

## The Founding of BLUMENTAL, a Molotschna Colony

In his book, *The Emigration from Germany to Russia in the years 1763 to 1862*, Dr. Karl Stumpp lists 77 households by surname that made up the colony of Blumental. Further he states the colony was Catholic, founded in 1822. There is no indication as to how he arrived at this list. I suspect the list of names was derived from a later census, and he could not determine who the original settlers were. He does note that the colony was settled by colonists from other Molotschna colonies, namely Kostheim, Leitershausen, Heidelberg and Waldorf.

According to a Russian Wikipedia site –

[https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ровное\\_\(Токмакский\\_район\)](https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ровное_(Токмакский_район)) --

Blumental has existed as a village since 1775. The name was changed in 1958 to Rivne (Ukrainian) or Rovnoe (Russian). The population in 2001 was only 11 souls. It is located precisely at 47°26'10"N, 35°43'15"E in Tokmak Rajon, Zaporozhe Oblast, Ukraine, about one kilometer from Kopani. In general terms, Blumental is/was about 80 kilometres east, and a bit south, of the small city of Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine.

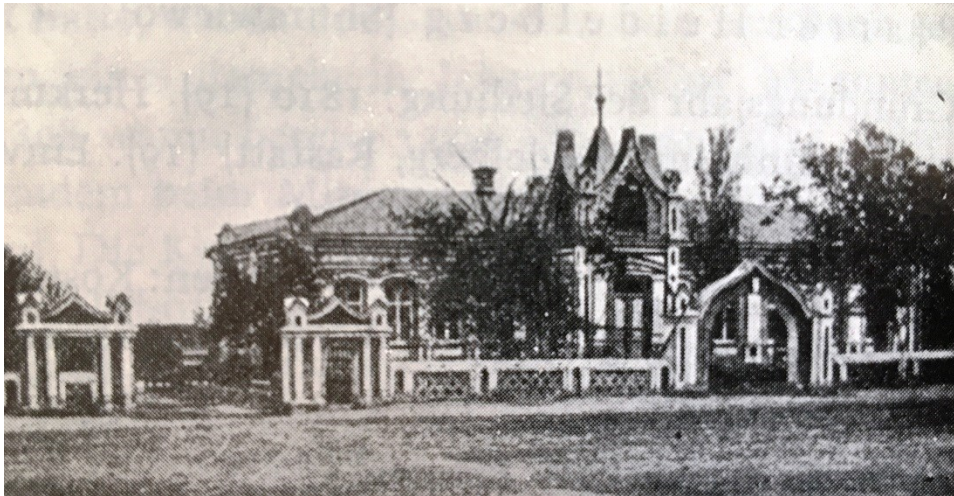


Photo from *Die Kirchen und das Religiöse Leben der Russlanddeutschen*, by Joseph Schnurr, page 294.

The Blumental Prayer-House was affiliated with the Heidelberg Catholic Parish. It served also as the school. Compared to the circumstances of the community, it was an elaborate building in its time, considered one of the most magnificent school houses of the Prischib Volost (district).

In my research, I became aware of a file held in the Ukrainian State Archives of Dnipropetrovsk (now just Dnipro).

**Fond 134-Opus 1-Delo 726**, About re-settlement of some Molotchnaya colonists to the new colony of Blumental 1822-1823, 55 pages. I have digital copies of all the pages that make up this file. Some are written in old German script, and some are written in Russian Cyrillic.

I was not able to verify all the families to the 1811 Censuses of the Molotschna/Prischib colonies as found in Stumpp's book, pages 880 to 918. Several of the surname spellings were wildly inaccurate on both the German-written list and the Russian-written list. To help with name recognition, I relied also on an un-published 1813 list of heads of households in the Molotschna colonies, that is **Fond 134-1-346**, "1813, List of Molotschna colonists and a description of them".

All of the text pages were read by **Julia Volos**, who then provided a short summary of the contents of the file. Several pages deal with the affairs of Georg Tropmann. The newcomers Bauer and Kraft are mentioned. The colonists pledged to care for the land allotted to them, which was presently vacant. The new colony thus formed would be called Blumental. One page talks about the formal survey. A letter from the administrator Tomashevsky to the Foreign Settlers Office talks about the need to expand the land base in order to access more and better water. Etc.

The Heads of Household list follows. The file included the names as written in both the German and Russian Cyrillic scripts. The following list was prepared by the researcher who retrieved this file, although I have made some spelling edits.

