

## Bernhard Friedmann

**Bernhard Friedmann**, son of Leopold Friedmann and Marie (Gausch) Friedmann, was born November 27, 1822 in Greffern, Baden, Germany. The infant arrived at one o'clock in the afternoon and was baptized at four p.m. the same day.<sup>1</sup> He was the third child of four. His oldest brother, Mathew Friedmann was born September 14, 1818.<sup>2</sup> Next in line was Joseph Friedmann, who was born April 25, 1820;<sup>3</sup> and younger sister, Caroline Friedmann was born September 24, 1825.<sup>4</sup> Bernhard and all his siblings were baptized by a Catholic Priest.

The town of Bernhard's birth is a river town, located along the Rhine River in Baden Germany. Today, the Rhine separates Germany from France. The history of Greffern is closely linked to this waterway. It is a shipping and fishing community.<sup>5</sup> Bernhard's brothers Mathew and Joseph were both boatmen.<sup>6</sup> However Bernhard's father, Leopold was a day laborer and farmer.<sup>7</sup>

The Friedmann family received a tragic blow when two family members lost their lives. Leopold Friedmann died at one o'clock in the morning on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1838. He was only 48 years old.<sup>8</sup> The next day, his oldest son, Mathew at the tender age of 19 ½ years old died on April 15<sup>th</sup> at eight in morning.<sup>9</sup> Bernhard was only fifteen years old when he lost his father and oldest brother. Considering the time period, Joseph, not quite eighteen years old, and Bernhard most likely had to provide for their mother and younger sister. Their mother never remarried.<sup>10</sup>

At the age of twenty-two, Bernhard Friedman journeyed to America. He departed his immediate family and friends and traveled to the port of Havre, France to board the S.S. Swanton.<sup>11</sup> He was traveling with other individuals from his hometown of Greffern. Ambrose Friedman and his wife Kordula (Riebold) Friedman and daughter were traveling with Bernhard, along with Sebastian Kohler, wife Marie Antonia (Riebold) Kohler and family.<sup>12</sup> The ship arrived at New Orleans on July 31, 1845. The small group of travelers from Greffern all listed Missouri as their final destination.<sup>13</sup>

After ten years of living in America, Bernhard Friedman married Mrs. Christina Wedde on March 1, 1855 in Jefferson County, Missouri.<sup>14</sup> Christina a few years older than Bernhard was born October 27, 1818<sup>15</sup> in Hannover, Germany. She was a widower with young children, when Bernhard married her. She arrived in America, just a few years earlier, with her husband, Carl Wedde and three children, Johana, Dortha, and Lena.<sup>16</sup> Not long after her arrival in Missouri, Christina gave birth to Henry Wedde in December of 1853.<sup>17</sup> We can only imagine Christina's feeling at the time, coming to a foreign land, losing ones spouse, and having to provide for four young children. Christina's maiden name is unknown.

Bernhard Friedman and his newly acquired family lived in Jefferson County. Before his marriage, Bernhard was living approximately four miles from the town of Antonia, with the Willis Rogers' family. Bernhard worked on the Rogers' farm as a laborer.<sup>18</sup> Eventually, Bernhard purchased his first tract of land near Willis Rogers' property. Today this tract can be found along Old Lemay Ferry Road, near Rice Road. On December 12, 1857, Bernhard sold this 40-acre tract to Owen Murray for forty-five dollars.<sup>19</sup>

Bernhard and Christine Friedman had two children together. The property mentioned above may be the birthplace of Bernhard and Christina's first born, John Bernhard Friedman, who was born on September 20, 1856.<sup>20</sup> Although their son's full name was John Bernhard Friedman, he used his full name only on official records. He was known as Bernhard or Ben, like his father. Hermena Friedman, their daughter, was born on May 5, 1859<sup>21</sup> near Antonia, Jefferson County, Missouri. At the time of her birth, the family owned a different tract of land again near Old Lemay Ferry and Rice Rd.<sup>22</sup>

