

Die Dorflinde

The Village Linden or Court Linden

Planted in the square, or court, is the Dorflinde. It is located in Bohnhorst, Warmesen, Germany, across the street from the school and is known as the „Tilly-Linde“. It is so named for General Tilly who held court around it in the sixteen-hundreds. General Tilly was the commander of the Protestant troops who fought in the Thirty Years War. The Thirty Years' War was a **conflict fought largely within the Holy Roman Empire from 1618 to 1648**. This divided the Empire into Lutheran and Catholic states.

Of interest to the Foertmeyer family is that Dietrich Friedrich Förtmeyer, my twice great grandfather, was the schoolmaster of the school that was located across the street from the tree. As my friend Manfred Raker suggested, my great grandfather may have played under that tree as a child, in the mid-1800s.

