## **Roger Miller**

## Finding our way back from Christian Gerig the 2nd to Christian Gerig the 1st

This is tedious but I have to do this to prove as best we can our way back to Hans Gerig who was one of Jacob Ammanns early followers. I posted earlier the genealogically information rich document, "1780 Census from Hang". And in that record we find out that our Christian Gerig 2nd was born in 1734 in Sainte Marie-aux-Mines (SMaM) located only 5 miles south of Hang. So how are we going to find his father?

We find him on a list of men in 1732 from the Ribeaupierre area of SMaM. On that list of 16 men is found a Christe Göry (Christian Gerig), Michael Blank, Nicolas Blank & Henri Goldschmidt.

- 1.) It appears the list maker was using French orthography (spelling). 6 of the men have the first name of Christe. Obviously it is the name Christian.
- 2.) Göry (Goery) is phonetically similar to Guerry that we found for the gerigs 4 times in the 1697 and 1699 Amish lists. Still don't understand the dropped "G" but in the Mennonite Family History Journal where I found the 1697 and this 1732 document transcription of names all interpret Guerry and Göry (Goery) as "Gerig".
- 3.) Nicholas and Michael Blank on this list are likely the father or grandfather of Ann Blanck who married Christian Gerig the 2nd.
- 4.) Henri Goldschmidt on the list is likely the father of Barbara Goldschmidt who married Chistian Gerig the 2nd's brother, Johannes Gerig, who moved with him to Hang in 1774.
- 5.) Our Christian Gerig needs a father in 1734. We find a Christian Gerig in 1732 in the right place with the right people whose children will marry his sons. Therefore, by deduction and inference, we have found Christian Gerig the 1st.
  - I included a 1560 map of SMaM that shows where the area of Ribeaupierre is located. The city of SMaM is divided in two by the River Liepvrette. More specifically though the city had mines claimed by two different regions of power. One by the Duche of Lorraine (Duke of Lorraine) and the other by the seigneury of Ribeaupierre (feudal lords). They were interested in the mines in this town. So from this map you can derive in a vague sense where Christian Gerig the 1st was living. If you divided the area up into 3 parts, Ribeaufpierre was on the south side of the river in the southern third and the Duche of Lorraine had the North and Eastern thirds.