

THE RONSHEIM FAMILY FROM ABTERODE

Edw. J. Ronsheim, Sr. Anderson, Indiana



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Abterode, the home of the small group which has as its name the word Ronsheim, is a tiny village in the mountain valleys slightly more than twenty miles east and slightly south of Kassel in Hesse. Even now it is off the main roads and has no railroad. Maps show elevations of almost 2,500 feet close by.

Off in the hills was, rather than is, the ancient cemetery. Here once was many stones bearing the name Ronsheim. The clean trimmed ivy was all about, and the records told the story of folk who had lived long in one place.

Within the village was the school. The church. Handed down, father to son, was the Memorbook. But all this is changed. The quiet folk are dead or scattered. Records were taken to Berlin and burned. Cemetery stones have been broken down. The ivy runs wild. Hitler and his Nazis passed this way.

As the past is gone from Abterode forevermore, but a few short miles to the eastward, along the Werra, the Iron Curtain is now closed down. If records do exist across that narrow stream they cannot be reached. It may be that what we record here closes the chapter on the years now gone.

No, that is not fully true. There yet live some of the name who know more. But they refuse to pass on what they know to complete the story. It will die with them to become part of what is already lost. The torch of Hitler and the silence of the living serve the same purpose.

The story of the Ronsheim family, its background, its present status all go to provide things to ponder on. The actual lack of information and of numbers add to the real facts. Among these may be the age of the family and the origin of the name itself.

The fragments which have been gathered bring to light the sons in a second generation bearing the name Ronsheim. This probably 175 years ago. Which suggests that the original bearer of the name as we know it may be listed as an "unknown Ronsheim" born about 1750.

Scholars of German who grew up in the general area of Abterode offer two explanations as to the name. It is possible someone may yet learn the full facts. But that remains for another generation and changed conditions and a chance to search records in Hesse itself.

The theory most recently offered, and it seems to have much weight behind it, would have the name come from the possible early residence of a family in the Hohe Rhon (Rhon Heights or Rhon Mountains) in which the Werra and the Fulda Rivers rise some 60 miles south of Abterode. These streams flow northward.

This theory suggests that the family "heim" or "home" was in, or near, the "Rhon". That is "Rhons-Heim" or the present spelling of Ronsheim. What the original family called itself is unknown. Just that here were people having a home in the Rhons heights. And German names generally are from places.

The other, and older, theory again bases on place names. In this it is

suggested that a family living east of the Werra in Thuringen or even more distant Prussia slowly spread westward until it had established itself in Hessen or, to the south, Bayern.

In the original home this idea would have it that the name was Ronshaus or Ronshausen, the "haus" meaning "house". That having crossed the Werra the name fitted itself to the more common usage of the district and became heim or home, that is it became Ronsheim. A town, Ronshausen, is 15 miles south of Abterode.

The first suggestion has one great advantage over the older, or second, one in that it not only gives reason for the second syllable of the name but at the same time solves the source of the first syllable, long a puzzle to all who sought a solution. The prefix "rons" is not usual in the German language.

Either theory, the newer one which would have the name develop slowly from the fact this family lived or had its home in the Rhon Mountains or the older one which would bring about a sudden change because a family moved its location and shifted from one place name to another, could fit one more puzzle.

Did the name of Ronsheim come into use with some unit of a family about 1750? This would make it a very new name as the history of names go and could well explain the fact that it is even now a name rarely found and that no other branch has shown itself in research. There are people named Ronshausen.

And so our story begins with "1? Unknown Ronsheim" on page six. From what little family history exists in the memories of a very few people and from the even less material gleaned from what survived the Nazi destruction we do have a start of a family in its second generation, shown by the "2's".

This provides us with what seem to be three brothers with names and one without and, most likely, other brothers and sisters now unknown. From records available, Abraham Ronsheim seems to have been the elder of those known and so he, and the "New York family", lead the outlines attached.

It would seem that Wolf Ronsheim, who appears very briefly in the picture and then in a secondary part, would be second on the outline in a matter of age. And Geisel Ronsheim fits the next spot if birth of children is accepted. This is one of the "Cincinnati families". Last another "unknown".

The lines of Abraham and Geisel, so far as found in this country, are quite complete. That of the "unknown" is reasonably complete but much more could be had if answers were forthcoming from some of its members. If others would "talk" the line of Wolf also might be expanded but this is uncertain.

Only one thing seems certain -- all known persons bearing the name of Ronsheim trace back to Abterode and one common ancestor. It may be accepted, as well, that all known families of the name in this country are here recorded. And, third, that few, if any, bearing the name exist in Germany.

First turning to the least known group. Because of his son, Levi, Wolf appears in the little left at Abterode. But he could be one of two possible

ancestors of Alfred Ronsheim, of New York. However, Levi (4?) under David (3?) page six, seems more likely.

Members of the family living in New York did reach Alfred by telephone but he never replied to letters. It was learned that his father was Louis Ronsheim and that he died in this country, in 1949 it seems. And with less proof that his grandfather was Levi Ronsheim.

It is believed that the wife of this Levi was named Marianne and it is reported that this couple observed a sixtieth wedding anniversary at an advanced age. This last point alone casts doubt as to making Levi, son of Wolf, the Levi who was father of Louis. Levi, son of Wolf, was born in 1815, died in 1887.

Now to turn to the better known lines. So far as records are to be found it is certain that no Ronsheim moved beyond the limits of Hesse until some of the children of Geisel moved to America, finally making homes at Ripley, Ohio. About 1820 the family had moved to Buseck-Grosen, half way from Kassel to Frankfort and about 18 miles south of Marburg.

Two sons and two daughters of Geisel came to Ohio, probably about 1849 but not shown in the 1850 census. These included Henry, who became a merchant tailor; Louis, who established himself in the clothing business and, also, jointly in the livery trade with a string of race horses on the side; Sarah, and Frederickie.

