

HOW DO I FIND "MY" RESEARCH INFORMATION

By VCs Dale Wahl & Gayla Gray

Let us do a little drill here. Let us assume I am a new person just starting to research my ancestors history who came from the village of Freudental in the Grossliebental District – or I am a more experienced researcher who is just now finding time to use the many tools and information that has been gathered and shared at GRHS for the past few years.

Assume if I am a member of GRHS, my access to much of the data on the various GRHS and RIG web pages is unrestricted and I can easily chase the many clues provided. If I am not a member, I will definitely think about joining so I can access the restricted data.

First, I go to the new GRHS web site (www.grhs.org) and select the **Research Resources** link from the top menu bar.



Since I know the name of the village I am looking for, I can select from the alphabetical list of villages or I could select the Odessa/Kherson region.



If you are new to researching your German-Russian ancestors, you will want to start by reading the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document and [An Elementary Tutorial on German-Russian History](#). These resources provide a wealth of information on Black Sea German-Russian families, their villages, and their history. Also review our [Tools and Tutorials](#) page for getting started with genealogy and computer basics assistance.

If you only know your ancestor's surname, you will want to start by searching the [Odessa Digital Library](#) for that surname. We also offer a [Surname Exchange](#) for GRHS members. Current members who have returned their family data sheets are eligible to list their addresses together with surnames they are researching.

If you only know the name of the region in the Black Sea where your ancestors lived, click below:

- [Bessarabia/Dobrukscha](#)
- [Caucasus](#)
- [Crimea](#)
- [Jekaterinoslaw](#)
- [Odessa/Kherson](#)
- [Taurien](#)
- [Tschernigov](#)

If you know the name of your ancestor's village, select from our [Alphabetical List of Villages](#).

If you still can not find the name of the village you are looking for, try our [German Russian Village List](#).

It does not matter which path I take, as both paths will lead me to the **Freudental Village Information** web page.

Germans from Russia Heritage Society

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Freudental Village Information

Region:	Black Sea	Founded:	1805/1806	German Name:	Freudental
Area:	Odessa	Religion:	Evangelical	Russian Name:	Nikolayevskoye
District:	Grossliebental	Location:	# 11	Ukrainian Name:	Mirnoye
Rayon:	Tscherwono, Powstansch				

Village Coordinators: [Gayla Gray and Ralph Wiseman](#)

Notes: Freudental was also known as Nikolajewskoje and Alt Freudental.

Pioneer Settler Surnames: ABEL, ALBRECHT, **ARNOLD**, **BACKER**, **BAUER**, **BECKER**, **BECHTOLD**, **BISCHOF**, **BITZ**, **BÜTTMANN**, **CHRISTMANN**, **DÖBLER**, EBINGER, ENGEL, **ENZI**, **ERBS(T)**, **FRANK**, **FREIER**, **FRISCH**, GASSERT, GENTHER, **GEISSLER**, **GERHARD**, **GLASER**, GOTTFRIED, GRAUER, **HARTENSTEIN**, HASSERT, HAUG, **HEINZMANN**, **JAUCH**, **JÄGER**, **KAPPEL**, **KETTERER**, KLOZ, **KRAMER**, **KRAUS**, KUGLER, **LAUBENSTEIN**, **LEHR**, **LORENZ**, **LOSING**, **MAIER**, MEHL, MÖBIUS, MOLLENKOPF, **NEHER**, **NEUMÜLLER**, **NIETHAN**, OFT, **OLHÄUSER**, **ORSCHETT**, **ORT**, **OSTER**, **PFAFF**, **PHILIPPI**, **REITZ**, **ROMMEL**, **SCHATZ**, **SHELL**, **SCHENKENBERGER**, SCHILLINGER, **SCHLECHT**, **SCHMIDT**, SCHULER, SIELER, **STOLZ**, STRAUSS, THEURER, VOGEL, VOLK, WAGNER, **WALKER**, **WALTER**, **WEBER**, **WEINGÄRTNER**, **WELKER**, **WOLF**, ZIEGLER, ZISCH. (Source: *Homesteaders on the Steppe* by Joseph S. Height and *Erinnerungen an die deutschen Kolonien des Grossliebentaler Rayons bei Odessa* by Eduard Mack.).

The settlers highlighted in bold arrived in Freudental via Hungary. Some of the settlers spent very little time (one winter) in Hungary while others were there much longer. For more information on Germans from Hungary to Russia click on the [Hungary to Russia](#) link.

Books

Auswanderung Aus Schwaben Nach Russland 1816-1823 by Dr. Georg Leibbrandt (copy available at the GRHS Library)
Erinnerungen an die deutschen Kolonien des Grossliebentaler Rayons bei Odessa by Eduard Mack (pages 233-252)
From Catherine to Khrushchev by Dr. Adam Giesinger (pages 102-105)
Homesteaders on the Steppe by Joseph S. Height (pages 82, 183-185, 345-346)
The Emigration from Germany to Russia in the Years 1763 - 1862 by Karl Stumpp (pages 572-576)

Plat Map: *Erinnerungen an die deutschen Kolonien des Grossliebentaler Rayons bei Odessa* by Eduard Mack (page 252)

Village History - 1848

Census Records

[Black Sea German Russian Census Volume 1](#) by GRHS
[Liebental District Odessa 1812 Census](#) by GRHS
[Freudental Liebental District Odessa 1858 Census](#) by GRHS

