman, Weaver can trace most every line of ancestors to a German immigrant in the 18th century, so it was only natural that he learn to speak German and did so under the tutelage of a very inspiring immigrant high school German teacher. Majoring in German at Millersville University, he studied at Philipps-Universität as a junior and upon graduation began a career as a German teacher and later became a principal. Upon retirement from the public schools, he taught at the college level until moving to Florida. Feel free to e-mail suggestions for this column to kenneth.n.weaver@gmail.com.

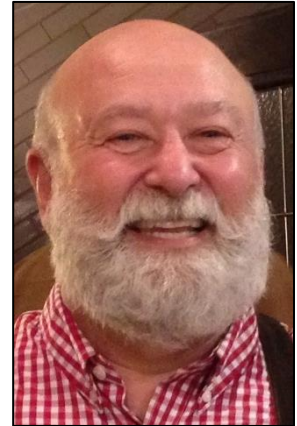
DNA-ENTDECKUNGEN

DNA DISCOVERIES

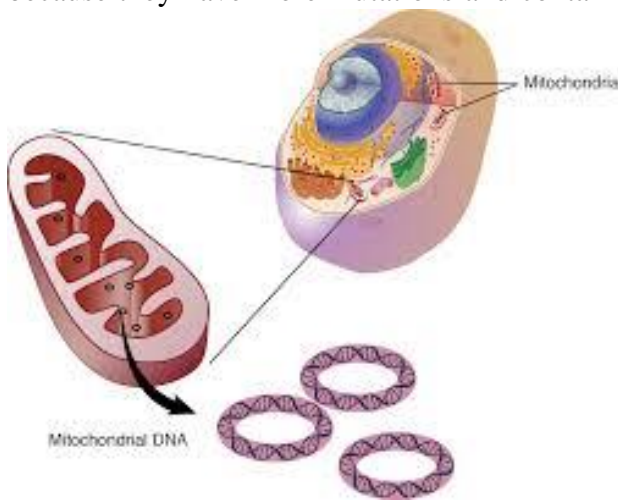
Mitochondrial DNA

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is sometimes ignored by genealogists because of limitations in using it for relative searches. Its molecular structure and characteristics cause some issues as well as female name changes after marriage. Nevertheless, it is an important element of a person's DNA makeup and adds an understanding of your matrilineal roots.

Mitochondria are the small energy-producing organelles located outside the nucleus in the cytoplasm of the cell. Both men and women have mtDNA but only the woman passes it down to all her children. Therefore, this inheritance pattern allows mtDNA to be traced back strictly along the mother's line (sometimes called the umbilical line). Also, mtDNA does not recombine, so it is inherited intact. It mutates very slowly and passed down virtually unchanged for thousands of years. The structure of mtDNA is circular and small. There are only 16,569 base pair locations in mtDNA. It is a tiny amount compared to Y-DNA, which contains 59 million base pairs. This limited number of base pairs does not provide the variety of locations to produce granularity between matches and define relationships with better precision. The mtDNA genome contains 37 genes. The circular structure is divided into three areas: Hypervariable Regions 1 and 2, and the Coding Region. The two hypervariable regions are so named because they have more mutations and contain no genes. The Coding Region is slow changing and contains genes.



Andrew Hochreiter



A significant result of mtDNA testing is identification of the maternal line **haplogroup**. This is the major branch determining descent through the female line of the human family tree. The human maternal line descended from a common female ancestor, frequently called "Mitochondrial Eve." Descendants broke into individual branches over thousands of years as mutations (called single nucleotide polymorphisms or SNPs) occurred. These mutations appeared at different times and locations enabling scientists to

identify the evolution of female branches and the diasporas from Africa to the rest of the world.

Since both men and women have mtDNA, both can take this test and compare results. Not all test companies offer mtDNA tests and results. Ancestry and MyHeritage provide autosomal testing without any Y-DNA or mtDNA reporting. 23andMe and Living DNA offer a maternal haplogroup designation based on targeted testing of 4,000+ mtDNA SNPs. Although this information is meaningful, the allele values are not reported, so comparison between results cannot be made for matching purposes.

The only company that provides comprehensive mtDNA tests is FamilyTreeDNA (FTDNA). They offer two levels of testing. The **mtDNA Plus** (\$89) examines two regions of mtDNA (HVR1 and HVR2) and identifies the **basic** haplogroup and migration paths. The **mtFull Sequence** (\$199) examines all three regions of mtDNA and identifies **full** haplogroup and migration paths with more refined results for genealogical purposes. Unlike Y-DNA, no additional SNP test is needed to determine the full mtDNA haplogroup. The small structure of mtDNA and infrequent mutation rate affect the calculation of relatedness between test takers. mtDNA may be identical to that of very distant direct maternal ancestors. Even if there are no differences between two individuals, their common ancestor could be 200 or 2,000 years ago. The Full mtDNA Sequence (FMS) test is recommended if someone wants to use it for tracing maternal relatives and ancestors. The FMS test helps to reduce the generations to a common ancestor to within a genealogically relevant time frame, as illustrated in the chart.

