

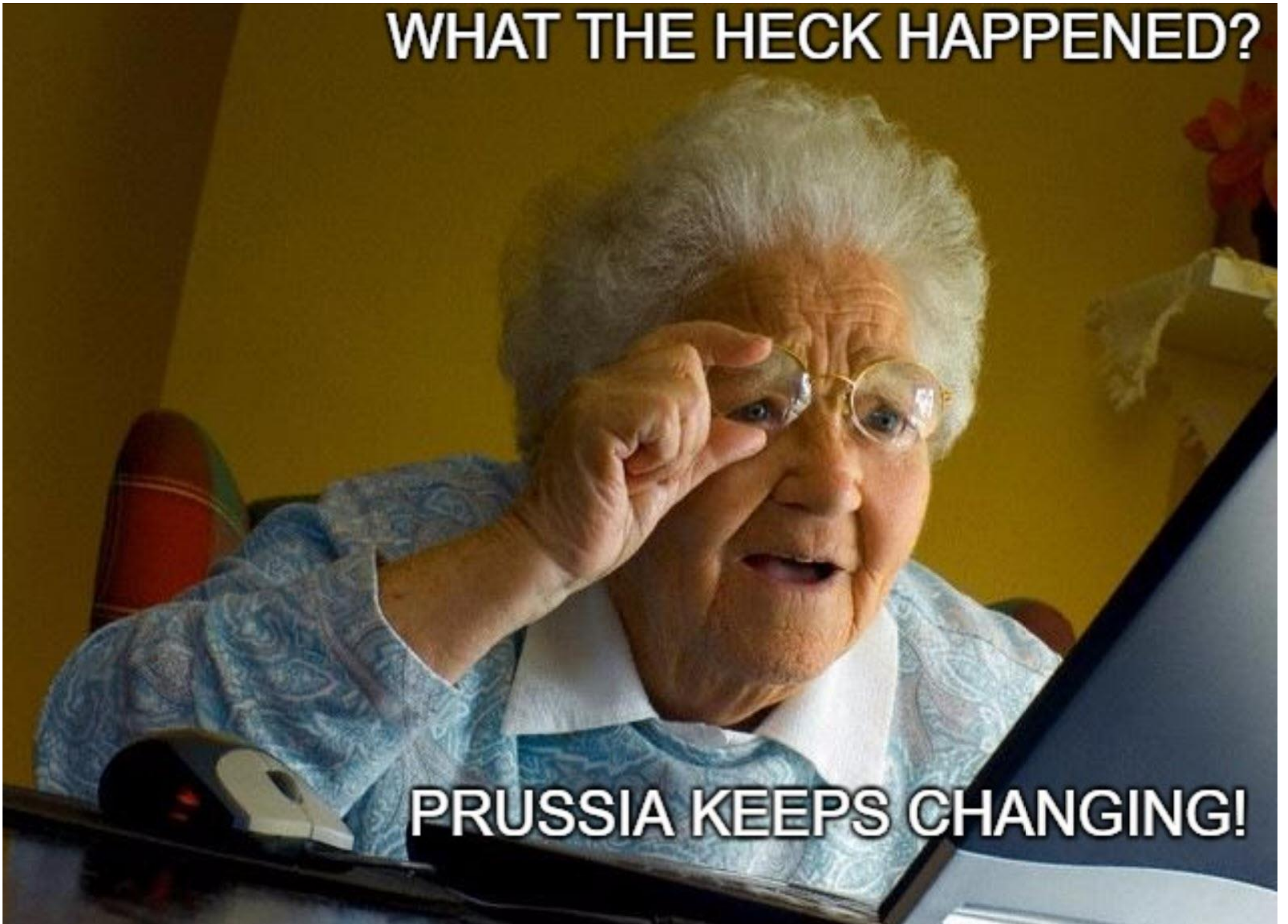
Expanding Your Prussian Search

Beyond Church Records

Stephen Wendt, MLIS

WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED?

