

The Many Steps in the German Migrations to Volhynia

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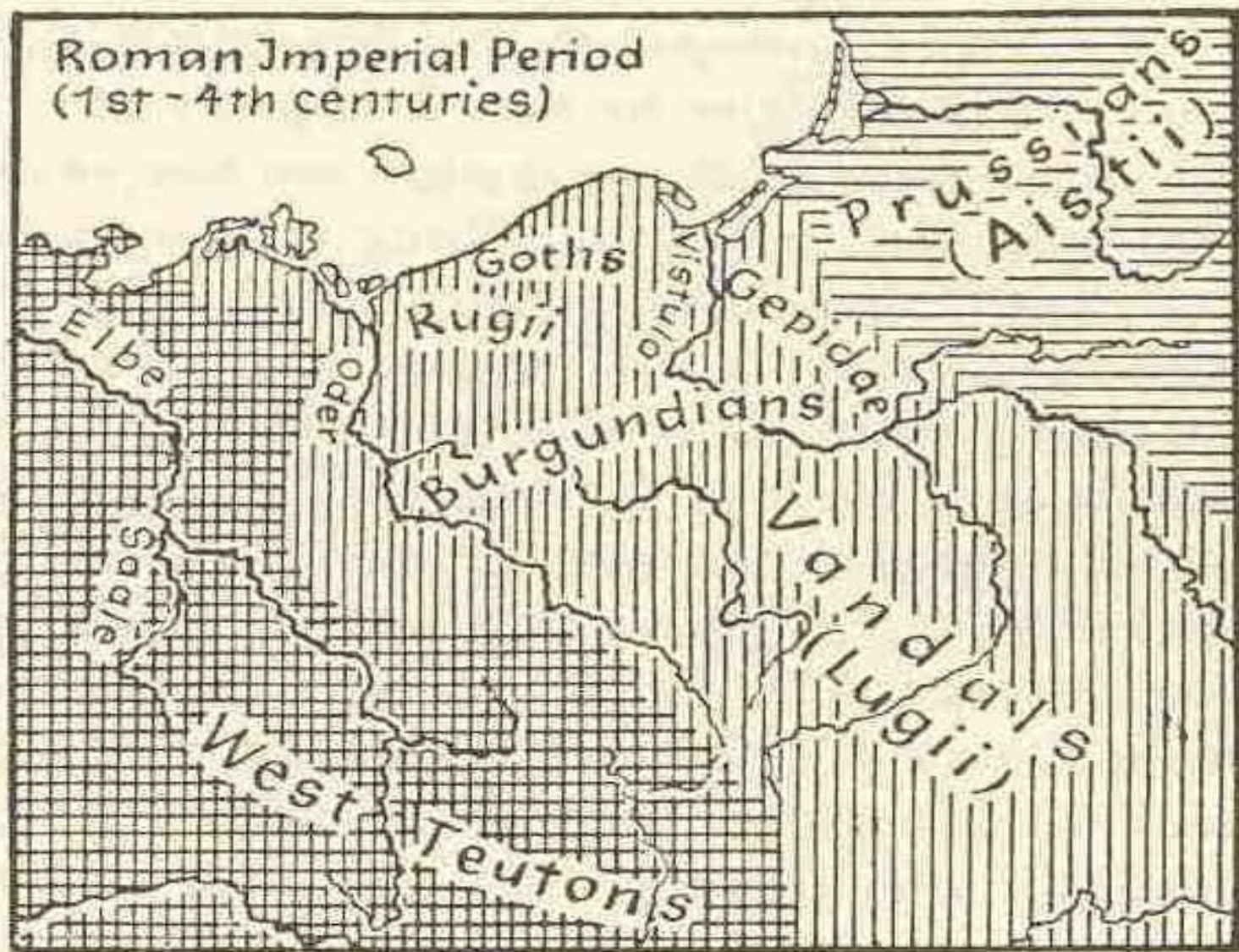
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Roman Imperial Period
(1st - 4th centuries)



Ancient History

Roman Times – all northern Europe was full of German tribes

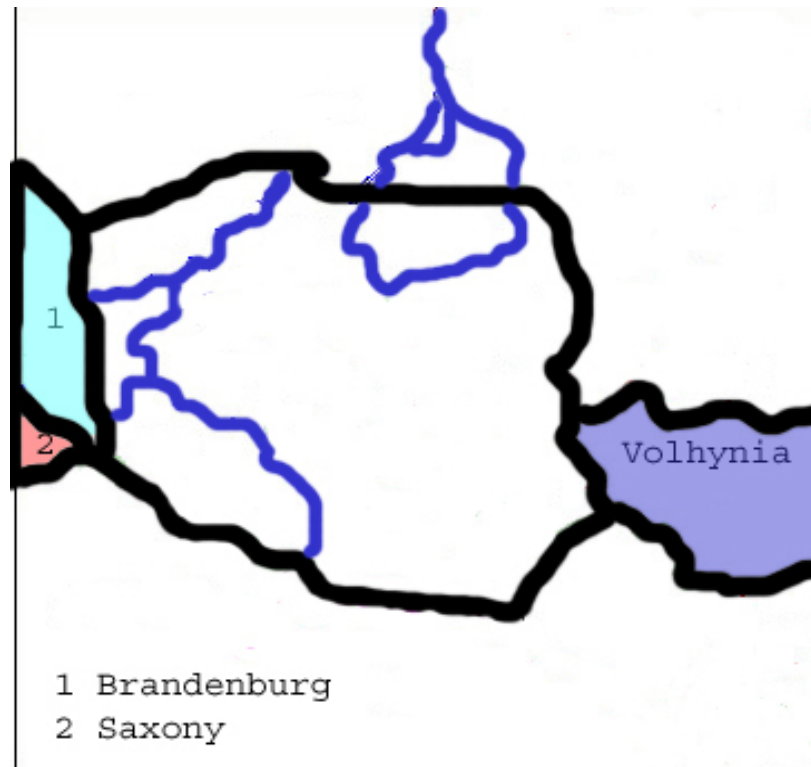
By 450 AD, German tribes moved west sacking Rome, over running France, Britain, Spain and northern Africa. This made room for the Slavic people to move into Europe.

