
“MY FATHER WAS OF
GERMAN EXTRACTION”:
Babe Ruth’s Ruth/Rüdt Ancestors

By Druscilla J. Null

*Despite Babe Ruth’s enduring celebrity, accurate information
about his paternal ancestry has been surprisingly scarce. A thorough study reveals his roots.*

George Herman Ruth Jr., better known as Babe Ruth, is arguably baseball’s most legendary player. However, despite a century of public scrutiny of his life and career, aspects of his ancestry remain unclear. In his autobiography, he identified his father as George Herman Ruth, but offered no specifics on his paternal lineage except to say, “My father was of German extraction.”¹ This information void led to a variety of claims over the years—often unsubstantiated—regarding his father’s ancestors. However, through careful examination and correlation of evidence from original sources, Babe Ruth’s surname line can be traced back to his immigrant Ruth ancestor and to earlier ancestors in Germany.

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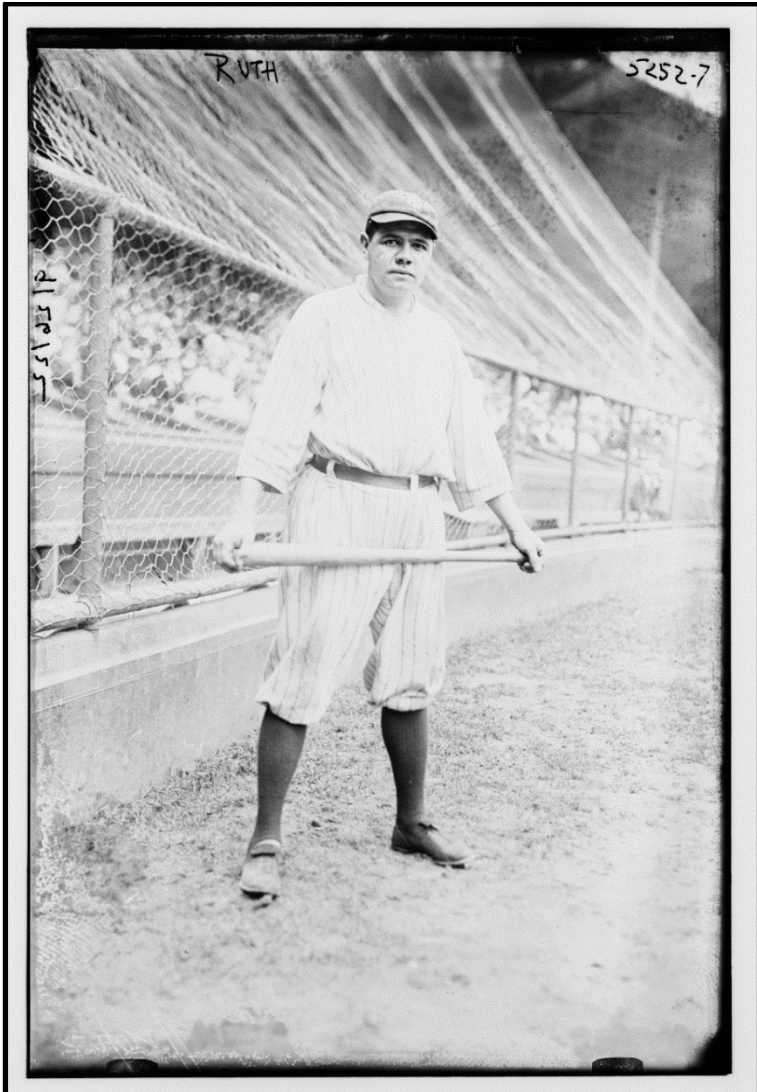


Figure 1. Babe Ruth, ca. 1921, George Grantham Bain Collection; call number LC-B2-5252-7, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress; retrieved from www.loc.gov/pictures/item/Ggb2006006321/.

CONFLICTING CLAIMS

Public questions about Babe Ruth's ancestry began in his early days as a professional baseball player. Because he spent much of his youth living at the St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, newspaper accounts sometimes mistakenly stated that he was an orphan.² At some point, it was reported that his real surname was Erhardt, Gearhardt, or some variation, an error that no amount of denial on his part could eradicate. In his autobiography, he said that, "It is not true that our family name was Erhardt, as has been repeatedly written. Or Ehrhardt, or Gearhardt."³ More colorfully, he responded to a newspaper reporter who implied his surname was Earhardt:

*For the love of mud, listen to him: where do you get that stuff? My name is Ruth and George Herman, too. I don't know where they get all this baloney about me, but what difference does it make?*⁴

His sister Mary (often called Mamie) also refuted the Erhardt error.⁵

While he defended the accuracy of his surname, Babe Ruth was silent in print on the identity of his paternal ancestors other than his father. However, his widow, Claire Merritt Hodgson Ruth, stated in a memoir that his grandparents were Peter Ruth, born 1801 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and Kaziah Reager, born 1805 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Babe Ruth apparently owned copies of their portraits, and his wife included them as illustrations in her book, writing that he "was always proud" of the pictures.⁶ The images appear to have been based on photographs published in a 1913 history of Hanover Township, Columbiana County, Ohio, where Peter and Kaziah Ruth were living at the time of their deaths. Biographical sketches in this book give different birth information than provided by Claire Ruth, stating that Peter Ruth was born in Sinking Springs, Pennsylvania, (which is in Berks County) in 1794, and that

Kaziah Reager was born in 1800 in Adamstown, Pennsylvania (Lancaster County).⁷

Several of Babe Ruth's principal biographers believe that Claire Ruth had it partially wrong—that Peter and Kaziah Ruth might have been Babe Ruth's great-grandparents, but that his paternal grandfather was John A. Ruth, a Baltimore lightning rod manufacturer and installer.⁸ The Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum agrees.⁹ Two Baltimore-based websites devoted to Babe Ruth's life and genealogy concur that John A. Ruth was his grandfather, but are silent as to his great-grandparents.¹⁰ Suggesting a continuing level of public confusion, some family trees for Babe Ruth on the Internet identify John A. Ruth as his grandfather while others name a variety of other individuals or indicate that his grandparents are unknown.¹¹

PARENTS: GEORGE HERMAN RUTH SR. & CATHERINE "KATE" SCHAMBERGER

Babe Ruth had a famously troubled childhood. He wrote in his autobiography, "I was a bad kid. . . I was listed as incorrigible, and I guess I was. Looking back at my early boyhood, I honestly don't remember being aware of the difference between right and wrong."¹² In 1902, at age seven, he was placed in the St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, a reformatory/orphanage/boarding school just outside of Baltimore that was run by the Catholic Church. Although he lived with his parents during some intervals, Babe Ruth spent most of the next 12 years at St. Mary's, until he signed with the minor league Baltimore Orioles in 1914.¹³ His protracted stay there doubtless sparked the erroneous belief that he was an orphan. Likewise, the lack of a "normal" childhood may have set the stage for the confounding claim that his surname really was Erhardt (or a variation) rather than Ruth.

