

From the Prussian Neumark to Russia, 1833-1835

**Brandenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv in Potsdam
Pr.Br.Rep.3B Regierung Frankfurt, I St Auswanderungen,
Nr. 689 (1833-1846, 285 Blatt) and Nr.692 (1835-1904, 74 Blatt)**

LDS microfiches #6109219

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The district of Frankfurt-an-der-Oder in the Prussian province of Brandenburg was also known as the Neumark since the days when King Friedrich II who reigned 1740-1786 had its swamps drained along the Netze River. He had appointed Franz von Brenkenhoff (1723-1780) to direct this colonization effort and to "conquer for Prussia a new province without war" as the King ("Der Alte Fritz") loved to say it. This was done right after the Seven Years War (1756-1763). He had invited new settlers from all over what is now Germany and Poland.

The Mennonites came from the Przechowka region near Schwetz, where they left presumably for economic reasons. As long as Friedrich II lived, Mennonites enjoyed all the religious freedoms they had asked for. After his death in 1786 his nephew and successor on the throne, Friedrich Wilhelm II, took a dimmer view on these privileges and issued the Mennoniten-Edict of 1789 in the province of West Prussia, where most of the Mennonites lived in the kingdom. This started the Mennonite exodus to Russia and many a Mennonite family carried a portrait of Old Fritz in the luggage to the distant land and left all portraits of his nephew behind.

Over the decades, the Neumark Mennonites in Amt Driesen felt the same restrictions of religious freedom as their brethren in the East and decided to join the great exodus to the East. They petitioned the Regierung in Frankfurt-an-der-Oder to grant the "Consens" (permit) to let them go. They presumably had to pay their 10% emigration tax on their assets that they were going to take along although the records do not say so (but which similar records elsewhere in West Prussia have shown).

The records do not state where the emigrants went. From other sources we know that Deutsch-Wymyschle in Poland and Gnadenfeld, Molotschna Mennonite Settlement in Russia took a number of these emigrants.

The list contains name, age, status, home village, date of "Consens" granted, call "Signatur" of the document in question, and finally information on family members. The ages given presumably are those as of the "Consens" date. I did not study the given documents listed which may give additional information or may even list additional persons which the index or I may have missed.

List of Mennonite Emigrants

Name	Age	Status	Home Village	GReDmA No.	Additional Family Members (GReDmA No. in Parentheses)	Consens Date	Bradenburgisches Landeshauparchiv Source
Bethke (no name) nee Unruh	66	Widow	Brenkenhofswalde			31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78
Buller , Heinrich	69		Brenkenhofswalde			25.11.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 91
Dirks , Eva nee Retzlaff	81	Widow	Franztal	280419		17.6.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 35
Hinze , Beate	28	single	Brenkenhofswalde	807577		25.11.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 91 Rs
Jantz , Benjamin	20	Servant	Brenkenhofswalde	81701	with Sister Susanne, 17 (13363)	1.5.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 140
Jantz , Helene	16	single	Brenkenhofswalde	803706		31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78 Rs
Jantz , Marie			Brenkenhofswalde			31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78
Jantz , Marie	14	To Poland	Brenkenhofswalde			15.5.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 147
Kant , Michael	42	Proprietor	Franztal	502033	Wife Anna nee Dirks, 39 (502034); 8 Children: Florentine 17 (502035), Wilhelmine 14 (502036), Robert 12 (502037), Adolph 10 (502038), Julius 7 (502039), Caroline 4 (502040), Franz 2 (502041), Albert 2 months (502043)	23.8.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 207
Lange , Benjamin	31	Proprietor	Alt-Haferwiese	350556	Wife Maria nee Jantz (350557), 3 Children: Marie 6 (350558), Caroline 2 (350559), Wilhelm 9 months (350560)	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77 Rs
Lange , Gottlieb	60	Hired Hand	Alt-Haferwiese	350561	Wife Anna nee Voth, 63 (350562)	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77 Rs
Lange , Johann	65		Franztal	350563	Wife Dorothea nee Segert, 53 (350564)	18.7.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 178
Lange , Wilhelm		Hired Hand	Brenkenhofswalde			1.5.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 140
Lange , Wilhelm	27	Proprietor	Alt-Haferwiese	41914	Wife Marie nee Voth, 33 (41915); 1 Child: Maria 6 (1109764).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77
Lange , Wilhelm	68	Hired Hand	Brenkenhofswalde	706327	with Servant und Female Servant (no names)	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77

