

Signature of Johann Valentin Bräutigam¹

Johann Valentin Bräutigam

Johann Valentin Bräutigam

Born: 26 January, 1791 in Kaltenlengsfeld, Germany

Baptized:

Married: 31 January, 1815.

Died: about January 1846 in Indianola, Calhoun County,

Texas.

Buried: about January 1846 in Indianola, Calhoun

County, Texas.

Maria Elisabeth Pfeifer

Born: 16 December, 1795 in Kaltenlengsfeld, Germany.

Baptized:

Died: about December 1870 in Gillespie County, Texas. Buried: about December 1870 in Luckenbach, Gillespie County, Texas. County, Texas.

Johann Valentin Bräutigam was born 26 January, 1791 in Kaltenlengsfeld, Germany. Kaltenlengsfeld is between Fulda and Meiningen just northeast of Frankfurt. Valentin was married to Maria Elisabeth Pfeifer on 31 January, 1815.

Valentin's family decided to immigrate to the Republic of Texas in 1845. He signed an immigration contract with the *Verein zum Schutz deutscher Einwandrer in Texas* on 25 September, 1845 at the Port of Bremen in Germany⁴. This contract provided Valentin's family:

- 1) free transportation (by ship) and food to the port of disembarkation, as well as free land transportation from the port of disembarkation to the colony itself in wagons and tents of the Verein, and also to provide a dwelling house at about 60 florins.
- 2) 320 acres of land free to each family and 160 acres to each single male person over 17 years of age.
- 3) procurement and provision of all utensils and materials for agriculture and livelihood at the lowest price from the storehouse and the Verein.
- establishment of churches, schools, and hospitals, apothecary, a means of communication, as well as construction of navigable rivers, and especially an overall

provision for the welfare of the immigrants who had placed their trust in the Verein.⁵



Seal of the Verein⁶

The Bräutigams boarded the ship *Johann Dethardt*⁷ on October 7 and set sail from Bremen, Germany on October 9, 1845⁸. The ship was captained by Captain Lüdering⁹. They reached the North Sea on the 12th of October with a gale blowing that caused many of the passengers to become seasick. After five days on the North Sea, the small ship passed the English Channel.

By the 21st of October the ship had reached the Atlantic Ocean. On the 21st of November they reached the West Indies. Finally on the 7th of December they sighted the island of Galveston ¹⁰.

Because of the number of immigrants already on Galveston, the passengers of the *Johann Dethardt* had to stay on the ship until the 23rd of December. Valentin, his son Wolfgang Bräutigam, and Anton Bräutigam (unknown relation, age 30) were officially signed in at the Immigration office on 12 January, 1846 in Galveston.¹¹

Valentin's family was finally transported several hundred miles in smaller boats to the Verein port of Carlshaven (later called Indianola) at Port Lavaca in Matagorda Bay. Matagorda Bay was not deep enough for the larger ships bringing the immigrants from Germany.

At Carlshaven, arrangements were made by the Verein with a Houston transportation company to transport the immigrants by wagons and carts to New Braunfels. War had just broken out with Texas and Mexico and the Verein could not match the price the United States Army paid for the wagons.

So over four thousand colonists waited for months at Carlshaven. An unusual amount of rain and unsanitary conditions for the immigrants caused many to come down with yellow fever. Valentin Bräutigam would lose his life here.

Rations at Sea¹²

Sunday Friday
Plum Soup Pea Soup
1/2 lb. beef 1/2 lb. pork

Meal pudding Sauerkraut or green beans

Monday Saturday

Pea soup Green pea soup 1/2 lb. pork 1/2 lb. beef
Thick rice with syrup Lentils or beans

Tuesday Weekly rations for each

adult

Barley soup 4 oz. coffee
1/2 lb. beef 2 oz. tea
Lentils or beans 8 oz. sugar
16 oz. butter
Wednesday 5 lb. bread

Navy bean soup

1/2 lb. beef

Sauerkraut or Further, for each adult green beans 1 1/2 hogshead drinking

water

1/4 bottle wine

Thursday 30-40 lbs. potatoes,
Plum soup according to season
1/2 lb. beef Salt, mustard, pepper,
Meal pudding vinegar, medicines

In March the immigrants set out for a long, miserable one hundred fifty mile march to New Braunfels. Many immigrants had to leave prized possessions at the coast. They followed the Guadalupe River closely through the counties of Calhoun, Victoria, Dewitt, Gonzales, Comal and Gillespie as far as the Llano River basin, a part of the Fisher-Miller Grant.

