



Our Family

by

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The Scheidts in Kitzingen

Jeanette Scheidt

After the death of her husband Salomon in Mainstockheim on 8 December 1871 Jeanette (née Kuhn) eventually moved to Kitzingen, where most of her children had settled by that time. On 26 July 1875, on behalf of his mother, her son Wolf officially applied for *Heimatrecht* (right of residence) in Kitzingen, for Jeanette and her youngest still single son Raphael. This was granted on 28 August of that year. ⁽¹⁾ The Address Book of Kitzingen for the year 1894 shows that *Scheidt, Charnette, widow*, lived at Kaiserstraße 426, Kitzingen. In 1900 Jeanette lived in House No 139, Königsplatz, the house in which she died on the 20th July 1900, aged nearly 86 years. She is buried on the Jewish cemetery in Rödelsee.

On her Death Certificate Jeanette's parents are wrongly entered as Moses Kohn and Babetta née Kuhn. Her parents were in fact Moses Kuhn and Babette née Stern.



Jeanette Scheidt

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Louis Scheidt and his Descendants

Louis Scheidt the second of Salomon and Jeanette Scheidt's nine children, their first child being stillborn, was born in Mainstockheim on 6 June 1835. Around 1852/53 he emigrated to America

(Emigration Certificate issued by the District Court Dettelbach 4 February 1853). According to some accounts he may have lived at some time in Cincinnati and is supposed to have fought in the Civil War on the side of the North, though this is not certain. Around 1859 he lived and traded as a merchant in New York. Having fulfilled the required period of residence there he became an American Citizen on 5 August 1859. ⁽²⁾ Around that time he married Sophie Steinbronne(r) (Steinbronte), who had been born in America.

Their son Josy (Josey) Scheidt was born in New York on 22 June 1861 and died in the late 1920s in Baden-Baden.

Sophie may have died in childbirth. Nothing further is known.

When exactly Louis returned to Bavaria is not certain. On 12 April 1864 Dr Steidle, a Würzburg lawyer, on behalf of *Louis Scheidt of New York* applied to the Magistrate of Kitzingen for permission for him to re-immigrate, settle in Kitzingen and join his brother as partner in a retail textile business in the town. The application included numerous documents and certificates regarding his schooling, vaccination certificate, a certificate of the Mainstockheim administration that Louis was of good character. This also stated that his father Salomon Scheidt would give him 5,000 fl *Heimsteuer*, as he had given his other children. Together with his own capital of 10,000 fl saved during his foreign stay, Louis would have assets of 15,000 fl at his disposal, so that his future livelihood was assured. ⁽³⁾

Louis renounced his rights to American citizenship and applied to be accepted as a Bavarian citizen. In the name of his Majesty the King of Bavaria his Foreign Ministry in Munich certified on 14 November 1864 that the application of *Ludwig Scheidt* had been granted and that, after receipt of payments of certain taxes the necessary documents should be handed to him. ⁽⁴⁾

From a document dated 13 December 1864 we learn that the widower Louis was engaged to Charlotte Amson of Creglingen, daughter of the wine merchant Salomon Amson and Helena née Mendel of Mainstockheim, that her father gave permission for the marriage and promised the usual trousseau and a dowry of 8,000 fl.

Receiving the official permission on 5 January 1865 nothing stood in the way, and Louis on 31 January 1865 in Würzburg ⁽⁵⁾ married Charlotte Amson (born 20 August 1835).

Louis and Charlotte settled in house Kitzingen #213 and #214. The houses later became Obere Kirchgasse 2 and 4, and were also the address of his brother Bernhard Scheidt.

The couple had the following children: ⁽⁶⁾

- Oskar Scheidt, 22 November 1865 Kitzingen - 18 December 1865 Kitzingen
- Emma Scheidt, 8 December 1866 Kitzingen - 17 March 1867 Kitzingen
- Ida Scheidt, 2 November 1867 Kitzingen - c.1941 London
- Leopold Scheidt, 15 September 1868 Kitzingen - 3 October 1868 Kitzingen

Louis and his brother Bernhard were amongst the ten members making up the Minyan at the first service to be held in Kitzingen, when in 1865 Royal permission was granted for the establishment of an independent Jewish congregation in Kitzingen. On first January 1868 Louis was elected as the first President of the new congregation. He served in that capacity until 1873, when he left Kitzingen for Frankfurt am Main to become a stockbroker there. Louis, Charlotte, Josy and Ida, the two surviving children of Louis' two marriages settled in Frankfurt and in October 1873, with the ex-

ception of Josy, are accepted as Prussian citizens. In 1877 they lived in their own house Hermannstraße 15, Frankfurt. Charlotte Scheidt née Amson died in Frankfurt on 4 March 1892.

When Louis became ill in the 1890s he was nursed by his young niece Meta Scheidt, daughter of his younger brother Wolf. On 6 September 1894 59 year old Louis married his 19 year old niece Meta, who had been born in Kitzingen on 19 March 1875.



Louis and Meta Scheidt

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

There were three children of this marriage:

- Kurt Scheidt, b. 30. 5.1896 Frankfurt, d. 1966 Australia
- Otto Scheidt, b. 17.10.1898 Frankfurt, d. 19.11.1993 Passau
- Walter Scheidt, b.10. 1.1908 Frankfurt

Louis was very well to-do, but lost his money when the stock market crashed after the first world war. He died in Frankfurt on 25 June 1919. Meta survived him until 6 June 1932.

Louis' children

Josey Scheidt was born 21 July 1861 in New York (mother Sophie Steinbronner). Little is known about him. In a document of his father Louis in the early 1860 he especially requests that his own denouncement of his American citizenship should not apply to Josey. Josey should retain his American citizenship as it was intended that he would return to America after completion of his education in Germany.

It is believed that Josey lived in Australia before World War I but was apparently forced to return to Germany. A letter of his dated 15 August 1926 gives his address as 38 Bockenheimer Anlage, Frankfurt and confirms that he is an American citizen. He was married to Blanche and died in Baden Baden in the 1920s. There was one daughter of the marriage Josephine Scheidt, but nothing is known about her.

