

# German Genealogical Resources

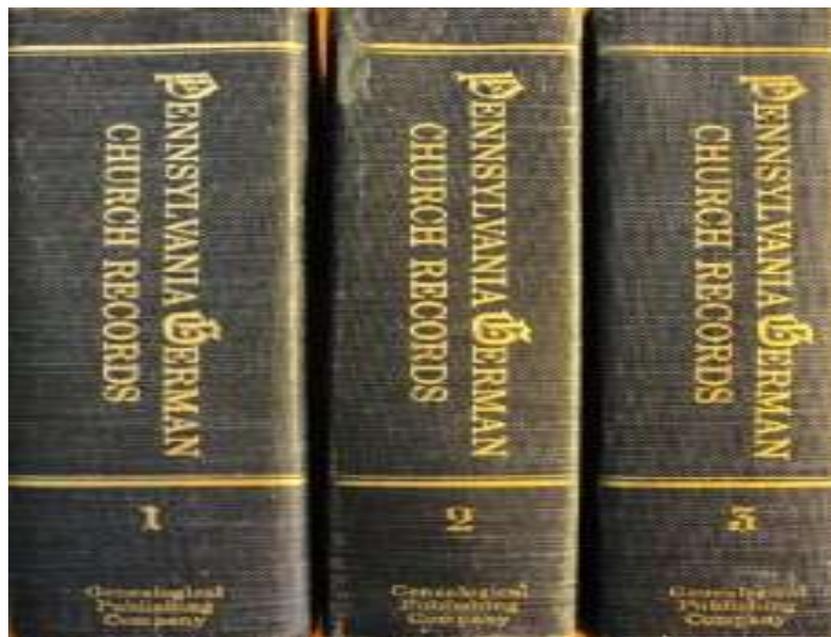
## Fort Myers Regional Library

### May 3, 2014



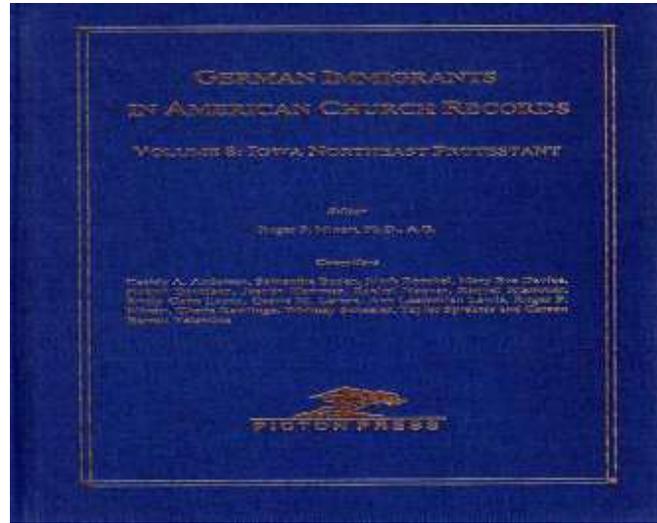
Bryan L. Mulcahy  
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# Don Yoder: Pennsylvania German Church Records



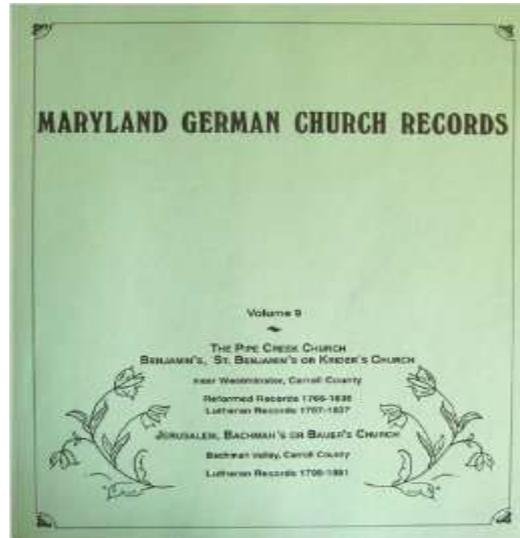
- 1. Complete listing of church records published by the Pennsylvania German Society.**
- 2. Especially useful for church research in southeastern Pennsylvania--Lancaster, York, Lehigh, Montgomery, and Northampton, considered the heartland of Pennsylvania-German country.**
- 3. Set includes births, baptisms, marriages, and burials, the records that identify people and their relationships to one another--not only parents and children, husbands and wives, but witnesses and sponsors as well.**
- 4. Over 125,000 persons are mentioned in these records and indexes.**

# Roger P. Minert: German Immigrants in American Church Records



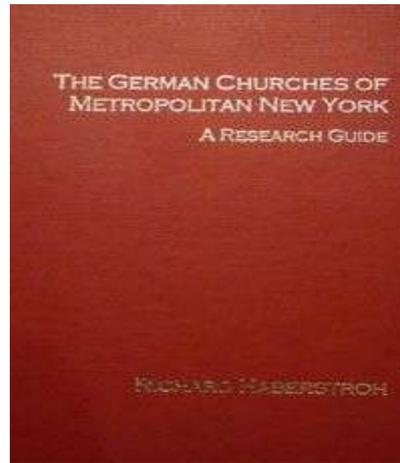
1. **Library has v. 1 Indiana; v. 3 Illinois and v.10 Wisconsin.**
2. **Locate German immigrants who married, had children, or died within the state.**
3. **Table of Contents in each volume lists the churches alphabetically by town.**
4. **Indexes at the back of the each book includes an every name index.**
5. **Each entry has the full name of the immigrant and his home in Germany.**
6. **Additional information may include his birth, marriage and death dates, his wife's maiden name and date of immigration.**
7. **Entries for each church state the town where the church is located and the FHC Microfilm #.**

