

Gotfrid von Schwaben

Glossary of German Terms and Abbreviations

Titles, Terms, Locations, and Various Abbreviations Encountered in German Onomastic
Texts and Armorial

FORWARD

As time progresses our base level of knowledge concerning medieval and renaissance naming practices increases. Likewise, our pool of onomastic resources becomes more refined. When reading texts written in English, finding the documentation and understanding what the author is saying is quite simple for fluent English speakers. Frequently, however, the best resource for a certain culture's naming practice is in a language other than English. For those who are attempting to read resources in another language and have little to no knowledge of that language, it becomes a bit more problematic.

While I am a fairly fluent, semi-native speaker of German, my level of constant exposure and usage of German leveled off during my teen years. As a joke, albeit true, I will often say to people who ask me where I learned my German that I learned it sitting in the lap of my mother and grandmother. And even though I do have opportunities to brush the dust off my language skills, they are not as frequent as I would like. Additionally, the dialect of German with which I grew up is not the same as that used in scholarly works.

Because of this, while doing German onomastic research I have come across a number of common terms and abbreviations, not all of which have been familiar to me. As a result, I created a list of titles, abbreviations, terms, etc., which I encountered in various German texts. Most of the terms I pulled from the books listed in the bibliography at the end of this glossary. Additional entries in this list are more "common knowledge" items peculiar to Germany culled from my Langenscheidts German to English dictionary. Some of the abbreviations are in direct reference to languages or dialects with which I had no knowledge. Those items are footnoted and a rudimentary explanation is provided using mostly Wikipedia entries. Granted, while Wikipedia is hardly scholarly, it does at least give the reader a basic understanding and a starting point from which to pursue research that is more scholarly. This list spells out what the abbreviations are and translates those into their English equivalents, thus making it easier for non-German-speaking researchers to understand what the text is conveying.

Gotfrid

Author's Bio

Herr Gotfrid von Schwaben is an aspiring Minnesänger who makes a living as a herald for hire during his journeys. He enjoys brewing, woodworking, archery, and dabbles at illumination. (Stick figures are his forte.)

SFC Jeff Diaz works as an analyst in the military. He played off and on in the Society in 1983, but joined in October 1997 with his son. His passions include German onomastics, armory, and history. His most recent sojourns have taken him to the Hindu Kush, where he spent time on the Silk Road.

