

Ancestors of John Frederick Henry Riedesel

Generation No. 1

1. John Frederick Henry Riedesel, born June 15, 1883 in Paris, France; died December 17, 1945 in Westfield, NY. He was the son of **2. Peter Riedesel** and **3. Anna Gertrud Jacob**. He married **(1) Emma Margaret Jacobsen** about 1906 in Germany. She was born August 20, 1885 in Schleswig, and died October 10, 1965.

Notes for John Frederick Henry Riedesel:

Born in France but was working in a factory near Frankfurt prior to his emigration to the US. He apparently came alone and worked for a while before returning in 1913 to bring his family over. The family lived in Oklahoma until at least 1923 but eventually moved to the Westfield, NY, area.

The Ellis Island records show some of the family returning on March 30, 1913 aboard the ship "Patricia" out of Cuxhaven, Hamburg. What is very curious is that adult male of the party is listed as Peter; the age is not clear; the adult female was Emma, and there were sons Heinrich and Albert. Records are inconsistent about the nationality of the family, but the 1920 Census record for the family clearly gives German as their native tongue (Harper County, Oklahoma).

Generation No. 2

2. Peter Riedesel, born May 05, 1839 in Leidenhofen; died January 25, 1891 in Diedenhofen/Thionville. He was the son of **4. Johann Georg Riedesel** and **5. Anna Dorothea Emmerich**. He married **3. Anna Gertrud Jacob** after 1873.

3. Anna Gertrud Jacob, born about 1852 in Untersimtshausen; died December 07, 1895 in Diedenhofen/Thionville. She was the daughter of **7. Katharina Schmitt**.

Notes for Peter Riedesel:

He was a native of Leidenhofen, but some time after the death of his first wife, he and his son moved to the area of Diedenhofen in what was then the German province of Lothringen. The latter had recently been rested from France in the Franco-Prussian War, and would eventually be returned to France in the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I. The town is now called Thionville and the province is Lorraine. It is reported that Peter sold his house (No. 23 1/2) to Georg Heuser in 1872 for 250 Taler. This could be at the time he moved away (though following the birth of their youngest child).

He lived in Paris long enough to have at least once child born there with his second wife.

In Germany, he was employed as a stone hewer. He would have worked at the quarry in nearby Dreihausen. The work was chipping paving stones out of the basalt that was, and is, quarried there. The stones were either 11x11x11cm or 15x15x15cm in size. This was arduous but relatively well-paid work at the time. This is the same trade he followed in Diedenhofen.

Children of Peter Riedesel and Anna Jacob are:

- i. Elise Riedesel
- ii. Heinrich Riedesel, born about 1877 in Leidenhofen; died February 05, 1909 in Diedenhofen/Thionville.

Notes for Heinrich Riedesel:

At the time of his death in 1909, he was a stonecutter and unmarried.

- iii. Marie Riedesel, born about 1880 in Diedenhofen/Thionville; married (1) ?? Roth; married (2) Adam Zehner; born about 1878 in Germany; died 1939.

Notes for Marie Riedesel:

She came to America alone about the time that her mother died in 1896. She worked as a maid for the Roth family, and eventually married a son of the family. He was mentally unstable and the marriage ended in divorce (1904 or later). She then married Adam Zehner. They lived in various places but settled in Memphis. They were divorced around 1926.

In 1930, she and her daughter Celia were living at Stigler, Haskell County, Oklahoma. Her oldest son Albert and daughter Margaret were in Memphis, Tennessee.

Notes for Adam Zehner:
Living in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1920.

- 1 iv. John Frederick Henry Riedesel, born June 15, 1883 in Paris, France; died December 17, 1945 in Westfield, NY; married Emma Margaret Jacobsen about 1906 in Germany.
- v. Peter Riedesel, born November 11, 1886 in Beauregard Diedenhofen/Thionville; died August 1975 in Washington state; married Elise Marie Hesse 1922; born August 10, 1897 in Germany; died November 21, 1995.

