The Migrants:
Pennsylvania to Oregon

Dillman and Related Families:
Baker, Brecht, Frame, Hoffman, Landes, Limbert, Lorah,
Magill, Naas, Niswonger, Patterson, Smucker, Strader,
Turner, Weinig and Zirkle

Beverly Brice
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Introduction

When Oliver Dillman moved his wife Ettie Turner and three daughters from Dayton, Ohio to Portland, Oregon in 1908, he was completing a journey that spanned 300 years and two continents. The 17 families included in this story began their journeys in Europe and came to America in the early 1700s. Arriving in Philadelphia, they began looking for land. Their stories of migration, ethnicity, and religion demonstrate the American melting pot as they moved west to Ohio, changing their language and culture over the years in America.

Their movements as families followed two paths west. One group moved from Philadelphia to central Pennsylvania and then through Pittsburg to Montgomery County, Ohio.¹ The majority headed south from Pennsylvania through Virginia to Kentucky, and then to Preble County, Ohio.² A variation of the latter path went on to North Carolina and then across Kentucky to Preble County.³ Oliver's move from Preble to Montgomery County, where he married his wife Ettie, joined the family groups from the two Ohio counties. In fact these people lived only about 20 miles apart.

Most of these families shared a German heritage, although the Turners, Frames, Magills, and Pattersons came from a Scots-Irish background. The mixture of these two cultural traditions did not happen until the mid-1800s in Ohio. By all appearances it was successful for the Hoffman/Turner marriage in 1840 and the Turner/Baker marriage in 1867, but ended in divorce for the Dillman/Frame marriage in 1857.

This latter marriage also brought together two disparate religious traditions, the Dunkers and the Presbyterians. Most of the German families belonged to the Lutheran or Reformed Churches, and the Scots-Irish joined the quite similar Presbyterian Church. The exceptions were the Dillman and Landis/Naas families who joined the German Baptist or Dunker faith. An off-shot of the Mennonite tradition, their faith was a strong influence on their migration and everyday life. The Landis/Naas family's religious connections ran deep, back to a Mennonite martyr put to death in 1614 in Zurich, Switzerland.

This particular group of families immigrated to Philadelphia and moved on to Ohio. It is impossible to create a single story out of 17 family groups covering such large time spans, so each surname will be detailed in a separate section. I want to share the stories I learned about the experiences of these families. In some cases I felt that I had gotten to "know" them and could picture their lives.

I also wanted to detail my research for the benefit of other researchers. To this end the family summaries include a discussion of my research and are footnoted to show source of information. It is hoped that other researchers will benefit from this work and be able to answer the remaining questions found in these pages.

¹ The Baker [Brecht] [Smucker], Hoffman [Limbert] and Turner families.
² The Dillman, Landis [Naas], and Frame [Magill, Patterson], Niswonger [Zirkle] families.
Background

Ethnic Groups

These families represent two ethnic groups, Germans known as the "Pennsylvania Dutch" and the Scots-Irish.

The Pennsylvania Dutch

Who were the “Pennsylvania Dutch”? They were descendants of the settlers who spoke the German language and went to William Penn’s colony. The “Dutch” was most likely a corruption of “Deutsch” or “Deitsch”, an adjective for “German” in that language. The term was not used for the original settlers, but was used to describe those people who maintained the German language and customs through the 1800s. Language was the main identifying characteristic of this ethnic group, and they developed their own dialect over the years such as “kich” rather than “kuche” for kitchen, “schtupp” rather than “stube” for stove room.¹

Why did 80,000 German-speaking immigrants come to Pennsylvania between 1717 and 1800? It was a calculated risk to find a better life for themselves and their children. Although the move was a major change in their lives, change had already become a part of their existence at home.

The European Experience

A majority of the immigrants came from the southwestern area of present day Germany, the area along both sides of the Rhine River. The Thirty Years War from 1618 to 1648 started a long period of terrible devastation in this area. For example the small town of Ittlingen, home to the Zirkle family, was left in rubble and ashes by 1648.² This destruction did not stop. For 25 years, from 1688 through 1713 there were French invasions, killing the inhabitants and forcing those left to plow under their crops. Disease followed in the invaders’ wake. Life, as they had known it, was changed forever.

Migration within the area of the Rhine River was one result of the wars. The first invasion decimated the population, causing the rulers of the small independent states to recruit new settlers. Some were Protestants who came from France while others were Swiss or Flemish. There was also movement among the farmers and villagers in the Rhine area as they were attracted to what appeared to be a better situation. This caused a new mobility and diversity in the society.

Another element of change was in the agricultural practices. The nobles originally had serfs who farmed their land and paid taxes as well as raising crops to feed their families. This subsistence farming was changed when the rulers required the peasants to plant specific crops such as potatoes or grape vines. Since each generation had divided their lands among all of their sons, families were left with 2 to 3 acre parcels which would not feed them and also meet the demands of the nobles.

Many families were forced to leave the area to survive. A number of these farmers moved to Russia. The overland trip there was easier than coming to America and the religious toleration was greater as Catholics were welcomed as well as Protestants. However, they were given less land than in Pennsylvania.

Many immigrants were influenced by family or neighbors who had gone before and reported back the benefits of Pennsylvania. Land holdings beyond their wildest dreams were described. They also heard that there was relative freedom from conscription to military duty and from impossible tax burdens. It was understood that you could choose your own religion without interference from the government.

Other farmers may have heard about Pennsylvania from the Newlanders, or “neuländer” in German. These men were agents of the shipping interests in the Netherlands and they roamed the countryside signing up recruits for the trip. They misled the emigrants by describing an easier life than the people actually experienced in Pennsylvania. They offered to arrange all the transportation and took payment on the spot, sometimes without delivering the transportation promised. Recruitment was not new as William Penn himself had come to the Rhine area as early as 1677 to find settlers for his colony. His government continued to publish brochures and broadsides to attract more people to fill up his land.

The Trip to Pennsylvania

Leaving required more than just packing your bags. If emigrants wanted to leave legally, they had to free themselves from their obligations to the noble whose land they farmed. This required paying fees to the noble to buy their freedom, and probably fees for an emigration permit. Unable to pay these charges, some families just left illegally.

Further financial difficulties lay ahead. In the early 1700s all of present day Germany was a series of small principalities, each with its own ruler. The early travelers were faced with paying tolls as they crossed the various borders, a total of 36 times along the Rhine River by 1750. For emigrants with limited cash, this posed major problems, impacting their status on arrival in Philadelphia.

The first leg of the trip was down the Rhine River to Amsterdam or Rotterdam in the Netherlands. A trip down the Rhine River that I made in 2011 aboard a French Cruise boat was hardly the same as the trip made by my families in the early 1700s. However, some of my reactions were probably similar, and gave me new insight into this part of their journey.
I traveled in a comfortable cabin of a 150 foot boat with a 4 course lunch and 3 course dinner. Their boats were likely small sailing boats. Whether they slept onboard or on shore is not known. We traveled the 405 miles from Strasbourg to Amsterdam in 38 hours of motoring. They probably went 4-10 miles a day at the most, making the journey around 40 days.

The river itself has changed with the large cities and industrial growth along the banks. The river traffic was bustling with large, modern barges carrying coal, gas, gravel and countless other unknown cargo. The river in 1700 was likely as busy but with smaller vessels as it has always provided an outlet to the sea for those living along its 766 miles from Switzerland to the Netherlands.

The general sense of the terrain along the river has not changed. Starting in Strasbourg you are in a wide flat valley lined with vineyards. There are locks to connect the Ile River in Strasbourg to the Rhine that probably were not there in earlier times, thereby limiting direct access to many towns.

Just south of Rüdesheim the river enters a winding course through the mountains. This is the section now known as the "Romantic Rhine". Even without this label, in the early 1700s the river would have been as awe inspiring with the many castles perched on top of the cliffs and slopes covered with vineyards which were already planted. For people accustomed to the flat lands, this section would certainly be mysterious and possibly a little frightening.

Once through the mountains the river heads west past major cities such as Bonn and Cologne, with the terrain flattening once more until you reach the border of the Netherlands. Today one sees the occasional windmill, but they are not working. In the past they pumped the water to keep the land dry. Now this is done by electrical pumps controlled by computer. On the cruise boat the trip from the border to Amsterdam required eight hours and seemed to go on forever. I could well imagine the same impatience of the early travelers, as they neared their first destination but spent several days to reach it.

The Rhine itself heads to Rotterdam but our ship followed canals that branch off with two sets of locks that lead to Amsterdam. Undoubtedly some of my families sailed from both of these ports.

Although the harbor in Amsterdam is a large area today, we tied up next to the train station and the old part of town. This is undoubtedly where the original passengers tied up as well. It was bewildering at first to find our way around. The language was different and this was definitely a large city. It must have been the same for the early travelers. Did they know where they were headed? Did they have shelter while they waited a month or more
for the ship to be loaded?

Many of the houses along the canals in the old city date from the early 1600s and were standing when my families came.

My overall impression from the trip was the enormity of the task these people undertook in leaving the areas where they had lived. The trip across the ocean was monumental, I already knew something of that. But the first leg down the Rhine was long and arduous for them and they were already taking off into the unknown.

**Crossing the Atlantic**

Upon arrival in Amsterdam, the emigrants had to wait for a ship to load which could require a month or more delay. If they were able to pay their own passage, they were loaded on the boat with their belongings. Their passage generally included being fed on the trip, but the food was not known to be good or plentiful, so they would take their own supplies as well. In 1750 the cost of the trip was estimated at £30 or approximately $5,758.02 in 2011 United States currency.3

Often families had no money left by the time they were to board the ship. In this case the master of the vessel might agree to take the family with payment to be made in Philadelphia. The emigrants were required to sign a contract or “indenture” before embarking, agreeing to being sold for service upon arrival in return for the passage. These passengers were known as “Indentured Servants”.

Another type of arrangement involved the Ship’s Master agreeing to transport them without a contract if they convinced him they could find someone to pay on their behalf or "Redeem" them upon arrival in Philadelphia. These passengers were called “Redemptioners" and were given several days upon arrival to raise the funds. If they were not successful, they too would be sold for service.

A letter written by John Naas to his son in 1733 gives the details of one sea voyage. He reported that the trip from Germany to Pennsylvania took a total of 4 months and 3 weeks. He was on the ship from England to Philadelphia for 3 months and 6 days.

Progress was slowed by the difficulties of sailing; they were at the mercy of the winds. When the ship left Rotterdam on June 24th the winds were unfavorable and so no progress was made until July 3rd. The passage to Plymouth in England took 10 days. When they left England a week later lack of wind caused them to lose another month before reaching the open sea. In one three week period they covered the distance that could have taken one day. Imagine the frustration of this!

There were three major storms, each lasting about two days. One was probably a hurricane which created “waves like mountains, covered with snow”.4 In each case the bedding of at least

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some of the passengers was soaked. A number were ill with each storm, not a happy situation in tight quarters below deck.

On this particular crossing, the Captain of the Pennsylvania Merchant and his crew caught several fish which were shared with the passengers. One was a shark, another possibly a sunfish, and another possibly a dolphin, all unknown to John. The Captain also obtained fresh apples from another boat when they got closer to American shores and shared that around. After the worst storm he had rice cooked and given to all. This was not the standard approach of the crew to the passengers.

The problems with fellow passengers were the worst of the trip for John. Not only were they cursing and swearing, nagging and fighting, but they quarreled among themselves day and night. He observed that this was caused by people who truly didn’t want to come but had done so anyway because they had no choice. He saw major problems when a married couple wasn’t in agreement about making the trip. In these cases husband, wife, and children argued with each other instead of helping one another. Anger seemed to consume their lives.

Another difficulty arose from those who ate all of their own provisions at the beginning of the trip rather than rationing them out. Once through their own food, they were forced to survive on the provisions of the ship and were very unhappy about it. The water was black and full of worms on some ships and the food old and heavily salted. Stealing of food resulted. All of this was made worse in John's opinion by the major problem with lice.

Eight passengers out of a total of 187 died on John Naas' trip. Two were women, one in childbirth, and the rest were children. Two children born on the trip were included in the infant deaths. Accidents were probably common on the ships as well. John reported that he fell off the ladder to the deck, which caused him to lie on his back for 14 days before he could move at all.

After approaching land, the vessels traveled through Chesapeake Bay to the mouth of the Delaware River and then up the River past New Castle to Philadelphia. This part of the trip could be accomplished in 2 days but it could take 8 or 10 depending on the winds. How hard it must have been to be patient after such a long time at sea.

**Arrival in Philadelphia**

Once the boat reached the Port of Philadelphia, crowds came to the wharf. Some of these were friends or neighbors of the passengers. Others came to look over the Germans who were for sale to pay their passage. Before anything could happen, however, all German men 16 years of age or older were marched behind the captain of their ship to the Court House located at Second and High Street. They had to climb a steep riverbank to reach their destination, a difficult task on legs wobbly from their long sea journey. There they took an oath as follows:

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5 Eben, Gottlieb Mittelberger’s Journey to Pennsylvania in the Year 1750 and Return to Germany in the Year 1754, p24.
6 John T Humphrey, Life in Mid-Eighteenth Century Pennsylvania, [http://genealogy.about.com/Library/authors/uchumphreys , Downloaded Feb 3, 2005].
We subscribers, natives and late inhabitants of the Palatinate on the Rhine, and places adjacent, having transported ourselves and families into this Province of Pennsylvania a colony subject to the Crown of Great Britain, in hopes and expectation of finding a retreat and peaceable settlement therein, do solemnly promise and engage that we will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his Majesty, King George, the Second, and his successors, Kings of Great Britain, and will demean ourselves peaceably to all his said Majesties subjects and strictly observe and conform to the Laws of England and this Province, to the utmost of our power and the best of our understanding.

When the oath was completed, those who had friends to meet them celebrated their successful journey. John Naas describes the wonder of fresh food brought to the dock by his associates. Many spent the first few days in Germantown, a part of Philadelphia settled by others who shared their language and customs. From there they moved on to claim land.

Not everyone was so fortunate, however. For those who were sold to pay for their passage, it was a different experience. After taking the oath, the men returned to the ship where potential buyers came to look over the merchandise. An advertisement would have gone into the paper immediately upon docking. This ad from a Philadelphia paper in 1728 was typical of those repeated over the years: “...lately imported and to be sold cheap, a parcel of likely men and women servants.”

Indentured servants were sold directly, while Redemptioners were able to leave the ship for a few days to find someone to pay their passage for them.

The term of service was generally 4-7 years for adults depending on their age and strength. Children would be kept until they reached age 21. A spouse had to work extra time if one of the couple was sick. Families were not necessarily placed together. Upon completion of the contract the servant was guaranteed at minimum two sets of clothes (one new), an axe, and hoes. In 1733 they apparently also received livestock. They were to be housed and fed during their service. This did give an opportunity for the new arrivals to understand the language and customs of the new land before having to support themselves. If their new master was kind, and the family was placed together, it was probably an advantage to begin their stay this way. They generally were placed within 40 miles of Philadelphia.

By mid-century, however, the abuses of the Indentured Servant system were out of control. The colonial assembly passed numerous laws to regulate the trade including one to specify the amount of space required per person on the ships as 2 feet wide by 6 feet long. By 1750, the servants were often purchased by “soul-drivers” who would buy up lots of 50 or more people and then sell them to farmers. There was an unending need for hired help in the colony as it was labor intensive to clear land and manage the land holdings that ranged from 100-400 acres. Although records of Indentured Servants and Redemptioners do not exist for most of the 1700s, it has been stated that after 1728 about half of the 80,000 who came entered Pennsylvania on these terms.

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7 Clark M Garber, *The Garber Historical and Genealogical Record*, vol 1 (Family History Library, Film #928046) p 11.
Upon first arrival in Philadelphia, the German passengers would have noted the lack of steeples on churches. There were no bells or clocks and no ringing of the hours as was found in German villages. Almost everyone had his own silver watch by 1750. The streets were straight and met at right angles in contrast to the crooked and narrow streets of the German villages. The existence of 65 wharves attested to the activity level along the river bank that greeted the new arrivals. In addition to the German speaking immigrants, large numbers of Scot-Irish immigrants arrived, adding to the diversity of the waterfront.¹¹

Finding Land and Clearing the Farm

When it was time to leave Philadelphia, the immigrants walked along one of three roads leading out of the city. It would take three or four days to reach areas in Lancaster, Berks, or York Counties where others who spoke their language were living. They walked through forests or brush with only occasional houses. Rivers or streams might be crossed by boat or with the help of a traveler on horseback. If no such assistance was available they had to swim, no matter the time of year.

Obtaining land to farm was the next all important task. Once they found an unclaimed area that met their needs, they could obtain a warrant from the Penn Family Land Office. The warrant registered their claim and was the first of three steps required to obtain title to the land. Secondly the land had to be surveyed, which required a fee; and finally they could patent it, at which time payment was required. Generally, half the full price was paid before a patent was issued, the rest on credit from the same Land Office. You had to be successfully established before you had the cash to clear the title, and for some this took a long time. It was not uncommon for settlers to warrant land and then move on, selling the warrant directly to another settler.

The first shelter was probably a log structure without a chimney or a door. The more permanent dwelling had windows and doors and chimneys. The “Stove Room House” was a German contribution to Pennsylvania used by the Lorah family. It featured a way to heat two rooms from the central chimney.

Then the land which was forested had to be cleared. The German speaking immigrants cut down the trees and pulled out the roots rather than girdling the trees as was done by the English speaking newcomers. It was harder work initially, but the land was then safer and more productive to work. Clearing of the land started at the house which was located along the water course and then gradually up any hills. Some of it was left in woods.

A typical mid-1700s farm contained about 125 acres; 50 acres were cleared to support the family. Twenty six acres were used to raise grain for the livestock and for baking. Wheat was the major cash crop for most settlers, profits going to purchase necessary items they could not produce themselves. Eight to nine acres were used to grow flax, vegetables, and fruit. The flax (for linen) and the wool from the sheep were spun for cloth. A meadow was necessary to supply hay for the cattle and was generally 13-15 acres. The rest would have been woodland which provided materials for buildings and fuel for the fire.¹² Though the farmers had livestock

¹¹ Eben, Gottlieb Mittelberger’s Journey to Pennsylvania in the Year 1750 and Return to Germany in the Year 1754.
¹² Humphrey, Life in Mid-Eighteenth Century Pennsylvania.
including horses, cows, hogs, chickens and a few sheep, barns were not the first structures to be built. Their existence showed the prosperity of the farmer.

By the 1750s the availability of food, even for the poor, was described as better than in Germany. Meat was available to all, vegetables were grown abundantly, and bread was eaten with butter or cheese. Sugar, tea, and coffee were cheap and so coffee could be enjoyed two or three times a day. Other beverages included good healthy water, milk and three parts water, good apple cider, small (or weak) beer, English strong sweet beer, punch (rum and sugar and lemon juice, Spanish wine (with water, sugar, and nutmeg), and German and Spanish wines.13

Although these families tended to settle in areas with large numbers of German speakers, their life differed greatly from the one they left. Settlers from the same village did not necessarily live in the same area. Although German was spoken, it was often in a dialect they did not understand. Instead of homes concentrated in villages with fields surrounding, in Pennsylvania the immigrants lived on farms which were often three or more miles away from their neighbor.

Naming Patterns

In the Germanic naming patterns from this time period, two given names were used. Generally the first was a saint’s name and was not used when referring to the individual. The second name became the "rufnamen" or the name the person was called.

In earlier days a pattern of naming children after family members helped to identify families. In order of birth, sons were named after the father's father, mother's father, father, mother's father's father, father's mother's father, mother's mother's father. Daughters began with the mother's mother, father's mother, mother, and then the same but from the mother's family.

Bibliography


13 Eben, Gottlieb Mittelberger’s Journey to Pennsylvania in the Year 1750 and Return to Germany in the Year 1754, p 65.
The Scots-Irish

From 1718 through the early 1770s a large number of families found their way to America from Northern Ireland. Known as the "Scots-Irish" their ancestors originated in the border areas of Scotland and were thus known as "Lowland Scots". As Protestants they were recruited by the English to settle in the Ulster plantation in Northern Ireland. King James needed to replace the native Irish landholders who had been driven from the area by Cromwell. The disruption began in the early 1600s, and provided land to farm and employment in the expanding linen industry for the Scotch immigrants.

Beginning in the early 1700s the English changed the favorable conditions for settlement, closing down the linen trade as it was threatening English commerce. Next religious beliefs were under scrutiny as the Anglican Church was put forward as the official religion. The Presbyterian Scots, who were now also "Irish", could not agree. Finally, periods of severe raises in rents for the land they farmed were combined with crop failures. As a result about 5,000 came to America around the 1720s, another large group in 1740-1741 responding to a major famine, with a third wave of settlers in the 1750s and another in the 1770s.14

As British subjects, these immigrants were not part of an immigration procedure upon entering the colonies. The lack of records makes it difficult to know where in Ulster they resided and exactly when they arrived in Pennsylvania. Many came to Philadelphia, others to New Castle, Delaware. Large numbers of Scots-Irish settlers are found in the Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina colonies, particularly in the frontier areas where land was cheap or available for squatters.

Of the families followed here, the Turners appear in central Pennsylvania in the early 1770s, with no trace of their arrival or prior residence. The Frames, Magills, and Pattersons came to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia by the mid-1740s. They were possibly part of the second wave of immigrants and may have headed directly to Orange (now Augusta) County, Virginia following their crossing of the Atlantic.

These immigrants generally arrived with little cash in their pockets, and some were indentured to pay their passage on arrival. As farmers they cleared their land by girdling the trees, usually growing wheat, rye, barley, and Indian corn. Their tools were crude compared to their German neighbors and their livestock was perhaps more important to them than the crops.

The Scots-Irish were characterized as frontier settlers who tended to stay within their own community. They were generally quick to fight, or at least to settle disputes themselves rather than rely on the government. Their brand of Protestantism was often close to the revivalist style.\textsuperscript{15}

The Turner family who moved from Cumberland to Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, living in Scots-Irish communities, exemplified these traits. They were speculators in land in the first two generations, and were farmers but also blacksmiths. By the mid-1820s when Daniel Turner moved to Montgomery County, Ohio he was able to acquire significant land holdings. His family was a member of a revivalist congregation.

The first two known generations of the Frame and Magill families also followed the pattern described. The William Frame and William Magill, the first known generation in both families, were perhaps the ones who came to America, and they settled in a Scots-Irish community on the northern border of Augusta County, VA. They attended a Presbyterian church with a pastor from Ireland. The first generations died in Virginia, but the second generations moved on to Kentucky when it was still a country open to Indian attacks. They and their sons participated in the wars of their time. Finally, Jeremiah Frame moved on to Preble County, Ohio. He wasn't the first settler there, but there was still plenty of open land when he arrived. The third generation Frame, Silas, joined a revivalist church.

Many of the Scots-Irish assimilated into the mixed ethnic communities where they lived by the 1820s. They prospered, owning substantial farms and homes by the 1850s.

\textsuperscript{15} Fischer, Albion's Seed.
Religion

Religion played an important part in the lives of many of these families. The Dillman, Landis, and Naas families were Anabaptists of the Mennonite and then Dunker faith. The Baker and Niswonger families were also Dunkers. The Hoffmans and some of the Turners were early members of the United Brethren Church.

The Dunkers

Religion can be a defining part of a family’s life, structuring daily activities, outlining interaction with the government, and providing a community for social interaction. The Dunker religion served this role for its members.

Also known as German Baptists, or Church of the Brethren, the religion was part of the Pietistic movement of the late 1500s and early 1600s in the German-speaking world which stressed personal piety over rigid conformity. Following Luther’s break with the Catholic Church, others felt that the change in religious form and substance had not gone far enough. Looking to the New Testament in the Bible as a source of instruction in more literal ways, these groups refused to participate in the Catholic, Lutheran or the Reformed church. They separated themselves from the state religions and were thus known by the general term of “Separatists”. The Mennonites and the Amish are two sects that formed from this tradition.

A third group, the Dunkers, had much in common with the Mennonites. They shared the belief in adult baptism, and were thus known as “Anabaptists”. Leadership was provided by elders rather than ministers ordained by an exterior hierarchy. Church policy was established by annual gatherings in a congregational format open to all members. Some ceremonies, such as the washing of feet, were also shared. A visible demarcation from the Mennonites was the belief in triple immersion baptism. This was done in a river or creek. The adult being baptized knelt in the water, fully clothed, and was immersed three times. The name “Dunker” comes from this practice of immersion baptism. In German the term was "Tunken", meaning "to dip or immerse".

The Dunkers separated themselves from the Mennonites in the early 1700s. The initial group formed around 1708 in Schwarzenau, Wittgenstein, about five miles north of Heidelberg. John Naas was one of the prominent leaders of the early church. The Elders moved from community to community sharing their religion and baptizing the converts by immersion. There was resistance to the religion from rulers of various principalities, causing the imprisonment of six members in Dusseldorf in 1714. Several Dunker communities were forced to move from place to place. In 1719 the first group of Dunkers came to Pennsylvania. The Dunkers in America baptized their first new members on 25 December 1723 in the Wissahickon Creek. Hans Heinrich Landis and wife Elizabeth Hirt were two of this group.

The European and American Dunker communities experienced schisms. Sometimes these were based on interpretation of the Bible, as happened with the Ephrata Commune in Pennsylvania.
when Conrad Beissel adopted a practice of Saturday as the day of worship. He also established a communal living pattern which separated the sexes. In other incidents the issue was church control of individual behavior. A significant split in the group happened in Krefeld before coming to America. There was apparently a disagreement over the question of whether a member who married outside the community would be excommunicated. John Naas argued against this extreme measure, but the community there split over the issue. Another example of regulating social behavior took place in New Jersey and also involved John Naas. His daughter, a single young woman, was criticized for sitting in the lap of a man for too long a time. The community wanted to exert discipline regarding young people socializing and wanted to exclude her from the breaking of bread. Naas argued against this action and the Amwell church group divided over the issue.

By the late 1800s the Dunkers had split into three distinct congregations along doctrinal lines. Those groups are currently known as The Brethren Church, The Church of the Brethren, and The Old German Baptist Brethren Church. In 1926 a fourth group, The Dunkard Brethren Church, was formed. Ten or more additional groups can now be identified.

These disagreements suggest that the Dunker communities were close groups of families who took seriously the tenants of their faith. In Europe and America liked-minded people were part of an identifiable group, defined by that faith. Although their immediate neighbors were not all Dunkers, they made an effort to be close enough to come together for worship in members' homes. This gathering for a simple shared meal, known as the “love feast” and communion, might only be once a year. Community worship, however, was a weekly event on the Sabbath, with hymns a part of the gatherings. No work was permitted on this day. Marriages were likewise in family homes before 1800 with no fixed service. The gathering would include reading of scripture, prayer, and hymns. Funerals were also a religious ceremony which celebrated life. Graves were located by stones from the field rather than headstones and may have been unmarked during this period.

Over time the Dunkers adopted a simple living approach to life, rejecting frivolous things although more open to the outside world than the Amish. This “nonconformity” to the world put emphasis in daily life on the virtues of humility and self-denial. After 1800 the women generally wore a simple prayer cap and plain clothes as suggested by church policy. The men generally had long beards but no hair on the upper lip. The Dunkers took a strong stand against slavery. They did not take oaths or swear to the truth when called for a jury.

Pacifism was another belief, and most did not join militias. They may have shown support in other ways, however, such as paying extra taxes. This set the Dunkers apart from their neighbors as early as 1756 in the French and Indian War conflicts. Significant problems arose during the Revolutionary War. By 1779 many church members supported the official church policy based upon their view of the ordering of church and state. They saw themselves as subject to the political authority established by God, and since it wasn’t clear that God had shifted from the English King to the colonists, they could not in good conscience repudiate the King. This led to conflicts with patriots in communities where oaths of allegiance were demanded.
The Dunker communities were farming groups, as was characteristic of the majority of the population from the colonial years into the mid-1800s. The communities included crafts people, like the Landis men, who provided the group items such as saddles, barrels, etc. They were hard-working, efficient in what they did, and all members of their large families spent their days tending to the many chores of the farm. Prayer was shared by the family in the mornings and the evenings. The men learned to read and write, at least well enough to read the bible, but women were generally uneducated. The German language was maintained by some communities into the mid-1800s. Migration, frequently with other church members, often brought larger land ownership which then could support the sons in the family as they established their own households.

The Dunkers did not keep church records in the early years, but the history of the church has been well documented, and genealogies of families have been published. The following list includes some of these sources.

Bibliography


**The United Brethren Church**

This church had its beginnings in America as part of the "great revivlist" movement of the mid-1700s. At a large revivlist meeting in 1767 two men Martin Boehm, a Mennonite preacher, and Philip William Otterbein, a German Reformed pastor, discovered a common approach to their relationship with God. Each man wished to be more openly expressive of his religion than
permitted in the structure of his church. They formed a loose movement which spread to German speaking churches in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Ohio. In 1800 a conference gave structure to the United Brethren Church and Boehm and Otterbein were elected Bishops. A Confession of Faith was adopted in 1815.

A relationship between the United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church existed from the beginning. Boehm, excluded by the Mennonites, joined the Methodist church. The Bishop of the Methodist Church spoke at the memorial services for both men. Over the years the church split into two groups and finally in 1968 the largest section joined with the Methodist Church and is today the United Methodist Church. The remnant, still called the United Brethren Church, was led by Milton Wright, father of Wilbur and Orville. ¹

The Church was fast growing with 200,000 members and six bishops by 1889. The expansion of the church was supported by circuit riding preachers who periodically visited the congregations they established. Joseph Hoffman was one of these preachers, being one of only three persons ordained by Philip Otterbein personally. This followed Joseph's personal religious experience at age 21 and his moving from central Pennsylvania to Baltimore, Maryland where Otterbein was living in 1801. By 1803 Joseph was licensed to preach and became a circuit rider. Following Otterbein's death in 1813 he became the pastor of Otterbein's Baltimore church for 3 years. In 1821 he was elected Bishop for a 4 year term. It was said of him that he was a powerful preacher in both German and English, much in demand at camp meetings. On one occasion it was reported that his voice was distinctly heard a mile from where he was preaching. ² He became Bishop in the early years of the antislavery stand by the church.

Joseph's brother George Hoffman was pastor of the Concord United Brethren Church in Englewood, Montgomery County, Ohio. Another brother, John, was also a pastor in the United Brethren Church, beginning in central Pennsylvania and then in Liberty, Jefferson Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. He was known as "Rev" at his death. John's daughter, Elizabeth, remained in the faith; the family bible she gave to her son Levi was published by the United Brethren Publishing House. Levi's wife Annie Baker had, by tradition, belonged to the Dunker faith, but she converted to the United Brethren Church.³

Migration Paths

These families came to America via Pennsylvania and over a period of 100 years moved on to Preble and Montgomery Counties in southwestern Ohio. Some went south to Virginia or North Carolina and crossed the Appalachian Mountains through the Cumberland Gap. Others headed west from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh and either down the Ohio River or across Ohio by road.

¹ The United Brethren Church,[ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_the_United_Brethren_in_Christ, downloaded 30 October 2012]
"Road" was not an appropriate term before 1796, when the path through the Cumberland Gap to Kentucky was widened so that wagons could travel. Following Daniel Boone’s first crossing with a group of settlers in 1769, the path was widened to accommodate pack horses. This was the status of travel in 1783 for the Frame and Magill families.

Leaving the Staunton area (north of Lexington on the above map) the travelers followed the Great Wagon Road South. 245 miles later they arrived at the Block House, the last outpost of settlement in Virginia. After leaving the Block House, these families faced 200 miles devoid of any settlement. Five major river crossings and two difficult ascents challenged the travelers as well as the problems coming down the other sides. Indian raids along the trail were a constant threat as well.

No record survives of the Frame and Magill migration. In fact, the exact date they left is not entirely clear although it was probably 1783. A

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6 Located 1 mile north of the present day North Carolina and Tennessee border.
record does survive of a group of settlers from the Staunton area of Augusta County where these families lived, however. If they were not part of this group which left Staunton in October 1784, their experience was probably quite similar.

The group was members of the joint Tinkling Spring and Staunton congregations, as were the Frames and Magills. They gathered in October of 1784 with their pack horses and provisions. The animals were heavily laden with thongs on each side of the pack saddles to tie on bundles and sometimes two hickory baskets. Cows were taken to provide milk along the way. Colonel James Knox agreed to lead the party as he was familiar with the trail.

Others joined the group as they traveled south on the Great Road to the Holston area of Virginia. At this point the group included 300 people. This party went on the alternative route to Bean's Station, by which time there were 500 people strung out along the trail. Anticipating Indian problems, Colonel Knox had armed guards at both ends of the line with women, children, and pack horses in the middle. Clinch Mountain was the first steep ascent; many animals lost their footing due to the constant rain. Signs of Indian presence were spotted and the men were alert. Eight men on horses passed the group, rejecting the advice to stay with them for safety. When the Knox party rounded a corner ahead they found the mutilated remains of the 8 men, and stopping to bury them, they camped for the night. After this experience men were sent ahead to scout the precipices above the mountain passes, and, although evidence of Indian presence was found, they passed through without incident.

Other problems were encountered by the group when fording a swollen stream with the near loss of two women on horseback, as well as two Negro children. Measles broke out in epidemic proportions on the trip causing additional hardship. Despite these problems the group safely reached its destination. 7

The Frames and Magills arrived in the area that became Kentucky after the worst of the Indian problems subsided, but raids from across the Ohio River continued. White settlers were taking the hunting grounds of the Indians in Kentucky and their settlements in Ohio. Although the British were defeated in the Revolutionary War, they continued to encourage the Indians to resist the Americans. In spite of these problems, the year 1783 was a turning point for the settlements moving from continual defense to a greater feeling of safety. Great numbers of newcomers settled everywhere. The Frames and Magills were among thousands of families who arrived in these years. 8

After a failed Indian treaty in 1785, the new Northwest Territory was created by the Americans in 1787, including the Ohio area where the Indians had been promised a safe haven. Raiding parties crossed the Ohio River striking against the whites, killing settlers and livestock and taking captives. The Kentucky settlers lived again in fear and men were recruited to join the militias. In 1792 all men ages 18-45 were liable for militia duty. It wasn't until General Wayne defeated the Indians at the battle at Fallen Timbers that the Indian problems stopped with the

Greenville treaty signed in 1795. It can be said that Kentucky was no longer a true pioneer experience.

The Landis, Niswonger, Strader, and Dillman families crossed through the Cumberland Gap between 1804 and 1816. They had the benefit of easier travel with the widening of the road and lack of Indian interference. They could take wagons for the trip, thereby greatly improving their ability to move their possessions. Most likely they also brought livestock to start their new farms. No record exists for these trips, so it is not known if they spent time in Kentucky before crossing the Ohio River. It does not seem likely, however, as each family had a connection with the Ohio area. Following the Wilderness Road through Lexington, they could cross on ferries to Cincinnati. From there they traveled an additional 50 miles to Montgomery and Preble Counties.

The Ohio River

The Ohio River voyage started most often 10 miles down the Monongahela River from Pittsburgh at Redstone (now Fayette County) Pennsylvania. Boats for the one way trip were commissioned there. Cumbersome rectangles 30-50 feet long and 12-20 feet wide, their flat bottoms made them hard to steer with a single oar. The design was intended to slow the boat in the river current. They were also fragile; built without nails and intended for a one way trip allowing the owner to dismantle them and use the wood for building on his land. A description from 1802 called them a "floating house":

They are of a square form, some longer than others; their sides are raised four feet and a half above the water; their length is from fifteen to fifty feet; the two extremities are square, upon one of which is a kind of awning, under which the passengers shelter themselves when it rains.

The trip from Redstone to Cincinnati was generally about 2 weeks, but could be less if the water was right or more if delayed by winds, water levels, or hazards such as sand bars and buried logs in the river. Before 1800 travelers did not stop at night as they feared an Indian attack. By the time the Bakers made the trip in 1804, however, this was not a problem. They found small settlements along the river banks where needed supplies could be obtained and where they could stop for the night. A roof over their heads and regularly prepared meals would have been a welcome improvement on the trip. The threat of Indian attack had ended.

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11 Eslinger, Running Mad for Kentucky: Frontier Travel Accounts, p 13, 14, 63.
The river itself was difficult to navigate, with shifting sandbars, snags and rocks that could pose danger to the boats. Once started you had to keep going as navigating upriver wasn't possible. The current was the main power that pushed you along. Fortunately the trip to Preble and Montgomery Counties did not require contending with the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville, a major obstacle for those who had to head further west.

The families followed here stopped at Cincinnati. At that point they probably took the road developed from an Indian trail by General Wayne in 1793. It crossed Seven Mile Creek at Eaton, Twin Creek at Lexington, and on to Wolf Creek at what is now Brookville. It is also possible that they came via Dayton and then to the northwest.

No record of the trip made by the Baker family in 1804 survives, but they would logically have gone by the river route. Starting in Somerset County, Pennsylvania they likely traveled over the Forbes road to the Redstone/Pittsburgh area. Descending the river by flatboat to Cincinnati, they needed their wagon to continue on to Montgomery County.

Daniel Turner and his brother John made the trip from Mifflin County in central Pennsylvania about 1820. Daniel was a young, unmarried man traveling with his brother's family. The National Road, currently US Highway 40, was paved as far as Wheeling (now West Virginia) by 1818. Since it was not paved into Ohio by 1820, it is likely that the Turners also used the river to move west. They could have entered the river at Wheeling, saving some time. Flatboats were still in use at this time for travel such as theirs, although steamers were seen along the river and keelboats were popular to move produce up river to Pittsburgh.

Johannes Hoffman and his family also came from central Pennsylvania, starting in Perry County. Their trip was probably not until 1838, following the sale of his land. This family most likely traveled by wagon all the way to Montgomery County. Coming south from Perry County to Carlisle, they likely joined the Forbes Road to Pittsburgh. From there they could cross the Ohio River by ferry and continue on the National Road which crossed all of Ohio and was paved all the way to their destination.

North Carolina Back Country

The Strader and Weinig families moved further south along the wilderness or Great Wagon Road than the others, going to the "Back Country" area of North Carolina. This region had many characteristics that set it apart from Virginia or Pennsylvania, and thus requires background information.

The "Back Country", also known as the Piedmont area, refers to the north central section of North Carolina stretching along the Virginia border, including the modern day counties of Granville, Orange, Alamance and Guilford. Gently rolling hills and creek bottoms, created by the many creeks and rivers that cross the area, characterize the region. The soil, built by years of flooding in the creek bottoms, was favorable for farming.
I found in April 2005 that spring in this country was magic. The dogwoods were in bloom and the azaleas were coming out. The biggest surprise was the wisteria which grew wild and climbed to the top of the pine and oak trees. It was cold and rainy when visiting the Alamance Battleground but the flowers still glowed. The gently rolling hills gave a lovely aspect to the land. I felt I could hunker down between the rolling hills and find a cozy solitude.

Two Groups of Settlers

Both ethnic groups, Germans and Scots-Irish, were the first settlers in the region. They came 400 miles down the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania through the Shenandoah Valley and into North Carolina. Initially the preferred route was into the area from the east side through Granville County. By 1760 the common route left from Roanoke to Martinsville, across to Danville (all in Virginia), and then south to Hillsborough. Once the traffic started heading south, the numbers were impressive. The first big wave of settlers came about 1746, causing the creation of Orange County in 1752. The reason for the movement to the area was easy to understand. A settler could buy the same amount and quality of land for 1/10 the price of that available in Pennsylvania.

Coming down the same road, the two groups settled in distinct areas; the Scots-Irish generally east of the Haw River and the Germans, including the Straders and Weinigs, west of the Haw River. There was little mixing between the two communities as each ethnic group went to its own church and married within its own group. There was also a language barrier that remained until the early 1850s.

Political Problems

The word was about in Pennsylvania as early as 1755 that land was good and cheap in the "Back County", but also that title was hard to come by. In fact, the land grant mechanisms were in total chaos. The English King granted land to Lord Granville, who hired two agents, both known to be corrupt, to handle his paperwork. They in turn hired others who were out to make money on their efforts. To make matters worse, Grenville's land office was closed from 1766 to 1773 following Granville's death and confusion over his estate. This effectively stopped the registration of land titles.

Unfortunately, the King granted Henry McCullough land that overlapped the area already given to Granville. Both men were selling the same parcels. Finally in 1763 the two signed an agreement which recognized McCullough's right to sell land, but Granville's office continued to sell McCullough's land.

The first McCullough tracts were registered with the county in 1757, although settlers had probably been on the land for 10 years or more. In 1761 McCullough sent his son to determine who was on his land and collect purchase fees. This resulted in the 1763 registration of deeds by 130 men in Orange County, North Carolina, including the Strader family. Prices were inflated by the improvements the settlers themselves had made. One third of the cost had to be paid up front, the rest in 3 years at 6% interest, compounded. McCullough's land was sold for £35 for 350 acres.
or the equivalent of 230 days work. There were also the usual fees to record the deed requiring payment of £4 10s 10d. Forfeiture happened immediately if any payment was missed.

The chaotic government conditions did not end with these problems in obtaining title to land. Taxes were fairly low but the Crown set a fee schedule for officials performing their duties. In the back country no attention was paid to the fee schedule and officials charged what the market would bear. The Sheriff might confiscate a pig or other possessions to cover inflated fees and then walk off with the proceeds.

The small circle of officials profiting from these practices was protected by a voting system which was limited to those very few who held title to land. Moreover, votes were taken in public in front of the officials. The only authority of appeal was the Governor and Assembly in the eastern part of the state, and they didn’t respond to the complaints they received. Money was always in very short supply causing serious difficulty as taxes had to be paid in cash. Wheat was the crop raised for cash, but access to markets was limited due to bad roads.

All of the above conditions led to the Regulator movement, an attempt to state the grievances of the people. Begun in 1766, several petitions or “advertisements” were signed by many members of the community. The petition from 1768 had the broadest support with 474 signatures, including that of Henry Strader. Signing the petition was followed by confrontations at the courthouse in Hillsborough. In 1770 the Governor and his troops fired canons on approximately 2,000 citizens of the area, only half of whom were armed. Following this one confrontation, the Governor withdrew but local leaders were arrested and tried by the courts. The Battle of Alamance caused some of the grievances to be corrected but the issues were not resolved when the Revolutionary War began in 1775. In fact, the men against whom the Regulators had protested took leadership positions under the banner of the Revolution. The same corrupt officials remained in power until the mid-1830s.

The Revolutionary War

The question of whether to support the Revolution was complicated for many in this area. The Scots-Irish tended to join the new government quickly. Their history of being religious dissenters in Europe may have cleared the way for their actions. Land title was not as important to them as livestock, and many had not made the extreme efforts required to secure the land where they lived. In addition, they had a history of settling disputes with violence.

Many of the Germans were conflicted. If they had secured their land title they had nothing to gain from the establishment of state land grants which only perpetuated the chaos in land ownership by opening up many conflicting claims. In fact, they might lose land in the process. If they had actively supported the Regulator movement, they did not like the continuation of the same officials against whom they had fought. They saw themselves as supporting laws in the Regulator movement, not rebelling against them as happened in 1776. Some maintained a low profile and joined the Tory militias only after 1780 with the invasion of the south by British troops.
Some families fought on both sides as happened with the Strader family; John and George fought for the Rebels while their brother Henry joined the British.

Although the war began in North Carolina with the first battle between Tories and Rebels in 1776, it wasn't until May of 1780 that armies from both sides began to arrive in the "Back Country". The passage of troops from both sides caused loss of life as well as destruction of crops, livestock, and homes. Two thousand British troops headed south through the area in June, and then Yankee Horatio Gates arrived in July to rally a Rebel army. By August Gates' defeat at Camden caused his troops to return.

In each case the armies were hungry and foraging for supplies. The extent of the problem is shown by a letter from Governor Thomas Burke to General Gates and the Continental Congress giving notice that the citizens would defend their property with firearms if necessary. Certificates were to be given when grain and other supplies were taken, but it seldom happened. The rebels were without shoes so all hides were collected and a shoe factory was set up. Women were recruited to sew uniforms. Eventually Gates was convinced that he could not be supported over the winter in Hillsborough and he left for Salisbury.

In 1781 the situation was even worse. Yankee Morgan was victorious at Cowpens in South Carolina but he had to flee north following the battle. Residents from the south of the state also came north to escape the advancing British troops. On February 20th General Cornwallis moved his large army into Hillsborough, and the local Committee for Safety cleared supplies from a 10 mile area around the city to prevent the British troops from provisioning. Not finding supplies, the army then moved on to the German area west of the Haw River for three days, taking everything they could find from the populace. Women with the British army took so much clothing that Cornwallis had to order some of it destroyed. This was the home of the Straders.

In the meantime, Nathaniel Greene moved his Patriots into the area as well, joining in the foraging for supplies. Both armies resided here for about a month before the Battle of Guilford Courthouse took place on 15 March 1781. One example of the treatment received by the local populace was that of miller Jacob Henry Trollinger. At age 63 Trollinger complained to Cornwallis personally about taking all of his flour and grain. He was tied to a tree with a bridle as a gag in his mouth and left to be found by his neighbors. Trollinger lived near the Strader property and his descendant married into the Weinig family. The fear and uncertainty of the civilian population can only be imagined as the battle of Guilford Courthouse could be heard from the homes west of Haw River.

The Pyle Massacre

A specific example of fighting in the area is told in the story of the Pyle Massacre which involved Henry Strader.

On 24 February 1781, prior to the Guilford Courthouse battle, John Pyle from Chatham County was leading a group of Tories to join up with Colonel Tarleton and then go to Hillsborough with General Cornwallis. Pyle had been recruiting from the countryside and had about 200-300 men on horse who had no training. One of these men was Henry Strader. One report said they had
been visiting in the countryside as they came and had been drinking along the way in celebration of their adventure. As they approached Michael Holt’s land off of the Salisbury/Hillsborough Road, they were met by a troop of Patriots under the leadership of “Light Horse” Harry Lee and Andrew Pickens, who had been looking for Tarleton.

Lee’s troops wore a green uniform similar to that of Tarleton. Seeing the troop approach and assuming it was Tarleton, Pyle’s militia pulled off to the right side of the road. Lee led his troop past the line to meet with Pyle. At some point the Patriots began attacking Pyle’s men and a massacre followed. There was no resistance from Pyle’s men. At least 93 were killed and many more wounded. It was reported that 6 who were taken prisoners were shot. The encounter took place within 5 miles of the Henry Strader’s Guilford County property.

Henry Strader and his neighbor John Sommers were part of Pyle’s troop as shown by the British records of wounded who were treated 9-24 April 1781 in the Wilmington Hospital. It is likely that they escaped from the encounter with Lee and Pickens and joined Cornwallis’s troops. It is not known if they were wounded at the Guilford Courthouse Battle.

On 25 April, Cornwallis headed to Virginia, and it is likely that Henry went with his army since he had been discharged from the hospital. The army went first to Richmond, then to Charlottesville, and then returned to Richmond. After the battle at Green Spring, Cornwallis withdrew to Portsmouth and then went to Yorktown. The surrender at Yorktown took place 19 October 1781.

Henry Strader and John Sommers are next listed as Prisoners of War on 23 April 1782 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania as part of Captain N N Hunter’s Company, North Carolina Volunteers. Henry’s name is listed as Stradon, but the presence of John Sommers in the same company confirms that it is Henry Strader. Next to his name is “missing 8 December 1781”. The meaning of this is unknown. The troops held in Lancaster had been in the battle on the Gloucester peninsula in Virginia across from Yorktown at the surrender. The prisoners in Lancaster were sent to New York and then New Brunswick as part of a prisoner exchange following the treaty of Paris in September 1783.

During the years of Henry's absence a visit made by the Moravian Brothers documented the hardship on the settlers of the Travis Creek, Guilford County area. Their diary entry for 30 July 1782 is as follows:

Since the last visit in Stinking Quarter, more than two years ago, our friends there have fallen into distress and need, especially during the time when both armies were near them, and through their own fault since most of them behaved as Tories. Three lost their lives, among them the well-known Schumacher. Heinrich Stredor and Joh. Sommer have not dared to appear to this hour, since they went with the English army; and their families doubt whether they are still living. Others have gone to the mountains, among them Kinnerling and Philipp Ludwig, whom I find on a list made by Br. Ernst. Through these circumstances the others have become subdued, are behaving with caution, and are obeying the orders of the authorities.

... The corn fields look astonishingly bad, and people doubt whether they will have any harvest, even if it rains soon... Jacob Hold and Reich told so many stories of deeds of violence which are still taking place in
the neighborhood, that one could not listen without sorrow. Last week a man was made a cripple for a minor matter, and another was murdered... 12

Migration from the Back Country

Gradually lives were rebuilt after the war. Henry Strader, the Tory, was able to return from Canada and buy property in Orange County once again. It is not surprising, however, that many Germans and Scots-Irish moved out of the area following the war. The lure of the land had drawn them south from Pennsylvania. Now the continuing political problems and better, less expensive land pushed them west.

They traveled back up the road to Roanoke and then south on the Great Wagon Road until they branched off for the Wilderness Road over the mountains and into Kentucky. Alternatively they could travel west across North Carolina and meet up with the Wilderness Road in Sapling Grove, now Bristol, Virginia. The Straders crossed Kentucky through Lexington, north to the Ohio River where they crossed into Cincinnati, and on to Montgomery and Preble County in Ohio.

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DILLMAN Family

Line of Descent: Jacob, Jacob, Joseph, Jonathan W, Oliver Franklin, Eulalia [married Benjamin Franklin Van Kirk]

Jacob Dillman, the first generation found in Pennsylvania, converted to the Dunker religion. Jacob's movements can be followed by his participation in Dunker communities in Pennsylvania and Virginia. His son Jacob moved on to Ohio, and it appears that he and his son Joseph were also part of the Dunker community in Preble County, Ohio. The evidence of the Dunker faith is reinforced by the spouses of the children, most of who were known to be Dunkers.

The break with this religious tradition comes with Jonathan W and his son Oliver. I find it interesting that no tradition of the Dunker religion was passed down in the family; I was surprised to find the connection.

Another observation references the role of the women. Within the Dunker faith the man of the household makes the decisions, but circumstances forced a change in the last three generations. Catherine Landis Dillman, wife of Joseph, was left a widow at age 48 with 9 children under the age of 15. She raised her family on her own for 14 years before she remarried. In her late 70s, following the death of her second husband, she took her children to court to claim inheritance from her first husband's estate, and she won. She died at age 88 years.

Jonathan Dillman deserted his wife and son of two years in 1864. Susan Frame Dillman never remarried and raised Oliver on her own. She worked as a dressmaker to support them. When Oliver married she lived with his family and continued to be a strong influence on family dynamics. She lived to age 94.

Finally, Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk was widowed at age 49. Her children were adults at this time, so she was freed from child rearing responsibilities. She never remarried, however, and lived an independent life of travel and managing an apartment house to support herself. She was an active participant in the lives of her grandchildren. She died at age 97.

Genealogical Summary

Although there has been interest in the Dillman Family history over the years, there is still uncertainty about the first two generations in America. One source of information comes from John Hawkins who on 25 October 1888 gave a summary of information he collected on the immigrant ancestor, Jacob Dillman and his son Jacob. John Hawkins was the great grandson of the first Jacob. Known as the "Dillman Family Wheel" he listed all the children and spouses for
the two Jacobs. No source documentation is given. This information appears to be possible from
the residence of spousal families in the same location as the Dillmans. ¹

In 1912, my great-grandfather, Oliver Franklin Dillman, corresponded with the Dillman Family
Association, 1104 S Wabash Ave, Chicago. I have a letter of that date from Louis C Dillman, the
secretary, giving what he knows of the family. Oliver left a typed summary of the information he
collected. He gave information on the origins in Europe that does not appear to be correct. Oliver
listed the family beginning with Jacob, his great-great-grandfather, and ending with his great-grandchildren.²

The first Jacob and his son are seldom found in records in Pennsylvania, making it difficult to
follow the family prior to their arrival in Virginia. Their known affiliation with the Dunker
Church and the family names of the spouses of children are the most reliable trace. The line of
descent as stated above is presented here followed by information on a possible German family
and additional Dillman information. It is hoped that others continue the research.

First Generation

Jacob DILLMAN died between 1790 and 1792 when he was dropped from the tax lists in
Franklin County, Virginia.³ In his family history, Oliver Dillman said of this Jacob, “He died in
Franklin County Virginia on the farm from which our parents [son Jacob and wife Margaret]
moved when they came to Ohio...”⁴ The first Jacob will be referred to as Jacob Sr to distinguish
him from his son.

No record of marriages for Jacob Sr has been found, but it appears he was married at least twice.
In 1786 no wife signed his deed of sale, but wife Elizabeth appeared for questioning regarding
her dower right. This is the only reference to wife Elizabeth found. In 1788 when daughter
Elizabeth married she was referred to as the daughter of Jacob and Christina, suggesting that
Elizabeth was a second wife and not the mother of the children. It is unknown if Christina was
the mother of all the children.⁵

The first possible record for Jacob Sr is a reference in the Dunker Conestoga Church, Cocalico,
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1744 when Jacob Delman’s [sic] wife was baptized into the
church. This is of particular interest since the Jacob Dillman followed here was known to be part
of the Dunker community in Franklin County, Virginia and Preble County, Ohio. The Flora and

¹ John Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel, (Newsletter of Fellowship of Brethren, Located at
Brethren Heritage Center, Brookville, Ohio). John was the son of Bluford Hawkins and Magdalena Dillman,
daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Spitler. His work is known as the “Dillman Family Wheel”
² Oliver Franklin Dillman, History of Dillman Family, original sources unknown. Written between 1913 and 1921.
From author to Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk, to Beverly Brice 1529 Washington, Port Townsend, WA 98368
³ Virginia Commission of Revenue (Franklin County), Personal Property Tax List 1786-1850 (Richmond, Virginia:
⁴ Dillman, History of Dillman Family.
⁵ Marshall Wingfield, Marriage Bonds of Franklin County, Virginia (Berryville, Virginia: Virginia Book Company,
1987).
Spitler families, later associated with Jacob's children, were also part of the Conestoga congregation. [see Hans Georg at end of chapter for discussion of these confusing references] ⁶

York County is the likely location for the next step in Jacob Sr's travels. The census of the Cordorus Dunker Church in 1770 lists Jacob Tilman and wife and daughter as members. Jacob Sr had a son Jacob by this time but he was probably not married until after 1770, so this church reference likely refers to Jacob Sr. ⁷

Included in the same Cordorus Dunker Church census with Jacob Dillman were George Beery and wife, and Jacob Spitler and wife and two daughters. Sally, daughter of Jacob Sr, married a Jacob Spitler and she was old enough to be married by this time in York County. Jacob Spitler's father had originally warranted land in Shrewsbury Township in 1762, suggesting the marriage was in York County. Jacob's elder daughter Mary married George Beery/Piery and she was also old enough to be married in 1770. George's father Nickolas had come to the area in 1744, again suggesting that the marriage took place in York County. This places the Jacob Sr followed here in York County in 1770. ⁸

In 1772 George Beery warranted land in Shrewsbury Township which was patented by Conrad Preiss in 1774 showing that George did not pursue title to this land. George was fined in 1777 for failure to participate in the militia, indicating that he remained in the area. No Dillman was included in this list although Jacob Jr's age made him eligible. ⁹ In the tax list of 1779 Jacob Deelman, George Peary, and Jacob Spitler were all listed in Shrewsbury Township. Since only one Jacob is listed, probably Jacob Jr did not own land at this time. ¹⁰

Land is warranted or surveyed in the name of Jacob Dillman in both Cordorus and Shrewsbury Townships in York County as follows. ¹¹ No deeds are found for these transactions as the warrant rights or surveys were “sold” without registration.

- 14 May 1767, warrant and survey 200 acres Cordorus Township, surveyed by Jacob but no date and patented by George Krebs 1809.
- 18 April 1770, survey 57.43 acres Cordorus Township, warrant Casper Keefer 1753 and patented Samuel Winter 1810.
- 18 April 1770, survey 74.86 acres Cordorus Township, warrant Casper Keefer 1753 and patented Samuel Winter 1810 “Summer Hill”. The land survey sold by Jacob to Frederick Hobies 12 February 1771.

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⁸ Hawkins, *Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel*.
- 28 March 1774, warrant 30 acres Cordorus Township, survey and patent George Krebs and Henry Rohrbaugh, 12 April 1774 survey Ludwig Krebs and patented 1809 George Krebs.
- 12 August 1783 mortgage Henry Pantzler to George Krebs of Cordorus Township; Jacob Dillman neighbor with George Hoover and Conrad Subinger.

At this time it is not known if this represents one Jacob Dillman or two and whether they are both part of the family here presented. It is possible that the Jacob in Shrewsbury was distinct from the Jacob in Cordorus. Both locations are within the area serviced by the Cordorus Dunker Church. George Beery/Piery held land in Shrewsbury Township and Jacob Spitler resided in Springfield Township, also served by the church. The last reference in 1783 likely refers to a distinct Jacob as Jacob Sr followed here was in Virginia by this time.

In the 1790 York County census a Jacob is listed in "mixed township" and Henry and John in York Township. This shows a second Dillman family lived in York County by this time as the family followed here was in Virginia by 1790. This second family could be related through Hans Georg. [see Hans George below]

**Family in Virginia**

A charismatic preacher in the Dunker Church, Jacob Miller, established a new Dunker congregation in Bedford (now Franklin) County, Virginia before 1775. Following the Revolutionary War, those who had not participated actively in the militias in Pennsylvania and Maryland often moved south. Virginia became a place of greater religious tolerance as the Anglican Church was separated from the state. Miller’s community began to grow. By about 1780 a second Dunker community was forming in Botetourt County, just on the other side of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Jacob Sr and his son Jacob Jr and son/brother Daniel as well as sons-in-law George Beery/Piery and Jacob Flora followed the Great Wagon Road south. They went as far as the Big Lick on the Roanoke River (now Roanoke, Virginia) and across the Blue Ridge Mountains through the Roanoke River Gap. This route was just west of the present US Highway 220. The trail crossed Maggoty Creek and the Blackwater River on its way to the Carolinas. This is the area where the new Dunker group gathered. It is possible that they stopped in Strasburg on the way south as there was a settlement there owned by the Funk brothers who were Dunkers.

This Dillman family was definitely living in the southern Virginia area by 1782. Jacob, a second Jacob and Daniel
signed the petition that year requesting a new county be formed from Bedford.\textsuperscript{12} The names of Jacob Sr, Jacob Jr, and Daniel Dillman appear in tax records in Bedford County from 1782 to 1785 when Franklin County was formed.\textsuperscript{13} In 1784 a Jacob purchased 148 acres described as from Griffith’s Corner. In 1785 111 acres were purchased on Griffith’s Creek. The family was in the area before this deed, so not all records have been located.

A May 2009 visit to the Maggoty Creek area of Franklin County, Virginia suggested that this wasn’t ideal farm land. Tucked up against the East side of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the area is reached on state route 739 west of highway 220 at Boones Mill. Since it is in the foot hills of the Blue Ridge it is sharply hilly land with a few flatter areas along creeks. There was plenty of water from the creeks and the soil along the creek bottoms was good for farming. Today most of the farms have been sold for homes, most likely to people from Roanoke which is 10 miles up the highway. Several Dunker Churches are still found in the hills and it remains home for many church members. This was a good area for a community that wanted to be distinct and separate from the world.\textsuperscript{14}

Records for father Jacob Sr and son Jacob Jr can be easily confused in Franklin County. It appears that Jacob Sr sold 156 acres of land to his son-in-law Michael Peters in 1786. Jacob Sr still owned land at this time as “his line” is referenced in the deed, suggesting that not all deeds have been located for the Dillmans.\textsuperscript{15} The tax records in Bedford/Franklin counties from 1782 to 1790 show that Jacob Sr owned 2 horses the first two years and one after that. He also had cattle, as many as 6 in 1786. By 1790 he was taxed for only 1 horse.\textsuperscript{16}

Daniel Dillman appears in Bedford/Franklin County, Virginia at the same time as Jacob Sr. The relationship between Daniel and Jacob Sr is not clear. He could be a son, as stated in the Dillman Family Wheel. He could also be a brother since he seems in the position to buy considerable land at the same time as Jacob. The following is what is known about Daniel:

Daniel DILLMAN, married Betsy\textsuperscript{17} and died before 1819, Botetourt County, Virginia. The first reference to this Daniel is in Virginia records. Daniel had the first recorded Dillman land purchase in Franklin County, Virginia in 1783 when he bought 300 acres on Maggoty Creek. The deed mentions “where the said Dillman now lives.”\textsuperscript{18} The following year Daniel bought an additional 150 acres which is bound in part by “Jacob Dillman line.”\textsuperscript{19} In 1792 Daniel sold his land and moved to Botetourt County, likely in the Dunker

\begin{footnotes}
\item[12] Dorothy C Watts, \textit{Petitions of Residents of Bedford and Henry Counties Virginia in Favor of and Opposed to a New Franklin County.} The Virginia Genealogist, Ed, John Frederick Dorman, vol 24:83.
\item[13] \textit{Personal Property Tax} 1782-1875 Bedford County, Virginia, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) FHL film # 2024472.
\item[15] Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) FHL film # 31496 Book 2:239, 320.
\item[16] \textit{Personal Property Tax} 1782-1875 Bedford County, Virginia, FHL film # 2024472. Virginia Commission of Revenue (Franklin County), \textit{Personal Property Tax List} 1786-1850 (Richmond, Virginia: Virginia State Library, 1986), film # 2024540
\item[17] Hawkins, \textit{Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel}.
\item[18] Bedford County, Virginia Deed Book (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) FHL film #1940780 Book 7:226.
\item[19] Bedford County, Virginia Deed Book. FHL film #1940780, Book 7:288.
\end{footnotes}
Community there. He died there before 1819 when Michael Peters married Elizabeth Dillman in Botetourt. Betsy, or Elizabeth, is reported to be a Spitler. Michael Peters was previously married to Jacob's daughter Hannah.

Jacob DILLMAN Sr and possibly Christina had the following children as reported by family researchers. No proof has been found. The reported marriages for the daughters make sense from locations of the husbands' families in proximity to this Dillman family. The order of the children is uncertain.

i. Mary DILLMAN married George Beery/Piery/Peery before 1770 in York County, Pennsylvania. The location is from the residence of George's family in this county. They moved to Franklin County, Virginia and probably died there. Children reported to be: Elizabeth married David Kinsey in 1795, Mary married Abraham Miller 1791, Susannah married Jacob Miller in 1800, also possibly James William Peery m 1813.

ii. Jacob DILLMAN, married Margaret possibly LEHMAN, about 1774, maybe in York County, Pennsylvania. He died abt 1819 Preble County, Ohio.

iii. Sally DILLMAN married Jacob Spitler, probably in York County. Their children are reported to be: Jacob, Daniel, Michael, Barbara, Hannah, and Magdalena. This family lived in Augusta County, VA.

iv. Magdalene DILLMAN married Stephen Peters. The marriage was likely in Franklin County, Virginia as no record for the Peters family has been found prior to this location. In 1796 Stephen and Magdalena sold land in Franklin County, they residing in Botetourt County. Magdalena signs with her mark. Children reported as: John, m Betty Gosset, Stephen m Sallie Barhart, Hannah m Jacob Brubaker, Sallie m Jacob Flora, Betsey m John Rush, Jacob m Barbara Gossett, David m Christina Brubaker.

v. Hannah DILLMAN married Michael Peters. Michael was brother of Stephen so marriage also likely in Franklin County, Virginia. She died before 1820, Franklin County, Virginia when Michael signed a deed with wife Elizabeth. He likely married the wife of Daniel Dillman, son or brother of Jacob, in Botetourt County. Children: Michael m Mary Flora, Daniel m Betsy Eller, Jonathan m Katie Fisher.

vi. Barbara DILLMAN, born 1750 to 1760, married Jacob Flora', died before 1840, Preble County, Ohio as she is not in the 1840 census. Other researchers say they went to Stark County, Ohio.

vii. Elizabeth DILLMAN, born 1760 to 1770, married Samuel Flora on 17 April 1788, Franklin County, Virginia. The marriage records states she is daughter of Jacob and Christina Dillman. She died between 1840 and 1850, Franklin County, Virginia as she does not appear on the 1850 census.

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20 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) FHL film # 31496 Book 1 p 52.
21 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel.
22 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel.
23 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel. Will (Jacob Dillman), Preble County, Ohio Will Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) FHL film #564860 Book B p 25.
24 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel. David Sadler online [www.mm.com/user/santa].
25 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel. David Sadler, online [www.mm.com/user/santa].
26 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book. John Vogt and T William Kethley, Botetourt County Marriages 1770-1853, vol 1 (Athens, Georgia: Iberian Publishing Co, 1987) p392. Oliver Dillman reported that Jacob’s wife Margaret married Michael but deeds show her name was Elizabeth.
27 1830 US Census, Preble County, Ohio; National Archives M 19, Roll 138 p 35.
Second Generation

Jacob DILLMAN was probably born about 1750, but no evidence has been found for a birth date. It is possible that he married in York County, Pennsylvania although no records were found there that can be positively assigned to this man. He died after writing his will in January 1819 in Preble County, Ohio. He will be referred to as Jacob Jr to distinguish him from his father.

Wife of Jacob Jr

Jacob Jr’s wife was named Margaret in his will. Her name was reported as Margaret Lehman in the “Dillman Family Wheel”. No proof of her family has been found and it is not certain that Margaret was the mother of the children. The birth dates of the children are not known but the first son came of age in Virginia tax records suggesting a date of 1777. From this calculation, the marriage was likely at the start of the Revolutionary War. The location of the family at this time was York County, Pennsylvania.

Margaret was probably of the Dunker faith as were the other spouses of Jacob Jr’s siblings. No Lehman is listed as a member of the Cordorus Church in 1770, nor has a family been located in York County that could be Margaret’s. The family of George Lehman in Toneytown, Frederick County, Maryland is reported to have a daughter Margaret born in 1751. The age would work but the location raises a question. Toneytown was on the Pennsylvania border, below what is now Adams County, and thus 38 miles distant from the Dillmans of York County.

This family was apparently part of the Dunker Church in Frederick County. There were ties between the Frederick County and York County Dunker communities suggesting the families might have known each other. John Danner, the founder of the Cordorus Community moved on to Frederick County, Maryland. Members of the Frederick community, like the Landis Family, also went to Franklin County, Virginia.

Members of George Lehman’s family, son George and daughter Eva Dorothy Lehman Kessler, went south to Botetourt County, Virginia; the eventual location of Jacob Sr’s brother Daniel. There was a Daniel Lehman in Franklin County, Virginia in the Maggoty Creek area but his origins are unknown. It is not possible to identify Margaret’s family without additional information. Margaret did not name a son George after her supposed father.

Jacob’s wife, Margaret, is likely in the household of son David in the 1820 census. She is not found in 1830, probably dying between those years.

29 Will (Jacob Dillman), Preble County, Ohio Will Book, FHL film #564860 Book B p 25.
30 Hawkins, Transcribed from The Dillman Family Wheel.
31 JoAnne Hilton Family Group Sheet (Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio).
32 Daniel’s will was probated 27 Aug 1811 Franklin County, Will Book 1:380. It is possible that he was a brother.
33 1820 US Census, Preble County, Ohio., National Archives M33., roll 95 p 98.
Jacob Jr

Jacob Jr is clearly identified in records for the first time in Franklin County, Virginia when two Jacobs appeared on the tax list in 1784. He owned two horses and three cattle and continued in the records until 1800 with no horses and 6 cattle. These records suggest that Jacob Jr had a son turn 16 years in 1793. This could be John from later records. Additional sons 16 years are added in 1794, 1795, and 1796. While one could be Jacob Jr's son and another could be Michael, there is no identified option for the 4th as the other sons were too young to be on the list before 1800. Son Jacob was the only one listed in a separate household, as a Jacob Jr appears in 1799 and 1800, allowing for the possibility that Jacob Sr had died and Jacob Jr was now listed as "Sr". The interpretation of these records is difficult.34

Land was purchased and sold in Bedford and Franklin Counties by "Jacob Dillman." Not all records have been located and it is not always possible to be sure whether it was the Jacob Sr or Jacob Jr on the deed. Purchase and selling price for this land is often around £20. Perhaps the transactions were within the German Baptist or Dunker community?

- Jacob bought 148 acres, at Griffith's Corner on 23 November 1784 in Bedford (now Franklin), County, Virginia. Bought from William Mead of Bedford County. £20 "from Griffith's Corner white oak by road....Murphy line....Griffiths corner poplar" Wit Robert Mead, Joseph Wilson, Samuel Mead. This land was sold in 1801.35
- Jacob bought on Griffiths Creek 111 acres on 9 December 1785 in Bedford (now Franklin) County, Virginia. Deed registered in Franklin County. Land described in Bedford and Jacob "of Bedford" bought from George Griffith for £20 10 schillings. Boundary description "on Griffiths Creek... white oak on main road...hillside of Doc Russ[?]" Witness William Wright, Benjamin [?], James Wright. No sale of this land found.36
- Jacob bought 128 acres at Griffith's Corner on 2 November 1789 in Franklin County, Virginia, from Robert Mead for £20. Reference from "Griffith's corner white oak, his corner red oak, Griffith corner poplar on branch along his line, red oak on Griffith's old line". No witnesses listed. No sale of this land found.37
- Jacob sold the 148 acres he purchased 1784, on 29 May 1801 in Franklin County, Virginia. Jacob of Franklin County sold to Joseph Cliningbell for £200. Jacob's wife did not signed but she was examined for dower right. She was not named however. No witnesses listed. Not proven this was Jacob Jr who sold, but probable as shown in tax lists when Jacob Sr disappeared in 1790.38

On 3 June 1799 a Jacob was paid for one day service on a jury. Some Dunkers refused to serve on juries, but apparently Jacob did so.39 Although Jacob was of age during the Revolutionary War, no records for his participation have been located in Pennsylvania. This would be consistent with Dunker practices.

