

(c) Thomas Heidebreker was present as a village representative at the signing of a land rental contract in Tusch near Graudenz on 11 July 1604.

(d) Hans Hedebergh was a member of the exclusive 7-member Brotherhood of St. George in Elbing in 1618.

(e) Thomas Heidebrecht, son of Thomas Heidebrecht, was baptized at St. Anne's Lutheran church in Elbing on 10 May 1642.

Thiessen believes the two Thomases may be related.

The land on which the first known Mennonite Heidebrechts lived belonged to the city of Elbing, which strengthens the supposition of a connection to at least some of those mentioned above. There were other cases, including my Brandt ancestors, where documented data suggest, although they do not prove, a move from Danzig to Elbing. Since those who worked or lived in the cities were usually artisans engaged in commerce, such moves would not have been unusual.

Endnote 109: Helena Pötger was almost certainly the daughter of Johann (son of Johann) and his second wife, Helena, living in Friedensdorf # 5 in 1835. Unruh lists a Johann Petker (son of Johann, per 1835 revision), farmer, born 1787, married to Maria Nickel, with children Heinrich (8), Johann (7) and Agnes (1/4), as moving from Klein Lunau to Molotschna in 1823. Helena must have been the daughter of his second wife, Helena, born ca. 1804. The family moved to Landskrone in 1839.

According to notes of a conversation with Henry F. Reimer, my mother's uncle, Heinrich Petkers moved to Oklahoma in 1874, while Johann Petkers stayed in the Russian Empire. The date seems questionable to me, since Oklahoma was Indian Territory then and was not legally open to settlement by others until 1889, although some whites had defied the law.

It seems to me that this information would not have been significant to the family unless Johann and Heinrich were closely related to Helena Pötger (# 109).

Both Heinrich and Johann were said to have been about 50 at about the time in question, apparently in the 1860s or 1870s. Heinrich had 5 sons and 5 daughters, the youngest daughter about 10 at the time.

The Johann Petker family which came from Klein Lunau in 1823 is the only one which had sons by the names of Heinrich and Johann who could possibly fit this description even remotely.

Fast in Plett, *Profile of the Mennonite Kleine Gemeinde, 1874*, has no reference to any Petkers in Nebraska. It seems likely that Heinrich and Johann Petker were not members of the *Kleine Gemeinde*, that they probably settled in Kansas and then joined the rush to Oklahoma.