

Re: Moritzburg Castle (copied from tourist literature sent by Ruby Moritz, Mrs. Otto.)
Baroque Museum
8105 Moritzburg bei Dresden, DDR

The beginnings of the hunting lodge Moritzburg go back to the 16th century, but the lodge was only completed 400 years later. Known as Moritzburg Castle, it is situated in the Friedewald, a large forest abounding in water and wildlife. Thirteen km north of Dresden, on the Western fringes of the Dresden Heath, the picturesque scenery provided ideal conditions for feudal hunting expeditions and elaborate festivities. Banquets and various entertainments boosted the political prestige of the Saxon-Mettinian kingdom and were held at the cost of the country's exploited working population.

Moritzburg Castle was named after its first patron, Moritz, Elector of Saxony. On his order the first "Royal Hunting Lodge", as it was then called, was built from 1542-1546 upon a rocky tongue of land bordered by two lakes. During the following centuries Moritzburg Castle was variously extended and its architectural style frequently changed, before the extravagant and ambitious Elector, Frederic Augustus I, had the Lodge completely rebuilt between 1723 and 1736.

King Frederic Augustus's architectural plans for the Castle were fantastic (1723). But when the necessary funds ceased to flow upon his death in 1733, the intended pilasterstrips, jewelled adornments, French-style castle gardens and other grand ideas had to be drastically reduced. This was when the struggle over the line of succession to the Polish throne and major projects by the foung Elector, Frederic Augustus II, demanded priority.

Until the end of World War II, Moritzburg Castle was the domicile of the royal Wettinian family. The Democratic Land Reform Act of 1945 put an end to the centuries-old feudal dominance and oppression, and the Castle became public property. In 1947 part of it was turned into a museum, featuring 17th and 18th century artisan skills and ingenuity. It was the logical consequence of social progress that this wealth of feudal art and splendour has become accessible to the general public. The appeal of these works of art last to this day and is due to the artist's popular approach. We admire the beauty and abundance created by these architects, builders, artisans and craftsmen. To draw on their knowledge and capability is a cultural and political task of our socialist society.

Then, among descriptions of the various rooms of the Castle, there is this description.

19. The Moritz Gallery

The walls in this room are covered with the so-called ducat paper. And indeed, this wallpaper too was treated with wooden blocks to produce the relief-like pattern. It was finished with a varnished top coat, and the ground is silver paint. Two paintings show the master of the first hunting lodge. He was Duke Moritz, who later became Elector of Saxony. Moritzburg Castle bears his name.

Also, from the brochure of THE SPLENDOR OF DRESDEN: Five Centuries of Art Collecting shwon at the Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, in the spring of 1979

Introduction

The most comprehensive exhibition ever to be devoted to the history of collecting, it traces changing perceptions from the 16th through the 20th centuries. Eight museums in Dresden have loaned over 700 works of art to this exhibition, the first from the German Democratic Republic to be sent to the USA. The objects, regardless of their period of origin, are arranged to illustrate the successive ways in which they were assembled, displayed, and interpreted by the electors of Saxony; thus the single city of Dresden can be explored as a case history in the evolution of collecting and museums in the West, from the late Benaissance to our own century.

Dresden and Samony

Saxony, a fertile upland, lies at the very heart of the European continent; its main river, the Elbe, is eastern Europe's most direct trade route to the Atlantic Ocean. During the Middle

Ages, rich deposits of silver, tin, copper, iron, and semi-precious gems were discovered in Saxony's mountainous south; with these mineral resources, Saxony developed into an early center of craftsmanship and light industry. The Saxon monarchs took great pride in their title of "elector", as only seven Germanic rulers held the privilege of electing the Holy Roman emperor.

Dresden came to prominence relatively late in Saxon history - but not until 1485 did the electors make this city their principal residence. Dresden's most glorious period, both in art collecting and in architectural innovation, occurred from 1697 to 1763, when two electors of Saxony also served as kings of Poland, controlling one of Europe's largest empires. The last monarch abdicated in 1918, and Saxony joined the modern German nation. Although the city suffered heavily from the bombardment of 1945, the art treasures, having been safely concealed, survive to establish the importance of Dresden as a cultural center.

The Armory (Rustkammer)

Containing some 10,000 pieces, the Dresden Rustkammer, or "armory", is one of the oldest and finest collections of weaponry in Europe. Armor began to be stored in various castles after 1423, when the rulers of Saxony became electors of the Holy Roman Empire. By the elector Moritz' death in 1553, a curator had been appointed and rooms set aside in a newly built Dresden castle for pieces gathered from other residences. Changing locations and enlarging constantly, the collection is fully documented by its original inventory records. The Bustkammer became the Historical Museum in 1832.

Following: Notes by Esther Moritz Winslow (Mrs. K. B.) after having visited the Dresden Exhibit and receiving the tourist material on Moritzbury Castle from Cousin Ruby Moritz.

Other visitors to the exhibit asked if I'd seen the portrait of Moritz. I hadn't because it was in the first room through which we'd been hurried, in a great crowd, when a guard called for us to move on since this was just an introduction and we would see more of the same. Ken and I did that and obviously missed the portrait. I'd guess that this was from the Moritzburg Castle since the literature does mention that there were two portraits of the "first master of the hunting lodge."

Uncle Dick's (Richard D. Moritz) Autobiography contains, "The ancient ruins of Moritzburg Castle and the Moritz Graben are still in evidence in Halle and the Moritz Brunnen and Moritz Strasse are surviving memorials in Naumburg." Naumburg and Halle, about thirty miles apart, are less than one hundred miles from Dresden.

