

Guide to German OSB Terms & Abbreviations

Please note this is a work in progress and will be updated frequently!

Abbreviations & Translations

<i>abwes.</i>	<i>Abwesend</i>	absent
<i>angehen.</i>	<i>angehender</i>	verging on, learning; approaching proficiency
<i>angemel.</i>	<i>angemeldet</i>	announced
<i>Ansiedl.</i>	<i>Ansiedler</i>	Settler, Colonist
<i>Arb., Arbei.</i>	<i>Arbeiter</i>	Day laborer
<i>B./Br.</i>	<i>Bruder</i>	Brother
<i>bgr.</i>	<i>begraben</i>	Buried
<i>Beg.</i>	<i>Begräbnis</i>	Burial
<i>Besit.</i>	<i>Besitzer</i>	Owner
<i>Colon./Col.</i>	<i>Kolonist/Colonist</i>	Settler
<i>DGB</i>	<i>Deutsches Geschlechterbuch</i>	Volumes of German Genealogy; typically families with money
<i>dt.</i>	<i>Diemat</i>	Land measurement; approximately 1 ¼ acre
<i>E</i>	<i>Eltern</i>	Parents
<i>E</i>	<i>Enter</i>	Yearling
<i>Ehefr.</i>	<i>Ehefrau</i>	Wife/Spouse
<i>Ehel.</i>	<i>ehelich</i>	Child born to married parents
<i>eingezog.</i>	<i>eingezogen</i>	conscripted
<i>einh.</i>	<i>einheimisch</i>	native (adjective)
<i>Einwoh.</i>	<i>Einwohner</i>	Native
<i>eod.</i>	<i>eodem</i>	The same (as in the same date/day)
<i>etw.</i>	<i>etwa</i>	about
<i>evg.</i>	<i>evangelisch</i>	Evangelical (<i>of the Evangelical church</i>)
<i>Flue.</i>	<i>Fluechtling</i>	Refugee
<i>Fr.</i>	<i>Frau</i>	Mrs.
<i>Frl.</i>	<i>Fraulein</i>	Miss
<i>Gastw.</i>	<i>Gastwirt</i>	Innkeeper, tavern owner
<i>gebürt.</i>	<i>gebürtig</i>	Born
<i>Gef.</i>	<i>Gefallen</i>	Killed in action
<i>get.</i>	<i>getauft</i>	Baptized
<i>getr.</i>	<i>getraut</i>	Married
<i>Gl.</i>	<i>Gulden</i>	Dutch and old German coin - Guilder
<i>Gr.M.</i>	<i>Großmutter</i>	Grandmother
<i>Gr.V.</i>	<i>Großvater</i>	Grandfather
<i>Gv.</i>	<i>Gerichtsverwalter</i>	Court administrator
<i>Haush.</i>	<i>Hausherr</i>	Resident, head of household
<i>Hausm.</i>	<i>Hausmann</i>	Person responsible for upkeep of house
<i>hvertr.</i>	<i>heimatvertrieben</i>	Expelled from one's home country
<i>Hw.</i>	<i>Hinweis</i>	Suggestion/reference
<i>i.d.</i>	<i>in der</i>	In the
<i>Jfr.</i>	<i>Jungfrau</i>	Formerly young lady of upper class
<i>K.</i>	<i>Küh</i>	Cow
<i>K.</i>	<i>Kind</i>	Child
<i>Kap.</i>	<i>Kapitän</i>	Captain
<i>KB</i>	<i>Kirchenbuch</i>	Church book
<i>ki.</i>	<i>kirchlich</i>	Ecclesiastical, of the church
<i>Landgebrä./Lgbr.</i>	<i>Landgebräucher</i>	Kolonist
<i>led.</i>	<i>ledig</i>	Single
<i>M.</i>	<i>Mutter</i>	Mother
<i>Mei.</i>	<i>Meister</i>	Master craftsman
<i>minderjähr.</i>	<i>minderjährig</i>	Minor (minor aged child)
<i>N.N.</i>	<i>Nomen Nescio</i>	Name unknown