Twice during the Civil War, Bernhard Friedman served as a Private in an Enrolled Missouri Militia. The E.M.M. regiments were intended primarily to provide mundane duties, such as guarding supply depots, public buildings, and railroad bridges. The intent was never to directly confront the Confederate regulars. However, many E.M.M. regiments found themselves doing just that.<sup>23</sup> Bernhard enrolled as a private on August 9, 1862 and served 21 days in Yerger's Jefferson County E.M.M. All duties were within the county. Then almost two years later he enrolled again as a private on April 30, 1864 in the 80<sup>th</sup> regiment E.M.M, Company F. He returned home a short time after. However on September 25, 1864 he was officially ordered into the 80<sup>th</sup> regimental service<sup>24</sup> when Confederate General Sterling Price invaded Missouri. During this time, there were rumors that Price had reached DeSoto, Jefferson County, Missouri. Although an encounter with Price never developed in the county, the 80<sup>th</sup> regiment E.M.M. mobilized to defend DeSoto.<sup>25</sup> Bernhard Friedman was released from duty after serving 38 actual days in the 80<sup>th</sup> regiment. He was 41 years old.

The Kohler and Friedman families that traveled together from the "old country" eventually all settled in the community of Antonia. Ambrose Friedman and his family were living in Antonia by the year 1850.<sup>26</sup> Ambrose served with Bernhard in Yerger's Jefferson County E.M.M. and in Company F of the 80<sup>th</sup> regiment E.M.M.<sup>27</sup> The Kohler family also arrived in New Orleans with the Friedmans. Unfortunately Sebastain Kohler died leaving Marie Antonia a widower with young children. Marie eventually married Anton Yerger, a resident of Antonia.<sup>28</sup> During the Civil War, Anton Yerger was the captain of Yerger's Jefferson County E.M.M. In the Fall of 1864, Anton raised from the ranks of Captain of Company F of the 80<sup>th</sup> regiment E.M.M. to Lieutenant Colonel of the same unit.<sup>29</sup> After the war, all three men and their families settled back into life in rural Jefferson County.

A few years after the war between the states, Bernard acquired land in Antonia. For two hundred dollars, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres on December 3, 1869.<sup>30</sup> This was the beginning of what many Friedman descendants call the "Homestead." A portion of this land is still owned by a descendant of the Friedman family today. Over time, some of this acreage has been sold while additional adjoining acreage has been purchased. This track of land is less than one half mile from the town of Antonia.

Antonia is a small rural town in Jefferson County, Missouri. The town was laid out on the land belonging to Judge Anton Yerger. It contained a general store, a blacksmith shop, a wagon making business and shoemaker's shop.<sup>31</sup> The local residents also call their town, "bulltown". The post office was established in 1874. Merchant, Joseph Yerger was the first postmaster.<sup>32</sup> Many of the inhabitants of the town and the surrounding area were foreign-born Germans or individuals of German descent.

Bernhard worked the land he owned by tilling the soil and raising live stock. In 1870, he owned three horses, two milk cows, four cattle and ten swine. The farm produced 155 bushels of winter wheat, 1 ton of hay and 100 pounds of butter. The farm also had an orchard. At this time, Bernhard had 22 acres of improved farmland and the remaining was listed as unimproved land.<sup>33</sup> In Antonia, Joseph Yerger's general store ledger recorded different items that Bernhard Friedman had purchased on credit. These items include coffee, tea, beer, whiskey, calico, cotton, tobacco, fees for grinding corn meal and sharpening tools.<sup>34</sup>

The Friedman's attended St. Paul's Church in Otto, Missouri. The town of Otto is another small agricultural town just north of Antonia. St. Paul's Lutheran Church was founded in 1856. During this time thirty men signed the church charter, although Bernhard Friedman's signature is not among them.<sup>35</sup> The Friedman family joined the congregation on October 12, 1879.<sup>36</sup>

On March 13, 1889, the sixty-six year old Bernhard Friedman died of pneumonia. He had been ill for nine days. His death notice in the local newspaper was very short and simple stating he was a "familiar figure about Antonia, was an industrious, frugal man, a kind neighbor and good citizen."<sup>37</sup>

