

History of Kuruschika, Bessarabia

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[Note: Comments in square brackets in the document are those of the translator.]

Weight & Measure Equivalentents

1 meter = 3.28 feet

1 dessiatine = 2.7 acres/1.09 hectares

1 hectare = 2.471 acres

1 pud = 36 pounds/16.38 kilograms

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[Begin Translation]

History of Kuruschika Community, formerly Einsburgsdorf, Tighina District (Bendery) for the 50th Anniversary—1881 to 1931—of Existence

Written by Daniel Erdmann and Edmund Damer

Prehistory.

The German lease colony of Saki originated on the estate of Fontonowka-Kuruschika, which was the first seedling from the old German colonies in Bessarabia and, at the same time, the forerunner of the village of Kuruschika. Therefore, with that in mind, we move on to the chronicle of the village.

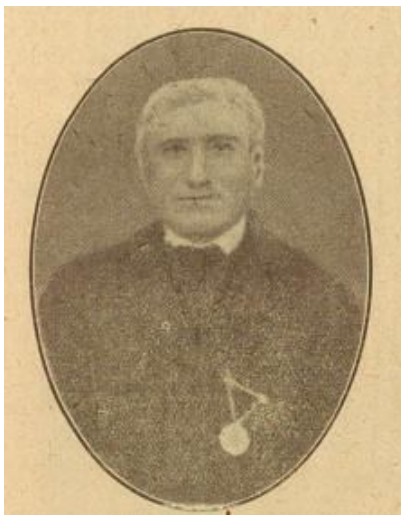
The estate, now partly property of the community of Kuruschika, was assigned to Council of State (*Staatsrat*) Anton Fonton in 1824—as a gift for his services in the property of a fellow authorized agent of the General of the Infantry, Iwan Sabanejew at the conclusion of peace between Emperor Alexander I and the Turkish Sultan Selim III, at Bucharest on 16 May, 1812.

The estate contained 5,000 *Dessjatinen*. It has the pattern of an out of shape polygon and has the following border neighbors: to the east, Josephsdorf and Alexejewka Ruchlja; to the west, Jordanowka, Karabetowka, and Sadakly; to the south, Kalatschowka and Mintschuna; and to the north, Skinosy, Neu-Leipzig (*Note: *Neu-Leipzig was founded in 1870 by Leipzig, Kulm, and Tarutino settlers and existed until the beginning of the nineties*), and Josephsdorf. It is crossed by the Saki Valley in the

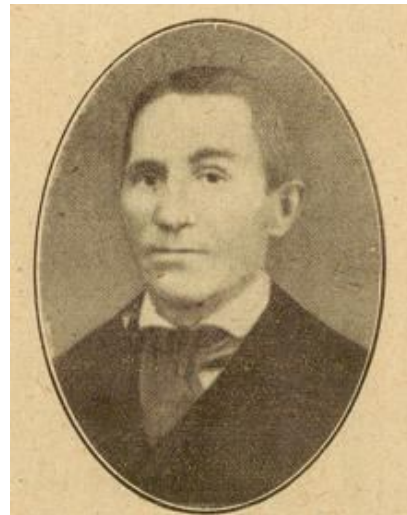
east, which is joined by a small valley depression in which the village of Saki lies; Kurudschika in the western half and Skinosity in the far west end. Besides these, a long valley runs through the southern half of the estate and passes below the neighboring village of Kalatschowka in the Skinosity River valley.

Council of State Fonton settled serfs (little Russians) on this estate, from among whom a family by the name of Schukowsky lived here, with a brief interruption, until 1909, in which year the last member of this family also moved away.—The settlement was called Fontonowka, lying in the Kurudschika Valley, a bit more toward the north. Later, a new settlement of little Russians was established, which was called Kurudschika. The inhabitants of both villages, some serfs, some tenth-farmers (*Zehent-Bauern/ Dessjatintschiki*), were responsible to the estate; some were called Fontonowka Tsarists (*fontonwskie Zarjana*), the others were called Kurudschika Tzarists (*kurudschiiiski Zarjana*) and the family list still continued in the 1880s in Kurudschika although the people had all left.