Oskar Scheidt (mother Charlotte), 22.11.1865 Kitzingen - 18.12.1865 Kitzingen.

Emma Scheidt (mother Charlotte), 8.12.1866 Kitzingen - 17.3.1867 Kitzingen.

Ida Scheidt (mother Charlotte), 2 November 1867 Kitzingen. She married Siegmund Weihermann (born 19 April 1862 in Feuchtwangen), a Frankfurt stockbroker, on 10 April 1890. Family members believe that his death on 13 July 1918 was caused by an accident, when he fell off a ladder and hitting his head on the marble floor or that he possibly committed suicide after a failed speculation on the stock exchange. Ida with her daughter Ilse, left Frankfurt for England around 1938 and lived in London until her death. There were four daughters:

- Lotte Weihermann Dunham (24 August 1891, Frankfurt) After completing her schooling in Germany, Lotte came to England in 1909 to attend the Perse School for Girls in Cambridge. She then studied medicine at the London Free Hospital and graduated in 1917. She joined the practice of a Dr. Roberts to become a very well known London East End family doctor, deeply admired by her colleagues and much respected by the Stepney community, which she served. In 1933 she married Frederick Dunham, an ophthalmologist, but continued in her practice until 1973, when after practising for 56 years a serious heart condition forced her to retire aged 82 years! (born 1891). *Dr. Lottie*, as she was generally affectionately known, died in March 1979 at the age of 85. She was survived by her husband Frederick Dunham, who nursed her during her last illness. An obituary called her the East End's beloved eccentric, who did all her visiting of patients on foot or occasionally by public transport. Her husband stated that she passionately believed in the National Health Service, but did not come to terms with the bureaucracy. *In the end she just ignored all the paperwork and got on with her job, and that was seeing patients.* ⁽⁷⁾ She kept her private life very secret and refused to have a telephone at home. Apparently it took years before even one of her partners discovered her home address. She worked every available hour in order to amass two months holiday time, which the Dunhams spent walking, mostly in the Alps and Dolomites.
- Ilse Weihermann Friedleben (2 September 1893, Frankfurt). She was married to Dr. Erich Friedleben, a solicitor. They had one son, who died at the age of 12 years. Ilse left her husband after the death of their son. She was an international tennis champion. Around 1938 she left Frankfurt with her mother Ida for London and lived in London until her death. During the 1939/45 war she was a tennis coach at the Selsdon Park Hotel.
- Tony Weihermann Richter (11 September 1895, Frankfurt), also a tennis player and teacher was married to Paul Richter and lived in Trinidad, where her husband had an export business.
- Anna Weihermann Verity (23 August 1897, Frankfurt). Anna was a tennis teacher. On 10 January 1921 she married Karl Hemp but was later divorced. There were two children of the marriage. Anna and her children emigrated to the USA, where she married a Mr. Verity. Anna Verity died in 1980.

Leopold Scheidt (mother Charlotte), 15.9.1868 Kitzingen - 3.10.1868 Kitzingen.

Kurt Scheidt (mother Meta) was born in Frankfurt on 10 May 1896. In 1931 he married Liesel Oppenheimer, born in Frankfurt in 1907. They emigrated to Sydney, Australia, where they changed their name to Shaw. Kurt died in Sydney in 1966 and was survived by Liesel. They were childless. Liesel later remarried and died in Australia in 1996.

Otto Scheidt (mother Meta) born on 17 October 1898 in Frankfurt had married Margareth Anwärter in 1933. Margareth, known as Gretl, was born in Wels, Austria on 14 April 1906. Around 1940 they managed to emigrate to Baltimore, where Otto worked as a salesman in a shoe shop. Af-

ter he retired Otto and Gretl bought a caravan and for 15 months travelled around America camping and visiting every single one of the 50 States of America before returning to their home in Baltimore. Some time in the 1970s they returned to Germany and settled in Rotthof/Inn, a small village near Passau, where members of Gretl's family lived. ⁽⁸⁾ They thoroughly enjoyed their retirement and did quite a bit of travelling in the beautiful area and the Bohemian forest. For the last few years of her life Gretl suffered ill health and was looked after by Otto with the support of a dedicated band of helpers. She died on 9 October 1993. Otto only survived her for about a month and died on 19 November 1993 aged 95 years. They were childless.

Walter Scheidt (mother Meta), youngest child of Louis' third marriage was born in Frankfurt on 10 January 1908. In 1937 he married Sophie Auerbacher, born 8 February 1910 in Kippenheim. They emigrated to Baltimore. During the war Walter served in a USA tank regiment in the Pacific. As a result of this he suffered some loss of hearing. After the war he worked in the War Pensions Office in Baltimore. Walter and Sophie moved to Florida after their retirement, where they live in 2002. They are childless.

Bernhard Scheidt and his Descendants

Bernhard Scheidt, second son and fourth child of Salomon and Jeanette Scheidt was born in Mainstockheim on 27 January 1838. On 24 March 1862 he was granted permission to settle and trade as a draper in Kitzingen, being the first Jew to receive this permission after the edict of 1861, which allowed Jews to live anywhere within the Kingdom of Bavaria. In 1865, together with his brother Louis, he was one of the ten to make up the first Minyan in Kitzingen.

In the *Kitzinger Anzeiger* of May 1867 Bernhard Scheidt advertises Silk Materials in great varieties for sale opposite the Catholic Church. He advertises frequently amongst other things a great variety of newly arrived inexpensive goods from the Leipzig *Messe* as well as the buying and selling of securities

The following advertisements appeared in November 1871 in the *non official* section of an official Kitzingen paper:

I beg to announce that I have handed my Cloth, Textile and Ready-made Clothing Business over to my brother Mr. Wolf Scheidt to enable me to specialise in banking in the future. I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude for the confidence shown to me from many sides and beg that this shall be transferred to my successor.

