# How to find the Bach House in Cöthen



A typical Smalltalk project

Georg Heeg, Cöthen

### Cöthen

- Traces of Dinosaurs
- Archeology trace back human culture until the Ice Age
  - Very fruitful since then
- Capital of an Independent Micro-State in the Center of Germany called Anhalt Cöthen
  - 1115 oldest document
  - 1855 merged with Anhalt Dessau
- App. 30,000 inhabitants
- Anhalt University of Applied Sciences
- City of the second biggest ESUG ever





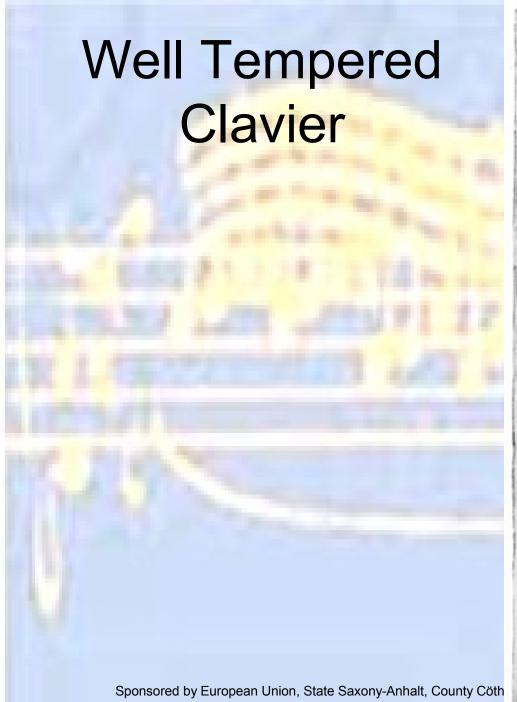


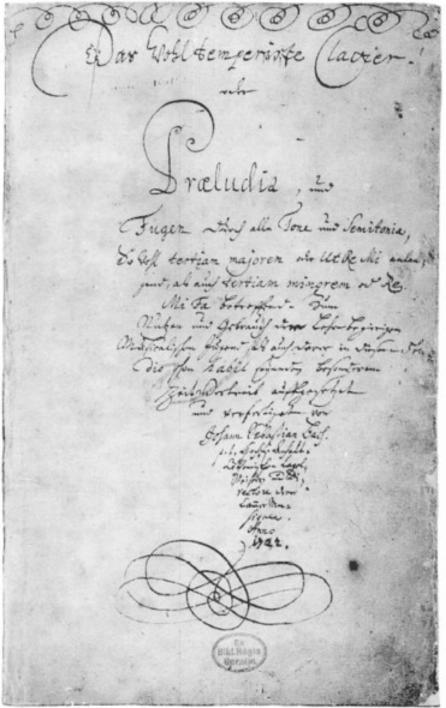


### Johann Sebastian Bach

- Pronounced ['jo:han ze'bastjan 'bax]
- Now widely considered to be one of the greatest composers in the Western tradition
- Born March 21, 1685 in Eisenach
- Worked for Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen from 1717 to 1723
- Died July 28, 1750 in Leipzig







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### Johann Sebastian Bach in Cöthen

- Many open questions
- Bach lost popularity even during life time
- Popularity raised again 100 years after his death
- Bach research started around his 200<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1885
- But where did he live in Cöthen?
- This question has been open for 120+ years.

# Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen

- \* 29. November 1694 in Köthen (Anhalt)
- Hired Johann Sebastian Bach
- Enlarged the City of Köthen
  - West and East
- † 19. November 1728 in Köthen (Anhalt)



#### LEOPOLD,

Regierender Fürst zu Anhaltz Hertzog zu Sachsen, Engern und Westphaten, Graff zu Ascanien, Herr zu Bernburg und Zerbst.

### **Bach as Tourist Attraction**

- Köthener BachGesellschaft headed by
  - Georg Schäfer
    - Musical Director and CEO
  - Werner Sobetzko
    - Former State Minister of Culture
    - Member of the Board
- Decided to do a Feasibility Study
- Sponsored by
  - European Union
  - State of Anhalt-Saxony
  - Cöthen County and its legal successor Anhalt-Bitterfeld County
  - City of Cöthen

# How did Johann Sebastian Bach live and work in Cöthen?

- Example Questions
  - -Bach's home in Cöthen
  - Cöthen's city structure
  - Structure of Cöthen's inhabitants
  - Bach's music creation in Cöthen
  - Life at the Prince's court in Cöthen









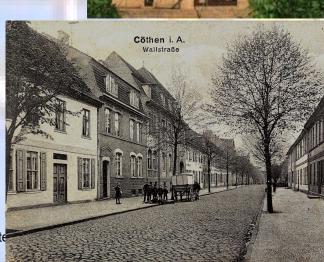
# Feasibility Study

about the further development of the tourist infrastructure in Cöthen with reference to the area of work and life of Johann Sebastian Bach

# Bidding

Georg Heeg eK won the bidding for the computer part together with Anhalt University

- Georg Heeg eK
  - Founded in 1987
  - Oldest Smalltalk Only Company
  - Dortmund Cöthen Zurich
  - Mission: Excellence & Innovation



## **Project Organization**

- Project start 23 March 2006
- Project completion 15 February 2008

### **Project Process**

- 4 Phases
- Agile project methodology
- Exclusion as decision methodology
  - Turned out to be the key to project success
  - Very broad approach
    - E.g. Information about all Cöthen homes

### Phase 1

- Drill down to important questions
  - Brainstorming
  - Priorities

### Phase 2

- Collection of literature and documents
  - Based on phase 1
  - In libraries, antique book shops, eBay and archives
  - Scanning
  - OCR
    - Fine Reader
    - Word documents
  - Handwritten texts copied manually