Ten years later, Christine Friedman passed away on July 15, 1899 in Antonia, Jefferson County, Missouri<sup>38</sup>, at the age of 80. Both Bernhard and Christine were buried in the Antonia Cemetery. Along with others from the community, including Ambrose Friedman, Anton and Mary Yerger.<sup>39</sup>

In closing a newspaper article written about the Friedman family captures the essence of Bernhard and Christine's spirit, that continues to be seen in their descendants. "Five generations of sturdy, church-going, land-loving Friedmans have continuously occupied this comfortable and productive farm and contributed greatly toward the productivity, stability and peace of the community."<sup>40</sup>

**John Bernhard Friedman**, son of Bernhard Friedmann and Christine [ - ? - ]Friedman, was born September 20, 1856 in Antonia, Jefferson County, Missouri; and died on December 12, 1935 in Antonia.<sup>41</sup> He married **Roselia Hotz** on April 26, 1891 in Antonia.<sup>42</sup> She was born on February 10, 1870 in Highland, Madison County, Illinois, daughter of Simon Hotz and Maria (Hufnagel) Hotz.<sup>43</sup> She died July 5, 1951 in Antonia.<sup>44</sup>

**Hermena Friedman**, daughter of Bernhard Friedmann and Christine [ - ? - ] Friedman, was born May 5, 1859 in Antonia, Jefferson Co., Missouri; and died December 24, 1943 in Jefferson County.<sup>45</sup> She married **Adolph Klable** on April 20, 1882 in Jefferson County.<sup>46</sup> He was born October 10, 1857, and died January 24, 1926 in Jefferson County.<sup>47</sup>

1. Bernadus Friedman baptismal & birth entry, 27 November 1822; Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated (in chronological order by births); LDS#1057196. [All German documents were professionally translated by a member of the American Translators Association, unless otherwise stated.]
2. Matheus Friedman baptismal & birth entry, 14 September 1818; Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated; LDS#1057196. [All records found in the Catholic Church in the near-by town of Schwarzach.]
3. Josephus Fridman baptismal & birth record, 25 April 1820; Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated; LDS#1057196.
4. Carolina Friedman baptismal, 25 September 1825 & birth entry, 24 September 1825; Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated; LDS#1057196.
5. "Welcome to Rheinmunster", (<http://www.rheinmuenster.de/RheinmuensterHistorie.htm> : accessed August 12, 2002. ) [The small town of Greffern and other towns formed a new community Rheinmunster in October 1, 1974.]
6. Joseph Friedman – Josephine Riebold marriage, 23 February 1853, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated (in chronological order of marriages); LDS#1057196. Matthaus Friedmann death entry, 15 April 1838, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated (in chronological order of death); LDS#1057196. [Occupations listed as boatman.]
7. Carolina Friedman baptismal, 25 September 1825 & birth entry, 24 September 1825; Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, unpaginated; LDS#1057196. Leopold Friedmann death entry, 14 April 1838, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, unpaginated; LDS#1057196. [Occupation listed as day laborer and farmer respectively.]
8. Leopold Friedmann death, 14 April 1838, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, unpaginated; LDS#1057196.
9. Matthaus Friedmann death, 15 April 1838, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche, unpaginated; LDS#1057196.
10. Carolina Friedman-Lorenz Riebold marriage, 21 July 1847, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche; Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated (in chronological order of marriage); LDS#1057196. Joseph Friedman-Josephine Riebold marriage, 23 February 1853, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche; LDS#1057196. [ Maria Friedman is listed as a widow in Carolina marriage record and listed as deceased in Joseph's marriage record. No mention of Marie's remarriage in either documents. No marriage record found after Leopold's death in Greffern. ]
11. S.S. Swanton, 21 July 1845; p. 1& 2, line 42 -50, Passenger Lists of Vessels arriving at New Orleans, 1820-1902; Records of the U.S. Customs Service, Record Group 36; National Archives Microfilm Publication M259, roll 24.
12. Ambrose Friedman –Kordula Riebold marriage; 1837, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche; Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated; LDS#1057196. Sebastian Kohler-Maria Antonia Riebold marriage; 1840, Schwarzach Catholic Kirche; Entries for Greffern, Baden, Germany 1810-1870, unpaginated, LDS#1057196. [ Both marriage documents not translated at this time, exact marriage date unknown.]
13. S.S. Swanton Passenger Manifest, 21 July 1845; NA M259, roll 24.
14. Friedman-Weedey marriage; 1 March 1855, Jefferson County, Missouri marriage record 1849-1871, page 83; Missouri State Archive roll (MSA) #C3415.
15. Christine Friedman tombstone; Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson County, Mo; photographed by Christine Merseal, 1994, in possession of compiler.
16. Bernhard Friedman household; 1860 U.S. Census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Rock Twp, sheet 596, dwelling 370; National Archive micropublication M653, roll 626. [Christine born in Hannover. list the children's surname as White, actually Wedde] Ira A. Glazier and William Filby; *Germans to America: list of passengers arriving at US ports: Volume 4: September 1852-May 1853* (Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources Inc, 1990),146. [According to the entry, the Wedde family arrived at New Orleans on Nov. 8, 1852. Christine age 36, Carl age 42 & 3 children .]
17. Henry Wedde household: 1900 U.S. Census, St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, enumeration district [ED] 373, supervisor's district [SD] 11, sheet 14B, dwelling 202, family 311; National Archive micropublication T623 roll 899.
18. Willis Rogers household; 1850 U. S. Census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Rock Twp. sheet 450, dwelling 657; National Archive micropublication M432 roll 402.
19. Brink, McDouough & Co.; An Illustrated Atlas map Jefferson County, Missouri (1876; reprint, Jefferson County Historical Society, 1999), p. 28. Deed from Bernhart Friedman to Owen Murray, 12 Dec 1857 (recorder 22 July 1858); Jefferson County Deed Book O: 475; Recorder of Deeds Office, Hillsboro, Missouri. Description - E1/2 of Lot No. 2 NW of S5, Twp 41N R5E.

