

Ancestors of Johann Henrich Riedesel

Generation No. 1

1. Johann Henrich Riedesel, born June 14, 1772 in Berleburg; died in America. He was the son of **2. Johann Georg Riedesel** and **3. Elisabeth Belz**. He married **(1) Henriette Gäkler** February 18, 1817 in Berleburg. She was born February 11, 1784 in Schwarzenau, and died before 1819 probably in Europe. He married **(2) Marie Louise ??**. She was born about 1785, and died May 14, 1840 in Philadelphia, PA.

Notes for Johann Henrich Riedesel:

Recorded as having come to Ronsdorf near what is now Wuppertal in 1791. He left for Holland June 18, 1792. He almost certainly came to America in 1819 with his brother on the brig Osgood (September 20). It had sailed from Amsterdam. German records show that he married Henriette Gäkler in Berleburg in 1817, and that they had a daughter the following year. A wife Louise and nameless child are listed on the ship's record.

Records of a church in Philadelphia show the baptism of a Johannes Riedesel, son of "Dokt. Johann Hein. Riedesel" and his wife, Marie Louise. The child was born January 3, 1820, and was baptised on March 16, 1820. This could well be the same Johann Heinrich.

Louisa died May 14, 1840 at about 55 years of age and is buried in the Salem(s) Cemetery.

Other Wittgensteiners belonged to this church. At one point it was the "United High German Evangelical Calvinist Reformed Church. Later it was simply the "Salem German Reformed Church."

Generation No. 2

2. Johann Georg Riedesel, born June 21, 1728 in Melbach; died February 19, 1808 in Berleburg. He was the son of **4. Johannes Riedesel** and **5. Anna Catharina Schupner**. He married **3. Elisabeth Belz** June 17, 1771 in Berleburg.

3. Elisabeth Belz, born August 28, 1739 in Berleburg; died June 15, 1817 in Berleburg.

Children of Johann Riedesel and Elisabeth Belz are:

1.
 - i. Johann Henrich Riedesel, born June 14, 1772 in Berleburg; died in America; married (1) Henriette Gäkler February 18, 1817 in Berleburg; married (2) Marie Louise ??.
 - ii. Johann Ludwig Riedesel, born March 09, 1775 in Berleburg; died in America.

Notes for Johann Ludwig Riedesel:

Was almost certainly the Johann Ludwig Riedesel who arrived on the brig Osgood in Philadelphia on September 20, 1819. It had sailed from Amsterdam.

Generation No. 3

4. Johannes Riedesel, born April 23, 1697 in Melbach; died December 02, 1758 in Melbach. He was the son of **8. Johann Mannus Riedesel** and **9. Anna Katharine Grund**. He married **5. Anna Catharina Schupner** August 25, 1719 in Raumland.

5. Anna Catharina Schupner, born March 13, 1695/96 in Bernshausen; died July 10, 1769 in Melbach. She was the daughter of **10. Ludwig Schupner**.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel:

Born in and tenant in Herjes Haus, Melbach.

Children of Johannes Riedesel and Anna Schupner are:

- i. Johann Henrich Riedesel, born December 08, 1720 in Melbach; died August 01, 1773 in Melbach; married Anna Catharina Mengel June 04, 1751 in Raumland; born about August 1724 in Beddelhausen; died February 03, 1796 in Melbach.

Notes for Johann Henrich Riedesel:
Tenant in Herjes Haus, Melbach.

- ii. Anna Catharina Riedesel, born March 14, 1722/23 in Melbach; died before 1745; married Johannes Born February 26, 1739/40 in Raumland; born March 05, 1711/12 in Berghausen; died January 18, 1773 in Berghausen.
- iii. Anna Elisabeth Riedesel, born March 09, 1725/26 in Melbach; died January 22, 1792 in Diedenshausen; married Johann Franz Spies November 04, 1746 in Diedenshausen; born April 14, 1726 in Diedenshausen; died March 11, 1790 in Diedenshausen.

Notes for Johann Franz Spies:
Born in and tenant in Schreiners Haus, Diedenshausen. According to local tradition, he personally carried a complaint from the peasants of Diedenshausen to the German Emperor in Vienna about the heavy burden of taxation and other duties imposed by the Count. Nothing was ever done about it.