## **Documents**

documents	thereof c	n database					
151	23	15,23%					
510	446	87,45%					
75	30	40,00%					
736	499	67,80%					
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6427	1588	24,71%					
6971	6220	89,23%					
763	336	44,04%					
14161	8144	57,51%					
	151 510 75 736 documents 6427 6971 763	151 23 446 510 446 75 30 736 499 6427 1588 6971 6220 763 336					

### Phase 3

- Construction of a semantic network with searching functionally
- Checking of ready systems
  - k-Infinity
    - Require too many manual steps
  - atlas-ti
    - Not extensible
  - Google Desktop
    - Not appropriate
- Own software called GH-Bachnetz

### **GH-Bachnetz**

- Developed according to the requirements of the project
  - Connection of automatic procedures with human decision taking
  - UI: Web-Browser
  - Representation of
    - Textual information with access to original documents
    - Network created from tax data
      - In tables
      - graphically
  - Development of GH-Bachnetz in parallel to usage
    - According to growing and changine requirements
    - Based on Smalltalk produkts VisualWorks, Seaside and GemStone/S
- Inner relations become visible
  - So far hidden in number and letter mountains

## Implementation environment

- Classic VisualWorks/GemStone architecture
  - VisualWorks has all the sophisticated
    - Seaside
    - Semantic Network
  - GemStone handles the persistence of masses
    - Searches in texts using Tries
      - Code taken from Java Spektrum Dynamic Languages
         Shootout Winner

# Kernel classes of the Semantic Network

Object Behavior ClassDescription Begriff Relation Wert Class Metaclass

## Class Begriff (Notion/Concept)

- Taken from class comment
  - Begriff is like a meta object.
  - It can have instances that are concrete and represent certain objects.
  - Those concrete instances can then have instances again that all share the same idea
- Special Notions are
  - Relation between other notions
  - Values

## Implementation of Class Begriff

- VisualWorks permits extending its meta model
  - Begriff is subclass of ClassDescription
  - A sister class to Class and Metaclass
- GemStone does not allow extending its meta model
  - When a network is stored in GemStone
    - Network description objects are created
  - When a network is read from GemStone
    - Network objects are recreated in VisualWorks

# A Specialty: Time

- Object
  - Magnitude
    - TemporalObject
      - TemporalInterval
        - TemporalMoment
      - TemporalYear

### Homes and inhabitants in Cöthen

#### Data collection

- Tax register (Schossregister)
  - 1710 to 1795, 1818 and 1819
- Sketch of 1806
- List of 1855
- Detailed plan of 1855
- Detailed plan 2003
- Homage list (Huldigungsliste) of Prince Leopold (14 May 1716)

#### Semantic Network provides

- Complete list of home owners of 18th century with today's addresses
- Apartment renters 1716

### Tax Kinds

- 1. Schoß (vom Hause)
- 2. Schoß v. Hoffraum
- Orgelgeld
- 4. Wächtergeld
- 5. Opfergeld
- 6. Flurhütergeld
- 7. Ladenzinß
- 8. Braugerechtigkeit
- 10. Schutzgeld

### The Process

- Handwritten tax files
  - Manually copying
- Excel tables
  - Import using COM Connect
    - Fancy version of VisualWorks 7.6
- Semantic Network
  - Representation using Seaside, Mondrian and SVG
- UI for the researcher

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Schoß-Register

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Wikipedia News ▼

**GH-Bachnetz** 

Yahoo!

Suchen: Wallstraße 17

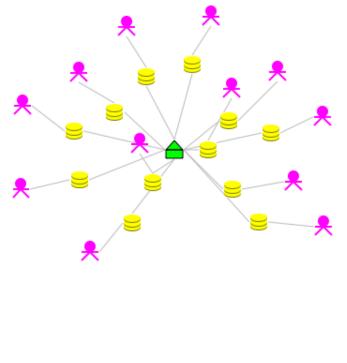
Suchen

Popular ▼

Literaturverzeichnis

Zurück zur Suche

#### Haus



#### Haus

Adresse Wallstraße 17 (Hall. 10,301, 1819: 233) (→Google Maps) Viertel Hallisches Viertel

Jahr	Name	Bezahlt	Summe	Solleink.	Eink.	Brunnen	Flurh.	Kehr	Opfer	Orgel	Orgrel
1741	August Gottlieb Weyders Ehefrau	Nein	1 T 3 Gr 7.5 Pf	-	-	-	7.5 Pf	4 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	-
1742	August Gottlieb Weyders Ehefrau ist noch in frei Jahre	Ja	1T3 Gr	-	-	-	-	4 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	-
1744	August Gottlieb Weyders Ehefrau	Nein	1 T 7 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	3 Gr	-
1745	August Gottlieb Weyders Ehefrau	Ja	1 T 7 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	3 Gr	-
1746	August Gottlieb Weyders	Nein	1 T 9 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	4 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	3 Gr	-
1747	August Gottlieb Weyder	Ja	1 T 7 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	3 Gr	-
1748	August Gottlieb Weyder	Ja	1 T 7 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	-	3 Gr
1749	August Gottlieb Weyder	Ja	1 T 7 Gr 6.5 Pf	-	-	-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	3 Gr	-
1750	August Gottlieb	Nein	1 T 7 Gr 6.5	-		-	1 Gr 10.5 Pf	2 Gr	4 Gr 8 Pf	-	3 Gr

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### Phase 4

- Central question: Where lived Johann Sebastian Bach?
  - Using GH-Bachnetz
  - Finding of answers

# Can we find the Bach house using letter addresses?

- Fully functional post system
  - Cöthen was connects
  - Postal system is known
  - Fees
    - A letter from Cöthen to Erfurt (120 miles) coast
      - 2 Groschen
      - about \$10



### Addresses

- Did not contain street or house descriptions
- Title and professions instead

Löffen. G. 15-Marti

Genen Boiskbelen Avesten horige; lahrten und Wockleisen Berren Stadt-Visultseisen Berren Gndico und andern Ratis-Ollegen. Mainen infondrud Norfgrneighen agerren Latronis

Franco. 299. — ZvAlurl.