# Frederick Weiser: Maryland German Church Records



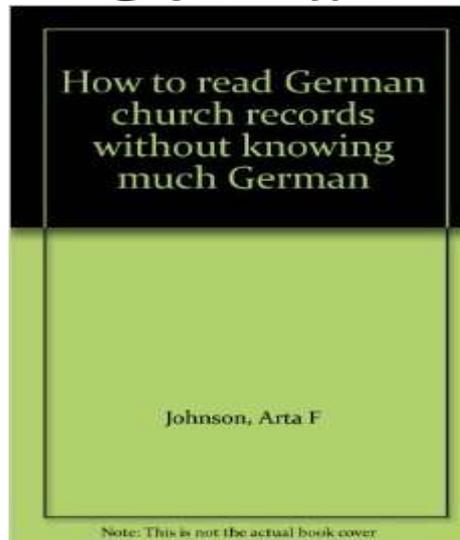
1. **Library has v. 1-3.**
2. **v. 1 Records of Christ Reformed Church also known as the German Reformed Church , Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland, 1770-1840**
  - v. 2. Records of Zion Lutheran Church, Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland, 1781-1826**
  - v. 3. Baptismal records of the Monocacy Lutheran Congregation and its successor, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland, 1742-1779.**

# **Richard Haberstroh: German Churches of Metropolitan New York - Research Guide**



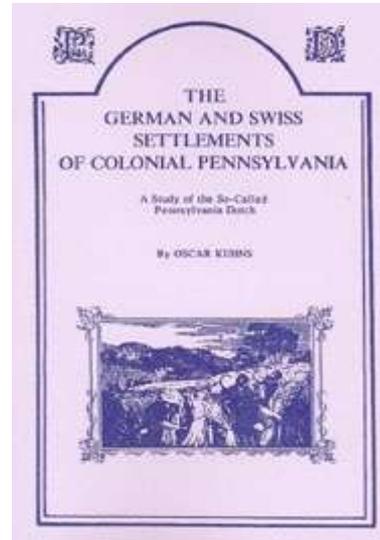
- 1. Christian denominations in Germany -- German-American communities and churches in metropolitan New York.**
- 2. Describes the types of German church records.**
- 3. Compendium of German churches in metropolitan New York.**
- 4. Church location maps.**

# **Johnson, Arta F. : How to Read German Church Records Without Knowing Much German**



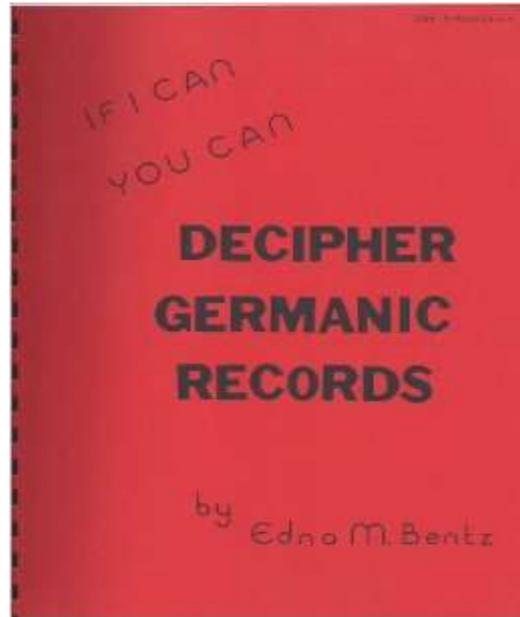
- 1. Still considered by many experts to be one of the best sources for teaching how to decipher "Old German Script" language.**
- 2. Provides essential help for those looking for keywords within common church records of births, baptisms, confirmation, marriage and death.**
- 3. Word translations from German to English found among the records. Illustrations of the written German Script, often times Latin, words translated into English.**
- 4. Includes explanations and illustrations for the various international symbols used by genealogists around the world.**

# Oscar Kuhns: German and Swiss Settlements of Colonial Pennsylvania



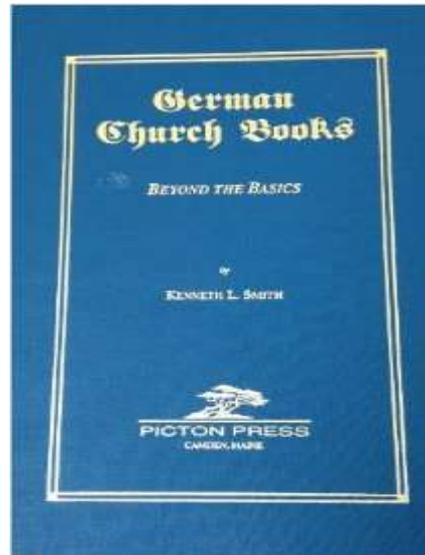
- 1. Important source for anyone with Pennsylvania German/Swiss heritage**
- 2. Details the lives and cultures of these people, their journey of immigration and their influence on the development of Pennsylvania.**