<i>nat.</i>	<i>natus, nata</i>	Born
<i>O.</i>	<i>Ochsen</i>	Oxen
<i>OAL</i>	<i>Ostfriesische Ahnenlisten</i>	Member genealogical data, publication of the Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft
<i>OSB</i>	<i>Ortssippenbuch</i> , published first by Ostfriesische Landschaft, now the Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft	Church community lineage book
<i>P</i>	<i>Pferd</i>	horse
<i>Past.</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	Pastor
<i>PD</i>	<i>Perillustris Dominus</i>	Designated high social status
<i>ppr.</i>	<i>Pauper</i>	poor person
<i>Predig.</i>	<i>Prediger</i>	Preacher
<i>Procl.</i>	<i>Proclamiert</i>	Proclaimed, announced
<i>QuF</i>	<i>Quellen und Forschungen zur Ostfrieschen Familien- und Wappenkunde.</i>	Quarterly newsletter published by the Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft, Aurich/German language
<i>RE</i>	<i>Renteneempfänger</i>	Revenue or tax collector
<i>ren.</i>	<i>renatus</i>	Revenue
<i>rk.</i>	<i>römisch katholisch</i>	Roman Catholic
<i>Rt., Rth</i>	<i>Reichstaler</i>	Monetary unit / coin
<i>s.</i>	<i>siehe</i>	see
<i>S.</i>	<i>Seite</i>	Page
<i>S.</i>	<i>Sohn</i>	Son
<i>Sch.</i>	<i>Schaf or Schap (Low German)</i>	Monetary unit / small coin
<i>Schullehr.</i>	<i>Schullehrer/Schullehrerin</i>	Male school teacher / female school teacher
<i>Schw.</i>	<i>Schwester</i>	Sister
<i>S.d.</i>	<i>Sohn des</i>	Son of
<i>s.o.</i>	<i>siehe oben</i>	See above
<i>spur.</i>	<i>Spurius, spuria</i>	Child born out of wedlock
<i>st.</i>	<i>Standesamt</i>	Civil Registry Office
<i>StA</i>	<i>Staatsarchiv</i>	State Archive
<i>Std.</i>	<i>Stunde</i>	Hour
<i>T. (T.d.)</i>	<i>Tochter (Tochter des)</i>	Daughter (daughter of)
<i>Tau.</i>	<i>Taufe</i>	Baptism
<i>TP</i>	<i>Taufpate, Taufpatin</i>	Godparent, Sponsore
<i>Trz.</i>	<i>Trauzeuge</i>	Witnesses to marriage
<i>u.a.</i>	<i>unter anderem</i>	In addition to
<i>U.G.</i>	<i>Upstalsboom-Gesellschaft</i>	Genealogical society of Ostfriesland
<i>unehel.</i>	<i>unehelich</i>	child born to unmarried parents
<i>usw.</i>	<i>und so weiter</i>	and so on
<i>ux.</i>	<i>Uxor</i>	Wife
<i>V.</i>	<i>Vater</i>	Father
<i>vertre.</i>	<i>Vertreten</i>	to act for, stand for
<i>vgl.</i>	<i>Vergleiche</i>	compare
<i>Vid.</i>	<i>Vidua, Viduus</i>	widow, widower
<i>v.m.</i>	<i>verheiratet mit</i>	Married to
<i>vorehel.</i>	<i>Vorehelich</i>	Premarital
<i>Warfsm.</i>	<i>Warfsmann</i>	See definitions in next section
<i>wiederverh.</i>	<i>wiederverheiratet</i>	Married again
<i>Witt.</i>	<i>Witten</i>	Currency, very small coin
<i>Wwe., Wwr.</i>	<i>Witwe, Witwer</i>	Widow, Widower
<i>zgw.</i>	<i>zugewandert</i>	moved into the area
<i>Zimmerma.</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>	Carpenter
<i>z.t.</i>	<i>zum Teil</i>	In part
<i>zverm.</i>	<i>zivilvermisst</i>	Missing civilian

