



## *The Birth of the German Settlement*

### *At Burlington, Colorado*

This area of rich farmland that was cut out of the prairie in Kit Carson Co. in the late 1800's is still called the Settlement. Earlier it was called the German Settlement, but it may have been more correct to call it the German-Russian Settlement as many of the Germans had emigrated from South Russia. Then again, if we are really trying to define it more precisely it should have been called the Hoffnungstal Settlement because when we examine the factual record we find that the majority of these Germans came from Hoffnungstal, Odessa, South Russia.

The principal Settlement area initially was in T6S-R44W and also North into what was then Arapahoe Co. to beyond the South Fork of the Republican River. From the first township, settlement also occurred southward in a band 5 mi. or more wide on each side of the Landsman Creek reaching within a few miles of Bethune. Settlement also occurred west of the first township for several miles into range 45 West. Of all of the German Russians immigrating to the United States, Colorado ranks second with over 9,000 immigrants and North Dakota was first with over 20,000.

From the Homestead records in the National Archives at Washington DC we find that in T6S-R44W the first homestead was taken in the year 1882 by Clarence Mcrillis, who operated the big cattle ranch called the Spring Valley Ranch with headquarters on the Landsman Creek. In the next several years the McCrillis family made at least twelve land claims in this township. Eight other men made land claims in this township before the German, Johannes Lutz came along on August 13, 1886 and at the Government Land Office in Hugo, Colorado entered his land claim for portions of sections 3 and 4.

Tracing this Johannes Lutz back to South Russia we find that he is from the Colony of Seebach, which is a daughter colony of Hoffnungstal and is also within the Hoffnungstal parish area. Seebach is the colony that Andreas Bauder\*1838 helped start when they moved about 50 mi. north of Hoffnungstal to obtain more wheat land. Also Johannes's father was a cousin of Andreas Bauder\*1838. Leibbrandt reports that Johannes left South Russia in 1884.

Then going to the records for ship arrivals at the Port of New York, we find that the ship Habsburg arrived from Bremen, Germany on January 29, 1885 with three Hoffnungstal families as passengers. Included were Johannes, age 33 and his wife Katharina Wall, age 28 and three daughters. Also, Heinrich Bamesberger, age 35 and his wife Ana Maria Wall, and seven children. Johannes and Heinrich's wives were sisters. The third family was Gottlieb Ohrmann and his wife Barbara Schlecht and their daughter, making a total of

seventeen souls in the group. We next find Johannes Lutz and Heinrich Bamesberger on March 6, 1885 in Hutchinson County, Dakota Territory where in District Court they made a declaration of their intention to become citizens. This declaration was a prerequisite to making a land claim, but Johannes and Heinrich make no land claim in Dakota Territory. Gottlieb Ohrmann must have struck out on his own looking for farmland because he next shows up at Anamoose 80 mi. from the Canadian line in Dakota Territory and then in 1886 he appears at St. Francis, Kansas.

Paul Reeb who homesteaded just east of the Settlement on the Colorado-Kansas line, reports that Johannes Lutz came to the settlement in 1885. Heinrich Bamesberger undoubtedly was traveling with Johannes because Heinrich also made his land claim in Section 3 and remembers their wives were sisters. In 1889 Andreas Bauder\*1863, would file for a homestead 2 1/2 mi. to the South. His wife was Christine, the third Wall sister.

The record of how Johannes Lutz got his start is revealed on the August 3, 1888 testimony by affidavit that he gave in District Court to prove up on his homestead claim. Somehow he had borrowed \$235.00 and on April 2, 1887 he bought a plow, farm wagon, harness and two horses. He also bought household goods consisting of two bedsteads and bedding, one table, three chairs, a stove, cooking utensils, dishes knives and forks, a washtub and board and two lamps. On April 23, 1887 he started the foundation to build a sod house that was 16 ft. by 18 ft. with 18 in. walls and moved in with his wife and five children on April 29, 1887. The house had a board and sod roof with a stove pipe chimney and two windows, and by August 3, 1888 it was plastered inside and out. His first crop year was 1887 and he had broken out 15 acres and planted corn for which he received \$50.00. In 1888 he planted 37 acres of corn, oats and garden.

To purchase his farm equipment and household goods we assume that Johannes had to go to Benkelman, Nebraska because Burlington had not yet come into existence. It was 70 mi. to Benkelman on a cow trail road that went down the Landsman Creek<sup>1</sup> to the South Fork of the Republican River, past St. Francis, Kansas then continuing down river to his destination, reportedly a three day trip.

The Homestead maps show the names of the Hoffnungstalers who made land claims in these two townships. There were also settlers who never made land claims and later moved on. Some of the known Hoffnungstal people who filed land claims in Arapahoe Co. near the South Fork of the Republican River were William Wall, Friedrich Bitsch, Johann Bauder, and Wilhelm Bauder.

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<sup>1</sup> The Landsman Creek portion of this trail later became known as the Bone Pickers Trail, because in the dry years the settlers picked up buffalo and cattle bones by the wagon load that were sold to be used for fertilizer



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SULLINGTON COLO.