# Edna Bentz: If I Can, You Can – Decipher Germanic Records



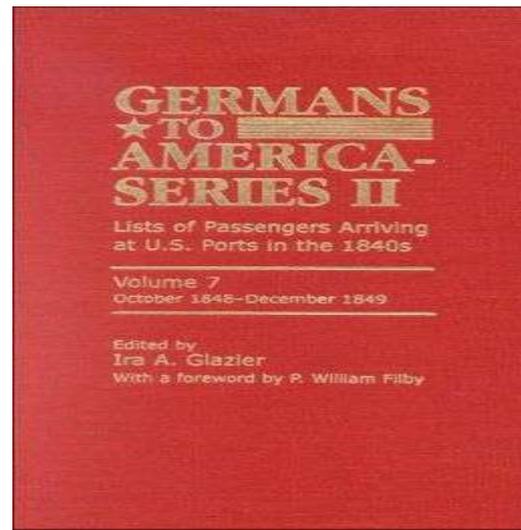
- 1. Ideal for researchers dealing with German records written or printed in Gothic script.**
- 2. Contains useful examples of variations of handwritten script for each letter.**
- 3. Provides handwritten script examples of common genealogical words and their German and English translation.**
- 4. Includes handwritten symbols and common abbreviations found in Germanic records.**
- 5. Sections are devoted to showing side-by-side comparisons of Latin, English, Danish, and handwritten German script for common genealogical terms, occupations & titles, and diseases.**
- 6. Contains useful timeline of major historical events.**

# Kenneth L. Smith: German Church Books



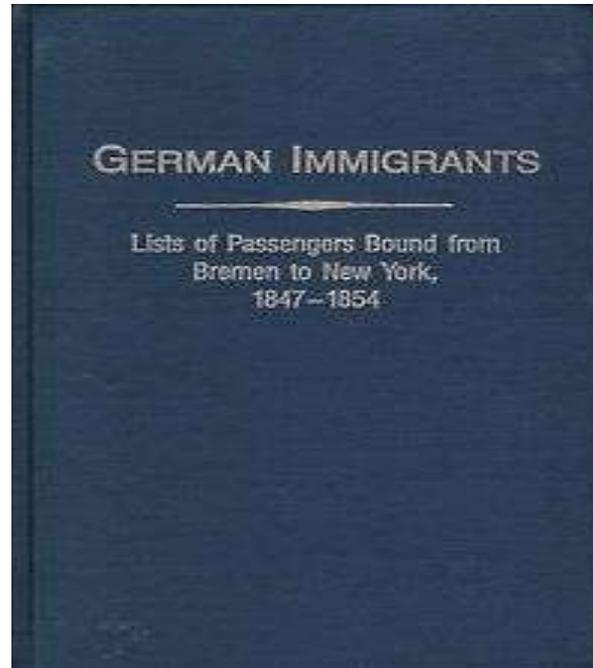
- 1. Includes illustrations, samples of original German 17<sup>th</sup> & 18th century church book entries; 8 pp of variant upper and lower case letters; appendices.**
- 2. Author covers all possible types of data which can be found in, or deduced from German church books.**
- 3. Content includes frequent specific examples, research and extraction techniques, hundreds of handwriting samples of each and every letter, both upper- and lower-case.**

# Germans to America- Glazier



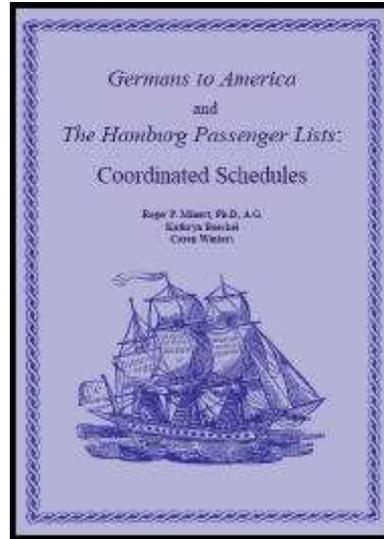
1. Have both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> series
2. Indexed listing of German surnamed immigrants arriving at US ports of entry.
3. 1850-1897 (1st series) 1840-1849 (2<sup>nd</sup> Series).
4. Currently have complete set of 1<sup>st</sup> series minus v.25 (late 1870-early 1871).
5. Immigrants are mainly from German speaking areas, not necessarily from what is now Germany.