In the 1850s, we find a Lieutenant Bernardacki and the honorary citizen Günsburg as owners. It was during this period that the previously mentioned German Colony Saki was established. The settlers were people who had immigrated in the 1840s to Romania from the old colonies in Bessarabia, returning from there but no longer accepted in their home colonies and so had to look for a new home. Among them were the Kraft family from Leipzig, Motz from Borodino, Reichenberger from Beresina, Kirchhöfel from Tarutino, and others. These were joined by Neubauer from Leipzig, Borth from Tarutino, and others. At the same time, the estate was managed by a German named Dubinsky. Whether he was a tenant or just an estate manager could not be determined. He lived in the manor house on the mountain northeast of the just mentioned Colony Saki. The house was picturesquely surrounded by a park and a vineyard. It was destroyed by a conflagration. The park went after that and, finally, in 1883, also the vineyard.



Renter Ludwig Jeschke



Renter Daniel Buchwitz

Somewhere around the year 1864, two Bulgarians, brothers Peter and Andrie Karadsche-Iskrow leased the estate and divided it into two halves. Peter took the northern half and Andrei, an old bachelor who managed a large horse, cattle, and sheep breeding operation here, took the southern

half. (*Note: *The Leipzig colonists Johann Weller and Jakob Müller leased the northern half of the estate for 5 years 1880. They had to bring in sub-lesers (Unterpächter) and found a village, which was called Peterstal and is still standing today. Founders of this village were Kraft, Nutz, Budau, Hilscher and Hintz—all from Leipzig. This part of the estate, in the possession of the previous tenant Karadsche-Iskrow, was passed on in 1883 to sons Pawel and Wasili, who managed it themselves from 1885 on and treated the German tenants harshly. After the death of Wasili, Pavel Iskrow leased the estate to a Greek, Kamburoglo; later, to Ferdinand Fredrich from Tarutino. Peter Sokolow followed him as leaseholder until it was confiscated in 1918. Despite the tough conditions, it still received a few German families. Today, Peterstal has 29 families who have built a prayer house and organized themselves into a parish. The referred to 29 families, as well as the landless families from Kuruschika and Kalatschowka, were allocated land from the mentioned estate. On the Josephsdorf border, the landless folks of Josephsdorf received some land and founded the little village of Neu-Andreewka. Two families from Tarutino, Budau and Bogner, who lived in Kurudschika, bought 100 hectares. Therefore, a few hundred hectares of land have stayed in German hands after 50 years. The rest was allocated to the Bulgarians who settled on the estate.*) Andrei was a tough, relentless man and drove out all the residents of Fontonowka and Kurudschika, as well as also the German colonists from Saki, some going to Josephsdorf, Hoffnungsdorf (today Mintschuna), and Persianowka, and some returning to the old colonies.

The Settlement of Kurudschika.

With the end of Andrei Karadsche-Iskrow's lease time for the southern half of the estate, on 23 April, 1879, at that hour, begins the actual history of the village of Kurudschika. On that date, three Leipzig colonists, Daniel Buchwitz, Johann Mann and Ludwig Jeschke took on a 10 year lease at 2 rubles per *dessiatine* on this 2,485 *dessiatine* section of the estate whereby they had to obligate themselves, over the course of the first three years, to attract at least 30 families of German colonists as sub-lesers, who would settle in the Kurudschika Valley. The sub-lesers, in turn, were required to build houses according to the German style and to plant trees in the courtyards.



The Oldest House in Kurudschika, a Manor House

In 1881, the following settled here: (1.) From Leipzig: Daniel and Gottfried Kraft, Michael and Daniel Brandt, Christian Neubauer, Georg Wolf, August Wolf, Büschel, Friedrich Fiedler, Karl

Braun, Johann Frübös, Samuel Sprecher, Wilhelm Hoffmann, Daniel Brandt, Johann Bierwagen, Christoph Pelz and Daniel Bäsler; (2.) From Kulm: Christian Bich, Christian Bech, Jakob Bich, Daniel Schimke, Simon and Christian Schimke, Friedrich Radach; (3.) From Tarutino: Christoph Braun, Wilhelm Schulz; (4.) From Beresina: Matthäus Pahl, Christoph Reichenberger; (5.) From Katzbach: Michael Janke, Heinrich Sülzle; (6.) From Paris: Johann Blischke, Ferdinand Bader; (7.) From Alt-Elft: Johann Renke; (8.) From Dennewitz: Jeske.

