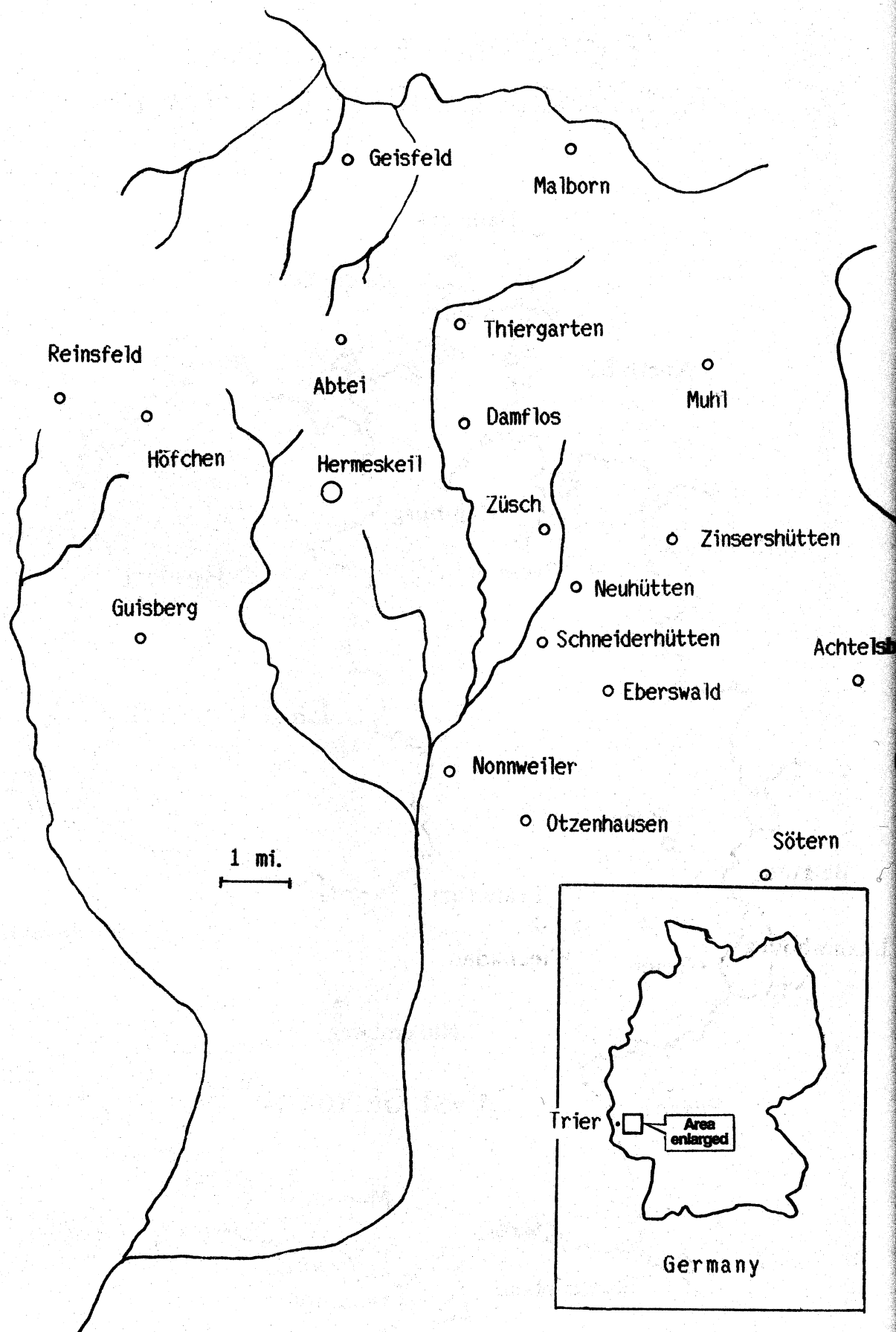


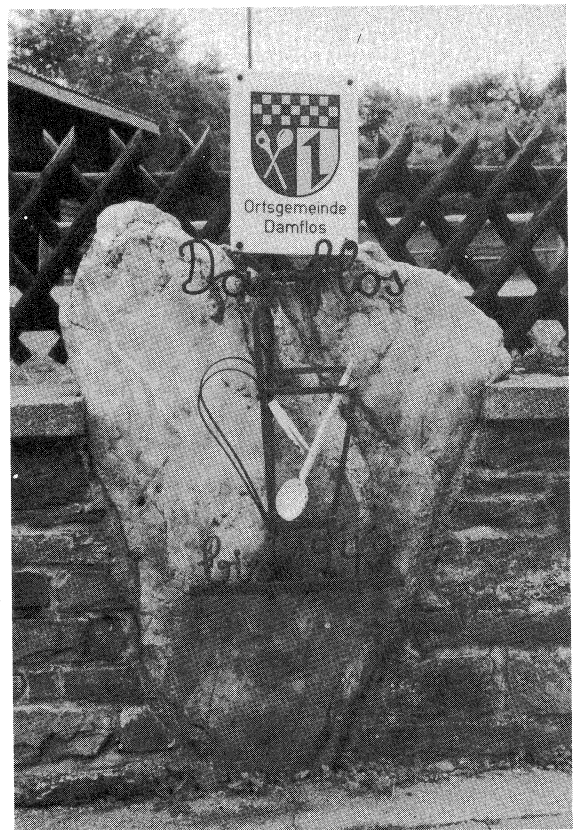
# THE SCHMITT AND PINK ANCESTRAL LINES IN GERMANY



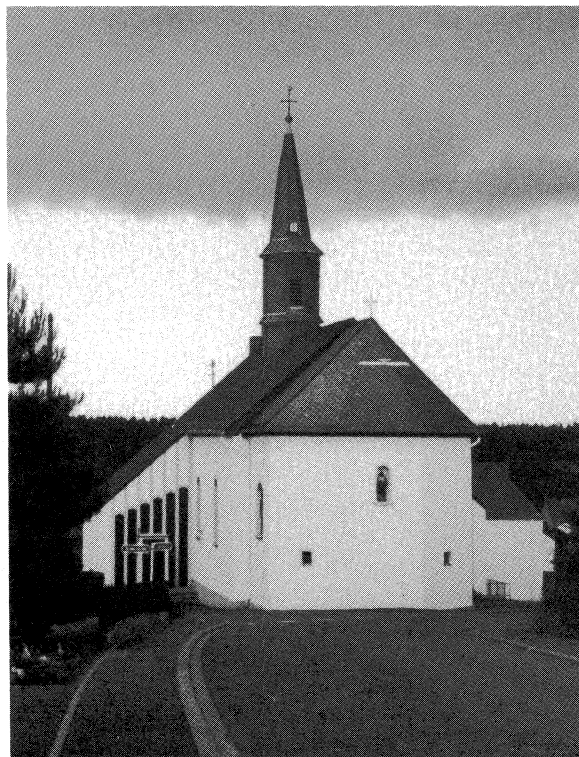




Scenery Outside of Damflos.



Damflos, Germany.  
Entrance Sign and Symbol.



Church at Damflos.

Damflos is a small village on the Prims river in the Rhineland Province on the western edge of Germany. The village sign or shield has a red and white checkerboard across the top which represents the Lords of Sponheim, a hooked tool that was used to catch wolves, and two wooden spoons representing the industry of the area. Across the river is the town of Hermeskeil, and a few miles more to the west is Trier, the county seat and a city of nearly 100,000 people.

Trier is the oldest city in Germany, and in the days of the Roman Empire was a center of commerce and a travel link as it is on the Mosel (Moselle) river. There are still Roman ruins and buildings in Trier such as the amphitheater built in 100 A.D. for gladiator contests. In 354 A.D. Rome, Alexandria, Trier and Constantinople were considered the four centers of the world. However in the 400s there were numerous assaults by the Franks that caused a lot of destruction, and over the centuries there was also the Teutonic Assault, the Norman Invasion, Spanish Succession, Napoleonic Wars, etc. The French controlled the area in 1806, and in 1815 Prussia took possession of the Rhine province and made Trier a seat of government. It is interesting to note that Karl Marx was born in Trier in 1818.