I remain faithfully Bernhard Scheidt

Through the advantageous take-over of my brother's considerable stock I am in a position to offer this much below factory prices and assure local as well as well as out-of-town customers of a very fair service

Yours faithfully Wolf Scheidt

near the bridge

The Kitzingen address books of 1884 and 1894 give Bernhard's occupation as banker and his address as Obere Kirchgasse 213/4 (later Kirchgasse 6)

Bernhard was married to Rosa Fechheimer, born in Bayreuth on 10 November 1843. Their eight surviving children were all born in Kitzingen, but all eventually moved elsewhere:

- Jenny, 27 April 1864 - 1935
- Moritz, 10 November 1865 - 13 January 1866
- Minna, 9 January 1867, deported 1942
- Julius, 10 September 1868 - ? South America
- Louise, 31 July 1871 - 1918
- Emma, 6 January 1874 - 1947
- Bertha, 1877 - deported 1942
- Sigmund, 25 April 1881, deported 1942 to Litzmannstadt / Lodz
- Anna, 4 May 1882 - 1959

On 1 August 1901 Bernhard moved from Kitzingen to Frankfurt/Main, where he became a stock-broker. Bernhard died in Frankfurt on 24 May 1912 and Rosa on 1 April 1925.

Jenny Scheidt married August Mohrenwitz in 1884 and settled in Frankfurt. Jenny died in 1935 and her husband August Mohrenwitz in 1942. Their three sons were all born in Frankfurt:

- Dr. Lothar Mohrenwitz, born in 1896 became an art expert and collector. In the 1940s he lived in London and about 1949/50 moved to Zurich, where he died on 27 February 1960. Lothar Mohrenwitz appears to have had a very valuable art collection. An exhibition of drawings, water-colours and prints from his estate was held prior to their auction in Zurich in November 1960, which also included his library.
- Dr. Stefan Mohrenwitz, born 1897, married Erna Stavenhagen Foulkes (born 1898 in Frankfurt) in 1937. It was Erna's second marriage. Stefan Mohrenwitz died in Mexico in 1968, where the family had settled.
- Dr. Fritz (Frederico) Mohrenwitz, born 1898, also eventually settled in Mexico, where he died in 1967.

Moritz Scheidt, 10 November 1865 Kitzingen - 13 January 1866 Kitzingen.

Minna Scheidt Kahn, born 9 January 1867 in Kitzingen, was married to Isak Kahn (born 19 January 1864 in Darmstadt). They lived in Darmstadt, where their two daughters were born, Frieda Kahn (1891 Darmstadt - 1959 USA) and Paula Kahn (1892 Darmstadt - 1966 USA). Minna and Isak were deported to Theresienstadt, where Minna died on 14 September 1942 and Isak on 29 September 1942. Some of their descendants now live in various parts of the USA.

Julius Scheidt, second of the three sons of Bernhard and Rosa Scheidt and, no doubt, the *Black Sheep* of the family, was born in Kitzingen on 10 September 1868. On 15 April 1902 he married Miriam Frank (born 3 November 1881 in Kissingen), daughter of the banker Abraham Frank and his wife Rikka née Schwed. After Bernhard left Kitzingen for Frankfurt, Julius carried on his father's banking business, the *Kitzinger Effekten- und Wechselbank Bernhard Scheidt & Sohn* in Kitzingen.

On 9 April 1907 the *Kitzinger Zeitung* reported rumours that *the banker Scheidt and his wife had been absent since Maundy Thursday*. It was suspected that he had gone abroad, as on 26th March he had obtained a foreign passport. On 10 April the paper reported that Julius Scheidt had apparently fled with considerable sums of money, which had been invested with the bank, and that his disappearance seemed to have been carefully prepared for some time. *As the Jewish Easter and the Christian holidays coincided, the lengthy closing was not particularly noticed*. Great anxiety was caused by the fact that Julius Scheidt had started a savings scheme for small investors and that these would now have lost their savings. The paper also reported that, although the business had been suspect for some years and there had been several court cases, it had been impossible to bring the scoundrel behind bars. On some occasions Julius Scheidt was fined small amounts and at other times found *not guilty*. In a letter left behind, Julius Scheidt accuses the Public Prosecutor of ruining his business by unlawful behaviour and therefore being the cause of hundreds of creditors losing their money and property. *The height of impudence, characterising the meanness of this crook* writes the paper. Over the next few days the *Kitzinger Zeitung* reports that Julius Scheidt had disappeared with approximately 1 million Mark and that foreign banks in London and Paris were mostly affected by this. Local businesses had mistrusted him for some time and had therefore had little dealings with the bank. Money of small investors had apparently not been touched.

Following a telephone request of 10 April 1907 the Kitzingen Town Council reports to the Government District of Lower Franconia and Aschaffenburg the next day:

Julius Scheidt apparently left Kitzingen on 27 March for a few days holidays in Italy and Switzerland to find a few days relaxation. This was considered reasonable as a 33/4 month old baby daughter of his had died on 4 December 1906 and another daughter aged 4 years and one month on 23 February 1907. On 2 April Julius Scheidt, who was supposed to have returned to Kitzingen the previous day, informed his clerk in a letter from Munich that he had a slight accident and that his return was therefore somewhat delayed. When the clerk, due to insufficient funds having been left, was unable to pay out accounts due, the news spread and many creditors stormed to the bank on April 9. As nothing had been heard from Julius Scheidt since April 1st it was assumed that he had *hopped it*. The police was called and a secret drawer in a cupboard was opened by a locksmith. In it a letter in Julius Scheidt's handwriting addressed to the Public Prosecutor in Würzburg but undated and unsigned was found in which Julius accused him of having been tormented by him for 11 years and that he had ruined his business. *The Jew had to leave and because of the unfair processes of the Public Prosecutor 100 of creditors had lost their money and possessions*. It was also reported that Scheidt had destroyed photographs of himself and his wife and had cut the telephone lines. The report ends that it was thought that Scheidt had *hopped it* to Argentina. ⁽⁹⁾

Bankruptcy proceedings started on 10th April. Some confidence was restored, when the following report appeared in the paper on 16 April 1907:

Mr. Bernhard Scheidt, formerly of Kitzingen, now of Frankfurt/Main has decided that, in spite of great losses suffered in the bankruptcy of Julius Scheidt, he will compensate the so-called "Saving Bank" investors for any loss they may suffer through the bankruptcy.