Ostfriesian Research Terms & Definitions

(42,3,2)	translates to 42 years, 3 months, 2 days
10bris/Xbris	December
7bris	September
8bris	October
9bris	November
Advokat	Lawyer
Alte(r) Kôte(r)	Old cottager
Amt	Ostfriesland old <i>Länder</i> : Moormerland, Brökmerland, Ocerledingerland, Rheiderland, etc., each with its own formative history and expression. No regent was powerful enough to give them unity. Ämter cut across the traditional <i>Länder</i> . From the 16 th to the 18 th century, Ostfriesland had from 9 to 11 Ämter. Each Amt had a <i>Drost</i> who represented the authority of the reigning Count or Prince of Ostfriesland. Introduced by Count Edzard I, the Great (1492-1528)
Amtmann	In charge of the administrative work in an Amt.
Anbauer	small farmer (<i>Bauer</i> = farmer)
angehender	approaching expertise, apprentice
angemeldet	announced, registered
Ansiedler	settler
Ar	A unit of land measurement. 1/100 th of a <i>Hektare</i>
Arbeiter	day laborer (also called <i>Tagelöhner</i>)
Arbeitsleute	day laborer families
arm	poor, indigent
Arme Leute	poor people (<i>Armenhaus</i> = home for poor people in village)
Armenmittel	resources for the indigent
Armenvorsteher	A person in charge of the congregational indigent fund.
Ausgewandert	emigrated
Auskündiger	Also called " <i>Gerichtsdienner</i> (court-of-law servant). He served the <i>Drost's Vogt</i> in the execution of jurisdictional commissions. He proclaimed decrees and regulations of the sovereign authority and handed out dispositions or summons of the court to those affected.
ausserehelich	born outside of marriage
Bäcker	baker
Bademutter, Amme	midwife
Bauer	farmer
Bauernschaft	early form of rural local government
Bauernschaften	outlying rural settlements
Bauerrichter	Elected officials in <i>Bauernschaften</i> with duties similar to but subordinate to those of the <i>Schüttmeister</i> .
begraben	buried
Begräbnis	burial
Besitzer	owner
Brinksitzer	also <i>Häusler</i> – home owner with very little farm land.
Bruder	brother
Burg	castle
Colonist	See <i>Kolonist</i>
Decker	thatcher, roofer
Diemat	A measurement of land. One <i>Diemat</i> = the amount of land a man can mow in one day. About 1 1/4 acre
Dienstknecht	servant, male
Dienstmagd	servant, female
Domäne	Landed estate owned by the government, often since the Reformation. "Domäne" Kloster Barthe was once a <i>Premonstratensian</i> convent.
Dorf	small village
Dorfschiffer	local resident using a large boat to haul goods by canal to larger city; typically pulled by harness.