Name	Age	Status	Home Village	GReDMA No.	Additional Family Members (GReDMA No. in Parentheses)	Consens Date	Bradenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv Source
Penner , Eva nee Unruh	62	Widow	Brenkenhofswalde			1.5.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 140
Penner , Heinrich	37	Proprietor	Franztal	140435	Wife Anna nee Janz, 28 (140436); 5 Children: Wilhelm (50917), Juliane (140437), Caroline (140438), August (140440), Ferdinand (140441), all under 8 years of age.	18.4.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 2
Penner , Johann	61	Proprietor	Neu-Dessau	134096	Wife Maria nee Retzlaff, 57 (134095); 5 Children: Susanne 24 (140471), Bernhard 21 (57156), Anna 18 (43185), Sara 16 (267591), Wilhelm 13 (223613).	7.6.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 155
Retzlaff , Abraham	37	Proprietor	Brenkenhofswalde	214896	Wife Katharine nee Voth, 36 (214897); 3 Children: Maria 10 (193807), Johann 9 (193808), Heinrich 1 (214898), Nephew Benjamin Voth, 19 (706306).	2.2.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 15
Retzlaff , Tobias	45	Proprietor	Franztal	350565	Wife Maria nee Glaser, 41 (350566).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 79
Schmidt , Anna	44	Female Servant, single	Militzwinkel	807842		5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 24
Schmidt , Peter	43	Proprietor, to Poland	Brenkenhofswalde	350567	Wife Helene nee Schmidt, 40 (350568); 1 Child: Helene 13 (29168).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78 and 147
Schmidt , Tobias	29	Proprietor	Militzwinkel	57879	Wife Elisabeth nee Penner, 27 (57880); 1 Child: Marie, 6 months (103395)	5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692 Bl.24/Nr.689 Bl.155
Schmidt , Tobias	36	Proprietor	Brenkenhofswalde	350570	Wife Ernestine Wilhelmine nee Minck, 27 (350571); 4 Children: Tobias 12 (106359), Johann 9 (350573), Wilhelm 5 (103426), Carl 2 (350575).	25.11.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 91
Unruh , Abraham	41	Male Servant	Militzwinkel	802891		5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 24

Name	Age	Status	Home Village	GGrandDMA No.	Additional Family Members (GGrandDMA No. in Parentheses)	Consens Date	Bradenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv Source
Unruh , Abraham	73	Hired Hand	Militzwinkel	502044	Wife Anna nee?, 62 (502045).	5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 24
Unruh , Andreas	25	Male Servant	Alt-Haferwiese	106099		31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77 Rs
Unruh , Anna	38	Female Servant	Brenkenhofswalde	802896		2.8.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 39
Unruh , Benjamin	32	Mennonite	Brenkenhofswalde	106060	Wife Sara nee Unruh, 31 (106061); 5 Children: Helena 12 (106474), Johann 10 (350579), Wilhelmine 8 (350580), Wilhelm 4 (350581), Caroline 2 (106062).	2.8.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 49
Unruh , Georg	36	Caretaker	Brenkenhofswalde	165989	Wife Helene nee Buller, 24 (55073); 2 Children: Susanne 3 (350585), Caroline 4 months (350586).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78 Rs
Unruh , Helene	21	single	Brenkenhofswalde	165994	with Bruder David, 18 (165995).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 79
Unruh , Martin	53	Hausmann	Brenkenhofswalde	225485	Wife Sara nee Voth, 40 (225486); 7 Children: Helene 16 (225487), Heinrich 13 (255488), Maria 11 (225489), Wilhelmine 9 (225490), Susanne 6 (225491), David 4 (225492), Johann 2 (56600).	2.2.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 16
Unruh , Susanne nee Bethke	33	Widow	Brenkenhofswalde	265771	2 Children: Wilhelmine 2 (87910), Caroline 1 (518389).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78
Unruh , Tobias	22	Servant	Brenkenhofswalde	81721	with Sister Anna Unruh, 39 (502047); single, female servant.	2.8.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 17
Voth , Andreas	44	Proprietor	Vorbruch	350591	Wife Helena nee Penner, 35 (350592); 4 Children: Cornelius 13 (350593), Johann 11 (350594), Wilhelmine 8 (350595), Caroline 2 (350596).	5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 17
Voth , Benjamin	49	Proprietor	Franztal	502055	Wife Helene nee Becker, 48 (502050); 3 Children: Helene 21 (502051), Elisabeth 18 (502052), Marie 8 (502054).	23.8.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 208