Henry and Louis both moved their families to Cincinnati about 1890. But the latter kept his livery trade at Ripley for many years longer. Sarah married and died in Ripley while Frederickie married and her records have become lost.

Also about 1850, Joseph and Ephram left Hesse and settled in Cincinnati. It has been impossible to determine the father of these two men. That the tie with the Ripley family was close is best indicated by the fact that given names of the children are almost exactly the same. Too, when Louis died in 1892, William was one of those named to handle his estate.

The family of Joseph has, as a whole, remained in Cincinnati where some of its members have become prominent in the business and manufacturing fields. Ephram married a widow and, so far as can be found, had no family. There is some question as to whether these two men had a cousin, also Joseph. But from lack of findings it would appear there was but one of the name.

Although Levi, son of Geisel, did not come to this country, about ten years after the rest of those who settled in Ohio reached America they were followed by three sons of Levi. These were Herman, Joseph Levi and Isaac. Herman established what now is the biggest Ronsheim group in Cincinnati. Joseph Levi married and had but one daughter. Isaac lived first at Georgetown, near Ripley, where he married and established a business. He was active in the community and, prior to the death of this first wife, an officer in Georgetown Lodge No. 72, F. & A. M. He died in Florida.

The next line of the family to be established in this country has as its ancestor, Siegmund Ronsheim. He was the son of David and grandson of Abraham.

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As has been shown, it is possible his brother, Levi, was the grandfather of Alfred. All these groups center about New York.

Siegmund may have been the most traveled, so far as early days go, of all the family in America. Shortly after the end of the Civil War he reached New York as a youngster barely turned 18. After becoming familiar with his new home he joined the great caravan of men who covered the nation with packs and trunks selling directly to customers.

Siegmund, with loaded trunks, followed the early railroads from town to town across the country east and west and north and south. As one trunk became empty it was sent back to New York to be restocked and sent off to meet him again at an arranged point. He seems to have followed this life for upward of ten years. He had a large family but only one great-grandson. Others were girls.

Between 1865 and 1935 a few other Ronsheims reached this country. But it is believed, from what records have been found, they did not establish any permanent family of the name. But the coming of Hitler, and the concentration camp sent a new flood of the family to this country. They were the great grandchildren and the great great grandchildren of Geisel through Levi. None carried the name but all are part of the family and closely kin. They center in New York and Detroit and through these it was possible to establish many of the facts used now about Abterode.

So widely has the family spread, from the Atlantic at New York and south to Florida, westward along the Gulf to Mobile and New Orleans, north to St. Louis and South Dakota, to Detroit and across New York state again to Boston and back to New York, it is impossible now to take up each group or individual. The outline covers each and everyone on vital statistics.

But Ronsheims have entered every phase of life -- doctors, editors, teachers, social workers, merchants, industry, artists and on and on. And in each field they have become recognized and respected. They have been active in politics and war. They have become part of America, these people from Abterode.

Part of this story includes two letters, one from Abterode and the other from the International Tracing Service in Germany. They tell another story, one of horror and elimination. Of cruelty and persecution. But all this would not be complete unless what these reports show is included here. Much can be only conjecture now that both the records and the people are gone.

On page 7 will be found the Hartman family. Although the tracing service has information only on Levi Hartman (see letter), relatives in this country say that all died in the Nazi purges other than Lissa, now in Sweden. No contact has been made with her.

The Max Ronsheim in the tracing service report is known to have been married and had three children. After living in London, to which he escaped, he returned to Bad Neuheim, a health resort near Frankfort, where he died in 1951 or 1952.

Max is said to have married Trude Rothschild. However, it seems reasonable to assume that she was the Jenny (Rothschild) Ronsheim in the tracing service report. He was living in Abterode about 1935 when relatives left for this country but was in Frankfort later. And Horst, Hans and Gerd are the ages his children would have been. Family reports say that his wife and the children all died in a concentration camp and the tracing service shows these people were sent to Riga.

Members of the family who visited Germany in pre-Hitler days met Gustav and Elsa (Monheimer) Ronsheim in Frankfort. He was the son of one of the sons of David, page 1. It is improbable that he was other than a son of Loesser, married late in 1876 with Gustav being born early in 1879 at Abterode. Nothing is known about their having children. They, too, went to Riga.

It also has been accepted as a reasonable possibility that Emil J. Ronsheim also was a son of Loesser and that Emma S. (Loeb) Ronsheim was his wife. The dates are felt not unreasonable and they all were part of the group sent to Riga.

Too, there is a belief that Max Ronsheim was a younger son of Loesser. That the wife of Loesser was much younger than he was is indicated by the late date of his marriage. And that those believed to be his wife and children lived with Emil in Frankfort and all were sent to Riga other than Max. He was in Abterode when the war ended.

There is another report to the effect that Max was the cousin of Alfred. The degree is unknown but this tends to confirm the idea that the ancestor of all was David Ronsheim.

That others on the tracing service report tie with the family is best shown by places of birth and dates. But how or where may never be known with the records gone.

In closing this record it should be said here that the story of the family may be in error in places. However, every effort has been made to check both family and official records. Endless miles of travel and weeks of work went into that research. Hundreds of letters were mailed and for the most part brought replies. Those few who failed to assist may have solved the puzzles. Copies will go to the many libraries and for all time this record of the family will survive. If various members add to it through the years the record becomes more valuable.

To trace yourself first find your name. For example my name appears on page 10 at 5a. I go backward to the first 4 which happens to be 4b, then back to the first 3, or 3d to my grandfather. From there to the first 2 or 2?, Geisel, and then to 1?.