Notes for Peter Riedesel:
His birthplace was known as Diedenhofen in German, but is now called Thionville as Alsace-Lorraine is again French. Came to the US on February 27, 1904 on the S.S. Vaterland out of Antwerp. His destination is given as Chicago and the home of his brother-in-law, though the name shown is "Maria Roth." In 1913, he appears to have gone back to Europe and returned in the company of his sister-in-law Emma and two nephews. They were on the ship Patricia out of Cuxhaven and landed in New York. Both their "Nationality" and "Race" are listed as German. Unlike the 1904 record, his place of birth is given as "Paris, France." It is conceivable that this was not Peter at all but his brother John (husband of Emma), but the age seems to match Peter's. He was 5'7" with light hair and eyes.

Inducted into the army in World War I at which time his residence was listed as Kent, Ohio. He was wounded severely enough to qualify for a disability pension. Farmed in Oklahoma until the 1930s, but moved on to Chehalis, WA.

Notes for Elise Marie Hesse:
She came to the United States in 1922 without her infant son, Fritz.

Generation No. 3

4. Johann Georg Riedesel, born May 18, 1812 in Leidenhofen; died December 22, 1865 in Leidenhofen. He was the son of **8. Johannes Riedesel** and **9. Katharina Kaiser**. He married **5. Anna Dorothea Emmerich** November 23, 1838 in Leidenhofen.

5. Anna Dorothea Emmerich, born 1811 in Mittelsberg, Hesse; died May 25, 1873 in Leidenhofen. She was the daughter of **10. Heinrich Emmerich** and **11. Katharina Debelius**.

Notes for Johann Georg Riedesel:
He was a bricklayer and small farmer.

Notes for Anna Dorothea Emmerich:
Her cause of death is given as brain and lung inflammation.

Children of Johann Riedesel and Anna Emmerich are:

- 2 i. Peter Riedesel, born May 05, 1839 in Leidenhofen; died January 25, 1891 in Diedenhofen/Thionville; married (1) Katharina Weidenmüller November 23, 1862 in Ebsdorf; married (2) Anna Gertrud Jacob after 1873.
- ii. Katharina Riedesel, born October 16, 1841 in Leidenhofen; died after 1888 in Lollar, Kreis Giessen; married Karl August Laue about 1881; died 1888.

Notes for Katharina Riedesel:
Her testament gives her year of birth as 1842.

- iii. Balthasar Riedesel, born October 23, 1844 in Leidenhofen; died 1901 in Leidenhofen; married Anna Katharina Schomber November 22, 1868 in Leidenhofen; born March 04, 1844 in Leidenhofen; died October 05, 1928.

Notes for Balthasar Riedesel:

Like his father, he was a bricklayer. Following his marriage to Katherina Schomber, descendants began using "Schomber" as a kind of second family name within the village.

Notes for Anna Katharina Schomber:

A Schomber relative moved to Paris in the 1850s, and was probably the connection that brought Peter Riedesel to Paris as well.

- iv. Anna Riedesel, born January 09, 1847 in Leidenhofen; died February 28, 1855 in Leidenhofen.
- v. Elisabeth Riedesel, born March 02, 1852 in Leidenhofen; married Heinrich Krieb; born 1847; died 1938.

7. Katharina Schmitt

Child of Katharina Schmitt is:

- 3 i. Anna Gertrud Jacob, born about 1852 in Untersimtshausen; died December 07, 1895 in Diedenhofen/Thionville; married Peter Riedesel after 1873.

Generation No. 4

8. Johannes Riedesel, born April 22, 1766 in Winnen; died November 11, 1828 in Leidenhofen. He was the son of **16. Christian Friedrich Riedesel** and **17. Anna Catharina Schreiber**. He married **9. Katharina Kaiser**.