German titles, terms, and areas

Aachen	Aix-la-Chapelle	Namenkunde	Onomastics
Adel	Nobility, Aristocracy	Nürnberg	Nuremberg
Adel verpflichtet	Noblesse oblige	Oberfranken.....	Upper Franconia
Baron.....	Baron	Oberpfalz.....	Upper Palatinate
Bayern.....	Bavaria	Oberrheinische Tiefebene....	Upper Rhine valley
Bistum, (Bistümer)	Bishoprics	Österreich	Austria
Bodensee	Lake Constance	Ostsee	Baltic sea
Böhmen und Mähren	Bohemia-Moravia	Patrizier	Patricians, upper class
Böhmerwald, der	Bohemian forest	Pfalz	The Palatinate
Braunschweig.....	Brunswick	Pfalzgraf, (-en).....	Count(s) Palatine
Donau, die.....	Danube river	Reichsfürst, (-en)	Imperial Prince(s)
Elsass, Elsaß.....	Alsace	Reichsritter, (-s).....	Imperial Knight(s)
Elsass-, Elsaß-Lothringen.....	Alsace-Lorraine	Reichsstadt, (Reichsstädte) ..	Imperial City (-ies)
Ehrbare Geschlechter.....	respectable families	Reichstag	Imperial Diet
Erzbistum, (Erzbistümer)	Archbishopric(s)	Reichswappen	Imperial Arms
Erzherzog, (Erzherzöge).....	Archduke(s)	Rheinland	Rhineland
Felsendom, der	Dome of the Rock (Jerusalem)	Rheinpfalz	Rhenish Palatinate
Franken	Franconia	Ritter, (-s)	Knight(s)
Frankreich	France	Ritterschaft	Chivalry, Knighthood
Freiherr(en)	Baron(s)	Sachsen	Saxony
Fürst, (-en).....	Prince(s)	Schlesien.....	Silesia
Fürstentum	Principality	Schwaben.....	Swabia
Fürstenhoff	(royal) court	Schwäbische Alb	Swabian Jura
Gallien	Gaul	Schwäbische Alpen	Swabian Alps
Genf	Geneva	Schweiz	Switzerland
Gefürstete Abtei, (-en)	Principality Abbey(s)	Seidenstraße, die	the Silk Road
Gefreite Abtei, (-en)	Independent Abbey(s)	Siebenbürgen	Transylvania
Grabeskirche, die	Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Jerusalem)	(andere) Stadt, (Städte)	(other) City (-ies)
Graf, (-en).....	Count(s), Earl(s)	Sixtinische Kapelle, die.....	Sistine Chapel
Gräfin, (-nen)	Countesses	Straße von Gibraltar	Strait of Gibraltar
Herr, (-en).....	Lord(s)	Steiermark	Styria
Herzog, (Herzöge)	Duke(s)	Tempelberg, der	Temple Mount (Jerusalem)
Herzogin, (-nen).....	Duchess(es)	Thüringen	Thuringia
Hessen	Hesse	Tirol	Tyrol
Hofdame.....	Lady-in-waiting	Ungarn.....	Hungary
Hofnarr	court jester	Unterfranken.....	Lower Franconia
Hinterpommern.....	Eastern Pomerania	Venedig	Venice
Kärnten.....	Carinthia	Vierwaldstätter See, der.....	Lake Lucerne
Königsreich, (-e)	Kingdom(s)	Vorpommern.....	Western Pomerania
König, (-e).....	King(s)	Wappen	Coat of Arms
Königin, (-nen).....	Queen(s)	Wappenerklärung	blazonry
Kurfürst, (-en)	Elector(s)	Wappenkunde	Heraldry
Kurfürstentag.....	Diet	Wappenschild.....	escutcheon
Kurfürstentum.....	Electorate	Wappenschmuck	heraldic ornamentation
Kurfürstenpfalz	The Electoral Palatinate	Wappenspruch	heraldic motto
Köln	(city of) Cologne	Wappentier	heraldic animal
Mark Brandenburg.....	Brandenburg Marches	Wenzelsplatz, der	Wenceslas Square (Prag)
Meissen, Meißen	Meissen, Misnia	Westfalen	Westphalia
Mittelmeer, das.....	Mediterranean sea	Wien	Vienna

German abbreviations (Abkürzungen)

(as encountered in various onomastic resources)

Symbols

*	geboren.....	born
†, †	gestorben.....	died
=	gleich	identical, equals
∞	verheiratet.....	married
< = aus, >	wird zu	derived, comes from

A

Abb.	Abbildung.....	picture, illustration
abgeg.	abgegangen.....	came, derived, branched from
Abltg.	Ableitung.....	derivation, derivative
adän.	altdänisch.....	Old Danish
aengl.	altenglisch.....	Old English
afries.	altfriesisch.....	Old Frisian
afrz. (afraz.)	altfranzösisch.....	Old French
ags.	angelsächsisch	Anglo-Saxon
ägypt.	ägyptisch.....	Egyptian
ahd.	althochdeutsch.....	Old High German
aind.	altindisch.....	Old Indian
air.	altirisch.....	Old Irish
aisl.	altisländisch	Old Icelandic
alem.	alemannisch.....	Alemannic
altd.	altdeutsch	Old German
and.	altniederdeutsch.....	Old Low German
anord.	altnordisch	Old Nordic
apers.	altpersisch.....	Old Persian
apolab	altpolabisch.....	Old Polabian ¹
apoln.	altpolnisch.....	Old Polish
apreuß.	altpreußisch	Old Prussian
arab.	arabisch	Arabian
aruss.	altrussisch.....	Old Russian
asächs.	altsächsisch	Old Saxon
aslaw.	altslawisch	Old Slavic
asorb.	altsorbisch.....	Old Sorbian ²
atschech.	alttschechisch	Old Czech(oslovakian)
awest.	awestisch	Avestan ³