Throughout most of its history, Germany has been broken up into small areas of government ruled by Lords, duchys, or the church. At one time Züschen was like a township and included Damflos and Neuhütten, but now the village of Züschen is about the same size as Damflos and a couple of miles down the road.

These villages were the home of woodcutters and coal burners, shopkeepers and blacksmiths. The people who went out into the woods to work each day were referred to as day laborers. Now Damflos is more of a farming community and has some wood crafts being done, while Trier is in a famous wine district.

Belgium, Luxembourg, France and Switzerland are only a few miles from the German border, and many years ago French speaking people moved into the area around Damflos and built huts or shacks of wood and clay. They called them "baragues", and they were round structures with a hole in the top of the pointed roof to let the smoke from the heating and cooking fire escape. The people lived in these huts with their animals, usually a pig or sheep and sometimes a cow. These barack people were allowed to live there and not be subject to the same rules as the rest of the people, but they did have to leave when told to. About 1750 the rulers put harsher rules into effect, and there was a lot of unrest between the hut people and others around them. This led to the emigration in 1753 of about 20 families from Damflos and Schneidershütten to Hungary, but as people left, others moved in and bought or rented these huts. From 1790 to 1800 nearly one hundred families went to Hungary. After the area was annexed by Prussia in 1815, an effort was made to reduce the overcrowded wood villages. In 1834 new immigrant colonies of Abtei and Hofchen were built in the cut over areas near Hermeskeil, and sixty-nine families were given permission to move out of Züschen, Damflos, Neuhütten, Muhl and Borfink. Forty-four families went to Abtei, and twenty-five families went to Hofchen. In the following pages on the ancestors in Germany, one will find many

families who were part of these movements to Hungary, to the huts of Damflos, and to Abtei and Hofchen.

Catholic church records microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah and Walter Petto's book EINWOHNER VON ZOSCH, NEWHOTTEN, DAMFLOS which traces the families of couples married before 1820 in these villages, were excellent research sources. The baptisms, marriages and deaths in the church records are written in Latin while the census or familiebook is often in German script which is very different. The quality of the records depended on the handwriting of the priest, the pen he used, how much Latin he knew, and of course everything depended on the records surviving at all. The Driessler and Schmitts were Lutheran so were not traced as far back. For the most part information on just the direct family lines has been included here, but more research could be done to locate distant cousins still in Germany.

In looking at the records one will notice that the families tended to be large with a child born every year or two, but many of the children did not live. They also used the same names more than once, mainly because the earlier child had died, but sometimes one used the first name and another used the middle name. It seems many of the sons were given the name Johann and used the middle name, while girls were given Anna or Maria and used a middle name. Johann was spelled Johan, Johannes, or abbreviated Joes in the records. Most of the time the child was named after the godparent. Usually when a spouse died and left a young family, the remaining spouse remarried quite soon. There were also a lot of illegitimate births and intermarriage between Catholics and Lutherans, but this didn't seem to cause much of a problem.

As the generations are followed farther back, many of the lines have Belgium and French roots, and the spelling was changed. Some examples of names and their earlier French spellings are Sossong (Soisson), Dellwo (Delvaux), Servene (Servinet), and Muno (Monneau). There were also variations in the spellings of names, either by the priest or as a generation decided to drop or add a letter, such as Kolling and Collin, Pinck and Pink, Sosson and Sossong, Kloss and Klos.