20. [John] Bernhard Friedman, death certificate no. 40021 (1935), State Bureau of Vital Records, Jefferson City, Missouri. [John] Bernhard Friedmann obituary, undated clipping from unidentified newspaper, in family papers of Margaret (Siebert) Whyman of Michigan; photocopy in possession of author.
21. Hermena (Friedman) Klable tombstone, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson County, Missouri. Photographed by author, 2001, in possession of compiler.
22. Deed from Larkin Kyle to Benhardt Freitman, 20 July 1857 (recorder 11 Sept 1858); Jefferson County Deed Book O: 518; Recorder of Deeds Office, Hillsboro, Missouri. Description - S.E. ¼ of the SW ¼ of S21 Twp 42N R5E.
23. "Brief History of the Enrolled Missouri Militia", ([www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Quad/6460/cw/EMM/EMMhist.html](http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Quad/6460/cw/EMM/EMMhist.html)): accessed February 1, 2006.)
24. Bernhard Friedman, private, Yerger's Jefferson Co. E.M.M & 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment E.M.M. Service Card; Civil War Service Record, Missouri Adjutant General's Office; Missouri State Archive, Jefferson City, Missouri.
25. "Mark Lause's Link: Enrolled Missouri Militia" (<http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Quad/6460/CW/s/EMM.html>): accessed January 29, 2006.)
26. Ambrose Friedman household; 1850 U.S. Census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Rock Township, sheet 449, dwelling 654; National Archive micropublication M432, roll 402.
27. "Soldiers Database: War of 1812 –WWI", Missouri State Archive (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/> : accessed June 7, 2005.)
28. Fred Dulson household; 1860 U.S. Census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Rock Township, sheet 595, dwelling 365; National Archive M653, roll 626. [Antonia and Mary Yager, along with Xavier, Leo and Sebastain Coler also listed in household]. Goodspeed Publication; Biography of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford, and Gasconade Counties, Missouri (1888; reprinted, Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Quest, 1995), p. 918.
29. "Soldiers Database: War of 1812 –WWI", Missouri State Archive (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/> : accessed June 7, 2005)
30. Deed from Missouri Smelting and Mineral Land Company to Bernhard Friedman, 3Dec, 1869 ( recorded 18 July 1870 ); Jefferson County Deed Book 3:207 Recorder of Deeds Office, Hillsboro, Missouri. Description –E ½ & SW ¼ of NW ¼ S28 T42N R5E.
31. Howard C. Litton, *History of Jefferson County and Festus and Crystal City, Missouri* (Festus, Missouri: privately printed), p. 10.
32. Della Lang, compiler, *Post Offices of Jefferson County, Missouri 1811-1996* ( Jefferson County, Missouri: Jefferson Heritage & Landmark Society), p.1.
33. Bernhard Friedman, 1870 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Missouri, agricultural schedule, Rock Township, family 8; State Historical Society of Missouri micropublication.
34. Joseph Yerger's Ledger, Antonia, Missouri 1880-1881, page 102-103; Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis.
