

von Grant Hayter-Menzies, Kanada

Bingenheim: executed for witchcraft in 1652

1. Hanß Rau from Berstadt
2. "The swineherd's boy from Bisse, who was burned along with Johann Waasen's wife, who was the 'Head Witch' of the witches of Echzell [north of Bingenheim]"
3. Johann Schultheiß's wife, Gersten
4. Conrad Heusen's daughter, "burnt"
5. "Matthäus Schütz's wife from Geltenau was burnt alive, for having hexed her two husbands, her brother and her brother-in-law"
6. "The Jew, Löw³, from Bisse, was burnt alive"

Oppenrod: executed for witchcraft in 1655

1. Eva Eisermann, burned in September 1655

Reiskirchen and Grossen-Buseck: executed for witchcraft in 1655-1656

1. Unnamed woman (who accused the women named below as well as Pfarrer Johann Steindecker, whom two of my ancestors, Nürnberger the shepherd and Johannes Lenhardt, schoolmaster, also implicated)
2. Dorothea Samm, burned
3. Margaretha Fritz (my ancestor), burned
4. The miller's wife, burned

Another of my ancestors, Catharina Bauernfeind, wife of Church Treasurer Bauernfeind, was accused by Dorothea Samm but was not prosecuted.

Burkhardsfelden, witch trial 1672-1674 (not executed)

1. Else Schmidt, aka die Schulelse. She was acquitted by the law faculty from the University of Mainz, after enduring two years of torture.

Beuern, 1660s:

1. Matthäus Stein, Kirchsenior, was accused of being a Hexenmeister but not prosecuted. His wife, Christina, was the natural daughter of Imperial Lieutenant Helwig von Buseck, who died at Wittstock in 1636. They were both conducting a lawsuit against her paternal family for recognition of her birth as legitimate and for her share of her late father's family inheritance. They are my 12x great-grandparents.

Sources:

Das Winneröder und Bersröder Familienbuch, Hanno Müller, 1991

Einwohner des Amts Gießen vom 15. bis zum 17. Jahrhundert (1470-1669), Otto Stumpf, Gießen, 1983
Europäische Stammtafeln, Band I., ed. Detlev Schwennike, J. A. Stargardt & Co. 1978
Familienbuch Großen-Buseck, Hanno Müller, 1993
Geschichte von Burkhardtsfelden, from Schriftenreihe der Heimatgeschichtlichen Vereinigung Reiskirchen, Gustav Ernst Köhler, 1992
Hexen, Folter, Scheiterlaufen, Reinhold Neeb, Bruhl'scher Verlag, Gießen, 1991
Highroad to the Stake, Michael Kunze [trans. William E. Yuill], University of Chicago Press, 1987
Simons' Book of World Sexual Records, G.L. Simons, Bell Publishing Co., NY, 1985
The Devil In the Shape of a Woman, Carol F. Karlsen, W.W. Norton, 1987
The God of Ecstasy, Arthur Evans, 1988
The Weaker Vessel, Antonia Fraser, Knopf, 1987