The Ronsheim Family From Abterode --6

- 1? An unknown Ronsheim, b ca 1750/60 (see text)
- 2? Abraham Ronsheim, b ca 1775/80, lived in Abterode
- 3? David Ronsheim, b ca 1805/10 in Abterode, listed as a "salesman"
- 4? Levi Ronsheim, lived in Abterode
- 4? Yetta Ronsheim, lived in Abterode
- 4? Blanche Ronsheim, lived in Abterode
- 4d Siegmund Ronsheim, b at Abterode 1-31-1847, d 2-21-1918, md 10-31-1875 Karoline Goldsmith, b 9-23-1848, d 6-10-1917, bur in Brooklyn
- 5a Henrietta Ronsheim, B 1-4-1877, \_\_\_\_\_, md 12-21-1902  
Joseph Meyer, b 12-30-1847, d 9-16-1947
- 6a David A. Meyer, b 1-1-1904, \_\_\_\_\_, md 1st 9-13-1933  
Virginia Marks (div 9-15-1939) md 2nd 3-22-1940 Tess S. Sherwin,  
b 3-12-1912, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Donald Meyer, b 11-16-1934
- 7b Marjorie C. Meyer, b 11-27-1940
- 7c Andrew F. Meyer, b 11-23-1943
- 7d Richard L. Meyer, b 9-10-1947
- 5b David Ronsheim, b 12-23-1878, d 6-23-1950, md 11-9-1903 Nellie  
Musliner, b 10-31-1883, d 7-21-1947
- 6a Julian Ronsheim, b 11-29-1909, \_\_\_\_\_, md 9-1-1940  
Sally Bober,
- 7a Nancy Josette Ronsheim, b 11-14-1942
- 7b Jane Ellen Ronsheim, b 10-30-1944
- 7c Carol Joan Ronsheim, b 9-17-1946
- 6b David Ronsheim Jr., b ~~8-16-1914~~, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-23-1938  
Alice Schwartz, b 9-20-1916, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Susan Jane Ronsheim, b 1-10-1943
- 7b David Ronsheim III, b 4-14-1947
- 5c Celia Ronsheim, b 1-18-1881, d 6-2-1930, md 4-27-1909 Adolph L.  
Mock, b 9-28-1875, d 9-16-1931
- 6a Lucille Mock, b 4-30-1910, \_\_\_\_\_, md 4-28-1937  
Samuel Stein, b 12-2-1903, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Ellen Karoline Stein, b 5-10-1940
- 7b Elizabeth Jane Stein, b 10-27-1944
- 5d Dr. Joshua Ronsheim, b 6-3-1883, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-5-1911  
Henrietta Bernstein, b 3-19-1888, \_\_\_\_\_
- 5e Blanche Ronsheim, b 3-5-1887, d 6-9-1834, unmd
- 4e Loesser/Loser Ronsheim, b at Abterode 11-29-1848, d \_\_\_\_\_,  
md at Abterode 11-28-1876 Julie Katz (see text)
- 3? Lazarus Ronsheim, b 1814, d at Abterode 1-25-1886, a butcher (see letter)
- 4? Jettchen Ronsheim, b 1845, md at Abterode 11-24-1875 (see letter)
- 2? Wolf Ronsheim, b ca 1870/85, lived in Abterode (see letter)
- 3? Levi Ronsheim, b 1815, d at Abterode 5-9-1887 (see letter)
- 2? Geisel Ronsheim, b ca 1785/90, lived at Abterode, md Mine Haas
- 3a Levi Geisel Ronsheim, b at Abterode 6-12-1813, d 1862, md 9-4-1843  
Fachet/Jachet Liechtenberg (dau of Jachebet Messner and Jonas Lichten-  
berg) b 6-17-1819, d at Eschwege 1- -1900, bur at Abterode
- 4a Herman Ronsheim, b at Abterode 2-15-1845, d at Cincinnati 5-12-1901,  
(lived 40 years in Cincinnati according to death records) md 1st  
Jennie Sommers, b in Cincinnati 9-25-1851, d 8-12-  
1885 (records show death at 32 years) both bur at Clifton cem., md  
2nd



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- 4a Herman Ronsheim cont. 6-30-1889 Zerlina Rosenbloom, b \_\_\_\_\_,  
d 3-12-1918 (Records show early family lived at 93 Wade St., 514  
Clinton and 486 Central.)
- 5a Lester Ronsheim, b 3-24-1874, d 11-19-1933, md 6-16-1908 Irma  
Simon, b in Hungary 9-25-1873, d 7-2-1942 (bur at Clifton)
- 6a Janet Shirley Ronsheim, b 12-29-1910, d 11-1-1938 (bur at  
Clifton)
- 5b Benjamin Ronsheim, b 6-14-1879, \_\_\_\_\_, md 10-27-1901  
Mollie Freedman, b 10-14-1881, \_\_\_\_\_
- 6a Herman Ronsheim, b 9-22-1902, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-14-1928  
Sarah Goodman, b 7-7-1903, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Betty Nan Ronsheim, b 6-7-1931, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-21-1953  
Jerry Justin Sander, b at Nurnberg, Bavaria, 9-24-1926, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7b David Harris Ronsheim, b 10-24-1937
- 6b Nelson Ronsheim, b 5-16-1905, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-2-1928  
Jeanette Wertheimer, b 8-17-1905, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Sally Ronsheim, b 8-11-1930, \_\_\_\_\_, md 5-25-1952  
Gerald Smith, b 1-11-1925, \_\_\_\_\_
- 8a Michael Gordon Smith, born at Cincinnati 1-16-1954 (The  
first of the eighth generation.)
- 7b Susan Ronsheim, b 12-5-1935
- 7c Judith Ronsheim, b 6-2-1939
- 7d Job Lester Ronsheim, b 7-25-1949, d 3-12-1950 (bur at United  
Jewish)
- 5c Julius Ronsheim, b 4-16-1882, \_\_\_\_\_, md 9-25-1905  
Millie Davis, b 1-23-1882, d 9-2-1945 (bur at Judah Touro)
- 6a Howard Ronsheim, b 12-14-1906, \_\_\_\_\_, md \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Leone Heyn, b 5-20-1910, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Marilyn J. Ronsheim, b 10-10-1932, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-8-1952  
Henry H. Hachen Jr. (of NY City), b 8-25-1932, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7b Ellaine Ronsheim, b 6-15-1934
- 6b Edward A. Ronsheim, b 4-1-1917, \_\_\_\_\_, md 11-28-1942  
Ruth Denham, b 12-3-1920, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Donna Ronsheim, b 5-5-1943
- 7b Wanda Lee Ronsheim, b 8-29-1951
- 5d Sylvia Ronsheim, b 4-14-1884, \_\_\_\_\_, md 3-15-1905  
Benjamin J. Newman, b 10-31-1875, \_\_\_\_\_
- 6a Jeanette Pauline Newman, b 8-4-1906, \_\_\_\_\_ unmd
- 6b Helen Betty Newman, b 3-13-1919, \_\_\_\_\_ unmd
- 4? Marianna Ronsheim, b at Abterode, d as child
- 4? Jettchen Ronsheim, b at Abterode, d at Barchfeld, Werra, md ca  
1873/74 Samuel Hartman
- 5? Levi Hartman, b at Barchfeld 2-12-1875, d (see text)  
md. Mathilde Levor (see text)
- 6? Bruno Hartman (see text)
- 6? Trude Hartman (see text)
- 6? Lissa Hartman (living in Sweden)
- 4d Joseph Levi Ronsheim, b at Abterode 8-12-1853, d 1-29-1941, md at  
Cincinnati 1-5-1882 Fannie Ronsheim (4d dau Joseph Ronsheim 3?)  
b 2-22-1858, d 11-23-1946 (funeral record show 1945) (bur United  
Jewish)
- 5a Blanche Ronsheim, b 1-20-1884, \_\_\_\_\_