In 1799 members of the Dunker Church in the Maggoty Creek area sent a petition to the General Assembly suggesting that they could not perform military duty but would agree to be taxed to support the government in case of invasion or insurrection. Joseph Flora, Henry and Peter

34 Virginia Commission of Revenue (Franklin County), Personal Property Tax List 1786-1850, film # 2024540.
35 Bedford County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film # 1940780 Book 7 p 450.
36 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film # 31496 Book 1 p 66.
37 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film # 31496 Book 2 p 64.
38 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film # 31497 Book 4 p 121.
39 Franklin County, Virginia Court Order Books, (Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia), Book 3 p 404 film Franklin County #27.
Ikenberry, and Michael and Stephen Peters signed the petition but Jacob’s name is not found.  

Jacob’s neighborhood is described in two Road Orders:

- From 1786: Tobias Miller to Survey road from Little Creek to Maggotty Creek with... Jacob Crandle, Richard Richards, Will Dodd, Ira Landes, Ro [sic] West, Jno French, Danl French Jr, Richd McLary, Jacob McNeal, Jacob Dillman, Geo Price, John Altrick, John Bowman, Daniel Rudy, Stephen Potter, Will Thomas, Wm Clay... Delany, Chris Long & Michl Peters

- From the September 1792 Court Minutes. The road ran from Peter Ikenbury’s [Landis in-law] to Henry Brower [Husband of daughter Hannah] and thence along the ridge between John Bowman and Jacob Dillman, thence by George Peery [Jacob Dillman's brother-in-law] thence along a ridge to John Aldrich and along ridge to Richmond Road.

The Move to Ohio

Although it is not clear exactly when Jacob Jr moved his family to Ohio, he purchased land there in 1816. The reasons for the move are not documented, but many families from the Virginia community had already made the trip to this area of Ohio. Jacob Miller, the elder in the Dunker Church, went first about 1802 to the Dayton area. The Landis family, future in-laws, moved about 1804. Jacob’s sister Barbara Flora and family also moved to Ohio although his other siblings appear to have stayed in Virginia. Good farm land was available at lower cost than in Virginia and this was possibly a factor in the decision. It is likely that the family followed the Wilderness Road over the Cumberland Gap, went across Kentucky through Lexington to the Ohio River and then across the river to Cincinnati and on to Preble County.

Jacob Jr purchased 160 acres of land in Somers Township, Preble County. He purchased 50 additional acres from the Land Office prior to his death although it wasn’t recorded until 1820. Son Joseph inherited this land.

Three years after the first land purchase, on 11 January 1819, Jacob wrote his will where he mentioned his wife Margaret and his children. A daughter Mary, if indeed part of the family, had died before this time as she is not mentioned. Enough land had been acquired in Ohio to provide for the family in addition to cash bequests. Son Jacob received $1 suggesting that he had already received his inheritance. No record of this Jacob has been identified. The will implied that at least one of the family was not in Ohio, and the others are known to have moved West so possibly Jacob remained in Virginia. Land was left to David, Joseph, and Michael. Son John was likely established by this time as he received $50 as did married daughter Hannah Brower. Son Abraham received $100. Daughter Sally was unmarried and received $100 plus a cow. Jacob Jr

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43 *Preble County, Ohio Deed Book* (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah) vol 2:193.
45 Dillman Family notes from Lucille Dillman Smith, Rt 2, Box 219-A1, Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884 sent to Beverly Brice in 1990. Reference to bible record for this child but source unknown.
signed his will and deeds indicating that he was educated. 45

Daughter Sally appears in the 1850 census saying she was born in 1787 in Pennsylvania. Other evidence would suggest that the family had moved to Virginia by this date.

Jacob DILLMAN Jr and possibly Margaret had the following children, the order is uncertain:

i. Jacob DILLMAN married Susan BROWER, 7 children.  
   Jacob was left $1 in his father's will in 1819. This may suggests he was the oldest son and well established, and possibly not in Ohio. I cannot locate this Jacob in the 1820 Census. A Jacob Dillman died in Washington Township, Preble County, Ohio in 1872. That Jacob Dillman was too young to be left $1 in the 1819 will. 46

ii. John DILLMAN, born about 1777, Pennsylvania; married Hannah LANDIS; died on 23 July 1861, Wabash County, Indiana. Hannah was the sister of Catherine, wife of John's brother Joseph. 47

iii. Hannah DILLMAN, born between 1770 and 1780, married Henry BROWER, on 4 August 1800, Franklin County, Virginia; died between 1830 and 1840 when she is missing in Lanier Township, Preble County, Ohio census. 48

iv. Michael DILLMAN was born in 1784 in Virginia. From 1827 to 1834 he was in Preble County, Ohio; in Somers Township with David and Joseph, sometimes listing is Jefferson Township. He died before 20 September 1839 in Preble County, Ohio. Guardianship for children (Preble County Common Pleas court 20 September 1839), married Susan Hypes. 49

v. Sally DILLMAN, born about 1787, census reports say in Pennsylvania, although this is unlikely; married Jacob F ROWE, on 21 October 1830, Preble County, Ohio; died after 1860 when not in census. She lived in Butler County, Ohio. 50

vi. Joseph DILLMAN, born on 15 May 1788, Franklin County, Virginia; married Catherine LANDIS, on 13 August 1818, Preble County, Ohio; died on 30 September 1847, Preble, Ohio. 51

vii. Abraham DILLMAN was born about 1790 in Virginia. He lived in 1827 in Somers Township, Preble County, Ohio; listed with Joseph, David, and Michel. He was from 1830 to 1835 in Jackson Township, Preble County tax records. In 1836 he was listed as moved. He appeared in the census in 1840 in Pleasant, Wabash County, Indiana; a neighbor of brother John. He died on 7 August 1856 in Wabash County, Indiana. He is not in the 1860 census. He married Betty Hypes. 52

45 Will (Jacob Dillman), Preble County, Ohio Will Book, FHL film #564860 Book B p 25.
49 Wingfield, Marriage Bonds of Franklin County, Virginia, p 48.
51 1850 US Census, Butler County, Ohio; National Archives M 432. roll 723 p 295.
52 Family data, Laben Brower and Mary Frances Miller Brower Family Bible, The Holy Bible, New Oxford Quarto edition (Chicago, Illinois: Thompson and Thomas, 1898); original owned by Geri Arnold (7703 Diagonal Rd, Kent Ohio 44240). Laben Brower was son of Enoch Brower and Margaret Dillman to granddaughter Opal Delena Brower to Geri Arnold, includes papers from another bible with Joseph Dillman's family. Preble County, Ohio Marriage Book, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 564963 Book A p 76.
viii. David DILLMAN was born between 1790 and 1800. He appeared in the census in 1820 in Summers Township, Preble County, next to Joseph. In 1830 census he is also there, next to Michael. I cannot find David after this census. He married Katy Sullivan.  

ix. Mary DILLMAN died before 1819. She was not named in Jacob's will dated Jan 1819. She is reported by Lucille Smith papers as having died single from a bible record but the location of this record is unknown. Mary must be considered as a possible child only.

**Third Generation**

3. Joseph DILLMAN was born on 15 May 1788, likely in Franklin County, Virginia. Children Margaret, Hiram, Jacob, and Hannah all say he was born in Virginia in the 1880 census. Joseph died between 14 September 1847 when he wrote his will and 9 October of that year when it was probated. He was possibly buried in Sugar Hill, Lanier Township, Preble County, Ohio where wife Catherine and two of his children are found. He was not recorded in Curt Hodson's reading of the cemetery about 2004, however, and he might have been buried on his own land.

He married Catherine LANDIS on 13 August 1818 in Preble County, Ohio with Peter Poyner officiating. Catherine LANDIS, daughter of Henry LANDIS and possibly Susannah, was born on 13 February 1799 in Franklin County, Virginia. Catherine married 2nd Joseph Harter on 29 September 1861 in Preble County. He died 1871. Catherine died 1 May 1888 of paralysis.

Joseph married at age 30 a woman 11 years younger. The Landis and Dillman families, members of the Dunker Community, had both lived in Franklin County, Virginia and moved to Preble County, Ohio. Joseph married about 2 years after his move to Ohio. It is possible that he was married previously due to his age at marriage, but no evidence has been found.

If one activity characterizes Joseph's life, it is the buying and selling of property. His first recorded land holding was what he inherited from his father, a year after his marriage. The family frequently changed residence following this trail of ownership in Preble County. The land was scattered from north to south and east to west in the County as follows:

1820-February 1828: Somers Township

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54 Dillman Family notes from Lucille Dillman Smith.
55 Brower and Brower Family Bible. 1880 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives, T9, roll 1060 p 17 SD 2, ED 213.
56 Dillman Family notes from Lucille Dillman Smith.
59 Hodson, Preble County Cemeteries, p 106. Audrey Gilbert, Preble County, Ohio Deaths (West Alexandria, Ohio: G Gilbert, unknown), p 70.
1828: Jefferson Township, tax list but no deed found.  
August 1828- December 1830: Lanier Township.  
1831-1839: Dixon Township (3/4 of a section).  
March 1839- 1847: Twin Township.  
1847: Washington Township; no purchase found, sold to daughter Margaret and husband Enoch Brower.  

Joseph signed these deeds and his will, suggesting that he was educated. Catherine signed with her mark.  

On 12 September 1829 Joseph took on a farming apprentice. His eldest son was only 9 years old at the time, and he probably needed help.  

Joseph was a relatively young man when he died at the age of 59. He left behind a wife who was only 48 years old and 13 children all but 4 under the age of 21 years. The youngest was only just over 1 year old. In the will he left his estate to Catherine with the following requirements:  

... I give and devise to my wife Catherine Dillman all my estate both real and personal of every kind and description whatever for use and benefit during her natural life for the purpose of affording to her a full competent and sufficient support and maintenance for herself and my infant or minor children. It is my will and desire that she my said wife raise up, support and maintain and educate my said children and that she train them to habits of morality and industry and that she provide for them all the necessities of life for their comfort and support in the same way and manner that I have done and provided for my other children. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I have placed my property in the hands of my wife for the purpose of enabling her to raise up and support and maintain and educate my said infant or minor children and for the purpose of affording to herself a competent support and maintenance during her natural life provided, however, if my said wife shall at any time after my decease, marry then and on her marriage the provision and devise herein before made for her support and maintenance shall cease, determine and be at an end, and the estate herein before devised to her shall pass into the hands of my Executors for the use and benefit of my children and heirs and my said wife shall then on the happening of such contingency take under the law, I mean the statute of Ohio. But I have full confidence in my wife and I hope she will use the estate I have thus placed in her hands in a prudent and economical manner that she will preserve the same and not suffer it to go to loss or run down, and at the death or marriage of my said wife it is my wish and do so order and direct that my estate or property real and personal that there may remain be sold by my Executors in such manner as they may think most to the advantage of my children and heirs provided however, that  

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61 Gilbert, Preble County, Ohio Personal Property Tax 1827-1850.  
65 Preble County, Ohio Deed Books, vol 37:212.  
66 Ruth Bowers and Anita Short, Gateway to the West (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1989), v 2 p 418. From Indenture and Apprentice Records 1825-31: Warren Ashley a poor boy of Lanier Township aged 15 and 10 mo to serve as apprentice as farmer to Joseph Dillman of said Township until 21 years of age on Nov 12, 1834.  
67 Will (Joseph Dillman), Preble County, Ohio Will Book, FHL film # 564860 Book C p 167. Preble County, Ohio Probate Account Book, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, FHL Film # 566103 and 566104.
nothing herein contained is intended to authorize or direct the sale of my real estate or lands until my youngest child shall arrive at the age of majority (21) years and on my said estate being so sold I will and order that the proceeds of such sale (or in other words) that my said estate be equally divided and proportioned between and amongst my twelve children, share and share alike.

The three eldest children had already received assistance from him that equaled $200 and he directed that the remaining siblings receive the same amount from the estate when they reached 21. Catherine and son-in-law Benjamin Milam, husband of daughter Susanna, were named executors.

These pictures from Susan Frame Dillman's album are most likely Catherine and her husband although his name is given as Elam. They are of the right age and older than the other Dillman pictures.

Catherine remained a widow and raised her children on her own until she married Joseph Harter in 1861 at age 62. She then moved to Cass County, Michigan with her new husband and her two youngest sons who were 15 and 17 years of age at the time. She had fulfilled the task left her by her first husband.

The probate of Joseph's will was not complete in 1861, however, as the youngest were not yet 21 years of age. Upon Catherine's marriage, Benjamin Milam her son-in-law became the sole executor. Some land was leased or sold. Unfortunately the remaining years were not without controversy. First Catherine and Joseph Harter challenged the accounts submitted by Benjamin Milam, who entered amended reports.

Following Joseph Harter's death, Catherine returned to Preble County Ohio and on 22 October 1874 she filed suit against the heirs of Joseph Dillman. She was claiming $489.47 for herself which she felt was due to her. The defendants answered that when she married she could not be executor, and thus Benjamin Milam was the successor executor. He needed a new bond and she pressured the defendants into being sureties for the bond, saying she had taken her interest and they would not be liable for payments to her. Apparently she lost the first round but won when the case was heard a second time. The probate was finally closed following the January 1876 settlement.

Catherine was living with daughter Margaret and her husband in 1880, and they were not named

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68 1850 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, roll 723 p 426 image 397. 1860 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, roll 1026 p 11.
71 Preble County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, original files in the Preble District Library, Eaton, Ohio, case #3609.
in the suit. Presumably she was living with them when she died in 1888. The death notice in the
paper stated she was born in Rockingham County, Virginia but there is no supporting evidence
for this statement.

There were additional heartaches that Catherine faced late in her life. Daughter Sarah Ann
Dillman Shank died in 1872. Possibly her eldest son Daniel had also died since he was not found
in the census after 1850. Susannah Dillman Milam died sometime after 1880 and before 1900,
possibly before her mother.

Catherine was buried in Sugar Hill Cemetery, Lanier Township of Preble County. Her daughter
Catherine and son Henry are there as well. By 2006 the old stones had been moved to a straight
line from their original positions. Sugar Hill is a Dunker burial ground. There was a carpet of
blue violets when I visited in 2006. She was buried as Catherine Dillman and not Catherine
Harter.

Joseph DILLMAN and Catherine LANDIS had the following children:

i. Daniel DILLMAN, born 27 May 1820, Preble County, Ohio; married Susannah Brower, 17 June
   1841, Preble County, Ohio; died after 1850.

ii. Susannah DILLMAN, born 27 October 1821, Preble County, Ohio; married Benjamin Milam,
    22 May 1842, Preble County, Ohio; died after 1880.

iii. Margaret DILLMAN, born 5 October 1823, Preble County, Ohio; married Enoch Brower, 16
    March 1843, Preble County, Ohio; died 16 March 1912, Preble County, Ohio.

iv. Mary DILLMAN, born 5 May 1826, Preble County, Ohio; married Jacob Rust, 20 October
    1846, Preble County, Ohio; died after 1900.

v. Joseph DILLMAN, born 25 March 1828, Preble County, Ohio; married Rebecca Eikenberry, 20
   November 1851, Preble County, Ohio; died after 1880.

vi. Hannah DILLMAN, born 1 Jan 1830, Gratis Township, Preble, Ohio; married Daniel Frame, 18
    September 1851; died 25 April 1922.

72 1880 US Census, Preble County, Ohio., roll 1060 p 17 SD 2, ED 213.
73 Gilbert, Preble County, Ohio Deaths, p 70.
74 for Sarah Ann, last census, 1870 US Census, Preble County, Ohio.; National Archives M593., roll 1259 p 270.
75 Brower and Brower, Family Bible for birth dates of children. Other sources Dillman Family notes from Lucille
Dillman Smith, Short and Bowers, Preble County, Ohio Marriages, v3.

38
vii. Sarah Ann DILLMAN, born 3 June 1832, Preble County, Ohio; married Hiram Shank, 2 September 1854, Preble County, Ohio; died 15 June 1872.

viii. Henry DILLMAN was born on 22 August 1834 in Preble County, Ohio. He died on 6 February 1853 at the age of 18 in Preble County, Ohio. Obit Abstracts: Henry Dillman, age 19 of Twin Township died February 1853: Henry Dillman, age 19, of Twin Township, died February 1853. Henry was buried in Sugar Hill, Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. Listed next to Catherine but could not read tombstone. Photo on file from April 2006.

ix. Jonathan W DILLMAN, born 25 September 1836, Twin Township, Preble, Ohio; married Susannah FRAME, 12 November 1857, Canton, Preble, Ohio; possibly died 8 December 1903.

x. Emanuel DILLMAN, born on 25 September 1838 in Preble County, Ohio. He died in 1856 at the age of 18.

xi. Catherine DILLMAN, born on 9 January 1840 in Preble County, Ohio. She died on 19 August 1854 at the age of 14 in Twin Township, Preble, Ohio. She was buried in Sugar Hill, Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio.

xii. Jacob DILLMAN, born on 27 April 1844 in Preble County, Ohio. In 1860 census age 16 b Ohio with initial “L” He appeared in the census from 1870 to 1910 in Michigan.

xiii. Hiram DILLMAN, born on 22 May 1846 in Preble County, Ohio. He appeared in the census from 1880 to 1920 in Pokagon, Cass, Michigan.

Fourth Generation

Jonathan W DILLMAN was born on 25 September 1836 in Twin Township, Preble, Ohio. The middle initial "W" was found in Frame Family notes and also in lease papers for his father's farm. He died on 8 December 1903 according to the bible entry written in Susan Frame Dillman's writing. Eulalia Van Kirk wrote the date as 1901 and the place as Los Angeles, California. No death record has been found.

Jonathan and Susannah (Susan) FRAME were married on 12 November 1857 in Canton, Preble, Ohio in the presence of Silas Frame and Daniel Frame by the Rev James Neal. The daughter of Silas FRAME and Magdalene (Polly) STRADER, she was born on 29 December 1835 in, Preble County, Ohio. She died 10 February 1930 in Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon. The death certificate listed chronic interstitial nephritis and arterial sclerosis. Her ashes were placed in Lincoln Memorial Park Crematorium. A death notice appeared in the Brookville, Ohio newspaper: Mrs. Susan Dillman, formerly of Brookville, February 10 at the home of her son O F

77 Hodson, Preble County Cemeteries, p 105.
79 DAR application papers in the possession of Beverly Brice.
80 Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible, family pages.
81 Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible, family pages. Preble County, Ohio Marriage Book, FHL film # 564963 Book 1 p509.
83 Susanna Dillman, death certificate no. 54 (1930), Oregon State Archives, Salem, Oregon.
Jonathan was 11 years old when his father died in 1847. When he married at age 21 he and Susan lived on the family farm. This was the second marriage between these two families in this generation as his sister Hannah had married Susan's older brother Daniel. An additional marriage in the previous generation involved Jonathan's aunt, Hannah Landis, who married his Uncle John Dillman, brother of his father Joseph.

When his mother Catherine had married and moved to Michigan in 1861, Jonathan and James Braddock signed a lease for about 200 acres of his father's land. The agreement was for one year with possible extension of 4 more years. They owed $360 annual rent. Probate court records show the following record of payments:

- 1863 paid $318
- 1864 $518.99
- 1865 $116
- 1866 no rent shown
- 1867 the land is sold
- 1868 JW Dillman note for rent $180 and James Braddock $180.
- 1869 Jonathan received $1417.15 as his share from the estate. No receipt for funds found from Jonathan 1869 and beyond.

The identity of this James Braddock is unknown. One Braddock appears in the 1860 census in Preble County, age 33 with wife Margaret and children. Any connection between this man and

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84 Abstract, Brookville Star, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio, abstracts by and located at Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio, Feb 27, 1930.
85 1860 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M653, roll 1026 p 11.
86 Preble County, Ohio Deed Books, FHL film # 564928, Book 52:8.
the Dillman family is unknown. I could not locate James in 1870 and after.87

Jonathan and Susan had one son, Oliver Franklin, born 5 December 1861. It is not known why it was four years before a child was born to them. She could have had miscarriages or there may have been other problems.

What is certain is that the marriage ended in divorce on 25 March 1869. From the divorce papers it is known that Jonathan abandoned his family on 8 February 1864.

...she further says that she and the said Jonathan continued to live and reside together as husband and wife until on or about the 8th day of February 1864 at which time without any just cause or provocation whatever he willfully abandoned the petitioner and has remained willfully absent ever since. Petitioner further says that there was born to them as the fruit of said marriage Oliver FDillman now age 8 years. That ever since her said abandonment she has maintained herself and their said son Oliver with the proceeds of her own industry and the charity of her friends. Petitioner charges that the said defendant has been guilty of willful absence [?] your petitioner for more than three years last past...

Susan was granted custody of Oliver in the proceedings and her brother Daniel Frame paid the $5.50 fee on her behalf.88 The significance of this action in Susan’s life can be guessed by the fact that she always described herself as a “widow of Jonathan” following the divorce, and never used her maiden name although she was granted the right to do so.

Although divorce was more common by the end of 1860s, it was still very controversial. The debate across society was fueled by the support of many suffragettes supporting the rights of women to take control of their lives. In 1860 1.2 marriages out of 1000 ended in divorce, increasing to 1.4 in 1864 and 1.8 by 1866. It was thought that the Civil War contributed to the increasing problems in marriages. It is not surprising that a young woman from conservative, rural Ohio would hide her true marital status.89

Since 1864 was during the Civil War, it is tempting to think that Jonathan joined the war effort and never returned. No record of his service has been found, however.90 The probate case brought by his mother Catherine in 1874 records that he was not in Preble County, and does not identify his residence. He has not been located in census records from 1870 to his reported death in 1903. Somehow Susan learned of the death as she recorded it in the family bible.

Susan and Oliver Dillman

The family story continues with the life of Susan and Oliver. The year that Jonathan left, 1864, was also the year Susan’s father Silas died. She was residing in Preble County on 24 November of that year as she is named in the land petition following his death.91 Where exactly she lived is

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87 1860 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M653, roll 1026
88 Preble County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, original files in the Preble District Library, Eaton, Ohio, case 2586.
90 Audrey Gilbert, Preble County, Ohio and the Civil War (West Alexandria, Ohio: self, 2000). He is not the Jonathan in Civil War County E 99 Indiana Infantry. No pension records.
91 Preble County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, original files in the Preble District Library, Eaton, Ohio, case #
unknown as the Dillman farm was sold in 1867 so she could not have stayed there. This had to be a very difficult period for Susan.

In 1868 she joined the Union Church, a revivalist Christian Church, near the Frame home in Preble County.\(^\text{92}\) The Frame family was of Scots-Irish descent and Presbyterians by tradition while the Dillmans were German and part of the Dunker Community. It is clear that Susan did not join the community of her in-laws.

In 1870 Susan is found with her sister Sarah Ammerman and her family in Pike Township, Warren, Indiana. The census lists Susan as a domestic servant and does not list Oliver, but he was likely there.\(^\text{93}\) It is interesting to note that Jonathan's brother Joseph also lived in Pike Township. The picture on the left may date from this period.

At some point Susan and Oliver moved back to Ohio, settling in Brookville which was 18 miles northeast of her home in Preble County. The reason for picking Brookville is unclear, as no known associated families have been found there. It was a thriving community, however, smaller than Dayton but with tobacco warehouses, carriage manufacturing, and saw and planing mills in the town.\(^\text{94}\) Perhaps this was a better location for her skills.

By 1880 she is listed in the census as a dressmaker, living in a boarding house situation with other families. Noah Baker is one of those families and he is listed as hotel keeper. He would become Oliver's uncle-in-law. Oliver, at age 18, was working on a farm.\(^\text{95}\)

Susan was a very accomplished quilter. I have three quilts that she made the first two before her marriage.\(^\text{96}\) Quilting was very popular in rural Ohio at this time and the fabric, purchased for these quilts, was within the means of a family like Susan's. Quilt patterns were commonly exchanged in Preble County as demonstrated by the following:

Irene Hardy recalled early childhood in Preble County Ohio 1840:
"Whenever a neighbor came to spend the day on a visit to my mother, a part of the entertainment consisted, as a matter of course, in showing her patchwork quilts, finished or in process of making, a piece of cloth in

\(^{92}\) Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible.

\(^{93}\) 1870 US Census, Warren County, Indiana, National Archives M 593. roll 368 p 351b.


\(^{95}\) 1880 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, National Archives T9, roll 1051, roll 1051 p 27B. Noah Baker was brother of Ettie Turner's mother. [see Baker section]

\(^{96}\) Quilts owned by Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk, given to Beverly Brice in 1965. Eulalia said they were made by her grandmother Susan Frame Dillman.
the loom, or lately woven, and any new garment made or in the making. In the same way, every quilt pieced and quilted in the neighborhood was known and spoken of in other houses.97

The workmanship in these quilts is exquisite with small even stitches, all done by hand. The uneven fading of the green fabric is part of what dates the quilts to this period. The red, green and white combination was typical of the time. The greens are faded because the fabrics were first dyed blue and then yellow to achieve the green as commercial green dyes were not available until 1875.

The one on the right, the Princess Feather pattern, was most likely Susan's "Bridal Quilt" as there are hearts quilted in the acorns that form the border.

The third quilt, the Turkey Tracks pattern, is dated 1870-1880 and was likely made when she lived and worked as a dressmaker in Brookville. The two backing fabrics are sewn by machine, probably available to her through her work. She purchased fabric for the backing and to set the blocks on the front. Susan couldn't have had extra cash at this time, but likely had access to the fabrics because she was a dressmaker.

Oliver married in 1887 and from that time Susan lived with his family. She joined them in Dayton and then moved west to Portland, Oregon in 1908.98 She brought her family picture


album and her quilts with her when she moved to Oregon. Her granddaughter Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk gave me the impression that it was difficult having her in the family, but she never gave details. Granddaughter Leona Dillman Kellogg talked about her Turner grandmother, but never had stories about Susan. Her great grandson Fred Van Kirk told me that he remembers her well from the perspective of a young child in the first 8 years of his life. She was old and sat wrapped in a shawl when he would spend the week-ends in Oak Grove at the Dillman home. She was not easy to be with and when he kissed her she had bristles from a mustache. He thought of her as very demanding.

Jonathan W DILLMAN and Susannah FRAME had the following child:

i. Oliver Franklin DILLMAN, born 5 December 1861, Preble County, Ohio; married Etie Arebell TURNER, 30 October 1887, Vandalia, Montgomery, Ohio; died 1 May 1943, Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon.

Fifth Generation

Oliver Franklin DILLMAN was born on 5 December 1861 in Preble County, Ohio. He died on 1 May 1943 in Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon of paralysis and senility. His ashes were placed in Lincoln Memorial Park Mausoleum.

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Portland, Multnomah, Oregon, National Archives, Roll: T625_1501; Page: 4B; Enumeration District: 105; Image: 508.

95 Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible
96 Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible, family pages. Birth Date: No birth record has been found for Oliver. The full date is written in the family bible. The date is after the year of publication of the bible making it an original source, but secondary information. However, it is in the writing of his mother who gave the bible to him. The month and year are confirmed by census records in 1900 when it is reported that his birthday was Dec 1861. The other census reports support the 1861 date. His parents' divorce document in Jan 28, 1869 says he was 8 years old. (should be 7) The death record states Dec 5, 1861.

Conclusion: Susannah and Oliver reported the Dec 5, 1861 date on several documents. It is clearly what they thought of as the birth date. Although the divorce record does not support this date, I will accept it as a proven fact.

Birth Place: The place is stated in the bible, it is the county of residence for his parents in 1860 census and where the divorce was granted, and census records list Ohio.

On 30 October 1887 he married **Ettie Arebell TURNER** in Vandalia, Montgomery, Ohio near Brookville. They were married by Rev E Bowers of Vandalia on a Sunday eve. The witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. John Engle. Ettie, the daughter of Levi H TURNER and Joanna "Annie" BAKER, was born on 11 March 1869 in Liberty, Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She died 8 October 1951 in Oak Grove, Oregon at the age of 82, and her ashes were placed in Lincoln Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Ettie was from an established Brookville family being a daughter of Annie Baker Turner whose family was one of the original settlers in the area in 1804. This prosperity explains the cut glass dishes and china ware passed on to me. At the time of her marriage Ettie lived in the Ben Baker home on Salem Street, a gracious brick home. It can be said that Oliver’s career did not match up to her family’s tradition. Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk told me that her father Oliver “had an itchy foot”. The record of his residences and occupations suggest that this was referring to more than just the move to Oregon.

Oliver’s first career was as a school teacher. From 1881 to about 1891 he taught in Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio and possibly also in Dayton. Leona Dillman Kellogg told me that he was a school teacher in Dayton. This picture of him with a class is most likely in Dayton.

Brief references from the Dayton News:

- **1881** Brookville Schools News: Program; Reading-Schoolmaster’s Dream Oliver F Dillman
- **1884** Instructors in the Brookville School for the coming year: Oliver F Dillman; 1887: Teachers: Oliver F Dillman, Brookville.

The Board of School Examiners of Montgomery County issued certificates to Oliver for teaching

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30 April 1881, 8 July 1882, 10 November 1883, and 9 February 1889 (for 2 years). These are in my possession. One of the certificates is signed by his future brother-in-law Herman S Fox. Leona Dillman Kellogg told me that Ettie was in Oliver’s class at school and that is how they met. Ettie would have been 12 years old the first year he taught so it is possible.

During these years in Brookville, Oliver played in a band as shown by a picture from 1885. He appears to be the second from the left in the front row. The band was possibly formed in 1872, although Wayne Watkins at the Brookville Historical Society in 2006 thought it was later. "The famous Brookville Saturday Night Band Concerts began in 1895 and continued until 1959. Summer time on Saturday nights in Brookville was the gathering place for many from the surrounding area."[107]

It is possible that Oliver tried to be a Justice of the Peace; on 4 December 1888 an election was held in Phillipsburg, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio. It was reported in the newspaper: “Dillman lost”. Was this Oliver F? He was still teaching in Brookville at the time and the only Dillman known to be in the county.[108]

**Between Brookville and Dayton**

On 21 August 1888 the first daughter, Leona Vesta, was born in Brookville, Ohio. It is unknown where they lived at the time. There are no records of land ownership for Oliver so he could have rented a home or lived with his in-laws. Susan would have been living with him.

Oliver had a number of jobs and moved back and forth between Brookville and Dayton in the years 1891 to 1908. Dayton, 40 miles away, was accessible via the train that stopped in Brookville.

From 1891 to September 1895 the family lived in Dayton. A detailed listing from the Dayton City Directories show the variety of jobs held by Oliver as well as the frequent changes of residence. The locations are all in the "West Section" of Dayton so they did not leave the general neighborhood.[109]

1889-90 No listing found

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109 Williams, *Dayton Ohio City Directories*, located at Dayton Municipal Library, Dayton, Ohio.
1890-91 p 226 Dillman, Oliver, Tree agent res 1541 W 3rd W.S.
1892-93 p 241 Dillman, OF, proof-reader The National Cash Register Co res 1647 W 2nd
Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan same
1893-94 p 255 Dillman, Oliver F Proof reader NCR Co, res 214 N Wolf Creek Ave,
Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same
1894-95 p 257 Dillman, OF (Slater and D) res 1644 W 1st Dillman, Susan,
widow of Jonathan, same
1895-96 p 269 Dillman, Oliver F, solicitor, res 1640 W 1st, Dillman, Susan widow of
Jonathan, same

On 31 May 1893 daughter Eulalia May was born in Dayton. References in the Dayton News in
1895 place the family there including: 9 Sept, Mrs. Oliver F Dillman of Dayton visits with Mr.
and Mrs. James Small in Brookville.\textsuperscript{110}

From about February 1896 to September 1898 the family returned to Brookville. The third
daughter Lillian was born in Brookville on 22 February 1896, but it is not certain that the entire
family lived there in February. However, from the newspaper \textit{Dayton News}:
- 21 May 1896: Oliver F Dillman contemplates building a dwelling on a lot in Herman
  Studebaker Fox’s addition in the near future.
- 15 June 1896: Oliver F Dillman will erect a residence on Columbia Street on the lot
  adjoining Herman Studebaker Fox’s lot.
- 27 July 1896: The Bachman Baseball Club will play Brookville on the \textit{____}? Dillman
  Farm, east of town.
- 3 April 1896: Oliver F Dillman is engaged in the implement business with A E Hay 23-27
  Market Street\textsuperscript{111}

Although these articles suggest property ownership, no deeds have been found.

From July 1896 to April 1897 he changed jobs and was a salesman for Herman Fox in
Brookville. Herman Fox was to marry, as his second wife, Ettie’s sister Lillian in 1904. From the
\textit{Dayton News} Brookville Section:
- 24 July 1896: Oliver F Dillman is in Preble County, canvassing for a new county map
  and atlas of that county being published by Herman Studebaker Fox.
- 25 November 1896: Oliver F Dillman is at Birmingham, Ala. canvassing for a county
  atlas of the county in which that city is situated. It is published by Herman Studebaker
  Fox of Brookville.
- 18 February 1897: Herman Studebaker Fox, assisted by Oliver F Dillman, is at Mobile,
  Alabama arranging to publish a county atlas at that place.
- 22 April 1897: Oliver F Dillman, who spent the winter in Alabama and Georgia in the
  interests of Herman Studebaker Fox canvassing for atlases and maps of several counties
  in each state returned home.\textsuperscript{112}

Spending the “winter of 1897” in the south left Ettie with three small children. She quite possibly
stayed with her parents.

\textsuperscript{110} \textit{Dayton News}: V1 p 454 July 3, 1895, p 457 July 22, 1895, p 461 Sept 9, 1895.
\textsuperscript{111} \textit{Dayton News}, April 3, 1896, v 5 p 15, 18.
\textsuperscript{112} \textit{Dayton News}, vol 5 p 21, 28, 33, 36. Frank Conover, \textit{Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton
and Montgomery County, Ohio} (Dayton, Ohio: A W Bowen & Co, 1897), p 1201.
Herman Fox at this time was the elected engineer for the county and had a private business publishing the maps he was responsible for as a public employee. The book for Montgomery County was published and has been reproduced by the Brookville Historical Society. It is not known if he managed to publish the Alabama and Georgia books.

Later in 1897 Oliver apparently changed jobs again. Centennial Biographical Record published in 1897 says "Oliver F Dillman, a hardware merchant in Brookville".\textsuperscript{113}

The family moved back to Dayton in 1899\textsuperscript{114} as shown in the \textit{Dayton News}:

Oliver F Dillman plans to move to Dayton 21 Sept.

And once again the Dayton City Directories show where the family was living and Oliver’s occupation. It is possible that he worked as a clerk in the Treasurer’s office from 1899 to 1906 in spite of the inconsistency in the listings.\textsuperscript{115}

1899-1900 p 321 Dillman, O F Deputy County Treasurer’s Office res 44 S Grosvenor Ave (Mrs. Ettie A) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same. The census lists Lillian Turner, sister-in-law, in the household.\textsuperscript{116}

1900-1901 p 336 Dillman, O F Deputy County Treasurer’s Office res 44 S Grosvenor Ave (Mrs. Ettie A) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

1901-1902 p 363 Dillman, O F deputy County Treasurer’s Office res 225 W Howell Ave (Mrs. Ettie A) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

1902-1903 p 370 Dillman, O F res 225 W Howell Ave (Ettie A) Dillman, Susan Mrs. widow of Jonathan, same [no occupation listed, others have occupations]

1903-1904 p 392 Dillman, O F res 225 W Howell Ave (Ettie A) Dillman, Susan widow of Jonathan, same

1904-1905 p 405 Dillman, O F res 225 W Howell Ave (Etta) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

1905-1906 p 409 Dillman, O F deputy City Treasurer’s Office 225 W Howell Ave (Ettie A) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

1906-1907 p 439 Dillman, O F, salesman 2237 W 3rd (Ettie A) Dillman, Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

In 1905 Ettie’s mother Annie Baker Turner died suddenly. In 1906/07 her father Lee and her brother Chester are shown in the directories as living at the W 3\textsuperscript{rd} address. Lee has his own business and brother Chester is a salesman for it. Is this where Oliver is working as well? In June 1906 daughter Leona Dillman graduated from Steele High School in Dayton. In January 1908 Lee and Chester returned to Brookville.

1907-1908 p 385 Dillman, Oliver F insurance agent h 1634 W 1st (Ettie A) Dillman Susan, widow of Jonathan, same

1908-1909 no listing.

\textsuperscript{113} Frank Conover, \textit{Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio} p 1201.

\textsuperscript{114} \textit{Dayton News}, v5 p 51. Williams \textit{Dayton Ohio City Directories}.

\textsuperscript{115} Williams, \textit{Dayton Ohio City Directories}.

\textsuperscript{116} 1900 US Census, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio, roll 1307, ED 53, National Archives, sheet 13, line 68.
The area where they lived in Dayton is west of the Miami River and just North of Highway 35, bisected north to south by James H McGee Blvd. They were consistently in this area.

The Move West

Leona Dillman Kellogg and Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk both told me that they came West about 1908. They were in San Francisco close enough to the earthquake in 1906 to see the damage. They went also to Seattle and then Portland. Oliver’s obituary says he was a representative of Johns Manville in Seattle, so possibly they stayed there for a time before coming to Portland. They are not listed in the Seattle Polk Directories. The Railroad that went through Brookville was advertising one-way tickets west in 1905. Perhaps this was part of the encouragement for Oliver to move his family west.\textsuperscript{117}

By 1910 they are settled in Portland. Oliver was listed as a traveling salesman, living in rented accommodations. The oldest daughter Leona was working as a stenographer, the other two were in school.\textsuperscript{118}

Eulalia Dillman graduated from Washington High School on 13 January 1912 and by 2 February 1912 had a teaching certificate. She never taught however, as on her birthday in 1912 she married Benjamin Franklin Van Kirk. The wedding took place at her parent’s home at 1351 East Taylor St. in Portland.

From 1912 to 1920 the family lived in Portland and Oliver was a salesman with various companies as shown in the Polk Directories and the census.\textsuperscript{119}

\begin{itemize}
  \item 1912 p 458: Dillman, Oliver F traveling salesman h 167 E 49th
  \item 1914p 491: Dillman Oliver F (Ettie A) salesman h 1390 Belmont
  \item 1915 p 388: Dillman Oliver F (Ettie A) salesman Gillen Chambers Co h 1390 Belmont
  \item 1918 p 368: Dillman, Oliver F (Ettie A) salesman HW Johns-Manville Co h 1390 Belmont
  \item 1920 census: Oliver was a distributor for the Carboncide Company. Daughter Leona was a stenographer for the company and her husband Ray Kellogg was a salesman, daughter
\end{itemize}

\textsuperscript{117} Look at Brookville, p 53.
\textsuperscript{118} 1910 US Census, Multnomah County, Oregon, National Archives T624. roll 1286, part 2 p 272B. Ancestry.
Lillian was the treasurer and her husband Ruel Neilson was a salesman. A 1917 edition of *Motor West* describes the company based in San Francisco, California which producing a carbon remover for use in the carburetor. They also distributed batteries.\(^{120}\)

Between 1920 and 1930 Oliver moved to Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon and bought a home, the only property he had owned.\(^{121}\) A letter typed on Royal Insurance Co Ltd stationary 28 January 1942 lists O.F. Dillman resident agent telephone 116J, Green Building, Oak Grove, Oregon

He appeared in the census in 1930 in Oak Grove. Susan died before the census was taken and daughter Lillian, a music teacher, was living at home. Lillian was divorced from her 2nd husband at this time although she was listed as a widow.\(^{122}\)

Grandson Fred Van Kirk remembers visiting the family in Oak Grove on the week-ends. When asked about his impression of Oliver, he remembered him sitting in his chair and waiting to be served his meals. He did not appear to be the approachable one in the family.

While in Oak Grove, Oliver was interested in family history as correspondence survives on this topic. He was probably the one who wrote the "Dillman Family History", which corresponds to the information in the "Dillman Family Wheel" written in 1889.

Oliver's death certificate states that he lived in the state of Oregon for 23 years but this is not correct as they came way before 1920. The address on the death certificate is near Highway 99 and Maple St, Oak Grove.

An obituary appeared in the Brookville Star "OF Dillman, 81, a former resident of Brookville in the 1880s, died May 1, 1943 at home in Oak Grove, Oregon. He will be remembered by the older generation of Brookville as a member of the old baseball team, also the brass band. After finishing school, he also taught in the schools under Dr Minnieh. Leaves wife Etta Turner Dillman; 3 daughters: Leona, Eulalia, Lillian; granddaughter; grandson; great granddaughter."

Ettie lived 8 years following her husband's death. She had a stroke as I remember going to visit her when she was bed ridden at Aunt Lillie's home in Oak Grove. Although I was 11 years old


\(^{122}\) 1930 US Census, Clackamas County, Oregon, National Archives. roll 1140 ED 68, p 52. Ancestry image 670.
Family pictures show that Ettie's sister Lillian visited Portland on several occasions. She brought her daughter Joanna when a young girl. A letter from this daughter, Joanna Fox Weitkamp, 25 January 1952 to her cousin Forrest [Baker Bryant] says "Aunt Etta passed away in October being bedridden for 3 1/2 years following a stroke. Several summers ago our families were in Portland so I called on Lillian (her youngest daughter) where she lived and Aunt Etta thought I was mother and called me Lillie all the time." Does this suggest that Ettie was not clear in her head before the stroke?

One of Ettie's obituaries is probably from the Portland Oregonian:

Dillman, Ettie Arebell, late of Maple St, Oak Grove; mother of Mrs. Lillian Goetz, Mrs. Leona Kellogg, Oak Grove, Mrs. Eulalia Van Kirk, Portland; 2 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren. Friends invited to attend services to be held Peake Memorial chapel, Wed October 10 at 2 pm. Private committal Lincoln Memorial Park.123

A second obituary clipping was found in family papers with no attribution as to source:

Ettie Turner Dillman and her great-granddaughter, the author

Oliver Franklin DILLMAN and Ettie Arebell TURNER had the following children:

i. Leona Vesta DILLMAN, born 21 August 1888, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio124; married Arthur Ray Kellogg, 22 October 1916, Portland, Multnomah, Oregon; died 24 June 1969, Oak

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123. *Portland Oregonian*, no date or page given on clipping.
124. Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, *Record of Births*, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 1030825) v4 p63. Oliver Franklin Dillman Family Bible, family pages.
Grove, Clackamas, Oregon.\textsuperscript{125}

ii. Eulalia Mae DILLMAN, born 31 May 1893, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio; married Benjamin Franklin VAN KIRK, 31 May 1912, Portland, Multnomah, Oregon; died 28 October 1990, Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon.\textsuperscript{126}

iii. Lillian Marguerite DILLMAN, born 22 February 1896, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio; married Ruel Gage Neilson, 14 April 1917, Portland, Multnomah, Oregon; married Leon Faber Jr, 4 October 1922, Vancouver, Clark, Washington, and married Cecil Burnell Goetz, 30 October 1933, Oregon City, Clackamas, Oregon; died 20 May 1960, Klamath Falls, Klamath, Oregon in a car accident.\textsuperscript{127}

\textbf{Possible German Connection}

Although no connection can be proved between this German family and the Jacob Dillman Sr followed above, it is possible that Hans Georg is related to Jacob Sr as father or uncle. German records record what appears to be a double last name for this family, "Dillman Degen". The acceptance of "Hans Georg Dillman Degen" as the same person as Hans Georg Dillman who arrived in Philadelphia in 1737 is supported by Annette Kunselman Burgert.\textsuperscript{128}

The following information is presented with the hope that other researchers can clarify the German origins of Jacob Dillman.

\textbf{Johann Michael DILLMAN DEGEN} was born about 1655 as seen from his age of 54 at death. He died on 12 January 1712 in Unterauerbach (now Rhineland Palatinate, Germany). The death was registered in the Contwig Reformed church. His wife was Susanna Katharina born about 1652, the date from her age of 64 at death. Susanna died 13 December 1716 as registered in the Contwig Reformed Church.

The communities where this family lived, Niederauerbach, Unterauerbach and Contwig are close together and near to Zweibrucken, the larger town. This area is directly east of Saarbrucken and southwest of Mannheim.

Two of the children from this family and a son of the eldest daughter all came to Pennsylvania between 1737 and 1743. Hans Georg was the first to arrive in 1737. He was followed by his youngest sister Anna Sara and family. Another immigrant was the son of sister Anna Elisabetha Dillman Degen and Hans Heinrich Hoffstattler, Georg Theobald Hoffstattler.\textsuperscript{129} Additional

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{126} Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, Record of Births, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 1030825) v5 p 48. State of Oregon, County of Multnomah: certificate # 22531, Multnomah County, OR Marriage Record v 31:253. Pearson-Allen-Caldwell Funeral Home card for Eulalia Mae Van Kirk dated October 31, 1990, Portland, Oregon.
\item \textsuperscript{128} Annette Kunselman Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate (Birdsboro, Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania German Society, 1985), p 96.
\item \textsuperscript{129} Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western
\end{itemize}
\end{footnotesize}
research on the daughters' families is needed and might help to document the line of descent proposed here.

Johann Michael DILLMAN DEGEN and Susanna Katharina had the following children:

i. Anna Elizabetha DILLMAN DEGEN and Hans Heinrich HOFFSTATTLER were married in 1709 and had the following child who immigrated to Pennsylvania.
   i. Georg Theobald HOFFSTATTLER was born on 12 July 1715. He was baptized on 21 July 1715 in Contwig (now Rhineland Paltz Germany). Contwig Reformed Church Records: Heinrich Hoffstattler and wife Anna Elizabetha from Unterauerbach parents; sponsors: Theobald Speck from Contwig, Georg Teller from Bunterbach, A Margaretha wife of Daniel Hudelet from Unterauerbach, and Elisabetha Hoffstattlerin from Unterauerbach. He was confirmed in 1730 in Contwig. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1743, listed as “Dewald Hochstad” on the ship Phoenix. He lived, married and had a child in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1745 to 1748. St Michaels and Zion Lutheran Church Philadelphia: married November 12, 1745, Jurg Theobald Hofstedter, Reformed and Anna Maria Matzinger step-daughter Kaufmann First Reformed Church, Philadelphia Geo Theobald Hoffstetler and wife Anna Maria, Lutheran had Anna Margaret 27 June 1748, bap 3 July 1748.131

ii. Hans Georg DILLMAN DEGEN, Baptized 20 January 1688 Niederauerbach, married Anna Maria HACKER (daughter of Nicholas), on 17 November 1716. Immigrated to Pennsylvania.

iii. Anna Sara DILLMAN DEGEN married Johan Christoph KAUFFELDT, on 1 June 1719, Contwig (now Rhineland Paltz Germany). In 1729 Johan Christoph Kauffeldt was listed as a distiller in Hoheinod, not far to the East of the Dillman family towns where his son was baptized. In 1738 he arrived on the ship Glasgow in Philadelphia, listed as Christof Kauffeldt age 46. A list of the children of Anna Sara Dillman Degen and Johan Christoph Kauffeldt suggest that they were in Lancaster, (now York) County from 1741 to 1744. The children were baptized in the Christ Lutheran Church. No land warrants or patents were located for this family there and no further record has been found. Additional research on this family would help to document the Dillmans in York County. They had the following children: 133
   i. Johan Jacob KAUFFELDT was born on 23 May 1720. He died on 2 January 1721.
   ii. Susanna Catharina Margaretha Elizabetha KAUFFELDT was baptized on 15 June 1727 in Contwig (now Rhineland Paltz Germany).
   iii. Maria Sophia KAUFFELDT was born on 25 December 1729 in Hoheinod (now Rhineland Paltz Germany).
   iv. Johan Christoph KAUFFELDT was born on 15 July 1741 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania. Only father's name listed, no wife in Christ Lutheran

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130 Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 96.
131 Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 192.
132 Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 96.
133 Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 192.
Church Records, twin. He was baptized on 1 October 1741 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania.

v. Maria Elizabetha KAUFFELDT was born on 15 July 1741 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania. Christ Lutheran Church Records, twin, no mother listed, only father. She was baptized on 1 October 1741 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania.

vi. Susanna Catrina KAUFFELDT was born on 16 February 1744 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania. Christ Lutheran Church Records only father listed no mother. She was baptized on 6 March 1744 in York, Lancaster (now York), Pennsylvania.

Hans Georg DILLMAN was born about 1687 based upon his age at immigration. He was baptized on 20 January 1688 in Niederauerbach (now Rhineland-Palatz Germany). He was confirmed on 11 May 1704 in the Contwig Reformed Church. Hans Georg DILLMAN and Anna Maria HACKER (daughter of Nickolas HACKER) were married on 17 November 1716. Nickolas Hacker was a school teacher in Niederauerbach.  

In 1737 Hans Georg paid for his freedom from his Ruler as recorded in the Manumission Protocol in Zweibrucken. “Hans Georg Tilemann Degen of Niederauerbach moves with wife and children to Pennsylvania.” The German language causes an interchange between the letter “D” and “T”. The “Degen” attached to the name was used in reference to his father as well. It is not used in Pennsylvania records. The listing suggests that Hans Georg owed allegiance to his noble, but it does not define his trade or skills. He was likely a farmer, but he may have utilized additional skills to earn the money for his trip. When families appeared in these lists it documented that they had paid the required fee to leave the area legally. 

On 24 September 1737 Hans Georg Dillmann arrived in Philadelphia on the ship The Virtuous Grace and made the trip to the courthouse to swear the required oaths. He was listed as age 50, a good match with the baptismal record of 20 January 1688. Next to him in the list is Heinrich Jacob Dillman, age 20. Since the manumission record indicates that Hans Georg left with more than one child, Heinrich Jacob would be the eldest son who came to Pennsylvania. There may well have been others who were under the age of 16 and thus not required to sign the oath. Both Hans Georg and Heinrich Jacob signed their names indicating that they had been educated.

Germanic naming patterns frequently used “Hans” as a saint’s name suggesting that Hans Georg was known as “Georg” or George in English. Heinrich is not as common a saint’s name, but Heinrich Jacob was most likely known as “Jacob”. Heinrich Jacob on the immigration list was born in 1717, suggesting he could be the oldest child of George and Maria born within the first year following their marriage. If so, he was not named after either of his grandparents. Jacob Sr, the first generation of the Dillman family presented here, did not name any of his known children George. There is a question how Jacob Sr and Hans Georg are related, but there is certainly some relationship.

134 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers, p 175. Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 96.
135 Burgert, Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America vol II The Western Palatinate, p 97.
136 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers, p 175.
The trip to Pennsylvania was expensive and caused many of the immigrants to become indentured servants for 4-7 years to pay for their passage. Knowing that this family left legally and paid the manumission fee signifies that their cost for their journey was high. Sometimes families ran out of money before boarding the ship and had to indenture themselves to pay for passage. Was this the case with the Dillman family?

No land warrant has been found for any Dillman in the first years in Pennsylvania. If immigrants from Germany had funds, they generally warranted land from the Penn family immediately. When funds were short, after a period of indenture they would often farm land they had no legal right to. In 1765 there was a new policy from Penn's land office. It lowered the price for the land and gave squatters first right to buy their land. Maybe this is why Jacob Dillman first shows up in land records about this time.\(^{137}\)

The first possible record of any kind for George and Jacob is in 1741, four years after their arrival, when “Henry Dielman [sic] and wife” are baptized into the Conestoga Dunker Church in Cocalico, Lancaster County. Two years later “brother Dielman Sr” is baptized, suggesting by the “Sr” designation that he was an older generation from “Henry”. He was followed the next year by “Jacob Dielman’s wife”.\(^{138}\)

This record raises many questions.

- Is “Henry” a younger son of George or is this a reference to Heinrich Jacob? If he was known as Henry, no further record has been found for him.
- Is “Brother Dielman Sr” [sic] a reference to George?
- The existence of a “Jacob” is given by referencing his wife’s admission to the church. This could not be the same person as “Henry”, since Henry’s wife was already a member unless there was a second wife.

These were adults as the Dunkers only baptized adults into the church. The family in Germany attended the Reformed Church, suggesting that they were converts to the Dunker faith at this time. It is likely that this is the family who arrived in 1737 as no other Dillman/Tillman with these names is listed as an immigrant until 1751 when a second Hans Georg arrived.\(^{139}\) Heinrich Jacob would have been 28 years old and likely married in 1741. The Jacob Dillman family followed here was known to be associated with the Dunker Church.

It is significant that two other families associated with Jacob Dillman are members of the Conestoga Church at this time. Joseph Flora\(^{140}\) arrived in Pennsylvania in 1733 and settled in Rapho Township, Lancaster County. Joseph joined the Conestoga Church in 1741. His son Jacob joined in 1748. The Flora family intermarries with two of Jacob Dillman’s daughters in Franklin

\(^{139}\) Peter Dillman arrived in 1730 but no further record has been found and no “Peter” is associated with this family.
\(^{140}\) Also Flory.
County, Virginia. Jacob Spitler joined the Conestoga Church in 1751. The Spitler family also shows up in York County and marries a daughter of Jacob. The association in the church strengthens the argument that the Dillman family involved in the Conestoga Church is the family followed here.

The first land record found for a possible family member is in 1754 when George Tillman warrants 30 acres in Bethel Township, Lancaster (now Berks) County. On 15 October 1767 this land was patented to Philip Beck, indicating that George Dillman was no longer on the land.141 This man could be the George who came in 1737. He would have been 67 years old when the warrant was recorded, however, older than expected to be taking on land for the first time. This could also be the George who came in 1751. So far no further records have been located for this George, although a Dillman family remained in Berks County. A Jacob is a witness for the will of John Stump in Heidelberg Township in 1757 suggesting that both a George and a Jacob were in Berks County at this time. Further research on the Berks County Dillmans is needed.

There is no proof that the Jacob Sr found in Lancaster and York Counties, Pennsylvania and Franklin County, Virginia is the son of Hans Georg who immigrated in 1737. The argument rests upon the lack of conflict of records or the lack of records.

1. It is likely that Heinrich Jacob was a son of Hans Georg since he is listed next to him in the immigration list and is of an appropriate age to be his son. It is known from the manumission listing that Hans Georg came with children. However, it is also possible that he was a nephew or cousin.
2. It is possible that this man was known as Jacob since this is his second name and that is generally used in the German naming patterns.
3. The age of Heinrich Jacob at immigration is possible for the man followed here. He was 20 in 1737 making him an adult in the Conestoga Church reference above. In 1770 he would be 53 and have daughters old enough to be represented in church records there. His death in about 1790 would be at an appropriate age.
4. No other immigration record has been found for Jacob Sr in German Pioneers.142
5. It was not possible to follow the suggested father, Hans Georg, after his arrival in Pennsylvania with any certainty. The suggestion that he was in what is now Berks county as late as 1754, along with a Jacob who was there as late as 1757, is consistent with Jacob being in York County by 1765. However, Jacob Dillman and others continue in the records in Berks County after this family is in Virginia so it is unlikely that this was the same family. The Berks County George was probably the Hans Georg who came in 1751.

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141 Warrant Index, Pennsylvania State Archives online [http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/landrec.html] Lancaster County p 222.
142 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers.
Transcription of Jacob Dillman Will

In the name of God amen I Jacob Dillmans of the state of Ohio and Preble County being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory blessed by almighty God for the same do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) first I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Margaret a good and sufficient maintenance of the portion hereafter allocated to my son David so long as she remains single I do also give and bequeath unto my son John Dilmans the sum of fifty dollars I also give and bequeath unto my daughter Hannah Browgher wife of Henry Brougher the sum of fifty dollars I also give and bequeath unto my daughter Sally Dilmans single woman the sum of one hundred dollars I also give and bequeath unto my son Abraham Dilman the sum of one hundred dollars I also give and bequeath unto Joseph Dilmans fifty acres of land and the NE corner of my land beginning at said corner turning 104 pols with Robert Pollongers line thence South to the section line then with the Section line East to the Branch then up the branch so far as to include 50 acres by turning due East I also give and bequeath unto my son David one hundred acres of land including the plantation I now live on I also give and bequeath unto my son Micheal all the balance of land lying on the East and South side of David's part I will lastly to all the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate goods and chattels of what kind and nature [?] I give and bequeath the same to my said beloved wife Margaret Dilmans during her natural life or widowhood and at her demise an equal division and between all the legatees now living in this state I do also appoint my two friends John and Abraham Brougher to be my sole executors of this will and testament thereby revoking all former wills by me made.

In [?] whereof I do hereunto put my hand and seal this 11th day of January 1819. Jacob Dilman Signed sealed and acknowledged in person of us intestine before signed James M [?] Abraham Irwin, Henry Lantis

Supplement January 16, 1819

Supplement to the will of Jacob Dilman it is my will and wish that the hundred dollars willed to my son Abraham should be paid to him by next May and fifteen dollars for his trouble and expense that to be paid out of the back money when it is divided among the rest of the heirs I further give to my daughter Sally in addition to the hundred dollars one cow It is further my will that the money willed to the balance of the heirs Abraham excepted be paid as soon as there is money collected sufficient to give each one his equal dower after all legal demands is satisfied It is further my will that John Brower be excused from being executor and that John Halderman my friend be appointed in his place Jacob Dilman

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of us this day and date from which within attested Abraham Irwin James McClung Robert Tollinger
Transcription of Joseph Dillman Will\textsuperscript{144}

I, Joseph Dillman, of Preble County, Ohio, do make and publish this my last will and testament in the manner following that is to say I give and devise to my wife, Catherine Dillman, all my estate both real and personal of every kind and description whatever for use and benefit during her natural life for the purpose of affording to her a full competent and sufficient support and maintenance for herself and my infant or minor children. It is my will and desire that she, my said wife, raise up, support and maintain and educate my said children and that she train them to habits of morality and industry and that she provide for them all the necessities of life for their comfort and support in the same way and manner that I have done and provided for my other children. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I have placed my property in the hands of my wife for the purpose of enabling her to raise up and support and maintain and educate my said infants or minor children and for the purpose of affording to herself a competent support and maintenance during her natural life provided, however, if my said wife shall at any time after my decease, marry then and on her marriage the provision and devise herein before made for her support and maintenance shall cease, determine and be at an end, and the estate herein before devised to her shall pass into the hands of my Executors for the use and benefit of my children and heirs and my said wife shall then on the happening of such contingency take under the law, I mean the statute of Ohio, But I have full confidence in my wife and I hope she will use the estate I have thus placed in her hands in a prudent and economical manner that she will preserve the same and not suffer it to go to loss or run down, and at the death or marriage of my said wife it is my wish and do so order and direct that my estate or property real and personal that may remain be sold by my Executors in such manner as they may think most to the advantage of my children and heirs provided however, that nothing herein contained is intended to authorize or direct the sale of my real estate or lands until my youngest child shall arrive at the age of majority, (21) years and on my said estate being so sold I will and order that the proceeds of such sale (or in other words) that my said estate be equally divided and proportioned between and amongst my twelve children, share and share alike, subject however to the following bequest that Daniel Dillman, Susannah Milam, Mary Rusk, Joseph Dillman, Hannah Dillman, Sarah Ann Dillman, Henry Dillman, Jonathan Dillman, Emanuel Dillman, Catherine Dillman, Jacob Dillman, and Hiram Dillman share and share alike as to my daughter Peggy Brower (wife of Enoch Brower) I have given her by way of advancement in lands real estate and other property. I think she ought to be satisfied with what I have given her and as to my son Daniel Dillman and my daughter Susannah Milam I have given each $100 in money and an outfit in property worth at least $100 making to each of them $200. I therefore will and direct that each of my other children on their coming of full age have out of my estate to be provided and furnished to them by my Executors an outfit worth $200 in such articles of property as may suit them or $200 in money to be paid to them and each of them out of my estate by my Executors and for which $200 they are not to account for on final settlement of my estate which outfit of $200 so to be furnished and allowed to my 10 children is intended by me to place them equal with the other children as before said, and to equal right and justice to all, and so as to make them all equal so far as the distribution of my estate is concerned. I appoint my wife Catherine Dillman and my son-in-law Benjamin Milam Executors of this my last will and testament I witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 14th day of September AD 1847. Joseph Dillman

\textsuperscript{144} Will (Joseph Dillman), Preble County, Ohio Will Book (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film# 564860) Book C p 167.
LANDIS AND DIRECTLY RELATED FAMILY

Diagram:
- Landis
- Naas

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Landis Family

Line of Descent: Hans, Rudolph, Hans, Rudolph, Johannes, Hans Heinrich, Heinrich, Henry (1740-1825), Henry (1763-1840), Catherine [see DILLMAN Family]

10 generations of the Landis family remained true to their Anabaptist faiths of Mennonite or Dunker, faiths that defined their life-styles. They died for their faith, were passionate in defending its meaning, followed their conscience by not participating in war, and moved with their religious community. Their odyssey took them from Switzerland, to Germany, to Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, and Illinois.

It wasn't until the 11th generation that the tradition was lost. Catherine Landis Dillman's son Jonathan married outside of the Dunker community in 1857. He then deserted his family and his son was raised in the faith of his mother. [see Dillman family]

The collective lives of this family are an expression of history at the personal level from about 1543 to the 1880s, encompassing European wars, the American Revolution, and the move west in America. These events were experienced by people for whom religion was a major defining force in their lives.

The Mennonite Martyr

The Landis family connection to the Mennonite faith began with Hans Landis, the last Mennonite martyr put to death in Zurich, Switzerland. Hans was born in 1543, the eldest son and one of eight children born to Hans LANDIS and Katherina SHINZ.1 By 1547 the family was living in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, on the west side of Lake Zurich in a rural, mountainous area. Son Hans converted to the Mennonite faith in 1584 and served as an elder from 1589.

The Mennonites refused to swear oaths and did not participate in government, and furthermore, they stated that no Christian could legitimately do so. This was a direct threat to the governmental structure of the Canton of Zurich. The official Reformed Church was very strict in its demands for worship and had a strong leader beginning in 1611 who was determined to control the Mennonites. Further social turmoil was caused by a major epidemic which reduced the population. At the same time the government was raising taxes which were strongly opposed by the farmers from the rural areas like Hirzel.

Landis became an effective spokesman for the Mennonites and was considered a "ringleader" by the authorities. Hans was accused of arranging meetings in barns and forests which were not allowed, and re-baptizing and marrying people without authority to do so. He was guilty of all

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the charges. He refused to depart the area when it was demanded of him and was arrested several times. At one point he was sentenced to be a slave on the French galleys, but he escaped before being sent to France.²

In the end, the authorities had their way and Hans was beheaded on 29 September 1614 in Zurich. At his execution by sword he was asked to forgive his executioner which he did. The story of Hans Landis’s martyrdom was written in the Mennonite Martyr’s Mirror and is retold to this day among the Amish and the Mennonites. A song of 46 stanzas was written about Hans Landis’s martyrdom. Part of this, known as "die Hans Landis Weis" is still sung in some Amish worship services and at weddings.³

**The Swiss Family**

Rudolph, the brother of the martyr, was the direct ancestor of the Landis family presented here. His son Hans and grandson Rudolph remained in Hirtzel, the site of the original homestead. Although no details are known of their lives, it was understood that members of each generation remained part of the Anabaptist or Mennonite community. However, none took on the leadership role that had led to the martyr’s death.

Johannes, born 100 years after his martyred ancestor, was still a member of the Mennonite Community. A gunsmith by trade, he raised his family in Richterswil, very near the original homestead. In 1696 he was 55 years old and had a family of 6 children, when he decided to move from what had once again become an inhospitable area for Mennonites.⁴

It is not known if he stopped along the way, but he moved to Markirch, Alsace (now Sainte Marie aux Mines, Alsace, France). This area is located in the Vosges Mountains on the Western boundary of Alsace. The trip was about 123 miles and may have involved river travel on the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland to Colmar, France, and then inland up the valley.

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Sainte Marie aux Mines was at this time the border between the Protestant, German-speaking land of the Lord of Ribeauvillé (Markirch) and the Catholic, French-speaking Duke of Lorraine (Sainte Marie aux Mines). The River Lièpvrette which runs down the middle of the valley and the middle of the town was the dividing line between the two cultures that had been fighting over this countryside for hundreds of years. The town of Sainte Marie aux Mines is today only about 6 streets wide giving this border new meaning. The silver and lead mines had brought wealth to the area and a textile industry had already developed. Hosiery and trimmings were woven by hand on looms throughout the valley.

The German speaking side of the river, Markirch, was known for its religious toleration. The Lord of Ribeauvillé had invited Lutherans, Calvinists, Anabaptists, and Jews to settle here. A Reformed Church dating from 1634 still exists.

Many Mennonites had already found their way, arriving as early as the mid 1500s. By the 1690s they were well integrated into the community as weavers, traders, and successful farmers. They would not sign a contract, but their word was accepted with the utmost trust. They had permission not to participate in the many wars fought in this area, and were thus available to maintain their farms and prosper.

In 1693 Jacob Ammen, a resident of Markirch, became concerned by the worldliness of the Anabaptists and created a separate community that became the Amish movement. This more narrow definition of what was acceptable according to the Mennonite principals must have
caused considerable debate within the Mennonite group, discussion that was still undertaken by the time the Landis family arrived.⁵

There are many questions about this move by the Johannes Landis family. Did the entire family leave Richterswil? When did they arrive in Markirch? The only record is a brief reference in 1709 to "Hans Landis of Rickterswil, a widower and his son Heinrich," both stated to be gunsmiths and likely Anabaptists.⁶

In 1709 Johannes' son Hans Heinrich married Elizabetha Hirt who was born in Markirch, suggesting her family was in the community when Hans Heinrich arrived.⁷ Hans Heinrich and Elizabetha moved on to Pennsylvania.

**Joining the Dunker Church in Pennsylvania**

From a letter written by Elizabetha in 1746 we know that she and Hans Heinrich were in "Germany" for 10 years following their marriage in 1709. They moved to different places, but she did not identify them. She then stated that she had been in Pennsylvania for 22 years. The latter would suggest they came in 1724. If they came directly from "Germany," however, the date would have been 1719, so their travels are unclear.⁸ They were definitely in Pennsylvania on 25 December 1723, however, when they were baptized into the Dunker faith.

The letter also details how immigrants handled their money. It was written to the sons of Casper Landis of Rickterswil, brother of Hans Heinrich. Apparently when Heinrich left for Markirch he left part of his money with his eldest brother Casper, a barber, who remained in Richterswil. Twice Heinrich had received part of his money, and now his wife was requesting the remaining amount. She mentions that there was no written agreement made regarding the funds. Unfortunately there is no indication of whether she was successful in obtaining the money. [see letter at end of chapter]

Upon arriving in Pennsylvania, Hans Heinrich and Elizabetha settled along the Schuylkill River in Coventry, Chester County. On Christmas Day 1723 they were two of the first 6 people baptized into the Dunker faith in America. This took place in the Wissahickon Creek [pictured here on a warmer day]. Those baptized knelt in the water, fully clothed, and were immersed three times according to the custom of the Dunkers. The intensity of the December cold can only be imagined.⁹

The couple joined the newly formed Coventry Brethren Church on 7 November 1724.\textsuperscript{10} Heinrich took the theology of his new church seriously. He was involved in a heated dispute over original sin with Conrad Bissel, the charismatic leader of the Ephrata Community. The initial disagreement on the meaning of original sin took place on Easter Sunday in 1726 and continued with letters written to Hans Heinrich by Bissel. Hans Heinrich’s position, that children were innocent, was the position adopted by the larger Dunker Community following its split with Bissel. Some writers connect the intensity of the argument with Heinrich’s death at age 44.\textsuperscript{11}

A Dunker during The French and Indian War and The Revolutionary War

Heinrich, son of Hans Heinrich and Elizabetha Hirt, retained the Dunker faith of his parents as shown by his marriage in 1737 to Elizabeth Naas, daughter of John Naas.\textsuperscript{12} Elizabeth's father John was a prominent leader in the early Dunker church in Europe and came to Amwell Township, Hunterdon, New Jersey to establish a congregation there in 1733. Heinrich was a saddle maker who discovered the Amwell community on his trips from Germantown, Pennsylvania and decided to stay.

Being a Dunker did not preclude prosperity. Heinrich and Elizabeth settled in the part of Amwell Township known as the village of Ringoes. He built a stone house in the south-eastern part of the village by 1750. The stone house built by Heinrich in 1750 is on the register of historic landmarks in Ringoes, East Amwell Township at the intersection of SR179, CR 579, and CR 602.\textsuperscript{13} The house was on the 7 acres he purchased 10 years after his marriage. The house still stands with the exterior changed to stucco from stone. He is reported to have acquired 300 acres over his lifetime.\textsuperscript{14} His prosperity is also measured by the legacy to his second wife given in his will. The interest on £500 ($37,639 in 2011) annually plus a sum of £100 was due to her.\textsuperscript{15} Altogether he had 24 children.

\textsuperscript{11} Sachse, \textit{The German Sectarians of Pennsylvania 1708-1742 of the Ephrata Cloister and Dunkers.}, p 124.
\textsuperscript{12} Ezechiel Sangmeister, "The Life and Conduct of the late Brother Ezechiel Sangmeister: translation of his diary," \textit{Journal of the Historical Society of the Cocalico Valley}, vol IV (1879): p 22. The Ephrata Community was led by Conrad Bissel, a charismatic leader who separated from the main body of Dunkers holding differing views on many issues including declaring the day of worship on Saturday. Many of the Community lived in separate quarters divided by sex and did not marry. Donald F Dumbaugh, \textit{The Brethren in Colonial America} (Elgin, Illinois: The Brethren Press, 1962) p76.
\textsuperscript{13} Deats, Hiram E., \textit{Deats Genealogical Collection: 1900-1960}; (original work at the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, New Jersey) FHL film # 1764569.
\textsuperscript{14} Phyllis B. D’Autrechy, \textit{Hunterdon County Place Names} (Flemington, New Jersey: Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, circa 1992)
Heinrich and his family lived through the French and Indian War which was fought from 1754 to 1763. There is no record that Heinrich participated in the fighting. Although there was no active fighting in the Ringoes area, there was awareness and concern about Indians in the neighborhood. The Wappings were the tribe living in that part of Hunterdon County. Two hundred of them camped in the woods on the Landis land in 1758. They stated that they were on their way to the Blue Mountains. 16

It was during these years that Heinrich took an oath to the English King. There is no special notation to indicate whether he swore to the oath on a bible or gave a statement of affirmation. The Dunkers usually did the latter. 17

The history books from Hunterdon County report Heinrich as a man of honor and substance in the area. There are several stories about him that may be more tradition than truth, but they do give an impression of the standing that he had in the community.

