

The Oral History Project  
and  
the book  
 *Germans of Waterloo Region*

A journey in names and numbers

2013 — 2022



Rosina on the boat from Germany to Montréal Canada in 1960. (c) Rosina Mühlerberger.

In this Oral History Project, the Waterloo Centre for German Studies at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, through multiple interviews and analyses, presents the historical and modern aspects of the German-speaking people of the region.

“The desire to have both roots and wings is consistent with many immigrants’ descriptions of their own cultural identities, which are often difficult to define in such stark terms as I-am-German, or I-am-Canadian. Identity can only be defined through the relationship between the remembrance of the old and the experience of the new.”  
— Alissa Melitzer, Paul Malone and Nataša Nuhanović

Front cover painting: © Cynthia Weber  
*Village View St. Clements* by Peter Etril Snyder 1996



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Schulze et al. Germans of Waterloo Region

# Germans of Waterloo Region



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Grit Liebscher  
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Waterloo Centre for German Studies

PB

An idea and a start ...

Marga Weigel



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Manfred Richter

Grit Liebscher

David John

Ernst Friedel

Emma Betz





# The people interviewed

Bergmeier, Brigitte and Tony  
Boese, Mini and Kurt  
Boldt, Edith  
Brandt, Bernd  
Brandt Butscher, Heiderose  
Braun, Astrid  
Bromberg, Alice  
Bromberg, Werner  
Burgund, Therese and Franz Josef  
Burow, Christine  
Burow, Irmgard and Ekkehard  
Conrad, Dieter  
Conrad, Manfred  
Drescher, Michael  
Drews, Gerald  
Drung, Harry  
Eckardt, Michael  
Fieder, Tony  
Friedel, Ernst  
Giebel, Martin

Griebenow, Gerhard  
Grigaitis, Danuta  
Guderian, Evelyn  
Hann, Ingrid  
Heffner, John Jr. and Willy  
Heffner, John Sr.  
Heitmann, Michael  
Hensel, Kriemhilde  
Hoedl, Monika  
Horvath, Ronny  
Huber, Juliane and Willi  
Kahlen, Christiane and Hans Peter  
Kallweit, Susi  
Karschti & Kreisler, Regina and  
Anna  
Kilianski, Nelly  
Konnerth, Hilde and Paul  
Kraehling, Anneliese  
Kreitzer, Heinz  
Kreutzer, John  
Kroisenbrunner, Anne and Hans

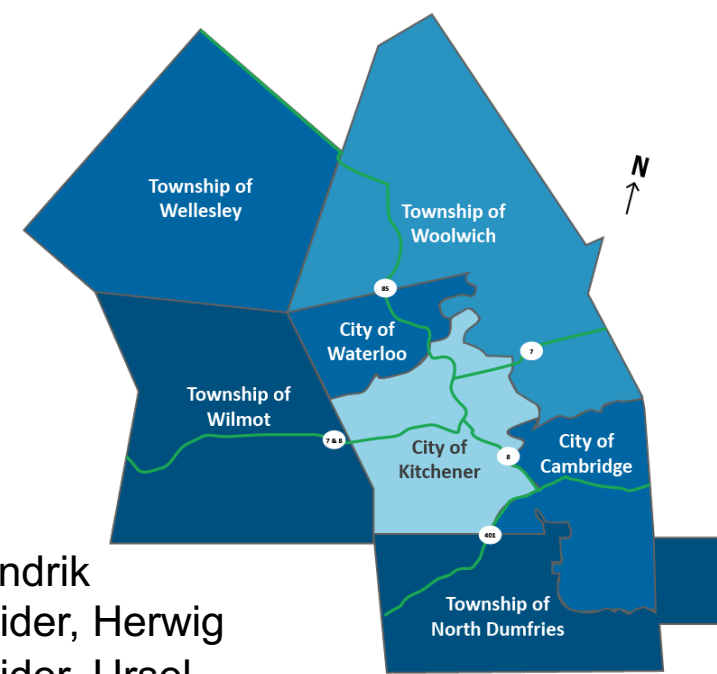
Kuehlenborg, Werner  
Kunsch, Bill  
Leinweber, Johann  
Lindner, Christine  
Look, Dietrich  
Lotzman, Ute and Günther  
Malon, Henry  
Muehlberghuber, Rosina  
Müntz, Alex  
Naas, John  
Nanders, Alan  
Neumayer, Helen  
Nicholson, Annika  
Nötzhold, David  
O'Reilly, Elisabeth  
Peller-Oliver, Heidi  
Penteker, John  
Pfeiffer, Katy  
Pfeifle, Kaethie