9. Katharina Kaiser, born May 17, 1775 in Leidenhofen; died January 30, 1836 in Leidenhofen. She was the daughter of **18. Heinrich Kaiser** and **19. Anna Kegel**.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel:

He served in the Regiment Kurfürst until about 1805 and reached the rank of corporal. Johann Heinrich is described as a tailor in later documents.

Notes for Katharina Kaiser:

She was a native of Leidenhofen as were her parents. She was the fourth child of her mother.

Children of Johannes Riedesel and Katharina Kaiser are:

- i. Catharina Riedesel, born January 26, 1803 in Leidenhofen; died March 06, 1860 in Leidenhofen.

Notes for Catharina Riedesel:

Died of consumption; was unmarried.

- ii. Elisabetha Riedesel, born March 23, 1805 in Leidenhofen; died October 18, 1871 in Rossberg, Hesse; married Heinrich Lorch.
- iii. Johann Henrich Riedesel, born February 22, 1807 in Leidenhofen; died December 28, 1826 in Leidenhofen.

Notes for Johann Henrich Riedesel:

Died of "inflammation of the lungs." The death record mentions that his father, Johannes, was 63.

- 4 iv. Johann Georg Riedesel, born May 18, 1812 in Leidenhofen; died December 22, 1865 in Leidenhofen; married Anna Dorothea Emmerich November 23, 1838 in Leidenhofen.

10. Heinrich Emmerich, born in Wittelsberg. He married **11. Katharina Debelius**.

11. Katharina Debelius

Children of Heinrich Emmerich and Katharina Debelius are:

- i. Elisabetha Emmerich
- ii. Catharina Emmerich

- iii. Balthasar Emmerich
- 5 iv. Anna Dorothea Emmerich, born 1811 in Mittelsberg, Hesse; died May 25, 1873 in Leidenhofen; married Johann Georg Riedesel November 23, 1838 in Leidenhofen.

Generation No. 5

16. Christian Friedrich Riedesel, born May 30, 1737 in Winnen; died January 05, 1793 in Winnen. He was the son of **32. Georg Wilhelm Riedesel** and **33. Anna Elisabeth Hainbach**. He married **17. Anna Catharina Schreiber**.

17. Anna Catharina Schreiber, born April 11, 1731 in Nothfeld; died April 23, 1795 in Winnen. She was the daughter of **34. Johannes Schreiber**.

Children of Christian Riedesel and Anna Schreiber are:

- i. Luisa Riedesel, born January 02, 1760 in Winnen; died February 11, 1761 in Winnen.
- ii. Anna Elisabeth Riedesel, born December 17, 1761 in Winnen; died May 26, 1763 in Winnen.
- iii. Georg Wilhelm Riedesel, born May 11, 1764 in Winnen; died May 19, 1765 in Winnen.
- 8 iv. Johannes Riedesel, born April 22, 1766 in Winnen; died November 11, 1828 in Leidenhofen; married Katharina Kaiser.
- v. Johann Conrad Riedesel, born October 08, 1769 in Winnen; died September 01, 1848 in Winnen; married Elisabeth Steller about 1794; born October 08, 1762; died February 23, 1840 in Winnen.
- vi. Luisa Riedesel, born May 24, 1773 in Prob. Winnen; died May 19, 1810 in Winnen.

18. Heinrich Kaiser, died in Leidenhofen. He was the son of **36. ?? Kaiser**. He married **19. Anna Kegel**.

19. Anna Kegel, born in Dreihausen.

Children of Heinrich Kaiser and Anna Kegel are:

- i. Johann Henrich Kaiser
- ii. Unknown Kaiser
- iii. Elisabetha Kaiser, born before 1775.
- 9 iv. Katharina Kaiser, born May 17, 1775 in Leidenhofen; died January 30, 1836 in Leidenhofen; married Johannes Riedesel.

Generation No. 6

32. Georg Wilhelm Riedesel, born March 12, 1702/03 in Girkhausen; died July 11, 1777 in Winnen. He was the son of **64. Georg Mannus Riedesel** and **65. Catharina Elisabeth Dickel**. He married **33. Anna Elisabeth Hainbach** March 04, 1733/34 in Winnen.