<i>Douane</i>	(French, 1811-1814) customs, customs office
<i>Drittelherd</i>	Like <i>Vollherd</i> and <i>Halbherd</i> . In this case, ownership had been fragmented over the generations through inheritance. Ownership of a <i>Herd</i> , or a fraction, was always passed by inheritance.
<i>Drost</i>	In charge of an Amt, appointed by the Count/Duke/King.
<i>Ehefrau</i>	wife, married woman
<i>ehelich</i>	associated with marriage, descended from a legal marriage (children)
<i>Eigner</i>	owner
<i>Eingessener</i>	Native; also describes a man who marries into a farmstead
<i>eingezogen</i>	conscripted
<i>einheimisch</i>	native
<i>Einlieger</i>	lodger, making a living as a village tradesman or day laborer
<i>einwohner</i>	inhabitant
<i>Eltern</i>	parents
<i>Enter</i>	yearling
<i>eodem</i>	the same
<i>Erbe</i>	heir, inheritance (<i>Erbe</i> – male heir; <i>Erbin</i> – female heir)
<i>Erbgessener*</i>	Hereditary holder of land, heir of land or property, members of the third estate (vis-à-vis the nobility) in the cities of Aurich, Emden, Norden. Could stand for election for Bauerrichter. Leer was a smaller city at that time.
<i>etwas</i>	about
<i>Fehn</i>	From the Dutch “ <i>Veen</i> ” – bogland. In Germany the term is limited to the concept of peat bog reclamation.
<i>Fendell</i>	Military reserve group of 100 soldiers, based on ancient Frisian rights.
<i>Feuerstätte</i>	A house with a fireplace or hearth, an open fire on which they could also cook.
<i>Fluechtling</i>	fugitive, refugee
<i>Fürst</i>	Duke, Prince
<i>Fuhrmann</i>	hauled good with horse and wagon, drover, teamster
<i>ganz</i>	complete
<i>Gaste(n)</i>	Open, usually unfenced farmland on the <i>Geest</i> , used for planting and sowing since ancient times
<i>Gasthaus</i>	Also <i>Wirtshaus</i> , <i>Gaststätte</i> : offers lodging and food for paying guests.
<i>Gastheerd</i> (Dutch Term)	A gentleman’s farmhouse built in a style typical of Groningen in the 19th century with tall windows and high ceilings. At the front of the house is an entrance reserved for guests. On the main floor is a pleasant dining room where breakfast is served. Up one flight of stairs are the guest accommodations, one large and two medium-sized double rooms. A large central bathroom with separate bath and shower and double wash basins is available for all guests.
<i>Gastwirt</i>	Owner or tenant of a <i>Gasthaus</i>
<i>Geboren</i>	born
<i>gebürtig</i>	born (in); “ <i>Gebürtige</i> ” followed by a maiden name, same as <i>nee</i>
<i>Geest</i>	Elevated areas of dry sandy soil, not prone to flooding, and used as <i>Gasten</i> or <i>Kampen</i> .
<i>Gefallen</i>	Fell during war — deaths in this category will be limited to war years, i.e., 1870-1871, 1914-1918, 1939-1945
<i>Gemeinde</i>	community, congregation
<i>Genannt</i>	mentioned in, known as...
<i>Gerichtsverwalter</i>	administrator
<i>gering</i>	small
<i>geschieden</i>	divorced
<i>gestorben</i>	died
<i>getauft</i>	baptized
<i>Getraut, geheiratet</i>	married
<i>Gras</i>	A variable measurement of land. 1 <i>Gras</i> = 3/7 <i>Hektares</i> / 1-1/2 <i>Gras</i> is 1 <i>Diemat</i> .
<i>Groß</i>	large, big
<i>Großmutter</i>	grandmother / Add <i>Uhr</i> for G.Grandmother/Grandfather
<i>Großvater</i>	grandfather
<i>Gulden</i>	Dutch and old German coin
<i>Gulphaus</i>	farm structure, dwelling in front with attached barn

