

JÜRGEN KNIEP (2014) HOUSES. PEOPLE. STORIES [IN GERMAN], OBERSCHWÄBISCHES MUSEUMSDORF KÜRNBACH, BAD SCHUSSENRIED-KÜRNBACH, 64 PP., ISBN 978-3-9815212-1-4

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Abstract. The land of Baden-Württemberg in Germany features two, while Bavaria one museum of regional vernacular housing of Swabians. The museum in Kürnbach is the oldest of these (50 years old in 2018), containing houses up to 500 years old. The book describes the houses and their origin, which is mapped in this article.

Key words: vernacular architecture, village museum, Germany.

1. Village museums of the Swabians

The village museum of Upper Suabia in Kürnbach, part of Bad Schussenried in Germany, is one of 7 village museums in federal state Baden-Württemberg. Website: <https://www.museumsdorf-kuernbach.de/>

Regarding Swabian heritage, it is one of 3 museums dealing with their heritage, jointly with that in Wolfegg also in Baden-Württemberg and with Illerbeuren in Bavaria. For the heritage of Danube Swabians which immigrated 300 years ago to Sathmar county in Romania this one is the most relevant, having exactly houses from the origin zone. Given that the houses are up to 500 years older; these represent also the houses of the ancestors of the Danube Swabians. For example Aulendorf, one of the localities of origin of houses in the museum, was also an important emigration centre.

Actually the typical Sathmar room was initially conserved here, before being moved to the museum of Danube Swabians in Ulm.

Different from the other two museums which are well documented in online media, this museum is best documented in articles and in this publication.

In 2018 the museum had its 50th anniversary. Apart of the visiting time from April to October, it is also open in one of the Advent weekends with a Christmas market (typical food and works), while trade related fairs are all the year round.

2. The book

The book starts with a presentation of the museum, followed by the detailed description of the 33 peasant houses in the museum and a map of their placing

(https://www.museumsdorf-kuernbach.de/fileadmin/user_upload/standard/kuernbach_handout_plan_1903_E03_produktion.pdf). The book is full color.

For each of the peasant houses a photograph is presented, sometimes

accompanied by drawings (plans, situation layouts, sections, axonometric views), followed by the year of the original construction, the place where the house was originally situated, and a detailed description of the house and its history, on one or two pages.



Fig. 1. Book cover.