These sub-leasees had to surrender a fifth of all harvested grain as rent and pay an annual rate of 3 rubles and 40 kopeck per *dessiatine* for each parcel of land set aside for hay, corn and vegetables. In addition, annually, 3 rubles for the $\frac{1}{2}$ *dessiatine* farmyard, and, per animal, 2 rubles for large cattle, 1 ruble for year-old cattle, and 40 kopeck for sheep; pigs, geese and calves were not taxed.

Also in 1881, a Russian village was established in the east end of the estate, in a side valley of the Saki, which received the name of Annowka and still exists today.

In 1882, the tenants divided the estate among themselves, whereby D. Buchwitz took over one-third of the same, including Annowka, and built a house there and farmed it. Mann and Jeschke kept the other two-thirds of the estate with the German village of “Geinsburgsdorf”, as it was first called. Later, Jeschke relinquished his part to Mann and went back to Leipzig. “*Possessor*” Mann, as at that time the estate tenants were called, now moved into the manor house near Kurudschika and the community acquired the house built by Mann and established it as a prayer house and teacher’s residence.

In 1883, the estate, along with the villages of Kurudschika and Annowka, was transferred into the possession of Countess von Hatzfeld-Trachtenberg, a daughter of Prince Manuk-Bei.



A Yard During the Lease Era

As already mentioned above, the sub-leasees had to give, as rent payment, a fifth part of the harvest to the *Possessor*. At the same time, they had no specific land portion in fixed rent, but,

each year, everyone took as much land as they were able to work, whereby the *Posessor* always reserved for himself the right to withhold its disposal in the coming year.

Now, it often happened that the *Posessor* deprived people, against whom he was disgruntled, the best fields and allotted to them the inferior ones, and to his minions, those people who understood things and sought favor with him, granted the best to them. As a result, conflict often arose among the community members, which led to the division of the community and formation of parties. Some—the privileged—were always on the side of the *Posessor*, while others—those taken advantage of—were against him. In these circumstances, the teachers of the community were in a difficult position; on the one hand, they ought not to be partial to the parties; on the other hand, often forced by their office to take a position, it then brought them into conflict with one of the parties. According to the lease contract, the tenants had, at no cost, 2 *dessiatine* of land for the school and church yard, and 8 *dessiatine*. for the teacher. —Mann profited from this land, and the teachers, who received a meager annual salary of 125 rubles, would you believe it, had to pay one hundred and twenty five rubles and 1 portion of wheat as land rent on behalf of the family.

Towards the end of the lease date, the majority of the community made the attempt to lease the estate directly from the owner, but failed because they could not supply the deposit required by the landlady. This made the leaseholder (*Posessor*) so angry that he threatened to deport all those who were involved in this plan if it should happen that he got the estate in the new lease. —But that never happened, because he died a year before the expiration of date of the lease in 1887. —He is resting in the church cemetery in Kurudschika. —After the expiration of the lease time, the widow of Mann, by the maiden name of Klaus, moved to Neu-Sarata, Kahul District with her children, where she had bought land. Her grandchildren still live there today.

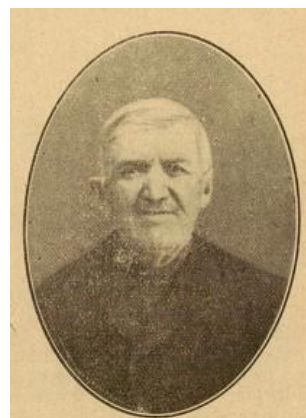


Yard of Big-Time Farmer Heinrich Hänsel

Because, as already mentioned, the community itself could not lease the land, the landlady leased the entire estate annually to one of the previous three tenants, to Daniel Buchwitz for five years,

from 1889-1893, at the rate of 3 rubles per *dessiatine*. The community leased 760 *dessiatine* from Buchwitz at 3 rubles and 75 kopeck per *dessiatine*. This time, all the arable land was surveyed for the community for the entire lease period, the community distributed it among themselves at its sole discretion. Each community member could now freely decide how to use his parcel during the whole lease period. —Even the teacher got his 8 *dessiatine* of grazing land and some cattle for free.