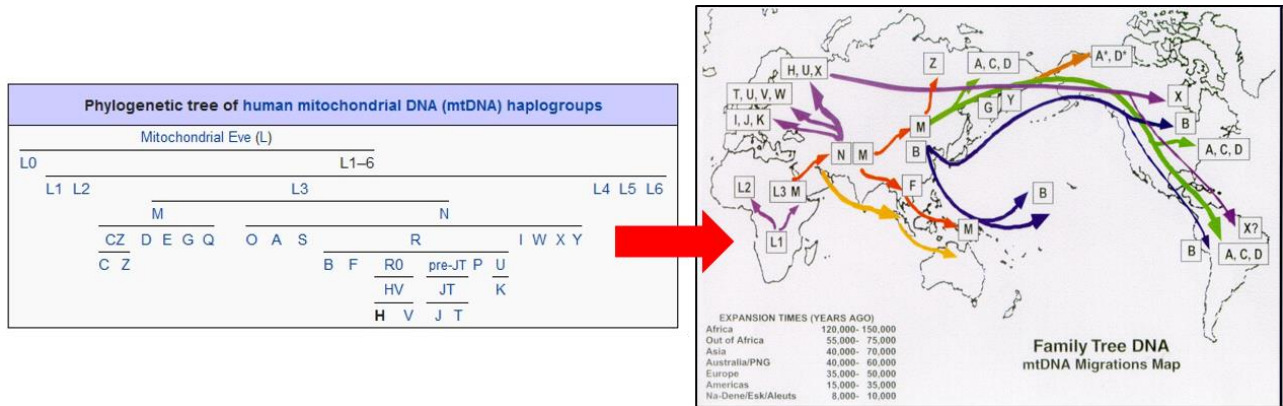
Testing Level	Matching Level	Generations to Common Ancestor	
		50% Confidence Interval	95% Confidence Interval
mtDNA	HVR1	52 (about 1,300 years)	— NA*
mtDNAPlus	HVR1 & HVR2	28 (about 700 years)	— NA*
mtFullSequence	HVR1, HVR2, & Coding Region	5 (about 125 years)	22 (about 550 years)

* The range of generations to a common ancestor at this level is too broad to calculate a 95% confidence period.

MtDNA test results from 23andMe, Living DNA and FTDNA provide the matrilineal haplogroup. A haplogroup is a grouping of genetically related people who share a common ancestor. Haplogroups evolved as different branches on the human family tree as SNPs or mutations occurred. Haplogroups are assigned letters of the alphabet with additional number and letter combinations to denote subclades (subgroups). I belong to maternal haplogroup H5a1, which is common in Europe. The parent haplogroup H makes up an estimated 44.8% of the mtDNA population in Germany. Haplogroups reveal the deep ancestry of your maternal side. For example, haplogroup H broke off from HV about 20-25,000 years ago, H5 evolved about 11,500 years ago, H5a about 7-8,000 years ago, and H5a1 about 6,500 years ago.

The mtDNA test at FTDNA also provides the allele values and the capability to compare your results to other test-takers. Results are displayed using two different reference sequence models. These are the revised Cambridge Reference Sequence (rCRS) and the Reconstructed Sapiens

Reference Sequence (RSRS). The rCRS was developed at the University of Cambridge and utilizes the mtDNA genome of a woman belonging to European haplogroup H2a2a1. The RSRS is a reference sequence that uses both modern human and ancient hominids mtDNA samples introduced in 2012. The RSRS presents an unbiased line back to a distant common maternal ancestor. It is based on the possible modal haplotype of the common ancestor to both modern humans and ancient groups such as Neanderthals.



In both reference sequences, the differences in results are reported against the sequence values. In the rCRS example on the left, position 263 has the reference base A (Adenine), but my result is Guanine (G). Two other interesting variations are shown. Whereas the reference did not have a value at position 315.1, I have Cytosine (C). At position 522, the reference had Cytosine (C), I had no allele value. These are called indels (insertions and deletions). In the second example on the right, some of my results are reported using the RSRS. The numbers represent the position on the mtDNA molecule. The first letter indicates the reference sequence allele value and the second letter indicates my result.

Position	CRS	Your Result
263	A	G
315.1		C
456	C	T
522	C	-

CODING REGION DIFFERENCES FROM RSRS				
A769G	A825t	A1018G	G2706A	A2758G

Another benefit is that FTDNA provides matching with other results in the mtDNA database. The matches page will list other people and indicate your “genetic distance” to them. The zero in the table below means that there is no difference in mtDNA results between us. But mtDNA mutates extremely slowly, about one mutation per thousand years. Therefore, our common ancestor could be hundreds of years ago. It is then necessary to compare genealogies in order to identify common surnames or locations.