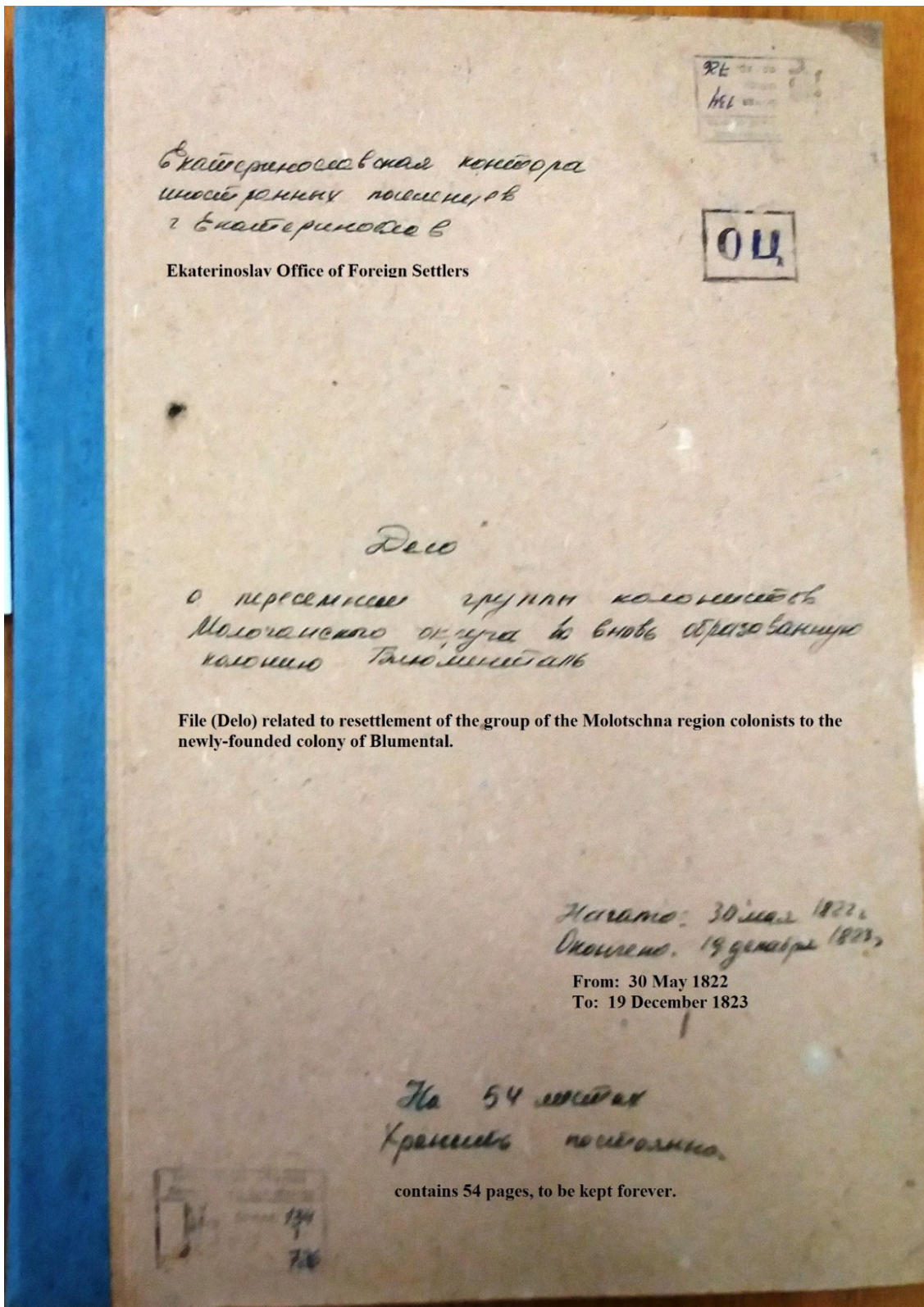
Handwritten Name	Handwritten Location/Number
1 Mathias Seble	Alt. Mauthal. N. 28.
2 Carl Ruckowicz	Neudorf N. 26
3 Georg Schmidt	Mulotzke N. 30.
4 Franz Kitzersper	..... 37.
5 Theodor Basse	..... 39.
6 Christian Geringer	..... 40.
7 Georg Triguann	..... 42.
8 Andreas Walter	..... 59.
9 Franz Babel	..... 71.
10 Friedrich Wittmer	..... 100.
11 Johann Auer	..... 120.
12 Lorenz Seble	Steffenthal. 22.
13 Joseph Herib	Ruckowicz 31.
14 Lorenz Gallauer	..... 32.
15 Franz Fritsch	Seutenhausen. 41
16 Johann Hartlieb	..... 42
17 Peter Schiffer	..... 44
18 Johann Mischek	..... 45
19 Johann Beggel	..... 47
20 Franz Schaffer	Friedrichsfelde 51
21 Johann Sammel	Heidelberg 28
22 Peter Boyer	..... 59

(page one of the list of heads of household in German, as an example.)