By 1500 Germans were moving to the east back into northern Europe.

Hundreds of German States

- Germany was hundreds of warring mini-states fighting each other for gain, fame, or religion. Nobles and warlords came and went and the people starved and died.

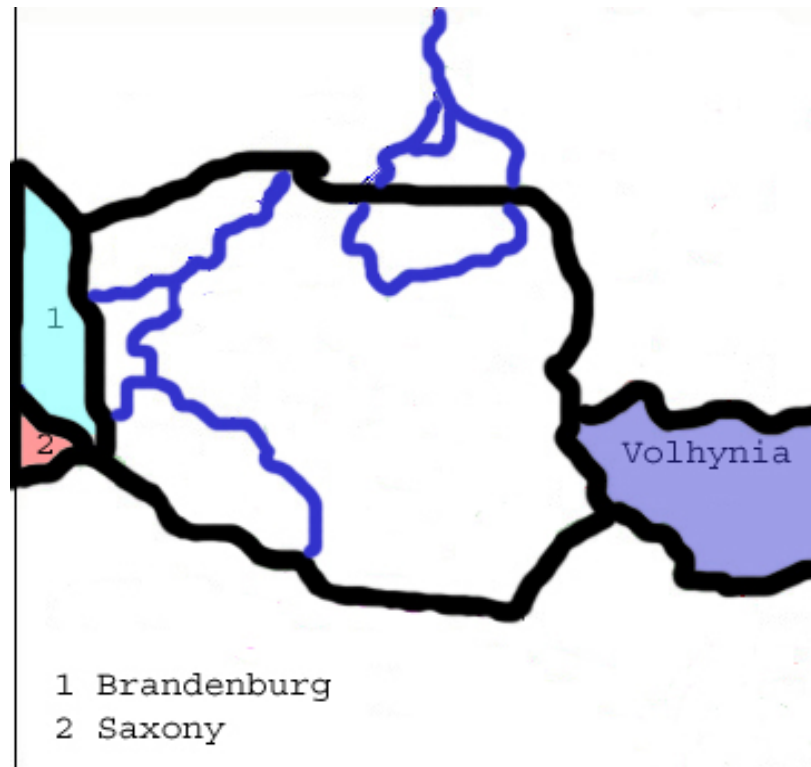
Geography 1



Kingdom of Saxony

- Saxony was a minor German state at the eastern edge of the area occupied by Germans tribes. As the Saxons moved east they conquered the local Slavic people and integrated them into the state. Much of Saxony was bilingual and spoke both German and Wendish (Sorbish) dialects. Dresden was the capital.

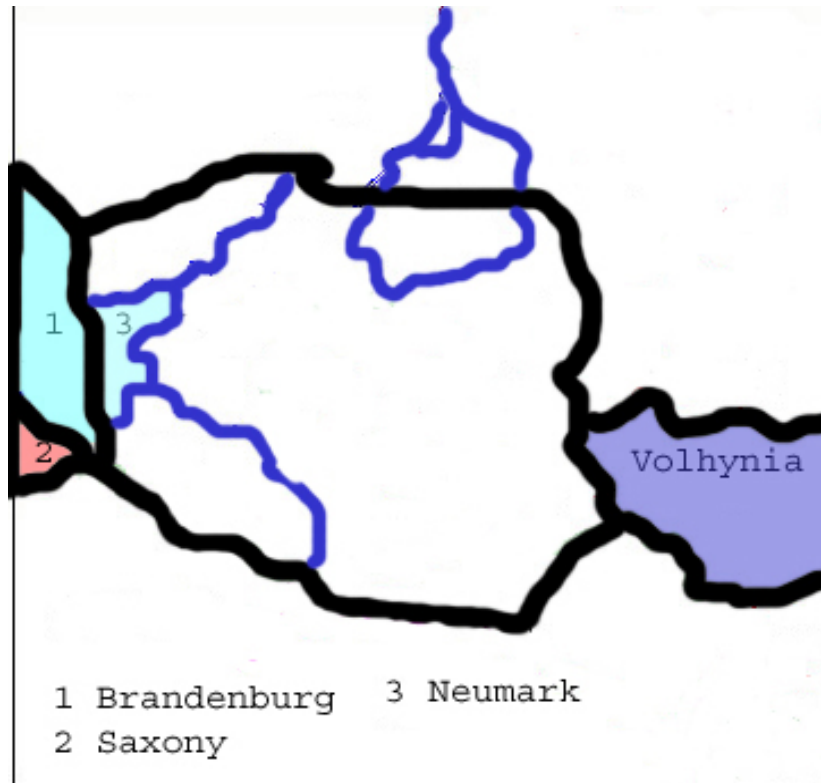
Geography 1



Brandenburg

- This minor German state was also at the eastern edge of the area occupied by Germans tribes. Like Saxony the area had both Slavic and German people. Berlin became the capital of this state.