# **Gary J Zimmerman: German Immigrants – Passenger Lists From Bremen to New York 1847-1881.**



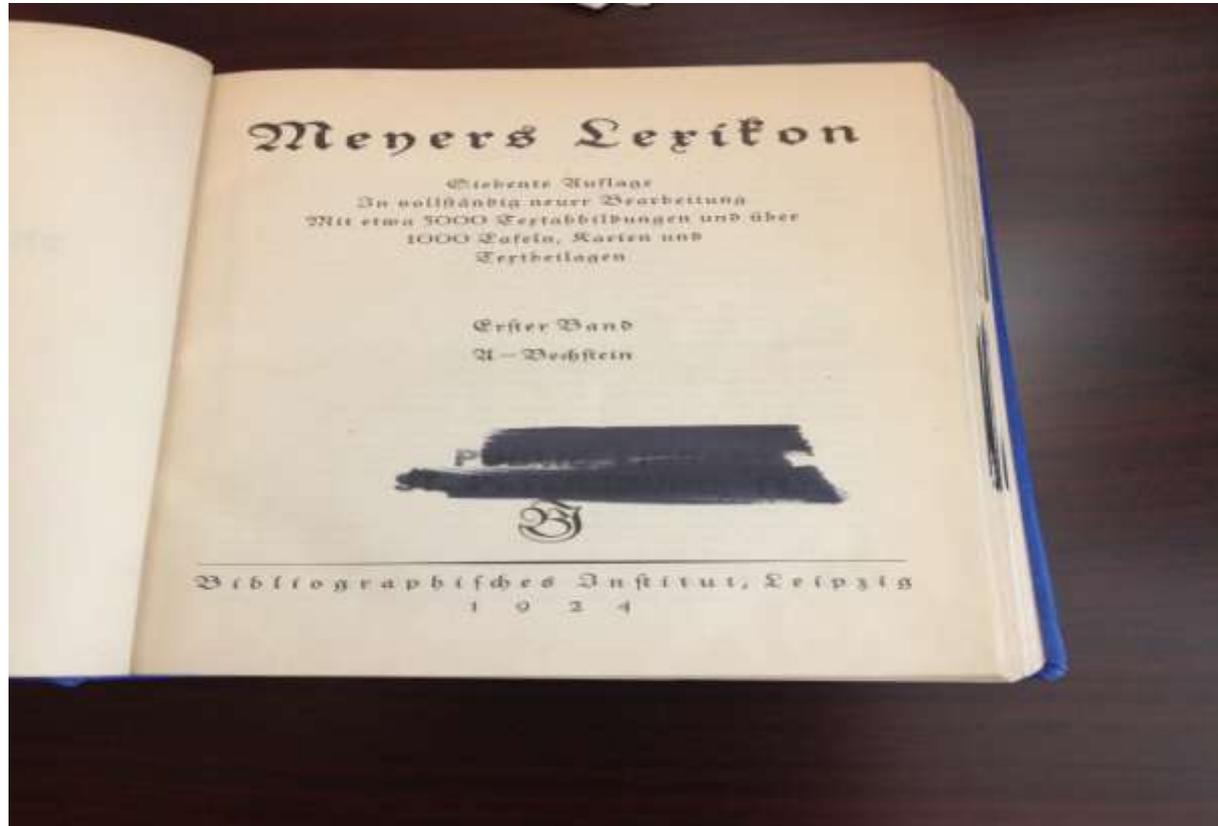
**Library Has: v.1 1847-1854; v.2 1855-1862; v.3. 1863-1867; v.4 1868-1871.**

# **Roger P. Minert: Germans to America and The Hamburg Passenger Lists : Coordinated Schedules, c2007.**



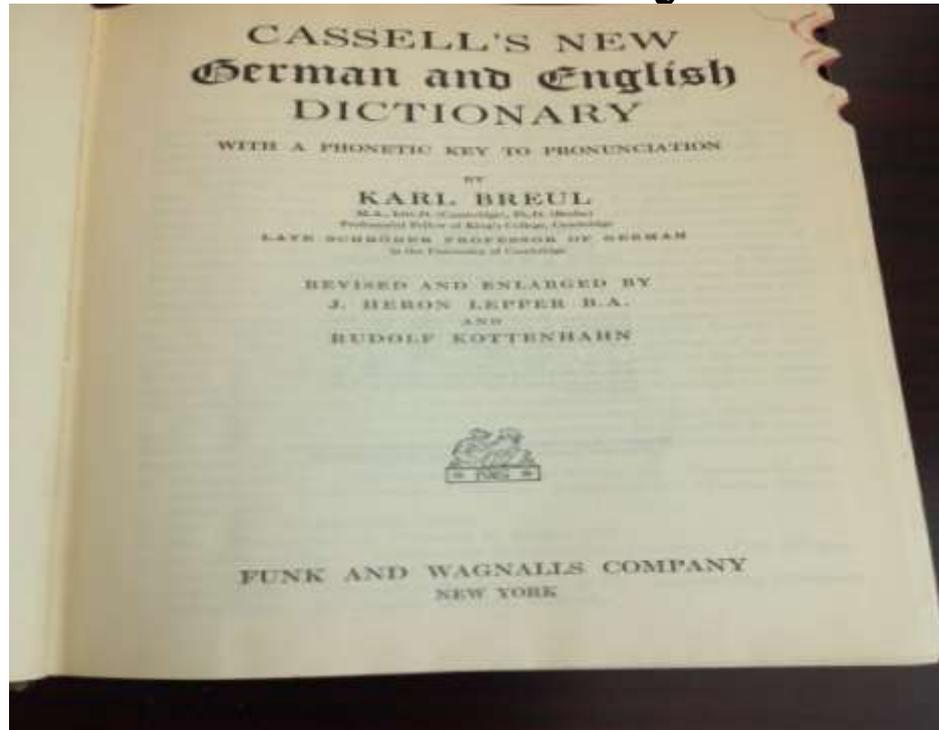
- 1. Combines information from two of the best German immigration sources available today, Germans to America and The Hamburg Passenger Lists.**
- 2. The Hamburg Passenger Lists are a collection of records that contain comprehensive data on passengers departing Germany.**
- 3. These coordinated schedules of arrival and departure records complement each other and can streamline your German family history research.**
- 4. This large-format book is arranged in tables and contains complete instructions for use.**

# Meyers Lexikon: German Encyclopedia 1924



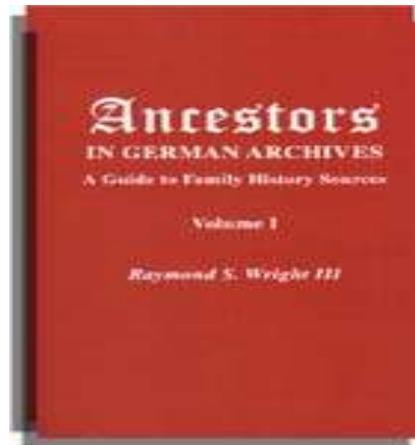
1. Written in old German script.
2. Contains many reference to small town and villages that do not appear in other sources.
3. Contains information on historical and economic references that may not appear in other sources.
4. Many call this the German equivalent of our Encyclopaedia Britannica.