**Blumental Family List 1820. Irina Makedon. Dec 2018.** (edited by Merv Weiss)

##	German	Russian (original spelling)	From Which colony # by revision list 1816
1	Mathias Schlee	Матіас Шле 1809	Alt Montal #28
2	Carl Rukovski	Карл Руковскій 1809	Neudorf #26
3	Georg Schmidt	Георг Шмідт 1809	Molotschna #30
4	Franz Klairefond	Франц Клеріфондъ 1809	Molotschna #37
5	Theodor Kaese	Теодор Кезе 1809	Molotschna #39
6	Kristian Geringer	Кристіан Герингеръ 1809	Molotschna #40
7	Georg Tropmann	Георг Троиманъ 1809	Molotschna #42
8	Andreas Walter	Андреас Вальтеръ 1809	Molotschna #59
9	Franz <del>Babel</del> Bopp	Франц Бабель 1809	Molotschna #71
10	Friedrich Wittmer	Фридрих Виттмеръ 1809	Molotschna #100
11	Johan Moser	Іоган Мозеръ 1809	Molotschna #123
12	Lorenz Schlee	Лоренц Шле 1809	Hoffenthal #22
13	Joseph Herb	Іозеф Гербъ 1809	Reichenfeld #31
14	Lorenz Glauner	Лоренц Галлае(у)неръ 1809	Reichenfeld #32
15	Franz Fritsch	Франц Фричъ 1809	Leutershausen #41
16	Johan Hartlieb	Іоган Гартлибъ 1809	Leutershausen #43
17	Peter Pfeifer	Петр (П)Фейферъ 1809	Leutershausen #44
18	Johan Mischek	Іоган Мишекъ 1809	Leutershausen #45
19	Ignatz <del>Poppel</del> Bopp	Игнаць П(б)оп(б)ель 1809	Leutershausen #47
20	Franz Schafer	Франц Шеферъ 1810	Friedrichsfeld #39
21	Johann <del>Lammeker</del> Sanek	Іоган Ламмекеръ (Линекер) 1809	Heidelberg #28
22	Peter Beyer	Петр Байеръ 1809	Heidelberg #59
23	Anton Hecht	Антон Гехтъ 1809	Heidelberg #60
24	Anton Pfeil	Антон Пфейль 1809	Heidelberg #61
25	Friedrich Trenkenschuh	Фридрих Тренкенша(у) 1809	Heidelberg #62
26	Simon <del>Bernet</del> Bernhard	Симеон Бернетъ(Бернт) 1809	Heidelberg #65
27	Johan Klaus	Іоган Клаусъ 1809	Heidelberg #66
28	Georg Meihofer	Георг Мейгеферъ 1809	Heidelberg #67
29	Moriz Klumb	Мориц Клумбъ 1810	Heidelberg #86
30	Nikolaus Schafer	Николаус Шеферъ 1810	Heidelberg #87
31	Johannes Bauer	Іоганнес Баввер	Newly arrived Baden
32	Joseph Kraft	Іозеф Крафт	

Following are the cover page, and page one of the file **Fond 134-1-726**.



№. 174 ~~до~~ 11. <sup>в</sup>

1070

отъ 30<sup>е</sup> числа 1822. года

from 30 May 1822  
Archive N. 230  
File (Delo)

арх. № 230

Дело

О желании колонистовъ мо-  
лотшанскаго Округа въ числѣ  
30<sup>ти</sup> Семействъ, высланныхъ  
на своею извѣстною <sup>с</sup>собственны  
издержками, въ наименованна  
именемъ Колоніи Блументале <sup>въ</sup>

about the desire of colonists of Molotschna district, numbering 30 families, to settle at their own expense to a new place, to be called Colony Blumental.

57 pages. File completed 19 December 1823

57.

Катот. Мухомовъ

Курено 19 декабря 1823.

№ 1 <sup>муш</sup> Мухомовъ

**Following is the list of 32 families who transferred to the new colony of Blumental in 1822.**

*Именной список колонистов, выселившихся в 1822 году из Молочанских старых колоний и основавших на пустопорожней земле таковую новую под наименованием Блюменталь с показанием душ обоого пола по ревизии 1816 года написанных и с которого обложены податями.*

The personal list of colonists who settled in 1822 from the Molochansky old colonies and founded a new one on the empty land under the name Blumental with an indication of souls of both sexes with **ages according to the revision list of 1816** and from which they were taxed.

