

# The Remus Family of Saxony

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ebook edition June 3, 2013

## Remus Family of Saxony

### Preface

Remus is not an uncommon name both as a first name and a last name. For example, the founders of Rome were Remus and Romulus. As Romulus killed his brother Remus, arguably the greatest city in the ancient world is name Rome rather than Rem.

When family names arose in about the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the name Remus appeared in France as a corruption of the name of the saint the converted the Royal family of France to Christianity. That is St Rhegius. To this date there are many French families with this family name.

In Germany, the name Remus arose as a Latinization of the Saxon clan name Rem. Thus in the 14<sup>th</sup> century you began to see the family name Rem+us=Remus as a name for those involved with the church as priests, doctors, lawyers, and academics. The Rem (Rehm) family of Augsburg for example had many members who chose the Remus name like Bishop Remus of Cheimsee and Chancellor Georg Remus of Altdorf University. Mostly the descendents if any of these Remus families returned to the use of their original family name Rem.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century the German dukes were reconquering Saxony, a region then mostly inhabited by Slavic people known then as Wends and currently known as Sorbs. Germans from the Augsburg area were resettled in Saxony and we know that members of the Rem family of Augsburg traveled there on commercial matters. So there maybe a link between the Rem family of Augsburg and the Remus family residing near Dresden, Saxony in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

But following book is what we can say for sure about the Remus family of Saxony. This volume gives the grand overview of the family especially while in West Prussia. The second volume is the genealogies of the major families.

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[Braunsfelde](#) near Friedeberg in the Neumark - a stopping place for Remus family members who would eventually end up in West Prussia.

[Skrzynia](#) - a sandy little village in Kreis Schwetz where a farm could be acquired with very little money

[Belno](#), Kries Schwetz - an estate where the descendents of the Skrzynia residents worked on estates

[Wollin](#) and [Gross Podel](#) - two great estates in Kreis Stolp owned by the Puttkamer family. The Remus family there

migrated to Wollin and Podel from West Prussia. They sought land but ended up as estate workers.

[Garden](#), [Streesen](#), and [Verchland](#) - three villages in Western Hinterpommern where Remus people came directly from Saxony to work on estates. But soon left for America.

[Bukowiec](#), Kreis Schwetz - a haven for German free farmers in a county mostly filled with estates.

[Ceksyn](#), Kreis Tuchel - a relatively recent village created by subdividing a noble estate.

[Bialobloty](#) - a Russian Poland village made with contractual arrangements with the nobility that owned the land

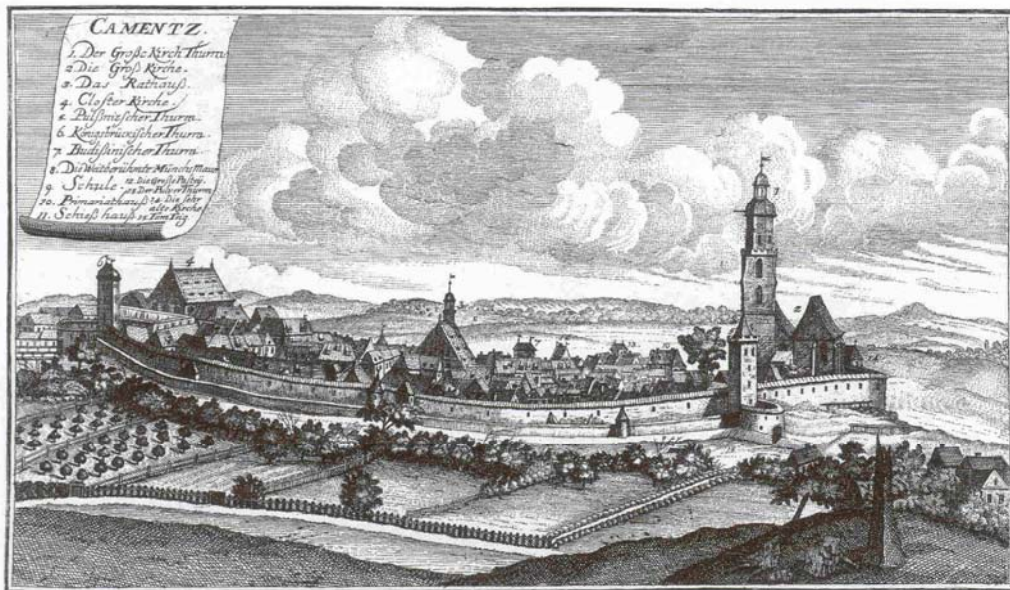
And lastly [Anielowka and Berestowitz](#) in the Ukraine which was then occupied by Russia.







# Kamenz: The Remus Family Hometown



Kupferstich von Kamenz, 1. Hälfte 18. Jh., von Christoph Gottlob Glymann

Kamenz is the likely hometown of the Remus family. Kamenz is also most likely the hometown for the Remus family of Grossenhain described later in this section. And the hometown for the Remus family that migrated to West Prussia. From 1702 till 1704 the Army of Saxony recruited people throughout Saxony (including Kamenz) for the Great Northern War that was being fought in Poland and West Prussia. Then in 1717, the Army of Saxony was demobilized leaving many soldiers in northern Poland. Augustus the Strong, King of Saxony and Poland, encouraged such migration to stabilize those lands and provided some support in the form of small land grants (like Michael Remus of Pollnitz, Kreis Schlochau, West Prussia) to facilitate that end. Also, West Prussia had been decimated in the Great Northern War. This led the Polish Nobility to invite Germans to repopulate the farmland. As is shown later, the Remus family negotiated contracts with up-front payments with the Polish Nobility; as burgers, the Remus family had access to money for those contracts. The Remus family also was a good choice since they lived in communities with the Wends and, assuming they spoke with their neighbors, they could communicate in Polish since Wendish and Polish are mutually understandable.

The town of Kamenz developed in the 12<sup>th</sup> century as a fortified town along a major trade route. The first church dates from before 1225. In this area, the economy had improved from the year 1000 to 1300. By 1300, the population had exceeded the land's capacity and famine was a regular event. By 1350, the Black Plague entered and killed off about 60% of the population. About 1450, with

the new lower level of population, the living conditions improved.

Most of the Remus family lived in the village of Wiesa just outside Kamenz; the family history in Wiesa is documented from the year 1491 to 2007. They also lived in the city of Kamenz and occasionally lived and worked in Biehla. The 1491 date is that when the first Remus family member became a burger in the town of Kamenz (even though resident in Wiesa). There are many Remus family members who were burgers in Kamenz and are listed in the "Kamenzer Burgerbuch 1570 to 1744" by Dr Gerhard Stephan, published in 1929 and the ones listed in "Kamenzer Neuburger berzeichnis 1483-1539" by Friedrich Rahles. Added to this are the 1600 to 1700 church records for Kamenz. One might note the variations in the Remus family name (including Remitz) until the name stabilized much later.

Following will be a modern map of Kamenz. Follow the creek downward on the page (that is south) and note the village of Wiesa. Wiesa is built along a road that follows a small valley carved out by a stream. In early days it was likely to be a farm village that supplied the town of Kamenz.

The Remus family lived in this village and owned a small cottage and fields. The Remus family was also Burgers in the town of Kamenz so must have had trading relationships with those in the town. I suspect those relationship varied over that last 500 years and am pretty sure they were millers for served Kamenz and Wiesa. I do know that some

also were cooks and soapmakers as those were occupations listed in the church books of Kamenz. One Remus was even a functionary in the courts of Kamenz.

Now it is a modern suburb of Kamenz but there still is at least one interesting old farm there.





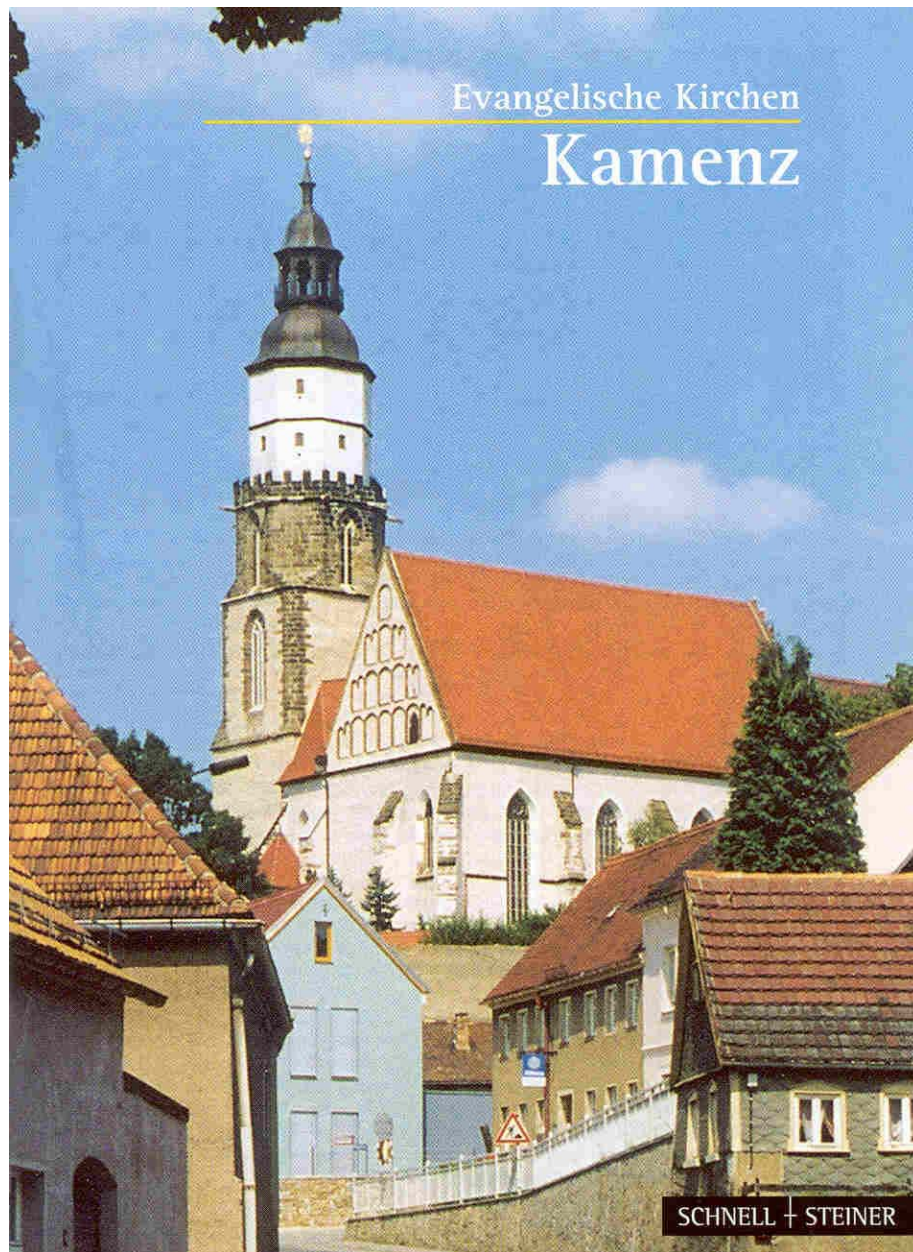
## Remus Family of Saxony



Following is a map of modern map of Kamenz old town:









# Kamenz: The Market Plaza and Rathaus

The town center is the Market Plaza. Here are some pictures of the Plaza including the fountain.



## Remus Family of Saxony





Remus Family of Saxony





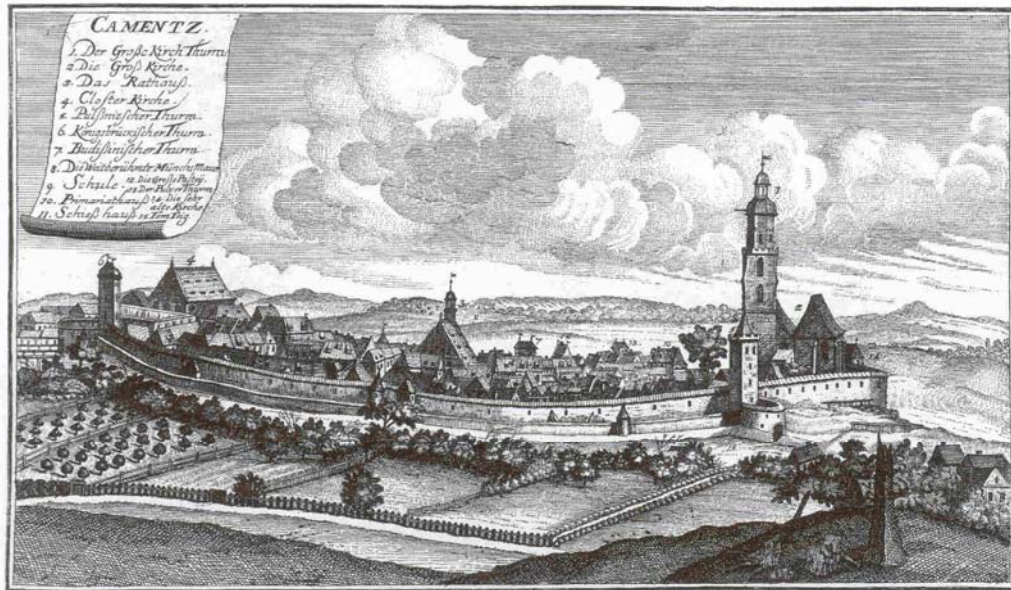
## Remus Family of Saxony







# Kamenz: St Marien Kirche



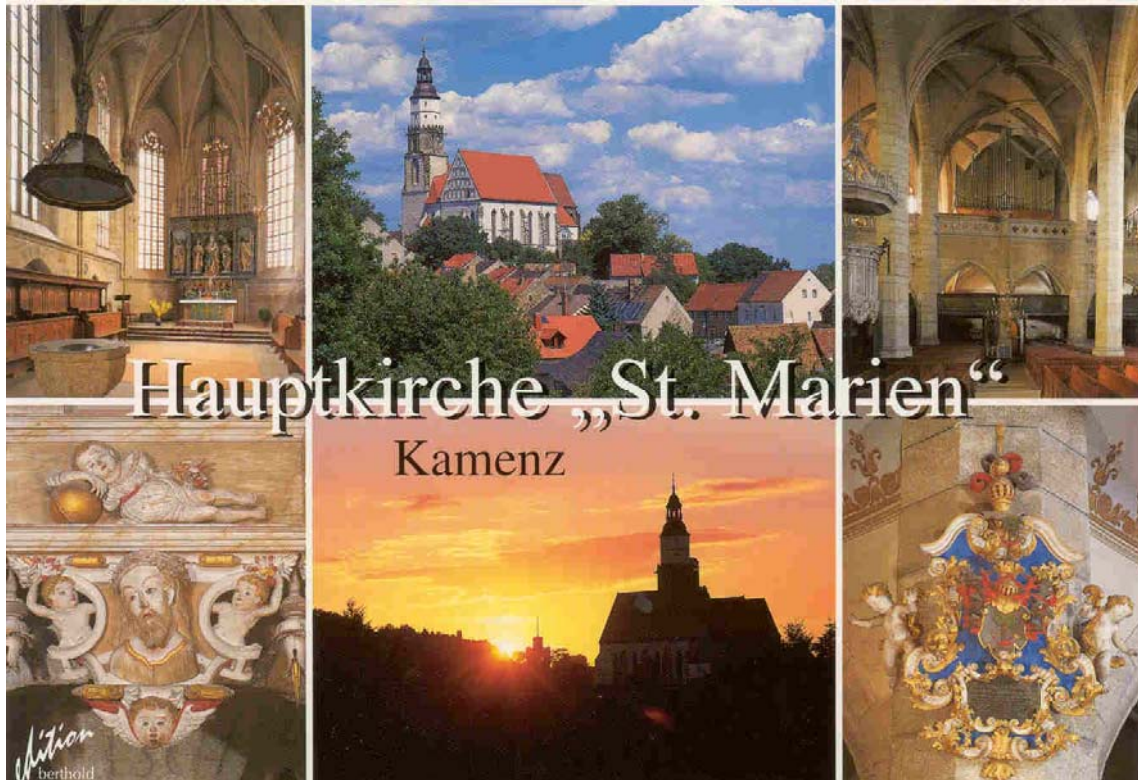
Kupferstich von Kamenz, 1. Hälfte 18. Jh., von Christoph Gottlob Glymann

The main church in Kamenz is St. Marien Kirche shown on the far right of the above drawing; this church goes back to 1225. The first Lutheran service here was in 1527.



The church itself contains many old artifacts of earlier days. Below you will see interesting choir stalls from 1560, pulpit from 1564, pews from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a baptismal font from 1625, and altarpieces from 1500. This is the church where Remus family members had baptisms, marriages, and funerals for over 500 years. Johan Gottlieb Lessing was pastor at this church.



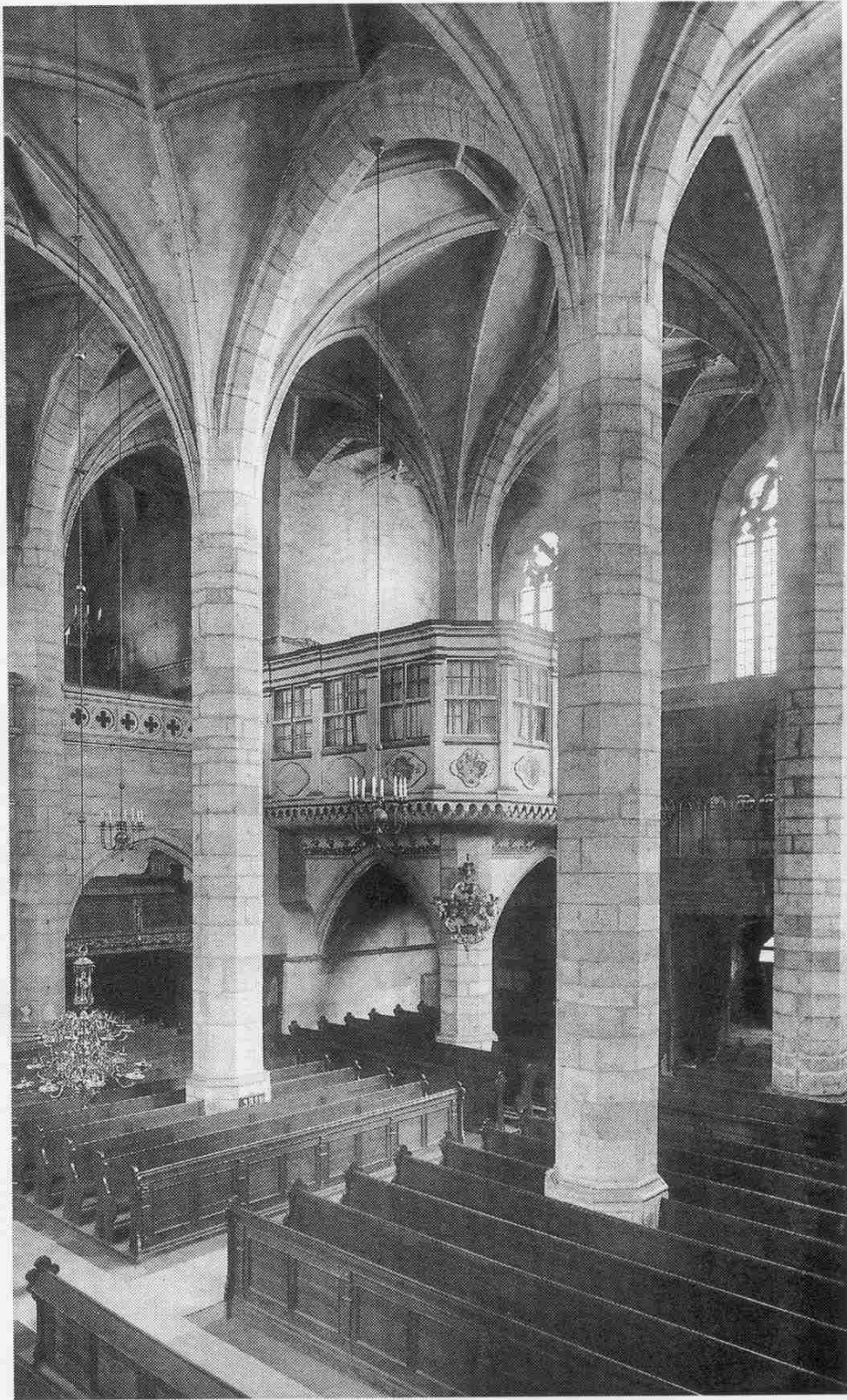






## Remus Family of Saxony





## Remus Family of Saxony





# One Last Matter ... the name Remus

Above I have established that the Remus family lived in Saxony particularly in and around Kamenz. But what about the origin of the name. Here is what I know ...

There are two theories on the German origin of the Remus name. Here they are:

Theory 1: In his book "*Deutsche Sippennamen*" (German clan names), Albert Heinze attributes **Rehm** (Rem) to the gothic *ragin* which means *to stand out, to protrude, to rule*. He then assumes that **Remus** is the Latinized form of the name **Rehm**; that is, take **Rehm** and add the **us** (an ending usually given to a male person or noun in Latin). There are records of people using the name **Rehm** in the 1300's.

Theory 2: In his book "*Deutsches Namenlexicon*," Hans Bahlow argues that Remus is not a German family name even though a lot of Germans carry this family name. He believes that the Remus family name comes from the Latin Remus (from Remus and Romulus, founders of Rome) and was an adopted name.

Plus two theories on the Polish origin of the Remus name:

Theory 3: In his book "*Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings*," William F. Hoffman states that the Polish Remus family name was based on the name of the Catholic saint Rhegius (Bahlow above thought this was a possibility for the German name and the French name too). Rhegius won his sainthood for converting Clovis, the king of Franks, to Christianity. This was important since it moved France towards becoming a Christian nation. There are many Remus family members in France who chose the Remus family name to reflect this important saint.

Theory 4: In his book "*Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings*," William F. Hoffman also states that the Polish Remus family name might have been based on *Remisz* which is short for *Jeremiasz* or *remisz/remiz* which is a "singing tit" (a kind of bird).

### **Evidence on the Origin of the Remus Name**

Some German genealogists say that the first recorded use of the Remus surname was by Aegidius Remus (born in as Aegidius Rem in 1499 in Augsburg); Aegidius was to become the Bishop of Chiemsee (a Bishopic half way between Munich and Salzburg) from 1526 to 1536. This was during the time of the Protestant Reformation and Aegidius worked to reform the Catholic Church in the Archbishopric of Salzburg.

The most famous Remus of the era was the Vice Chancellor of University of Altdorf near Nuremberg named

Georgius Remus (died August 15 1625). His most famous publication was the codification of German law written with Charles V, The Holy Roman Emperor. His ancestors were from the Rem family of Augsburg. So Theory 1 above by Heinze is supported for the Rem(us) family of Augsburg.

The family name Remus appears in Grossenhain, Saxony in the mid 1500's (Grossenhain is half way between Leipzig and Dresden). A look at the Lutheran church book of Grossenhain shows the inconsistent use of Remus as a family name and shows the switching back and forth to Reim and other variations. From this I take it that the name had not yet stabilized as Remus. The children of Kantor (choirmaster or teacher) Martin Remus of Grossenhain appear in that church book. So again Theory 1 above by Heinze is supported for Rem(us) being a Latinization of Rem or Reim. But there were alternative spellings other than Reim and Remus in Grossenhain.

The Remus family name also appears in Kamenz, Saxony (Kamenz is north of Dresden). In Kamenz the name Remus is used as early as 1491. However, often Remitz and other variations are used. In no case is Rem or Reim used. So in Kamenz there is no evidence to support the Theory 1 above by Heinze stating that Rem(us) is a Latinization of Rem or Reim. In fact, Remus seems to be an alternative to Remitz and might even be derived from the name Remitz.

The Remus name first appears in Poland in the area later to be known as West Prussia. In this case, the Remus family of Kamenz traveled to the area with Augustus the Strong in

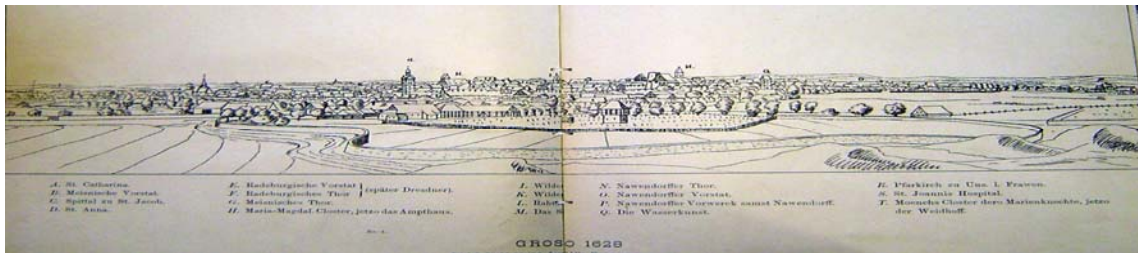
his campaign against the Swedes in the early 1700's. They stayed on after the war and most if not all the many Remus family members in the old West Prussia area are part of that large family. But also there may be an independent origination of Remus in Poland. This is particularly likely to happen in Kaschubia in northern Poland (a particularly religious group of people) where the most important early literary source in Kaschubian is "The Life and Adventures of Remus." This book is now available in English, just email to order it from Stanley Frymark <stanleyfrymark@yahoo.com>. If this did occur, theory 3 or 4 might apply to the Kaschubians.

I might note that I have corresponded with a descendent of the Remy family of France. He attributes his family name to St Rhegius as is suggested by Theory 3.

So there is strong evidence for some Remus family names being a Latinization of Rem (Theory 1) but little evidence for that adoption of the name directly from Remus in the Latin literature (Theory 2). Theory 3 seems supported in France and might be so in Catholic Kaschubia. There is no evidence for Theory 4. However, a new finding is that Remus also might be derived from Remitz. If true, Remitz might have Slavic roots in Saxony (Kamenitz and Wiesa were in an area populated by both Germans and Slavic Wends (Sorbs in the modern term for this group)).



# Martin Remus in Grossenhain



## Grossenhain in 1628

Martin Remus the younger of Grossenhain was born in the mid-1500's in Saxony. Martin Remus the younger of Grossenhain appears to be the son of Martin Remus the elder of Grossenhain but we cannot be sure as the earliest birth records in Grossenhain start in 1570. However, we do find potential father Martin Remus the elder living in Grossenhain and fathering other children. I suspect but cannot prove that Martin Remus the elder came from Wiesa near Kamenz where there was a Remus family who were Burgers in Kamenz (Martin also was a common first name used in that family). Martin the elder had other children, some of which settled in the farming village of Wellsig, just south and east of Grossenhain.

The early Grossenhain church records show Martin appearing as Martin Remus as well as Martin Reim showing the family name was not yet stable (similarly the family name was not stable in Kamenz). This area was an early area to adopt Lutheranism. Remus first names in that

era included Christian, Martin, Johan, Peter and Georg; these first names reappear in the family for many generations. Thus, this Remus name may be based the Latinized form of Rem or Reim - a change made in 1500's by scholars and churchmen. Alternatively as in Kamenz, Remus maybe an unstable variant of Remitz.



Martin Remus the elder was the Lutheran kantor in Grossenhain. In that era the title kantor could designate a choirmaster or teacher. The picture above depicts the music of the period. The Grossenhain church in which he was a kantor still exists although it underwent a major Baroque renovation in 1741. Here is a picture of that church:

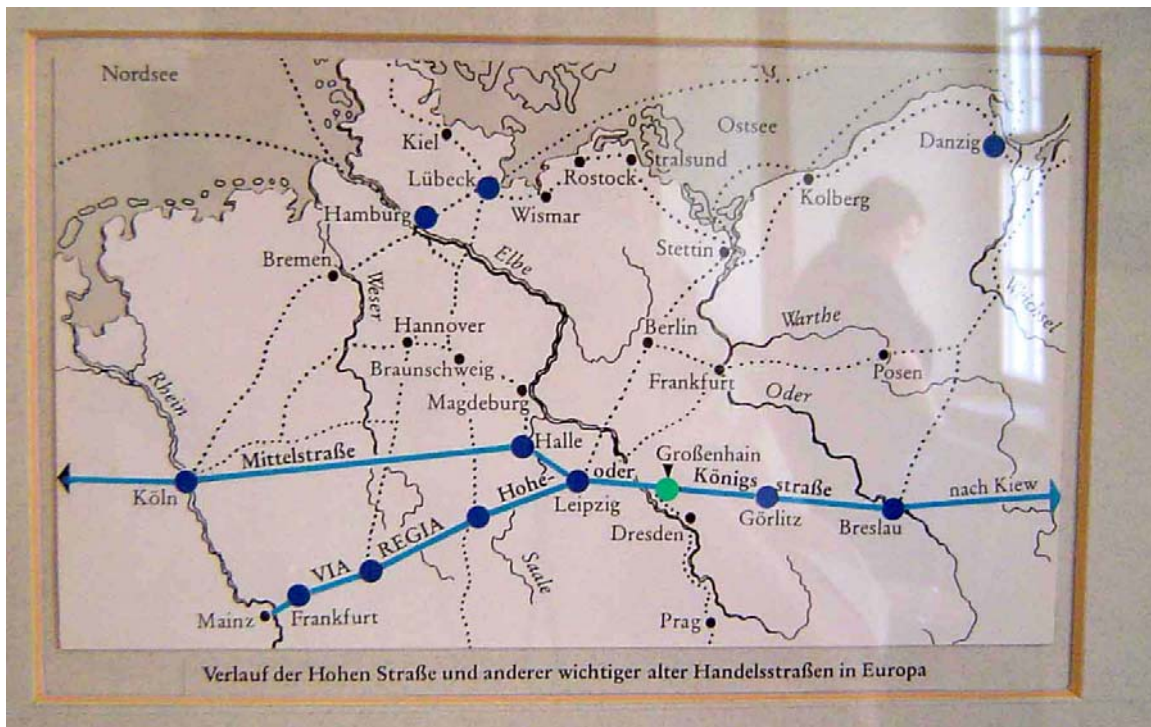


In this period, the Reformation was unfolding based on the teachings of Martin Luther; Grossenhain converted to Luther's teachings in 1539.