Despite public misperceptions, the documentary evidence clearly supports Babe Ruth's assertion in his autobiography that his

parents were George Herman Ruth and Kate Schamberger (misspelled “Schanberg” in that text).¹⁴ The couple married in Baltimore on 25 June 1894.¹⁵ The bride had been born 14 July 1874 in Baltimore and was the daughter of Pius Schamberger and Joanna Keller.¹⁶ According to city birth records, George Herman and Kate’s first child, a boy, was born in Baltimore on 6 February 1895 at 216 Emory Street, the home of Kate’s parents.¹⁷ Typical of Baltimore City birth certificates of the period, the child’s given name is not listed. However, he was baptized with the name of George Ruth about a month later on 1 March 1895 at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church.¹⁸ In both the 1900 and 1910 censuses, he is enumerated as the son of George H. and Kate/Catherine Ruth.¹⁹ He is also enumerated in the 1910 census as a pupil at St. Mary’s.²⁰

On his World War I draft registration card, Babe Ruth stated that he was born in Baltimore on 7 February 1894.²¹ On a 1920 passport application, he gave the same birth date and listed his father as George H. Ruth.²² According to Claire Ruth, he was required to supply proof of birth when he reapplied for a passport in 1933 and was surprised to learn from his birth certificate that he actually was a year younger than he had believed. However, noting that her husband was “not a man to welcome change,” Claire said that he continued celebrating his birthday on February 7 even after learning his real birthday was February 6.²³

Not mentioned in his autobiography and not widely known until recently, Babe Ruth’s parents were divorced when he was 11 years old. His father filed for the divorce, accusing his mother of infidelity and drunkenness. On 14 May 1906, George Herman was granted a divorce and custody of the couple’s children.²⁴

Following the divorce, George Herman and Kate may have reconciled for at least a period of time since they are enumerated as husband and wife in the 1910 census.²⁵ They appear to have been estranged, however, when Kate died on 11 August 1912.²⁶

Her funeral was held at her sister's house, where she was living at the time of her death. Her death notice mentions her sister and deceased parents but not George Herman or even her two surviving children.²⁷ Six years later, George Herman died on 25 August 1918 as the result of a fistfight.²⁸ By this time, Babe Ruth's professional baseball career was underway, and his father's death prompted headlines such as "Father of Ball Player Killed."²⁹

GRANDPARENTS: JOHN ANTON RUTH & MARY STRODTMAN

Was John A. Ruth the father of George Herman Ruth Sr. and the grandfather of Babe Ruth as many researchers contend? Maryland did not have civil birth registration at the time of George Herman's birth, and the civil record for his marriage to Kate Schamberger does not name his parents.³⁰ According to that record, the ceremony was officiated by the Rev. A. C. Barron, the minister of the Fulton Avenue Baptist Church.³¹ As of 1993, records of the church were housed on-site.³² However, the church is no longer in existence, and an attempt to locate its records proved unsuccessful.³³ George Herman married a second time, to Martha "Mollie" E. Sipes on 25 December 1915, but the records of this marriage also shed no light on his parentage.³⁴ Fortunately, George Herman's death certificate provides several key clues.

According to his death certificate, he was born in Maryland on 31 January 1872, and his father's name was John Ruth; his mother was not identified.³⁵ The birth date given is relatively consistent with his age in the 1900 census, which indicates that he was born circa 1870–1871, and the 1910 census, which states he was born in January 1871. The censuses agree that he and his parents were born in Maryland.³⁶

The date of George Herman's birth effectively rules out Claire Ruth's claim that Peter Ruth and Kaziah Reager were Babe Ruth's grandparents. Kaziah (born circa 1800–1805) would have

been well past normal childbearing age when George Herman was born. Also, his death certificate lists his father's name as John, not Peter. Other candidates must be considered.

A search of the 1880 census reveals only one child who could be young George Herman—"Geo. Ruth," eight-year-old son of John Ruth, Baltimore lightning rod maker.³⁷ John Ruth, age 36, was head of a household that included his wife Mary, age 35, and five children.³⁸ In the 1880 city directory, John's middle initial is given as "A."³⁹ That initial and his occupation differentiate him from other John Ruths living in the city at the time.

In 1873, John A. Ruth—"Practical, Scientific and Philosophical Lightning Rod Erector"—lived at 228 South Sharp Street.⁴⁰ The house was located on the same block as the Martini Evangelical Lutheran Church at the corner of South Sharp and Henrietta Streets.⁴¹ The church's record of baptisms shows that, on 16 November 1873, the pastor baptized two children of John Anton Ruth and Mary Strodman: their 25-day-old daughter, Margaret Ann, and their nearly two-year-old son, George Herman.⁴² The baptismal record states that their son George Herman was born on 30 January 1872, which matches almost exactly the birth date—31 January 1872—on the death certificate of Babe Ruth's father.⁴³

The following evidence further supports the conclusion that John Anton Ruth and Mary Strodman were the parents of George Herman Ruth Sr., and the grandparents of Babe Ruth.