¹ The Polabian language, which became extinct in the 18th century, was a group of Slavic dialects spoken in present-day northern Germany: Mecklenburg, Brandenburg, Saxony-Anhalt, eastern parts of Lower Saxony, and Schleswig-Holstein. It was one of the Lechitic languages. The name derives from the name of Polabian tribes, which in turn derives from the name of the Elbe river in Slavic languages: Łaba in Polish and Labe in Czech. There are known Polabian texts from the Wendland (Lüchow-Dannenberg) in the 17th and 18th centuries. The Lord's Prayer in Polabian is: Aita nos, tã toi jis wã nebesai, sjeřtu wordoj tũji jaimã; tũji rik komaj; tũja wũfa mo sa t'ũnot kok wã nebesai tok no zemã; nosẽ wisedanesneř st'aiβε doř nam dãnš; a wũtãdoř nam nose greche, kok moi wũtãdořeme nosim gresnarem; ni bringoj nos wã warsũkongẽ; toi losoj nos wũt wisokag chaudag. Pritũ tũje ja tũ tenãdztwũ un mũc un cãst, warchni Bũzac, nekãda in nekẽdisa. Amen. See also the Wends

² The Sorbian languages are classified under the West Slavic branch of the Indo-European languages. They are the native languages of the Sorbian people, a Slavic minority in eastern Germany. The language has also historically been known as Wendish or Lusatian. There are two literary languages: Upper Sorbian (hornjoserbsce), spoken by about 55,000 people in Saxony, and Lower Sorbian (dolnoserbski) spoken by about 14,000 people in Brandenburg. The area where the two languages are spoken is known as Lusatia (Łužica in Upper Sorbian, Łužyca in Lower Sorbian, or Lausitz in German). Both languages have dual grammatical number; they are among the very few living Indo-European languages to retain this feature (the other being Slovenian). The dual is used when exactly two people or things are meant and is in addition to singular and plural. In Germany Upper and Lower Sorbian are officially recognized and protected as minority languages. The city of Bautzen near Dresden is a centre of Upper Sorbian culture. Notable is the fact that bilingual signs can be seen around the city including the name of the city itself at the railway station given as 'Bautzen/Budyšin'. The city of Cottbus (Chóšebuz) is considered the cultural centre of Lower Sorbian; here too bilingual signs are found. Sorbian is also spoken in the small Wendish settlement of Serbin in Lee County, Texas, and until recently newspapers were published in Wendish there. It has been heavily influenced by surrounding speakers of German and English.

B	
B.	Bürger.....citizen, resident, inhabitant
bayr. (bair.)	bayrischBavarian
Bd. (Bde.)	Band (Bände).....Volume(s)
BE	Berlin
Bed.	Bedeutung(en)meaning(s)
bes. (bsd.)	besondersespecially, particularly
betr.	betreffend.....concerning, regarding, as to
Bez.	Bezeichnung(en).....name(s), term(s), designation(s)
	Bezirk.....district
BN	Berufsname.....occupational name
BR	Brandenburg
bulg.	bulgarischBulgarian
BW	Bestimmungswortdeterminative element
BWÜ	Baden-Württemberg
BY	BayernBavaria
bzgl.	bezüglich.....regarding, concerning (re:)
bzw.	beziehungsweiserespectively

C	
christl.	christlich.....Christian

D	
d. Ä.	der Älterethe Elder
dän	dänischDanish
demin.	deminutivischdiminutively
d. Gr.	der (or die) Großethe Great
d. h.	das heißt.....that is, that's called (i.e.)
d. J.	der Jüngere.....the Younger
dt.	deutschGerman