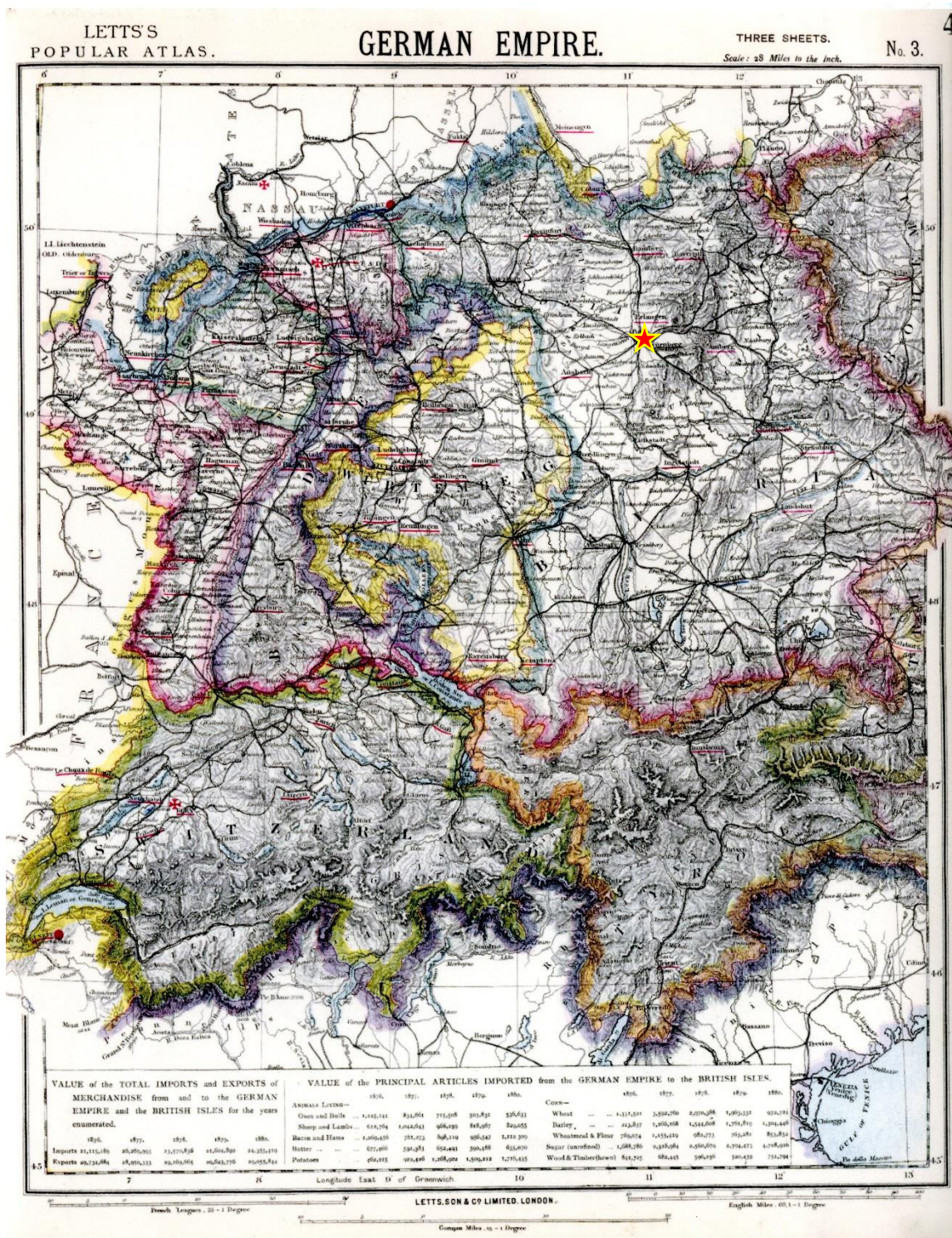
HVR1, HVR2, CODING REGIONS - 29 MATCHES					Page: 1 2 of 2
Genetic Distance	Name	Earliest Known Ancestor		mtDNA Haplogroup	Match Date
0	Douglas	FMS		H5a1	2/19/2019
0	Timothy	FMS FF		H5a1	1/12/2019

In order to better use mtDNA results, it is necessary to complete your maternal lineage as far back as possible and contact your matches to collaborate research on your maternal lineage. A great advantage at FTDNA is to join a DNA project. FTDNA has over 10,000 projects, many focused on mtDNA. These projects are run by knowledgeable genealogists who can advise on how best to interpret and apply mtDNA results.

Andrew Hochreiter, MEd, MIS, is a genetic genealogist who manages multiple DNA surname projects and has successfully applied DNA to trace several related family branches overseas. He is an experienced genealogist and has 12 years involved with genetic genealogy. He instructs continuing education courses in basic and advanced genetic genealogy at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. He is a facilitator for the genetic genealogy module of the on-line Genealogical Research Course at Boston University.



Southern Germany in 1803 after the Reichsdeputationshauptschluß. This is what the area looked like after the Imperial Diet secularized the ecclesiastical states (e.g., bishoprics and abbeys) and allowed larger states to absorb the lands of the Imperial Knights, Imperial Counts, and most of the Imperial Free Cities. Note that a couple of Free Cities are still there (e.g., Nürnberg and Augsburg). It also shows the elevation of some states to the status of Electorates (e.g., Baden, Württemberg, Salzburg, a former Archbishopric, and Hesse-Kassel). Finally, it shows that France had annexed all of Germany on the left bank of the Rhine.



The southern German Empire and Switzerland, as well as parts of modern-day Austria and Italy from Letts's Popular Atlas circa 1883. The map includes areas from Ken Heger's article in this issue about Fürth (marked with a star), as well as areas detailed in articles from previous issues.

Researching Bavaria, Part III: The American Consulate in Fürth, 1872 - 1898

BY KENNETH W. HEGER, PH.D.

The Kingdom of Bavaria was the largest, most populous, and richest state in southern Germany. Bavaria was also the source of many immigrants who made the United States their home, a prime vacation spot for Americans traveling abroad, and the site of some of the finest art and music schools in Europe, schools that attracted many American students.

With so many factors connecting the people of the United States with Bavaria, records documenting Americans in Bavaria are an important source of research material. This article focuses on the records of the American Consulate in Fürth; it is the third⁸ of a seven-part series discussing the sources at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), that the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) will describe and index on the Society's website to help you with your research.

THE CONSULATE IN FÜRTH

In 1872, the Department of State established a foreign service post in the central Bavarian town of Fürth. The post in Fürth began modestly as a consular agency but grew in administrative importance; the State Department appointed a full-time consular agent in 1878. In June 1890 the Department raised the post to a commercial agency, and in July 1897 the Department elevated it to full consulate status.

Despite its rise through the administrative ranks, Fürth remained a minor post. Its duties were negligible, consisting almost exclusively of assisting the nearby consulate in Nürnberg⁹ collect fees and provide invoices for goods shipped to the United States. Glass, especially for spectacles, was the largest export from the district to the United States. State Department inspectors consistently urged the Department to close the post due to the small volume of business it did and the fact that it was a mere four miles from the much larger consulate in Nürnberg.

On 1 July 1898 the Department followed its inspectors' recommendation and closed the post, after which the consulate in Nürnberg assumed responsibility for looking after American interests in Fürth and the surrounding area.

⁸ You can find the first two articles: Kenneth W. Heger. "Researching Bavaria, Part I: Introduction and Augsburg." *Der Kurier: Quarterly of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* December 2018 (Vol. 36, No. 4): 127-137; and Kenneth W. Heger. "Researching Bavaria, Part II: The American Consulate in Bamberg, 1890-1908." *Der Kurier: Quarterly of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* March 2019 (Vol. 37, No. 1): 6-14.

⁹ Part V of this series will focus on the Nürnberg consulate's records.