One aspect of his character that received considerable attention was his religion. Heinrich was known as a member of the Dunker community. One reference to his religious beliefs is given as follows:

In religion he was a Dunker-zealous and strong in the faith. He would not swear. When in court as a witness once, he refused to take an oath or to affirm. The judge thereupon asked him what he would do. Landis replied "I will give you the word of an honest man". This proved satisfactory to the court and the case moved on. 18

As a Dunker, Heinrich was opposed to all wars and thus did not participate in the Revolutionary War. Some reported him to be a favorite of George Washington nonetheless. "who, when in the neighborhood, would stop at his house and, when but taking observations, would walk up to him and pat him familiarly on the back, and call him a good fellow, or something of that sort." 19 However, the historian Deats found no substantiation for this claim. 20

La Fayette was, on the other hand, a visitor at his house. It is suggested that they could converse together in the German language, and thus they got along famously. At one point La Fayette was taken sick at the Landis home and remained several days. He was attended by Dr Gershom Craven who lived in the house behind the Landis home. 21

New Jersey was the site of many battles and activity by the British during the Revolutionary War. The Landis house did not escape ill effects even though they did not actively participate on either side. The activities are described in two accounts and would have been frightening for the family which included the youngest child of 2 years and 3 others less than 10 years of age.

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18 Deats, *Deats Genealogical Collection*, FHL film # 1764569. Story told by daughter Catherine.
20 Deats, *Deats Genealogical Collection*, FHL film # 1764569.
The Tories are said to have raided Henry's house in 1778 taking most of his belongings; 60 of them were captured later and held prisoner in the same house they had previously stripped.\textsuperscript{22}

... when the British soldiers, on their way from Pennington, to learn what they could about the shooting of Col Gary in the woods, half way between this village and Flemington, passed thru Amwell, they compelled Landis to open his buildings while they made a search for rebels, arms, military stores, etc.\textsuperscript{23}

Heinrich died at the age of 93 years in 1809. A description of his death was reported by his daughter Catherine as follows:

Henry Landis died sitting in his chair in the summer of 1809 at the age of 93. He had gone into the house from overseeing his workmen in the fields and, as was his usual custom, had retired to his room to await the call to dinner. When called on to ask a blessing upon the meal he was found dead.

He was buried in the Harley Burying Ground in Ringoes on land that he had donated for a cemetery. Daughter Catherine adds the information that he did not want a stone or monument of any kind.\textsuperscript{24}

**Moving with the Dunker Community**

The 8th generation, Henry (1740-1825), also followed his father's religion as a Dunker, shown by his residence in Dunker communities.

Henry lived a long life from 1740 to 1825 which included the chaotic years of the Revolutionary War and its aftermath. His migration from New Jersey to Maryland to Virginia, back to Maryland to marry a second time, and then to Ohio was truly remarkable. He traveled approximately 2500 miles at a time when travel was by wagon or horse. Mobility was common during the years of economic uncertainty following the Revolutionary War. Newly available land was another common incentive. In Henry's case, he moved with his religious community which may have been the stronger motivation.

The first move was from his place of birth in Amwell Township, New Jersey to Frederick County, Maryland where he established himself as a saddler. As a young man starting out he was likely following someone he knew to the new location. Although this person has not been identified, he did move to a Dunker Community.

The next move was south to Franklin County, Virginia to another Dunker Community. Jacob Miller, an elder of the Church, had been in Frederick County, Maryland and went to Franklin County about 1773 and established the community there. The area where the Dunkers lived was along the "Carolina Road", a branch of the Great Wagon Road down the Shenandoah Valley that crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains at Roanoke and headed for the Carolinas. The land was in the

\textsuperscript{22} A History of East Amwell 1700-1800, p 28.

Accounts were kept in the Reed Store in Amwell for purchases made by community members. In these books in 1774 Henry Landis is listed as “deemed good" in the inventory of accounts. His son John Landis was not considered a secure debt.

\textsuperscript{23} Deats, Deats Genealogical collection, FHL film # 1764569.

\textsuperscript{24} Deats, Deats Genealogical collection, FHL film # 1764569. Catherine gave the account before she died in 1864.
foothills on the east side of the mountains along current day Virginia Route 220. In 1788, it was an isolated area which suited the community that chose to live among its own. The same was true in 2008 when I visited this area. It was still farmland with sharply rolling hills as it is the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Several Dunker Churches were tucked into the valleys. Henry initially purchased 200 acres on Little Creek. His holdings in Maryland had never been more than 50 acres, suggesting one of the motivations for moving south. The entire Landis family lived on Little Creek. Son John bought in 1790, son Henry in 1793, and son Daniel in 1794. Also living on Little Creek was the Eickenberry family whose sons married daughters Elizabeth and Mary. Grand-daughter Catherine married into the Dillman family who lived very close to the Landis families.

In December 1799 the Franklin County Dunkers requested an exemption from military service. The petition was denied. It was signed by Elders including Henry’s son-in-law Peter Ikenberry. Although no Landis signer is reported, the petition gives an understanding of the community’s beliefs:

> The Petition of the people resident in Franklin Called Tunkers pray that for their Conscientious scruples they may be exempt from performing Military duty but as they do not wish to shrink from Supporting Government they are willing that in addition to their proportions of the Revenue tax any thus Scrupulous and having a Certificate of Connection with said Church may be taxed Two Dollars each year as an equivalent for such Military Service Required of them but in case of invasion or insurrection they are then Willing to bear a part as other militia.

Jacob Miller, the founder of the Franklin County Dunkers, continued his active role in establishing new communities. He remained in Franklin County until about 1802 when he left to settle in Montgomery County, Ohio near Dayton. He joined many of the Franklin County Virginia group who also moved to Montgomery and neighboring Preble Counties in Ohio. It appears that Henry (1740-1825) again followed Jacob Miller in his migration from Virginia to Ohio.

Losing the Dunker Faith

Another Henry (1763-1840) represents the next generation in this family. He lived within the Dunker Communities of his father in Maryland and Virginia, and lived near him in Ohio.

By 1826 this Henry (1763-1840), along with his two sons, moved on to Illinois, leaving his four daughters in Ohio. No evidence has been found to define his relationship to the Dunker faith from this time. There was no established Dunker community in Sagamon (now Logan and Tazewell) County, although there may have been others from Ohio who lived near him. He is buried in Reed Cemetery in Logan County which is not connected to the Dunker faith.

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26 *Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book*, FHL film # 31496, Book 1:409.
27 *Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book*, FHL film #31496, Book 2:149, film #31497, Book 3:1, 120.
28 Thompson Jr, *The Old German Baptist Brethren* p 27.
Henry's daughter Catherine was the 10th generation of the Landis family and by all indications she remained within the faith. In 1818, before her father left for Illinois, she married Joseph Dillman from the Dunker Community in Franklin County whose family had also moved to Preble County, Ohio.

Catherine was buried as Catherine Dillman in the Sugar Hill cemetery in Lanier Township, Preble County. Stones can be found there for her son Henry and her daughter Catherine who died before her. This cemetery was known as a Dunker burial location.

The clear break with the Dunker community came with Catherine's son Jonathan Dillman. In 1857 he married outside the faith. His wife, Susanna Frame Dillman, was from a Scots-Irish family. Her grandfather was active in the Presbyterian Church and she and her father in a Christian Church described as open to all Christians for worship.

Susanna was left to raise her son Oliver Franklin Dillman by herself. Oliver was apparently never an active member of any congregation, and he did not leave a legacy of his Dunker roots. The connection to this tradition was unknown to me when I began researching the family.

**Genealogical Summary**

The name Landis or Landes can be found in Pennsylvania by 1717-1723 in both Lancaster and Chester Counties. Samuel Wenger in his book *A Combined Landis/Landes Genealogy Report of the Descendants of Hans Landis and Katherina Schinz* documents that all these families relate back to the couple mentioned in the title, and are thus related to Hans Landis the Mennonite martyr.

It was Rudolph, brother of the martyr, who was the ancestor of the family followed here. This leaves a large contingent of those named Landis in these counties who are distant cousins only.

**First Generation**

Hans LANDIS was born about 1521 calculated from the age of his eldest son. He married Katharina SCHINZ. The family lived in Hirzel in Hogan, Canton Zurich, Switzerland on the west side of lake Zurich in a rural mountainous area.

Hans LANDIS and Katharina SCHINZ had the following children:

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Hans LANDIS was born in 1543. He died on 29 September 1614 at the age of 71 in Zurich, Switzerland. Anabaptist martyr executed on this date. He married Barbara Hochstrasser and Margaret Hochstrasser; had 9 children. There are letters from his eldest son Hans who was imprisoned.  
Ulrich LANDIS was baptized on 18 November 1546 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. 
Rudolph LANDIS was baptized on 17 September 1548 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
Anna LANDIS was baptized on 13 February 1549/50 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
Anna LANDIS was baptized on 28 July 1551 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
Hans Heinrich LANDIS was baptized on 19 April 1553 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. He died on 1 July 1622 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. He was on a 1589 list with his brother, also a Taufer minister. He married Verena Bertschinger abt 1585. 
Agta LANDIS was baptized on 28 March 1554/5 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
Ludi LANDIS was baptized on 6 May 1560 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
Anna LANDIS was baptized on 5 February 1561/2 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland.

Second Generation

Rudolph LANDIS was baptized on 17 September 1548 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. He was associated with Anabaptists as listed in census records. Samuel Wenger believes he is the progenitor of all Bucks, Montgomery and Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Landis families. Anna BRUGGBACHER and Rudolph LANDIS were married about 1570.  
Rudolph LANDIS and Anna BRUGGBACHER had the following children:  
i. Heinrich LANDIS was baptized on 25 March 1570/1 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
ii. Caspar LANDIS was born in March 1572/3 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. He died about 1602 at the age of 29 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
iii. Hans LANDIS was born August 1575 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
iv. Oswald LANDIS was baptized on 31 March 1576/7 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. He died on 4 March 1649/50 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. He was associated with Anabaptist, married Margaret Schnevely abt 1599, Anna Schappi and Catharina Bruppacher. Lived at Moosacher, Hirzel. He and his wife and 2 daughters-in-law were jailed at Oethenbach Prison for their faith. Wandered about in poverty after he lost properties. 
v. Barbel LANDIS was baptized on 25 August 1579 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. 
vi. Anna LANDIS was baptized on 20 May 1582 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. She died on 7 April 1657 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. She married Conrad Strickler jailed in 1640 and 1644, and the families were listed on the census as Taufer. 
vii. Rachel LANDIS was baptized on 4 February 1583/4 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland.

Third Generation

Hans LANDIS was born in August 1575 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland. He lived at Notinhus as widower in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland in 1640. Elsbeth SCHNEVELI and Hans

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LANDIS were married about 1597.\textsuperscript{39} Date calculated from birth of first child. He married 2nd Verena Bertschinger. They lived at Brestenegg.

Hans LANDIS and Elsbeth SCHNEVELI had the following children: \textsuperscript{40}

i. Hans LANDIS was born on 12 November 1598 Married Kleinanna Ritter in 1630.

ii. Caspar LANDIS was born in 1600. He died on 5 September 1629 at the age of 29 in Rote Ruhr, Switzerland. Married Verena Aeppli.

iii. **Rudolph LANDIS** was born February 1602/3.

iv. Melchior LANDIS was born about 1604 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. He married Klianna Scharer.

v. Barbeli LANDIS was born in September 1607 in Horgen, Zurich, Switzerland.

**Fourth Generation**

**Rudolph LANDIS** was born in February 1602/3. He lived in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland about 1628. Rudolph was a gunsmith. **Barbel RITTER** and Rudolph LANDIS were married on 9 September 1623 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland at Hirzel Reformed Church. It is not clear whether they were Anabaptists.

Rudolph LANDIS and Barbel RITTER had the following children: \textsuperscript{41}

i. Melchior LANDIS was born about 1624 in Hirzel, Canton Zurich, Switzerland. Married Kleinanna Bruppacher

ii. Hans Heinrich LANDIS was baptized on 12 May 1625 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. Married Barbara Strickler.

iii. Verena LANDIS was baptized on 29 July 1627 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

iv. Jacob LANDIS was born in 1631 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. He died before 1689 at the age of 58 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. Married Barbara Wethli.

v. Anna LANDIS was born in 1631 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

vi. Conrad LANDIS was born in 1634 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

vii. Hans LANDIS was born in 1637 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

viii. Regula LANDIS was born in 1638 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. He/she was also known as Reuli.

ix. **Johannes LANDIS** was born in 1641, Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

**Fifth Generation**

**Johannes LANDIS** was born in 1641 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. He immigrated about 1696 to Markirch, Alsace (now Sainte-Marie-aux Mines, France). Johannes was listed as living with "Heinrich his son also a gunsmith". **Angelika TRUMPLER** and Johannes (Hans) LANDIS were married on 15 October 1677 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. His first marriage was to Barbara Strickler on 14 November 1676 in Richterswil. There were no children. \textsuperscript{42}

\textsuperscript{39} Durnbaugh, *The Brethren Encyclopedia*, p 722.


Johannes (Hans) LANDIS and Angelika TRUMPLER had the following children: 43

i. Elsbeth LANDIS was born in December 1678.

ii. Hans Caspar LANDIS was born in April 1680. He died in 1720 at the age of 40 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. Known as brother from Elizabeth Hirt's letter. She says he was a barber, married Susanna Eschmann.

iii. Jakob LANDIS was born in November 1681 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. He died about 1727 at the age of 46 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

iv. Hans Heinrich LANDIS was born February 1683, Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland; died 1727, North Coventry Township, Chester, Pennsylvania.

v. Barbara LANDIS was born in June 1684 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

vi. Verena LANDIS was born in November 1686 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland.

Sixth Generation

Hans Heinrich LANDIS was born in February 1683 in Richterswil, Zurich, Switzerland. 44 He died in 1727 Coventry, Chester, Pennsylvania. In 1709 he married Elizabetha HIRT, daughter of Jacob Hirt, in Markirch (now Sainte Marie aux Mines, Alsace, France). She married 2nd Heinrich Endt of Germantown. She died after July 1755 when she is mentioned in her 2nd husband's probate. 45

When Hans Heinrich died in 1727 at age 44 Elizabetha was left with four children; Elizabetha about 13 years old, Barbara close to her age, son Heinrich 11 years old, and Dorothea 7 years old. Elizabetha married Heinrich Endt of Germantown following her husband's death. Apparently they went to live in the Ephrata community, the group that Hans Heinrich Landis had rejected in the argument over original sin. By 1747 she was listed as a wife of Heinrich Endt in the Conestoga Brethren church, suggesting they had left the Ephrata community. 46 It is likely that daughter Barbara was the “Barbara Landis” listed as a member of the Ephrata community. She never married and died there.

Hans Heinrich LANDIS and Elizabetha HIRT had the following children: 47

i. Elizabetha LANDIS was born about 1714. She died before 1754 at the age of 40.

ii. Barbara LANDIS was born about 1714. She died in 1776 at the age of 62 in Cocalico Township, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She was an unmarried member of the Ephrata Community and died there.

iii. Heinrich LANDIS was born 26 August 1716, died 1809, Amwell (now East Amwell), Schinz, p14.


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Seyvhent Generation

Heinrich LANDIS was born on 26 August 1716, location unknown but likely in Europe.\(^{48}\) Heinrich died in 1809 in Ringoes, East Amwell Township, Hunterdon, New Jersey. He was buried in the Harley Burial Ground in Ringoes. His daughter Catherine identified this as the "family burying ground" and noted that he did not wish a marker.\(^{49}\)

He married Elizabeth NAAS in 1737, probably in New Jersey, who died when she was about 36 years of age. He married 2nd Catherine Groff 6 March 1754 in Amwell Township, Hunterdon, New Jersey. Catherine was born on 11 September 1734 in Amwell (now East Amwell), Hunterdon, New Jersey.

An important source of information for this Heinrich is the papers of the Hunterdon County historian Hiram E Deats. Included in this collection is a pamphlet entitled "Landis, Calvin, Naas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey" compiled by Cass K Shelby in 1934. A newspaper story, "The Old Landis House Ringoes" by C. W Larison, is quoted. It appears to be dated 1905. Larison states that he saw a paper in Heinrich's hand that listed the information on the family, including the exact birth dates reported for the children, his birth and marriage to Elizabeth and Catherine. Larison was the physician to Henry's daughter Catherine when she returned to Ringoes to die in 1864.

Also in the Deats papers is a statement by Karl T Lackemacher in 1966:

> whereas on July 26, 1966 I carefully examined the records of The Hunterdon County Historical Society located on Main Street Flemington, New Jersey. From the notes of Hiram E Deats, noted historian who at one time had possession of the Landis Family Bible...

Deats lists the same exact birth dates for the family and that Elizabeth Naas and Heinrich Landis were married in 1737 in Amwell (now East Amwell), Hunterdon, New Jersey.\(^{50}\)

Heinrich was about 7 years old when he came with his family from Europe. By the time he was 11 he had lost his father and his mother remarried. The details of his life following his father’s death are not certain, but tradition has reported that Heinrich was apprenticed as a saddler to Theobald Endt of Germantown, a relative of his stepfather. Being apprenticed was a common practice in Colonial America, particularly when a father had died.

It is said that he came from Germantown near Philadelphia to Amwell Township, Hunterdon, New Jersey to deliver saddles. He reportedly would strap his saddles to his horse's back, and thus swim rivers and travel through the forest paths. By 1737, he settled in Amwell township. He


\(^{49}\) Deats, *Deats Genealogical Collection: 1900-1960*.

apparently taught all 12 of his sons his trade.\textsuperscript{51}

Only two recorded property purchases were found for Heinrich: 21 June 1747 when 7 acres were purchased for £68 15s and 1 November 1754 when he purchased 69 acres for £396 16s 3d.\textsuperscript{52} Following his death there were three sales of small amounts of property all in East Amwell on 3 May 1810:

- Executors sell to Isaac Landis, $679 lot part of plantation of deceased, corner road Ringoes Old Tavern (presently Isaac Landis Tavern) to Markstown, 4 ac
- Executors sell to Titus Quick $143 lot part of plantation of deceased, stone southerly side great road from Brooks tavern to Ringoes (now Isaac Landis tavern) along Titus Quick land 1 ac
- Executors sell to Samuel Williamson $680 a lot, part of Landis plantation, begin corner Isaac Landis tavern on great road leading to Rock town 4 ac\textsuperscript{53}

Heinrich was on the tax list from 1780 through 1803 in Amwell Township. For most of that time he was taxed on 280 acres, so there were property purchases not recorded. In 1802 the acreage dropped to 80 acres suggesting he had passed some of the property on, probably to his sons. He had 5 to 7 horses and 5 to 9 cows.\textsuperscript{54} The account at Reed's store showed that Heinrich's credit was apparently good on 23 July 1774.\textsuperscript{55}

The only court record found involving this Heinrich is from 1759. The case was headed "Henry Lander/Sander vs son." The summons to Sander/Lander "who keeps the Hickory Tavern and may be found there-he is soon to leave the province." Eldest son John was 20 years old in 1759 while 2nd son Henry was 19. This entry probably referred to John.\textsuperscript{56}

Heinrich wrote his will 26 May 1802 and it was probated 25 July 1809. Wife Catherine was well provided for. His daughter Hannah, who was single, was to receive £50 while other funds were to be divided among 15 children or their heirs. Sons Samuel and Joseph were forgiven interest payment on debts and Henry was to receive my "Parlaburger Bible". Henry was the eldest living son. Heinrich also donated land for a burial ground "with free passage to those who are concerned the same".\textsuperscript{57}

It is interesting to note that son Henry was the eldest surviving son at this time. He is mentioned in the will, receiving the bible and his share, but is not named as executor. Son David, who lived in Pennsylvania but closer than Henry who was in Ohio, was named.

\textsuperscript{51} Moreau, editor, Traditions of Hunterdon p15. Deats, Deats Genealogical collection. Another account suggests that he was apprenticed to Ontel Campbell's saddlery factory in the Ancient Village of Amwell.
\textsuperscript{53} Hunterdon County, New Jersey, Deed Book : FHL film # 806610 book 16:650, 17:24, 94.
\textsuperscript{54} Kenn Stryker-Rodda, Revolutionary Census of New Jersey (Lambertville, New Jersey: Hunterdon House, 1986), p 272. T.L.C. Genealogy, Hunterdon County, New Jersey Taxpayers 1778-1797.(unknown)
\textsuperscript{55} A History of East Amwell 1700-1800, p 85.
\textsuperscript{56} Phyllis B. D'Autrey, Compiler, More records of Old Hunterdon County (Flemington, New Jersey: Hunterdon County Historical Society, 1998), v1 p 128. Summons#34435
\textsuperscript{57} Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
Heinrich LANDIS and Elizabeth NAAS had the following children:  

i. Margaret LANDIS was born on 19 March 1738. Margaret is listed in 1809 will. 

ii. John LANDIS was born on 19 May 1739 in Amwell. He died in 1802 at the age of 63. 

iii. Henry LANDIS was born on 25 November 1740, Amwell, died April 1825, Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. 

iv. Margaret LANDIS was born on 24 October 1742. She died after 1802 at the age of 60. 

v. Elizabeth LANDIS was born on 14 March 1743/4 in Amwell. She was listed in father's will in 1809. She died after 1802 at the age of 58. 

vi. Daniel LANDIS was born on 4 March 1745/6 in Amwell. He died in 1774 at the age of 28 in Richland Township, Bucks, Pennsylvania. In 1809 will, legacy to his children in Barbans Sliefer. Deats papers say went to Great Swamp, Bucks County, PA. 

vii. Jacob LANDIS was born in April 1748. He died about 1777 at the age of 29. 

viii. Margaret LANDIS was born on 19 March 1738. Margaret is listed in 1809 will. 

ix. Joseph LANDIS was born on 20 March 1749/50 in Amwell. He died in 1837 at the age of 87. 

x. Daniel LANDIS was born about 1752. 

xi. Susannah LANDIS was born in July 1753 in Amwell. She died after 1802 at the age of 49.  

Heinrich LANDIS and Catherine GROFF had the following children:  

i. Samuel LANDIS was born on 3 December 1754 in Amwell. He died in 1819 at the age of 65 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. He had his estate probated on 23 June 1819, administrators Samuel G. Landis and Andrew Stillwell. Samuel on list of Exempts from militia Hunterdon County. 

ii. David LANDIS was born on 29 February 1756 in Amwell. He died on 17 January 1822 at the age of 65 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.
iii. Rebecca LANDIS was born on 16 December 1757. Benjamin LANDIS was born on 16 December 1760. He died before 1802 at the age of 42. 71 Not in father's will.

iv. Rebecca LANDIS was born on 6 May 1762 in Amwell. She died after 1802 at the age of 40. 72 Mentioned in father's will. Deats papers say married 1st John Runyan and married 2nd John Runkle. Grandson Henry Runyan who owned Henry's property must be from Rebecca. John Runyan bought land from Henry's estate in 1811. Buried Dilts Graveyard Ringoes, tombstone May 31, 1850 age 90.

v. Isaac LANDIS was born on 9 February 1763 in Amwell. In 1809 will. Isaac on list of Exempts from militia Hunterdon County. 73 Deats papers say married John Hixon of Youngstown, Pa; moved to Union County, PA.

vi. Mary LANDIS was born on 23 July 1765 in Amwell. She died after 1802 at the age of 37. 74 Mentioned in father's will. Deats papers say married John Hixon of Youngstown, Pa.

vii. Sarah LANDIS was born on 23 April 1767. She died on 22 February 1791 at the age of 23. Deats papers say married Samuel Saur of Chestnut Hill.

ix. Catherina LANDIS was born on 25 March 1769.

x. Solomon LANDIS was born on 9 October 1770 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. On 9 October 1793 he was a saddler in Trenton, New Jersey. Newspaper notice that he is establishing business here as of this date. He died on 21 March 1847 at the age of 76 in Amwell. Solomon on list of Exempts from militia Hunterdon County. Deats papers say m Elizabeth Reeder. 75

xi. Hannah LANDIS was born on 3 September 1772 in Amwell. She died after 1802 at the age of 30. 76 Mentioned in father's will. Deats papers say married.

xii. Catherine LANDIS was born on 29 June 1774 in Amwell. She died in 1864 at the age of 90 in Amwell. Returned to her father's home to die. She had lived in central PA. Married Elnathan Price.

xiii. Anna LANDIS was born on 22 September 1776. "died shortly".

xiv. Anna LANDIS was born on 5 May 1780. She died on 4 March 1791 at the age of 10.

Eight Generation

Henry Landis was born 25 November 1740 likely in Ringoes, Hunterdon, New Jersey. 78 Henry died before the probate of his will in Preble County, Ohio on 16 April 1825. His tombstone states April 1825 age 84 years 5 months. The stone was found on his land; southeast quarter, Section 36, Lanier Township just west of Preble/Montgomery Line Road, south of Kinsey Rd. There is also a stone for his wife Elizabeth, August 29 1843 age 89 years, 11 months, 15 days. 79 This Henry will be identified as Henry (1740-1825).

Henry (1740-1825) married about 1761 from the birth of the first known child in 1763. The identity of his first wife is not certain. The first record of a name is Mary in an 1788 deed of sale. 80 Other researchers have reported that she was Mary Carver/Garver, but no documentation

71 Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
72 Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
73 Norton, New Jersey in 1793, p 160
74 Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
76 Documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
77 Deats, Deats Genealogical Collection FHL film # 1764569.
78 Deats, Deats Genealogical Collection, FHL film # 1764569.
79 Hodson, Preble County Cemeteries.
80 Frederick County, Maryland Deed Book, Wr8:60.
has been found. If this was the correct surname for her, he most likely married in Maryland as no likely Carver/Garver family has been located in Hunterdon County.\textsuperscript{81} The Garver families were prominent in the Dunker Church, but the Martin who lived next to Henry in Maryland does not appear to be her father or her brother. He is the son of John Garver of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. \textsuperscript{82}

Henry married 2\textsuperscript{nd} December 1800 Elizabeth Fishbourne, widow of Philip Fishbourne. The marriage was probably in Maryland.\textsuperscript{83}

There is no direct proof that the son of Heinrich and Elizabeth Naas is the same Henry as found in Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio. The claim is made here based upon the following information.

- The Heinrich Landis of Ringoes had a son Henry whom he mentions in his will. The Henry of Maryland was alive at that time.\textsuperscript{84}
- At the time the will was written, Henry is his oldest surviving son. As expected, he inherits his father's bible although no mention of a bible is made in the will of Henry of Ohio. The eldest son was commonly the executor of an estate. In this case a younger son who lived closer to Ringoes is named instead. This is consistent with Henry's residence in Ohio.
- The Heinrich Landis in New Jersey was a saddler and reportedly trained all his sons in that profession. The Henry Landis who purchased property in Frederick County, Maryland 11 December 1769 was a saddler.\textsuperscript{85}
- The reported birth date of Henry, son of Heinrich and Elizabeth Naas, is 25 November 1740. His age at burial in Preble County calculates to November 1740, matching the date.\textsuperscript{86}
- Another tie with the New Jersey family is religion. Both families were active members of their Dunker communities.

No evidence that contradicts this claim has been found.

\textbf{Maryland}

The first record of this Henry (1740-1825) was found in Maryland from the property that he bought in Frederick County in 1769. "Henry Landis of Frederick County Maryland, saddler," bought 50 acres for £100.\textsuperscript{87} The property was neighboring on the "Ivy Church" patent. This land is on Beaver Dam Creek in the area of the county known as Upper Linganore.\textsuperscript{88} It is along the present Carroll County border, off of Highway 26. The land is rolling hills, and in 2007 was still

\textsuperscript{81} Deats, 	extit{Deats Genealogical Collection}, FHL film # 1764569.
\textsuperscript{82} Durnbaugh, 	extit{The Brethren Encyclopedia}.
\textsuperscript{83} "David Fishburn, Frederick Collenberger and Mary his wife vs Eliza Fishburn et al", Maryland Chancery Court, Maryland State archives, Annapolis, Maryland, MSA, SR2475, Book 36:287.
\textsuperscript{84} \textit{Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey}, 1st series vol 40 (wills vol 9) p 208.
\textsuperscript{85} Frederick County, Maryland Deed Book, FHL film # 13941 vol M 692.
\textsuperscript{86} Deats, 	extit{Deats Genealogical collection}, FHL film # 1764569, Hodson, Preble County Cemeteries.
\textsuperscript{87} Frederick County, Maryland Deed Book, FHL film # 13941 vol M:692.
\textsuperscript{88} Grace L. Tracey and John P. Dern, 	extit{Pioneers of Old Monocacy: The Early Settlements of Frederick County, Maryland} (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1987), p 99.
rural farmland. The 50 acres were less than that held by neighbors, suggesting that he spent time at his trade of saddler to support his family. Henry already had 5 children by the time he purchased this land in 1769. It is likely he was in the area before this date.

Henry (1740-1825) sold his Frederick County Maryland land in 1788 for £184. He signed the deed indicating that he could read and write. The deed was acknowledged by Henry on 19 April 1788, and his wife Mary released her dower rights.89

Henry lived in Maryland during the Revolutionary War. On 12 April 1776 he was fined £5 for “non-enrollment” by the Committee for Observation in Frederick County, Maryland.90 Henry does not appear as a participant on the Revolutionary War troop lists at any time during the fighting. This record of the fine shows what happened in Maryland to members of the Dunker Church who were pacifists. Since he was not a loyalist he at no time had to leave the country, nor was his land confiscated. However, the fine clearly identified him as a man distinct from the majority in his community.

There was a second Henry Landis in Frederick County, Maryland by 1773 on Sam’s Creek. Sam’s Creek was in the same general area as Upper Linganore and Beaver Dam Creek marking part of the boundary with Carroll County. He was not called “saddler”. In the 1790 and 1800 census there was a Henry Landis with a family that does not match this Henry (1740-1825), nor that of his son Henry (1763-1840) who was too young to own land at this time.91 A Henry Landis of Lancaster County along with Christian Hass purchased land in Frederick County Maryland in 1773.92 This was likely the identity of the “other” Henry Landis who owned a mill and held an Ordinary License.93

**Virginia**

On 23 May 1788 Henry (1740-1825) purchased 200 acres of land in Franklin County, Virginia on Little Creek. Son Henry (1763-1840) was a witness. Altogether this Henry apparently purchased 348 acres and sold 51 acres [possibly] and then 630 acres in 1800 to his son-in-law Peter Eickenberry. This 630 acres is unexplained as to origin, but the deed clearly stated this amount. It appears to be the same land description of 200 acres purchased in 1788. It is difficult to separate Henry (1740-1825) from his son Henry (1763-1840) in the records. He was never identified as a saddler in Virginia, the nomenclature used instead to distinguish between two Henrys was “Sr” and “Jr”.94

Both Henry Sr and Jr are on the tax rolls in Franklin County from 1793 to 1800. Henry Sr consistently had 1 or 2 horses and 2 cows with no slaves. There are no entries for either Henry

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89 *Frederick County, Maryland Deed Book*, v Wr8:60 Dower right refers to the right of the wife to one-third of her husband’s property. She normally had to sign a release of her portion when the property was sold, and was interviewed separately to ensure it was her wish to sell.
90 *Maryland History Magazine* v 11:254.
91 1790 US Census, Frederick County, Maryland, National Archives, Washington DC, M637 roll 3 p 159.
92 *Frederick County, Maryland Deed Book*, FHL film # 139444 Book U:260.
Landis in 1801 or 1802. In 1803 there is only one Henry listed, and this is likely Henry Jr. as Henry Sr had already sold his land. 95

By a deed dated 28 Nov 1800 Henry Landis Sr sold his land to Peter Ilkenberry, his son-in-law. 96 There is no wife listed on this deed. Although sometimes Virginia deeds did not list a release from the wife, it is probable that his wife had died before this date. The youngest child was born in 1783 while the family was still in Maryland. His wife Mary signed a release for the deed in 1788 in Maryland, and so her death was likely in Franklin County, Virginia.

**Back to Maryland**

Henry (1740-1825) returned to Maryland as on 1 December 1800 Henry Landis, saddler, married Elizabeth Fishbourne. He appears in the Maryland court papers from this date through 7 May 1803. During these years he was appointed guardian for Susannah Fishbourne, minor daughter of Elizabeth and her deceased husband Philip. Elizabeth and Henry signed a receipt for payment on the final date. Unfortunately, it is not clear where the couple resided during these years. There is no record of a court statement from them given in a Virginia court, so it is unlikely they returned there. They appeared to be in Frederick County, Maryland but Baltimore County is also a possibility. 97

**Ohio**

Henry (1740-1825) and Elizabeth and her daughter Susannah next moved to Ohio. A review of Henry’s probate records in Preble County, Ohio in 1825 and the Chancery Court records following Elizabeth's death in 1844 documented that the Henry Landis who married Elizabeth Fishbourne in Maryland was the Henry Landis who died in Ohio. 98 He either moved directly from Maryland to Ohio or went south to Franklin County Virginia with his wife Elizabeth and ward Susannah Fishbourne, and then moved on with other family members.

The first land purchase in Montgomery County, Ohio was in 1804, and he then made some subsequent purchases. At his death he held a total of 62 acres, 47 acres were in Preble County and 15 acres were contiguous but over the line in Montgomery County. 99 Henry made provision for this land in his will which was probated in 1825. 100

From 1810 to 1816 a Henry Landis was on the tax list in Preble County, Ohio 101 There appeared

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95 Franklin County Personal Property Tax List 1786-1850, film # 2024540.
96 Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #31497, 4:81.
97 "David Fishburn, Frederick Collenberger and Mary his wife vs Eliza Fishburn et al", Maryland Chancery Court, Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland, MSA, SR 2475 Book 3: 287.
100 Will (Henry Landes), Preble County, Ohio Will Book, FHL film #564860, Book B:92.
to be only one Henry until 1812 when “Henry Sr” was listed. He was listed in the 1820 Ohio census close to his sons Samuel and Henry.  

The Preble County seen by the Landis families in 1804 was a virgin wilderness. The “climax forest” of hardwood trees was reported so dense a canopy that you could not see sunlight through the trees in the summer. The soil was very rich due to the accumulation of humus over the years. Perhaps 5-10 acres could be cleared the first year. A cabin had to be built, usually from the small trees that grew beneath the large ones. They were a foot to a foot and a half thick and were squared off with an adze. The Yellow Poplar or Tulip tree was preferred as it grew straight and required less chinking. Clay and flat stone was used for a fireplace at one end. The cabins were generally 20 feet long-as long a log as could be handled. The roof was clap-board shingles of oak or ash, held down with cross poles. There was generally a sleeping loft for the children. Apparently some of the families brought glass panes for maybe three small four paned windows. Deer were a good source of meat until they were depleted during the hard winter of 1817. Fruit trees and flowers were planted early on by the settlers. Two hazards of the area were “chills and fever” also called ague or malaria. Another was “milk fever” caused when the cows ate the white flowering ageratum (white snake root).  

Henry (1740-1825) was 63 years old when he moved to Ohio. He lived there 21 years, until he was buried on his land. The inventory of his estate included a bill for physician services for the year prior to his death, suggesting he was ill for this period of time. He owned books suggesting he could read. A corner cupboard and coverlets were included. His saddler tools were sold at public auction and included a saddler’s needle and webbing, a saddler’s knife and leather. The farm implements and several sheep suggest he maintained a small farm on his 67 acres in addition to continuing his trade.

When wife Elizabeth died in 1843 a Preble County Chancery Court case handled the distribution of Henry’s land according to their wills. From this court case we know the following:

- Son Isaac, deceased, lived in Maryland. His birth date, taken from his tombstone, suggests that he was 13 when his father married in Maryland. Did he go with his father there, perhaps meeting his future wife on this trip? His land was in the area where Henry lived prior to his move to Virginia.
- The second son, John, deceased, lived in Virginia. He had purchased his own land there in 1790, some of which he sold in 1807. He apparently remained in Virginia as he was listed as deceased in 1844 with his heirs of Virginia. Other researchers have suggested he died in Kentucky.

102 1830 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M 19., roll 95 p 118.
104 Preble County, Ohio. Record of Inventories and Sale Bills 1819-1857 (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah), FHL film #1869836 p 165-171.
106 Ruth Bowers and Anita Short, Preble County, Ohio Common Pleas Court Records 1810-1850, p 96.
107 World Connect; Nadine Holder, accessed Feb 16, 2005.
Son David, whose estate was probated in Preble County in 1814,\(^{108}\) apparently moved over the present Indiana state line to what is now Union County. There was a strong Dunker community there that was later known as the Four Mile Brethren Church. David’s widow, Elizabeth Peckleshimer, remarried to John Moss in this area and his children were there. Some of the children of Henry’s daughter Elizabeth and her husband Peter Eickenberry also lived here.\(^{109}\) This area was within 12 miles of Lanier Township where Henry lived. It is the wife of son David who is the Elizabeth Moss mentioned in Henry’s will. She has mistakenly been referred to as a second wife of Henry by some other researchers.

- All of Henry’s children except Mary Eickenberry were deceased by 1844.
- Henry was married to Elizabeth Fishbourne when he died.\(^{110}\) Her last name is known from the Maryland Chancery case involving the estate of her husband Philip Fishbourne. The division of Henry’s property upon her death lists her children as separate from his, making it clear that they had no children together.

Henry LANDIS and possibly his wife Mary had the following children:

i. **Henry LANDIS** was born on 6 April 1763, died 22 December 1840, Tazewell or Logan County, Illinois.

ii. **John LANDIS** lived in Franklin County, VA, on Coles Branch and Little Creek property from 1790 to 1807. He was on tax list from 1793 to 1803 in Franklin County. John Landis dec’d heirs of Virginia in property partition 1844, lists his heirs Elizabeth, Hannah, Mary, and other unknown heirs of Virginia. Other researchers say he died April 1840 in Muhlenburg County Kentucky.\(^{111}\)

iii. **Elizabeth LANDIS** married Peter Eickenberry. Court case: Elizabeth Eikenberry dec’d, children, Henry, Mary and William Moss, Peter, Daniel, Isaac, Lydia and Daniel Miller, all of Indiana, Samuel of Iowa, Lydia and Jacob Lesh, and Joseph dec’d his children.\(^{112}\)

iv. David LANDIS lived on Turtle Creek, Warren, Ohio about 1814. David had his estate probated on 20 September 1814 in Preble County, Ohio. The sale of his estate was signed by father Henry Landis. Court Case lists: Elizabeth Moss, late Landis wife of David dec’d.\(^{113}\)

v. **Daniel LANDIS** was on tax list from 1793 to 1800 in Franklin County, Virginia. Assume this right Daniel. He appeared in the census in 1820 in Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. Daniel on second half of page with Samuel and Henry. He died before 1844.\(^{114}\)

vi. **Samuel LANDIS** appeared in the census in 1820 in Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. Living next to Henry. He is on tax list from 1821 to 1838 in Lanier Township. He had his estate probated on 11 September 1838 in Preble County, Ohio.\(^{115}\)

vii. **Mary LANDIS** married Henry Eickenberry. She died on 3 November 1858 at the age of 85 in Preble County, Ohio, buried in Eikenberry Cemetery or Wheatville Cemetery. In her father’s will, not in distribution in 1844. She is however mentioned in the final partition of land. Cannot find in 1850 census.\(^{116}\)

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\(^{110}\) Ruth Bowers and Anita Short, *Preble Count Ohio Common Pleas Court Records 1810-1850*, p 96


\(^{115}\) 1820 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, roll 95 p 118. Carol Wilkey Bell, Esther Weygandt Powell, *Index to Early Ohio Tax Records*, Book C p 39.

viii. Isaac LANDIS was born on 16 January 1783 in Frederick County, Maryland. (Date calculated from his tombstone). He died on 22 October 1842 at the age of 59 in Carroll County, Maryland. He was buried in Union Bridge-Wolf Cemetery, Carroll County, Maryland. [Isaac Landis 22 October 1842 age 59y-9m-6d Wife Hannah 21 Nov, 1838 age 52y-4m-26d Cemetery West of Quaker Hill Rd (MD Rt 619) Carroll County]. He appeared in the census in 1830 in Frederick County, Maryland. District 8. Court Case says his unknown heirs who reside in Maryland.\textsuperscript{117}

Ninth Generation

Henry Landis/ Lantis was born 6 April 1763. The location is uncertain since it is not known whether his father resided in New Jersey or Maryland at this time. Henry died in 1840 in Illinois. His wife Susannah died in 1834 and both are buried in Reed Cemetery, West Lincoln Township, Logan, Illinois.\textsuperscript{118} Henry was referred to as "Landis" until he arrived in Illinois where he was "Lantis". This Henry will be known as Henry (1763-1840).

Henry (1763-1840) probably married in Frederick County, Maryland as shown by his eldest daughter Hannah's statement that she was born in Maryland about 1788.\textsuperscript{119}

The mother of Henry's children is unknown. The only name for a wife is Susannah from a deed in 1812 in Ohio\textsuperscript{120} and from Henry's will, probate, and cemetery records in Illinois. The will appears to refer to Henry, the youngest son, as "mine" son in reference to taking care of Susannah. She may not be the mother of the children although a daughter Susannah was born about 1794.\textsuperscript{121}

Henry (1763-1840) lived with his father in Maryland as no land records have been found. If he moved to Virginia in 1788 with his father, he would have been 25 years old. He was not listed on the 1790 census as a separate household in either Maryland or Virginia, suggesting that he was still with his father.

In 1793, about 5 years after he came to Franklin County, Virginia, a Henry Jr bought 450 acres on Little Creek where his father Henry also had land. He sold some of the acreage over the years. He appeared on the tax lists 1793 through 1800 as Henry Jr. with one horse. In 1803 only “Henry Landis” is listed. This was probably this Henry (1763-1840), as his father Henry (1740-1825) had sold his Virginia land in 1800.\textsuperscript{122}

Henry came to Ohio with the rest of the family in 1804. He sold his Virginia land in that year, and his youngest son stated he was born in Ohio about 1804. It appears that the first purchase of


\textsuperscript{119}1850 US Census, Wabash County, Indiana, National Archives M 432. roll 178 p 398.

\textsuperscript{120}Preble County, Ohio Deed Books, FHL film #564906 vol 1:235.

\textsuperscript{121}1850 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M432, roll 723, p308.

\textsuperscript{122}Franklin County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #31497 3:1, 119, 4:77, #31498, 5:24. Personal Property Tax List 1786-1850 (Franklin County) film #2024540.
property by him was on 11 September 1811. The 160 acres were purchased in Preble County from the US government. Henry is listed as of “Montgomery County”, likely explained by the portion of his father’s land in this county. 123

The Preble County land was apparently shared with his brother Samuel for on 19 December 1812 Henry and his wife Susannah sold this land to Samuel “granted to Henry 11 September 1811, jointly paid for by Henry and Samuel”124 It is puzzling that this federal deed was not deposited in Preble County until 1844, when his father Henry’s (1740-1825) land was distributed. Perhaps brother Samuel’s heirs did so at this time. There were no further land records for this Henry in Preble County. Since Henry signed this 1812 deed, it appears that he was educated 125

Henry (1763-1840) remained in Preble County after the 1812 sale, however, as “Henry Jr” is listed on the tax rolls in 1816 and 1820. In 1820 “transferred to Simon Gedding” is referenced to the land shared with Samuel. Only one Henry (1740-1825) was in the next tax list of 1825, the year that father Henry died in April but still appeared on the list.126 Son Henry was named executor along with John Ness in his father’s will. It is likely that this was son Henry and that he was in Preble County when the will was written in 1818, but he was not there when the will was probated. John Ness was the only executor listed on the Inventory and no Henry purchased any of the goods at the sale.127

In the 1820 Preble County census Henry (1763-1840) is listed next to Samuel, age 45+ with a younger family with him, possibly his son Henry. Two females age 26 to 45 are in this household.128 One was probably Susannah and the other possibly the wife of son Henry. Son Daniel is nearby and the daughters were all married. No Henry is listed on the 1830 or 1840 censuses in Preble County, supporting the conclusion that Henry (1763-1840) left Preble County about 1821.

By 1825 Henry (1763-1840) was in Illinois with his two sons, while his daughters remained in Ohio. Under the name of Lantis, on 15 April 1825, at age 62, Henry purchased land from the Federal Government in Sagamon County (now Logan and Tazewell) Counties, Illinois. This was followed by a purchase in 1830.129 It is not known whether he went directly to this area or stopped along the way.

In 1826 Henry (1763-1840) made his will, apparently suffering some physical problems at this time. He left his farm to his son Henry, and sons Daniel and Henry each received another parcel, with son Daniel as executor. Perhaps the motivation for moving to Illinois was the purchase of

124 Preble County, Ohio Deed Books, FHL film #564906 vol 1:235.
126 Bell, Index to Early Ohio Tax Records.
127 Record of Inventory and Sale Bills, Preble County, Ohio, Book 1823-1825 p 165.
128 1820 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M33, roll 95 p 118.
less expensive land for the sons. The acreage purchased in Illinois was significantly more than he owned in Virginia or in Ohio. It was also less expensive than Ohio land by this time.

The probate papers from Tazewell County suggest conflict within Henry’s (1763-1840) family in his last years and following his death. From October 1837 to 22 December 1840, Henry (1763-1840) required care and lived with his son Henry, who was paid by the estate for board and nursing during this period.

Following the death of his father, Henry Jr was apparently appointed administrator and took out a bond for the estate on 26 January 1841. Four years passed without a resolution to the estate when on 16 June 1845 a letter was written to the Probate Court Tazewell County from Jacob Lesh and Daniel Harter, husbands of Mary and Susannah "daughters of said dec'd", written in Preble County, Ohio. They asked for the status of the estate and noted they had submitted "an agreement entered into between us and the heirs of your estate" No record of this agreement was found in the papers.

Following this request for information, in 1846 son Henry, the executor, filed suit in Tazewell County against the estate of his father. A jury was called. Son Daniel requested that testimony be introduced relating to a second will. The witness stated that Henry Jr had not lived up to his agreement for the conditions of the 1826 will, and a second will was written in 1833 [no copy of the second will was included in the papers received].

A statement from Daniel Landis "one of the heirs and attorney for 4 others" [his sisters?] listed four notes held by the estate that were insolvent or of doubtful solvency. The dates on three of these suggested that they were made after Henry's (1763-1840) death, probably by the executor Henry Jr. The 1826 will suggested that funds could be invested with the proceeds to support Henry's (1763-1840) wife. Susannah had died before Henry, however, raising the question of why the notes were signed after his death.

On 18 August 1846 John Reed agreed to act as executor for the estate for the duration of the settlement of the claim by Henry Lantis Jr, executor.

A final settlement lists the value of the estate as cash $493.99, costs of $254.78 [including largest payment to Henry Jr administrator $150], leaving a total of $198.11 to be divided 4 ways: $48.50 each to Mary Leash, Catherine Dillman, Hannah Dillman, and Susannah Harter. This payment was to be paid "by January 1st next" without specifying the date, but it was probably in 1847.130

Although there is more one would like to know about this case, it appears that Daniel and his sisters were aligned against their brother Henry Jr over the settlement of their father’s estate. The hearing of the case before a jury defines it as an acrimonious settlement. Henry Jr was not the executor in the first will, but he clearly acted as such. It is not known how the property was distributed. In light of this suit, it is interesting to note that son Daniel and family were buried

130 from Tazewell County probate Records, Henry Lantis Box 12.
with Henry and Susannah in Reed Cemetery. Son Henry was buried in Mackinaw Cemetery, Mackinaw Township, Tazewell County.\textsuperscript{131}

The inventory and bill of sale from the estate of Henry (1763-1840) included the following items:

1 Dutch Bible [could this be from father Henry and grandfather Heinrich?],

qwill wheel and 1 pair swifts, 5 weaving gears and reeds, 1 set weaving hooks,

3 German books, 1 German Testament, 1 new testament, [suggesting he could read in the language of his ancestors]

1 lot saddlers tools, [following the trade of his grandfather and father]

28 yards of linen, 22 yard of calico, 2 counterpanes, 6 coverlets, 2 blankets. Susannah's clothes included 2 flannel dresses, and 1 Linsey dress.\textsuperscript{132}

Henry LANDIS/LANTIS and possibly Susannah had the following children:

i. Hannah LANDIS was born about 1788 in Maryland. She died after 1860 at the age of 72. [Not in 1870 census] Married John Dillman. She lived in Indiana on 25 June 1844. She appeared in the census in 1850 in Pleasant, Wabash, Indiana, and in the census in 1860 in Pleasant, Wabash, Indiana.\textsuperscript{133}

ii. Daniel LANDIS was born on 24 January 1792 in Franklin County, Virginia. Birth date from gravestone, place from census and father's residence. Daniel was buried in November 1865 in Reed Cemetery, West Lincoln Township, Logan, Illinois. He bought property on 25 December 1834 in Richmond (now Tazewell), Illinois. He appeared in the census in 1840 and 1850 in Logan County, Illinois.\textsuperscript{134}

iii. Mary LANDIS was born about 1793 in Virginia. She died after 1870. [Not in 1880 census] She married Jacob Lesh. She appeared in the census in 1850 and 1860 in Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. Mary appeared in the census in 1870 in Tippecanoe, Miami, Ohio, living with son Joel.\textsuperscript{135}

iv. Susannah LANDIS was born about 1794 in Virginia. She married Daniel Harter. She appeared in the census in 1850 in Lanier Township, Preble, Ohio. Listed in 1844 court case: Daniel and Susannah Harter. Sister Catherine Landis Dillman married as her 2nd husband Joseph Harter. Relationship in Harter family not known.\textsuperscript{136}

v. Catherine LANDIS, born 13 February 1799, Franklin County, Virginia; died 1 May 1888, Preble County, Ohio. Married Joseph DILLMAN and Joseph Harter.\textsuperscript{137}

vi. Henry LANDIS was born about 1804 in Ohio. Married Elizabeth. He died after 1880. He


\textsuperscript{132} from information sent by the Tazewell Illinois Genealogical and Historical Society (PO Box 312, Pekin, Illinois Sept 2007). from Tazewell County probate Records, Henry Lantis Box 12.


\textsuperscript{136} 1870 US Census, Miami County, Ohio, roll 1244 p 802.

appeared in the census in 1840 in Tazewell County, Illinois. He lived in Illinois on 26 June 1844. Henry appeared in the census in 1850 in Logan County, Illinois. He appeared in the census in 1860 in Mackinaw Township, Tazewell, Illinois. In 1880 he was a boarder on what was probably his land, son Daniel next but one. Henry was buried in Mackinaw Cemetery, Mackinaw Township, Tazewell, Illinois.  

Letter from Elizabetha Hirt Landis to Hans Casper Landis

Germantown, Pennsylvania

20 Nov, 1746

To my friends and relatives, especially to the children of the late Hans Caspar Landis, wish much good:

I, Elizabeth, the widow of Hans Heinrich Landis, a brother to your father, Caspar Landis, a barber, in Richterswil, but again married to Heinrich End, desire to inform you as follows:

When my former husband, Heinrich Landis, left Switzerland for the first time with his father, he entrusted to his brother Caspar a certain sum of money without taking from him anything in writing, because he had absolute confidence in his brother's honesty, and had not the least doubt that all would be right. Twice he had received some of the amount, so that now there is a balance of about 300 Rix Dollars [Wenger $210] remaining unpaid; as my dear husband, Heinrich Landis, so often informed and assured me. Since then my husband, Heinrich Landis, entered orderly and publicly into the bonds of matrimony with me, Elizabetha Hirt, born in Mark-Kirch, in Elsass, the daughter of Jacob Hirt, of the same place. This was in 1709. After having resided for ten years in different places in Germany, we finally, twenty-two years ago, came to Pennsylvania, fully intending again at some time to visit you, as he had promised his brother Caspar Landis he would, and then bringing the balance of his money home with him. From this he was however prevented by my frequent solicitation and entreaty not to go until the year 1727 when he died, leaving me a widow with four children, namely one son and three daughters.

Since then I have learned that his brother Caspar Landis also died in 1720, and surmising that he has left the said money in safe hands of the honorable authorities, or with the surviving relatives, on the condition that the said sum be paid to his brother Heinrich, or his legal heirs. Inasmuch as his brother's confidence in his brother's faithfulness is well known to me, I have decided in the simplicity of my heart, and on account of this matter as also the honorable magistrate, of your place, ordered of God as the chief guardian to secure the right to the widow and orphans, and ask if it is or will be possible to secure to me and my children what by right belongs to us, likewise asking to know the condition of my beloved relatives there.

My four children are still living. The name of my oldest daughter is Elizabetha Landis, the second Barbara Landis, the third Heinrich Landis, and the fourth Dorothea Landis. Of these, two are married; namely Heinrich and Dorothea, all of whom send hearty greetings to their unknown relatives. You will be so kind as to help them to their paternal inheritance. Next year, so it pleases God, we will send a power of attorney, executed by our legal authorities, after we have been informed how much of the money still remains in your hands and where it is invested.

We have a good opportunity to obtain it if it will be transferred to Dr Hollinger, Reformed minister in Heidelberg, in the Palatinate, who is a native of Zurich by birth; from here it can be sent to Frankenthal to Mr Theobold Bayer, or to Christian Saladin, the saddler. When it is in the hands of either it is as good as in our hands, especially the latter, as I have married Heinrich End, the brother of the said Saladin's brother-in-law. If you will honor us with a letter, reporting, to us how our friends are, and the amount of money still remaining, we shall be pleased, for all I know is what I have heard from the mouth of my sainted husband. Whatever it is, be it little or much, I hope you will inform us. If, however, you should have no other opportunity you can send your letter to Dr Heinrich Hollinger, in

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Heidelberg, with the enclosures addressed to Theobold End, saddler, in Germantown Pennsylvania, by which means it will reach us in safety.

In conclusion I be of you kindly to receive this and assist me in this matter. I hope you will be true and honest followers of your father, and since the hand of your laudable government has it in its power, we beg it to give to us its helpful hand, and when the same has obtained its rightful compensation, we hope and pray that God, will be the faithful rewarder for its justice and favor, which we know not how to pay. We shall not neglect on our part to secure you a complete acquittal and release, according to the directions you may send us, or according to the form in our land in such matters of final settlement.

God, the eternal love, bless you all with His grace and heavenly benediction, to whose care and protection we sincerely commend you, and remain to you, my worthy friends.

Your affectionate aunt, Elizabetha Landes [transcription indicates she signed the letter]

Transcription of Heinrich Landes Will:

In the name of God Amen. I Henry Landes of the township of Amwell, County of Hunterdon, and state of New Jersey, considering the uncertainty of this mortal life, and being of sound and perfect memory blessed by Almighty god for the same, Do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say)

First I do will and ordain that the sum of five hundred pounds in gold or silver coin of my estate be put out at interest by my executors hereafter named as soon as conveniently may be after my decease, and that they my said executors, do take good and sufficient land security for the same; And the interest arising from the aforesaid Five hundred pounds I give and bequeath unto Catherine my beloved wife, to be paid unto her yearly and every year by my executors during the time she my said wife remains my widow and no longer. I give and bequeath into my said wife Catherine to the amount of One Hundred Dollars...out of my personal estate of such articles as she shall choose, and to be taken at the appraisement. But if my said wife Catherine join in marriage in marriage again after my decease then in such case I will and ordain that my executors pay to my wife Catherine the sum of One hundred pounds lawful money of my estate and the annual interest of the aforesaid Five hundred pounds to be paid to her my said wife no more from thenceforward such several gifts and bequeaths unto my said wife Catherine, conditioned as aforesaid, are to be considered in lieu of her right of dower.

Second, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Hannah, single woman the sum of Fifty pounds in gold or silver money. My will further is that my executors do put out at interest the sum of one hundred pounds of my estate and I do give and bequeath the interest of the said one hundred pounds unto my daughter Hannah to be paid unto her during the time she remains a single woman. And whereas my daughter Hannah has some property in my possession, such as bedding and other movable articles, my will is that she have and hold the same, without the notation, interruption or denial of my executors or any other person or persons whatsoever.

Third I do will and ordain that both my real and personal property be sold by my executors except what I have above bequeathed; and one quarter of an acre of land herein after disposed of after my decease, and do hereby authorize my executors, or the survivor of them, to a good and sufficient deed and conveyance or deeds and conveyances for my said real estate to the purchaser or purchasers as the case may require. But if from temporary uses the sale of land shall be [?] at the time of my decease, I recommend it to my executors not to be precipitate of disposing of the aforesaid landed property.

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140 Will (Henry Landes), Hunterdon County, New Jersey estate # 23681, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 466550.
Fourth I do exonerate and discharge my sons Joseph and Samuel from paying interest on the bonds obligations or promissory notes I hold against them my said sons at or before my decease and further I do hereby exonerate and discharge all my children from paying any interest on any book accounts I hold against them at the time of my decease.

Fifth I give and Bequeath my Parlaburgar Bible unto my son Henry Landes.

Sixth All the money arising from the sale of my real estate and personal estate not heretofore disposed of together with the money that may fall into the hand of my executors (to omit the Five hundred and one hundred pounds above mentioned) I do will and order to be divided into fifteen equal parts and applied as follows: to my son Henry I give one equal part, to my son Joseph I give one equal part, to my son Samuel I give one equal part, to my son David I give one share, to my son Isaac I give one share, to my son Solomon I give one equal part, to my daughter Margaret one equal part, to my daughter Elizabeth one equal part, to my daughter Susannah one equal part, to my daughter Rebekah one equal part, to my daughter Mary one equal part, to my daughter Hannah one equal part, to my daughter Catherine one equal part, to my granddaughters the daughter of my son John one equal part, to be equally divided between them to the son and daughter of my son Daniel one equal part to be equally divided among them.

And if it should happen that any of the persons to whom legacies are given as aforesaid

Unknown to me should be dead or should die before me that in either of these cases the heirs of said dead persons shall not withstanding have the benefit of the bequest, in the same manner as if he or she was actually living at the same time.

Eleventh my will further is that my son Solomon have and hold the land he now possesses in fee simple at the time of my decease, and from thence five years [?] ensuing after my decease that in such case the principal of the money he oweth me be not exacted from him my said son Solomon by my executors until the expiration of five years next ensuing after my dec.

Eighth I do further will and order that the gift and bequeath to my son Samuel be first paid and the gift and bequeath to my son Joseph be paid second in rotation and Solomon third in rotation to be paid.

Ninth It is my will that one quarter of an acre of land be reserved of the plantation I formerly purchased from my father in law Henry Groff for the use and purpose of a burying ground forever, which quarter of an acre shall include the old burying ground on my said plantation and it is my will further, that those who are concerned in said burying ground may have free liberty to pass and repass to and from the same when they may have occasion.

And lastly I hereby nominate and appoint my friend and neighbor John Lequear of Amwell, and my son David Landes of the state of Pennsylvania, and my friend and neighbor Paul Kiehl of Amwell executors of this my last will and testament; hereby revoking all former wills by me made; In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the Twenty sixth day of May in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and two.

Henry Landes

Signed sealed published and declared by the above named Henry Landes to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator.....

Titus Quick
John Lyst
Jacob Young

Proved 25 July 1809 by Titus Quick
Transcription of Henry (1740-1825) Landis Will.\textsuperscript{141}

Know all men by these presence Greeting that I Henry Lantis \textit{sic} of the state of Ohio and County of Preble being in low state of health & considering the certainty of death & the uncertainty of life do constitute order & make this my last will & testament Revoking all other will & codicils by me made. first I order all my just debts to be paid & after the payments of my just debts & funeral expenses I leave & bequest to my dear and beloved wife Elizabeth Lantis all my real estate during her natural life if she sees to keep it. and at her death to dispose of it as she may think proper. that is one third part of the real estate and if she sees proper to have it sold it shall be sold at any time she thinks proper and it is my will and desire that at any time when it is sold one third part of my real and personal property to my widow and to her heirs or whomsoever she may will it unto secondly I leave and bequeath unto her of my personal property one bed & bedding one corner cupboard with all the furniture therein and one mare one cow taking her choice of the creatures and as much of the household furniture as she sees proper to take for her own use & to dispose of it in any way she sees proper as her own estate & thirdly I leave her my stove during her natural life fourthly is my will and desire that after one third is taken out of real & personal property as aforesaid then the two thirds to be equally divided amongst my children & Elizabeth Moss children in manner and form following to wit that is to say John Landis, Henry Landis Jr, Daniel Landis, Samuel Landis, Isaac Landis, Elizabeth Eickenberry & Mary Eickenberry & my deceased son share David Landis to be equally divided among his children Rebecca Landis, Sarah Landis, Catherine Landis, Elizabeth Landis, Henry Landis, Jacob Landis my grandchildren to enjoy their dec'd fathers share of my estate it is my desire that John Ness & Henry Landis shall be my executors to settle my estate In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this eleventh day of Nov eighteen hundred & eighteen. Henry Landis

signed sealed in the presence of us
William Swisher
Peter Swinehart

[will proved by witnesses 16 April 1825]

Transcription of Henry Landes (1763-1840) Will\textsuperscript{142}

The last Will and Testament
Be it known to all Men!

That I Henry Landes Sr of Sagamon County State of Illinois find myself in a low state of health but at yet in perfect mind and sound senses thought it proper to put all of my worldly things in good order----------

\textsuperscript{141} Will (Henry Landes), Preble County, Ohio Will Books, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film# 564860) Book B p92.
\textsuperscript{142} from information sent by the Tazewell County, Illinois Genealogical and Historical Society, PO Box 312, Pekin, Illinois, Sept 2007.
I will and bequeath the house and farm, where I now live viz: the South East quarter of Section two in township twenty North of range three West, in the District of Springfield and state of Illinois, containing one hundred and sixty acres, to my wife Susanah Landes during her lifetime to live on, and she shall be maintained by my son Henry Landes comfortable and decently; and then after her death to Him. If in case he should not do his duty by her, so that she should be left in Want, then this farm to be rented or leased by the Executors, and the hole rent shall be appropriated to her support-----------------------­

I will and bequeath my wife Susanah two cows, all mine sheep and as much of the household furniture as she wishes to keep.

I will and bequeath the North West fractional quarter of Section One in Township twenty North of Range three West, in the District of Springfield and State of Illinois containing One hundred twenty acres and two hundredths of an acre to my son Daniel Landes as his hole and full portion of mine estate------------------------

I will and bequeath further to my son Henry Landes the fractional quarter adjoining the above mentioned farm I live on, which quarter is to be entered in his Name by mine Executors named and commissioned by me, as herein after mentioned, to execute my will, and further direct------------------viz I wish the Balance left of mine ready money after discharging the amount entering the above mentioned tract of land to be loaned out by mine executors on good and sufficient security, and the interest raising thereon until the time the vendue money will be collected, is to go to support mine Wife if she needed.------

I will and bequeath my big waggon geers and all mine farming utensils to be left to mine sons Daniel and Henry Landes in partnership. Mine Bay Horse to be left to the farm, the Stage Waggon, harness, Mare, Cattle, and Hogs to be sold at public vendue on Credit of Twelve Months..

All the ready money and all the money arising from the notes and vendue after the collection of it to be equally divided betwixt [sic] mine four daughters viz: Hannah, Mary, Susanah, Catherine, all of Preble County, Ohio. as their full portion of mine estate--------

I declare the above mentioned to be mine last Will and Testament, the strict and full execution of which I by the same have and commission Robert Music and Daniel Landes of the County and State aforesaid as mine Executors to act after God Almighty shall have pleased to call me of this worldly live [sic] to everlasting happiness.

In Witness whereof I set mine Name and fix mine Seal this Eight Day of August in the year of our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and twenty six.

[signed] Henry Lantis

Test:
Matthew Robb
Casper Reese
Naas Family

Line of Descent: Johannes, Elizabeth [see LANDIS family]

Johannes NAAS was known as a “gentle giant”.¹ A commanding figure in the early Dunker Church, more is known about him than most men who lived between 1670 and 1742. Church literature describes him first as a man of mild disposition who was kind and charitable. At the same time he was a man who stood by his beliefs and wasn’t afraid of controversy. He was a leader who had the strength to follow his own convictions and often brought others along with him. He was known as an able preacher who endeared himself to his congregations by his dedication to their needs.²

A sense of the man comes from his participation in two disagreements in the church where he took the side of the accused member. The first took place in Krefeld, along the Rhine River in the Palatinate that is now Germany about 1718. A member of the congregation had married a Mennonite and some argued for banning him from the community. Johannes, who was an elder, tried to moderate by suggesting he be suspended from communion. The argument weakened the community and Johannes, after forcefully expressing his point of view, chose to leave to avoid further damage to the congregation.³ Reportedly he went to Switzerland and probably continued some church work but he was dispirited.⁴

The second occurred in New Jersey and involved his own daughter Elizabeth. The accused man is not identified:

“The Brethren at Amwell are also split now. They, too, began to insist on discipline and agreed to curtail the socializing and pairing off of the young people. Now Naas’[daughter] was found guilty of sitting with a man who tried to force her to immorality, and of not removing herself from this person. Rather she remained in his lap for about an hour as if she were asleep. Therefore all of the Brethren found it necessary to exclude her from the breaking of bread and the kiss of love. However, her father thought, since she had not actually committed fornication, this would not do. He sided with her and accused all the Brethren of judging wrongly. Thus he separated himself, later attracting many to his side, and is now holding a separate meeting....”⁵

Johannes was the elder of the church group in Amwell. Some of the Dunkers in New Jersey had ties with the Ephrata Community in Pennsylvania, a splinter group of the church with distinctly differing views. Johannes led the congregation in following the beliefs of the Germantown leaders.

¹ Church of the Brethren Network [http://www.cob-net.org/america.htm] “Amwell and the Giant”, downloaded 2006. A term used today to describe him, no evidence it was used during his lifetime.
² John Flory, Builders of the Church of the Brethren p 23.
³ Donald F Durnbaugh, European Origins of the Brethren, p 282.
⁴ John Flory, Builders of the Church of the Brethren p 24.
⁵ Donald F Durnbaugh, The Brethren in Colonial America, p 275.
Johannes's activity in the early days of the Dunker church took place in an atmosphere of uncertainty and danger. From 1712 to 1714 he baptized new church members in the Marionborn area that is now Germany. The ruler there had welcomed newcomers to replace the population lost to previous wars. They were to "Pay 2 Reichstaler a year...strive toward honest and quiet conduct, and should not cause inconvenience to anyone". One of those baptized was Peter Becker, a subject of the court. This the ruler considered against the terms of their residence and Johannes was brought into court. This baptism caused the expulsion of the group from the area.6

According to tradition, Johannes was a commanding figure of six feet or more. While on a preaching tour in the area around Krefeld, he was recruited as a bodyguard for the King of Prussia. The King was looking for tall, strong men. Johannes refused and was arrested and then tortured. He was subject to pinching and thumb screwing, finally being hung by a cord tied to the thumb of his left hand and the big toe of his right foot until he nearly died. He still refused and was brought before the King who asked why. His answer was that he could not become a traitor to his King, our Lord, Jesus Christ. The King accepted the answer and gave him a gold coin. Whether true or not, this story reflects the reputation Johannes had in his church.7

This man demonstrated in his own words his intelligence, understanding of people, and literary abilities. After arriving in Philadelphia in 1733 he wrote a letter to his son who remained in Europe. The letter shows a well educated man who expressed himself clearly. A transcription of the letter is included at the end of the chapter. He observed his fellow passengers with understanding and empathy for their situation although it differed from his own. He commented that life in America required industry and some don't make it. He was interested in the new experiences, such as fish he had not known before. The depth of his religious feeling is expressed in a hymn written by him and still published in a church hymnal in 1951. It is entitled "Savior of My Soul" in the English translation reproduce at the end of the chapter.8

7 John Flory, Builders of the Church of the Brethren p 28.
8 The Brethren Hymnal (Elgin, Illinois: House of Church of Brethren, 1951), # 361.
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

Johannes NAAS was born about 1670 “near Worms”, Palatinate, in the Rhineland area that is now Germany. He died 12 May 1742 in Amwell Township, Hunterdon, New Jersey. He lived in Nordheim before 1711, which is near Worms. By 1712 the family was in Dudelsheim where Johannes’s wife was baptized. Johannes had already joined the church by this time. When Johannes appeared in court in Dudelsheim, he was listed with a wife and 5 children. The Dunker group next moved to Krefeld, about 165 miles to the northeast, following the Rhine River toward the Netherlands. Following the disagreement in Krefeld, the Naas family apparently traveled to various areas before coming to Pennsylvania. No documentation has been found for these years.  

Johannes came to Philadelphia 29 September 1733 on the Pennsylvania Merchant with Margareta and Elizabeth.10 His letter to his son includes “Mother and Elizabeth send their best greetings.”11 Margareta was the widow Margareta Hauch when Johannes married her in 1727. Apparently his first wife had died in 1725. The court record of 1714 suggests Johannes had 5 children. They are not all identified. One daughter is reported to have married Wilhelm Grahe, one of those imprisoned in Solingen for four years for following the Dunker faith. Johannes went to visit the prisoners in the Jülch prison in late 1717 and again in 1719. His son Jacob Wilhelm was probably another of the children from a first marriage. Daughter Elizabeth was born about 1717, probably after the court report, but from the first wife.12

Following his stay in Germantown where he met with the church leaders he had known in Europe, Johannes and his family moved to Ringoes, Amwell Township in Hunterdon County New Jersey. When he came to Pennsylvania, Johannes was 63 years old. Many men would have remained in their settled life at his age rather than take on new challenges. The vigor of his letter to his son suggests that he enjoyed the challenge.

Johannes Naas and his first wife had the following children (order uncertain):

i. Jacob William NAAS was born about 1696 and immigrated on 26 April 1735 to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Married Maria Goyen. A letter written to Arnold Goyen in Krefeld, Maria's uncle, shows that the couple had not prospered in Pennsylvania13

ii. Unknown NAAS

iii. Unknown NAAS

iv. Unknown NAAS married Wilhelm Grahe.

v. Unknown NAAS

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10 Strassburger, Pennsylvania German Pioneers v1:122.
11 Donald F Durnbaugh, European Origins of the Brethren p 312.
12 Durnbaugh, The Brethren Encyclopedia, p 909.
Elizabeth NAAS, born about 1717, Krefelt, (now Germany); married Heinrich LANDIS, in 1737, Amwell (now East Amwell), Hunterdon, New Jersey; died about 1753, Amwell (now East Amwell), Hunterdon, New Jersey.

