



# Our Family

*by*

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## THE ALTERTHUMS OF SCHWERIN

Wolff Michael Alterthum is the earliest Alterthum ancestor traced. He was born around 1795/6. On 10 June 1834 he became a naturalised Prussian citizen. He was then aged 38 years, married with seven children. His occupation is given as horse dealer. He may then have lived in Prittisch, a village a few miles south east of Schwerin, as his name appears on a list of Jews, "who live in villages affiliated into our corporation". Another document lists him as "trading in Prittisch".

Bertha Alterthum was born on 27. February 1818 in Schwerin. In the early 1840s she married Meyer Joseph Levy of Birnbaum/Warthe. Bertha died on 7th August 1873 at Gottschimer Muehle near Driesen.

The following Alterthum names were found in various Schwerin registers, but it has so far not been possible to sort them out or to find how they are connected: Alterthum, Salomon (scholar, b.1844), Siegfried (Komis), Louis (Komis), Georg (Komis), Max (Komis), Hessel (father Aron Alterthum, moved to ?, Leipzig deceased), Aron (Erfurt deceased), Hessel (Cothen deceased).

In 1857 A. Alterthum was a representative on the executive of the congregation.

## THE ALTERTHUMS IN BERLIN

Up to now it has not been possible to do further research into the Alterthum ancestors and their issue. It is however known that many of them moved to Berlin. Frederike, Siegfried, Max, Adolph, and George and Minna Alterthum lived there in the 1870s. The following members of the family are known to be buried on the Jewish Cemetery in Berlin-Weissensee: Siegfried Alterthum (4 April 1850 - 18 February 1903, Neue Friedrichstr. Berlin, Merchant), Max Alterthum (3 July 1856 - 8 November 1926, Kuestrinerstr. 17, Berlin, Builder), Adolph Alterthum (13 September 1858 - 14 November 1910, lived in Bernburg).