Grossenhain was an important trading town on the highland trade route connecting Leipzig to the east. Thus, this Remus family may have been linked to the trading Rem(us) family of Augsburg. Here is map of the east-west trade



route through Grossenhain; the map is from the Museum in the Latin School in Grossenhain.



Here is a drawing of the town in 1745 from the Grossenhain Latin School Museum:







To go to a university in the 1500's, one first went to a Latin school since all higher education was then in Latin. The Latin school attended by the Remus family may have been the Latin School in Grossenhain. Here is a picture of the Grossenhain Latin School (now a museum):



Here is a classroom scene from teaching in the  
Reformation:



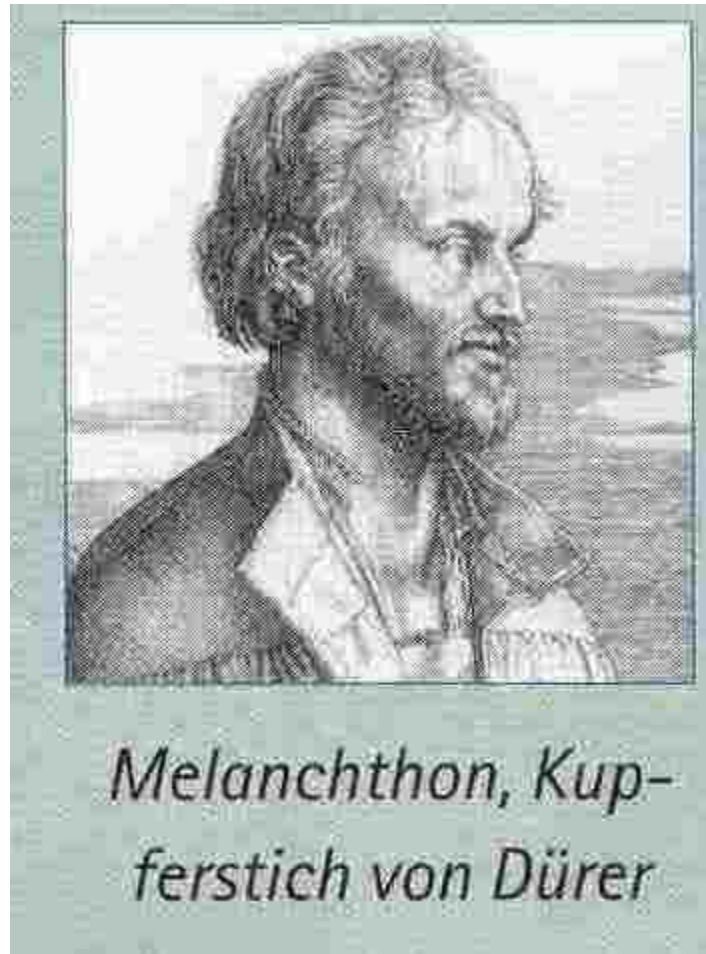




# Martin Remus in Leipzig

Martin Remus attended the University of Leipzig. This school prepared students for medicine and theology. The Reformation began around 1525 with the teachings of Martin Luther. However, competing schools of Protestant thinking were emerging; in particular, the teachings of John Calvin.

University of Leipzig taught the religion of Martin Luther as explained by his colleague Phillip Melanchthon.



Phillip Melanchthon was a brilliant intellectual who also sought to find the common elements in the views of Martin Luther, John Calvin, and the Catholic Church. This was reflected in his authorship of the Augsburg Confession that was presented to Charles V and the 1530 Diet at Augsburg. The Augsburg Confession was accepted both by the followers of Luther and Calvin but rejected by the Catholic representatives at Augsburg. The Augsburg Confession became the definitive statement of Lutheran faith.

Later the relationship between the followers of Luther and Calvin were not very good, again Phillip Melanchthon tried to reconcile those views. Both followers of Luther and

Calvin disliked his attempt at reconciliation. Thus, even though "Phillipism" was central to the Lutheranism taught at University of Leipzig, it was often under fire elsewhere. Martin Remus matriculated at the University of Leipzig in 1572. Martin's "Phillipism" later got him in a great deal of trouble in Danzig.

## **Leipzig as Martin Remus would have seen it in 1572.**

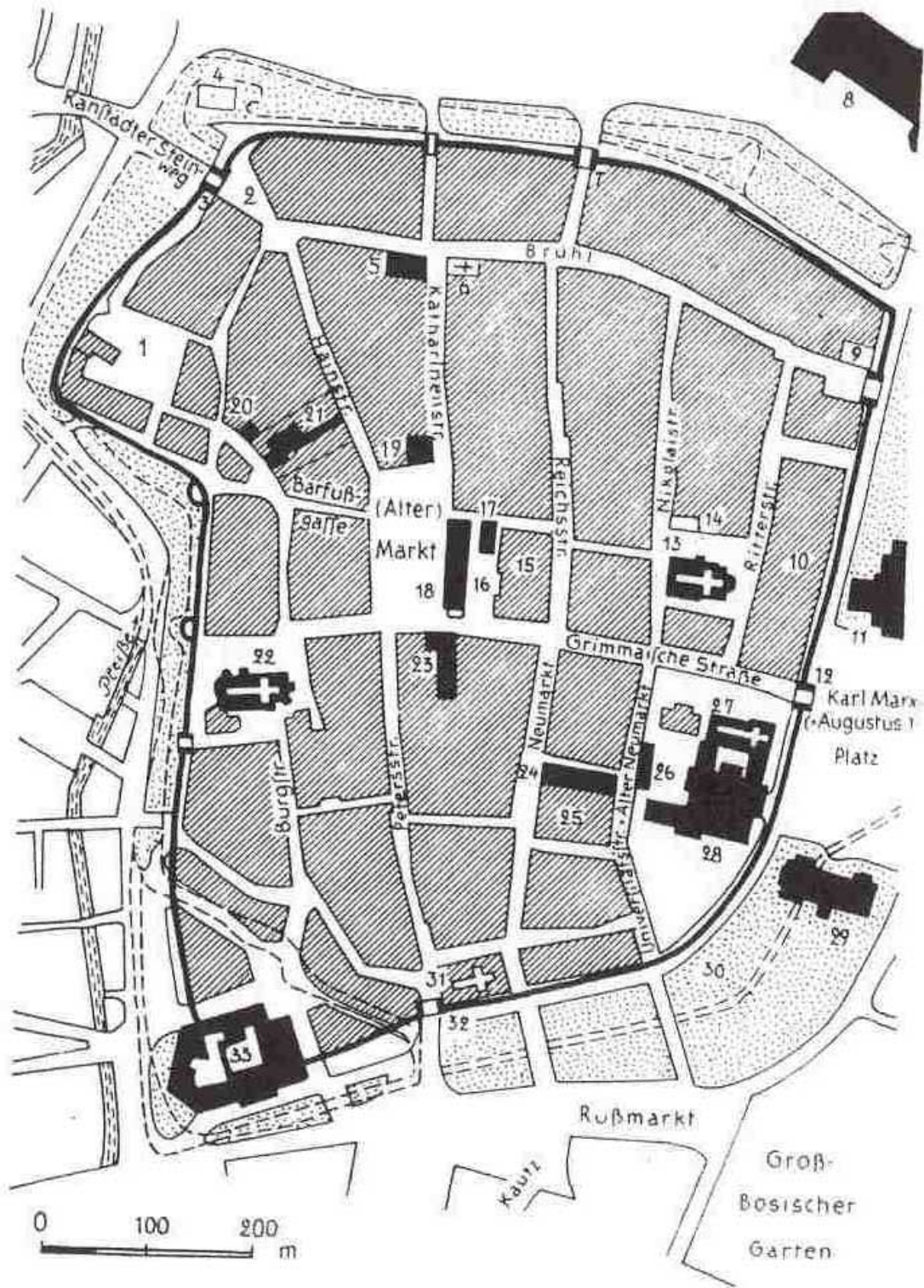
Leipzig was an important trading center. In the following map, you can see the important trading links in 1507:



Martin Remus' Grossenhain was an important trading town on the highland trade route connecting Leipzig to the east. You can see this route in part running to Camenz (Kamenz) and onward to Prague; Grossenhain is labeled Hayn. Here is a drawing of the Leipzig town plan in the mid 1700's.



# Remus Family of Saxony



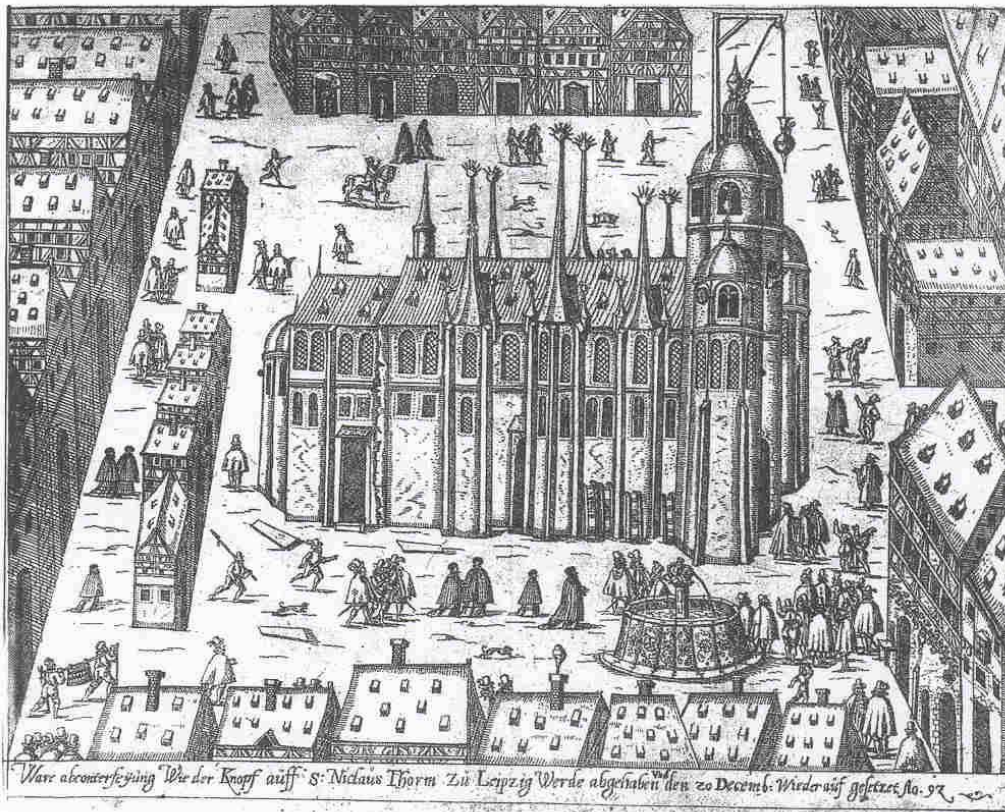
# Stadtplan von Leipzig

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 urbs Libzi, seit 1250<br>Franziskanerkloster              | 18 Altes Rathaus   |
| 2 Eselsmarkt  | 19 ältestes Rathaus, dann<br>»Alte Waage«  |
| 3 Ranstädter Tor  | 20 »Kaffeebaum«  |
| 4 ehem. »Altes Theater«<br>(Komödienhaus)                   | 21 Barthels Hof  |
| 5 Romanushaus   | 22 Thomaskirche mit ehem. Kloster<br>(Augustiner-Chorherren)<br>und alter Thomasschule |
| 6 ehem. Katharinenkapelle                                   | 23 Königshaus  |
| 7 Hallisches Tor  | 24 altes Gewandhaus  |
| 8 Hauptbahnhof  | 25 ehem. Neumarkt  |
| 9 ehem. Burg der Herren von<br>Schkeuditz mit Marienkapelle | 26 Pauliner-Collegium  |
| 10 Rotes und Fürstenkolleg<br>(=ehem. Freihäuser)           | 27 Paulinerkirche<br>(=ehem. Dominikanerkirche)  |
| 11 Neues Theater (Oper)                                     | 28 Universität<br>(=ehem. Dominikanerkloster)  |
| 12 Grimmaisches Tor   | 29 Museum der bildenden Künste   |
| 13 Nicolaikirche  | 30 ehem. Moritzbastei  |
| 14 ehem. Nicolaischule                                      | 31 Peterskirche, 1885 abgebrochen  |
| 15 Burgteller, ehem. Brot- und<br>Fleischbänke              | 32 Peterstor   |
| 16 Naschmarkt   | 33 Neues Rathaus (=ehem.<br>Pleißenburg)   |
| 17 Alte Handelsbörse  |  |

Martin Remus would have attended services in the three churches in Leipzig including Nicolaikirche (number 13 on the above city map). Nicolaikirche was founded in 1165 and converted from Catholicism to Lutheranism in 1539. It was originally built in a Romanesque style but was extended to create a Gothic church hall in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. The three steeples received their Baroque decoration in 1731. Bach was choirmaster and organist here from 1723 to 1750.

This is a 1592 drawing of Nicolaikirche (probably seen in that form by Martin Remus):





*Abnahme des Turmknopfes der Nikolaikirche, Holzschnitt, 1592*

Another church in Leipzig is Thomaskirche (number 22 on the above city map). This church is most famous as this church where Bach was choirmaster during the period of his greatest compositions. He lived as quiet life and only after his death was his work popularized. Here is a picture of this church on the left-hand side of this drawing from 1642. It was the view of the church from outside the city near the schloss (castle) (which had been damaged by the Swedish).



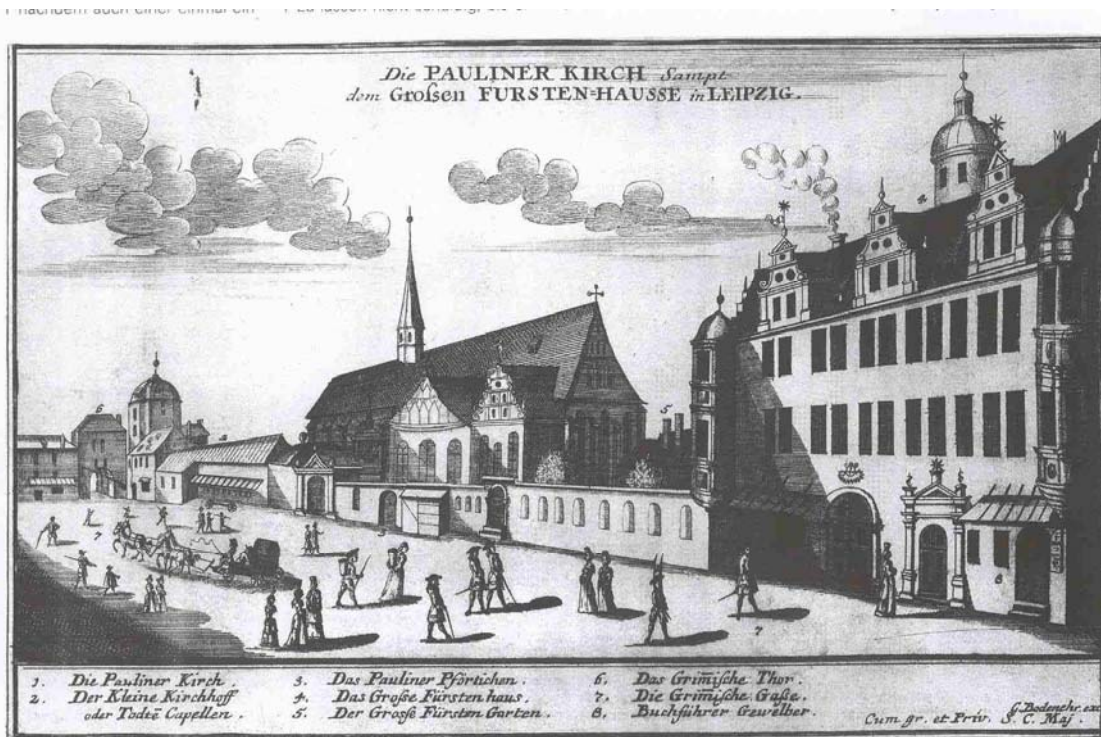
151 Einnahme der Pleißenburg durch die Schweden. Kupferstich. 1642

And here is a drawing of Thomaskirche in 1728:





Here is a circa 1700 drawing of the third church, Paulinerkirche, which had been built well before Martin Remus' time (27 on the above city map). Martin Remus attended University of Leipzig so he would have primarily attended the University church, that is, the Paulinerkirche.



161 Paulinerkirche und Fürstenhaus. Kupferstich von Gabriel Bodenehr. Um 1700



Here is a second old drawing of Paulinerkirche:



Following on the next page is a map of the university buildings that were attached to the Paulinerkirche:

## Remus Family of Saxony

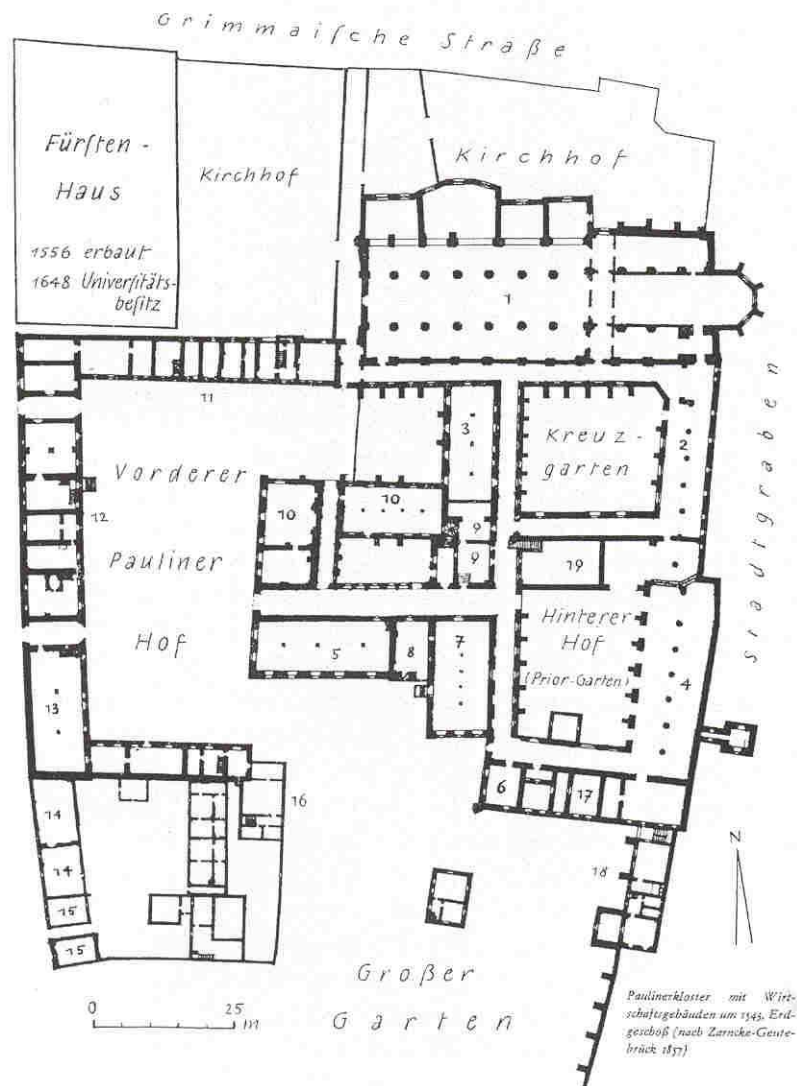


Bild 3.2.3. Lageplan des Paulinerklosters der Dominikaner mit Wirtschaftsgebäuden, um 1543 (nach Zarncke und Geutebrück 1857):

1 Paulinerkirche, sie diente auch für Promotionen und akademische Leichenfeiern; 2 Aufbewahrungsraum; 3 Hörsaal für die Mediziner; 4 Hörsaal für die Juristen; 5 Hörsaal für die Philosophen und Theologen; 6 Hörsaal für Camerarius sowie Raum für das Consilium; 7 Konviktspeisesaal; 8 Küche; 9 Vorratsräume; 10 Die bisherige Brauerei; 11 Wirtschaftsgebäude und Ställe; 12 Torhäuser mit Bad, Backstube usw.; 13 Kornhaus; 14 Das Beguinenhaus, für Wohnungen der Professoren; 15 Bäckerhäuslein mit Wohnungen für Professoren; 16 Wohnung von Professor Camerarius; 17 Wahrscheinlich Wohnung von Professor Borner; 18 Krankenhaus; 19 Altes Refektorium, später abgebrochen



Martin Remus would have not only attend church in this complex but also have had classes here. This university was also the site of the famous 1519 disputation between Martin Luther and the Pope's representative, Jan Eck.

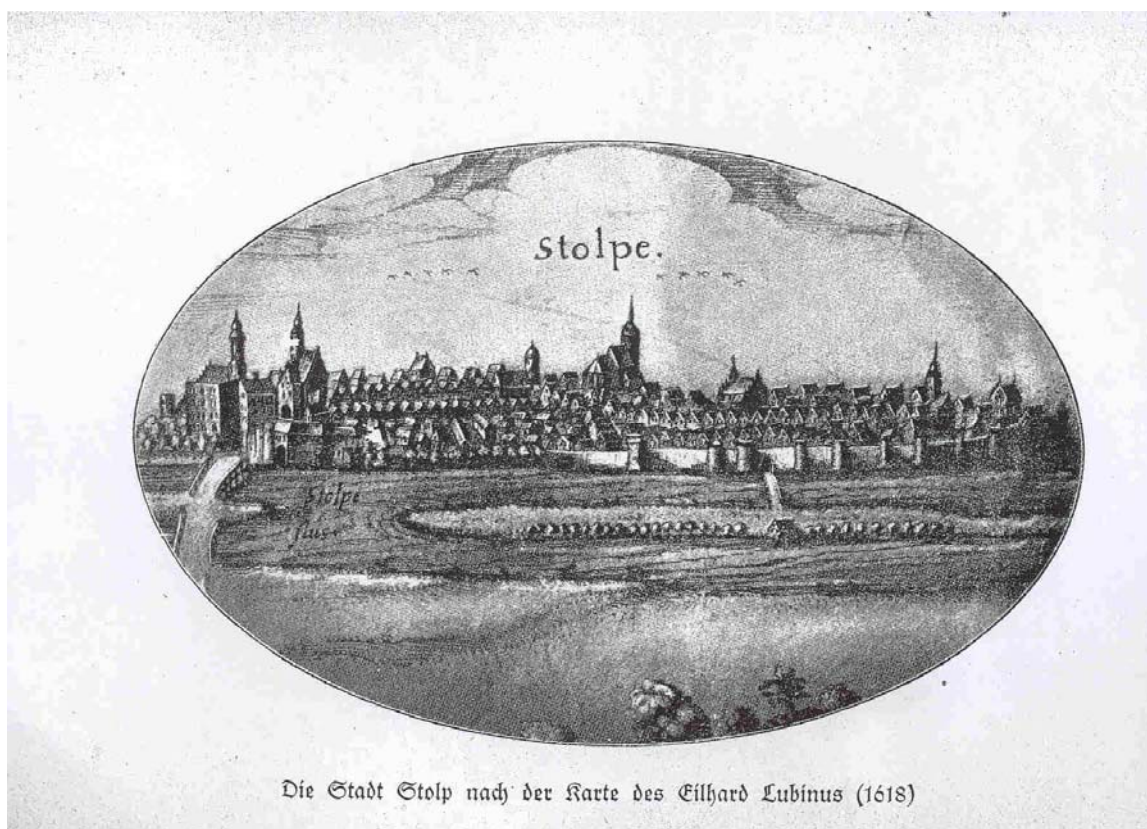


During the German Democratic Republic period Paulinerkirche and university complex was destroyed to make way for an ugly modern high rise university complex.

Martin Remus also would have seen the Leipzig Rathaus (number 18 on the above city map) here depicted in 1700 but built before Martin Remus' time. The American equivalent to the Rathaus is city hall but these certainly were more beautiful than ours:

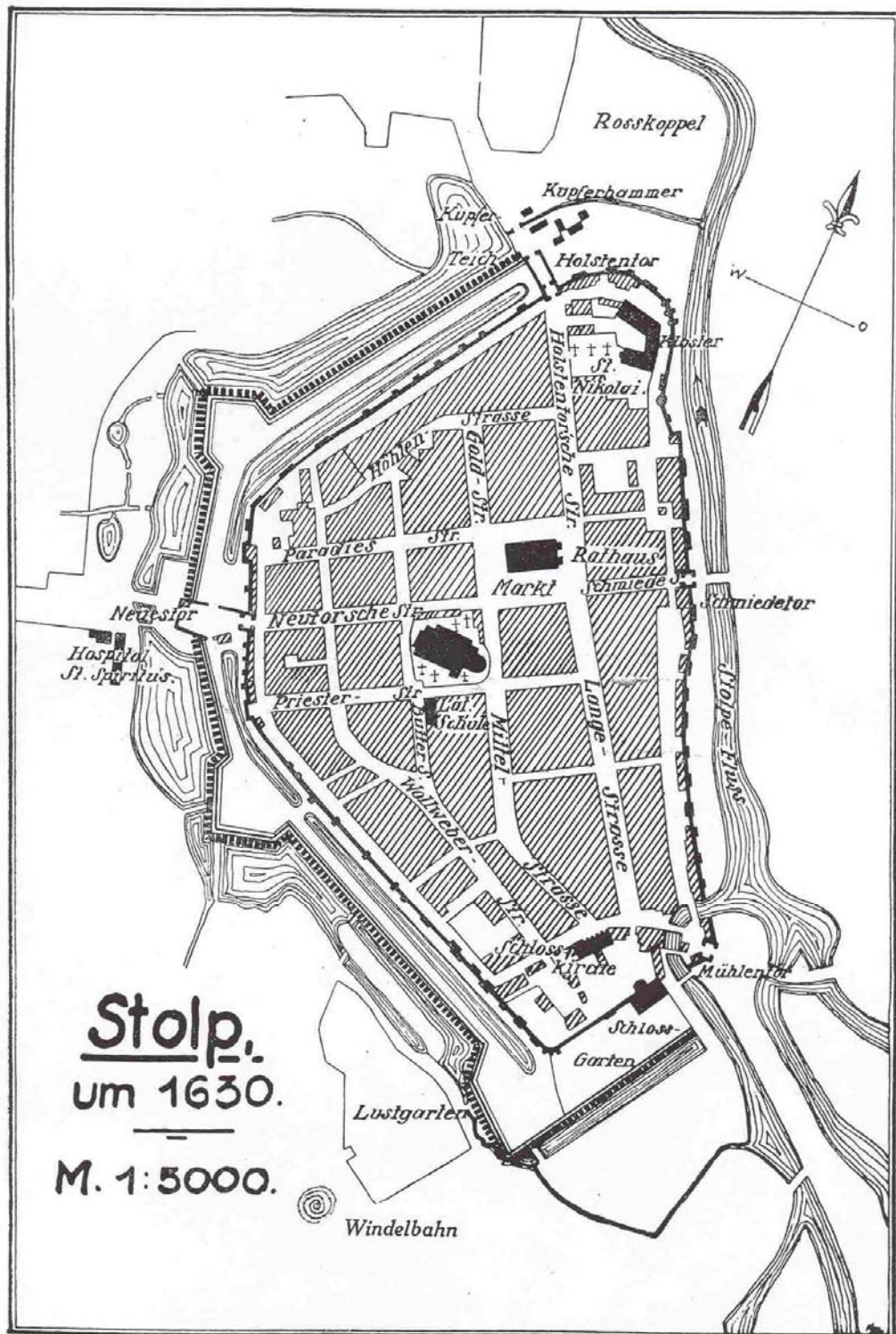


# Stolp in Pommern



Martin Remus left Saxony in the late 1580's after matriculating at University of Leipzig. We next find him in Stolp on the north coast of the Pommern, first as a teacher in the gymnasium and later as he became an ordained Lutheran minister there in 1588. In due course he was called to be a pastor in Danzig. Here is a 1630 map of Stolp.