The Brethren Hymnal, House of the Church of Brethren, Elgin, Illinois, 1951

Dumbaugh, The Brethren in Colonial America, p 55, 604.
Deats, Deats Genealogical Collection : 1900-1960, FHL film # 1764569.
Letter from John Naas to his Son  

John arrived aboard the Pennsylvania Merchant, John Stedman, Commander, from Rotterdam in Holland. On 18 September 1733, 67 men, with a total of 187 family members, reported to the Court House in Philadelphia.\(^\text{16}\)

Dear beloved son, Jacob William Naas:
I greet you and your dear wife, Margaret, and her dear children very affectionately; also Brethren Grahe, Jacob Schmitz, Liebe, Lobach, Stetius, Müller, Hubert Rahr, Linge, Zwingenberg, Clemens, and also Mrs. Benders and Marie Mumert. We greet them all in affectionate love and friendship, and all their dear ones, without exception; also those who in love inquire about us. The eternal and all-sufficient God give you all mercy, light, and faith, so that you may not only choose the good in this time given us by God’s mercy, but rather through the true and active faith and in true salvation and childlike obedience, you might obtain it in Christ Jesus; may the great God through Jesus Christ work this in us and all who love Him.

Amen. Yes, amen.

Because I have been requested by some to describe our trip, I have not been able to reject doing this completely, and therefore will try to describe, as briefly as possible, what I think necessary. I sent a letter back via Rotterdam from Plymouth in England with the request to make it known. Therein is described how it went from Rotterdam to England and in Plymouth—now following that, I will describe the voyage from England or Plymouth here. I certainly hope you will have received by now my last letter of September 15 from Germantown, in which is reported our happy and pleasant arrival with our dear known and unknown brethren and friends; therefore I now describe briefly what occurred on the journey from Plymouth until here in Pennsylvania as follows.

On June 24 we sailed from Rotterdam until half-hour from there, where we stopped, because of counter winds, until July 3. We then left and the ship had to be towed by many men along the Maas River, until near Hellevoetsluis we received a good wind so that we sailed into the sea at Hellevoetsluis. There began seasickness among the passengers, namely, running and vomiting, most of whom, as soon as they had vomited, began to eat again.

The thirteenth of the same month, in early morning, we arrived at Plymouth in the harbor, which is all rocks. There we had to lie in the middle of the harbor until the ship was cleared by customs and provisioned. We then sailed in the evening of July 21 into the great ocean and lost sight of land on the left, France and Spain. On the twenty-fourth we also lost sight of it on the right, namely England.

On the 25th a small child died, who had come on board very ill, and was buried in the sea on the next day at eight o’clock. I noticed with great amazement that as the body fell into the water from the plank, a swarm of large fish shot ahead of the ship as though they were fleeing from the dead body. We had rather good wind for about ten days, so that we sailed a good distance into the great ocean.

Before daylight on July 28, around two o’clock, a French warship came by, named Elizabeth, whose captain examined our captain in French; after they made themselves acquainted, they wished each other a safe trip and each went on his course. After this day we had very inconstant weather, so that in three weeks we were in motion less than sixty hours, covering a distance which otherwise would have taken one day in good wind.

On August 3, I rose one hour before daybreak in order to see how it was going, as I had decided to watch the compass during the whole trip to see if change of course took place. As I came to the ladder, all the people were still sleeping, and a bedroll was under the ladder, and the bed-blankets lay high on the ladder. During the night it had rained a little, making it slippery under the hatch, and as I stood on the last rung of the ladder and was about to step on the deck, the persons stretched themselves in their bed and involuntarily knocked the ladder from under me, so that I fell from the level of the deck with my left side striking the ladder. I was almost unconscious and lay there a long time before I could stand up. Then I had to lie on my back for fourteen days until I could get up again, and walk a bit. I was at first afraid that I would become lame but the great God in His Son be praised, who allowed me to recover without herbs or bandages, so that I hardly feel it any more.

\(^{16}\) Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers, vol 1:124.
In the early morning of the 14th same the sailors harpooned a large fish, which was as long as a normal-sized man and had a head like a sow, also a body and entrails like a sow. On August 7, another infant died during the night and in the same hour a baby boy was born; the dead child was buried in the sea on the 8th.

On the 11th and 12th we had a storm, which, although not very severe, continued for forty-eight hours, so that all of the sails had to be lashed, the rudder tied, and the portholes covered with boards. We sat in darkness while the force of the waves broke through the glass into the beds. Some of the passengers had to vomit in every storm and strong wind.

On the 13th same another baby boy was born. On the 17th we had another storm, which for the first six or eight hours, was noticeably worse than the first and drove the very high. It lasted one and a half days and one and a half nights, diminishing in force at the end, however. Sails, rudder, and portholes were secured very quickly, and the ship was left at the mercy of the wind and waves. Afterwards it was so still that we remained almost stationary for many days, and the passengers recovered from vomiting and running. Later came a strong side-wind, so that the ship traveled speedily. On August 23, another child died in the early morning and was buried in the sea in the evening.

On the 26th same, around five o’clock in the afternoon, we sailed with a strong wind past an unmoving mast, the tip of which stuck a foot out of the water, completely still and with a piece of sail still attached. To our great fortune our ship passed about a rod’s length away. The captain had just taken tea. Many people were very frightened at this sight, because the mast could not have been stuck in the ocean floor, but despite this did not move.

On the 30th same, another child of the above-mentioned man died, and was buried in the ocean in the evening; we then saw the first small fish with wings fly over the water from two to three rods.

On the morning of September 6, the chief helmsman harpooned a dolphin, which looked much different from what they are described in Germany. This day had a great heat and little wind.

On the 7th same another large fish, called a shark, was caught by the sailors; the sailors took a hook which was very large and strong and thick as a finger, and baited it with one and a half pounds of bacon. When we saw the fish near the ship they threw in the hook with the bacon, which it instantly swallowed, because the fish was very broad and five feet long, with an exceptionally strong tail, out of as well as in the water, when they heaved him on the ship they drove all the passengers away, so that it could not injure anyone. It struck the deck with the tail with such force that if it had hit someone’s legs, they would certainly have been crushed, but when the ship’s carpenter hacked off its tail with barely ten strokes, the strength was gone. Its mouth was so large it could have swallowed a two-year-old child. The captain was pleased to pass out the meat for the passenger’s good.

On the 11th same, another infant died, which the parents did not realize until it was nearly still; it was buried in the sea on the 12th.

On the 13th same, a young woman, who had always been sickly, died in labor, and was buried in the sea on the 14th, with three children, two previously, and the baby after her, so that the husband had no one else.

On the 16th, around four o’clock in the morning, a fifty-year-old woman died who had not been well during the whole voyage and had always regretted her leaving home. She was buried in the sea on the same day. Since the trip was prolonged because of the frequently changing winds, and since most of the people had already eaten most of the provisions that they had brought along-astheir mind was set on a voyage of six weeks from land to land, they had gorged and swilled from early morning until evening-so that at the last it was hard for them to live on the ship’s provisions only. Then most lost their courage and were convinced they would never set foot on land again.

On the 17th same, a small land bird similar to the yellow water wagtail of Germany alighted several times on the ship, so that the people could see it well. This caused such great joy among the people that they all clapped their hands.

On the 18th a ship from Rhode Island came to us, with sheep and other things aboard for the West Indies, which our captain had hailed through the megaphone. After they had discussed with each other, both ships dropped sails, since little progress was being made anyway, and our captain had a boat lowered into the water and went with four sailors to the ship. And after they had drunk welcome with each other, he returned and brought half a sack of apples, a goose, a duck and two hens, and distributed the fine apples among the people at once. This caused great joy that they received such a wonderful American fruit, which was very tasty, at sea, and he threw the apples which were left among the people to be caught, all fell over one another for the nice apples.

On the 19th same a very unusual fish came on board; it was like a large round table and had a mouth like two small baskets. The same evening a great number of large fish approached the ship from the north in schools, and when they reached the ship they shot into the depths in front of, behind, and under the ship so that one could not see them on the other side of the ship.

On the 20th same another boy died and was buried in the sea on the same evening. And again this evening came untold numbers of large fish to the ship from the north, which, as one looked, went high above the water like the previous ones so that one did not see them from the other side. Afterwards there came such a powerful, strong rain
that some people caught half pails of water with sailcloth alone, and from the captain’s cabin. Then came a powerful stormwind from the northwest, so that the sea or ocean rose so high that when one looked at it it was as if one traveled in high mountains, where all mountains were covered with snow. One mountain or wave after the other struck the ship, so that the captain, chief steersman, and cook were hit by one wave leaving them without a dry stitch of clothing on their bodies. The water came into the ship with such force that many people’s bedrolls which lay by port-holes were completely wet. In great haste all holes were quickly closed, the rudder bound, and the ship set sideways against the wind with close rigged sails so that it did not roll so much to both sides. The storm continued throughout the night with great force. All could see without fear that it was not the strength of the ship that endured such blows, but rather the almighty hand of the Lord who preserved it in order to make known His might to the people—to Him be above all and before all the honor, Amen.

Not a person remained on the deck of the ship, except a sailor tied to the rudder who held watch. All the others—captain, steersman, and sailors—crept in their wet clothes into their beds. The ship lay for a time at the mercy of the wind, always on its side so that it shipped water, but the water always ran off again. Around midnight the waves struck so hard on the aft port-holes that two port-hole boards broke loose, and as the people lay partly in sleep and slumber the water poured in through the port-holes, a stream as large as the hole, and immediately into the beds which caused a great panic among those who lay near the porthole. The water took a board with rope completely away again. We leaped up, because the friend who lay near the porthole had not tied the board tightly enough, and this misfortune could have been great; we took a wool sack close at hand and stuffed the porthole shut again and the other porthole with the remaining board. The ship’s carpenter made a new shutter the next morning.

The storm began to let up a little bit, also the fear of the people decreased, and around two o’clock in the afternoon the sky cleared, the wind died down, the port-holes were opened, and there was quiet beautiful weather. The captain had rice cooked in a kettle quickly, so that the people received a little something warm on this day, and the night until [text incomplete]

The 22nd same at noon the ship lay quite still as a house, and the people dried their things again. During the afternoon we got a good wind which held on during the night also, so strong and yet as steady that one did not realize on the ship that it was moving, yet we still progressed two and a half [?] in one hour. At midnight the first sounding was taken, over one hundred fifty fathoms deep without finding bottom. On the 23rd same around nine o’clock another sounding was made and at fifty-five fathoms bottom was found, at eleven o’clock, thirty-five fathoms; shortly thereafter twenty fathoms deep (and still we saw no land), but were rapidly nearing the [Delaware] River. The people were very happy because of such a good wind and because we had found bottom. The captain did not think it possible to reach the river by daylight because no land could be seen, and had the sails lowered despite the good wind around four o’clock, and the rudder bound because there were many sandbars before and in the river.

Early the next morning all the sails were hoisted again, and directed toward the river, although the wind was not good at all, and there was a thick fog. They made soundings again and found fifteen fathoms, and an hour later seven fathoms. Around twelve o’clock we saw land with great joy; around four o’clock we approached the river closely, since when one first sees it one is six hours away. The captain and I saw three boats sailing in, and the captain cried they must be pilots or steersmen; one could hardly see them in the waves. He had all sails hoisted and was very happy that the pilots came to meet him. The first that came he did not accept, but when the second came, he knew him and took him at once aboard the ship and planned to sail into the river the same night. But when we had land on both sides, around eight o’clock, at the mouth of the river, there suddenly came a storm wind from the southwest worse than any before. All had to help lower the sails and anchor for the first time. We remained firm in one place and the water had not very much power because it was not over seven fathoms deep. Therefore we stayed at anchor the whole night and the storm died away soon after.

The 25th same the above-mentioned newly born baby died, and was buried in the river. We sailed the night of that day into the narrows of the river, which is truly very pleasant to look upon, as wide as the Rhine River, where it is broadest, and on both sides the most beautiful woods or bushes. Here and there stood houses on the river bank, and their fishing nets were hung up on the shores. We passed by New Castle on the following 27th same with a small wind and thick fog. The mentioned city is still forty English miles from Philadelphia. Because we had a very little wind then, we had to travel more than once with the flood tide, or with the water, so that we traveled on the 28th and arrived very happily on the afternoon of the 29th in Philadelphia.

Brethren and sisters came to meet us in small boats with delicious bread, apples, peaches, and other refreshments of the body, for which we praised the great God publicly on the ship, with much singing and resounding prayers. There were many tears that He had preserved us as a Father and carried us on eagle’s wings, and that we had met each other in love again before eternity. This, dear children, brethren, and friends, is very briefly the description of our trip over the great ocean.
If I were to report everything that happened among the passengers, on the ship, there would be much more to write. It makes my heart sorrowful to recall that often aboard ship I said to them that I did not think it was worse in hell with all the unclean spirits than aboard ship with cursing and swearing, blasphemy, nagging, and fighting, swilling and gorging and quarreling day and night in storm and strain, so that the captain often said that he had taken many groups across the ocean, but the equal he had not seen. He thought that they were possessed with devils and therefore he was a real example of hell [to them]. However, they treated us all in a friendly and obliging manner and had great respect for us. The captain often threatened them that he would have some of them tied to the mast by sailors and beaten from head to toe. However, they remained wicked people.

I would like to report some observations and comments concerning the great danger and difficulties of the trip to Pennsylvania.

The danger of this trip is [that] if God is against one and wishes to exact His revenge and judgment on the ocean, no one could evade Him at sea or on land. Secondly, it would be dangerous to travel in an old ship across the ocean, or with a captain who was tyrannical and did not understand sailing. If the Lord is with one (which I assumed) and one has a good ship and good sailors, the danger is not half so great as one imagines. The Lord bears the earth and the sea, and one in and upon the other, and therefore the ship on the sea, and those who travel in the heights and the depths. The eternal Jehovah has saved them, so that they should know Him and praise His name, who performs great miracles for the children of men.

The hardship of this trip lies in many factors and things. I personally did not have much hardship—very little actually—but I observed and experienced much from others; first, when people do not really need to make the trip. Second, when people undertake the trip without enough deliberation for worldly reasons. Third, when people set out to leave, especially married couples, and are not completely agreed to start such a long journey.

These three things are the main causes behind the hardships of this long trip, for I can and must say in truth that of the six or seven ships full of passengers, I found but few people who did not regret having made the trip. Most of them said that great need had driven them to it, even though many had been rich and they had lost much. Because of the severe pressures of the authorities, they either had to leave or become poverty stricken, and could not keep from becoming beggars and debtors. In spite of this, many regretted the trip so much that they became ill, and did not know what they were doing for anger. Neighbors accused one another, man, wife, and children picked quarrels instead of helping one another, thus not only leaving the burden for them to carry but even increasing it. People like that cause a good deal of trouble living so close together on a ship for thirteen or fourteen or fifteen weeks where they cannot do as they please.

Then there are numerous others who would consume all the supplies which they had brought along while the food on board is still good, or even throw it into the sea. In time, when the ship’s food supplies have been preserved in salt for quite a long while, and part of the water begins to stink, rice, barley, peas, and the like can hardly be cooked any longer in it. Those people will have by that time stuffed themselves with all their supplies and swilled all that they had (pardon me for saying it but it is true). They are then forced to put up with the poor victuals, which is particularly hard for this type of person. As the people are so crowded together, some begin to steal whatever they can, namely foodstuffs, and liquors. Then there are the many lice among the people, so that many people have to spend the whole day in delousing and one who does not do this is practically devoured. This was a great difficulty for all, and also for my people. Now that we have arrived safely and well on land, and all of ours have met with great love and friendliness, all the previous is suddenly forgotten (so to speak) because of the great joy that we have in one another. This hardship had lasted about nineteen weeks, then it was over, for which the Highest be praised. Amen. Yes, Amen.

We have not regretted that we are here and wish from our hearts that you were with us here, with your children. But that is not the case. I dare not urge you, since the trip is so difficult for persons who cannot take everything patiently as it comes, but rather are often restless when all is well. If I could, after God’s good will, do everything for you children, I promise you that I would start by deciding to take upon myself another trip, for your sake, not because of the ease of earning a living here. No, this country demands an industrious people, no matter what trade they have, and then they make their way very well. There are, however, many people here who are in great difficulty, because it seems that some people would be in trouble even if they were in Paradise. Some have themselves to blame because they arrive in the country, see the beautiful plantations, the handsome livestock, and surplus of every goods, and despite the fact that they have just arrived, want to have everything right away; they not only refuse good advice, but go in debt for large pieces of land, borrow animals and such, and have a miserable time before they make good. Well, what should I say, in this world some have it better than others. Those who will be content with food and shelter can prosper with God’s blessing and with a will to work.
Our people are all getting along well, one better than the next, but no one has scarcity. I was amazed at what I heard concerning those indentured emigrants, about the young and strong people and artisans, how rapidly they are gone as masons, carpenters, and all other trades, and even old people with grown children who can do only farm work. There the child takes over the indenture for both his and his father's or mother's passage for four years, and is able in that time to earn all the necessary clothing and finally a handsome outfit from head to foot, a horse or a cow with a calf, small children take on one and a half year's indenture. When they are twenty-one years old they have to be taught reading and writing, and leave well-dressed with a horse or a cow. One finds few houses in the city or country where the people are rather prosperous where there are not one or two children. The matter is always discussed at the city hall with great seriousness. Often parents and children are ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, or twenty hours from each other. Often those indenturing themselves are better off than those who paid their passage, as they get their expenses paid by others and learn the peculiarities of the country. I want to bring this to a close and wish patience for those who will read it.

God be with you all. Amen.

John Naas

P.S. Well, dear children, what more should I write. It might turn out that you would come here, and then there would be no more letter writing. If you do not come and if I live, there will be more to write another time; therefore I will bring this to a close and ---mend you and your dear children in the unending love of God. May He guide and direct you that you do not tread in the pathway of the sinners and so not sit in the seat of the scorner. That would not be good for you. The Brothers Sekler, whom you know, are in eternity except Henry; his [their?] death was described in a letter in Christ to Liebe (I hope he will let you read it). The others extend their warmest greetings, Brother Becker, Brother Gantz, Gumre, Ritter, Paul, Sr., and Brother Mack, the older and younger Ziegler, and their families greet you. Many other brethren and sisters, who do not know you, and whom you do not know, greet warmly all those in Krefeld who fear God. In true and uniting love, your father

John Naas

P.S. Mother and Elizabeth send their best greetings, and will also do this in their own hand. Do not forget to greet all who ask about us in love, if they have not already been named.
FRAME AND DIRECTLY RELATED FAMILIES

Frame

Magill

Patterson

Strader

Weinig

Lorah
Frame Family

Line of Descent: William, Jeremiah, Silas, Susannah [see DILLMAN family]

William and Jeremiah Frame were both pioneers. Although William was not one of the first ones to settle in Augusta County, Virginia nor was Jeremiah the first in Frankford County, Virginia (now Bourbon County, Kentucky), they weren't far behind. Their families lived in simple homes, cleared the land for farming, and were concerned about problems with the Indians.

The family likely came from Philadelphia down the Great Wagon Road to the Shenandoah Valley. Their property on Naked Creek was located not far off this main road, just north of Staunton, the location of the Augusta Court House on the map. Located in a valley in the hills, Naked Creek flows into the north branch of the Shenandoah River. Their land was on the south side of a ridge from the "McGill" and Hugh Campbell land on this map. Following what was originally a path; they could descend to the valley floor and attend the Augusta Stone Church which was not far away.

A visit to this area in 2007 allowed me to enter a quiet, rural valley with a small creek lined by trees. Farm land was well tended. I felt taken back in time, removed from the business of the main valley floor where Interstate 81 now follows the original Great Wagon Road.

This area was first settled by Scots-Irish families in the early 1730s. County government existed in the Shenandoah Valley prior to 1745 when Augusta County was created, but the creation provided closer government supervision of the area inhabited by the Frames. By 1751 the county authorized that a road be constructed and maintained through their neighborhood.

Unfortunately it is not clear when William Frame came to this area. The first record for him is

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1 Profiles of Historical Maps of Colonial Virginia, Portfolio 4-Beyond the Blue Ridge, Old Dominion Map Co, Staunton, VA.
the baptism of his daughter at the Augusta Stone Church in 1746. He purchased 300 acres of land
two years later, land which he had to partly clear in 3 years and he paid rent to the King. Was
he living on this land before he purchased it?

The original Indian inhabitants of the Shenandoah Valley predominated along the Great Wagon
Road until the 1744 treaty removed them from the area east of the road. This opened up the flood
gates of settlers who headed south. Greater settlement caused violent conflict between Indian and
settler, but not in the area where the Frames chose to live. The French and Indian War fought
with strong Indian involvement from 1754-1763 saw no direct attacks in this area. The major
impact was the fear felt at the time of Braddock’s defeat near Pittsburgh in 1755.

When William's son Jeremiah moved his family about 1783, he was in many ways recreating the
pioneer experience of his father. His destination was then part of Virginia but later became
Bourbon County and in 1792, the state of Kentucky. Jeremiah was joining a large group of
settlers heading over the Allegheny Mountains on the “Wilderness Road”.

The trail came into Kentucky in the current Lincoln County. It split with the left fork heading for
Louisville and the right to the Lexington and Blue Grass area where the Frames settled. There is
no record of their reaction to the land, but another traveler described this area as follows:

As the cane ceased, we began to discover the pleasing and rapturous appearance of the plains of Kentucky.
A new sky and strange earth seemed to be presented to our view. So rich a soil we had never seen before,
covered with clover in full bloom, the woods were abounding with the wild game...We felt ourselves as
passengers through a wilderness just arrived at the fields of Elysium, or at the garden where there was no
forbidden fruit.

Probably some buffalo remained until 1790. The winters of 1790-1793 were very harsh, killing
wildlife and vegetation, including the once prolific cane. The Kentucky cane was a river
bamboo.

Thirty years later, by 1816, Jeremiah had moved a second time to Preble County, Ohio where he
again built a log cabin and cleared land for planting. His destination was immediately north of
his Kentucky home, requiring that he cross the Ohio River into Cincinnati and then head
northwest to Preble county. There was no Indian threat to contend with this time. The house he
built grew over the years to become a gracious home as pictured here. It was home to son Silas,
grandson Daniel, and great-grandson Leander by 1900. Unfortunately the home no longer exists.

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2 Virginia State Land Office microfilm scanned online at the Library of Virginia site, [www.lva.lib.va.us] Patents
#26, 1747-1748 v2 p 559 (reel 24).
3 Edward Aull, Early History of Staunton and Beverly Manor in Augusta County, (Birmingham AL: no publisher,
4 Ellen Eslinger, Running Mad for Kentucky: Frontier Travel Accounts (Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

William FRAME was born about 1725, estimated by the ages of his known children. He died between 15 May 1781, when he appeared as a witness to the will of James Gamble, and 3 May 1783 when son Jeremiah sold land he inherited from William.6

William’s wife was SUSANNAH when she signed a deed on 18 February 1781.7 A Susannah Frame is listed in the Virginia area (now Kentucky) tax records in 1787 next to Jeremiah.8 Other researchers claim that she lived with daughter Elizabeth who married James Morrow and died 29 August 1814, Clark County, Kentucky although she cannot be identified on the 1810 Clark County Census.9 No records have been found to identify Susannah as the mother of William’s children.

William and his family lived on Naked Creek in Augusta County, Virginia for about 37 years. The first land record found is 20 August 1748 but he could have lived on the land before then. He purchased 480 acres between 1748 and 1780. When he and Susannah sold 300 acres on 18 February 1781 they both signed the deed, suggesting that they were educated. The final property transaction was when son Jeremiah sold 150 acres after William’s death. William appeared on the tax lists of 1760 and 1774.10

8 Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florence Speakman Love, compiler, The 1787 Census of Virginia (Springfield, Virginia: Genealogical Books in Print) v1 p 16. The area was Virginia during these years.
9 Sue Phillips database [www.phillipsplace.net, downloaded August 2007].
A road petition and road order 25-29 May 1751 defines William's neighborhood. The road was to run from John Davis' mill to Wood's New Cleared Gap and the neighbors who were significant to the Frame family included Andrew, Edward, Francis, John, and Benjamin Erwin; John and William Magill; Hugh Campbell, Charles Campbell, and Robert Campbell; Robert Gamble; James Patterson; and Robert Fowler.\textsuperscript{11} Naked Creek was on a ridge at the head of the Hollow of Long Glade where the Magills lived.\textsuperscript{12} William's son Jeremiah married a daughter of John Magill. The Magill family was related to the Erwins, Campbells, Fowlers and Pattersons. William was an appraiser for the estate of Jane Patterson and was bondsman for the estate of Mathew Erwin, as well as witness to various deeds of these families. He also witnessed an indenture of a runaway girl to Andrew Erwin.\textsuperscript{13}

During these years William's known family of three daughters and one son grew and married. This was a small family for a Scots-Irishman in these years and there were possibly other children. William was listed as a member of the Augusta Stone Church congregation where his three daughters were baptized. Unfortunately the baptismal records only exist for the years 1740-1749, explaining why no record has been found for son Jeremiah who was born in 1752. The related families of Magills and Campbells were also listed in this congregation.\textsuperscript{14}

Although there was no baptismal record for son Jeremiah, he was William's son as seen from his sale of William's land following his death.\textsuperscript{15} He is named as "son and heir at law" of William. The Virginia law of primogenitor would describe Jeremiah as the eldest son with the right to sell his father's land.\textsuperscript{16}

William's family was grown by the mid-1760s when the uncertainties preceding the Revolutionary War began. Son Jeremiah participated in Dunmore's War in 1775 as well as in the Revolutionary War. No military records have been found for William. He is not on the Militia List of 1742 which includes a John Frame and Hugh Campbell, suggesting that he was not yet a resident of the area.\textsuperscript{17}

The origins of William prior to his settlement in Virginia, and the identification of his father remain a mystery. His identity as coming from Lowland Scotland via Northern Ireland is suggested by the name itself, as well as the origin of his neighbors and associates, and his religion. Other researchers have suggested the Frames were in Leacock Township, Lancaster County but this was probably due to a James Frame with a bond there in 1750-51.\textsuperscript{18}

connection to William and family was found.

Additional Frame families lived near William. Although at the present time there is no established connection except proximity to William, it is likely that some relationship existed.

John Frame headed another Frame family on Naked Creek. The only Frame listed in the 1742 Militia for Augusta County, John was likely the first of the name to come to this area. By 1748 John bought land with Joseph Hanna. John probably soon died as Margaret, his wife, received charity for her children in 1750 and 1752. His eldest son and heir David took Joseph Hanna to court in 1762 for breach of contract involving the land. In the court case it identifies David as eldest son of John and names John's wife as Margaret. He won the case and then deeded the land to Margaret. The witnesses to the deed between David and Margaret were James Frame and William Frame. As a neighbor it is possible that William was the one who witnessed the deed. 19

Prior to moving to Kentucky, William's son Jeremiah was present at two inquisitions to determine the cause of death. On 29 December 1782 and 3 March 1783 the hearings took place on the land of David Frame. The first was to view the body of Gerrel Pheland, who died by drowning and the second the death of John Mitchell which was declared of natural causes at the still house. David, likely the son of John, was probably a neighbor of the William Frame property at this time. 20

Additional children of John's were daughter Mary baptized 21 February 1742, son William baptized 8 September 1745, and son John baptized December 1748 at the Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church. 21 A reference to a court case: “On May 1779: Isaac Zane vs Wm Frame-Petition on account 1767 to 1774. Writ 28th March 1774. Defendant is Widow Frame's son and lives near Stone Meeting House” is likely a reference to John’s son William. A William Frame received compensation in 1775 for service during Dunmore’s War for 121 days. A John Frame is listed next on the list for 66 days. These are likely the children of John. 22

It appears that John’s eldest son David reached the age of 21 in 1762 when he filed the court case against Joseph Hanna. The children of John were thus of the same generation as William’s, suggesting that William and John were possibly brothers. If the John Frame who owned land next to Jeremiah in Kentucky in 1786 was the John baptized in 1748, it would support this claim, but no proof has been found.

Two James Frame families appear in the records. The first on 28 February 1749 received 220 acres in Beverley Manor with neighbors Christian's land, Samuel McCorkle and John Glass. Although not on Naked Creek, it was within 20 miles in the Beverley Manor. James had a wife Martha and a son Thomas who received land from his father in 1768. 23

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21 Record of Children Baptized by John Craig 1740-1749, FHL film#1486618 item 11 p474.
A second James is referenced in probate proceedings. On 7 May 1754 a bond for the Administrators of the estate of James Frame was given to Jane Frame, Robert McClenaahan, and Robert Renick. Other researchers have suggested that he was the father of William. 24 Although he may be the right generation for this claim, no additional information has been found on this James and his possible connection to William remains unknown.

William FRAME and maybe Susannah had the following children:

i. Esther FRAME was baptized on 23 March 1746 in Augusta County, Virginia. 25
ii. Jennet FRAME was baptized on 19 July 1747 in Augusta County, Virginia. 26
iii. Elizabeth FRAME was baptized on 2 July 1749 in Augusta County, Virginia. Married James Morrow. She possibly died in 1814. 27
iv. Jeremiah FRAME was born on 16 July 1752, Augusta County, Virginia, married Elizabeth MAGILL, on 8 September 1777, Augusta County, Virginia; died on 9 December 1828, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. 28

Second Generation

Jeremiah FRAME was born on 16 July 1752 in Augusta County, Virginia Colony. The location is from the residence of his father. He died on 9 December 1828 at the age of 76 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. 29

Jeremiah was buried in the Frame Cemetery located in the SW quarter of Section 25, Township 8, Range 1; south side of Washington-Jackson Road, 1/2 mile east of Gettysburg-Oxford Road. The cemetery can be reached by crossing a field. It is enclosed by a fence and well cared for but no longer active. Inscriptions taken October 1967 by Short and Bowers record Jeremiah's gravestone which was not found in 2006. This picture is the approach to the cemetery in 2006. 30

Jeremiah FRAME and Elizabeth MAGILL were married on 8 September 1777 in Virginia.

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25 Record of Children Baptized by John Craig 1740-1749, FHL film#1486618 item 11 p474.
26 Record of Children Baptized by John Craig 1740-1749, FHL film#1486618 item 11 p474.
28 Family data, Jeremiah Frame Family Bible, Frame Family Bible, being a transcription of the original, (Topeka, Kansas: Margaret Dunning Chapter, DAR, January 1963); original owned by Thomas J Stewart (West Alexandria, Ohio). Jeremiah, Silas, Thomas J Stewart, Faith Stewart, Mrs. John P Feighney, Mrs. Whitley., FHL fiche # 6101006.
29 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible, FHL fiche # 6101006.
Elizabeth MAGILL, daughter of John MAGILL and Mary PATTERSON, was born on 20 March 1755. She is mentioned in her father's will as Elizabeth Frame. She died on 9 June 1843 at the age of 88 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. She was buried in the Frame Cemetery.\(^{31}\)

As a young man in his early 20s, Jeremiah participated in Dunmore's War in 1775. A Jeremiah Frame served under Capt Alexander Long, paid for 34 days. Another listing for a Jeremiah Frame was in Capt George Moffat's company along with James Magill [Elizabeth's brother]. It is uncertain whether both of these listings were this Jeremiah although the latter is most likely him with the association of James Magill. Dunmore's War resulted from a call to arms from the Virginia Colonial Governor Lord Dunmore. Militias were sent to Point Pleasant on the Ohio river to fight the Indians.\(^{32}\)

Also an active participant in the Revolutionary War, Jeremiah was part of Capt. Robert McCreecy's Company of Augusta County Militia. David Frame [son of neighbor John Frame] was in the same company. A Jeremiah failed to attend a muster on 24 November 1778, but was acquitted of all charges at a court martial held 15 April 1779. On 10 April 1782 a Jeremiah Frame presented a claim for contributing 8 yards of linen at £2 6 shillings per yard to the patriot's cause. The last two references may be to another man.\(^{33}\)

Jeremiah probably moved to Kentucky for the quality and quantity of land available. His first purchase was for 700 acres on the Sycamore Fork of Slate Creek, Fayette, Virginia (now Bourbon County, Kentucky). The summary of this grant, signed by Virginia Governor Randolph, includes the date of 1 July 1782 but this appears to be misleading. The original images of the survey found online at the Kentucky Land Office shows that the property was surveyed by Isham Mills 25 May 1785, assigned by him to Roger Clements, and then assigned to Jeremiah Frame by Roger Clement 12 May 1786. It is likely that Jeremiah had moved by 1784, when he was declared delinquent on the Militia list in Augusta County because he was in Kentucky. He may have been on this land before it was assigned to him. No

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\(^{32}\) Claims paid in 1775 probably from Dunmore's War: Augusta County section, microfilm Dunmore's War from the Library of Virginia film 78c2, p 95.

sale has been found for this original grant to Jeremiah.

His neighbor was John Frame. This John has not been identified but he might be the one baptized in 1748 in Augusta County as son of John and Margaret. The following newspaper article suggests the original 700 acres was in Montgomery County by 1814.

7 May and 25 June 1814: To be sold or rented the plantation of William Frame, dec'd, containing 500 acres of land on Slate Creek, Montgomery County, about 40 acres cleared. For terms apply to the subscriber. Likewise 700 acres near the land for sale. Jeremiah Frame. [This William has not been identified but he is not the son of Jeremiah]

Beginning in 1795 additional land transactions by Jeremiah occurred as follows:

- 5 November 1795 bought 30 ac from Samuel Henderson on Harold's Lick with 1400 acres preemption. Witness John Purviance, James Houston, Sm'l Mitchell & John Boyle. Same day Jeremiah witness transactions from Henderson to John Purviance 500ac, James Houston 100 ac, Saml Mitchell 300 ac
- 13 October 1795 bought of Alexander Brown Jr 37 acres on waters of Stoner Creek
- 6 October 1796 bought of James Garret 210 ac Stoners Fork of Licking River
- 26 September 1806 bought of John Purviance 15 ac Harold's Lick Creek
- 29 January 1814 bought of Seward Bradley 30 ac Harold's Lick
- 25 October 1814 Jeremiah and Elizabeth sell all of the above land for $3,648 waters of Stoner. Deed includes waiving of right to any awards from dispute of the land, this goes to the purchaser. Jeremiah signs, Elizabeth's name is not on signature area although she is listed in the deed.

The deed of sale for this land on 25 October 1814 states that 322 acres were purchased but a survey shows only 304 acres. From the land descriptions these properties were contiguous, apparently bordering on the two creeks. Although the land was sold in 1814, Jeremiah apparently remained until 1815 as the following newspaper notice suggests:

17 June 1815; 15 July 1815; 9 August 1815; 11 August 1815: Will be sold to highest bidder, on Monday 28th inst. at my residence near Herod's Lick, a number of horses and cattle, and sheep, also household and kitchen furniture, farming utensils, etc, at a credit of 15 months bond with approved security required, Sale to commence at 10 am, due attendance by Jeremiah Frame

During these years Jeremiah appears on the Property Tax lists beginning in 1787 with the listing

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35 Advertisement, Western Citizen, Bourbon County, Kentucky, 1814–1815; Genealogybank online (http://www.genealogybank.com : accessed 14 April 2012), Historic Newspapers.
37 Advertisement, Western Citizen, Bourbon County, Kentucky.
of 1 adult male, no slaves, 4 horses, 10 cattle. Edward Summers was in the household. Next to Jeremiah is Susannah Frame: 1 male 16, 0 slaves, 4 horses, 16 cattle. Could this be his mother? Her sons are too old to be the male listed. Did she have a hired hand? No tax records exist for 1788 to 1792. Jeremiah is listed in 1793-1797, but Susannah does not appear.

From a newspaper notice it appears he was involved in a land dispute with James Dupuy. On 22 June 1796 Dupuy placed two advertisements regarding his claims. To date no court record has been located to know the outcome of the claims.

The Frames were members of the Presbyterian Church in Augusta County and apparently Jeremiah continued this association when he moved across the mountains. He was listed as one of 5 ruling elders who convened to create the presbytery of Transylvania on the 17 October 1786. The location of Jeremiah's land on Stoner Creek placed him near to the Cane Ridge Meeting House where David Purviance became a charismatic leader. The Purviance families were neighbors of his as suggested by the witnessing of deeds, and they moved to Preble County, Ohio in 1807 settling in New Paris. Jeremiah was a co-executor with David in the probate of Alexander Brown. The Cane Ridge religious community was known as an anti-slavery group and sponsored a large revival meeting in 1800 that drew Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists. It has been estimated that 20,000 attended. Unfortunately it is not known if Jeremiah became a member of this congregation.

On 29 October 1795 Jeremiah was named an executor, along with William Henry and David Purviance, for the estate of Alexander Brown. Alexander was a neighbor as shown by land deeds, but unfortunately it is not known if there was a more significant relationship between the men. By February 1808 Jeremiah filed against his two co-executors and won $370 damages plus court costs. The court minute book was not clear on all the details of the suit, but the jury decided with Jeremiah.

The 1810 census is the first one extant for Kentucky. Jeremiah Frame and his sons James, William, and Samuel are listed as heads of households. Jeremiah and Elizabeth are listed as over the age of 45. Silas, younger than 10 years, is also included. The identification of a male 26-45 and female 16-26 is questionable unless it is son John and wife. The two girls ages 10-16 would be Susannah and Rachel. An unidentified George Frame who is over the age of 45 is also listed in the neighborhood.

The Frame families moved to Preble County, Ohio by 6 October 1816 when Jeremiah purchased a quarter section of land in Jackson Township. He is listed there in the 1820 census.
August 1828, four months before his death, he and Elizabeth sold the land to youngest son Silas for $1000. Both signed the deed, showing that they were educated. 47

Jeremiah FRAME and Elizabeth MAGILL had the following children:

i. Samuel FRAME was born on 14 November 1779 in Augusta County, place from location of father. He died on 29 August 1847 at the age of 67 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. He was buried in Frame Cemetery, Jackson Township. "Samuel Frame d August 29m 1847 age 68y, 7m, 15d" From Frame bible, married Elizabeth 16 September 1802. 48

ii. William FRAME was born on 10 February 1782 in Augusta County, place from location of father. He died in 1839 at the age of 57 in Porter County, Indiana. Married Margaret 29 March 1803. 49

iii. John FRAME was born 18 February 1784; married Mary "Polly" HORNBAKER, 14 November 1815, Preble County, Ohio; died 26 September 1828. 50

iv. James FRAME was born on 25 April 1786 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. Twin with David. He died on 15 January 1852 at the age of 65 in Argyle, Lafayette, Wisconsin. Married Susanna 26 April 1810. 51

v. David FRAME was born on 25 April 1786 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. He died on 16 May 1786. Twin with James. 52

vi. Mary FRAME was born on 6 December 1788 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. She died on 27 June 1872 at the age of 83 in Preble County, Ohio. She was buried in Frame Cemetery, Jackson Township. Married Joseph Snodgrass 26 April 1810. 53

vii. Elizabeth FRAME was born on 13 September 1791 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. She died on 9 June 1843 at the age of 51. Sue Phillips says she died 15 March 1857, Miami County, Ohio and Jacob died there 1872. Both buried Riverside Cemetery. Married Jacob Counts. 54

viii. Rachel FRAME was born on 4 December 1794 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. She died on 10 March 1838 at the age of 43 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. She was buried in Frame Cemetery. Married Thomas Tomlinson. 55

ix. Susannah FRAME was born on 19 June 1797 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. Married Peter. 56

x. Jeremiah FRAME was born on 18 January 1799 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, place from residence of father. He died on 18 November 1799. 57

Location Section 25, Township 8, Range 1. United States Land Entries vol 75:439
46 1820 US Census, Preble County, Ohio, National Archives M33, roll # 95 p 84.
47 Preble County, Ohio Deed Books, FHL film #564909 Book 9-94.
50 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible FHL fiche # 6101006. Short and Bowers, Preble County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions, p 16. Hodson, Preble County Cemeteries, p 11.
51 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible, FHL fiche # 6101006. Sue Phillips database [www.phillipsplace.net, downloaded August, 2007].
52 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible. FHL fiche # 6101006.
54 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible, FHL fiche # 6101006. Sue Phillips database [www.phillipsplace.net, downloaded August, 2007].
55 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible. FHL fiche # 6101006. Short and Bowers, Preble County, Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions, p 16.
57 Jeremiah Frame Family Bible, FHL fiche # 6101006.
Silas FRAME was born on 11 February 1801 in Bourbon County, Kentucky. He died 2 October 1864 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. On 27 September 1821 he married his neighbor down the road Magdalene (Polly) STRADER. Polly, daughter of Daniel STRADER and Elizabeth WEINIG, was born on 15 August 1801 in North Carolina. Following Polly's death on 30 December 1840 he married on 15 January 1842 Wealthy UNDERWOOD. Wealthy died 15 October 1869.

Silas was the youngest son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth. Perhaps because he was the youngest, he bought the family farm in 1828 and inherited the family bible as well. He and Polly had a large family of 11 children, with the addition of one daughter with his second wife. Little is known of him except that he was a successful farmer on his father's land and that he participated in community affairs.

He was an early supporter of a Christian church that was open to people of all faiths. He and two of his brothers were subscribers for the church in Washington Township.

We, the undersigned subscribers, obligate ourselves to pay David V. Stephens the sum annexed to our names, in wheat, rye, corn, and pork, if paid by the tenth of January next; or in good sugar, to be paid after sugar-making, at the case price, delivered in Eaton; or in good whiskey, to be paid by the first of February next, at cash price, delivered at the place above mentioned, in payment to aid said Stephens for a job of joiner work done by him, amounting to twenty-five dollars, in a meeting house on a certain lot of land obtained from George Shidler and Thomas Woolverton. Said house to be free for all Christians to worship God in. December 3, 1823 Signers include Silas Frame, one dollar, James Frame sugar, fifty cents; John Frame, two dollars and thirty-four cents.

A second church supported by the family was built on land they donated as stated in the deed from Silas to his son Daniel in 1852. The 1852 society organization list included Mary Frame, Margaret Frame, Elizabeth Ammerman, and Wealthy Frame. This is likely the church that...
daughter Susannah joined in 1868.  

Silas was listed as a director of the Jackson township schools in 1837. He signed his deeds, showing that he was an educated man.

Silas and his growing family appear in the census records from 1830 through 1860. In 1840 his mother Elizabeth is likely the older woman living with him. In 1850 Wealthy is listed as his wife and the value of his real estate is $4000. By 1860 the real estate value had increased to $5760. A small part of the land was transferred to son Daniel in 1852, the remainder purchased by Daniel from his siblings following Silas's death in 1864.

Silas died at the age of 63 at his home. He did not leave a will, so possibly his death was unexpected. He was buried in the Frame Cemetery. In 2006 his gravestone was standing but difficult to read.

Silas's estate was probated on 6 October 1864 in Preble County, Ohio when son Daniel presented the need for action to the court as the only son residing in the county able to be the administrator. The widow Wealthy declined to serve.

The following items were set aside for the widow:

5 bedsteads, 1 bed, 1 coverlet, 5 blankets, 4 comforts, 4 quilts, 1 loom, 1 wool wheel, 1 reel, 1 spinning wheel, bible and books, 1 cooking stove and utensils, 1 cow, 12 sheep, 16 yards of flannel, 13 cuts of yarn, 66 yards of carpet, 1 looking glass plus food stuff for her support plus $201.00; value of $3500. And what she brought to marriage, 1 bureau, 1 bed and bedstead, 1 stand table.

As part of the probate, son Daniel filed a petition for Partition of Silas's land. This was necessary to allow him title after he paid each sibling their one-tenth share. The Sheriff gave a deed to Daniel Frame for 144 acres subject to the dower of Wealthy Frame of 35 acres and excepting 10 1/2 acres of SE corner [for the church].

Those named in the petition were: Wealthy Frame widow, Jacob Frame, Elizabeth Morrow, Harvey Morrow, James Frame, Mary Jane Morrow, John Morrow, Nancy Painter, Philip Painter, Susan Dillman, Jonathan Dillman, Sarah Ann Ammerman, Frank Ammerman, Rachael Stewart,

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69 *Silas Frame Probate*, Preble County, Ohio, Preble District Library, Eaton, Ohio, 929.3771/71, Pre #3081 3:517.
Joseph Stewart, Eliza J Frum, and David Frum. The total value of the land was $4,320.

Silas FRAME and Magdalene (Polly) STRADER had the following children:

i. Jacob FRAME was born on 24 October 1822 in Ohio. He lived in Grant County, Indiana on 24 November 1864; from land petition following Silas's death. Jacob died on 23 December 1893 at the age of 71.

ii. Elizabeth FRAME was born on 19 June 1824, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio; married Harvey Morrow 1 April 1847, Preble County, Ohio; died 1 November 1898, New Paris, Preble, Ohio.

iii. Daniel FRAME was born on 7 May 1826, Ohio; married Hannah DILLMAN, 18 September 1851; died 22 April 1900, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio.

iv. James FRAME was born on 19 April 1828 in Ohio. He lived in Huntington County, Indiana on 24 November 1864. He died on 2 August 1902 at the age of 74.

v. Mary Jane FRAME was born on 12 November 1829, Ohio; married John Morrow, 1848, Preble County, Ohio; died 28 May 1893, Preble County, Ohio.

vi. Rosanna FRAME was born on 6 October 1831 in Ohio. She died on 7 October 1833 at the age of 2. She was buried in Frame Cemetery.

vii. Nancy FRAME was born on 7 October 1833, Ohio; married Philip Painter; died 16 May 1880.

viii. Susannah FRAME was born on 29 December 1835, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio; married Jonathan W DILLMAN, 12 November 1857, Canton, Preble, Ohio; died 10 February 1930, Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon.

ix. Rachel FRAME was born on 22 June 1837, Ohio; married J.S. Stewart; died 3 October 1918.

x. FRAME was born in 1838, from age on gravestone. He died on 7 June 1844 at the age of 6. Buried in Frame Cemetery.

xi. Sarah FRAME was born on 30 July 1839, Ohio; married Frank Ammerman; died 27 June 1924.

Silas FRAME and Wealthy UNDERWOOD had the following child:

i. Eliza Jane FRAME was born on 2 February 1843 in Ohio. Married David Frum.
Magill Family
Line of Descent: William, John, Elizabeth [see FRAME family]

The Magill family is identified as Scots-Irish from their name and their Virginia neighborhood of families from this ethnic group. Further evidence is given by John Magill, the grandson of the first known ancestor William, who wrote a letter in 1838 giving some family history. He reported the following:

My grandfather, William Magill, migrated from Ireland in the year 1727 with three sons named James, William, and John, who was my father, and five daughters...

...I recollect to have seen my grandfather's certificate from Ireland dated 1725...

...Our forefathers were Scotch, lived in Scotland and were Protestants. The time of persecution in England and Scotland in the reign of King James of England, they with many others, immigrated to Ireland which gave them the name of Scotch-Irish which name they are frequently called to this day...  

Although other researchers have given specific locations for the origins of the family in Scotland and Northern Ireland, no evidence has been found that this is the same Magill family.

After arriving in 1727, probably in Philadelphia, William likely remained in Pennsylvania prior to traveling down the Great Wagon Road to the Shenandoah Valley. He may have headed south around 1740 when his son-in-law Hugh Campbell registered his immigration from Ireland in Orange County, Virginia:

Hugh Campbell came into court and made oath that he imported himself Esther and Sarah Campbell [sic] at his own charge from Ireland into Philadelphia and from thence into this colony and that this is the first time of his proving his and their rights in order to obtain land.

No Pennsylvania records have been located for this William Magill. A Charles and William Magill were in Bucks County, Pennsylvania but no connection was found.

Although William died in Virginia, the family did not remain there as son John moved on to Kentucky about 1783. Other siblings moved west as well.

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1 W Wayne Rogers, Greener Pastures; from the Tidewater to Texas and Beyond (Marietta, Georgia: self published, 1996), p 156. [complete letter at end of chapter].
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

William MAGILL was born about 1690 based upon the ages of his children. The location of his birth is not known, it could have been Scotland or Ireland. 4 He died in Augusta County, Virginia in the fall of 1749 between the time he wrote his will on 10 October and the probate of his estate which began 29 November. The name of his first wife and mother of his children is not known. At his death he was married to Margaret who had a son with the last name of Gass. 5

William's arrival in Augusta County is uncertain. His son-in-law Hugh Campbell was listed in the 1742 militia as were the Erwin neighbors. William may have been too old to be included, but neither he nor his eldest sons James were on the list. Perhaps he came later than Hugh. 6

William settled in Long Glade Hollow where sons-in-law Hugh Campbell and Robert Fowler lived and where his sons James, William and John later established themselves. His will mentions a division of his property between sons James and William. No deed was found for this property prior to 1 June 1750 when a William Magill received a patent for 300 acres of land here. If this was William Sr he did not receive title to his land until after his death. 7 This property was originally in Orange County, was governed by Augusta County by 1745, and since 1778 has been in Rockingham County.

The family holdings have been described as being on the south side of the North River of the Shenandoah, but above the Campbells and across the stream from the site of the present town of Bridgewater. This was on the lower courses of Long Glade and included Warm Spring, formerly the source of Bridgewater water supply. On 12 March 1759 John McGill was granted a 380 acre tract on the north bank of the North River where the present town of Bridgewater is located. The ford across the river where the families lived and became known as McGills [sic] Ford, and the first name of the settlement was McGills Ford. 8 In 1937 the building on this property was the home of a Robert Magill, b 11 June 1772. This was the house that replaced the original log house occupied by the first generation of Magills. It was located 1/8 mile west of North River and Bridgewater on the Highway. 9

The Magill neighborhood was defined by a road order in 1751 naming those in Long Glade Hollow but also over the ridge on Naked Creek. The families were as follows:

5 Will (William Magill), Augusta County, Virginia Will Book, FHL Film # 30314 Will Book 1 p 202. FHL Film #30315 item 2 Will Bock no. 2, p. 280.
6 Waddell, The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 8, No 3 (January, 1901), pp. 278-283.
7 Virginia State Land Office microfilm scanned online at the Library of Virginia site [www.lva.lib.va.us]. Land Office Patents #29, 1749-1751 (v1&2) p 115. This property was originally in Orange County, was governed by Augusta County by 1745, and since 1778 has been in Rockingham County.
9 WPA Virginia Historical Inventory, Rockingham Co. 1937. [www.lva.lib.va.us downloaded 3 Dec 2010].
During his time in Augusta County, William was asked to take the usual responsibilities in the community. He was appointed Constable on 20 November 1746. He collected taxes on 27 July 1747 and he served as an appraiser for the estate of Joseph Harrison 27 July 1748. He was able to sign his will, suggesting that he was educated. Nothing else is known of his life except what can be learned from his will.

The beginning of the will was a strong statement of William's religious beliefs. He asked forgiveness for his sins which were unintentional and looked forward to the Resurrection which will reunite his body and soul. More detailed than many such openings to wills, this statement supports the claim that William was a Presbyterian.

William bequeathed his property to his two elder sons, William and James. They were apparently living on the land at his death. He owned a total of 22 animals plus 35 hogs as listed in the inventory of the estate. Several of the animals were given to his wife and named children. Wife Margaret received specific items, including half of the household furniture. She renounced her inheritance, however, in favor of William's children. Her son David Gass was given the gray mare. When the estate was distributed on 15 November 1758, the total value was £106.41 or the equivalent of $17,673.14. Each child received £916.12.

William MAGILL had the following children:

i. Esther MAGILL was born about 1720. John Magill in 1838 says Hugh Campbell married Esther. He was a debtor to William's estate and received payment. She died about 1784 at the age of 64. Married Hugh Campbell in Ireland and came to Philadelphia and then to Virginia.

ii. Elizabeth MAGILL was born about 1721. Letter from John Magill in 1838 says she married James Berry and then John Jones. John Jones and John Berry were paid from estate.

iii. Ann MAGILL was born about 1722. John Magill in 1838 says she married Robert Fowler who was paid from William's estate. Sue Phillips took dates from Greener Pastures. She died in 1814 at the age of 92.

iv. James MAGILL was born about 1724. Mentioned in father's will. He died in 1804 at the age of 80.

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10 Pawlett, Augusta County Road Orders 1745-1769, p 26.
15 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.

115
of 80. Naming his sons Robert Magill and Alexander Magill, the latter naming a son Robert
Alexander Magill, suggests his wife may have been an Alexander.

v. John MAGILL was born about 1725; died about 1816 Lincoln County, Kentucky. Married
Mary PATTERSON.

vi. William MAGILL was born about 1726. He died in 1806 at the age of 80 in Green County,
Tennessee. Wife Jean. 18

Dickson was paid from estate. Also married McKee. 19

viii. Sarah MAGILL Letter from John Magill in 1838 says she married William Berry. A John Berry
was paid from the estate. 20

Second Generation

John MAGILL was born about 1725, possibly in Ireland. He died in Lincoln County, Kentucky
after he bought and sold property in October of 1815 and prior to 8 July 1816 when his estate
was probated.

John was married in 1749 although the marriage record does not name the wife. His wife was
Mary in 1761 as stated on a deed of sale. She was likely Mary PATTERSON and is probably
the mother of the children. 21

John's 8 children were born and raised in Long Glade Hallow, across from his brother James. He
did not receive title to the property until 1759, but it is likely that he lived on the land before the
paperwork was processed. His patent was for 380 acres as referenced in the deed when he and
Mary sold 120 acres in 1761. An additional land patent was issued 1 March 1781 for this area.
The final sale of property in Virginia is recorded as of 28 July 1783. Unfortunately, the details of
this transaction were lost due to a courthouse fire. 22 Regular tax lists are not available for this
area although a John McGill is included on a tax list in 1755, in 1760 and again in 1767. 23

From land deeds it is known that John could sign his name, as had his father. Apparently Mary
also signed the 1761 deed. Signatures are an indication of education.

Within two years of John's marriage, he was appointed guardian for James Patterson, orphan of
James Patterson. His obligation was to deliver to James his inheritance from his father when he

17 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
18 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
19 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
21 Sue Phillips database. This suggests he was 25 when he married. Lincoln County, Kentucky Deed Book, (Family
History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #192242) Book H: 133, 134, 135, 136. Will (John Magill), Lincoln
County, Kentucky Probate, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 192229) Book G p 46. [see
Patterson Family]
microfilm scanned online at the Library of Virginia site, [www.lva.lib.va.us, downloaded 29 Jan 2004]. Rockingham
County, Virginia Minute Book 1778-1792, part 1 1778-1786, Rockingham County Courthouse, Harrisonburg,
Virginia, p 205. Chalkley, Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia, v3 p 534. No record found for this
patent on Library of VA website.
obtained "full age" or "when required by Justice". James was the younger brother of John's wife Mary. In 1779 John was again appointed guardian, this time for Jane Huston, orphan of Archibald Huston. Why John was selected in this case is not known.

Although there is little information about John personally, the records show that he was a responsible member of his Virginia community. He was 50 years old at the time of the Revolutionary War and was not an active participant. During the war, he was paid to support Ruth McDonald whose father was a soldier. He kept her for 1 year as agreed with her father but when the father had not returned the court awarded John £35 for a barrel of corn and $200 for 50 weight of pork to support Ruth for one year. John took on a bound servant, Esther Boyd, in 1765. He was the Executor for his brother-in-law Hugh Campbell in 1771 and on 1 April 1782 he and Mary and James Magill were witnesses for the will of his brother-in-law Robert Fowler.

John and Mary and the family left the Shenandoah Valley and traveled over the Wilderness Road into Kentucky. The exact date of the move is unknown, but he sold property in Rockingham County 28 July 1783. This date coincides with the sale of property by his son-in-law Jeremiah Frame and it is likely that the families traveled together. John's son, John, stated in his Revolutionary War pension record that he came to Kentucky in 1782, possibly being the first of the family to move.

The Frames moved to what became Bourbon County but the Magills stopped in Lincoln County on the southern border. The location of John's land in Lincoln County has been difficult to pinpoint. Watercourses mentioned in various warrants and deeds include: Green River, Dix River, Hanging Fork, possibly of Blue Lick Creek, and Hawkins Branch [off Dix River]. As shown on the map, these areas are scattered across the county.

As was true of many early Kentucky settlers, from 21 April 1783 until 1815 John claimed thousands of acres of land. In 1784 and again in 1815 he bought and sold with the Logans, an early pioneer family in the area. Probably Logan's Fort, later Stanford, was the nearest settlement in the early days.

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Rockingham County, Virginia Minute Book 1778-1792, part 1 1778-1786, p 118.
27 Rockingham County, Virginia Minute Book 1778-1792, part 1 1778-1786, p 205. Revolutionary War Pension Papers, [www.footnote.com, File # 31230].
John and his sons were included in tax lists from 1787 to 1805.31

A description of riding through the cane or river bamboo in this area of Kentucky in 1779 gives a feeling for the land seen by the Magills:

The difficulty of marching through such country as this is not readily imagined by a European. The Canes grow very close together, to the height of 25 feet and from the thickness of a quill to that of one's waist. As they are strong and supple the rider must be constantly on watch to guard his face from them as they fly back with great force. The leaves and young shoots are a fodder horses are exceedingly fond of and are eternally turning right & left to take a bit. The soil where they grow is rich and deep so you plod thru in a narrow track like a cow path, while the mosquitoes are not idle.22

As in Virginia, John appeared in numerous county records showing that he was a contributing member of his community. He served on juries, sometimes as foreman. He was also an Overseer of the Poor. 33

John signed his last will 22 May 1813. In it he mentions his children but there is no reference to his wife which suggests she had died before this date. He leaves his land to the widow and heirs of his deceased son Hugh. His estate was finally settled 7 February 1837 which would be after the youngest child of son Hugh reached legal age. At this time, 142 acres of John's land were sold at $13.50 an acre raising the sum of $1,917 which was divided among Hugh's children.34

John MAGILL and probably Mary PATTERSON had the following children:

i. William MAGILL was born in 1750. This William may have died in Kentucky in 1813, or that 1813 probate was for his uncle.35
ii. James MAGILL was born in 1753.36 He died in 1825 at the age of 72 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.37
iii. Elizabeth MAGILL was born 20 March 1755', married Jeremiah FRAME 8 September 1777, Augusta County, Virginia Colony; died 9 June 1843, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio.38
iv. Samuel MAGILL died before 1813.39
v. John MAGILL 40 was born in 1759 in Augusta County, Virginia. He died in 1842 at the age of 83 in South Benson Creek, Franklin, Kentucky. Fought in Revolutionary War in 1777 in Kentucky. Left Augusta County 1782 and moved to Lincoln County Kentucky; there until 1787 He moved to Fayette County until 1789, then to Bourbon County and in 1795 to Franklin County where he remained. He wrote The Pioneer to the Kentucky Emigrant, which is one of the

31 Lincoln County, Kentucky Tax Assessor, Lincoln County, Kentucky Tax Books 1787-1875 (Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky State Historical Society, 1952-53), film # 8114.
32 Lincoln County Kentucky 1780, p12. from the diary of captured British Colonel Henry Hamilton.
35 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
37 Lincoln County, Kentucky Probate, FHL film # 192229, Book I p 73.
38 Frame Family Bible, FHL fiche # 6101006.
rarest pieces of Kentuckiana. He wrote letter giving family history on 12 September 1838 in Kentucky. [see letter at end of chapter].

vi. David MAGILL was born about 1750. He died about 1837 at the age of 87. David's son Caleb wrote to his uncle John Magill and John responded 1838, noting that Caleb had reported the death of his father. Moved to Kentucky.

vii. Ann MAGILL was mentioned in father's will as Ann Dougherty. Perhaps this the Ann who married William Dougherty 20 May 1794. Perhaps a second marriage.

viii. Hugh MAGILL died before 1813. Mentioned as deceased in father's will. from Sue Phillips: married Margaret Dougherty 1795, Mercer County, Kentucky.

Letter of John Magill (1754-1842) to Caleb who was the son of John's brother David.

12 September 1838 in Kentucky
Dear Nephew, Caleb:
I received your letter some twelve months ago but, not having it at hand, I do not exactly recall the date the letter informed me of the death of your father. I presume it was the only one you sent me. I ought to apologize for not writing sooner, I am frequently in distress of mind and from a blamable neglect of duty I often neglect to answer letters immediately when I receive them; and after a while forget them. I now let you know that through the goodness of God we are all in a tolerable state of health for which we ought to be thankful. I have not received any information from you and any of your brothers and sisters since I received your letter from Mr John Elliot informed that you lived in this neighborhood.
I have nothing to write that can be very interesting to you as you are not acquainted with any persons here nor I with any in your neighborhood. As for my family. I had the misfortune to lose my best friend five years ago last November on the 14th of the month I have one son living in Clinton County Indiana named Matthew B Magill, One other in the same county named Cyrus Magill. One in Park County named Samuel P Magill. One living with me named John Allen Magill who is practicing physic on the Thompsonian Plan and is very successful. One daughter Margaret S Magill and one named Tennyann.
My grandfather, William Magill, migrated from Ireland in the year 1727 with three sons named James, William, and John, who was my father, and five daughters to wit, Jane who married William Dickerson, he died and she married a McKee; Sarah married William Berry; Betty married James Berry, later John Jones; Esther who married Hugh Campbell, Ann who married Robert Fowler.
My uncle James had three sons: William, Alexander and James. My uncle William had several sons to wit, Samuel, William, James, Robert, John, Hugh, and Charles, three last named by a second wife. My father had six sons, William, James, Samuel, John, David, & Hugh.
I have been particular so that you may know if you meet with any persons of the name Magill you can tell whether they are your relation. I have seen several from Ireland that are no kin of mine. They spell their name McGill. They are generally native Irish and Roman Catholic. I recollect to have seen my grandfather's certificate from Ireland dated 1725. It was spelled Magill and all his descendants spell their name the same way. Any who do not are not of our kindred.
Our forefathers were Scotch, lived in Scotland and were Protestants. The time of persecution in England and Scotland in the reign of King James of England, they with many others, immigrated to Ireland which gave them the name of Scotch-Irish which name they are frequently called to this day. I never knew of any of father's relations coming to America only one family which was John Magill. He settled in Winchester VA about the year 1775. He was a lawyer and had two sons, Archibald Magill who was a major in the army at the time of the revolution. The other, Charles Magill, was a lawyer and either he or one of his sons, is at this time, president or cashier of the Valley Bank of Virginia.
There has been more sickness and is at this time in our neighborhood than I ever knew at one time and I believe it is

41 W Wayne Rogers, *Greener Pastures: from the Tidewater to Texas and Beyond* (Marietta, Georgia: self published, 1996), p 156
42 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
43 Michael L Cook, *Lincoln County Kentucky Records* v1 p 38.
44 Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007.
45 Rogers, *Greener Pastures*, p 156.
general thought the state of Kentucky. As for religion in this country, there is a great many professors to different denominations. There is Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Campbellites, Two Seeds alias Carlkotites and Shakers. I have heard lately of two Mormons preaching about sixteen miles from here. Crops of wheat are good this summer. Corn crop is sorry through this state. I wish you could write every good opportunity. Give my respects to all your brothers and sisters and all inquiring friends. The day before yesterday I received a letter from my sister, Elizabeth Frame, living in Ohio state, Preble County. She is 83 years old last March, the only sister I have living. All my brothers are dead and yet I am spared on the goodness of God. May we all be prepared through the goodness of God and the sanctifying influence of the holy spirit for an endless and happy eternity is the prayer of your affectionate uncle who lacks only one month and eight days of being 79 years old. John Magill

Transcription of William Magill Will.46

In the name of God amen the 10th day of October 1749.
I, William Magill of Augusta County being sick in body but of perfect wit and memory thanks be to God calling to Remembrance the uncertain state of this transitory life and that all flesh yield to Death when it shall please God to call do make and constitute ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following revoking and annulling and by this presents all and every testament and testaments will and wills heretofore made by me and declared either by word or writing and this labor taken only this last will and testament and none other. And first being sorry from the bottom of my heart for my sins most humbly desiring forgiveness for the same I give and commit my soul to God my savior and Redeemer, in whom and by the mercies of Jesus Christ and believed to be saved and to have full remission and pardon for all my sins and that my soul with my body on a General Day of Resurrection shall rest again with Joy and thru the mercies of Christ's swift death and passing (?) of inherit the Kingdom of heaven prepared for his elect and chosen, and my body to be buried in such a place where it shall please my 2 executors hereafter to appoint and now for the settling of my temporal estate and of such goods and chattels and debts as it hath pleased God far above my deserts to bestow on me. I do order and give and dispose as follows---that is to say. First I will that all my debts and dues that I owe in right and conference to any person or persons whatsoever shall well and truly be paid within convenient times after my decease by my Executors. I order my wife Margaret to have 6 of my best of the cows and one bay two year old mare and the half of household furnishings: of the Gray mare to her son David Gass, and as for my land I order it to be divided between my sons James and William, and the line run of straight right course from ye river by the Upper end of James meadow and towards a little spring between Charles Campbell and James to have the end he now lives on and William the end I now live on. I order my son John to have the young bay yearling mare. And as for the rest of the young cattle I order them to be equally divided among my children and likewise my hogs I order them to be equally divided between my wife and my children. I order my brown coat for my son John and the white coat to William and the half of the household goods to William one chest to be excepted for my wife more than her half shares and the pewter and one pot to my wife also more than her equal share. I order my grandchild James son to have one heffer of a year old I order my wife share of the Creatures and William and Elizabeth to be maintained on plantation this winter and my funeral charges to be taken out of whole estate My saddle and other tools I order them with the plow irons to William and the big Bible I leave it to James as witness my hand the tenth

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46 Will (William Magill), Augusta County, Virginia Will Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #30314) Book 1 p 202.
day of October 1749. I order Robert Craven and Hugh Campbell to be my Executors.
memorandum before signing William to have the black mare and Gray horse. signed William Magill
wit: Margaret Magill her mark Andrew Erwin and Charles Campbell his mark.
Robert Craven, Hugh Campbell, Andrew Erwin, Charles Campbell bond

Transcription of John Magill Will:47

In the name of God amen I John Magill of the County of Lincoln and state of Kentucky, being
weak of body but of a sound mind do make and ordain my last will and testament First I give and
recommend my soul unto the hands of God who gave it, and my body to be buried in a decent
Christian manner, at the discretion of my Executors- and [?] my worldly affairs I give devise and
dispose of them in the following manner- In the first place i give and devise to my beloved sons
William, James, John, & David and to my daughters Elizabeth Frame and Anne Dougherty to
each one dollar. Also to the widow and heirs of son Hugh Magill deceased, for the support and
education of said heirs, I give and bequeath the use of the land on which I now live with all the
appurtenances thereby belonging, together with all and every [?] of property real or personal of
which I am possessed or have any claim to until the youngest of said heirs be of age, and then to
be sold and equally divided between the aforesaid widow and heirs of Hugh Magill, deceased for
the sole use of them their heirs and assigns forever- I likewise constitute and appoint John Magill
son to William Magill and John Walkup sole executors of my last will and testament. I do hereby
revoke and disavow every other will and testament before made or named. In [?] whereof I have
herewith set my hand and seal this twenty second day of May in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred and thirteen.
signed John Magill
witnesses Samuel Findly, Hugh Logan, William C Findly

Probate in court 8 July 1816 will accepted. John Magill accepted as Executor with $2000 bond
surety James Magill, Alexander Blain and Phillip Hacka.

47 Will (John Magill), Lincoln County, Kentucky Probate, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film
Patterson Family

Line of Descent: James, Mary [see MAGILL Family]

There is no one record that proves Mary, the wife of John Magill, was Mary Patterson. A strong circumstantial case can be made, however. The argument is dependent upon depositions given in an Augusta County, Virginia court.

On 11 October 1805 John Magill [husband of Mary Patterson], at the home of his son Hugh Magill of Lincoln County, Kentucky, gave a deposition in the case: Jacob Clements Erwin and Andrew Erwin, plaintiffs vs. William, James, and Samuel Patterson, defendants. The plaintiffs were the grandsons of Anne Patterson Erwin and her second husband Andrew Erwin, being the children of their son Francis. William, James and Samuel Patterson were the grandsons of Anne Patterson Erwin and her first husband James Patterson, being the children of their son Samuel. On 16 September 1805 Edward Erwin Sr, age 65 also gave a deposition at the home of William Curry in Augusta County, Virginia. Edward has not been identified.¹

From the depositions and Augusta County records, we know the following:

- James Patterson wrote a will on 6 January 1740 in Nottingham, Chester, Pennsylvania. In the will he named his children as follows: Margaret, Mary, Ann, Rebecca, Samuel, and James. James died before 26 March 1741. The wife and children moved to Augusta County, Virginia following his death.²

- James' widow Ann Patterson married Andrew Erwin. Although no marriage record has been found, the marriage was before 1747 when Andrew Erwin and his wife Ann were brought to court for abusing the children of James Patterson.³

- The Patterson/Erwin household was a neighbor to the Magills, thus giving the opportunity for the marriage of Mary and John. There was interaction between the families. On 5 March 1747/48 Andrew Erwin bought property on the line where he then lived and neighbor to William Magill [father of John] in Long Glade Hollow.⁴ Andrew Erwin served as a witness and testator for the will of William Magill [father of John], proved 29 November 1749 in Augusta County.⁵ John Magill was a guardian for the youngest Patterson child, James, appointed 21 November 1751.⁶

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² Jacob Martin, Abstract of Wills (Vol I 1714-1758) of Chester County, Pennsylvania (Marshallton, Pennsylvania: unknown, 1900), p 188. The move is described in the court case.
³ Chalkley, Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia v1:33.
⁴ Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers, v5:246.
⁵ Will (William Magill), Augusta County, Virginia Will Book, FHL Film # 30314 Will Book 1 p 202.
• Mary Patterson married a Magill. In the court case it is stated that Rebecca (Patterson) Stephenson and Samuel Patterson were siblings of "Mary Magill". John Magill had two brothers, William and James, who might have married Mary Patterson. William's wife was named Jean, so it wasn't him. Although the name of James' wife is unknown, other researchers have hypothesized that she was an Alexander.⁷

• John Magill married in February 1749. Unfortunately the name of his wife is not given in the marriage reference.⁸ No additional marriage record for John has been found. No other Magill family has been found in Augusta County.