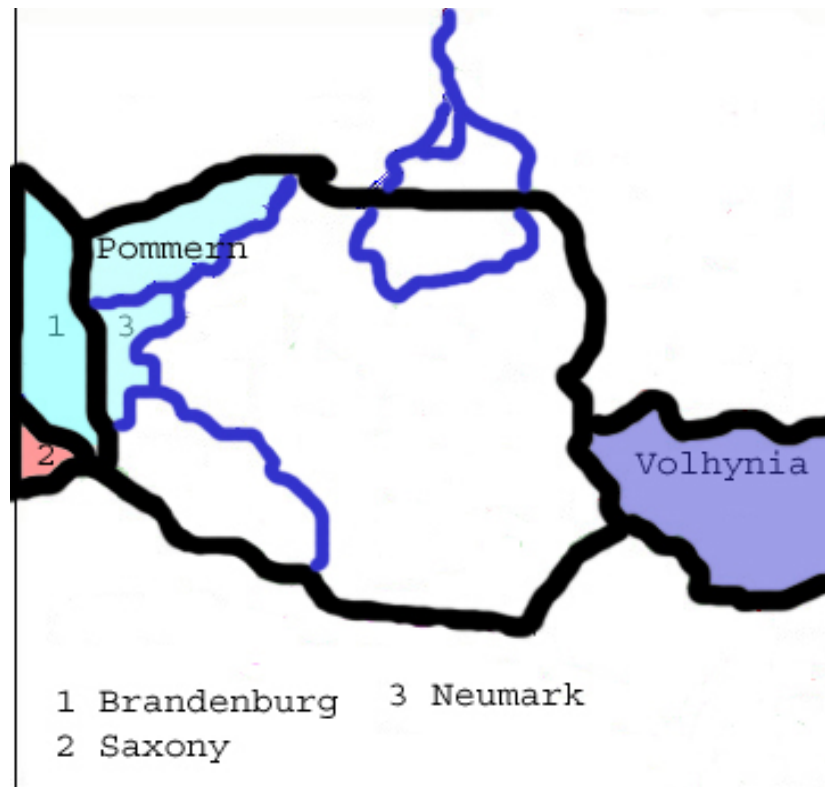
Geography 2



Neumark

- Brandenburg gave German nobles the right to assemble an army and take the land from the Polish nobles.
- The German nobles then created great fortified estates peopled with German and Polish peasants.
- The area was called Neumark.

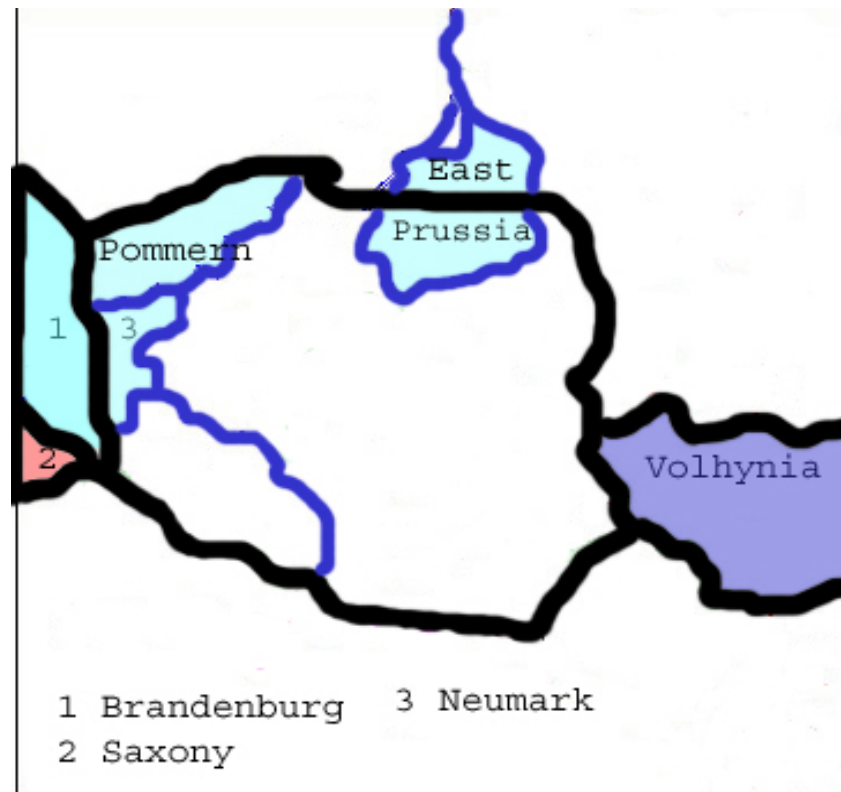
Geography 3



(Hinter) Pommern

- Lightly populated initially with Wends and Kashubians
- The Wendish and Kashubian nobility established manorial estates
- There was a gradual inflow of Germans
- Germans had cooperative arrangements with Wendish and Kashubian nobility

Geography 4



East Prussia

- The Teutonic Knights were established in Germany to fight for the Holy Land.
- It appeared the Holy Land was secure so the Pope had the knights Christianize the Prussian people (by the sword).
- The knights then ruled that area (called initially Prussia and later East Prussia).

Creation of Prussia

Though a series of agreements and marriages Brandenburg (including Neumark), Pommern, and (East Prussia) were merged to form Prussia.

Big Migrations Begin to Poland

Augustus the Strong

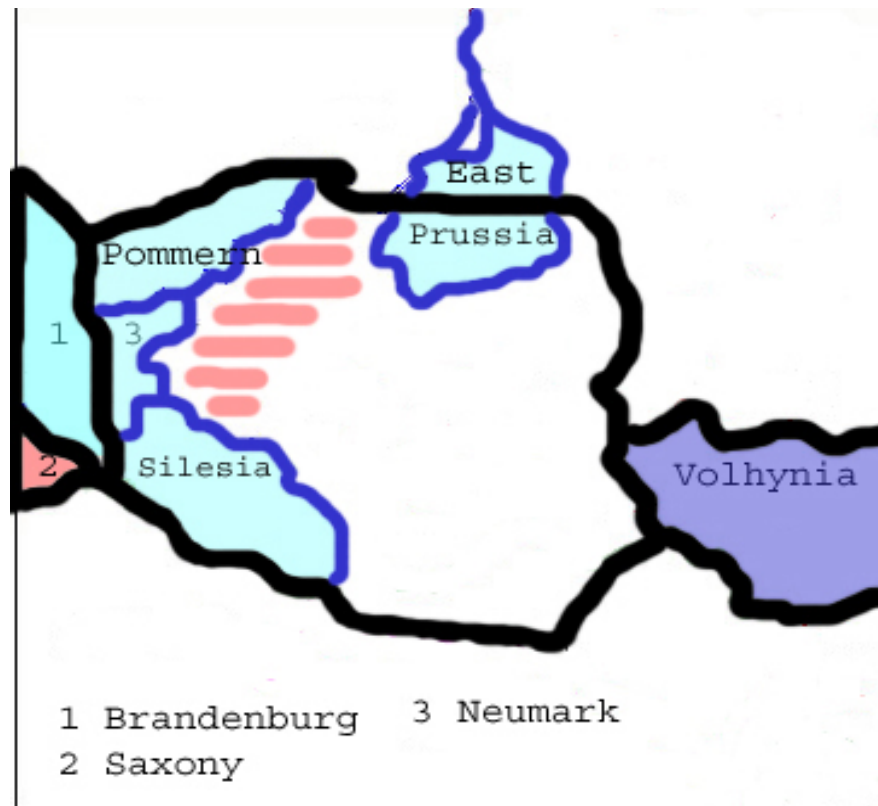


- Fueled by the newly opened silver mines in Saxony, he started a war with the Swedes around 1700.

