*Lipusz continued from page 1*

In the late 1800s several areas in western Prussia were sparsely populated and the Prussian government set out to change this. In 1887 the village of Lipusz, as well as many other small villages in western Prussia, were small with only few inhabitants. The Prussian Land Settlement Commission therefore decided in early 1887 to buy the Manor in Lipusz with its 538.5 hectares (about 1330 acres) of land. The Manor and land was purchased from the then absentee owner Ludwig von Zalewski for 157,313.00 marks. The land consisted basically of two large parcels of land. The northwestern parcel consisted of 226 hectares (about 558 acres). Part of this land was farmed by 6 *Kasschubische* tenants. The overall yield from the land was very marginal and it did not return enough revenue to even pay for the seed and labor. According to Prussian records, this portion of the estate was not to be subdivided and not to be sold to any new settlers. The land was sold back to the Prussian department of forest. The second parcel of land consisting of 274 ha (about 677 acres) of land was in the immediate vicinity of the village. The land, located north and south on the way from Lipusz to the village of Tuskowy was very hilly and needed special consideration regarding seeding and harvesting using a team of horses pulling farm equipment. To raise the necessary funds to cover the purchase price of the Manor, the Department of Land Settlement was selling the following assets from the Manor:

| | |
|---|---|
| All Manor estate buildings | 9,850.00 marks |
| All inventory from the Manor (seeds, live stock, machinery, feed, etc. according to the manager of the Manor, Herr Franz Schuch) | 5,000.00 |
| The "Krug" property (an inn, a large barn and a house) | 8,600.00 |
| Peat bog | 7,000.00 |
| Karpno Lake | 750.00 |
| All standing timber | 750.00 |
| Total | 31,950.00 marks |

The balance of 125,363.45 marks was left to be divided according to the size of each subdivided parcel of land for sale to the new settler. Each parcel of land was indicated on a colored map which could be viewed by prospective buyers at the Manor house and at the Land Settlement Commission office in Poznań. The settler could choose from the plan the parcel of land he wanted to buy. A letter of invitation was sent out by the Commission on 5th November, 1888, to all interested parties, inviting them to view the map/plan of the land. Each settler buying a new homestead was required to submit a business plan showing his present financial status and also the anticipated income from the land to be acquired. To help the new settler get started, the government allowed each new settler three tax-free years. For the first year only, each new settler would also receive a monthly food ration of 75 kilograms of rye grain (to be milled into flour for baking bread, buns etc.) and 200 kg of potatoes. Further, each new settler would also receive the following seed free for the first planting season: 25 kg of rye or wheat seed, 25 kg of oats or barley seed, 150 kg of seed potatoes.

In 1888 the school in Lipusz consisted of only a two room building. One room (one class) was for the Catholic children and one room for Evangelical children. With the increase of the children of the new settlers the small school was no longer sufficient for teaching the children of both faiths. Children came not only from the village of Lipusz, but also from nearby places where people had their own farms with small as well as large parcels of land such as Borowiec, Konitop, Krugliniec, Lipuska Huta, Lubiszewo, Mechewo, Papiernia and Karpno Vorwerk. The Vorwerk belonged to the Manor and was a place with farm buildings and quarters for the workers and even for the 'Inspector" so daily travel from the yard of the Manor to the distant farm fields was not necessary. The government did make provisions for funds and land to build a new school building.

*The forgoing story and pictures will give the reader a bit of an overview of what the village of Lipusz, the district of their ancestors, was all about some 120 years ago. This story is only a condensed version of the eighteen page hand written report of the Prussian Land Settlement Commission signed in Poznań on the 3rd of July, 1888. Special thanks for helping me with this story must go to my research colleague, Mr. Gerhard von Pazatka Lipinski of Germany, as well as the mayor of Lipusz, Mr. Mirosław Ebertowski. My special thanks to the privy archive in Berlin, Germany*

*More information or the complete report is available from Peter von Pazatka Lipinsky,* **lipinsky@shaw.ca**

*Continued on page 15*

## Queries

(NB If it is not convenient to use e-mail, please write KANA, PO Box 27732, Minneapolis, MN 55427-0732. We will gladly send the postal address to help in contacting query submitters.)