- 2 iv. Johann Georg Riedesel, born June 21, 1728 in Melbach; died February 19, 1808 in Berleburg; married Elisabeth Belz June 17, 1771 in Berleburg.
- v. Anna Maria Riedesel, born October 17, 1730 in Melbach; married (1) Georg Ludwig Bald January 28, 1750/51 in Berleburg; born July 07, 1715 in Berleburg; married (2) Ludwig Franz Koch April 29, 1772 in Berleburg; born February 07, 1734/35 in Berleburg.
- vi. Johannes Riedesel, born April 11, 1733 in Melbach; died May 28, 1733 in Melbach.
- vii. Löysa Riedesel, born August 17, 1734 in Melbach; died June 24, 1781 in Wingshausen; married Daniel Schulz February 24, 1758 in Wingshausen; born March 30, 1738 in Wingshausen; died April 17, 1797 in Wingshausen.

Generation No. 4

8. Johann Mannus Riedesel, born June 06, 1662 in Melbach; died November 04, 1726 in Melbach. He was the son of **16. Heyrich Riedesel** and **17. Gerthrut Dickel**. He married **9. Anna Katharine Grund** November 09, 1693 in Melbach.

9. Anna Katharine Grund, born 1661 in Bermershausen; died January 26, 1728/29 in Melbach.

Notes for Johann Mannus Riedesel:

Tenant in Herjes Haus at Melbach/Balde. He was known as Mannus Riedesel, and is still regarded as a master builder. When and where he learned his craft is not known, but he was in demand throughout Wittgenstein and neighboring areas such as Siegen. Ten structures he built are known to exist today though there were many others. The most spectacular is the "Ludwigsburg" in the town of Berleburg. It was built for a brother of Graf Casimir between 1707-1709. Another was the forester's lodge at the site of the defunct village of Dambach; it is now a Pension. An unusual work was the combination school and chapel in the village of Sassenhausen. They are gems of Fachwerk (half-timbered) construction, often with ornately carved corner posts, inscriptions, and other decorations.

Children of Johann Riedesel and Anna Grund are:

- i. Anna Elisabeth Riedesel, born December 17, 1694 in Melbach; died 1750 in Womelsdorf; married (1) Elias Hederich; born January 08, 1695/96 in Birkelbach; died August 31, 1732 in Womelsdorf; married (2) Johann Ludwig Schmidt May 10, 1715 in Birkelbach; born January 10, 1680/81 in Womelsdorf; died August 16, 1731 in Womelsdorf; married (3) Ludwig Klotz March 06, 1732/33 in Birkelbach; born May 14, 1700 in Womelsdorf; died April 07, 1761 in Womelsdorf.
- 4 ii. Johannes Riedesel, born April 23, 1697 in Melbach; died December 02, 1758 in Melbach; married Anna Catharina Schupner August 25, 1719 in Raumland.
- iii. Johann Gilbert Riedesel, born March 13, 1703/04 in Melbach; died April 1704 in Melbach.

10. Ludwig Schupner

Child of Ludwig Schupner is:

- 5 i. Anna Catharina Schupner, born March 13, 1695/96 in Bernshausen; died July 10, 1769 in Melbach; married Johannes Riedesel August 25, 1719 in Raumland.

Generation No. 5

16. Heyrich Riedesel, born about 1615 in Melbach; died December 12, 1680 in Melbach. He was the son of **32. Heyrich Riedesel**. He married **17. Gerthrut Dickel** May 19, 1661 in Melbach.

17. Gerthrut Dickel, born about 1640 in Girkhausen; died April 29, 1703 in Melbach. She was the daughter of **34. Johannes Dickel**.

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 Gerthrut Dickel are:

- 8 i. Johann Mannus Riedesel, born June 06, 1662 in Melbach; died November 04, 1726 in Melbach; married (1) Anna Ursula Spies (?) November 04, 1687 in Melbach; married (2) Anna Katharine Grund November 09, 1693 in Melbach.
- ii. Johann Jost Riedesel, born January 25, 1663/64 in Melbach; died September 1738 in Aue; married Anna Elisabeth Walter before 1700 in Raumland; born about 1673 in Aue; died October 20, 1734 in Aue.
- iii. Georg Henrich Riedesel, born January 1665/66 in Melbach.
- iv. Anna Gertraud Riedesel, born February 06, 1668/69 in Melbach; died after 1741 in Weidenhausen; married Johann Simon Spies September 25, 1690 in Raumland; born December 27, 1663 in Bermershausen; died after 1741 in Weidenhausen.
- v. Johann Gilbert Riedesel, born September 17, 1671 in Melbach; married Anna Maria Beuter before 1708; born 1676 in Wingshausen?.

Generation No. 6

32. 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:

- 16 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.

34. Johannes Dickel, died in Girkhausen ?.

Child of Johannes Dickel is:

- 17 i. Gerthrut Dickel, born about 1640 in Girkhausen; died April 29, 1703 in Melbach; married Heyrich Riedesel May 19, 1661 in Melbach.