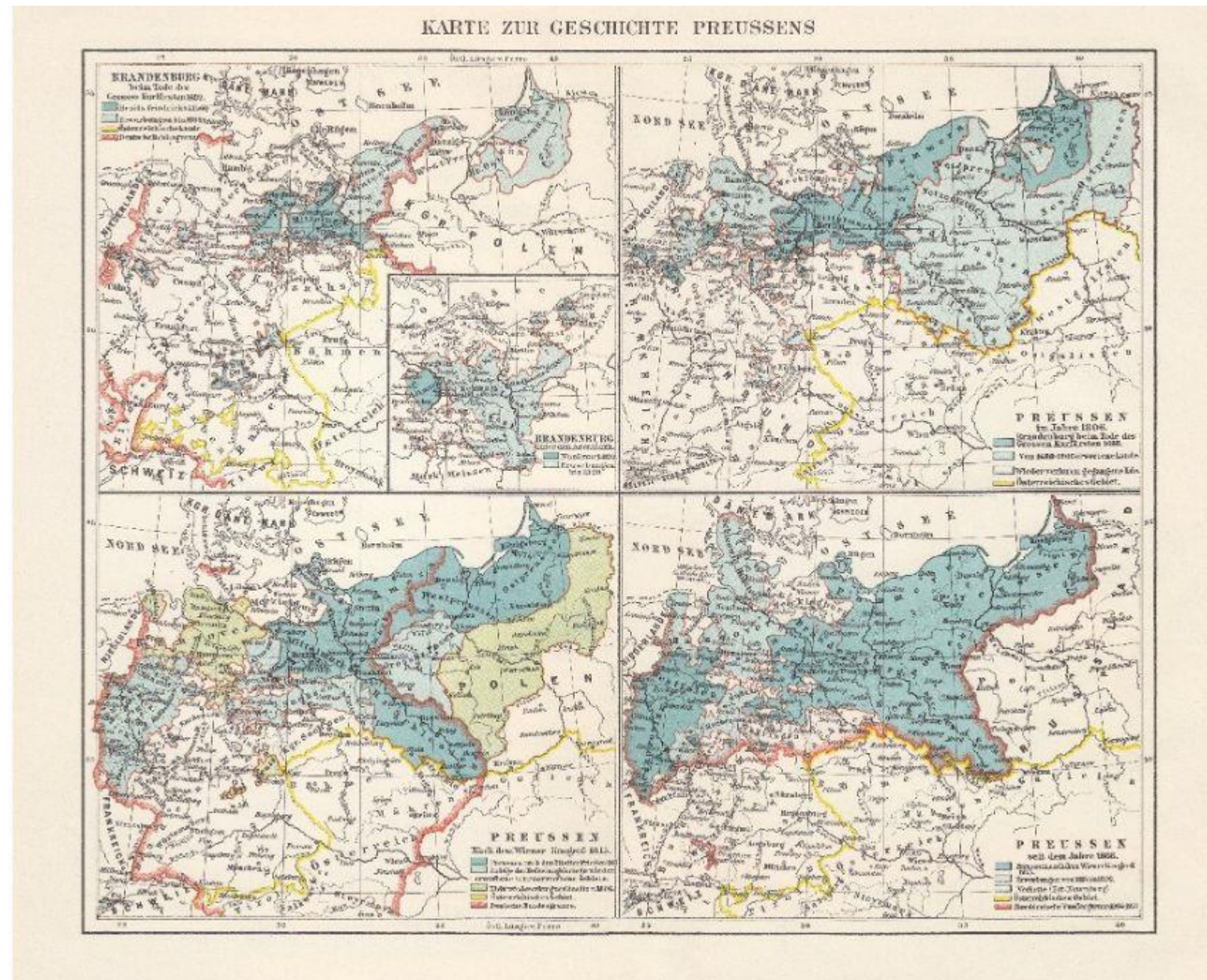
PRUSSIA KEEPS CHANGING!



Agenda

- **Prussian territorial changes**
- **Beyond Church Records**
- **Examples, Tips & Resources**