# 1936 Cassells German-English Dictionary



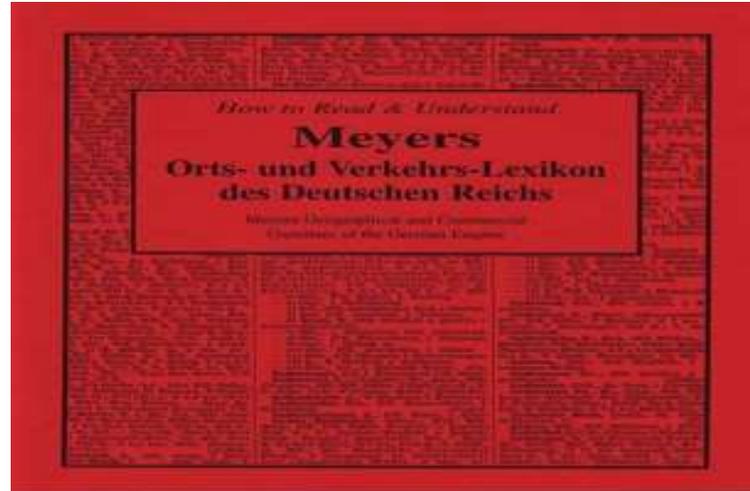
**Researchers often find terms, phrases, places, etc. that were common or important historically and no longer appear in more current dictionaries.**

# **Raymond Wright – Ancestors in German Archives – Guide to Family History Resources – 2004 ed.**



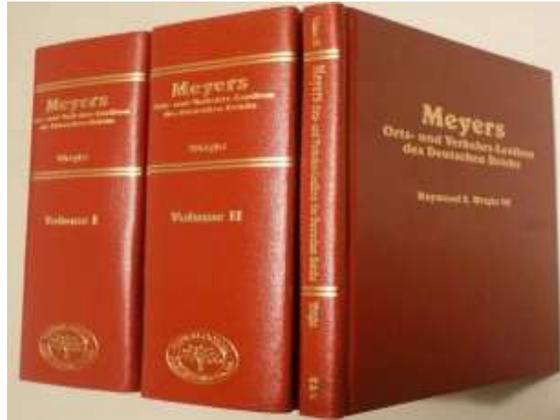
- 1. Provides descriptive information on German government and religious archives, the two most common record repositories.**
- 2. State chapters divided into sections for state, city and regional, church, and family archives.**
- 3. Archives are organized alphabetically by the name of the city.**
- 4. Individual archives listings provide:**
  - a. Contact information**
  - b. Summaries of the jurisdiction of each archive**
  - c. Holdings of records (for example, emigration records, military records, civil registration records military records, civil registration records)**
  - d. How they are organized; and how the records are organized.**
- 5. Index of archives (by city), localities, and maps to locate facilities.**

# Wendy K. Uncapher - How to Read Meyers Orts



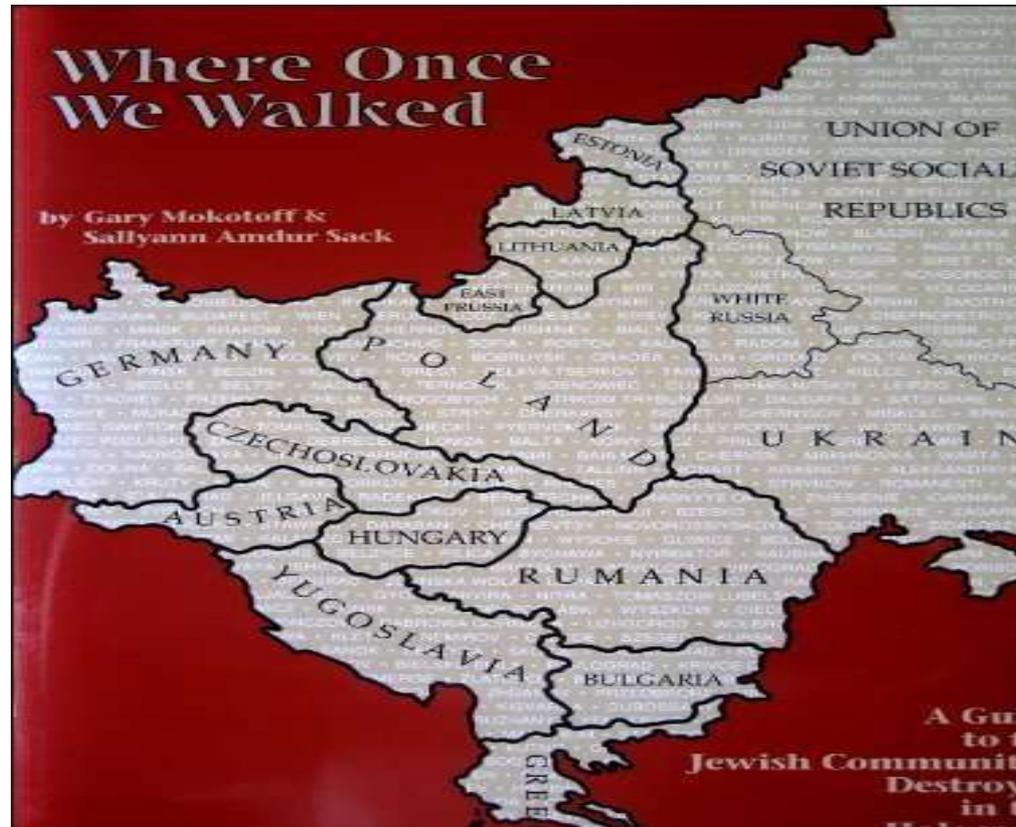
1. **Companion guide to Meyers Orts Geographical and Commercial Gazetteer which is written in German.**
2. **Includes tips for:**
  - a. **Deciphering the Gothic print.**
  - b. **Locating your town in the gazetteer.**
  - c. **How to translate abbreviations, records, etc.**
  - d. **Glossaries of common terms**
  - e. **Sample entries of records and tips on what to look for.**

