

Nikolaipol (Nikolaifeld), Borissovo: Residents List, ca 1901

Pam Klassen-Dueck
6 July 2022

On January 23, 1901, Franz Doerksen (#174067) of Nikolaipol, Borissovo Mennonite Settlement, wrote a charming letter for *Die Mennonitische Rundschau* in which he lists the village's residents, most of whom stemmed from the Old Colony. The narrative emulates a real walk, naming the families in the order in which their homes were situated on the street (which, incidentally, ran from southeast to northwest). Nearly 100 people are mentioned.

Data extracted includes residents' names (including augmented information if I was able to locate such on GRanDMA Online), villages of origin, residence descriptions, and other pertinent notes about family, occupations, and more. All notes in square brackets are my own.

Sources:

- 1) Doerksen, Franz ([letter](#)). *Mennonitische Rundschau*, 13 Mar 1901, p 1. Courtesy of archive.org.
- 2) Schroeder, Wilhelm. Borissovo Colony ([map](#)). *Mennonite Historical Atlas*. Winnipeg, 1990.
- 3) GRanDMA (the Genealogical Registry and Database of Mennonite Ancestry) Database, 22-06. Fresno, California: California Mennonite Historical Society, 2022.

Nikolaipol, Borissovo: Residents List, ca 1901

#	Name	GRanDMA #	Origin	Residence Description	Notes
1	Hamm, Heinrich	#1025457		Starting on the west side...	Tailor.
2-3	Adrian, Heinrich Wife			By the way... They live in a Semljanka.	She is a midwife.
4-5	Dyck, Wilhelm Wife Katharina Funk	#453905 #1015436	Kronsgart & Miladorowka	When we step over the graves....	Her father, Johann, died fall of 1900. She has uncles in America.
6-8	Doerksen, Franz Wife Maria Peters 1 daughter	#174067 #174018	Schoeneberg	When we climb over the fence...	Née Maria Peters. 4 living children of whom 3 are married; 1 is still at home. Friends in America: Jac Rickerts (Blumgart), Aunt Joh Rickert (Neuenburg). Dietrich Reimers, Peter Wienses, Uncle Jac Braun (Friedrichsthal), & Abr Doerksen (Schoeneberg - by the watering place).
9-15	Bueckert, H.A. Wife 5 children		Schoeneberg	[The Doerksens' neighbours] are...	
16-17	Neufeld, David Wife Margaretha Neufeld	#468559 #468560	Nikolajewka & Gesiken [Yazykowo?]	Next we meet...	Daughter of Peter Toews of Gesiken - sister Woelk in America.
18-19	Letkeman, Jacob Wife		Katherinowka	On the other side of the fence...	
20	Martens, Johann		Rosental	Through a little gate...	Dorfältester.
21	Elias, Johann	#378363	Gesiken [Yazykowo?]	The next Wirtschaft...has been rented out...	Owner Peter Friesen of Gesiken has gone to live in Jekat. Elias, heir, is current resident.

#	Name	GRanDMA #	Origin	Residence Description	Notes
22	Krahn, Cornelius			The nearest neighbour...	The fattest man in the village.
23-24	Unger, Heinrich Wife		Gesiken [Yazykovo?]	Following that are...	
25	Kasdorf, Abram	#1233625?	Neu Osterwick	Then we have to climb over the fence and come to...	Many childhood friends in America.
26-27	Janzen, Heinrich Wife		Neu Osterwick	[L]ive on the other side of the Mittelstrasse...	
28-29	Buhr, Johann Wife Margaretha Guenter	#644221 #644039	Niederchortitz	Then...	
30	Block, David (Rev)	#267366	Gesiken [Yazykovo?]	[A]nd, further...	Preacher of the Moravian Church.
31-37	Wiens, Peter Wife Anna Berg 5 sons	?	Michaelsburg	Next we meet...	She has siblings in America, also Abr Dicks, who lived with them on the farm in Michaelsburg. Son Peter married a Maria Doerksen 'from here.'
38	Dyck, Johann		Niederchortitz	Climbing over the fence (<i>Don't you get tired when you have to climb over the fence so often? - Ed.</i>) we come to...	
39	Schultz, Johann		Gesiken [Yazykovo?]/Kronstal	[A]nd on the other side of the next fence lives...	
40	Neufeld, Abram		Nju York (<i>But not the New York on the American side of the ocean. Ed.</i>).	Then we have to jump over a ditch (<i>If I ever come to you, I'll prefer to walk on the road. Ed.</i>) and then we are with...	

#	Name	GRanDMA #	Origin	Residence Description	Notes
41	Neufeld, Jacob			This brings us to the end of one row and we now have to turn across the street to get to...	Has a windmill.
42-54	Bueckert, Hermann H. Wife Agatha Letkemann 10 children Father Hermann Bueckert	#174068 #38288 #452314	Schoenfeld Schoeneberg	The closest neighbour is... [A] year ago built a big, beautiful house.	Father Herman Bückert, age 77.
55-56	Dyck, Jacob Wife		Kronstal	... live next door.	Dick probably has cousins in America who are children of Jacob's Uncle Gerhard Dick.
57-58	Buhr, David Wife Katharina Friesen	#644222 #498299	Niederchortitz	Then that's where...	[H]e prefers to work at the workbench.
59	Neufeld, Gerhard		Kronstal	...is his closest neighbour.	Dorfsschreiber.
60-65	Rempel, Johann Wife Susanna Enns 3 daughters 1 son	#145129 #145152	Kronstal Burwalde	Next live...	Daughter of Abr Enns from Burwalde. She has 3 siblings in America: G Ennses, Joh Günther, and Jakob Löwens.
66	Loewen, Dietrich	#467240?	Chortitz	Rempel's neighbour is...	
67	Penner, David	#620221?		Then we're living right close to the school... [implies it's a teacherage in the building].	Teacher.
68	Kroeker, Jacob (Rev)	?		Over the Querstraße ...	Minister.
69-70	Wall, Cornelius Wife Agatha Wieler	#neu #581577	Niederchortitz	[A]nd further...	He runs the leather business in winter. She has siblings in America: Peter Thiessens, Peter Cornelsons, and Heinrich Wieliers. Son Peter [#neu] in Forstei. Healthy.

#	Name	GRanDMA #	Origin	Residence Description	Notes
71	Petkau, Heinrich (Rev)	?	Chortitz	Then next...	Minister.
72	Schultz, Jacob		Gesiken [Yazykovo?]	Next...	
73-76	Peters, Peter Wife Anna Klippenstein 2 foster children	#174037 #174069	Schoenberg	If we climb over the fence again, we'll find...	She has half-siblings Peter and Jacob Martens [then her father must be #982394]. 2 foster children. Healthy.
77-82	Hooge, Jacob Wife 1 daughter 3 sons	#585929?	Schoeneberg	The nearest neighbour...	Uncle Peter Wiens (Schanzenfeld). Reimer friends. Healthy.
83	Letkemann, Johann		Gesiken [Yazykovo?]	The nearest neighbours are...	
84	Klassen, David		Chortitz	...and...	Former clerk in A. Koop's factory.
85	Braun, Johann		Chortitz	...lives on David Klassen's second farm.	
86-87	Johann & Fried		Samara?	...live further on in a Semljanka.	Night watchmen.
88	Wall, Johann			Then an easy (<i>Do you have to trample the yards? Ed.</i>) way through, and so we come to...	The only Einwohner in the village.
89	_____, _____			...lives next to him.	Village shepherd.

Created 1 August 2022.

Formatting by Richard D. Thiessen

[Return to the
Mennonite Genealogy
Russian Mennonite Genealogical Resource Page](#)