E	
eig. (eigtl.)	eigentlich.....eventually
els	elsässischAlsatian
engl.	englisch.....English
entspr.	entsprechendcorresponding, analogous, commensurate (with)
eosl.	elb- und ostseeslawischWends and Baltic sea Slavic ⁴

³ Avestan, also called (incorrectly) Zend Language, is an Eastern Iranian language known only from its use as the language of Zoroastrian scripture, i.e. the Avesta, from which it derives its name. The language must also at some time have been a natural language, but how long ago that was is unknown. Avestan falls into two strata, the older being that of the Gāthās, which reflects a linguistic stage (dating from c. 600 BC) close to that of Vedic Sanskrit in India. The greater part of the Avesta is written in a more recent form of the language and shows gradual simplification and variation in grammatical forms. When the canon of the Avesta was being fixed (4th to 6th century AD), Avestan was a dead language known only to priests. Its status as a sacred language ensured its continuing use for new compositions long after the language had ceased to be a living language.

⁴ Elbslawen or Wenden (lat. Venedi; English: Wends) is the name for some Slavic people from north-central Europe, particularly the Sorbs living in modern-day Germany. The name is derived from the German term Veneter, used for various non-Germanic tribes (see also Germanic placenames). The term has not historically enjoyed consistent usage — it is mostly employed specifically for one or two Slavic groups but in the past it was often used as an over-arching term for all Slavic people. As a result, it is still difficult today to present a coherent picture of the Wends as a people. The term Wends was used in history in the following meanings: (1) The Franks referred to most Slavs living between the Oder and Elbe rivers as either Wends or Sorbs, while in Slavic literature these people are called Polabian Slavs. (2) In general, a German name for West Slavic people formerly inhabiting territories of pre-World War II Pomerania and historical eastern Germany. The term Wends was used in connection to all Slavs west of Poland and north of Bohemia — Polabians, Pomeranians and Sorbs. It was also used to denote the Slovaks in German texts before ca. 1400. (3) German and English name for Sorbs, a Slavic people who moved into Central Europe during the great migration, most likely in response to pressure by the westward movement of warlike peoples such as the Huns and Avars. Some of their descendants, also called Wends or Lusatian Sorbs (Lužički Srbi), still live in Lusatia today, where the Sorbian language is maintained in schools. Many Wends were driven out of the Kingdom of Prussia during the Revolutions of 1848. Many Lusatian Wends immigrated to countries that welcomed them as a source of cheap labor, including the United States and Australia. In the United States, the majority of Wends settled in Texas, where they became some of the earliest members of the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran church. A notable settlement of Wends in Texas is the town of Serbin, in Lee County, where a church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, stands as a typical example of Wendish architecture. In St. Paul's, the pulpit is located in the balcony of the church. (4) German name for Kashubians. (5) Some Finnish historians claim the words Wends or Vandals used in Scandinavian sources occasionally meant all peoples of the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea from Pomerania to Finland,

europ. europäischEuropean
 ev. evangelischLutheran

F

f. femininfeminine
 finn. finnisch.....Finnish
 FN Familienname(n).....family name(s)
 fnhd. frühneuhochdeutsch.....Early New standard (High) German
 fries. friesisch.....Frisian
 Frh. (Frhr) FreiherrBaron
 frk. (fränk.) fränkischFrankish
 frz. (franz) französisch.....French
 frühmhd. frühmittelhochdeutschEarly Middle High German

G

gall. gallisch.....Gallic
 galloroman. galloromanisch.....Gallo-Romanic
 gen. genitivischgenitively (pertaining to genitive [possessive] case)
 germ. germanischGermanic
 GewN Gewässernamenames of bodies of water, incl. rivers
 Gde. Gemeindemunicipality, parish
 got. gotischGothic
 gleichbed. gleichbedeutend.....synonymous
 griech. griechisch.....Greek
 GW Grundwortroot word