- 4e Isaac (Ike) Ronsheim, b at Kassel 11-29-1856, d at Mt. Dora, Fla., 5-17-1938 (bur at Mt. Dora) md 1st at Georgetown, Ohio, 8-21-1881 Alma McGroarty, d ca 1888 (bur at Georgetown), md 2nd 1894 Anna Paebst (dau of Sarah Ronsheim 3c the dau of Geisel), b at Ripley, Ohio, 1860, d at Mt. Dora 12-24-1937.
- 5a Tirsa Ronsheim, b at Georgetown 12-13-1884, \_\_\_\_\_ md at Middletown, Ohio, 1-24-1907 Clarence E. Tincher, 1-19-1881, d 8-8-1953.
- 6a Robert Ronsheim Tincher, b at Omaha, Nebr., 8-28-1908, \_\_\_\_\_ md at Des Moines, Iowa, 12-28-1933, Roxanna McNay, b at Fairfield, Iowa, 6-14-1907, \_\_\_\_\_ (Live at Yankton, S. D.)
- 7a Carol Elizabeth Tincher, b 10-20-1934.
- 7b Mary Diane Tincher, b 4-3-1938
- 7c Virginia Rae Tincher, b 10-14-1939
- 7d Judith Lynne Tincher, b 3-13-1942
- 4f Minna Ronsheim, b at Abterode 10-5-1860 (records show 1858), d at Frankfort/Main 7-24-1914, md at Abterode 1-16-1882 (records show 1883) Bonevid/k D. Katzenstein, b 9-11-1854, d at Eschewege 9-6-1906, (both bur at Eschewege)
- 5a Henriette Katzenstein, b at Abterode 11-30-1883, \_\_\_\_\_, md 11-14-1905 Benjamin Steifel, b at Abterode 6-15-1872, d in New York 3-1-1945
- 6a Bruno Steifel, b at Baumbach, Hesse, 2-16-1907, \_\_\_\_\_, md \_\_\_\_\_, 1935 Frida Katzenstein, b at Wolfhagen, 9-3-1906 \_\_\_\_\_, live in New York
- 7a-b Alwin Steifel, b in New York 8-5-1936
- 7b-a Susan Steifel, b in New York 8-5-1936
- 6b Alice Steifel, b at Baumbach 3-24-1908, \_\_\_\_\_ md 12-25-1935 Fred Hamburger, b at Hoerstein 3-25-1903, \_\_\_\_\_, live in New York
- 6c Joseph Steifel, b at Baumbach 8-20-1910, \_\_\_\_\_ md in Copenhagen, Denmark 1942/43 Sarah Torenok, b in Copenhagen 3-25-1907, \_\_\_\_\_ (Live in Copenhagen)
- 7a Arne Steifel, b 5-28-1944
- 7b Bent Steifel, b 12-15-1946
- 7c Dan Steifel, b 5-2-1949
- 6d Herbert Steifel, b at Baumbach 5-9-1916, \_\_\_\_\_, md 5-24-1951 Mary Shoenwalter, b at Markt Berolzheim, Bayern, 9-2-1925.
- 7a Barry Stephen Stiefel, b 2-7-1954 (Live in New York)
- 5b David Katzenstein, b at Abterode 5-6-1887, \_\_\_\_\_, md 5-2-1926 Else Stern, b at Geisa/Rhoen 5-2-1893, \_\_\_\_\_ live in NY
- 6a Margaret Katzenstein, b at Eschwege 8-11-1927, \_\_\_\_\_, md 11-27-1950 Max Haimann, b at Mayen/Rhine 10-20-1922, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Linda Ellen Haimann, born \_\_\_\_\_
- 5c Philippine Katzenstein, b at Abterode 1-16-1891, d at Detroit, Mich., 9-2-1943, md at Eschwege 1-2-1922 Moritz Heilbrunn, b at Abterode 8-8-1872, d at Kassel, Hesse 5-31-1937
- 6a Werner V. Heilbrunn, b at Abterode 10-4-1922, \_\_\_\_\_, md 6-18-1949 Linda Wohlfeld, b at Terre Haute, Ind., 6-15-1931, \_\_\_\_\_ (live in Detroit)