SECTION A – THE DESPATCHES FROM FÜRTH, 1890 - 1898¹⁰

There are few despatches from Fürth and most of them concentrate on the post's administration. There are no despatches documenting American citizens in the consular district, except for those who worked for the post. The final section of this article tells you how to access the despatches. Note: The despatches only cover the years when Fürth was a consulate. For earlier records, see Section B below. For additional information on Fürth's despatches, access the guide on the MAGS website.

Three Despatches Relating to Nellie B. Dunlaps

Despatch No. 5; 18 August 1890 – This despatch nominated Dunlaps, of Illinois, for the position of clerk at the consulate. Mrs. Dunlaps was also the commercial agent's wife.

Despatch (Unnumbered); 3 December 1891 – This despatch informed the Department that Mrs. Dunlaps had died.

Despatch No. 27; 4 December 1891 – Agent Dunlaps requested a leave of absence to return to the United States to bury his wife.

Two Despatches Relating to Charles E. Carpenter

Despatch No. 8; 14 October 1893 – The new agent, Henry C. Carpenter, asked the Department for permission to appoint his son Charles to the position of clerk at the post.

Despatch No. 32; 26 June 1896 – This despatch provided the Department with additional reasons why the agent's son, Charles, should be the post's new clerk. In the despatch, the agent confessed that his son had been writing the post's despatches to the Department for quite some time, demonstrating his son's neat handwriting.

Biographical Data for Charles W. Erdman

Despatch (Unnumbered); 28 July 1897 – This small packet of documents consists of several typed pages all dated 28 July 1897 pertaining to Erdman, from Louisville, KY and candidate to become the next agent in Fürth. The following excerpt is noteworthy because it illustrates that one can sometimes find exceptional genealogical data in routine correspondence.

I, Charles W. Erdman was borned¹¹ in the City of Holtzminden, Brunswick, Germany on the 2nd day of November 1840, immigrated to the United States in 1844, have been a resident of the city of Louisville since 1858. I have never resided in Bavaria, Germany.

¹⁰ The despatches from Fürth to the Department of State are part of National Archives Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of State.

¹¹ "Borned" was the word Erdman used in his statement.

SECTION B – THE RECORDS KEPT ON SITE IN FÜRTH, 1872 – 1898¹²

Although few, the records the consulate kept on site in Fürth are more voluminous than its despatches to Washington, D.C. The earliest extant records for the post in Fürth date from 1872 and cover the years until the consulate's closure in 1898. There are only 17 volumes and 1 box: nine volumes and one box of correspondence, seven volumes of financial records, and one miscellaneous records book. The final section of this article tells you how to access the records. The guide to the records on the MAGS website provides a thorough overview of all the records.

Note on Solingen – After the department closed the post in Fürth, it recycled several of the volumes the newly-closed post had used by sending them to the consulate in Solingen. Volumes dated after 1898, therefore, usually document activities that personnel performed in Solingen.

The Miscellaneous Record Book, September 1890 – February 1905 (Volume 14 – NAID 1326074)

Of all the consulate's records, this volume may be the most valuable to your research. The consulate used it primarily to enter two kinds of data. First, there are entries relating to the consulate's administration. Second, there are some fair copies (i.e. handwritten) of miscellaneous letters sent.

The letters are the most useful for genealogical research. While the recipients of most of these letters were businessmen and their subjects are commercial, there are some letters sent to private citizens on personal matters. The following list of personal letters provides the document's date, the name of the addressee, a synopsis of the letter's subject and the page in the volume where the staff recorded the letter. **Note:** Entries made after 1898 document activities of the American consulate in Solingen. In addition there is a single reference to a document the Solingen staff filed in Volume 15.

Fürth Portion of Volume

3 October 1890; Letter to the American Legation in Berlin about a duplicate passport for **Louis Rudloff** – p. 1

16 January 1894; Letter to the American Embassy in Berlin about **Julius Tipp**; Tipp wanted to marry and there was a question about his citizenship – pp. 13-14

¹² The records the consulate kept on site in Fürth are part of National Archives Record Group 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State.

10 April 1894; Letter to the Consulate-General in Frankfurt-am-Main about **Theodore Streng**, of the “Wild & Woolly West” Show. Streng was on his way to Fürth to marry “one of the fair damsels of the Kingdom, Miss Smith, daughter of a protestant clergyman” in the district – p. 19

7 March 1894; Table with a list of consular employees – p. 18

12 April 1894; Letter to **Adolphine Smith** concerning **Theodore Streng** and his citizenship status – p. 20

11 May 1894; Letter to the American Embassy in Berlin concerning **Julius Leowengart** and his citizenship status; there is some family data in the letter – p. 22

15 June 1894; Note to the files about **Theodore Streng**, an affidavit about his wedding gifts, mentions South Auburn, NE – p. 25

18 January 1895; Letter to American Embassy in Berlin concerning **John Friedrich** and his passport – p. 52

3 March 1896; Letter to the Consulate General in Frankfurt-am-Main concerning **Arthur Sternberg**'s desire to wed; there was a question about his citizenship status – p. 69

5 March 1896; Letter to **Arthur Sternberg** about his marriage – p. 70

2 July 1896; Letter to **Oscar Schlegel** about Schlegel's desire to wed – p. 87

Solingen Portion of Volume

28 July 1900; Letter to the U.S. Consulate in Hamburg about **Charles Gebauer** and the assistance Solingen rendered to Gebauer, a destitute seaman – pp. 198-199

21 January 1901; Letter to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin concerning a passport for **Dora Schmidt Theis**; mentions Cincinnati, OH – p. 205

9 August 1901; Letter to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin concerning a duplicate passport for **Anna Witkiewicz** – p. 224

29-31 August 1901; Letters to the Department of State (including the Auditor for the Department) concerning **Edmond Z. Brodowski**'s death. Brodowski died 11 August 1901 in Eberswalde near Berlin of a hemorrhage; he was buried in Eberswalde on 13 August 1901. There is additional data in the letters – pp. 225-227

