

Timeline

The fortunes of the Wiederholds were affected by events around them. This list presents some of them. References to the English Wikipedia are given although others were used as well. Names with a † appear in the Wiederhold genealogy.

(This is a draft: to edit use fullpage, go into table, then table options appear on top. Chose layout there)

9 AD	Battle near Osnabrück, Lower Saxony in the Teutoburger forest : Arminius, leader of a local tribe, the Chatten, with the help of other Germanic tribes, defeats the Romans and keep them out the areas to the east of the Rhine. That area is where early Wedderholds first appear.
402	The Roman legions leave England and later Northern Europe, enabling local tribes to assume power.
550-750	Latin, and then French becomes the dominant language west of the Rhine river
749	Legend: St. Bonifacius slays the devil on the Stufenberg in the Eichsfeld , the mountain splits and disappears. A chapel, St. Gehöllffenberg is erected there (about 10km south of Heilbad Heiligenberg) and the population converts to Christianity [Duval:1845].
800	Charlemagne† (*747) becomes emperor of the Romans. He forced the Saxons (inhabitants of Sachsen) to become Christians. With 4 wives and 3 consorts he had over 13 children that inherited parts of his empire as kings and dukes. Some of them became electors, eligible to select the next Holy Roman Emperor (HRR†) in Frankfurt, an independent city.
1066	William the Conqueror†, a duke of Normandy in Northern France (*1027), conquers England, greatly changing the culture there to become Anglo-Saxon.
1220	First citation of the name Wedderold†, given to the son (*1210) of a judge and mayor in Marsberg, at the border of Westfalen and Hessen.
1292	Conflicts among sons of the counts of Hessen
~1350	The Black death (Pestilence) killed 25 Million people, a third of the population
1360	Heiligenberg becomes a destination for annual pilgrimages. By 1443 three full-time priests are appointed to hear confessions. It becomes an important social event with much eating and beer-drinking [Duval:1845].
1439	Johannes Gutenberg develops the printing press in Mainz, Germany, enabling by 1500 rapid distribution of bibles and popular material and broad access to information.
1446-58	Ludwig <i>the peaceful</i> † of Hessen (*1402) splits Hessen into Lower (northern) and Upper (southern) Hessen, causing the Wiederhold branch to split, since several were employed by the counts. Following the rulers, the branch that moved to Homberg and Felsberg later became protestant. In 1500 Hessen was again united.
1492	Alahambra decree by king Ferdinand of Aragon† (*1492): All Jews must become Christians in 90 days or leave Spain, initiating Portugal's rise in trade and exploration of the world.
1519	Huldrych Zwingli attempts to reform the Catholic church, soon converting the French reformer John Calvin.
1524-25	A peasant revolt destroyed many catholic churches, mainly to the south and east of Hessen, including Eichsfeld, but the peasants did not receive support from the protestant clergy and the aristocracy defeated them, killing about 100,000.
1568	Protestants in the Netherlands, led by William the Taciturn of Orange†, started fighting the imposition of Spanish catholic rule. The eighty-years ended when, in the final negotiations for the thirty-years' war they gained independence.