# Meyers-Orts Gazetteer of the German Empire



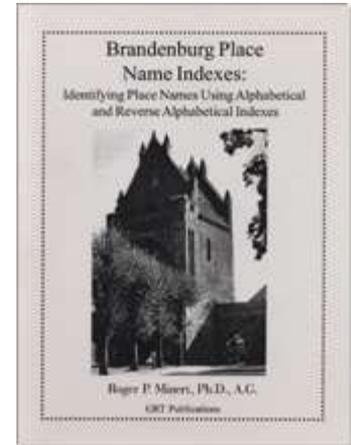
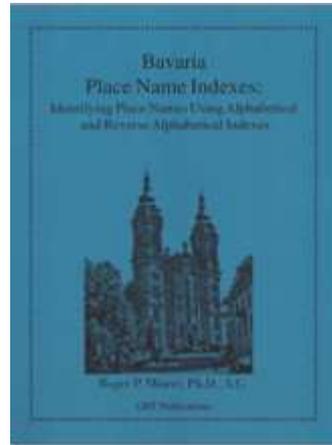
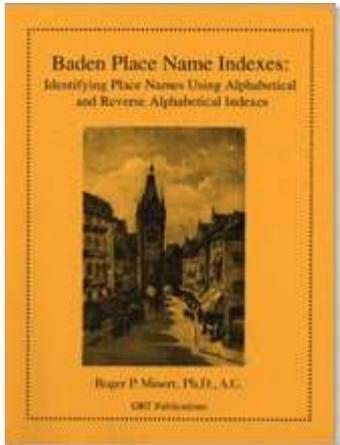
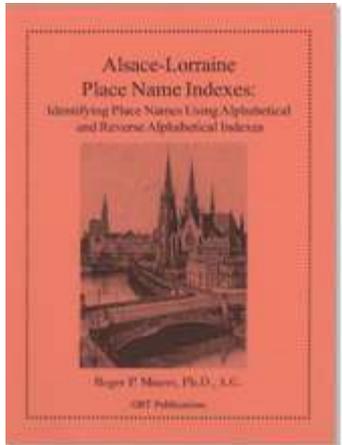
- 1. Considered the most comprehensive source for locating place names in German research.**
- 2. Originally compiled in 1912.**
- 3. Best source because it includes all areas that were part of the pre-World War I (WWI) German Empire.**
- 4. Gazetteers published after WWI may not include parts of the Empire that were lost to bordering countries.**
- 5. Overall, this gazetteer includes more than 210,000 cities, towns, hamlets, villages, etc.**

# Gary Mokotoff: Where We Once Walked



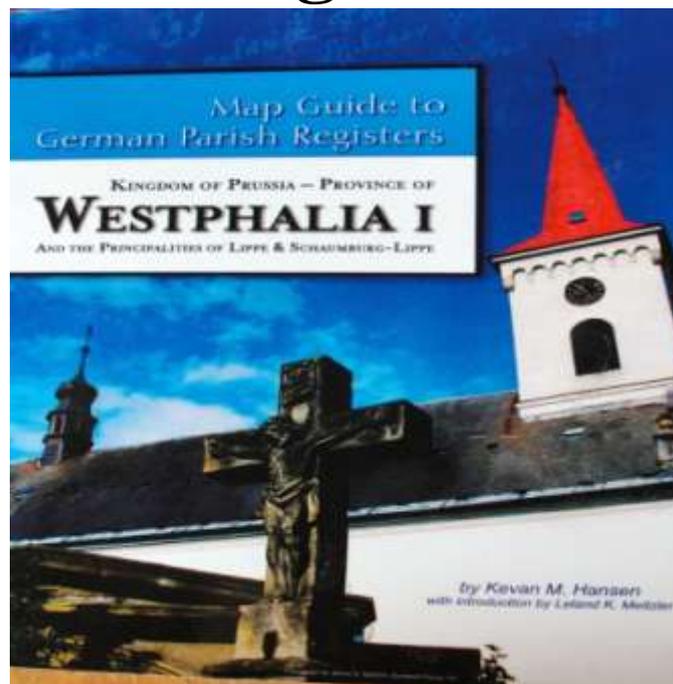
1. **Covers Jewish communities in Germany, East Prussia, Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, among others.**
2. **Identifies more than 23,581 towns in Central and Eastern Europe.**