- Before becoming a saloonkeeper, the profession for which he is best known, Babe Ruth's father worked in the lightning rod business. He is listed as a "lightning rod worker" on Babe Ruth's birth certificate and is identified as a "lightning rod agent" in the 1900 Census.⁴⁴ According to Babe Ruth's sister Mamie, their father had a brother John with whom he "sold and installed lightning rods for barns, schoolhouses, and farmhouses."⁴⁵ In March 1897, the brothers placed a

notice in the newspaper stating, “John A. and George H. Ruth, sons of the late John A. Ruth, will continue the business of erecting lightning rods carried on by their father.”⁴⁶ John Anton had died on 31 January 1897.⁴⁷

- Babe Ruth’s father is buried at Loudon Park Cemetery in a plot he co-owned with J. A. Ruth.⁴⁸ This was his brother John, whose death certificate lists his parents as John A. Ruth and Mary Strodtman.⁴⁹
- In a 1934 newspaper article, Mamie said that she and her brother had an aunt (unnamed) and two uncles still living. She identified the uncles as William Ruth, a carpenter, and Joseph Ruth, a jeweler on Washington Boulevard.⁵⁰ Sources confirm that John Anton had sons named William and Joseph, both of whom were still alive in 1934.

Before his death, John Anton did not draft a will, but rather drew up a deed of trust which stipulated that his real and personal property were to be sold upon his death and the proceeds divided among his seven children.⁵¹ The children are not named, but court records of the trust estate settlement name three minor children: Anna, William, and Joseph.⁵²

William E. Ruth, carpenter, was enumerated with Babe Ruth’s family in the 1910 Census and was identified as George Herman’s brother.⁵³ The certificate of his death on 10 December 1938 lists his birthdate as 25 November 1884, his occupation as carpenter, and his parents as Andrew [*sic*] Ruth and Mary “Strutman.”⁵⁴ According to Baltimore City birth records, a male child was born to John Anton and his wife Mary on 23 November 1884.⁵⁵

In the 1940 census, 56-year-old Joseph Ruth was enumerated living on Washington Boulevard and working as a jewelry

store manager.⁵⁶ The certificate of his death on 4 April 1961 identifies him as a retired jewelry salesman and gives his birth date as 30 May 1883.⁵⁷ Although the names of his parents are not listed on the death certificate, Baltimore City birth records show that a male child was born to John Anton and Mary Ruth on 29 May 1883.⁵⁸

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS: JACOB RUTH & CATHARINE SCHMIDT

Who were the parents of John Anton Ruth? His civil marriage record is silent on the question, and a record of a church marriage has not been located. “A. Ruth” and “Mary Strutman” were granted a marriage license in Baltimore on 7 March 1864 and subsequently were married by an officiant named Zimmerman.⁵⁹ This presumably was L. F. Zimmerman, pastor of St. Stephen’s German Lutheran Church, and the only clergyman of that surname in the 1864 city directory.⁶⁰ However, no record of the marriage appears in the St. Stephen’s parish records, which include only three marriage entries for 1864.⁶¹ The dearth of recorded marriages is doubtless explained by the expulsion of Rev. Zimmerman by the congregation in February 1864.⁶² He went on to help found St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran Church later that year, but the Ruth-Strodtman marriage was not retroactively recorded in the records of that church.⁶³

Census records and sources resulting from John Anton’s death provide details that help identify his parents. His death certificate does not list his parents, but states that he was born in Baltimore and was aged 52 years and seven months when he died on 31 January 1897.⁶⁴ From this, one can calculate that he was born circa June 1844. This is consistent with his death notice, which states that he was “in the 53rd year of his age,” meaning that he had started his 53rd year but was not yet 53 years old.⁶⁵ The 1870 and 1880 censuses indicate that he was born circa 1843–1844.⁶⁶ His gravestone, badly weathered and difficult to read, appears to give a birthdate of 15 June 1846.⁶⁷ Combined, this evidence broadly indicates a birth year range of 1843–1846. Regarding his

parents, the 1870 census indicates that they were foreign-born, and the 1880 census states they were born in Prussia.⁶⁸

Before searching for possible candidates for John Anton's parents, one must consider whether Claire Ruth's statements about her husband's ancestors could have been off by a generation, as some researchers have suggested. While not Babe Ruth's grandparents, were Peter and Kaziah (Reager) Ruth his great-grandparents, the parents of John Anton Ruth? The evidence doesn't support this hypothesis. There is no indication that Peter and Kaziah were foreign-born or that they lived in Maryland circa 1843–1846 when John Anton was born. Their biographical sketches published in 1913 state that they were born in Pennsylvania and moved from there in 1836 to Stark County, Ohio, and then on to Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1849.⁶⁹ These assertions are supported by entries for the couple in the 1840 and 1850 censuses.⁷⁰ Not surprisingly, no youth named John Anton is enumerated with them in the 1850 or 1860 censuses.⁷¹

Since there appears to be no obvious link between Babe Ruth and Peter and Kaziah Ruth, why would he have had their pictures? Could a fan who was a descendant of Peter and Kaziah have forwarded the pictures to him in hopes that they were related?⁷² Did Babe Ruth believe there was some connection? Or was Claire Ruth's story based on a misunderstanding? We may never know, but, regardless, the evidence clearly indicates that Peter and Kaziah (Reager) Ruth were neither Babe Ruth's grandparents nor his great-grandparents.

Who are the other candidates to be the parents of John Anton Ruth? A search of the 1850 and 1860 censuses narrows the list to three couples with male children (probable sons) of the correct name and age in the household who were born in Maryland.⁷³ These couples are: bricklayer John S. Ruth and Mary Ruth of Baltimore City;⁷⁴ farmer John W. Ruth and Elizabeth

Ruth of Harford County;⁷⁵ and cabinetmaker Jacob Ruth and Catharine Ruth of Baltimore City.⁷⁶ Of these, Jacob and Catharine Ruth are the only likely parents of John Anton.

Jacob Ruth and Catharine Smidt married in Baltimore on 29 September 1833.⁷⁷ (Catharine's surname appears in records variously as Smidt, Schmidt, Schmitt, and Schmid; hereinafter, the spelling Schmidt will be used.) Both were German immigrants, making them the only couple of the three whose place of origin is consistent with John Anton's parents. Also, the probable sons of the other candidate couples are unmarried and still living with their parents in the 1870 census, while John Anton was married and enumerated as the head of his own household that year.⁷⁸

In the 1850 and 1860 censuses, Jacob and Catharine Ruth have two children in their household who could be John Anton based on his estimated birth year range of 1843–1846. Antone (1850 census)/Antonio (1860 census) was born circa 1843–1845; John was born circa 1846–1847.⁷⁹ The baptismal records of St. James Catholic Church confirm that these children were Jacob and Catharine's sons—John Anton, born 21 June 1844, and John Adam, born 11 June 1847.⁸⁰ (The boys' names were typical for German families of the period, which frequently practiced double naming and often used Johann as a first name for multiple children.⁸¹)

The name and birth date of Jacob and Catharine's son John Anton is consistent with the death certificate, death notice, and census records for Babe Ruth's grandfather, although not with his gravestone. It is probable that the latter is incorrect, given the consistency of the other sources. The following additional evidence further supports the conclusion that Jacob Ruth and Catharine Schmidt are the parents of Babe Ruth's grandfather, John Anton Ruth.