Nothing further is supposed to have been heard from him. A sarcastic poem on a postcard, which appeared in Kitzingen shortly after the collapse of the bank, is thought to have been sent by Julius Scheidt.

However serious and sad this whole affair was some people obviously saw a funny side to serious and damaging this whole affair was some people obviously saw a funny side to it. The *Kitzinger Zeitung* of 22 April reports:

Several places in our beautiful Main valley could witness yesterday that humour is not absent from the very serious disturbing event "Julius Scheidt". The local society "Hohnäcker" yesterday arranged a bus trip to Markbreit, Ochsenfurt, Sommerhausen, Randersacker and Würzburg. On front of the bus was a sign: "Search for Julius Scheidt". That this sign caused much amusement in the above towns especially in Würzburg need not to be said. Unfortunately the Hohnäcker did not catch the missing "Julius". To characterise this crook we can only mention that he had drilled a hole in the floor of his living room in order to listen in to the conversation of his employees in the business premises underneath ...

Louise Scheidt Kaufmann, born in Kitzingen on 31 July 1871, had married Abraham Kaufmann. The family lived in Mannheim. Louise died in 1918. There were two children:

- Friedel Kaufmann, born 1892 in Mannheim, married Louis Oppenheimer. The family emigrated to the USA.
- Hugo Kaufmann, born 1897 in Mannheim was married to Helga Simon. They had one daughter, Yvonne Kaufmann (3 April 1938 - 1942 Auschwitz). In 1942 Helga and Yvonne were deported from Berlin to Auschwitz, where they both perished. Hugo must have managed to emigrate to the United States, where later he married his second wife Heidi Lind, who had been born in Eisenach. Hugo died in New York in 1983.

Emma Scheidt Essinger (6 January 1874, Kitzingen) had in 1895 married Julius Essinger, born in 1861 in Stuttgart, where he died in 1932. Their sons were both born in Stuttgart:

- Rolf Essinger, born 1899, married Hilde Levi of Stuttgart in 1926. The family may eventually have lived in Switzerland. Rolf may have died around 1960. A Kitty H. Essinger in a letter written in 1979 in Port de Pully, Switzerland wrote that she has been a widow for 19 years, is the only one of the family to live there and that her brother-in-law spends most of his life in Gran Canaria. Was the letter writer the widow of Rolf?
- Otto Essinger was born in 1902. Nothing is known about him.

Bertha Scheidt Blüenthal, born in Kitzingen on 23 March 1877, married David Blüenthal (born 21 June 1867 in Münchweiler) in 1896. David died in Frankfurt on 10 February 1934. Bertha took her own life on 8 June 1942 in Wiesbaden, probably prior to threatened deportation. It is one of the tragedies of the time. Apparently the Chilean Consulate in Frankfurt had failed to deliver a visa allowing her to emigrate to Chile, obtained by her son Paul in 1939 shortly after his own arrival there.

- Paul Blüenthal, born 23 August 1897. In Berlin on 27 September 1929 he married Else Grunewald, born in Berlin on 20 November 1908 and died on 11 July 1934. Their daughter Ines Blüenthal was born in 1932 in Frankfurt. Paul married his second wife Gertrud Weyrauch née Geis and had a daughter: Irene Blüenthal, born in Frankfurt, who celebrated her first birthday in February 1939 on the voyage to Chile. Paul died on 23 January 1947 in Santiago, Chile.
- Ernst Blüenthal, born. 24 January 1900 remained single. He died on 10 July 1978 in New York.

Sigmund Scheidt, born on 25 April 1881 was deported and died in Litzmannstadt on 1 May 1942.

Anna Scheidt Frank, born 1882, was married to Otto Frank born in Trier in 1872. The family lived in Wiesbaden. Anna and Otto appear to have emigrated to USA, where Otto died in 1950 and Anna in 1959. They had two children:

- Edith Frank, born 1905 in Wiesbaden, married Ernest Springer in 1925.
- Helmut Frank, born in Wiesbaden in 1912 was rabbi in Worms until his emigration to Philadelphia. Until his retirement he served a Philadelphia congregation as Rabbi.

Simon Scheidt and his Descendants

Simon Scheidt, fifth child of Salomon and Jeanette Scheidt was born in Mainstockheim on 14 January 1840. Simon was married to Marianne Janchen Kahn, born in Heidingsfeld on 9 August 1840, a daughter of Amson Kahn. The couple started their life in Kitzingen, where their eldest son Julius was born. On 12 February 1864 he applied for permission to move and settle in Würzburg, which was granted on 24 September of that year. Settled in Würzburg Simon established himself as a wine and cigar merchant, later becoming a banker. He died in Würzburg on 16 October 1886. Janchen died in Würzburg on 4 December 1903. They had six children:

- Julius Scheidt, 12 November 1863 Kitzingen - 22 August 1917 Karlsruhe
- Jenny Scheidt , 25 January 1865 Würzburg
- Max Scheidt, 21 June 1866 Würzburg - c.1899 Italy
- (Paul) Karl Scheidt, 24 November 1867 Würzburg - 15 February 1922
- Mathilde Scheidt, 22 June 1870 Würzburg - 1941/2
- Hugo Scheidt, 1 October 1871 Würzburg - 1871

Julius Scheidt, eldest son of Simon and Janchen, was born on 12th November 1863. He was the only child of his parents to be born in Kitzingen, his parents moving to Würzburg shortly afterwards. Julius studied music at the Würzburg Royal School of Music. As a young pianist he moved to the Academy of Music in Karlsruhe, where he taught the piano, theory and was also conductor of the choir. For some years he also taught music at the grammar school, as well as being conductor of the *Liederkrantz*, a Karlsruhe choral society from 1887 to 1912, becoming its Hon. choirmaster after that. In 1895 the government of Baden sent a request to the government of Bavaria concerning the bestowal of an order to Julius. At the 1907 Festival of Choral Societies of Baden, the society under the direction of Julius got first prize. In appreciation the title *Professor* was bestowed upon him by the Grand Duke. Julius died in Karlsruhe on 22 August 1917. Glowing tributes were paid to him by the Board of Directors and the teachers of the Academy as well as by the Choral Society. ⁽¹⁰⁾ According to his wishes the funeral took place in private.