33. Anna Elisabeth Hainbach, born October 24, 1705 in Winnen; died April 02, 1787 in Winnen.

Children of Georg Riedesel and Anna Hainbach are:

- i. Johann Ludwig Riedesel, born April 24, 1735.
- 16 ii. Christian Friedrich Riedesel, born May 30, 1737 in Winnen; died January 05, 1793 in Winnen; married Anna Catharina Schreiber.
- iii. Luisa Magdalena Riedesel, born October 06, 1739 in Winnen; died January 30, 1818 in Nordeck.

34. Johannes Schreiber

Child of Johannes Schreiber is:

- 17 i. Anna Catharina Schreiber, born April 11, 1731 in Nothfeld; died April 23, 1795 in Winnen; married Christian Friedrich Riedesel.

36. ?? Kaiser He was the son of **72. Andreas Kaiser** and **73. Margarete Preiß**.

Child of ?? Kaiser is:

- 18 i. Heinrich Kaiser, died in Leidenhofen; married Anna Kegel.

Generation No. 7

64. Georg Mannus Riedesel, born about 1664 in Girkhausen; died October 17, 1741 in Girkhausen. He was the son of **128. Johannes Riedesel** and **129. Anna Elisabeth Womelsdorf**. He married **65. Catharina Elisabeth Dickel** before 1696 in Girkhausen.

65. Catharina Elisabeth Dickel, born about 1671 in Girkhausen; died February 22, 1750/51 in Girkhausen.

Notes for Georg Mannus Riedesel:

Referred to as Hermann in church records.

Children of Georg Riedesel and Catharina Dickel are:

- i. Anna Maria Riedesel, born June 03, 1696 in Girkhausen; died June 25, 1761 in Girkhausen.
- ii. Anna Gertraud Riedesel, born 1698 in Girkhausen; died May 22, 1764 in Girkhausen; married Johann Georg Weller about 1720 in Girkhausen; born about 1686 in Girkhausen; died December 24, 1747 in Girkhausen.

Notes for Johann Georg Weller:

Born in Hanjörges Haus in Girkhausen. It is unclear whether he was a child of his father's first or second marriage. He became the tenant in Pfaffe Haus in Girkhausen.

- iii. Anna Margaretha Riedesel, born February 07, 1699/00 in Girkhausen.
- iv. Georg Hermann Riedesel, born January 08, 1701/02 in Girkhausen.
- 32 v. Georg Wilhelm Riedesel, born March 12, 1702/03 in Girkhausen; died July 11, 1777 in Winnen; married Anna Elisabeth Hainbach March 04, 1733/34 in Winnen.
- vi. Anna Dorothea Riedesel, born April 12, 1706 in Girkhausen.
- vii. Johann Heinrich Elias Riedesel, born December 08, 1707 in Girkhausen; died November 23, 1740 in Girkhausen; married Anna Elisabeth Homrighausen in Girkhausen; born June 26, 1713 in Girkhausen; died May 23, 1790 in Girkhausen.

Notes for Johann Heinrich Elias Riedesel:

Born in Pfaffe Haus, Girkhausen, but became the tenant in Warte through marriage.

- viii. Anna Elisabeth Riedesel, born August 17, 1710 in Girkhausen; died February 06, 1792 in Girkhausen; married Elias Dickel October 30, 1740 in Girkhausen; born 1707 in Girkhausen.
- ix. Johannes Riedesel, born March 11, 1711/12 in Girkhausen; died October 11, 1775 in Girkhausen; married Katharina Hirschel; born about 1714; died September 09, 1787 in Girkhausen.
- x. Johann Wilhelm Riedesel, born September 21, 1716 in Girkhausen.

72. Andreas Kaiser, born 1656 in Ebsdorf. He was the son of **144. Jost Kaiser** and **145. Maria Bender**. He married **73. Margarete Preiß** November 11, 1683 in Ebsdorf.