Then, a 1977 letter from Cousin Genevieve Morito Swan says, "When Alan went to school in Vienna, he tried to find out more of the Morito history but he ran into the same problem that Rob did in that fire had destroyed early records. There were stories Father (Richard D. Morito) used to tell that his father told him - one was that his father or grandfather had lived in Morito castle but was disinherited when he married the maid who was working there; but since he wasn't the oldest son, he wouldn't have inherited the castle anyway."

At this date, 1979, our family records show four successive generations born in Naumburg, starting with 1770. Mention of an ancient castle in this area, then the move by "royalty" to the Dresden locale in 1485, and the fact that the name was originally von Moritz might hint of some connection to an early ruling clan, not that such would be anything to take pride in, considering that exploitation of the working classes was surely involved. My grandfather, William L.D. Moritz, was in the first generation to drop the von part of the name and said, "What good is a title without the money?"

Anyray, it is all interesting to think on. What really matters is what WE are! Wicht wahr?

Esther Mority Winslow

- Moritz Family -

Karl Phillip von Moritz C. 1770 Naumburg an der Saale Germany

Frederich Wilhelm von Moritz
c. 1800
Naumburg

Carl Fredrick von Moritz +
b. May 15,1827
Naumburg
d 1910 Nebraska

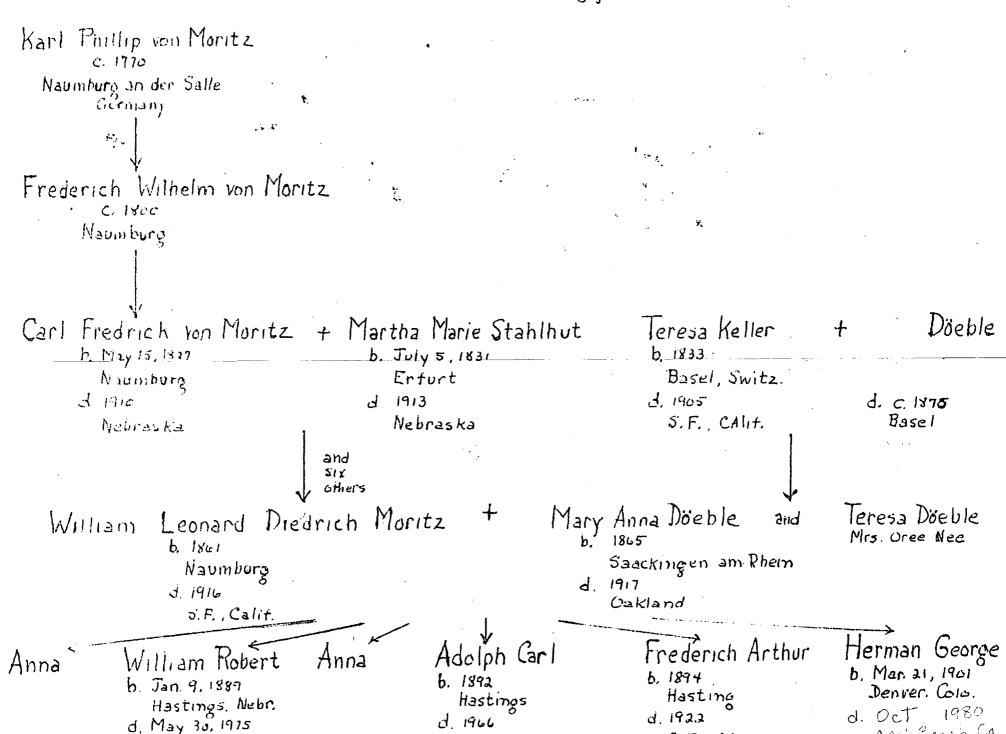
Ernest 1899-1900

Martha Marie Stahlhut
b. July 5, 1831
Erfort Germany
d. 1913 Nebraska

Walter

		d. 1910, Nebi	aska 0, 171	no, nedraska		
Mary	Charles	Bertha Henrietta	William Leonard Diedrich	Martha	Robert Edouard	Daniel Richard Dan George
	b. 1855 Naumberg d. May Nebraska	b. 1857	b. 1861 Naumburg d 1916 S.F., Calif.	b.1864	b. 1868 Christiansthal d. 1940 Seattle, Wash.	b.1872 Emden d. Idaho
, +	+	+ .	+	+ .	+	2-1
Ve dderson + Schaeffer		Peter Levi Boyd 1849-1926 Onio Oregen Grace 1880-1939	Mary Anna Doeble b. 1865 Saackingen, Ber. d. 1917 Oakland, Calit. Anna, Hastings, Nebr.	? Siebert Rudolph	Cassia Kennedy Harold 1877-1969	Richards Genevieve Richards b. 1814 Wisconsir John
	Otto 1887-1918	Elsa 1882-1915	W ^m Robert 1889-1975	Lena (Ernstmeyer)	Donald	Alan
	Мах 1895-1973	Edwin 1884-1954 Kurt 1887-1976 Pearl 1810-1969 Winfield 1894-	Anna Adolph Carl 1892-1966 Frederick Arthur 1894-1922 Herman George 1901-1915			Generiere (S. Swan

Moritz Genealogy



St. Helena, CA

San Leandro, CA

5. F., CA