In the book *Juden in Karlsruhe*, a history of Jews in Karlsruhe are the following paragraphs:

Baptism entries for the couple Julius and Laura Scheidt, 26 respectively 28 years old, married since 1887, have certainly been missed. ⁽¹¹⁾ In the records of the Deanery are the following notes: "... they have not participated in the Jewish community, but attended Protestant religious instruction

since childhood". Without any particular motive they would now like to belong also legally to the Protestant congregation. Both were baptised on 24 February 1889.

The book goes on to state that, as there are no baptism entries for any children in the years following, it could be assumed that the couple left Karlsruhe soon after their conversion. This, however, as we see from the above, is wrong.

Jenny Scheidt Sause was married to Karl August Sause, a Russian subject. The couple lived in Cologne in 1922. Nothing further is known of them.

Max Scheidt. Nothing is known about him except that he died in Italy around 1899.

Karl (Paul) Scheidt in 1895 Karl moved from Würzburg to Frankfurt am Main, where he died on 15 February 1922. He was married to Flora Lehrberger, born 21 May 1875, who died on 19 January 1947 in the United States. There were two sons of the marriage:

- Max Scheidt was born in Frankfurt on 25 October 1896. He emigrated to Paris in 1936 and there in May 1938 married his third wife Erna Wilhelmina Sasse, born in Leningrad in 1900. They moved to New York in 1940. He established the Roland Corporation, a firm dealing in products used in the pharmaceutical industry and died on 24 September 1962 in Zurich. Erna survived him and died on 30 December 1987.
- Bruno Scheidt was born in Frankfurt on 8 September 1900. About 1920 Bruno established his own firm *Bruno Scheidt, Colonialwaren-Import* (food import) in Frankfurt. Bruno fled to Paris in 1933 and there founded Etablissements Roland, also a food establishment. In January 1936 Bruno married Suzanne Ballin, born 23 July 1910, (who had changed her name in France from Suse to Suzanne) They moved to New York in 1939 and there established the firms Bruno Scheidt, Inc. and the American Roland Food Co. Bruno died in New York on 24 July 1966 and Suzanne on 23 February 1988.

Mathilde Scheidt Brandenburger married Leopold Brandenburger on 6 November 1896. Leopold, born in Altenstadt on 25 March 1868, had moved from Leipzig to Würzburg in 1894 where the couple settled and where Leopold died on 31 October 1932. He was an agent for a wine firm as well as for firms producing chemical and pharmaceutical products. From 1934 Mathilde lived in the Jewish Old Age Home in Würzburg. She may have died around 1941/42 possibly in Würzburg or may have been deported. They appear to have been childless.

Wolf Scheidt and his Descendants

Wolf Scheidt, seventh child of Salomon and Jeanette was born in Mainstockheim on 26 June 1844. In 1866, having served an apprenticeship, Wolf worked as assistant for his brother Louis Scheidt in Kitzingen. He applied for permission to settle in Kitzingen and stated that like his brothers, he will receive 5,000 florins *Heimsteuer* from his father Salomon Scheidt, who appeared with him at the interview. With this capital he hoped to establish a business in future. In the meantime he will look for a position. In August 1866 he, however, changed his application and applied that, instead of being employed, for permission to establish his own retail business, which should not be limited to Kitzingen, but should also cover some of the surrounding villages. He received his certificate that he had passed the necessary examination and was competent for a retail business especially in draperies. He appears to have received the necessary permission. His army discharge certificate states that he was unsuitable for military service.

In Bamberg on 19 August 1872 he married Sophie Fechheimer, daughter of Koppel and Eleanor née Freund, born 22 May 1852 in Mitwitz, a cousin of Rosa, the wife of his brother Bernhard.

He took over the stock of his brother Bernhard's textile business in 1871 and advertised his business *near the bridge*. It can be assumed that this was the same house where he had his wholesale and retail business dealing in Ladies' and Gents' Ready-to-Wear Clothes and Textiles in a shop at Marktstraße 21, at the corner with Alte Burgstraße in the very centre of the old town of Kitzingen in 1894. He and his younger brother Raphael, a wine merchant, also lived in the same house, which still stands and is now Burgstraße 2.

We know that Raphael's children were born here. It can be assumed that Wolf and Sophie's children were also born in this house. They all settled elsewhere:

- Meta, 19 March 1875 - ?
- Paula, 9 July 1876 infancy
- Adolf, 29 November 1877 - c. 1922 Frankfurt?
- Rosa, 25 May 1879 - 17 August 1979 London
- Max, 21 February 1881 - 1929 New York
- Hermann, 27 November 1882 - 31 January 1921 Los Angeles

Wolf Scheidt and Sophie also moved to Frankfurt on 15 September 1903, where Sophie died on 4 May 1915 and Wolf on 31 August 1925.

Meta Scheidt, born in Kitzingen on 19 March 1875, moved with her parents to Frankfurt where she helped to nurse her uncle Louis, eldest brother of her father, through an illness and on 6 September 1894 19 year old Meta married him. The family lived in Frankfurt/Main. (see Louis Scheidt).

Paula Scheidt died in infancy.

Adolf Scheidt, born in 1877 was in the army in World War I. He was married and died in the 1920s in Frankfurt/Main. There were no children.

Rosa Scheidt was born in Kitzingen on 25 May 1879. She left school in Kitzingen at the age of 14. Rosa, then also in Frankfurt, helped a children's nurse to look after the three sons of her sister Meta, who had been promised by her husband and uncle that she would never have to bother with household chores and children. In 1905 Rosa married Hermann Klibansky (born in 1871), who was a representative of a German wine company. The young couple lived in Paris where their first child was born.