<i>Halbherd</i>	<i>see Halbheurland</i>
<i>Halbheurland</i>	A half share in community decisions, etc. It may indicate that the farm was divided for an inheritance. The property was handed down (usually to the eldest son, who had to pay off the other kids and also provide a living for the parent(s). If there were no sons, a daughter could inherit the land. Then when she married, her husband often took her family name, so he was <i>Eingeheiratet</i> , that is married into the family (land).
<i>Hammrich</i>	low-land pastures near rivers, prone to flooding and slow to dryout
<i>Häusler</i>	<i>see Häusling</i>
<i>Hausleute</i>	Were often called <i>Erbgesessener</i> , which means that this person has inherited his property by a regular law of succession. <i>Erbgesessener</i> = sitting on his heritage.
<i>Häusling</i>	A <i>Häusling</i> was a man who lived in rented quarters in the village and made a living as a tradesman or day laborer.
<i>Hausmann</i>	A <i>Hausmann</i> (owner of <i>Hausstede</i>) lives from his farm and had certain political and voting rights in the village, including the right to stand for election. These rights resided in the farm rather than in the farmer. Determined local elections e.g., teacher, pastor, as well. The farm was duty-bound to render wartime service, to supply manual and horse-drawn labor, and to render special levies. <u>Edict of 1620</u> stipulated that a <i>Hausmann</i> to be eligible for representation had to own 25 <i>Grasen</i> on the <i>Marsch</i> or a full <i>Herd</i> on the <i>Geest</i> . Were often called <i>Erbgesessener</i> , which means that this person has inherited his property by a regular law of succession. <i>Erbgesessener</i> = sitting on his heritage.
<i>Hausstede</i>	<i>Stede</i> is the old German word for <i>Stätte</i> (place/farm).
<i>Heerenland</i>	Former moorland proclaimed as part of the realm of the Prussian king (<i>Urbarmachungsedikt</i> , 1765). This moorland region is southwest of Wymeer in the Rheiderland area.
<i>Heide or Heidland</i>	Heath. Flat, treeless, sandy country overgrown with low shrubs (heather) and grasses which spread from adjacent bogs.
<i>heimatvertrieben</i>	expelled from one's homeland
<i>Herd</i>	substantial farm charged with inherited rights and duties. Also hearth. hearth (fireplace) property taxes were often based on assessment of owners of hearths
<i>Herdbesitzer</i>	(<i>besitz</i> = own) possessed a <i>Vollherde</i> with special civil and parochial privileges. He was one of the few who had a vote in church and community affairs and whose votes chose the village pastors and schoolmasters. He assessed and collected taxes. In addition to these rights, the <i>Herdbesitzer</i> also had the duty to see to the maintenance of roads and canals and had to make provision for the poor of the <i>Gemeinde</i> (community).
<i>Herr</i>	Mr.
<i>Herrenzins</i>	tribute to feudal lord
<i>Herrlichkeit</i>	Fiefdom, Lordship. During the times of the <i>Grafen</i> (counts) and <i>Fürsten</i> (princes) of Ostfriesland (1464 – 1743), there existed about a dozen <i>Herrlichkeiten</i> . The taxes raised therein did not go to the governing counts or princes, but to the lords of the <i>Herrlichkeiten</i> .
<i>Hinweis</i>	Reference to, see also
<i>Hochmoor</i>	High moor land of sphagnum moss from which the peat has been harvested.
<i>Hufner or Hüfner</i>	Farmer with a <i>Hufe</i> (about 40 acres)
<i>in der</i>	in the
<i>Interessenten</i>	small group of local authorities owning the most farmland
<i>itzo</i>	now (antiquated German word)
<i>Jungfrau</i>	young woman
<i>Junker</i>	minor royalty
<i>Kapitän</i>	sea captain
<i>Kaufmann</i>	merchant, shopkeeper, trader
<i>Kind</i>	child
<i>Kirchenbuch</i>	Church book
<i>Kirchengemeinde</i>	Church community, congregation
<i>Kirchlich</i>	Ecclesiastical
<i>Kirchspiel</i>	Church district
<i>Klein</i>	small
<i>Knecht</i>	Male servant, hired hand
<i>Kolonat</i>	(prn. -naht; pl. "Kolonate", pron. -nahtay) Tract of land in a Kolonie worked by a Kolonist in hereditary tenancy.