**Original Homesteads**

43	44	45	46	47	48	49
6 Christoph Bauder	5 Christoph Bauder	4 Johannes Lutz	3 Wilhelm Wall Heinrich Bamesberger	2 Andrew Bauder	1	PP
7 Christoph Bauder	8 Christoph Bauder	9 Johannes Lutz Sr.	10 Heinrich Bamesberger John Lutz	11	12	NN
18 Wilhelm Lutz Wilhelm Schaffert	17	16	15 Katherine Lutz Christian Schaffert	14	13	MM
19	20 Heinrich Bamesberger Gottlieb Bauder	21 Jacob Kramer Christina Bauder John Kramer	22 Andrew Bauder	23 Heinrich Bamesberger	24 Andrew Bauder	LL
30	29	28 Andrew Bauder Sr.	27 Jacob Bauder	26	25	KK
31 John Schlichenmayer	32	33 Andrew Bauder Sr.	34	35	36	JJ
						HH

Bauder Homesteads = Red

Hoffnungstalers Homesteads = Sky Blue


  
**MAP OF**
  
**Township 7 N., Range 45 W.**
  
 OF THE 6th P. M.

Scale 22.5 inches to 1 mile

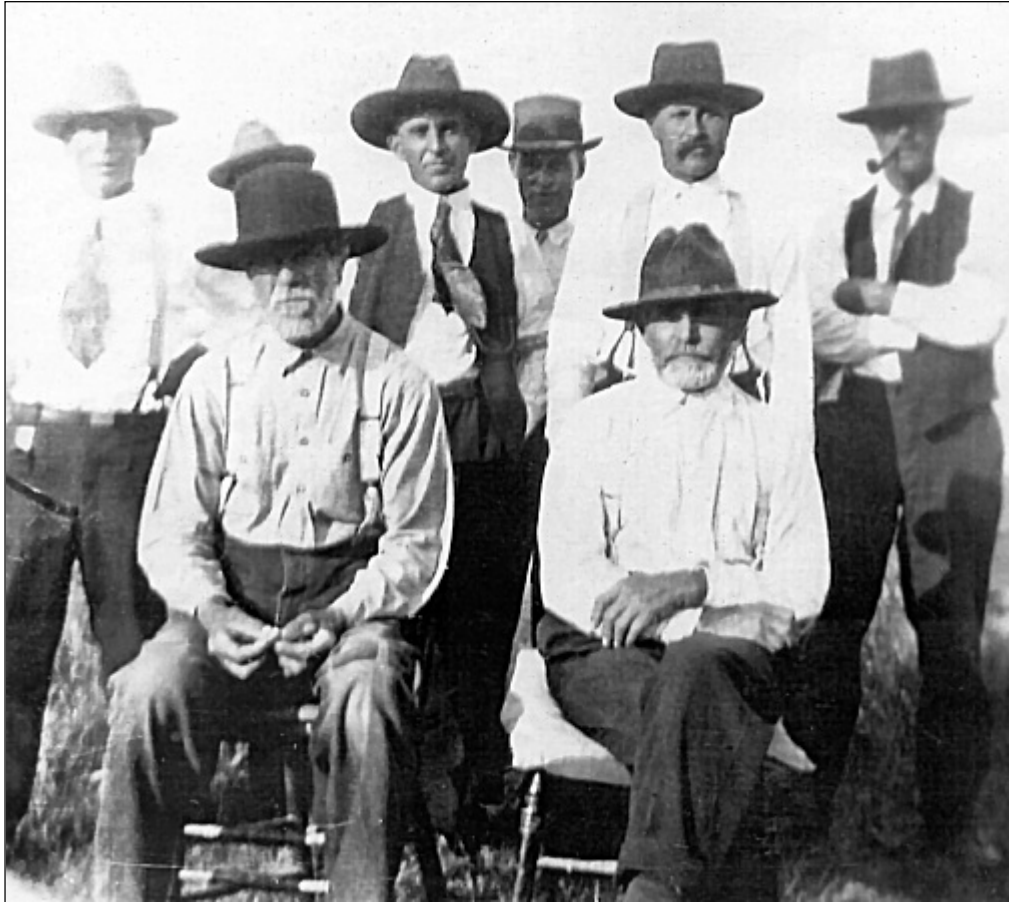
BY
   
**Bauder & Co.**
  
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 BURLINGTON COLO.

Bauder Homesteads = Red

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37	38	39	40	41	42	43
6	5 Frank Kramer	4 Frank Kramer	3 John Dobler Christian Dobler Theresia Dobler Christina Dobler	2 Gottlieb Schlichenmayer Dawe Schlichenmayer John Metzger Jakob Schlichenmayer	1 Jakob Schlichenmayer Margaret Schlichenmayer Friedrich Schlichenmayer	H H
7	8	9	10	11	12	G G
18	17	16	15 Immanuel Lutheran Church	14	13	F F
19	20	21	22	23 Johann Wahl Sr. Wilhelmina Wahl	24 Ferdinand Barnesburger Gottlieb Bauder	E E
30	29	28	27 Fred Bauder	26 Fred Bauder	25 Gottlieb Bauder Fred Bauder	D D
31	32	33	34	35	36	C C
31	32	33	34	35	36	B B

*Jacob Bauder Relatives*  
*Men of the Settlement*



**Name**

**Relationship to Jacob Bauder**

Front row

Christion Frank

father-in-law

Christion Adolf

wife's uncle

Back row

Ed Fanselau

sister-in-law's brother

August Adolph

uncle's son

Ed Knodle

Emanuel Frank

brother-in-law

Jacob Bauder