

Chronicle of Lichtental by Kuester Georg Schreiber

Translated by Elli Wise

Source:

Der Staats-Anzeiger, Bismarck, ND

April 26, 1935 page 2

The year of 1934 is the centennial that represents 100 years of existence.

The colony Lichtental was founded in 1834 on the left riverbank of the prairie creek called Tschelegider. The original settlement was on a parcel of land that was made available to the former Catholic preacher, Ignaz Lindl from Bavaria, by the Russian regime for the settlement of three colonies. The entire land parcel stretched from Sarata Creek on the steppes, to the Tschelegider and the Kugelnik.

On March 19, 1822, the colony of Sarata was founded on the right bank of Sarata Creek. A total of 80 families came from Odessa to found the colony. In 1830 the colony Gnadental was founded by Swabian emigrants from Wuerttemberg. Four years later they founded Lichtental.

Gottlieb Veygel was the commander and later, the head mayor. There were five Moldavians who had leased land to graze their livestock herds. The lease was from 1834 until 1841. The winter of 1841 destroyed their livestock holdings. There were no stalls and no feed to keep the livestock sheltered and fed, so, after having lost it all, the lessees moved on.

At the time of settlement in Lichtental, the following families settled here:

From Sarata—14 families

Name	Settlement in Sarata	Arrival in Lichtental
Albert Unterseher	1822	1843
Johannes Unterseher	1822	1843
Jakob Unterseher	1822	1836
Michael Mayer	1822	1842
Sebastian Gebhardt	1822	1840
Michael Oberlaender	1822	1834
Georg Oberlaender	1822	1834
Johannes Schaeuffele	1822	1842
Abraham Winger	1822	1847
Jakob Bechtle	1832	1842
Gottlieb Steudle	1822	1840
Johannes Brenner	1822	1838
Georg Gaessler	1822	1841
Sebastian Gebhardt	1822	1840

From Gnadental—28 families

Name	From	Until
Gottfried Bareither	1832	1842
Konrad Issler	1834	1838
Georg Issler	1834	1838
Johann Georg Schaefer	1832	1841
Christoph Kienzle	1833	1836
Christian Messerle	1830	1838
Jakob Friedrich Wiedmann	1830	1844
Johannes Schaefer	1834	1838
Johann Friedrich Merz	1830	1844
Johann David Baumann	1830	1838
Johann Philipp Baumann	1833	1838
Georg Friedrich Wahler	1830	1841
Adam Vogel	1830	1836
Gottlob Friedrich Eckert	1832	1836
Michael Sommer	1833	1834
Johann Christoph Wuerth	1832	1842
Lukas Deuschle	1830	1842
Jakob Fickel	1830	1838
Tobias Fickel	1830	1844
Jakob Friedrich Ernst	1833	1843
Michael Wagner	1832	1839
Georg Johann Baumann	1832	1841
Christian Gottlieb Dorsch	1832	1842
Jakob Deiss	1830	1844
Widow Katharine Regine Gentner	1832	1842
Her son Christian Gentner		
Israel Hasart	1833	1834
Jakob Friedrich Kaess	1838	1843
Friedrich Aldinger	1830	1843

The rest of the settlers came directly from Germany.

Name	First	Origin	State
Aldinger	Friedrich	Fellbach	Wuerttemberg
Bareither	Gottfried	Erbstetten	Wuerttemberg
Baumann	David	Kleebronn	Wuerttemberg
Baumann	Georg	Markgroeningen	Wuerttemberg
Baumann	Philipp	Kleebronn	Wuerttemberg
Bechtle	Jakob	Hoepfingen	Wuerttemberg
Brenner	Johannes	Lauingen	Bavaria
Deiss	Jakob	Schnaidt	Wuerttemberg
Deuschle	Lukas	Stetten	Wuerttemberg
Dorsch	Gottlieb	Neudeck	Wuerttemberg
Eckert	Gottlob	Brackenheim	Wuerttemberg
Ernst	Friedrich	Kleebronn	Wuerttemberg
Fickel	Jakob	Hausen	Wuerttemberg
Fickel	Tobias	Hausen	Wuerttemberg