8 January 1902; Letter to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin concerning **Edward Blasberg** and his passport; mentions Richard Blasberg and Philadelphia – p. 238

10 January 1902; Letter to U.S. Embassy in Berlin; morning information on the **Edward Blasberg** passport matter – p. 239

31 January 1902 & 3 February 1902; Letters to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin concerning a passport for **Nathan Kastor** – p. 242

3 October 1902; Letter to the Bürgermeister of Wald concerning **Ferdinand Hintze** and **Julian Young** and their citizenship status; letter is in German – p. 269

25 May 1903; Letter to the Bureau of Vital Statistics in New York asking for a birth certificate for **Gustav Clauberg**, allegedly born 4 July 1883 in Brooklyn, NY – p. 292

15 August 1903; Letter to the Consulate General in Frankfurt-am-Main concerning **Carolina Schaub** and her problems emigrating to the United States – p. 300

10 November 1903; Letter to the Consulate General in Frankfurt-am-Main relating to **Joseph Diener**'s request for the whereabouts of his father – pp. 308-309

Special note on Christoph Riessner and Success with the MAGS Website

The invalid American Civil War veteran, Christoph Riessner returned to Bavaria after the war. As a veteran and pensioner, the U.S. federal government kept records on him to ensure Riessner received the pension to which his military service entitled him. This short example illustrates how you can use consular records to further your research, and the help you might get from a simple search of the MAGS databases.

The Fürth portion of the Miscellaneous Record Book (Volume 14) contains four references to Riessner, all of which document his efforts to obtain an increase of his pension. Although tightly focused on this topic, the correspondence confirms that he lived in central Bavaria, that he was a pensioner, that the consulate was in regular contact with him, and that he was a patient of German doctor Friedrich Fraumüller. Here are the citations for the four letters.

- 17 May 1894; Note to the files that **Christopher Riessner** had produced a citizenship affidavit – p. 23
- 5 December 1894; Letter to the Commissioner of Pensions in Washington, D.C. relating to pensioner **Christopher Riessner**'s claim for an increase in pension. **Dr. Friedrich Fraumüller** of Fürth appointed to perform Riessner's medical examination – p. 45

- 18 November 1896; Letter to the Commissioner of Pensions in Washington, D.C. about **Christoph Riessner**'s medical examination; it mentions **Dr. Fraumüller** – p. 64
- 11 January 1896; Letter to the Commission of Pensions in Washington, D.C. concerning **Christoph Riessner**'s medical examination; it mentions **Dr. Fraumüller** – p. 67

Knowing it contains extensive documentation on American servicemen who emigrated, I did a quick search of the MAGS website. Eureka! I found three hits indicating there is information on him in the Overseas Pension database. That search confirmed that Riessner had served in Co. G, 41st New York Volunteer Infantry. It also revealed that these records spelled his name two ways; there was one database hit under the spelling Reissner and two under Riessner. The lesson? Remember to look at alternate spellings of your ancestor's name, and always do a quick name search on the MAGS website.

ACCESSING THE RECORDS

Because the records of the consulate in Fürth are not digitized, you need to visit the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) facility in College Park MD, also known as Archives II, to examine the originals or their microfilmed surrogates. Consult NARA's website www.archives.gov for additional information on hours of operation and research room rules prior to your visit.

You might also want to consult the Guide to the Records of the American Consulate in Fürth on the members-only section of the MAGS website. The Guide provides additional information about the consulate, more details about the records, and supplement lists of names.

CONSULAR DESPATCHES

The despatches the Fürth consulate sent to the Department of state are reproduced on one National Archives Microfilm Publication. Please keep in mind that if records are available on microfilm, you will need to use the microfilm rather than the hard copies.

T689, *Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Fürth, Germany, 1890-1898.* 1 roll.

This publication only contains despatches from Fürth, and local politics is the topic of many of them. The consulate's narrative despatches contain very few personal names mentioned among the documents. Keep in mind that the despatches are arranged in chronological order.

- Only 1 Roll – June 26, 1890 – October 9, 1898

You can access the microfilm in Archives II. Because all microfilm publications are in cabinets in the Microfilm Research Room (MRR) you do not need to worry about pull times; access to the rolls is self-serve. You can also make copies from the microfilm on printers in the MRR.

RECORDS KEPT ON SITE AT THE CONSULATE

The records the consulate kept in Fürth are only available in hard copy. You need to request to see the records from a specialist in the Textual Research Room at Archives II in College Park. The records are not in good physical condition. Several of the volumes are fragile and require care when you handle them; many of the volumes of press copies of letters sent are very difficult to read. Account for this fact when you plan your research. You should, for example, expect to have to use a digital camera or use an overhead scanner to make copies of pages.

Example of How to Request a Consular Volume

Be sure when you request a volume to examine (and when you cite it in your notes and writings) to include all of the information listed below. The MAGS Guide includes all of that information. The following is an example of how to request and cite a single volume.

- *Records of the American Consulate in Fürth; Miscellaneous Record Book, September 1890 – February 1905; Vol. 14; NAID 1326074; RG 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the United States*

FUTURE ARTICLES IN THIS SERIES

This series of articles will continue in upcoming issues of *Der Kurier*.

- Part IV: The Consulate in Munich
- Part V: The Consulate in Nürnberg
- Part VI: The Bavarian Palatinate
- Part VII: Other Sources Available on the MAGS Website about Bavaria (this will include visuals, quick facts sheets, and additions to the searchable databases)

AUSWANDERER ZUSAMMEN

IMMIGRANT CONNECTIONS

Baltimore Immigrant Found in U. S. Consular Records

Once again, we will use clues from United States consulate records in Germany to uncover the history of an immigrant family in the United States. Since citizens of both countries used American consuls to find or contact relatives in the other country, consulate records can yield a wealth of information about family relationships. In this instance the story is close to home, as it involves a Baltimore family.