H

häuf. häufig.....frequent(ly), widespread
 HausN HausnameHousehold name
 HB Bremen
 hdschr. handschriftlichhandwritten, in writing
 HE Hessen
 hebr. hebräischHebrew
 hess. hessisch.....Hessian
 Hg. Herausgeberpublisher, editor
 hg. herausgegeben (von)published, edited (by)
 HH Hamburg
 hl. heiligholy
 HIN (Heil. N.) HeiligenameSaint's name
 HN (Herk. N.) Herkunftsname.....name derived from origin (background, place, country, ethnicity)
 hochd. (hd.) hochdeutsch.....standard (High) German
 HofN Hofname(n).....farm name(s)
 hold. (holl.) holländischDutch
 Hr(n) Herr(n)Mr
 hugen. hugenottisch.....Huguenot

I

i. a. (i. Allg.) im allgemeinen.....in general, generally
 idg. indogermanisch.....Indo-Germanic
 i. d. R. in der Regel.....as a rule

including some Finnic peoples. The existence of these supposed Finnic Wends is far from clear. In the 13th century there was indeed a people called Wends or Vends living as far as northern Latvia around the city of Wenden and it is not known if they were indeed Slavs as their name suggests. Some researchers think they were related to Finnic-speaking Votians.

i. e. S.	im engeren Sinne	in the narrow(er) sense
	im eigentlichen Sinne	in the true sense (of the word), in the proper sense
i. J.	im Jahre	in (the) year
illyr.	illyrisch	Illyrian ⁵
insges.	insgesamt	altogether, in all
ital. (it.)	italienisch	Italian
i. w. S.	im weiteren Sinne	in the broad(e)r sense

J

Jh.	Jahrhundert.....	Century
Jh.s.	Jahrhunderts	Centuries
jüd.	jüdisch.....	Jewish

K

kath.	katholisch	Catholic
kelt.	keltisch.....	Celtic
KF	Kurzform (Koseform)	short(ened) form, affectionate form
Kt.	Kanton	Canton
kymr.	kymrisch.....	Welsh ⁶

L

l.	links	left
lad.	ladinisch	Ladin ⁷
LandschaftsN	Landschafts- (Gebietsname) ...	countryside or territory name
langobard.	langobardisch.....	Langobardic, Lombardi
lat.	lateinisch	Latin
latin.	latinisiert.....	Latinized
laus.	lausitzisch	Lausitzi ⁸
lett.	lettisch.....	Latvian
lit.	litauisch	Lithuanian
	literarisch	literary

M

m.	maskulin.....	masculine
MA.	Mittelalter	medieval
masch.	maschinenschriftlich.....	typed, in typescript
metron.	metronymisch.....	matronymical

⁵ The Illyrian languages are a group of Indo-European languages that were spoken in the western part of the Balkans in former times by ethnic groups identified as Illyrians: Delmatae, Pannoni, Illyrioi, Autariates, Taulanti (see List of Illyrian tribes). The Illyrian languages are generally, but not unanimously, reckoned as centum languages. Some sound-changes and other language features are deduced from what remains of the Illyrian languages, but because no writings in Illyrian are known, there is not sufficient evidence to clarify its place within the Indo-European language family aside from its probable centum nature. Because of the uncertainty, most sources provisionally place Illyrian on its own branch of Indo-European, though its relation to other languages, ancient and modern, continues to be studied and debated.

⁶ Another term for kymrisch is walisisch.