Stolp of today is pretty much like the Stolp of 1630 shown above except that the walls have been replaced with roads and the old Rathaus (City Hall) inside the walls has been replaced with a modern one outside the walls.

The church at the center of Stolp was the 13<sup>th</sup> century Marienkirche; this is likely where Martin Remus was ordained. Here are pictures of that church:





The old school (gymnasium) was at corner of the today's church square and the Butterstrasse (see the map above and look for Lat. School, that is, Latin School). It was originally a school for monks and one of the oldest buildings in Stolp in 1590. In 1596 work was begun on a new school to replace the old school at the same location. Martin Remus would have taught at Old Latin School in 1588.





The Old Latin School would have been at this corner (shown above is the post office across from Marienkirche above), but to the left. In the picture of me with umbrella at Marienkirche above, I am looking at the post office and the site of the Latin school to the left. Luckily, Uwe Kerntopf <family@kerntopf.com> who maintains a website on Stolp had a 1910 picture of the Old Latin School and here it is:



The school is no longer in the old building but instead this newer one:







Near the bottom of the map is Jacek Kirche shown below:



## Remus Family of Saxony



Near Jacek Kirche is the Mill, shown here with the old Castle (Schloss) in the background. The next picture is of the Schloss:





## Remus Family of Saxony



An earlier map shows walls with towers originally surrounded the city. Here is a picture of the mill and south tower. Then a picture of the west gate and then the east wall:



## Remus Family of Saxony

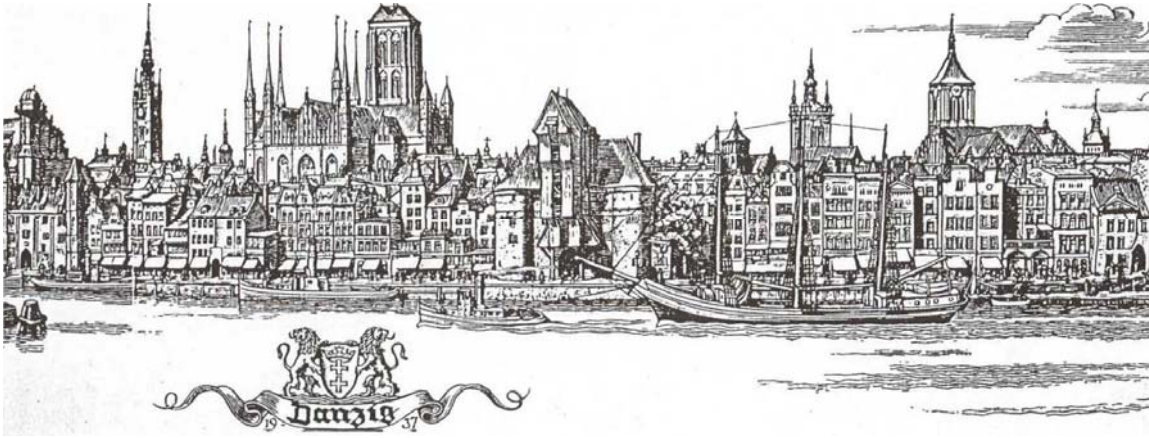




The City Hall (Rathaus) is relatively modern but of a Pommern style:



# Danzig



A Drawing of the Danzig waterfront from a 1687 book

Danzig (modern Gdansk) is the major seaport of Poland. Prior to 1500, Danzig was part of the Hanseatic League of Trading Cities and very much involved in trade.



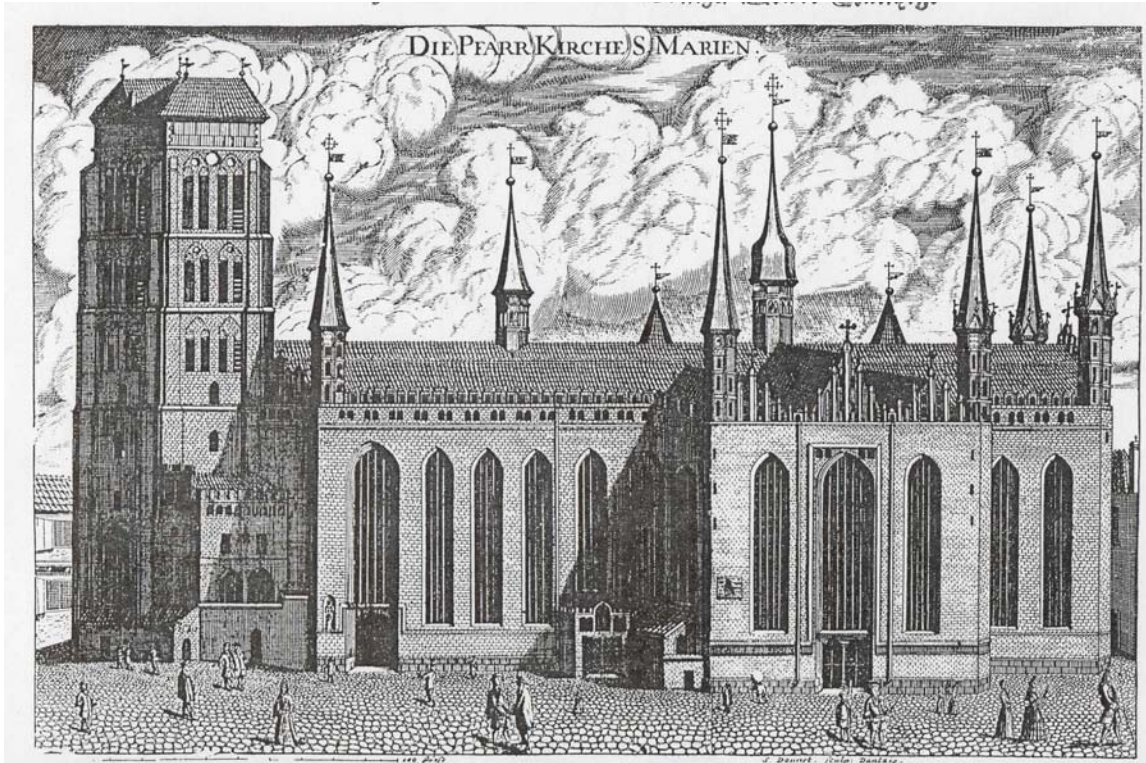
After the defeat of the Teutonic Knights by the Polish king, the city was given the exclusive right to export Polish grain. This made the city very wealthy. Here are pictures of the waterfront and the grain exchange.







In those days the population was largely German but had also Polish residents and traders from other nations. It was one of the first regions to embrace the reformation. As early as 1522, St Peter and Paul's in Danzig had converted.



Pastor Martin Remus (born in Grossenheim, Saxony) arrived in 1586. He entered University of Leipzig in 1572 and was a teacher at the Gymnasium in Stolp in 1580 and ordained in Stolp in 1586. His Leipzig classmate Jacob Fabricius, a Pastor in Danzig, probably invited him. He first served in the Vistula delta village of Reichenberg (see next section following), then at the great Marienkirche church above in Danzig (in the following section), and then lastly at St Peter and Paul's outside the Danzig city walls. This era was characterized with religious tumult and the three clicks above will take you also through the career and travails of Martin Remus. See the genealogy of Martin's family at the end of this section.

His eldest sons and grandsons went to German universities and became doctors. One such descendent was Dr George Remus who built a house in the Danzig suburb of Langfuhr

in the late 1700's. This was a wealthy area with lots of nice homes. It was damaged by Napoleon in 1813 and totally destroyed in the Second World War. The area is now modern homes and big stores. Other sons of Martin were involved in establishing trading in Gold and Silver in Danzig. These early families were associated with St Catherine's and St Elisabeth's in addition to the churches mentioned above.

## **Reichenberg (Rychemberk)**

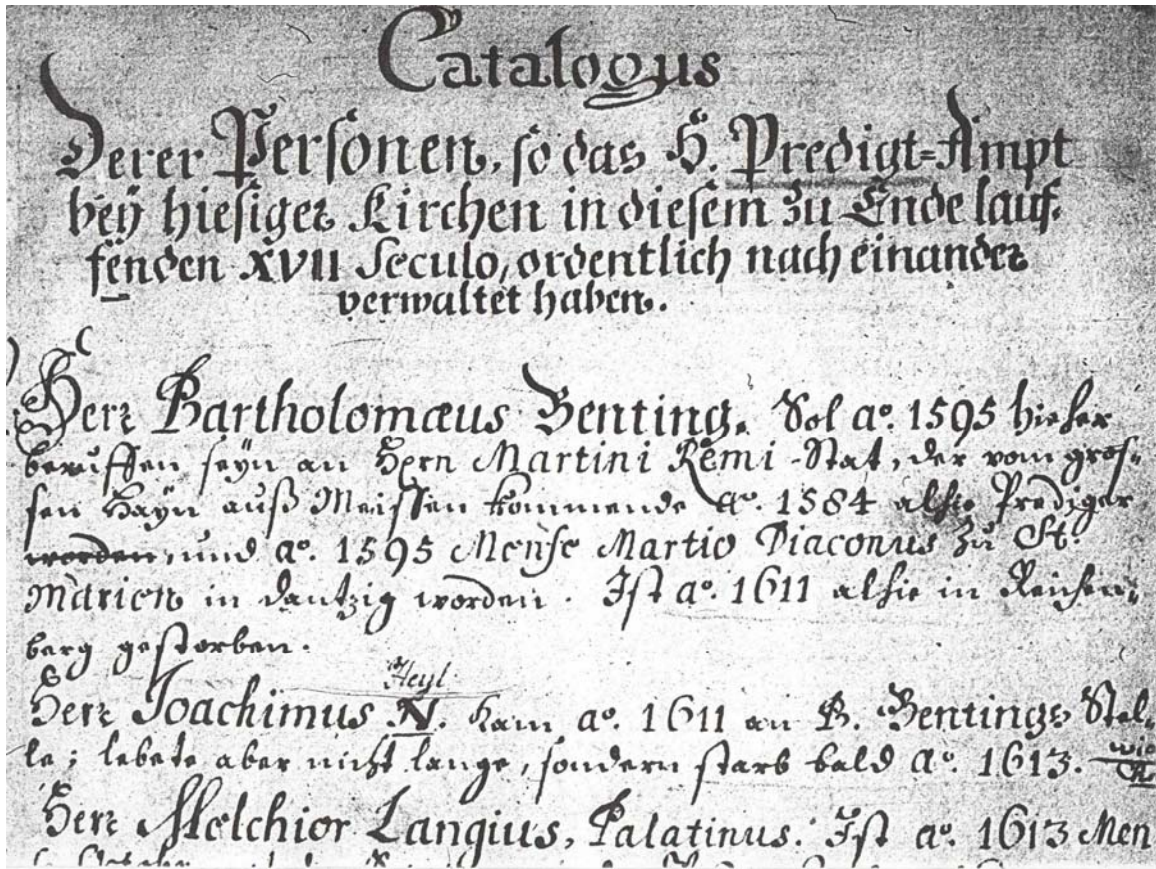
Reichenberg (Polish Rychemberk) is a village in the Gdansk (Danzig) county, located 10 kilometers east of Gdansk near the Vistula River. Around 1900 it included the train station in Gross Plehnendorf and the adjacent Muehlenfeld (in 1885 5 homesteads and 38 inhabitants), Reichenberger Gasse (5 homesteads and 7 residents), Rosenau (5 homesteads and 35 residents), Rossgarten (5 homesteads and 39 residents), and Wrukenkaule which covers the area of 832 ha (10 ha of meadows and 358 ha of farmland). In 1885 there were 35 homesteads, 59 houses, 366 residents (23 Catholics, 341 Evangelicals, and 2 dissidents). There was a two-class Evangelical school that in 1859 had 159 students.

Rychemberg is an old settlement which received a location privilege, probably in 14<sup>th</sup> century. In 1547 the magistrate of Gdansk (Danzig) granted the village to Philip Eidzema and his companion. In the war between Gdansk and Polish King Batory, the village was destroyed and the church with its steeple, which served sailors as a landmark, was partly



burnt. The restoration did not give it back the original shape. The pre-war World War II church, in which only lower parts date back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, was built in 1584 using Prussian construction; however it was completed only in 18<sup>th</sup> century. The bells are from 1743 and 1745. Previous bells dated back to 1580 and 1537. As the patronage over the church belonged to Gdansk, the church became Evangelical. (Source: **Gazetter of Polish Kingdom and other Slavonic countries, Warsaw 1882-1902, Page 70, vol. 12(?)**).

After Martin Remus arrived from Saxony, he served at this church from 1584 to 1595. When he moved to Marienkirche in Danzig, Batholomaus Benting followed Martin. Following is from the Church book for Reichenberg from the mid 1600's century and the beginning of the list of pastors for the church.



In Hitler's final defense of Germany, the dikes in the area were destroyed immersing the whole area in water. This was done to try to stop the progress of the Russian army. The Russian air force also bombed Reichenberg. Thus, the church is now in ruins and nearly leveled. Following are some pictures of the ruined church.

## Remus Family of Saxony





Next to the church are the remains of an old wooden rectory. It has been partitioned into two parts and occupied by two sisters. Here are pictures of the rectory.



Apparently the local people took bricks from the destroyed church and used them in building new churches. The church at Cedry Wielke is believed to be one of those churches. Following is a picture of it.



The modern Polish name for this village is Bogatka; the village consists of just a few farmhouses. The land is fine farmland being part of the Vistula River delta.





## Marienkirche (St Mary's) of Danzig



Marienkirche (St Mary's) of Danzig is the largest brick church in the world. It is also the central church for the entire area and the site of much turmoil following the Protestant reformation. And our Martin Remus played a part in these events.

Martin Remus was a pastor to Reichenberg Church near Danzig in 1584. In 1595 he became a Pastor along with Thomas Fabricius at Marienkirche.

Here is a picture of the interior of the church.



His days were not peaceful. The religious conflict of the time involved not only Catholics but various Protestant groups including the Lutherans, Calvinists, and followers of Zwingli. This was not a simple secular question but a question that was intimately involved in the politics of the city.

Eventually in 1605 the fate of Martin Remus and Thomas Fabricius was decided in the city council meeting room below and they were reassigned to parish church.





Martin went on the finish his pastoral career at St Peter and St Paul's just outside the city wall.

When Martin died in 1623, he was buried in crypt 111 in Marienkirche. His body would have been under a slab like this with other pastors including Thomas Fabricius.





When the Russian troops took over Danzig at the end of the Second World War, they blew up most of the crypts in search of graves goods (including Martin's). Prior to rebuilding the church, the bones found in the wreckage were put into a common grave in the room shown below.



## Marienkirche Picture Gallery



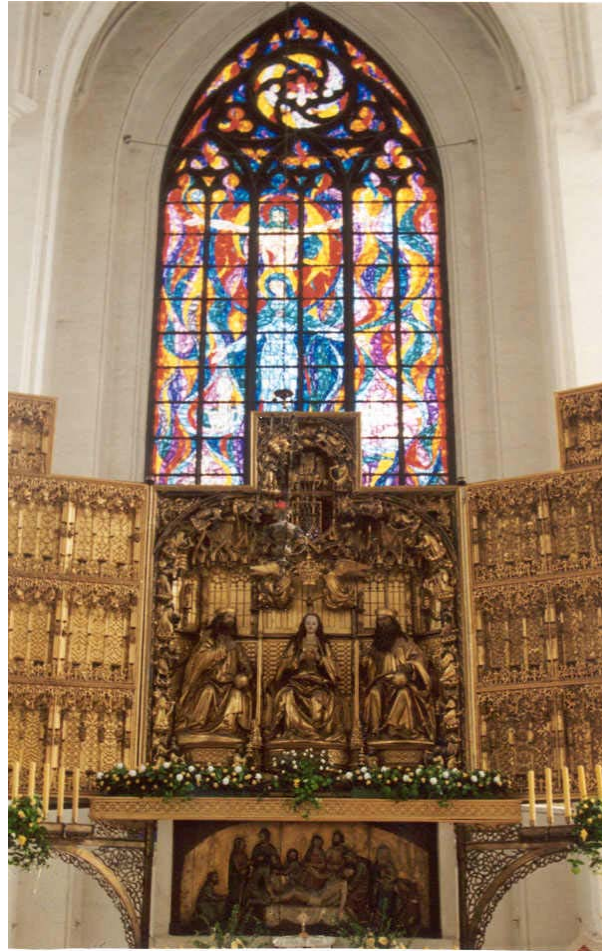
The old clock is one of the wonders of the church (it tells the time, provides a church saint's calendar, and does astrology. The story was that after it was built, other churches wanted similar or better clocks and contacted the clockmaker in Danzig. The city did not want this to occur and so had the clock maker blinded. Later when the clock needed repair, they asked blind clock maker to fix it. He went in the clock room and asked for tools including a hammer to fix the clock. He used the hammer to wreck the

crucial parts of the clock. It was not fixed until after the Second World War.





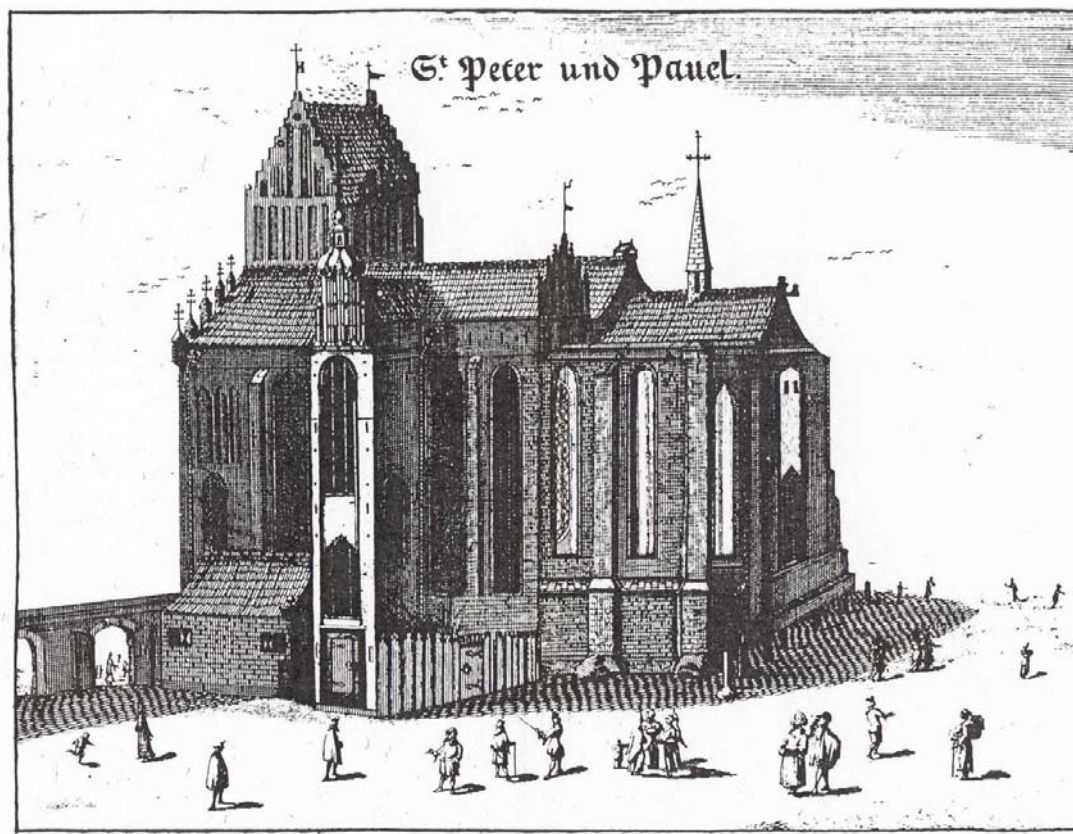
## Remus Family of Saxony



## St Peter and Paul's in Danzig

In the midst of religious turbulence, the Danzig City Council met and around 1610 sent Martin Remus to St Peter and Paul's. He served there until he died in 1623. A Calvinist pastor followed him. He was buried in a crypt in Marienkirche.

The following picture was in a 1687 book on the history of the church in Danzig.



This old church was originally Catholic converted to Lutheran soon after Martin Luther posted his theses. Tiedemann Giese and Maurice Ferber were the last Roman Catholic priests of that church. The next priest there switched allegiance to the Catholic Church and promptly married.

The church was outside the main city walls of Danzig and was badly damaged in the Second World War. Being not a major church in Danzig, its restoration did not begin until about the year 2000. The church was just recently opened to visitor. Here are some pictures from the church.



It appears that the family of Martin Remus died out.



*Descendants of Martin Remus*

*Generation No. 1*

1. MARTIN<sup>1</sup> REMUS was born 1556 in Meissen, Saxony (see note)<sup>1,2</sup>, and died July 28, 1623 in Danzig<sup>3,4</sup>. He married (1) ELISABETH FIRST WIFE OF MARTIN REMUS 1584<sup>5</sup>. She was born Bef. 1566<sup>5</sup>, and died Bef. 1590<sup>5</sup>. He married (2) REGINA GELLNITZ(?)<sup>6</sup> February 05, 1588/89 in St Peters, Danzig (1589)<sup>7,8</sup>. She was born 1569<sup>9</sup>, and died October 12, 1625 in Danzig.

More About MARTIN REMUS:

Burial: Marienkirche 111, Danzig<sup>9,10</sup>

More About REGINA GELLNITZ(?):

Burial: Marienkirche 445, Danzig<sup>11</sup>

Child of MARTIN REMUS and ELISABETH REMUS is:

2. i. SAMUEL<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. March 03, 1585/86, Danzig (1586); d. June 05, 1665, Danzig.

Children of MARTIN REMUS and REGINA GELLNITZ(?) are:

ii. MARTIN<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. Abt. 1592, Danzig<sup>11</sup>.

Notes for MARTIN REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel  
SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 101 Heidelberg 1613 Martinus Remus, dantiscanus

More About MARTIN REMUS:

Education: 1613, Heidelberg (see note)<sup>11</sup>

## Remus Family of Saxony

iii. REGINA REMUS, b. March 01, 1595/96, Danzig (1596)<sup>11</sup>; d. July 03, 1639, Danzig<sup>12</sup>; m. ANDEAS STECHMESSER, September 19, 1619, Marienkirche, Danzig<sup>13,14</sup>; b. Bef. 1586<sup>15</sup>.

More About REGINA REMUS:

Burial: Marienkirche 367, Danzig<sup>16</sup>

3. iv. GEORG ERNST REMUS, b. November 09, 1599, Danzig; d. June 29, 1654, Danzig.

v. GREGOR REMUS, b. March 14, 1600/01, Danzig (1601)<sup>17</sup>.

Notes for GREGOR REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel  
SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 416 Leyden 1626 Gregorius Remus dantiscanus, 26, med.

More About GREGOR REMUS:

Education: 1626, studied medicine at Leyden (see note)<sup>18</sup>

vi. JOHAN REMUS, b. March 14, 1600/01, Danzig (1601)<sup>19</sup>.

vii. CATHARINE REMUS, b. March 14, 1600/01, Danzig (1601)<sup>19</sup>; m. DANIEL UNSTEDT, February 27, 1624/25, St Peters, Danzig (1625)<sup>19,20</sup>; b. 1602, Danzig<sup>21</sup>.

viii. URSULA REMUS, b. December 29, 1602, Danzig<sup>21</sup>; d. Bef. 1605, Danzig<sup>21</sup>.

ix. URSULA REMUS, b. February 14, 1604/05, Danzig (1605)<sup>21</sup>; d. 1658, Danzig<sup>21</sup>; m. PETRUS KRUGER, January 16, 1625/26, Marienkirche, Danzig (1626)<sup>21,22</sup>; b. October 20, 1580<sup>23</sup>; d. June 06, 1639<sup>23</sup>.

More About URSULA REMUS:

Burial: St Marien, Danzig<sup>23</sup>

## Remus Family of Saxony

More About PETRUS KRUGER:

Occupation: Professor<sup>23</sup>

### *Generation No. 2*

2. SAMUEL<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born March 03, 1585/86 in Danzig (1586)<sup>23,24,25</sup>, and died June 05, 1665 in Danzig<sup>26,27</sup>. He married CATHARINE RIEPPING June 10, 1613 in Marienkirche, Danzig<sup>28,29</sup>, daughter of CORNELIUS RIEPPING. She was born 1590 in Danzig<sup>30</sup>, and died May 21, 1661 in Danzig<sup>30</sup>.

Notes for SAMUEL REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 291 Wittenberg 1599 Samuel Remus gedanensis borussus

More About SAMUEL REMUS:

Burial: Marienkirche 228, Danzig<sup>31</sup>

Education: 1599, Wittenberg (see note)<sup>32</sup>

Children of SAMUEL REMUS and CATHARINE RIEPPING are:

i. CONSTANTIN<sup>3</sup> REMUS, b. March 09, 1613/14, Danzig (1614)<sup>32</sup>.

ii. ANNA REMUS, b. June 11, 1615, Danzig (see note)<sup>32</sup>.

Notes for ANNA REMUS:

There is a note in St Elisabeth's of Danzig Church Book on lds 742753 Births for 1642 p. 153 that suggests Anna married a man named Bremers.

iii. ELISABETH REMUS, b. August 21, 1616, Danzig<sup>32</sup>; d. October 04, 1652, Danzig<sup>32,33</sup>; m. CHRISTIAN WESSEL, November 06, 1637, Marienkirche, Danzig<sup>34</sup>; b. 1591<sup>34,35</sup>; d. 1648, Danzig<sup>36</sup>.

More About ELISABETH REMUS:



## Remus Family of Saxony

Burial: Marienkirche 228, Danzig<sup>36,37</sup>

More About CHRISTIAN WESSEL:

Burial: Marienkirche 228, Danzig<sup>37</sup>

iv. CATHARINE REMUS, b. January 21, 1617/18, Danzig (1618)<sup>38</sup>.

v. BARBARA REMUS, b. January 15, 1619/20, Danzig (1620)<sup>38</sup>.

4. vi. SAMUEL REMUS, b. March 18, 1620/21, Danzig (1621); d. October 28, 1661, Danzig.

vii. FLORENTINE REMUS, b. January 17, 1622/23, Danzig (1623)<sup>38</sup>.

**3. GEORG ERNST<sup>2</sup> REMUS** (*MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born November 09, 1599 in Danzig<sup>38</sup>, and died June 29, 1654 in Danzig<sup>38</sup>. He married SUSANNA GRONAU August 08, 1637 in St Peters, Danzig<sup>39</sup>. She was born Bef. 1619, and died 1675 in Danzig<sup>40</sup>.

Notes for GEORG ERNST REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 416 Leyden 1626 Georgius Remus, dantiscanus, 24, theology.

p. 418 leyden 1633 Georgius Remus dantiscansu borussus, 26, med.

More About GEORG ERNST REMUS:

Education: Studied theology at Leyden (see note)<sup>41</sup>

Occupation: Doctor of Medicine<sup>42</sup>

Children of GEORG REMUS and SUSANNA GRONAU are:

5. i. NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> REMUS, b. April 14, 1639, Danzig.

## Remus Family of Saxony

ii. CATHARINE ELISABETH REMUS, b. November 27, 1642, Danzig<sup>43,44</sup>; d. April 30, 1671, Danzig<sup>45</sup>; m. LUDWIG LACKE, August 30, 1667, St Elisabeth, Danzig<sup>45,46</sup>; b. September 12, 1628, Danzig<sup>47,48</sup>; d. August 10, 1683, Danzig<sup>49,50</sup>.

More About CATHARINE ELISABETH REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Anna Remus<sup>51</sup>

More About LUDWIG LACKE:

Baptism: December 14, 1628, Danzig<sup>52</sup>

iii. DAVID REMUS, b. August 18, 1644, Danzig<sup>53,54</sup>; m. SUSANNE MARIA WIFE OF DAVID REMUS; b. June 10, 1646, Danzig<sup>55</sup>.

iv. SUSANNA MARIA REMUS, b. June 10, 1646, Danzig<sup>56</sup>; d. Died very young in Danzig<sup>56</sup>.

6. v. GEORG ERNST REMUS, b. August 28, 1650, Danzig; d. 1699.

### *Generation No. 3*

4. SAMUEL<sup>3</sup> REMUS (*SAMUEL*<sup>2</sup>, *MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born March 18, 1620/21 in Danzig (1621)<sup>57</sup>, and died October 28, 1661 in Danzig<sup>57,58</sup>. He married WIFE OF SAMUEL REMUS 1649 in Danzig<sup>59</sup>. She was born Bef. 1631<sup>59</sup>.

More About SAMUEL REMUS:

Burial: Marienkirche, Danzig 228<sup>60</sup>

Child of SAMUEL REMUS and WIFE REMUS is:

7. i. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> REMUS, b. Abt. 1650, Danzig.

5. NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> REMUS (*GEORG ERNST*<sup>2</sup>, *MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born April 14, 1639 in Danzig<sup>61,62</sup>. He married WIFE OF NATHAN REMUS Abt. 1667. She was born Bef. 1649.

## Remus Family of Saxony

More About NATHANIEL REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Samuel Remus (brother or nephew?)

Child of NATHANIEL REMUS and WIFE REMUS is:

8. i. JOHAN<sup>4</sup> REMER, b. Aft. 1667, Danzig.

**6.** GEORG ERNST<sup>3</sup> REMUS (*GEORG ERNST<sup>2</sup>, MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born August 28, 1650 in Danzig<sup>63,64</sup>, and died 1699<sup>65</sup>. He married FLORENTINE NIXDORF January 25, 1677/78 in St Elisabeth's, Danzig (1678)<sup>66</sup>, daughter of ERNST NIXDORF. She was born 1660 in Danzig<sup>67</sup>, and died February 04, 1716/17 in Danzig (1717)<sup>67</sup>.

More About GEORG ERNST REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Elisabeth Gronau<sup>68</sup>

More About FLORENTINE NIXDORF:

Burial: St Elisabeths, Danzig

Children of GEORG REMUS and FLORENTINE NIXDORF are:

i. CATHERINE ELISABETH<sup>4</sup> REMUS, b. August 01, 1679, Danzig<sup>69</sup>.

More About CATHERINE ELISABETH REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Christoph, Catherine, and Marie Elisabeth Nixdorf plus Ludwig Locke<sup>70</sup>

ii. SAMUEL REMUS, b. January 23, 1680/81, Danzig (1681)<sup>71</sup>.

More About SAMUEL REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Concordia Nixdorf

iii. SUSANNA REMUS, b. August 12, 1683, Danzig<sup>72</sup>.



## Remus Family of Saxony

More About SUSANNA REMUS:

Baptism: Gp Concordia and Magdalena Nixdorf

9. iv. GEORG REMUS, b. January 20, 1687/88, Danzig (1688); d. March 10, 1756, Danzig.

v. ERNST REMUS, b. Abt. 1690, Danzig<sup>73</sup>; d. July 13, 1716, Danzig<sup>73,74</sup>.

More About ERNST REMUS:

Burial: Marienkirche, Danzig 228<sup>75,76</sup>

vi. FLORENTINE CONCORDIA REMUS, b. October 24, 1691, Danzig<sup>77,78</sup>; m. (1) ALEXANDER DAVISSON, 1716, Danzig<sup>79</sup>; b. Abt. 1690; m. (2) ISAAK RITZKATZ, May 13, 1727<sup>79</sup>; b. Abt. 1695<sup>79</sup>.

### *Generation No. 4*

**7. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> REMUS** (*SAMUEL<sup>3</sup>, SAMUEL<sup>2</sup>, MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1650 in Danzig<sup>79</sup>. He married WIFE OF SAMUEL REMUS Abt. 1680. She was born Bef. 1662.

Child of SAMUEL REMUS and WIFE REMUS is:

10. i. ERNST SAMUEL<sup>5</sup> REMUS, b. Abt. 1681, Danzig; d. April 26, 1731, Danzig.

**8. JOHAN<sup>4</sup> REMER** (*NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> REMUS, GEORG ERNST<sup>2</sup>, MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born Aft. 1667 in Danzig<sup>79</sup>. He married BARBARA WIFE OF JOHAN REMER 1696. She was born Aft. 1669<sup>79</sup>.

Child of JOHAN REMER and BARBARA REMER is:

## Remus Family of Saxony

i. NATHANIEL<sup>5</sup> REMER, b. December 16, 1697, Danzig<sup>79,80</sup>.

**9. GEORG<sup>4</sup> REMUS** (*GEORG ERNST<sup>3</sup>, GEORG ERNST<sup>2</sup>, MARTIN<sup>1</sup>*) was born January 20, 1687/88 in Danzig (1688)<sup>81,82</sup>, and died March 10, 1756 in Danzig<sup>83</sup>. He married MARIA EGLER July 10, 1723 in St Elisabeths, Danzig<sup>83</sup>. She was born Bef. 1705.

Notes for GEORG REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 88 Halle/Saale 1706 Georgius Remus, Danzig gendaneisis, med.

p. 435 Leyden 1709 Georgius Remus gedanensis, 22, med.

More About GEORG REMUS:

Education: 1706, Studied medicine at Halle/Saale (see note)<sup>84</sup>

Occupation: Doctor in Danzig<sup>85</sup>

Children of GEORG REMUS and MARIA EGLER are:

i. MARIA ELEANORE<sup>5</sup> REMUS, b. September 14, 1725, Danzig<sup>85</sup>; m. JOHAN GOTTFRIED BARENDT, Abt. 1750<sup>85</sup>; b. Abt. 1725<sup>85</sup>.

ii. GEORG ERNST REMUS, b. August 03, 1727, Danzig (1727)<sup>85</sup>; d. 1797, Danzig<sup>85,86</sup>; m. (1) ANNA ELISABETH REIDT, 1755<sup>87</sup>; b. 1723<sup>87</sup>; d. Bef. 1764<sup>87</sup>; m. (2) ANNA DOROTHEA VON GELLEN, July 16, 1769, Marienkirche, Danzig<sup>87</sup>; b. Bef. 1737; d. July 16, 1790, Danzig.

Notes for GEORG ERNST REMUS:

Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981

p. 65 Goettiogen 1747 Georgius Ernestus Remus Danzig Gedaneisis, stud. Med.

More About GEORG ERNST REMUS:

Education: 1747, Studied medicine at Goettingen (see note)<sup>88</sup>

## Remus Family of Saxony

Occupation: Doctor of Medicine<sup>89</sup>

Residence: Owner of Monplasir - walled in Garden in Langfuhr<sup>90</sup>

More About ANNA DOROTHEA VON GELLEN:

Burial: Marienkirche 304, Danzig<sup>91</sup>

### *Generation No. 5*

**10.** ERNST SAMUEL<sup>5</sup> REMUS (*SAMUEL*<sup>4</sup>, *SAMUEL*<sup>3</sup>, *SAMUEL*<sup>2</sup>, *MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1681 in Danzig<sup>92</sup>, and died April 26, 1731 in Danzig<sup>92</sup>. He married WIFE OF ERNST SAMUEL REMUS Bef. 1714. She was born Aft. 1681.

More About ERNST SAMUEL REMUS:

Burial: St Elisabeths, Danzig<sup>92</sup>

Children of ERNST REMUS and WIFE REMUS are:

i. PHILLIPPINE ELEANORE<sup>6</sup> REMUS, b. Bef. 1714; d. 1746<sup>92</sup>;  
m. DANIEL ERNST SPALL, September 23, 1732, St Peters,  
Danzig<sup>92</sup>; b. 1707<sup>92</sup>; d. November 20, 1749, Danzig<sup>92</sup>.

More About DANIEL ERNST SPALL:

Burial: St Peters, Danzig 59

ii. DOROTHEA BEAK REMUS, b. Bef. 1722<sup>92</sup>; m. RANDOLF HOPMANN, November 28, 1740, St Peters, Danzig<sup>92</sup>; b. Bef. 1720<sup>92</sup>.

*Endnotes*

1. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
2. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 111 for the 1600's.
3. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
4. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 111 for the 1600's.
5. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
6. Ahnenstammkartai od lds 1798589 for Remus.
7. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
8. St Peters & Paul Church Book on lds 742754 p 38.
9. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
10. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 111 for the 1600's.
11. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
12. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 367 for the 1600's.
13. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
14. Marienkirche Churchbook on lds 742742 p75.
15. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
16. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 367 for the 1600's.
17. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
18. Studenten aus Ost- und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel SDVFFOWP Hamburg 1981.
19. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
20. St Peters & Paul Church Book on lds 742754 p 136.



21. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
22. Marienkirche Churchbook on lds 742740 Marrages for 1726 p. 117.
23. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
24. St Peters & Paul Church Book on lds 742754 p 132.
25. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
26. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
27. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
28. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
29. Marienkirche Churchbook on lds 742742 1613.
30. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
31. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
32. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
33. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
34. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
35. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
36. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
37. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
38. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
39. St Peters Churchbook Danzig on lds 742754 1637 p 165.
40. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
41. *Studenten aus ost und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel, SDBFFOWP, Hamburg, 1981.*
42. Burgermeister, Rathsherren und Schoppen des Danziger Freistaades by Luschin, Im Selbstverlag, Hamburg, 1974.
43. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*

## Remus Family of Saxony

44. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1642 p. 153.
45. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
46. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Marriages for 1667 p. 60.
47. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
48. *Ahnenstamkartai on lds 1798589 for Remus.*
49. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
50. *Ahnenstamkartai on lds 1798589 for Remus.*
51. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1642 p. 153.
52. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1628 p. 15.
53. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
54. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 fro 1644 p 179.
55. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
56. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1646 p. 206.
57. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
58. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
59. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
60. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1600's.
61. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
62. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1639 p. 102.
63. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
64. St Elisabeths Churchbook Danzig on lds 742753 1650 p 258.
65. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
66. St Elisabeths Churchbook Danzig on lds 742753 1678 p77.

67. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
68. St Elisabeths Churchbook Danzig on lds 742753 1650 p 258.
69. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 fro 1679 p. 268.
70. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 fro 1689 p79.
71. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 fro 1681.
72. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 for 1683 p 316.
73. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
74. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1700's.
75. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
76. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 228 for the 1700's.
77. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
78. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 Births for 1691 p. 356.
79. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
80. Marienkirche of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742742 fro 1697 p. 159.
81. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
82. St Elisabeths of Danzig Chrurch Book on lds 742753 fro 1688 p 323.
83. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
84. *Studenten aus ost und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel, SDBFFOWP, Hamburg, 1981.*
85. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
86. *Burgermeister, Rathsherren und Schoppen des Danziger Freistaades by Luschin, Im Selbstverlag, Hamburg, 1974.*
87. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*
88. *Studenten aus ost und westpreussen by Horst Kenkel, SDBFFOWP, Hamburg, 1981.*
89. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*

## Remus Family of Saxony

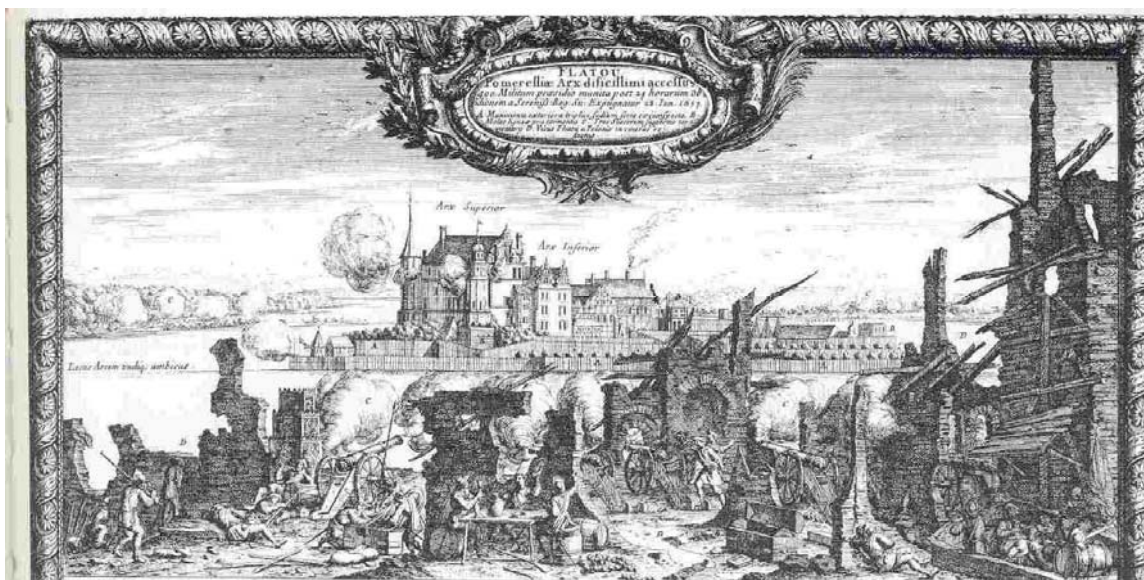
90. Burgermeister, Rathsherren und Schoppen des Danziger Freistaades by Luschin, Im Selbstverlag, Hamburg, 1974.

91. Marienkirche Death records on 472473 group 304 for the 1700's.

92. *Dorothea Weichbrodt, Patrizier, Burge, Einwoohner der Danzig.*



# The Remus Family of West Prussia: Part I



Flatow, West Prussia on 28 June 1657 after the Attack of the Swedes during the 13 Years War

The period around 1700 was not a good time for West Prussia. The Great Northern Wars taking place then led to warfare and destruction resulting in perhaps the loss of a third of the population. To repopulate their land (and generate profits), the Polish nobility sold the right to manage villages (called schultz privilege) and the right to mill grain to Germans. Thus, my ancestors entered West Prussia following the demobilization of the Saxon Army circa 1717. It is important to note that the Remus family of Kamenz were burgers (see the earlier section on Kamenz) and thus had some assets with which to acquire schultz

privileges. This was the top tier of peasants although definitely superseded by the nobility. Here is a ranking of the social prestige: West Prussia:

1. Schultz
2. Farmers (Zinsbauern - those who owned their buildings and livestock)
3. Farmers (Scharwerksbauern – those whose livestock were the property of the landowner and who received seed corn from the landowner)
4. Millers and Krügers (grain processors and brewers)
5. Cossäten & Häusler – tenants holding only a small amount of land, not enough for a farm, therefore often working as day laborers for others
6. Smiths and craftsmen
7. Schoolmasters
8. Shepherds
9. Laborers and maidservants

The first reference to the schultzes and millers in Remus family in West Prussia was in August Blanke's "Aus Vergangenen Tagen des Kreises Schlochau" (1936) where Johan Remus was said to be a miller in Rogonitza, the mill for Bergelau, and to a lesser extent Pollnitz, Kreis Schlochau around 1700. The article goes on to explain that Johan Remus sold the his dual course mill to Andreas

Rogosznicki around 1720. Otto Goerke's "Der Kreis Flatow" reports that Johan Remus purchased the schultz privilege and the schultzengut in Lanken, Kreis Flatow in 1714 (that is, the right to administer a village and a manorial farm for the villagers to work on). The Johan Remus family also had the schultz privilege for Aspenau (Ossowo) in Kreis Flatow. An article by Walter Tesmer states that the Remus family was an old established family in the Kreis Flatow area by 1706.

Here are the members of Johan Remus and Christine  
Berent's family:

Christian Remus (schultz of Aspenau (Ossowo), Kreis  
Flatow)

Christoph Remus (schultz of Lukowo and later Waldowo,  
Kreis Flatow)

Johan Remus Burger in Preuss Friedland, Kreis Schlochau

Lorenz Christoph Remus (schultz of Lukowo, Kreis Flatow  
and later Gnielke, Kreis Wirsitz)

Martin Remus (schultz of Schwente, Kreis Flatow)

Peter Remus (schultz of Zbosse, Kreis Flatow)

This generation of the Remus family was largely schultz. Here are some of the details on the Johan Remus family including his siblings. The villages underlibed will be detailed and pictures presented later in this section. The

villages will be in the same order as briefly presented following:

### **The Death of Johan Remus**

As noted earlier, Johan Remus with his wife Christine Berent acquired the schultz privilege for [Lanken](#), Kreis Flatow around 1714. They lived there for many years. The death of Johan Remus around 1750 led to major financial adjustments for the family. The schultz privilege in Lanken was initially lost as the estate was distributed. By 1775 Jacob Nehring had acquired the privilege; his wife was Eva Remus, the daughter of Franz Remus, Johan's brother (see below).

### **Schultz Christian Remus of Ossowo - Johan's Son**

The Johan Remus family also had the schultz privilege for [Aspenau \(Ossowo\)](#) in Kreis Flatow. The inheritance settlement here is preserved in the land records of Kreis Flatow. The settlement was that son Christian Remus made payments to his widowed mother Christine Remus nee Berent as well as Christian's brothers (listed above) and thus was given sole ownership of an inheritable privilege on Ossowo. In the 1772 West Prussia Land Census for the village of Ossowo, it is noted in question 14 that Christoph has the Ossowo schultz privilege in his name.

### **Schultz Martin Remus of Schwente, Kreis Flatow - Johan's Son**



Two funding sources helped my earliest proven ancestor Martin Remus (not the Martin Remus of Danzig discussed in an earlier chapter) purchase and the schultz privilege for [Schwente](#) in 1751. First according to Goerke's "Der Kreis Flatow," Martin Remus acquired the "Dorfkrug" (village inn) in [Schmirdau](#) in 1732 (although Martin probably managed the Krug prior to that). Funds were generated as Krug was later passed to his son first son Caspar around 1751. Also funds came from the estate of his father Johan discussed above.

Kruger Caspar Remus in Schmirdau is mentioned in the 1772 census as living with his wife, two hired male workers, and three hired female workers. When Caspar died, the Krug went entirely to the Caspar's eldest son Gottlieb. Caspar's other descendents did not have an inheritance and were farmers and shepherds including my great grandfather.

Martin Remus moved to nearby Schwente, Kreis Flatow. The place name Schwente/Swieta comes from a Slav root meaning "holy hill" (a reference to the prehistoric tumuli in the village) In Schwente he had the "Schulzengut" (the landed estate held by the village head) was acquired in 1751 by Martin Remus and his wife Katharina nee Nitz. In the West Prussia Land Census of 1772 for the village of Schwente, Martin complains that the soil in Schwente was sandy and they could not grow anything. He was also concerned that the schultz privilege in Schwente was not inheritable so could not be passed to his sons. The latter was remedied before Martin's death.

Martin's second son Christoph followed Martin as the Schultz of Schwente. Martin's third son was Lorenz Remus who moved southward to Bondecz, Kreis Wirsitz and his children to Bialobloty south of Poznan. Upon the eldest son Christoph's death, Martin's next oldest son Franz Remus became schultz but sold the land in 1796; Franz used the money from the sale of Schwente to buy the postmastership of [Vandsburg](#), Kreis Flatow. Caspar's eldest son Gottlieb above briefly reacquired the Schwente privilege around 1805.

### **Schultz Lorenz Christoph Remus of Lukowo and Gnielke, Kreis Wirsitz - Johan's Son**

Martin's brother Lorenz Christoph Remus was the village head (schultz) in [Lukowo](#), Kreis Flatow for many years; towards the end of his life he moved to [Gnielke](#), Kreis Wirsitz where he was schultz and owner of a schultzenhut (village head's home). This family produced only a small number of children and grandchildren. So the Gnielke estate became associated by marriage with the Schlieper family (although the genes still have the Remus DNA in them). Remains of that gracious estate in Gnielke still remain to date.

### **Schultz Christoph Remus of Lukowo and Waldowo - Johan's Son**

Martin's brother Christoph Remus was the village head (schultz) in [Waldowo](#), Kreis Flatow after initially living in Lukowo with his brother Lorenz Christoph above. Christoph's son Johan Daniel was a Kruger in Waldowo.

This family largely migrated east into the next county, Kreis Tuchel.

### **Johan Remus - Burger in Preuss Friedland - Johan's Son**

Johan Remus son of Johan Remus married Eva Halweg (daughter of schultz Andreas Halweg) and later Anna Boordt. They had many children, however, this Johan chose not to be a schultz or miller and instead lived part of his life as a burger in Preuss Friedland, Kreis Schlochau. For reasons unknown to me, most of the family migrated to Kreis Tuchel and there were largely farmers.

### **Schultz Peter Remus of Zbosse, Kreis Flatow - Johan's Brother**

Peter Remus married into control of [Zbosse](#), Kreis Flatow village around 1718 (a village which had a German and Lutheran presence and prayer house since 1620) and was a schultz. This he passed on to his son Peter around 1750. When the village burned in 1786, Peter Remus traded his privilege to control Zbosse to his uncle Peter Klawitter (whose wife was Susanna Remus was daughter of Lorenz Christoph Remus of Lukowo and Gnielke above). He gained Peter Klawitter's privilege for the krug (inn) in Bucholtz, Kreis Schlochau. Johan died young and thus this male line died out (although it lives on though Johan's sisters and aunts).

### **Schultz Franz Remus of Stegers and Stretzin - Johan's Brother**

Franz Remus of Stegers and Stretzin in Kreis Schlochau is a brother of Johan Remus. Franz Remus is first found as owning a schutzengut (estate which he occupied as head of the village) in Stegers around 1730. For some reason, Franz gave up that privilege and acquired a lease on farmland in Stretzin; apparently he lived well and could be thought of as a gentleman farmer. He had many daughters that married well; for example, his daughter Eva married well into the Nehring family that took over the Lanken estate and his daughter Marie Elisabeth married Christian Friedrich Rotzoll of gut (manorial estate house) [Rotzollen](#). At the close of his life, he passed on a small farm in Stretzin to son Michael and stayed in Rotzollen with his daughter Marie Elisabeth. He died there is 1797.

The children of Christian Friedrich Rotzoll and Marie Elisabeth Remus did well and owned several estates. The most notable is [Lottyn](#) in Kreis Konitz.

### **Miller Michael Remus of Pollnitz and Okiersk**

In 1737 the earlier Michael Remus combined three farms and created Kolmargut (roughly a home for a wealthy farmer) in [Pollnitz](#) in Kreis Schlochau; documents show this as a gift of Augustus the Strong, King of Saxony and Poland. This grant was confirmed in 1737 by Augustus III. It was located near the gut (estate) of the local Polish nobles located on the above map (Adl. Pollnitz just above Pollnitz). Michael consolidated three farms into one Lehmanngut (farmer's estate) and ran a wind powered mill.



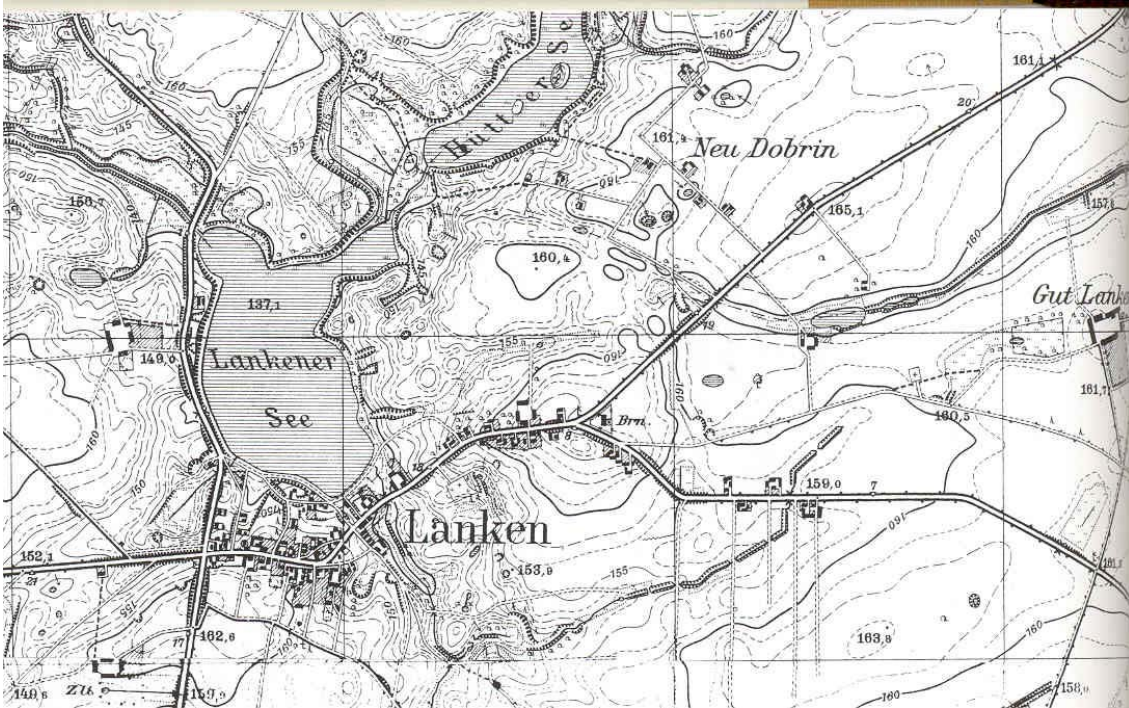
Michael was succeeded by his son Michael Remus the younger and wife Elisabeth. Michael the younger had at least 12 children and the children's birth records had Polish nobles as godparents. Just prior to 1772, Michael the younger and his family moved to [Okiersk](#), Kries Tuchel and ran a mill there. Michael Remus the younger's sons include Johan Jacob (born 1738) and Martin ultimately moved to Kreis Stolp in Pommern. Other sons and daughters were quite successful.

Following are sections on each of the villages above highlighted in green. The the subsequent chapter is on the members of the Remus Family of West Prussia that were shepherds, estate workers, and very small landholders. Note that inheritance in families at the time were largely the eldest son gets all. So if a schultz had a large family the youngest sons ended up as shepherds, estate workers and small land holders. Downward mobility in West Prussia was easy. Upward mobility was very difficult.

The genealogy of each of these families is contained in volume 2 about the Remus Family of West Prussia.

**The Villages of the Schultz and Millers  
of the Remus Family**

## Lanken, Kreis Flatow, West Prussia



Lanken is in Kries Flatow (Zlotow), West Prussia not far from Preuss Friedland. The village dates back to at least 1413. The population of Lanken in 1652 was 10 farmers and in 1821 the population was 33 farmers.

Johan Remus purchased an estate (Gut) in Lanken on 20 April 1724 for 3750 tymp; his wife was Christine nee Berendt. Johan was most likely the son of Johan Remus of Bergelau whose dual course mill in Rogonitza was sold in 1720.

Where exactly in Lanken they lived is difficult to tell since the modern village is not at the site of the original village and the road system has been reworked. Also, there were at least three estates (Guts) in the Lanken area so it is not clear which one would have belonged to Johan. Guts are

shown on the lake as well as two that are due north of the lake and one east of the lake. Gut Lanken to the east and pictures are shown at the bottom of this page.

Jakob Nehring acquired the gut on 24 March 1752 for 7000 tymf; Johan Remus had died prior to this transaction. Jakob Nehring's father was Christoph Nehring of Tarnowke. It is likely that the proceeds of the sale went to Johan's son Christian Remus of Ossowo (who would take care of Johan's widow Christina) and Johan's other sons including Martin Remus of Schwente.

Jakob Nehring married Eva Rosina Remus, daughter of Frantz Remus of Stretzin (and likely niece of Johan Remus of Lanken). So the Remus genes, if not the name, were still present. *Deutsches Geschlechterbuch* (vol. 140, p. 132) says Jakob Nehring was Frieschultz of Lanken in 1775; the Nehrings did not sell the schultzengut until 1799. Alexander Dzialynski of Pottlitz owned the land in 1724 and Augustin Dzialynski owned the land in 1752. The land census record for Jakob is:

Naehring, ? Lanken Crojanke 18113050 6039 381 21

The record says he presently lives in a household consisting of himself, one woman (Eva Rosina Remus), three sons, one daughter, two hired male workers and two female hired workers. He is a schultz - village head.

Here is a picture of the lake at Lanken (one of the guts was on this lake).





Here are pictures of another Lanken Gut and barns:



Remus Family of Saxony



# Aspenau (Ossowo), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia

Der Kries Flatow (pp. 284-285) says the Schulz of this village was a Remus as far back as 1706 and that this was the home village for the Remus family; the village was also known as Aspenau. The estate (Schulzengut) included the small lake known as Czarnice (czarny = black) - probably the Teufelsee or devil's lake. This Frieschultz had 4 times the land allotment of the ordinary village farmer (bauer). Augustin Dzialynski of Pottlitz owned the land. The village dates back to at least 1652 when there were 9 farmers living here. This family was Lutheran so the nearest Lutheran Church was a Batrowo.

Christian Remus and his wife purchased this Schulzengut on 11 July 1754 for 2600 tump by buying out the interests of his widowed mother Christine Berent and Christian's brothers. Thus, the schulzengut must have been in the name of his late father Johan Remus, husband of Christine Berent, and this transaction was designed to settle the estate. Some sources say the Remus family lived in this village since 1706. Christian got an inheritable lease on the property on Ossowo and the proceeds also may have helped brother Martin Remus acquire a schulzengut in Schwente. A 1798 land contract gives Christian Remus' wife as of that date as Anna Dorothea Warmbier.

Here is the 1772 West Prussia Land Census record for Christian Remus of Ossowo:

Remus, Freischulz Ossowo Crojanke 18113050 6039 386  
24

The Freischulz (a village head who also owned the village) Christian Remus was living with his wife (Anna Dorothea Warmbier), two sons over 12 years old (Johan and ?), one daughter under 12 years old (?), four hired male workers, and two hired female workers. There were 11 in the household. The later Schultzes were Johan Remus (wife Florianna Weisjahn daughter of the Schultz of Ziskowo) in 1798, his son Karl Remus (wife Clara Radies) after 1810, and August Remus and Wilhelmine Bohn starting by 1847. Their daughter Henriette married Carl von Kliet of nearby Neuguth. Their son Carl Remus and wife Emma Bartz then owned the village. Their son Ewald inherited the village prior to Second World War.