<i>Kolonie</i>	Human settlement on government land in lonely regions.
<i>Kolonist</i>	Also <i>Colonist</i> . A person settling on a new moor (peat) land opened to cultivation. They were induced by promises of a small tract of land of their own. This was back-breaking labor and the reason many of these settlers emigrated to the USA.
<i>Koopmann</i>	shopkeeper (Kaufmann)
<i>Kornlieferung</i>	delivery of grain in payment of tax obligations
<i>Kostgängerin</i>	female boarder
<i>Köter</i>	Cottager / person farming small piece of land they own, or working for a larger farmer
<i>Krämer</i>	small shopkeeper
<i>Kriegs-u. Domnen Kammer</i>	Ministry (or Dept.) for War and Crown Lands
<i>Kuh/Kühe</i>	cow/cows
<i>Landadel</i>	landed gentry
<i>Landgebräucher</i>	Most likely a renter of tillable acres. Landowners were " <i>dikke Burren</i> " (Platt) or rich farmers. The term appears in the 2 nd half of the 18 th century after the land reform. It describes a person " <i>using land</i> " and was mainly used in the <i>Fehn</i> villages where political rights tied possession of a <i>Herd/Platz</i> (small dwelling w fireplace) were unusual. In the <i>Fehn</i> villages, <i>Landgebräucher</i> is often used in connection with the profession of a <i>Schiffer</i> or sailor (<i>Bargee</i>).
<i>Landrecht</i>	common law
<i>Landwirt</i>	farmer
<i>Last/Lasten</i>	sea weight measurement, a Danziger Roggenlast equaled the weight of a wagon load of rye pulled by four horses. The German Last = about 2000 kg (4,4000 lbs) filling the space of about 3.25 cubic meters. A ship of 80 Lasten was a medium sized ship the 17th century. The Swedish Last " <i>Nylast</i> " was larger.
<i>ledig</i>	single, unmarried
<i>Leegmoor</i>	moorland from which the peat has been harvested (<i>abgetorfte Hochmoor</i>)
<i>Leinen</i>	linen
<i>Maire-adjoint</i>	French word – assistant mayor
<i>Meister</i>	master craftsman
<i>Mieter</i>	tenant
<i>Militar</i>	military
<i>minderjährig</i>	underage
<i>mittelmäßig</i>	mediocre
<i>Müller</i>	Miller
<i>Municipalrat</i>	French word, 1811-1814) advisory board called into session by the <i>Maire</i> .
<i>Mutter</i>	mother
<i>Nata, natus</i>	born, also son/daughter
<i>Nichte, Neffe</i>	Niece, Nephew
<i>NN (Nomen Nescio)</i>	name not known
<i>Nottaufe</i>	emergency baptism
<i>Ochse(n)</i>	ox/oxen
<i>Oncle</i>	Uncle
<i>Pate(in)</i>	godfather (mother)
<i>Perillustris Dominus</i>	highly respected, of high social status
<i>Pfarrer</i>	Clergyman, Pastor, Reverend
<i>Pferd</i>	horse
<i>Plagge</i>	Heath sod, used as organic material on the <i>Gaste</i> where not much manure was available.
<i>Plaggenhauen or Plaggenstechen</i>	heath sod cutting
<i>Plaggland</i>	heath country, poor-quality heather sod
<i>Prediger</i>	preacher
<i>Prediger</i>	Preacher
<i>Proclamiert</i>	Proclaimed, Banns read
<i>Proprietär</i>	owner, rich man
<i>Propst [prior, provost]</i>	Ostfriesland-specific officials since about 1250. From distinguished families, their office was sometimes hereditary. Had ecclesiastical jurisdiction in villages and held the office of <i>Schiedsrichter</i> .

<i>Propstei</i>	Diocese. Jurisdiction or dwelling of a Provost.
<i>Provost</i>	superintendent, official in charge – English title
<i>Reepschlagler</i>	rope weaver
<i>Reichstaler</i>	coin of the Holy Roman Empire; not of local vintage
<i>Renata, renatus</i>	child baptism
<i>Rentenempfänger</i>	Pensioner
<i>restant (renatus)</i>	Tardy Taxpayers. Dutch Reformed Ostfriesen who didn't like the Lutheran reigning house and who would be dealt with for their refusal if the reigning house felt temporarily strong enough. Up to the time when Ostfriesland became Prussian (1743), the responsibility for financial matters was in the hands of the faithful <i>Landstände</i> (diet of the three estates) which was always squabbling with their prince.
<i>Rezeptor</i>	Tax collector
<i>römisch katholisch</i>	Roman Catholic
<i>Rottmeister</i>	see Schüttmeister
<i>Schaf</i>	sheep
<i>Schap/Schaf</i>	Monetary unit / small coin (<i>Schaf</i> is Low German)
<i>Schatzung</i>	assessment, estimation of value
<i>Schielloch</i>	embrasure (gun port in a castle or tower wall)
<i>Schiff</i>	ship
<i>Schiffer</i>	sailor, boatman
<i>Schiffseigner</i>	ship owner
<i>Schmidt</i>	blacksmith
<i>Schmitker</i>	joiner, carpenter
<i>Schmittjer</i>	carver
<i>Schnurre</i>	heath sod used as fuel
<i>Schüttmeister</i>	A <i>Vogt</i> with special responsibilities. Collected taxes and levies, inspected roads and bridges and commons, assessed penalties, supervised <i>Bauernrichter</i> . An elected office, similar to today's chairperson of the town council.
<i>Schullehrer</i>	school teacher (male)
<i>Schuster</i>	shoemaker, cobbler
<i>Schwarztorf</i>	lower, more compact layers of peat used for fuel when dug up and sun dried.
<i>Schweinegeld</i>	A tax assessment to be paid in hogs or a tax based on the number of pigs owned by a person – like a personal property tax.
<i>Schwester</i>	sister
<i>Seite</i>	page
<i>siehe</i>	see . . .
<i>siehe oben</i>	see above
<i>Siel</i>	Openings (locks) in the levee (dike) system at the mouths of small rivers unprotected by the dikes. They are closed to keep out flood water.
<i>Stellasten</i>	pay for the upkeep of <i>Siel</i>
<i>sniertje braa</i>	freshly slaughtered pork
<i>Sohn des</i>	son of
<i>Soldat</i>	soldier
<i>Spetze</i>	A path of small logs through a peat bog (<i>Spetzerfehn</i> – today a village)
<i>spurius, spuria</i>	child born out of wedlock
<i>stammt</i>	stems from
<i>statt</i>	instead of
<i>Stede</i>	The old German word for <i>Stätte</i> (place/farm). The <i>Hausmann</i> (owner of <i>Hausstede</i>) lives from his farm and has certain political rights in the village. The farm (<i>Warfsstede</i>) of a <i>Warfsmann</i> is too small to feed the family, he must work as a <i>Tagelöhner</i> (a laborer hired for a day-to-day basis or by the job). The <i>Warfsmänner</i> did not have the same political rights as the <i>Hausmänner</i> .
<i>Steern</i>	star
<i>Stunde</i>	hour
<i>Tagelöhner(in)</i>	male day laborer / female day laborer
<i>Taler</i>	see <i>Reichstaler</i> – monetary unit
<i>Tante</i>	Aunt