1571	Martin Luther posits his 95 principles and hastens the reformation, leading to political conflicts among princes that adopt or reject Lutheranism.
1572	The St. Bartholomew's Day massacre drives many leaders and craftsmen out of France, including some Wiederhold ancestors.
1576	A Jesuit delegation settles at Heiligenberg in the Eichsfeld, an area with many Wiederholds, to counteract conversions to Lutheranism.
1602,70	Start of exploration of the Indies and North America. Some Wiederholds became soldiers for merchant companies as the Dutch VOC and the British Hudson Bay Company .
1618-1648	The Thirty-Years War started as conflict between states that adopted Protestantism, initially accepted in the peace of Augsburg of 1555, and those that did not or were forced to revert under the pressure of emperor Ferdinand II, elected in 1619. The initial conflicts started in Bohemia in 1618. Protestant forces rallied to the Netherlands in 1622, but lost battles in Germany. France felt threatened by all sides and a civil war. Denmark started to intervene in 1625, and Sweden in 1630, on opposite sides, moving the focus of the war to central Europe. Sweden, with help from France and the Netherlands, employing mainly German and Scottish mercenaries. Negotiations on establishing settling authority over the involved lands started in 1644 and ended with the peace of Münster in 1648. The war caused at least 8 Million fatalities in Europe, including about 25-50% of the population in German regions.
1626-31	Witchcraft trials and purges, instigated by catholic bishops.
1642-44	Pestilence, but also outbreaks of typhus, exacerbated by the conditions during the war.
1667,69	Heiligenberg in the Eichsfeld recognized as devotional site by local rulers (Johann Philipp Sachsen or Hessen?) [Duval].
1652-1910	The VOC starts a settlement at the cape of South-Africa as a supply point for their trade to the Indies, initiating a major immigration by Dutch, German, and French Huguenots. Several appear in the Wiederhold genealogy {Homberg, Vol.1, Ab1 & Ab2}. Conflicts with the British ensue in 1795. The Cape settlements become independent, but are lost to the British by 1902 and become part of South Africa in 1910.
1744-35	Conflicts regarding the inheritance of Augustus II the Strong (*1670), elected king of Poland in 1697 led to the War of the Polish Succession. Augustus II the Strong (*1670)
1738	Potatoes, first brought from the Americas to Spain in 1570, started to be planted in Prussia and 10 years later in Saxony and Westfalen, greatly changing the German diet.
1740-48	War of the Austrian Succession, initiated by Frederik II, the Great of Prussia (*1712) based on claims that a woman, Maria Theresia (*1717) was not eligible to inherit Austria. One result was that Silezia (Schlesien) became part of Prussia (after 1945 part of Poland), and some Wiederhold ancestors moved there.
1775-83	American Revolutionary War. King George III.† of the now United Kingdom (*1738) hires 30,000 Hessian mercenaries, supplied by his <cousin> Frederik II. Of Hessen-Kassel, to fight the insurrection. Two officers (Andreas and Bernard Wilhelm) are Wiederholds, there were certainly many more, since the ratio of officers to privates was about 1:5. About 6,000 of the Hessians remained in the U.S., but fewer officers.
1815	The Mt.Tambora volcano in north-central Indonesia explodes, creating global dust clouds that lead to a cold summer, crop failures and starvation all over Europe.
1792-1815	Wars of the Coalitions , by various combinations of central and southern European states against Napoleon. Some German territories initially accepted control by French liberating forces, while being overrun by French refugees. The 4 th war (1806-1807) affected Hessen the most, about 700,000 soldiers and civilians died (That does not include Napoleon's 1812 Russia campaign).

1830-95	Cholera epidemics in various European areas. 1831 Prussia; 1849: Netherlands & Belgium; 1866 Belgium; 1892 Hamburg
1835-40	First trains in Germany, plain people can travel beyond walking overland.
1842	The invention of the Lancashire loom caused mechanical weaving to replace home-spun spinning and cloth-making, greatly reducing incomes in the Eichsfeld area. Many emigrate to the Americas.
1848	German democratic movement, suppressed soon after by Prussia.
1850	Chile encourages immigration of German settlers in its southern region.
1860	Crop failures in Finland, motivating massive emigration via Norway, later Sweden, to the US.
1883	The Volcano of the Krakatoa between Sumatra and Java erupts, generating spectacular sunsets, but also lowering temperatures in Europe by 1.2 °C (2.2 °F), causing famines.
1914-18	First World War.
1930-85	Alfred Wiederhold† (*1918) creates a comprehensive Wiederhold genealogy .
1939-45	Second World War. Massive dislocations as many men are in military service.
1945-90	Germany is split and loses possessions to the East.
1969-90	ARPA develops the ARPAnet, predecessor of the Internet, enabling global access to information.
1970ies	Containerized shipping makes location of production of goods nearly irrelevant.
1990ies	The Internet and its technology provides world-wide, low-cost sharing of information.
2019	The Wiederhold genealogy is published on-line.
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† entries in the on-line Wiederhold genealogy; * year born

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