

# Wiederhold Genealogy information

## Introduction

This work was motivated by a desire to make earlier work by [Alfred Wiederhold](#), who worked for over thirty years to create a comprehensive genealogy for Wiederholds anywhere in the world. He published about a dozen copies. Gio Wiederhold has been working on archiving, validating, and expanding on Alfred Wiederhold's work. Now the internet provides an opportunity for expanding and sharing the information with a much broader audience. All of Alfred's [source documents](#) are now available on-line.

However, these documents require some effort and cross validation to become as easy to use as the genealogies available on public web sites. Background, motivation, scope, limits, and methods I used to create a comprehensive Wiederhold tree are described in [Genealogy Methods](#), including the contents and format chosen, as well as the assumptions made. A score of [related documents and stories](#) are now available and contributions are welcome.

## The current Wiederhold Genealogy

A searchable tree, as of 28 December 2019 covering [All Early Wiederholds](#) is now available on-line using the WebTrees package available on GoDaddy. That tree is intended to include all known Wiederholds born before 1800, much of their early family, and many of their descendants, especially those that emigrated from Germany to the United States, Chile, and the Netherlands.

The working version of 1 December 2020 contains 44,811 related persons. I hope to publish it on-line in Wiederhold.org in January 2021.

In February 2020 it had 7469 Wiederholds and von Wiederholds, 145 Wedderolds, a name used 1200-1400, 159 Wiederholts (mainly in the US midwestern states), 96 Wetterholts (in Lorraine, an area sometimes French, sometimes German since 1667) and from them 70 Weatherholts (in Michigan since 1869), 38 Wiederholdts (a Dutch branch started before 1753), 33 Wiederholz' (mainly in central Germany), 14 Widerholds, and 9 Wetterolds. Counts of those names and other variants are periodically updated in the story about [Name Changes](#).

Isolated instances of different name spellings have been changed to be consistent with their relatives. Descendants with radically different names, as Cederhout (Netherlands as of 1753) and Woodrow (US as of 1914) are not included. Spouses and maternal ancestors are included, as far as feasible. I try to show all spouses and children of Wiederhold daughters, but rarely follow their descendants. The tree also includes many rulers that affected their lives.

Substantial information on the earliest Wiederholds - or Wedderolds - was not available to Alfred Wiederhold. In 1986 the Warburger Stammtafeln were published and the include data for [Wedderold from 1220 to 1400](#). Many entries from the Warburger Stammtafeln are related to Alfred's entries in the genealogy tree. Many more provide linkages to yet earlier relatives in maternal lines.

Yet earlier linkages are presented in the story about the founding of Hessen and the origin of the [Counts of Hessen](#), with references to their Wikipedia entries. A contemporaneous map is included there.

## Perusing the [Wiederhold Tree](#)

For the tree itself public software, [Webtree, is used in Wiederhold.org](#). Because of privacy rules the public file replaces all persons that might be living with the name "Living Wiederhold". That means that in order to find your own ancestors you have to search for the name of a dead relative using a complete name in the General Search box, say "Theodore August Wiederhold". Often the exact spelling of that name is uncertain. With Webtree's Advanced Search option one can find ancestors based on incomplete data. Once you find a person related to you, you can navigate up and down, using family information shown on the right-hand side, create charts, etc. Since so many Wiederholds gave their children similar names, has Johannes and Heinrich there will often be multiple similarly named Wiederholds with the same year-of-birth. Here the name of the spouse, the date of death, and the locality can distinguish them. I try to list the maiden names of all spouses, since confusion there easily leads to misassignments of children.

Most entries obtained from the original Alfred Wiederhold will have a source entry showing the file names given in the [Sources section](#) of Wiederhold.org. Many others refer to public genealogy sites, as [MyHeritage](#), [Ancestry](#), [Geneanet](#), [Geni](#), [Stamboom](#), and [Wikitree](#). Well known people may have an entry in one of the Wikipedias. Some Wiederhold biographies appear in the [Deutsche Biographie](#).