#### Examples of German Script:

*Christian*

Christian

*Heinrich*

Heinrich

*Catharina*

Catharina

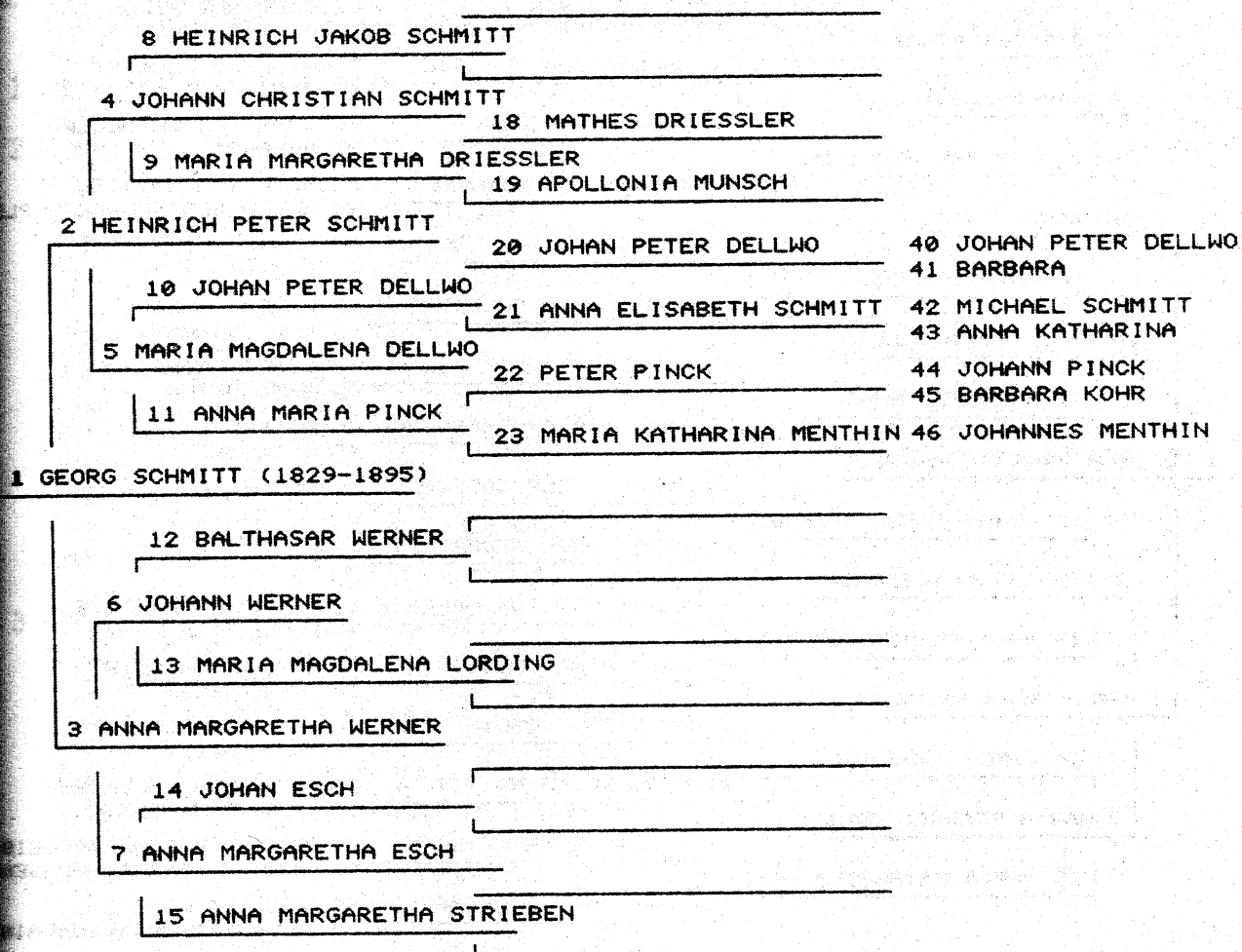
*Elisabeth*

Elisabeth

*Frau. Schmitt Werner*

Frau. Schmitt Werner, signed by Katharina Sames Schmitt in 1890.