The pasture was used by both the *Possessor* and the community, whereby the community paid 2 rubles and 75 kopeck per piece of livestock, 2 rubles for young cattle, and 60 kopeck for sheep. —5 rubles had to be paid annually for the farmyard. The number of families had now already grown to 50, of which only about half were numbered among the founders of the community, others grew up here over the course of time, some migrated here. There was peace in the community now because the new *Possessor* absolutely did not meddle in the internal affairs of the community. It also moved forward materially so that in the spring of 1893—1,230 *dessiatine*, which leaser Buchwitz relinquished voluntarily before the end of his lease time, could be rented. —The landlady had to be paid up front a half-year's lease deposit as security. Because it was still difficult for them, the Jew Chaim Gorenstein (known as Chaim Kurudschiker) extended the community a one year loan of 1,000 rubles at 24% interest. The good harvest contributed well toward the estate rent.



Konrad Vetter
The Oldest Man

1,681½ *dessiatine* was taken on now for 5 years (1894-1899) at 3 rubles and 50 kopeck per *dessiatine*, the desire of the community for many years could finally be realized to farm the estate without a middleman leaser.

Likewise, the rest of the estate was rented directly from the landlady by the Russian community of Annowka.

The previous tenant Buchwitz took out a 10 year lease on a part of the estate close by Kalatschowka, in 1895, for himself and his family, where he moved to with his family; he died there in 1899. His children had built up 5 yards there which formed the basis for the founding of the village of Kalatschowka in 1908.

There were now already 60 families in Kurudschika. The estate was divided into 55 farms with 30 *dessiatine* each. Some families leased 2 farms, others, however, were able to lease only a half farm. The estate was surveyed for a second time, now in cultivatable pieces of 2-3 *dessiatine* in one place (over against the 1 *dessiatine* from the past) because the tendency was now toward larger fields, and this because one no longer plowed with the “single plowshare” plow, but with 2 and 3 plowshare plows and harvested with machines. —At the edge of Peterstal, one section of 22 *dessiatine* was rented by the Russian, Michail Schukowsky, which he then rented until 1909.

The above mentioned 1,681½ *dessiatine* were leased two more times for 5 years each, 1899-1903 and 1904-1908, at 4 rubles and 50 kopeck per *dessiatine*; in 1909, the community succeeded in buying the land at the end of the last lease contract. When the land was purchased in September of 1909, there were only about eight families left of those bound by the lease contract in 1894, the others had all gone, for the most part, to North Dakota and Canada.

The community was enlarged through the addition of Germans from the mother colonies of the Akkerman District. 84 families participated in the purchase. Those who bought:

01 Family	100 Dessj.	100 Dessj.
04 Families at	60 Dessj.	240 Dessj.
03 Families at	50 Dessj.	150 Dessj.
08 Families at	40 Dessj.	320 Dessj.
08 Families at	30 Dessj.	240 Dessj.
03 Families at	25 Dessj.	75 Dessj.
15 Families at	20 Dessj.	300 Dessj.
03 Families at	15 Dessj.	45 Dessj.
11 Families at	10 Dessj.	110 Dessj.
15 Families at	5 Dessj.	754 Dessj.
13 Families at	1 Dessj.	13 Dessj.
Held in Common	13½ Dessj.	13½ Dessj.
=====		
84 Families total		1,681½ Dessj.