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Like ali Ganf

gash Ganfall Es

# What kind of homes existed in Cöthen?

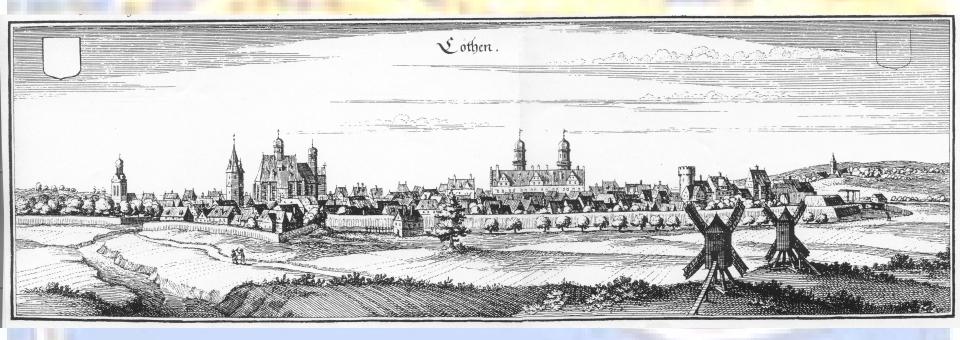
- In Cöthen
  - Some homes belonged to the City of Cöthen
  - The other homes ("auf dem Ambte") were owned by the Prince
- Taxes were due for the homes in the City
  - To be paid by home owners
  - Compete tax list is archived
- Homes of the Prince were rented
  - So called "Lehnurkunden" are archived in State
     Central Archive in Dessau

### Is Bach's name in the Tax Lists?

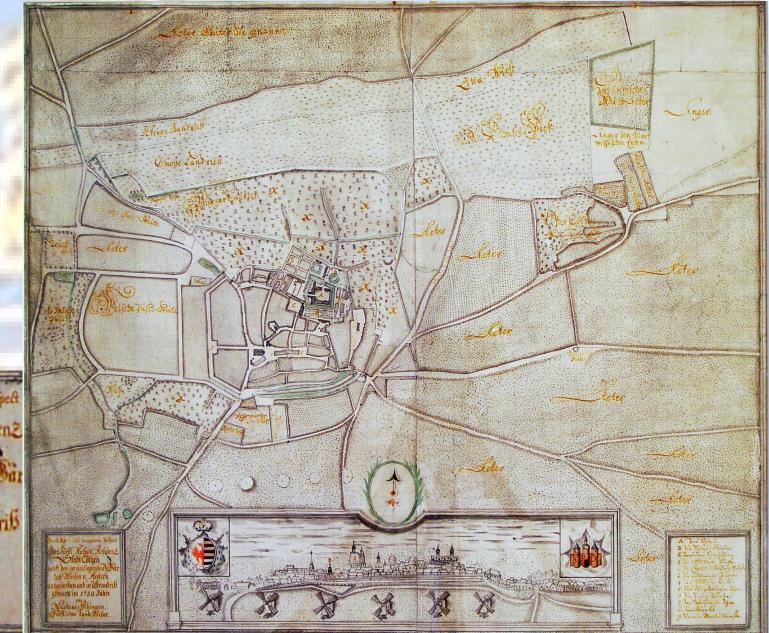
- In the contrary to other musicians Johann Sebastian Bach was neither
  - A home owner in the City
  - A home renter from the Prince
- Johann Sebastian Bach lived as renter in Cöthen in a house of someone else
  - Called "Hausgenosse" those days
  - Like Bach's predecessor Augustin Stricker

#### Homes in Cöthen?

City view of Cöthen 1650



# Oldest City Map 1730

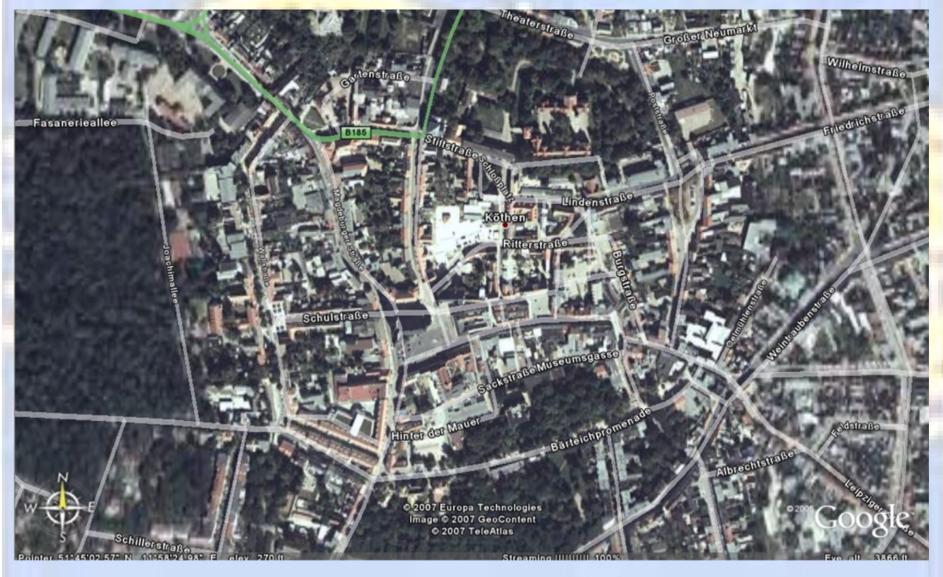


Doch Jup Gett den gathern liebpelt Doch Jurill. Anthant Relicien Z Stadt Cothein neblt den berümtliegenden Barten Wiefen und in Grundriff gebracht im 1730 Jahre Vicolaus Pikingern.
Fürftlichen Tand Melser.