<i>Taufe</i>	baptism
<i>Taufpate(in)</i>	godfather, godmother
<i>Tichler</i>	brick maker
<i>Tjalk</i>	small boat probably with sails
<i>Tochter des</i>	daughter of
<i>Tochter</i>	daughter
<i>Torf graben</i>	digging up peat with specially designed spades.
<i>Torf</i>	Peat / Formed by partial decay and carbonization of vegetation (predominantly sphagnum moss, vegetation) in water. Texture and color vary with depth of layers. Upper layers (<i>Weisstorf</i> <white peat>) are loose and brown, lower layers (<i>Schwarztorf</i> <black peat>) increasingly compact and black and used for fuel when dug up and sun dried.
<i>Totgeburt</i>	stillbirth
<i>Trauzeuge</i>	witness to marriage
<i>Twenter</i>	two year old calf
<i>und so weiter</i>	and so on
<i>unehelich</i>	out-of-wedlock
<i>unter anderen</i>	among others, in addition to
<i>untertrau</i>	engagement / From Dutch „ordertrouw“.
<i>Urbarmachungsedikt</i>	(for Ostfriesland and Harlingerland) Edict issued by Friedrich II 22 July 1765 that the wastelands of Ostfriesland be made arable; the <i>Urbarmachungskommission</i> was established in 1770 to settle disputes arising from this edict, particularly between the established villages & farmers and the new settlers (Colonists).
<i>uxor</i>	wife
<i>Vater</i>	father
<i>vergleiche</i>	compare/see also
<i>verheiratet mit</i>	married to
<i>verheiratet</i>	married
<i>verlobt</i>	engaged
<i>vertreten</i>	to act for, to stand in for
<i>Vidua, Viduus</i>	widow, widower
<i>Vierdup</i>	A measure of dry volume. Decree of 1845: levy per ½ <i>Diemat</i> of 2 <i>Vierdups</i> , 100 liters = 3 bushels = 160# of rye.
<i>Vogt</i>	In its early definition, the direct representative of the ruling authority in Aurich at the <i>Amt</i> or similar local level. Later in charge of a <i>Vogtei</i> as a subdivision of an <i>Amt</i> and reporting to a <i>Drost</i> . His duties then were mostly out-of-doors and serving as direct link between the administration and its citizens. A <i>Vogt</i> inspected, reported, called up the reserves, and supervised the <i>Auskündiger</i> . There were also <i>Vogts</i> with special responsibilities in the church and community.
<i>Vogtei</i>	Subdivision of the <i>Amt</i> . Responsibility of the <i>Vogt</i> who had a salaried position.
<i>Vollherd</i>	see <i>Vollheurland</i>
<i>Vollheurland</i>	Describes a land owner (farmer) with a full inheritance indicating social status in the community including voting for pastor, teacher, etc., including decisions affecting the community. (Voll = full). In some of the smaller communities, there may have been only a dozen or so possessors of a <i>Vollherd</i> .
<i>Vorehelic</i>	pre-marital
<i>Warfsmann</i>	<i>Warfsmann</i> is not an occupation, but describes a social status in a community. A <i>Warfsmann</i> lived on a (<i>Warf</i>) <i>statt</i> in a village. He did not own a farm (<i>Heerd/Plaats</i>), only a small house surrounded by a small plot of land and a couple of cattle or sheep. The <i>Warfsstede</i> was typically too small to provide a living, so the <i>Warfsmann</i> worked as an <i>Arbeiter/Tagelöhner</i> (a laborer hired for small jobs or a short term basis). <i>Warfsleute</i> had no voting status in the village in which they lived.
<i>Warfstatt/Warfsstede</i>	farm of a <i>Warfsmann</i>
<i>Weber</i>	weaver
<i>weiland</i>	formerly, the deceased
<i>Weinkaufhandlungregister</i>	At the exchange of land in a legal transaction, the data was recorded in a <i>Weinkaufsregister</i> , and after the property was recorded, a glass or more of wine completed the deal. (<i>Wein</i> =wine)
<i>Weinkaufsregister</i>	
<i>Weisstorf</i>	Upper layers of peat, which are loose and brown.

