

Carl Wilhelm Alfred Purfürst Helsinki, Finland

As the last stages of World War I were being fought in Europe, civil war broke out in Finland on January 28, 1918 between two political factions, one of whom enjoyed support from Russia, the other from Germany. On April 3, 1918 Germany made an intervention into the country and on April 13, captured Helsinki, Finland.

Killed on April 22, 1918 during this military action was a German soldier, Carl Wilhelm Alfred Purfürst. He was buried near the main entrance of the Helsinki train station along with 14 others killed at that location.

Helsinki, Finland Archive records indicate that Carl Purfürst was born May 7, 1894 in Neustadt an der Orla, Germany and that he was survived by a "Hermann Purfürst".

Parish records in Neustadt a/O confirmed the date and place of birth for Carl Wilhelm Alfred Purfürst, the unmarried son of Carl Wilhelm Hermann Purfürst (1866-1947) and Hedwig Therese Röhler (1866-1939).

The picture below is the monument at the Helsinki, Finland railway station indicating the burial location of German soldiers killed during the invasion.