Please let me know of any problems or errors by [email to Gio Wiederhold](#). I will correct them in my private version and update this public version as needed, perhaps once a year. There will always be some errors in such a large file.

For other genealogy researchers I also make a sharable copy of my current [working file](#) available. Its size is over 30 megabytes. If information from that file is used in other publications I expect that the source, Wiederhold.org, is credited. I cannot warrant the absence of errors, but would like to be informed. Be aware that spellings of names varies, I select a primary spelling and list alternatives as Also-known-as entries. Some public sources use (alternates) or italics, creating complex names. Birthdates may be based on baptismal records, when I know that a note will indicate that. Marriage dates can be based on posting of bans, indicating the intent, and death dates and places may refer to burials. I don't use distinct entries for those.



## Further material

We showed already a general [map of Germany to show where most German Wiederholds were located](#). Below we show a map of the prime area, northern Hessen, with its major town, Frankfurt am Main at the base.

This map shows in red towns that are frequently referenced.



Map of southern Westfalen and Northern Hessen

Many US immigrants came from the catholic [Eichsfeld](#) region of Germany, on the map identified with a destination for pilgrimages and cures, Heilbad Heiligenstad – in the top right corner. Pages describing two of the major Eichsfeld towns where Wiederholds resided, [Dingelstädt and Kefferhausen](#), were extracted from a book by C. Duval, originally published (in German) in 1845.

## Transformations

I maintain the data using McKiev Ancestry Software, keeping files in their .ftm format and backups in compressed .ftmb format. I can make files in those formats available. To use other genealogy software these files are first saved in a standard interchange format: GEDCOM. I can make the genealogy file available in that format as well. A simple display application for GED files on my iPhone is GedView. The version now publicly available on Wiederhold.org uses WebTrees, available at GoDaddy.com, the manager of the Wiederhold.org site.

I found out that date ranges are not handled correctly when transformed. I don't know if the failure is in the translation into or from GEDCOM format. The data has also been moved by Ruud de Ruiter into Aerdvaer, free software from the Netherlands. That software has some great features, as proper handling of names with prefixes, as 'van Oranjen' and computation of multiple relationships.

A July 2015 version of the Wiederhold tree was made [publicly available on MyHeritage](#). That version has not been updated, has known errors, and does not have the earlier Wedderhold data. It also contains much information on Gio's mothers' family, 'Tuybens', which I currently maintain separately. The Wiederhold tree on Wiederhold.org only contains Gio's direct ancestors on the Tuybens side.

## Other publications

I have obtained or borrowed a number of publications that have validated and extended the Wiederhold Genealogy as well as the Tuybens ancestry. Major sources have been **boldened**. The family books for Kefferhausen and Dingelstädt have each about 1500 Wiederhold entries, but many are duplicates.

- John Adams: *Old Square-Toes and His Lady, The Life of James and Amelia Douglas*; Touch Word Editions, 2011.
- Hamid Algadri: *Dutch Policy Against Islam and Indonesians of Arab Descent in Indonesia*; LP3ES, 1994.
- Bruce E. Bourgogne: *Defeat, Disaster, and Dedication*; Heritage Books, 2008.



- Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie: *Regerings Almanak van Nederlandsch-Indie 1815-1900*; CD published by the CBG, the Hague, The Netherlands, 2011.
- Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie: *Regerings Almanak van Nederlandsch-Indie 1901-1940*; CD published by the CBG, the Hague, The Netherlands, 2011.
- Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie: *The European population of Malacca 1818-1825*; CBG,; annual review 1986.
- Alfred Chapuis: *La Horlogerie Neuchatelois*; Manuel Emch, Jaquet Droz; Assouline, 2009.
- C. Duval: *Romantische Beschreibung des Eichsfeldes*; 1945, reprinted 1922.
- Hans Ebert: "Die Freiherren von Wiederhold zu Weidenhofen in Rietheim"; *Tuttlinger Heimatblätter*, Stadt Tuttlingen, 2013.
- Ludwig Finckh: *Konrad Widerholt*; Silberburg, 1960.
- Ewald Frankenberg: *Ortsfamilienbuch der katholischen Pfarrgemeinde St. Johannes Bapt Kefferhausen* (local family book of the catholic parish St. John the Baptist, Kefferhausen); Frankenberg, Weilerswiel, 2013.
- Alfons Grunenberg and Uwe Schössow: *Geschichte der Pfarrei Heuten mit ihrer Filiale Flensburg* (History of the Heuthen, Eichsfeld parish); Rockstuhl 2015, available at Amazon.
- C.W. Heckert: *The German-American Diary*; McClain Printing Co, Parsons, WV, 1980.
- Friedrich Joseph Liborius Heidenreich: *Warburger Stammtafeln (ancestor Records from Warburg)*; Westfälische Gesellschaft für Genealogie und Familienkunde (Westphalian Society for Genealogy and Family Research), Münster, 1986, 2 vols, a book and a set of 294 charts. [The Wiederhold charts \(285-286\)](#) are on-line.
- Hutteroth: *Die Althessischen Pfarrer der Reformationszeit*; Marburg 1953. Describes protestant pastors in Hessen during the time of the reformation.
- Kenneth Jones, Ed.: *Johannes Schwalm: The Hessian; Johannes Schwalm* Historical Association, 1976. Available at ABE books.
- Daniel Kehlmann: *Tyll*; Pantheon 2020. An allegory of life during the thirty-years' war; not factual, but may references to historical figures and their travails, as Frederick V, the Winterking of Bohemia, 1596-1632
- **Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Heuthen nach-to America*; 2017.**
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Kreuzebra nach-to America*; Sep. 2020
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Hundeshagen nach-to America*; Feb.2021.
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Küllstedt nach-to America*; Feb.2021.
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Wachstedt nach-to America*; Mar.2021.
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Gaismar nach-to America*; Apr.2021.
- Rüdiger Kruse: *Auswander-Emigrants aus-von Geisleden nach-to America*; Apr.2021.

- Wilhelm Lotze: *Geschichte der Stadt Münden nebst Umgebung*; 1878, published by Kluglist Verlag 1909.
- Christoph Reske: *Die Buchdrucker des 16. und 17. Jahrhunderts in Deutschen Sprachgebiet*; Google, 2017.
- Aloys Schulz and Ewald Frankenberg: ***Dingelstädt/Eichsfeld Ortsfamilienbuch. auf der Basis des katholischen Kirchenbuchs der Pfarrgemeinde St. Gertrudis (local family book for Dingelstädt (Eichsfeld), based on the catholic parish St. Gertrudis)***; Frankenberg, Weilerswil, 2013.
- Wilhem Lotze: *Geschichte der Stadt Münden*; Kluglist Verlag, 1909.
- Corinne Fullerton Shumway: *Treasure in the Hills : Families of Pioche, Nevada & nearby Mines, Ranches & Valleys*; 2005, pages 502-503, children 456-466, ix.
- Paul Tienkamp has an [extensive collection](#), focusing on the Netherlands, also accessible on [Geneanet](#).
- André Tissot: *Voyage de Pierre Jaquet-Droz à la Cour du Roi D'Espagne*; Cahiers de l'Institut Neuchatelois, 1982.
- Albrecht Thoma: *Konrad Widerholt*; Lehmann Verlag, 1903.
- Various: *Genealogisches Handbuch bürgerlicher Familien*; Starcke Verlag, Limburg, 2002, 185 volumes on 23 CDs.
- Genealogie Hessen on Facebook (not yet exploited) via Hans-Georg Vogel.
- Gary D. Weatherhold: *The Family of Jacob Weatherhold, 1760-1837*; Indianapolis, 1994; provided by Carina Wetherhold, 2020.
- Josef Weinberg: *Der Kommandant vom Hohen-Twiel*; Kurt Arnholt Verlag, 1938.
- Ray G. Wetherhold: *The Descendants of Joseph Wetherhold*; H. Ray Haas, Allentown PA, 1969, 60pp; provided by Carina Wetherhold, 2020.
- History of Münster. (cited in Eichsfeld Wiederholds)

Internet sources containing genealogical information are very useful since they allow search. Like anything on the Internet, the data have to be used with care.