Prussia's Changing Borders



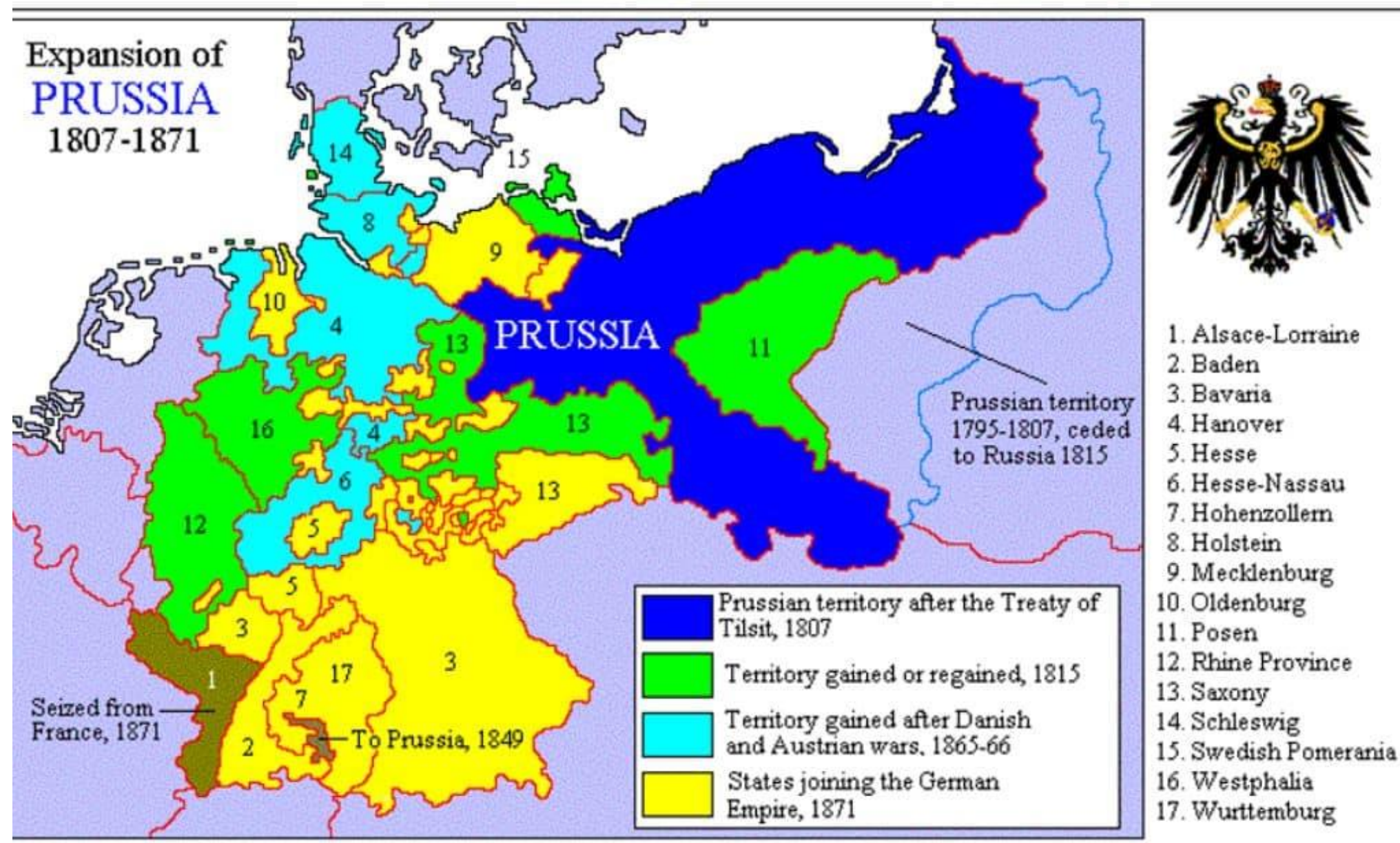
Karte Zur Geschichte Preussens. Published by Bibliographisches Institut 1890.

Prussia's Changing Borders



Source: Wikimedia

Prussia's Changing Borders



Source: Wikimedia

Prussia's Changing Borders

South Prussia Province

- **Prussian province between 1793-1807**
- **Territory annexed during the Second Partition of Poland**
- **Posen was the capital from 1793-1795 followed by Warschau from 1795**

Prussia's Changing Borders

Province of Prussia

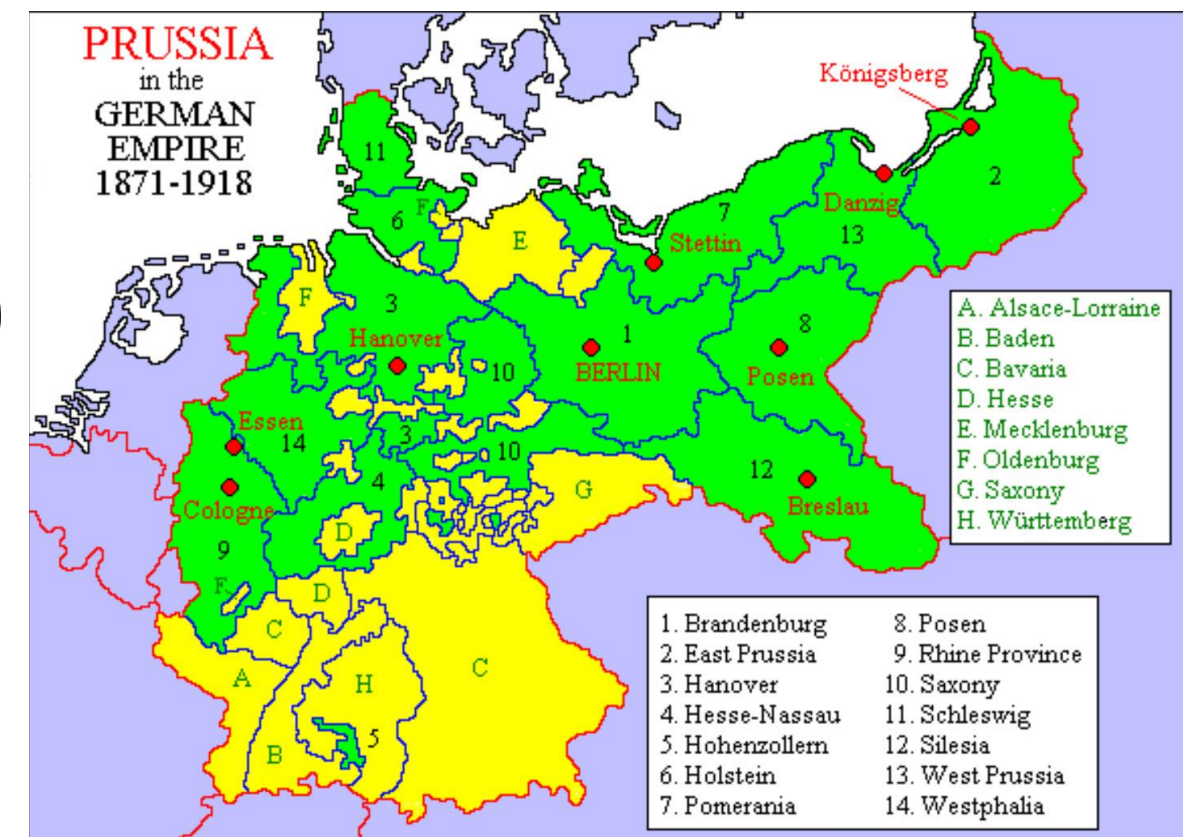
- **Prussian province between 1829-1878**
- **Combined territory of East Prussia and**
- **West Prussia**
- **Königsberg was its capital**
- **East Prussia Province: 1773-1829 & 1878-1945**
- **West Prussia Province: 1773-1829 & 1878-1920**