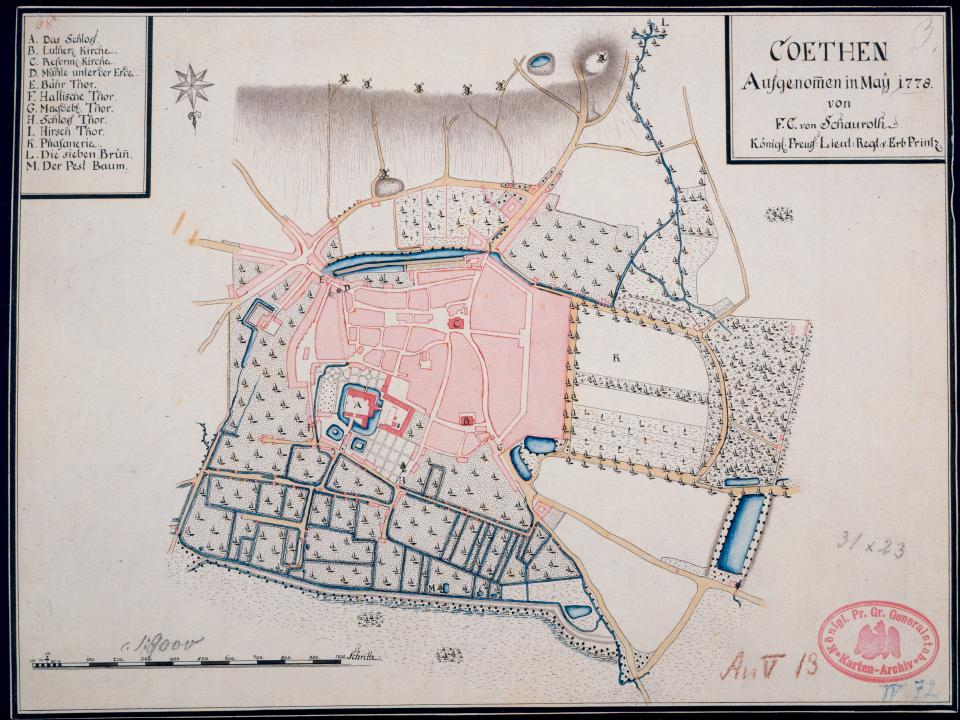
# Cöthen Recently



# Old and New



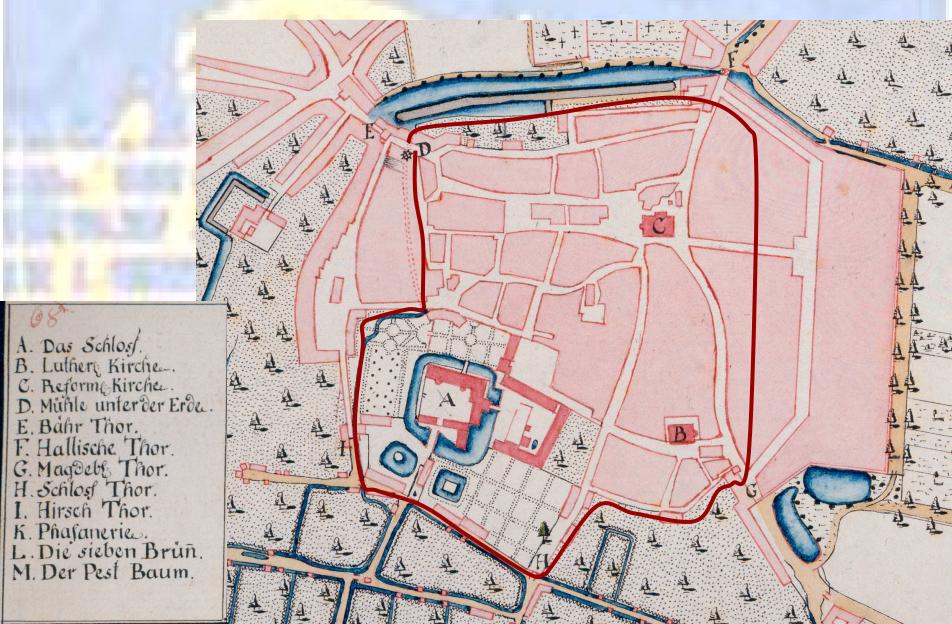
Sponsored by European Union, State Saxony-Anhalt, County Cöthen, County Anhalt-Bitterfeld and City of Cöthen (Anhalt)



## City Center Cöthen 1778



## Old City Wall



# Known Facts about the Home of Johann Sebastian Bach

- It is know
  - Johann Sebastian Bach had spacious home
    - Big family
    - External students lived with him
  - Hofkapelle Cöthen did their exercises Bach's home

#### Potential Bach Homes



# Burgstraße 11



#### Schalaunische Str. 29



#### Bach and the Name Ehrhard

Gof. Bernoles Wil Juv. Francenburgus the Unger, Bornhaste Hor.

