Compiled by Dr. Paul Riedesel using independent transcriptions of church registers and other documents for Wittgenstein by Jochen Karl Mehldau (1934-2022), Georg Lauber (1904-1978), and J. Wilhelm Knoche (1883-1944).

Ancestors of Catherine Bernhardt

Generation 1

 Catherine Bernhardt, daughter of Johannes Bernhardt and Katharine Aderhold, was born on November 16, 1859 in Wunderthausen. She died on March 14, 1949 in Charlotte, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). She married Johann Andreas Kelting on February 23, 1886 in Clinton County, Iowa. He was born on September 13, 1857 in Marne, Dithmarschen, Schleswig-Holstein. He died in November 1933 in Clinton County, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Catherine Bernhardt:

Born in Lene Haus (Untere Schneidemühle) in Wunderthausen. She came to America on the ship Rhein, landing in New York on March 25, 1872. Bore five children but none were alive in 1900 and I have no names. They lived variously in Cedar County and around Wheatland.

Notes for Johann Andreas Kelting: He was known as John. Came to America with parents and seven siblings on the "Lord Brougham" which docked in New York on July 6, 1869.

Generation 2

- 2. **Johannes Bernhardt**, son of Johann Adam Bernhardt and Elisabeth Amalia Trapp, was born on November 25, 1827 in Wunderthausen. He died on September 15, 1894. He married **Katharine Aderhold**.
- 3. **Katharine Aderhold**, daughter of Ludwig Aderhold and Gertrud Born, was born on November 16, 1829 in Berghausen. She died on April 12, 1864 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johannes Bernhardt: Born in Schneidemühle Haus but founded the house known as Untere Schneidemühle or Lene. Katharine Aderhold and Johannes Bernhardt had the following children:

- i. Christine Wilhelmine Bernhardt was born on August 12, 1857 in Wunderthausen.
- Catherine Bernhardt was born on November 16, 1859 in Wunderthausen. She died on March 14, 1949 in Charlotte, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). She married Johann Andreas Kelting on February 23, 1886 in Clinton County, Iowa. He was born on September 13, 1857 in Marne, Dithmarschen, Schleswig-Holstein. He died in November 1933 in Clinton County, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Generation 3

- 4. **Johann Adam Bernhardt**, son of Andreas Bernhardt and Amalie Trapp, was born on February 24, 1804 in Wunderthausen. He died on July 16, 1877 in Wunderthausen. He married **Elisabeth Amalia Trapp** on December 03, 1825 in Wunderthausen.
- 5. **Elisabeth Amalia Trapp**, daughter of Johannes Trapp and Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel, was born on September 20, 1799 in Wunderthausen. She died on August 24, 1876 in Wunderthausen.

Elisabeth Amalia Trapp and Johann Adam Bernhardt had the following children:

- Johannes Bernhardt was born on November 25, 1827 in Wunderthausen. He died on September 15, 1894. He married Katharine Aderhold. She was born on November 16, 1829 in Berghausen. She died on April 12, 1864 in Wunderthausen.
 - ii. Catherine Elisabeth Bernhardt was born on November 27, 1829 in Wunderthausen. She died on August 27, 1915 in Crofton, Knox, Nebraska (Beaver View Cemetery). She married Johannes Mörchen on August 10, 1851 in Wunderthausen. He was born on August 14, 1820 in Wunderthausen. He died in 1877 in Tipton, Cedar, Iowa. She married Claus Heinchs on November 09, 1882 in Tipton, Cedar Co., Iowa. He was born about 1827.

Notes for Catherine Elisabeth Bernhardt:

Known as Catherine. Born in the house called Schneidemühle in Wunderthausen. Came to America on the ship "Johann Schmidt" out of Bremen, landing in New Orleans on June 1, 1857. After being widowed in 1877, she apparently moved to Wheatland from Cedar County, and then she and several of the children moved to Knox County, Nebraska near Crofton. The children apparently all used the spelling "Merchen." She was living with her son Henry in 1900.