The last noted 13½ *dessiatine* were gifted by Countess Olga of Hatzfeld-Trachtenberg, who was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran confession, to the community for the support of the Kurudschika church and school. However, a mistake was made in that the beautiful gift was not mentioned in the purchase agreement. The community was to pay the total purchase price, in installments, to the Kherson State Bank. The seller handed over the full purchase value of the 13½ *dessiatine* to the community in order that it be transferred to the State Bank; however, the money was distributed among the buyers and the church and school lost the donation to its land. Of the donated land, 1 *dessiatine* was to be left for the cemetery, ½ *dessiatine* for the church and school yard, and ½ *dessiatine* left for other community buildings. Finally, on 7 July, 1930, it was decided to use the remaining church property and purchase two new bells and build a bell tower which was to be added to the prayer house.

Church.

At the beginning, the people gathered in a farm house for worship services and one of the farmers read the sermons to them. This was alternated among the older church members: August Wolf, Karl Braun, and Jakob Bich. For an hour of devotion, a small handful of religious brothers and their wives gathered in the house of Karl Braun in the afternoon and evenings on Sunday and festival days.

In 1882, the congregation had purchased a house from *Possessor* Johann Mann, as already mentioned, and turned it into a prayer house and teacher's residence. On 1 May, 1882, the first teacher and sexton was employed.



Old School & Prayer House, Now only a School

In 1890, a small addition was added to the prayer house which increased its size so much so that a majority of the community was able to find enough room in it for worship services. Prayer



New Prayer House with Sexton Residence

house and teacher's residence were given new windows and doors, a new shingled roof, new benches within, as well as a new pulpit. The Assistance Fund (*Unterstützungskasse*) contributed 150 rubles. Leaser Buchwitz built on a wood entrance. The prayer house also served as a school

hall. Previously, there were only 4 benches with tables and the rest without, so that most of the students, when it came to writing, had to kneel on the clay floor and use the benches as writing tables; so, after the remodeling, all the benches had tables and compartments for the school supplies.

Soon the renovated prayer house also turned out to be too small and one started to think about building a new one. Since the congregation was not all that wealthy previously and experienced total poverty through the crop failure of 1899, it was unable to come up with its own funding. Therefore, a collection was taken up, in 1900, by the Evangelical Lutheran villages in the Crimea, which realized 139 rubles and 83 kopeck. With gratitude one must again remember the previous owner of the estate, Countess Olga von Hatzfeld-Trachtenberg, who contributed 200 rubles toward this purpose. Construction was started in 1901 and completed in 1902. It came to 850 rubles. The old prayer house that had served the congregation for 19 years was converted into a residence for the sexton and village office. The new structure had to again serve as a school hall. The latter had 22 benches and a school podium that also had to serve as a pulpit. After twenty-five years, the new prayer house was again too small and was enlarged in 1927.

In 1925, the prayer house received a harmonium [foot-peddle and bellows organ]. In 1929, it received a pulpit, an altar, and a lectern for the sexton. In that same year, it was thoroughly remodeled.

Because the teacher's residence was dilapidated and a bad residence was not to be given to a new teacher, the congregation was forced to proceed, in 1927, on the construction of a sexton residence. It was attached to the prayer house. It was already roofed when it was destroyed to its foundation on 2 September of that same year by floodwaters. Despite the great distress after the water disaster and while most were busy with their own construction—many houses had been totally destroyed—yet the congregation made the decision to rebuild the sexton residence immediately and also followed through with it. Already by the end of September, the new building stood, better and bigger than the first one, under a roof, and it was dedicated at the harvest thanksgiving festival on 6 October. The old sexton residence and village office were now converted into two classrooms.



Daniel Erdmann
Teacher at Kurudschika
1885-1894

With regard to pastoral service, the congregation received its first visit and pastoral service in 1883 by the pastor/vicar of the Tarutino Parish, Pastor Zeller from Alt-Elft. From 1884 to 1908, Pastor Fr. Schlarb served the congregation 3 times a year. It was served by Pastor Daniel Haase from then on, and, since 1927, the congregation was joined to the Leipzig Parish and is being served by Parish Pastor Jakob Rivinius.