Fink	Jakob	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Fischer	Jakob	Grunbach	Wuerttemberg
Gaessler	Georg	Sonthem	Bavaria
Gall	Georg	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Gebhardt	Sebastian	Rieder	Bavaria
Geistdoerfer	Ludwig	Backnang	Wuerttemberg
Gentner	Christian	Illingen	Wuerttemberg
Giess	Felix	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Giess	Johann Adam	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Hahn	Gottlieb	Struempfelbach	Wuerttemberg
Hahn	Gottlob	Struempfelbach	Wuerttemberg
Hahn	Samuel	Struempfelbach	Wuerttemberg
Hartmann	Johannes	Steinreinach	Wuerttemberg
Hasart	Israel	Schnaidt	Wuerttemberg
Heubach	Wilhelm	Grunbach	Wuerttemberg
Holzwarth	Jakob	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Idler	Gottlob	Struempfelbach	Wuerttemberg
Issler	Georg	Gerbersheim	Wuerttemberg
Issler	Konrad	Gerbersheim	Wuerttemberg
Kaemmler	Johannes	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Kaess	Friedrich	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Kienzle	Christoph	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Kuhnle	Philipp	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Lade	Jakob	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Layher	Joahnn	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Layher	Karl	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Lust	Christoph	Ilfeld	Wuerttemberg
Mayer	Jakob	Kleebronn	Wuerttemberg
Mayer	Michael	Hansheim	Bavaria
Merz	Friedrich	Beinstein	Wuerttemberg
Messerle	Christian	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Mueller	Georg	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Mueller	Michael	Neustadt	Wuerttemberg
Oberlander	Georg	Gundremmingen	Bavaria
Oberlander	Michael	Gundremmingen	Bavaria
Orthwein	Friedrich	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Pleiss	Christian	Stetten	Wuerttemberg
Roth	Jakob	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Schaefer	Georg	Hartmannsweiler	Wuerttemberg
Schaefer	Johannes	Hahnweiler	Wuerttemberg
Schaeuffele	Johannes	Gerbersheim	Wuerttemberg
Scheid	Lorenz	Werrstadt	Rheinprovinz
Scheid	Martin	Werrstadt	Rheinprovinz From Germany to Greece, in 1838 to Lichtental
Schnabel	Ludwig	Burgstall	Wuerttemberg
Schreiber	Friedrich	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Schreiber	Jakob	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Schreiber	Michael	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg

Schwaderer	Georg	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Schwaderer	Johannes	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Schwaderer	Ludwig	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Seeger	Christian	Sulzbach	Wuerttemberg
Sommer	Michael	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Strekker	Daniel	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Unterseher	Albert	Lauingen	Bavaria
Unterseher	Jakob	Lauingen	Bavaria
Unterseher	Johannes	Lauingen	Bavaria
Vogel	Adam	Hausen	Wuerttemberg
Wagner	Michael	Steinreinach	Wuerttemberg
Wahler	Friedrich	Schnaidt	Wuerttemberg
Weisshaar	Jakob	Beinstein	Wuerttemberg
Wiedmann	Jakob	Kornwestheim	Wuerttemberg
Wildermuth	Friedrich	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Wildermuth	Johannes	Rielingshausen	Wuerttemberg
Wilhelm	Adam	Struempfelbach	Wuerttemberg
Winger	Abraham	Grunbach	Wuerttemberg
Winger	Matthaeus	Hansheim	Bavaria
Woellhaff	Gottfried	Schnaidt	Wuerttemberg
Woelz	Friedrich	Weiler by Schorndorf	Wuerttemberg
Wolf	Gottlieb	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg
Wuerth	Johann Christoph	Gieglingen	Wuerttemberg
Zehender	Karl	Kirchberg an der Murr	Wuerttemberg

Places of origin could not be established for Jakob Albrecht, Michael Singer, Bartholomaeus Deissinger and Adam Schall.

