The Rotzoll Family of West Prussia

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9 September 2013

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The Rotzoll Genealogy
Rotzollen is a very small village at the edge of Kries Schlochau shown on the above 1850 map and just north of the city of Konitz. The village was named after the Rotzoll family. Some sources state that the Rotzoll family was originally from Wusterbarth, Kreis Belgard, Pommern. Alexander Treichel’s article on the family mentions that George Andreas Rotzoll's father David was a citizen
of Belgard and Küstrin and might have come from Hungary.

According to Alexander Treichel, George Andreas Rotzoll (24 May 1641 – 1 January 1714) was estate manager or tenant on different estates in Pommern before he acquired the property originally named Pustkowie (pustkowie in Polish means dissolute and unoccupied area) that eventually became Rotzollen; it was acquired from Jakob Semerau and his wife Ursula (née von Kleist) in the early 1700’s. His son Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll inherited the property upon George Andreas Rotzoll's death.

My interest in this village is that Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll’s son Andreas Georg Rotzoll married Anna Margaretha Remus daughter of the village head (Schultz) Franz Remus of Stretzin. Also Aegdius Christoph Rotzoll’s son Christian Friedrich Rotzoll married Marie Elisabeth Remus, also a daughter of Franz Remus of Stretzin.

The Rotzoll family attended church in Pollnitz where their many children were baptized. Franz Remus eventually moved to Rotzollen to join his daughter Anna Margaretha Remus and died there in 1797.
Here is a picture of a painting of Andreas Rotzoll:
And here is a picture of a painting of his wife Anna Margaretha Remus:

(This is the earliest picture of a Remus from my family)
Here is a picture of Christian Friedrich Rotzoll who married Marie Elisabeth Remus:

These pictures were from descendents of the Rotzoll family and very much appreciated.

Andreas and his wife Anna Margaretha nee Remus continued to live in Rotzellen but Christian Friedrich Rotzoll and his wife Marie Elisabeth nee Remus lived in Powalken and Krojanken in Kreis Konitz. These pages mostly discuss the first family but I should note the children of the second family did well and lived in Kreis Laurenburg, Pommern and Kreis Wirsitz, West Prussia.
The stones from the manor house were removed for safety reasons. The ranger noted that there were pieces of glass from the glass mill that was there at one time. Fortunately, Professors Lukas and Krystyna Trcinski from University of Lodz became interested in this family and found a few remaining fragments on site. Here is a picture of both fragments of the manor house and of the glass produced by the mill that they found.
The location of the old manor house is shown on this map with the number 21 towards the right of the map.

The Rotzollen founding documents date from 1729. The village head (schultz) privilege was made to Aegdious Christoph Rotzoll, the father of Andreas Georg Rotzoll above. The grant was from King Augustus, King of Saxony and Poland, and may have been as reward for service in the recently ended Great Northern War. Michael Remus of nearby Pollnitz, Kreis Schlochau had a similar grant that was Augustus and confirmed by his son Augustus III after Augustus III won the Polish War of Succession in 1734. There is evidence of that the Rotzol family were officers during this period in the Saxon Army. There is evidence that both the Rotzoll and Remus family originated in Saxony not far from the Palace of Augustus.
Paul Sternberg paulsternberg@msn.com and Joachim Zylka joachim.y.zylka@aexp.com provided this photo of a painting of the old Rotzollen manor house.
The last Rotzoll to live in Rotzollen was August Gottlieb Ferdinand Rotzoll who was the owner from 1828 to 1853; he is pictured below:

Other estates owned by this family were at Lottyn, Sternau, and Rakelwitz in Kreis Konitz, West Prussia as well as Tempelberg near Danzig. Details on Lottyn, Sternau, and Tempelburg follow.
Lottyn, Kreis Konitz, West Prussia

The Rotzoll family was the gutsbesitzers (owners and residents) of this estate after their purchase of the estate in 1830. They were descendents of the Remus and Rotzoll marriages of two generations earlier in the village of Rotzellen. This village is just south of the city of Konitz.

Lottyn and other estates came to the Rotzolls from two different sources. First, they married well and thereby their descendents became estate owners. Other estates like Lottyn might have been acquired from the profits generated at the saw mill and glass mill owned by the family. As noted earlier the operation of the saw mill continues to this date.