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- 7a Richard Stephen Heilbrunn, b 6-20-1951
- 7b Paul Bruce Heilbrunn, born Detroit, 1-23-1954
- 6b Gordon/Guenther E. Heilbrunn, b at Kassel 11-7-1928, \_\_\_\_\_,  
unmd (Lives in Detroit)
- 5d Rosel Katzenstein, b at Abterode 10-13-1892, \_\_\_\_\_ unmd.  
(Lives in Detroit) To U. S. from Kassel in 1938.
- 3b? Henry Ronsheim, b probably at Abterode 12-14-1818, d at Cincinnati  
11-10-1902, b in Lick Run (shown in 1860 census as a merchant tailor  
at Ripley, Ohio) md ca 1861/62 Fannie Berwanger, d in New York.
- 4a Bena Ronsheim, b at Ripley ca 1862, d at New York 6-16-1931, bur in  
Judah Touro, unmd.
- 4b Rose Ronsheim, b at Ripley 6-20-1864, \_\_\_\_\_, unmd. (Lives  
at Merrick, N.Y.)
- 4c Julius Ronsheim, b at Ripley 7-25-1866, d 4-12-1928, md \_\_\_\_\_,  
1889 Daisy Bairdon, b 9-5-1874, d 4- -1926, bur Evergreen Cem.  
Southgate, Ky.
- 5a Esther Julia Ronsheim, b 10-7-1893, \_\_\_\_\_, md 2-24-1920  
Marcellus James Hagans, b 3-9-1893, \_\_\_\_\_ (live in  
Cincinnati)
- 6a Dr. James Albert Hagans, b 11-9-1922, \_\_\_\_\_
- 5b Harold Ronsheim, b 5-22-1896, died at 12 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5c Albert Roland Ronsheim, b 7-22-1898, \_\_\_\_\_, md 9-5-1922  
Edna Crozier, b 1-10-\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (live in Cincinnati)
- 6a Betty Mae Ronsheim, b 3-13-1924, \_\_\_\_\_, md 1-31-1947  
Allison Clark Etheridge, b 4-18-1924 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Sally Etheridge, b 1-3-1949
- 7b Nancy Lee Etheridge, b 11-25-1952
- 6b Susanne Ronsheim, b 5-15-1934
- 4d Ida Ronsheim, b at Ripley 9-30-1869, lives at Merrick, N.Y. 1954,  
married 8-28-1899, Edward Hahn, b Champaign, Ill., 4-8-1866,  
d 3-11-1929.
- 5a Alma L. Hahn, b 9-16-1903, \_\_\_\_\_, md 3-31-1926 Robert  
Rubin, b 11-8-1894, \_\_\_\_\_
- 6a Eleanor Ruth Rubin, b 11-5-1934
- 6b Richard Edward Rubin, b 5-25-1936
- 4e Hannah Ronsheim, b at Ripley 4-2-1871, died New York 12- -1929,  
md 6-9-1897, Morris Hahn, b \_\_\_\_\_, d 5-30-1953
- 5a Arnold Hahn, b 6-26-1898, \_\_\_\_\_, md \_\_\_\_\_,  
Beatrice Hedberg
- 6a Harvey Franklin Hahn, b 10- -1931
- 4f Albert Ronsheim, b at Ripley 8-17-1873, \_\_\_\_\_, md 1-1-1905  
Minnie Lehman Beitman. Live in St. Louis, 1954.
- 5a Virginia Ronsheim, b 5-19-1907
- 4g Minnie Ronsheim, b at Ripley 12-10-1876, d at Cincinnati 12-8-1900,  
buried at Judah Touro
- 3c? Sarah Ronsheim, b probably at Gross-Buseck, Hesse, md Peter Paebst,  
b probably in Germany 9-22-1826, d at Ripley 11-16-1886 (moved to  
Ripley 1852 where bur)
- 4? Julius Paebst, bur at Ripley
- 4? Kate/Catherine Paebst, bur at Ripley
- 4? Anna Paebst, b \_\_\_\_\_, d at Mt. Dora, Fla., 12-24-1937, md  
1894 Isaac L. Ronsheim (see 4e under 3a, page 8), b at Abterode