# of Farm as per the 1816 Census		Age	Year when Farm was first taxed
	<b>From the colony of Alt Montal</b>		
28	Mathias SCHLEE ( <i>HH # 25, 1811 RL</i> )	34	1819
	His wife Barbara	30	
	Their sons: Josef	4	
	Johann	2-3/4	
	Mathias	1/4	
	His brother-in-law Alois Nagel	17	
	<b>From Neudorf</b>		
26	Karl RUKOVSKI	35	1819
	His wife Regina	24	
	<b>From Molotschna (ie. Prischib)</b>		
30	Georg SCHMIDT ( <i>HH # 41, 1811 RL</i> )	44	1819
	His wife Elisabetha	30	
	Their son Adam	8	
	Their daughter Margaretha	11	
37	Franz KLAIREFOND	43	1819
	His wife Maria	38	
	Their sons: Nikolaus	7	
	Josef	5	
	Daughter Paraskova	2	
39	Theodor KAESE	50	Early 1819
	His wife Elisabetha	44	
	Their son Johann	24	

40	Konstantin GEHRING	41	Early 1819
	His wife Katharina	42	
	Their daughter Christina	18	
42	Nikolaus TROPMANN	54	Early 1819
	His sons: Georg	22	
	Daniel	18	
	Sebastian	14	
	Also: the widow Katharina Gerberdorf	30	
	Her sons: Josef	12	
	Anton	7	
	Her daughters: Maria	5	
	Helena	3	
59	Andreas WALTER ( <i>HH # 23, 1811 RL</i> )	27	Early 1819
	His stepson Michael Eller	8	
	His stepdaughter Margaretha	4-1/2	
	His father-in-law Heinrich Eller ( <i>HH # 13</i> )	46	
	His son Michael (Eller)	17	
71	Franz BOPP	34	Early 1819
	His wife Maria	34	
	Their sons: Franz	9	
	Gottlieb	7	
	Their daughter Maria	1/4	
100	Friedrich WITTMER	31	Early 1819
	His wife Karolina	27	
123	Johann MOSER	22	Early 1820
	His wife Eleonora	18	
	<b>From Hoffental</b>		
22	Lorenz SCHLEE ( <i>HH # 1, 1811 RL</i> )	34	Early 1819
	His wife Elisabetha	28	
	Their sons: Karl	4	
	Friedrich	1-1/2	
	Accepted into the home – Andreas Meer	26	
	<b>From Reichenfeld</b>		
31	Josef HERB ( <i>HH # 13, 1811 RL</i> )	26	Early 1819
	His wife Margaretha	25	
	Their son Andreas	2-1/2	
	Their daughter Katharina	5	
	His father-in-law Adam Ginder / Kindler	52	
	His son Friedrich (Ginder)	16	
	His daughter Katharina (Ginder)	21	
32	Lorenz GLAUNER	40	Early 1819
	His wife Barbara	22	
	His daughters from first wife: Friederika	18	

	Scharlotta	16	
	Barbara	7	
	His son from second wife: Lorenz	1	
	Accepted into the home: Christian Host? (unreadable)	29	
<b>From Leitershausen</b>			
41	Franz FRITSCH ( <i>HH # 1, 1811 RL</i> )	40	Early 1819
	His wife Elisabetha	44	
	Their daughter Judith	15	
43	Johann HARTLIEB ( <i>HH # 22, 1811 RL</i> )	34	1819
	His wife Barbara	30	
	Their daughters: Maria	5	
	Elisabetha	2-1/2	
	His brother-in-law Franz Becker	13	
44	Peter PFEIFER ( <i>HH # 23, 1811 RL</i> )	32	1819
	His wife Elisabetha	40	
	His sons from his first wife: Josef	14	
	Peter	10	
	Daughters: from his first wife: Maria	21	
	from his second wife: Katharina	4-1/2	
	Regina	1	
45	Johann MISCHEK ( <i>HH # 24, 1811 RL</i> )	34	1819
	His wife Elisabetha	28	
	Their son Johann	1-1/2	
	Their daughter Susana	6	
47	Ignatz BOPP ( <i>HH # 28, 1811 RL</i> )	44	1819
	His wife Katharina	28	
<b>From Friedrichsfeld</b>			
59	Franz SCHAFFER ( <i>HH # 22, 1811 RL</i> )	50	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 1820
	His wife Maria	39	
	Their sons: Mark	11	
	Friedrich	4	
	Their daughter Katharina	16	
<b>From Heidelberg</b>			
28	Johann SANEK ( <i>HH ## 40, 1811 RL</i> )	37	1818
	His wife Anna	34	
59	Peter BAYER ( <i>HH # 8, 1811 RL</i> )	44	Early 1819
	His wife Elisabetha	35	
	Their daughter Magdalena	12	
60	Anton HECHT ( <i>HH # 26, 1811 RL</i> )	44	Early 1819
	His wife Regina	35	
	Their sons: Georg	6	
	Christian	5	