- **Civil War Draft Clues.** Babe Ruth's grandfather registered for the 1863 Civil War draft, although at age 19 he was one year shy of being required to do so.⁸² The record of his registration is significant because his address at the time links him to the family of Jacob and Catharine Ruth.

John Anton worked at making and installing lightning rods for much of his adult life, but as a young man he was a carpenter. He is identified as such in the 1870 census.⁸³ In the Baltimore city directories, he presumably is the carpenter Anthony Ruth who is listed in 1867–1869 and the carpenter John A. Ruth who is listed in 1870–1872.⁸⁴ Likewise, he presumably is the John A. Ruth, carpenter—single, aged 20, born in Baltimore—who registered for the draft in the summer of 1863.⁸⁵ (While other John Ruths also registered for the draft in Baltimore, their marital status and/or age disqualify them from being John Anton.)

The address he gave when registering was 60 James Alley. In the 1864 Baltimore city directory, three individuals with the surname Ruth were listed at that address: Mrs. Catherine Ruth; Andrew J. Ruth, carpenter; and John A. Ruth, tinner.⁸⁶ As discussed below, evidence supports the conclusion that this is the widowed Catharine (Schmidt) Ruth and her two youngest sons, John Anton and John Adam.

James Alley—now known as Patapsco Street—was not previously associated with Jacob Ruth's family.⁸⁷ In the Baltimore city directories for 1837 through 1856 (the last year he appears), Jacob is listed at several addresses in the Fells Point area east of the harbor, while James Alley is located in the Federal Hill neighborhood west of the harbor.⁸⁸ By the 1860 census, however, he had moved across town to the 17th ward, the location of James Alley.⁸⁹ Jacob died on 4 January 1863, and, consistent with that event,

“Mrs. Catherine Ruth” appears for the first time in the 1864 directory.⁹⁰

Jacob and Catharine’s son John Adam was a tinner, as noted on the record of his marriage to Margaret Richter on 13 May 1867, and later censuses document that he continued that trade.⁹¹ Thus it is consistent that he would be the John A. Ruth, tinner, listed with his mother in the 1864 city directory. (While another tinner named John Ruth appears in the 1864 city directory at a different address, that individual’s Civil War draft record shows him to have been 10 years older than John Adam.⁹² John Adam himself would not have been required to register for the draft since he was underage at 16 years old.)

But what of John Anton? Is he the city directory’s Andrew J. Ruth? His draft registration record places him at the address, and the occupation of carpenter is accurate. No other Andrew J. Ruth (except for a child born in 1869) appears in city directories or census records for Baltimore during the time period 1860–1870.⁹³ Moreover, at least two records relating to John Anton call him Andrew. The first is the baptismal record of one of his children, John Herman Ruth. In the 1870 census, the child appears in John Anton’s household as Harman J. Ruth and is listed as being three months old as of the census date of June 1.⁹⁴ According to the baptismal records of St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, John Herman Ruth was born 7 March 1870, the son of Andrew Ruth, carpenter, and Mary Strodtman.⁹⁵ A second record, admittedly less reliable, is the 1938 death certificate of John Anton’s son William, which also identifies John Anton by the name Andrew.⁹⁶

Taken together, this evidence points to John Anton Ruth and the Andrew J. Ruth listed in the 1864 city directory being one and the same person, living with his widowed mother Catharine (Schmidt) Ruth and brother John Adam.

- **Strodtman Family Ties.** John Anton's wife was Mary Strodtman, and there is a close link between the Strodtman family and the family of Jacob and Catharine (Schmidt) Ruth. Jacob and Catharine's daughter Catherine married Henry Strodtman, who, as discussed below, was the brother of Mary Strodtman. When Henry and Catherine married on 21 September 1864, the witnesses were John and Mary Ruth.⁹⁷ There is little doubt that this was a situation of siblings marrying siblings.

Mary (Strodtman) Ruth died on 15 January 1894 at age 49, and while her death certificate does not name her parents, it indicates that she was born in Maryland circa 1844–1845.⁹⁸ Her gravestone inscription is almost as badly weathered as her husband's, but her birth date may read 21 November 1845.⁹⁹ Her ages in the 1870 and 1880 censuses are generally consistent, placing her birth year range at 1843–1845. The 1870 census indicates that her parents were foreign-born, and the 1880 census states they were from Hanover.¹⁰⁰

A search of the 1850 and 1860 censuses reveals only two couples who could have been Mary's parents based on the children in their households.¹⁰¹ They are: Henry and Catharine Strodtman of Baltimore City;¹⁰² and Harman/John H. and Mary Strodtman of Harford County/Baltimore County.¹⁰³ Two newspaper articles reveal that the latter of these were Mary's parents.

In 1891, the Baltimore *Sun* reported on the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of John Harman Strodtman and Mary Strodtman. According to the article, the couple's three sons and two daughters were in attendance; the list of those present includes Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ruth.¹⁰⁴ Fifteen years later, John Harman Strodtman's 1906 obituary does not mention Mary since it identifies only his living children;

however, his pallbearers included his grandsons, George, William, and John Ruth (Babe Ruth's father and uncles).¹⁰⁵

Mary's brother, Henry Strodman was among the surviving children named in the obituary.¹⁰⁶ He was living at 1105 South Sharp Street, the same address where his wife Catherine (née Ruth) had died ten years earlier on 9 May 1896.¹⁰⁷ Her published death notice states that she was the daughter of Jacob and Catharine Ruth.¹⁰⁸ St. James German Catholic Church records confirm that Jacob Ruth and Catharine Schmidt indeed had a daughter Catherine, who was born 22 May 1842.¹⁰⁹ That birth date is off by just eight days from the birth date that can be deduced from Catherine (Ruth) Strodman's death certificate, which gives her age at death as 53 years, 11 months, and 9 days.¹¹⁰