She bore 11 children, 9 of whom were alive in 1900, and 10 of whose names we know. I have seen a listing for a Joseph Merchen born in 1872, but that is the same year as Henry F. was apparently born. Perhaps they were twins. There was no living Joseph in the 1880 Census. Perhaps there are mistakes.

Notes for Johannes Mörchen:

The American spelling of the last varied (Merchen, Merchan, Murchen) though he was more consistently known as John. Born in the house Am Gefälle in Wunderthausen. Came to America on the ship "Johann Schmidt" out of Bremen, landing in New Orleans on June 1, 1857. Information about his children is inconsistent. I have not seen any one definitive source. Before his death, he farmed 120 acres in Cedar County/Springfield Township/Section 13.

Notes for Claus Heinchs:

There are a very other instances of the Heinchs name but I strongly suspect this is a misspelling. I can find no other trace of Claus or his parents as named in the 1882 marriage record.

iii. Johann Franz Bernhardt was born on January 17, 1836 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 19, 1906 in Wunderthausen. He married Amalia Wetter. She was born on March 24, 1837 in Wunderthausen. She died on January 21, 1905 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johann Franz Bernhardt:

Born in and inherited the house Hannams/Schneidemühle in Wunderthausen.

iv. Luise Bernhardt was born on July 08, 1842 in Wunderthausen. She died on July 20, 1921 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland). She married Johann Philipp Schneider about 1870. He was born on July 05, 1839 in Wunderthausen. He died on April 14, 1916 in Wheatland, Clinton, Iowa (St. Paul's Cemetery, Wheatland).

Notes for Luise Bernhardt:

Born in the house called Schneidemühle in Wunderthausen. Came to the U.S. on the "Johann Schmidt" out of Bremen, landing in New Orleans on June 1, 1857. She is listed as Luise Schneider in the immediate company of Henry A. Schneider and his wife. It seems likely this was a subterfuge to get her through emigration.

In the 1900 Census, they said they had been married 30 years (thus in around 1870). She bore no children of her own.

Notes for Johann Philipp Schneider:

Known as Philipp or J.P. Born in Häusches Haus in Wunderthausen. Came to American on the ship "Johann Schmidt" out of Bremen, landing in New Orleans on June 1, 1857. I believe his farm was in Section 18 of the Spring Rock Township of Clinton County. They had no children of their own but took in one of the three Meyer sisters (Emma, born 1863) who were entrusted to the care of St. Paul's church. As of 1900 they had an adopted daughter born in September 1880 named Amelia. I do not know what became of her.

- 6. Ludwig Aderhold was born on October 21, 1801 in Wemlighausen. He married Gertrud Born.
- Gertrud Born, daughter of Christian Born and Elisabeth Hansmann, was born on August 20, 1806 in Berghausen. She died on September 02, 1849 in Berghausen.
 Gertrud Born and Ludwig Aderhold had the following child:

 Katharine Aderhold was born on November 16, 1829 in Berghausen. She died on April 12, 1864 in Wunderthausen. She married Johannes Bernhardt. He was born on November 25, 1827 in Wunderthausen. He died on September 15, 1894.

Generation 4

- 8. **Andreas Bernhardt** was born in 1774 in Marburg an der Lahn (Simtshausen). He married **Amalie Trapp** in 1803.
- 9. **Amalie Trapp**, daughter of Johann Jost Trapp and Anna Margretha Haasen, was born on June 25, 1777 in Wunderthausen. She died on April 24, 1828 in Wunderthausen.

Amalie Trapp and Andreas Bernhardt had the following child:

- Johann Adam Bernhardt was born on February 24, 1804 in Wunderthausen. He died on July 16, 1877 in Wunderthausen. He married Elisabeth Amalia Trapp on December 03, 1825 in Wunderthausen. She was born on September 20, 1799 in Wunderthausen. She died on August 24, 1876 in Wunderthausen.
- 10. **Johannes Trapp**, son of Johann Georg Trapp and Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp, was born on November 26, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He died on August 27, 1799 in Wunderthausen. He married **Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel** on May 13, 1796 in Wunderthausen.
- 11. **Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel**, daughter of Matthias Kümmel and Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel, was born on October 09, 1775 in Wunderthausen. She died on February 26, 1831 in Wunderthausen.

Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel and Johannes Trapp had the following child:

- Elisabeth Amalia Trapp was born on September 20, 1799 in Wunderthausen. She died on August 24, 1876 in Wunderthausen. She married Johann Adam Bernhardt on December 03, 1825 in Wunderthausen. He was born on February 24, 1804 in Wunderthausen. He died on July 16, 1877 in Wunderthausen.
- 14. **Christian Born** was born on October 26, 1778 in Berghausen. He died on April 19, 1806 in Berghausen. He married **Elisabeth Hansmann**.
- 15. **Elisabeth Hansmann** was born on December 05, 1779 in Berghausen. She died on May 10, 1855 in Berghausen.

Elisabeth Hansmann and Christian Born had the following child:

 Gertrud Born was born on August 20, 1806 in Berghausen. She died on September 02, 1849 in Berghausen. She married Ludwig Aderhold. He was born on October 21, 1801 in Wemlighausen.

Generation 5

- 18. Johann Jost Trapp. He married Anna Margretha Haasen.
- 19. **Anna Margretha Haasen** was born on March 21, 1739 in Mollseifen. She died on December 30, 1811 in Wunderthausen.

Anna Margretha Haasen and Johann Jost Trapp had the following child:

- Amalie Trapp was born on June 25, 1777 in Wunderthausen. She died on April 24, 1828 in Wunderthausen. She married Andreas Bernhardt in 1803. He was born in 1774 in Marburg an der Lahn (Simtshausen).
- 20. **Johann Georg Trapp**, son of Johann Georg Trapp and Christina Weller, was born on May 19, 1748 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 22, 1801 in Wunderthausen. He married **Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp** on March 10, 1769 in Wunderthausen.
- 21. **Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp**, daughter of Johann Georg Trapp and Christina Weller, was born on June 02, 1744 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johann Georg Trapp:

Born in and tenant in Brückewaymars Haus in Wunderthausen.

Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp and Johann Georg Trapp had the following children:

i. Gabriel Trapp was born on December 24, 1769 in Wunderthausen. He died on February 02, 1770 in Wunderthausen.

- ii. Johannes Trapp was born on November 26, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He died on August 27, 1799 in Wunderthausen. He married Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel on May 13, 1796 in Wunderthausen. She was born on October 09, 1775 in Wunderthausen. She died on February 26, 1831 in Wunderthausen.
 - iii. Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp was born on February 25, 1773 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp:

The records are unclear. 40 years later the pastor noted that a deceased Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp was 40 years old. However, she had a younger sister with the same name who is recorded as having lived and married. My hypothesis is that the older daughter died young (though I can find no record), and that the pastor's note many years later was in error.

- iv. Elisabeth Juliane Trapp was born on January 09, 1778 in Wunderthausen. She died on October 12, 1834 in Wunderthausen. She married Johann Franz Riedesel on August 20, 1808 in Wunderthausen. He was born on August 10, 1775 in Wunderthausen. He died on December 14, 1829 in Wunderthausen.
- v. Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp was born on December 09, 1779 in Wunderthausen. She died on November 28, 1813 in Wunderthausen. She married Georg Hermann Pott on May 05, 1799. He was born on February 27, 1764 in Wunderthausen. He died on December 22, 1816 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Georg Hermann Pott: Tenant in Brückeweymers house, Wunderthausen. The children who grew to be adults all apparently went to America.

- 22. **Matthias Kümmel**, son of Johann Jost Kümmel and Anna Margarete Homrighausen, was born on December 04, 1737 in Wunderthausen. He died on April 25, 1794 in Wunderthausen. He married **Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel** on January 07, 1772 in Wunderthausen.
- 23. **Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel**, daughter of Johannes Riedesel and Anna Maria Gertraud Trapp, was born on February 01, 1754 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 30, 1813 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Matthias Kümmel:

Born in Altehäusers house in Wunderthausen; married into and became the tenant in Neuhäusers.

Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel and Matthias Kümmel had the following children:

- i. Johann Franz Kümmel was born on September 18, 1772 in Wunderthausen. He married Maria Elisabeth Kropp on November 29, 1799. She was born in Battenberg.
- Elisabeth Margarete Kümmel was born on October 09, 1775 in Wunderthausen. She died on February 26, 1831 in Wunderthausen. She married Johannes Trapp on May 13, 1796 in Wunderthausen. He was born on November 26, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He died on August 27, 1799 in Wunderthausen.
 - iii. Elisabeth Gertraud Kümmel was born on December 25, 1778 in Wunderthausen. She married Johann Ludwig Riedesel on October 15, 1805 in Wunderthausen. He was born on March 25, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He died on June 12, 1821 in Wunderthausen. She married Andreas Janson.

Notes for Elisabeth Gertraud Kümmel: Her triplets, born in 1812, were extremely rare. All died.

Notes for Johann Ludwig Riedesel: Tenant in Neuhäusers, Wunderthausen.

- iv. Elisabeth Dorothea Kümmel was born on July 03, 1781 in Wunderthausen. She died on June 11, 1784 in Wunderthausen.
- v. Johann Georg Kümmel was born on August 17, 1785 in Wunderthausen. He died on November 04, 1788 in Wunderthausen.

vi. Anna Elisabeth Kümmel was born on September 08, 1788 in Wunderthausen. She died on December 04, 1828 in Wunderthausen.

Generation 6

- 40. **Johann Georg Trapp**, son of Gabriel Trapp and Anna Elisabeth Catharina Womelsdorf, was born on June 27, 1718 in Wunderthausen. He died on May 01, 1787 in Wunderthausen. He married **Christina Weller** on October 01, 1744 in Wunderthausen.
- 41. **Christina Weller**, daughter of Johann Phillip Weller and Anna Gertraud Trapp, was born on March 21, 1723 in Wunderthausen. She died on August 12, 1798 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johann Georg Trapp:

Born in Mannes Haus, became tenant in Brückewaymars Haus in Wunderthausen.

Christina Weller and Johann Georg Trapp had the following children:

- Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp was born on June 02, 1744 in Wunderthausen. She married Johann Georg Trapp on March 10, 1769 in Wunderthausen. He was born on May 19, 1748 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 22, 1801 in Wunderthausen.
- ii. Johann Georg Trapp was born on May 19, 1748 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 22, 1801 in Wunderthausen. He married Elisabeth Gertraudt Trapp on March 10, 1769 in Wunderthausen. She was born on June 02, 1744 in Wunderthausen.
- 44. **Johann Jost Kümmel**, son of Johann Nickel Kümmell and Juliana Louisa Wolf, was born on November 06, 1708 in Oberauerbach, Zweibrücken. He died on August 16, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He married **Anna Margarete Homrighausen** on February 15, 1729 in Wunderthausen.
- 45. **Anna Margarete Homrighausen**, daughter of Johann Jacob Homrighausen and Anna Christina Boshoff, was born on October 30, 1706 in Wunderthausen. She died on March 21, 1770 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johann Jost Kümmel:

He was born in a village in the Rheinland-Pfalz, but somehow married into Wunderthausen. One hypothesis is that he was a journeyman of some guild.

Notes for Anna Margarete Homrighausen:

Born in Altehäusers which passed to her husband on her marriage.

Anna Margarete Homrighausen and Johann Jost Kümmel had the following children:

- i. Maria Elisabeth Kümmel was born on November 23, 1729 in Wunderthausen.
- ii. Anna Margarete Kümmel was born on April 12, 1732 in Wunderthausen. She died on October 02, 1791 in Wunderthausen. She married Gabriel Riedesel on November 29, 1765 in Wunderthausen. He was born on May 03, 1735 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 24, 1794 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Anna Margarete Kümmel: Born in Altehäusers which passed to her husband on her marriage. Her birth name was Anna Margarete, but she was known as Elisabeth at the time of her marriage.