	Their daughter: Maria	11	
	His son-in-law Josef Bundschu	23	
	His wife Katharina	23	
61	Anton PFEIL	44	Early 1819
	His wife Anna	45	
	Their sons: Johann	3	
	Karl	1-1/2	
62	Friedrich TRENKENSCHUH ( <i>HH # 34, 1811 RL</i> )	43	Early 1819
	His wife Katharina	28	
	His son from his first wife: Friedrich	10	
	His son from his second wife: Georg	1/2	
	His daughter from his first wife: Elisabetha	17	
65	Simon BERNHARD ( <i>HH # 64, 1811 RL</i> )	39	Early 1819
	His wife Agneta	32	
	Their sons: Christian	6	
	Johann	3	
	Their daughter: Maria	11	
66	Johann KLAUS ( <i>HH # 73, 1811 RL</i> )	60	1819
	His wife Maria	41	
	Their daughters: Barbara	13	
	Maria	3	
	Scharlotta	1	
67	Georg MEIHÖFER ( <i>HH # 74, 1811 RL</i> )	45	1819
	His wife Katharina	30	
	Their sons: Anton	5	
	Michael	1/4	
85	Moritz KLUMPP ( <i>HH # 12, 1811 RL</i> )	25	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 1820
	His wife Christina	24	
	Their son Valentin	4	
87	Nikolaus SCHAFER (Schäfer)	33	2 <sup>nd</sup> half 1820
	His wife Sofia	23	
	Their daughter Elisabetha	1	
	Recently arrived from <b>Baden</b>		
-	Johannes BAUER		
-	Joseph KRAFT		

Total number of people: 74 males, 58 females, + two newcomers = Total of 134.

Колонисты из королевств Виртембергского, Баварского и герцогства Баденского.

Colonists from the kingdoms of Wirttemberg, Bavaria, and the Duchy of Baden.

**Fond 134-1-Delo 643.** About re-settlement of Molotchnaya colonists 1820-1822, 50 pages.

The case of the desire of some colonists of the Molochansky colony of Heidelberg due to the crowdedness and inconvenience in the disposition of the narrow lots to transfer their homes to other areas.

The list of those owners who are from the colony of Heidelberg, who agree to dismantle their houses, and build new ones at their own expense.

[all household numbers from 1811 Census]

- |                       |                 |                     |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Jacob BOPP          | Heidelberg # 44 | 2 Jacob PFUND       | Heidelberg # 16 |
| 3 Heinrich HABT       | Heidelberg # 39 | 4 Peter KLAB        | Heidelberg # 42 |
| 5 Johann BILLMAN      | Alt-Montal # 5  | 6 Michel GEHRING    | Hochstaedt # 37 |
| 7 Engelbert WALTZ     | Heidelberg # 31 | 8 Mathias GLASSNER  | Heidelberg # 35 |
| 9 Michael SCHWEIGERT  | Heidelberg # 59 | 10 Josef FÄHNER     | Heidelberg # 27 |
| 11 Friedrich WALTHER  | Kostheim # 7    | 12 Joseph WISSMANN  | Heidelberg # 48 |
| 13 Sebastian NEUMAYER | Heidelberg # 28 | 14 Adam SCHLEICHERT | Heidelberg # 58 |

The good will of the above mentioned colonists to rebuild their houses is confirmed by this document. Heidelberg. May 25, 1820. Schultz Georg Ade. [other signatures]

[various bureaucratic correspondence in Russian and German]

The petition of February 4, 1821 states that the third part of the colony of Heidelberg has been inhabited for 11 years. There was a recommendation to plant willows between houses to prevent fire. The Ros' valley in the colony center was to be expanded to dry it out and the trees to be planted. The road is to be moved 20 sazhen's distance from the houses.

The Board of Trustees of May 27, 1821, in the submission of Office No. 1593, finds that it is not possible to resettle the third part of the colony of Heidelberg to another place.

**[None of these names appear on the original colonists list in File 134-1-726.—MW]**

I have no copies of the pages of this file, only the researcher's limited notes made on site in the reading room of the Archives. These pages are on Archive microfilm, but the quality of the images is poor. --MW

Report prepared by Mervin Weiss, Saskatoon, Canada. 27 March 2019.