Soul Schoolaube Mivel Virking, Brendel Wagner, Egine,

Corn

Circle Armlingh fullle, Tochmen, Frantse, Wobbe Its

Mallin Octsell, Sund Tunthel, Ehwhard, Walles, Keireler,

Bach

- In a list of 1855 the name Bach occurs
  - The line above describes Holzmarkt 12

## Holzmarkt 12



### Marktstraße 11



#### Stiftsstraße 11

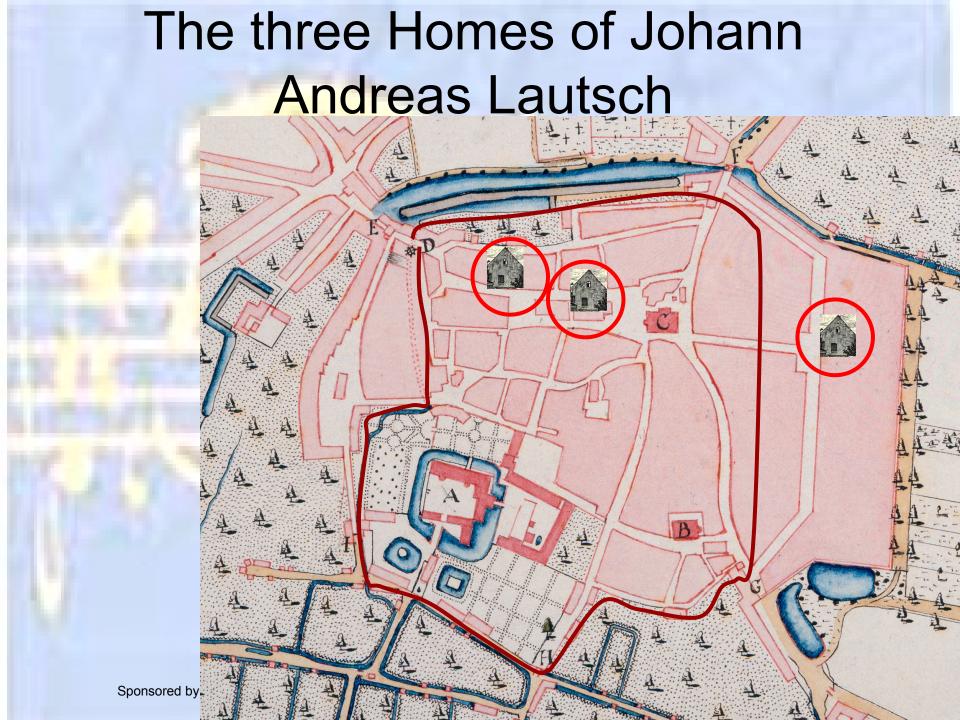


#### **Bibliometric Analysis**

- There is a single source which tells that Frau
   Oberamtmann Schultze has a connection to Bach
  - Hartung 1900
- Bethge and Götze 1923 merge a statement of Bunge with the statement of Hartung:
  - "Two houses from the Schallaunisch Tour towards the city on the left hand side a Frau Oberamtmann Schultze shall have lived, at whom Bach was a renter."
- 1959 König picks up the statement of Hartung after finding a document mentioning the name of Frau Oberamtmann Schultze:
  - He expresses his surprise: "It is astonishing, that a certain name in this context has be passed down until today."

### Hartung's Source

- Hartung knew the document
  - C17 Nr. 141 "Acta betr. die von der Oberamtmännin Schulze zu Cöthen beanspruchte Entschädigung von jährlich 20 Reichstaler für die Zeit, wo die lutherische Gemeinde daselbst vor Erbauung ihrer Kirche in der ersteren väterlichem Hause ihren Gottesdienst gehalten und was deshalb ergangen"
- Hartung coded a guess
- So no reason to be surprised



### Buttermarkt 3



### Schalaunische Str. 44



#### Schalaunische Str. 44

- Until 1899 Schalaunische Str. 42
- Nr. 88 in houses list of Napoleon era
- Owners
  - Krämer Johann Andreas Lautsch from 1710 (or earlier) until 1741
  - Post master Johann Heinrich Lautsch (1742-1761)
  - Post master Johann Heinrich (Friedrich) Lautsch Inheritors (1762-1782)
  - Johann Gottfried Schreiber (from 1783)

# One of the Larges Homes of the City of Cöthen

- 2 Taler 9 Groschen Schoss (corresponding to \$265 real property tax)
- Of 451 homes only six homes had a higher tax

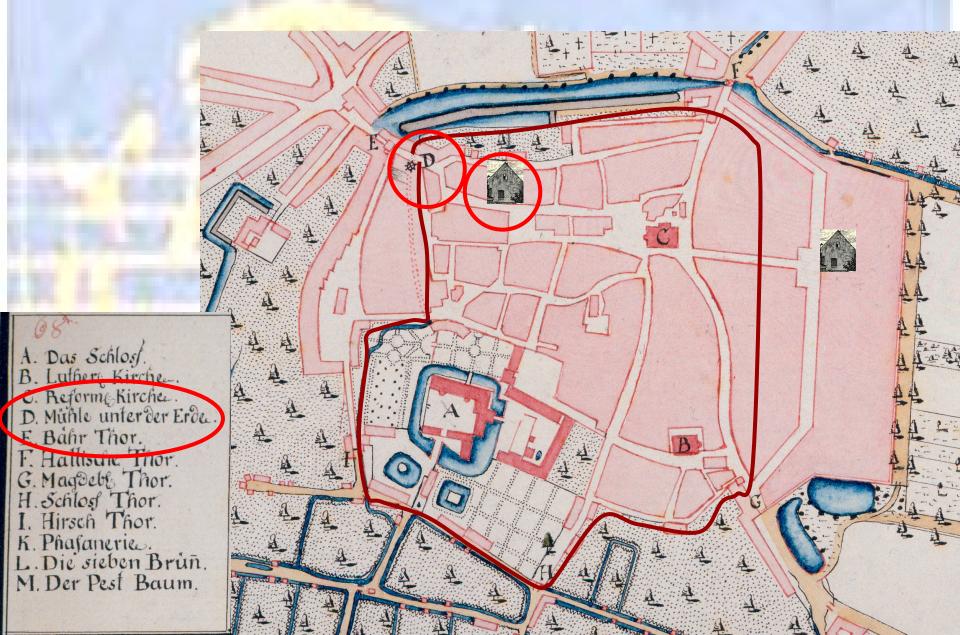


d. Modewaren von Mollheim, Abelmann; b. Carl Huth, c. Gutshaus Schreiber; d. Putzmacherin Liebrecht; e. Zigarrengeschäft Braune; f. Basar Frank; c.d.e: jetzt Kontaktkaufhaus - Konsum