A list of the teachers of the Kurudschika congregation: 1. Friedrich Rödel (1882). 2. Daniel Jaßmann (1883). 3. Hertner (1884). 4. Daniel Erdmann (1885-1894). 5. Reinhold Fischer (1894-1895). 6. Bernhard Hiller (1895-1896). 7. Jakob Kraft (1896-1901). 8. Johann Wanke (1902-1905). 9. Emanuel Broneske (1905-1908). 10. Andreas Müller (1908). 11. Bernhard Hiller (1909-1910). 12. Eduard Freitag (1910). 13. Johannes König (1910-1914). 14. Daniel Wölfle (1914-1915). 15. Albert Pippus (1915-1916). 16. H. Kurtz (1916-1919). 17. Johannes König (1919-1925). 18. Johann Radke (1925). 19. Emil Hiller (1926). 20. Wilhelm Krug (1926-1928). 21. Edmund Damer (since 1928). These, who were at the same time sextons, were also village clerks up to 1919. Schools were church schools up to 1918. In 1922, all students from ages 7-15 were gathered in a single classroom and were instructed by the sexton/teacher; in 1922, a female teacher, Olga Drews, was employed and served until 1927. Since 1927, despite every effort of the community, it was no longer possible to succeed in the employment of a German teacher by the authorities.



Teacher Edmund Damer
Author of this History

Agriculture.

The first year of the settlement (1881) was a very difficult year; it was a cool wet spring and a rainy summer, so that the settlers, who at first lived in reed huts, suffered a lot, and, moreover, were held back in the construction of residential buildings. Many got sick with fever, and typhus



Mill Owned by Friedrich Lemke

showed up in the fall, to which many fell victim. This led to a lack of workers to gather the harvest. 1882 ended up with a complete crop failure, which brought about a great shortage of food in the winter. Spring came late in 1883; the cattle pasture was covered with snow until the middle of March. When it finally came to the point where the snow was melted, the emaciated

sheep had to be carried there so that they were able to graze. On 25 March, another deep snow fell, which brought about the destruction of so many sheep that were robbed of pasture. The horses were so run down that a lot of seed could only be scratched into the soil with harrows. Nevertheless, there was a good harvest and the winter wheat turned out especially good. Harvests were also good in 1884 and 1885, and the people were able to move forward a bit. In the year 1886, the harvest was destroyed almost completely through the Hesse fly [flying insects]. Barley did not even produce as much as was seeded, winter wheat produced 10-15 *pud* and corn about 50 *pud* of cobs per *dessiatine*. 1887 and 1888 brought better crops once again, 1889 below average, and, after the good years of 1890 and 1891, 1892 was again a complete crop failure. Because nothing grew on the pasture, hay fields and grain fields had to be grazed; however, half the cattle population had to be gotten rid of. Old horses were sold for a ruble each and many were slaughtered for their hides. Cows were driven to Kischinev and sold there for 5 to 10 rubles each. Out of 1,200 sheep, tenant Buchwitz was able to bring only 700 through the winter; 500 died due to a lack of feed.



Big Time Farmer
Heinrich Hänsel

Many families could not get the necessary bread for their children. Pastor Schlarb, by means of the press, turned to the German Russians in North America for assistance for the destitute in his parish. As a result of this call for help, ample funds flowed to him and so the destitute in Kurudschika were able to be helped. —The local Emergency Committee distributed 160 *pud* of wheat, 517 *pud* of corn flour in return for work. A roadway was scraped up across the Skinofy Valley. As a result of this, the people received seed as a loan: 279 *pud* barley, 205 *pud* potatoes and 37 *pud* corn, and 118 *pud* bran for fodder, which was paid off in the autumn of 1893.

Things went better after the record harvest of 1893, but as a result of over-production in the whole world, there were a number of years of very low grain prices; therefore, the people still did not truly thrive. —1 *pud* of wheat was valued at 37-45 kopeck, barley at 25-30 kopeck, corn the same. The year 1899 brought a complete crop failure, again causing a great food shortage and a lack of bread and seed grain. After some better harvests, 1904 came with a crop failure, 1905 a good harvest, and 1906 a very good one. The harvests of 1907 and 1909 were mediocre, 1910 very good until 1917, when again a mediocre one.