⁷ Not to be confused with Ladino language, Ladin (Ladino in Italian, Ladinisch in German) is a Rhaetian language spoken in the Dolomite mountains in Italy, between the regions of Trentino-South Tyrol and Veneto. It presents connections with the Swiss Romansh and Friulian. It is spoken in: the province of Bozen-Bolzano at (German-Italian-Ladin), St. Ulrich-Ortisei-Urtijëi, St. Christina-Santa Cristina-S. Crestina, Wolkenstein-Selva di Val Gardena-Sëlva, Abteital-Badia-Badia, Kurfahr-Corvara-Curvara, Enneberg-Marebbe-Maréo; the province of Trento in the Val di Fassa at the following seven municipalities: [Canazei (Ladin Cianacei), Campitello (Ladin Ciampedèl), Mazzin (Ladin Mazin), Pozza di Fassa (Ladin Poza), Vigo di Fassa (Ladin Vich), Soraga (Ladin Soraga -or- Sorega), and Moena (Ladin Moena)]. The Ladin spoken in the Fassa Valley (Ladin Val de Fascia, Italian Val di Fassa) is also subdivided into two further branches, "Cazét" (pronounced "cazet") is spoken in the northern half of the valley, whereas "Brach" (pronounced "brak"), is spoken in the southern half. For example, in Cazét, water is "ega" ("e" pronounced as in English "Elephant"), whereas in Brach it is "aga". It is further spoken in the province of Belluno in Livinallongo valley (Ladin Fèdom, German Buchenstein) and at Cortina d'Ampezzo (Ladin Anpëz). It is officially recognized in Italy and has some official rights in the region of Trentino-South Tyrol, while it does not have official status in the province of Belluno (Veneto region).

⁸ The Lausitzi dialect belongs to East Middle German. It is spoken in the Lausitz region in East Saxony and in Southern Brandenburg and is related to the adjacent dialects of the Thuringian-Upper Saxon and to Lower Silesian. From there also is derived the designation: Lausitzi-Silesian, which is only occasionally used however.

md. (mitteld.)	mitteldeutsch.....Middle German
mdal. (mda.)	mundartlichdialectal
mhd	mittelhochdeutschMiddle High German
mir.	mittelirisch.....Middle Irish
mlat. (mittellat.)	mittellateinischMiddle Latin
mnd	mittelniederdeutsch.....Middle Low German
mniederl.	mittelneiderländischMiddle Dutch
MV	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.....Mecklenburg-West Pomerania

N

N	NordenNorth
n.	nach.....after, to
	nördlichnorthern
	neutral.....neutral
Nbf.	Nebenformvariant
n. Chr.	nach Christus(after Christ) AD
nd (nnd.)	niederdeutschLow German
ndld (ndl.; nl.)	niederländisch.....Dutch
ndrhein. (nrhein.)	niederrheinisch.....Low Rhenish (from the lower Rhine)
NDS	NiedersachsenLower Saxony
nhd.	neuhochdeutsch.....New High German
nord.	nordischNordic
nordd	norddeutschNorth German
nordfries.	nordfriesisch.....North Frisian
norw.	norwegisch.....Norwegian
nordwestd.	nordwestdeutsch.....Northwest German
NRW	Nordrhein-WestfalenNorth Rhine-Westphalia
nso.	niedersorbisch.....Lower Sorbian ⁹
n. u. Z.	nach unserer ZeitrechnungAnno Domini ('according to our time reckoning')

O

O	OstenEast
ö.	östlich.....eastern
o. Ä.	oder Ähnliche(s).....or the like
oberd. (obd.)	oberdeutschUpper (Southern) German
oberschw.	oberschwäbischUpper Swabian
od.	oderor
o. J.	ohne Jahr.....undated ('without year')
ON	Ortsnameplace name
ÖN	Örtlichkeitsname (Siedlungsname, .locality, place name (settlement name, location Stellenbezeichnung)description)
osä.	obersächsisch.....Upper Saxon
oso.	obersorbischUpper Sorbian ¹⁰
ostd.	ostdeutschEast German
österr.	österreichisch.....Austrian
ostfränk.	ostfränkisch.....East Frankish
ostmitteld. (ostmd.)	ostmitteledeutschEast Middle German
ostpr.	ostpreußischEast Prussian
ostslaw.	ostslawischEast Slavic