Toward the end of her life, Jacob Ruth's widow, Catharine (Schmidt) Ruth, lived with her daughter Catherine and son-in-law Henry Strodman. She was a member of their household in 1870.¹¹¹ Six years later, she died at their home on 11 July 1876 at age 72.¹¹² In her will, she left her personal property to her daughter Catherine and another daughter, Mary (Ruth) Miller; John Anton and her other children are not mentioned.¹¹³

2ND-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS: GEORGE ADAM RÜDT & MARIA ANNA HEGMANN

Jacob Ruth obviously arrived in America before his marriage to Catharine Schmidt in Baltimore in September 1833, but when exactly did he arrive and where was he from in Germany? The baptismal records of three of his children—Catherine, John Anton, and Mary—state that he was born in Baden, and Catherine's baptism specifies that he was from "Monfeld."¹¹⁴ The comprehensive, early twentieth-century Meyers Gazetteer of Germany does not have an entry for "Monfeld," but does include the phonetically-similar Baden community of Mondfeld.¹¹⁵ Located on the Main River, Mondfeld is in the

current German state of Baden-Württemberg about 58 miles southeast of Frankfurt. Fortunately, Catholic church records in the community date to 1700.¹¹⁶

Key information about Jacob gleaned from American sources provides critical baseline data for searching the Mondfeld church records. Based on his age in the 1850 census, 1860 census, and his interment record, he was born circa 1807–1809.¹¹⁷ His middle name was Anton according to the baptismal record of his son Augustine.¹¹⁸ His surname appears in most records as Ruth, with or without an umlaut, occasionally as Rith, and on his son John Anton's baptismal record as Rüd.¹¹⁹

In Baltimore, Jacob was closely associated with a Francis Joseph Ruth, a good candidate to be Jacob's brother. Francis Joseph witnessed Jacob's marriage and was godfather to Jacob's first child, his namesake Francis Joseph.¹²⁰ Likewise, Jacob was a namesake sponsor at the baptism of Jacob, son of Francis Joseph and his wife Mary Ann Will.¹²¹ Francis Joseph was born circa 1799–1801, based on his 1856 passport application and 1862 interment record.¹²² Like Jacob, he was born in Baden, according to the baptismal record of his son William.¹²³

Review of the Mondfeld Catholic church records reveals no baptism for a Jacob Ruth or others with the Ruth surname. However, a Jacob Anton Rüdts was baptized on 22 July 1808, the son of George Adam Rüdts, a cooper, and M. Anna Hegmann.¹²⁴ He had an older brother, Francis Joseph Rüdts, baptized 7 January 1801.¹²⁵ The Mondfeld Catholic church records further document that Francis Joseph Rüdts married Maria Anna Magdalena Will on 12 August 1827.¹²⁶ These birthdates and names all correlate with what is known about Jacob Ruth and Francis Joseph Ruth of Baltimore, including the name of Francis Joseph's wife. But is there evidence that the Rüdts of Mondfeld indeed immigrated to Baltimore?

The Mondfeld church records include a *Familienbüch* [family book] dating from about 1879. A *Familienbüch* is a compendium of the vital records information from a community's church registers organized into family groups.¹²⁷ The Mondfeld *Familienbüch* includes the notation "Amerika!" next to the entries for Francis Joseph Rüdt and his wife, but not for Jacob Anton Rüdt.¹²⁸ However, a contemporaneous abstract of a passenger list shows that Jacob did leave Mondfeld and arrive in Baltimore in 1832.

In the early nineteenth century, captains of vessels arriving in American ports from foreign countries were required to submit passenger lists to district customs collectors, who, in turn, were required to send quarterly abstracts to the Secretary of State. These abstracts included information on the name, age, sex, occupation, and nationality of each passenger, but not the exact date of their arrival or the name of the vessel they traveled aboard.¹²⁹ The quarterly abstract of Baltimore arrivals for the fourth quarter of 1832 includes the following passengers:

F. F. Roth	33	Male	Carpenter
Silv "	4	Male	
Franz "	3	Male	
Maria A. "	34	Female	
Maria A. Weis	57	Female	
Michael "	55	Male	
Jacob Ruth	24	Male	Farmer
Andrew Eder	35	Male	Farmer
Johann A. "	9	Male	
M. "	6	Female	
Eva "	2	Female	
Teresa "	34	Female	
Fronika Ruth	20	Female	¹³⁰

While there are some discrepancies between the passenger list abstract and the Mondfeld church records, comparison leaves no

doubt that these passengers are Jacob Rüdrt/Ruth and members of his extended family.

- “F. F. Roth” apparently is a recording error for “F. J. Ruth.” The first four passengers on the list are Jacob’s brother Francis Joseph and his family. As noted earlier, Francis Joseph Rüdrt was baptized in Mondfeld in 1801 and married Maria Anna Magdalena Will in 1827.¹³¹ She was born 7 May 1800 in Boxtal, a town not quite two miles from Mondfeld, the daughter of Michael Will and Magdalena Eckart.¹³² The young sons who accompanied them to Baltimore were Silvester Rüdrt, born 22 February 1828, and Francis Joseph Rüdrt, born 5 December 1830.¹³³ The Mondfeld *Familienbuch* notes that the parents and both boys went to America.¹³⁴
- Jacob’s mother and step-father are the next passengers on the list. Maria Anna Hegmann was baptized on 21 December 1774, the daughter of Lorenz Hegmann and Elizabeth Zöller.¹³⁵ She married Jacob’s father George Adam on 24 April 1797.¹³⁶ Following his death on 29 December 1813, she married Michael Weis on 22 November 1814.¹³⁷ The Mondfeld *Familienbuch* notes that Michael and Maria Anna went to America.¹³⁸
- Following Jacob himself on the list is the Eder family. “Teresa Eder” was a sister of Jacob’s sister-in-law, Maria Anna Magdalena Will. Three years older than her sister, Maria Theresa Will was born 1 June 1797 in Boxtal.¹³⁹ She married John Adam Eder on 13 January 1822 in Mondfeld.¹⁴⁰ (His name is incorrectly recorded on the passenger list abstract as “Andrew Eder.”) Their children who accompanied them to Baltimore were: John Adam, born 8 June 1823; Macarius, born 24 March 1826 (incorrectly identified as female on the passenger list abstract); and Eva Catharine, born 31 July 1830.¹⁴¹ The Mondfeld *Familienbuch* states that the three children went to America.¹⁴²