Here is a picture of first of the estate house (gut) and then of the renovated modern estate. It is now a registered historic building.
The gut was rebuilt in 1850 and by 1900 the entire manorial farm had been sold and redeveloped as housing for many small farms.

Many of the farm buildings were converted for other uses. Here is a house using part of the granary structure:

Here is the sheep barn partially converted into a house:
Here is the distillery:
Here is a picture of the back side of the old estate which faced a park that the family had created:

![Image of the back side of the old estate with a park]

The park was part of the estate and was normally open only to the owner and guests. It is now a park for all:
Here is a map showing the original buildings in dark lines as well as the current buildings:
And here is a modernized version of where the workers lived that incorporates portions of the old worker housing:

Franz Samuel Rotzoll (13 Feb 1759 – 10 April 1833) was the oldest son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus and the owner of Lottyn till his death in Lottyn (10 April 1833). The gut at Tempelburg near Danzig belonged to Christian Friedrich Rotzoll (29.08.1765 - 18.11.1843) who was also a son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus.

Franz Samuel’s son Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll (28 July 1806 - 03 May 1870 - shown below) inherited Lottyn:
Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll bought the Gut at Sternau for his second son Eduard August Andreas Rotzoll (29 June 1836 – 28 September 1903) and the gut at Rakelwitz for his first son Franz Friedrich Wilhelm Rotzoll (03 July 1832 - 29 July 1886). The owner of Lottyn after Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll’s death was his son Georg Joseph Heinrich Rotzoll (22 February 1844 - 04 January 1902).

The family was Lutheran and would have attended the Lutheran church in Konitz (or a nearby chapel). Here is a map showing these villages:
The people responsible for the documentation and restoration of this village are Professors Lukas and Krystyna Trzcinski from University of Lodz. It is their documentation that you see above the in the village map and there research in the village of Rotzellen there described. They are also responsible for getting preservation status for this village. Here I am with them in the old manor house.
Sternau (Sternowo), Kries Konitz, West Prussia

The Rotzoll family was the gutsbesitzers (owners) of this estate. Following is a picture of the Eduard August Andreas Rotzoll (29 June 1836 – 28 September 1903) family that lived in this estate (this and the other old pictures are from Rotzoll descendent Bettina Schulze). Eduard was the son of Franz Gottlieb Rotzoll of Lottyn. Franz was the son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus of Rotzollen.
Here is a picture of the old manor house (gut):

![Old manor house](image1)

Today little of the Sternau estate remains. Here is a picture of the estate house (gut). Only the basement of the estate house remains and it has been topped with a new house. Here is first a view of the house, then a view of the basement, and last a view of some of the salvaged windows:

![Estate house](image2)
Here is first an old picture of one of the estate barns (with dovecote) and then a picture of one of the remaining barns:
The estate is now subdivided and contains several small homes. The land is of very good quality; here is a picture:

![Image of a divided estate with small homes and fields]

The family was Lutheran and would have attended the Lutheran church in Konitz (or a nearby chapel). Were they Catholic, they would have attended Neukirch. These locations are shown on the following map:

![Map showing Konitz and Neukirch]
Tempelburg, Kreis Danziger Höhe, West Prussia

The manorial estate in Tempelburg (now Krzyzowniki) was acquired by the Rotzoll family of Rotzollen. It is in Kreis Danziger Höhe and the estate is a few kilometers west of Danzig in West Prussia; it was in the Wonneberg Lutheran parish. Above is a picture of that estate house (gut).

The gut at Tempelburg was initially owned by Christian Friedrich Rotzoll (29.08.1765 - 18.11.1843) who was a son of Andreas Georg Rotzoll and Anna Margarete Remus of Rotzollen. After Christian Friedrich’s death, the estate was inherited by his nephew Herrmann Gotthilf Friedrich Rotzoll (27.12.1810 - 08.02.1876).
In August 2013 I received an interesting note from architectural student Agnieszka Knas of Gdansk University of Technology who was researching this home.

Agnieszka provided this information on the history of this building. First the Teutonic Knights gave this property to the Bock family prior to 1500. From 1520 it belonged to the Brandes family (a family of administrators and judges in Danzig) and later to the Schwartzenwald family. Then the Rotzoll family acquired it in the early part of the 19th century.

From 1883 it was state owned and in 1933 it became a general school for Tempelburg. It was an elementary school from 1948 and a barracks for militia from 1972. And in 2004 it again became a school. Here is a picture of it:
The front end of the building clearly matches the older picture above.