

## Gabriel Chrisman, IPL Question 1.

Needed by: no need by

Question:

I am looking for archives for phone book for Lindau am Bodensee in Germany. 1977-78.

name: George Beykovsky  
from: beykovsky@verizon.net  
confirm: beykovsky@verizon.net  
location: Everett Washington USA  
area: History  
reason: Family genealogy  
school: No

Greetings from the IPL!

Thank you for your question, and for your patience in waiting for a response. I enjoyed locating institutions that should have the Lindau am Bodensee phone books you were looking for!

I found a website that listed information on libraries in Lindau am Bodensee.

<http://web20.icserver3.de/index.php?sid=1030&ses=c18e218cf7c8f419d1a99f18666bfeab>

This link is long and may break, so here is a shortened version for your convenience:

<http://tinyurl.com/yjbgmdu>

I found this website by going to Google:

<http://www.google.com/>

and entering the keywords (without the quotes): "Lindau am Bodensee library". The link I followed is the second link down, entitled "Lindau (Bodensee)".

The libraries this site lists are:

Formerly the Free City Library and Municipal Archive, Maximilianstr. 52

Phone +49 (0) 83 82 / 27 75 96 0    Opening hours: Wed 2 pm - 5.45 pm, Fri 9 am - 11.45 am

e-mail [stadtarchiv@lindau.de](mailto:stadtarchiv@lindau.de)

Municipal library, Maximilianstr. 52, phone +49 (0) 83 82 / 27 47 47 0

fax    +49 (0)8382 / 27 47 47 859

Opening hours: Tue + Wed 2 pm - 6 pm, Thursday 4 pm - 7.30 pm, Fri 9 am - 12 pm, Sat 10 am - 1 pm

e-mail [stadtbuecherei@lindau.de](mailto:stadtbuecherei@lindau.de)

I emailed both libraries for information on their local phone book archive holdings – their email addresses were only listed on the German language version of the webpage – not on the English language version:

<http://lindau.icserver3.de/index.php?sid=1030>

You can find them here under the heading 'Bibliotheken'. I found this website by looking up the German word for library (bibliothek) and city (stadt), then going to Google:

<http://www.google.com/>

and entering the keywords (without the quotes): "Lindau stadt bibliothek". The website I found is the second link, entitled 'Lindau (Bodensee)'. This took me to the main page, and I then selected 'Lindau erleben' from the menu labeled 'Tourismus & Kongresse'. After choosing this link, select 'Lindau von A-Z' from the menu on the left.

Unfortunately, they have not yet responded to my request, so I hope you have better luck getting in touch with them. If they do get back to me later, I will certainly pass the information on to you. It might be best to call these libraries during their business hours, perhaps with the help of someone who speaks German.

All of these sites are maintained by the city of Lindau, and as governmental websites they should be reliable and authoritative.

I also looked at the website for the closest major University, Constance University. I got this information by asking someone I knew who had spent some time in this area of Germany. To find this university's site, I searched Google for "Constance university Germany" (without the quotes), and selected the first result. Then I clicked on 'Library', followed by selecting 'Region'. From this page, I selected 'Regional Catalog' and entered 'Telefonbuch' in the search box (labeled 'Suchen' in German). I then clicked on the second result: "Das Örtliche / Konstanz : bearb. nach den amtl. Unterlagen der Deutschen Bundespost TELEKOM; Telefonbuch ...", which led me to this catalog record:

[http://pollux.bsz-bw.de/DB=2.203/SET=2/TTL=2/SHW?FRST=2&ADI\\_LND=](http://pollux.bsz-bw.de/DB=2.203/SET=2/TTL=2/SHW?FRST=2&ADI_LND=)

This link is very long, and may break. For your convenience, here is a shortened version:

<http://tinyurl.com/ygg5rlq>

This catalog listing, which includes: "1976/77 - 1987/88: Das örtliche Fernsprechbuch für die Ortsnetze Konstanz, Allensbach und Insel Reichenau" seems to indicate that the Constance University Library has historical phone books for the correct period, though this university is located at the other end of the lake and the phone books may not extend to the Lindau region. It would be best to get in touch with the librarians at the University of Constance and verify that the phone books have coverage for Lindau. The information is located on an academic website, which usually means it is a reliable source.

In case this is also useful, here is a 1924 phone book from Lindau, available online through Ancestry.com:

<http://search.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=BookList&dbid=30783&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0>

This link is very long, and may break. For your convenience, here is a shortened version:

<http://tinyurl.com/yfum3fq>

Ancestry.com is a genealogical site maintained by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and is widely considered a highly reliable source for all genealogical information. I already had knowledge of this site from previous genealogical research projects, but it is easily found by searching Google for the keywords 'ancestry' and 'genealogy' (without the quotes). Once in this website, I selected 'View All' under 'Browse our collections', then chose 'Directories and member lists'. Next I selected 'Telephone directories', then 'Europe', then 'Germany'. In the list that came up, I selected 'Bavaria', then, in the next menu, I scrolled down and selected 'Lindau'. This resulted in only one telephone directory, from 1924.

For further general information about research in phone books, I found this helpful site:

<http://www.oldtelephonebooks.com/pages/varieties>

I located this site by searching Google for the keywords 'German "phone books" 1977' (including the quotes around "phone books"). The site is the second one listed in the results, and is entitled 'Old Telephone Books: Telephone Book Varieties'. This site is a personal one, written by Gwillim Law, apparently a phone book collector. Some of the comments on this site should be considered opinion, but much of the information is useful since the author seems to have extensive experience with phone books. At the bottom of this page, under 'language', he relates some of the quirks of German phone books which may be of use to you in your research.

Thank you for using the IPL! Please don't hesitate to follow up with us on this question, or to ask new questions as they come up in your research.