Brothers Lorenz and Martin Scheid first went from Germany to Greece, and in 1838 came to Lichtental. In 1839, Matthaeus Winkler sold his house to Michael Oberlander and moved to Sarata. Jakob Albrecht sold his house to Jakob Weisshaar and got the house where Jakob Kubi lives today. In 1843, Bartholomaeus Deissinger moved back to Germany and Widow Orthwein and her son Friedrich got that house. In 1844, Christian Jose from Alexanderhilf bought the house of Michael Singer who moved back to Germany. The families of Ludwig Geistdoerfer, Johann Layher, Karl Layher and Christian Pleiss were landless settlers, called Kleinhaeussler.

The duration of settlement was 1834 to 1847. The first settler family was Widow Barbara Hahn geb. Rommel, age 57, and her three sons: Gottlieb, 22, tailor; Gottlob, 20, who later became a teacher; and Samuel, 15. They left Struempfelbach on 18 October 1833 to move to Russia. They arrived in the winter and first stayed in Tiraspol at the quarters of a Mrs. Grosshans. In the spring of 1834, they moved to Bessarabia and arrived on March 4 in Sarata where they stayed about six weeks. They arrived in Lichtental about mid-April. A month later, the family of Michael Sommer from Gnadental and the family of Sebastian Gebhardt arrived from Sarata. In the summer of 1834, the Hahn brothers built a house with their mother. This is the house where Jakob Malke lives today.

Continued in Der Staats-Anzeiger, Bismarck, ND, May 3, 1935, page 2

At the time of settlement, there were 80 families with a total of 440 people. In 1935, there were 330 families and a total of 1,943 people. During the years, 30 families (120 persons) moved to Lichtental and 174 families (941 persons) moved away.

Continued in Der Staats-Anzeiger, Bismarck, ND, 7 May 1935, page 8 [summarized from the original text]

In 1842, the first church building was begun in the middle of the village. Half of the church was used for services and the other half for school. In 1862, the first school was built and the dividing wall was removed to use the entire church for services. The church served the community for 60 years.

In 1902, a new church building was begun on the same place where the old church was. The building commissioner was German colonist Gotthilf Deeg of Plotzk. The building commission included the following settlers: Johannes Schreiber (Schulz/mayor), Ludwig Unterseher, Karl Layher, Friedrich Wildermuth and Michael Jose. On October 5, 1903, the church was christened by Pastor Peters from Kloestitz.

Lichtental belonged to the parish of Sarata and each third Sunday had a service held by a pastor. The parish was served by the following pastors:

Heinrich von Lesedow 1834-1839
Heinrich Breitenbach 1840-1848
Georg Behning 1852- 1875
Ludwig Kattenfeld 1875-1880
Alfons Meyer 1882-1918
Friedrich Wiedner 1918-1919
Wilhelm Beyer 1919-1922
Gotthold Winger 1923 -?

Continued in Der Staats-Anzeiger, Bismarck, ND, 10 May 1935, page 8

Index of teachers for years 1834-1934

Kuester (lay teachers):

Gottlieb Hahn 1839-1876
Gottlieb Gaessler 1876-1882
Johannes Dietrich 1882-1884
Jakob Heer 1884-1919
Georg Schreiber 1919-1924

Teachers:

Gottlieb Hahn 1876-1880
Johann Keck 1891-1895
Eduard Krause 1895-1896
Stephan Glesow 1896-1899
Georg Schreiber 1899-1915
Gottlieb Lust 1907-1908
Daniel Kubi 1908-[1911?]
Adolf Volssler 1911-1912
Albert Knauer 1912-1913
David Deuschle 1912-1913
Friedrich Aldinger 1913
Alexander Schreiber 1917-1918
Johannes Orthwein 1918
Wilhelm Wahler 1917-1920
Friedrich Mayer 1917

Alfred Buechele 1920-1921
Georg Koschug 1924-1933
Christian Idler 1924-1929
Ida Gerling 1925-1926
Else Rueb 1929-1930
Martha Winger 1930-1934
Gotthilf Aldinger 1933