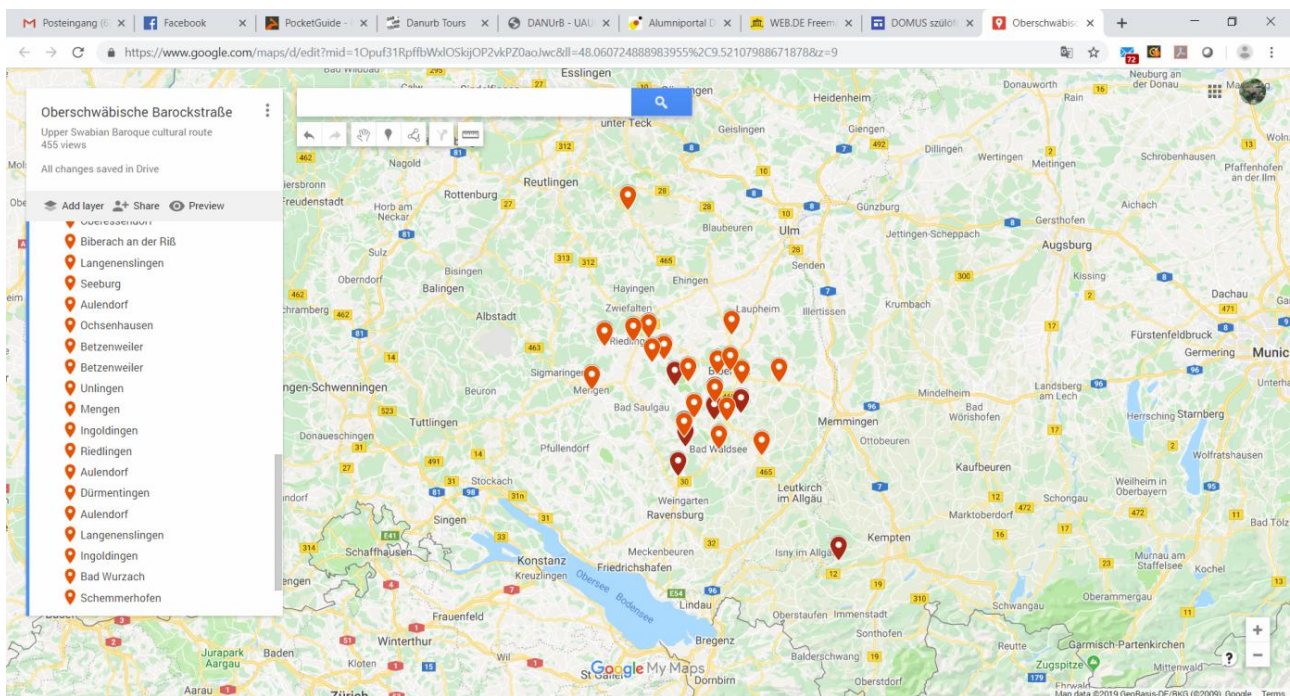


Fig. 2. Map of the origin of the houses in the museum. See full map here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1Opuf31RpffbWxlOSkijOP2vKPZ0aoJwc&ll=48.0607248889355962C9.52107988671878&z=9>

The descriptions of houses alternate with the description of the exhibitions in the museum. The houses are both for residence as well as for work. There is also a mini-train from the association in Ochsenhausen.

I've done also a map of the origin places of the houses (Fig. 2).

The houses:

1. Hirtenhaus (house of shepherds), 1758, from Unlingen
2. House Laternser, 1678, from Fronreute – one of the oldest
3. Storage, 1725, Aulendorf
4. House Hueb, 1633, Aulendorf – one of the oldest
5. Voggenhaus, 1687&1715, Eberhardzell
6. Kürnbachhaus, 1662, on site – one of the oldest
7. Zehntscheuer, 1750, Ummendorf
8. Backhaus Zell (baker), 1886, Mittelbiberach
9. Haus Hepp-Ailing, 1788, Bad Waldsee

10. Schmiede Miele (workshop), 1886, Oggelshausen
11. Ziegelhütte (brick making), 1697, Ingoldingen
12. Eligius chapel, sec. XVII, Oberessensdorf
13. Schweinestall (swine stall), 1886, Biberach-Birkendorf
14. House Wolfer, 1499/1500, Langenenslingen (the oldest in the village museum)
15. Straßenwärterhütte (house of street administrator), 1911, Seeburger Steige
16. Bienenhaus Frech (apiary), 1940, Aulendorf-Tannhausen
17. Waldarbeiterhütte (forest worker hut), 1910, state forest Ochsenhausen
18. Lower house, 1667/1712, Betzenweiler
19. Deposit of lower house, 1846, Betzenweiler
20. Spritzenhaus (house of fire extinguisher), 1812, Unlingen
21. Feldscheuer Kniesel (wheat deposit), 1945, Mengen

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| 22. Schuppen Zinser, 1921, Ingoldingen | 29. City hall, 1811/1832, |
| 23. Munition deposit, 1972, Riedlingen | Langenenslingen |
| 24. Bendelshof mit Remise, 1756 resp.
1908, Aulendorf | 30. Animal balance |
| 25. Brennerei Hagmann (wine making),
1877, Dürmentingen | 31. Bowling, 1896, Ingoldingen |
| 26. House Christ, 1760, Aulendorf | 32. Dance house, 1823, Bad Wurzach –
with the museum of popular dresses
from the area |
| 27. Tension tower, 1918, Ingoldingen | 33. Ice cubes deposit, 1920,
Schemmerhofen |
| 28. Machinery balance | |
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