The village is basically a German style village and was largely German residents prior to the Second World War; almost all the houses are clustered along both sides of the road. Following is a picture of the house that the local residents said belonged to village head Ewald Remus and family including his son Ewald (they left as the Russian Army approached and his son made it safely to Germany):



Remus Family of Saxony



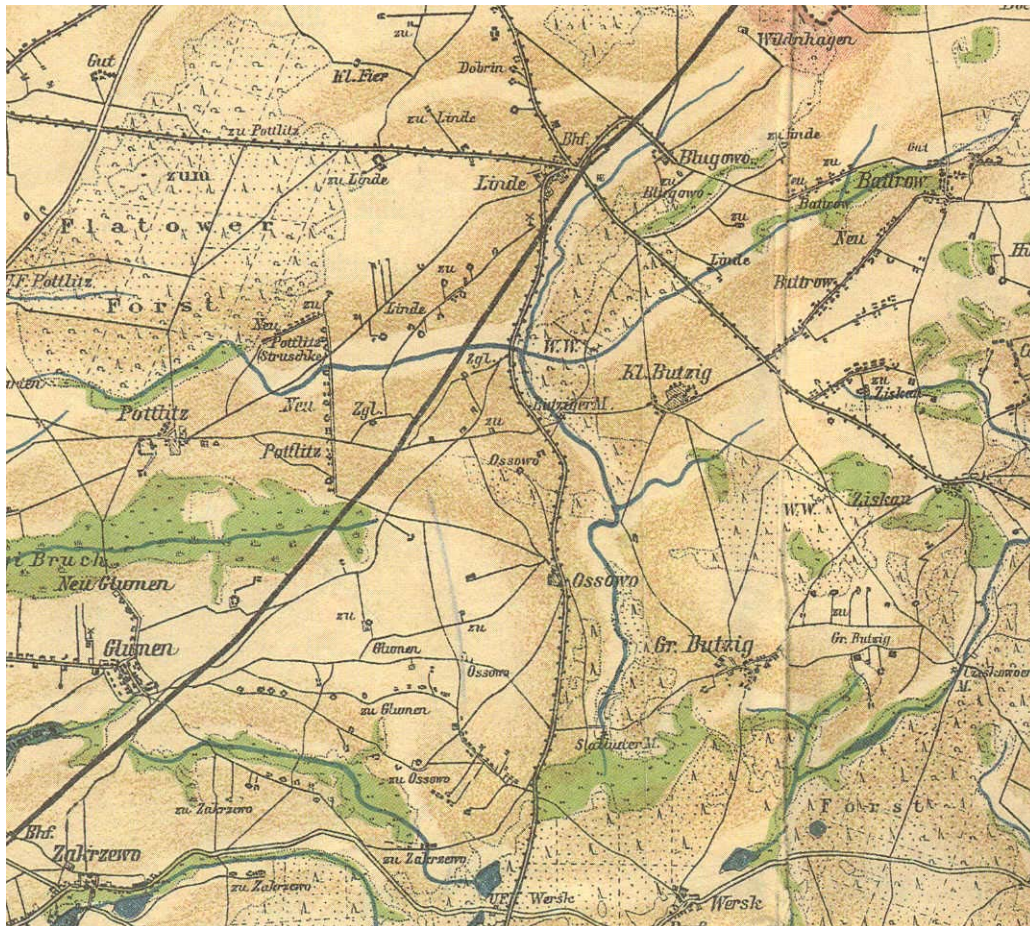
Recently a student and village residents restored grave markers from the old German cemetery; here is a picture of the markers. It is really great to see this old cemetery still cared for.



Here is a 1914 Map centered on Ossowo.



## Remus Family of Saxony



# Schmirdau (Smiardowo), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia



Schmirdau is a village that is about one third of the distance between Flatow and Vandsburg. It is street village (strassendorf); that is, the houses are close together and line both sides of the road.

Andreas Driese (Troi) and his wife Anna Zibell purchased the privileg of being Krugers in this village on 20 May 1731 from the landowner Joseph Dzialynski (ZBS p. 59). In the following year, Andreas Driese (Troi) and descendents were sold the Frieschultz privileg for this village in a contract with Joseph Dzialynski (ZBS p. 23). Martin Remus, his wife Catherine Nitz and their family



also lived in the village no later than 1732. The Peter Remus family of Zbosse were intermarried with the Zibell family, too. The mill for the village was in nearby Kujan.

As there was no church in the village, Martin's children born in the village were baptized in the Catholic Church in Flatow (it that time period the Lutheran church was banned)

Martin Remus was involved in the Krug (tavern) prior to his purchase the Krug privilege. On 18 November 1749 by my ancestor and his son, Caspar Remus (ZBS p. 60; DKF p. 60) purchased the krug. Augustin Dzialynski of Pottlitz was the seller of the Krug privilege. Martin moved to Schwente (see below).

The Krug was well located on a main road, conveniently located for both the villager and traveler. The Krug privilege also included as much land as that held by a regular farmer so a kruger generally also farmed. A Krug can no longer be found in the village and was probably burned in the 1859 fire that destroyed most of the village. Here are pictures of a krug of that era:



Remus Family of Saxony



The likely site of the Krug in Schmirdau was where the two roads intersected (now the location of a shrine):



Prior to taking over the Krug, son Caspar married Catharina Halweg and lived a bit north in the Preuss Friedland Parish. He moved to Schmirdau around 1748. His wife Catharina died around 1752; Caspar remarried and further children were born.

Here is the 1772 land census record:

Remus, Casper Smierdau Crojanke 18113050 6039 390 28

Casper was living with wife (second wife Ludovica), six sons (3 over 12 years old (Michael, **Peter** and ?) and 3 under 12 years old (Gottlieb, Johan, and Adalbert), one



hired male worker, and one hired female worker. There were ten in household.

Here is a view of the village:



# **Schwente (Swieta), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia**

## **History of Schwente**

In 1608 the village of Schwente was almost abandoned as war and plague decimated it. In 1618, the village of Schwente in West Prussia had 201/2 cultivated farms (Hufe). From these farms were paid a tax of 26 Floren and 15 Groschen. Additionally 1 Floren and 15 Groschen were paid by 3 non-cultivated farms; 8 Groschen by 2 farmers and 4 Groschen by a business enterprise.



The schultz privileg was established in 1707 by Valentin Marczynski. Until 1725, Schwente had only Polish inhabitants and until 1751 only a Polish schultz. However, the village suffered terribly in the third Swedish War from 1700 to 1721; this war was also called the Big Nordic War in German or the Great Northern War in English. The village was burned and also suffered from the plague epidemic of 1709 to 1711. Since few of the original Polish settlers remained, the landowners of Flatow (the Dzialynski family) brought in German settlers.

To accommodate the German settlers, Schwente was divided into two villages: a German one and the Polish one. There was already a Polish schultz so an additional schultz was appointed for the German settlers. Thus, Schwente was an exceptional case in that German and Polish inhabitants each had their own schultz.

## **Schwente N° 2 - the German Village**

The first German schultz was David Wenske (Wenski). He was a member of the Wieckowski family, a minor Polish noble family originally from Wienskowo, Kreis Schwetz. This family also owned nearby Wusters village. Wusters

was still owned by the family in 1772. Apparently David served as an officer in the Swedish or Saxon Army in the Great Northern War where he presumably converted from Catholicism to Lutheranism and changed his name to Wenski thereafter.

David Wenski got a paper that documented the lasting rights and duties as Frieschulze (Privilegium) from the brothers Joseph and Augustin Dzialynski, on 4 January 1732. David's sister Marianna married Lorenz Christoph Remus and moved to nearby Lukowo. After the death of David Wenski, this schultz privilege was inherited by his oldest son Daniel; Daniel handed it over to his brother Christoph in 1769. Christoph died on 10 August 1793 at the age of 81 years. When Christoph was still alive, his son Johann managed the estate; after his death in 1793 his son Martin managed it.

Martin Wenski lost his life on 14 December 1829 through an unhappy incident. He was about to shoot a partridge and due to carelessly handling the rifle he shot himself. As a result of the agreement on inheritance (Erbrezess), from 11 August 1831 Samuel Wenski got the estate. Later it passed to his son-in-law Eduard Welke (born 1826, died 1904).

### **Schwente N° 1 - the Polish Village**

The Polish schultz privileg was documented its lasting rights and duties on 2 August 1751 by Augustin Dzialynski. That year it passed into German hands for 2050 Tympf. The schultz was Martin Remus; his spouse was Katharina née Nitz.

Essentially, the Privilegium for Schwente N° 1 was similar to the one of the German schultz of Schwente N° 2. The schultz for Schwente N° 1 had the duty to place Germans on the non-cultivated farms (Hufe) and he was not obligated to any service towards the estate owners and didn't have to place his horse-drawn vehicle to their disposal.

Frieschulze Martin Remus was followed by Christoph Remus who died in 1777, then Franz Remus who sold the estate to the inspector of the Flatow estates, Johann Eduard Münzer, on 24 March 1796 for 3333 Taler. Franz Remus and his many descendents lived in the Vandsburg (see the following section). Münzer sold it on 21 April 1804 to the Ritterschaftsrat von Gerhard of Flatow for the same price. From Herr von Gerhard the Polish schultz was purchased by Gottlieb Remus, innkeeper from Schmirdau (Gottlieb was the son of my ancestor Johan Caspar Remus and grandson of Martin Remus). On 13 October 1806 Polish schultz passed into possession of the tenant Johann Kleinschmidt from Redel near Pretzin for 7500 Taler. Other owners were Karl Ludwig Kleinschmidt, then Daniel Siegfried Kleinschmidt from 1 June 1822; Johann Medewitz from 14 October 1834; and from 1836 Daniel Siegfried Kleinschmidt again.

### **Martin Remus in Schwente**

**My great-great-great-great-great-grandfather Martin Remus** had previously lived in Schmirdau (see Schmirdau for details) first working at the Krug (Inn) and then acquiring the right to run the Inn. This he later passed on to his eldest



son Caspar, **my great-great-great-great-grandfather**. The proceeds from the Krug and from the death of his father Johan, allowed him to purchase of the Schwente privileg in 1751. He moved his family to Schwente where some of his younger children were born. Martin's brother was Christian Remus of Ossowo (see Ossowo for details). Martin's second son was Lorenz Remus who moved southward to Rudna, Kreis Wirsitz then Bondecz, Kreis Wirsitz and his children to Bialobloty south of Poznan.

Besides managing the village, the Remus family had a large plot of land at the end of the village. This large plot now contains a mill built in 1902 and grain storage towers from after WW II on the farm as shown in the following pictures:





In the text of the 1773 Krojanke tax records report Schultz Remus' complaints about sandy soil which needed lots of compost and about the fact that his position of Schultz was not inheritable by his sons. This may have been why this Remus family left Schwente. Much of the land was indeed sandy, especially the area where the ancient tumuli was (a prehistoric sand mount); this tumuli gave the village its name - Schwente in German or Swieta in Polish meaning holy hill. The holy hill was also an old graveyard that might have contained Martin's grave. Here is a picture:

## Remus Family of Saxony





Some of the old village remains. Here are some pictures from near the holy hill:







Other parts of the village include traditional "Prussian Wall" houses as well as Prussian Wall barns. (This style used large wood timbers for the wall, filled in with clay - when the clay began to fall out, it was often replaced with brick). Sometimes entire barns were made of clay. The house shown is from 1790:

Remus Family of Saxony







Also the kowal (blacksmith) still has his shop in Schwente although he now makes wrought iron fences for people in Germany. Note also the stall to hold the horse to be shoed:







The village did not originally have a church so marriages and baptisms were in Flatow. This is the alter of the church including the baptismal font.



Here is a 1914 Map with Schwente in the lower left hand corner. Also Flatow where the churches were is left and Schmirdau where his son was centered. Far right is Ossowo where his brother Christian lived.



# Remus Family of Saxony



# Vandsburg (Wiecbork), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia



Vandsburg is now a middle sized, light industrial town. It has a lovely location on the side of a lake to make its bleakness more pleasant. But earlier it was a very pleasant place. It was first mentioned in 1384 and the mill established in 1748. The town was established in 1767 and by 1773 had 389 residents (including 28 shoemakers) of which 260 were German.

Vandsburg was the home of two Remus families. One of these families, Johan Remus, appeared in the 1772 land census. His record was:

Remus, Johann Wantzburg Cammin 18113047 6039 221 48

Remus, Johann Wantzburg Cammin 18113047 6041 112 48  
(duplicate)

Johann David Remus, son of Lorenz Christoph Remus of Schwente, is living with his wife (Rosina Busse) and one son (?). There were three in household. He is under the heading Burger/citizens followed by word -cker, which could be the word Acker/farmer (one who has acreage). He was also a magistrate in Vandsburg. This Remus had few descendents and they are hard to track.



It is easy, however, to track the descendents of the second Remus family in Vandsburg, that of Franz Remus. In fact, Franz Remus's descendents prepared a fine article in Deutsche Geschlechterbuch (volume 62) about his family. That article lists his wife as Anna Marie Bethke who said to be born in nearby Runowo. However, the birth records of the Zabartowo parish just south of Vandsburg for 1761 show her to be Anna Marianna Bethke, daughter of blacksmith Johan Michael Bethke of Czarnum village. However, Czarnum (also known as Hohensee) is very close to Runowo and in 1761 might have been considered a part of Runowo.

Franz Remus's father is not listed. Franz was too young to appear in the 1772 census of heads of households as he was born in 1755 so those records do not help to identify his parents. At the time of the 1772 census, he was still living with his father who DNA evidence suggests is Martin Remus of Schwente. Franz also was the notary for the noble family in Sypniewo prior to settling in Vandsburg.

The village became a town in 1767 when it was given the Stadtpriveleg. At the time of the 1773 census, there were 399 people in the town including 28 families headed by shoemakers.

My great-great-great-grandfather Daniel Remus, a shepherd, on 16 October 1808 married Christine Golz who was born here in 1782 and my great-great-grandfather Daniel was born just north of here in Zbosse.

Following are pictures of the town square from the lake.

## Remus Family of Saxony



Here is a picture of the old, now decrepit Lutheran chapel.



The old Lutheran church was at the site shown below and destroyed in the war:





Here is a picture of the Catholic Church in Vandsburg:



Following is a map of the area:



# Remus Family of Saxony



## **Lukowo, Kreis Flatow, West Prussia**

Most of the children of Christoph Remus and Eva Meske were born in Vorwerk Lukowo, an extension of the village of Sypniewo that Christoph managed until about 1744 when he began to move to Waldau. In 1749, Ludwica Dzialynski of Sypniewo owned this land. The birth and marriage records for this village are in the Sypniewo church book and all baptisms and marriages were recorded in Sypniewo. This family is shown in the 1772 census for Waldau. Here is that record:

Remus, Christoph Waldau Cammin 18113047 6039 227 51

Remuss, Christoph Waldau Cammin 18113047 6041 115  
51(duplicate)

Christoph Remuss is living with wife (Eva Meske), two sons (Martin and Franz), three daughters (Marianna, Eva and Christine); there are seven in household. Christoph is listed under a column labeled Halbbauern/literally half farmer. So he had some other work (running the village) and farmed half time. [\](#)

Christoph's brother Lorenz Christoph also lived in Lukowo during this time period with his family. Lorenz, his wife



Marianna Wenske, and their family stayed there until the 1760's when he moved to Vorwerk Gnielke and became a gentleman farmer. Here is the 1772 census record:

Remus Lorentz Kleindorf/Dreidorf Grabionne 9 - 218

This record shows him as head of household, with his wife (Marianna Wenske was the sister of schultz David Wenske family of nearby Schwente) and one daughter (Christina). When Lorenz Christoph died, the estate (gut) they owned in Gnielke (see below) was inherited by daughter Christina Remus and her husband Johan Schlieper. It remained in the Schlieper family for many years.

Lukowo has a lovely lakeside location that is 3.5 kilometers east of Sypniewo. The village is now deserted (it existed only from 1700 to 1770 according to Walter Maas) but the name Lukowo is still part of some farms mailing address in the area. Here is the east view:





Here is the west view:



## **Gnielke (Gnielka), Kreis Wirsitz, West Prussia**

Gnielke is the name of a manorial farm just south of Sypniewo and Vandsburg (Gnielke means a rotten smelling place like a swamp). Lorenz Christoph Remus of Lukowo and his wife Marianne Wenski of Schwente, after residing in Lukowo for many years, acquired this property. It was owned in 1773 by Polish Noble Graf Potulicka. It was passed on to their children in two ways. First via their daughter Christine Remus who married Johan Stephan Schlieper to their son Johan David Schlieper who married Johanna Elisabeth Remus. Second, Johanna Elisabeth Remus was also the granddaughter of Lorenz Christoph via his son Johan David Remus and his wife Rosina Busse. So Johan David Schlieper and his wife Johanna Elisabeth Remus were doubly qualified to inherit the property. Another daughter of Lorenz, Susanna, married Kruger Peter Klawitter in 1765 in Runowo and later became the owners of Zbosse (see the section on this village).

The remnants of the manor house (gut) are incorporated in the farm house shown below (with the current owner and mayor of the village, Ryczard Niepieklo): The original large land holding was broken up into 15 to 20 acre farms. The Ryczard's most important crops are grains (rye, wheat, and winter wheat), potatoes, and pigs.



A Remnant of the Old Farm House



Old Stone Barn built in about 1870





An Even Older Barn Built with Prussian Wall Construction



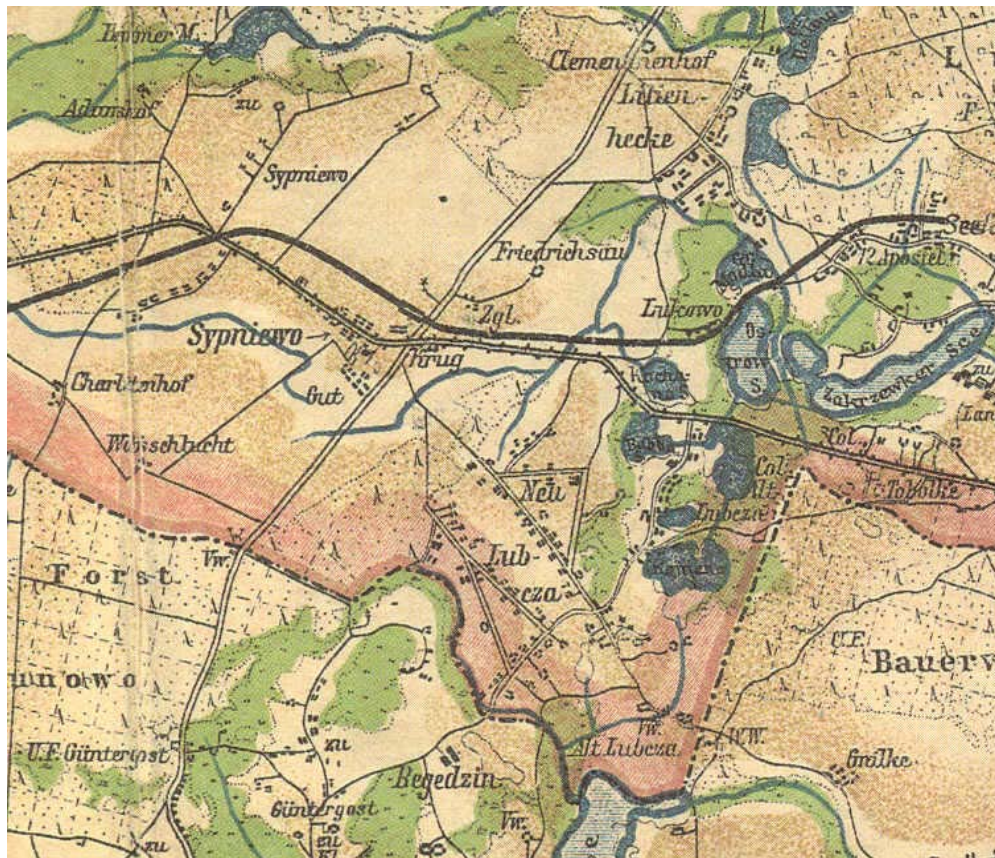
The Owner Ryszard Niepiekło ...



He is also the Mayor (Soltys) of the Village



The map below shows both Lukowo and Gnielka in 1914.





## **Waldau (Waldowo), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia**

Waldau was a village that had three Remus families in it at the time of the 1772 census. Therefore, it is of special interest to me. But first, a bit about the village. Waldau has a very unusual structure. There is a straight east-west road with houses on both sides and also a north-south road with houses. At the intersection of the two, there is a Catholic Church, a Catholic graveyard, a manor house, and manorial barns converted to a vodka factory. The Lutheran graveyard is in a field to the side of the manor.

The village in 1765 was a mixture of 153 Catholics and 246 Lutherans. It had both Lutheran and Catholic churches and cemeteries. It also had a krug (tavern). The village was owner by Polish nobility. The Lorenz Waldowski family owned it prior to 1744. It passed to Melichor Zalinski and from 1772 to 1788, then the Stanislaw Grabowski family owned it. The Grabowski ownership period largely corresponds to the period when the Remus family lived here.

One of the people in the 1772 census is Christoph Remus. Here is his census record:

Remus, Christoph Waldau Cammin 18113047 6039 227 51

Remuss, Christoph Waldau Cammin 18113047 6041 115  
51(duplicate)

Christoph Remuss is living with wife (Eva Meske), two sons (Martin and Franz), three daughters (Marianna, Eva and Christine); there are seven in household. Christoph is listed under a column labeled Halbbauern/literally half farmer. So he had some other work (running the village) and farmed half time. Most of his older children were born in Vorwerk Lukowo, an extension of the village of Sypniewo that he managed until about 1744 when he began to move to Waldau. Christoph was the father of Daniel (below).

Here is a view of the village from the fields.



I am pretty sure that Christoph and family occupied the manor house and at least for a while he was the schultz of the village. This assessment is based on his affluence and managerial experience in Lukowo. Also, there is no listed schultz for this village in the 1772 census. This arrangement must have been made with the Stanislaus Grabowski family who owned the village.

Here is a picture of the modernized manor house



And here is a picture of the barn (now a vodka factory):



Also in the village there was a tavern run by Daniel Remus, son of Christoph above and born in Lukowo. This arrangement must have been made with the Stanislaus Grabowski family who owned the village at that time. The 1772 land census record says:

Daniel Remus Waldau Cammin 18113047 6039 227 51

Daniel Remuss Waldau Cammin Zempelberg 18113047 6041 115 51 (duplicate)

Johan Daniel was living with wife (Dorothea Runk), two daughters (likely Marianna Elisabeth and Anna Dorothea), and two hired male farm workers. He was a kruger - tavern keeper and also farmed.

My great- great- great-grandfather Peter Remus was also living in Waldau. Here is his 1772 land census record:

Remus, Peter Waldau Cammin 18113047 6039 227 51

Remuss, Peter Waldau Cammin 18113047 6041 115 51 (duplicate)

Paechter des Vorwerks, Peter Remuss; living with wife (Barbara Juliana Zyck/Pufal), three sons (my gggrandfather Daniel, Christoph, and Johan Georg), one daughter (Anna Maria), two hired male workers, and three hired female workers. There were a total of 11 in household. Peter died in 1778 and his wife Barbara married Johan Christian Grugel of Dorngsdorf in nearby Kreis Konitz.



Paechter des Vorwerks means head of an extension of the village some distance from the village. Since his sons were all shepherds, perhaps the latter living arrangement may reflect being shepherds. On the other hand Vorwerk often means manor house so Peter may have occupied this manor until an early death (with not a very valuable estate as his children became shepherds). It is not clear where this extension (Vorwerk) of Waldau is located but it is typically within a few kilometers of the village.

My great- great- great-grandfather Peter was the second son of Kruger (tavern keeper) Caspar Remus of Schmirdowo.

When these Remus families arrived in Waldau, the Lutheran church was banned. So all their early records are contained in the church books of the Waldau Catholic Church shown next:



This house in Waldau was built in 1831 so might have been seen by my ancestors.





Below is a map of the village and note the label Waldau shown outside the central village. These could be called Vorwerks.



## **Grunlinde (Zbosse/Zboze), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia**

Zbosse (Zboze in Polish means grain, the village was known a Grunlinde in German) is a strassendorf (street village) with houses clustered along both sides of the road. The village is on main road from Vandsburg to Zempelburg. Zbosse was badly damaged in the Second World War so the village is quite modern except for the school built in 1809 (no doubt restored following the war).

Zbosse became both German and Lutheran very early (its name in 1617 was Osowka). Prior to 1620, the Lutheran church was well established north of Zbosse in Zempelburg. On May 1 1720, the Zempelburg church was destroyed and the pastor expelled. The Lutheran's then established a prayer house in Zbosse.

Der Kreis Flatow lists a Peter Remus getting schultzenprivileg for Zbosse on 14 June 1718. The details are in LDS microfilm 491232 that shows a copy in German script of the 1718 document. Peter is buying the Schultzprivileg (privilege of being village head) and the estate Lehmannngut (an estate house) from his brother in law Martin Gieus; Martin Gieus may be from the prominent Gieus family of Danzig that had land holdings in the area or the Gieus family of Kreis Schlochau. Johan Jacob Potulicke owned the property.

The above Peter is the father of the Peter in the 1772 census shown as follows:



Remus, ? Zbojen Cammin 18113047 6039 244 2580

Remus, ? Zbosen Cammin Flatow 18113047 6041 123  
2580 (duplicate)

The Peter in the census was schultz for the Lehmanngut plus 4 farms in this village and 8 farms in nearby Wysoka (see below), he received these privileges from his father on 18 January 1748 (Wysoka translates as high place since this village was on a ridge near Zbosse). This privilege was shared with Peter Scharmer. Alexander Pottilice owned the property; payments in rye were made to Alexander on each 11 November, that is St Martin's Day.

The Zbosse church book names Peter Remus as the Schultz during this period. An Inn was established in 1764; Georg Schmitt was the kruger. The census of 1772 says that the Schultz (Peter) was living with wife (Catharina Thoms), two sons (Johan Ludwig and Peter), three daughters (Dorothea Elisabeth, Anna Marie, and Catharina), five hired male workers, and three hired female workers; there were fifteen in household. In that year, there were 4 farming families, 6 families of farm workers, one shepherd, one gooseherder, a schoolmaster, and some other families for a total of 141 people. Upon Peter Remus's death, his son Johan Ludwig became schultz.

In 1786 a fire burned 12 houses and 11 stables. All that was left in Zbosse was the house of one of the two Schultz, two farms, and an inn. This remaining Schultz' estate (gut) might have actually been in Wysoka since the Wysoka and Zbosse were administratively combined and Wysoka was

far enough away to not have the fire spread to it. Perhaps also the fire led to the swap of the Peter Klawitter's interest in a Krug (Tavern) in Buchholz, Kreis Schlochau for cousin Johan Ludwig Remus' interest the Zbosse Schultz (the privilege to head a village) and Schultzenhut (village head's estate). Peter Klawitter's wife of Susanna Remus. Thus, the Klawitter family became the Schultz of Zbosse.

**My great-great grandfather Daniel Remus was born here in 1809** as shown in the All Souls census of this area (he was a cousin of Peter Remus, the schultz mentioned above). Daniel married Christine Bess and my great grandfather August Wilhelm Remus was born in nearby Neutuchel in Kreis Tuchel. If Daniel had continued to stay in this village (this is uncertain), he would have attended this school built in 1809.



Here is a panoramic view of the beginning of the village.





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## **Hohenfelde (Wysoka), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia**

Hohenfelde in German and Wysoka in Polish means high field, a description that well fits this village as shown as follows:



This village was initially part of neighboring Zbosse (Zboze in Polish - also known as Grunlinde in German) and jointly run by Peter Remus the schultz of Zbosse. So early church records for the villagers are listed as Zbosse. This privileg was shared with Peter Scharmer. Alexander Pottilice owned the property. The following early building may have been that of one of the schultz.



Here is the view from that house of Zbosse.



# Rotzollen (Rocol), Kreis Schlochau, West Prussia



Rotzollen is a very small village at the edge of Kreis Schlochau shown on the above 1850 map and just north of the city of Konitz. Some sources state that the Rotzoll family was originally from Wusterbarth, Kreis Belgard, Pommern. Alexander Treichel's article on the family mentions that George Andreas' father David was a citizen



of Belgard and Küstrin and might have come from Hungary.

According to Alexander Treichel, George Andreas Rotzoll (24 May 1641 – 1 January 1714) was estate manager or tenant on different estates in Pommern and Pommerellen before he acquired the property originally named Pustkowie that eventually became Rotzollen; it was acquired from Jakob Semerau called Wigray and his wife Ursula (née von Kleist) in the early 1700's. His son Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll inherited the property u.pon his death.