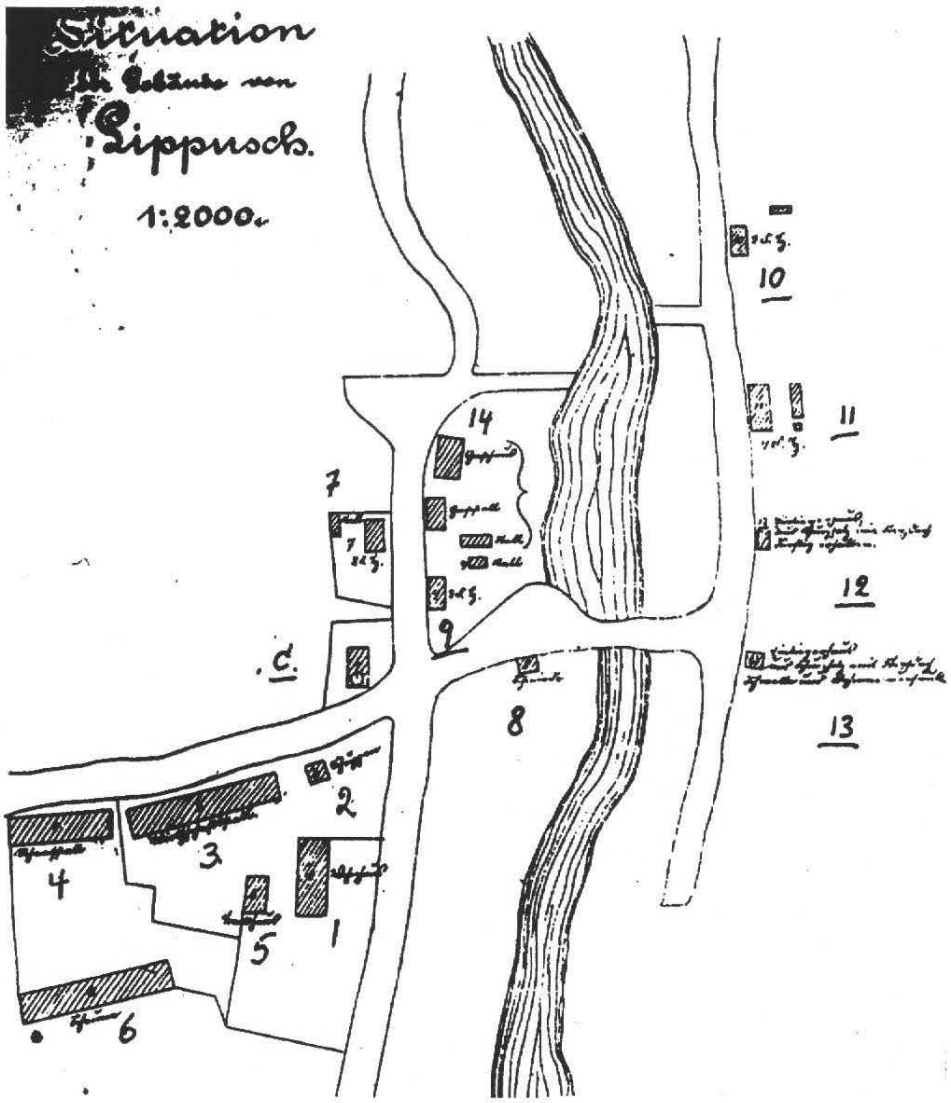
*Oops—we stand corrected, twice:*
**Marilyn Rogge** has a new email address: **aknomus@sbcglobal.net**
and would like to hear at that above email address from others researching **Sumonka, Sumionka, Drewka, Miloch, Barczynska, Klodzinski, Molenda, Szulc** and **Bliecki.**

**Lorrie Lukas** corrected email address: **callorrie@sbcglobal.net** would like to hear from others researching **Dombeck/Dambek,Lukas, Gross, Bachinski, Rompkowski, Miskowiak, Barwick** and **Grabowski**

**Joanna Pasowicz japaso@tds.net** is interested in the following surnames: **Bleja, Kulling, Dettlaff** and **Kostycz**

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*Lipusz*
*continued from page 14*




**1887 Layout of the Lipusz Manor**

1) The Manor main house, 2) 1 shed, 3) 1 administrative building, 4) 1 sheep barn, 5) 1 bakery over/house, 6) 1 large hay/straw shed, on the village main road, 7) 1 house for 2 families, 8) 1 blacksmith shop, 9) 1 house for 2 families, on the left side of the Blackwater river, 10) 1 house for 2 families, 11) 1 house for 4 families, 12) 1 house for 2 families, 13) 1 house for 2 families, 14) 1 Gasthaus-Pub with large barn and 1 administrative building. Further away from the village were 2 more homes, 12 and 13, clearly marked as *Einliegerhaus*.