Name	Age	Status	Home Village	GReDMA No.	Additional Family Members (GReDMA No. in Parentheses)	Consens Date	Bradenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv Source
Voth , Benjamin	32		Franztal	502056	Wife Maria nee Buller, 34 (502057); 2 Children: Heinrich 7 (502058), Ernst 2 (502059).	17.6.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 35
Voth , Benjamin	63	Proprietor	Brenkenhofswalde	502062	Wife Susanne nee Pretschlag (502063); 4 Children: Tobias 24 (502066), Helena 22 (502060), Anna 13 (502067), Maria 2 (502061), illegitimate child of Helena and grandchild Heinrich Buller 1 (502069).	2.2.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 15
Voth , Berndt	59	Proprietor	Franztal	502070	Wife Maria nee Dirks, 58 (502071).	17.6.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 35
Voth , Catharine	69			808081		21.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 27
Voth , Cornelius	71	Proprietor	Brenkenhofswalde	74741	Wife Sara nee Schmidt, 66 (43128); Grandchild: Johann Voth, 15.	16.4.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 128
Voth , David	62	Valet	Franztal	502195	Wife Sara nee Duerks, 70 (502196).	18.4.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 2
Voth , Heinrich	35	Caretaker	Brenkenhofswalde	502197	Wife Dorothee nee Schueler, 30 (502199); 4 Children: Wilhelm 6 (106045), Heinrich 4 (502201), Marie 3 (502202), Johann 7 months (502203).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78 Rs
Voth , Heinrich	45	Proprietor	Vorbruch	502204	Wife Marie nee Retzlaff, 39 (502205); 3 Children: Elisabeth 14 (56375), Heinrich 9 (502207), Friedrich 4 (502208).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 79
Voth , Helene nee Schultz	41	Widow	Brenkenhofswalde	502211	7 Children: Heinrich 19 (502212), Susanne 17 (502213), Helene 16 (502214), Elisabeth 14 (502215), Marie 12 (502216), Caroline 6 (502217), Johann 4 (502218).	31.3.1834	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 119
Voth , Helene	22	single	Alt-Haferwiese	803171	with Bruder Andreas, 13 (450856).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 77
Voth , Marie	43		Vorbruch	627913		31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689. Blatt 79 Rs
Voth , Peter	44	Male servant	Vorbruch	802916		5.5.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 17 Rs

Name	Age	Status	Home Village	GReDMA No.	Additional Family Members (GReDMA No. in Parentheses)	Consens Date	Bradenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv Source
Voth , Peter	17		Brenkenhofswalde	803726	with Sister Susanne 15 (803725).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 78 Rs
Voth , Peter	40	Proprietor	Brenkenhofswalde	88632	Wife Helene nee Schmidt, 21 (88633); 4 Children: Heinrich 9 (88631), Wilhelmine 6 (502222), Marie 4 (502223), Wilhelm 2 (502224).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689. Blatt 79 Rs
Voth , Peter	44	Servant	Brenkenhofswalde	802916		2.8.1835	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.692, Blatt 49
Voth , Tobias	34	Proprietor	Franztal	55153	Wife Marie nee Bekker, 34 (89589); 3 Children: Helene 12 (82325), Julius 4 (502227), Ernestine 2 (502228).	31.10.1833	Rep.3B, I St, Nr.689, Blatt 79 Rs

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