# 



#### Water Mill "Bladdermühle"



### The Rattling Mill

- Bunge wrote 1905:
  - Bach complained that the rattling mill disturbed him
- Schalaunische Straße 44 is close to Bladdermühle

#### Schalaunische Straße 44

- Augustin Stricker exercised with Cöthen Hofkapelle here
- Sebastian Bach exercised with Cöthen Hofkapelle here
- Johann Sebastian Bach lived here
  - initially

#### Wallstraße 25/26



#### Wallstraße 25/26 in the Literature

- Haetge and Harksen write 1943:
  - "Nr. 26 (so called Bach House). Erected 1712. Here lived Stricker, predecessor of Joh. Seb. Bach, and he also 1717-1723."
- Schubart refers to them 1954.
- König 1957 Schubart criticizes Schubart
  - 1713 Johann Andreas Lautsch loaned land parcel Wallstraße 25/26 as garden
  - 1729 Hofrat Pfau lived here as renter
  - Thus the building has been constructed in 1729.
  - "Wallstraße Nr. 25 drops out as Bach House irrevocably."

#### Wallstraße before 1719

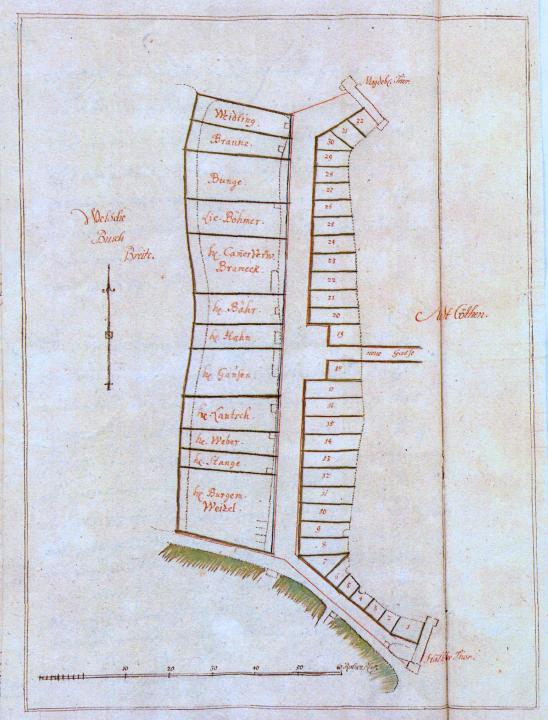
- Connecting way outside the city walls between Hallesch and Magdeburger suburbs
- Gold and silver fiber manufactory
  - "Fabrique"
- Gardens of wealthy citizens

### Cöthen's Baroque Quarter

- 27 February 1719
- Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen took the decision
  - Wallstraße and Schulstraße and today's
     Bachplatz shall be built up as city extension
  - A new city wall shall be erected around
  - Property shall be tax exempt as long as not all land parcels have houses
    - Source: Acta, betr. was der Anbauung der neuen Stadt zu Cöthen ergangen, Landeshauptarchiv Sachsen-Anhalt Dessau (LHASA DE), Abteilung Cöthen, C 2a II Nr. 99, Fol. 175 rück

# Baroque Quarter Plan from 1719

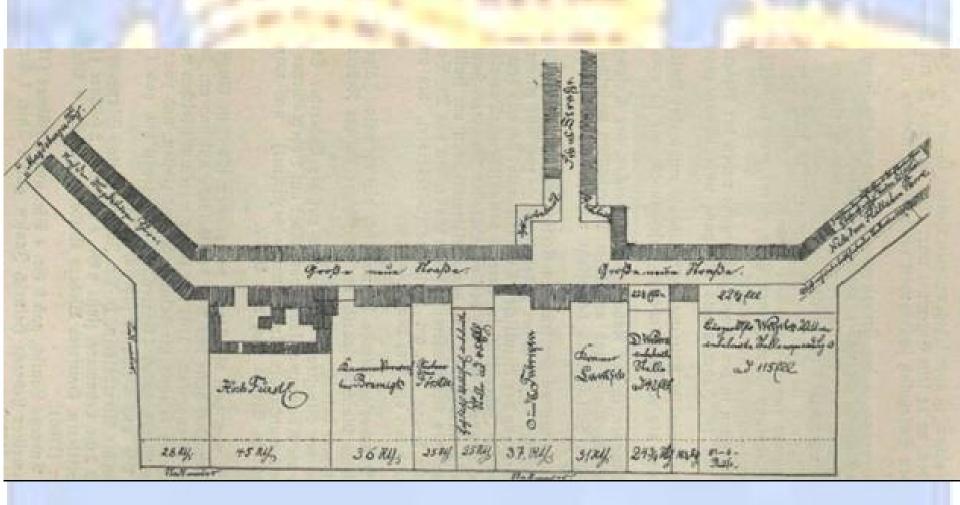
- Wallstraße
  - straight
  - two kinks
- Schulstraße
  - straight
- Typical forBaroque cityarrangements