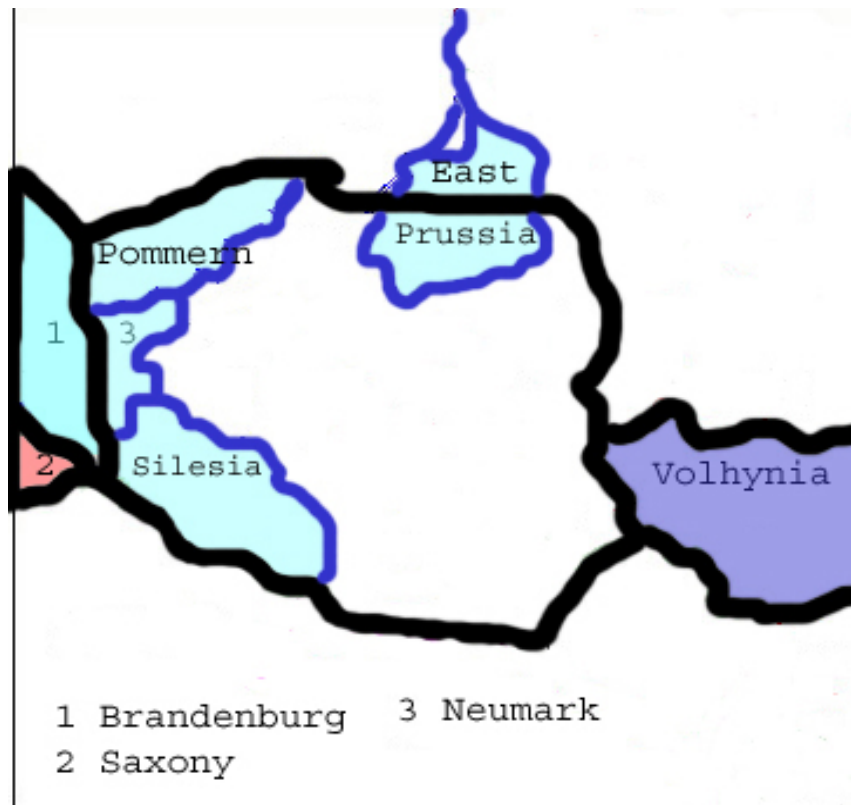
Conditions in 1700

- The Swedes fought the Russians, Saxons, Poles, and Prussians across northern Poland.
- The Swedes lost but more than one third of the Poles died. Disease was everywhere.
- The Polish nobility recruited Germans to fill the jobs of the deceased Poles. The Saxons were ideal as they were nearby and spoke German and Wendish (a dialect close to standard Polish).