Bob Greiner

Louise Brack died on 15 April 1902 in Baltimore. Her will named several relatives in Germany as legatees, as well as many others in the United States. They included several of her siblings as well as siblings of her deceased husband. Her estate was rather large for the early 1900s – apparently worth over \$15,000, based on the monetary amounts designated for various people and organizations. To settle her estate, the executor contacted the American consul general in Frankfurt, Germany to locate the legatees residing there. The file generated at the consulate for Louise Brack included an abstract of her will and an accounting of the \$2,300 distributed to the legatees by the consul. The file was closed in April 1904¹.

Based on the information in her file, we can pose several questions about Louise Brack. Who was her husband and when did he die? When did they arrive in the United States? From the names and places mentioned in her will, can we determine her family history and where Louise and her husband came from in Germany?

From the relatives mentioned in Louise's will, we can assume that her maiden name was Rimbach, since she identified two brothers with that surname. The residences of several legatees included Frankfurt, Fulda (Kurhesse²), and Geisa (Saxe-Weimar³). Louise designated \$5,000 for the Catholic Church in Geisa.

I first searched for Louise and her husband in the census records of Baltimore. Both [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) and [FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org) have those records online. Since Louise's age was not known at this point, I simply entered her name and a residence of Baltimore as the search terms. I also added a birth place of Germany, on the assumption that she was probably born there. Note that for the Ancestry search I checked the **similar** and **sounds like** check boxes for both the given and surname. This increased the potential for finding more results where her name may have been misspelled or transcribed incorrectly. Initially, I only looked for census records.

Among the results from Ancestry were census records for Louise Brack living in Baltimore in 1880 and 1900⁴. In 1880 she lived with her husband August and both were about the same age – born about 1837. Louise was widowed by 1900, but stated that she had been married for 35 years.

She was born in February 1837 and indicated that she had no children. These entries appeared to be a likely match for the person I was researching.

Next, I entered Louise's birth year (+/- 2 years) and widened the scope in Ancestry to look for

Beerdigungen. — Der Leichnam der am 15. d. M. nach kurzem Leiden einer Herzkrankheit erlegenen Frau Louise Brack wurde gestern Vormittag auf der „Bonnie Brae Cemetery“ zur letzten Ruhe bestattet, nachdem in der St. Michaels = Kirche an Lombard- und Wolfstraße eine Requiem = Hochmesse stattgefunden. Vater Franz G. Gutberlet hielt das Requiem vor einer großen Trauerversammlung, nachdem sich der einbruchsvolle Leichenzug vom Trauerhause, Nr. 1617, Ost-Baltimorestr., aus nach der Kirche begeben. Als Bahrtuchträger fungierten die Hh. George, Louis und August Rimbach, Neffen der Verstorbenen, Julius Rinn, Adam Schöpfer und George Schäfer. — Frau Brack, geb. Rimbach, war 65 Jahre alt und in Sachsen = Weimar geboren; sie kam im Jahre 1870 mit ihrem Gatten August Brack, der ihr am 21. Januar 1900 im Tode voranging, nach Amerika. Der einzige Sohn der Verstorbenen starb vor längerer Zeit. Sie hinterläßt einen Bruder, Hrn. Albert Rimbach, und eine Anzahl Neffen und Nichten. Unter den Leidtragenden befanden sich auch Frau Wm. J. Schäfer und Schwester aus Philadelphía, Pa., und Frau Joseph Knapp und Schwester aus Columbia, Pa., langjährige Freundinnen der Verstorbenen.

Figure 1 - Louise Brack obituary
Der Deutsche Correspondent
19 Apr 1902

Holy Redeemer Cemetery in Baltimore.

Ludwig Rimbach from Frankfurt was another brother of Louise mentioned in her will. When I searched for him in Ancestry, using a birth date of 1840 +/- 10 years, I discovered a group of interesting records. The database titled **Hesse, Germany, Deaths, 1851-1958** contains a name index with images of death certificates from the German state of Hesse. A [death certificate](#) for Ferdinand Ludwig Rimbach was found there⁷. He was born in Geisa, Saxe-Weimar in 1844 and died in Frankfurt in 1908. The certificate gave his parents' names as Conrad Joseph Rimbach and Elisabetha Fleck. Since Ludwig was a brother of Louise Brack, these were probably also her parents. The records also indicated these people were Catholic. It is typical of many German records to specify one's religious preference.

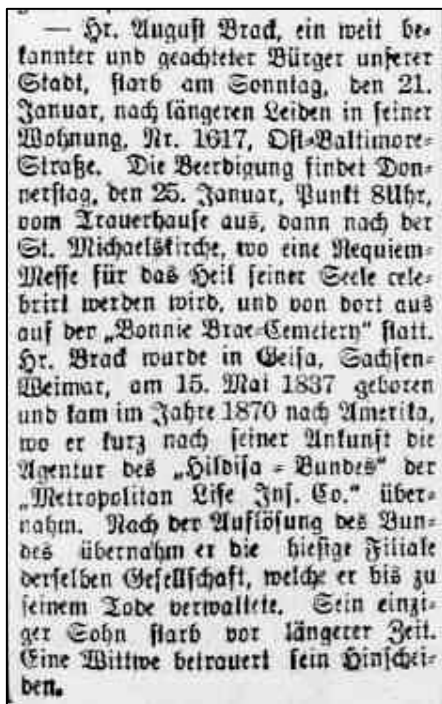
all records. Several interesting results appeared. One pointed to a [FindAGrave](#) entry for Louise Brack, who was buried in New Cathedral Cemetery in Baltimore. The birth and death dates in that entry matched those found in the census and consulate records. August Brack was also buried there and his entry included his life dates. He died in January 1900. FindAGrave included a tombstone photograph. Etched on the tombstone was the statement that they were natives of Geisa, Saxe-Weimar. I now knew the dates and places of their birth and death. But when did they arrive? Louise did not offer this information as expected in the 1900 census.