# The people interviewed

Pfenning, Barnhild and Wolfgang  
Piller, Joe  
Rausch, Vic  
Reinhardt, Waldemar  
Reuss, Elizabeth  
Richter, Manfred  
Ristau, Willi  
Rowe, Margarete  
Sarkar, Helga  
Schatz, Steven  
Schilha, Andre  
Schilha, Dagmar  
Schilling, Elizabeth  
Schirm, Rita  
Schmidt, Brigitte and Karl  
Schmidt, Herminio  
Schmidt, Pauline and Hans  
Schnittke, Werner  
Scholtes, Waldemar  
Schoppel, Ingo

Schramek, Helene  
Schranz, Siegfried  
Schubert, Ingrid  
Schultheiss, Elizabeth  
Schultheiss, John Jr.  
Schulze, Mathias  
Schulze, Paul  
Schuster, Reinhold  
Schwengers, Hugo  
Shade, Isa  
Snell, Dorothea  
Stagl, Paul  
Steckel, Gisela  
Stein, Sue  
Stieber, Renate and Jörg  
Strauss, Manfred  
Streicher, Christa  
von Weyhe, Andrea and Holger

Walther, Hendrik  
Wandschneider, Herwig  
Wandschneider, Ursel  
Weigel, Marga  
Wiese, Peter  
Wiesner, Horst  
Wolf, Gerda  
Wolf, Johann  
Wolf, Mathias  
Wolff, Christopher  
Wolff, Daniela  
Wolle, Dieter  
Wurzbacher, Almut and Wolfgang





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German Canadian  
Business and Professional  
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German Canadian Education Fund

Waterloo Centre  
for German Studies



# The interviewers

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Jelena Srdjenovic	Sara Werthmueller
Jennifer Redler	Sebastian Buchspiess
Judith Linneweber	Sebastian Siebel-Achenbach
Julia Roitsch	Stephanie Cooper
Katharina Leuner	Tanya Hagman
	Taylor Antoniazzi



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Feiran Lei	Morgan Wood
Janna Flaming	Nadine Singh
Jeff Lapalme	Richard Barnett
Jelena Srdjenovic	Roger Wilkinson
Jen Lee	Ruth Post
Judith Linneweber	Sara Werthmueller
Julia Roitsch	Stefanie Templin
Katharina Unkelbach	Stephanie Cooper
Kristin Yaworski	Tanya Hagman
Lori Straus	Taylor Antoniazzi
Maike Mueller	Vince Ren
	Wes Lindinger



# The transcription companies

Transcript Divas

Transkribisch

transcript  
DIAS



# The research assistants

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Jennifer Redler

Johanna Roller

Julia Roitsch

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Katharina Unkelbach

Melanie Weiß

Misty Matthews-Roper

Sara Ghaffarian

Stephanie Cooper

Wes Lindinger



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Linda Wharley

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Lori Straus

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Melanie Weiss

Natasha Nuhanovic

Nikolai Penner

Paul Malone

Ryan Carroll

Sebastian Siebel-Achenbach

Stefanie Templin

Stephanie Cooper

Wes Lindinger

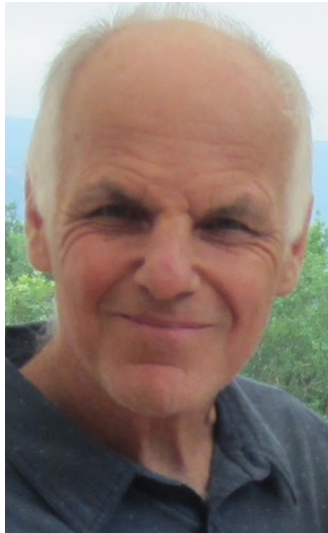
# The Oral History Project in numbers

WCGS people involved	60
Transcription companies	2
Transcribers	32
Research assistants	14
Interviewers	23
Interviewees	126
Authors	23



# The publishers

Peter Geldart



Danielle Aubrey

# Petra Books



# Images

## Germans of Waterloo Region



The painting on the book's cover is by Peter Etril Snyder. We are grateful to Cynthia Weber for granting the copyright.

Many of the community members interviewed gave their photographs to the Oral History Project. Some photographs are included in the book.



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