<i>Werfleute (Warfleute)</i>	(Plural of <i>Warfsmann</i>) Residents living in a small dwelling on the outside of the village with a small plot of land. A term of social status – they had no voting rights in the village.
<i>Wichzeuge (?)</i>	substitute godparent
<i>Wiechen</i>	feeder canals, branch canals
<i>wiederverheiratet</i>	re-married
<i>Witt(en)</i>	very small coin(s) / monetary unit
<i>Witwe(r)</i>	widow, widower
<i>Wohn</i>	live, resident
<i>Wolle</i>	wool
<i>Zeitpächter</i>	leaseholder, (a contract for a period of time, i.e. years--in other words, a tenant)
<i>Ziegler</i>	brick manufacturer
<i>Zigeneur</i>	gypsy
<i>Zimmermann</i>	carpenter
<i>zivilvermisst</i>	missing, a civilian
<i>zugewandert</i>	moved into the area
<i>zum Teil</i>	partly

* Further explanation: The estate system fluctuated throughout the Middle Ages. **Estates of the realm** were the broad divisions of society, usually distinguishing nobility, clergy, and commoners recognized in the Middle Ages and later, in some parts of Europe. While various realms inverted the order of the first two, commoners were universally tertiary, and often further divided into burghers (also known as bourgeoisie) and peasants; in some regions, there also was a population outside the estates. An estate was usually inherited and based on occupation, similar to a caste system.

SYMBOLS

*	Date of birth
~	Christening date
∞	Marriage
∞ I	First marriage (I may be in parentheses)
∞ II	Second marriage (II may be in parentheses)
o/o	geschieden (divorced)
o-o	Not married
+	Date of death
■ or #	Date of burial
*+	Died on day of birth
+*	Born dead
K.	Confirmation

MONTHS OF THE YEAR – Other names used

Januar	Hartung, Januaris, Jenner, Jänner
Februar	Hornung, Februaris, Feber
März	Lenz, Lenzing, Lenzmonat, Merz
April	Ostermond, Ostermonat, Aprilis
Mai	Wonnemond, Wonnemonat, Maius
Juni	Brachmond, Brachmonat, Brachet, Junius
Juli	Heuert, Heumonat, Julius
August	Ernting, Erntemonat, Augustus
September	Scheidling, Herbstmonat, VIIber, 7ber, 7bris (septem = sieben)
Oktober	Gilbhard, Weinmonat, VIIIber, 8ber, 8bris, (octo = acht)
November	Nebelung, Wintermonat, IXber, 9ber, 9bris (novem = neun)
Dezember	Christmond, Christmonat, Julmond, Heiligenmonat, Schlachtmonat, Xber, 10ber, 10bris (decem = zehn)