

**Helmstadt –**  
**the earliest records about the Martin's in Helmstadt, Bavaria, Germany**

**Tenure by Lease register from the year 1359**

(in German: Bedeliste (Pachtliste) 1359)

- there is no entry of any head of household with a family name Martin; we can also see, that the general use of family names was not completed. We find in this list also entries with only the first names, village names and first names with a reference like "Johannes at the chapel"

**Under-peasantry / Cadastral register  
of the Cloister Holzkirchen from 1433**

(in German: Urbar Kloster Holzkirchen aus 1433)

- the first person from Helmstadt we know of and have in writing is carrying the family name Martin is Heintz Martin. Most likely the family name of the Martin's from Helmstadt has been established in Helmstadt itself. Not as the name of the father but from the name of the patron of Saint Martin Church of Helmstadt..

**Cadastral register of the Cloister Holzkirchen from 1470**

- hier wird ein Peter Merten als Besitzer der Martins Hube genannt, diese ist auch noch im 17. Jahrhundert nachzuweisen

**Cadastral register of the shire of Wertheim from 1503**

- in this list we find as owners of newly cleared land (for farming) a Claus Merthen and a (Claus the Smidt = Smith)

**Cadastral register of the shire of Wertheim from 1515 and later**

- it states an Endress Merten as joint owner of the Kobers Hube
- and in 1531 a Claus Merten and a Endres Merten. Later a Hans Merte and an Endres Mertin listed as receiving new stipped land on Essigsberg ...
- and in 1534 again a Hans Merten and Endres Merten listed as they allocate again new cleared land an the castle. Also in the record of a new allocation for new cleared land in 1541 an Endres Merten listed.

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**Wertheimer City books Year 1539**

It lists a widow Barbara, as the “rather old widow of Hans Martin” marrying Endres Behem.

**(Türk tax list from 1542)**

Türkensteuerliste von 1542

- listed are Endres Mertein and Balthes Mertein

**Wertheimer City books Year 1548**

- listed Endres Martin

**Wertheimer City books Year 1555**

- listed Endres Martin

**(Türk tax list from 1594)**

Türkensteuerliste von 1594

- in this list we can assume to have a complete list of the citizen of Helmstadt with tax relevant property. It lists the following Martin's
  - > Hans Merten, Bastle Merten, Merten Merten und Joerg Merten

**The Helmstadt City book**

- a Johannes Martin signed as Schultheis (Mayor) in 1640 three marriage contracts.

**Remarks / Precaution**

The name Hans / Johann / Johannes Martin appears between 1600 and 1650 three times with unequal datas given, so we can not yet say exactly of how our Johannes Martin (1605) fits exactly into these records.

But we also know that he would have not been appointed to be the Schultheiss of Helmstadt, if he would have not been one of the established and certainly one of the wealthier families at that time. As all lines reference a Schultheiss born around 1605 and being in office around 1640 / 1652, we conclude that he is our common ancestor.

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There are some more sources about Martins in Helmstadt:

On 11-Jun-1633 married Thomas Schaetzlein Margaretha Martin, a daughter of Hans Martin (died before 1624?). Witness to the marriage is Hans Martin the brother of the bride (who might be or Johann Martin and the later Schultheiss).

On 12-Feb-1633 married the widowed Thomas Martin (citizen and jury man) Anna Martin, daughter of Johann Martins the senior, who was also the witness.

The third circumstance is a Hans Martin the father of Hans – the junior and Margaretha M. must have died before 1624, on 19-Jan-1624 Michel Stumpf was lending from the children of Hans Martins Kindern, represented by the custodian Martin Uebelacker and Kilian Schaetzlein, 25 Koenigstaler.

Sources:

Research from Claus Müller, Würzburg  
Research from Dr. Monika Schaupp, Wertheim

*And we have a report from Kurt Lembeck*

*He report about a Johann Martin born 1615 - died 1675, first married with Margarethe Herold. His second marriage in 1658 with Margarethe Dietmar, born 1637 in Holzkirchhausen.*

*From this marriage we know one daughter Anna Martin, born 1659 died 1696*

*(This research was done around 1920)*