Notes for Gabriel Riedesel: Born in Gundermanns Haus but married into Altehäusers and became the tenant.

- iii. Anna Dorothea Kümmel was born on September 12, 1733 in Wunderthausen. She died on February 10, 1797 in Diedenshausen. She married Johannes Gernand on March 28, 1764. He was born in 1738 in Diedenshausen. He died on October 17, 1806 in Diedenshausen.
- iv. Matthias Kümmel was born on December 04, 1737 in Wunderthausen. He died on April 25, 1794 in Wunderthausen. He married Elisabeth Gertraud Riedesel on November 29, 1765 in Wunderthausen. She was born on December 05, 1745 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 24, 1770 in Wunderthausen. He married

Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel on January 07, 1772 in Wunderthausen. She was born on February 01, 1754 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 30, 1813 in Wunderthausen.

v. Georg Ludwig Kümmel was born on August 13, 1740 in Wunderthausen. He died on May 11, 1808 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Georg Ludwig Kümmel: Born in Altehäusers, never married.

- vi. Maria Elisabeth Kümmel was born on August 04, 1743 in Wunderthausen.
- vii. Johannes Kümmel was born on May 30, 1746 in Wunderthausen. He died on August 29, 1788 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johannes Kümmel: Born in Altehäusers, never married.

viii. Johann Georg Kümmel was born on May 20, 1752 in Wunderthausen. He died on March 27, 1758 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johann Georg Kümmel: Died of smallpox.

- 46. **Johannes Riedesel**, son of Wilhelm Riedesel and Anna Margarethe Spies, was born on April 22, 1709 in Wunderthausen. He died on December 01, 1755 in Wunderthausen. He married **Anna Maria Gertraud Trapp** on February 22, 1745 in Wunderthausen.
- 47. **Anna Maria Gertraud Trapp**, daughter of Johannes Trapp and Anna Gertraud Strackbein, was born on April 14, 1714 in Wunderthausen. She died on July 03, 1783 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel: Born in Gundermanns Haus and became the first tenant in Neuhäusers Haus at some point.

Notes for Anna Maria Gertraud Trapp: Apparently known as Anna Maria, though her baptismal name was Anna Gertraud.

- Anna Maria Gertraud Trapp and Johannes Riedesel had the following children:
 - Elisabeth Gertraud Riedesel was born on December 05, 1745 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 24, 1770 in Wunderthausen. She married Matthias Kümmel on November 29, 1765 in Wunderthausen. He was born on December 04, 1737 in Wunderthausen. He died on April 25, 1794 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Matthias Kümmel: Born in Altehäusers house in Wunderthausen; married into and became the tenant in Neuhäusers.

 Georg Franz Riedesel was born on April 21, 1751 in Wunderthausen. He died on December 17, 1810 in Wunderthausen. He married Maria Gertraud Wagner on June 02, 1795 in Wunderthausen. She was born on April 04, 1766 in Wunderthausen. She died in Prob. USA. He married Catherine Elisabeth Knoche on October 25, 1780 in Wunderthausen. She was born on April 24, 1745 in Wunderthausen. She died on October 31, 1794 in Wunderthausen. He married Anna Katherine Dickel on December 03, 1797 in Wunderthausen. She was born on October 20, 1770 in Schüllar. She died on April 06, 1808 in Wunderthausen.

Notes for Georg Franz Riedesel: First tenant of "Försters am Lotzenberg" Haus in Wunderthausen, was a forester.

Notes for Maria Gertraud Wagner: Born in Jochums Haus in Wunderthausen. May have immigrated to America in 1796 without Georg Franz but with an earlier child.

Notes for Catherine Elisabeth Knoche: Born in Bormanns Haus, Wunderthausen. May also have been known as Anna Katharina. iii. Anna Maria Sophia Amalia Riedesel was born on February 01, 1754 in Wunderthausen. She died on September 30, 1813 in Wunderthausen. She married Matthias Kümmel on January 07, 1772 in Wunderthausen. He was born on December 04, 1737 in Wunderthausen. He died on April 25, 1794 in Wunderthausen.