# Roger P. Minert - Set of Identifying Place Names Using Reverse Alphabetical Indexes



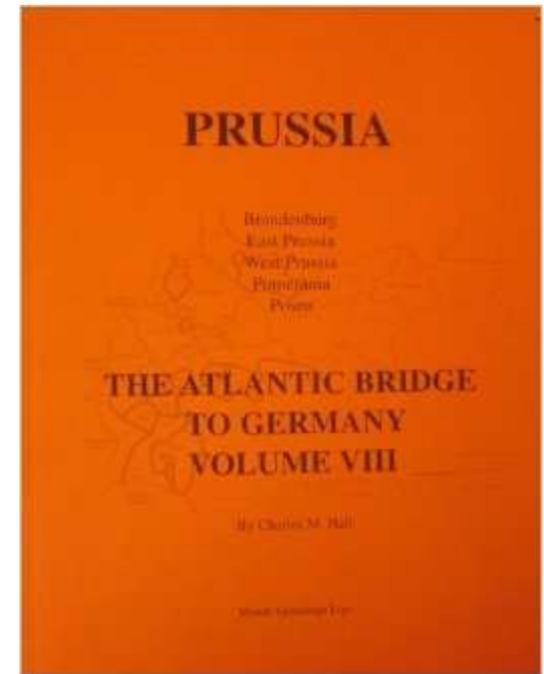
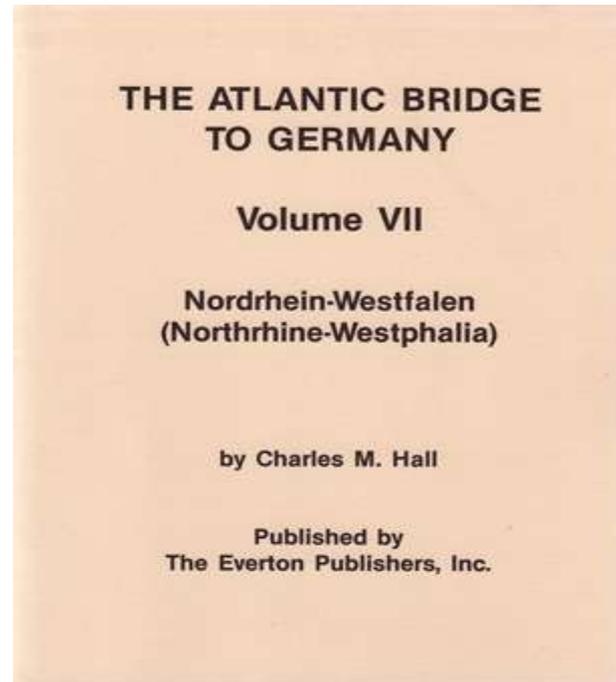
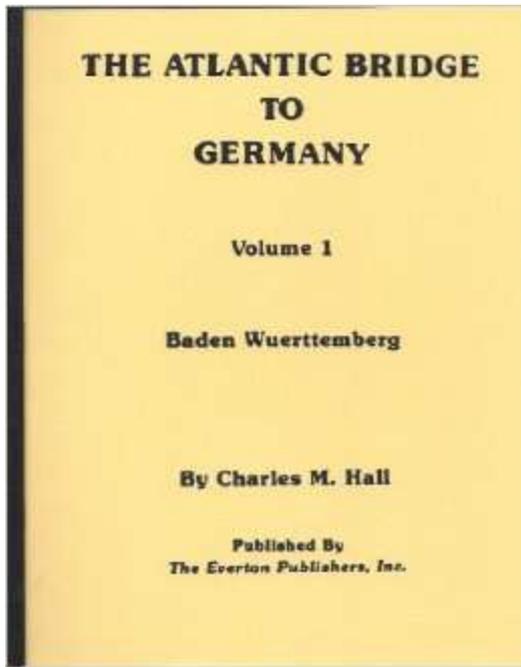
1. Allows the researcher to determine the name of a town when the first part of the name (whether one or more letters) is missing.
2. Researcher can also determine the official spelling for towns when variant spellings occur in old records.
3. Each volume includes a regular alphabetical index of all the towns in the province.
4. Also includes alphabetical listings of over 6,350 names of German kingdoms, duchies, principalities, counties, rivers, mountain ranges, and other geopolitical and topographical entities.
5. Library has 16 of the 23 published volumes in set.

# Kevin Hansen: Map Guide to German Parish Registers



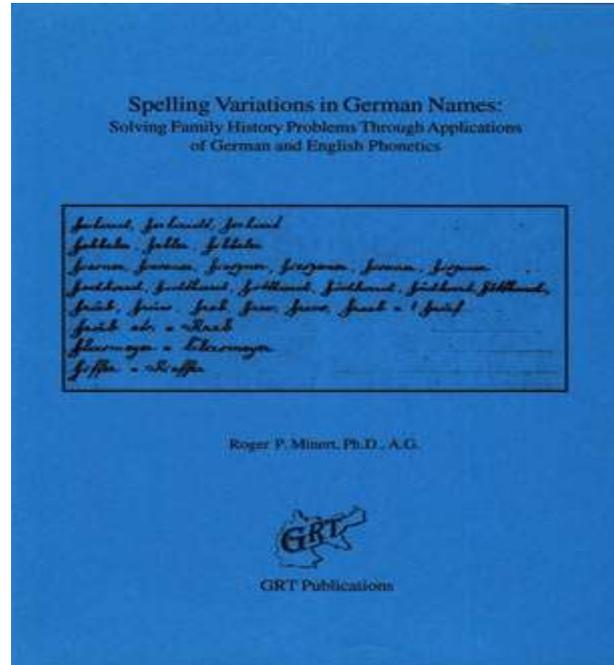
1. **Library has v. 1-39**
2. **Book of regions within the various kingdoms, provinces, principalities, and granduchies of Germany showing the church parishes within its boundaries, and a code (key) to the towns in each parish.**
3. **If you find your town listed in the index, then you're going to find the parishes of that locality, and neighboring ones.**
4. **Helps researchers identify where ancestors went to church based on where they lived.**
5. **Identifies neighboring parishes for ancestors that to attended a parish farther away.**