Maria and Wolfgang would arrive in Fredericksburg probably late 1846 or early 1847. Maria, Wolfgang, Valentin Hopf, Caspar Marschall, and George Anschutz all had town lots on Creek and Ufer Streets. The town lots were assigned in 1847. 16

In 1850 Maria and Wolfgang along with Wolfgang's new bride, Christine Kensing Braeutigam, were living with the Valentine Hopf family. ¹⁷ Also living there were August, Sofia and Christiana Schoenewolf. These are Anna Elise Braeutigam Hopf's children by here earlier marriage to August Schoenewolf. Also listed in the

census is Valentine and Anna Hopf's new daughter, Christina.

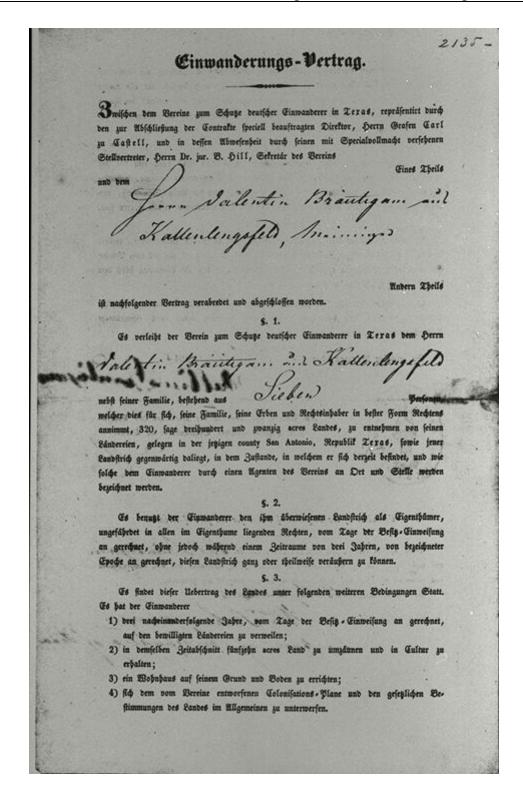
By 1860 Maria was still listed as living with the Valentin Hopf family ¹⁸. Maria would die in December of 1870 and was probably buried on the Braeutigam home in Luckenbach, Texas.

Children:

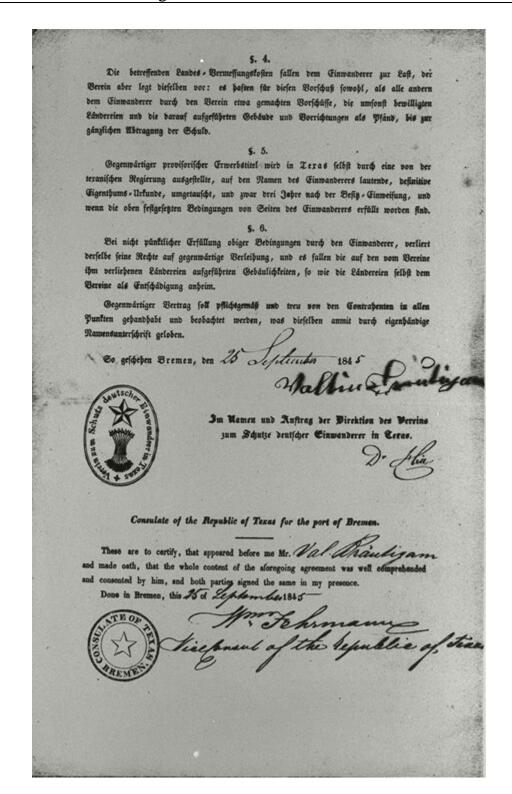
Anna Elise Braeutigam 1815 - 1 July, 1898.

Eva Elisa Braeutigam 28 April, 1819 - 17 December, 1906

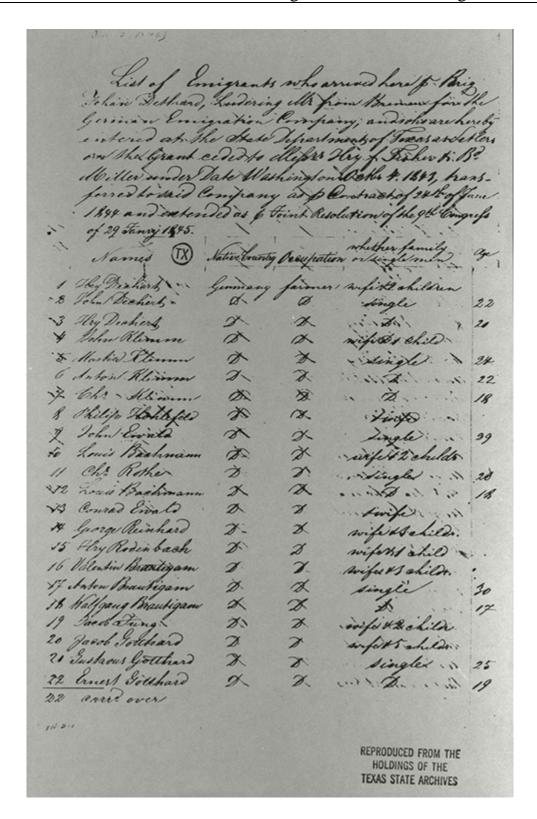
Johann Wolfgang Braeutigam 17 March, 1829 - 3 September 1884.