- Raymond Klibansky, born 15 October 1905 in Paris.

At the outbreak of World War I the family returned to Frankfurt in 1914 and lived at Mozartplatz, where their daughter

- Sonja Klibansky was born on 5 March 1916 in Frankfurt.

In 1933 the family first moved to Italy and then to Brussels, where Hermann died in 1935. Rosa with her daughter Sonja was able to move to Oxford, where her son Raymond was a lecturer at Oriel College by that time. They later moved to London.

When Rosa suffered a severe attack of tonsillitis in 1964, which did not seem to improve, she was apparently one of the first civilian *guinea pigs* to be given the new wonder drug Penicillin, up to then mainly used in military hospitals. Professor Ernst Chain, a personal friend of the family, who was collaborating with Sir Alexander Fleming on the research scraped a little yellow powdery substance from the dish in which Penicillin grew in flat dishes in his Oxford laboratory. He handed a miniature phial of this to her doctor, so that he could inject it. Within a couple of days of application of the new drug her condition had cleared up.

Rosa was interested in many things, liked reading and walking and even aged over 90 years she loved to walk and sit in Kensington Gardens near the pond and watch the world go by. A couple of months before her 100th birthday she suffered a severe stroke and was rushed unconscious and very weak to St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. Doctors believe that her terrific willpower aided her recovery. She was able to celebrate her 100th birthday together with her family at the hospital, where a member of staff had arranged a champagne party for the occasion. Raymond presented his mother with a copy of his new book, which had been published that very day. She received many floral gifts, a crochet white shawl from the hospital staff, numerous letters of congratulations and telegrams from the Queen and the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Raymond Klibansky was educated in Paris, the Odenwald School and at the Universities of Kiel, Hamburg and Heidelberg, where he got a PhD in 1928. From 1927 to 1933 he was an Assistant at the Heidelberg Academy and Lecturer in Philosophy at Heidelberg University between 1931 and 1933 when, as a Jew, he was dismissed from the faculty. He came to England to King's College, London and held positions at Oriel College Oxford from 1936 - 1948. In 1936 he was decreed an MA Oxon. In 1938/39 he was Forwood Lecturer in Philosophy of Religion at the University of Liverpool. During World War II Raymond served on the Political Warfare Executive of the Foreign Office, which included interviewing German and Italian prisoners of war. After the war he became Professor of History of Philosophy at McGill University Montreal and soon also lectured at the nearby Université de Montreal. He was visiting Professor at many other universities, e.g. the Indiana University, the Universities of Louvain, Rome, Genoa, Tokyo. Over the years he has been associated with numerous Institutes of Philosophy in many parts of the world and is the author, editor or contributor of many publications written or translated in several languages. He is Emeritus Professor of McGill University Montreal, Heidelberg University, and Extraordinary Fellow of Wolfson College Oxford. Raymond has received many honours from numerous academic institutions including that of *Ehrensator* of the University of Heidelberg. In 1994 Hamburg honoured him with the *Lessing-Preis*, the highest honour of the town, allocated every four years. In 1995 he received the *Große Bundesverdienstkreuz* from the President of the German Republic and Hon. Doctorate of the University of Bologna, the oldest university in Europe. ⁽¹²⁾

Over the last few years Raymond has been dividing his time between Wolfson College Oxford and McGill University Montreal, as well as travelling to lecture at many other universities in various parts of the world. In 2002 Raymond, now aged 95 years, is still working and living with his wife Ethel, a former Professor of Law at McGill University, now mainly in Montreal. ⁽¹³⁾

Sonja Klibansky was born in Frankfurt on 5 March 1916. She is a talented artist and in 2002 lives with her second husband in London.

Max Scheidt, born in Kitzingen in 1881, was married to Margarethe Wolfschmidt, born in 1886 in Leppertsdorf. The couple appear to have moved to the United States, where their children were born. Around 1920 Max and his family moved back to Germany, but returned to Los Angeles four years later. Max died in New York in 1929 and was survived by his wife until 1957.

Walter Scheidt later **Walt Scheid** was born in New York on 23 August 1912, returned with his parents to the USA around 1924. The family settled in Los Angeles. From 1931 to 1948 Walt worked as foreman for a firm manufacturing parts for World War II aircraft. He then went on to do construction work at Howard Hughes Aircraft, from there moving on to Aerospace and T.W.R. He retired in 1987 and moved to Ashland, where he died on 5 December 1993. On 23 August 1940 he had married Wilma McCullum, born in 1917 in Albion Ill.

Sophie Scheidt married Neil A. Giebler, born in Los Angeles in 1911 and had two children.

Hermann Scheidt, born Kitzingen on 27 November 1882. Nothing is known about him except that he appears to have emigrated to the United States. He remained single and died in Los Angeles on 31 January 1921.

Regina Scheidt and her Descendants

Regina Scheidt Klugmann, second daughter and eighth child of Salomon and Jeanette, was born in Mainstockheim on 9 July 1846. She was married to Simon Klugmann, born on 22 May 1842 in Wiesenbronn, a small village not far from Mainstockheim and Kitzingen. Simon moved to Mainstockheim and on 22 June 1867 had received a licence to trade there as a wine merchant. He then applied for a concession in Kitzingen and on 18 November 1867 got permission to move from Mainstockheim to Kitzingen to settle there, followed by a licence to trade in *Naturerzeugnissen* (natural products) and foreign wines on 20 December 1867 and permission to marry on 30th December 1867. Regina and Simon married on 1st January 1868 in Markstef. Simon set up a business in partnership with his brother Ignaz. Regina died in Kitzingen on 12 April 1891. Some time after her death her widower Simon appears to have moved to Nuremberg. Had any of their daughters perhaps settled in Nuremberg? Simon died there on 24 December 1927. Both Regina and Simon are buried on the Jewish cemetery in Rödelsee.