- “Fronika Ruth” was Jacob’s sister, Veronica Rüdt, who was born in Mondfeld on 15 November 1813.¹⁴³

GERMAN ROOTS: DIGGING DEEPER

In the marriage record for Jacob’s parents, George Adam Rüdt’s surname is recorded as “Riedt,” and he is described as being from the town of Eichelsbach, which is located about 16 miles northwest of Mondfeld in the German state of Bavaria.¹⁴⁴ George Adam was born circa 1770–1771 based on his death record and the Mondfeld *Familienbuch*.¹⁴⁵ Eichelsbach was part of the Sommerau Catholic parish, Sommerau being a town about four miles away. Review of the Sommerau baptismal records for the late 1760s to early 1770s reveals only one candidate to be George Adam.¹⁴⁶ George Adam Ried of Eichelsbach, son of Francis Bernard Ried and his wife Catharine, was baptized on 3 April 1769.¹⁴⁷

Francis Bernard Ried and Catharine Holler had married in Sommerau parish on 22 February 1751. Their marriage record notes that the bride was from Eichelsbach, but the groom was from the town of Stadtprozelten.¹⁴⁸ Located in Bavaria southeast of Eichelsbach, Stadtprozelten is on the opposite bank of the Main River from Mondfeld. (A small ferry still connects the two towns.) The record of Francis Bernard’s death in Eichelsbach on 3 May 1793 states that he was about 74 years old, which would make his birth year circa 1718–1719.¹⁴⁹ In the Stadtprozelten Catholic parish records, there is only one child baptized in the late 1710s and early 1720s that could be him.¹⁵⁰ Francis Bernard Rüd was baptized on 17 December 1724, the son of John Adam Rüd and his wife Salome.¹⁵¹ According to the 1733 baptismal record of another of their children, Maria Magdalena, John Adam originally was from Eichelsbach, and Salome’s maiden name was Krieger.¹⁵²

Although more research in German records is needed to confirm these probable earlier generations of Babe Ruth's surname line, the above referenced church records suggest that the Rüd't/Rüd/Ried family probably lived in Mondfeld, Eichelsbach, and Stadtprozelten for at least three generations in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

CONCLUSION

Confusion regarding Babe Ruth's paternal ancestors began during his lifetime and was exacerbated by his widow's mistaken assertions as to the identity of his grandparents. However, analysis and correlation of the evidence from a range of original sources—censuses, city directories, church records, vital records, newspapers, immigration records, and court records—clarifies his paternal line from his father, George Herman Ruth Sr., to his grandfather, John Anton Ruth, to his immigrant Ruth ancestor, his great-grandfather Jacob Ruth. German church records are critically important sources for exploring the history of the family in Germany, revealing: the original spelling of the family name (Rüd't/Rüd/Ried); the identity of Babe Ruth's 2nd-great-grandfather, George Adam Rüd't; possible earlier ancestors; and the connection of the family to Mondfeld, as well as nearby Eichelsbach and Stadtprozelten. Genealogical research gives substance to Babe Ruth's laconic statement, "My father was of German extraction."

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⁹⁰ St. Michael's Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Interment Records, 1860-1870, p. 30, Jacob R uth, (1863); MSA SC 2526, MSA microfilm SCM 1544-1 (scanned); digital image, *Maryland State Archives Special Collections: Religious Records* (www.msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2500/sc2526/pdf/mdsa_sc2526_scm1544.pdf : accessed 28 July 2017), image 346.

⁹¹ St. Michael's Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Marriages, 1852–1888, p. 137–138, no. 27, Johann Rüth and Margaretha Richter (1867); MSA SC 2526, MSA microfilm SCM 1543-1 (scanned); digital image, *Maryland State Archives Special Collections: Religious Records* (www.msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2500/sc2526/pdf/msa_sc2526_scm1543-0002.pdf : accessed 2 October 2016), image 78. 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland, population schedule, Ward 1, p. 111 (penned), dwelling 687, family 834, John Ruth; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 571. 1880 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland, population schedule, ED 16, p. 28 (penned), dwelling 203, family 264, John Ruth; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 497.

⁹² “U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863–1865,” digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); entry for John Ruth, July 1863, Maryland, 2nd Congressional District, Vol. 5, unpaginated; citing Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863–1865, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁹³ The following databases and directories were searched for “Andrew Ruth,” “Andrew Root,” and “Andrew Rut*” in Baltimore, Maryland. “1860 United States Federal Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M653. “1870 United States Federal Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M593. John W. Woods, compiler, *Woods' Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1860); also subsequent years by the same title: (1864), (1865–66), (1867–68), (1868–69), (1870).

⁹⁴ 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Md., pop. sch., Ward 17, p. 38 (penned), dwel. 249, fam. 303, Harman J. Rueth.

⁹⁵ St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptisms, 1859–1874, p. 15, no. 54, Johann Hermann Ruth (1870); FHL microfilm 1,888,053, item 1.

⁹⁶ Baltimore, Maryland, death certificate F52830 (1938), William E. Ruth.

⁹⁷ Baltimore, Maryland, Court of Common Pleas, Marriage Licenses, 1851–1865, p. 589, Henry Strodtman and Catherine Ruth, 1864; digital image 262. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Marriage Register, 1845–1872, p. 212, Henry Strodtman and Catherine Ruth (1864); MSA SC 2533, MSA microfilm SCM 1613-1 (scanned); digital image, *Maryland State Archives Special Collections: Religious Records* (www.msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2500/sc2533/msa_sc2533_scm1613-0003.pdf : accessed 29 July 2017), image 180.

⁹⁸ Baltimore, Maryland, Health Department, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate A63789 (1894), Mary Ruth; digital image, MSA CM 1132-50, MSA microfilm CR 48094 (scanned); MSA.

⁹⁹ In an attempt to read the deteriorated inscription, the author used the technique of placing aluminum foil on the stone and gently pressing it into the carving. Loudon Park Cemetery (Wilkins Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland), Mary Ruth marker, section S, lot 127 S½; personally read, 2017.

¹⁰⁰ 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Md., pop. sched., Ward 17, p. 38 (penned), dwell. 249, fam. 303, Mary Rueth. 1880 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Md., pop. sch., ED 171, p. 15 (penned), dwell. 121, fam. 149, Mary Ruth.