- 1856, d 5-17-1938
- 4? Tilda/Tillie Paebst, b \_\_\_\_\_, 1861, d \_\_\_\_\_, 1943, md  
Charles P. Schneider, b \_\_\_\_\_, 1860, d \_\_\_\_\_, 1937, bur  
Ripley
- 4? Bena/Bolva Paebst, b at Ripley
- 4? Lucy Paebst, b \_\_\_\_\_, d probably at Lebanon, Ohio, md  
Thomas Israel
- 5a Frieda Israel
- 5b Charles Israel
- 5c Ada Israel
- 3d? Louis Ronsheim, b probably at Gross-Buseck, Hesse 10-7-1830 (1860  
census gives age as 28), d at Cincinnati 5-25-1892 (lived at Ripley  
1856-1890) md probably in Cincinnati but no records found, 7-3-1857  
Betty/Elizabeth Blondheim, b in Germany 10-12-1840 (1860 census gives  
age as 18) d at Tulsa, Okla. 1-29-1928, both bur Judah Touro Cem.
- 4a Esther/Essie Ronsheim, b at Ripley 4-4-1864, d at Cincinnati  
6-20-1922, md before death of father probably at Cincinnati, Moses  
Rice, b 1862, d 3-3-1897, both bur at United Jewish Cem. (lived  
early at 720 West 7th, later Walnut Hills)
- 5a Beatrice Rice, b at Cincinnati \_\_\_\_\_ 189 \_\_\_\_\_, died at Cincin-  
nati \_\_\_\_\_ 1925, (her sister failed to reply to all letters  
but Beatrice may have married Arthur C. Bollinger, born 1882 and  
drowned at Cumberland Falls, Ky., 8-20-1927 as based on city  
directory and newspaper records)
- 5b Leona L. Rice, b at Cincinnati 3-4-1896, \_\_\_\_\_, md  
6-16-1924, Dr. Paul de Courcey, b 8-22-1879 (all based on marriage  
records) Live in Cincinnati
- 4b Simon Ronsheim, b at Ripley 5-6-1866, d at Anderson, Ind., 11-3-1919  
md at Ripley 7-31-1890 Catherine Stamm, b at Ripley 6-8-1866, d at  
Anderson 8-29-1953, both bur at Maplewood
- 5a Edward J. Ronsheim (Sr), b at Bellefontaine, Ohio, 3-8-1892,  
md at Anderson 7-11-1916 Helen R. Noland, b near  
Anderson 2-27-1893,
- 6a Edward J. Ronsheim (Jr), b at Anderson 10-16-1917, \_\_\_\_\_,  
md 1st 9-10-1937 Gay Badgley, b 12-4-1917, \_\_\_\_\_ (div)  
md 2nd 7-25-1947 Marge/Maggie Stamper, b Carter Co., Ky., 11-20-  
1921,
- 7a Sandra Lynn Ronsheim, b at Anderson 4-4-1940
- 7b Stephen Edward Ronsheim, b at Anderson 7-19-1942 (Name of  
both grandfathers and his father was Edward.)
- 6b John Noland Ronsheim, b at Anderson 11-5-1919, killed in Italy  
while on 50th mission with 15th AAF 8-15-1944, (an artist of  
promise) bur 1st at Bari, Italy, 2nd West Maplewood, Anderson  
unmd.
- 6c Rosemary Ronsheim, b at Anderson 8-16-1922, \_\_\_\_\_ md at  
Indianapolis 4-23-1949 John William Scales, b 10-17-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Live in Indianapolis)
- 7a Marcia Ann Scales, b at Indianapolis 6-18-1953
- 5b Louis Milton Ronsheim, b at Bellefontaine 12-8-1894,  
md at Cadiz, Ohio, 7-19-1917 Isabel McConnell, b 6-22-1893,  
(Live at Cadiz)
- 6a David Ronsheim, b at Cadiz 7-3-1920, d at birth

- 6b Milton McConnell Ronsheim, b 7-20-1921, \_\_\_\_\_ md 10-9-1943  
Nately G. Ramsey, b at Island Falls, Me., 12-12-1925, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Pamela Mae Ronsheim, b at Camp Atterbury, Ind., 11-9-1945  
7b Douglas McConnell Ronsheim, b at Wheeling, W. Va., 1-26-1949
- 6c Samuel Burns Ronsheim, b 3-9-1923, \_\_\_\_\_ md at Wooster,  
Ohio 3-12-1946 Marian Riebe, b at Cleveland 3-31-1923, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Kathryn (Kate) Elaine Ronsheim, b at Columbus, Ohio, 12-12-1947  
7b Paul Andrew Ronsheim, b at Columbus 1-18-1950  
7c Martha Ronsheim, b at Columbus 7-7-1951
- 6d Robert Dickerson Ronsheim, b 9-24-1924, \_\_\_\_\_, md at West-  
lake, Ohio, 6-18-1949 Patricia Burneson, b 5-1-1924, \_\_\_\_\_
- 7a Ruth Ellice Ronsheim, b at Wooster 6-7-1951  
7b Susan Lee Ronsheim, b at Cambridge, Mass., 5-2-1953
- 6e John Richard Ronsheim, b 2-17-1927, \_\_\_\_\_, md at Chautau-  
qua, N.Y., 7-16-1950 Eileen Stitz, b at Buffalo 10-6-1928, \_\_\_\_\_
- 6f Mary Eva Catherine Ronsheim, b 3-4-1931  
6g Donald Ronsheim, b 1-9-1935, d 1-10-1935
- 4c Bena Ronsheim, b at Ripley 5-3-1868, d 11-23-1933, md 1-17-1899,  
Moses Cohn, b 6-20-1864, d 6-7-1940. Lived at Highland, Ohio.
- 5a Louis Cohn, b at Highland 11-24-1902, \_\_\_\_\_ md 1-14-1938  
Jeanette C. Hale, b 11-4-1905 Live at Wilmington, Ohio
- 6a Martha Jeanette Cohn, b 11-19-1938
- 4d Rose Ronsheim, b at Ripley 1-5-1872, d at Cincinnati 3-4-1949, md  
at Cincinnati, 6-28-1894, Milton Levy (No children)
- 4e Minnie Ronsheim, b at Ripley 4-13-187\_\_\_\_, d at Cincinnati 11-2-1919  
unmd. (Conflict on date of birth but placed after Rose in father's  
will.)
- 4f Mayme Ronsheim, b Zanesville, Ohio, 6-11-1876, md at Cincinnati  
7-7-1920, Albert Marx, b in Germany, 12-28-\_\_\_\_, died Tulsa, Okla.  
6- -1939. (no children)
- 4g Henry Ronsheim, b at Ripley, 12-19-1877, \_\_\_\_\_ md at Newport,  
Ky., 3-17-1898, Ada Lowler, b Mechanicsburg, Ohio, 12-29-1878.  
Live at St. Petersburg, Fla., in 1954
- 4h Sarah Ronsheim, b at Ripley 1-9-1881, \_\_\_\_\_ md at Cincinnati  
3-30-1902 Benjamin F. Felheim, b at Greenville, Ohio, 1879, d at  
Cincinnati 10-8-1935, bur at Judah Touro
- 5a Louis Alfred Felheim, b at Cincinnati 12-21-1902, \_\_\_\_\_,  
md at Cincinnati 11-24-1928 Lilyan Schoenfeld, b 9-25-1904 div  
(He lives in Chicago)
- 5b Melvin Felheim, b at Cincinnati 9-4-1904, \_\_\_\_\_ md at  
Cincinnati 6-14-1924 Effie Irene Robinson, b 10-25-1940, \_\_\_\_\_  
live at Lynchburg, Ohio
- 6a Neil Gregory Felheim, b in Clinton Co., Ohio 10-26-1926, md 12 -  
23-1944 Betty Quigley, b 3-18-1926
- 7a Tony Joe Felheim, b 2-10-1947
- 6b Leigh Melvin Felheim, b in Clinton Co., Ohio 10-25-1929, md  
1-21-1950 Nancy Avis Brandenburg, b 5-16-1929
- 7a Rickey Leigh Felheim, b 8-12-1951  
7b Randall Craig Felheim, b 5-12-1953
- 6c Margaret Irene Felheim, b 8-3-1932, md 5-11-1951 Albert Ernest  
George, b 4-13-1931.
- 3e? Frederickie Ronsheim, b probably at Gross-Buseck, md Louis Frank