• Mary Patterson was of an age to marry in 1749. Guardians were appointed for Rebecca, Samuel and James Patterson starting in 1749, but not for Mary. This suggests Mary was old enough to be married in this year. No other indication of her age has been found.⁹

• John's wife's name was Mary when they sold land in 1761. No earlier reference to his wife's name has been found.¹⁰

The argument for Mary Patterson being the wife of John Magill is possible as the families lived next to each other and there was a known relationship between them. Mary was old enough to be married in 1749. Although the name of John's wife at marriage is not recorded, it was Mary in 1761. Mary Patterson is reported to have married a Magill. Although there is no direct evidence that this was John, he is the most likely candidate.

Genealogical Summary

The 1807 court case referenced above apparently argued a grievance that dated from 1756 as stated in the settlement. The disagreement was between the families of step-brothers Samuel Patterson and Francis Erwin:

The case was settled as follows:

This cause came on this seventh day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven to be heard on the bill answer and deposition and was argued by council. On consideration whereof the court admitting that no length of time will sanctify a fraud is nevertheless of opinion that it may be sometimes too late to go safely into an inquiry respecting one and that the present case is one of this last description. But if an inquiry could be safely made that the evidence of an arbitration and settlement in the year 1756 as proved in the cause must especially at this late day be a perpetual bar to the claim of the defendants. It is therefore adjudged ordered and decreed that the plaintiff and all claiming upon them be forever quieted in the possession and enjoyment of the land in bill [?] against all claim or demand whatever

⁷ Sue Phillips database, downloaded August 2007. Reference to Greener Pastures, From the Tidewater to Texas and Beyond.
¹⁰ Augusta County, Virginia Deed Books, FHL Film # 30345 Book 9:429, 431.
of the defendants under any right which they may set up to the same under their father Samuel Patterson deceased and that the defendants do pay unto the plaintiffs their costs.....

First Generation

James PATTERSON died before 26 March 1741 in Nottingham, Chester, Pennsylvania when his will was brought to court for probate. The will was written 6 January 1740, suggesting that he was ill for over a year. According to the court case referenced here, James had purchased land in Augusta County with the intent of moving there. Following her husband's death Anne Patterson moved the family to Augusta County on her husband's land.

The will specified that his wife Anne was to have the use of all of the estate for the support of herself and bringing up and schooling the children during her widowhood. If she remarried, all of the estate was for the children. His children received an equal share, with his sons to have $10 more than the daughters. The Executrix of the estate was Anne. The witnesses were William Maffitt[?], Mathew Armstrong, Samuel Maffitt[?].

In 1747 Andrew Erwin and his wife were summoned to appear in Augusta County Court for abusing the children of James Patterson, and asked to account for the estate left by Patterson to said children. The complaint was brought by the church Wardens and Mathew Edmondson (later appointed a guardian). Unfortunately the court records themselves no longer exist so the outcome is not known.

Guardians were appointed for three of the Patterson children. Rebecca had Mathew Edmiston appointed as guardian in 1749, under the name of Robina in the abstract by Chalkley. This was probably the man who brought suit against Andrew and Anne in 1747. Samuel had Mathew Armstrong appointed as guardian on 19 Nov, 1751. Could this be the Mathew Armstrong who was a witness to James’s will in Chester County? Son James had John Magill as his guardian on 21 Nov, 1751. James was probably an adult by 16 Nov, 1757 when Hugh Campbell, brother-in-law to John Magill, transferred land to “James Patterson, saddler”.

Two additional land references may relate to Anne Patterson Erwin, although she was already married to Andrew in 1748. On 5 April 1748 Edward Erwin, bought 350 acres adjacent to the Widow Patterson. On 20 September 1748 John Erwin bought 300 acres on Long Glade adjacent the Widow Patterson.

James PATTERSON and Anne had the following children:

i. Margaret PATTERSON from the will of her father, no further record.
ii. Mary PATTERSON from the will of her father. Married John MAGILL, and died before

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12 Jacob Martin, Abstract of Wills, p 188.
15 Augusta County, Virginia Deed Books, FHL film # 30344 Book 7:349.
16 Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers, v5::251, 341.
iii. Anne PATTERSON from the will of her father, no further record.
iv. Samuel PATTERSON from the will of his father. On 19 November 1751 Mathew Armstrong was granted guardianship. Samuel apparently died before 1807 when court case was decided.
v. Rebecca PATTERSON from the will of her father. On 2 March 1749 Mathew Edmiston was granted guardianship. Deposition of Edward Erwin 16 September 1805. She married a Stephenson.
vi. James PATTERSON from the will of his father. On 27 November 1751 John Magill was appointed guardian.

Transcription of James Patterson Will:

In the name of God, amen, the sixth day of January in the year of our Lord God 1740
I James Patterson of Nottingham being very sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be unto God therefore, calling to mind of mortality of my body, I knowing if [?] it is appropriated for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will & testament. that is to say principally & first of all I give & recommend my soul unto God who gave it; and for my body, I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian like manor at the discretion of my executor, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive of fame again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give bequeath & dispense of my same in the following manor & form
Imprimis I give and bequeath to Ann my dearly beloved wife whom I likewise constitute make and ordain my only and sole executor of this my last will & testament all my goods chattles & household goods Bonds bills & all debt whatsoever due to me, & after my debts is all paid out of the whole she is to have the sole disposing of all at her own discretion, for the support of herself and bringing up and schooling the children during the time of her widowhood & if she feels cause to alter her state & condition then Item I give my well loved children Margret, Mary, Ann, Samuel, Rebecca, and James each of them an equal share with her only my two sons I allow them ten pounds over their proportional part by them freely to be possessed and enjoyed. & to hereby utterly disallow revoke & disannul all & every other former testaments wills & [?] bequeaths & executors by me in any wise before this time named willed & bequeathed ratifying & confirming this and no other to be my last will & testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year above written. James Patterson
Signed sealed published & [?] by the said James Patterson the testator as & for his last will & testament in the presence of as the subscribers wit
William Maffit [written after name] gave oath the 26 March 1741
Mathew Armstrong, Samuel Maffi

17 Will (John Magill), Lincoln County, Kentucky Probate, FHL film # 19229 Book G p 26.
Strader Family

Line of Descent: Daniel, Margaret (Polly) [see FRAME Family]

The turn of the 19th century was a time of mobility as families coped with the economic chaos following the Revolutionary War. Daniel Strader followed the pattern by moving from North Carolina to Ohio about 1808. The journey of 500 miles takes just over 8 hours on the interstate highway system, but by wagon it was much longer. He probably went through the Cumberland Gap on the Wilderness Road into Kentucky, and then north through Lexington to cross the Ohio River into Cincinnati. From there it was a short trip to Montgomery County.

The Wilderness Road was widened in 1796 to accommodate wagon travel, so this was a convenient route for Daniel. Getting to the Wilderness Road from the Haw River area of northern North Carolina, he had a choice of route: North to Martinsville, Virginia and then up to Roanoke or west through North Carolina and into Tennessee to pick up the road at Sapling Grove (now Bristol, VA).

Daniel was 32 years old when he made the trip, probably in 1808, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth and 5 children. The youngest was an infant. He probably traveled with the George Strader family of 7 children but they were older and could give assistance. Daniel and George had an idea of what Ohio was like as another North Carolina Strader, Henry (1767-1817), had made the trip 4 years before. Other Haw River neighbors were there as well.¹

The arrival in Ohio was not the end of Daniel's adventures. He and George stopped first in Montgomery County where Henry (1767-1827) had settled. In 1808 and 1809 they were listed as appraisers.² Apparently the land opportunities were better in Preble County, just to the west, as Daniel and George moved on. George located in Twin Township and Daniel in Washington Township.

An obituary for Daniel's son Daniel in 1895 included a description of what life was like for the family in 1811.

Daniel Strader, father of the late Daniel Strader emigrated from North Carolina to Montgomery County in 1809, to Washington Township in Preble County in 1811. A rail pen was built as a temporary dwelling until a log house could be built, which still stands. Daniel [son] was born in this pen August 16, 1811, 6th of 10 children and the next oldest son...”³

The "rail pen" was a hut of logs that did not fit together to keep out the weather. Son Daniel was born in August; hopefully they had a weatherproof house before winter.

¹ Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Records, Heritage Quest online [www.ptpl.lib.wa.us/heritagequestonline, accessed 2004], M805, roll 779, image 566, file R10253. George states he traveled in 1808. Daniel sold his North Carolina land in fall of 1807. They appear in Ohio records together in 1808. the 1809 date in the obituary is likely in error.
² Celebration Dayton '96 Centennial Committee, Enumeration '96 (Dayton, Ohio:, 1996), p 447. George and his son George Jr and Henry (1767-1827) are in the 1809 tax list but there is no listing for Daniel.
³ Gilbert, Obituary Abstracts 1877-1895 Preble County Newspapers, v2 p 182.
Genealogical Summary

A comprehensive genealogy of Straders who went to Ohio has been written by Hartzel G Strader, *The Strader Family History 1737-1976*. It is a very helpful review of records for this confusing family.

Daniel Strader is the only generation of the Straders whose story can be told with any assurance. Daniel was a part of the Strader families living in the Haw River area of the original Orange County (now Guilford, Orange, and Alamance Counties) North Carolina. The connection is established as follows:

1. Daniel’s place of birth is stated in the 1850 census as North Carolina. This is further reported in obituaries in Preble County, Ohio.4
2. When Daniel was married in Guilford County in 1798, the bondsman for the marriage was George Strader, who later came with Daniel to Ohio.5
3. Two of Daniel’s children were baptized in the Frieden church, Guilford County. George Strader was the sponsor for the baptism of Susannah in 1803 and Johannes Gobl (Coble) and wife Catherine for Anna Maria in 1805.6
4. George and Daniel traveled west to Ohio at the same time, meeting up with Henry (1767-1827) in Montgomery County and then proceeding to Preble County.7
5. Other families were associated with the Straders in North Carolina and in Ohio, supporting the argument that Daniel Strader of Preble County, Ohio was the Daniel Strader of Guilford County, North Carolina. These families include: Christmans, Whitsells, Trollingers, Sherers, Cobles (Goble) Goodners, Tickles, Sommers, Isleys, and Weinigs (Waynich).

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4 Gilbert, *Obituary Abstracts, Preble County, Ohio Newspapers*, v1 p 64, v2 p 182.
5 Frances T Ingmire, *Guilford County, North Carolina Marriage Records 1771-1868* vol 3 (St Louis, Missouri: Ingmire Publishing, 1984), p 34. Bonds were required at marriage to guarantee that the couple was indeed eligible for marriage. They were most often family members.
6 Donnell, *Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853*, p 12, 32.
7 *Enumeration '96*, p 447.
Although Daniel was certainly from the Piedmont area of north-central North Carolina, I have not been able to identify his father. A brother, Henry Strader (1767-1827) has been identified. A letter from a grandson of this Henry reported the relationship:

written Aylesworth, Indiana October 19, 1891 to Mess J Strader and Sons, Chicago, Illinois
... You wish to know of which branch of the Strader family we belong, the name of our father-father was Henry Strader - He came from N.C. to Ohio - Montgomery Co-thence to Inda. Funtain[Fontain] County in the year 1826 and my fathers father had a brother (Daniel Strader) that settled in Ohio Preble County and another bro. which went to Ills. long time ago. His name was Jacob Strader - and we heard he went from there to Wis. And another bro. that settled near Cincinnati O. on the Ohio River. We know have sum but a very few of our relatives and so not know where only a few of them are and if we are many relation would be offal glad to hear from you. Again. We are your Rest Daniel Strader and Sons 
Father will be 72 years old next February and his health is good. Please let us hear from you again.8

Hartzel Strader identifies the writer's father who is 72 years old as Daniel, son of Henry (1767-1827). This Daniel died 16 November 1900 in Fountain County, Indiana. The author also notes that he believes the Jacob of Wisconsin is a son of Daniel (1777-1853). The brother near Cincinnati has not been identified.

Henry (1767-1827) and Daniel (1777-1853) had several interactions that support the idea they were brothers. Henry went to Montgomery County, Ohio 4 years before Daniel made the move. Daniel went first to Montgomery County and then moved on to Preble County, Ohio. He obtained title to his land in Preble County as an assignee of Henry Strader who had purchased the land 28 November 1808, probably the year that Daniel and George headed west. The purchaser was likely Henry (1767-1829).9

The assignment was made in 1813, following the 1811 joint sale of property in Orange County by Henry and Daniel, of "Orange County, North Carolina". There is no proof that the sellers of the North Carolina land were the Henry and Daniel who moved to Ohio, but no other Daniel or Henry has been identified. The residences of sellers were found to be misstated in other Orange County deeds. This land was contiguous with the property Daniel sold when he moved to Ohio. Is it possible the assignment to Daniel was made as part of this North Carolina land sale? Why did these two sell this land, was it property they had inherited?

Daniel's eldest son is named Jacob and Henry (1767-1827) is reported to have a son Jacob as well. This could point to a father named Jacob, but the naming patterns are not strongly followed in these families.

Daniel had a close relationship with George Strader who posted a bond for Daniel's marriage, was a sponsor for the baptism of a daughter, and moved to Ohio at the same time with Daniel. Although George was of an age to be a father to Daniel, no supporting documentation has been found for a father/son relationship. Daniel is not listed in George's will and Daniel does not name a son George. It appears that George was an uncle to Daniel.


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There are other men identified in North Carolina who could be Daniel's father, but could not be the father of both Henry (1767-1827) and Daniel. A summary of the North Carolina Straders follows this discussion of Daniel.

First Generation

Daniel STRADER was born 7 March 1777 from the date on his gravestone. The place was North Carolina as stated in the 1850 census. He died 21 February 1853 in Preble County, Ohio, age 75 years 10 mo 4 days. He married Elizabeth WEINIG (Weneck) 13 April 1798 in Guilford County, North Carolina. Elizabeth was born on 22 August 1776 and died 30 Aug, 1855 from the dates on her gravestone. A bible belonging to son John states the death date as 1854. A court record for 2 December 1854, following her death, suggests that the Bible record is correct. Both Daniel and Elizabeth were buried in the Sherer Cemetery very near to their land.

The court record of 1854 mentioned that a guardian, Benjamin Homan, was appointed for Elizabeth due to lunacy. James Bowsman and Levi Strader were reimbursed for boarding her, as they had been immediately following Daniel’s death. Lunacy was a term probably used for what in 2013 is called dementia. She was the daughter of Daniel and Katherine (Lorah) Weinig. Her brother Daniel Waynick [sic] and sister Barbara Weinig Trollinger also moved from North Carolina to Preble County, Ohio.

Daniel's first appearance in the North Carolina records was his wedding bond in 1798. George Strader signed the bond. Following his marriage, he purchased land from Henry Strader Sr in Guilford County on 16 January 1800. This land was sold on 9 October 1807. An additional piece of property in Orange County was sold by Daniel and Henry Sr on 12 October 1811. Daniel also had two daughters baptized in the Frieden Church in Guilford County.

In Ohio Daniel obtained title to the 170 acres of land he lived on from the Government Land Office in Cincinnati; being the west half of Section 18, Township 8, Range 2E. This land had originally been purchased by Henry Strader 21 November 1808. There was apparently a problem with the paperwork on the grant of 26 March 1813 transferring the land to Daniel. This certificate was reissued 24 February 1919 when “Daniel, assignee of Henry”, having deposited a...
The 170 acres was good farm land, but in 1811 Daniel would have been the one to remove the dense tree cover. The picture was taken of the area in 2006. Daniel’s daughter Polly was within a mile of the Frame property where her future husband Silas lived.  

Daniel participated in the War of 1812 from Ohio. A Daniel is listed as a Private in unit #112 of Capt David E Hendricks Company. Henry Whitesell, also from Washington Township and originally North Carolina, was in this company as well.  

Daniel and Elizabeth raised their 10 children on the farm. In 1848 Daniel sold 3 acres to his son-in-law James Bowsman, husband of daughter Rosannah. Perhaps this was due to the advancing years and poor health of the parents. The 1850 census showed that son John lived next door as well. Neither Daniel nor Elizabeth signed their names on deeds, suggesting that they had not received a formal education.  

Daniel died without a will, and his land was sold at public auction on 4 January 1856. His son-in-law Jesse Sherer, husband of daughter Mary, was the purchaser of all but 50 acres set aside as Elizabeth’s dower right. The $4,100 proceeds, equivalent to $107,000 in 2008 money, were divided among the children.  

Daniel STRADER and Elizabeth WEINIG had the following children:

i. Jacob STRADER was born on 21 February 1799, Guilford County, North Carolina; died in 1865, Green County, Wisconsin, married Rachel Starr.  

ii. Magdalene (Polly) STRADER was born on 15 August 1801, North Carolina; married Silas FRAME, on 27 September 1821, Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio; died on 30 December 1840, Preble Co. Buried Frame Cemetery, Jackson Township.  

iii. Susannah STRADER was baptized on 21 January 1803 in Guilford County, North Carolina. Frieden Church; sponsor George Streter [sic] and wife Magdalena. She died on 10 July 1865, Preble County, Ohio; buried Sherer Cemetery. Married Adam Pence.  

iv. Anna Maria STRADER was born on 19 March 1805, Guilford County, North Carolina. She...
was baptized on 1 June 1805 in Guilford County, North Carolina, Frieden Church; sponsors Johannes Gobl and wife Catherine. She died on 25 December 1873, Preble County. Married Jesse Sherer. Jesse Sherer reunion notice in Eaton, Preble, Ohio. Jesse Sherer age 73 and Mary his wife age 67 Emigrated from North Carolina to Preble in 1806 with parents Jacob Sherer and Daniel Strader, settled NW of Eaton. Jesse lives on original Strader farm with 6 children. 24

v. Elizabeth STRADER was born on 25 March 1808; died on 15 April 1835, Preble County, Ohio. Married David Bowsman. She was buried in Sherer Cemetery. In Daniel's petition as reported by Strader she is deceased and heirs living in Indiana. 25

vi. Daniel STRADER was born on 16 August 1811, Washington Township, Preble, Ohio; died on 24 January 1895, Washington Township, Preble, Ohio. Buried Bonebrake Cemetery. Married Elizabeth Harshman. 26

vii. Rosannah STRADER was born about 1812, Preble County; died after 1880. Married James Bowsman. 27

viii. William STRADER was born about 1813. No further information. 28

ix. John STRADER was born on 15 July 1817, married Rachel Frame on 10 January 1843, Preble Co. She died on 28 October 1889. Not listed in Partition suit to distribute father's land but listing of death of Daniel and Elizabeth in the bible of John and Rachel along with the death of John Frame (her father) makes a strong case for his being a son of Daniel. 29

x. Levi STRADER was born on 23 December 1820, Preble County, Ohio; died on 3 August 1899, Preble County, Ohio. Married Elizabeth Triow. Strader says birth 7 November 1819. Gilbert: from records in Probate office: *born Preble, widower, died August 3, 1899 age 79-9-26. 30

North Carolina Straders

The First Generation

Three Straders were in records in the original Orange County, North Carolina by 1763; Conrad, Henry "the Elder" (so designated to distinguish him from the many other Henrys in this area), and Anna Margaret. Nothing but proximity suggests a connection between them.

The origin of these Straders is not known. A possible connection for Henry "the Elder" and Conrad is with Casper Strader who immigrated in 1749 to Philadelphia along with a Heinrich Strader, Johannes Strader Jr, and John Henry Strader. Casper was probably the man who died in Alsace Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania about 1778. His will named sons Heinrich and Conrad and daughter Catherine who married Martin Kohlhofer. Catherine was the executor and inherited Casper’s land, while Conrad and Henry each received 5 schillings “as his full legacy

29 Family data; John and Rachel (Frame) Strader Family Bible, Pictorial Family Bible.
and demands of my whole estate as well as moveable as unmovable goods for him and his heirs”. The will was written 21 November 1755 but not probated until 23 May 1778. The wording of the will suggested that Heinrich and Conrad were living elsewhere. Could it be North Carolina and they left at the time the will was written? No records have been found to connect the Casper Strader family to North Carolina. No records have located the other three Straders who arrived on the same ship.

The following is what can be documented about the first generation of Straders in Orange County.

1. Anna Margaret Strader was born about 1711 and died about 1777. She came to the Haw River area in Orange County about 1750 as the wife of Johann Ludwig Clapp who moved south from Olney Township in Berks County, Pennsylvania. She may have married in Germany.

2. Conrad Strader (1727-1809) He appeared in the Orange County tax list of 1755, bought land from Lord Granville in 1763, bought land in Caswell County 1772, died leaving a will and probate in 1809. The children all moved to Caswell County as well. His children have been identified as follows:
   - Biddy married 1770 John Nichols
   - Barbara married 1775 Abraham Shelley
   - Peter married 1778 Mary Ann Baxter
   - Mary married 1780 Peter Shelley
   - Katherine married 1782 Peter Lewis
   - Henry married 1784 Mary Scott
   - Lewis married 1787 Mary Larimore
   - Ester married 1790 William Elmore
   - Christian married 1794 Zephoriah Summers
   - David married about 1796 Prudence

3. Henry "the Elder"

Henry "the Elder" appeared to live his life in the original Orange County area and is the likely father of the second generation listed below.

Few records are available to describe the life of Henry "the Elder". The first record was a land purchased of 200 acres in a German settlement that covered the Travis Creek, Reedy Fork area of the Haw River. His name appeared on the 1763 list of purchasers from McCullough. No deed for the purchase has been found, but he probably was on this land prior to the 1763 date as was the common practice of the area. Henry’s land, located in the original Orange County, was in the

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31 Berks, Pennsylvania Estate Papers, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #1654003) p1602.
new county of Guilford when it was created in 1772. The parcel was on the county line. Henry’s nearest neighbors in 1763 were Jacob Sommers and the Isley family.34

Henry “the Elder” is next found in 1768. The Regulator movement was in full force in this area, and the protests against the corrupt colonial government to the East included a large number of men signing a petition. Henry Strader was one who signed this petition. 35 Unfortunately the original of the Regulator Petition has not survived so we do not know how he signed his name. It was likely Henry “the Elder” who signed the petition as no other candidate has been identified in records from this period.

Beginning in 1778 the new state of North Carolina distributed land. A number of claims were filed since many of the purchasers had been on their property for years with no means to obtain title. There are references to a Henry Strader as a neighbor in the deeds of Paul Sink, Martin Kimmerlin, and Joseph Davis beginning in September 1778 in Orange County. These deeds all reference Travis Creek. The Sink and Davis grants mention the Guilford County line in the property description, so it is likely that these three properties in Orange County bordered Henry’s which was on the county border on the Guilford side and was the original 1763 purchase. No state land claims were made by a Henry Strader in 1778, probably because he already had his title for his land from McCullough. 36

The community in this area can be identified through the land deeds. It included the following families, many of whom are found associated with Straders in Ohio: Paul Sink, Martin Kimmerlin, Joseph Davis, Thomas Sharp, John Goodner, John Cable, Anthony Cable, Thomas Sharp, John Goodner, Edward Guin, Mordecai Guin, Parish Garner, Jacob Sommers, John Trollinger, Jacob Christman, Christian Fahl, and Ludweig Eisley. Daniel Weinig was in this area by 1791 and possibly earlier. Henry Weitzel owned a mill nearby.

A Heinrich and Conrad Strader are mentioned in the diaries of the Moravians who visited the Haw River area in 1772 and again on 2 June 1777. A service was held by the Moravian brother on “Heinrich Strader’s” plantation.37 These references were likely to Henry “the Elder”.

No death records have been found for Henry “the Elder”, the latest direct reference to him being the 2nd Moravian visit in 1777. His land was held by son Henry “H” [see below] in 1782, suggesting that Henry “the Elder” had already died.

The family of Henry “the Elder” cannot be established with any certainty due to the lack of records in this area of North Carolina. He is of the same generation as Conrad, the only other

34 "McCullough Tract No 11", North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal 4:84. Fred Hughes, Guilford County, North Carolina Map Supplement, 1750-1790. The German settlement went south to Travis Creek, Alamance Creek and down to Stinking Quarter Creek. The 1763 land was in the original Orange County, South of the Frieden church and was part of McCullough’s district 11.
male Strader in the area in 1763 when they were both land holders. Conrad could be a brother but no proof has been found.

Possible children for Henry "the Elder" include the following. The name of the mother or mothers is unknown.

i. Henry "H" born about 1750
   In 1782 Henry Strader was cited to appear in Guilford County court and defend his land from confiscation by the County because of Tory sympathies. The following year the land was confiscated. Henry “H” had joined the Tories identifying him as the Guilford County land holder. No additional land holdings by a Henry Strader were found in Guilford County up to the year 1783, suggesting that this action was in reference to the original 1763 land purchased by Henry “the Elder”. As an elder son Henry "H" could have inherited his father's land. This is a strong argument for Henry "H" being a son of Henry "the Elder".\(^{38}\)

ii. Jacob born about 1752\(^ {39}\)
   A Jacob Strader of Orange County sold 200 acres 29 October 1798. The land was sold originally by McCullough to the Isley family, suggesting it neighbored that of Henry "the Elder" but on the Orange County side of the county line. This would also suggest that Jacob was of a younger generation than Henry "the Elder" since he was not an original land owner. The 1798 sale was to Barnet Clapp Jr.
   A Jacob Strader age 70-80 is found in the 1830 Tennessee census. It is possible this man moved with a son named Jacob to Tennessee.

iii. George born 1755\(^ {40}\)
   In 1776 George enlisted in the Revolutionary War from Guilford County. By 1776 the land owned by Henry "the Elder" was in Guilford County, supporting the claim that he was a son of Henry "the Elder". He stated in his pension application that he was born in Guilford County. Since Guilford County didn't exist when George was born, he was likely using the "new" name for the County.

iv. John born 1758\(^ {41}\)
   The Revolutionary War pension record for John raises a question. He stated that he was born 12 February 1758 in Orange County, likely the right designation since Guilford County did not exist in 1758. This supports his

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\(^{40}\) Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Records, online [www.ptpl.lib.wa.us/heritagequestonline] accessed 2004.

\(^{41}\) Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Records, online [www.ptpl.lib.wa.us/heritagequestonline] accessed 2004.
being the son of Henry "the Elder". He further states that this is where he has since resided. Although the County name would eventually change to Alamance, it was still Orange when he filed his papers in 1832. In 1781 he was drafted into the militia "from Orange County". If he was living with Henry "the Elder" he would have been in Guilford County. The discrepancy may be explained by the death of Henry "the Elder" before 1781 which prompted a move by John.

v. Catherine born about 1760; married Jacob Holstein 9 February 1780, making her a sister-in-law for brother Henry "H".

The Second Generation of Straders in North Carolina

1. Henry "H" (about 1750- after 1800) Henry “H” is identified from his signing documents with his mark, often an “H”. Because of the problem with records in this area, it has been very difficult to piece together his life. Land records are the most available but can be frustrating as they do not always accurately identify the signature of the seller or his residence.

It is possible that Henry “H”:

1. Was the Son of Henry “the Elder” and married Catherine Holstein in Granville County, and lived there from 1773 to about 1778. There were several property transactions in Granville County during these years. In 1778 Henry took the Oath of Allegiance to the new country in the Nap of Reed District in Granville County.42

2. Lived on Henry “the Elder” land in Guilford County 1780-1782. Henry "H" is the only Strader identified who joined the Tories, thus causing the land to be taken.43

3. Henry “H” joined John Pyle’s troop of Tories in February 1781. He was a prisoner of war following the surrender at Yorktown and in 1783 was sent to New Brunswick. Having received land in New Brunswick, he worked as a millwright in another county. Perhaps the land he received wasn’t very good for farming. His signature in New Brunswick was “H”, marking this Henry the one who was in Granville and married Catherine Holstein.44

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4. Henry returned from New Brunswick and lived in Orange County from 1785 to possibly 1793. Documented by a number of property transactions and census references, he lived near his brothers George and John during this time.\footnote{1786 Granville, North Carolina State Census, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #1014833). No 1786 record survives for Orange County. Orange County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #19475, Book 4:233, 333. Alma Cheek Redden, Orange County, North Carolina Abstracts of Minutes of Inferior Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions 1777-1878 (Greensboro: Southern History Press, 1991) part 3 p12. Original Orange County, North Carolina Tax Records: North Carolina Archives, CR073.701.1,2,3. Orange County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19484, Book B 95. Granville County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #306131, Q:268. Such errors were noted with Jacob Holstein's purchase and sale in 1787.}

5. Possibly lived in Granville County from 1793 to 1800. His first Granville property transaction dates from 1791 when he purchased land on Hoss Creek. The 1800 census lists a Henry Straighter household which could be Henry "H". 1 male is over 45 years of age with two females in the family of the same age category. Six additional family members include 1 male 10-15 years, 2 males 16-25 years, one female under 10, one female 10-15, and 1 female 16-25. There were also 3 slaves. The female 16-25 could be the Caty Strader who married John Hall 23 October 1804.\footnote{Granville County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #326108, Book N:120. Orange County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL Film #19475, Book 5:34, 456, 466. Granville County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19871, Book 3:170. Donnell, Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853, p137.}

The children of Henry "H" have not been identified. He could be the father of Daniel as he was married in 1773, but he could not be the father of Henry (1767-1827).

2. Jacob (1752-after 1830)\footnote{Strader, The Strader Family History 1737-1976, p114.} A Jacob sold land 29 October 1798 and probably moved to Tennessee with a son named Jacob. No children have been identified for this family. Daniel would be a possible son, born to a father who was 25 years old. Daniel's oldest son was named Jacob, supporting this conclusion. Henry (1767-1827), known to be a brother of Daniel, could not be this Jacob's son, however, as that would suggest a father 15 years of age. Additional research is needed on Jacob.

3. George Strader (1755-1835)\footnote{Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Records, online [www.ptpl.lib.wa.us/heritagequestonline]. Original Orange County Tax records, North Carolina Archives, CR 073. 701.1. Donnell, Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853. Marriage Records, Preble County District Library online [http://www.pcdl.lib.oh.us, download 12 Feb 2006].} His wife was Mary Magdalena. He enlisted in the Continental army from Guilford County in 1776 and fought in the Revolutionary War for three years. He was in the original Orange County, living on 100 acres, from 1783 to 1792. Up to 1808 George was listed in Frieden Lutheran Church records as sponsor, communicant, and Director. He moved to Ohio in 1808, first to Montgomery County where Henry (1767-1826) had already located, and then settling in Preble County where he died. This is the George who posted bond for Daniel's marriage in Guilford County in 1798 and was the sponsor for his daughter Susanna's baptism. His children have been identified as follows from his will:

- Henry born about 1786, m Catherine Moss 1809 Preble County, Ohio
- George born about 1788
- Sophia born about 1790
- John born about 1794 married Katherine Parker 1814 Preble County, Ohio
- Sally born about 1796 married Daniel Whitesel 1816 Preble County, Ohio
- Mary born about 1798 married William Wear[?] 1816 Preble County, Ohio
- David born about 1800 married Mary Loy Preble County Ohio

4. John Strader (1758-1849)\(^{49}\) Probably the John who married Elizabeth 13 November 1784 in Granville County. He was drafted into the militia in the Revolutionary War 1781 in Orange County and received a pension. He was in Orange County in 1788-92 tax lists with no acreage listed until 1789 when he purchased 200 acres on Alamance Creek. He remained on the 200 acres from this time. He was in the census from 1790 to 1830. He died in Alamance County (original Orange County) in 1849. His children have been identified as follows:\(^{50}\)

- Henry born 1780-1790 probably d Alamance 1858
- Susan
- William
- Daniel b 1800-1810 (too young to be the Daniel who went to Ohio)
- Eunice
- John
- Michael born 1790-1800

The Third Generation of Straders in North Carolina

These three men were certainly children of one of the Straders from the second generation, but no connection has been found.

A. Henry (1767-1827)\(^{51}\) The 1800 Guilford County census identifies a Henry Strader who is a resident of that county. This man is most likely Henry (1767-1827) as he is listed as a man 26-45 years of age with a wife the same age. He has 3 sons under 10 years and 1 daughter the same age. The record would match the known age of this Henry but would suggest the listing of children with possible birth dates compiled by Hartzel Strader is in error.\(^{52}\) In 1804 he moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, where he was joined by George and Daniel 4 years later. He moved to Fountain County, Indiana in 1826 where he died in 1827. His birth year is calculated from his age at death. Henry (1767-1827) was a brother to Daniel (1777-1853).

Henry's wife was Mary Magdalena. His children have been identified as the following:

- Samuel born about 1794
- Sampson born 1796-1876
- Jacob born about 1800

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\(^{50}\) Birth dates are from 1830 Orange County, North Carolina census records.


\(^{52}\) 1800 US Census, Guilford County, North Carolina, no township listed, M32, roll 31, page 639.
- Henry born about 1805-abt 1846
- John born 1807-1868
- Polly born about 1811
- Sophia born 1810-1881
- Christina born 1813
- Elizabeth born about 1815-1883
- Daniel born about 1819-1900
- Benjamin
- Susanna married Jacob Swergart
- Mary married Charles Longman
- Catherine

B. Adam Strader (1775-1854)\(^{53}\) He was born in Orange County as stated in the 1850 census. When Daniel purchased his original North Carolina property, it was at the same time as Adam purchased the adjoining property from the same seller, Henry "Sr". This could suggest that Adam and Daniel were brothers. Daniel and Henry (1767-1827) jointly sold Orange County property in 1811, but Adam was not part of this sale. The records do not prove that Adam was a brother. He lived on his Guilford County property until his death in 1854. His wife was first Amelia and then Elizabeth. He was buried at the Frieden Church. His children have been identified as follows:
- Polly
- Sarah
- Adam born 1817, Guilford
- Johannes born 1804
- Catarina born 1807
- Elizabeth born 1812
- Magdalina born 1817

C. Daniel Strader (1777-1853)
Daniel was a brother of Henry (1767-1827). [See family information above].

Confusing land records in Orange and Guilford County from 1798-1811

Several records exist in this time period, but unfortunately they raise more questions than they answer. Early in 1798 "Henry Strader" was witness to a deed in Orange County when Anthony Cable bought land on Travis Creek. This could be Henry (1767-1829) but there is no way to know.

Beginning in 1800 there was a distinction made in Guilford County deeds between "Henry Sr" and "Henry Jr". This designation did not suggest relationship but rather that there were two

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Henry "H" who could be the elder one, although he was likely the Henry in the 1800 Granville County Census
- Henry (1767-1829) who in 1800 was 33 years old with a family, likely the one in the 1800 Guilford County census.
- Henry son of Conrad who married in 1784 but he lived in Caswell County
- Henry son of George who was approximately 14 years of age and too young
- Henry son of John who was 10-20 years and too young

No Straders are found in the 1800 Orange County census, although at least John and George were there. The county records appear to be incomplete.

An important land transaction was made on 26 September 1798 when Henry, no residence noted, bought 300 acres in Guilford County. He then sold this land through two deeds on 16 January 1800:
- Henry Sr of Orange sold 152 acres to Daniel Strader of Orange County. Daniel sold this land to Felty Sommers on 9 October 1807.
- Henry Sr of Orange sold 137.5 acres to Adam Strader of Guilford County. The deed is reported as "signed" without a mark, but no actual signature is reproduced. The witnesses signed in "old German" and the names are unclear.

The identity of this "Henry Sr of Orange" is not known. Henry "H" would be a logical candidate although he was apparently living in Granville County at the time. Is this just sloppy record keeping or is there an unidentified Henry in Orange County in these years? Daniel also was "of Orange County" but where was he living?

In October 1801 Henry of Orange sells 100 acres on Travis Creek in Orange County that begins at the Spanish Oak to Conrad Tickle. This deed is signed with a German signature and is witnessed by George Holt, Israel Holt, and Daniel Hofhines. This is the only Strader deed witnessed by these men. Since this Henry clearly signed his name, it is definitely not Henry "H". Henry (1767-1827) did sign deeds, so it is possibly him although the residence designation would be in error since this Henry quite likely lived in Guilford County.

A Guilford County deed dated 8 April 1801 showed a purchase by Henry Jr of 195 acres on Rock Creek of the Alamance. George Strader was a witness. This land was sold the following year on 25 September 1802 by Henry Jr. The Henry of these transactions could be Henry (1767-1827) since he was known to live in Guilford, but that again raises the question of which Henry is the "Sr" in Guilford County.

55 1800 census, Orange County, North Carolina; Roll: 34, Ancestry.com.
56 Guilford County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #19050, Book 7:103, 221, 312.
58 Orange County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #19477, Book 10:96.
59 Guilford County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film #19050, Book 7,393.
The last deed was written 12 October 1811. This Orange County deed shows Henry Sr and Daniel, both of Orange County, selling 105 acres for $315 on Travis Creek. This land began at the Guilford County line and bordered Adam Strader and Peter Summers land. It was sold to Felty Summers of Guilford, the man who bought Daniel's Guilford County land in 1807 when Daniel moved to Ohio. Although Daniel's 1807 deed is in Guilford County and the 1811 deed is in Orange County, they both reference the county line so were contiguous.

Although this deed says Daniel and Henry Sr were "of Orange County", it is most likely that they were the ones from Ohio. The signature for Daniel is with a mark, consistent with Daniel (1777-1853). The only other Daniel identified in North Carolina is the son of John and he was too young to conduct the transaction. Possibly the presence of John's son Henry in Orange County explains the designation for "Sr" as the seller of this land. This Henry may be Henry (1767-1829) who was also from Ohio in this year but if so his residence was also inappropriately recorded.

The following records reference one or more Henry Straders:

- In 1801 a Henry Strader provides a bond for the marriage of Henry Trollinger and Barbara Weinick in Guilford County. Barbara is the sister of Elizabeth who married Daniel Strader in 1798. The signature on this bond appears to match the signature on a 1826 deed in Montgomery County Ohio when Henry (1767-1827) sells his land there.
- On 23 March 1807 Christopher Fall of Guilford County sells land that neighbors Henry Strader along with Felty Summers, John Christman, and Trollinger. This could be a reference to Orange County land sold by Henry (1767-1827) and Daniel in 1811.
- In 1808 Henry Strader witnesses a deed on the Buckthorn Branch of Reedy Creek for John and William Nelson. None of the neighbors are familiar families. The identity of this man is unknown.
- In 1808 Henry and wife Rachel have a daughter baptized at Frieden Church. This man was born 1788 and is the son of John. The Henry Strader who took communion at the church from 1805-1807 along with George was probably the son of George.

**Conclusion**

The most that can be said about Daniel's family is that he and Henry (1767-1829) were brothers. It is also possible Adam (1775-1854) was a brother but there is less supporting evidence for this statement. There was a special relationship between Daniel and George, but it was probably that of uncle.

Henry "H" could be the father of Daniel but not of Henry (1767-1829) since he was not married until 1773. He is not likely the father of Adam who was born in Orange County in 1775 when Henry "H" lived in Granville County. It is hoped that others will pursue these questions.

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60 Orange County, North Carolina Deed Book, FHL film # 19477, Book 13:530.
Weinig Family

Line of Descent: Daniel, Elizabeth [see STRADER Family]

Genealogical Summary

Daniel Weinig, born about 1742, is the first member of this family to be identified.1 The appearance of Daniel in Berks County, Pennsylvania in baptismal record for his son in 1765 suggests that his family lived in Berks County, and his marriage to Katherine Lorah shows that he had contact with the Lorah family from the Oley Valley.

Although men with the Weinig name appear in records around this time, it has not been possible to determine the father of Daniel. The first record found in Berks County is in 1741 when a Weinig, no first name, is listed on the petition to form Colebrookdale Township in Berks County.2 The identity of this early man is not known. Hereford Township was later formed from Colebrookdale and a George Weinig appears here in 1758.3 The deaths of Johan George Weinig and his wife Juliana age 32 are recorded in the Lutheran Church that served this area in 1763.4 No indication of the age of George has been found, but given the age of his wife he was perhaps too young to be the father of Daniel. If not Daniel’s father, he could be a brother. An additional contact with Hereford Township is provided by the Trollinger family who are also found in Hereford Township at this time. A Trollinger son later married a daughter of Daniel Weinig in North Carolina, lending some credence to the idea that Daniel was from Berks County.

Men with the Weinig name who immigrated to Philadelphia prior to 1765 include the following:

- Jacob in 1738, age 19, who signed his oath. This man was too young to be the father of Daniel. A Jacob is mentioned in the Moravian diary in Guilford County, North Carolina in 1782 with no further record found.5
- 1749 Johann Henricus Wenig [sic], signed oath.6
- 1749 Bastian Wenig [sic], signed oath with mark.7
- 1752 George Weinig, signed oath with mark +.8
- 1754 Dietrich Weinig signed his name. He lived in Reading, Berks when he died in 1761 leaving a wife Mary Elizabeth and three daughters and an unborn child. His will

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1 Also Wenneck, Waynick, Weynig, Warnick, Vanick
2 James M Beidler and Florence Kline Heydt, The Petitioners: 18th Century Actions to Erect Present Day Berks County Townships (no pub info) p7 Berks Historical Society Collection.
3 Berks County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah film #0385040 & 385041).
4 Lutheran Church, New Hanover, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania Deaths and Burials, Family Tree Maker CD #130 Pennsylvania German Church Records 1729-10.
6 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers 1:397.
7 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers 1:404.
mentions his brother George who is to receive his clothes.\(^9\)

Paul Waynick has published a genealogy of the Daniel Weinig family entitled *Helix: A Saga of the Waynick and Seybold Families.*\(^{10}\) He reports that George is the father of Daniel without giving his reasons for the statement. He also claims that Daniel is the brother of Ludwig found in Guilford County, North Carolina. This is not likely since Ludwig was one of the children who claimed inheritance from his Grandfather Lorah, hence a son of Daniel.\(^{11}\)

**First Generation**

Daniel WENIG was born about 1742 from the baptism of a son in 1765. Daniel died before February 1822 when his will was probated in Guilford County, North Carolina.\(^{12}\) Daniel married Katherine Lorah who is named in her father's will as the wife of Daniel Weinig in 1768. Since the Lorah family lived in Amity Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania this was likely the location for the marriage although no record has been found.

Daniel married second Elizabeth about 1795 in Guilford County, North Carolina.\(^{13}\)

Daniel, with known ties to the Lorah family, is found in Guilford County, North Carolina by 1791. No trace has been found of him between the 1768 mention in his father-in-law’s will in Berks County and his appearance in North Carolina. It is likely that he took the Great Wagon Road south, perhaps as early as the late 1760s following Johannes Lorah’s death. It was common for families to stay and farm along the way before reaching their southern destination, and perhaps this was the Weinig family's path. Although Daniel was likely in his 30s during the Revolutionary War and quite possibly participated, no record has been located for him in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia or North Carolina.

There is no doubt that the Daniel Weinig of Guilford County was the same man found in Berks County. The 1800 North Carolina census shows that he was born in 1755 or before, consistent with the age of the husband of Katherine Lorah.\(^{14}\) The claims for inheritance from Grandfather Lorah, filed by the children of Katherine Lorah from Guilford County, are the final proof.

The seven Weinig children; Gertrude, Margaret, Ludwig, Catherine, Elizabeth, Daniel, and Barbara filed their claims in Berks County as follows:

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\(^{9}\)Strassburger and Hinke, *Pennsylvania German Pioneers 1:631*, *Berks County, Pennsylvania Estate Papers*, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #1654004), Jacob Rappoldt, an executor of the will is reported to be from Veinau, Schwabish-hall, Wuertemberg, Germany by Leslie Giffin, world connect, [http://www.rootsweb.com, downloaded March 2, 2008].

\(^{10}\)Paul Waynick, *Helix: A Saga of the Waynick and Seybold Families.*

\(^{11}\)Berks County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #20769, Book 14:548.

\(^{12}\)Translation, Clara M. Wonnberger, *Amityville Church Records*, *Berks County, Pennsylvania* (unknown: unknown, 1936) The sponsors for Henry’s baptism were Henry and Sibilla Kiblinger who had a son baptized the same day. Katherine’s sister Gertrude Lorah was one of their sponsors, confirming that this is the correct Daniel and Katherine.

\(^{13}\)Berks County, Pennsylvania Will Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #20723) Book 2:40.

\(^{14}\)Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #19509) Book B:151.

\(^{15}\)Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19509 Book B:151.

\(^{16}\)1800 US Census, Guilford County, North Carolina, roll 31 p 665.
The first claim was recorded in 1795 when Gertrude, Margaret, Ludwig, and Catherine Vanich [sic] authorized their friend Daniel Christman to collect their legacy left by John Lorah of Amity Township, in the hands of George Lorah. All were residents of Guilford County. Unfortunately the amount of funds collected was not recorded. It is interesting to note that Gertrude shared the name of one of Katherine’s sisters, and Margaret was likely the name of her mother.\(^{15}\)

On 1 July 1800 Daniel Strader on behalf of his wife Elizabeth Weinick, Daniel Weinick, and Barbara Weinick gave authority to their friend Anthony Coble to collect their share of their grandfather’s estate. On 22 July 1800 in Berks County Anthony Coble signed a release for £15 to each of them.\(^{16}\)

John Lorah’s will stated that his daughter Katherine Weinig was “unhappily married”. It appears he did not trust her husband Daniel to provide for her as his bequeath to her was distinct from that of her sisters. He left her £50 in the year following his death and £150 for her children following her death, with the proviso that she could draw £5 yearly against these funds if she was in need. If the claims by these seven children were each £15, a total of £105 was distributed. Since 10 children would have received £15 each, there were possibly three additional claims where no record has been found. If the eldest, Henry, survived he would be one of the claimants. Another possibility is that Katherine took out the missing £45 over the years as the will authorized her to do.

Although the birth order of the children are not known, it is logical that the Gertrude, Margaret, Ludwig, Catherine group represents the eldest of the claimants. If the 1778 birth date for Barbara reported by other researchers is correct, she was likely the youngest and was in her 22nd year when she filed her claim.\(^{17}\) Elizabeth was born in 1776 so she had reached 21 years of age 4 years before she filed. Perhaps she and Daniel waited until Barbara could be included. The trip back to Pennsylvania was a 400 mile trip and one had to wait until a friend was available to go. It is interesting to note that Anthony Coble signed the release for the funds 22 days after the authorization was signed in North Carolina, suggesting the time required to travel north and conduct business.

In 1791 and again in 1800 a Daniel bought property on Reedy Fork in Guilford County. In 1801 he sold the 200 acres purchased the year before.\(^{18}\) This area was the home of the Strader family, and where Daniel Strader and Elizabeth Weinig, daughter of Daniel and Katherine (Lorah) Weinig, were married in 1798.\(^{19}\) The only additional record found for father Daniel Weinig is in 1803 when he is likely the Daniel listed on the council of the Frieden Lutheran Church as Daniel Sr. Daniel Jr, possibly his son, was taking communion the same year.\(^{20}\)

\(^{15}\) Berks County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #20769, Book 14:548.
\(^{16}\) Berks County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #20770, Book 17:159, 160.
\(^{17}\) Roberta Schroeder posting to World Connect, [www.rootsweb.com, code :3286349 downloaded Feb 19, 2008].
\(^{19}\) Frances T Ingmire, Guilford County, North Carolina Marriage Records 1771-1868 vol 3, p 34.
\(^{20}\) Donnell, Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853.
Paul Waynick reported in his book on the family that Daniel lived in a crude log cabin which was standing until 1950 when the roof fell in. He also reproduced a picture of a chest that has passed down in the family. The family story is that it came originally from Germany and then to North Carolina with Daniel.21

In 1815 Daniel Sr wrote his will which named his wife Elizabeth and daughters Charity, Lu, and Polly, along with "other children" unnamed. The three daughters were probably minors since he mentions their schooling. It is likely that Daniel had a second wife and second family. Since the first known claim was made against the Lorah estate in 1795, Katherine died by this date. Daniel would have had time to remarry and have three children before 1815. He was about 53 years old at the time of his first wife Katherine's death.

Daniel died before his will was probated in February 1822. One of the witnesses was Adam Strader, a likely relative of daughter Elizabeth’s husband Daniel.22 No marriage record has been found for Daniel and his second wife Elizabeth. By the time Daniel died his three younger children from his first marriage had moved to Preble County Ohio.

Additional unidentified Weinig names found in Guilford County in these years include George, a communicant at Frieden church in 1805 and a bondsman for the marriage of Mary, possibly his daughter, in 1824. Susanna Weinig was a sponsor for a child Susanna of Heinrich Strader in 1808. Barbara Weinig was a communicant along with Elizabeth, widow, in 1820.23

Daniel WEINIG and Katherine LORAH had the following children:

i. Henry WEINIG was born on 23 January 1765. He was baptized on 8 April 1765 in Amity Township, Berks, Pennsylvania. Father Daniel Weinig, wife Catherine. Sponsors Henry Kiblinger and Sibilla. St Pauls Reformed and Lutheran church, Amityville now Athol, Berks County, Pennsylvania.24 No further record found for Henry. He is not found in North Carolina.

ii. Gertrude WEINIG signed a power of attorney in 1795 to claim funds from the John Lorah Estate.25

iii. Margaret WEINIG signed a power of attorney in 1795 to claim funds from the John Lorah Estate.26

iv. Ludwig WEINIG was born before 1775, and died in 1823. He signed a power of attorney in 1795 to claim funds from the John Lorah Estate. In 1796 he sold 200 acres on Alamance Creek, and in the 1800 census he is in Guilford County. By 1820 he is in

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21 Waynick, Helix: A Saga of the Waynick and Seybold Families, This author reports that George was Daniel’s father without giving documentation. He also said that Daniel and Ludwig were brothers, which does not appear to be correct.

22 Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19509 Book B:151.

23 Donnell, Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853 p37, 93, 96, 106.

24 Translation, Clara M. Wonberger, Amityville Church Records, Berks County, Pennsylvania.


Orange County where he died in 1823.  

v. Catherine WEINIG signed a power of attorney in 1795 to claim funds from the John Lorah Estate.  

vi. **Elizabeth WEINIG** was born on 22 August 1776 and died 30 August 1854, Preble County, Ohio. Married Daniel STRADER.  

vii. Daniel WEINIG was born between 1775 and 1780. The 1860 census at age 80 would suggest 1780. The 1850 census at age 65 suggests 1785 but this appears to be out of line with the other records. In 1800 he signed a power of attorney along with Daniel Strader and his wife Elizabeth Weinig and Barbara Weinig for share of John Lora's estate. He was a communicant Frieden Church in 1803 in Guilford County, North Carolina. He appeared in the censuses in 1820 and 1840 in Jackson Township, Preble, Ohio. Son Joel was born 1810 and the census gives the place as Ohio, suggesting the family was there by this date.  

viii. Barbara WEINIG was born in 1778, married Frederick Trollinger 1801 Guilford County, bondsman Henry Strader. She appeared in the census in 1820 in Lanier Township, Preble County, Ohio, listed with 7 children and no husband. Apparently she moved after her husband's death in North Carolina. She died in 1850 in Indiana.  

Daniel and probably Elizabeth had the following children:  

ix. Charity, listed in father’s will  
x. Lu, listed in father's will  

xi. Polly, listed in father's will  

Transcription of Daniel Weinig Will:  

In the name of God, Amen. I Daniel Wanick of Guilford County, state of North Carolina.... First I give and Bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth one hundred acres of my land choice of my tract of land, choice horses or mare, one cow and all my hoggs [sic] and all my sheep, one loom with furniture, one pot or duck oven 2 beds of furniture one large table, one pewter basin, one large dish, 4 pewter plates 6 spoons one (?) 2 pair of horn gun, one plough and all the meat on hand now in possession and all the corn and wheat and flax and cotton. Also my daughter Charity shall have free privileges on my life's land during her lifetime without any interruption and difficulty during same time the same as my wife. This shall be the right and $50 to be raised and delivered out of my estate for the good and [?] done unto me for value

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29 Family data, John and Rachel (Frame) Strader Family Bible, Pictorial Family Bible.  
31 Donnell, Frieden Lutheran Church Records 1802-1853, p 128.  
35 Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19509 Book B:151.  
36 Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book, FHL film #19509 Book B:151.
received of her and all that is over and above with all the land and other property is to be sold at
public auction in order to discharge and pay all my just debts and then the balance that is over
and above shall be divided among all my children, except Lu (?) and Polly each of whom shall
have five dollars to be raised out of my estate for the use of schooling them.
I likewise constitute and appoint John Chapman and Elizabeth Wanick my wife to be my lawful
Executors of this my last will and testament and I do hereby.....to hand this 9th day of June in the
year of our lord 1815. Daniel Wanick his X mark
witness Daniel Thomas and Adam Strader
Feb 1822 (proved) Daniel Thomas and Adam Strader then came in Elizabeth Wanick and
qualified as Executrix.
Lorah Family

Line of Descent: Johannes, Katherine [see WEINIG Family]

The Oley Valley lies in present day Berks County, Pennsylvania, two miles east of Reading and about 30 miles from Philadelphia. It offers good farmland for growing wheat, the major cash crop of Colonial Pennsylvania. In Colonial times the valley was a culturally diverse neighborhood with English, German, French, and Swedish residents. There were grist mills, saw mills, and iron works as well as several churches and stores in the area by the 1740s. In 2008 the valley featured a large collection of homes on the National Historical Register, some dating from before 1750. Amity, Exeter, and Oley Townships are included in the valley.1

Genealogical Summary

First Generation

Johannes LORAH established his home in this valley by 1741.2 No records have been found concerning his birth date or family origins, but he was likely born about 1705.3 He died between 24 July and 5 September 1768.4 It is not known when he crossed the Atlantic as no record of his immigration has been found. Two other Berks County men by the same surname, George in Alsace and Conrad in Windsor, were possibly related.5 George arrived in 1738 along with a Johan Michel. Johannes named a son George, suggesting a relationship. Conrad did not arrive until 1754. No in depth research of these men was undertaken.

There were few records found for Johannes. A petition supporting the creation of Amity Township was sent to Philadelphia in 1744 with the signature of John Lorey “LO”.6 He witnessed a will for Windle Andrews, a near neighbor, in 1748.7 In 1767 he was elected one of two Superintendents of Highways. This was an important position for the community, charged with hiring and directing workers to maintain the roads. Apparently he did not do his job well and was accordingly fined by the Justices.8

Maybe the reason for his poor performance was related to his health. The following year, 24 July 1768, Johannes made out his will and died before 5 September when it was probated.9 The name recorded in the court document was “John Loara”. He signed it with his mark “LO”, suggesting that he had not received a formal education. The will listed very specific instructions for the

3 Wife Margaret was born 1707 suggesting this birth date.
4 Berks County, Pennsylvania Will Book, FHL film# 20723, 2:40.
6 Amity Township Vertical File; Berks Historical Society, 160 Spring Street, Reading, Pennsylvania, F10BA-8. The name is variously spelled: Lora, Lohra, Loara, Lurough, Lorey.
7 Hatcher, A Rhodes Family History, p 217.
8 Pendleton, Oley Valley Heritage, p 140.
9 Berks County, Pennsylvania Will Book 2, FHL film #20723, 2:40.
family members. From these details we learn more about the Lorah family.

At his death Johannes was married to Anna Margaretha. She was born 9 September 1707 as noted on her burial record of 1 September 1789. It is likely that this birth date approximates that of Johannes and suggests that she could have been the mother of all the children. Their daughter Katherine had a daughter Margaret, giving additional support to this claim, although the will only specifies that she was the mother of George.

Wife Margaret was given the “little stove room” in the family home that was willed to son George. Picture at right is an example of a "Stove Room House". She was further to have “free and uninterrupted liberty to pass and repass to and from her room with use of the kitchen fire to boil [sic] brew and wash.”

These instructions make more sense when the architectural style of the “Stove Room House” is understood. Drawings often show a home with three rooms, the bedroom heated from the kitchen, but there were houses of this type with four rooms.

She was to have a pile of wood, cut the right size, at the door of her room, so her stove was probably not connected to the kitchen stove although this supply could be for additional heat. The fire was to be made up with kindling and maintained if she so desired. The house probably had a stone foundation with a cellar for storing food and a half or full second story. Given the date of Johannes’s settlement in the valley, the house was likely of log construction with joined corners in a “v”. The logs for these houses were hand hewn into rectangles and chinked with mud, straw, small boards or rocks. The Lorah home has not survived, but others of this type have. This unique Pennsylvania German style home provided warmth to the stove room with a jamb stove from the kitchen not enjoyed by English style houses of the time.

The provisions that Margaret was to receive in a year give an indication of the food that was required for one person. She was to have a milk cow, and one presumes the milk produced by one cow. “As much good wheat meal as she needs”, 50 pounds of good well cured bacon, 25 pounds of good fresh beef, 2 pounds of the choicest pieces of sheep or calf whenever killed, and one barrel good cider. To provide for her clothing she was to receive 10 pounds of flax, 10 pounds of toe, and 5 pounds of wool a year. This she would have spun and then most likely had woven by a village weaver. One would assume that she also had her own garden or part of the

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11 Pendleton, Oley Valley Heritage, p57; Bertolet-Herbein House 1720-1750.
12 Pendleton, Oley Valley Heritage, p 56.
13 Toe is a short linen fiber, as opposed to the finer quality long strands, which resulted from the lengthy preparation of the fibers for spinning.
family garden, but this was not mentioned. Additionally Margaret had the use of the most gentle
riding beast for her to attend church or other uses.

The family apparently had a significant income as indicated by the provisions of the will. Wheat
was the cash crop of the area and it was possibly the source of the cash. Son George married
shortly after his father died and inherited the family farm. Son John was not yet of age at his
father’s death. He was to receive £900 to be used for land purchase when he turned 21.
Neighbors (including the future father-in-law of George) were to advise George on the land
purchase. The money given to son John, Margaret, and the 3 daughters was substantial. It was
parceled out so that in the second year (following Johannes’s death) a total of £110 was to be
paid, £60 the third year and £50 the fourth. This was in addition to son John’s £900 and the £10
annually Margaret received. A comparative value in 2011 would be approximately
$171,659.15.

George inherited his father’s land with restrictions. The terms of the will prohibited him from
selling the land during his lifetime and in case he died intestate it was to be divided among his
children. George also inherited Johannes’s servant boy, Matthias. Matthias was probably an
indentured servant who would remain with George until the end of his term, although the
contract has not been found.

Daughter Katherine was singled out for special instructions, indicating how her father felt about
her marriage. He stated that she was “unhappily married”. This comment included an assessment
that her husband would be unable to provide for her as suggested by the terms of the award. She
was given £50 initially and £150 to be paid to her heirs as they reach “proper age”. If Katherine
“manifests want” the executors were to pay her £5 per year from the legacy to her children.
Whatever was left of the initial amount would go to the children following her death. In contrast
her sister Susanna received a total of £140 paid in three installments. The third sister, Gertrude,
received only £10 suggesting that she had already received her share.

Johannes LORAH and probably Anna Margaretha had the following children, named in
Johannes's will. Son George was born in 1745 and thus was probably born in Amity Township
where Johannes made his home. The ages and birth places of his three sisters are not known but
they were probably older than he since they were married before him. The birth of the second
son John completes the known family. Since this is a small family for the time, it is possible that
there were additional children who did not survive. The birth order is uncertain.

i. Gertrude LORAH was married to Stephen Kepher in 1768 from her father's will
ii. Katherine LORAH was married to Daniel Weinig in 1768, died about 1795 Guilford
   County, North Carolina. [see WEINIG family]
iii. Susannah LORAH was married to Michael Black in 1768 from her father's will
iv. George LORAH was born in June 1745. He died on 1 August 1823 in Amity Township,
   Berks, Pennsylvania. He was known as "esquire". He married in November 1768 Elizabeth
   Rhoads and 2nd Magdalena Bahm, and 3rd Dorothea Dotterer, 6 children.

14 Pound Sterling to Dollars: Historical Conversion of Currency,
[http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/numimage/currency.htm, downloaded 13 Sept 2012].
15 Berks County, Pennsylvania Will Book, FHL film #20723 Book 2:49.
16 Hatcher, A Rhodes Family History, p 226.
v. John LORAH was born about 1747. Probably settled Heidelberg Township in Anna Maria and 2nd Barbara. 7 children. A John is listed in the Heidelberg census for 1790 and 1800.

Transcription of John Lorah Will.\(^\text{18}\)

I John Loara of Amity in the County of Berks and Province of Pennsylvania Being Sick and weak of Body but of sound mind and memory. Through divine mercy do this Twenty fourth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred Sixty eight make this my last will and testament in manner and form following Viz.

In the first place I devise and order my debts and funeral expenses to be paid and the remainder of my estate to be divided in the following manner. I give and devise all my lands & estate Lying and Being in Amety aforesaid or else whereas to my Son George during his life with Liberty and full powers on a sick bed to Will and Devise the said Lands as he sees cause but not to make sale of my part thereof while he may said son livith but if the said Son dieth Intestate then the whole to be equally divided among his children if any be but for want of such I issue the whole shall append to my son John his heirs and assigns forever-- I will my loving wife Margaret the Little stave room during her life in the dwelling house with my son George with free and uninterrupted Liberty to pass and repass to and from her room with use of the kitchen fire to Boyl Brew and Wash. together with her bed and furniture her chest and all my Linens; the pewter and two tea kettles one large copper kettle on small iron pot and further my said son George shall find and provide his mother during her life Sufficient good handy firewood made small for use at the door of her dwelling and if she desire it shall keep her fire good by making and kindling it up at all times. shall keep her a Milk cow her choice of my [?] [?] I do will unto her both Summer and winter as well as his own are kept shall allow his said Mother his most gentlest riding beast to go to church and other places as she may from time to time have occasion- Shall likewise pay his said mother yearly during life the sum of ten pounds in money find and provide his said Mother with as much good wheat meal as she wants for her own use and fifty pounds of good well cured bacon and seventy five pounds of good fresh beef when he kills either calf or sheep shall give his mother two pounds of the choicest pieces. ten pounds of flax. ten pounds of toe five of wool and one barrel of good cider all which he may said son shall give her form year to year while she livith. I give and bequeath to my son John the sum of nine hundred pounds in money to be paid him by his brother George which I devise to be laid out in a good convenient piece of land the first opportunity as offers after my death and that my well beloved neighbors Jacob Rhoade and John Dexter Griner are first consulted before any such purchase is made but if no opportunity as aforesaid to make purchase of such land until my said son John arrives to full age then my said George shall make it his business to get his said brother a good piece of land immediately or pay him the whole nine hundred pounds on Demand. I give an bequeath unto my daughter Catherine the wife of Daniel Wenich the sum of fifty pounds to be paid unto her one year after my Death and the further sum of one hundred and fifty pounds I give and bequeath unto the heirs of her body lawfully issuing to be paid to them as they arrive to their proper ages always having a special regard to the necessities of my said daughter as she is unhappily married. Then in such case if she [?] manifest want my will is that my Executors let

\(^{17}\) Hatcher, \textit{A Rhodes Family History}, p 228.

\(^{18}\) Will (John Loara), \textit{Berks County, Pennsylvania Will Book}, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #20723) Will Book 2:40.
her have the sum of five pounds yearly until the one hundred and fifty pounds aforesaid by paid
and her said children shall not be entitled to any part thereof but if any remainder of ye said
money be not applied as aforesaid Such remainder shall be devised and paid in manner aforesaid.
I give and bequeath my servant boy Mathias unto my son George his heirs and assigns. I give
and bequeath to my daughter Susannah the wife of Michael Black the sum of one hundred and
forty pounds to be paid unto her or her heirs as follows fifty pounds thereof in two years after my
death other fifty pounds in three years after and the remaining forty pounds in four years after
my decease as aforesaid. I give to my daughter Gartrude [sic] the wife of Stephan Kepher the
sum of ten pounds to be paid on demand.
I give and bequeath all my moneys and outstanding debts unto my son George to enable him to
pay all the before mentioned several legacies all my Stock and other affects remaining
whatsoever I give and bequeath to my son two sons George and John to be equally divided
between them but if one or both of my said sons dies without lawful issue in case both do die
leaving no lawful issue then the whole of their several estates shall ascend to my daughter
Susannah the wife of Michael Black her heirs and assigns forever and if my said son John dies
without leaving issue lawfully begotten then all his part and portion shall ascend John's brother
George his heirs and assigns forever but the stock and other things above bequeathed and to be
divided between my two sons aforesaid shall not be any separation made or such division until
my said son John arrive to full age.
I nominate and appoint my beloved wife [?] with my son George joint and absolute Executors of
this my Last Will and Testament ratifying confirming and allowing this and no other to be my
last will and testament in presence of the [?] subscribing witnesses who in my presence and at
my request set their names be hereunto in Witness whereof I have to this my last will and
testament let my hand and seal the day and year first above written

John LO Loara
mark

Jacob Road   Jacob Weaver Jacob Deibler
Reading Berks County Pennsylvania the Fifth day of September in the year of our Lord one
thousand seven hundred and sixty eight personally appeared Jacob Road, Jacob Weaver, and
Jacob Deibler the witnesses to the afore written will and appeared under solemn oath on the Holy
Evangelists of Almighty God did severally depose and say that there were present together and
saw and heard John Loara the testator sign seal publish pronounce and declare the foregoing
writing as and for his last will and testament and at the time of doing thereof the testator was of
sound mind memory and understanding to the best of their knowledge and as they verily believe
and further that the named Jacob Road Jacob Weaver and Jacob Deibler are of their own
handwriting as subscribed by them as witness thereto in the presence of each other and at the
request of the said testator
TURNER AND DIRECTLY RELATED FAMILIES

- Turner
  - Hoffman
    - Limbert
  - Baker
    - Brecht
    - Smucker
    - Niswonger
      - Zirkle
Turner Family

Line of descent: John, James, Daniel, Levi (Lee), Ettie Arabelle [see DILLMAN Family]

From the time of the American Revolution to the beginning of the 20th Century, the Turner men were entrepreneurs in the tradition of the American frontier. Land owners one and all; they often were also speculators who bought for the purpose of resale while borrowing against the value of the land. Several ended up in court, as debtors or for other reasons. They started various businesses, but in the end were not overly successful. Good money was made, only to lose it. This description fits not only the direct line of descent followed here, but is true for siblings as well. The opinions of their wives on this lifestyle have not survived the years. It should be noted, however, that Ettie Arabelle married a man who only partially fit the pattern of her father and grandfathers.

In the first generation, John’s son Daniel experienced the most success and fell the farthest in his fortunes. As a surveyor in the early 1790s he found iron ore in a wilderness area over the mountain range behind Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He was one of the early land speculators in the part of Mifflin County that later became Centre and Clearfield Counties. Daniel and his immediate family patented at least 2400 acres of land in this area in 1794. He established a forge, gristmill, sawmill, and store. He is reported to have paid his men on Saturday night from a whiskey barrel full of half dollar coins. He apparently began speculating in Kentucky land as well, causing the entire empire to collapse. From 1797 through 1815 Daniel appeared repeatedly in the Common Pleas Courts of Mifflin and Centre Counties. When he filed for a Revolutionary War pension in 1818 he stated that he was insolvent.1

John’s youngest son Joseph joined his brother in Mifflin/Centre County, but in 1797 Joseph returned to Cumberland County where he cared for his parents in exchange for their land. In 1799 and again in 1804 Joseph was taken to court as a debtor in Mifflin/Centre County. 2 In 1803 he bought 2 lots in Centre County which he then resold to the same party on the same day.3 In 1811 Joseph took his brother John to court in Cumberland County. They owned land next to each other, having obtained it from their father John. Son John purchased for 5 shillings a house and 2 acres of land with privileges of the well. He was to pay half of maintenance. The Circuit Court Docket is not clear about the details of the case:

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3 Centre County, Pennsylvania Deeds, County Courthouse, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, Book A:450.

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Joseph Turner plaintiff vs John Turner. Jury trial in 1811 found for the plaintiff except the house and two acres of lands which they find for the defendant. Plaintiff for costs. In 1812 the defendant asked for a new trial but denied. 4

Son James also appeared in court, but not for debt. He was accused of assault and battery on Sarah Carothers on 14 November 1798. The case was heard in 1799 but the records do not show the outcome. 5 In 1799 he was involved in a dispute with W Longwell about the character of Longwell’s wife. An agreement was reached where James would certify that he knew nothing against Mrs. Longwell.6 It is interesting to note that James moved from Cumberland County in 1800.

The debtor tradition continued in the next generation when James’s sons William and John opened a store in McAllisterville, Mifflin County. By 1811 they appeared in court for debts owed for the store and in 1818 the property was sold in a Sheriff’s sale.7 Creditors pursued John to Montgomery County, Ohio where he moved in 1820. He appeared in court from 1829 to 1841 regarding these Mifflin County debts.8 In spite of these difficulties, William was a Justice of the Peace and was designated as “Esq.” on later tax lists.9 John was a distiller and his sons followed this business as well as owning grist and saw mills. The sons were very prosperous at one time, building the Turner Opera House in Dayton which unfortunately was destroyed by fire. Their fortunes decreased some before their deaths.10 James's son Daniel was an exception as he was owed money by 59 men at his death.

In each generation the men were known for a trade as well as being farmers. John was probably a blacksmith as were several of his sons including James. James was also a tavern-keeper. James’ sons were distillers, store owners, and a cabinet maker. Lee followed his father Daniel’s trades and was a carpenter and contractor. By the last quarter of the 1800s it was common for families to move off the land and take up alternative occupations. Although the Turners also owned acreage to grow crops, they started early with the tradition of being tradesmen.

The general spirit of embracing new approaches to life characteristic of the Turners is demonstrated by Lee who owned an Overland Car in 1910. He won a prize for it at a car show and in June of 1911 took his brother-in-law’s business partners on a road trip that was to last

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4 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Circuit Court Docket March 1800-July 1809, (Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania), March term 1804.
5 Recognizance James Turner, 18 November 1798, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Quarter Sessions, (Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania), loose papers.
6 *Agreement James Turner and Jno Longwell*, (no date) Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Quarter Sessions, loose papers.
10 In 2006 the location was that of the Victorian Theater. Information from Wayne Watkins, Brookville Historical Society, Brookville Ohio.
several weeks. He was a successful farmer and for 6 years invested in a stone quarry in Dayton, Ohio. Since he returned to Brookville with no additional interest in the quarry, it was apparently not successful. Two years before his death, he again moved and established himself as a carpenter and contractor with his son. Again there is no evidence that this was a successful venture.