Ancestry results included two passenger lists for Louise. One was from [May 1871](#)⁵. She arrived in Baltimore from Bremen with two children, aged 3 years and 9 months. The children apparently died before the 1880 census. August was not with them on the passenger list. I could not find him on any other passenger list. A passenger list from [June 1901](#)⁶ showed Louise returning from Germany with a niece – Josephine Rimbach. Josephine, who later returned to Germany, was one of the legatees mentioned a year later in Louise's will. She was a daughter of Louisa's brother Ludwig Ferdinand Rimbach.

It was time to look for the families of August and Louise. I started with Louise's brother Albert Rimbach, who apparently lived in the United States. He and his family were in the 1900 Baltimore census. Albert and his wife Sophia were born in Germany in 1838 and 1837 and immigrated in 1860. They were found in Baltimore census records from 1870 through 1930 and were buried in Most

In the same database I found death records of several other relatives mentioned in Louise's will. These include Ludwig's son Philipp and daughter Josephine, as well as Sabina Hunold, nee Rimbach, another sister of Louise. Their death certificates provided details linking them to the Rimbach family from Geisa, Saxe-Weimar.

I was not able to find the siblings of August Brack mentioned in Louise's will. They were Bertha Spies, Dorothea Schmitz (or Schintler)⁸, and Christina Schwartz. Presumably they lived in the United States, since the will did not specifically mention an address in Germany. Mary Heim Bader was the executor of Louise Brack's will. She was identified as a cousin. Mary and her husband William F. Bader were found in Baltimore census and cemetery records. Mary was the daughter of Adam Heim and his wife Mary. Adam was found on a Baltimore passenger list, arriving in 1860. His place of origin was listed as Geisa. Mary's maiden name may have been Rimbach, but I found no other evidence to support that theory.



— Hr. August Brack, ein weit bekannter und geachteter Bürger unserer Stadt, starb am Sonntag, den 21. Januar, nach längeren Leiden in seiner Wohnung, Nr. 1617, Ost-Baltimore-Straße. Die Beerdigung findet Donnerstag, den 25. Januar, Punkt 8Uhr, vom Trauerhause aus, dann nach der St. Michaelskirche, wo eine Requiem-Messe für das Heil seiner Seele celebrirt werden wird, und von dort aus auf der „Bonnie Brae-Cemetery“ statt. Hr. Brack wurde in Geisa, Sachsen-Weimar, am 15. Mai 1837 geboren und kam im Jahre 1870 nach Amerika, wo er kurz nach seiner Ankunft die Agentur des „Hilfs-Bundes“ der „Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.“ übernahm. Nach der Auflösung des Bundes übernahm er die hiesige Filiale derselben Gesellschaft, welche er bis zu seinem Tode verwaltete. Sein einziger Sohn starb vor längerer Zeit. Eine Wittwe betrauert sein Hinscheiden.

Figure 2 - August Brack obituary
Der Deutsche Correspondent
24 Jan 1900

While searching for these families, I stumbled upon a reference to Louise Brack in *Der Deutsche Correspondent*, a Baltimore German language newspaper. The article was an abstract of Louise's will (in German) – essentially the same information that was found in the consular estate file. Interestingly, there were some differences in the two versions, including the spelling of names. Searching further in these newspapers, I quickly found obituaries for August and Louise Brack, a publication of her estate, and other interesting references⁹. The *Baltimore Sun* published an account of her estate in English¹⁰.

Shame on me! One of my first thoughts should have been to search the databases on the MAGS website for the Brack and Rimbach surnames. Of course, one would expect to find the names indexed from the consulate records there. But you would also find a reference to August Brack in the *Der Deutsche Correspondent* death database. Since I had already found Louise's obituary, I expected to find her in our database, but did not. After examining the original data, I realized, much to my surprise, that only males were noted in the yearly list of deaths in the newspaper.

The available issues of *Der Deutsche Correspondent* can be found and searched on the Library of Congress [Chronicling America](http://chroniclingamerica.org) website¹¹. Once on the website, select the **Advanced Search** tab, then under **Select Newspaper** choose "Der Deutsche correspondent". You can restrict your search to a specific year range. To search for a name, enter a surname and given name in one of the search boxes, then click on the **Search** button. I would suggest first putting the name into the box labeled **...with the words within 5 words of each other**. That may reduce the chance of the search finding hits with just one of the names.

The results of a search are returned as thumbnail images of the issues containing the name. You can click on an issue and browse the page, which will have the relevant search terms highlighted. You can resize and scroll around the page and navigate to other pages of the same issue. From the same page you can navigate to the issues with the remaining search results. From the image of the paper you can click on the **All issues** link that will take you to a calendar view. From that page you can select a year and then a specific date within that year. In this way you can get directly to an issue if you know the date you are looking for.

Overall, given the large number of names mentioned in the will, I was able to find an incredible amount of online information about Louise Brack and her family. Census, immigration, and cemetery records provided basic details of their lives. Death and marriage records from Hesse, Germany yielded more specific information about Louise Rimbach Brack's siblings and parents. Finally, articles from *Der Deutsche Correspondent* provided additional details about their lives.

I will point out an issue with the German records. Geisa was located in Saxe-Weimar, which today is in the modern state of Thuringia, near the border with Hesse. During the Cold War era it was located in East Germany, directly on the border with West Germany. There are not many church records available online for Thuringia. It is even more difficult to find Catholic Church records from Germany online. Thus, I was not able to uncover any records for these families in Geisa. The only reason I found records for the Rimbach family is that some of them moved to Frankfurt in Hesse. It was fortunate that the Hesse records are available online. The best option to find birth and marriage records for August and Louise Brack would be to write directly to the Catholic Church or the Standesamt (civil registrar) in Geisa. With the information already known about them, the German authorities should easily be able to find the desired records.