The Ronsheim Family From Abterode --12

4? Moses Frank, b at Ripley 7-16-1871

NOTE: No further information on this family available

2? An unknown Ronsheim at Abterode

3? Joseph Ronsheim, b at Abterode 1821, d at Cincinnati 11-20-1900, md 1st in Germany, md 2nd at Cincinnati 2-16-1855 Rebecca/Rika Stein, b in Germany 12-18-1826, d 6-4-1904, bur United Jewish. At one time this family lived at 1315 Locust St.)

4a William J. Ronsheim, b in Cincinnati, ca 1850, d 7-29-1899, md ca 1875 Theresa Aub (dau Abram and L. Aub) b ca 1853, d 1-23-1899, bur Mayfield Cem., Cleveland, Ohio. (When children were born family lived in Cincinnati at 250 Race St., and 391 West 9th)

5a Infant Ronsheim, stillborn 2-12-1876

5b Bertha Ronsheim, b 1-1-1878, md Joseph W. Mack

6a Richard J. Mack, b 1-22-1901, md 2-20-1934 Elizabeth Roten of Baltimore

7a Alan Mack, b 5-15-1936

6b Therese Mack, b 6-21-1905, md 12-26-1941 Joseph Geffen of New York

7a Alice Geffen, b 7-1-1945/46.

5c Seward A. Ronsheim, b 4-15-1879, d 3-9-1940 unmd (cremated)

5b Abram Aub Ronsheim, b 6-28-1882, d 6-19-1944, md 12-27-1910

Linda Levi of Cleveland, b 7-4-1887, (cremated)

6a Marion Ronsheim, b 6-27-1912, md 1st 6-14-1939 J. Simpson Mathis of New Orleans, b 8-3-1903, d \_\_\_\_\_, md 2nd 11-21-1951 Charles Abraham, Jr.

7a Simpson Mathis Jr., b 4-14-1947

6b Katherine Ronsheim, b 8-8-1916, md 6-14-1939 Louis Welt of Detroit

7a Linda Welt, b 3-1-1943

7b Lois Welt, b 3-2-1948

5e Florence Ronsheim, b 1-27-1886, d ca 1887

5f Helen Aub Ronsheim, b 9-28-1888, \_\_\_\_\_, md 11-24-1914 Julian J. Behr, b 4-28-1886.

6a James Julian Behr, b 1-24-1916, md 9-17-1941 Margery Bloom, b 7-27-1916

7a James Julian Behr Jr., b 12-3-1942

7b Douglas James Behr, b 6-25-1947

7c Judith Ann Behr, b 4-3-1950

6b Walter Julian Behr, b 8-6-1917, md 11-5-1945 Louise Frieder, b 6-12-1922

7a William Alexander Behr, b 8-24-1949

7b Thomas Julian Behr, b 8-14-1951

6c Betty Therese Behr, b 10-17-1920, md 7-30-1950 Martin B. Ryback, b 11-18-1917

7a Elizabeth Helen Ryback, b 1-9-1952

4b Louis Ronsheim, b in Cincinnati 12-25-1853, d 1-11-1926, bur United Jewish Cem., Cincinnati unmd

4c Henry Ronsheim, b before 1855, d \_\_\_\_\_ unmd.

4d Fanny/Fannie Ronsheim, b 2-22-1858, d 11-23-1946, md at Cincinnati 1-5-1882 Joseph Levi Ronsheim (see 4d page 2), b at Abterode 8-12-1853 d 1-29-1941 (death records show 1-19-1941), bur United Jewish

5a Blanche Ronsheim, b 1-20-1884, \_\_\_\_\_ unmd

- 4e Minnie Ronsheim, b \_\_\_\_\_, d \_\_\_\_\_ md at Cincinnati  
9-8-1886 Adolph Louis (of New York or Kansas City)
- 5a Juliet Louis, b ca 1887, md Walter Bachman
- 6a Dorothy Bachman, b ca 1911
- 4f Rose/Rosa Ronsheim, md Ludwig Wise
- 5a Edwin Wise md at Cincinnati, Maxine Guggenheim
- 6a Rosaline Wise unmd
- 6b George Wise unmd
- 5b Helen Wise, md at Cincinnati, Warren Heldman
- 6a Robert Heldman
- 6b George Heldman
- 6c Rosemary Heldman
- 5c Dr. Milton Wise (of Mobile, Ala.)
- 5d Rebecca Wise unmd (of Dayton, Ohio)
- 4g Samuel J. Ronsheim, b 1-21-1865, d 5-16-1946, bur United Jewish
- 3? Ephram Ronsheim, b at Abterode, md at Cincinnati, a Mrs. Starr, widow

There was a surprisingly small amount of material left over after the outline was made and the story written. Usually a fairly large supply of dates and names remain. In the present case it is possible that some of the material not used does not belong to the Ronsheim family at all but that someone, using phonetics to spell a name, got it like or so nearly like Ronsheim confusion results. But, rather than exclude anyone who may have belonged to family his right to be included this extra material is added below. Maybe someone can yet fit it in.