### Taxation starting in 1730

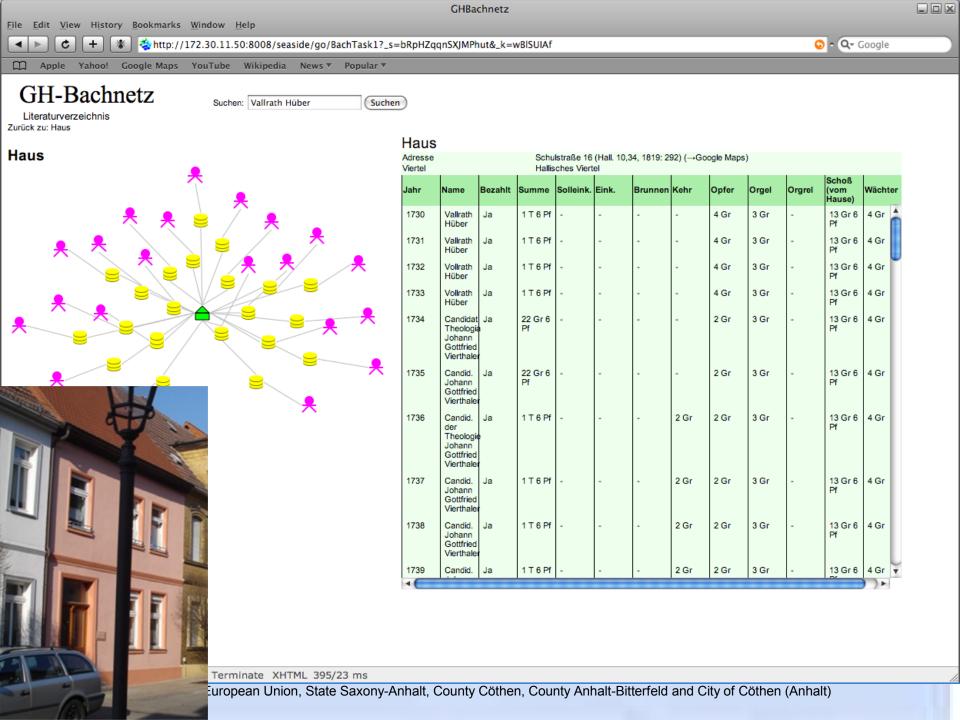
- Leopold's successor price August Ludwig
  - Changed the tax exemption rule
    - New buildings are only three years tax exempt

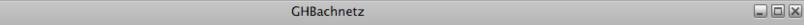
### Baroque Quarter 1730



# When where the homes built in Baroque Quarter?

- Semantic network answered the question
  - Example: Schulstraße 16





<u>File Edit View Hi</u>story <u>B</u>ookmarks <u>W</u>indow <u>H</u>elp

**→ ★ \*** http://172.30.11.50:800

http://172.30.11.50:8008/seaside/go/BachTask1?\_s=bRpHZqqnSXJMPhut&\_k=WMQvhIYS

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Suchen: Vallrath Hüber

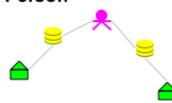
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#### **GH-Bachnetz**

Literaturverzeichnis Zurück zur Suche

#### Person



#### Haus

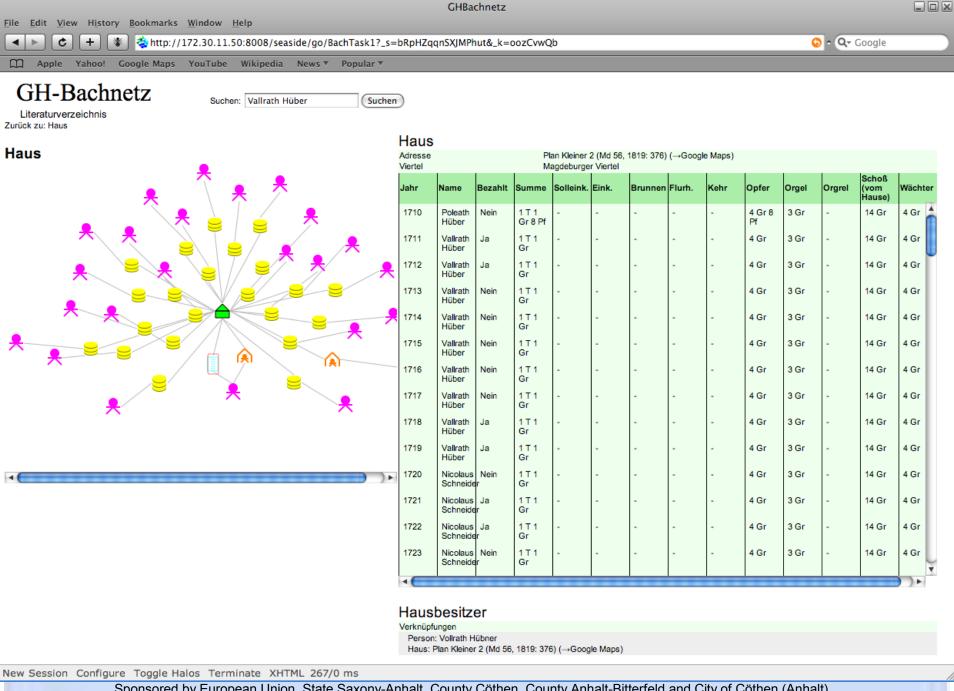
Adresse Plan Kleiner 2 (Md 56, 1819: 376) (→Google Maps)
Viertel Magdeburger Viertel