There were poor harvests in 1918, 1924, 1925, and 1928. Excellent harvests in 1927 and 1929; 1930 once again a weak harvest. In 1927, Kurudschika, as already mentioned, had a very good harvest, but was hit hard by the flood disaster of 2 September. As a result of heavy downpours, the road turned into a river three meters deep and the raging flow destroyed everything that got in its way: houses, stables, cellars, etc. People headed for the high ground; two people, Katharine Rath, born Gebhardt, and Anna Nutz, daughter of Joh. Nutz, fell victims to the flood. The water raged for four hours. Half of the village was destroyed. Of the 117 houses, 60 remained standing. Completely collapsed: 33 houses, the teacher's residence, 11 stables and the steam mill, and 23 houses had structural damage.

The total damage was estimated at six (6) million lei. Huge distress followed. Help came first of all from Kalatschowka, then from German communities in the surrounding area, and eventually from the whole empire. 228,359 lei were collected and distributed to the victims during the following winter. Even so, wheat, barley, corn, flour and others cost more than the money collection. The government allowed for the distribute of 75,000 lei among the needy. In 1928, the community took out a 100,000 lei loan from the Rosenauer Volksbank in Siebenbürgen [Transylvania], which was paid back already by 1929.

Administration.

In the beginning, the estate belonged to the Taraklia administrative subdivision (*Wolost*), but was then added to the Abaklydschaba administrative subdivision (today Abaklia). In 1883, the community was joined to the Josephsdorf administrative subdivision. Up to 1883, the mayors (*Schulzen*) changed often; as they were entirely depended on the grace of the community; if some offended the opinion of the community, they were deposed and a new one was put in place. The German senior mayor (*Oberschulz*) from the village of Josephsdorf finally brought order to this office. From 1883 to 1886, they were elected for one year and were officially known only as *Sotzky*. From 1887, they were officially elected as mayors (*Schulzen/Starosta*) for 3 years.



View of Kurudschika

List of Mayors.

1. Adam Lämke (1881-1882). 2. Jakob Bich (1882). 3. Georg Wolf (1883-1884). 4. Karl Braun (1884-1885). 5. Johann Bierwagen (1885-1886). 6. Jakob Bich (1887-1888). 7. Samul Sprecher (1889-1890). 8. Chr. Sackmann (1891-1894). 9. Jakob Bich (1895-1897). 10. Daniel Bäßler (1898). 11. Karl Braun (1899-1903). 12. Martin Gill (1904-1905). 13. Heinrich Sülzle (1906). 14. Friedrich Wiese (1907-1908). 15. Michael Nutz (1909-1910). 16. Friedrich Sackmann (1911-1913). 17. Gottfried Rauschenberger (1914-1915), and from 1916-1917, in quick succession Bernhard Rath, Johann Hintz and Emanuel Wittke.

Toward the end of 1917, the village council, on the basis of a directive from the Bessarabian government, was converted into a Village Committee and, in 1917-1918, at the head was a president, Gerhard Haag..

Since the incorporation of Bessarabia with Romania, there is the office of *Primarie*; since which time the duties have been performed by the following mayors (*Schulzen/Primare*): Michael Nutz (1918-1922), Friedrich Lämke (1923-1924), Heinrich Hänsel (1925-1926), Gottlieb Verworn (1927), Wilhelm Banek (1928-1929), and Johann Schweitz (1929-1930).

In closing, it should also be mentioned that the arrangement for cultural support is lacking in the community. Little use is made of the church library, which consists of 142 volumes.

Newspapers that are being read today: 16 copies of *Deutsche Zeitung Bessarabiens*, 1 copy of *Banater Tageblatt*.

Concerning religious writings: 21 copies of *Der Christenbote*, 7 copies of *Lichter der Heimat*, and 5 copies of *Wegweiser*.

So far the history. Throughout the decades, German industriousness struggled in a little spot of the earth, was laid low, got itself back on its feet again, survived disasters, eventually became the owner of the little spot, a German village grew up out of the steppe through it, whereby no one needs to be ashamed in the presence of his neighbors.

Kuruschika!

[End of Translation]