P

PN	Personenname(n)personal name(s)
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⁹ see footnote 2 for 'asorb.' (altsorbisch)

¹⁰ ibid.

polab.	polabisch.....	Polabian ¹¹
poln.	polnisch.....	Polish
port.	portugiesisch.....	Portuguese
prot.	protestantisch.....	Protestant

R

r.	rechts.....	right
rel.	relativ.....	relatively
rhein.	rheinisch.....	Rhenish
rheinfränk.	rheinfränkisch.....	Rhenish-Franconian
rom.	romanisch.....	pertaining to Romance languages
RN	Rufname.....	first (given) name
röm.	römisch.....	Roman
RP	Rheinland-Pfalz.....	Rhineland-Palatinate
russ.	russisch.....	Russian

S

S	Süden.....	South
S.	Seite.....	page
s.	siehe.....	see [also]
	südlich.....	southern
s. a.	siehe auch.....	see also
SAC	Sachsen.....	Saxony
SAN	Sachsen-Anhalt.....	Saxony-Anhalt
SatzN	Satzname.....	phrase name (epitaph-type name derived from a sentence description such as Eisenhower. Eisen + hower = 'iron hitter' or blacksmith.)
schles.	schlesisch.....	Silesian
schwäb.	schwäbisch.....	Swabian
schwed.	schwedisch.....	Swedish
schweiz.	schweizerisch.....	Swiss
sd.	siehe diesen Artikel.....	see this article
s. d.	siehe dies, siehe dort.....	see also
serbokroat.	serbokroatisch.....	Serbo-Croatian
SH	Schleswig-Holstein	
SL	Saarland	
slaw.	slawisch.....	Slavic
slowak.	slowakisch.....	Slovakian
slowen.	slowenisch.....	Slovenian
SN	Sippenname.....	Clan name
s. o.	siehe oben.....	see above
sog.	sogenannt.....	so-called
sorb.	sorbisch.....	Sorbian ¹²
spätmdh	spätmittelhochdeutsch.....	Late Middle High German
span.	spanisch.....	Spanish
StammesN	Stammesname.....	name derived from ethnicity (tribal)
StraßenN	Straßenname.....	street name
s. u.	siehe unten.....	see below
südd.	süddeutsch.....	Southern German
südostd.	südostdeutsch.....	Southeast German
südslaw.	südslawisch.....	South Slavic
südwestd.	südwestdeutsch.....	Southwest German

¹¹ see footnote 1 for 'apolab.' (altpolabisch)

¹² see footnote 2 for 'asorb.' (altsorbisch)

T

TH	Thüringen.....	Thuringia
thür.	thüringisch	Thuringian
tirol.	tirolisch.....	Tyrolean
TN	(christlicher) Taufname	Christian baptismal name
tschech.	tschechisch	Czech(oslovakian)
typ.	typisch.....	typical(ly)

U

u.	und.....	and
u. a.	und andere(s).....	and others
	unter anderem.....	among other things
u. Ä. (u. ä.)	und Ähnlich(e, es)	and the like
ugs.	umgangssprachlich	colloquial(ly)
ÜN	Übername	nickname, sobriquet, epithet
ung. (ungar.)	ungarisch	Hungarian
urslaw.	urslawisch	proto-Slavic ¹³
urspr.	ursprünglich	originally
usw.	und so weiter.....	etc.
u. v. a.	und viele(s) andere	and many more (others)

V

v.	von, vom	of, from, by
v. a.	vor allem	above all
v. Chr.	vor Christus.....	(before Christ) BC
vlat.	vulgärlateinisch	vulgar (common) Latin
v. l. n. r.	von links nach rechts.....	from left to right
versch.	verschiedene.....	various, assorted
vogtl.	vogtländisch	Vogtlandic ¹⁴
VölkerN	Völkername.....	name derived from ethnicity (nationality)
vor.	vorhergehendes	preceding
VN	Vorname	given name
vgl.	vergleiche	confer, compare [to], same as