73. Margarete Preiß, born before 1663.

Notes for Andreas Kaiser:

Was an important forestry official.

Child of Andreas Kaiser and Margarete Preiß is:

- 36 i. ?? Kaiser.

Generation No. 8

128. Johannes Riedesel, born about 1640 in Melbach; died in Girkhausen. He was the son of **256. Heyrich Riedesel** and **257. ??**. He married **129. Anna Elisabeth Womelsdorf** February 18, 1663/64 in Raumland.

129. Anna Elisabeth Womelsdorf, born about 1642 in Girkhausen; died in Girkhausen. She was the daughter of **258. Johannes Womelsdorf**.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel:

Born in Melbach but married into Pfaffe-Haus in Girkhausen. I had reported his approximate birth year as 1634 in previous writing, but have been persuaded that 1640 is a better guess.

Children of Johannes Riedesel and Anna Womelsdorf are:

- i. Bastian Riedesel
- 64 ii. Georg Mannus Riedesel, born about 1664 in Girkhausen; died October 17, 1741 in Girkhausen; married Catharina Elisabeth Dickel before 1696 in Girkhausen.
- iii. Georg Heinrich Riedesel, born 1666; married Elisabeth ??.
- iv. Johann Reinhard Riedesel, born 1675 in Elsoff; died January 15, 1754 in Girkhausen; married Elisabeth Schüssler February 25, 1707/08 in Elsoff; born 1673.

Notes for Johann Reinhard Riedesel:

Built the house in Girkhausen known as Pfaffe-Reinhard's or Pfaffereinerts.

- v. Wilhelm Riedesel, born 1677 in Girkhausen; died February 09, 1747/48 in Wunderthausen; married Anna Margarethe Spies August 16, 1703 in Wunderthausen; born December 24, 1679 in Wunderthausen; died before 1740 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Wilhelm Riedesel:

Baptised as Johann Wilhelm in Girkhausen (Pfaffe Haus), but known as Wilhelm. Married into Gundermanns Haus in Wunderthausen, one of the larger in the village. He was already paying taxes there in 1699 though did not marry until 1703.

Notes for Anna Margarethe Spies:

Born into Gundermanns Haus, the tenancy of which passed to her husband on her marriage.

144. Jost Kaiser, born about 1620 in Ebsdorf. He was the son of **288. Elias Kaiser** and **289. Elisabeth ??**. He married **145. Maria Bender** December 15, 1672.

145. Maria Bender, born 1635.

Child of Jost Kaiser and Maria Bender is:

- 72 i. Andreas Kaiser, born 1656 in Ebsdorf; married Margarete Preiß November 11, 1683 in Ebsdorf.

Generation No. 9

256. Heyrich Riedesel, born about 1615 in Melbach; died December 12, 1680 in Melbach. He was the son of **512. Heyrich Riedesel**. He married **257. ??**.

257. ??

Notes for Heyrich Riedesel:

A Heyrich Riedesel at Herjes Haus in Melbach is mentioned in 1618. Later records report that a Heyrich Riedesel served for several years as a coachman to the Count in Berleburg during the 30 Years War (1618-1648) and that his house stood empty for five years. He had returned by 1642. Heyrich the coachman was almost certainly the offspring of the first Heyrich. Spellings vary for both: Heyrich, Hederich, and others. I do not now believe that it was Henrich or Heinrich.

Children of Heyrich Riedesel and ?? are:

- 128 i. Johannes Riedesel, born about 1640 in Melbach; died in Girkhausen; married Anna Elisabeth Womelsdorf February 18, 1663/64 in Raumland.
- ii. Anna Katharina Riedesel, born about 1645.
- iii. Ernst Riedesel, born about 1646 in Melbach; died December 24, 1693 in Schameder; married Anna Elisabeth Müller before 1687; born 1651; died December 14, 1693 in Schameder.
- iv. Kurt/Conrad Riedesel, born about 1655 in Melbach; died 1709 in Melbach.