Jahr	Name	Bezahlt	Summe	Opfer	Orgel	Schoß (vom Hause)	Wächter
	Hüber		Gr				A
1715	Vallrath Hüber	Nein	1 T 1 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	14 Gr	4 Gr
1716	Vallrath Hüber	Nein	1T1 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	14 Gr	4 Gr
1717	Vallrath Hüber	Nein	1 T 1 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	14 Gr	4 Gr
1718	Vallrath Hüber	Ja	1T1 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	14 Gr	4 Gr
1719	Vallrath Hüber	Ja	1T1 Gr	4 Gr	3 Gr	14 Gr	4 Gr
4							

#### Haus

Adresse Schulstraße 16 (Hall. 10,34, 1819: 292) (→Google Maps) Viertel Hallisches Viertel

Jahr	Name	Bezahlt	Summe	Opfer	Orgel	Schoß (vom Hause)	Wächter
1730	Vallrath Hüber	Ja	1 T 6 Pf	4 Gr	3 Gr	13 Gr 6 Pf	4 Gr
1731	Vallrath Hüber	Ja	1 T 6 Pf	4 Gr	3 Gr	13 Gr 6 Pf	4 Gr

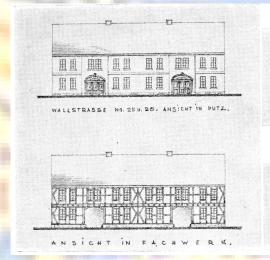


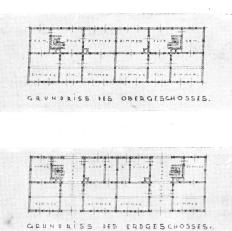
#### Wallstraße 25/26

Built 1719

Not 1712

similarity between digits 2 and 9





- Built by Johann Andreas Lautsch
- First renter Johann Sebastian Bach
- Second renter Hofrat Pfau



#### Owners of Wallstraße 25/26

1713 – 1718	Johann Andreas Lautsch als Garten
1719 – 1729	Johann Andreas Lautsch (steuerfrei)
1730 – 1734	Johann Andreas Lautsch
<u>1735</u> – 1741	Fr. Pfarrin Dorothea Sophia Baumlingerin
<b>1742 – 1764</b>	Fr. Hofräthin Pfauin und Erben
1765 – 1782	Hofrath Wolfgang Erhardt
1783 – 1819	Regierungsrat Ludwig Wilhelm Stötzer und Erben
ab 1875	Superindentur
seit 1966	Eigentum der katholischen Gemeinde, heute Teil des
	Pflegeheims St. Elisabeth

#### Owners of Wallstraße 25/26

	1713 – 1718	Johann Andreas Lautsch als Garten
	1719 – 1729	Johann Andreas Lautsch (steuerfrei)
	1730 – 1734	Johann Andreas Lautsch
	<b>1735</b> – <b>1741</b>	Fr. Pfarrin Dorothea Sophia Baumlingerin
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ı	ab 1875	Superindentur
	seit 1966	Eigentum der katholischen Gemeinde, heute Teil des
		Pflegeheims St. Elisabeth

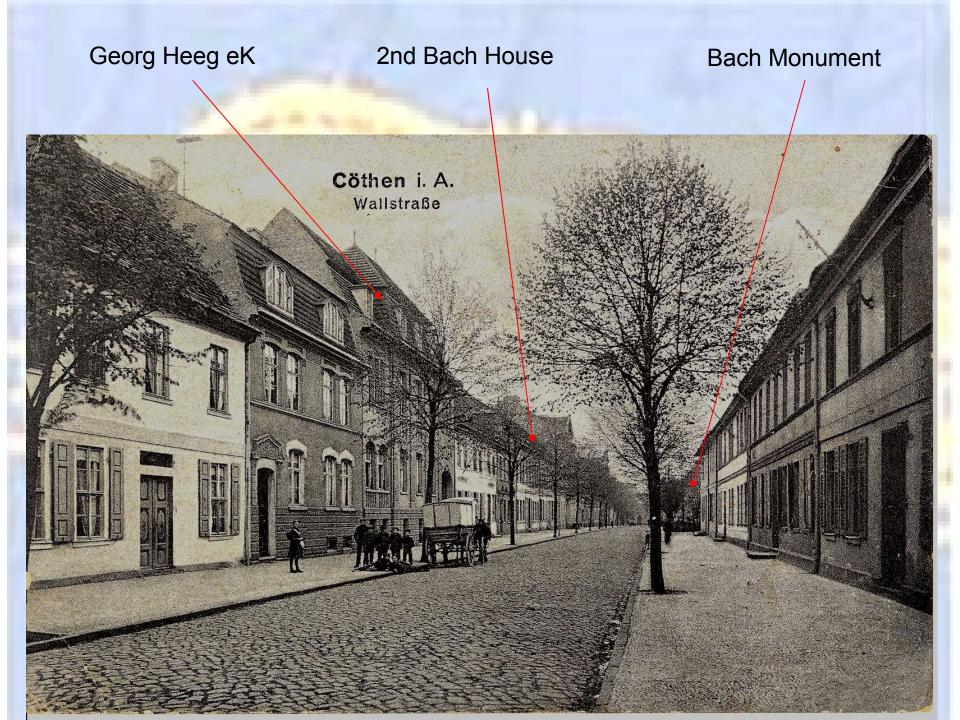
- The two houses of Lautsch
  - Schalaunische Straße 44
  - Wallstraße 25/26
  - have many positive hints on Johann Sebastian Bach
  - ... no not refutable negative statements

# The two homes of Johann-Sebastian Bach

- Initially:
  - Schalaunische Straße 44 at Krämer Johann Andreas Lautsch
- 1719 Lautsch built a new house in Wallstraße 25/26
  - Johann Sebastian Bach moved in







#### Music Played at the Presentation

- http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~tas3/wtc/wtc.html
- http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~tas3/wtc/i21.html#n
- http://www.classic-arietta.de/werke/johann\_