My interest in this village is that Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll's son Andreas Georg Rotzoll married Anna Margaretha Remus daughter of the village head (Schultz) Franz Remus of Stretzin. The Rotzoll family attended church in Pollnitz where their many children were baptized. Franz Remus eventually moved to Rotzollen to join his daughter and died there in 1797.

Here is a picture of a painting of Andreas Rotzoll:



Remus Family of Saxony



And here is a picture of a painting of his wife Anna  
Margaretha Remus:



(This is the earliest picture of a Remus from my family)

These pictures were from descendents of the Rotzoll family and very much appreciated.

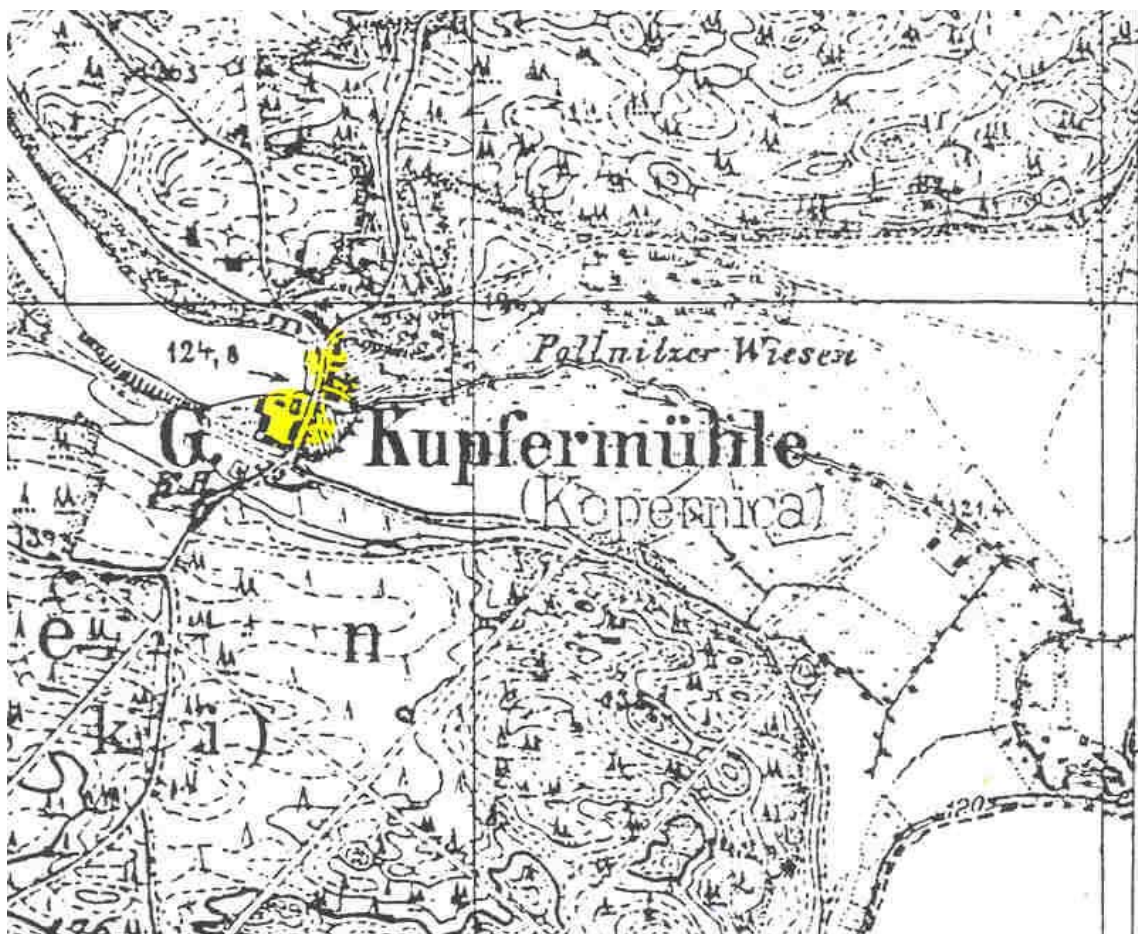
On my trips in 2004 and 2006 I was not able to find it but found the nearby logging village of Kupfermuhl with a very nice water powered saw mill. On my 2006 trip I talked with the forest ranger in Kupfermuhle. He said the old village of Rotzollen no longer exists. There is a tourist camp near the Rotzollen site.

The stones from the manor house were removed for safety reasons. The ranger noted that there were pieces of glass from the glass mill that was there at one time. Fortunately, Professors Lukas and Krystyna Trcinski from University of

Lodz became interested in this family and found a few remaining fragments on site. Here is a picture of both fragments of the manor house and of the glass produced by the mill that they found.



The location of the old manor house is shown on this map with the number 21 towards the right of the map.



The Rotzollen founding documents date from 1729. The village head (schultz) privileg was made to Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll, the father of Andreas Georg above. The grant was from King Augustus, King of Saxony and Poland, and may have been as reward for service in the recently ended Great Northern War. Michael Remus of Pollnitz, Kreis Schlochau had a similar grant that may from this Augustus and confirmed by his son Augustus III after Augustus III won the Polish War of Succession in 1734. There is evidence of that the Rotzol family were officers during this period in the Saxon Army.

Here is a photo of a painting of the old manor house at Rotzollen courtesy of Paul Sternberg

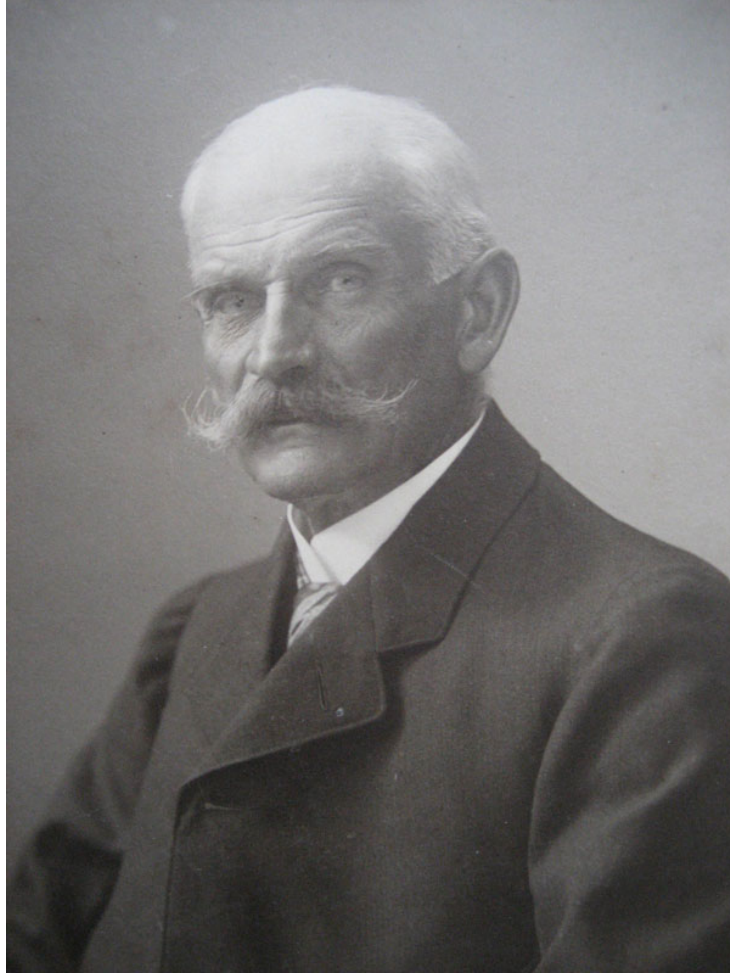


[paulsternberg@msn.com](mailto:paulsternberg@msn.com) and Joachim Y Zylka  
[joachim.y.zylka@aexp.com](mailto:joachim.y.zylka@aexp.com) who are also interested in this  
village.



The last Rotzoll to live in Rotzollen was August Gottlieb  
Ferdinand Rotzoll who was the owner from 1828 to 1853;  
he is pictured below:

Remus Family of Saxony



Other estates owned by this family were at Tempelberg near Danzig as well as in Rakelwitz, Lottyn and Sternau in Kreis Konitz, West Prussia. Details on Lottyn follow.

# **Lottyn (Lotyn), Kreis Konitz, West Prussia**

The Rotzoll family was the gutsbesitzers (owners) of this estate after their purchase of the estate in 1830. They were descendents of the Remus and Rotzoll marriages of two generations earlier in the village of Rotzellen. This village is just south of the city of Konitz.

Here is a picture of first of the estate house (gut) and then of the renovated modern estate. It is now a registered historic building.



Remus Family of Saxony





The gut was rebuilt in 1850 and by 1900 the entire manorial farm had been sold and redeveloped as housing for many small farms.

Many of the farm buildings were converted for other uses. Here is a house using part of the granary structure:



Here is the sheep barn partially converted into a house:

## Remus Family of Saxony



Here is the distillery:





Here is a picture of the back side of the old estate which faced a park that the family had created:

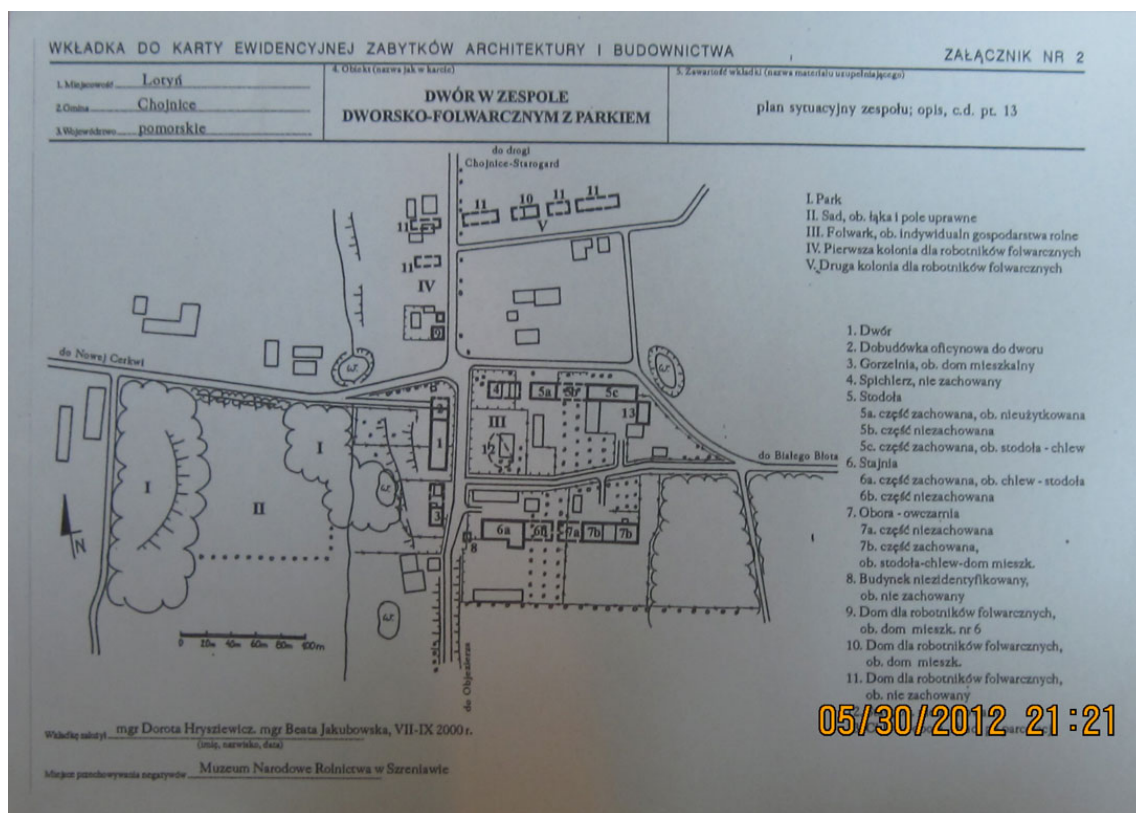


The park was part of the estate and was normally open only to the owner and guests. It is now a park for all:





Here is a map showing the original buildings in dark lines as well as the current buildings:



And here is a modernized version of where the workers lived that incorporates portions of the old worker housing:



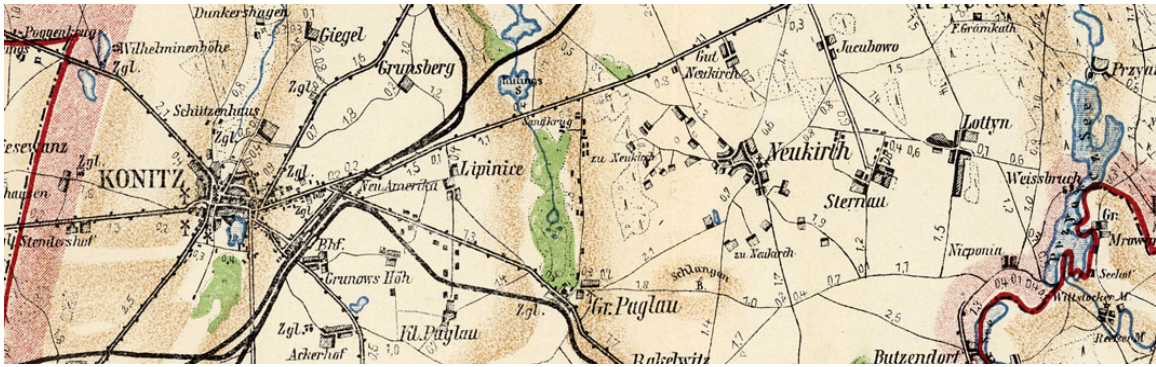
Franz Samuel Rotzoll (13 Feb 1759 – 10 April 1833) was the oldest son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus and the owner of Lottyn till his death in Lottyn (10 April 1833). The gut at Tempelburg near Danzig belonged to Christian Friedrich Rotzoll (29.08.1765 - 18.11.1843) who was also a son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus.

Franz Samuel's son Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll (28 July 1806 - 03 May 1870 - shown below) inherited Lottyn:



Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll bought the Gut at Sternau for his second son Eduard August Andreas Rotzoll (29 June 1836 – 28 September 1903) and the gut at Rakelwitz for his first son Franz Friedrich Wilhelm Rotzoll (03 July 1832 - 29 July 1886). The owner of Lottyn after Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll's death was his son Georg Joseph Heinrich Rotzoll (22 February 1844 - 04 January 1902).

The family was Lutheran and would have attended the Lutheran church in Konitz (or a nearby chapel). Here is a map showing these villages:



The people responsible for the documentation and restoration of this village are Professors Lukas and Krystyna Trzcinski from University of Lodz. It is their documentation that you see above the in the village map and there research in the village of Rotzellen there described. They are also responsible for getting preservation status for this village. Here I am with them in the old manor house.



Remus Family of Saxony



# Pollnitz (Polnica), Kreis Schlochau, West Prussia

Pollnitz is a lovely village in Kries Schlochau. It is first mentioned in 1344. It was a mostly German village of the street village (strassendorf) sort. It has the lovely Holy Trinity church built in 1789 with elements in an earlier church from 1653. There was an Evangelical chapel in the village as early as 1617. The Teutonic Knights originally established the village in 1341.



It was a wealthy grain-producing village and had three mills in the area including one in the village (see the windmill site fuether on), one is Borowy, and one in Rogonitza. In 1737 the earlier Michael Remus combined three farms and created Kolmargut (roughly a home for a wealthy farmer) in Pollnitz; documents show this as a gift of Augustus the Strong, King of Saxony and Poland. This grant was confirmed in 1737 by Augustus III. It was

located near the gut (estate) of the local Polish nobles located on the above map (Adl. Pollnitz just above Pollnitz). Michael consolidated three farms into one Lehmanngut (farmer's estate) and ran a wind powered mill.

But which Augustus made the grant? This village had been devastated by the Swedes in the Great Northern War ending in 1720. The grant could have been from Augustus the Strong and may reflect the fact that Michael had fought for Augustus the Strong in the Great Northern War that removed the Swedes from this area. On Augustus the Strong's death in 1733, the War of Polish Succession took place ending in 1734 with the succession of Augustus III, nephew of Augustus the Strong. Thus the grant might reflect Michael Remus' participation in that War and be from Augustus III. Dr George Lukowski of University of Birmingham in his book on the partitions of Poland noted that "Protestant favorites continued to receive lucrative crown land leases under Augustus III." So it is likely Michael Remus did exactly that in 1737. (For more on Augustus the Strong, read Tony Sharp's book *Pleasure and Ambition - Augustus was Strong in both the battlefield and bedroom*).

About 1740 Michael Remus the elder died (this Michael is shown in one record with the name Johan so either he was the Johan Remus of Alt Rognitz (Rogonitza) or that Johan was his father). In any case, Michael (Johan) was succeeded by his son Michael Remus the younger (who I also call Michael #1 of Pollnitz) and wife Elisabeth who were temporarily living in Konarszyn. Michael the younger

had at least 12 children and the children's birth records had Polish nobles as godparents. Michael Remus the elder's daughter Dorothea married Franz Klahr in 1743.

Just prior to 1772, Michael the younger and his family moved to Okiersk, Kries Tuchel (see the following section) and ran a mill there. When the Prussians took over this area they also took over the royal lands and land grants like that of Michael's. Thus, a reasonable explanation for why Michael moved was that he could get secure land title in Tuchel whereas with his Pollnitz land he would have had to deal with the Prussians.

Michael Remus the younger's sons Johan Jacob (born 1738) and Martin ultimately moved to Kreis Stolp in Pommern. Son Michael Remus (born 1748) lived first in Strezin and then remarried and moved to Christfelde, both in Kreis Schochau in West Prussia.

The 1788 tax records find Adam Mux of Pollnitz married to Dorothea Elisabeth Remus the eldest daughter of Michael Remus the younger of Pollnitz; Michael the younger was listed as a miller and farmer (LDS 491205 p. 987). It is likely that they resided on the land formerly held by Michael above. The 1772 Census record is:

Mix, Adam Polnitz Schlochau 18113097 6041 763 55

Listed as "Freigut", living with wife (Dorothea Elisabeth Remus), five sons (Carl, Simon, Franz, ? and ?), three daughters (Catharina, Dorothea, and ?), one male worker, one female worker, total of 12 in household.



Other daughters of Michael Remus the younger included Barbara who married Christian Schneider, Catherina who married Peter Nadel, and daughter Eva who married Johan Hartmann; these marriages were after 1772 so these families are not shown in the census of 1772. However, another Remus is shown in that census:

In 1772, another *different* Michael Remus lived this village (he was probably the cousin of the above Michael Remus). Here is the 1772 land census record:

Remuss, Michael Polnitz Schlochau 18113097 6041 763 55

This Michael was living with wife, 2 sons (Johan Georg and Michael), and 2 daughters (Barbara Elisabeth and Anna Catherina). These children were born in Pollnitz and nearby Pagelkau. His descendents were millers in many places including Doringsdorf, Kries Schlochau, Schworngatz, Kreis Konitz, and Gross Pallubin, Berent. He died in 1776.

Also in this village was Lorenz Remus born about 1690. I don't find any descendents of Lorenz still carrying the Remus family name but several daughters married into the Janke family and thrived.

Here are pictures of the Catholic Church, alter, and baptismal where the Remus children would have been baptized. This church was rebuilt in 1790 after the church burned. The old alter and baptismal were saved and are shown below:

## Remus Family of Saxony





Here is a detailed area map from 1850 showing Pollnitz and Bergelau:



## More Pollnitz Pictures



## Remus Family of Saxony



A view of the Village



The Manor House where the Polish Nobility Lived





The likely site for Michael Remus' land (called Remusfelde on old maps)



Likely Michael Remus Windmill Site atop this hill

# Okiersk, Kreis Tuchel, West Prussia

Okiersk is a small village on the Napoleon Strasse (road in German) a few kilometers east of Tuchel; this road was originally able to take six teams of horses pulling wagons simultaneously to Russia (a big mistake for Napoleon). Here is a picture of the modern road.



Although not in Okiersk, I might note here that **my great grand father August Wilhelm Remus** apprenticed as a cart maker on this road (probably a few miles west in Tuchel) prior to heading to Volhynia in the Ukraine around 1867.

The village is in three parts. One is on Napoleon Strasse, one portion is south of Napoleon Strasse (next to the village of Lossiny), and the original portion is on a river just north of Napoleon Strasse.

The Michael Remus (originally from Pollnitz above) who lived in this village was a miller so lived in the third portion

of the village with his mill on the river. The Okiersk miller privilege was first offered in 1648 by the Zalinski family; it was one of the two mills serving the Tuchel area. The mill was destroyed by the Swedes in 1655 and rebuilt soon thereafter. Michael acquired the privilege just prior to 1772.

Here is his record from the 1772 land census:

Remus, Michel Ockiersk Tuchel 18113128#131 6042 2540  
734

Michael was living with wife Elisabeth, one son over 12 (Michael), 3 daughters over 12 (Eva Rosina, Barbara, and ?), 2 male hired workers, 1 female hired worker. According to DG, this Michel was a muller (miller) in Wokerske/Ockiersk (Okiersk) in 1776.

The original village was on a river suitable for a water mill. Here is a picture (with hard to see stone foundations along the stream and under the bridge):





The Mill Site (now gone) was located next to the house shown here:

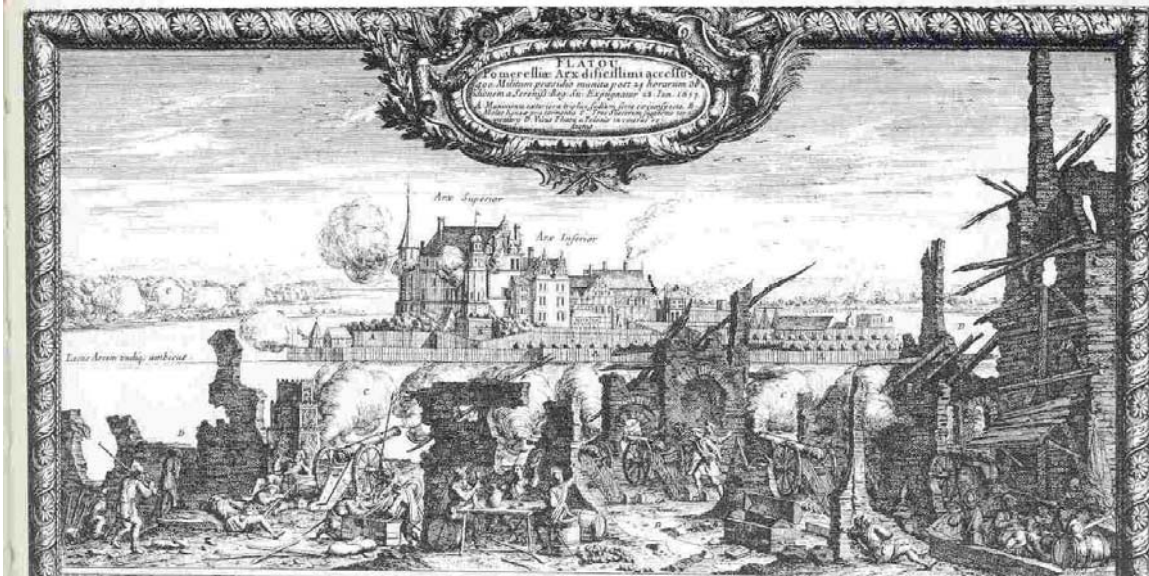




The original village was centered on the mill as most villagers worked there. So there were houses on the top of the ridges shown above as well as in the river valley. By 1865, there were 85 children attending a school in this village. The graveyard was located in the group of bushes to the left of Kasia Grycza and the current owner of the land:



## The Remus Family of West Prussia: Part II



Flatow, West Prussia on 28 June 1657 after the Attack of the Swedes during the 13 Years War

The period around 1700 was not a good time for West Prussia. The Great Northern Wars taking place then led to warfare and destruction resulting in perhaps the loss of a third of the population. To repopulate their land (and generate profits), the Polish nobility sold the right to manage villages (called schultz privilege) and the right to mill grain to Germans as discussed in the prior chapter. In addition Remus family members of lesser means entered West Prussia seeking land and freedom . Here is a ranking of the social prestige of jobs:

1. Schultz
2. Farmers (Zinsbauern - those who owned their buildings and livestock)
3. Farmers (Scharwerksbauern – those whose livestock were the property of the landowner and who received seed corn from the landowner)
4. Millers and Krügers (grain processors and brewers)
5. Cossäten & Häusler – tenants holding only a small amount of land, not enough for a farm, therefore often working as day laborers for others
6. Smiths and craftsmen
7. Schoolmasters
8. Shepherds
9. Laborers and maidservants

These Remus family members settled in different areas than the schultz and krugers. They were largely located further east of Kreis Schlochau, Flatow, and Wirsitz in West Prussia. If they had a little money they could acquire small sandy farms. If not, they would work as estate workers, day laborers and shepherds. The last was the most unpleasant and thus most available. Here is some information about life on the estates which are also called manorial farms.

## Manorial Farms

In many areas of West Prussia, the Remus family members lived on manorial farms. Here I will try to describe how these farms worked and why there was a large out migration from these farms. The information provided is based on a book called Ordinary Prussians by William Hagen and published in 2002 by Cambridge University Press. It is quite a wonderful resource with detail far beyond what I will report below. It is 700 pages and costs \$100 so try interlibrary loan. Do note that Germans ran the villages described and the residents are largely Germans. In West Prussia, the manorial farms can differ if Polish nobility runs the farm and there are a large number of Polish serfs.

Manorial Farms consisted of a manor house (gut) owned by a noble family, many large barns, and residences for the workers. In many cases there was an adjacent village owned by the manor in which there were small scale farms which the small farmer residents had the right to pass on to their descendents; in some areas it was customary to pass on land to the oldest son but this was subject to confirmation by the lord of the manor. Other workers lived in the manor house or in nearby structures.



First, here is a picture of the gut in Gross Konarszyn in Kreis Schlochau:



Note that the gut is not a terribly impressive building (at least for those of us who watch Masterpiece Theater on Public Broadcasting). This is because the noble lord of the manor often owned many estates so the gut resident was often the manager of the farm. Sometimes the resident was a poor cousin. Other times the gut resident was a hired professional manager. In other cases the right to manage was purchased from the lord of the manor by an entrepreneur.

The land held by the noble family was often very large so many barns were required to house the equipment and

produce of the land. Note the worker residence in the front part of the first barn shown below. Here are the two big barns from the manorial farm in Gross Konarszyn:





The manorial farm had three kinds of workers:

- The small farmer above who had hereditary tenure on the estate land.
- Farm servants who worked an annual contract and
- Day Laborers

as well as supporting people like millers and tavern keepers.

The small farmer had a one or two room house, outbuildings, land for a small garden, and land for cash crops such as rye, barley, or oats in the old days and potatoes; potatoes were introduced as a crop after 1750. The small farmer also had access to common land for pasture. The small farmer would pay his rent in grain and in unpaid work on the manorial farm (often 3 days a week).

To be successful, the farmer needed a capable wife to share the tasks and produce little workers (children). The eldest

male of resulting offspring in the family typically inherited all the property rights upon his marriage. The marriages were not based on good looks and romantic love but would be best thought of as a business partnership. The financial deal included gaining inheritance rights, a woman's dowry, gifts from both families, the right for the man's parents to retire and live in an outbuilding on the land, and payments to disenfranchised siblings. This event occurred after confirmation at age 13 or 14 but often before 20 if there was inheritable farm. There were variations on this inheritance arrangement when there were no male children or the children were quite young. Divorce was virtually unknown. (Marrying a first cousin was not a bad idea since it kept the inheritance in the family - and after all marriage was a business deal.)

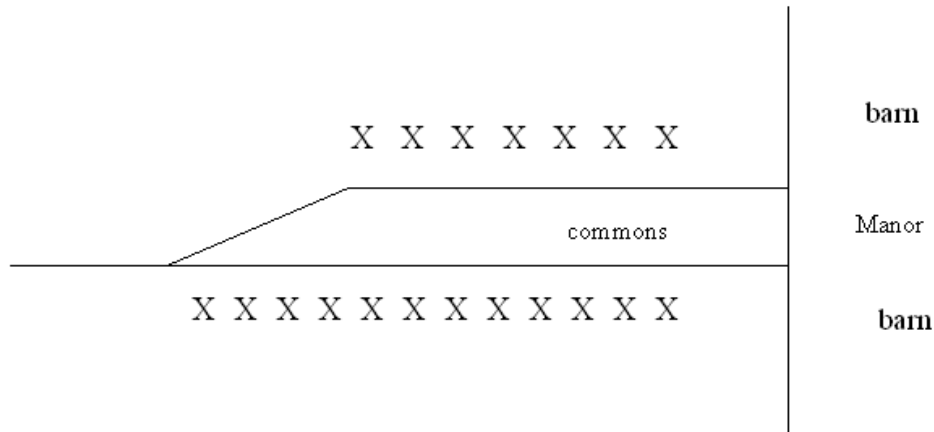
A manorial farm typically had upwards of 20 farm workers doing tasks like cooking, cleaning, and working in the dairy. The farm workers were usually hired on an annual contract after they reached the age of their confirmation. The lord of the manor could require compulsory service from the children of the small farmers for up to three years. This type of work provided a good bridge between childhood and marriage, particularly for non-inheriting children. These farm workers received food, clothing, housing, and a small amount of money.