Migrations 1700 to 1772



Geography 5

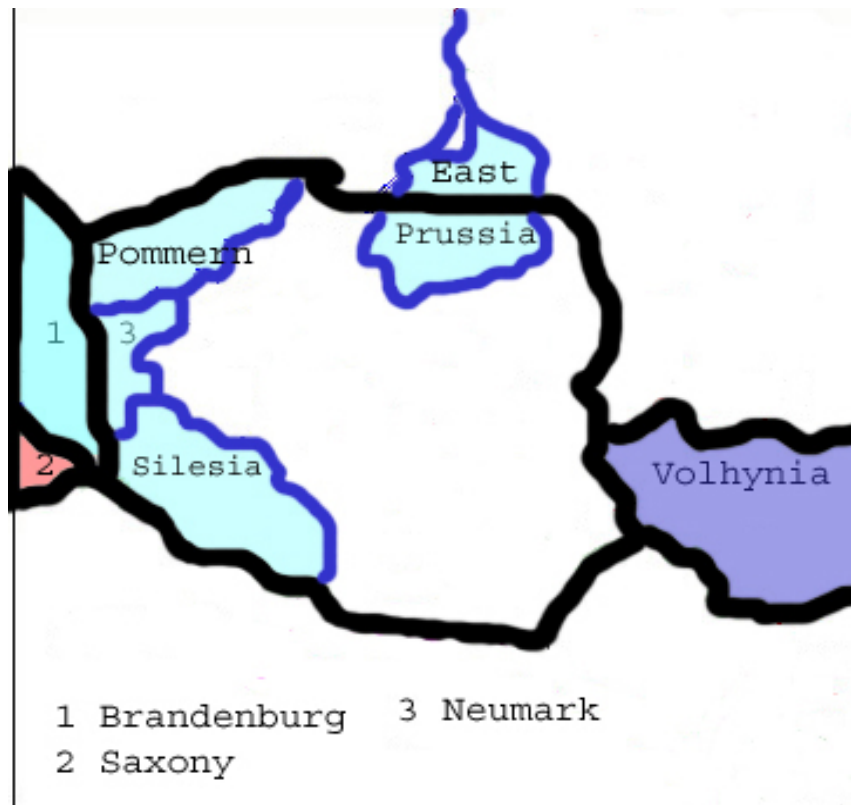


Friedrich the Great of Prussia



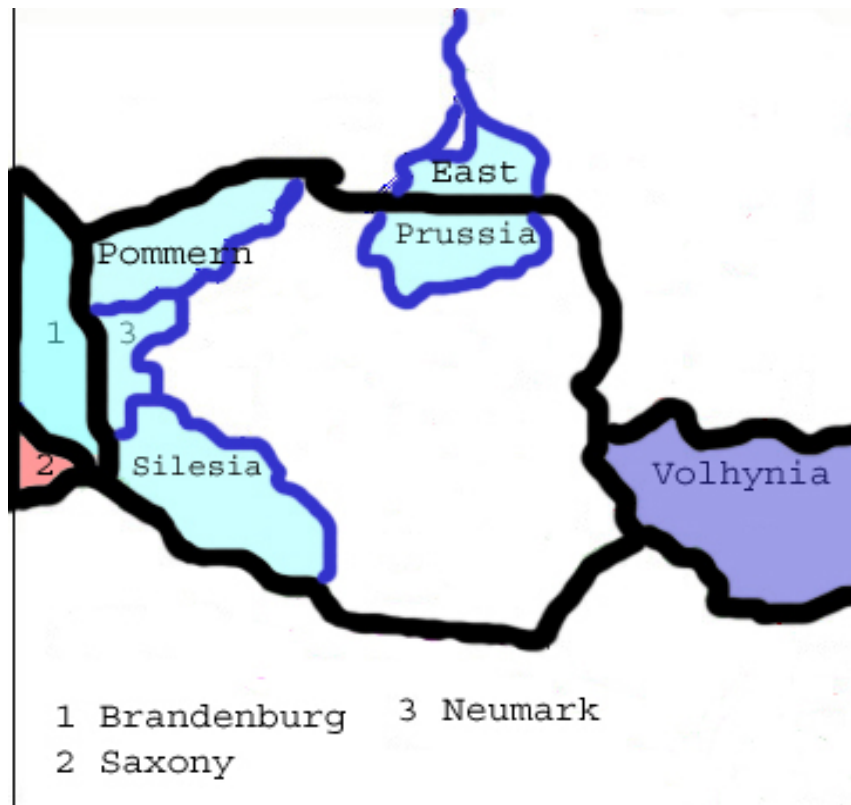
Got the land at the mouth of the Oder river held by the Swedes. In 1754 he hired recruiters to get farmers from all over Germany for the land and hired businessmen to clear and prepare the land.

Geography 5



The migrants arrived at the land but the businessmen had taken the money and not prepared the land. The Pommern nobles took the vacant land and recruited the landless farmers and established village.

Geography 5



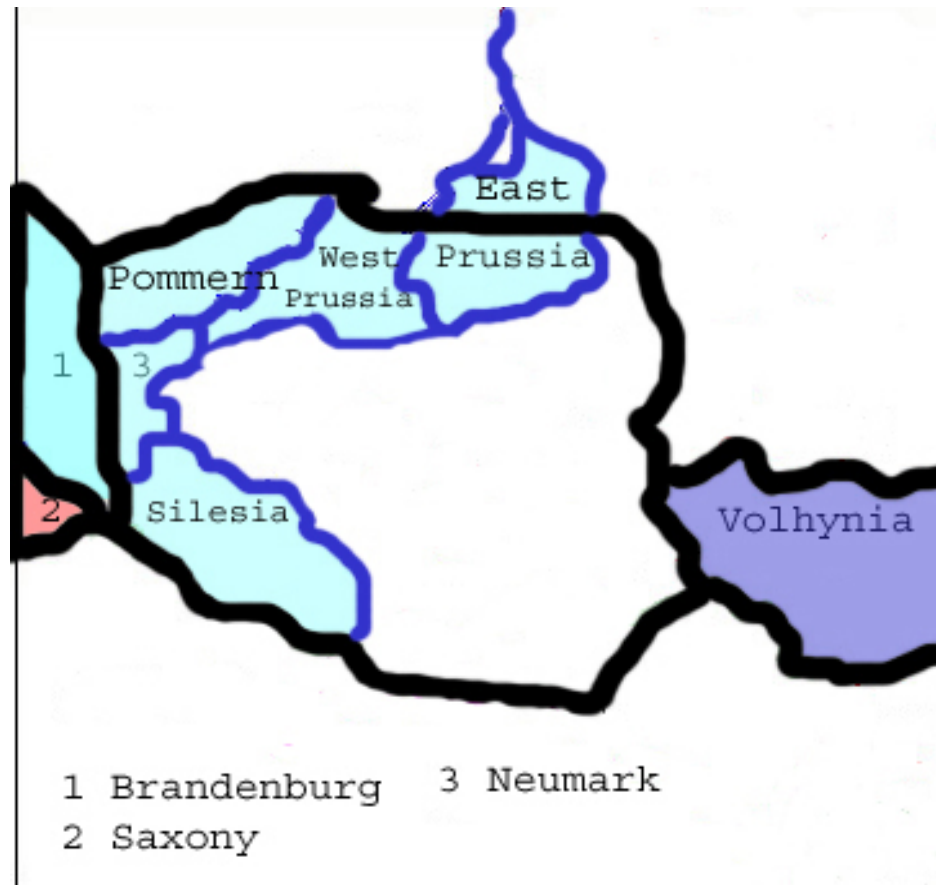
Where did this pre 1772 wave come from?

- Saxony
- Neumark
- Pommern

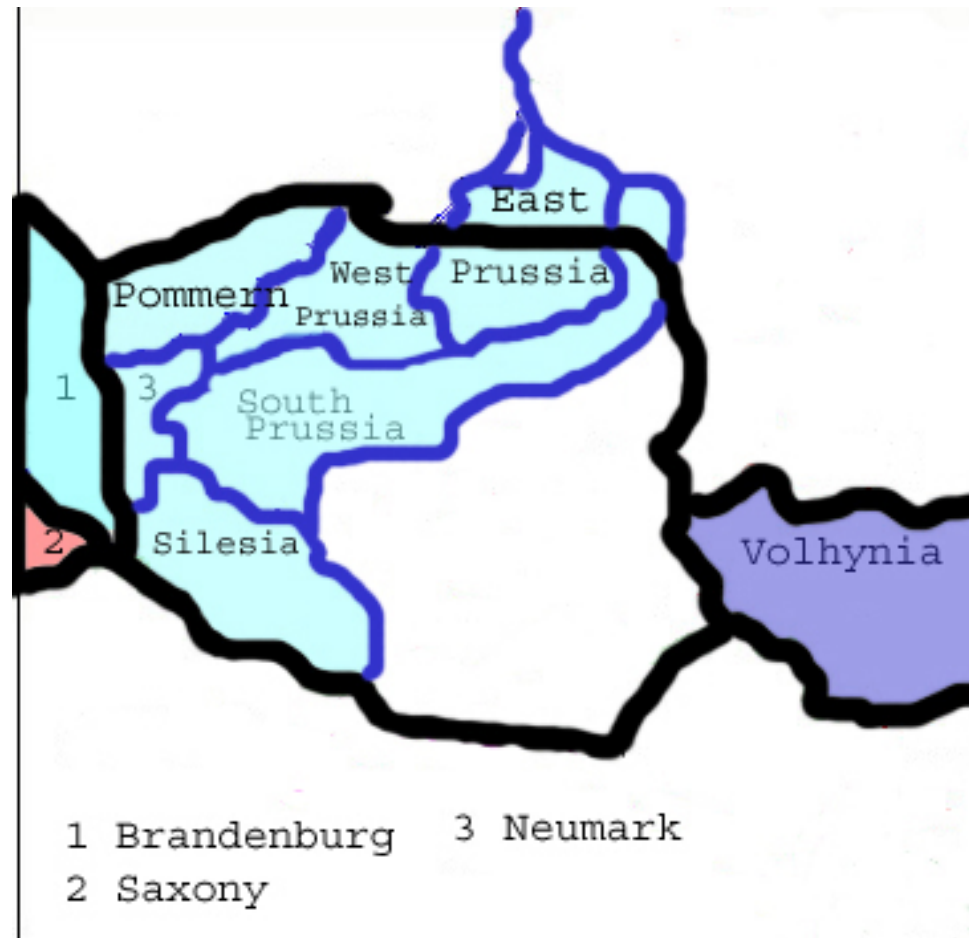
Why was Poland Partitioned in 1772?

