

# The Schuttbourg Castle and its farm at Holzthum



1990: Der Rittersaal, der Wohntrakt und das verfallene Ökonomiegebäude.

Schuttbourg view, 1973 [BNL](#) Biller aus der Gemeng Kautebaach, 2001)

Built on a ridge above the river Clerve upstream from Kautenbach, the [Schuttbourg](#) is first mentioned in a document of 1404 as "Schudeburg". Other than for the much more important castles of Clervaux, Vianden or Bourscheid, there has never been a Schuttbourg family. Since 1630, a de Humyn family from Bastogne owned the castle, followed by the de Hoefnagele, also from Bastogne. The two families tried several times by requests to the Conseil Provincial, the civil authority in Luxembourg, to be admitted among the Luxembourg nobility, but were not successful. The owners lived only occasionally on the Schuttbourg and were represented by an administrator who in 1679 was Hans Jacob (John James) Schaub, the godfather of Hans Jacob Lannersch.

There is evidence that since 1550, the owners of the Schuttbourg possessed a fairly large farm in Holzthum, which was let to a tenant against a charge consisting of services and deliveries of food as well as of payments in money. According to the census of fireplaces of 1656, there were only 2 houses inhabited, versus 7 before the beginning of the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648). One of these houses was the Schuttbourg farm, occupied by Marx (Marc, contraction of Marcus) Hoffmann, tenant. He owns 2 horses, 1 foal and 8 heads of cattle. He has not yet cultivated the fields, as he arrived only recently. In German his name means "the man of the farm" and it is thus a good example of the formation of first names from trades. Was this already Marx Kamer? It isn't sure, the reference to his origin from the Mecher village in 1681 suggests a later arrival in Holzthum.

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Original picture from [Wikipedia](#) (The 2006 Oesinger castle, built by the Oesinger family in 1559, was destroyed during the Second World War. The castle was reconstructed and opened to the public in 1984.)