¹⁰¹ The following databases were searched for “Mary Str*man” and “Mary Str*dman” born 1844 (+/- one year) in Maryland: “1850 United States Federal Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M432; “1860 United States Federal Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M653.

¹⁰² 1850 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland, population schedule, Ward 9, p. 6B (stamped), dwelling 60, family 78, Henry Strautman household; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 284. 1860 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland, population schedule, Ward 17, p. 197 (penned), dwelling 1242, family 1584, Henry Strodman household; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 465.

¹⁰³ 1850 U.S. census, Harford County, Maryland, population schedule, p. 80A (stamped), dwelling 58, family 58, Harman Strodman household; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 294. 1860 U.S. census, Baltimore County, Maryland, population schedule, pp.105–106 (penned), dwelling 218, family 223, John H. Strodman household; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 469.

¹⁰⁴ “In and About Town: Their 50th Wedding Anniversary,” *The* (Baltimore) *Sun*, 11 December 1891, p. 6. col. 8.

¹⁰⁵ “Obituary: John Harman Strodman,” *The* (Baltimore) *Sun*, 27 Jan 1906, p. 7, col. 5.

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷ Baltimore, Maryland, Health Department, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate A86694 (1896), Catherine Strodman; digital image, MSA CM 1132-57, MSA microfilm CR 48101 (scanned); MSA. Holy Cross Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Interments, 1870–1910, pp. 180–181, Catharine F.

Strotman (1896); digital image, MSA SC 2573, MSA microfilm SCM 1918-1 (scanned); MSA.

¹⁰⁸ “Died,” death notice of Catherine F. Strotman, *The (Baltimore) Sun*, 11 May 1896, p. 4, col. 3.

¹⁰⁹ St. James Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Volumes, 1840–1856, pp. 40–41, no. 118, Catherina RÜth (1842); digital image 25.

¹¹⁰ Baltimore, Maryland, death certificate A86694 (1896), Catherine Strotman.

¹¹¹ 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland, population schedule, Ward 17, p. 517a (stamped), dwelling 1271, family 1993, Catherine Ruth; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 579.

¹¹² Baltimore, Maryland, Health Department, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate 11354 (1876), Catherine Ruth; digital image, MSA CM 1132-4, MSA microfilm CR 48048 (scanned); MSA. She died at 239 Cross Street, which the Baltimore city directory indicates was the home of Henry Strotman. See: John W. Woods, compiler, *Woods's Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1876), 611, “Henry Strotman;” digital image, *Internet Archive* (www.archive.org/details/Woodsbaltimoreci1876balt : accessed 29 July 2017).

¹¹³ Baltimore City, Maryland, Register of Wills, Will Book JHB 43: 6–8, Catharine Ruth, 1876; digital images, MSA CM 219-27, MSA microfilm CR 143-3 (scanned); MSA. For Mary Ruth Miller's birth and marriage information, see: St. Alphonsus Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Registers, 1845–1862, p. 51, Maria Philomena RÜth (1851); digital image 201. St. Alphonsus Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Marriages, 1845–1871, p. 83, no. 19, August Müller and Maria RÜth (1869); MSA SC 2530, MSA microfilm SCM 1598-1 (scanned); digital image, *Maryland State Archives Special Collections: Religious Records* (www.msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccolm/m1000/m1500/m1598/pdf/m1598.pdf: accessed 29 July 2017), images 171–172.

¹¹⁴ St. James Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Volumes, 1840–1856, pp. 40–41, no. 118, Catherina RÜth (1842), and pp. 72–73, no. 125, Joannes Antonius Rüd (1844); digital images 25 and 41. St. Alphonsus Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Registers, 1845–1862, p. 51, Maria Philomena RÜth (1851); digital image 201.

¹¹⁵ Erich Uetrecht, *Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs*, 5th ed. (Leipzig, Germany: Bibliographisches Institut, 1912–1913), 206; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017).

¹¹⁶ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche Kirchebüchen [Church Books] (Mondfeld, Baden-Württemberg, Germany), FHL microfilm 1,044,061 and 1,044,062.

¹¹⁷ 1850 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Md., pop. sch., Ward 2, p. 190B (stamped), dwel. 183, fam. 250, Jacob Ruth. 1860 U.S. census, Baltimore City,

Md., pop. sch., Ward 17, p. 220, dwel. 1367, fam. 1778, Jacob Root. St. Michael's Catholic Church (Baltimore, Md.), Interment Records, 1860–1870, p. 30, Jacob R uth, (1863); digital image 346.

¹¹⁸ St. John's German Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Volume I, Baptisms, 1804–1840, p. 220, Augustinus R uth (1838); digital image, MSA SC 2675, MSA microfilm SCM 1525-1 (scanned); MSA.

¹¹⁹ St. James Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Volumes, 1840–1856, pp. 72–73, no. 125, Joannes Antonius R ud (1844); image 41.

¹²⁰ St. John's German Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Volume II, Marriages, 1804–1841, p. LV, Jacobus Ruth and Catharina Smidt, (1833). St. John's German Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Volume I, Baptisms, 1804–1840, p. 185, Franciscus Josephus R ith (1834).

¹²¹ St. John's German Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Volume I, Baptisms, 1804–1840, p. 170, Jacobus R ith (1833).

¹²² Census records are another obvious source for birth year data, however, the author has been unable to identify Francis Joseph Ruth in the 1850 or 1860 census. "U.S. Passport Applications, 1795–1925," digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); application for Francis Ruth, 30 August 1856; citing NARA microfilm publication M1372, roll 58. St. Michael's Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Interment Records, 1860–1870, p. 27, Franz Joseph R uth, (1862); digital image 343.

¹²³ St. James Catholic Church (Baltimore, Maryland), Baptismal Volumes, 1840–1856, pp. 44–45, no. 192, Guilelmus Ruth (1842); image 27.

¹²⁴ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, (Mondfeld, Baden, Germany), "Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch" [Baptism- Marriage- and Death Book], part I, 1700–1809, "Liber Baptizatorum" [Book of Baptisms], p. 54, no. VI, Jacobus Antonius R udt (1808); FHL microfilm 1,044,061, item 1.

¹²⁵ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part I, 1700–1809, Liber Baptizatorum, p. 49, Franciscus Josephus R udt (1801).