- Because Russia, Prussia, and Austria wanted more land?
- Because the Polish government was malfunctioning?
- Because there was religious oppression of non-Catholics?

1772 First Partition of Poland



Third Partition of Poland 1794

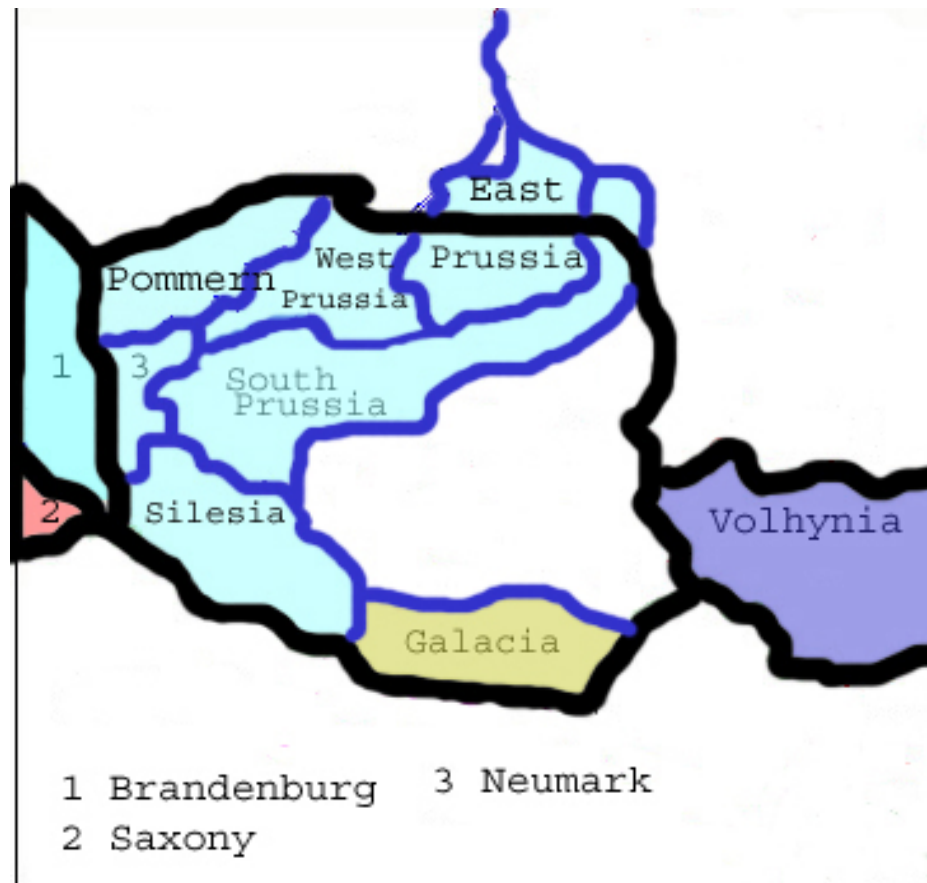


Prussia recruited Germans for the areas gained from the Partitions

- Recruited widely in 1772 but few signed up.
- Some incentives were provided.
- Good success in 1795 attracting Germans from Wurttemberg, Bavaria, and Saxony for West Prussia and South Prussia.
- Initial homesteads often were inadequate.

Germans in Russian Occupied Poland

Austrian and Russian Poland 1795



Napoleon was defeated in 1815 and
the land was re-partitioned.

So some German farmers formerly
in Prussian Poland suddenly found
themselves in Russian Poland.

Poland after Congress of Vienna 1815

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Germans in Russian Poland



Continuing German Migration into Russian Poland ca 1820

Many of the Polish and Russian nobles began to set up and recruit Germans for cloth making villages on their land (and collect rent). Often the results were tragic as in the 1820's when Hessen families were recruited and given terrible housing, poor equipment, and poor land. They returned to Hesse in rags and starving.

This was particularly true in the region of central Poland like around Lodz. (Flax grows in sand). By a decade later cotton replaced linen and factories replaced the cottage industry cloth makers. These Germans became factory workers.

Migration to Volhynia

Germans in Russian Poland



1831 Migration to Volhynia

- In 1831 the Polish rose up against the Russians. This made life unsafe and destroyed the market for cloth as the Russians introduce a trade barrier on cloth. The industry collapsed.
- The nobility in the Ukraine (Volhynia) invited the cloth makers to set up industry as this area was outside the trade barrier.

Where did the 1831 migration to the Ukraine come from?

- These folks seem mostly to be cloth makers from Russian Poland, particularly from cloth-making areas in central Russian Poland.
- These folks were **previously** from Prussian Poland cloth making areas (that is northern Poland).
- They were **more previously** drawn to Prussian Poland from cloth-making areas in Wurtemberg, Silesia and Saxony soon after the partition.

A Note on Prussian Poland

After 1850, Prussian Poland was overpopulated and the economic conditions got really bad. Germans and Poles were thrown off the manorial estates as the estate mechanized. There were no jobs. The potato famine struck.

This led to major migrations of these people not only to the Ukraine but to the US and the rest of the world.

