

FIELDWORK NOTES

Interviewer: Philip Martin  
also present, Lewis Koch

December 14, 1984  
German-American Project

Informant: Roland Schomberg  
Sheboygan Falls, WI

Roland ("Rollie") Schomberg lives on Playbird Road (first house on left, east from Hwy. 32), ca. 2 mi. south of Howards Grove, 3 mi. north of Sheboygan Falls, in a modern house. He grew up in Sheboygan Falls. For some years now he has been interested in local history and has written numerous newspaper articles and done some tape recording of interviews with older residents of the area. He has, as shown by his articles and by this interview, an unusually detailed command of accounts; he showed me a three-page account of butchering, written from his memories of the event in his family, which had a very complete, step-by-step account of the process (an account which he checked with an old-time butcher, who found only one very minor discrepancy).

We visited him ca. 2:00 PM on a Friday afternoon. He welcomed us in and introduced us to his wife. We then sat in the living room, I set up a single mike and proceeded with some questions, mainly relating to the old-time German-style weddings. Mr. Schomberg proceeded to give a wealth of information on the subject, while I filled up a reel and a half of tape on the Nagra. After the wedding material I asked a few peripheral questions; he sang a couple of songs, including one from written text from a file of music, and we wrapped up the interview.

Mr. Schomberg would be a very good source for further material on any specific subject; either from his personal experience or from others he has talked to. He might also be a good person to review any written material from us for discrepancies.

We left ca. 4:00

Mr. Schomberg was originally recommended to us by David Aplin at Maywood; he is on the Maywood board, and has an active interest in nature conservancy as well as local history.

He also had just finished a several-page article on the history of a local tavern called Doro's Tavern, in Millersville (Howards Grove).

fieldwork notes by Philip Martin  
12/15/84