Prussian genealogy is like...



Prussia's Changing Borders

1. Brandenburg
2. Posen
3. Rheinprovinz (Rhine Province)
4. Sachsen (Saxony)
5. Schleswig
6. Schlesien (Silesia)
7. Westpreußen (West Prussia)
8. Westfalen (Westphalia)
9. Ostpreußen (East Prussia)
10. Hannover
11. Hessen-Nassau
12. Hohenzollern
13. Holstein
14. Pommern (Pomerania)



Source: Wikimedia

Beyond Church Records

Document trail runs out

Timeframe not available

Lost or destroyed

Warm up!



Standesamt Records

- **civil registration records**
- **birth, marriage and death**
- **Universal in Prussia in 1874**
- **Universal in German Empire in 1876**

Civil Birth Records

German Civil Registrations
A guide to German birth, marriage, and death registrations

ancestry

BIRTHS

2. Occupation/standing and name of individual reporting the birth

4. Mother's name

6. Mother's religion

7. Mother's residence, which may be listed as "bei ihm" when the reporting individual is the father. If so, refer to #3.

1. Registration place and date

3. Residence and religion of individual reporting the birth

5. Mother's maiden name (preceded by "geboren")

8. Child's birth date

9. Child's gender männlich (male) or weiblich (female)

10. Child's name

11. Internal office information

Key:
Dark boxes = indexed
Green boxes = unindexed

A.

Nr. 4566

Soestdamm am 14. September 1896

Vor dem unterzeichneten Standesbeamten erschien heute, der
Verpflichtete nach evangelisch
Georg Heinrich Evangelisch Soestdamm
Der Verpflichtete hat folgende Person
geboren:

geboren zu Soestdamm Evangelisch
geboren zu Soestdamm Evangelisch
geboren zu Soestdamm Evangelisch
geboren zu Soestdamm Evangelisch

am 14. September des Jahres
um 10.00 Uhr ein männlich
Kind geboren worden ist, welches
Carl Wilhelm
erhalten habe.

Bezeugen, geschworen und unterschieden
Soestdamm Evangelisch

Der Standesbeamte.
Evangelisch
Carl

Die Uebereinstimmung mit dem Hauptregister beglaubigt.
Soestdamm am 14. September 1896

Der Standesbeamte.
Evangelisch

Visit the Ancestry.com Learning Center at www.ancestry.com/learn.
For account questions or technical help, call 1-800-262-3787.

Civil Marriage Records

German Civil Registrations

A guide to German birth, marriage, and death registrations



Margin notes: may include additional information recorded by the civil registry office after the event was registered. May also include references to certificates for individual's other life events.

Name
Religion
Date of birth
Birthplace
Residence

Parents:
(Follows "Sohn")
Generally includes parents' names, occupations and address

Section 2 for the bride follows in same format as the groom's section.

MARRIAGES

Certificate number

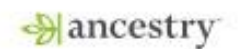
Registration date and place

Section 1: Groom

Section 2: Bride

German Civil Registrations

A guide to German birth, marriage, and death registrations



MARRIAGES (PAGE 2)

Page forward to see the second page of the marriage record, with details about the witnesses.