Amanda Ronsheim, on Cincinnati death records as being the daughter of Isaac Levi and Elizabeth Weil, born in Germany, July 16, 1822 and as died in Cincinnati, Dec. 14, 1911 at 87. Really she was 89. A widow, Amanda lived at 353 Hearne Avenue when she died. Buried United Jewish Cemetery. (Record file, 1911-6386)

Magdalena Rousheim or Ronsheim, died at 34 years on Jan. 6, 1876 and buried at Walnut Hills. No further data.

Infant Ronsheimer, born dead May 6, 1876 and buried at Walnut Hills by an undertaker confusing records shows as Henry Ronsheimer. Of course not of the family but the name has interest.

Isidor Ronsheim, born in Germany, Feb. 3, 1872, came to Cincinnati about 1888, died of pneumonia at St. Joseph's Hospital, 12-2-1893.

Carrie Ransheim or Ronsheim married on Jan. 16, 1890 to Wendelin Wahlman.

Infant Ronsheim, born Dec. 30, 1877 to August and Helena Ronsheim, both born in Germany but living at Corryville where he was a stove dealer.

Getzer Ronsheim, first name very hard to figure out and may be error, born at Ripley, Ohio, and on record at Georgetown as born Sept. 25, 1869 to Louis Ronsheim and Betty Blontheim. Some chance this could have been Ida Ronsheim, daughter of Henry instead, born at Ripley, Sept. 30, 1869.



The Ronsheim Family From Abterode --11

Standesamt (Justice of the Peace)  
Abterode

To

Edw. J. Ronsheim, Sr.  
Anderson, Ind.

Subj. Your letter dtd. March 16, 1953

In reply to your letter dtd. March 16, 1953, I inform you that I have found several members of the Ronsheim family in the registers of the marriage bureau of Abterode and on the isrealite cemetery. Yet, since the official marriage bureau (Standesamt) has been in existence only since 1874 I am sorry not to be able to give you any information concerning earlier members of the family since those have been entered in the registers of the Synagogue, and these documents cannot be located any longer.

The following persons are entered in the registers of the marriage bureau:

Jettchen Ronsheim born 1845, daughter of the butcher Lazarus Ronsheim, married November 24, 1875 in Abterode, to salesman Aron Katzenstein.

Loser Ronsheim born November 29, 1848, in Abterode, son of salesman David Ronsheim, married to Miss Julie Katz on November 28, 1876.

Minna Ronsheim born October 5, 1858, daughter of salesman Levi Geisel Ronsheim, married to Bonevik Katzenstein on January 16, 1883.

Lenchen Ronsheim, born December 10, 1850 in Kassel, daughter of Hanna Ronsheim in Abterode, married to Jacob Lebensbaum on January 30, 1884.

Levi Ronsheim, born 1815, died on May 9, 1887 in Abterode, son of Wolf Ronsheim

Lazarus Ronsheim, born 1814, died January 25, 1886 in Abterode, son of Abraham Ronsheim.

The following persons are buried on the isrealite cemetery:

Menke Ronsheim, died on 17th of the month Schebart, year 5658. (Jewish calendar) (That would be May, the 17th, 1897 Gregorian calendar)

Jachet Ronsheim, born June 17, 1819, died February 24, 1900.

Signature

Mr. E. J. Ronsheim Sr.,  
P.O. Box 486  
Anderson, Indiana, USA

OUR REFERENCE  
T/D 304894 - 899

YOUR REFERENCE  
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YOUR LETTER DATED  
May 16, 1953

SUBJECT: RONSHEIM, Max, HARTMAN, Levi, Levor, Mathilda, married HARTMAN,  
Bruno, Trude and Lissa.

Reference is made to your tracing inquiry for the above named persons as well as for members of the Ronsheim family, prior to the war living in Eschwege, Abterode and Kassel.

Below please find the result of a thorough checking of the indices and records held in the ITS:

RONSHEIM, Max, born on 20. April 1900 in Abterode; Krs. Eschwege, prior to the war living in Abterode, Steinweg Nr. 46 b, has applied to ITS for a certificate of incarceration on January 9, 1951 at that time living at 603 Clive Court, London, W 9.

HARTMAN, Levi, Jewish, born at Barchfeld/Werra on 12.2.1875, arrived in concentration camp Buchenwald on 10.11/1938 and was released on 26.11.1938. No trace could be found as to his further fate.

No information could be found in our records and indices with respect to HARTMAN, Mathilda, nee LEVOR, HARTMAN, Bruno, Trude and Lissa.

Should any further information come to hand from new incoming documents we shall advise you in due course.

Regarding other members of the Ronsheim family please find the following information held in our indices:

RONSHEIM, Gustav J., German Jew, born in Abterode on 5.6.79, last known location: Frankfurt, Schwanestr. 13, and

RONSHEIM, Emil J., German Jew, born in Abterode on 3.3.88, last known location: Frankfurt, Mittelweg 48, and

RONSHEIM, Emma S. nee LOEB, born in KL.-Anheim on 16-6-1889, last known location: Frankfurt, Mittelweg 48, and

RONSHEIM, Jenny nee ROTHSCHILD, born in Abterode on 12.5.97. last known location: Frankfurt, Mittelweg 48, and

RONSHEIM, Horst, born in Abterode on 7-4-1923, last known location: Frankfurt, Mittelweg 48, and

RONSHEIM, Hans, born in Abterode on 1.8.1927, last known location: Frankfurt, Mittelweg 48, and