# SCHMITT CHART.

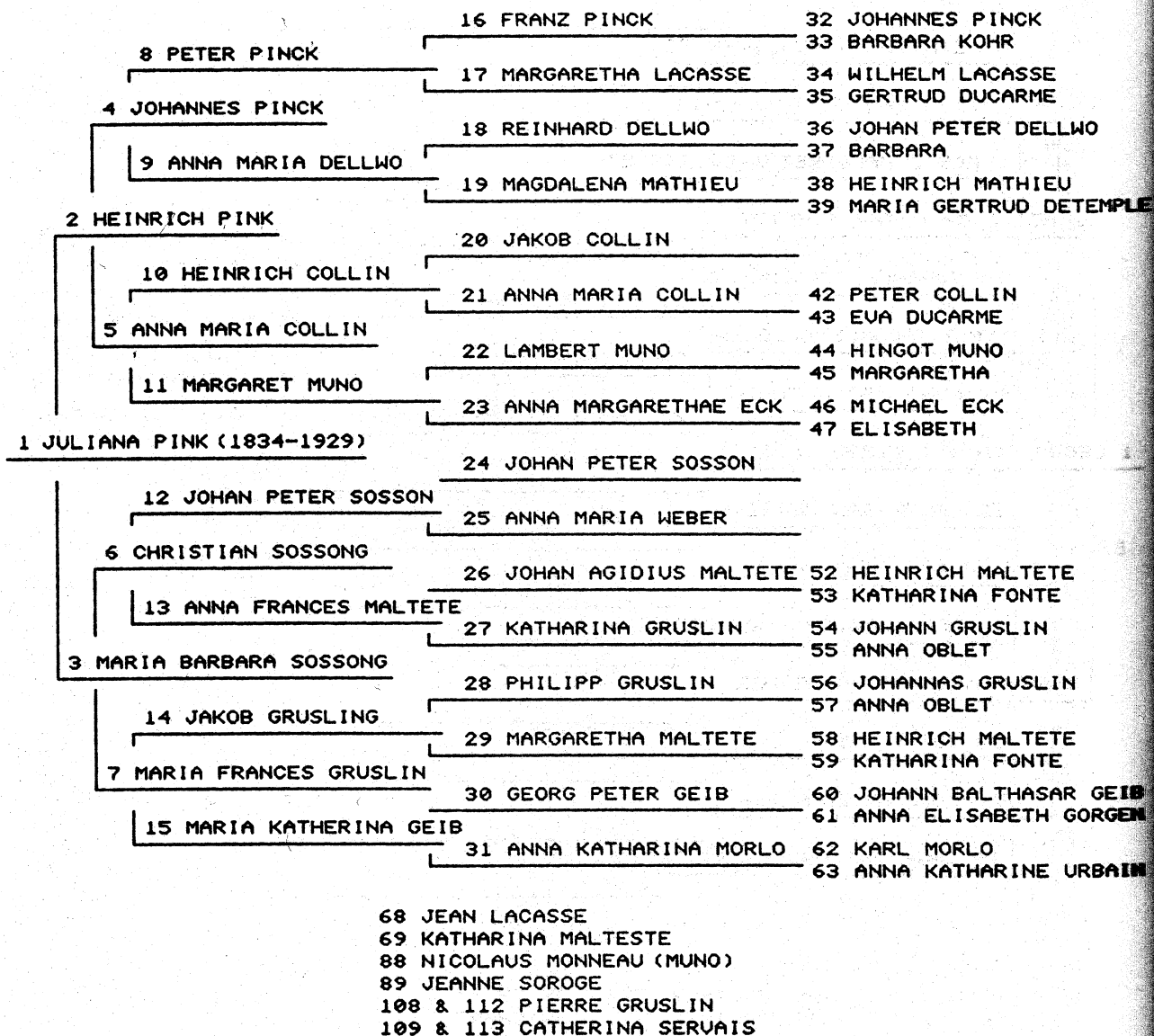


20 BROTHER TO 18 ON CHART 2  
 22 BROTHER TO 16 ON CHART 2  
 40 SAME AS 36 ON CHART 2  
 41 SAME AS 37 ON CHART 2  
 44 SAME AS 32 ON CHART 2  
 45 SAME AS 33 ON CHART 2

GEORG SCHMITT'S ANCESTOR CHART  
 Damflos, Germany and surrounding area.



# PINK CHART.



JULIANA PINK'S ANCESTOR CHART  
 Damflos, Germany and surrounding area.