Section 3: Witness 1

Name

Age

Residence

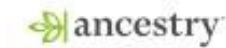
Section 4: Witness 2 (same format as Witness 1)

Signatures of the groom, bride, and witnesses

Civil Death Records

German Civil Registrations

A guide to German birth, marriage, and death registrations



DEATHS

The image shows a German death certificate (Todesbescheinigung) from 1876, with various fields highlighted by callouts explaining their content:

- C.**: The letter 'C' in the top left corner.
- Mr. 1127**: The registration number (Nr. 1127).
- Registration date**: The date of registration, 3^{te} September 1876.
- Name, occupation/standing and residence of individual reporting the death**: The name of the declarant, Aufsehermeister, and their residence, Berlin.
- Occupation and name of the deceased. (Occupation usually precedes the name and is not indexed.)**: The deceased's name, Johann Müller, and his occupation, Buchbinder.
- Age (years/months)**: The deceased's age, 61 years and 8 months.
- Religion**: The deceased's religion, Evangelisch-Lutherisch.
- Residence**: The deceased's residence, Berlin.
- Birth information: Generally includes the location, and may also include other details such as parents' names and birthplaces.**: The deceased's birth information, including birthplace (Bremen), date (20. April 1815), and parents' names (Herrn Heinrich Meyer and Frau Anna Meyer).
- Place of death**: The place of death, Berlin.
- Date of death**: The date of death, 5^{te} September 1876.
- Time of death**: The time of death, 11^{te} Uhr.
- Internal office information**: The signature of the official, Albert Bruns, and the stamp of the district office, Der Standesbeamte.

Visit the Ancestry.com Learning Center at www.ancestry.com/learn
For account questions or technical help, call 1-800-262-3787.

Standesamt Websites

Ancestry

Family Search

Polish State Archives

NamensIndex (W. & E. Prussia)

West Prussia & East Prussia



Source: David Rumsey

Anton Werner



Source: Margaret Cheney's photograph

ORIGINAL INFO.

Great-grandfather

1858-1934

Born in East Prussia

Settled in Grafton, Ohio

Anton and Augusta Werner



Source: Margaret Cheney's photographs

A Wicker Basket



Source: Margaret Cheney's photograph

Werner Family



Source: Margaret Cheney's photograph

St. John's Lutheran Record

Anton Werner,
geb. in Ostpreussen, 3. Mai 1858

Auguste geb. Sprengel, geb.
13. Nov. 1861 in Ostpreussen
Wilhelmine Bladowski, geb.
Pauline Grauning, geb. 20. Juli 1862 in
Westpreussen, Ostschlesien
Kinder:

1. Hans,
geb. Deutsch Eylau, Kreutz. 6. Apr. 1886.
2. Otto,
geb. abendrupell, 26. März 1888.
3. Margareta,
geb. in Grafton O., 27. Nov. 1889.
4. Louise Auguste,
geb. in Grafton O., 26. Nov. 1891
5. Anna Amanda,
geb. in Grafton O., 6. Jan. 1894.
6. Eduard,
geb. in Grafton, 15. Feb. 1896
7. Wilhelmine Gertrude,
geb. bei Grafton, O. 18. Dec. 1902.
8. Carolino,
geb. Grafton 13. Jan. 1898

Kindre von Caroline Jorick geb. Werner

1. Wayne Stanley,
geb. in Grafton 18. Dec. 1918.

gestorb. 19. Juli 1917

gestorb. 25. Feb. 1918

eingetrag.

eingetrag.

vide p. 343

eingetrag.

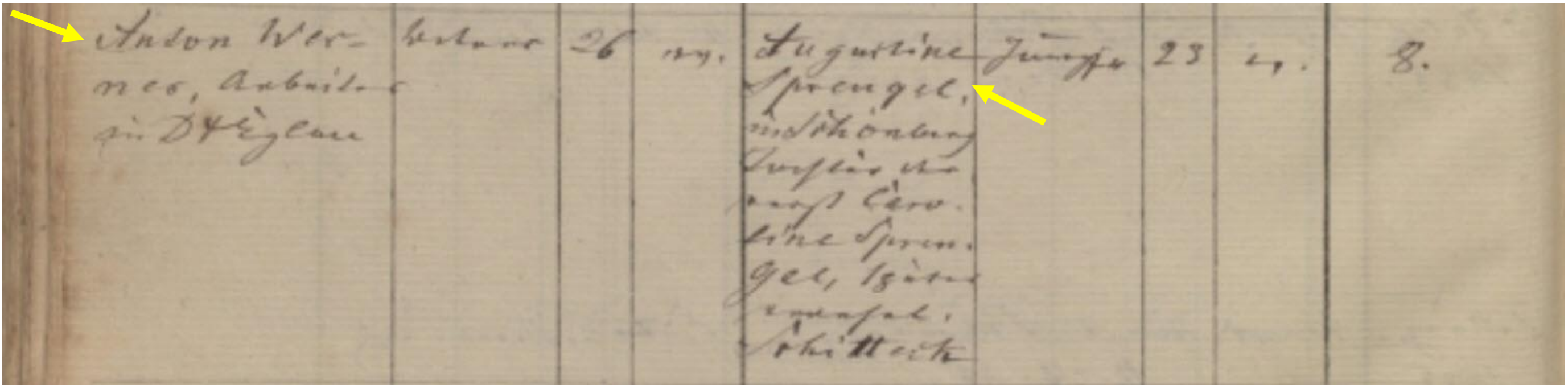
**CHURCH RECORD OF
WERNER FAMILY**

**Anton Werner born
in East Prussia on
3 May 1858**

**Augusta (geb.
Sprengel) born in
East Prussia on
13 Nov 1861**

**8 Children
Hans and Otto born
in West Prussia**

1885 Church Marriage Record



Source: Archion

- **Anton Werner and Augustine Sprengel**
- **Married on 7 April 1885 at Sommerau, West Prussia**
- **Anton lived in Deutsch Eylau, West Prussia**
- **Augustine was from Schönberg, West Prussia**