1863 Migration to the Ukraine

- In 1863 there was another and nastier Polish Uprising. The Russian troops suppressed it.
- Meanwhile, the serfs had been freed in the Ukraine (Volhynia) and they left the manorial farms. So the nobles began to sell the land causing a much larger in migration of Germans.

Where did the 1863 migration come from?

- They came from Russian Poland seeking safety and farm land to purchase.
- They also came from areas like West Prussia and Pommern where the land was fully farmed and available only by lease.
- And all the above people ultimately came from Germany.

Taking your family back home

- Work Backward

The Beginning of the End 1892

The Russian Government became worried about the non-Russians living in Russia so introduced a program of Russification where everyone must:

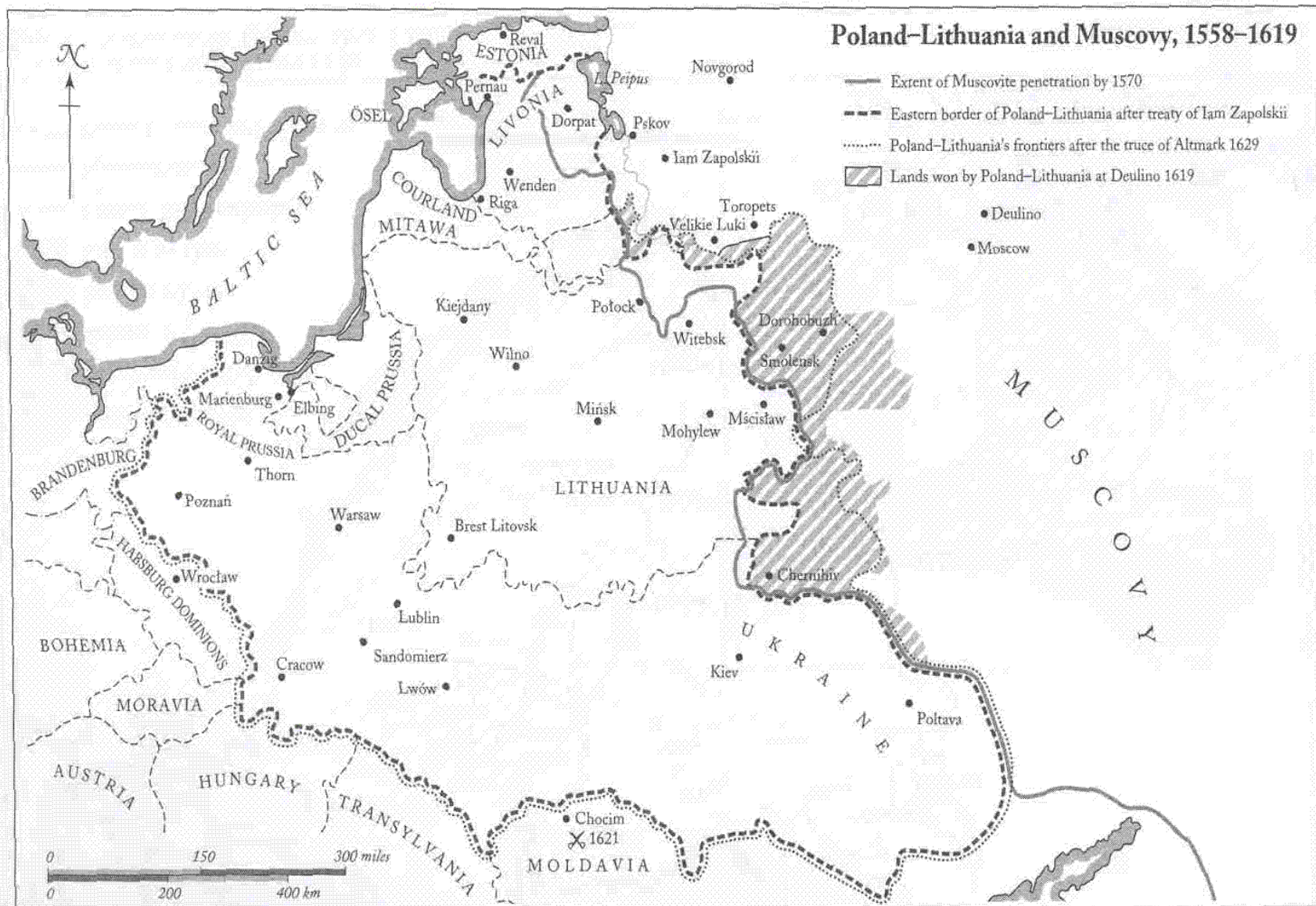
Learn the Russian Language

Go to Russian Orthodox Church

Serve in the Russian Army.

Consequences

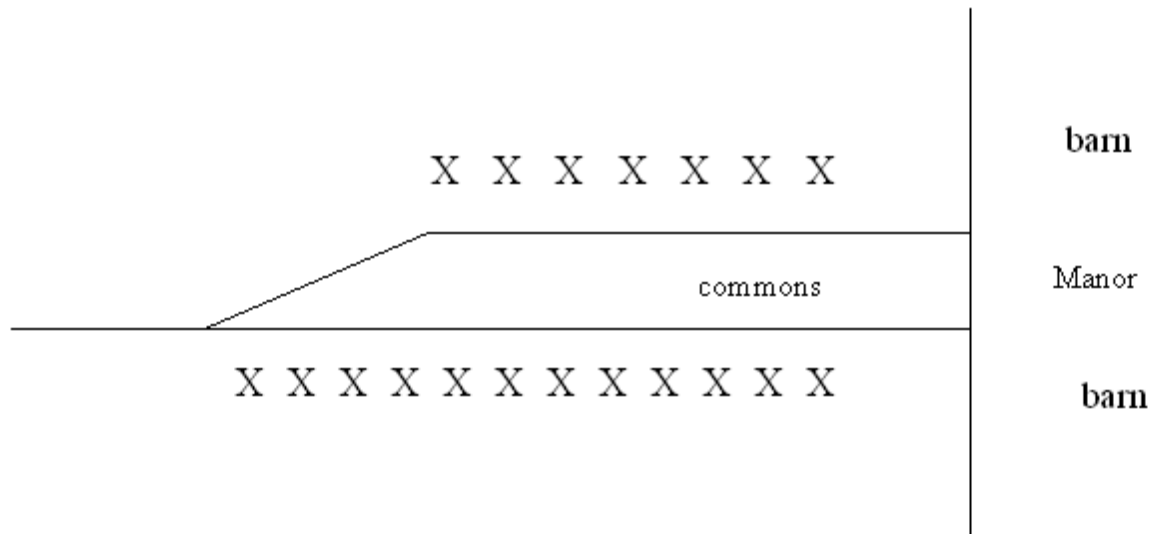
A mass migration of Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish Germans as well as Poles and Ukrainians to the US, the Americas, and Australia.