Verein Contract for Johann Valentin Bräutigam (front)²⁰



Verein Contract for Johann Valentin Bräutigam (back)



List of Emigrants who arrived at Galveston on Johann Dethardt²¹

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STATE OF TEXAS, SURVEY CO 560
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too the heirs of Valentin Brautigam del.
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S. G. Schleicher District Surveyor of Bexar District, do hereby certify that
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Book & No. 6 page 555 . Sohle' offers District. SAX ANTORIO, Jan 9-1855 District.
SAX ANTORIO, Jan 7-1800
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Field Notes of a Survey of 320 acres of Land made for the heirs of Valentin Bräutigam²²

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Book & No. b page 554 Book & No. b page 554 District Surveyor, Bexar District.
SAN ANTONIO, Jan 4. 1855. District Surveyor, Bezar District.

Field Notes of a Survey of 320 acres of Land made for the heirs of Valentin $\operatorname{Br\"{a}utigam}^{23}$

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Marie Braeutigam record of death in Gillespie County in 1870 due to typhoid²⁴

¹German Immigration Contract, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas.

²Texas 1870 Mortality Schedule, Ronald Vern Jackson, Dallas Public Library.

³Maria Elisa Pfeifer Braeutigam and two of her grandchildren, Heinrich Braeutigam and Emma Braeutigam, were buried in a grave site at the Braeutigam Homestead, which was on property now owned by the Behrend's family. The graves were near a cultivated field behind the house in which the Braeutigams lived (no longer standing) and were accidentally plowed over many years ago. Letter to David W. Braeutigam from Genevieve McCaffrey.

⁴German Immigration Contract, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas.

⁵New Homes in a New Land, Ethel Geue.

⁶German Immigration Contract, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas.

⁷A New Land Beckoned, German Immigration to Texas 1844-1847, by Chester W. and Ethel H. Geue.

⁸Letter from Karl Koehler to his friend in Dortmund, Germany, February, 1846 reprinted in the Fredericksburg Standard, April 28, 1971.

⁹Pioneer's in God's Hills, Volume I, Gillespie County Historical Society, 1960.

¹⁰Letter from Karl Koehler to his friend in Dortmund, Germany, February, 1846 reprinted in the Fredericksburg Standard, April 28, 1971.

Texas State Archives, Austin, Texas. NOTE: This sign-in list has penciled lightly at the top of the page--Jan 12 1846. Anton is also listed in Geue's book, *A New Land Beckoned*, as being a passenger on the Johann Dethardt in 1845. Anton's name does not appear in any other lists of German immigrants or making it to Fredericksburg.

¹²The German Texans, Glen Lich.

¹³New Homes in a New Land, Ethel Geue.

¹⁴The exact date is unknown. Wolfgang is on record for signing the petition to form Gillespie County in December of 1847.

¹⁵Valentin Hopf married Maria's daughter - Anna Elise. Caspar was married to Maria's other daughter - Eva Elise. George Anschutz was married to Cath. Braeutigam (do not know who this Braeutigam is. Name is from list in A New Land Beckoned, German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847, Chester W. and Ethel H. Geue) Pioneers in God's Hills, Volume I, Gillespie County Historical Society, 1960.

¹⁶Town lots of Fredericksburg, Pioneers in God's Hills, Volume I, Gillespie County Historical Society, 1960. Translated from 600 town lots issued in Volume D, Gillespie County Court Record.

¹⁷Valentine is listed as a the head male and the head female is Auri P Hopf. Anna Elise Braeutigam is Valentin's wife--this could be a misprint. 1850 Census, Pioneers in God's Hills, Volume I, Gillespie County Historical Society, 1960.

¹⁸1860 Census, Pioneers in God's Hills, Volume II, Gillespie County Historical Society, 1974.

¹⁹Texas 1870 Mortality Schedule, Ronald Vern Jackson, Dallas Public Library. Also conversations with Christine Luckenbach Boerner and Clara Luckenbach.

²⁰Records of the German Emigration Company, General Land Office of Texas, Austin, Texas.

²¹List of Emigrants-Texas State Archives, Austin, Texas

²²Field Notes of Survey of Land, made for the heirs of Johann Valentin Bräutigam, General Land Office of Texas, Austin, Texas.

²³Field Notes of Survey of Land, made for the heirs of Johann Valentin Bräutigam, General Land Office of Texas, Austin, Texas.

²⁴1870 Federal Census Mortality Schedule