Regina's grave in Rödelsee

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Their children were all born in Kitzingen:

- Frieda Klugmann, born 4 June 1868.
- Katharina Klugmann, born 4 December 1869.
- Fanny Klugmann, born 25 February 1872.
- Ida Klugmann, born 20 January 1877, married Max Levi in Stuttgart and settled in Stuttgart. Max with his business partner Jacob Sigle was founder of a shoe manufacturing company in

Kornwestheim, north of Stuttgart, which later became well known under the brand name *Salamander*.⁽¹⁴⁾ Max Levi died around 1925 Ida married her second husband Franz Arnold in 1926 and in 1939 Adolf Michel, her third husband.

- Meta Klugmann, born 19 February 1879, on 3 November 1901 married Moritz Frank, born in Kitzingen in 1872, another of the numerous wine merchants in Kitzingen.
- Olga Klugmann (1 November 1880) in Würzburg on 8 June 1902 Olga married Moritz Oppenheimer, a wine merchant born in Kitzingen in 1872. Olga Klugmann Oppenheimer died in New York. Their son Fred Oppenheimer was born on 25 February 1904 in Munich. In the 1980s Fred lived in Debray Beach, Florida and may have died there on 15 April 1988.

Raphael Scheidt and his Descendants

Our grandfather Raphael Scheidt, 9th and youngest child of Salomon and Jeanette, was born in Mainstockheim on 22nd May 1848. When his mother Jeanette moved from Mainstockheim to Kitzingen in 1875, where his elder brothers had then settled, Raphael was still single and was included in the official documents of settlement *Heimatrecht* of his mother, dated 26 July 1875⁽¹⁵⁾ and appears to have moved with her.

On 3 April 1877 he applied for the necessary permission of settlement in Kitzingen for himself and for permission to marry Ricka Sahlmann, which was granted on 23 April of that year. On his application Raphael gave his occupation as trading in draperies⁽¹⁶⁾ but he was eventually to become one of the hundred or so wine merchants in the town at that time. Ricka, born on 27 December 1855, was the second of three children and only daughter of Salomon and Eva Sahlmann (see The Sahlmanns of Burghaslach).



Raphael Scheidt

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Raphael and Ricka married on 3rd May 1876 in Neustadt an der Aisch and set up home in Kitzingen. The Kitzingen address book of 1884 gives his address as *Weinhandlung* (wine-store) Markt 21, the house also occupied by Wolf Scheidt and his family, where Wolf also had his shop.

We have an old family photograph dated 1931 of the house in Kitzingen, where our father Sali and his brothers and sister were born, but without any indication of its location. In 1986 when we visited Kitzingen for the first time and before we had done any serious family research, Kitzingen was a busy little town of approximately 20,500 inhabitants. Roads from all directions meet and wind through the streets of the old town.



Ricka Scheidt

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

We arrived there on the road from Mainstockheim and found ourselves in a rush hour traffic jam. Luckily we found about the only parking meter available at that time and got out of the car. We turned round and there to our utter amazement stood the house, where the Scheidts had lived and our father and his brothers and sister had been born one hundred years previously. 55 years after the original photograph was taken, only a small corner first floor balcony had been removed. The address is corner Marktstraße 2 / Alte Burgstraße 2.

Around the beginning of the 20th century Raphael and Ricka must have moved from this address, as by 1906 they lived in a second floor apartment of a block of flats at Bismarckstraße 27. Raphael seems to have retired about that time, as the register of members of the Jewish Congregation of 1908 lists him as *Privatier*.



Raphael's and Ricka's grave in Frankfurt

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

In 1924 whilst Raphael and Ricka visited Frankfurt, where their sons Oscar, Richard and Willi were then living, Raphael died there very suddenly on 29th May 1924, a few days after his 74th birthday. After Raphael's death Ricka moved to Frankfurt and died there on 6 May 1935.

Both Raphael and Ricka are buried on the Jewish cemetery in Frankfurt.

Raphael and Ricka Scheidt were the last members of the family to live in Kitzingen. All their six children were born in Kitzingen but all of them settled in different towns in Germany. All were lucky to survive Nazi persecution and to manage to emigrate from Germany to different parts of the world.

Jonas Louis (Zion) Scheidt and his Descendants

Jonas, son of Leser and Mina née Kuhn, was born in Mainstockheim on 17 August 1841. On 29 April 1863 he applied for a trade concession to settle in Kitzingen and to marry Therese Kahn, daughter of Sigmund Kahn and his wife Amalia née Rothstein of Mainstockheim, who was born there on 14 June 1844. Leser Scheidt was giving him *Heimgeld* of 5000 fl and Therese was receiving a dowry of 6000 fl from her father. On 11 March 1864 they received the necessary permit enabling them to marry. We know of four of their children: Max (7 February 1865 Kitzingen - 12 February 1933 Würzburg), Frieda (21 March 1867 Kitzingen - 25 July 1928 Würzburg), Sigismund (28 May 1869 Kitzingen - 23 March 1944 Theresienstadt), Benno (1872 Würzburg - 14 November 1872 Würzburg).

In 1871 the family moved from Kitzingen to Würzburg, where Jonas traded as a wine merchant. He died in Würzburg on 23 March 1899. Therese had died on 25 December 1897.

- MAX SCHEIDT. On 26 November 1899 Max married Selma Geggel, born in Nördlingen, Swabia on 25 December 1878. Max and his brother Sigismund carried on and expanded their father's wine, spirit and tea wholesale business J.L.Scheidt, which became a purveyor to the Court of Bavaria. After the death of Max in 1933 Selma carried on her husband's business until it was dissolved. She became partially paralysed by strokes and in 1941 entered the Jewish Old Age Home in Würzburg. On 23 September 1942, after *buying herself in* for RM 46 000, she was deported to Theresienstadt where she died on 25 October 1942. Max and Selma had one child, who died in 1909.
- SIGISMUND SCHEIDT married Vera Löwenthal in 1901. Vera was born in Archshofen, Wurttemberg, on 10 August 1875. He carried on the family business in partnership with his brother and later sister-in-law, as well as having his own independent wine, spirit and tea wholesale business. In a raid by the Nazis on *influential Jews* he was taken into custody. His old family house was confiscated by the Nazis, who used it to accommodate partners of mixed marriages. Sigismund und Vera were moved to a Jewish Home from where they were deported to Theresienstadt on 23 September 1942, having *bought themselves in for a very substantial sum of money*. Sigismund died there on 23 March 1944 and Vera a month later on 20 April 1944.
- FRIEDA SCHEIDT was married to Max Rosenthal, born 10 March 1863 in Erfurt. They died respectively on 25 July 1928 and 21 January 1926. As far as we know they had one daughter Erna Rosenthal, born in Kitzingen on 3 July 1892, who married Gustav Kleemann in 1912. Both Erna and Gustav Kleemann were deported to Riga and were victims of the Holocaust.