This family did not tend to live long lives, with the exception of the first generation, John, who was about 84 when he died in 1802. While the cause of death is not known for most, several of the family suffered strokes.

- Daniel, son of John, died at 80 of a stroke.
- James, son of John, died at age 51, cause unknown
- Daniel, son of James, died at 78, cause unknown
- Lee died at 68 of gall stones and Bright's disease. His health was chronicled in his Civil War pension papers: 9 December 1897 the doctor said he had palpitations of the heart. At age 53 he had suffered a paralytic stroke which caused loss of sensation in left leg, partial loss in left arm, trouble with tongue initially and left eye. By 1904 the report was as follows: Left arm good, some wasting of muscles in left leg, limps and drags foot. Capillary circulation impaired, hands purple. Not hear ordinary conversation from left ear, right OK.
- Anna, wife of Lee and mother of Ettie Arabelle, died at age 56 of a stroke, as had her father before her.
- Ettie Arabelle died at 82. She was afflicted by a stroke the last 3 or so years of her life that left her bed-ridden. Her siblings also suffered strokes.

The Turner surname has three possible origins:

1. English and Scottish: occupational name for a maker of objects of wood, metal, or bone by turning on a lathe, from Anglo-Norman French torner (Old French tornier, Latin tornarius, a derivative of tormus ‘lathe’). The surname may also derive from any of various other senses of Middle English turn, for example a turnspit, a translator or interpreter, or a tumbler.
2. Jewish (eastern Ashkenazic): habitational name from a place called Turno or Turna, in Poland and Belarus, or from the city of Tarnów (Yiddish Ture) in Poland.
3. South German (T(h)ümer): occupational name for a guard in a tower or a topographic name from Middle High German turn ‘tower’, or a habitation name for someone from any of various places named Thurn, for example in Austria.

Although a history of Montgomery County, Ohio suggested that the family was German, the most likely origin is the English or Scottish (perhaps through Ireland or Scots-Irish). The first known member of the family, John, lived in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania in a Scots-Irish

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11 Brookville Star, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio, abstracts by and located at Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio.
12 See documentation for family members including Lillian Turner and Chester Turner.
14 Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record City of Dayton, p1200.
community in West Pennsboro Township. No record has been found for him that suggests he used the German language. He and his family were participants in the Big Spring Presbyterian Church, the church of choice for the Scots-Irish. When grandson Daniel moved to Ohio, his second wife was from a German family, their son Lee married into another German family, and daughter Ettie married another German. This may explain the incorrect reference.

Genealogical Summary

First Generation

John TURNER was born about 1718 from his obituary which said he was 84 when he died 6 November 1802. No gravestone has been located. John’s wife was Mary as shown by a communion record of 1789 and a deed of 1796. Mary was listed as the wife of John and mother of Joseph in a 1797 agreement for care. There is no proof that she is the mother of the other children. Mary died before the 1800 census.

John’s origins have not been identified.

- A John Turner was in Cumberland County as early as 1753 when he sold cattle to Samuel Wilson. An Isabella Turner was a witness for a deed of Robert Hunter in Pennsboro Township in 1753, relationship unknown. If this is the same man, no additional record is found for him before 1774.
- A John Turner enlisted in the French and Indian War in 1759 in Cumberland County. He was age 25 from Donegal, Ireland. Born in 1734, he is not the same age as stated in the obituary or communion record.
- A John Turner was a soldier at Fort Granville from the quartermaster list of the French and Indian War. When the commander was killed, he opened the gate allowing the Indians to enter the fort. This was possibly the man who enlisted in 1759.
- A Morris Turner was in court in Cumberland County for attachment of his possessions for a plea of trespass to Mason and Company in 1757. No further record.
- A Turner family obtained patents for land in Paxtang (now Drumore) Township, Lancaster County in 1733. No relationship has been established with this family.
- A William and an Adam Turner were continually in Lurgan Township, Cumberland County from 1753, but no relationship has been established. William did not have a son John, and it is unknown if he was John’s brother.
- A John Turner naturalization for a man who emigrated from Ireland prior to 1795.

16 Kline’s Gazette, 10 November 1802
17 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah film #21052), Book N:370.
18 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21048, Book A:69.
21 Turner Family File 1125, (Flowers), Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.
22 County Board of Commissioners, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850,(Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #21087-21093). Turner Family File 1125.
Unknown if refers to this man.  

Given John's age, it is unlikely that he served during the Revolutionary War. He was living in West Pennsboro Township, which later became Dickerson Township, by 1774. There was a John Turner listed as a private in the 6th Bat Lt Col David Mitchel 1777-1780, born 1741 and died at Milesburg 16 December 1822. This man has been identified as Johannes Turner of Mifflin, later Centre County.  

Eldest son Daniel, of the John Turner followed here, enlisted in 1775, going to Cambridge, Massachusetts. He served for a year. Sons John and James may have served in the militia, but no records have been found.

A member of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church, John took communion, age 60 in 1789. He was listed with a wife Mary, age 56 and son Joseph age 20. His wife's name was Mary from her signature on deeds. The age of son Joseph would be appropriate for that of his youngest son. Sally, age 6, was also listed, but her identity is unknown. Perhaps she was a grandchild.

John possibly purchased property in Cumberland County prior to his appearance on the tax list in 1774, but no deed has been found. Although there is a tax record for West Pennsboro Township in 1771 and 1772 John is not on these lists. He is first found with holdings of 100 acres which increased to 150 acres by 1780 and remained thus until his death. Through 1789 the tax records show that he owned 2 horses and 2 or 3 cattle. The 1798 Direct Tax by the Federal Government listed a description of each property. John's land was in the name of his son Joseph at this time. The property is described as follows:

1 House and lot, House 22 x 18 wood structure, 1 ½ story, with 2 windows, and 9 lights [or window panes], on 2 acres. Kitchen structure 15x15, wood 1 story, 1 window, 4 lights, Stable. A second House not described. A Smith shop with a total of 148 acres, valued at $1209.

It is likely that John was a blacksmith, but there are no records that state this as his occupation. Although there was a smithy on his property, in the 1800 state census he is listed as a farmer. Since this was within 2 years of his death, it is possible he had stopped working by this time. John's eldest son Daniel established a forge in the part of Mifflin County that became Centre County.

Sons James and John both were listed as blacksmiths. James willed his

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24 Edited by Thomas Lynch Montgomery, Pennsylvania Archives. Fifth series (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Harrisburg Pub. Co. 1906), v6 p 326, 450. Mifflin Historical Society Correspondence 93-168: Johannes with wife Ann was in Rev War Cumberland 6th Bat Lt Col David Mitchel 1777-1780; born 1741 died Milesburg, 16 Dec 1822. John Blaire Linn and J Thomas Michell, History Centre and Clinton Counties, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, L. H. Everts, 1883) p 13. He came to Centre County after the war. Children William, Samuel, Margaret, Catherine. Apparently he had warranted a tract in Drumore Township, Lancaster County which was sold after his death [200 ac in 1750]. This is the John next to Daniel in Bald Eagle Township 1801.
25 F Edward Wright, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Church Records of the 18th Century. p34.
26 Original Tax Books, years 1774 to 1781. Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850, FHL film #21091.
27 Halloway and Sara J Stephenson Clearfield County or Reminiscences of the Past.
blacksmiting tools to his eldest son William who must have known the trade although there is no record of this as his occupation.  

John's sons James and John were his neighbors on the Forbes Road. Constructed in 1758 during the French and Indian War, Brigadier General John Forbes built a 200 mile road from Carlisle to the forks of the Ohio that became Pittsburgh. The route is used today by the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The Turner lands were originally in West Pennsboro Township and then in Dickerson Township. John did not move, however, as Dickerson was formed from West Pennsboro in 1785. Son James, who lived next to John, was always listed in West Pennsboro while son John, another neighbor, was always in Dickerson. This suggests the family holdings were on the boundaries of the townships.  

On 16 July 1796 John entered an agreement with his son John. For 5 shillings, the father sold his son a house and a 2 acre parcel adjoining the house on the south and the well for his use. Son John was to keep up half the well at his own expense. This agreement was still in effect on 24 March 1834 when John's original farm was sold by his grandson Joseph W Turner.  

The location of the original blacksmith shop and the tavern run by son James was very well placed. Located 11 miles west of Carlisle, the Turners were on a road heavily trafficked by wagons needing servicing and their men who needed the same.  

On 12 September 1797 John and his wife Mary entered an agreement with their youngest son Joseph to care for them. John held no patent for this land, as Joseph obtained one in his father's name. When this was done, two thirds of the land was to be deeded to Joseph. Joseph was to work the two largest fields on the 1/3 of the tract retained by his father. In exchange for the land, Joseph was to provide 20 bushels of rye, wheat, and corn to his parents. He was also responsible for feeding the cattle. Additionally, Joseph agreed to plow the flax and potato patch and to provide them with firewood. Two barrels of cider from the orchard, whenever it bore fruit, was another commodity for their support in their older years.  

Apparently Mary died within 3 years of the agreement as in the census of 1800 John Sr is listed alone in his household. He wrote a will two years later on 2 November 1802 when he left $1 to each of his children, designating Daniel as the eldest son and gave the married surnames of his daughters. Son Joseph was to pay £400 at the rate of £30 a year, this to be divided between children and grandchildren after John's death. John was apparently uneducated as he signed deeds and his will with his mark.  

Following John's death, his son John entered a petition to the Orphans Court to divide John's

29 Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, Tax Rolls 1824-1827.  
33 1800 US Census, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, National Archives M32 roll 38 p 108.  
34 Will (John Turner), Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Will Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #21079), Will Book F:336.
remaining land amongst his heirs. This referred to the one-third of his property he did not assign to son Joseph and he made no reference to it in his will. It appears from the court docket that the division was ordered. It is possible that this division was part of the contention between son John and Joseph which resulted in their court case in 1811.\(^{35}\)

John TURNER and possibly Mary had the following children:

i. Daniel TURNER was born about 1754 and died 1834 Centre County, Pennsylvania. His wife was named Hannah.\(^{36}\)

ii. James TURNER was born about 1760 and died before 29 April 1811 in Derry Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania; married Mary.\(^{37}\)

iii. Polly TURNER married Thomas Neal. Probably left Carlisle area.\(^{38}\)

iv. John TURNER married Elizabeth. Died by 1822 when estate was probated. 6 children. He was a blacksmith.\(^{39}\)

v. Eleanor TURNER was born about 1766; married Joseph Mathers.\(^{40}\)

vi. Joseph TURNER was born about 1769 from his age of 20 at communion in 1789. Died before 12 November 1814, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; Married Nancy.\(^{41}\)

**Second Generation**

James TURNER was born about 1760. He died before 29 April 1811 in Derry Township, Mifflin, Pennsylvania when his will was probated.\(^{42}\) James’s birth year is taken from his age in the communion record of the Newville Presbyterian Church in 1789 when he and his wife Mary were both 29 years old.\(^{43}\) The birth year would be appropriate for the year he first appears in the tax records in 1782, having reached his majority. In the 1782 Cumberland County tax record, he was taxed for being a blacksmith, but had no property, suggesting that he was a younger man.

James’s wife was listed as Mary beginning with the communion record in 1789. Three children are reported born before this date, but she is possibly the mother of all the children. No marriage record has been found. Mary's maiden name has been reported as Beatty by Margaret Martin, a descendant of Mary's daughter Sarah. The following statement is the source of the Beatty name for Mary:

...word of mouth information given to me 40 years ago by an elderly member of my family. She told me Sarah Turner was born November 20, 1793 in Mifflin, Cumberland County, PA a daughter of James Turner.

\(^{35}\) *Orphans Court Docket*, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, FHL film# 21022, v3:373.

\(^{36}\) Revolutionary War Pension Papers, [www.footnote.com]. Catherine Taylor Holloway and Sara J Stephenson

\(^{37}\) Clearfield County or Reminiscences of the Past.

\(^{38}\) *Wright, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Church Records of the 18th Century* p37. Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811), Derry Township, Mifflin County, PA. by Jean Laughlin, Mifflin County Historical Society, sent to Beverly Brice May 16, 2008.

\(^{39}\) *Neal Family Vertical File*, Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.


\(^{41}\) *Shope, History of Big Spring Presbyterian Church: Newville, Pennsylvania 1737-1898*.


\(^{43}\) *Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Will Book* v2:145-146 estate file # 4769.
and Mary Beatty Turner. Mary Beatty came to the United States from Scotland when she was seven years old. [my guess is that would be about 1770] 44

At the time of his marriage, James Turner lived in West Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County. Although there were several Beatty families in the County, the most likely father for Mary would be William Beatty who also lived in West Pennsboro Township. There is no probate for William Beatty to identify his heirs, nor church records or deeds to tie him to the Turner family. The cemetery record, however, suggests that he was not the father of Mary who married James Turner because there was another Mary in William's family.

At the Newville Cemetery in Newville, Cumberland, Pennsylvania a tombstone states the following: William Beatty (born in 1731 and died 1 November 1809 age 78 years) and Agnes (born 1729 and died January 7, 1807 age 78 years). Found on the same stone are William and Mary Huston and Agnes Mathers (born 1791 and died 1817), a daughter of William and Mary Huston. The use of the same gravestones for the Beatty and Huston families would suggest that Mary Huston was a daughter of William and Agnes. 45

Tax records give an additional tie between this William Beatty and William and Mary Huston. William Beatty appeared in tax records of West Pennsboro Township from 1775 until 1804. The 1805 tax list had his name crossed out and William Huston written in, suggesting that William Huston took over the tax responsibilities on William's land. There are many with the Beatty surname in Cumberland County during these years, but no other family in West Pennsboro Township, the most logical location for James' wife Mary. Perhaps her maiden name was Beatty, but her family has not been identified. 46

James participated in his community as shown by signing a petition in 1788 attesting to the good character of Thomas Dickson. 47 He appeared as a witness in 1798 in the court case of James Adair. 48 While in Cumberland County, the Turner family lived in the area designated as that of the 5th Battalion. From 1790 to 1793 a James Turner was listed as a Captain in the 5th Battalion, Cumberland County Militia Rolls. This was probably the same James Turner since his age would be appropriate and no other James Turner was found in records for this area. 49

In 1790 James appeared to be living in a combined household with another family. The census description of 3 males over 16 years, 2 males under 16 years, and 4 females suggests an additional male over 16 and an additional female. The identity of these extra residents is unknown. 50

44 Margaret Martin Correspondence from 1981, #91-150, Mifflin County Historical Society, Lewistown, Pennsylvania.
46 Original Tax Book, West Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, (Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania) from 1775-1805.
49 Southwestern Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, Cumberland County Militia Rolls 1792-1794, p168, 205, 212.

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The tax lists document James's residence in West Pennsboro Township and his occupation as a Blacksmith. Beginning in 1788 he is reported on his own land. By 1793, however, James held a tavern license. The licenses from 1793 to 1796 were apparently for a tavern in the building known as the “McCracken” or “Dunlap Tavern” on the Forbes Road. The tavern was advertised for sale in 1797.

The “McCracken Tavern” building, a replacement for the original structure is now a private residence. It was found on the “Shippensburg Road” at the junction with Rt. 233 to Newville in 2009 when the picture was taken.

From 1796 to 1798 the license was for a tavern “in the place where he now dwells”, suggesting he was working out of his home property. There is no evidence that he continued as a blacksmith or a tavern keeper following his move in 1800 to Derry Township in Mifflin County.

James was in court twice in 1798 for offenses against women. Possibly these incidences were related to his being a tavern proprietor. Did he have a drinking problem? In November 1798 he was accused of assault and beating Sarah Carothers. Although the conclusion was unclear, he apparently paid fees. The court record states the following:

...the fourteenth day of November in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight at West Pennsboro Township in the County aforesaid, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, with force and arms, &c. in and upon one Sarah Carothers in the peace of God and the Commonwealth, then and there being, an assault did make, and her the said Sarah Carothers then and there did beat, wound, and ill treat, [blank space] and other harms to the said Sarah Carothers then and there did, to the great damage of the said Sarah Carothers and against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The second incident was in 1799 and the court record is as follows:

At a dispute subsisting between Jas Turner and W Longwell respecting the Character of M Longwell wife it was mutually agreed between the contending parties to leave this grievance to two Ladys which were present in company and the verdict brot in was that Jas Turner should certify that he knows nothing against the character of Mrs. Longwell and that Js Turner should pay of all costs of the suit brot against Js Turner. unto which agreement the parties give their full agreement signed James Turner and Jno Longwell, wit Js Carothers, Alex MacBeth.

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53 James Turner charge re Sarah Carothers, 7 January 1799, Quarter Sessions, Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania; loose papers. Recognizance James Turner, 18 November 1798, Quarter Sessions, Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania; loose papers.
In 1800 James and Mary sold their land in Cumberland County. This was land purchased from his brother John: 54 acres in 1787 and another 54 acres the next year. The land bordered that of his father and was located on the Forbes or Great Road. The transaction is documented only in the deed of sale in 1800. The picture shows the area of the property in 2009.\textsuperscript{54}

Following the sale, the family moved to Derry Township, Mifflin County with 8 children, including a year old infant. To relocate to the mountainous area of Mifflin County, they had to take their wagon up the steep face of the mountains fronting the Carlisle Valley. The family was completed by the birth of the last child 3 years after the move. The identity of the James Turner found in Mifflin County is proved by his signature as “James Turner of Mifflin County” on 20 April 1810, stating that he was a witness to the agreement between his father and brother John on 16 July 1796 in Dickerson Township, Cumberland County.\textsuperscript{55}

The only record of James’s land in Mifflin County was a mortgage on 15 August 1800 in Derry Township. He was listed as of Cumberland County. He mortgaged 242 acres on Kishcoquillas Creek. No satisfaction of this mortgage has been found. Probate records show that he extended the due date from 1809 to 1811. He owed $533.33 according to the estate accounts. The land was described as on the East side of the creek, midway between the town of Lewistown and Burnham, which today is part of the borough of Lewistown. It bordered the beautiful flowing creek and was set down in the small valley carved out by the water. The executors of James’ estate agreed to allow Peter Adams the right to dam this creek for a mill, with provisions for damages if the water was too high.\textsuperscript{56}

James appears in the census of 1810 in Derry Township. He and Mary are both over 45 years of age. His four sons; Robert age 11, Daniel age 12, James age 14, John age 21, and two daughters Mary under 10 and Sarah 17 are all represented.\textsuperscript{57}

\textsuperscript{54}Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21053 Book O:118.
\textsuperscript{55}Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21056 Book V:13.
\textsuperscript{56}Abstract: Mifflin County, Deed Book, (Mifflin County Historical Society, 1 West Market St, Lewistown, PA 17044-2128), Book E: p 407-409.
\textsuperscript{57}1810 US Census, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, National Archives M252. roll 51, p1033.
James died at age 51 before his will was probated on 29 April 1811. His will was written in 1809, suggesting that he was concerned about his health at least a year and a half before his death. He left 5 children under age. The will leaves the following bequests:

- Unto my dear and beloved wife Mary, choice of one horse and one cow out of personal estate.
- To son William all my smith tools and silver mounted sword.
- To son John horse he now claimeth or second choice of all my horses with saddle and bridle.
- To four daughters Eleanor, Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary fifty pounds each, paid out of real estate at wife's decease.
- Rest and residue of estate, personal or real, to wife Mary during her life, after her decease real estate to 5 sons equally, William, John, James, Daniel, Robert. (each paying equal share to daughters)
- Personal estate divided equally amongst all children.
- The schooling of my small children I leave to the discretion of my Executors.

The probate of the estate includes the appointment of guardians and the sale of land as follows:

- Orphans Court 9 May 1811: Daniel Turner, son of James, above age of 14, chose Joseph Martin as guardian. Robert Turner, son of James, under age 14, Joseph Martin and George McClelland as guardians. James Turner, son of James, above age of 14, chose George McClelland as guardian.
- 16 August 1814: James Turner, above 14 years, chose Joseph Martin as guardian [McClelland had died]
- 17 August 1814: Joseph Martin asks to sell the holdings of Daniel, James, and Robert in the real estate of James deceased to pay maintenance and education. So ordered. Sale to be 22 November 1814.
- 23 January 1817: Mary, daughter of James, under age 14, appointed Joseph Martin as guardian.
- The total debts from the estate were listed at $941.03 which included $533.33 for mortgage on land, and $191.70 to Mary.

Tax records show that Mary remained on the farm in Mifflin after James’ death, appearing on the tax lists through 1827. Her death is reported as 23 March 1827 by Julia Terry Dickinson but no source is cited. She had her estate probated on 16 February 1833 in Mifflin County and the property was sold on 10 May 1833 by the youngest sons James and Robert B.

James Turner and wife Rosanna and Robert B Turner and wife Brigeta sold their share of their

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58 Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Will Book 2 p 145-146 estate file # 4769.
59 Will (James Turner), Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Will Book 2 p 145-146 estate file # 4769.
61 Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, Tax Rolls 1824-1827. Laughlin, Summary: James Turner (d 1811).
father's land. They had their original share plus the share of brothers William and John which was sold to them in a sheriff's sale. Altogether they held 4/5 of the undivided interest. No mention is made of the additional share. In 1814 the guardian was authorized to sell James, Daniel, and Robert's share of the land to fund their education. Was this purchased by William at the time? Or was the sale never completed? No records have been found.

James was educated as indicated by signing his deeds and will. His wife Mary also signed deeds.

James TURNER and probably Mary had the following children:

i. William TURNER was born about 1783; date of March 25 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet but no source given for information. He appeared in the census in 1810 in Derry Township, Mifflin, Pennsylvania next to James. Married Jane E Magill daughter of Charles and Sarah (Burns) Magill. 7 children. About 1816 Greenwood Township in Mifflin now Juniata County, he opened a store and still with his brother John-William Turner & Co. They lost the store and share in their father's property by sheriff sale. He moved to Fermanagh Township where he is in the tax records 1817-1830. He was commissioned as Justice of the Peace.64

ii. Ellen TURNER was born about 1784; date of December 6 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet but no source given for information. Married Washington Burns, son of James Burns Esq and wife Elizabeth Magill. Died between 1820-1830. 8 children.65

iii. Elizabeth TURNER was born about 1787; date of May 25 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet but no source given for information. Married Hugh Burns's son of James Esq. Reportedly moved to Montgomery County, Ohio in 1835 and in September 1838 to Monticello Ind. One son identified James Burns Monticello, Ind.66

iv. John TURNER was born in 1789 in Pennsylvania; date of July 2 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet but no source given for information. Birth year for John in Montgomery County confirmed by census records. In 1816-1820 he was a storekeeper in Greenwood Township with William Turner. He died about 30 November 1866 in Montgomery County, Ohio; reported by Julia Terry Dickinson, buried Shiloh Cemetery. Reported to have married Margaret Wagner in Pennsylvania.67

v. Sarah TURNER was born about 1793; date of November 20 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet. She died on 24 March 1876 in Athens County, Ohio; date given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet, no source given for information. Married John Montgomery Morrison. Family oral history says they moved to Ohio about 1817 by horseback with Sarah carrying young son John. 10 children. They were in the 1870 census Troy Township, Athens, Ohio.68

vi. James TURNER was born about 1796; date of June 20 given by Julia Terry Dickinson family group sheet but no source given for information. He died on 28 March 1872 in Lewistown, Mifflin, Pennsylvania; married Rosanna Morrison daughter of William of Union Township. After family farm sold, they moved to Lewistown, where he was an

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63 Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Will Book 2 p 145-146, estate file #4769.
65 Laughlin, Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811).
66 Laughlin, Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811).
67 Laughlin, Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811).
68 Laughlin, Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811). Her family information World Connect, mwalterslw@aol.com.
Daniel TURNER was born in 1798 in Pennsylvania. He died 30 December 1876 in Liberty Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. Daniel was buried in the Ellerton Cemetery in Liberty with second wife Elizabeth and several of his children buried next to him.

Daniel was first married 19 November 1826 in Preble County, Ohio, to Sally BURCH. Although his residence at the time is uncertain, the location of the marriage was within 18 miles of Liberty in Montgomery County where he was residing with his family in 1830. The marriage is for Daniel of Montgomery County as confirmed by a September 1838 court case: Daniel Turner Jefferson Township vs Henry S Babcock debt-Babcock signed note payable to Sally when she was not married to Daniel Turner for work and labor. Sally would be the wife in the 1830 census and possibly in the 1840 census as her age is consistent over the 10 year interval. Sally died prior to 25 June 1840, however, when Daniel remarried.

Daniel married second Elizabeth HOFFMAN on 25 June 1840 in Montgomery County by George Bonebrake, Elder, who filed the record 11 September 1840. Elizabeth, daughter of Johannes [John] HOFFMAN and Barbara LIMBERT was born in 1815 in Cumberland (now Perry) County, Pennsylvania. She was named in her father's probate of 1849 as Elizabeth

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69 Laughlin, *Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811)*. 
71 Laughlin, *Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811)*. 
72 Laughlin, *Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811)*. 
75 Preble County District Library online. 
76 1830 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 136 p 232. 
Turner. Elizabeth lived with her son Manassa for 30 years following her husband’s death, dying at age 91 on 6 April 1906. In the 1900 census she states that she had 11 children with only 4 living. Her heirs were John H, Levi (Lee), Martin, and Manassa who received $1000 of the $1261.44 estate. Elizabeth received an education as she signed deeds and indicated in the census that she could read and write. She and Daniel were reported members of the United Brethren Church, the church of Elizabeth’s family.

There is no direct proof that the Daniel who died in Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio 30 December 1876 is the son of James of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, but a strong circumstantial case can be made as follows:

- 1811 Will of James of Derry Township, Mifflin listed sons including John and Daniel.
- 1810 census for James supported sons John born 1789 and Daniel born 1798.
- John and Daniel appeared in the tax record in Derry Township, Mifflin in 1820 and not after that date.
- They both appeared in the household of John (born 1789) in the 1820 Montgomery County Ohio census.
- John:
  - John from 1816 was a business partner with his brother William in McAlisterville store in Mifflin (now Juniata) County. The business was not successful and John was taken to court for debts owed. Montgomery County, Ohio Court records from 1829 to 1841 document that the John of this county was the same as the John of Mifflin County. He was followed to Ohio for debts from his partnership in the McAlisterville store.
  - John is probably the John Turner on the 1820 census in Liberty, Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio with family structure: 4 Males younger than 10, 1 Male 16-25, 1 Male 26-44, 1 Female 10-15 1 Female 26-44. Daniel would fit as the male 16-25 in this family, and John was the appropriate age. Although John moved on to Randolph Township, Liberty remained the home of Daniel.
  - In 1830 John was in Randolph Township, Montgomery, Ohio. His age is consistent with a 1789 birth date. The age of the children would be consistent with the 1820 census in Jefferson Township.
  - The age found for John on the 1860 census Randolph Township, Montgomery gave a birth date of 1789 and place of Pennsylvania.
  - He was reportedly buried in the Shiloh Cemetery. No records have been found.

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80 Brien, Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Ohio, FHL film #974055 p 74. Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files, case #35029.
81 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 1201.
82 Laughlin, Family Summary: James Turner (d 1811).
85 1820 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 944, p 138 Heritage Quest.
86 1830 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 136, p 282.
87 1860 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 1014 p 322. [not found in 1850].
Daniel:
- On 9 May 1811, Daniel was listed as "over 14 years of age" in the guardianship proceedings for James. The discrepancy in birth year of 1797 as suggested here or 1798 as reported elsewhere is not significant. The actual day and month of his birth was not known. If born 1 January 1789, his age would compute to 13 years, 4 months and 8 days, not a significant difference. This magnitude of error has happened in other court records and does not disprove the age of Daniel, son of James.  
- In 1820, he was listed as a single freeman in the Derry Township, Mifflin, Pennsylvania tax records. This suggests he was 21 years of age or over. He does not appear again in any Mifflin County record. Appearing in Ohio and Pennsylvania in 1820 can be explained by the timing of census and tax records. The census was enumerated as of 7 August 1820 and the practice of enumeration for the Pennsylvania Tax records was to record the information as of December of the previous year.
- The Montgomery County, Ohio census records for Daniel from 1850 to 1870 supported the birth date of 1798, and the birth place as Pennsylvania.
- Daniel’s gravestone gave his birth as 1798.
- Daniel fits into the 1820 census record of John in Montgomery County. Since he did not marry until 1827, it is consistent that he appeared as a single man in this census.
- There is a relationship between John and Daniel regarding property, although the explanation for the transaction is not clear. On 4 August 1840, John Turner and wife Salome sold 121 acres to Daniel Turner. On 31 March 1848, Daniel and his wife Elizabeth sold the same property to John, Hamilton, and Joseph Turner, all sons of John (1789-1866). This transaction cannot be explained.
- Wayne Watkins, Librarian at the Brookville Historical Society, reported that it was general knowledge that John and Daniel were brothers.

In summary, James had sons Daniel and John, of an age to be the John and Daniel Turner of Montgomery County, Ohio. There is a direct connection between John of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania and John of Montgomery County, Ohio. John and Daniel have an established relationship in Ohio.

Daniel was a cabinetmaker and a farmer. Land deeds have not been found for all of his reported land holdings. Not owning land until sometime before 1838 when he was on the tax list for 2 lots in Liberty, he owned $4600 worth of real estate in 1850. Three additional lots were purchased in 1860. The 1870 census reported a real estate value of $15,072 and personal property of $14,200.

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90 Brien, Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Ohio, FHL film #974055 p 74.
Following his death, 172 acres were subdivided and sold by his heirs. 93

The probate records show Daniel as a man who prospered during his life. His farm produced corn, oats, flax, tobacco (2000 pounds) and barley. Apparently the property was in need of repair as $2069 was spent by the Administrator for this purpose following his death. There was cash on hand of $598.50 and a total of $7240 for notes owed the estate and dividends from Dayton Machine Co. He had a total of 59 men who owed him money including his sons and sons-in-law. The court papers list the items that his widow Elizabeth either brought with her at the time of marriage or bought with her separate money [the source of the funds is not identified]:

101 yards carpet, 2 looking glasses, 3 lamps, all window curtains and shades, 2 bedsteads and all bedding, 1 trunk, 1 small table, 1 wash stand, 1 bureau, 1 stairway carpet, 1 sewing machine, 1 small clock, 1 chest, 1 rocking chair, all kitchen goods dishes etc, 1 sink, fruit cans, 1 small brass kettle, 2 wash tubs, 1 buggy.

Daniel TURNER and Sally Burch had the following children:

i. Mary TURNER was likely born before 1827/1828 or between 1829 and 1834 from census records; possibly eldest child. Married Robert A Ferguson from father's probate. Not found with husband in census records.

ii. Sarah TURNER was born about 1829 in Ohio; married Hoover from father's probate. No name of husband in 1879 deed. 94

iii. Harrison TURNER was born about 1834 in Ohio. He died before 1876, not in father's probate. 95

iv. William TURNER was born about 1836 in Ohio. He died before 1879. Listed in original probate statement, but John D Heck and Lydia received inheritance on behalf of William. They are living next to Elizabeth in 1880 census ages 64 and 65. 96

v. Elizabeth TURNER was born about 1838 in Ohio; married John J Bach from father's probate. 97

vi. Jacob TURNER was born about 1840 in Ohio. He is listed as heir and receives distribution, giving some of his share to his sister Mary in 1881. He is not listed in the deed to sell subdivision of land in 1879. 98

Daniel TURNER and Elizabeth HOFFMAN had the following children:

i. Margaret TURNER was born in 1841 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She died on 20 November 1869. She was buried in Ellerton Cemetery, Liberty Township, Montgomery, Ohio from visit by Beverly Brice in April 2006. Was listed as Margaret in 1850 census and Harriet in 1860 census with right age. Not in father's probate. 99

ii. Malinda TURNER was born in 1843 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, birthplace from location of father. She died on 22 May 1862; date from tombstone age 19y 5m 3d

93 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 1201.
94 1850 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 714 p 358.
95 Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files, case #11544. 1850 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 714 p 358.
96 1850 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 714 p 358. Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files, case #11544.
97 1850 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 714 p 358.
98 1850 US Census, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, National Archives, M432 roll 714 p 358.
daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth. She was buried in Ellerton Cemetery, Liberty Township, Montgomery, Ohio from visit by Beverly Brice in April 2006. Not in father's probate.

iii. **Levi (Lee) Hoffman TURNER** was born on 18 October 1844, Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio. Married Joanna BAKER on 24 October 1867, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio. 101 Died on 19 February 1913, Trotwood, Montgomery, Ohio. 102

iv. Barbary Ellen TURNER was born on 14 October 1846 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, from age on gravestone of 16y 8m 22d. Daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth, she died on 8 May 1863 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She was buried in Ellerton Cemetery, Liberty Township, Montgomery, Ohio, from visit by Beverly Brice in April 2006.

v. John H TURNER was born on 16 December 1846 in Liberty, Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. 1850, 1860 census said 1849. He appeared in the census in 1880 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio with Clara and children Daniel and Clara, next to Elizabeth. He appeared in the census in 1910 in Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio, 5th Ward in Dayton with Clara and son Daniel. He appeared in the census in 1920 in Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio 5th Ward with Clara. He died on 19 July 1926 in Van Buren Township, Montgomery, Ohio, at Dayton State Hospital of pneumonia with senile psychosis; widowed, wife Clara. Retired lumber salesman. Informant Mrs. Pearl Steele 1125 Lexington, also listed as his residence. He was buried on 21 July 1926 in Woodland Cemetery, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio. 103

vi. Martin H TURNER was born in 1852 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, birth location from residence of father. He appeared in the census in 1880 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, with Martha J and 1 month old child. He died before 1910, not found in 1910 census. 104

vii. Minerva TURNER was born in 1853 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, birth location from residence of father. She died on 12 April 1875 in Montgomery County, Ohio; at the County Infirmary. She was a laborer, single and resident of Liberty. She died of lung disease. She was buried in Ellerton Cemetery, Liberty Township, Montgomery, Ohio. Tombstone says d April 3, 1875 age 20y 5m 15d; daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth, from visit by Beverly Brice in April 2006. 105

viii. Manassa A TURNER was born in 1857 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio, birth location from residence of father. He died in 1928 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio from tombstone. He was buried in Ellerton Cemetery, Liberty Township, Montgomery, Ohio from visit by Beverly Brice in April 2006. 106

ix. Oliver P TURNER was born in 1860 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio; birth location from residence of father. He died before 1880 as he was not found in 1880 census. Never mentioned by name in father's probate, but most likely minor child referenced with John H as guardian. 107

x. Child TURNER In the 1900 census Elizabeth says she had 11 children, and this one is necessary to reach that number. Don Mitchell gives name Joseph Ira. 108

xi. Child TURNER In the 1900 census Elizabeth says she had 11 children. Don Mitchell gives

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100 1860 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 1013 p25.
101 Turner Family Bible, family pages.
102 Levi H Turner, death certificate vol #1008, certificate #11114 (1913), Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio.
Fourth Generation

Levi H (Lee) TURNER was born 18 October 1844 in Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio. He died 19 February 1913 in Trotwood, Montgomery, Ohio. He was buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, on sharing a gravestone with his wife Annie and daughter Clara.

Levi was known as Lee from numerous references in newspapers during his life. His bible, given to him in 1878 by his mother Elizabeth Turner lists him as Levi H, except for his birth information that is written in after his death. There he is called Levi Huffman Turner. "Huffman" was the pronunciation of the Hoffman name, still used by descendents in the Brookville area. Several of his siblings carried the “H” as a middle initial as well.

He married Joanna (Annie) BAKER 24 October 1867 in Brookville, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio, married by Rev Day North of Dayton. Witnesses were Gideon Gilbert of Liberty Ohio and Bell McElroy of Brookville.

Annie lived 12 miles almost due north from Liberty, and how the couple met is a mystery. The Turners were members of the United Brethren Church but the Bakers were by tradition Dunkers. Although Joanna later joined the UB Church, they did not meet through a church. Brookville was a center for commerce and the Turners had crops to market, so it is possible that they went to Brookville on business, although Dayton was closer.

Lee was part of a large family, being one of 11 children born to his mother. He joined 6 step siblings from his father’s first marriage. His childhood was in Liberty, a small town surrounded by fertile farmland 8 miles southwest of Dayton. In the 1800s it was a distinct rural area and not part of the outer fringe of Dayton as it is today.

Education was a part of Lee’s childhood. His mother and father were both able to sign their names, suggesting that he came from a family where education was valued. A biography written about him during his life states that he was “educated in the common schools and at home, continuing his studies until sometime after he was married.”

Lee was 18 years old at the beginning of the Civil War in 1862. He did not enlist in the federal troops, but he was part of the Ohio National Guard. He signed up for a 5 year commitment as part of the home guard troops. In May 1864 he was called for 100 days of active duty, which was served in Baltimore, Maryland. Ohio Governor John Brough believed that an infusion of troops for support duty like guarding forts would free additional combat troops and these extra men

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110 Levi H Turner, death certificate no. vol # 1008, certificate # 11114 (1913), Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio.
111 Levi H Turner Family Bible, family pages.
112 Levi H Turner Family Bible, family pages.
113 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 1201.
could end the war. Lincoln was persuaded and several Midwestern states sent members of their National Guards for such duty.

Although no detailed record survives of his experience in Company F 131st Regiment, it was likely similar to that of members of Company C of that same regiment that has been documented.

- The men marched to the station in Dayton, and then went to Columbus by freight cars where they marched 2 miles out of the city to Camp Chase. This camp was a prison for Confederates. The troops were held there for several days waiting for a federal officer and many were restive. Finally they were mustered in and received orders for Baltimore.
- They were ordered to take 3 days rations in their haversacks. They could take from barrels of hardtack, pork, coffee, and sugar. The men, however, didn't know what to do. They figured they couldn't cook, so most took only hardtack but it crumbled in carrying it.
- Next they were marched to the state arsenal, giving up their Springfield muskets for Belgian guns. "These were wretched pieces, fit only for show. They were often out of order and were really dangerous to the soldier who discharged them."
- They next marched to the station and scrambled into freight cars. "In a few minutes we discovered that we should need more air; so with the butts of our muskets we dashed off half of the boards that covered the sides of the cars. We spread our blankets and lay down. There were so many of us that when one turned over, all must turn."
- At Baltimore our regiment was divided, going to the different forts around that city. Some companies went to Fort McHenry with Baltimore described as an "often angry border city". The city was under martial law. In early July the Confederates were moving toward Baltimore or Washington. The battle was fought at Monocacy. The Union soldiers were driven back and came into Baltimore. Following discharge the soldiers apparently received a certificate of thanks from Lincoln, [but this was not preserved in family papers in Lee's case].

Lee was stationed at Fort McHenry, being assigned to the cookhouse. His Civil War pension papers detail life-long chronic diarrhea from his time in Baltimore made worse by the food and drink and high temperatures in the kitchen.

Returning from Baltimore in August 1864, Lee and Annie were married in October three years later. They apparently lived with her family in Brookville for a short while and then became part of Daniel Turner's household where they are listed in the 1870 census with their eldest daughter Ettie.

Lee was a farmer during these years and continued thus when he bought his father-in-law Benjamin Baker's farm 13 February 1878 in Brookville. This was the house where Annie had

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115 "Levi Turner," Civil War Pension Papers, # 578682, National Archives, Washington DC, #M552 roll 111.
spent her childhood. Following Daniel Turner’s death in 1876, Lee had some inheritance. He paid $7500 for the 75 acres, assuming a mortgage of $3500 to the widow of Jacob Olivin and a note from Benjamin Baker for $2212.\textsuperscript{117}

The Baker, later Turner, house is pictured here from before 1906 and from a visit in 2006. It was very close to the original inside, with only the addition of bathrooms. Outside a porch has been added and the top of the roof removed. This is the house where Eulalia, Leona, and Lillian Dillman spent their summers on their grandparent's farm; happy memories for them that they shared with me.\textsuperscript{118}

Lillie, Clara, and Chester had joined the family by 1880 when the census listed Malinda Kuntz age 20 who was doing housework for the family. She was likely related to Rebecca Koontz who married Annie’s brother Levi.\textsuperscript{119} By all appearances, a prosperous family although one that experienced the loss of daughter Clara in 1881. She “took sick Monday and died on Tuesday a week after” at age 8 years 11 months 13 days from diphtheria. The Rev John Miller officiated with internment at Pleasant Hill Cemetery.\textsuperscript{120}

By about 1889 Lee had an interest in a stone quarry in Dayton and the family moved there. Ettie had married in 1887 in Brookville and she and husband Oliver DILLMAN also lived in Dayton in 1894 when she signed for Lee’s pension papers sent to 1547 W 3\textsuperscript{rd}, Dayton. Ettie and Oliver lived on Wolf Creek Avenue and then on 1\textsuperscript{st} St, not far away. During these years, Lee and Annie still owned the home on Salem Street in Brookville. They bought and sold land many times in Dayton related to the quarry and all of them involved mortgages. Many of these transactions involved Samuel B Martin who was likely his partner. On 15 July 1895 Lee bought and sold lots all involving the same person who assumed a mortgage of $600 to Manassa and Elizabeth Turner, his brother and his mother. Apparently Lee's family helped to back the venture.\textsuperscript{121}

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{117} Will (Benjamin Baker), \textit{Montgomery County, Ohio Will Book} P:479, case #15660.
\item \textsuperscript{118} \textit{Montgomery County, Ohio Deed Book}, vol 111:159.
\item \textsuperscript{119} 1880 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 1051. p 31B.
\item \textsuperscript{120} Family data, Turner, \textit{The Holy Bible}.
\end{itemize}
By 1900 Lee and Annie had returned to live in Brookville on Salem Street with their son Chester. Daughter Lillie was living in Dayton with her sister Ettie and Oliver Dillman where she worked as a dressmaker. These were likely the years when the granddaughters came to visit in the summer, escaping the heat in Dayton. Upon returning to Brookville, Lee and Annie subdivided their land and on 23 February 1901 they sold 7 lots in the “Levi Turner Addition”. During this time Lee was apparently active in the community. He was identified as a Democrat and the family were members of the United Brethren Church. December 1903 saw a major fire in Brookville that consumed one of the principal business blocks. Although their property was not damaged by the fire, Lee and Annie would have been aware of what was happening and perhaps helped out those who were affected. On 25 February 1904 daughter Lillie married Herman Fox, a prominent businessman in Brookville.

Then on 5 April 1905 Annie suffered a stroke at 6:30 in the evening and was unconscious until 10:30. She died at 3:30 am the following morning. The obituaries indicated that many attended her funeral and there were many flowers. Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk, her granddaughter, told me that her death was a terrible shock. The granddaughters loved her dearly and the newspaper reported “After she was lowered in the grave, the grandchildren strewed flowers over her casket.” The obituary goes on to say:

Joanna was converted on her sick bed Tuesday August 25, 1876 and soon after joined the United Brethren Church at Liberty, after which she moved her membership to Brookville, where she has been a faithful member. She was a true and devoted Christian, always doing for others and never thinking of herself. In her home she was the Light and Standby. She was loved by all who knew her.

She was buried next to Clara in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, pictured here from my visit.

The years between 1905 and Lee’s death in 1913 appear to be unsettled ones. He lived with his son Chester, but they moved around frequently. On 10 November 1906 Lee and Chester were in Dayton with daughter Ettie and family. There is a listing for Levi Turner and Associates with Chester in sales.

On 9 January 1908 he was back at the Brookville house on Salem Street coinciding with the year that Ettie and her family moved west. In 1907 Lillie Turner Fox, his daughter, had purchased

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122 1900 US Census, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio, roll 1306 p 37, Heritage Quest Online. 1900 US Census, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio, roll 1307, ED 53, National Archives., sheet 13, line 68.
124 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p1201
125 Look at Brookville, p 48.
126 Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, Record of Deaths, FHL film #1030828 V5 p 258. Brookville Star, April 13, 1905.
127 Williams, Dayton Ohio City Directories, 1906-1907 p 1471.
one of his lots on Salem Street and built a house which Lee occupied by 4 March 1909. On 9 April 1910 Lillie and Herman Fox sold a lot on Vine Street to Lee which may be for the house where he and Chester were living. This was probably when he sold the Salem Street farm house to his brother-in-law Luther M Bryant, married to Annie’s youngest sister Minerva. Lee held at least part of the mortgage on the sale as Luther owed money to his estate. No deed has been found for this transaction. The 1910 census found him in Brookville. During these years he was an officer at the Brookville Building and Savings Association, apparently connected with sales.

It was in 1910 that Lee purchased his Overland Car and won a prize at a car show: “Inspection Day at the Auto Inn of automobiles, gas engines, and electric light plant. Middletown Machine Co and Dayton Electric Mfc Co. Prize winners...” In early 1911 he took business associates of the Bridge Works, a company owned by brother-in-law Herman Fox, on a business trip in his car. Apparently it was not unheard of to own a car as stated in the Brookville Star in 1909. “The reduction in price, the simplicity of construction, and the diminution in the cost of maintenance bring the possession and management of a car within the possibility of the average man.” By 1905 Brookville was served by the United Home Telephone Company. It seems very likely that Lee had a telephone.

About 1911 Lee was known as a contractor and the 7 March 1912 newspaper stated that he moved to Trotwood. This was his place of residence when he died 19 February 1913. The reason for the move is unclear. This is an area much closer to Dayton and it was experiencing a housing boom at the time. Did he move so he could work, or perhaps so Chester, who was also a carpenter, could work? Lee was not in good health having suffered a stroke in 1897. He died with chronic gall stones and kidney ailment of 10 days duration.

Since Lee did not leave a will, his estate was probated with son Chester as the Administrator. The car and property were sold for less than the appraised value. Assets included debts from family members:

- Granddaughter Leona Dillman from 1 February 1912 $530 [following their move to Portland]
- Son-in-law OF Dillman from 1 July 1906 and 2 March 1907 $782 [before the move to Portland]
- Brother-in-law Luther M Bryant 1 April 1910 mortgage $3065

128 Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files, case #45803.  
129 1910 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 1215 p 271. In the household is Myrtle Baker and her daughter keeping house. Myrtle is related to the Baker side: Samuel (son of Michael), son Oliver Perry, daughter Myrtle.  
130 Brookville Star.  
131 Look at Brookville, p 52.  
132 Conner, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, P1201.  
133 Levi H Turner, death certificate vol #1 008, certificate #11114 (1913), Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio.
A distribution of $1531.79 was made to each of his children.\textsuperscript{134}

Levi H TURNER and Joanna BAKER had the following children:

i. \textbf{Ettie Arebell TURNER} was born on 11 March 1869, Liberty, Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio; married Oliver Franklin DILLMAN, on 30 October 1887, Vandalia, Montgomery, Ohio; died on 8 October 1951, Oak Grove, Clackamas, Oregon.\textsuperscript{135}

ii. Lillian Minerva TURNER was born on 10 November 1870, Ohio married Herman S Fox, on 25 February 1904, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio; died on 29 January 1943, Glendale, California.\textsuperscript{136}

iii. Clara Lenessie TURNER was born on 15 January 1873 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. Place from location of father. She died on 28 December 1881. She was buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Perry Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She is on same stone as Levi and Joanna.\textsuperscript{137}

iv. Chester Hercheal TURNER was born on 11 November 1874 in Jefferson Township, Montgomery, Ohio. Place from location of father. On 3 October 1907 he was a carpenter in Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio. Death Certificate says Bethel Cemetery; I could not find him at Pleasant Hill in April 2006. Chester lived at home until Lee died. He was a carpenter and an officer in the IOOF [Odd Fellows] in 1911. From an advertisement in the Brookville Star he was a carpenter and builder working from Vine St in Brookville in 1917. In the 1920 census he was living with his Aunt Minerva Bryant. [who lived on Vine St] In 1938 he had a stroke and died at the Montgomery County Infirmary. The Infirmary was the “poor house” but also the only “nursing home” in the area. He may have been there only because Minerva could not care for him after the stroke. His obituary from abstract Brookville Star November 10, 1938: "Chester Turner, 64, former resident of Brookville, in Dayton Tuesday, Koch and Hay, Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Rev Robert Copeland. Mr Turner was well known in this community for many years, and leaves a number of relatives." His story is unknown.\textsuperscript{138}

\textsuperscript{134} \textit{Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files}, case #45803. Funeral card for location.
\textsuperscript{136} Dillman Family Bible; family pages. Levi H Turner Family Bible; family pages.
\textsuperscript{137} Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, \textit{Record of Deaths}, v2:204.
Joanna (Annie) Baker Turner and Granddaughters
Eulalia, Leona, and Lillian Dillman

Levi H (Lee) Turner

Ettie Turner Dillman and Lillian Turner Fox at Oregon Beach (probably Newport)
Transcription of John Turner Will:139

In the name of God Amen that I John Turner of Dickenson township, County of Cumberland, state of Pennsylvania being at a low condition in health but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God for the same but calling to mind the mortality of this Human Body do hereby constitute and make and declare this to be my last Will and Testament Imprimis or first of all my Soul to God who gave it and my body to buried in a decent and Christian like manner at the discretion of my after mentioned Executors, nothing doubting but I shall receive again at the General Resurrection. Item I give and bequeath after all my legal debts are paid and funeral expenses are paid, to my Eldest son Daniel Turner the sum of one Dollar Item I give and bequeath to James Turner the sum of one dollar Item I give and bequeath to my daughter now Polly Neal the sum of one dollar Item I give and bequeath to my son John Turner the sum of one dollar Item I give and bequeath to my daughter now Eleanor Mathews the sum of one dollar Item I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Turner the sum of one dollar Item I give and bequeath the remainder part of my estate, which is to me agreed upon to be given to me by my son Joseph the sum of four hundred pounds to be paid in thirty pounds each every year after my decease to be equally divided to the heirs and offspring of my children James Turner, Polly Turner, now Neal, John Turner, Eleanor Turner now Mathews and my son Joseph was to have kept me clear till my decease clear of any of his buildings or expenses. Charges and to pay the above in form directed Lastly appoint and nominate to be executors of this my last Will and testament my sons Daniel & Joseph Turner Revoking and set all Wills and testaments before by me made publishing pronouncing and declaring this to be my last and only Will and testament and requiring the same to be recorded as such in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the second day of November 1802.

John Turner (his mark)

Published pronounced and declared and signed as the last will and testament of John Turner in the presence of us the subscribing witnesses William Greacy, Matthias Adams

Be it remembered that on the 6th day of December A.D. 1802 the last Will and testament of John Turner deceased late of Dickenson Township of which the foregoing record is a true copy was legally proved and Letters Testamentary with a copy of the Will as [?] issued the same day a Common form to Joseph Turner one of the Executors therein mentioned Inventory of account to be exhibited in the Registers Office in the Borough of Carlisle in the time appointed by Law. Witness my hand Geo. Kline, Register

Transcription of James Turner Will:140

In the Name of God amen, I, James Turner, of the Township of Derry, County of Mifflin, & State of Pennsylvania, farmer, considering the uncertainty of the transitory life and being in sound mind memory & understanding do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. Viz. Principally and first of all I commend my Immortal Soul into the hands of God who gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent and Christian-

140 Will (James Turner), Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Will Book, Book 2 p 145-146 estate file #4769.
like manner at the discretion of my Executors hereinafter named. As to such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give and dispose of the same in the following manner.

Mary

I give and devise unto my dear & beloved wife the choice of one horse and one cow out of my Personal Estate. I give and devise to my son William all my smith tools and my silver mounted sword. I give and devise to my son John the horse which he now claimeth or the second choice of all my horses at my Decease with a saddle & bridle. I give and devise to my four daughters, viz. Eleanor, Elizabeth, Sarah, and Mary fifty pounds each, to be paid out of my real estate at my wife Mary's Decease. And as touching all the rest residue and remainder of my estate, real & personal of what kind or nature so ever the same may be in the County of Mifflin aforesaid or elsewhere, I give and devise the same unto my Beloved wife Mary during her natural life and from and immediately after her decease I give & devise my real estate to my five sons equally Vis William, John, James, Daniel, & Robert (each paying an equal share of the fifty pounds apiece bequeathed to my four daughters) and my personal estate to be equally divided amongst all my children, male and female, said personal estate to be appraised at my decease. And to be equal to the amount at my wife's decease or the real estate to be made accountable for any deficiency.- And lastly I nominate constitute & appoint my said wife & my son William & William A Patterson Esq. to be the executors of this my last will & testament hereby revoking all other wills legacies and bequests by me heretofore made and declaring this and no other to be my last will & testament. In Witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the ___ day of ____ in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & nine.

James Turner

Signed, sealed, published, pronounced and declared by the said testator as his last will & testament in presence of us who in his presence and at his request have subscribed as witnesses Robt. Davison

Andrew Mayes

N.B. the Schooling of my small children I leave to the discretion of my Executors.

Mifflin County ss

Before me David Reynolds register for the probate of wills and granting Letters of administration... personally appeared Robert Davison & Andrew Mayes the two subscribing witnesses to the annexed Instrument of writing purporting to be the testament & last will of James turner late of Derry township Dec'd... And further that the said instrument of writing was executed in the spring of the Year as they believe in the month of March or April in the year of our Lord 1809...

Sworn and subscribed 29th April A.D. 1811 before me David Reynolds, Register

Robt Davison Andrew Mayes

[Executors sworn 30 April A.D. 1811 Mary Turner, Wm Turner, Wm A Patterson]

Will filed 27th April 1811

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Hoffman Family

Line of descent: George, John, Elizabeth [see TURNER Family]

In 1771 George Hoffman's family, including wife Elizabeth, 3 daughters and a son, farmed 100 acres of land in the Pfoutz Valley of Pennsylvania. West of the Susquehanna River, the area is now in Perry County. Still a very fertile farming area in 2009, the valley felt removed from the modern world as the approach from any side was a winding road. Completely surrounded by hills, there was a sense of tranquility in the early spring. The scattered farmhouses and well tended fields were the only sign of settlement. Millerstown, the nearest small community, was just below the edge of the valley and thus out of sight. The picture is from the cemetery of St. Michael's Church which the Hoffmans attended. The location of their farm was directly across the valley.¹

George's 100 acres, including one horse and one cow,² were modest holdings for a man who was 38 years old. Many of his neighbors had 200 acres. German settlers came to this fertile farmland as early as the mid-1750s. George may have come then, but there is no record of him prior to 1771. George was German, settling among those who shared his language and culture as was common at the time. He signed his deeds and will indicating that he had received an education but beyond this nothing is known of his origins or early experiences.

Over the next 31 years in this valley, the family grew to a total of eight children. As the family increased, so did the land holdings and livestock. By 1776 George added 40 acres, a horse, a cow, and 3 sheep. In 1782 George was taxed on 200 acres, and he acquired a total of 350 acres prior to his death. Tax records also show that he acquired a stone house and stable in Millerstown, the small community that formed in the area. He and Elizabeth may have lived there when he died at age 68 in 1802. Interestingly, none of his sons were listed as separate households in the tax records prior to their father's death. Perhaps they all lived on his property following their marriages.³

George and his family lived through the Revolutionary War in the Pfoutz Valley. The fighting in this area was against the Indians who had aligned themselves with the British rather than against British troops. Although George may have joined a militia group, no records have been found to

¹ The area was Cumberland County until 1820, known as Greenwood Township. Millerstown is the town in the area. ² County Board of Commissioners, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850, FHL film #21088. H. H. Hain, History of Perry County, Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Hain-Moore Co, 1922) p963. ³ Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850, FHL film #21088 to 21094, 22029-31. They should have been listed even if they lived on his land, but no record found.
support this. His sons were too young to be involved.

When he wrote his will in 1801, George expressed his strongly German character with detailed instructions to his family. These details give a glimpse of the family's lifestyle. Cash was to be paid into the estate according to a fixed formula, and then divided out among his eight children, suggesting that George's holding were in land and not cash at his death. Sons George Jr and John were to receive the 350 acres of land in the Pfoutz Valley, paying £700 between them within 5 years and then £90 per year each until a total of £1400 was received. Daughters Maria and Catherine, who apparently received support at their marriages, were to deduct their previous receipts from the distributed amount.

His "dearly beloved wife Elizabeth" was to receive the following during her lifetime:
- George’s bed and all of Elizabeth’s apparel
- All George’s house and kitchen furniture
- 2 milch [sic] cows whom son George was to provide with sufficient fodder and stables
- A house on the "old plantation" that George Jr was to build for her
- George Jr to provide sufficient firewood and light, either candles or oil, for her use "yearly and every year"
- George Jr to plow and sow one quarter acre of flaxseed which John was to break and clean for her use [for her to spin]
- George Jr to provide her 5 bushels of potatoes, 6 bushels of turnips, 50 pounds each of pork and good beef annually
- She was also to receive £20 annually from sons George Jr and John

Since George Jr and John had inherited the land, they had specific responsibilities for their mother. George's will also served as Elizabeth's will, stipulating that at her death all of her holdings were to be sold at public sale. The proceeds were to be divided equally among the eight children. The fact that she had no say in this matter was typical of the laws and customs of the time.

George was scrupulous in assuring that the cash in his estate was divided equally among all eight children, including his daughters. The only exception was son Daniel, one of the twins. He received £60 more than the others, and was apparently sickly as he was to be cared for by his brothers if he could not work. He was, in fact, the first of the children to die in 1817.4

Religion was apparently an important factor in the life of this family. St Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Pfoutz Valley, whose records date from 1774, was the burial site of both George and Elizabeth. The baptism of son John in 1777 and the twins in 1780 were also recorded there suggesting that the family participated in this church. St Michael’s was a combination of the Lutheran and Reformed church, which was often the case in Pennsylvania at this time.5

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4 will (George Hoffman), Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Will Book, FHL film #21079 vol F:299.
5 Donna Heller Zinn, "Hoffman research at The Perry Historian," e-mail message from <djzinn@pa.net> to Beverly Brice, Aug 7, 2006.
Three of George’s sons were identified as leaders in their churches. Brother George was perhaps the first to join the revivalist movement. In 1799 he joined what is now the Methodist Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania. He became the pastor of the Concord United Methodist Church in Englewood, Ohio in 1819.6

Joseph, the youngest, was a bishop in the United Brethren Church. He had a religious conversion experience in 1801 at age 21, possibly from attending a camp meeting near his home. He went to Maryland where he was ordained a Bishop by William Otterbein, the founder of the church. By 1817 Joseph lived in the Dayton, Ohio area where the church was actively recruiting new members. A powerful preacher in both German and English, he was reportedly much in demand at camp meetings being a commanding figure with a splendid voice. He was also described as “individualistic”, and his influence as a church leader declined.7

Brother John was licensed to preach in the United Brethren Church in 1826, and was known as "Rev" following his move to Ohio.8

By 1838 George’s son John was the last remaining Hoffman of his generation in the Pfoutz Valley. His elder brother Philip, younger brother Daniel, and eldest sister Maria were deceased. His 2 remaining sisters and their families had moved to Ohio prior to 1830, joining brothers Joseph and George. When John left to join his siblings in Ohio, his trip was approximately 400 miles. He probably went by wagon south to the Forbes Road and then west to Pittsburgh. From there he likely traveled the National Road which was completed as far as Montgomery County, Ohio. This was the nation’s first “macadam” or paved road, offering a more comfortable trip.

John was a farmer with a large family, 16 children in all. The three eldest remained in Perry County, but the others all went to Ohio. They possibly traveled together, with the youngest a 2 year old. Daughter Elizabeth, an unmarried woman age 23, was one of the family group.

**Genealogical Summary**

**First Generation**

George HOFFMAN was born 15 September 1733 and died 20 April 1802. He was buried 23 April 1802, at St Michael’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pfoutz Valley, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania, age 68 years, 7 months, 8 days. The funeral sermon was delivered by Mr. Morris Hau, a Methodist, on the words of Revelation 14:13.9

George's wife was named Elizabeth and she was the probable mother of all the children,

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9 Frederick Weiser, *St Michaels Evangelical Lutheran Church* (Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pennsylvania) p37.
although there is no documentation for the older ones. She is named in the St Michael’s records for the baptism of John in 1777 and the twins in 1780. She was buried on 16 October 1805; “Elizabeth Hoffman, wife of the old, deceased Georg Hoffman at the age of 65 years.” This places her birth in 1740. The funeral sermon was delivered by Mr. John Davison, Methodist preacher, on the words of Revelation 14:13.10

George Hoffman was a German, but his origins are not certain. Other researchers have connected him to the Johann Michael and Maria Magdalena Hoffman family of Eppingen (now Baden, Germany), but I found a conflict in the birth dates. The connection is based upon a marriage record in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1764 when a George Hoffman of Eppingen married Elizabeth Kimmel.11 Annette Burgert in her book *Emigrants from Eppingen* identified the George who married in Lancaster as George from Eppingen born 14 February 1736.12 This connection is strengthened by the recording of the marriage in the Eppingen Church records.

The Eppingen records list two sons named George for the family of Johann Michael. One was born 11 September 1733 and the second 14 February 1736. This usually occurs when the first child died and a second carries the same name. Unfortunately, the birth date for the man who married in Lancaster in 1764 does not match that of the man who died in Cumberland (now Perry) County. [15 September 1733 vs 14 February 1736] The close match with the birth date of the first George cannot be explained. While it is possible that the St Michael’s Church burial record was in error, there is no supporting evidence for the German family connection.13

The statement that the Elizabeth Hoffman of Pfoutz Valley was Elizabeth Kimmel apparently started as early as 1873 from the Ulsh family who were in the Valley from the early 1800s,14 The Elizabeth Kimmel who married in Lancaster was the daughter of Johann Valentine Kimmel. Valentine arrived in Philadelphia in 1752, moved to the Ephrata Cloister and then to the Bermudian Valley in York County. Valentine and his son Philip were in Strasburg Township, Lancaster County when Valentine died in 1768. In 1770 his heirs received equal distribution: son Philip and Fronica wife of Ludwig Kauffenberger, Margaret wife of Daniel Fygler, Barbara wife of Michael Herder, Catherine wife of Nicholas Schleigher, and Elizabeth wife of George Hoffman.15 So far no record of a George Hoffman has been found in these areas, and none of the Kimmel siblings have been found in Cumberland/Perry County. The Kimmel family of

10 Zinn, "Hoffman research at The Perry Historian."
14 Kimmel Vertical File, Perry Historian, New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, Correspondence from Harry A Focht, volunteer.
Gimbsheim and the Hoffman family of Eppingen here described did not live near to each other in Germany and were not on the same boat to Pennsylvania. They most likely met in Pennsylvania.

No identification of the George Hoffman who married Elizabeth Kimmel in Lancaster has been made. A George served in the Revolutionary War from Heidelberg Township and may be the George in the 1790 census in Dauphin County. Frederick and Conrad Hoffman are names associated with him, and these names are not found in the children of the Pfouts Valley family. The name of this George's wife is unknown. A George died in 1807 in Berks County with wife Marie.16

The first record found for George in 1771 in Cumberland (now Perry) County is a tax record as no deed was found for his original purchase. The only additional deed was recorded for a purchase in 1795, leaving undocumented the greater part of the 350 acres he owned at his death.17

Apparently the name was pronounced "Huffman". Most commonly spelled with an "o", it can also be found with a "u". Decedents who use the pronunciation include Tom Hoffman from Ohio, a descendant of son John.18

George Hoffman and probably Elizabeth had the following children:

i. Maria HOFFMAN was born on 25 December 1764. She died on 26 October 1826 recorded in St David's Reformed Church, Millersburg, Dauphin, Pennsylvania. Married John Shade, 9 children.19

ii. Philip HOFFMAN was born on 15 June 1766. He died on 6 November 1826 in Millerstown. Mitchell: m Eva Maria Kintz 10 children. She went to Montgomery County Ohio after Philip's death and is buried there in Englewood.20

iii. Martha Magdalena HOFFMAN was born about 3 June 1769. She died on 23 January 1848 in Harrison County, Ohio, near Tippecanoe. She was buried in Myers Family Cemetery, Harrison County, Ohio. She married Michael Myers 11 children.21

iv. Katherine HOFFMAN was born in 1771. She died in 1856 in New Concord, Muskingum, Ohio. Married John Walters, 6 children.22

v. George HOFFMAN, born on 21 June 1775, married Catherine LIMBERT; died on 1 April 1839, Little York, Randolph Township, Montgomery, Ohio.23

18 Tom Hoffman, email received 2006.
19 Paul H Noll, Records of St David's Evangelical Reformed Congregation: Killinger Lykens Valley Upper Paxtang Township Dauphin County, Pennsylvania (Perry Historians), p63.
21 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman. (data on family from 1901 Hoffman Family List from David W Neerman).
22 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
23 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
vi. **Johannes (John) HOFFMAN** was born on 16 May 1777, and baptized October 7, 1777 in Millerstown, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania. Married Barbara LIMBERT, about 1796, married Susannah about 1830, Pennsylvania, died on 5 August 1849, Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio. 25

vii. Daniel HOFFMAN was born on 19 March 1780. He was baptized on 2 July 1780 in Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania. He died in March 1817 in Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania. Married Elizabeth Wagner, 6 children. 26

viii. Joseph HOFFMAN, born on 19 March 1780, baptized on 2 July 1780, Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania; married Susanna Limbert; died on 8 November 1856, Lewisburg, Montgomery, Ohio. 27

**Second Generation**

**Johannes (John) HOFFMAN** was born on 16 May 1777 in Cumberland (now Perry) County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized 7 October 1777 at the St Michael’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Pfoutz Valley. 28 John probably married Anna Barbara LIMBERT about 1796 from the reported birth of his first child. He is found on census records in Cumberland /Perry County in 1800 with a wife and 2 sons under 10. John’s wife’s name was Barbara on a deed in 1819. 29 She likely died before 1830 when he appeared in the census without a wife. 30 There is a gap in years between Nancy, born in 1820, and the first of the three younger children born about 1831.

John’s second wife was named Susannah on deeds of 1838 and 1848. She was born 16 May 1795 and died 8 October 1867 in Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio. She was two years older than John’s eldest child. Her surname has been reported as Long, but no proof has been found. There were several Long families in the Pfoutz Valley at this time. 31

By the time John moved to Ohio, he had acquired a large land holding. He inherited 150 acres in Pfoutz Valley from his father and with brother George patented 278 acres in 1819. All 278 acres went to John when George signed over his interests prior to moving to Ohio in 1819. 32 The 1831 tax list suggests he also owned a “house and stable in town”. His holdings were itemized as follows: 130 acres of valley land, 10 acres of valley land with house and stable, 90 acres of ridge land, 30 acres of mountain land, 19 acres of inferior land, and 3 acres with one house and stable in town, also 2 horses, and 5 cows. 33 John and Susannah sold 100 acres of this land for $3,000 on 25 May 1838. Records for the sale of the additional land have not been found. Two of his sons remained in Perry County when he went to Ohio and it is possible that the land went to

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29 Zinn, "Hoffman research at The Perry Historian”.
30 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21059 vol EE:395.
32 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21059 vol EE:395.
34 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21059 vol EE:395.
35 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1730-1850, FHL film #21088 to 21094, 22029-31.
them. On the same day in May John signed a power of attorney allowing his eldest son Henry to receive money on his behalf.\textsuperscript{34}

In 1826 John was licensed to preach in the United Brethren Church. He was designated as “Rev” following his death in Ohio.\textsuperscript{35} He signed his deeds indicating that he was educated.

John and family probably went to Ohio in 1838 following the land sale and recording of the power of attorney. He was listed in the 1840 Ohio census in Jefferson Township, Montgomery County.\textsuperscript{36} Daughter Barbara and husband William Sholty lived next to him as he sold them 6 acres of his land on 27 September 1848.\textsuperscript{37} The original deed for this property has not been located.

His estate was probated intestate, with no starting date found in the probate packet. The items found included the following:

- a doctor’s bill for $4.40.
- payment for labor including iron work on farm equipment, and day labor on farm and saw mill.
- A bill for $5.35 was for shoes from 1841 to 1849 and $39.40 for tailoring for him and the family from 1839 to 1849.
- He held a mortgage for son Daniel on property he had sold him 19 March 1849.
- Son-in-law Daniel Turner owed him $28.16.
- The total value of the estate was $2123.94. Each child received $163.38. Two sons, Joseph and George, were minors and had their brothers Daniel and Jacob appointed as guardians.
- At the time that his land was sold in 1850, sons Henry and Samuel, and daughter Magdalena were in Perry County, Pennsylvania. Daughter Mary was in Wabash, Indiana. The remaining children were in Montgomery County, Ohio.\textsuperscript{38}

John and probably Anna Barbara LIMBERT had the following children:

i. Samuel HOFFMAN was born about 1797.\textsuperscript{39} Died young.
ii. Henry HOFFMAN was born on 2 June 1799, named in Father's probate. He died on 12 March 1884 in Perry County, Pennsylvania. Married Catherine Swartz and Elizabeth Swartz, 9 children.\textsuperscript{40}
iii. David HOFFMAN was born about 1802 in Cumberland (now Perry) County, Pennsylvania. He was buried on 18 May 1804 in St Michael’s, Cumberland (now Perry) County,

\textsuperscript{34} Perry County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #22022 Book I:59, FHL # 22024 Book L:641. The equivalent value of $3000 in 2010 is $72,500 based upon the Consumer Price Index. Measuring Worth website; [http://www.measuringworth.com, accessed April 9, 2012].
\textsuperscript{35} Montgomery County, Ohio Deed Book, Q-2:481.
\textsuperscript{36} 1840 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, roll 313 p 160; Jefferson Township.
\textsuperscript{37} Montgomery County, Ohio Deed Book, Q-2:39.
\textsuperscript{38} Montgomery County, Ohio Probate, case # 2182.
\textsuperscript{39} Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
Pennsylvania. "Johan Hoffman's child a boy of 2 years of age" [must be this child].

iv. John HOFFMAN no proof of birth or death.

v. Jacob HOFFMAN was born on 7 August 1807 (Birth 1805 to 1808 from census). Named in father's probate in 1849. He died on 1 July 1880. Married Elizabeth Schuler and Margaret Ulsh, 8 children.


vii. Martha Magdalena HOFFMAN was born about 1810. Named in father's probate 1849. She died on 8 October 1883 in Millerstown, Perry, Pennsylvania; married Ulrich Rumbaugh, 6 children.


ix. Daniel HOFFMAN was born about 1813. Named in father's probate 1849. Married Barbara.

x. Elizabeth HOFFMAN was born in 1815. Named in father's probate 1849. Married Daniel TURNER, on 25 June 1840, Montgomery County, Ohio; died on 6 April 1906, Liberty, Montgomery, Ohio.

xi. Susannah HOFFMAN was born about 1817. Named in father's probate 1849. She died after 1860. Married Christian Martin, 7 children.

xii. Barbara HOFFMAN was born 28 September 1819. Named in father's probate 1849. She died on 2 September 1895 in Laketon, Wabash, Indiana. Married Wm H Sholty, 12 children. Bought land from her father John in Liberty Ohio in 1848, but not found in any census record.

xiii. Nancy HOFFMAN was born 5 September 1820. She died on 6 April 1903 in Wabash County, Indiana. Married Abraham Brane, 11 children. Not found in census after 1860.