Deutsch Eylau



Source: Wikimedia

NamensIndex

The screenshot shows the 'NamensIndex' website interface. The header features a dark blue bar with navigation links: NamensIndex, Blog, Bestände, Archive, and Projekte. On the right, there are links for Suche, Links, and Impressum. The main content area has a dark background. On the left, there is a logo of a black eagle and the text 'NamensIndex der Ost- und Westpreußischen Standesamtsregister' with '1.072.315 Einträge im Index'. The central heading is 'Suche im NamensIndex der Standesamtsregister'. To the right of the heading are buttons for Korrektur, Suchen, Mitmachen, Statistik, Namenskarte, and Hilfe. Below the heading is a search form with several sections: 'Suche' (with Starten and Löschen buttons), 'Nachname' (with radio buttons for exakt, beginnt, and enthält, and a text input field), 'Register' (with checkboxes for Geburten, Heiraten, Sterbereg., and Aufgebote), 'Zeitraum' (with von and bis date inputs), 'Signatur' (with Bestand and Einheit inputs), and 'Ortssuche' (with Kreis and Ort dropdowns, and an Umkreis dropdown). A yellow arrow points to the 'Nachname' input field.

Source: NamensIndex

- Index for West and East Prussian Standesamt Records
- Type in the Nachname (the last name)
- Choose which kind of record(s) to search for
- Select the timeframe (and other filters as applicable)

Entry for Anton & Augusta



NamensIndex
der Ost- und Westpreußischen
Standesamtsregister
1.072.315 Einträge im Index

Anton Werner

Heiratsregister

[Korrektur](#)[Suchen](#)[Mitmachen](#)[Statistik](#)[Namenskarte](#)[Hilfe](#)

Angaben zur erfassten Person:

ID:	871376
Vorname:	Anton
Nachname:	Werner
Standesamt:	Schönberg (Szymbark)
Heiratsregister:	8 / 1885

Angaben zum Ehepartner:

Person:	871375
Vorname:	Augustine
Nachname:	Sprengel

Angaben zum Ort der Beurkundung:

Ort:	Schönberg Schönberg
Landkreis:	Rosenberg
Wohnorte:	Dietrichstein, Seegenau, Peterkau, Sommerau, Schönberg
Position:	53.645° / 19.481° Google-Maps

[Messtischblätter](#)

Angaben zur Quelle:

Archiv:	Staatsarchiv Allenstein (42) <i>Archiwum Państwowe w Olsztynie</i>
Bestand:	42/698 Standesamt zu Schönberg [Urząd Stanu Cywilnego w Szymbarku pow. iławski (dawny pow. suski)] Standesamt zu Schönberg <i>Urząd Stanu Cywilnego w Szymbarku pow. iławski (dawny pow. suski)</i>
Findbuch:	115799
Signatur:	42/698/0/2/32
Einheit:	Heiraths-Neben-Register Nr 1 - 29
Laufzeit:	1885-1885
Digitalisate:	Staatsarchiv Allenstein Szukajwarchiwach.gov.pl
Veröffentlicht:	21.04.2015