There were also day laborers on the manorial estate. These were usually people without inheritance rights and who would be otherwise impoverished. They often roomed and boarded with a small farmer providing him a supplemental



income source. They would receive some pay for work but also had to perform unpaid work for the estate; they had to work especially long hours at harvest time. They could be hired and fired at any time. If these people had no source of income, the local church had to provide support for them.

The village layout was often set up to facilitate access to the manorial estate. The following is a common village layout:



The above map shows the village centered on a common area which all can use. The manor house and its many barns are at the head of the village. The large tract of land behind the house and barn was owned by the noble family and the yield of these fields was the main source of income for the estate. The estate largely produced grains for market.

Each worker's house has a small garden behind it and then outside the village are small plots of land for the workers to

grow the food for their families. Given that the Prussian plow used during this period were very heavy and hard to turn around, the land outside the village was subdivided into long strips, each associated with a small farmer.

From all the above, it is clear than the non-inheriting children of the small farmers as well as the day laborers often had to move elsewhere in search of land to farm.

There were a number of special functionaries associated with the estate. There were millers who ground the grains into flour and other products. Millers often purchased this right from the lord of the manor plus they paid an annual fee in grain. Tavern keepers (krugers) purchased or leased the right to brew and to run an inn; additionally the kruger might pay fees in beer or money. Both millers and krugers often had land for growing food for their own consumption.

The lord of the manor had the right to be judge for minor infractions committed by people on his estate. This was often done indirectly by appointing a judge. The parameters of justice were fairly well defined and limited by the Prussian government as earlier there had been abuses of the system.

Often the villages had village heads (schultz). Schultz were powerful in villages of free farmers or where the schultz privilege was inheritable. However, in manorial villages the schultz were unpaid and disenfranchised; they were caught between the interests of the lord of the manor and those in the manorial village.

In 1807 the world of the manorial village changed. Napoleon defeated the vaunted Prussian Army and a reform minded Prussian government took over. The new government began the process of disbanding the manorial farms and dividing up the property between the manor and the farmers with hereditary rights. The time this disbanding took varied widely. The rules were such that some farm sizes were uneconomical and some of the small farmers did not have enough food to eat and migrated. Many villagers had no opportunity to buy land and thus migrated.

In the Pommern, manorial estates were created by the Dukes of Pommern in the 13th century. Some estates remained the property of the Dukes (royal villages), some were granted to the nobility (largely German and Slavic Knights) that supported the Duke (noble villages), and some were granted to the church. The church held villages might contain a monastery or might be a manorial farm controlled by a church official like a bishop whose management was contracted out.

## **Examples of the Villages of Estate Workers, Day Laborers and Shepherds**

This wave settled along the main road between Poznan and Danzig, largely in the relatively unsettled areas near Preuss Stargard and in the estates along the Vistula River in Kreis Schwetz and Kreis Tuchel. I will also include Bialobloty in Russian Poland and Skrzynia as they are representative of another kind of village.

All the genealogy is in volume 2 and here I will present only representative villages from that region. They are:

[Braunsfelde](#) near Friedeberg in the Neumark - a stopping place for Remus family members who would eventually end up in West Prussia.

[Skrzynia](#) - a sandy little village where a farm could be acquired with very little money

[Belno](#), Kries Schwetz - an estate where the descendents of the Skrzynia residents worked on estates

[Wollin](#) and [Gross Podel](#) - two great estates in Kreis Stolp owned by the Puttkamer family. The Remus family there migrated to Wollin and Podel from West Prussia. They sought land but ended up as estate workers.



[Garden](#), [Streesen](#), and [Verchland](#) - three villages in Western Hinterpommern where Remus people came directly from Saxony to work on estates. But soon left for America.

[Bukowiec](#), Kreis Schwetz - a haven for German free farmers in a county mostly filled with estates.

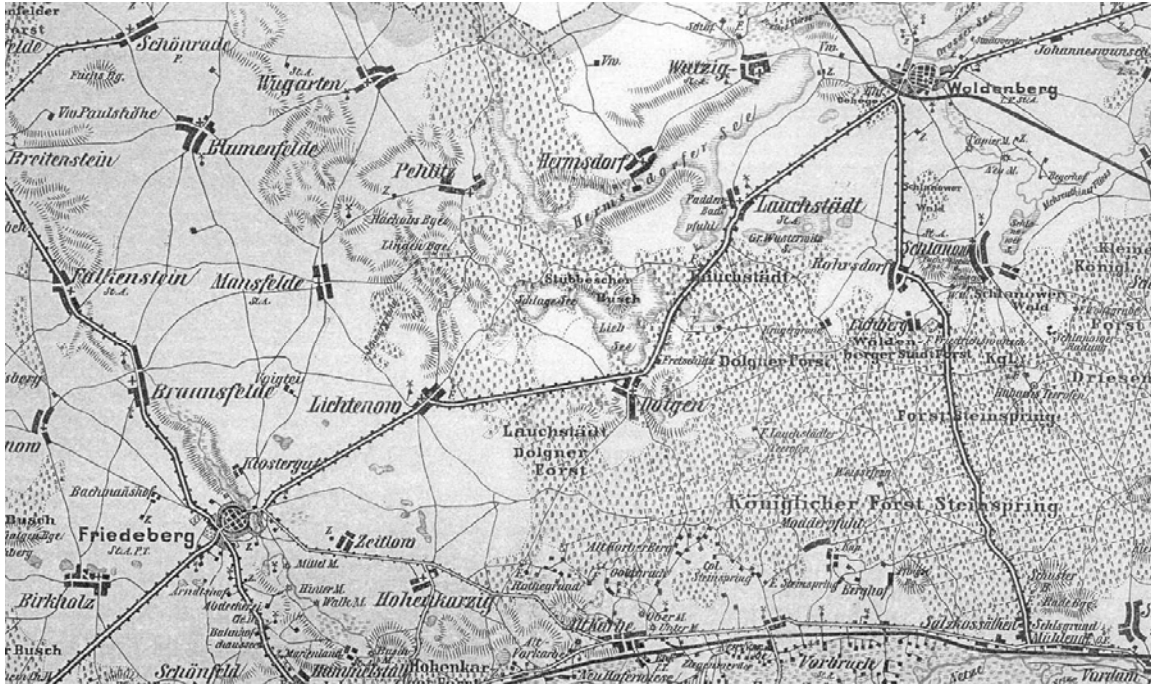
[Ceksyn](#), Kreis Tuchel - a relatively recent village created by subdividing a noble estate.

[Bialobloty](#) - a Russian Poland village made with contractual arrangements with the nobility that owned the land

And lastly [Anielowka and Berestowitz](#) in the Ukraine which was then occupied by Russia.

I might note that many of the above people descended from Lutherans but intermarried with the Poles and became Catholic.

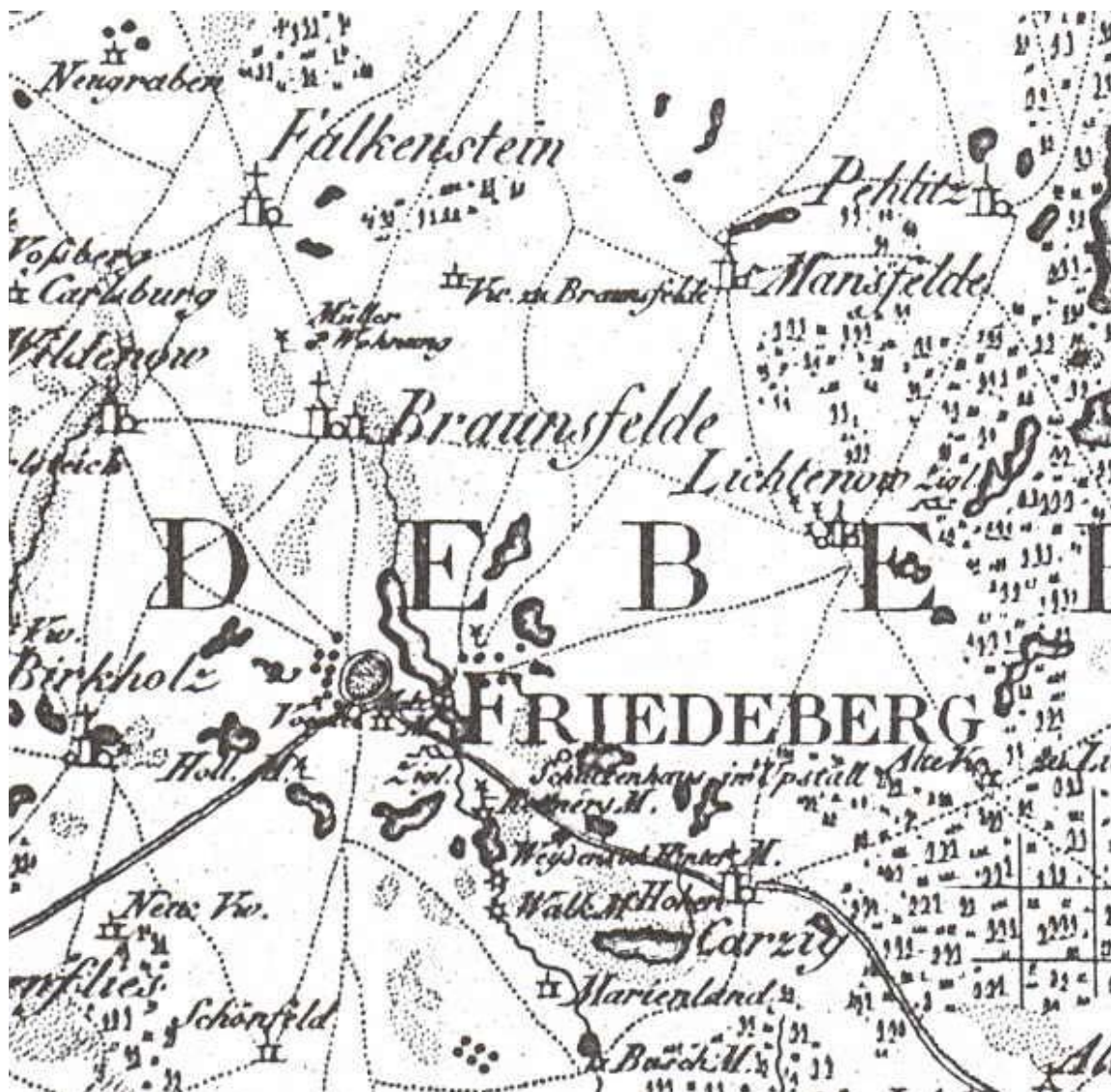
# Braunsfelde (Bronowiec), Kreis Friedeberg, Neumark



Braunsfelde is a particularly rich manorial farming village just north of Friedeberg on the main road. Certainly, it would catch the eye of hungry Swedes during Great Northern War and it would be quite easy to capture. The major crop was grain. Hans, Martin, Joachim, and Michael Remus were on the 1718 muster list for this village and might have left as the Swedes pillaged the area. These names appear in later records in West Prussia. So these folks were at some intermediate point on their journey to West Prussia.

There is some evidence that Remus family members were millers in Kamenz, Saxony which might be why they

worked in this village. Alternatively the Remus family might have trained as a millers here prior to taking up the trade in West Prussia. Following is a map from 1811 of the Braunsfelde area; note that just above (north) of the village is a windmill and there is a water mill just south of Friedeberg:



Here are some pictures of the modern village, the remnants of the manorial farm barns and manor house, and the village church (probably originally Lutheran but now Catholic):





## Remus Family of Saxony









## **Skryznia (Sknki), Kreis Schwetz, West Prussia**

The Jezewo church book contains some very early Remus family records; the West Prussia Land Census of 1772 also shows them in the village of Skryznia (Sknki).

Remus, Johan Skrzyinka Schwetz 18113103#14 6042 2232 568

Living, with wife and one son and two daughters.

These descendent of Christoph Remus family members stayed in the area and resided particularly in Skryznia (Sknki) from at least the 1760's until this century. Christoph's brother George settled in Belno. Their father Adam resided in Kranek near Skorcz in Kreis Schwetz where they were born. The major events in these families' lives were recorded at the Jezewo church.

Skryznia (Sknki) is located near a lake but on poor sandy soil. The village was primarily German farmers trying to work this poor land. Probably the initial Remus settlement here reflected the fact that they could own this land in spite of its poor quality.



Prior to the Second World War, there were 20 farms in the village but now there are only 4 farms. One Remus family continued to live here until the Second World War and apparently the head of household died in the war (he is remembered for his accordion playing). His family moved from the village. Following you see me with Monica and Basha who are members of the mayor of Skryznia (Sknki)'s family:



Here are some pictures of the sandy land and the nearby lake:



Remus Family of Saxony





# Belno, Kreis Schwetz, West Prussia



The Jezewo church book contains some very early Remus family record. The Christoph Remus family resided in Skryznia (Sknki). Christoph's brother George settled in Belno. Their father Adam resided initially in Gross Bukowitz and moved to Schwarzwald (Czarylas) towards the end of his life. The major events in these families' lives were recorded at the Jezewo church. These Remus family members stayed in the area and resided particularly in Belno and Skryznia (Sknki) until this century.



Belno is located on flat land and good soil. The village was a manorial farm and the Remus family lived on this farm for many generations. Following you see pictures of the noble family and its manor house that was totally destroyed in the Second World War:



And what remains:



The land lies along a straight road and had been gradually subdivided in to small farms. No Remus family remains in this village but one is in nearby Kraplewice.

Here is a picture of the village today:





# Wollin (Wolonia), Kreis Stolp, Pommern

Wollin was a very big manorial farm having hundreds of workers including many Remus family members. Now little of the manorial farm remains except the lovely estate house (gut) currently under renovation. Here are pictures.





After WWII, this estate became of state farm and the old worker housing was replaced by modern housing. However, the old pathway the workers took to enter the estate still is there:



And a few of the barns also remain:





The Puttkammer family of Pommern once owned the estate. This was a very big manorial farm often having hundreds of workers including many Remus family members. Like Podel, they generally attended the Lutheran church in Stowiecino although there also was a chapel on the estate. At the current moment, there is a Catholic chapel mostly likely on the location of the old Lutheran chapel. Here is a picture:



# Gross Podel (Podole Wielkie), Kreis Stolp, Pommern





You might wonder what this vodka, named LUXURIOUS, has to do with Podel. When we arrived at this village, the big trucks of potatoes were being loaded into this distillery. It turns out that the estate at Podel was a prime supplier to LUXURIOUS and we were there for the crucial moment. Here is a picture of the distillery:



Here is a picture of the estate house (gut) and barns of this manorial farm. The Puttkammer family of Pommern once owned the estate.

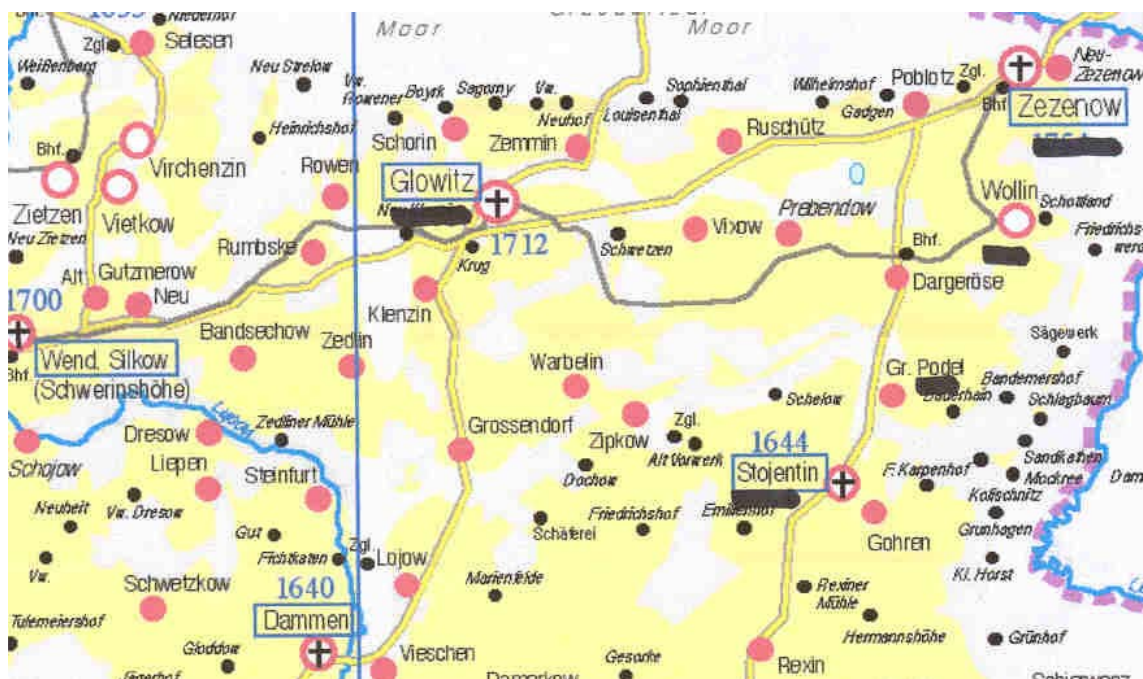




Here are pictures of a modernized worker houses:



Like Wollin, the residents of Podel generally attended the Lutheran church in Stowiecino (Stojentin) although other records show up in other more distant churches like Glowitz and Zezenow. Here is a map of the area:





## Three Manorial Estates in Pomerania

As shown by the below map, Pomerania (Pomern in German) extended all along the Baltic coast of modern Germany and Poland. The part in modern Germany is termed Vorpomern and the part in Poland is Hinterpomern. The three villages following were just on the Polish side of the modern border between Germany and Poland in Kreis Pyritz and Kreis Griefenhagen.



The Remus family of Saxony appears in this general area starting about 1800 and probably reflects the economic opportunities provided by Prussia's efforts to free the serfs in the manorial estates. Note this is a different group of

Remus families than those in West Prussia - in spite of sharing common ancestry in Saxony.

Such manorial estates were created by the Dukes of Pommern in the 13th century. Some estates remained the property of the Dukes (royal villages), some were granted to the nobility (largely German and Slavic Knights) that supported the Duke (noble villages), and some were granted to the church. The church-held villages might contain a monastery or might be a manorial farm controlled by a church official like a bishop. In the latter case the estate's management was contracted out.

In the 15th century, the village owners in Kreis Pyritz and Kreis Griefenhagen seemed to compete with each other in building beautiful Pommern style churches for their manorial farms. They largely controlled the church, its records and the clergy for the church. Around 1820, the Prussian government required the churches to keep duplicate church books and provide the duplicates to the Prussian government. These are the church books they Mormons have microfilmed. In the late 1870's civil records were also required and many are also available from the Mormons.

The Remus family had only limited success here as in all three villages you see them working on the estates often as day laborers and shepherds. In each of the three villages, I present the genealogy that can be linked to immigrants to Australia and North America. The migration time began around 1850 and continued on till about 1900. In those times there were important crop failures to the important

potatoes crop as well as the mechanization of agriculture.  
So many ended up with no job and little food.

# Garden (Gardno), Kreis Grieffenhagen, Pommern



Garden (Gardno) is a village that was formerly a manorial farm. My interest in this village results from the presence of the Carl Ludwig Remus and Frederike Dittschlag family in this village.

1. CARL LUDWIG<sup>1</sup> REMUS was born 14 Dec 1808 in Pommern (see note for possible two other children), and died 30 Jul 1885 in Fond du Lac Co., WI. He married (1) CAROLINE FALKENBERG 1836. She was born Bef. 1818, and died Bef. 1853. He married (2) FREDERIKE CHRISTINE DITTSCHLAG 1853 in Garden, Kreis Greifenhagen, Pommern, daughter of NN DITTSCHLAG. She was born 25 Nov 1831 in Pommern, and died 15 Jan 1903 in Fairfield, Spokane Co., Washington.



Children of CARL REMUS and CAROLINE FALKENBERG are:

2. i. AUGUSTE<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. 1836, Pommern.
3. ii. FRIEDRICH REMUS, b. 1844, Pommern.

Children of CARL REMUS and FREDERIKE DITTSCHLAG are:

- iii. CAROLINE FREDERIKE<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. 27 Jun 1854, Garden, Kreis Greifenhagen, Pommern (see note for children); d. 21 Apr 1935, Fairfield, Spokane Co, WA; m. (1) GEORGE ZENNER, 03 Dec 1873, Fond Du Lac, Fond Du Lac, WI; b. 31 Mar 1837, Beauforts, Luxembourg; d. Bef. 17 Apr 1911; m. (2) FRITZ KUBBERNAUS, 17 Apr 1911; b. Bef. 1854; d. 07 Jun 1918.

Children of CAROLINE REMUS and GEORGE ZENNER are:

- i. MARY ZENNER, b. November 02, 1874, „WI; d. December 25, 1940; m. GUS ZEHM; b. 1871; d. 1939.
- ii. CHARLES "CARL" ZENNER, b. March 17, 1876, „WI; d. January 31, 1948, „Spokane, WA. He married MARY E. MURTO 1897
- iv. ANNA ZENNER, b. January 31, 1878, „WI; d. October 21, 1977; m. CHRIS LEITZ; b. December 03, 1870; d. July 14, 1957.
- v. LOUISE "LISA" ZENNER, b. September 09, 1879, Fond du Lac, „WI; d. October 07, 1895.
- vi. ROSA ZENNER, b. July 21, 1881, Fond du Lac, WI; d. 1965; m. WILLIAM FREDERICK ZEHM, Aft. 1905; b. 1865; d. 1946.
- vii. GEORGE ZENNER, b. May 29, 1883; d. August 18, 1884.

Remus Family of Saxony

viii. IDA ZENNER, b. March 23, 1885, Fond du Lac, WI; d. May 06, 1909. m Richard Sterk

iv. LUISE ERNESTINE REMUS, b. 29 Jan 1858, likely Garden, Kreis Greifenhagen, Pommern; d. 11 Aug 1938, Fond du Lac, WI; m. CARL LUDWIG KOWALSKY, 10 Oct 1875, Fond du Lac, WI; b. 10 Feb 1844, Freystadt, Kreis Rosenberg, West Prussia.

v. ALBERTINE EMILIE REMUS, b. 29 Sep 1860, Garden, Kreis Greifenhagen, Pommern; d. 1928, Fond du Lac, WI; m. JOHANN SCHROEDER, 17 Aug 1879, Fond du Lac, WI; b. 1849, Lexow, Kr. ?, Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

vi. GUSTAV FRANZ HERMAN REMUS, b. 02 Feb 1863, likely Garden, Kreis Greifenhagen, Pommern; d. 26 Jul 1917, Todd, MN; m. (1) FIRST WIFE OF GUSTAV FRANZ HERMAN REMUS; m. (2) BERTHA M JACOBI, 29 Nov 1889, Fond du Lac, WI; b. Oct 1873, Germany; d. 1924.

4. vii. ROBERT F. REMUS, b. 18 Mar 1867, Garn, Kreis Griefenberg, Pommern; d. 21 May 1914, Fond du Lac, WI.

*Generation No. 2*

2. AUGUSTE<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*CARL LUDWIG*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1836 in Pommern (see note). She married AUGUST PROCHNOW. He was born 1837 in Prussia.

Children of AUGUSTE REMUS and AUGUST PROCHNOW are:

i. HERMAN<sup>3</sup> PROCHNOW, b. 1861, Prussia.

ii. FERDINAND PROCHNOW, b. 1863, Prussia.

3. FRIEDRICH<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*CARL LUDWIG*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1844 in Pommern. He married LOUISE FRASE Bef. 1874. She was born 1838 in Pommern.

Children of FRIEDRICH REMUS and LOUISE FRASE are:

- i. BERTHA HERMINE<sup>3</sup> REMUS, b. 17 Jul 1874, Fond du Lac, WI; d. 22 Jul 1874, Fond du Lac, WI.
- ii. HEINRICH FRIEDRICH ERDMANN REMUS, b. 08 Jul 1881, Fond du Lac, WI; d. 09 Oct 1882, Fond du Lac, WI.
- iii. LUISE PAULINE ALBERTINE REMUS, b. 08 Jan 1883, Fond du Lac, WI; d. 08 Jan 1883, Fond du Lac, WI.

4. ROBERT F.<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*CARL LUDWIG*<sup>1</sup>) was born 18 Mar 1867 in Garn, Kreis Griefenberg, Pommern, and died 21 May 1914 in Fond du Lac, WI. He married MARIE JACOBI 23 Nov 1887 in Fond du Lac, WI, daughter of WILHELM JACOBI and AUGUSTE RIGGENBURG. She was born Feb 1869 in Germany.

Children of ROBERT REMUS and MARIE JACOBI are:

- i. ROSA M.<sup>3</sup> REMUS, b. Jan 1888, Wisconsin; m. ERNEST ALLEN, 14 Oct 1906, Fond du Lac, WI; b. Bef. 1888.
- ii. EMMA IDA REMUS, b. 24 Jun 1889, Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac Co., WI; m. (1) JOSEPH LAFORE, 20 Dec 1905, Fond du Lac, WI; b. Bef. 1889; m. (2) JOHN MONTGOMERY, 03 Jan 1910, Menominee, Menominee, Michigan; b. 1880, Ireland.
- iii. CHARLES R. REMUS, b. Jun 1894, Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac Co., WI.

These Remus family members would have worked on the manorial farm since it was the only employer in the village. It was not a great life so going to Wisconsin was a good idea. Incidentally, the Dittschlag family name appears to be spelled Sittschlag in the church records.

The Dukes of Pommern created this estate in 1214 for the Cistercian Monks (see below). When Pommern was converted to Lutheranism in 1534, this became a royal village with a manorial farm. The pictures show some of the manorial farm barns but I was unable to find the manor house.





It had 13th century church which was initially Catholic, became Lutheran after 1534, and returned to being a Catholic church following the Second World War. The structure of the building is classic Pommern style. The church was rebuilt in 1890 and after the Second World War.



Remus Family of Saxony





# Streesen (Strzyzno), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern



Streesen (Strzyzno) is a village that is still based on a large farm and was formerly a manorial farm. It was the residence of the Martin Remus family. Here are details:

1. MARTIN<sup>1</sup> REMUS was born 1761, and died 24 Jan 1836 in Hansfelde, Saatzig, Pommern. He married ANNA SOPHIA MALZAHN Bef. 1798. She was born 1773 in Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern, and died 1834 in Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

Children of MARTIN REMUS and ANNA MALZAHN are:

Remus Family of Saxony

2. i. ANNA REGINE<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. Abt. 1798, Streesen, Pyritz, Pommern; d. 1865, Kremzow, Pyritz, Pommern.

ii. ANNA LUISE REMUS, b. Abt. 1799; d. Aft. 1874; m. (1) JOHANN ZELL, 1829, Sallentin, Pyritz, Pommern; b. Bef. 1799; d. Bef. 1859; m. (2) CHRISTIAN BECKER, 10 Nov 1859, Collin, Pyritz, Pommern; b. Bef. 1799; d. 23 Feb 1873.

3. iii. ANNA DOROTHEA REMUS, b. 1807, Repplin, Pyritz, Pommern.

iv. ANNA SOPHIA REMUS, b. Bef. 1814; m. MICHAEL SCHMIDT, 1832, Sallentin, Pyritz, Pommern; b. Bef. 1812.

4. v. ANNA CHRISTINE REMUS, b. 1817.

*Generation No. 2*

2. ANNA REGINE<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born Abt. 1798 in Streesen, Pyritz, Pommern, and died 1865 in Kremzow, Pyritz, Pommern. She married JOHANN FRIEDRICH ENDELING 1824 in Suckow, Pyritz, Pommern. He was born Bef. 1798.

Children of ANNA REMUS and JOHANN ENDELING are:

i. JOHAN FRIEDRICH<sup>3</sup> ENDELING, b. 21 Feb 1829, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

ii. HANNA LUISE ENDELING, b. 15 Jan 1831, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern; d. 26 Dec 1832, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

iii. CHRISTIAN FRIEDRICH ENDELING, b. 07 Jan 1833, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

3. ANNA DOROTHEA<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1807 in Repplin, Pyritz, Pommern. She married GOTTFRIED WOLFF 14 Jan 1830 in



Streesen, Pyritz, Pommern. He was born 1796 in Wittichow, Pyritz, Pommern, and died 29 Oct 1855 in Wittichow, Pyritz, Pommern.