35. St. Paul's Gemeinde Protocoll Buch (Record Book); unpaginated, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Imperial, Missouri. Historically known as the town of Otto. [Contains the original charter and minutes in German.]
36. Kirchenbuch der Ev. Lutherischen St. Paul's Gemeinde 1879-1943;p. 189, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Imperial, Missouri.
37. Bernhardt Friedman death entry, Ev. Lutherischen St. Paul's Gemeinde; p. 276, entry # 37, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Imperial, Mo. Bernhard Friedmann Death Notice; *Jefferson Democrat*, Hillsboro, Missouri; 27 March 1889; page 3, column 2; Jefferson County Library, High Ridge, Missouri.
38. Christine Friedman death entry, Ev. Lutherischen St. Paul's Gemeinde; p. 280, entry # 72, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Imperial, Mo.
39. Ambrose Friedman, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson County, Mo. Anton Yerger, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson Co., MO. Mary Yerger, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson Co. MO. Cemetery visited & above names recorded in 2001.
40. "Friedman, Kohlers are old Antonia families", undated clipping from unidentified newspaper, copy given to author by Gary Conly on October 31, 1996.
41. [John] Bernhard Friedman, death certificate no. 40021 (1935), State Bureau of Vital Records, Jefferson City, Missouri. [John] Bernhard Friedmann obituary, undated clipping from unidentified newspaper, in family papers of Margaret (Siebert) Whyman of Michigan; photocopy in possession of author.
42. Friedman-Hotz marriage, 26 April 1891; Jefferson County, Missouri marriage record 1890-1893, page 92; MSA roll #C3417.
43. Questionnaire of Personal Information, Simon Hotz, Private, 1<sup>st</sup> Missouri Calvary; Civil War Pension Application File SO 441,267, SC 273,476; Civil War & Later Pensions; Department of Veterans Affairs, Record

Group 15; National Archives, Washington D.C. [Document list Roselia's birth date and gives daughter-parent relationship to Simon and Maria Hotz.]

44. Rose Friedman, death certificate no. 23468 (1951), State Bureau of Vital Records, Jefferson City, Missouri. Rose Friedman obituary, *Jefferson County Record*; Hillsboro, Missouri, 12 July 1951; page 1, column 7; Jefferson County Library, High Ridge, Missouri.

45. Hermena (Friedman) Klable tombstone, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson County, Missouri. Photographed by author, 2001, in possession of compiler. Hermina Klable obituary, *Jefferson County Records*, Hillsboro, Missouri, December 30, 1943, page 1, column 3. Jefferson County Library, High Ridge, Missouri.

46. Klable-Friedman marriage, 20 April 1882; Jefferson County, Missouri marriage record 1881-1885, page 92, MSA roll #C3415.

47. Adolph (Friedman) Klable tombstone, Antonia Cemetery, Jefferson County, Missouri. Photographed by Christine Merseal, 2001, in possession of compiler. Adolph Klable death notice, *Jefferson County Record*, Hillsboro, Missouri, January 27, 1926, p. 1, column 4; Jefferson County Library, High Ridge, Missouri.