John and probably Susannah had the following children:

i. George L HOFFMAN was born about 1831. Named in father's probate 1849. Married Sophia Rike, 6 children.

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41 Zinn, "Hoffman Research at The Perry Historian".
42 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
44 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
49 Montgomery County, Ohio Probate, case #35029.
51 Mitchell, Descendants of Johann Michael Hoffman.
ii. Fannie HOFFMAN was born about 1832. Named in father’s probate in 1849. Not appointed a guardian, so may be eldest of these three children. 53

iii. Joseph R HOFFMAN was born about 1836. Named in father’s probate 1849. Married Lucy Ann McNaman, 2 children. 54

Transcription of George Hoffman Will: 55

The Name of God amen. I George Hoffman Sr of Greenwood Township Cumberland County and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory blessed be God for the same. Calling unto mind the mortality of my Body once knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and Testament that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it and for my body I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a [?] like and decent manner

55 Will (George Hoffman), Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Will Book, FHL film #21079, Book F:294-300.
at the direction of my executors nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall receive
the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it
hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise and depose of the same in the following
manner and form. Imprimis it is my will and I so order that in the first place all my just debts and
funeral charges be paid and satisfied. Item I do give and bequest unto my dearly beloved wife
Elizabeth first my bed and all thereunto belonging all her apparel I also give and bequeath unto
my said beloved wife Elizabeth Hoffman all my house and kitchen furniture of what kind and
nature soever and two milch cows for her use and my son George Hoffman Junior shall keep
them in the same pasture wherever his own cattle goes and to provide sufficient fodder and
stables for the same yearly and every year during her natural life. Item I do order and it is my will
that my son George Hoffman Junior shall build an house on the old plantation. George Hoffman
Junior now lives on sufficient finished building against next Item she shall have the benefit and privilege of the Spring and
Spring House and garden during her natural life further so I order that my son George Hoffman
Junior shall cut haul and deliver unto my beloved wife Elizabeth sufficient firewood and find a
light either candles or oil for her use yearly and every year during her life. Item I order and it is
my will that my son George Hoffman Junior shall plow and sow or cause to be plowed and
sowed one quarter of an acre of flaxseed on the old place for her use and benefit and the flax
thereof shall my son John Hoffman break and clean and cause to be broke and cleaned for her
use also my son George Hoffman Jr and his heirs and executors shall deliver unto my said wife
Elizabeth yearly and every year during her natural life five bushels potatoes and six bushels of
turnips Item fifty pounds of good pork and fifty pounds of good beef Item I give and bequeath
unto my dearly loved wife Elizabeth Hoffman the sum of twenty pounds which said sum shall be
paid unto her by my two sons George Hoffman Jr and John Hoffman each pay in an equal sum
yearly and every year on the first day of May during her natural life. Item I give and devise to my
two sons George Hoffman Jr and John Hoffman their heirs and assigns forever all that or
tenements situate lying and of the Township and County aforesaid adjoining of John Hepner
Fredk. Wendt & Boat and Cocolamus Creek for which said and tenement containing 350 acres
they George Hoffman Junior and John Hoffman to pay the full sum of fourteen hundred pounds
each paying an equal share that is to say George Hoffman Jr paying seven hundred pounds and
John Hoffman to pay seven hundred pounds to be paid between them within five years from the
date hereof and ninety pounds annually on the first day of May until the whole fourteen hundred
pounds to be equally divided among my eight children Philip Hoffman George Hoffman John
Hoffman Joseph Hoffman Daniel Hoffman Maria Stades Magdalena Moier and Catherine
Walter. Item it my will and I do order that mine now dwelling Stonehouse and Lots and Stabling
in Millerstown of the Township and County aforesaid shall be valued and appraised by
three credible Freeholders who shall be nominated and appointed by my executors hereafter
named and my two sons Joseph Hoffman and Daniel Hoffman their heirs and assigns shall take
and hold the Stonehouse Lot and Stable by such appraisement and in equal payment yearly for
which they shall give their Bonds and the money to be equally divided between my four sons
George Hoffman Junior, John Hoffman, Joseph Hoffman, and Daniel Hoffman and in case of
reference by the said Joseph and Daniel Hoffman the house lot and stable shall be sold either by
private sale or public vendue and the money to be equally divided between my four children
George Hoffman, John Hoffman, Joseph Hoffman, and Daniel Hoffman. Item I also give and
bequeath unto my younger son Daniel Hoffman the sum of sixty pounds in full first and foremost
besides drawing an equal share with the rest of my eight children which said sum of sixty pounds
I will and do order that is shall be paid to the said Daniel Hoffman within twelve months after my decease out of my estate by my executors. Further do I order and it is my will that my two daughters Maria married to John Shade and Catherine married to John Walter both to draw an equal share with my eight children when first and foremost is deducted what they have received at [?] [?] and in case my son Daniel Hoffman should before [?] sickness or to become helpless in body to work I do order my sons Philip Hoffman and George Hoffman and John Hoffman or either of them to take care of him Further after my wife Elizabeth is decease all the legacy to her given of house and kitchen furniture and chattels of whatever kind and nature soever shall be sold at public sale and the money so raised shall be equally divided between my eight children Philip Hoffman George Hoffman John Hoffman Joseph Hoffman Daniel Hoffman Maria Shade Magdalene Moier and Catherine Walter. And lastly so thereby constitute appoint and ordain my eldest son Philip Hoffman and my trusty friend Peter Cauffman of Greenwood Township Cumberland County my sole executors of this my last will and testament hereby reworking and annul all former wills by me made In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the fourteenth say of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one. Gorg Hofman
Signed sealed published and declared by the above named George Hoffman Sr to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator...Frederick Wendt Frederick Houter John Wint. Be it remembered that on the 8th day of May A.D.1802 the last will and testament of George Hoffman late of Greenwood Township ...was legally proved and letters testamentary issued the same day to Philip Hoffman and Peter Cauffman the executors therein mentioned....
Limbert Family

Line of Descent: Henry, Barbara [see HOFFMAN family]

The connection between the Limbert and Hoffman families is stated as fact in the history of the Englewood Ohio Methodist Church. The pastor of this church was George Hoffman, brother to John. The history states that three Hoffman brothers; George, John, and Joseph, married three Limbert sisters; Catherine, Barbara and Susannah. Although no proof of these marriages has been found, a case can be made for the claim.

- The Hoffman brothers had wives by the names reported above. George and wife Catherine signed a deed in 1819; John and wife Barbara were named on the same deed; and Joseph and wife Susannah signed a deed in 1844.

- The two families were neighbors in Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry), Pennsylvania:
  - Henry Limbert’s will, probated 7 March 1794 in Dauphin County, names his wife Barbara and 7 children including daughters Catherine, Barbara, Susannah and son Henry. He names his wife Barbara and George Rambach as executors.
  - Barbara Limbert, widow, relocated to Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry) County by 1795. George Rambach, Barbara’s co-executor of Henry’s estate, also moved to this area. A move from Barbara’s residence in Dauphin County to Greenwood Township involved crossing the Susquehanna River and traveling 34 miles to the northwest.
  - The Hoffman family lived in Greenwood Township, found in records beginning in 1771.
  - Barbara Limbert Reed, wife of John Reed and widow of Henry Limbert, was a neighbor of the Hoffman brothers in 1805 as found in Greenwood Township Road Docket.

- The two families had involvement with the same men in Greenwood Township:

3 Dauphin County, Pennsylvania Will Book L-1 (7420) from Dauphin County, Courthouse, Clerk of Orphans Court as copied by Library at Historical Society Dauphin County, 15 January 2006. The records explicitly tie Henry’s widow to Greenwood Township.
4 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850, FHL film # 21088-21094. Barbara was taxed for 300 acres, 3 horses and 2 cows. World Connect, [www.rootsweb.com, William, brinstal@telus.net], downloaded 16 March 2008. He was there by 1797.
5 Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Tax Lists 1750-1850, FHL film # 21088-21094.
6 Cumberland County, Road Docket, Greenwood Township, #4-56, Hamilton Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.
The Guardian appointed for the minor Limbert children, Henry and Mary under 14 years and Martha over 14 years, was David Boals, a neighbor on land adjacent to George, Joseph, and John Hoffman, in the Pfoutz Valley, Greenwood Township.7

The Rambach family was involved with the Hoffmans as late as 1884 when Ulrich Rambach was executor for the will of John Hoffman’s son Henry. A George Rambach is found in Donegal Township in 1780, so apparently he moved with Henry to Dauphin County and then on to Cumberland County with the widow Barbara Limbert.8

- The two families had increasing interactions over the years following the time they would have married:

- George and John Hoffman and their families moved to Montgomery County, Ohio. Henry Limbert, brother of the reported wives of the Hoffman brothers, also moved to Montgomery County, Ohio. Joseph Hoffman and his family lived in Fairfield County, then Dayton, Montgomery County.9

- Henry Limbert of Montgomery County, Ohio, appointed John Hoffman as his power of attorney to sell his land in Cumberland County 1831.10

- Henry Limbert was the executor, along with John Hoffman, of George Hoffman’s estate. He was involved in a court case in Montgomery County, Ohio following the death of George Hoffman who reportedly married his sister Catherine Limbert.11

- Anna Barbara Limbert was a possible wife for John Hoffman:

- Born 11 January 1779, Anna Barbara was an appropriate age as John was born in 1777.12

- John and Barbara’s daughter, born in 1819, was named Barbara. The second child was named Henry, possibly for her father, although naming patterns are not consistently followed in this family.

- John’s first child was born about 1797. Since the Limbert family moved to Greenwood Township in 1795 it is possible for Barbara to be the mother of his children.

This Limbert family had some reason to move to Greenwood Township immediately upon the

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7 *Cumberland County, Pennsylvania Deed Book*, FHL film #21059 vol EE:395.
9 Bonnie Meyer Horstman, "Henry Limbert family group sheet," compiled 26 April 2006. The Henry in Ohio is the same Henry Limbert who lived in Greenwood Township. His birth date shows he was just short of 14 when a guardian was appointed for him in 1801.
10 *Perry County, Pennsylvania Deed Book*, FHL film #22019, Book D: 319.
death of Henry. The connection has not been established, but the move and subsequent interactions between the Limbert and Hoffman families demonstrates that John Hoffman’s wife Barbara was Barbara Limbert.

**Genealogical Summary**

**First Generation**

Henry LIMBERT was born about 1750 from the birth date of his first child. He died in Dauphin County prior to 7 March 1794. He married Barbara, her surname and dates of birth and death unknown. She is probably the mother of the children. By 1802 Barbara married John Reed.

The first record found for Henry Limbert is the purchase of land in Mount Joy Township, Lancaster County, in 1772 from Bastian Stoler. In 1775 Sebastian Stoler’s will listed his wife Catherine Stoler and “stepson” Henry Limbert, as executors. This suggests that Catherine was the mother of Henry Limbert, having been married to a man named Limbert before marrying Stoler. In the late 1700s “stepson” was sometimes used in place of “son-in-law”, but in this case no daughter is named in Sebastian’s will who could be the wife of Henry Limbert.

Catherine and Sebastian were married 1 November 1758 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The marriage record reference for Catherine as "Catherine Limbert d Herman Limbert dec'd" is puzzling. Sebastian’s will suggests that Henry is the son of Catherine and not her brother. The record implies that Catherine was the daughter of Herman but generally such records do not indicate when the bride’s father is deceased. They would, however, appropriately mention that the bride’s spouse was deceased. The only record found for a possible husband of Catherine and father of Henry is George Limbert. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1749, the only man with this name among German immigrants who took the oath of allegiance in Philadelphia. He signed his name with a mark, suggesting he was not educated. No further record has been found for him.

Sebastian arrived in Philadelphia in 1736, age 42, and warranted land in 1743 and 1753 in Donegal Township, Lancaster County. This land was patented by Sebastian 26 January 1770. The land sold to Henry was part of this patent, described as in “Mt Joy Township” in 1772.

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13 Dauphin County, Pennsylvania Will Book, L-1 (7420).
15 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21386 Book P:363.
16 This will is in German and not recorded in detail in the Lancaster Will book (#21355 Lancaster will book C:247) The abstract by Family Line Publications gives the detail of Sebastian's children Frederick and Eugenia wife of John Etter. It then lists the grandchildren with the Etter last name: Abraham, Elizabeth, Catherine, Jacob, Christian, and Henry Etter. Abstracts Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Wills 1732-1785 Family Line Publications p 216.
19 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers.
21 Mt Joy Township was originally Donegal Township.
There was no Limbert neighbor to Sebastian's land when surveyed in 1769.

Catherine was probably younger than Sebastian as her son Henry did not start his family until about 1772 when he purchased the land from Sebastian, suggesting he was born about 1750. Sebastian and his son Frederick were in the Donegal Township tax list in 1751, so Sebastian’s son Frederick was born before 1730.22

Henry Limbert probably married about 1772 when he purchased the land from his step-father. His first child was born before 1774.23 He remained on the Lancaster County land from 1777 to 1787. Tax records show that he originally owned 2 horses but increased his holdings to 4 along with 3 cows on his 160 acres. He was here during the Revolutionary War when he took the Oath of Allegiance in 1777.24 No record of military service has been found.

In 1787 Henry moved to Dauphin County. He was taxed on 190 acres there through 1793 with 2 horses and 3 cows.25 A 1788 purchase of 195 acres was recorded in Lower Paxton Township in Dauphin County, right on the Susquehanna River.26 He was in the 1790 census on this property. In 1792 Henry sold 2 acres of the Dauphin County land to a Valentine Spangler for £15. This deed might suggest a special relationship to the purchaser, but no further evidence has been found. Henry signed this deed suggesting that he was educated.27 No sale for the remaining property in Dauphin County or for the property in Lancaster County has been found.

Following Henry’s death, his wife Barbara and family moved to Greenwood Township, Cumberland (now Perry) County.

The surname is mostly spelled “Limbert” in the records quoted here. Variations include Limpard, Lympord.

Henry LIMBERT and probably Barbara had the following children, all named in Henry's will:

i. Peter LIMBERT was born before 1774 from age in 1790 census, he was over 16 years.28
ii. Catherine LIMBERT, married George HOFFMAN.29
iii. Barbara LIMBERT was born on 1 January 1779 Pennsylvania. She died after 5 September 1820, Cumberland (now Perry) County, Pennsylvania. Married John Hoffman.30

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25 Tax Rates Lower Paxton Township 1785-1841, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 21286).
26 Dauphin County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #21263 Book E:397.

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iv. Susanna LIMBERT, married Joseph HOFFMAN. 

v. Martha LIMBERT.

vi. Henry LIMBERT was born on 27 July 1787 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania from the location of his father. He died on 27 June 1869 in Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio; married Catherine Wagner.

vii. Anna Maria (Mary) LIMBERT.

Transcription of Henry Limbert Will:

In the Name of God Amen I Henry Limbert of Paxton Township in the County of Dauphin and the state of Pennsylvania who am very sick and weak in body but of sound and [?] mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner following first I humbly recommend my soul to god who gave it and my body to the dust from whence it originated. And as to all my worldly estate Real and Personal (first and over all my just debts to be paid and my funeral expenses) I give Devise and dispose of in the following manner to wit I order and direct that an equal dividend of the whole thereof Between my beloved wife Barbara and my seven children viz. Peter, Catherine, Barbara, Susanna, Matilda, Henry, and Anna Maria share and share alike [?] except over and above my wife's common dividend and she shall receive her choice of my beds with the bedclothes her saddle and one of my best cows. And provided any of my children should die previous to their arriving at the age of twenty one years it is my will that the share of such child or children so dying shall be equally divided between those that survive And I do nominate constitute and appoint my beloved wife Barbara and George Rambagher of the County of Cumberland the executor of this my last will hereby revoking and annualize all former and other wills by me made- declaring this and no other to be my last. 

In witness whereof I have unto subscribed and set my hand seal the 29th Day of January 1794

Henry Limbert (his mark x)

Signed Sealed published pronounced and declared by--

Henry Limbert aforesaid and for his last will in the presence of us

Jacob Noss[?]

Alex Berryhill

Dauphin County

this 7th day of March 1794 personally came before me Joseph Montgomery Es Reg of [?] for the aforesaid county Jacob Noss and Alexander Berryhill the two ....,[very hard to read but is proof of the will]


32 Orphans Court Docket 1-B, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #21244) p 56, 195, 245-246.


34 Orphans Court Docket 1-B, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, FHL film #21244 p 56, 195, 245-246.

35 Will, Henry Limbert, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania wills L-1 (7420) from Dauphin County Courthouse, Clerk of Orphans Court as copied by Library at Historical Society, Dauphin County, 15 January 2006.
**Baker Family**

Line of Descent: Jacob, Michael, Benjamin, Joanna [see TURNER Family]

The Baker Genealogy Hoax

The hoax involved a story that George Peter Baker from Strasburg, Germany had a son Peter who accumulated property that is now Fairmount Park in Philadelphia. From the 1880s through 1930s Bakers sent money to "attorneys" to represent them in claiming the land. It is estimated that up to $3 million was collected over the years. Finally in 1937 the US Post Office put an end to it, prosecuting those still on the take. It is possible that family pages from bibles were sent in as well.¹

The Montgomery County Ohio Bakers participated in the hoax as shown by newspaper articles:

A Millionaire in Brookville: Old Uncle Ben Baker, of Brookville, has just returned from a trip to Canada, where he has been to examine "his clear title" to a large landed estate in the City of Philadelphia, now worth about three million dollars. He saw the deeds for the same securely locked up in an iron bound chest and in the custody of the Canadian Branch of the Baker family. He also saw his grandmother's grave, but he is mum as to the revelations made to him of the fortune. He leaves for Washington in a few days to make further investigation.²

A Gathering of the House of Baker at Brookville: there was a meeting of the heirs of the late Col Jacob Baker (1731-1816) of Revolutionary fame, at the house of old Uncle Ben Baker on the 16th. The meeting was organized by calling Warren Baker to the chair and appointing Levi Baker secretary. 57 representatives answered to the "roll call". The object of the meeting, as stated by the chair, was to raise a fund to investigate and prove their title to a fortune of about three hundred and fifteen million dollars in real estate in the City of Philadelphia. It seems that Col Jacob Baker, who was a bachelor, died intestate about the year 1801 at the residence of his brother in the Dominion of Canada, leaving with him his discharge from the army, uniform, sword, etc all of which are still in the possession of the Canadian Branch of the family. An advertisement for the heirs of said Baker met the eye of a legal member of the family in Canada, who went to Philadelphia and found this mammoth fortune awaiting them when they prove their identity. About one hundred and twenty-five dollars was raised at the meeting to send old Uncle Ben to Washington to examine the records and pay expenses, and for "refreshments" while in the wicked city. Two ponies of the German beverage and a barrel of hard cider were tapped and hilarity and joy reigned supreme in anticipation of the good "fortune" that is soon to be theirs. After partaking of a bountiful repast, the assembly adjourned by singing the "Sweet By and By" to meet at the call of old Uncle Ben when he returns from Washington.³

No additional articles were found that reported on Ben’s trip to Washington. The story was not reported in the family papers that moved with Oliver Dillman’s family to Portland, Oregon.

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² Dayton Daily Journal, (Dayton, Ohio), 15 November 1878; Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio. abstracted by Brookville Historical Society.
³ Dayton Daily Journal, date not recorded.
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

The first generation identified for this family is Jacob Baker, and unfortunately it is only the end of his life that can be described with any certainty. Jacob died about 1794 and he will be identified with this death date in this discussion. A possible outline of his earlier life is presented here with the hope that the questions and inconsistencies in this discussion will be resolved.

A published genealogy of this family, *The Baker Family United States and Canada*, was compiled with information from various family members and research done by the authors. It reports, without specific sources, Jacob's life as follows:

A. Jacob born 25 August 1731; married Anna Maria Brecht, daughter of Stephan. Jacob in 1759 in Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

B. Jacob moved to Drumore Township where he, of Heidelberg Township, purchases land in 1779 and is in tax records there until 1782 when he lost his land.

C. Jacob moved to Bedford (now Somerset) County by 1784 where in 1787 he purchased land. Jacob died in 1794.

What follows is a summary of research for Jacob (d1794) that follows the outline given above. A second Jacob, who may be his father, is identified as Jacob (the Elder).

A: What Bakers were in Heidelberg Township?

It is important to note that this area, originally in Lancaster County, became Heidelberg Township, of Dauphin County 1785-1811, and Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County from 1812 to present.

The first Baker found in Heidelberg Township is Jacob Baker (the Elder) who warranted 100 acres of land in 1735. He patented the land 18 June 1741 and then sold to John George Baker in 1760. This man signed deeds with the mark “B”. No will or probate has been found for this man so it is not known when he died, nor is there documentation for his family. Two Jacobs were on the tax rolls in 1759, and one was likely Jacob (the Elder).

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6 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Deeds, FHL film #21386 Book T:603.

7 Lancaster County (Pennsylvania) Board of County Commissioners, Pennsylvania Tax Lists, 1750-1814, FHL film #21449.
In addition to Jacob (the Elder) the following Bakers are found in Heidelberg Township. There is a possibility that they are related to Jacob (the Elder) based upon proximity and age but no records have been found that link the men together into a family structure.

1. Johan George was born about 1738 from his first appearance in the tax record of 1759.
   a. He purchased the land patented by Jacob (the Elder) in 1760.
   b. 1757 baptism son John with wife Catherine, sponsors John Mohr and Susanna Becker, Millbach Church.
   c. 31 January 1762 he and wife baptized a daughter in the Millbach Church the same day as Jacob Baker. Maria Ness, a likely neighbor to Jacob (the Elder), was the sponsor.
   d. 14 July 1771 son John Jacob baptized Millbach Church; George with wife Julianna.
   e. 13 December 1772 George and wife Julianna baptized son Frederick; sponsors John Nohr and Susanna Becker, Millbach church.
   f. 29 May 1774 George and wife Julianna baptized Elizabeth; sponsors Michael Mayer and Elizabeth Becker.
   g. 13 September 1776 George and wife Julianna baptized Julianna, no sponsors, Millbach Church.
   h. He took the Oath of Allegiance in 1778.
   i. 20 February 1780 George and wife Julianna baptized Maria Christine; sponsor Michael Munch and Christine Becker, Millbach Church.
   j. It appears that this is the George who is found through 1800 in tax and census records for this area. 8

2. Jacob born about 1738 from his first appearance in the tax record of 1759, the only year when two Jacob's appear in the tax list.
   a. Jacob and wife baptized son John 31 January 1762 Millbach Church with sponsor John Mayer, neighbor to Jacob (the Elder) and on the same day as George baptized a daughter.
   b. In 1767 a Jacob Baker was sued for debt in Lancaster County, but there is no way to know if the record refers to the Jacob of Heidelberg.
   c. Two Jacob's are on the tax list in 1759, so there was an additional one to Jacob (the Elder). A Jacob appeared in tax lists of 1771 and 1775 with no land and 1777 with 40 acres. No deed was located for the purchase of these 40 acres, suggesting he may have been a renter on this property. There is no indication of whether these refer to one Jacob or to several.
   d. Jacob took the Oath of Allegiance in 1778.
   e. No Jacob is found in Heidelberg Township after 1778. 9

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3. John bought land in 1760 at same time as George from Jacob (the Elder). Another John was born about 1750 from his first appearance in the tax record of 1771.
   a. A John took the Oath of Allegiance in 1778.
   b. In 1780 a John Jr appeared in the tax list. His is unidentified, but he was probably a son.
   c. A John remained on tax and census records through 1800 with a John Jr most years.  
4. Michael born about 1754 from his first appearance in the tax record of 1775. This too could be the son of Jacob (the Elder). However, there is a reference to a Michael Baker as a neighbor when Jacob (the Elder) sold his land in 1760, suggesting there was an older Michael. Michael was in the tax records and census through 1786 and then disappeared from Heidelberg Township.
5. Peter in tax record of 1751 only.
6. Ernst in tax record of 1759 only.
7. David took the Oath of Allegiance in 1778. No other record found.
8. Henry Baker with wife Catherine Meyer baptized a child Christopher in 1761, Millbach Church. Sponsor is Christopher Meyer and Catherine Becker. The identity of Catherine Becker is unknown but she may be the wife of Johan George. The Meyer family was a neighbor of Jacob (the Elder). Henry’s residence is not known as no tax records or deeds are found for him in Heidelberg Township, but a tie is suggested by the Millbach Church as well as the connection with the neighbor of Jacob (the Elder).

Is there a connection between Jacob (d 1794) and Heidelberg Township?

Jacob (d 1794) is connected with Heidelberg Township from the identity of his wife, the baptism of his son John, and the naming of his sons George, John, and Michael. All of these names are found in Heidelberg Township.

Jacob's (d1794) wife:

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9 Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas, Lancaster Historical Society, Feb term 1767:200. The index refers to “Jacob Jr” but the court document is for Jacob “late of Lancaster County”.

Lancaster County (Pennsylvania). Board of County Commissioners, Tax Lists, 1750-1814, FHL film #21449.

Hinke, Church records of the Millbach Reformed Congregation, Millbach Township, Lebanon County, 1747-1875 FHL film #20350 Item 10. Peden, Revolutionary Patriots of Lancaster County 1775-1778.

10 Lancaster County (Pennsylvania) Board of County Commissioners, Tax Lists, 1750-1814, FHL film #21449.


11 Lancaster County (Pennsylvania). Board of County Commissioners, Tax Lists, 1750-1814, FHL film #21449.


12 Hinke, Church Records of the Millbach Reformed Congregation, Millbach Township, Lebanon County, 1747-1875,FHL film #20350 Item 10.
Jacob (d 1794) married about 1758 from the reported birth of his first child Catherine on 10 September 1759. His wife was Maria Brecht as shown on a Fraktur for Benjamin, son of their son Benjamin, where Jacob Baker and Maria Brecht were named as grandparents.

Although no record has been found tying this Maria Brecht to her father, an argument can be made that Maria Brecht was the Anna Maria Brecht baptized in the Bern Reformed Church 4 May 1740, daughter of Johan Stephan Brecht and Anna Kraemer.

- This Maria would have married at age 18, an acceptable age for a bride.
- She and husband Jacob were known to be in the area of Johan Stephan's family, at least in 1762 when their son John was baptized.
- Only this Anna Maria, daughter of Stephan, has been located as a possible wife of Jacob (d 1794).
  - Stephan’s brother Michael, neighbor to Jacob “the Elder” in Heidelberg Township, had a daughter Maria but she was born in 1742 and was married to Ludwig Wittenmeyer in 1789.
  - Stephan’s brother Johannes went first to Bucks County and died in Haycock Township, Berks County about 1750. No daughter Maria is listed in the will.
  - No other Brecht families are listed as immigrants to Philadelphia before 1758 who could be the parents of Maria Brecht.
  - No Jacob Baker immigrated as a head of household with a wife the right ages for Jacob (d 1794).
  - Johan Stephan Brecht lived in Bern Township, now Berks County, 20 miles away from his brother Michael in Heidelberg Township, when he died in 1749. His death was followed 4 years later by the death of Anna Maria’s step-mother. Anna Maria’s older half-brothers David and Wendell Brecht were appointed guardians for herself and the other minor children of Johan Stephan on 6 March 1749/50.

There is no way to know where Anna Maria went to live following her step-mother’s death, but it was possibly with her uncle Michael. Even if she didn’t live in Heidelberg Township, she could have met Jacob (d 1794) if he was the son of her uncle Michael’s neighbor Jacob “the Elder”.

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13 Peterson and Hanks, *The Baker Family United States and Canada*, p 2. Jean Barkey, *Whitchurch Township* (Whitchurch History Book Committee, Toronto, Stoddart, 1993) p85. The source for Catherine’s birth date is uncertain, but there are references to a family bible with the Canadian branch of the family and it is possible it was recorded there.
14 Benjamin Becker (b 1794) Fraktur, owned by Lancaster Historical Society, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, copy in correspondence from Margaret Hanks. The name Anna Maria is consistent with the use of Maria in later records as the first or saint’s name typically was not used in the German naming system. A Fraktur is an ornate German baptismal certificate.
15 *Pennsylvania Vital Records 1700-1800* (Family Tree Maker CD), Bern Reformed Church Records, p 273.
19 *Pennsylvania Vital Records 1700-1800* (Family Tree Maker CD).
Baptism of son John

On 31 January 1762 John, son of Jacob Becker (d1794) and wife was baptized in the Millbach Reformed Church in what was then Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County. John Mayer and wife, likely the John who was a neighbor of Jacob “the Elder”, were the sponsors for this baptism. On the same day the next entry in the record is for George’s daughter, sponsored by Maria Ness. The John Mayer family has not been found associated with Jacob (d1794) after this date, but the Mayers and the Nesses, neighbors of Jacob “the Elder,” were sponsors for several children of George Baker in the Millbach Church.20

Jacob (d1794) had a son John born 5 January 1762 who appears to be the John baptized here. John, the son of Jacob and Maria, moved to Upper Canada in 1796 and obtained land in Markham (Whitchurch), York County in 1802. His mother Maria with her youngest children lived next to him. John died there December 1811 at age 49 and was buried in the Heise Hill Dunker Cemetery, giving this John a birth date of 1762.21

The identity of John in Canada with the John baptized in the Millbach Church is a strong argument for placing Jacob (d1794) in the Heidelberg Township area in these early years. No additional baptisms are found for Jacob in Millbach or other churches although he is reported to have lived here until 1778 or 1779. This could be explained by a conversion of the family to the Dunker faith. The Dunker faith is the reported religion of several of the children and of Maria when she went to Canada. It is also the reported religion for son Michael in Montgomery County, Ohio.

In conclusion, Jacob (d1794) was of the right age to be a son of Jacob (the Elder) who settled in Heidelberg Township in 1735. There were associations with Johan George who bought the land of Jacob (the Elder) and with the neighbor of Jacob (the Elder) as sponsor for son John. His wife was a niece of another neighbor. The names of three of his sons coincide with men found in Heidelberg Township who could have been his brothers. Jacob (d 1794) was in Heidelberg Township in 1762 if not earlier and married a woman whose uncle was from here. The argument presented supports a possible beginning for Jacob (d 1794).

B: Was Jacob (d1794) of Heidelberg Township the Jacob Baker of Drumore Township, Lancaster County?

On 8 May 1778 a Jacob Baker of Heidelberg Township purchased 150 acres of land in Drumore Township from Adam Neil. The deed for this transaction has not survived, but a mortgage on this land to John Hopson in 1779 refers to the purchase.22 The mortgage obligated Jacob to pay a total of £2000 to Hopson on 3 April 1783. Adam Fackler of Martick Township gave a bond for the mortgage of £1000. This purchase date was nearly a month before a Jacob Becker signs the

20 Hinke, Church Records of the Millbach Reformed Congregation, Millbach Township, Lebanon County, 1747-1875, FHL film #20350 Item 10.
21 Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch, Heise Hill Brethren in Christ Cemetery: (Toronto, Ontario, Canada: same, 1994).
Oath of Allegiance in Heidelberg. Is this the same man and he hadn’t yet moved, or are there two Jacobs in the areas under consideration?

By 1782 Thomas Neil, the executor of the estate of Adam Neil, had taken Jacob Baker and Adam Fackler to court for failure to pay the purchase price of the land which was £4000. By 4 December 1782 the Sheriff was authorized to auction the land of Jacob Baker, and a year later Adam Fackler’s land was also sold by the Sheriff. These actions took place in the last years of the Revolutionary War, a time when economic chaos reigned. The land was lost for a failure to pay the original purchase price and not for a default on the mortgage. It is not known what part of the original purchase price had been paid.

Adam Fackler, who signed the mortgage with Jacob Baker, is listed by Peterson and Hanks as a possible father-in-law of eldest daughter Catherine who married George Fackler. An Adam Fackler purchased land in Martick Township in 1777 and is the man who put up the bond for the mortgage and subsequently lost his land. A George Fackler is on the tax list in Martick Township in 1781, suggesting he could be the son of Adam.

A George Folkers was the witness to Jacob’s (d 1794) will in Bedford (now Somerset) County in 1793. A George Folkers settled his family in Ringwood, next to the Bakers of Markham in York County, Upper Canada in the late 1790s. His serving as witness to the will and participation in the same migration to Upper Canada as Jacob Baker’s family supports the idea that he was married to Catherine. It appears possible that Adam of Martick Township was his father and was the one who gave a bond for the mortgage of Jacob (d 1794) in Drumore Township, but there is no supporting evidence to state that these are the same men.

The only records for a Jacob Baker in Drumore Township are the tax lists. A Jacob Baker appears on the 1769 list, but no land deeds have been found for this man. No Jacob is found in 1778, but one was on the list for 1779 and 1780 and 1782. By 1782 he was listed on 150 acres with 2 horses, 2 cattle, and 7 sheep. This is consistent with the man who lost his property in December 1782. No Jacob Baker appeared in lists after this time.

There are several inconsistencies in the records that raise questions about the identity of the Jacob of Drumore.

- The appearance of a Jacob in the 1769 tax record cannot be explained. No Drumore land records have been found for a Jacob in this time period. Perhaps this Jacob was just passing through.
- The 1780 Drumore tax list raises a question as to whether the Jacob of Heidelberg and Drumore are the same man. This list contains a notation that Jacob did not take the Oath.

24 Lancaster County. Pennsylvania Tax records, 1748-1855, Martick Township (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #1449291). His relationship to an Adam Fackler in Earl Township in 1763 and in Paxton Township the same year is not known.
25 Barkey, Whitchurch Township, p83.
26 The tax records exist for 1769, 1778, 1779, 1780, 1782 along with 1781, 1783 and 1785 which appear to be incomplete, and 1786.
27 Lancaster County. Pennsylvania Tax records, 1748-1855, Drumore Township, FHL film #1449278.
of Allegiance. Since a Jacob of Heidelberg took the Oath in 1778, this appears to suggest someone other than the Heidelberg Jacob. A similar inconsistency is found in the Heidelberg records for George and John, however, lessening the significance of the discrepancy. Although its importance is diminished it has not been fully explained.28

It is possible that the Jacob of Heidelberg who purchased and lost land in Drumore Township was Jacob (d1794) because of the involvement of the Folker family. The tie of Jacob (d 1794) to Heidelberg Township reinforces the idea that this is the same man. However, there are inconsistencies in the records which make it impossible to ensure that only one man has been identified as moving from Heidelberg to Drumore.

C: Is there another Jacob Baker who could be the Jacob (d 1794)?

Because the identification of Jacob’s (d1794) early life in Heidelberg Township was not conclusively proven, the following research summary on another possible origin is presented. This man is of interest since Jacob’s (d 1794) wife Anna Maria lived near this area at least until she was 11 years old. A family in this area could have baptized a child in the Millbach Church which is nearby.

Beginning in 1743 a Jacob Baker lived in Bethel Township, in what became Berks County.

- The only records found are for a man who warranted and patented land in 1743. This could be Jacob’s father but is too early for Jacob (d 1794).
- In 1752 a Jacob Baker is on the tax list in Alsace Township. Jacob (d 1794) is reported born in 1731 which would fit with this listing as an adult.
- In 1770 Jacob and wife were members of the Dunker Church in Oley, a community in Alsace Township. Since Maria and most of her children are known to be Dunkers later in their lives, this is tempting. None of the fellow church members appear to be part of Jacob’s (d 1794) later life. It is possible but not likely that Jacob lived in Heidelberg Township but was part of this church group as the distance involved was about 50 miles.
- In 1785 a Jacob Baker signed a petition to form Lebanon County. The signatories were from Lancaster, Berks, and Dauphin Counties. This Jacob has not been identified, but could be the one from Berks County.
- The only other records found include a Jacob Baker who witnessed wills in Berks County in 1792, and 1797, clearly not the Jacob of interest here.

There is insufficient evidence to draw a firm conclusion on the Jacob of Berks County, but he could be Jacob (d 1794).

Jacob (d 1794) of Quemahoning Township, Bedford (now Somerset) County

The first record known to be for Jacob (d 1794) is on 4 July 1787 when he purchased land in Quemahoning Township, Bedford (now Somerset) County, Pennsylvania. He was “of Milford

28 The 1780 tax records in Heidelberg Township also state that George and John had not taken the oath, although they did so in 1778. By 1782 the Heidelberg Tax Lists show that George and John had taken the oath.
Township" and purchased the 331 acres known as the “Partnership” patent on Higgens Creek for £100.\textsuperscript{29} Jacob deeded part of this land to his eldest son John and left the remaining 118 acres in his will to son Benjamin. Benjamin in turn sold the land to his brother Michael on 11 April 1798.\textsuperscript{30} A tax list for this area exists in 1786 and there is no Jacob Baker listed, so he apparently arrived from the neighboring Milford Township when he purchased the land in 1787.\textsuperscript{31}

The tax records for Milford Township show that Bakers resided there from 1780.
- A Jacob is listed in this year along with John and neither of them own land.
- Jacob is again listed without land in 1785, 1786, and 1787 but with land 1789 through 1792.
- There is no supporting evidence to say that the Jacob of the Milford Tax records is the man who purchases land in Quemahoning. The continuation of a Jacob there through 1792 suggests it wasn’t the same man. There is possibly a relationship between Jacob (d1794) and the other Bakers in Milford but it is unknown at this time.\textsuperscript{32}

In the 1790 census of Bedford County, Jacob is listed with 6 males under 16 years of age and 4 females in his household. This corresponds with the children listed by Peterson and Hanks. This Jacob is shown as a neighbor of Jacob Smucker, the Emmerts and the Penrods as documented on his land deed.\textsuperscript{33}

Seven years after purchasing land, Jacob died between appearing in the tax records in 1793 and his absence in 1795. He left seven children under the age of 21. An English translation of his German will was not recorded in Bedford County until 1956 and no probate record has been found. The will is only dated “1793” and names some of his children as follows:

...The Oldest is to receive his shear furst and after that according to the age the three boys that is married has Received Each of them fifteen Pounds and Kedey [Catherine] has Received ten pounds and Peggy [Margaret] has Rec. five pounds and after that Jacob and George and Jonathan alike Each of them is to Receive fifteen pounds and after that Elizabeth and Polly [Mary] Each of them ten pounds and Bangaman [Benjamin] is to have the Plantation and John Beaker and the Mother is to be the administrators...\textsuperscript{34}

John, Benjamin, and Michael were the oldest three sons and all were married by 1793. John had purchased land from his father. Benjamin inherited land from the will. Catherine and Margaret were also married as they had received their share. Since Jacob, George, and Jonathan had not been paid, they were not married. Witnesses to the will were George Folker, husband of Catherine, and Jacob Smucker, father-in-law to son Michael and neighbor to Jacob (d 1794).

\textsuperscript{29} Bedford County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #331371) Book C:628.
\textsuperscript{30} Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 558757) Book C:528.
\textsuperscript{31} Pennsylvania Septennial Census Bedford County, Pennsylvania 1786, RG-7 film# 242.
\textsuperscript{32} Bedford County, Pennsylvania Board of Commissioners, Tax Records 1772-1830, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 14493050-1449354.
\textsuperscript{34} "Page from Bedford County, Pennsylvania will book recorded June 7, 1956", Markham Museum, 9350 High #48, Markham, Ontario, Canada.
Several of the reported children were not named in the will. Michael was known to have married in 1789 and in the 1790 census was living with his father-in-law Jacob Smucker. He was thus one of the three married sons. His position in the family is further supported by the visit of his son Benjamin to Canada in 1878 where he visited his grandmother’s grave. Sarah, Samuel, and Emanuel, the youngest children reported by Peterson and Hanks as part of this family, were not listed. Samuel and Emanuel appear in Canada with the family supporting their inclusion.

In summary, no records have been found for the years between 1782 (when a Jacob lost his land in Drumore Township) and 1787 (when Jacob (d1794) purchased land in Bedford County). It is also not clear how a man can lose his land in 1782 and purchase 331 acres 5 years later. This weakens the argument presented in Peterson and Hank that these are the same men. Jacob (d1794) can be documented with certainty in Bedford County from his land purchase in Quemahoning Township until his death there about 1794. These records support the description of his family found in Peterson and Hanks.

**Maria moves to York County, Ontario, Canada**

Following Jacob’s (d1794) death, Maria and all of the children, with the exception of Michael and Margaret, moved to Upper Canada. A land petition filed by Maria in 1802 says she came in 1799 with 3 children; two were sons not of age. One of those sons, Samuel, said in his petition that he arrived in 1796.

Some of the family remained in Bertie Township, Niagara District of Welland County, at least for a time. Son John’s wife and children were there for two years or more while he sought land in Markham Township, York County, near present day Toronto. By 1802 John and his family along with Maria and her two sons not yet of age and a third child were all living on Yonge St in Markham (now Whitchurch) Township.

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35 *Dayton Daily Journal*, (Dayton, Ohio), 15 November 1878.
36 Peterson and Hanks, *The Baker Family United States and Canada*.
37 Janice Nickerson, "Research Report July 15, 2008 for Beverly Brice", (2807-33 Isabella St, Toronto, ON, Canada M4Y 2P7).
39 Janice Nickerson, Research Report.
The Heise Hill Brethren (Dunker) Church in this area was begun by 15 families, among them the Bakers. Son John was the first burial in the cemetery of this church in Markham (now Whitchurch) Township. Unfortunately no burial record has been located for Maria as it might have proved a birth date for her.40

Jacob BAKER and probably Anna Maria BRECHT had the following children as reported in the Peterson and Hanks book. Apparently the source of this information is from family members and correspondents. The number of children is supported by the 1790 census for Jacob’s (d 1794) family. Supporting documentation has been added when found, but no systematic research was conducted for the siblings of Michael or their families.

The ages of the children suggest that Maria and Jacob had children over a span of 29 years. She was 19 when the first child was born and 48 when the last birth is reported to have occurred. This is an older age than expected but not impossible. She arrived in Canada in 1799 with two children under the age of 21 supporting the extraordinarily long span of childbearing. The ages of the children presented here appear to be possible.

1. Maria Catherine BAKER was born on 10 September 1759. She died in 1848 in York County, Ontario, Canada. Probably married George Fockler, and in Canada by June 1801.41
2. John BAKER was baptized on 31 January 1762 in Heidelberg Township, Berks, Pennsylvania. He bought and sold land from 1796 to 1801 in Somerset Township, Somerset, Pennsylvania. He sold "Recovery" to Jacob Smucker between forks of Hells Creek £300. He signed deeds. He died on 18 December 1811 in York County, Ontario, Canada. Married Mary Riet/Reit, 10 children.42
3. Maria Margaret BAKER was born on 5 February 1763/64. She died on 8 January 1850 in Bethel, Clermont, Ohio. She was buried in Reed Cemetery, Bethel, Clermont, Ohio. Married Isaac Reed, 13 children. Clermont County is SE of Dayton. Doris John’s source for this family was Karen S Jones 581 Ibold Rd, Loveland, Ohio 45140.43
4. Benjamin BAKER was born on 7 December 1765. He sold home he inherited to brother Michael on 11 April 1798 in Somerset County. He died on 10 July 1851 in York County, Ontario, Canada. Married Sarah (Sally) Morningstar and 2nd Catherine Hicks Billinger.44
5. Michael BAKER was born on 20 February 1768, married Catherine probably SMUCKER, about 1789, Bedford County (now Somerset), Pennsylvania, died on 26 August 1854, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio.45
6. Jacob BAKER was born on 23 February 1770. He died on 19 April 1827 in York County, Ontario, Canada. Married Anna Maria Laur, 8 children baptized Stonytown reformed church.46

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41 Peterson and Hanks, The Baker Family United States and Canada, p 2.
43 Peterson and Hanks, The Baker Family United States and Canada, p 2.
45 Parish Cemetery, Montgomery County, Ohio, visited by Beverly Erice 2006.
vii. Henry George BAKER was born 2 May 1772. Johns says he died in 1801/2 in Black Creek, Niagara, Ontario, Canada. Petson and Hanks say died Welland County, Ontario and buried Stevensville Cemetery. Married Maria Magdalena Walker.  

viii. Jonathan BAKER was born on 29 March 1774 in Pennsylvania. Married Belvid Nicey (possibly Believed Nicey). A home belonging to a Jonathan Baker is featured as a Pennsylvania German pioneer farm.

ix. Maria Elizabeth BAKER was born on 25 April 1776 in Pennsylvania. Married Dr John Shaffer. May have stayed in Pennsylvania.

x. Anna Maria BAKER was born in October 1777. She died in 1848 in Welland County, Ontario. Married 1793, Stony Creek Township Somerset, Johannes John Morningstar.

xi. Infant BAKER was born on 26 January 1779. Petson and Hanks quote DAR record for Isaac Reed for this child.

xii. Sarah Ann BAKER was born on 4 April 1781 in Pennsylvania. She died on 11 April 1853 in Mt Pleasant Township, Westmoreland, Pennsylvania. Married George Baker.

xiii. Samuel BAKER was born 1 October 1783/84. He was baptized on 5 January 1785 in Bedford, (now Somerset) Co. Berlin Reformed Church. He died in March 1863/64 in Vaughn Township, York, Ontario, Canada. Buried Heise Hill Cemetery, Markham, York. Married Katherine Doner, 5 children.

xiv. Emanuel BAKER was born on 13 June 1788 in Quemahoning, Bedford (now Somerset) County. He died on 25 December 1860 in York County, Ontario, Canada. Married Elizabeth Horner, 2 children.

**Additional Research**

Additional research is suggested for this Jacob Baker (d 1794) as his life as presented here is not complete before his arrival in Bedford (now Somerset) County in 1787. The following issues need to be addressed.

1. Research all of the Baker/Becker names in Heidelberg Township to determine their family structure. This needs to include the Henry Bakers who are in the Heidelberg area but continue to appear in areas where the family lived as follows:

   a. Henry Baker is on the 1792 and 1793 tax lists in Quemahoning Township, Bedford, (now Somerset) County. He has 1 Horse, 1 Cow and 150 acres that have been patented. He is in the 1798 direct tax in the same place. In the 1800 census a Henry with 2 males over 45 years is found in Stony Creek township. In 1810 he is there again along with a younger Henry in Somerset Township and one 45 years or older in Brothers Valley. In 1820 Henry of Brothers Valley is there, 2 males over 45 years. Brothers Valley Bakers in 1802 included a Philip and Peter as well.
These are not the same men but have the same names as Bakers in Milford Township.  

b. 1 October 1819 Jacob Smucker of Somerset Township, Somerset County sells 229 acres in Brothers Valley to Henry Baker. Part of the land was purchased from John Baker and Mary his wife in 1801 when they left for Canada. Perhaps Henry was living on the land before the purchase from Jacob Smucker. Smucker was the father-in-law to Jacob Baker’s son Michael.  

c. In 1820 Henry Baker is taxed on land purchased by Michael Baker in Montgomery County, Ohio.  

d. Henry Baker dies in Darke County, Ohio in 1867. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1794. Michael, son of Jacob (d1794), lived in Montgomery County Ohio next to Darke County.

2. Research all Bakers found in Milford Township, Bedford (now Somerset) County to explore ties to the Bakers of Heidelberg Township.  

3. Research all Bakers found in Montgomery County, Ohio to explore ties to the Bakers of Heidelberg Township.  

4. Look for the Meyer and Ness families and other neighbors in Somerset County and Ohio to establish a tie with Heidelberg Township.  

5. Research all of the reported children of Jacob (d 1794) to identify any additional clues to his family origins.

Second Generation

Michael Baker managed to acquire considerable land in his life starting with the 275 acres he owned when he left Pennsylvania. The first property was purchased for £112 10s in 1791. At age 23, this appears to be a major purchase and it is not known how he had the money. Perhaps he was helped by his father-in-law. The land bordered on Penrod and Emmert land, neighbors of Jacob Smucker, and also bordered his father’s land. His second purchase in 1798 for £300 was his father’s land willed to brother Benjamin. No deeds of sale have been located for these lands.

At the age of 36 in 1805, he was able to purchase an entire section of 640 acres upon arrival in Ohio. There were additions to this holding in subsequent years. All of the recorded land sales were sold to family members, but not all of the transactions have been located. He was the patriarch of 10 children and their families in Montgomery County, Ohio.

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57 Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #558759, Book 7:143.
60 Bedford County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #331371 Book C:432.
61 Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #558757 Book C:528.
Michael moved to western Ohio with his wife Catherine and five children. By this time the other members of his family had left Somerset County. All but his sister Margaret and her husband Isaac Reed headed for Ontario, Canada. Isaac purchased land in Clermont County, Ohio in 1811, suggesting that Michael was the first to head west.

Since Michael's property in Somerset was located near the Forbes Road to Pittsburgh, it is likely that the family went by wagon to the head of the Ohio River. He probably put the wagon on a flat boat and went down the river to Cincinnati. His purchase of Section 26 was just northeast of the present town of Brookville.

Why did Michael head for this area of Ohio? No record or family story gives the answer, although one history reports that "His intention was to settle where Dayton now stands, but by reason of the swampy character of the land he changed his plans and settled in Clay Township." Although there were settlers in Montgomery County when Michael arrived, this area was the frontier. In 2006 Michael's land was open farm land without a tree, making it hard to visualize the canopy of hardwoods that covered the countryside in 1805. In these early years open space was confined to meadows 10 to 15 acres in size. Michael and his sons had to gradually clear the land for farming, probably cutting the trees and pulling out the stumps as was typically done by the German farmer.

A story is told about Michael and his land. There were many Shawnee Indians living on his land when he bought it, and he maintained good relationships with them by allowing them to remain. At one point there was a scare of an Indian attack and settlers were moving to Dayton. Michael took his family there, even though the Indians had assured his safety. He didn’t stay long and returned to a great celebration with the Indians.

There was no Indian raid in Montgomery County, but about 1811/1812 there was a raid in Greenville to the west. This was the time of Tecumseh, the pan-tribal leader who settled in Greenville. After February 1812 there were Indian attacks across Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Upper Louisiana. In all 46 whites were killed. These were likely the events behind the story. One Indian lived long enough on the Baker land that his presence was known to the staff at the Brookville Historical Society.

Around the same time as the Indian scare, on 16 December 1811 beginning at 2am, Michael and his family would have felt the many strong earthquakes centered in New Madrid, Missouri. Continuing through 12 April 1812, it has been estimated that three of the quakes were at about 8.0 on the current Richter scale with several others in the 7.0 to 7.5 range. Since Brookville was less as the crow flies than the 466 miles required by road travel, the impact would have been significant although probably not damaging to property. Before the earthquakes, in September

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63 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 416.

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1811, the “Great Comet” was visible in the skies, a time to be remembered in an era when these natural phenomena were not generally understood.65

Genealogical Summary

Michael BAKER was born 20 February 1768 in Pennsylvania as shown by census records and his gravestone.66 He died 26 August 1854 in Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio and was buried in the Parish Cemetery, Arlington, section 1, row 20, which is not far from his land. The photo of the grave is from 2006 and gives his age as 86 years, 6 months, 6 days.

Michael was probably married in 1789 to Catherine Smucker in Quemahoning Township, Somerset, Pennsylvania. Michael’s wife was named Catherine in the many deeds of sale of his property over the years and Catherine is buried with him. Since no marriage record has been found for this couple, the identity of the wife is not proven. The name of Smucker and the date comes from a note left by her great granddaughter on a quilt that Catherine made.

The quilt is an "Ohio Star" pattern pieced in indigo blue and white.

The note on the quilt was written by Catherine’s great-granddaughter as follows:

Catherine Smucker was born March 3, 1773 in Pennsylvania Somerset County when she was 16 when[sic] she married Michel Baker when she was 19 she made this quilt every yard of this calico was 25 cents a yard cotton was 50 cents a pound she was 24 years old when came to Ohio it was thick with indians at that time lived in Montgomery County died January 2, 1859 aged 85 9 month and 29 days this was my great

65 Jay Feldman, When the Mississippi Ran Backwards, p13, 15.
grandmother given to Catherine Weaver handed down to Sack Weaver my cousin then gave to Della Gaylor in 1939 which is my great great grandmother quilt made. copied off of the old paper by Della Gaylor January 9, 1952 age 75 and 10 months old.67

- The birth date given coincides within 7 days of the birth date from Catherine's gravestone. She died 2 January 1859 age 85 years 9 months 23 days (birth date of 10 March) buried Parish Cemetery, Arlington, next to Michael, Sec 1 row 20.68
- The marriage date is supported by the likely appearance of Michael in the household of Jacob Smucker in the 1790 census, along with Catherine.69
- The date for the trip to Ohio is suggested as 1797. This is not possible since Michael purchased land from his brother Benjamin in 1798 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, he is in the 1800 census there, and he appeared in the tax records of 1800.70

Jacob Smucker is a possible father for Catherine. He was a neighbor of Michael's father Jacob, and had been in Bedford (now Somerset) County since 1771. In the 1790 census there is a daughter who could be Catherine in Jacob's household, as well as an extra male over 16 years of age who could be Michael. Jacob Smucker was the witness on Jacob Baker's will. He also bought land from Jacob Baker's son John Baker when he left for Canada and later sold it to Henry Baker. No other Smucker family is found in Somerset County where Michael lived when he married.

Michael bought 150 acres as his first property 5 March 1791 which bordered the land of his father and was near the land of Jacob Smucker.71 The 1798 Direct Tax described the property as follows: 1 dwelling, 26x30ft, built with logs, 2 stories, 4 windows, 40 lights, 980 sq ft, valuation £125.72 He was on the list of those subject to militia duty in 1789, although it is not known if he served.73

Land deeds show that Michael had some education since he signed his deeds. His wife Catherine always signed with her mark as was typical for wives of the period. His support for education was further demonstrated by the building of the second school in Randolph (now Clay) Township on his land in Ohio in 1815.74

In 1812 he sued David Reid for failure to pay $75 owed on a note dated 1808. Michael won the suit for the amount and damages.75

67 Johns, Jacob Baker. Doris Johns is the owner of the quilt as of 2006. Della was the grandmother of Doris Johns who holds the quilt. Della was the daughter of Warren, son of Samuel. Samuel's eldest daughter Catherine was the one who is referred to in the note as "a Weaver".
68 Gravestone read by author in 2006.
71 Bedford County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #331371, Book C: 432.
72 US Direct Tax of 1798, Somerset, Somerset Township, FHL film #351614; "lights" meant window panes.
74 History of Montgomery County, Ohio, p126.
There is no direct proof of Michael's religion although the Montgomery County, Ohio history states that he was a Dunker. It is known that several of his children were of this faith. His wife Catherine's family was likely Mennonite or Dunker. Michael's mother and siblings moved to Canada as part of a Dunker migration, further supporting the idea.

Michael BAKER and Catherine probably SMUCKER had the following children as reported by other researchers. I have not done systematic research for the children of Michael.

i. Susannah BAKER was born about 1794; married Nicholas BESSAKER, on 6 December 1814, Randolph Township (now Clay), Montgomery, Ohio.

ii. Jacob BAKER was born on 9 August 1795, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; married Sarah MICHAEL; died on 6 September 1875, Clay Township.

iii. Mary BAKER was born in 1799, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; married Hugh CALHOUN, on 24 January 1822, Clay Township; died on 23 May 1843, Miami County, Ohio.

iv. John BAKER was born on 1 January 1801, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; married Mary (Folly) WARNER on 22 June 1823, Randolph Township (now Clay); died on 5 December 1876, Preble County, Ohio.

v. Michael BAKER was born on 30 March 1803, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; married Elizabeth (Betsy) WARNER on 18 July 1824, Randolph Township (now Clay); died on 25 August 1854, Clay Township.

vi. Elizabeth BAKER was born on 11 December 1804, Randolph Township (now Clay); married Caleb Jacob FAGER in 1822; married Daniel RELOGLE, on 10 February 1829, Clay Township; died on 9 April 1884, Warren Township, St Joseph, Indiana.

vii. Catherine BAKER was born in 1806, Randolph Township (now Clay); married Henry WARNER on 30 March 1823, Randolph Township (now Clay); died on 18 October 1869, Warren Township, St Joseph, Indiana.

viii. Benjamin BAKER was born on 25 March 1810, Randolph (now Clay) Township; married Frances NISWONGER on 6 June 1830, Clay Township; died on 20 March 1891, Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio.

ix. Anne/Anna BAKER was born on 21 January 1812, Randolph Township (now Clay); married Nicholas BESSAKER on 6 January 1828, Clay Township; died on 8 September 1864.

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76 History of Montgomery County, Ohio.
77 Brien, A Register of Marriage Certificates Recorded in Montgomery County, Ohio 1803-1851, p 44.
78 Johns, Jacob Baker.
81 Johns, Jacob Baker.
84 Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk. Hand written in ink that has run, probably by OF Dillman. Includes notation: This was taken from Benjamin Bakers old bible. In possession of Beverly Brice in 2006.
85 Brien, A Register of Marriage Certificates Recorded in Montgomery County, Ohio 1803-1851, p 20. Johns, Jacob Baker; p 188.
Third Generation

As early settlers in the area of Brookville, Michael’s children and grandchildren were driving forces in the development of the town, with Benjamin (Ben) the major player. The town itself was platted in 1850, but businesses existed before then. Ben was a farmer according to census records, but he also was an entrepreneur. Between 1836 and 1866 he participated in 37 property transactions. All these deeds have not been reviewed, nor the mortgage books, but most likely many if not all of them were mortgaged. Some of the sales were to his children.

The first dry goods store opened in the village that became Brookville in 1831 and the Baker’s mercantile, owned by Ben, was the first general store in the village opening after that date. About 1850 he entered the grain and tobacco trade, the first one to do so in the village. Described as a large buyer and shipper of grains, he most likely hired women to prepare the tobacco for shipping.

The store and warehouses were located on land bounded by Liberty, Main, and Columbia Streets on the railroad line as identified in 2006. Here he built a warehouse and then hauled the commodities to Dayton by wagon until the train arrived and the track was extended to the warehouse in 1853. Among other firsts, Ben was the first station and express agent for the railroad.

Ben had a business partner, Richard Reily, but his interest was bought out in 1860 when son Levi joined the business. Father and son worked together until 1866 when Ben retired. Son Noah owned one of the three hotels in town as well as a saw mill and property in the southern part of Brookville.

There are references to Benjamin in the Dayton and Brookville newspapers as “Uncle Ben”. He was apparently well known in the town and considered an approachable, gregarious man to have

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88 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 1279. Description of all business adventures are from this source.
this honorary title. It appears that he was of the Dunker or German Baptist Church from at least 1850. \(^89\) Ben was an active participant in the “Baker Hoax” as shown by references in newspapers of the time. These articles paint a picture of a man who was forthright, never flinching from seizing the main chance, even in his older years.

Tragedy struck this family on 12 April 1886 when son Sylvester, an actor living with his wife and child in Kansas City, Missouri, shot his wife and then himself. From the newspaper article he had a drinking problem and had not been himself. His wife survived but he died a few days later. The incident took place with the couple’s 8 year old son in the home. Sylvester’s daughter, age 16, was with an acting company in a nearby town. From an article in the Brookville paper of 5 May, Sylvester’s brother Levi and brother-in-law Lee Turner went to Kansas City and brought the body home. \(^90\)

**Genealogical Summary**

**Benjamin BAKER** was born 25 March 1810 in Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio. \(^91\) He died on 20 March 1891 in Brookville, widowed, age 80 yrs, 11m, 25d; cause of death paralysis. \(^92\) He was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington, Sec 1 row 20, on the same marker as wife Francis and son Sylvester. Benjamin’s side was nearly impossible to read in April of 2006. \(^93\)

Benjamin and **Francis NISWONGER** were married 6 June 1830 in Clay Township. \(^94\) Francis was born 19 April 1812 in Ohio and died 11 April 1890 in Clay Township. Daughter of John Niswonger and Elizabeth Circle, she was likely born in Clay Township as her father was on the tax records there in 1812. The Niswongers were near neighbors having settled in the area close to the time of Michael and his family. She is buried with Benjamin and is on the same gravestone marker. \(^95\) Benjamin’s youngest brother Samuel married Elizabeth, a sister of Francis.

Ben was the 8\(^{th}\) child of Michael and Catherine Smucker Baker and the 4\(^{th}\) son. The family was complete with two additional siblings. Benjamin was born about 5 years after the family settled in Ohio when they were still clearing the land. He spent his entire life in Clay Township as did his daughter Joanna, a rarity for this wandering family. On 4 April 1831 he bought 103 acres for

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\(^{89}\) History of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 396.
\(^{91}\) Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk.
\(^{92}\) Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, Record of Deaths, FHL film #1030827 v3 p 188.
\(^{93}\) Parish Cemetery Read by Beverly Brice April 2006.
\(^{94}\) Brien, A Register of Marriage Certificates Recorded in Montgomery County, Ohio 1803-1851, v 3 p 69.
\(^{95}\) Montgomery County, Ohio Probate Court, Record of Deaths, FHL. #1030827 Deaths, V3 (1884-1893) p 19. Death Record states 11 Mar 1890 and age 77y, 11m, 24d which does not add up from birth date. Have accepted date on Gravestone and Obituary.
$140 from his father Michael Baker, where neighbor Calhoun (brother-in-law) had 54 acres off the west part. This is the property where he built his farm house, but the date of construction has not been determined. In 2006 the address was 837 Salem Street on the north side of present day Brookville. This is the house and property purchased by his daughter Annie and her husband Lee Turner in 1878 and where his great granddaughter Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk stayed as a child. 

Benjamin was able to read and write and signed his documents, but Francis always signed with her mark. He was probably educated in the school built on his father’s land in 1815 when he was 5 years old.

The growth of Ben and Francis’s family is recorded in the census records over the years. By 1860 he is listed as a merchant rather than a farmer. The value of his real estate is listed as $10,000 and his personal estate $8,000. By 1870 the value of his real estate had increased to $30,000. This would be equivalent to the purchasing power of $510,600 in 2008.

By 1880 Ben is listed as a retired dry goods merchant. Simon, age 27, is listed in his household, unable to read or write, and as idiotic, a citizen but unable to vote. Simon lived with his parents until their death when brother Noah became his guardian. Ben willed him his house and two lots to be used for his support until his death.

“He was an Old-Line Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party had been a faithful supporter of its interests.” The party division took place during the Civil War and so Ben was a supporter of Lincoln. He did not participate in the war, being over 50 years of age. In fact, there is no record of his participation in any military conflict.

Benjamin, concerned to put his affairs in order, wrote his will on 4 April 1885, 6 years before his death. Francis was still alive at the time, and she was to receive all of his real estate with the children receiving equal shares on her death. In fact, she predeceased him by a year.

Acknowledging his poor health in February 1891 he executed the following document:

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I Benjamin Baker of Brookville...appoint Levi Baker attorney...and to release when fully paid the mortgage on the lands of Levi Turner near said village in Clay Township...\textsuperscript{102}

From the Dayton newspaper on 17 March 1891 in Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio:

Brookville: Benjamin Baker, far in his eighties, born and raised in this township and county, is becoming quite feeble and entirely helpless, living on the old farm he owned for many years, now the property of his son-in-law Levi Turner, but now occupied by another son-in-law Luther M Bryant and his wife. His son Simon lives here also. Old "Uncle Ben" as he is familiarly called, cannot stay with us much longer. \textsuperscript{103}

Ben’s estate was probated on 25 March 1891.\textsuperscript{104} Executor Levi Baker was paid for expenses at Ben’s last sickness of $2.00 and son-in-law Luther Bryant was paid for attendance and maintenance of Benjamin and Simon for February and March, and for 2 ½ weeks for Simon following Ben’s death.

Benjamin BAKER and Francis NISWONGER had the following children. Information for the children has been incorporated from other researchers and has not been verified.

i. Sadie BAKER was born on 13 March 1831 in Brookville, Montgomery, Ohio; location from residence of father. She appeared in the census: in 1850 in Clay Township, in 1870 in Willow Springs, Douglas, Kansas. Husband Eli Florey, in 1880 in Willow Springs, Douglas, Kansas. Husband Obieiah, in 1900 in Palmyra Township, Douglas, Kansas, with husband Eberhart, can’t read his name, in 1910 in Palmyra Township, Douglas, Kansas; with her grandson age 15, Earl Flora. Sadie died in 1920 at the age of 89 in Kansas.\textsuperscript{105}

ii. Malinda BAKER was born on 25 September 1832 in Brookville; location from residence of father. She appeared in the census in 1870, 1880, and 1900 in Clay Township. She died on 18 August 1918 at the age of 85. Married Henry Rasor. Cannot find Henry or Malinda in 1910 census. She was also known as Malindy. "Henry and Malinda were industrious people, and Malinda never sat down except to eat. Their house had a big long hall, and a long closet with shelves at each end which were filled with dried apple pies, a crock full of cookies, and cans of lard. The boys in the family would slip into the closet, put a pie under their coat and go out, while Malinda would laugh. There was a fireplace in each room, upstairs and down...There would be chicken and noodles to eat, gravy and mashed potatoes, home-made bread, honey, apple butter, cheese, pie and coffee. There was a big orchard and nothing was sprayed. In one room upstairs that looked like a porch, there were shelves all around the sides, all filled with crocks of apple butter. They did not use sugar. There was a spring house with spring water running through it. It was paved with large stones. The spring water ran through it, with a deep place for the water. Malinda made lots of yellow cheese in a round pan, and the trough with running water kept everything cool."\textsuperscript{106}

iii. Noah BAKER was born on 11 April 1834 in Clay Township; location from residence of father. He appeared in the census in 1860, and 1880 in Brookville. Noah died on 2 December 1909 at the age of 75 in Brookville. He lived at 115 Western Ave, Brookville. He owned the land along Western Ave from Wolf Creek Pike to Westbrook Road. He was a saw mill proprietor. Noah was associated with Methodists. Married August 31, 1854 Catherine Litten, 11 children.\textsuperscript{107}

\textsuperscript{102} Montgomery County, Ohio Deed Book, Book 174 487.
\textsuperscript{103} Article, Dayton Herald, Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, March 17, 1891. Brookville "news".
\textsuperscript{104} Will (Benjamin Baker), book P:479, case #15660, original probate packet.
\textsuperscript{105} Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk. Johns, Jacob Baker.
\textsuperscript{107} Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk. Johns, Jacob Baker.
iv. Levi BAKER was born on 9 June 1836 in Clay Township; location from residence of father. From 1863 to 1900 he was in Clay Township; a farmer for 4 years, he then joined father in grain trade and shipper of tobacco. Station and express agent in Brookville. President of Citizen's Bank of Brookville 1862 to 1870. General Merchandize then produce and stock business only. He appeared in the census in 1870 and 1880 in Clay Township. For 13 years he was assessor in Clay Township; postmaster, land appraiser for 2 terms; member of school board and of town council; 3 years head of infirmary, town treasurer. He died on 5 July 1913 at the age of 77 in Brookville. Levi was associated with United Brethren Church, but 2nd wife was of German Baptist family.

v. Mary BAKER was born on 25 August 1838 in Clay Township; location from residence of father. She appeared in the census in 1860 and 1900 in Clay Township with John J Williams, daughter Emma and brother Simon Baker in 1900. Mary died in 1911 at the age of 73. She was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington. Married 1 January 1857 John J Williams, 4 children.

vi. Cyrus BAKER was born on 2 October 1840 in Clay Township; location from residence of father. Not in 1840 or 1850 census. Baker Family notes says died when a baby.

vii. Simon BAKER was born on 18 April 1842 in Brookville; location from residence of father. On all census records with Benjamin through 1880. He appeared in the census in 1900 in Brookville with sister Mary and her husband and daughter. Simon could read but not write, was a farm worker. He died in June 1908 at the age of 66 in Brookville. He was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington.

viii. Amanda BAKER was born on 26 February 1844 in Brookville; location from residence of father. She appeared in the census in 1870 in Clay Township. She died on 18 Jun 1877 at the age of 33 in Clay Township. Amanda was also known as Mandy. She was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington. Married James H Martin 1 April 1862, 3 children.

ix. Sarah Ann BAKER was born on 20 July 1846 in Brookville; location from residence of father. She appeared in the census in 1870 in Madison Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She appeared in the census in 1920 in Clay Township, living on her own with neighbors of her age, a widow. Sarah died on 4 July 1926 at the age of 79 in Montgomery County, Ohio. She was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington. Married Josiah "Jesse" Weaver, 4 children.

x. Joanna BAKER was born on 2 December 1848, Brookville; married Levi H TURNER, 24 October 1867, Brookville; died 6 April 1905, Brookville.

xi. Sylvester BAKER was born on 7 May 1853 in Clay Township; location from residence of father. He appeared in the census in 1880 in Union, Randolph, Indiana; with wife Ella, daughter Amber and son Herbert. Died May 5, 1886 Kansas City, Missouri, age 32 years 11 months 23 days. Sylvester was buried in Parish Cemetery, Arlington; Sec 1 row 20. Married Augusta Cusick December 23, 1870 (Ella in census), 2 children.

xii. Minerva BAKER was born on 7 September 1855 in Brookville; location from residence of father. No date given in Baker Family notes. She appeared in the census in 1930 in Brookville; her nephew Chester Turner was living with her. She died on 28 Jan 1945 at the age of 89 in Brookville. Married Luther Moral Bryant. In 1870 he was superintendent of the Montgomery County Infirmary, she the matron. In 1896 she read a paper to a convention of infirmary officials.

