

Q & A Session – German Genealogy

Presented by Andrea Bentschneider, Beyond History, Hamburg/Germany



Website: <https://www.Beyond-History.com> Email: info@beyond-history.com
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German Church books online

Archion (Lutheran church books):

<https://www.archion.de/en/>

Matricula.eu (Roman Catholic church books):

[Matricula.eu https://data.matricula-online.eu/de/](https://data.matricula-online.eu/de/)

Online databases:

Databases may contain different collections of records incl. church books, civil registry records as well as emigration records and other types of vital documents.

FamilySearch

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

Society for Computer Genealogy (CompGen)

The largest non-profit genealogy group in Germany with its own wiki, databases and participatory projects:

<https://www.compgen.de/recherchieren/#datenbanken>

Ancestry.com Ancestry (subscription service)

<https://www.ancestry.com>

MyHeritage (subscription service)

<https://www.myheritage.com>





Genealogical Associations:

Association of German-speaking Professional Genealogists

A network of 21 individual professional genealogists throughout Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Since 2013, Andrea Bentschneider is the President of this Association.

<https://www.berufsgenealogie.net/>

mail: info@berufsgenealogie.net

Genealogy Associations in Germany:

The **DAGV** is the umbrella organization of genealogical and heraldic associations in Germany. Here is a listing of the 72 member organizations:

[https://www.dagv.org/?Die DAGV Mitgliedsvereine](https://www.dagv.org/?Die_DAGV_Mitgliedsvereine)

German Genealogy Associations worldwide:

International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP) is a group of partner societies interested in German Genealogy. "Uniting German Genealogy Researchers Worldwide"

<https://iggp.org/>

Different Types of Archives in Germany

Governmental Archives:

- Federal Archives
- State Archives
- Special Archives

Municipal Archives:

- District Archives
- City Archives

Other Archives

- Central Church Archives (Lutheran, Catholic, Mennonite, Huguenots, etc.)
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Book suggestions:

To decipher the German script:

“If I can You can - Decipher Germanic Records” - Edna M. Bentz

Identifying place names:

If you are not sure of the spelling of a place, or if you cannot clearly identify it in the historical records, these indexes will help you, as the title suggests:

Place name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes, by Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.C. GRT Publications. You can order them online here: https://www.familyrootspublishing.com/store/product_view.php?id=3080
“Schleswig-Holstein Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes”- Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G. GRT Publications

Identifying the parish a village belonged to:

If you are trying to find out which parish a village or town belonged to, look here:

Map Guide to German Parish Registers, by Kevan M. Hansen, a publication of Family Roots Publishing Co., cost about \$ 35 each. You can order them online here:
<https://www.familyrootspublishing.com/store/category.php?cat=3>

Here is an instruction on how to use these guides:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/img_auth.php/archive/8/8b/20151214174701%2F11-Map_Guide%2C_Instruction.pdf

Online place research:

Meyers Gazetteer The online site allows you to enter the name of a place and it will give you a list of all the places with that name. Please note the information is based on the years 1871-1918, the time of the German Empire:

<https://www.meyersgaz.org/>

See the help section for instructions on how to use the database.

<https://www.meyersgaz.org/help/help.html>

Note: You must be very clear about the spelling of a place name, otherwise you may end up with information about the wrong place.