Hinweise

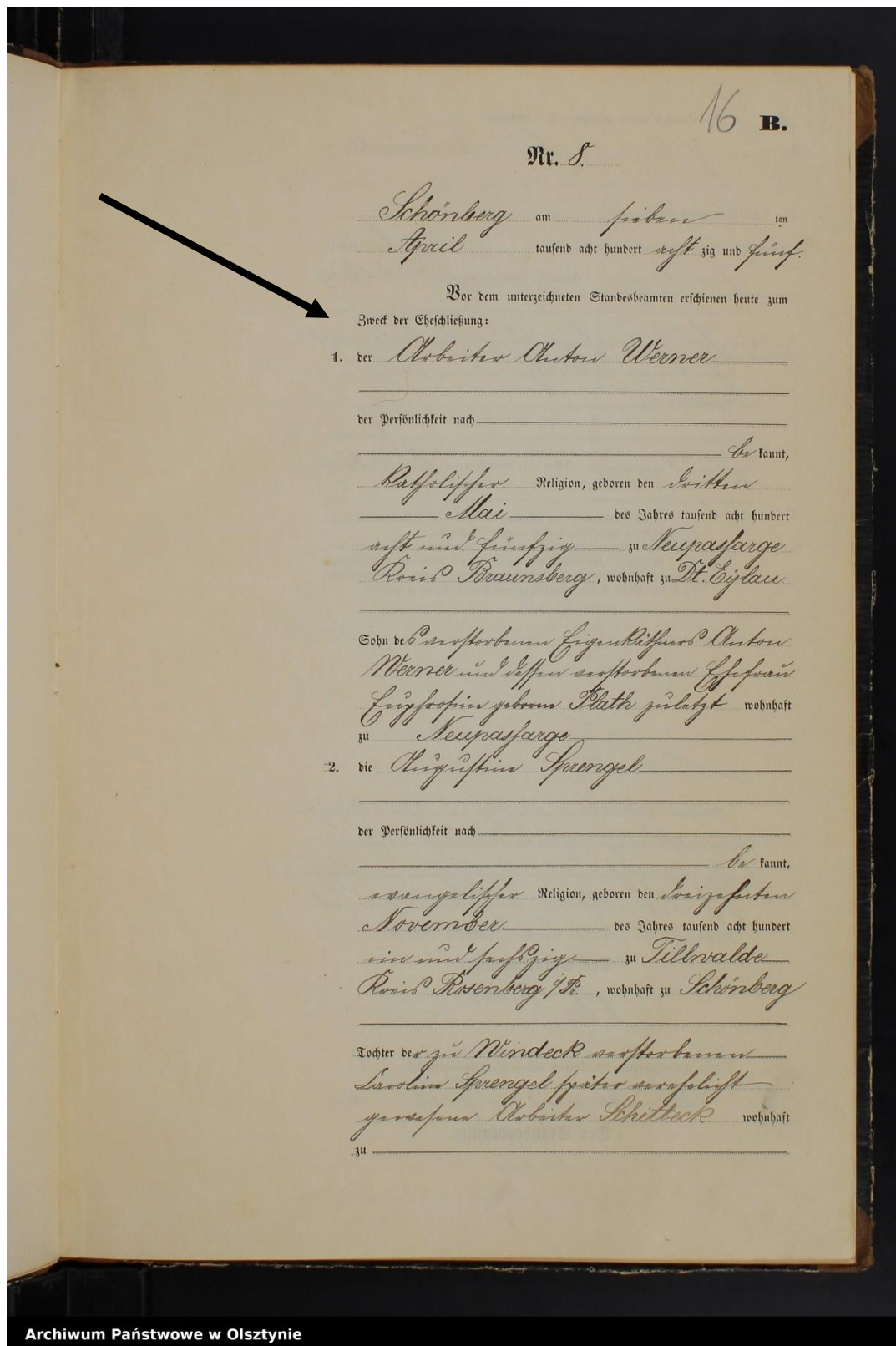
Benutzen Sie nicht den Link zu dieser Webseite als Quellenangabe!

Die URL zu dieser Webseite ist kein Permalink! Bei einer Aktualisierung des Datenbestandes wird sich der Link höchstwahrscheinlich ändern! Verwenden Sie daher ausschließlich die nebenstehenden Quellenangaben für ihre genealogische Forschung.

Sie können das  Symbol benutzen, um die Quellenangaben als Klartext in Ihre Zwischenablage zu kopieren!