# Charles M. Hall: Atlantic Bridge to Germany



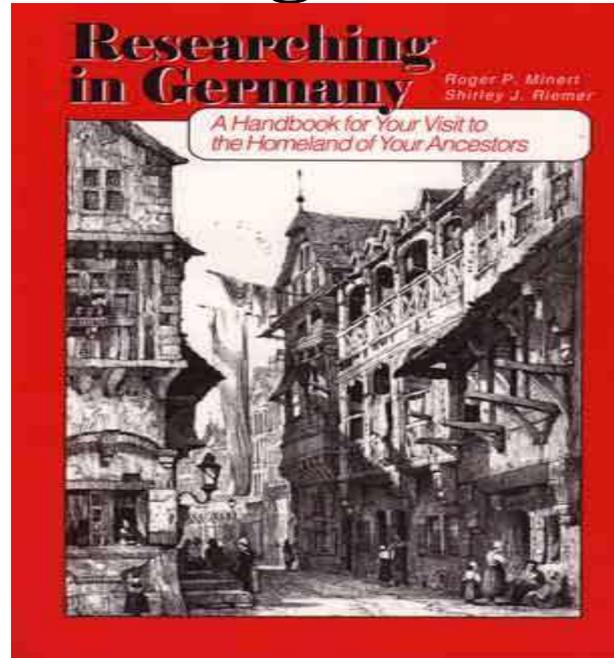
1. English language genealogical atlas of Germany.
2. Each volume includes indexes and maps of place names in designated regions of Germany during the time of the German Empire (1871-1918).
3. Each volume includes pages with history, maps, and tips on how to research in Baden.
4. Volume 6 of series is titled Mecklenburg Genealogical Handbook and shelved in a different call number within FMRL German collection in Genealogy. FM has entire set.

# Roger P. Minert: Spelling Variations in German Names



1. Solve research problems through applications of German and English phonetics.
2. Examines vowels and consonants in German and how they have impacted spellings of and pronunciations of personal names and place names over time in Germany and North America.
3. Includes explanations and examples.

# Roger P. Minert & Shirley J. Reimer: Researching in Germany



1. **Considered most comprehensive guide for preparing people of German ancestry to travel abroad to research their family history.**
2. **Geared to family historians who want to visit the towns or villages of their ancestors and focuses on Germany, but also on travel and research in German-language regions on eight other countries.**
3. **Includes numerous photographs of ancestral sites from actual research as well as charts, tables, and data every family history researcher or tourist needs for a successful experience abroad.**
4. **FM currently has 2001 edition.**

# German Card Indexes of Family Pedigree Charts – Prussian Pedigrees 1800-1899



1. Index card binder acquired from the Fort Myers Family History Center upon its closing.
2. Has proven to be very beneficial for patrons with Prussian heritage.

# **German Internet Resources**

- 1. Handouts on German Resources available on Ancestry Library Edition.**
- 2. Handout on German Research on the Internet from Pro Genealogists.**
- 3. German Genealogical Research Websites at FMRL.**
- 4. How to access databases on LCLS homepage.**

# Fort Myers Regional Library



# Fort Myers Regional Library – Side View



# **Genealogy Department - Hours of Operation and Research Environment**

- 1. Monday - Wednesday 9am-6pm  
Thursday 9am-6pm  
Friday, Saturday 9am-5pm**
- 2. Accessible during ALL hours of operation.**
- 3. Controlled Access.**
- 4. Large Research Tables.**
- 5. Adjacent Conference and Study Rooms.**
- 6. Non-Genealogists are prohibited.**
- 7. Police and security officers on duty during ALL hours of operation.**

# Controlled Access - Security



# Research Table



# Research Tables



# Adjacent Conference Room



# Genealogical Research Services



# **Genealogical Research Services**

- 1. Free access to all print, microform, and Internet sources.**
- 2. Photocopy and scanning services available for print, microform, and Internet.**
- 3. Collection shelf list provides researchers with a complete listing of all materials in the collection. Available in print form and on the LCGS website:  
<http://www.lcgsfl.org/libraryRecords.php>**
- 4. Over 160 study guides and outlines are available for electronic e-mail access or printing @ \$.10 per page.**

# **Genealogical Research Services**

- 5. Respond to telephone and e-mail queries.**
- 6. Individual research assistance available by appointment.**
- 7. Partnership with LCGS allows us to offer:**
  - a. Expert research assistance.**
  - b. Genealogical programming.**
  - c. Family Search borrowing privileges.**
  - d. Links to local, state, and national sources for follow-up information.**
- 8. Wi-Fi access available throughout the building, outside deck, and plaza.**

# Genealogical Research Services

9. Free programs on a wide variety of subjects.
10. Free on-line searches and database demonstrations.
11. Tours of Collection.
12. Free genealogical research lectures at various local and regional genealogical and historical societies.
13. Provide information for referrals, when applicable, to local, state, & national agencies.
14. Visit the Genealogy Library Homepage at <http://leelibrary.net/adults/genealogy/Pages/default.aspx>

# Book and Document Scanner



# Microfilm/Fiche Scanners and Computer Stations



# Patron Internet Access Stations



# Family Search Library Borrowing Affiliate