Children of ANNA REMUS and GOTTFRIED WOLFF are:

i. WILHELMINE<sup>3</sup> WOLFF, b. 01 Aug 1830, Streesen, Pyritz, Pommern.

ii. SAMUEL FRIEDRICH WOLFF, b. 25 Dec 1831, Streesen, Pyritz, Pommern.

iii. CARL WILHELM WOLFF, b. 28 Nov 1835, Kollin, Pyritz, Pommern.

iv. DOROTHEA SOPHIE WOLFF, b. 16 Dec 1837, Kremzow, Pyritz, Pommern (see note for children); d. 09 Apr 1927, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia; m. JOHANN FRIEDRICH WOLFGGRAMM, 07 Nov 1861, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern; b. 25 Dec 1836, Kussow, Pyritz, Pommern; d. 21 Sep 1913, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia.

v. JOHANNA LOUISE WOLFF, b. 26 Jan 1840, Kremzow, Pyritz, Pommern.

vi. AUGUST FRIEDRICH CHRISTIAN WOLFF, b. 03 Dec 1841, Wittekow, Pyritz, Pommern.

vii. AUGUSTINE WOLFF, b. 24 Sep 1843, Wittekow, Pyritz, Pommern.

**4.** ANNA CHRISTINE<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*MARTIN*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1817. She married (1) CHRISTIAN FRIEDRICH HOEST 1833 in Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern. He was born Bef. 1813, and died Bef. 22 Jul 1849 in probably Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern. She married (2) JOHAN FRIEDRICH KOHUT 22 Jul 1849 in Lubtow, Pommern. He was born 1807.

Children of ANNA REMUS and CHRISTIAN HOEST are:

i. ANNA LUISE<sup>3</sup> HOEST, b. 20 Sep 1833, Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

Remus Family of Saxony

ii. WILHEMINE HOEST, b. 23 Jan 1836,  
Lubtow, Pyritz, Pommern.

iii. CAROLINA JUSTINE HOEST, b. 05 Nov  
1843, Repplin, Kreis Stargard, Pommer.

Child of ANNA REMUS and JOHAN KOHUT is:

iv. CARL FRIEDRICH<sup>3</sup> KOHUT, b. 13 Mar  
1850, Lubtow, Pommern.

The Dukes of Pommern created this estate in the 13th century (see below). Here are pictures of the manorial farm barns and the 19th or 20th century manor house (also called an estate house or gut) are shown following.





It has a nice 15th century church that was initially Catholic, became Lutheran in the 16th century, and returned to being a Catholic Church following the Second World War. The structure of the building remained relatively unchanged and often the same fonts and altars were still in use over this long period. The church is in the classic 15th century Pommern style seen throughout Pommern.



Remus Family of Saxony



## Remus Family of Saxony





# Verchland (Wierzchlad), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern



Verchland (Wierzchlad) is a village that was formerly a manorial farm. The Michael Freidrich Remus family lived here and following are details:

1. MICHAEL FRIEDRICH<sup>1</sup> REMUS was born 1815 in Verchland (Schellin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern, and died 16 Jun 1874 in Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern. He married DOROTHEA SOPHIA DENZ 31 Dec 1840 in Verchland, Pyritz, Pommern, daughter of FRIEDRICH DENZ. She was born 1818.

Children of MICHAEL REMUS and DOROTHEA DENZ are:

2. i. HENRIETTE FRIEDERIKE<sup>2</sup> REMUS, b. 18 May 1843, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern.
- ii. LUISE ALBERTINE REMUS, b. 20 Jun 1845, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern; d. (see note for child).
- iii. FRIEDRICH WILHELM REMUS, b. 20 Jun 1849, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern.
- iv. CARL FRIEDRICH REMUS, b. 09 Jan 1855, Verchland (Schellin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern.
- v. FRANZ AUGUST FERDINAND REMUS, b. 08 Nov 1857, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern.

*Generation No. 2*

2. HENRIETTE FRIEDERIKE<sup>2</sup> REMUS (*MICHAEL FRIEDRICH*<sup>1</sup>) was born 18 May 1843 in Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern. She married AUGUST FRIEDRICH ROSENAU 05 Oct 1865 in Verchland, Pyritz, Pommern. He was born 04 Nov 1836 in Janow.

Child of HENRIETTE REMUS and AUGUST ROSENAU is:

- i. FERDINAND AUGUST<sup>3</sup> REMUS, b. 02 Jan 1864, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern; d. 13 Sep 1864, Verchland (Schelin), Kreis Pyritz, Pommern.

The Dukes of Pommern created this estate in the 13th century (see below). The remains of the manorial farm are shown in the following pictures. The estate house was destroyed in the Second World War and not replaced.





It had an 18th century church that in turn replaced a 15th century church. This church was destroyed in World War II and not replaced. The church was initially Catholic, became Lutheran in the 16th century, and returned to being a Catholic Church following the Second World War.

The village is situated on the 5th biggest lake in Poland so the people of the village had access to good water year around and the opportunity to swim in the lake each summer.



## **Bukowitz (Bukowiec), Kreis Schwetz, West Prussia**

Bukowitz (Bukowiec - a reference to the Beech tree in Polish) was originally a manorial farm owned by the Polish Noble Hutten-Czapski family. The Hutten-Czapski family was very progressive in that it granted farming privileges on its land; so the village became more than a manorial farm.

The village has a Catholic Church with Rectory (formerly a Lutheran Church which was built in 1880). Christian was born to Adam Remus in the village of Kranek near Skorcz in Kreis Schwetz, West Prussia. He had at least one brother and one sister whose descendents this live not far from where Christian was born.

His first wife was Anna Schultz and they lived in Skrzyni near Jezewo in Kreis Schwetz. They had 5 children in this village and were there for the 1772 West Prussia Land Census. After Anna died, he married Marie Furst and had 6 more children and moved from Skrzynia to Czersk. When Marie died, he married Anna Coblown and had 2 additional children. The family resided there after in Bukowiec in Kreis Schwetz. Many of the marriages of the children and related records are in the church book of Bukowiec. From

there the child spread through Kreis Tuchel and Kreis Schwetz and many ended up farming in America.



Here are pictures of the church:



Remus Family of Saxony







The village still makes use of the old Lutheran Chapel as a school:





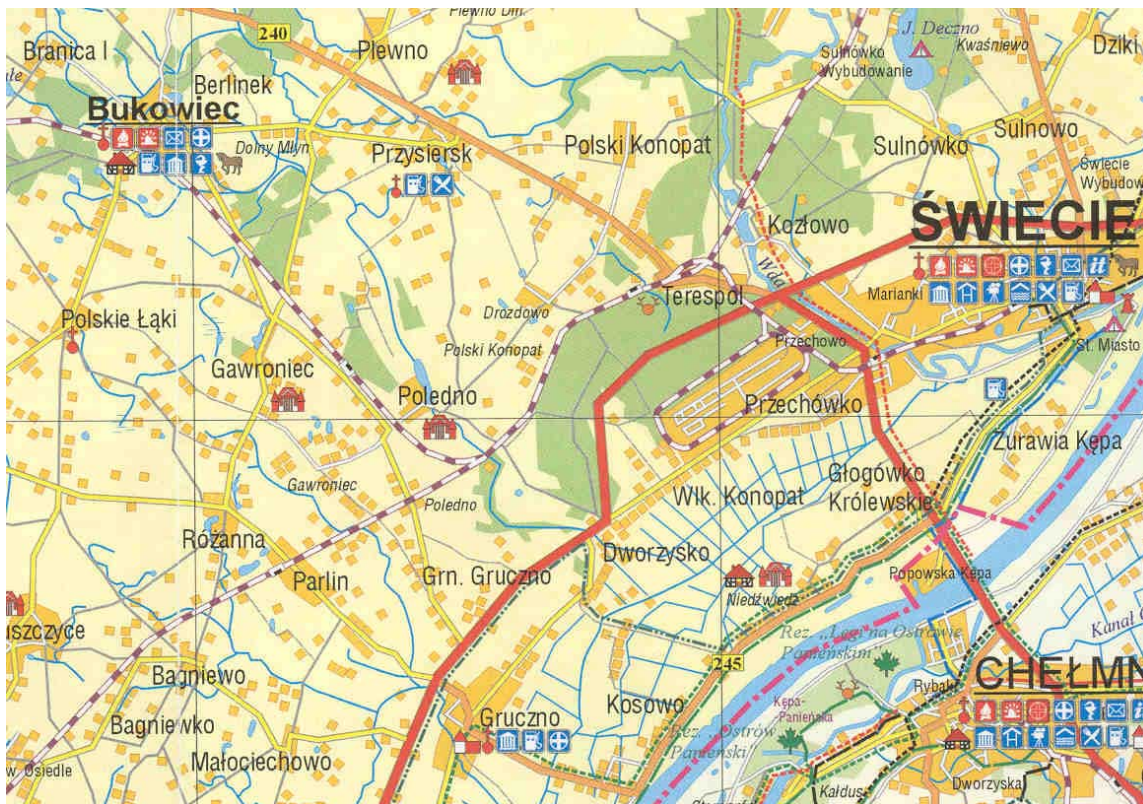
The estate house is not as grand as it once was but here is a picture:



And here is an old house in the village:



Here is the location of this village:



## **Polish Cekcyn (Cekzin), Kreis Tuchel, West Prussia**

This church in this village served many other area villages such as Plazowo, Teolog, Krumstadt, and Alt Summin where Remus family members lived. Following is a picture of the village from the lake with the church in the background.





And following is a closer picture of the church:



Jan Remus shown below with his family has lived in Cekcyn for many generations. His father Wladyslaw Remus, grand father Michael Remus, and great grandfather Johan Remus all lived here too. The next prior generation was Paul Remus lived in Byslaw down the road. These are all descendents of Adam Remus of Skrzunkia in Kreis Schwetz and his son Christian of Bukowiec in Kreis Schwetz. Bukowiec and Skrzunkia are discussed in previous sections of this chapter.

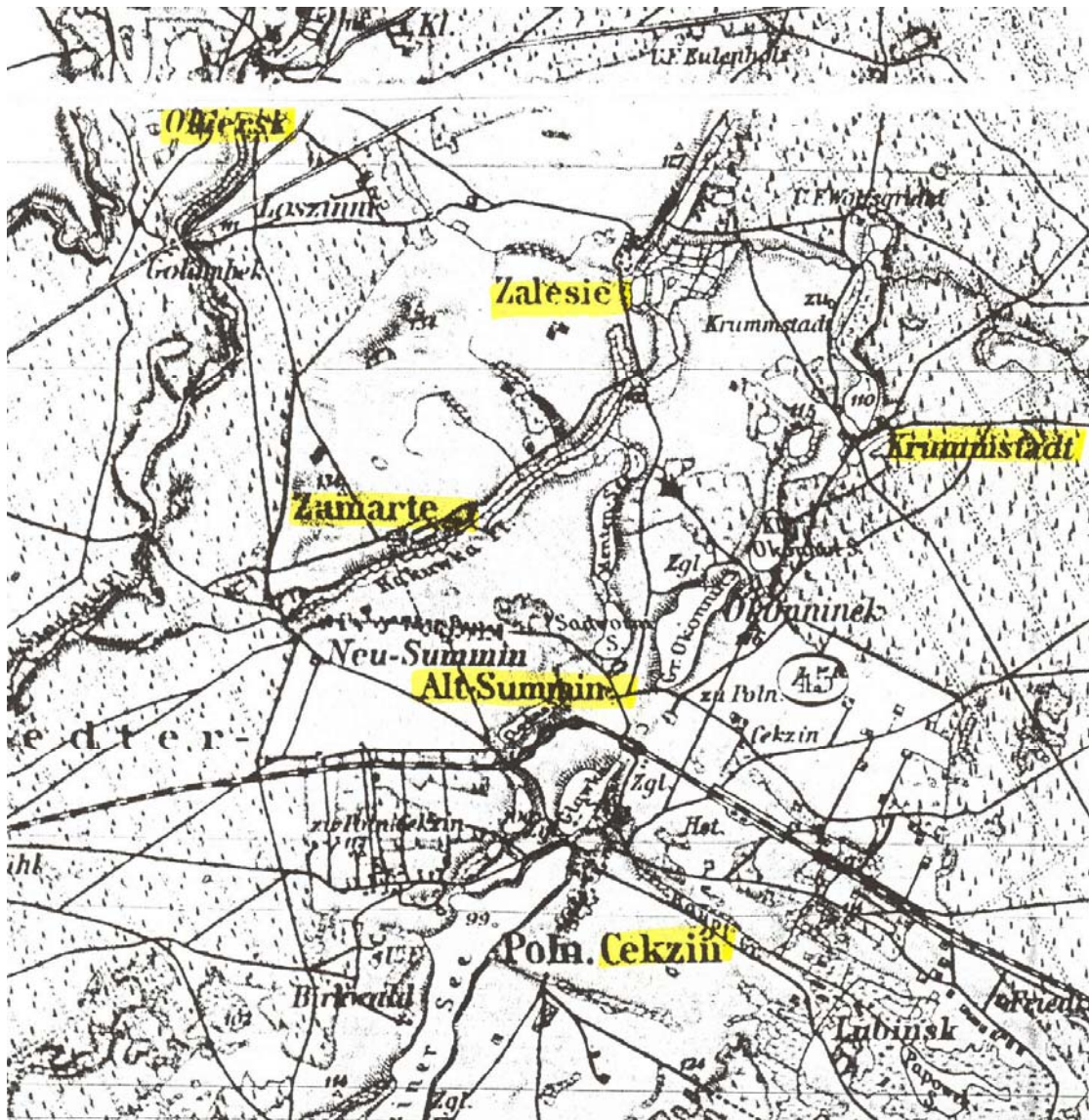


Remus Family of Saxony



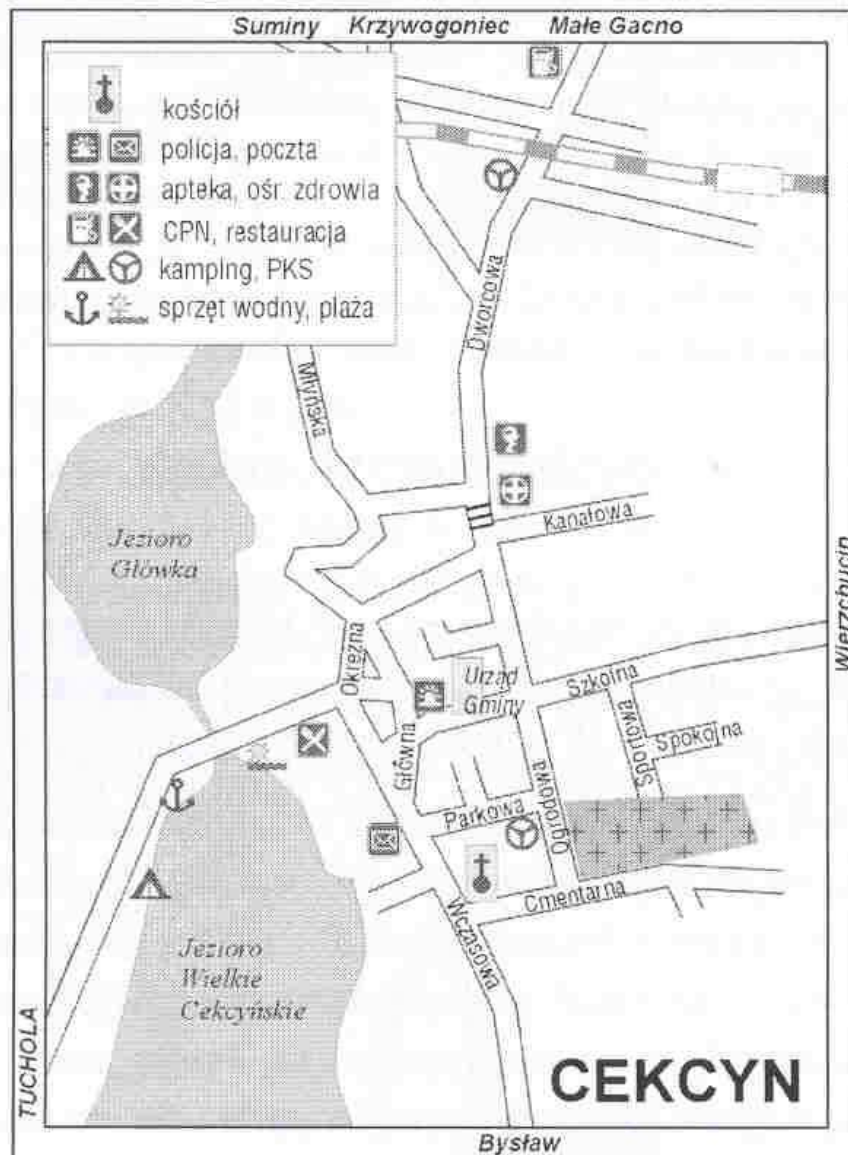


And here is a 1914 map of the area including the above mentioned villages:





And here a 2002 detailed map of the village of Cekcyn:



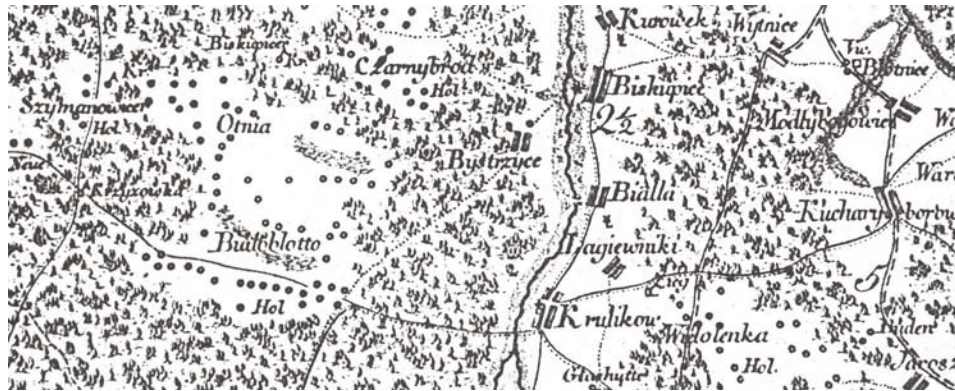
# Bialobloty, Kreis Grudziec, Russian Poland



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Bialobloty (literally white mud or put another way, sandy soil) is in the Grudziec Parish between Poznan and Lodz. It is located just off the map above to the far left by Dziwin. In the third partition of Poland in 1794, this village and a lot of other territory came under Prussian control so these people were Prussian citizens. Following the Congress of Vienna in 1815, this village and many additional areas suddenly were under Russian control and they were Russian citizens. So one day they were Prussian citizens and the next day Russian citizens.

Here is a detailed area map from 1802 when the Prussians controlled the area:



Bialobloty is not really a village but a large area with small farms distributed around the area as shown above. That is to say, there is little or no core to the village. That was unusual as in that time most villages straddled the road. There is, however, a school at the center of the area. In 1827 Bialobloty had 100 houses and 788 people. By 1882, there were 1314 people in the village. The good news was that the citizens had an inheritable lease on the land and the bad news was that the land was poor and sandy. Here are some pictures from the village cemetery; do notice the quality of the soil:





Remus Family of Saxony





Bialobloty was created by Count Franz von Stadnicki at Grodziec Castle on 17 October 1787. The births from this village first appear in the Grudziec Catholic church books in 1808. The first Evangelical records appear in 1827 and include appearances by Remus family members. The village includes Hahn, Hoffmann, Dalke, Klatt, and Disterhoft family members too. The Remus family members descend from Martin Remus of Schwente (also my ancestor), Kreis Flatow, West Prussia through his third son Lorenz. Many of the people in the village migrated to Volhynia in the Ukraine and America, as did my Remus ancestors.

Kurt Klingspohn provided this picture of a typical house in the village in the 1947:



Here is a typical house in the village photographed in 2005:



Kurt Klingspohn provided this picture of the house of Theofile Remus photographed in 1947:





And here is the school at the center of the village:



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Carol Lajeunesse is a descendent of Ludwig Hahn and Caroline Remus (daughter of Michael Remus and Elisabeth Schiller) of this village. Irmgard Hein Ellingson is a descendent Emilie Remus a daughter of August Remus and Wilhelmine Schultz of this village and August Wilhelm Stürzbecher. Also in this village are the Petzke and Fritz families; Donna Schultz [dschultz120@gmail.com](mailto:dschultz120@gmail.com) is a descendent of these families. Kurt and Astrid Klingspohn [astrid.klingspohn@gmx.de](mailto:astrid.klingspohn@gmx.de) also have roots in this village and provided the pictures of the village in the 1950's shown above.



# The Remus Family of Anielioka and Berestovitz

This section is about the Remus family of Anielowka and Berestowitz, Volhynia, Russia during the period of 1860 to 1890. The story starts with my great-grandfather August Wilhelm Remus and great-grandmother Wilhelmina Harwardt. My great-grandfather August Remus was born in Neutuchel, Kreis Tuchel, West Prussia. My great-grandmother Wilhelmina Harwardt was born in Szczepanowo, Kreis Mogilno, Posen province - just northwest of modern Poznan (Posen) in Poland.

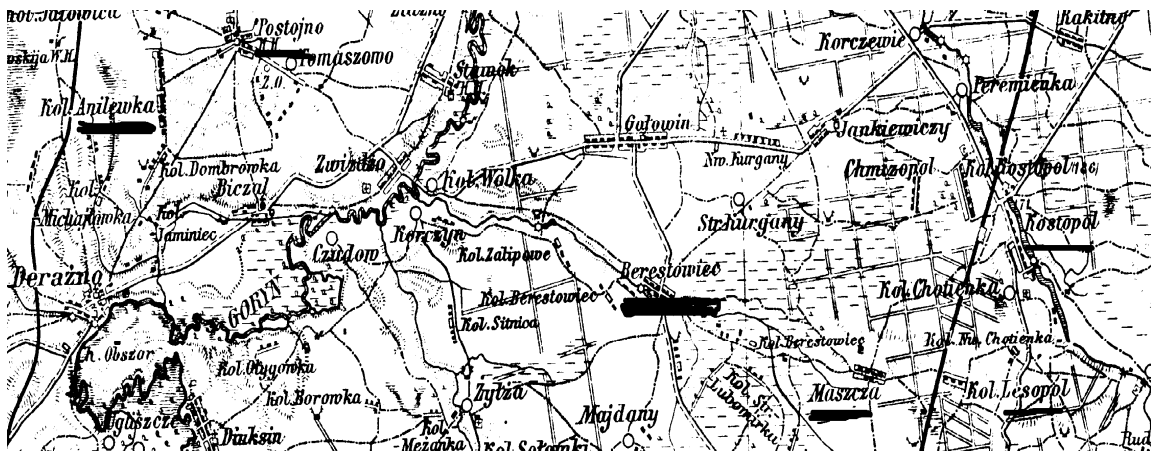
## Anielioka

Though some yet unknown fortuitous circumstances, my great-grandparents August and Wilhelmina Remus migrated independently to Anielowka, Volhynia about the same time. August had apprenticed as a cartwright in Tuchel, Kreis Tuchel and probably went to Volhynia seeking land. Wilhelmine was orphaned at a young age and taken in by the Pomeranke family. When that family moved to Volhynia, she was a 16 year old and accompanied them.

In Volhynia they met and married as shown in their marriage record:

Mutter aus seiner eigenen Ehefrau aus Volhynien, geb.  
 im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Remus August Hellmuth, aus dem Dorf Berestowicz  
 im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Mutter aus seiner eigenen Ehefrau aus Volhynien, geb.  
 im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Marienwälder, geb. Konitz, im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Haarwardt, geb. Wilhelmine, im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Haarwardt, geb. Wilhelmine, im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Vater aus seiner eigenen Ehefrau aus Volhynien, geb.  
 im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 in der Gegend von Berestowicz, im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.  
 Kämpff, Wilhelm, im Jahre 1785, geboren in der Gegend von Berestowicz.

For the almost 30 years they were in Volhynia, they lived in this and other nearby villages of Berestowitz and Kostopol. The general area they lived in is shown on this map.



After the nasty Polish revolution of 1860, many Germans left Poland for Volhynia for the personal safety and because the Nobles of Volhynia were selling land to German farmers (in Poland it was often only leased). The reason the land became available was that the Russian Czar had freed the Ukrainian serfs in 1861 and the serfs left the land. The land was too expensive for the serfs to buy so the Nobles derived no income from the land. Thus the land from Anielowka to Kostopol became available and contained many German villages.



Anielowka was a strassendorf (street village). That is, the houses of the villages were lined up close to each other on both sides of the street. Each house had a nearby small garden and out buildings but the bigger plots of land were on the out skirts of the village. None of the buildings survived World War II so there are no remnants of the old German village.

Many families resided in Anielowka including the Schultz and Bidermann families. These families remained friends and migrate with the August Remus family to Canada in 1891; August Remus settled in Emerson, Manitoba and the

August Schultz and Wilhelm Biedermann families in Leduc, Alberta (they were in-laws, too).

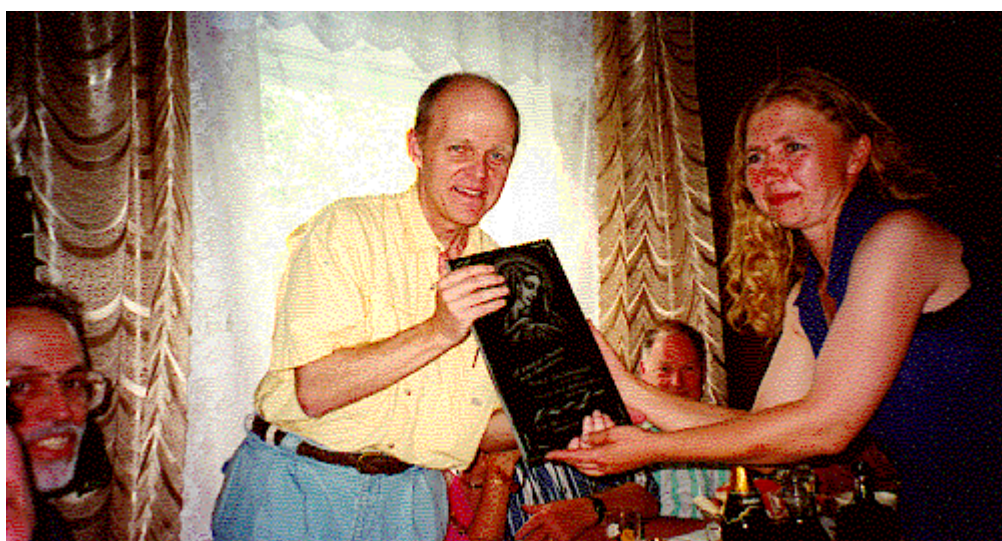
## **Berestowitz**

My great-grandparents August and Wilhelmine moved to Berestowitz in 1874 with their children Wilhelm, August, Rudolph, and Karl. This village is 10 or 15 miles east of Anielowka on the same road as Anielowka and Postoina. This village was the location of the wonderful story about the marriage of August Remus' eldest son Wilhelm to Gottfried Deutschlander's daughter Maria. Wilhelm and Maria lived in a house on the main road just to the west of the village (all homes there were destroyed) - shown here in the map:





When we arrived in Berestowitz, a friend of George Maser (a Deutschlander descendent) hosted a big luncheon for our group at his friend Raisa's house. The food and drink was wonderful but the high point was her giving me a plaque honoring the Wilhelm Remus and Maria Deutschlander story. Following is a picture of Raisa greeting the group in the traditional Ukrainian way (a special salt cake) and a picture of me receiving the plaque.



Except for 1879 to 1883 when August and Wilhelmine lived near Kostopol, the Remus family lived in Berestowitz. This village too was a strassendorf originally. However the original village was totally destroyed in World War II and the new village was build in a different place than the old German village. The story is that the villagers would not tell the location of the anti-Nazi



partisans and the Nazi's burned the village (some of the houses had people in them). Even the old cemetery is gone and the German remains reburied in the new village cemetery.

In Berestowitz Pauline, Ernestine, Adolph, Edward (my grandfather), Reinhold, and Maria were born to August and Wilhelmine. In Berestowitz there also lived a number of families that later migrated to North America and who were friends with the Remus family including the Deutschlander family and the Christoph Hopp(e) family. The Deutschlanders also married into the Patzer, Domres and the Rapsky families.

## **Kostopol**

**From 1879 to 1883 my great-grandfather August Remus and family lived near Kostopol.** August's business (he tried many businesses in addition to being a wheelwright) was in Kostopol. His son Karl was born there. This village was destroyed in World War II and rebuilt thereafter. It is a relatively large village owing to its prominence as a market town and a major rail stop. The railway station for Kostopol still remains from the prewar era; it is currently being restored. It must have brought many Germans to this area and later shipped them to the New World (and also Siberia in both World Wars).



In 1892 the August Remus family migrated to Manitoba in 1892. They all started near Gretna, Manitoba. Eldest son Wilhelm purchased his first farm in Gretna but spent most of his life in Emerson, Manitoba. Son August settled in Altona, Manitoba. Father August Wilhelm and his other sons moved to Saskatchewan to homestead around the turn of the century.