Life on the Manorial Farm



Life on the Manorial Farm



Who Is The Top Dog In The Manorial Village?

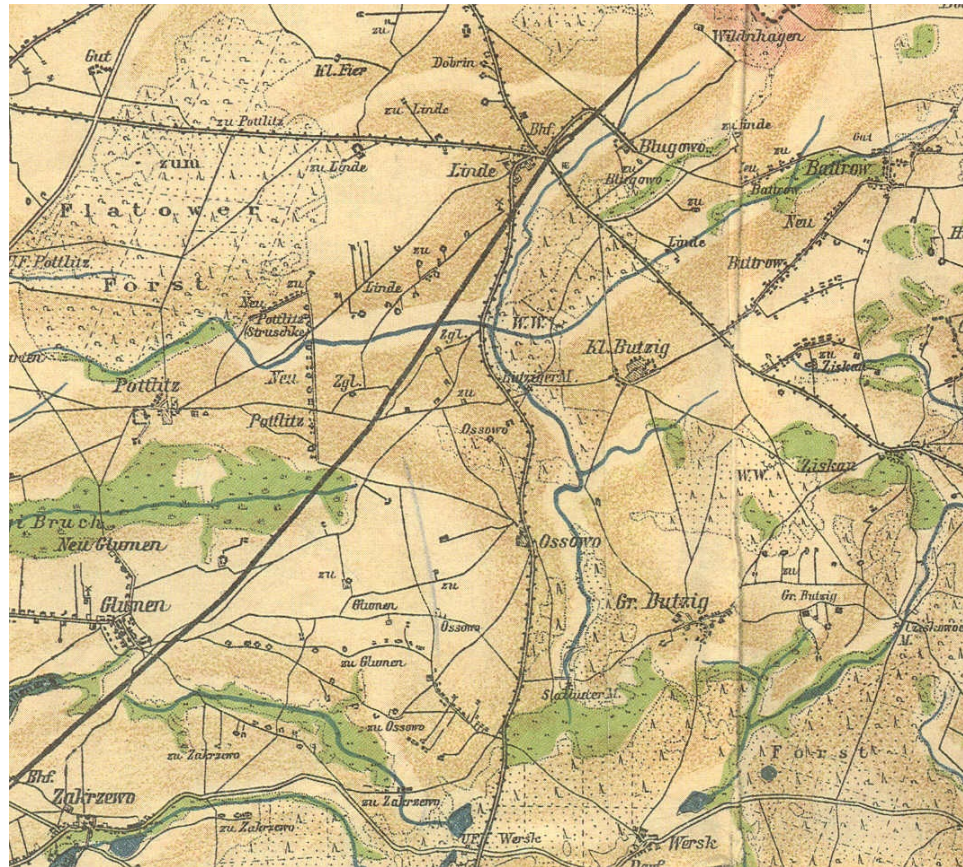
1. Schulz - village head
2. Farm Workers (inheritable, irrevocable work contracts)*
3. Farm Workers (annual work contracts)*
4. Millers and Krügers (grain processors and brewers)*
5. Blacksmiths and craftsmen *
6. Schoolmasters*
7. Day laborers *
8. Shepherds*
9. Household laborers and maidservants.

(* grew their own food in a small garden)

Who Dispensed Justice?

- The families involved themselves?
- The lord of the manor if manorial farm?
- The schulz (mayor)?
- A jury of your peers?

Life in the Non-manorial Village



Life in the Non-manorial Village



Who Is The Top Dog In The Village?

1. Schulz - village head
 2. Farmers (inheritable lease) *
 3. Farmers (annual lease) *
 4. Millers and Krügers (grain processors and brewers)*
 5. Farmers who were also blacksmiths and craftsmen *
 6. Farmers who were also schoolmasters *
 7. Day laborers *
 8. Shepherds *
- (* grew their own food and clothes)

What Did They Grow?

- Rye?
- Hemp?
- Flax?
- Potatoes?
- Wheat?
- Livestock?

Flax (Linen) and Hemp

- Grow flax and separate the grain from stem
- Berries provides oil, breakfast, and fodder
- Immerse stem in water until casing breaks
- Separate out dry fibers
- Spin into yarn (and dye?)
- Weave into Cloth or lace
- Wear or Sell
- (Involves the whole family)

Who is the Best Wife?

- Thin and beautiful girl?
- Big Bones and Strong Girl?
- Young girl (for example, 16)?
- High School Graduate?
- Second Cousin or a Relative?
- Girl from family in the same occupation?
- Girl from big family?

Where were the children baptized in 1750?

- Lutheran Church?
- Catholic Church?
- They weren't baptized?

What is the shape of the farmer's field?

- Circular like a meadow in the woods?
- Rectangular (twice as long as wide)?
- Rectangular (6 furrows wide and 1000 feet long)?

Good Retirement Planning

- Have healthy male children?
- Have healthy female children?
- Have a healthy spouse?
- Be healthy yourself?
- Wife has supportive family?

Summary

- The small farmer had a house, outbuildings, land for a small garden, and land for cash crops such as rye, barley, or oats in the old days (and potatoes since 1750). Also hemp and flax for clothing. The small farmer also had access to the commons. The small farmer would pay his rent in grain.
- To be successful, the farmer needed a capable wife to share the tasks and children.
- The farmer's oldest boy was social security.

The Impact of Napoleon
Some areas of Poland given to
Prussia were incorporated into
Napoleon's Duchy of Warsaw (1807
to 1813).

So some German farmers in Prussian
Poland suddenly found themselves
citizens in the Duchy of Warsaw.

Napoleon's Poland 1806 to 1815

