Friemersheim is situated approximately 40 kilometres inland from Great Brak River in the Southern Cape. Reverend Johann Kretzen of the Berliner Missionary Society in George, bought the farm Gonnakraal for his sister. He visited the farm once a month and held church services there. In 1869, through his efforts, a school and church were built. After his sister’s death in 1872, he bequeathed the farm to the Dutch Reformed Missionary Society under certain conditions. As the Mossel Bay Dutch Reformed church had no other missionary congregation, the Gonnakraal has been a separate congregation since 1889. However, owing to it being small and relatively poor, they relied on support from outside the congregation. A new church was built in 1878 and Kretzen still worked in the community, by visiting the outskirts of the congregation on horseback. In 1878 the church provided him with £10-00 to buy more horses for this purpose. It was later renamed Friemersheim, after Kretzen’s town of birth in Germany. Reverend Kretzen retired in 1895 at the age of 86 and was followed-up by Reverend F Gever.

Friemersheim was later, in terms of applicable legislation, reserved for occupation by colouroeds. Reserved as a Board area by Proclamation No 25 of 1970.