¹³ Proto-Slavic is the proto-language from which Old Church Slavonic and all the other Slavic languages later emerged. It was spoken before the 7th century. No Proto-Slavic writings have been found, so the language has been reconstructed from applying the comparative method to all the attested Slavic languages and other Indo-European languages. There is much debate whether pre-Proto-Slavic branched off directly from Proto-Indo-European, or whether it passed through a Proto-Balto-Slavic stage. Proto-Slavic proper developed during the early 1st millennium AD, and was separated into dialects in the 5th or 6th century, as Slavic tribes began to migrate in the wake of the Germanic migration period. In the second half of the 9th century, the dialect spoken north of Thessaloniki became the basis for first written Slavic language, created by the brothers Cyril and Methodius who translated portions of the Bible and other church books. The language they recorded is known as Old Church Slavonic. Old Church Slavonic is not identical to Proto-Slavic, having been recorded at least two centuries after the breakup of Proto-Slavic, and it shows features that clearly distinguish it from Proto-Slavic. However, it is still reasonably close, and the mutual intelligibility between Old Church Slavonic and other Slavic dialects of those days was proved by Cyril's and Methodius' mission to Great Moravia and Pannonia. There, their early South Slavic dialect used for the translations was clearly understandable to the local population which spoke an early West Slavic dialect.

¹⁴ A German dialect spoken in what was then called Vogtland. The Vogtlandkreis is a Landkreis (rural district) in the southwest of Saxony, Germany, at the borders to Thuringia, Bavaria, and the Czech Republic. Neighboring districts are (from south clockwise) Hof, Saale-Orla, Greiz, Zwickauer Land, Aue-Schwarzenberg. The urban district of Plauen is located in the center of the district. The Vogtland became part of the Holy Roman Empire in the 12th century by king Conrad III. In 1209 the minister dynasty administrating the area split into three lines, Weida, Greiz and Gera-Plauen. When the central power over the area decreased these leaders, called in Latin advocatus or in German Vögte could rise from administrators to actual county leaders. 1354-1357 the Vogtland war ended these leadership and the area changed ownership to Bohemia. In 1546 Henry IV from Plauen got the area from the Bohemian king and later emperor Ferdinand I. His children did not only inherit the land, but also very high debt, so to pay these 1563 the area was bought by Saxony from Henry VI, and when in 1569 Henry VI finally ceased to claim ownership the new leadership created the first Vogtland district (Voigtländischen Creiß). 1657-1718 Saxony was split into parts, the Vogtland belonged to Saxony-Zeitz. In 1835 the new constitutional monarchy changed the administration and abolished the old district, and instead the Amtshauptmannschaft Plauen was created, and in 1867 those of Auerbach and Oelsnitz. 1907 the city of Plauen left the district and became district-free city. 1952 the East German government with the big administrative reform renamed them to Kreise (districts), and created the new districts Klingenthal and Reichenbach by decreasing the size of the previous ones. After the German Reunification the changes of the 1952 reform were mostly undone, and in 1996 the 5 districts were merged to form the Vogtlandkreis.

W

w.	westlich	western
weibl.	weiblich	female (feminine)
westd.	westdeutsch	West German
westmitteld. (westmd.)	westmitteldeutsch	West Middle German
westnd.	westniederdeutsch	West Lower German
westslaw.	westslawisch	West Slavic
WN	Wohnstättenname(n).....	residential town name(s)
württ.	württembergisch.....	Württembergischer

XYZ

z. B.	zum Beispiel	for instance, for example (e.g.)
Zs.	Zeitschrift	magazine periodical
z. T.	zum Teil	partly, partially
Zus. (Zstzg.)	Zusammensetzung(en)	composition(s), compound(s)
zus.	zusammen	together

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