

From the 70 page document compiled by Lars Menk, an acknowledged expert researcher of the Schottlander family history.

### **A short History of the Origins of the Families SCHOTTLAENDER**

Different families have chosen the family name SCHOTTLAENDER after the little town where they or their ancestors once had lived: Alt-Schottland, a suburb of Danzig in West Prussia. Jews were not allowed to settle in Danzig, the important commercial center, from the 16th to the 19th century. They moved to the next possible places, the suburbs. Alt-Schottland - named after the Scottish sailors who had founded it in the Middle Ages and the many Scottish traders who moved and lived there - became the largest Jewish community. Until the 19th. century it was generally called SCHOTTLAND.

This community was presumably founded by Jews who were expelled from the Mark Brandenburg (Germany) in 1573 - the legend tells that it had been three brothers. An important part of the population might have been built by survivors of the Chmielnicki pogroms (1648 to 1656). During the 17th century also many merchants recognized the growing importance of Danzig for the Baltic Sea trade. So they moved to Alt-Schottland and the other ghetto-villages around Danzig. Not a few of these merchants might have been "Sfardim", the Jews who had been expelled from the Iberian peninsula after 1492 and had settled in the trade centers of that area like Amsterdam and Hamburg.

In 1710 the Jews were expelled from Alt-Schottland by the bishop of Kujawia, but the "Hewra Kadisha", the funeral society, of Alt-Schottland had started to keep their protocol book since 1724 - that indicates a larger, organized "Kehilla", or community, at that time.

In 1772, Alt-Schottland came under Prussian supremacy. A census made at that time showed a number of 1257 Jewish persons dwelling in the suburbs of Danzig. The large number of the population had become a problem for the poorer among the Jews - the competition was overwhelming, so that there were many who tried to find their luck away from the place of their birth. Often, the only "thing" they were able to take with them was the name of the place where they had been born or where their family had lived for a while: At the places where they moved to they received the surname: "rdnilevw" - in the Yiddish of the Jews in Germany, Poland, and Russia. In

German that was written: "Schottlaender", in Polish probably: "Sztolender", in Russian: "Ijnktylth".

These names were later transformed into the English of the United Kingdom and the USA: "Shotlander", or into the Spanish of Argentina : "Schotlender".