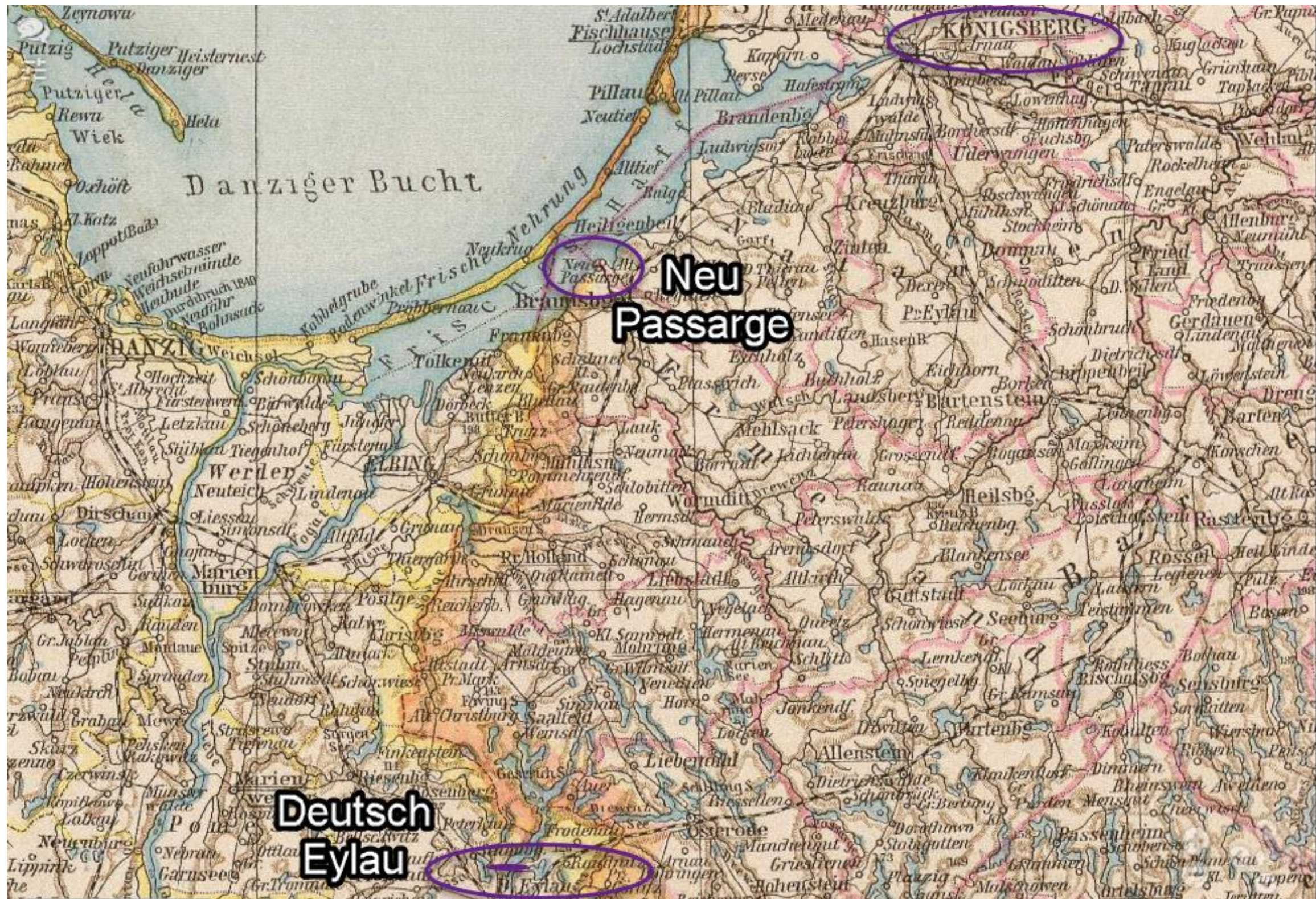
[Neue Suche im Index ...](#)[Korrektur mitteilen ...](#)

Marriage Standesamt Record



- Anton Werner
- Catholic
- Born on 3 May 1858
- From Neu Passarge, Braunsberg, Königsberg, Ostpreussen, Preussen
- Lived in Deutsch Eylau
- Parents: Anton Werner and wife, Euphrasina Werner geb. Plath (living in Neu Passarge)

Map View of the Locations



Source: David Rumsey

Map View Neu/Alt Passarge

Passarge, Alt, Neu

Passarge, Alt, Neu, Braunsberg, Königsberg, Ostpreussen, Preussen

[Entry](#)[Map](#)[Ecclesiastical](#)[Related](#)[E-mail](#)[Feedback](#)

Source: Meyers Gazetteer

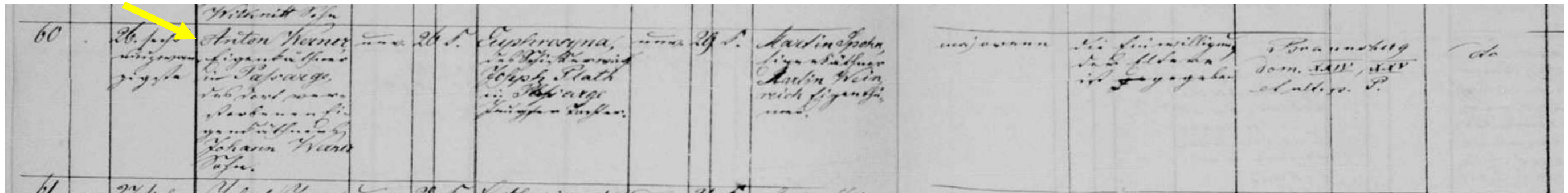
1858 Baptismal Record



Source: Family Search

- **Anton Werner**
- **Born on 3 May 1858 at Passarge, East Prussia**
- **Parents: Anton Werner & Euphrasina Werner geb. Plath**
- **Recorded place: Catholic Church in Braunsberg**

1855 Church Marriage Record



Source: Family Search

- **Anton Werner and Euphrasina Werner geb. Plath**
- **Married on 26 November 1855**
- **Anton's (Sr.'s) father: Johann Werner**
- **Recorded place: Catholic Church in Braunsberg**

Present-day Nowa Pasleka



Source: Ostpreussen.net

W/E Prussia Summary

- **Civil marriage record**
- **Werner line traced back further**
- **NamensIndex for East Prussia & West Prussia**