Notes for Kurt/Conrad Riedesel:

Known to have lived at Melbach contemporary with Mannus, but their relation is uncertain. Being step-brothers seems the most likely.

258. Johannes Womelsdorf, born 1609 in Girkhausen. He was the son of **516. Gerlach Womelsdorf**.

Notes for Johannes Womelsdorf:

Tenant in Pfaffe Haus in Girkhausen.

Children of Johannes Womelsdorf are:

- i. Johann Kasper Womelsdorf
- 129 ii. Anna Elisabeth Womelsdorf, born about 1642 in Girkhausen; died in Girkhausen; married Johannes Riedesel February 18, 1663/64 in Raumland.
- iii. Georg Womelsdorf, born about 1635.
- iv. Johannes Mannus Womelsdorf, born about 1640 in Girkhausen; died after 1708 in Wunderthausen; married Juliana Strackbein about 1670 in Wunderthausen; born about 1640 in Wunderthausen; died after 1690.

Notes for Johannes Mannus Womelsdorf:

Born in Pfaffe Haus, Girkhausen. Became the tenant through marriage in what has been since then as "Mannes" Haus.

288. Elias Kaiser, born 1600 in Schleiditz; died November 04, 1662 in Ebsdorf. He married **289. Elisabeth ??**.

289. Elisabeth ??, born 1605 in Weidenhausen; died December 02, 1672 in Ebsdorf.

Child of Elias Kaiser and Elisabeth ?? is:

- 144 i. Jost Kaiser, born about 1620 in Ebsdorf; married Maria Bender December 15, 1672.

Generation No. 10

512. Heyrich Riedesel

Notes for Heyrich Riedesel:

The earliest documentary mentions of the Riedesel family at the house known as "Herjes" in the hamlet called Melbach are faint. The given name of the coachman in the 30 Years War and his father with the same name is indefinite. Expert opinion now is that it was probably not Henrich or Heinrich as commonly reported. Instead, it was some variation of Heyrich. As of 2008, that is the spelling this historian will be using.

Child of Heyrich Riedesel is:

- 256 i. Heyrich Riedesel, born about 1615 in Melbach; died December 12, 1680 in Melbach; married (1) ??; married (2) Gerthrut Dickel May 19, 1661 in Melbach.

516. Gerlach Womelsdorf, born about 1565 in Girkhausen; died 1629 in Girkhausen. He was the son of **1032. Reinhart Womelsdorf** and **1033. Catharina ??**.

Children of Gerlach Womelsdorf are:

- i. Reinhardt Womelsdorf
- 258 ii. Johannes Womelsdorf, born 1609 in Girkhausen.

Generation No. 11

1032. Reinhart Womelsdorf, born about 1525 in Girkhausen. He was the son of **2064. Johenchen Womelsdorf** and **2065. Catherina ??**. He married **1033. Catharina ??**.

1033. Catharina ??

Children of Reinhart Womelsdorf and Catharina ?? are:

- i. Heintz/Heinrich Womelsdorf
 - ii. Johenchen Womelsdorf, born about 1550.
 - iii. Georg Womelsdorf, born about 1555.
 - iv. Gerlach Womelsdorf, born about 1565 in Girkhausen; died 1629 in Girkhausen.
- 516

Generation No. 12

2064. Johenchen Womelsdorf, born about 1480. He was the son of **4128. Heinrich Womelsdorf**. He married **2065. Catherina ??**.

2065. Catherina ??

Child of Johenchen Womelsdorf and Catherina ?? is:

- 1032 i. Reinhart Womelsdorf, born about 1525 in Girkhausen; married Catharina ??.

Generation No. 13

4128. Heinrich Womelsdorf, born about 1450.

Child of Heinrich Womelsdorf is:

- 2064 i. Johenchen Womelsdorf, born about 1480; married Catherina ??.