- Wikipedias in English, German, French and Spanish'
- Website for [Ancestry.com](#). I receive periodically suggestions for updates from them. They tend to provide pointers to the source documents. Ancestry also supports the Genealogy programs on Public Radio. My mother's genealogy appears there as [TuybensReduced](#), together with my personal direct ancestors. Much of its contents was produced and documented by my cousin, Loes van Beuge-Davis (1936-2021).
- Website for [Geneanet \(used by Ruud de Ruiter\)](#).
- Website for the [Geni World Family Tree](#).
- Website for [MyHeritage](#), maintained by the Church of Latter-day Saints, with access to their library of published family genealogies. I receive periodically suggestions for "Smart" matches from MyHeritage, but always validate them, because misspellings tend to lead to duplicate entries. I used MyHeritage for an [early version of the Wiederhold family tree](#), but am not maintaining it.

A recent (2020) update of MyHeritage encourages users to add substantial subtrees to their genealogies with a single click, without a means to look at the individual entries. That is likely to make its contents less reliable. Children with alternate spellings become routinely replicated and redundant subtrees are the effect.

- For content in the Netherlands the [Stamboom forum](#) is very useful. It advertises itself as Het communicatieplatform voor stamboomonderzoekers: fora, discussiegroepen en weblogs gebundeld. Voor genealogen, door genealogen!
- The web site for [Wikitrees](#), a site with many active and helpful participants.
- The documents available on the [GenWiki](#) website

While I use all of them, I am not in full control of their contents and not at all of their content management. Neither can I afford to maintain a complete and correct copies of an up-to-date Wiederhold genealogy there. They all do provide useful references to source publications.

References for specific individuals appear in their stories, specifically for [Konrad Wiederhold \(1598\)](#); [Andreas Wiederhold \(1731\)](#); and [Bernard Wilhelm Wiederhold \(1757\)](#). Jürgen Wiederhold (\*1940) donated relevant books from Alfred Wiederhold's library in July 2022.

Entries in my genealogy should always be identified with the source, and the specific location within a major source in the field labeled Alfred W., my primary source. If source information in an entry is missing please check the entries for the nearest relatives.

## Acknowledgements

Many people have helped with aspects of this research:

- Ruud de Ruiter in Switzerland, who has not only supplied data, but also subjects data that I entered into my tree to rigorous checking.
- Rüdiger Kruse in Germany who focuses on data from Heuthen in the Eichsfeld and their US descendants. He has also published a series of books focusing on US descendants from other towns in the Eichsfeld area..
- George Molenkamp in The Netherlands, who has researched the ancestors that went to the Indies.
- Ewald Frankenberg, Weilerswil, Germany who was able to supply data extracted from church books in the Eichsfeld region.
- Marco Born, who maintains a [beautiful genealogy site for the Ziegenfuss family](#), which includes many Wiederholds from the Eichsfeld region.
- Martin Heddergott, who has helped in figuring out the complex relationships of the Eichsfeld Wiederholds.
- Gary Weatherholt, who has done extensive work on the Weatherholt and Wetherhold families, and published their genealogy (see reference above). He



has provided updates beyond what has been published for inclusion in the Wiederhold genealogy to appear in early 2021.

- Carina Wetherhold, who collected and provided data via ancestry on the US branches that changed their names to Weatherhold, Weatherholt, Wetherhold, Wetherholt, and similar variations, easier to use and pronounce in the US.
- Alwin Wiederhold, now living in the UK, born in the Netherlands, and educated in South Africa. He provided links to South-African and Ceylonese branches, as well as a story about the ubiquitous name John [Wiederhold](#).
- Gregory Wiederhold helps maintain the [Facebook Wiederhold Ancestry](#) site.
- Jürgen Wiederhold (1935), my cousin in Germany, who has helped to collect German source data.

Peruse, enjoy, and provide feedback and updates.



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This page last updated 10 October 2022.

*The source file for this page is kept on the primary part of Gio's genealogy data.  
On GoDaddy appears with all the Webgene entries.*