¹²⁶ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, (Mondfeld, Baden, Germany), Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, pp. 115-116, no. II, marriage of Franz Joseph R udt and Maria Anna Magdalena Will (1827); FHL microfilm 1,044,061, item 1.

¹²⁷ Beidler, *The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide*, locations 2339–2348.

¹²⁸ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, (Mondfeld, Baden, Germany), "Familienbuch" [Family Book], 1879, p. 160, family of Gg. Adam R udt and wife M. A. Hegmann, and family of Frz. Joseph R udt and wife M. A. Magdal. Will; FHL microfilm 1,044,062.

¹²⁹ U. S. National Archives, *Quarterly Abstracts of Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore, 1820–1869*, Descriptive Pamphlet M596, Web edition, *The National Archives* (www.archives.gov/files/research/microfilm/m596.pdf : accessed 29 July 2017), 1.

¹³⁰ The original passenger list apparently is no longer extant. Quarterly abstract, fourth quarter, 1832, p. 41; "Baltimore, Passenger Lists, 1820–1964," digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 July 2017); citing "Quarterly Abstracts of Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore, 1820–1869," NARA microfilm publication M596.

¹³¹ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part I, 1700–1809, Liber Baptizatorum, p. 49, Franciscus Joseph Rüdt (1801). Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, pp. 115–116, no. II, marriage of Franz Joseph Rüdt and Maria Anna Magdalena Will (1827).

¹³² Boxtal Katholische Kirche, (Boxtal, Baden, Germany), Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, 1724–1835, "Nomina Baptizatorum" [Baptismal Names], 1768–1811, p. 62, Marianna Magdalena Will (1800); FHL microfilm 1,044,059, item 2. Boxtal Katholische Kirche, (Boxtal, Baden, Germany), Familienbuch, 1879, p. 188, family of Michael Will and wife Magdal. Eckert; FHL microfilm 1,044,060.

¹³³ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 83, no. II, baptism of Silvester Rüdt (1828) and p. 88, no. XVI, baptism of Franz Joseph Rüdt (1830).

¹³⁴ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 160, family of Frz. Joseph Rüdt and wife M. A. Magdal. Will.

¹³⁵ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part I, 1700–1809, Liber Baptizatorum, p. 34, no. XV, Maria Anna Hegmann (1774). Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 123, family of Lorenz Hegmann and wife M. Elis. Zöller.

¹³⁶ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, (Mondfeld, Baden, Germany), Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part I, 1700–1809, "Matrimonio Iunctorum" [Joined in Marriage], p. 17, no. I (1797), Georgius Adamus Riedt and Maria Anna Hegmann; FHL microfilm 1,044,061, item 1. Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 160, family of Gg. Adam Rüdt and wife M. A. Hegmann.

¹³⁷ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 17, no. XIX, death of Georgius Adamus Rüdt (1813). Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 20, no. IV, marriage of Michael Weiss and Maria Anna Rüdt (1814).

¹³⁸ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 160, family of Gg. Adam Rüdt and wife M. A. Hegmann, and p. 177, family of Joh. Michael Weiss and wife M. A. Hegmann.

¹³⁹ Boxtal Katholische Kirche, Nomina Baptizatorum, 1768–1811; p. 55, Maria Theresia Will (1797).

¹⁴⁰ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- Ehe- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 70, no. I, marriage of Johann Adam Eder and Maria There[s]a (1822).

¹⁴¹ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- & Ehes- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 72, no. IX, baptism of Johann Adam Eder (1823); p. 79, no. V, baptism of Macarius Eder (1826); and p. 87, no. X, baptism of Eva Catharina Eder (1830).

¹⁴² Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 2a, family of Joh. Adam Eder and wife M. Theresa Will.

¹⁴³ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- & Ehes- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 14, no. XII, baptism of Veronica Rüd (1813).

¹⁴⁴ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- & Ehes- & Todtenbuch, part I, 1700–1809, Matrimonio Iunctorum, p. 17, no. I, marriage of Georgius Adamus Riedt and Maria Anna Hegmann (1797).

¹⁴⁵ Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Tauf- & Ehes- & Todtenbuch, part II, 1810–1835, p. 17, no. XIX, death of Georgius Adamus Rüd (1813). Mondfeld Katholische Kirche, Familienbuch, p. 160, family of Gg. Adam Rüd and wife M. A. Hegmann.

¹⁴⁶ Thomas Gregor Wagner, PhD (Scriptorium Familienforschung [Genealogy], Höchberg, Bavaria, Germany), “Familienforschung Ried (Varianten Rüd, Riedt) – Pfarrmatrikeln Sommerau (mit Eichelsbach), Stadtprozelten” [“Family Research Ried (Variants Rüd, Riedt) – Parish Registers Sommerau (including Eichelsbach), Stadtprozelten”], p. 1; 11 July 2017, report prepared for author, copy held by the author.

¹⁴⁷ Sommerau Katholische Pfarrei [Parish] (Sommerau, Bavaria), Amtsbücher aus Pfarreien [Parish Records] 4568, fiche 1, p. 47, baptism of Georgius Adamus Ried (3 April 1769); Diözesanarchiv Würzburg, Würzburg, Bavaria.

¹⁴⁸ Sommerau Katholische Pfarrei (Sommerau, Bavaria), Amtsbücher aus Pfarreien 4568, fiche 3, p. 7, marriage of Franciscus Bernard Rüd and Catharina Hollerin (22 February 1751).

¹⁴⁹ Sommerau Katholische Pfarrei (Sommerau, Bavaria), Amtsbücher aus Pfarreien 4568, fiche 5, p. 3, death of Franciscus Bernardus Ried (3 May 1793).

¹⁵⁰ Wagner, “Familienforschung Ried (Varianten Rüd, Riedt) – Pfarrmatrikeln Sommerau (mit Eichelsbach), Stadtprozelten,” 1.

¹⁵¹ Stadtprozelten Katholische Pfarrei (Stadtprozelten, Bavaria), Amtsbücher aus Pfarreien 4624, fiche 5, p. 85, baptism of Franciscus Bernardus Rüd (17 December 1724); Diözesanarchiv Würzburg, Würzburg, Bavaria.

¹⁵² Stadtprozelten Katholische Pfarrei (Stadtprozelten, Bavaria), Amtsbücher aus Pfarreien 4624, fiche 6, p. 122, baptism of Maria Magdalena Rüd (11 November 1733).