The Firm J.L. Scheidt of Kitzingen

In 1867 a firm J.L. Scheidt of Kaiserstraße Kitzingen advertised extensively in the *Kitzinger Anzeiger*, a supplement of the *Kitzinger Bezirksamts Blatt*, a paper for the districts of Kitzingen and Markbreit. In April 1867 the arrival of the latest in dress materials is announced and a great variety of new beds in May of that year. In November 1867 the paper advertised a Clearing Sale. *In order to clear everything I offer my complete stock at factory prices* Many different types of woollen, cotton, and silk materials, curtains and material and linings, bed and table linen, towels, as well as a great selection of all types of clothing, underwear, coats, window blinds, crinolines, several other articles and even bicycles(!) were for sale.

Who was J.L. Scheidt? Was he Jonas Louis or Joseph Louis or perhaps yet another so far unknown J.L. Scheidt? We know that Jonas had moved from Kitzingen and in 1871 lived in Würzburg. Further research is necessary.

The Dispersal of the Scheidt Family in the 20th Century



The descendants of Raphael and Ricka about 1920: to the back Leo Portje, Richard, Lia, Willi, Joseph, Sali, in front Elsa, Friedel, Oscar, Tilla, Frida

(photo: Heinz & Thea Skyte)

Salomon Scheidt

Our father, eldest son of Raphael and Ricka, was born in Kitzingen on 22 June 1880 and was named after his grandfathers Salomon Scheidt of Mainstockheim and Salomon Sahlmann of Burghaslach but generally known as Sali. Sali attended primary school between 1886 and 1891, followed by a secondary school education in Kitzingen. On leaving school in 1897 he served an apprenticeship with the firm Frank & Baer in Frankfurt on Main and then became its warehouseman and commercial traveller.

In Germany men had to serve periods of compulsory military service. For those who had passed their *Einjährige* at school (an examination similar to the GCSE in England) the period was reduced to one year (*ein Jahr*). They then entered the *Reserve* and had to undergo annual military exercises.

On 1 October 1903 Sali was conscripted into the Royal Bavarian 9th Infantry Regiment *Wrede* as a one year Volunteer Private. On being discharged at the end of September 1904 he joined the reserve of the District Commando Kitzingen of the District Regiment Unterfranken and Aschaffenburg. Whilst serving with the 5th Infantry Regiment *Großherzog Ernst Ludwig von Hessen* between 26th July and 20th September 1906, he was promoted to the rank of *Unteroffizier* (Corporal). During some of the following years for various reasons he was excused from attending annual military exercises, but participated again in 1911.

After his discharge from his year's service in 1904 Sali continued his commercial career and was employed as commercial traveller by the linen manufacturers Hermann Engel & Co. of Berlin until 1910 and then by Brandenstein & Rose of Cologne until 1912.

In November 1911 Sali had become engaged to Frida Gutmann of Fürth and on his marriage on 24 March 1912 settled in Fürth. (See The Scheidts in Fürth)

Joseph Scheidt, born 26 February 1882, had married Tilla Jacoby on 5 June 1914 and lived in Cologne, where their daughter was born. They eventually settled in London. Joseph died in London on 13 October 1946 and Tilla on 27 December 1958.

Oscar Scheidt (born 18 November 1883) had married Friedel Klein on 19 April 1921 and lived in Frankfurt/Main. They and their son eventually moved to San Francisco. Oscar died in San Francisco on 3 September 1969 and Friedel on 23 July 1979.

Richard Scheidt (born 21 June 1886). As two generations earlier, two Scheidt brothers married two sisters. On 30 April 1918 Richard married Amalie Gutmann (Lia, Malchen), sister of Frida, the wife of his eldest brother Sali. They lived in Frankfurt/Main and eventually moved with their two children to New York. Richard died in New York on 19 February 1957 and Lia on 1 March 1986.

Willi Scheidt (born 19 January 1888) had married Trude Strauss on 11 April 1926 and set up home in Offenbach. They and their two sons eventually moved to New York. Willi died in New York on 19 January 1978, his 90th birthday, and Trude on 2 February 2000.

Elsa Scheidt (born 16 December 1890). Raphael and Ricka's only daughter, had married Leo Portje on 2 March 1913. They had lived in Mannheim and Frankfurt and finally moved with their son to New York. Elsa died in New York on 29 December 1962 and Leo on 25 September 1957.

Footnotes

- (1) Stadtarchiv Kitzingen.
- (2) do. (Documents Louis Scheidt)
- (3) do.
- (4) do.
- (5) Matrikel Catholic Church Kitzingen. Between the resettlement of Jews in Kitzingen in 1862/63 and the introduction of Birth, Marriages and Death Registries in Bavaria in 1875, Jewish records were kept by the Catholic Church in Kitzingen.
- (6) do.
- (7) *Pulse* article 9.6.1979.
- (8) Information Otto Scheidt.
- (9) Stadtarchiv Kitzingen.
- (10) Chronik der Haupt- und Residenzstadt Karlsruhe 1917 (Chronicle of Capital Karlsruhe 1917).

- (11) This must be a reference to the Nazi period, when registers were searched for Jewish ancestors.
- (12) *Who is Who*.
- (13) Family information.
- (14) Information Rolf Hofmann.
- (15) Stadtarchiv Kitzingen.
- (16) do.