

Unruh lists Zeyerskampen and Zeyersvorderkampen as located on the large delta, but Zeyersniederkampen as being in the rural Elbing area. "Kampen" often refers to enclosures, but I gather from Dr. Rybak of Poland that in this case it referred specifically to "islands," i.e., land reclaimed from the marshes, similar to the polders in the Netherlands. "Vorderkampen" would mean the "front" area of reclamation, i.e., the one closest to the reclaiming community of Zeyer. "Niederkampen" would mean the "lower" reclamation area, i.e., the one farther down the Nogat River. Thus it is possible that the first land to be reclaimed was known simply as Zeyerskampen until the second reclamation project made it necessary to distinguish between the two. Unruh does not make it clear whether Zeyerskampen and Zeyersvorderkampen were two separate localities, but he does mention that there were changes of name, as well as consolidations, which means that there could have been two names for the same village.

Note 24: The 1782-1805 baptismal records for Bärwalde show an Abraham Penner, Neuteicherwald, whose daughter, Barbara, was baptized on 29 June 1782. This could have been the father of Helena (No. 89). The age would be right. Furthermore, Barbara was a relatively rare name among the Mennonites. No. 89 had the common name, Helena, but the very unusual diminutive, Nölke. Hermann Thiessen's first known Penner ancestor, born during the same approximate period, had the common name, Elisabeth, but the rare diminutive, Elske. I surmise that all of these belonged to the same family, whose naming patterns appear to be unique in the rural areas.

However, Gustav Reimer mentions finding the names Barbke, Elske and Neelcke in early Danzig church records. This suggests that the family may have moved from the city to the country at a relatively late date.

Note 25: Bernhard Doerksen may well have come to Molochna as a young man, based on inferences drawn from circumstantial evidence. It is possible that he may have come from the Chortitza Colony, where there were a number of Doerksen families whose children are not listed by name in Unruh's book.