¹ Louise Brack file, Closed Estate Cases, 1903 – 1903, Box 366, United States Consular Records for Frankfurt am Main, Germany, Records of the Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State, Record Group 84; National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD; NAID 1326011.

² Kurhessen was another name for the Electorate of Hesse, or Hesse-Kassel, part of the German Confederation (1815 – 1867). Today it is the northern part of the German state of Hessen.

³ Saxe-Weimar was a Grand Duchy in the German Confederation. Part of the territory was just east of Hesse-Kassel. Today it is part of the German state of Thuringia.

⁴ I have found that Ancestry seems to have a problem finding some record types for Baltimore when the location is set to **Exact to this place**. I usually select **Exact to county** when searching for records in Baltimore.

⁵ <https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8679&h=1387545>

⁶ <https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8679&h=476503>

⁷ <https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?viewrecord=1&r=an&db=HessenDeaths&indiv=try&h=1793572>

⁸ The name was spelled differently in every account of the estate.

⁹ Albert Brack, *Der Deutsche correspondent*. (Baltimore, Md.), 24 Jan 1900, p. 4. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045081/1900-01-24/ed-1/seq-4/>>

Louisa Brack, *Der Deutsche correspondent*. (Baltimore, Md.), 19 Apr 1902, p. 6. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045081/1902-04-19/ed-1/seq-6/>>

¹⁰ "\$13,600 To Charity". *The Baltimore Sun*. (Baltimore, Md.), 20 Apr 1902, p. 7. *Newspapers.com*.

<<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/365336416/>>

¹¹ <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045081/>

DER KALENDER**THE CALENDAR****2019**

May 30-June 2. Southern California Genealogical Society's Jamboree 2019, Los Angeles, CA, SCGS's 50th birthday bash, with speakers and workshops spread over four days.

More info: <http://genealogyjamboree.com/>

June 15-17. International German Genealogy Conference, Sacramento, CA, second-ever biennial conference being sponsored by the International German Genealogy Partnership (coordinated by Partner groups) with theme of "Strike It Rich: with Connections 2 Discoveries." Headlining presenters will include Fritz Juengling, Michael Lacopo and Roger P. Minert. There will be an exhibit hall and many special events. Registration expected to open Nov. 1, 2018. More info: <https://iggpartner.org/cpage.php?pt=73>

July 13-14. Mid Atlantic Germany Society's 119th Annual German Festival, Lutherville-Timonium, MD, Dance to music provided by German bands. Enjoy traditional folk dancing and choral singing. Lift your bier pitcher and join in the singing of "Ein Prosit" as you toast der Gemütlichkeit!

More info: <https://www.md-germans.org/maryland-german-festival/>

August 21-24. FGS 2019 National Conference, Washington, DC, FGS makes its first visit to the nation's capital with the National Archives, Library of Congress, DAR Library, and more a Metro ride away. **MAGS will sponsor a luncheon on Thursday of the conference!** More info: <https://fgs.org/event/fgs-2019-national-conference-washington-dc/>

October 12. Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America, Plain City, Ohio, Fall Seminar: "German Roots and Records" with James M. Beidler, Der Dutchman Restaurant, 445 Jefferson Avenue, U.S. Route 42, Plain City, OH, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Room block available at Hilton Garden Inn, 500 Metro Place North, Dublin, OH 43017; (614) 766-9900 – Group Code SMERF. Online registration at the website: <https://oh-palam.org/registernow.php>

Or: make check payable to Ohio Chapter – Palam and mail to: Joe Stamm, 3930 Lander Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-1329, questions? lindabelle@lcs.net

November 1-2. 2019 North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, NC.

More info: <https://www.ncgenealogy.org/event/2019-ncgs-fall-conference/>

2020

February 26-29. RootsTech 2020, Salt Lake City, UT, celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the conference. Registration opens on September 18, 2019. More info: <https://www.rootstech.org/salt-lake>

May 20-23. 2020 NGS Family History Conference – Echoes of our Ancestors, Salt Lake City, UT. Speakers, vendors, events – and the Family History Library! More info: <https://ngsgenealogy.org>

MAGS Welcomes New Members

A maximum of four surnames being researched by each new member appears *in bold parentheses and italics* following the new member's name. Space does not permit more than four surnames or most spelling variations. MAGS encourages all members to submit free queries to the queries editor regarding specific ancestors.

SALLY ADLER of RYE, NY
(*No Names*)

MARGARET BIRNSTIEL of WARMINSTER, PA
(*No Names*)
EVAN BUSH of GEORGETOWN, DE
(*Duhme, Behle*)

BERNHARD CORNWELL of NEUHÄUSEL,
GERMANY
(*Dircks, Soetje, Fuhrmann*)

CARL ECKELL of FAIRBORN, OH
(*Eckell, Kossman, Steever*)

RACHEL FARRIS of MCGREGOR, TX
(*Tiemann*)
PATRICIA FORD of BALTIMORE, MD
(*Grenagle/Gruenagel, Snyder/Schneider,
Hammerbacher, Freeburger*)

KATHRYN GELNER of GETTYSBURG, PA
(*Schmich, Gelner/Göllner, Bergmann,
Wagner*)

RAYMOND GILLICH of WINCHESTER, VA
(*Martel*)

MAXINE, GRABILL of WESTMINSTER, MD
(*No Names*)

JOHN & MARGARET HESS of HAGERSTOWN,
MD
(*Hess*)

STACI LARSEN of MALAGA, WA
(*No Names*)
SARAH MARCIANO of MALAKOFF, FRANCE
(*No Names*)

TERESA STEINKAMP McMILLIN of
INVERNESS, IL
(*Steinkamp, Offenburger, Blaesing, Steren*)

GARY MEYER of HAGERSTOWN, MD
(*Meyer*)
DIANNE NETHERLAND of ODENTON, MD
(*Stayer, Stier, Steer, Netherland*)

DAVID POWELL of MONKTON, MD
(*Bonsack*)
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