Index of head mayors:

August Wuerth 1899-1902
Karl Layher 1908-1922

Index of mayors:

Christoph Kienzle 1934-1936 [Translator's note: Should this be 1834-1836?]
Israel Hasart 1836-1838
Christoph Kienzle 1838-1840
Israel Hasart 1840-1842
Christoph Kienzle 1842-1844
Christian Messerle 1844-1848
Jakob Roth 1848-1850
Georg Gaessler 1850-1852
Karl Heinrich 1852-1854
Christoph Kienzle 1854-1856
Jakob Roth 1856-1859
Georg Oberlander 1859-1862
Friedrich Aldinger 1862-1864
Johannes Schaefer 1864-1866
Friedrich Woelz 1866-1868
Johann Wuerth 1868-1870
Martin Scheid 1870-1872
Jakob Wolf 1872-1874
Karl Layher 1874-1878
Christian Unterseher 1878-1881
Gottlob Eckert 1881-1884
Christian Unterseher 1884-1887
Christian Schaefer 1887-1889
Ludwig Unterseher 1889-1891
Johannes Schreiber 1891-1893
Friedrich Mayer 1893-1895
Friedrich Wildermuth 1895-1898
Gottlob Idler 1898-1901
Johannes Schreiber 1901-1904
Martin Scheid 1904-1907
Jakob Schaefer 1907-1908
Christian Wolf 1908-1910
Friedrich Aldinger 1910-1912
Johannes Schwaderer 1912-1915
Friedrich Kaess 1915-1918
Joseph Hahn 1918-1919
Jakob Gentner 1919-1920

Friedrich Kaess 1920-1921
Gottlieb Wolf 1921-1922
Friedrich Deuschle 1922-1924
Ludwig Schreiber 1924-1926
Ludwig Schaefer 1926-1930
Immanuel Baumann 1930-1931
Tobias Hasart 1931-1933
Friedrich Kaess 1933-[present]

Index of clerks (area writers)

Gottlieb Hahn, Hoenke, Eider, Ruedel, Roth, Eckert, Anderst, Kurz, Eisele, Serpow, Birkholz,
Gaessler, Ekkert, Christian Rueb 1882-1901
Jakob Schnaidt 1901-1904
Gottfried Schulz 1904-1911
Immanuel Baumann 1911-1915
Theodor Baumann 1915-1916
Christian Neigebuer 1916-1918
Theodor Baumann 1918-1922
Immanuel Hoellwarth 1922

Participants in the Russian-Japanese war 1904-1906 were:

Johannes Scheid
Ludwig Schreiber
Ludwig Fink
Friedrich Giess
Karl Idler
Christian Idler
Immanuel Schaeufele
Martin Issler
August Schwaderer
Ludwig Schaefer
Christian Unterseher
Johann Deuschle (died in war on 17 Feb 1905)
Gottlieb Wolf
Jakob Roth
Johann Schaefer
Georg Mayer
Wilhelm Mayer
Gottlieb Mayer
Jakob Scheid
Jakob Wahler
Jakob Schaeufele
Gottlieb Schaefer
Ludwig Layher
Johann Holzwarth

Continued in Der Staats-Anzeiger, Bismarck, ND, 14 May 1935, page 8

In World War I (1914-1918), 212 men were drafted.

Jakob Scheid, Jakob Fink, Johann Giess, Christian Wildermuth and Reinhold Unterseher died on the battle field.

Benjamin Deiss, Christian Deiss and Eduard Wildermuth went missing.

Georg Gebhardt, Michael Unterseher, Friedrich Witt, Karl Zehender, Gottlieb Gaessler, Johannes Hasart, Tobias Wildermuth, Adolf Brenner, Gottlieb Giess, Gottlieb Schreiber, Matthias Mayer, Jakob Schaefer, Johann Wilhelm, Gustav Mayer, Adolf Mayer – all died of various illnesses during that time.