Church Records

[Freudental Liebental District Odessa 1841 - 1860 Church Family Book](#) by GRHS
[Freudental Liebental District Odessa 1861 - 1880 Church Family Book](#) by GRHS
[The St. Petersburg Archives Freudental Parish for the years 183X - 188X](#)

Articles

GDO Newsletter - [Story of the Bread People from Freudental](#)
GDO Newsletter - [Tracing Ancestors from Hungary to Village of Freudental, Hungary to Freudental Supplement](#)

🔍 Ship Records

🔍 Freudental Family Database

🔍 War Records

[EWZ Index for this Village](#)
[Koblenz Index for this Village](#)

🔍 Supplemental Information

[Movement into and out of Bessarabian Villages](#)
[Fond 6-1-593 Gains and Losses Oct 1811 \(births/deaths/marriages\)](#)
[Fond 6-1-593 Gains and Losses Oct 1811 \(Statistics\)](#)
[Fond 6-1-626 Gains and Losses Jan 1812 \(births/deaths/marriages\)](#)
[Fond 6-1-626 Gains and Losses Jan 1812 \(Statistics\)](#)
[Fond 252-1-470 Gains and Losses July - Dec 1822 \(births/deaths/marriages\)](#)
[Fond 252-1-470 Gains and Losses July - Dec 1822 \(Statistics\)](#)
[Fond 252-1-7 GDO Marriages 1816](#)
[Fond 252-1-46 GDO Marriages 1817/1818](#)
[Fond 484-1-2372 - St. Petersburg Annual Reports 1899-1917 \(Births\)](#)
[Fond 252-1-280 - Wheat Distribution/Borrowing](#)
[Family Registry Gochsen, Nekarsulm, Wuerttemberg - Barreth, Jäger, Kress from Freudental and Mariental](#)
[Fond 134-2-134 - Immigration to Akkermann Kreis Bessarabia](#)

[Search the Letter Archives for this Village](#)

Photo Album - [Village Pictures](#)

[🔍 Ohlhauser Family Pictures](#)

Regional Interest Group for this Village: [Grossliebental District Odessa](#)

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[\[Youth Program\]](#) [\[GRHS Library\]](#) [\[GRHS Store\]](#) [\[Conventions\]](#) [\[GRHS HQ\]](#)

[\[Search\]](#)

WOW! *This is overwhelming, so much data to start my research and so many things to make notes on!*

I see many files that have little padlocks on them and note that these links are for “Members Only”.

As I get started on my notes, I start building a list of the items I must study first. The listing starts looking like this:

- 1848 Village History — download a copy
- Freudental 1812 & 1858 Census by GRHS — Order a copy from the bookstore
- Freudental Family Church Books 1841-1860 & 1861-1880 — order a copy from the bookstore
Are the Freudental Church books on the GDO CD? [yes – so order the CD instead!]
- Read articles about the village of Freudental in the GDO newsletters (*Bread People from Freudental* and *Tracing Ancestors from Hungary to Freudental*, perhaps my ancestors came from Hungary?)
- Check out the Hungary to Russia database (I see my ancestors name but need to become a GRHS member to see the “Members Only” information)
- Check out the Freudental Family Database
- Check out the Ship Records for the village of Freudental and the Odessa area — maybe I will find when my ancestor came to America
- View and download, as appropriate, all **Supplemental Information** files
- This village even has a section with pictures not only of the village but also the settlers from the village —maybe they will add pictures of my ancestors too!
- Make contact with the Village Coordinators — see if I can help or if they have data that can help me?
- Use this **Freudental Village Information** page to lead me through my research
- Keep an eye on it to see what else might show up (they have a “What’s New” section on the GDO web site)
- Examine and evaluate each and every item on this page and keep good notes!

Now let me see what other items I can find that might help me in my research. If I go back to the GRHS “Research Resources” page, I find an **FAQ** and **Elementary Tutorial on German-Russian History** that I must read. I must also check out the **Online Obituary Project** and the **Letter Archives**. I also see that they have a “**Library**” page and it contains a very long list of items that are in the library in Bismarck, North Dakota (reminder to myself to schedule a visit to Bismarck to see the library and do research there). But wait, they have a map collection and when I click on the link it shows me they have maps that are online too!

Next, I will go to the **Odessa Digital Library** (<http://www.odessa3.org/collections.html>) and search for “Freudental” where I find several pointers to the Bessarabian Church Family Books, the “Koblentz Films” and the “Christian Fiess” film collection. I note that these last two items (copies of the films) are held in the collection of GRHS, while the Church Family Books are part of the LDS collection in Salt Lake City.

I see enough data here to keep me busy for several months just sorting through it without getting down to my own personal pedigree chart.

Another location for me to check out is the **Clearing House projects** on the GRHS web site. My family settled in Emmons County, North Dakota so I will check to see if there are files that relate to that area. Oh, none at this time but I have some census, obituaries, and church books from the area that would be valuable for others.

I must go join this GDO RIG and get on the GDO Listserv. It will be fun to get involved with this great team of people who are contributing to this wonderful site! I bet there are some projects that I could help with too (perhaps Emmons County as an Area Coordinator, learn to translate Cyrillic records). There are so many wonderful projects that I can become a part of.

One final note, I must send my pedigree chart into Bismarck to share with other members. WOW – what fun this will be, I can hardly wait to get started!