108 Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk. History of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 396.
110 Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk.
113 Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk. Johns, Jacob Baker, p 176
114 Baker Family Notes; from papers of Eulalia Dillman Van Kirk.
Transcription of Jacob Baker Will:

Last will and testament of Jacob Beaker, [no residence given] recorded June 7, 1956
For the Furst [sic] to Plantation is to be farmt [sic] yet for one year and after that vandue [sic] is to be made and the debts paid and if there is not sufciend [sic] except the Plantation the one that keeps it shall pay the balance out of it of the debts the one that takes the Plantation shall pay two hundred pounds and shall have four years to pay the furst payment and after that is to pay fifteen pounds every year til the plantation is paid, the Mother is to have the uper rume [sic] and she shall have fifteen Bushels of wheat and one Hundred Pounds Porke and Beef and one cow and fifteen pounds flax and fifteen pounds toe and six pounds woull [sic] and one per Shues [sic] and twenty five pounds sugar the Oldest is to receive his Shear furst and after that according to the age the three boys that is married has received Each of them fifteen Pounds and Kedey [sic] has Received ten pounds and Peggy has Rec. five pounds and after that Jacob and George and Jonathan alike Each of them is to receive fifteen pounds and after that Elizabeth and Jonathan alike each of them is to receive ten pounds and Bangaman [sic] is to have the Plantation and John Beaker and the Mother is to be the Administrators and Mother is to have Six Pounds of the Vandue Money 1793. John Beaker witnesses George Fockler and Jacob Smucker

Transcription of Benjamin Baker's Will

In the name of Benevolent Father of All, I Benjamin Baker of Brookville Ohio do make and publish this my last will and testament. Item 1st I direct and order that after my death all my just debts be fully paid. Item 2nd I devise and bequeath to my wife Francis Baker all my personal estate to have and to hold in her own right, and I do give and bequeath to her all said personal property absolutely to use and dispose of as she may see fit and proper, but if any of said personal property shall remain undisposed of at the time of the death of my said wife, and all moneys notes or other personal property or any interest on the same unused or undisposed of as above stated by my said wife at her death shall be divided among my children and their heirs if any of my children be dead according to the laws of the state of Ohio. Item 3rd I so hereby give and bequeath to my wife Frances Baker all my real estate wherever the same may be except what is herein after devised to my son Simon Baker for life, for and during the term of her natural life, and after the death of my said wife it is my desire and I do hereby give and devise the said real estate to my children, or their heirs in the same manner as is pointed out by the laws of the state of Ohio in reference to the descent of real estate. Item 4th I do hereby devise and bequeath to my son Simon Baker my house and two lots numbered 39 & 40 of "B" Bakers Addition to the town of Brookville, Ohio to have and to hold for his use and support for and during the term of his natural life and after his death the said house and lots nos 39& 40 are to go to my said wife Francis Baker for her natural life and then after her death the said real estate mentioned this item is to descend to my children and their heirs according the laws of Ohio and further I do hereby

Montgomery County, Ohio, p 416.
117 "Page from Bedford County, Pennsylvania Will Book recorded 7 June 1956," , Markham Museum, 9350 High #48, Markham, Ontario, Canada.
point my son Noah Baker guardian over the person and property of said Simon Baker to attend to 
the management of the estate herein devised to my said son Simon as long as he shall live. Item 
5th All gifts and devises made herein to my said wife is in lieu of her dower and any interest in 
my personal estate. Item 6th After my death I desire and direct that my children and their heirs 
shall after the death of my said wife come in to share of my estate in the same manner as the 
state of Ohio point out without any account being taken of any advancement made to them or 
either of them and without any deduction for indebtedness due me from them or either of them-
and they are each and all to share of my estate after the death of my wife according to laws of 
Ohio and in the same manner as if no advancement had been made or indebtedness incurred. 
Item 7th I do hereby constitute and appoint my son Levi Baker my executor of this my last will 
and testament with full power to settle up my estate in the manner herein pointed out. Item 8th It 
is my will that after the death of my wife that if my children and their heirs can agree that my 
estate be divided among them without court proceedings. Item 9th I do hereby revoke all former 
wills by me made In testimony hereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of April 
AD 1885. 
Benjamin Baker 
Signed and acknowledges by said Benjamin Baker as his last will and testament in out presence 
and signed by us in her presence and in the presence of each other. Leonardas S Crickmore, 
Daniel Schaeffer
Brecht Family

Line of Descent: Kuntz, Christoph, Balthasar, Johannes Michael, Johannes Stephan, Anna Maria [see Baker family]

The Brecht family has been traced back to the 1500s in the area that is now Karlsruhe and Baden-Württemberg, Germany. The two locations, Karlsruhe and Schriesheim, are about 30 miles apart and involved a move to the north. It is difficult to know for sure why the move took place, but it followed the 30 Years War (1618-1648). Many families migrated to new areas at this time since their prospects at home were bleak having lost homes and crops. Meanwhile towns were trying to replace lost population by actively recruiting new families.

Schriesheim, the new home of the Brecht family, met the definition of a town in need. Virtually destroyed by the wars, only about 40 families returned after the final French invasion. The population was rebuilt by immigrants, many of them Swiss Reformed, Catholics, Lutherans, and Jews. Grapes had been cultivated for the production of wine since the 8th Century, and this type of agriculture again became the mainstay of the town’s economy. Although the occupation of the Brechts is not known, the Hoffmans, who married into the family, were grape producers as well as city officials.

Schriesheim is 6 miles north of Heidelberg on the Berstrasse or Mountain Road, a tourist route of small wine villages in 2011. It is about 15 miles east of Mannheim, making it a commuter community.

The old town remains much as it was in the time of the Brechts, however, surrounded by the new construction. The old market square still hosted a Saturday market in front of the original Rathaus or City Hall.

It was possible to find the addresses, but not the original buildings, for the residences of the
Brechts. They lived just off the market square. The Hoffman home is now the location of the upscale King's Inn Hotel.

I found a peaceful village when I visited, nestled at the base of the mountains with the vineyards growing up to the tree line and the castle ruins. The castle burned in 1500 so was in ruins when the Brechts arrived. People were friendly and helpful to me. The old Mill Creek runs through town and was the site of several mills in the Brecht's time. It was possible to "walk in their footsteps" and to feel a connection.

The Brechts lived in Schriesheim from about 1650 to 1726. During these years a new religious group was formed, causing controversy in the community. About 1705 Alexander Mack, the founder of the Dunker Religion, developed a new theology related to the Mennonites. He was forced to leave the community, suggesting that the residents were aware of his teachings.2

Evidence suggests that the Brechts were Lutherans in Schriesheim, not Dunkers. Stephan, the immigrating ancestor, would have known of the Dunkers in Schriesheim, but baptized children in the Reformed church and was buried in the Moravian Church in Pennsylvania. The Moravians were a group that actively proselytized, and their beliefs were compatible to the Reformed Church.3 His daughter Anna Maria Brecht Baker did join the Dunker religion before her move to Canada about 1796. Many of her children, including son Michael, were also part of this religious group.

Johan Stephan Brecht, his mother Anna Katharina Hoffman, and his brother Johannes left Schriesheim in May 1726. Six years after the death of her husband, Johannes Michael Brecht, in 1719, Anna Katherina sold her home, her vineyards and her wine house. She was a rather wealthy woman, having inherited from both her husband and from her father. Stephan was 34, settled in what was then Lancaster but became Berks County, Pennsylvania. Another son, Johannes Michael Brecht age 20, believed to have arrived from Schriesheim in October 1726, may also have accompanied them. Katharina’s daughters Susanna Margaretha and Anna Elizabeth also settled in Pennsylvania.4

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2 Durnbaugh, European Origins of the Brethren. 
3 Pennsylvania Vital Records 1700-1800 (Family Tree Maker CD), Bern Reformed Church Records, p 273. Hollenbach, Moravian Church North Heidelberg Township, p 22.
4 Don Yoder, Rhineland Emigrants ( : Family Tree Maker CD #267,), p 4.
Stephan and his brother Michael purchased property about 20 miles apart. Both of them obtained title to land from the Penn family. Stephan was situated on Tulpehocken Creek, an area previously settled by Germans. His land was located just East of Bright Schoolhouse Road, in the general area of the picture taken in 2009.

Genealogical Summary

The information on the family in Germany is taken from a genealogy by Mrs. John J Ravert. She in turn corresponded with Virginia Smith Ruth of Collegeville, Pennsylvania in 1969. Virginia Ruth had corresponded with Dr. Hermann Brunn, professor at Heidelberg, who wrote "1200 Years of Schriesheim" written in German. The same information is included in Don Yoder’s Rhineland Emigrants. He apparently took his information from the Gearhart Genealogical Collection on the family at the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. A G Green in his article in the Berks Historical Review vol 1 states that the family is found in the Schriesheim Lutheran Church Records. The information presented here has not been verified from original documents.5

First Generation

Kuntz BRECHT born in Lindenfels (now Bergesstrasse, Hesse, Germany), moved to Neudorf (now Karlsruhe, Germany) before 1590. He died about 1612 in Neudorf, having married Catherine. Kuntz and Catherine were the parents of Christoph (Stoffel).

Second Generation

Christoph (Stoffel) BRECHT was born in 1591 in Neudorf (now Karlsruhe, Germany) and died in 1665 in Schriesheim (now Mannheim, Baden, Germany) at age 74. He moved to Schriesheim

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5 Don Yoder, Rhineland Emigrants (Family Tree Maker CD #267,), p 4. Catherine Henrietta Ravert, Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany (California: self published, 1985) (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, Film # 1597524, item 14). AG Green, "Historical Sketch of the Bright Family", Transactions of the Historical Society of Berks County, v1:1-5.
after the 30 Years War (1618-1648), a distance of 46 km to the north past Heidelberg. The reason for the move to this particular destination is not known. The house owned by Stoffel in Schriesheim is located beyond the courtyard of #9 Entgasse. Stoffel married Anna born 1598 and died 1683 in Schriesheim. They were the parents of Balthasar.

Third Generation

Balthasar BRECHT was born in 1636 in Neudorf and moved to Schriesheim about 1648 with his father. He died on 9 September 1703 at the age of 67 in Schriesheim. He and Anna Margareta CHRISTMAN were married on 24 August 1658 in Schriesheim. Balthasar’s house is located at #4 neue Anlage, near the brook. Balthasar and Anna Margareta had 14 children including Johannes Michael.

Fourth Generation

Johannes Michael BRECHT was born on 12 October 1662 in Schriesheim. One researcher gives his address as Kurpfalz, Bergstrasse, Schreisheim. He died on 11 August 1719 at the age of 56 in Schriesheim. He and Anna Katharina HOFFMAN were married on 29 July 1684 in Schriesheim. Anna Katharina, daughter of Hans Yost HOFFMAN and Christina FRANK, was born on 27 September 1663. Her father was a wealthy town official in Schriesheim. Johannes Michael’s home was near the larger Hoffman house in the old part of town, in 2011 the Hotel Restaurant Kaiser.

According to German records, Anna Katharina, widow of Johannes, left her home in May 1726, accompanied by two sons, Stephan and Johannes, for emigration to America. Some claim that it was son Johannes Michael, and not Johannes, who accompanied Anna Katharina. These say that Johannes came in 1731 with David (13) and Hans Wendel (10), sons of his brother Stephan, arriving on the "Brittania" on 21 September, in Philadelphia. However, the detailed passenger lists for the "Brittania" do not support these claims.

Johannes Michael BRECHT and Anna Katharina HOFFMAN had the following children:

i. Anna Elizabetha BRECHT was born in 1688 in Schriesheim. She died in 1707 in Schriesheim.
ii. Anna Margaretha BRECHT married Casper Durst 1715.
iii. Susanna BRECHT was born in 1695 in Schriesheim; married Gabriel Roscher 1723.
iv. Johann Stephan BRECHT was born on 17 February 1692, Schriesheim; married Anna Margaretha ULLRICH, 17 August 1717; married Anna KRAEMER, 23 May 1725, Schriesheim; married Elizabeth DEHUFF, abt 1742, Lancaster County (now Berks), Pennsylvania; died 24 September 1747, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
v. Johannes BRECHT was born in 1699, Schriesheim; married Anna Margaretha Romer.
vi. Johann Michael BRECHT was born on 30 May 1706 in Schriesheim; married Marguerite

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6 The Lager Diebolt Rausch Laub Genealogy [flagler@woh.rr.com, downloaded Jan 19, 2006 from Worldconnect www.rootsweb.com].
7 A reference given for the emigration record in Yoder is (Werner Hacker, "Kurpfalzische Auswanderer vom Unteren Neckar," p. 85).
8 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers, v1:47-54.
9 Ravert, Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany, p B.
Fifth Generation

Johann Stephan BRECHT (Stephan) was born on 17 February 1692 in Schriesheim; his birth date is from his gravestone. He died on 24 September 1747 at the age of 55 in Berks County, Pennsylvania, according to his tombstone. The Moravian Church Records state that he was buried on 27 September 1747 in North Heidelberg Cemetery, Lancaster (now Berks) County, now referred to as God's Acre Cemetery at Union Church of North Heidelberg, 6 miles north of Robesonia, Pennsylvania.  

Stephan and Anna Margaretha ULLRICH were married on 17 August 1717 in Schriesheim. Anna Margaretha ULLRICH was born in 1694 and she died on 29 June 1722 at the age of 27.

Following his first wife's death he married Anna KRAEMER on 23 May 1725 in Schriesheim. Anna was born about 1705 in Schriesheim. Her father is reported to have been a skipper on the Rhine. She died about 1740 at the age of 35. Her name is recorded in Berks Church Records in Pennsylvania as follows: Traxeter, and Prags zeder (Praxeter), and Pragtzeden.

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12 Ravert, Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany, p B, p6.
13 Ravert, Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany, p B.
Stephan married Elizabeth about 1742 in Lancaster (now Berks) County, Pennsylvania from the known residence of Stephan. Elizabeth is listed with Stephan as the parents at the baptism of Maria Magdalena in 1744. Elizabeth's last name has been reported as De Huff, but no proof has been found. The only clue is that John DeHuff was appointed as one of the Executors of Stephan’s will. Elizabeth’s death in 1751 was noted in the Moravian church records.14

Although Stephan probably arrived in Pennsylvania in 1726, he did not begin the process of obtaining legal title to land from the Penn family until 25 August 1735. It was a common practice for the immigrants to settle on property first before title was obtained. At his death he had acquired a total of 370 acres.15

Stephan had not taken an Oath to the English King upon arrival in Philadelphia as he came before this was a requirement. On 11 April 1741 he went to Philadelphia and registered his acceptance of communion in a Protestant church, as required by law, and then took the Oath of Allegiance. The timing of his completing this act was likely tied to broader political considerations. In 1741 Penn recruited church groups to get Germans naturalized as a support to the position of the Penn family against the Quakers. Germans generally supported the idea of a militia to protect the frontiers against the Indians while the Quakers were opposing this move.16

Stephan’s will was written on 6 Jan 1745/6 in Lancaster (now Berks) County and four years later his estate was probated on 6 March 1749/50.17 The Orphans Court record that is part of the estate filings show David Brecht and Wendell Brecht, the older sons of Stephan, were appointed Guardians over George Adam, Margaret, Catherine, Mary, Elizabeth and Magdalena the younger. Loose papers found at the Lancaster Historical Society give an account of Stephan’s properties. John DeHuff and Michael Brecht were the executors who authorized payment of £66.11.0 to each child, including Anna Maria. Conrad Weiser, a well known figure in the Tulpehocken area, was paid to write the will and the bill of sale. The estate was valued at £334.3.1 On 20 March 1752 the effects of Elizabeth, widow, were listed with the court. Since Stephan signed his will it appears that he had received an education.18

Hans Steffen was another version of this man's name.19 His sons and brother Michael’s family used the surname “Bright” in the years following Stephan’s death.

When Stephan died in 1747 at the age of 55, he left 6 children under aged. His eldest sons, David and Wendell, were appointed their guardians. It was only 4 years later that wife Elizabeth died. Her daughter was 8 years old and Anna Maria, the youngest child from the 2nd wife, was 11. No

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14 Albert and Smith, *The Burial Records of God's Acre in Heidelberg*. Hollenbach, Moravian Church North Heidelberg Township, p 47.
17 *Pennsylvania Vital Records 1700-1800*.
19 Ravert, *Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany*, p B.
records have been found to document what happened to Maria when her step-mother died. Did she go to live with her uncle Michael in Heidelberg Township and possibly meet her husband Jacob Baker there?

Johann Stephan BRECHT and Anna Margaretha ULLRICH had the following children:

i. Maria Magdalena BRECHT was born on 13 April 1718 in Schriesheim. She died on 15 Jan 1719 in Schriesheim.  

ii. David BRECHT was born on 8 September 1719 in Schriesheim. He died on 2 Jan 1796 at the age of 76 in Bern Township, Lancaster (now Berks), Pennsylvania. He lived on the farm inherited from his father. Married Sarah, 8 children.

iii. Hans Wendel BRECHT was born on 27 July 1721 in Schriesheim. He died in 1785 at the age of 64 in Alexandria, Virginia. He sold his inheritance in Berks in 1754 and moved to Virginia; married Mary Elizabeth.

Johann Stephan BRECHT and Anna KRAEMER had the following children:

i. George Adam BRECHT was born about 1731 in Berks County, Pennsylvania. He died in 1794 at the age of 63, probably in Virginia. Married Maria Catherina Kaufel. He left home at age 21, sold his inheritance 1754 and moved to Baltimore for 2-3 yrs, then to Augusta County, Virginia; used surname "Bright", 9 children.

ii. Eva Margaretha BRECHT was born in 1733 in Lancaster (now Berks) County, Pennsylvania.

iii. Catrina BRECHT was born in 1735 in Lancaster County (now Berks), Pennsylvania.

iv. Elizabeth BRECHT was born in 1738 in Berks County, Pennsylvania; parents Stephan Band wife Trazeta, sponsor Gottfried Tiller and wife Elizabeth.

v. Anna Maria BRECHT born in 1740, Lancaster County (now Berks), Pennsylvania; married Jacob BAKER, about 1757, died York, Ontario, Canada.

Johann Stephan BRECHT and Elizabeth had the following child:

i. Maria Magdalena BRECHT was born in 1743 in North Heidelberg Township, Lancaster (now Berks Co) Pennsylvania. She was baptized on 14 Jun 1744 at Moravian Church in North Heidelberg Township, Lancaster (now Berks Co) Pennsylvania, sponsors Anton Wagner and Elizabeth Wagner. She is reported to have died in 1811 at the age of 68. Maria was buried in Moravian Cemetery, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. "She wished nothing to be said about her but that Christ was her light, her guiding star".

20 Ravert, Family of Stephen Brecht/Bright 1692-1746 and his Descendants of Schriesheim, Germany, p 6.
22 Brecht, Brecht Family Genealogy in America, p26.
28 Hollenbach, Moravian Church North Heidelberg Township, p 22. Johns, Jacob Baker, p 19F.
Smucker Family

Line of Descent: Jacob, Catherine [see BAKER family]

The Smucker family lived in an area of Pennsylvania now known as Somerset County. On the southern border of the state, good farmland was available from 1768 when the Indians were removed by treaty and additional land was purchased by the Penn family. This was the frontier of the time, located west of the Alleghany Mountains. The area where Jacob Smucker settled was originally known as Brothers Valley, and was settled by Germans, many of the Dunker faith. One of the earlier settlers in this area, Jacob Smucker obtained a warrant for 300 acres of land on 5 November 1773. Quite possibly he was residing on the land for a few years before the warrant was filed. He named his claim “Flower Garden”.

The Revolutionary War in this area was primarily a battle against the Indians. No British troops fought west of the Susquehanna River. A militia, the Fifth Company under Capt James Wells, was formed in 1777. There are no records for this company in 1778 or 1779 as some of the area was abandoned due to the Indian threats. The battles waged to the east were likely known to the local residents, but the local battles with the Indians were the main concerns.

It is likely that Jacob was of the Mennonite or Dunker faith. His location in the Brothers Valley area would support the claim. Additionally, he apparently did not actively participate in the Revolutionary War. No record for Jacob has been found in the militia, although this is not conclusive as records are incomplete. By 1789 he was listed as being subject to militia duty, but there is no record that he joined. There was also an Oath of Allegiance signed in 1778 but no Jacob is found on the list. Members of the Mennonite or Dunker faiths would not have participated in the war nor signed the oath. They often did pay taxes, however, and Jacob paid the “Class Tax” of 1782 which supported the costs of the new government. Jacob’s daughter Catherine married into the Baker family, members of the Dunker Church.

In Bedford/Somerset County, Jacob is frequently referred to as “Smooker” or “Smoker” in addition to Smucker. The Smucker name is found in Switzerland. Jacob was described as a successful farmer, known for his physical strength and long grey beard. He resided on the same land for 45 years or more. Unfortunately there is little in the way of documentation of his life.

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1 Originally Cumberland, then Bedford, then Somerset County in 1795. The name of the township evolved from Lincoln to Quemahoning in 1775 and Somerset in 1796.
2 First Pennsylvania Landowners, CD # PS00 from Ancestor Tracks [from Colonial and State Warrant Registers in PA Archives 1682-ca 1940], Bedford County.
3 Larry D Smith, Mother Bedford Website, [www.motherbedford.com, downloaded March 23, 2008].
4 Yoder, Rhineland Emigrants, p 140.
5 Johns, Jacob Baker.
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

**Jacob Smucker** was born about 1750 based upon the birth of his first known child and his age reported in the census. His marriage was likely about 1771, and the name of his first wife is unknown. He died after 1830 when he was in the census and before 1840 when he was not recorded.

Anna Musser Brubaker was the second wife, but there is no marriage record. The only name for a wife of Jacob is Anna found on deeds dated 18 November 1813 and 1 October 1819. When Jacob sold his original land to his son 12 April 1819 there was no wife mentioned. It seems likely that Anna died before this transaction since she is not referenced in the agreement for maintenance with John in May of that year. Perhaps her appearance on the 1 October 1819 deed is in error. Jacob apparently did marry again following the 1820 census. No record has been found for the mother of the children.  

Other researchers have reported that Jacob was born on board the ship *Marlboro* coming to Philadelphia in 1741 and that his father was Johan Nickolus who moved to Carlisle, Cumberland County. To date no supporting evidence for this man or his father has been found. No records have been located for any Smuckers in Cumberland County. Additional immigrants with the Smucker name include:

- Christian Schmucker, a Mennonite, arrived in 1752. He had a son Jacob who remained in Lancaster County.
- Jacob Schmuck arrived in 1738 and can be found in Lancaster County. He is still there in 1779 so this is not the Jacob followed here. No additional information has been found on his family.

At this time there is no reliable information on the ancestry of Jacob.  

Tax, property, and census records are the only source of information for this family. Jacob appears on tax lists from 1775 through 1800. The 1775 list indicated he had cultivated 9 acres of the 300 he held, with 2 horses and 2 cows. Over the years he increased the number of horses to 3 and the number of cattle to 4, with the addition of 7 sheep.

Family tradition indicates the family was first on the Emert and Jacobs farms. A Wendell Emert was a neighbor in 1819 but no additional tie between the families has been identified.

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7 Johns, Jacob Baker.
Property owned by Jacob can be summarized as follows:

- "Flower Garden", warranted to Jacob in 1773, was patented to him in 1793. On 12 April 1819 Jacob sold 352 3/4 acres for £200 to his son John. The land was described "with sides on the path from the Glades to Quemahoning where the great road crosses..." Neighbors were John Musser, Joseph Heikler, and Wendell Emert. No wife is mentioned.\(^\text{10}\)

- He bought from John and Mary Baker (brother of Michael, husband of Catherine Smucker) 209 acres for £300 on 14 March 1801. This land was described as being between the forks of Hells Creek with neighbors Frederick, Monstaller, Herman Blazer, and Jacob Hall. Witnesses were John Wells and Josiah Estry.\(^\text{11}\) A deed dated 1 October 1819 from Jacob and wife Ann sold this land to Henry Baker of Brothers Valley for £300, along with the additional part of the Hanover patent (see below). Two German signatures were the witnesses but could not be read. It was signed by Jacob without Ann’s mark, although she appeared to release her share. The deed was recorded 10 November 1819.\(^\text{12}\)

- On 8 August 1805 he warranted "Hanover", 60 acres that were patented the following year on 28 March 1806.\(^\text{13}\) 18 November 1813 he sold half of this parcel to Israel Penrod for $10. This land abutted the land of Israel and of Absolom Casebeer who had reportedly married Jacob's daughter Elizabeth. This deed is signed by Jacob, indicating that he was educated. It is also signed by Anna Smoker with her mark.\(^\text{14}\)

The land neighboring Jacob’s was for sale in 1787 and described as follows:

"The above lands are in the middle of a German settlement and likely to become very valuable from the extension of the navigation into the western country by the Virginia Company, from which navigation it will not be more than a day's journey."\(^\text{15}\)

From the description of "Flower Garden" Jacob's land was crossed by the "great road", in this case the Forbes Road from Carlisle to Pittsburgh.

Jacob and his family appear on census records. Some of the federal censuses for this area are listed alphabetically so the names of neighbors cannot be determined. In 1784 he is listed in the Quemahoning Township census on 200 acres with 1 dwelling and 6 white inhabitants.\(^\text{16}\) By the 1790 federal census there are 7 in the household, including two males over 16. It is possible that the second male is Michael Baker, husband of daughter Catherine.\(^\text{17}\) 1800 and 1810 show the

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\(^\text{10}\) Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #558760, Book 8:275.
\(^\text{11}\) Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #558759, Book 7:132.
\(^\text{12}\) Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #558759, Book 7:143.
\(^\text{14}\) Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #588759, Book 6:347.
\(^\text{15}\) "To Be Sold or Let, Tracts of Patented Land" article, Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 3 Mar 1787, [http://www.newenglandancestors.org/database_search/3374.asp, downloaded Feb 26, 2008].
\(^\text{16}\) Jan Hoy, website [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pacquema, downloaded March 23, 2008].
household as expected, with an extra young man in 1810. ¹⁸

An agreement between Jacob and his son John was recorded 19 May 1819. John is identified specifically as the son and gave a bond to Jacob in the amount of $3,000 to guarantee that John will care for Jacob. An abstract of the agreement is as follows:

John Smucker of Somerset Township, farmer, son of Jacob Smucker of same place, "bond unto my father...three thousand dollars...paid to the said Jacob Smucker his certain attorney executors administrators or assigns..." Condition of obligation, Jacob having deeded Flower Garden to John, John agrees to maintain Jacob "and his wife shall he marry again and not during the natural life of his wife, that is to say he doth not agree to maintain such wife or widow, after the death of his said father..." John shall provide "every accommodation for him and them during the lifetime of said Jacob so as to render his life comfortable" and take care of stock that Jacob may want to keep for riding or other use "...that he will at all times act the part of the Loving and Dutiful son to his said aged father and his household during the lifetime of the said Jacob." Witnesses John Wills and Abraham Faith. signed by John recorded 19 May 1819 ¹⁹

In the 1820 census Jacob appears to be living with son John as he is not listed separately and there are two males over 45 years in John's household. However, by 1830 Jacob, age 70-80, a female age 60-70, and a young female 5-10 years are listed as a separate household. Possibly wife Anna died before 1820 and he married again before 1830. By 1840 no Jacob of the right age is found, suggesting that he died between the census years. ²⁰

Jacob SMUCKER had the following children:

i. Catherine SMUCKER was born on 3 March 1773, Somerset County, Pennsylvania (tombstone date 10 March); married Michael BAKER, about 1789, Bedford County (now Somerset), Pennsylvania; died on 2 Jan 1859, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio ²¹

ii. John SMUCKER a son of Jacob proven by bond dated April 12, 1819. He is listed in the census 1800 through 1840.

iii. Elizabeth SMUCKER was born on 18 April 1782. She died on 30 Jan 1873 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. She is in the household of Jacob Casebeer in 1860 age 77, born Pennsylvania. Married Absalom John Casebeer. ²²

iv. Unknown SMUCKER was born from 1775 to 1785. ²³ from listing on 1790 and 1800 census. Out of household in 1810. Presumed to be an additional child of Jacob.

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¹⁹ Somerset County, Pennsylvania Deed Book, FHL film #588760, Book 8:308.
²¹ Johns, Jacob Baker, p 37. From note with Quilt.
²² Johns, Jacob Baker, p 33.
²³ 1800 US Census, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, roll 43; page 516; image 133.
Niswonger Family

Line of Descent: John, John, Francis [see BAKER Family]

The family of John Niswonger, who came to Shenandoah County, Virginia in the 1770s, has not been found. The name, however, is distinctive and suggests a probable Swiss origin. The original name, Neuenschwander, was a place name, being a farm near the village of Eggwiil in the Emmenthal Valley of Canton Bern. It meant "newly cleared land". The term was the name of a farm community and was used eventually as a family name for people who came from there. Niswonger is a variation of the original Neuenschwander and is also spelled Niswanger.

Daniel W Bly has written of the Virginia Niswanger families in From the Rhine to the Shenandoah. One family group was a member of the Mennonite faith with the spelling that retained the "der" ending. This family group of Langnau is found in Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley. A second grouping is often found with the "ger" ending, and is part of the Reformed Church with no known Anabaptist ties. Christian Niswanger of Frederick County, Virginia heads this family of Eggwiil who came to Pennsylvania via the Rhineland. Bly specifically mentions that he was not able to connect the John Niswonger followed here with either of these groups.\(^1\)

The family groupings in Frederick County, Virginia are a logical option for John's origin, although no records were found to establish a connection. Besides the geographic proximity, a court case where John was a witness against John Magill in 1782 is the only tie. This John Magill was likely the one who lived in Frederick County and not the Magill family covered here who were in Augusta (now Rockingham) County.

A history of Darke County, Ohio includes a biography of George E Niswonger, great-great-grandson of John, which states that John came from Germany and settled in Virginia.\(^2\) It was not possible to identify him in the list of immigrants in Pennsylvania German Pioneers.\(^3\)

John, the first known generation in this family, made three major moves in the 49 years between 1773 when he is first found in the records and his death about 1821. He first appeared in Shenandoah County in the northern end of the Shenandoah Valley, on Holman Creek. To reach this location he likely came by wagon down the Great Wagon Road, finding Holman Creek just to the west of the Road. About 10 years later he moved to Botetourt County toward the southern end of the Valley. This again was a trip by wagon about 200 miles further down the Great Wagon Road and then going west to near the headwaters of the James River.

Finally at age 62 in 1812 John were on his way to Ohio. He probably went back to the Great Wagon Road and headed south, crossed through the Cumberland Gap on the Wilderness Road,

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1 Daniel W Bly, From the Rhine to the Shenandoah (Baltimore, Maryland: Gateway Press, 2002) v3:150.
2 Biographical History of Darke County, Ohio (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co, 1900). P 710
3 Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers.
crossed Kentucky and the Ohio River and traveled north from Cincinnati to Montgomery County, Ohio. Virginia was surrounded by mountains on a major river, a big contrast to the flat country of western Ohio. John's property in Virginia had been owned by settlers before him and thus would have been at least partially cleared. When the Niswongers arrived in Ohio, however, they came to the frontier. They would have been the ones to clear the land of the trees, but once done the Ohio land was very fertile so crops were plentiful.

The National Road, the first macadam road and the first built by the national government, crossed the Niswonger land when it was completed in this area in 1836. Beginning in Baltimore, it went to St Louis and was a major thoroughfare for people and freight moving across the country. Although it handled a lot of traffic, there was probably less impact than one would expect on the Niswonger land before 1836 since this section was not paved for several years. The road did not go through Dayton and merchants there got together and paved an alternate route that went via Dayton and Eaton in Preble County (current highway 35). When travelers came to the junction, the road straight ahead was dirt so they often headed south on the "spur" thinking they were following "The Road". Most of the traffic thus bypassed the Niswonger’s property.

Genealogical Summary

First Generation

John NISWONGER was born about 1750, as estimated from the reported birth of his first child. He died in Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio between the time he wrote his will on 10 July 1821 and 3 June 1822 when probate of his estate was initiated. His wife was named Elizabeth in deeds of 1782 and after but no indication of her maiden name has been found. He probably was married about 1775 from the 1776 birth of Jacob.

John was about 25 years old at the start of the Revolutionary War, but no record of his service has been found. There are other John Niswongers who did serve, and possibly he was one of that name on the list but he cannot be identified.

Shenandoah County

The stay in Shenandoah County was only for a period of about 10 years. John apparently started his family here as his first 5 children were born during these years. He probably came here as a newly married man.

4 Conversation by Beverly Brice with Wayne Watkins, Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio in April 2006.
5 Barbara E McIntosh World Connect, [http:\www.rootsweb.com, accessed Nov 13, 2004]. Botetourti County, Tithables, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film # 2024486), 1793 p 24. 35.
The first record for John was in 1773 when he sued Charles Beale for debt and won the case.\footnote{Amelia C. Gilreath, \textit{Order Books, Shenandoah County, Virginia (abstracted)} (Nokesville, Virginia: self published, 1986-1987), vol 1 p 144, 175 vol 2 p 25, 43, 104.} The first recorded land purchase did not occur until 28 April 1778 when he bought 228 acres for £550 on the south fork of Holman Creek.\footnote{Shenandoah County, Virginia \textit{Deed Book,} (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #33888) Book C:18, 19.} Since this is the piece of land sold by him when he left the area in 1782, it is possible that he resided here for 5 years before he was a land owner.

John and his family probably left Holman Creek area after 24 April 1782 when he sold the 228 acres for the purchase price of £550.\footnote{Shenandoah County, Virginia \textit{Deed Book FHL} film #33888 Book C:476.} His land purchase in Botetourt County was 13 June 1782. Apparently he did not leave immediately, however, for on August 31, 1782 John Niswonger was paid £140 tobacco for attendance of 3 days and riding 22 miles as witness against John Magill. Another court case was listed on 25 September 1783 as John Niswonger vs Robert Kile, but it was settled by agreement between parties and it is not known if he was actually in the county at the time.\footnote{Gilreath, \textit{Order books, Shenandoah County, Virginia (abstracted)} vol 1 p 144, 175 vol 2 p 25, 43, 104.}

There appears to be only one John Niswonger in Shenandoah County at this time. It is possible that he is the same person as "Jacob" also appearing in a few records since the last land sale was first recorded in the name of "Jacob" Niswonger but the next day, for the same land, the payment was to John and Elizabeth. This does not rule out the presence of a Jacob, however. If another Niswonger was in Holman's Creek, it is likely that they were related.

**Botetourt County**

John and his family's next move was to Botetourt County, Virginia. The family with 5 children traveled about 100 miles by wagon down the Shenandoah Valley on "The Great Road" and then from near Lexington into the foothills. Although German families settled in Botetourt County from the 1770s, the motivation for the Niswonger move is not clear.\footnote{Robert Douthat Stoner, \textit{A Seed-Bed of the Republic} (Roanoke Virginia: Roanoke Historical Society, 1962).} He did not go alone, however, as others from Holman Creek made the move at the same time. Peter Circle and Jacob Moyer settled on the north side of the James River close to the Locust Bottom Church. John's property was on the south side of the river. The exact location of the Niswonger land has not been identified. Was it directly across the river from the Circle property?

The valley in the mountains is very beautiful, even on a rainy day in 2006. The river is good sized although very near the headwaters of the James. Driving from the headwaters to Locust Bottom, there were nice fields and then the hills came right up to the river. When it was good fields on one side it would be closed in on the other. All was so very lush, very green, lots of trees.
James River Valley, Locust Bottom, Botetourt Virginia.
From the north side of the river. Niswonger land possibly on far side of back row of trees marking the river. Higher mountains in the distance are the Appalachian Mountains. (visit in 2006)

On 13 June 1782 John purchased his 174 acres for £436.13 The river bottom land is fertile soil and was probably worth the extra cost as compared to the Holman Creek area. John was listed in the tax rolls of Botetourt County from 1783 to 1811. 14 It was during this period that he bought additional land including 172 acres for £75 on 13 January 1797 which he sold for £500 in September 1807.15 It is hard to compare land values during these years after the Revolutionary War as inflation, land speculation, and general economic chaos reigned.

On 12 June 1798 John again purchased additional land, this time 130 acres on the same side of the James River for £25 pounds from William and Martha Davidson.16 For some reason this land was not sold by John when he left the area and on 20 March 1848 the Sheriff of Botetourt County sold the land at auction.

160 acres on James River the taxes of which last mentioned tract in charge in the name of John Nicewonger it being alleged to be the same land that was conveyed to the said John Nicewonger by William Davidson and Martha his wife by deed bearing date June 12, 1798...South side of James River. This purchase was for 172 acres. 17

John was the only Niswonger listed in Botetourt County records, except for his sons as they came of age, until 1800 when a Christian is listed in another part of the county. A Balarwin Nicewanger [sic] was a witness to a marriage bond for John’s daughter Barbara in 1794. No further information has been found for him, although there was likely some connection to John’s family.18

John and Elizabeth sold the 174 acres he had held since coming to Botetourt County in 1782 on 4 September 1811 along with an additional 115 acres on the James River. The price was £700. This deed is “signed” by the mark of both John and Elizabeth, although she could not conveniently travel to court on 11 September 1811 when John appeared. Since John signed with a mark, he was not educated.19

13 Botetourt County, Virginia Deed Book, (Family History Library, Salt lake City, Utah, film #30703) v3 p77.
14 Botetourt County, Tithables, (Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, film #1906467 and #2024486).
17 Botetourt County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #30715 v 29:103.
18 Robert Douthat Stoner, A Seed-Bed of the Republic, appendix.
19 Botetourt County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #30706 vol 10:555.
Montgomery County, Ohio

Ohio is the next home of the Niswongers. On 21 October 1805 John Niswonger of Virginia bought 320 acres from the government land office in Cincinnati, Ohio. This was the land settled by his sons John and Samuel by 1812 or earlier, the actual year they moved there is uncertain.\(^{20}\) The purchase was probably by father John as his son was younger than 21 at the time. Perhaps sons John and Samuel were the ones who had “Ohio Fever” since they were the residents on this land. If son John went to Ohio to investigate the land in 1805, he came back to Virginia to marry in 1807 and then established his home in Ohio.

John Sr apparently went to Ohio following the 1811 Botetourt land sale as on 10 February 1812 in Randolph (now Clay) Township; he purchased the NE quarter of section 24, next to the original Ohio purchase.\(^{21}\) This was the land referred to in his will. On 2 October 1820 John sold the 170 acres in the NE quarter of section 24 to George for $1000.\(^{22}\) His daughter Susannah and John Swank lived on the NW quarter of this section, and sons John and Samuel lived in Section 23, the original purchase, on the other side of the Swanks. The map was created from the 1820 Tax List.\(^{23}\)

John died between 10 July 1821 when he wrote his will and 3 June 1822 when probate was initiated for his estate. He gave to son George the “land we now live on”, various farming equipment, and “the said George shall at his own expense during my lifetime furnish me in the house we now live in, in clothing boarding washing and lodging sufficiently in sickness and in health…” All money was divided between sons Jacob, David, Samuel, and John. His daughters Barbara Ferrel, Elizabeth Hernberger, and Susannah Swank had received their share. Daughter Mary Stewart Craviston’s children were to use the land they live on for 17 years.\(^{24}\)

From the sale of land in 1782, 1807 and 1811 we see that John’s wife is named Elizabeth. She was not able to travel to the court on 11 September 1811. Was she ill? It is not certain that she went to Ohio as there is no direct record of her there. John’s will does say that George is to deliver personal property to his executor:

...such parts thereof that he uses he shall make as good as they were at his mother’s death namely four bedticks [sic] with feathers in them two feather bolsters to feather pillows two coverlets one counterpane two bedsteads one table one checkreel [sic] three chairs two backboards two [?] two blind saddles two belly bands two collars two pair [?] two halter chains with their collars one leg chain one trunk one kettle, one

\(^{20}\) Berry and Berry, Early Ohio Settlers: Purchasers of Land in South Western Ohio 1800-1840, p 241.
\(^{22}\) Montgomery County, Ohio Deed Book, H:351.
\(^{23}\) Brookville Historical Society, Brookville, Ohio Tax Maps, 1820.
This could be interpreted to mean that Elizabeth lived with George as well. However, she is not referred to in the requirement that George provide for John’s room and board in the will. She probably died before the will was written on 10 July 1821, and before the last deed signed by John on 20 October 1820 which she did not sign.

John NISWONGER and probably Elizabeth had the following children:

1. Jacob Franklin NISWONGER was born on 5 March 1776 in Virginia. First listed in Botetourt County, Virginia Tax list at age 16 in 1793. In 1798 first named in Botetourt County, Virginia tax records, suggests 21. He died on 5 May 1835 in Xenia, Greene, Ohio. Married 3 July 1799 Rockingham County, Virginia. Named in his father’s will.

2. Barbara NISWONGER was born about 1777 in Virginia; married 24 November 1794 Rockingham County, Virginia, John Ferral; died 14 December 1837 Montgomery County, Virginia. Referred to as Barbara Ferrel in her father’s will.


4. Mary NISWONGER was born about 1780. Barbara McIntoch says married John Stewart 8 February 1796 Rockingham County, and Nicholas Crevison on 26 January 1821 Montgomery County. Mary Crawford buys at father’s sale. Father’s will refers to Stewart children and her as Mary Craviston married to Nicholas.

5. Elizabeth NISWONGER was born about 1782 in Virginia. She died on 18 March 1847 in Ohio. Married John Hansbarger 30 January 1821 Montgomery County, but this seems too late unless a second marriage. Elizabeth Hemberger in father’s will.

6. Samuel NISWONGER was born in 1785 in Virginia. Other researcher says 15 March 1785. He in 1802 first listed in Botetourt County, Virginia suggests age 16. He in 1807 first named in Botetourt County, Virginia suggests age 21. He died on 20 November 1866 in Clay Township, Montgomery County. Other researcher gives 20 August 1866; says buried Dunkard Church, Madison Township, River Brethren Faith. He was buried in Worman Cemetery, Clay Township, Montgomery, Ohio. Named in his father’s will.

7. John NISWONGER was born 15 January 1786, Botetourt County, Virginia; married 23 September 1807 Elizabeth (Betsey) Circle. Died 19 October 1850 Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio.

8. Rachel NISWONGER was born in 1787. She died before 10 July 1821. Not listed in father’s will but a grandchild Rachel Rife is named. Possible marriage 20 November 1810.
Samuel Rife.  

ix. Susanna NISWONGER was born about 1788 in Virginia; married John Swank. She died in 1857 in Ohio, named in her father’s will.  

x. George NISWONGER was born 11 August 1791 in Virginia. He died on 12 April 1835 in Randolph Township (now Clay), Montgomery. He was buried in 1835, Worman Cemetery. Married Fanny Razor.

Second Generation

John NISWONGER was born 15 January 1786, probably in Botetourt County, Virginia. The date of his birth is only known from his tombstone as no birth record has been found. His father purchased land in Botetourt County in 1782 so this was the most likely birth place. John died 19 October 1850 in Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio and was buried in the Worman Cemetery. In 2006 no gravestones were readable for this cemetery, as they were piled in one place against the wall.

On 23 September 1807 he married Elizabeth CIRCLE in Botetourt County. Elizabeth Circle was born 7 May 1789 in Virginia, daughter of Peter. Her father Peter posted the bond required for the marriage. The minister was John Helms, but his religious affiliation is not known. Elizabeth and John had known each other all their lives as the Circle and Niswonger families lived near each other in Shenandoah County, Virginia, and moved at the same time to Botetourt County living on opposite sides of the James River.

John grew to maturity on the James River, appearing on the tax rolls when he was 17 and again when he turned 21. He was 19 when the Ohio land was purchased and 21 when he was married in Virginia. Did he go to Ohio to see the land and return to marry? He was definitely in Ohio in 1812 for the first tax records, the same year that his father sold his land in Virginia.

All of the family were in Ohio by this time, with brother Jacob the only one not in Montgomery County. The 1816 Montgomery County, Ohio tax list also included his brother-in-law Lewis Circle. In 1818 John assigned the $500 which was his wife’s share in her father’s estate to her brother Lewis in exchange for Lewis’s Montgomery County land. This was the SW quarter of Section 23, the quarter section that was named in his will so this was likely the homestead.

Land purchases in this family appeared to be for the needs of the children and not for speculation. By 14 April 1832 John had purchased additional land in the original Section 23 in Randolph (now Clay) Township, Montgomery, Ohio from his brother Samuel. He sold part of

35 Barbara E McIntosh, World Connect, online.  
36 Barbara E McIntosh, World Connect, online.  
37 Brien, Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 199. Barbara E McIntosh, World Connect, online.  
38 Brien, Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 199.  
40 Botetourt County Tithables, FHL film #2024486 1803, 1807.  
41 Mikesell, Early Settlers of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 164.  
42 Botetourt County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #30717 vol 33:469.  
it the same day to his youngest son George and an additional part was sold to George 11 June 1836, and yet another part in 1838.

The census records over the years record the growth of the family to include 9 children. The 1850 census lists John and Elizabeth with Emaline age 17, living next to the household of the youngest daughter Mary and her husband Samuel Baker. The probate record of John’s estate explained that Emaline was an indentured apprentice since 1841. The terms of the agreement are interesting:

Indentured apprentice agreement dated April 1841 between David Nyslodge [?@] for daughter Emaline to John Niswonger for 10 years... She to learn housekeeping... she 7 when signed... she to get monthly schooling, 1 cow, 1 bureau, 1 feather bed and bedding, one spinning wheel, and sufficient wearing apparel. [no records were found to indicate the end of the indenture]

Few details of John’s life are known. He signed both his deeds and his will, so he had received an education.

There is evidence that he was a Dunker at least in his later life. Several of his children married into Dunker families. Unfortunately the religious affiliations of the person who married them in Virginia are unknown, but Elizabeth’s family was definitely Reformed.

John wrote his will on 3 February 1849, a year and 8 months before he died at age 64. He mentioned Elizabeth who inherited her personal effects during her widowhood, and he left $500 to each of his sons and $260 to all of his daughters except Mary, the youngest daughter. To her he left the east half of the SW quarter of Section 23, half of his land purchased in 1818 from brother-in-law Lewis Circle. This was undoubtedly the part of his land where he raised his family. She was also given the first right to buy the other half of this quarter. The rest of his holdings were to be sold and the proceeds divided following his wife’s death. Son George and son-in-law Jacob Swank were executors.

The probate of the estate was opened on 29 October 1850. The inventory list of his belongings was 6 pages long. Items of interest include:

- 7 hogs, 1 cow and 2 calf, 5 horses, lots of farm equipment
- Flax brake and fork, Flax hatchel, loom and fixtures, wool wheel, 3 flax wheels, 7 sheets, 8 tablecloths, 10 towels, 3 blankets, 3 coverlets
- Cooking equipment, 1 set Windsor chairs, 4 bedsteads and bedding and clothing, cash $81.
- 30 bushels corn, 33 bushels wheat, 50 bushels oats, and clover seed
- 2 shares Salem Turnpike

A total of $2594 was distributed to the heirs, the equivalent of $73,777.54 in 2008

44 1850 US Census, Montgomery County, Ohio, p 440.
45 Conover, Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, p 1076.
46 Will (John Niswonger), Montgomery County, Ohio Will Book, E:37.
47 Montgomery County, Ohio Estate Files, FHL film #2312318, case #2332.
dollars.\textsuperscript{48}

The loom owned by this family is particularly interesting. Not all families had looms and the quantity of towels and tablecloths listed suggests that the loom was in use. The inventory also makes clear that John was an active farmer.

Within the year following John's death, 8 of the children filed suit against Samuel and Mary Baker, the youngest daughter and others, apparently including the widow Elizabeth. They were challenging the validity of the will. The court record states:

\begin{quote}
The last 2 years John and Elizabeth Niswonger lived with Samuel and Mary Baker. John kept a book with births and advances to children. Pages of these advances have been cut out by persons unknown and others claim undue influence of widow and Bakers on the division of the estate. The land in question was the E 1/2, SW 1/4, S 23 Clay Township given half to the widow and half to the Bakers. The record lists Heirs of John: John, Eli, Nicholas of Darke County Ohio, Frances wife of Benjamin Baker, Rachel wife of Jacob Michel, Elizabeth wife of James [should be Samuel] Baker, Mary wife of Samuel M Baker, George Niswonger [who had purchased land from his father] Ellen w/o Jacob Swank of Mont County Ohio...\textsuperscript{49}
\end{quote}

Unfortunately the outcome of the case has not been found. Elizabeth lived for 17 years following her husband's death. She died 16 February 1867 in Darke County, Ohio at age 77 as part of her daughter Mary's household. In 1860 they were still in Montgomery County but by the time of her death they lived in Darke County to the northwest of Montgomery County. Three of Elizabeth's sons also lived there. The family relationships following John's death and the lawsuit were likely difficult. She was buried in Worman Cemetery next to John.\textsuperscript{50}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{image.png}
\caption{Worman Cemetery, Clay Township, Montgomery County, Ohio. Remains of gravestone Elizabeth Niswonger. 2006}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{49} Shilt, Montgomery County, Ohio Chancery Records 1824-1854, p 206.
\textsuperscript{50} History of Darke County, Ohio, p 639. Brien, Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Ohio, p 199.
John NISWONGER and Elizabeth (Betsey) CIRCLE had the following children:

i. George NISWONGER was born on 2 March 1809, possibly in Ohio; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. He died on 7 July 1879 in Montgomery County, Ohio; married Elizabeth Warner 5 April 1832, Montgomery Co.51

ii. Rachel NISWONGER was born on 19 September 1810, possibly in Ohio; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. She died on 2 June 1878 in Clay Township; married Jacob Michael 25 October 1830, Montgomery Co.52

iii. Frances NISWANGER was born on 19 April 1812; married Benjamin BAKER 6 June 1830, Montgomery County; died 11 on April 1890, Montgomery County.53

iv. Elizabeth NISWONGER was born on 15 November 1813 in Randolph (now Clay) Township; place from residence of father, exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. She died on 15 March 1895 in Darke County, Ohio; married Samuel Baker, brother of Frances's husband Benjamin Baker.54

v. John NISWONGER was born on 28 May 1815 in Randolph (now Clay Township; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. Died on 18 October 1902; married Susanna Warner 3 September 1835, Montgomery Co.55

vi. Nicholas NISWONGER was born on 18 August 1818 in Randolph (now Clay) Township; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. He died on 16 September 1864 in Darke County, Ohio.56

vii. Ellen NISWONGER was born in 1819 in Randolph (now Clay) Township. She died in 1857 in Perry Township, Montgomery, Ohio. She was also known as Nellie or Eleanor. Married Jacob Swank 26 October 1837, Montgomery County.57

viii. Mary NISWONGER was born on 28 August 1820 in Randolph (now Clay) Township; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. She died on 3 April 1908 in Monroe Township, Darke County, Ohio. Married Samuel Baker 11 July 1848, Montgomery County, Ohio.58

ix. Eli NISWONGER was born on 6 April 1821 in Randolph (now Clay) Township; exact date from Brookville Historical Society Summary. He died on 29 July 1891 in Clay Township. He was also known as Elias. Married Elizabeth Miller 25 February 1849, Montgomery Co.59

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52 History of Darke County, Ohio, p 639.

239
John Niswonger Sr Will:60

John...being sick and weak of body...give and devise unto my son George all that quarter section of land we now live on in fee simple, and I give and bequeath unto son George, one waggon, two horses, two collars, two pair trace chains, two blind briddles, two pair [?] and the [?] [?] for two horses, one wind mill, all the hogs, two sheep, one heifer, two plows with their traces, two corn hoes, one mattock, one shovel, and one pitchfork and said George is to pay unto my granddaughter Rachel Rife thirty dollars twenty of which he has borrowed of me and ten more he shall add to make the said thirty dollars, and the said George shall at his own expense during my lifetime furnish me in the house we now live in, in clothing boarding washing and lodging sufficiently in sickness and in health. And it is also my desire that after my decease that said George shall deliver unto my executor herein after named the following described property: such parts thereof that he uses he shall make as goods as they were at his mother's death namely four bedticks with feathers in them two feather bolster s to feather pillows two coverlets one counterpane two bedsteads one table one checkreel three chairs two backboards two [?] two blind saddles two belly bands two collars two pair [?] two halter chains with their collars one leg chain one trunk one kettle, one pot, skillet one hatchel one pair [?] yards one pair stretchers one bible three books one pewter dish one pewter gallon measure one stone jug one hand saw & one drawing knife all of which or the price for them to be equally divided among my four sons Jacob, David, Samuel, John Nyswanger [sic] and all the money that may remain after my debts and funeral expenses are paid shall be equally divided among my said four sons Jacob, David, Samuel & John Nyswanger [sic].

Jacob has borrowed of me one hundred & thirty five dollars-David has borrowed of me one hundred and ninety nine dollars. Samuel has borrowed of me ninety nine dollars and John has borrowed of me twenty nine dollars and it shall be the duty of my executor herein after named that the described money my said four sons borrowed and the other money that may be left after my debt and funeral expenses are paid and the described property said George is to deliver unto my executor shall be understood so that every of the aforesaid sons Jacob, David, Samuel, and John Nyswanger [sic] shall have an equal share. If they can not agree in dividing the aforesaid property then let it be sold and divide the money thereof which with what I have already given them shall be their portion in full of my estate

unto my daughters Barbara Ferrel, Elizabeth Hernberger Susannah Swank I have given their parts that was coming to them of my estate

I do hereby set and to farm let my grandson Lewis Stewart all that quarter section of land said Lewis and his brothers and sisters now live on for the term of seventeen years from the date hereof and the said Lewis shall not clear more than fifty five acres on it nor destroy and timber more than may be needed for the benefit of said quarter section and said Lewis shall give Elizabeth Stewart house room as long as she remains sole. he shall also send his brother Royal Stewart two winter seasons to school and the said Lewis shall pay the tax that may accrue on said land as soon as it becomes taxable and the said Lewis shall not pay cent for said land during said term of seventeen years then after the expiration of said seventeen years the said Lewis shall keep possession of said premises provided his mother Mary Craviston shall survive her husband Nicholas Craviston. he the said Lewis shall appoint her on said place provided she may require it

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60 Will (John Niswonger), Montgomery County, Ohio Will Book, Montgomery County Records Center, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio, Book A:237.
during her life time-It is to be understood that after the death of my daughter Mary Craviston (if she survives the aforesaid term of seventeen years) the said land now rented to leased to said Lewis Stewart shall be sold (if a favorable opportunity offers for selling it, and the money it may be sold for shall be equally divided share and share alike amongst my grand children Alexander Lewis Royal Elizabeth Charles Meneah and Matildah Stewart and Claria Peppenger And lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my trust friend Davis Kreider of the county and state aforesaid sole executor of this my last will and testament hereby roving and annulling all former wills... I have hereunto set my hand and seal this tenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and twenty one John Niswonger (his mark) witness John Wertz and Joseph Bartneess (his mark)

Transcription of John Niswonger Jr Will:61

In the name of the Benevolent Father of all, I John Niswonger of Montgomery Country, State of Ohio do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following (to wit) Item 1st Give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Niswonger all my store that is all my personal property on hand at the time of my death to be disposed as she may think most best So long as she shall remain my widow and in case of her marriage I will that my personal property be sold at Public Sale and that my wife Elizabeth shall receive one third of the monies arising from said sale and the balance to be divided among all my children share and share alike Item 2nd And further I will as I have heretofore given unto my son George Niswonger the sum of five hundred dollars. Also to my son John Niswonger the sum of five hundred dollars. Also to my son Nicholas Niswonger the sum of five hundred dollars And also to my son Eli Niswonger the sum of five hundred dollars. And also to my daughter Rachel Michael the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars. And also to my daughter Francis Baker the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars. And also to my daughter Elin Swank the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars And therefore I will that said sums shall be completed to each of them as above stated as such apart of each of their several shares of my estate. Item 2nd And forth I will and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Baker the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section number twenty three of township six of range four situated in the county of Montgomery in the state of Ohio to her and her heirs and assigns forever in fee simple and further I will that my daughter Mary Baker shall have the first chance of buying the west half of said last named quarter section of land, in case that she and the other of my heirs cannot agree as to price and value on said land then and if she does except the price and take said land there and in that case shall have five years to make the payments[?]

Item, and further I will that the balance of my estate mot otherwise disposed of be sold at public sale and the monies arising from said sale be equally divided among all my children share and share alike And further I do make and ordain my son George Niswonger and my son-in-law Jacob Swank my executors of this my last will and testament containing one half sheet of paper. In witness whereof I said John Niswonger Sen. to this my last will and testament have hereunto set my hand and seal dated this third day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine. signed John Niswonger wit Wilson Smith and Jas A Reity

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61 Will (John Niswonger), Montgomery County, Ohio Will Book, Montgomery County Records Center, Dayton, Montgomery, Ohio, E:37.
Zirkle/Circle Family

Line of Descent: Conrad, Johan Lovernius, Heinrich, Ludwig, Peter, Elizabeth [see NISWONGER Family]

The Zirkles were a family who moved frequently. All but one of 6 generations died in an area distinct from his or her birth. These moves reflect the history of their times from 1648 to 1867, beginning in what is now Germany and the Thirty Years War. Coming to Pennsylvania in the early 1720s they settled relatively near to Philadelphia. The next move was to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, first on the northern end and then to the south. Finally the road took Elizabeth over the Allegheny Mountains to Ohio.

The Zirkle family used a “Z” in their name until Peter Circle changed the spelling for his branch. Other researchers have reported 42 variations in spelling found in records over the years. The name may originate from “natchwachter” or nocturnal watchman or crier who made his rounds (or regular circulation) his "Zirkel".¹

The early generations of the family were recorded by Charles H Price Jr in his book A History of the Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield), and although no specific source citations are used, he apparently reviewed German records. An extensive family study was completed in 1963 by J William Harpine, Zirkle Family History.² No additional research has been done for this review to document the information on the generations in what is now Germany.

I was able to visit the Heilbronn District of Baden-Wurttemberg, originally known as the Kraichgau area of Germany, in 2011. The towns of Reihen, Kirchardt, and Ittlingen where the Zirkles lived are found in gently rolling farmland. The soil is rich and crops included corn rather than the vineyards further north around Heidelberg. Kirchardt had a small industrial area tucked away at one end of the town, providing jobs for the inhabitants. The new buildings in the towns suggest that the area was bombed in WWII. The towns are within easy reach of each other being 3 to 5 miles apart. One can see how families from one could marry someone from another of the towns.

¹ J William Harpine, Zirkle Family History (Harrisonburg, Virginia: self published, 1963)
Genealogical Summary

First Generation

Conrad ZIRKLE was reportedly a Lutheran Chaplain before the Thirty Years War (1618 to 1648) in Hambech, east of the Rhine River and the town of Koblenz and north of Frankford. This area experienced major devastation during the Thirty Years War. Following the war, it is reported that he moved to the territory of the Lutheran Knights of Kraichgau. This area, southeast of Heidelberg, is now in the Heilbronn District of Baden-Wurttemberg and includes the towns of Reihen, Kirchardt, and Ittlingen, all within a 10 mile area. This area was also heavily damaged during the Thirty Years War, with Ittlingen reportedly left in rubble and ashes. New settlers were sought to repopulate the towns. Nothing more is known about Conrad, except that he had a son Johan Lovrnius.

Second Generation

Johan Lovrnius (Löfenius) ZIRKLE, who was a blacksmith, was reported to be the son of Conrad. He married Katharina HERTZEL on 23 June 1672 in Reihen. Lovrnius maintained his residence in the Kraichgau area, the only generation who did not move once he established his household.

Katherine HERTZEL was born about 1648, possibly in Balm (Brienz), Canton Bern, Switzerland, the daughter of Hans Heinrich HERTZEL and Maria STEINER. She died an early death at age 30. Her father was born about 1622 in Solothurn Canton, Switzerland. Hans Heinrich HERTZEL and Maria STEINER were married on 12 January 1646 in Solothurn Canton. This Canton was predominantly Catholic and under French influence. This may have contributed to the decision of the Hertzfeld family to leave Switzerland for the Kraichgau area between 1646 and 1659. In addition it was a time of overpopulation and economic hardship in Switzerland.

The Hertzel family is reported to include in addition to Katherine: Verena, Anna Christina, and a brother Hans Heinrich. On 20 February 1659 the last child Clemens was born, with baptism in the Reihen Church, placing the family in the Kraichgau area. On 23 June 1663 Heinrich died as

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3 Price, A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield) p79.
4 Fogleman, Hopeful Journeys, p 39.
5 Price, A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield), p 79.
noted in the Reihen Church Records.\textsuperscript{6}

Johan Lovmius and Katherine Hertzel likely had several children, but the only one known is Heinrich.

**Third Generation**

**Heinrich ZIRKLE** was born on 10 November 1676 in Kirchardt. He died before 10 March 1747 in Telford, Franconia Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery) County, Pennsylvania.\textsuperscript{7}

His first wife was possibly Euphonsina Resin. She was not his wife at his death and it is unknown if she came to Pennsylvania. He is reported to have had a total of six children, but names are unknown except for Ludwig, Maria and Johannes. The latter was a child of Heinrich’s wife Magdalena, mentioned in his will as his "present wife". His widow Catherine was appointed Executor 10 March 1747, showing that Magdalena died after 8 March 1745 when the will was written.\textsuperscript{8}

Before 1705 Heinrich had located in Ittlingen, another of the Heilbronn District towns, where his twins, son Ludwig and daughter Anna Maria, were baptized in the church. The twins grew up in Ittlingen but the family left sometime after 1722 when no records can be located. Their arrival in Philadelphia was prior to the required Oath of Allegiance which began in 1727. No such oath has been found for Heinrich; his son Ludwig gave his oath 19 May 1739 in a manner followed by the early immigrants.\textsuperscript{9}

Heinrich was a farmer. His first land purchase was not recorded but was probably about 1730 when he bought 50 acres in Telford, Franconia Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery) County. He bought the land from Budd and Murray, large land holders who were selling off parcels in this area. This land was located on the south side of Indian Creek, along present Cowpath Road. Apparently he prospered, for in 1734 he sold his original 50 acres and bought 115 acres just west of his original farm. The location was on the west side of Cowpath Road known as the Elias Bergey Farm at 521 Cowpath Rd in 1966. This land remained in the family of son Johannes until 1768.\textsuperscript{10}

Nothing more is known of Heinrich's life except that he had received an education since he signed his will. About 20 years after arriving in Philadelphia, Heinrich wrote his will on 8 March 1745 in Telford. He died two years later on 10 March 1747 having lived 69 years during which he crossed an ocean and successfully established himself in a new land. He left to his son

\begin{itemize}
  \item[6] World Connect, Andrew, andrew701@aol.com online [www.rootsweb.com.html, accessed Feb 17, 2005] (updated 2001). The details of the family from this source with no documentation. The will and Swiss origin also documented by Price.
  \item[8] Price, *A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield)*, p 80.
  \item[10] Price, *A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield)*, p 79, 80.
\end{itemize}
Ludwig £40 Pennsylvania currency and to Anna Mary, married to Jacob Faust, £30. His property was left to son Johannes.

The witnesses to Heinrich’s will demonstrate how family ties were maintained in the new world. Two of the four witnesses were related to Heinrich through his mother’s family. George Heinrich Hertzell was a first cousin once removed of Heinrich’s. First cousin Paul Hertzel and his son George Heinrich Hertzel had arrived in Pennsylvania in 1732 and settled in Rockhill Township in Bucks County. Dietrich Rudy, another witness, was also related into the family as Paul Hertzel’s wife was a Rudy. The Rudys arrived in 1727 and settled in Upper Salford Township. The Zirkles, Rudys, and Hertzels all participated in the Reformed Church in the area.11

Fourth Generation

Ludwig ZIRKLE was baptized on 9 November 1705 in Ittlingen. He died in Franconia Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery) County, Pennsylvania after he wrote his will 22 October 1746 and before 17 January 1747 when his estate was probated. He was married to Maria Eva when he died.12

Maria Eva’s surname has been reported as Bear by other researchers.13 John Bear and his brother Jacob were her neighbors when she moved to Augusta County, Virginia. They came to Virginia from Lancaster County and were reported to be of a Swiss family from Zurich who settled first in Lancaster County.14 Although these families could have known each other in Germany or on the ship coming to Pennsylvania, no connection has been found. No Bear families were found in the Franconia Township area. It is not certain whether the marriage of Ludwig Zirkle and Maria Eva took place in Europe or Pennsylvania. It is also not known if Maria Eva was the mother of all the children.

Ludwig probably came to Pennsylvania with his father when he was approximately 20 years of age. He paid a quit rent in 1734 in Franconia Township on 100 acres of land. He likely had 3 children by this time. In addition to being a farmer, he was a saddler.15

The first land deed found for Ludwig was for a purchase of 152 1/2 acres on 13 December 1744 in Franconia Township. This land was sold after Ludwig’s death. The location of the land is given from the Indianfield Lutheran Church (land he donated) on the southern edge of his farm. The farm extended to Branch Creek, a tributary of Perkiomen Creek.

11 Price, A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield), p 80.
13 World Connect, Andrew, Rootsweb, online [www.rootsweb.com.html/].
14 World Connect, Bud Paige equine1965@comcast.net, [www.rootsweb.com, downloaded March 6, 2008].
It was close to his father Heinrich's land on Cowpath Rd.  

Ludwig wrote his will on 22 October 1746 in Franconia Township. He was only 40 at the time and he died two months before his father. He left 6 of his 9 children under the age of 12. His wife’s name was given as Maria Eva and she was to have all of the estate until the youngest child reached the age of 12. The only child mentioned by name was the eldest George Henry who was to receive £25 for his portion. Witnesses to the will were Henry Seible and Andrew Barnhardt. The co-executor with Eva was Peter Snyder of Rockhill Township, Bucks Co. There was a codicil which referred to the donation of his land to the Lutheran church. The will was signed “Lodoick Zirkle” which suggests that he was educated. 

Maria Eva and her co-executor Peter Snyder were given the power to sell Ludwig’s land if required to cover expenses or if his widow remarried. She did marry Christopher Ottinger who died before half of Ludwig's land was sold in 1750. The land sale may have been because she needed support, or perhaps it was simply because she had remarried. No deed has been located for the other half of the property.

By 1755 Eva left Franconia Township and moved to Virginia. On 10 September 1755 Eva, in the name of Eve Sircle, patented 54 acres of land in Augusta (now Rockingham) County in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. This land was at Bair Glade, next to John Bair. On 9 August 1761 she bought an additional 130 acres from John Bair. She moved at least 6 of her family who ranged in age from about 20 to 14 years. This particular area of the Shenandoah Valley was selected for some reason, likely because she knew someone already there. So far the connection has not been uncovered.

The sons, with the exception of George Henry, purchased land as they came of age in the present Shenandoah County, just across the Augusta County line on Holman Creek. They were close to provide support to her as she raised the younger children on her new land. No further record has been found for eldest son George Henry so it is unknown if he died or just lived elsewhere.

The Holman Creek area was in the forest and provided ample water for the needs of the settlement. There were several mills, one a grist mill eventually owned by her son Andrew. In a visit to the area in 2007 the Grist Mill had been preserved by family members and is on the National Register of Historic Places. With rolling

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16 Price, A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield), p 79. Henry D Hagey, Some Local History of Franconia Township (self published, no place or date) map "Subdivisions in Franconia Township".

17 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, p 5-7

18 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, p 7. Rockhill Township was the home of the Hertzel and Ruby cousins. Peter Snyder was also the executor of Ludwig's father Heinrich's will.

19 Virginia State Land Office microfilm scanned online at the Library of Virginia site, [www.lva.lib.va.us system number 000821553], p 633.

20 Augusta County: Virginia Deed Books, FHL film #30345, Deed Book 9:434.
hills and many trees, this area is appealing to the eye but possibly not the best farmland.  


Eva died prior to 16 November 1776 when Michael, her eldest son and heir, sold her two parcels of land. There is no indication that she had remarried, and it is likely that Peter, the youngest son, remained with her until her death since no records are found for him prior to this date.

Eva had initiated the next major move in the Zirkle family migration, joining other families in Virginia where land was cheaper. Each of her sons established themselves as property owners which would have been more difficult in their original home area. The family would have come by wagon on "The Great Road". They chose to settle in areas that were just to the west of the Road. A question that cannot be answered: Would the family have moved to Virginia if Ludwig had lived longer?

Ludwig ZIRKLE and possibly Maria Eva had the following children:

i. George Henry ZIRKLE. Ludwig’s will named him as the eldest son. He is not the eldest son when Eva dies in about 1776 however. It is also possible that he had a different mother.  

ii. Catherine ZIRKLE.  

iii. Michael ZIRKLE was born on 29 June 1735 in Telford, Franconia Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery) County, Pennsylvania. He died on 2 October 1811 in Forestville, Shenandoah, Virginia. He married Catherine.  

iv. Margaret ZIRKLE was born on 6 March 1736 in Telford, Franconia Township. Harpine says born 1733. She was confirmed on 5 November 1749 in New Hanover Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery), Pennsylvania; Margretha Zirckel [sic], confirmed at age 14, Ludewig’s daughter. This probably right one, although age from birth date given not quite right. Michael Nees (Nels) and Margaret Zirckle married in Indianfield Lutheran Church. She died on 13 April 1796 in New Market, Shenandoah, Virginia.  

v. Andrew ZIRKLE was born about 1737. He died in 1816 in Forestville, Shenandoah,  

20 The county was Frederick when they moved there, Dunmore until 1778, then Shenandoah.  
21 Augusta County, Virginia Deed Books, FHL film #30351, Book 22:107 &111. No death records have been located.  
22 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, p7.  
Virginia. His will 7 Jan 1815, proved 10 June 1816. He married Mary Catherine and 2nd Elizabeth Rife. Owned farms and flour mill on Holman’s Creek, now a historic building owned by family members.26

vi. George Adam ZIRKLE was born about 1738 in Pennsylvania. He died about August 1800 in New Market, Shenandoah, Virginia. He married Elizabeth Ridenour.27

vii. Lewis ZIRKLE was born in 1739. He died on 22 Jan 1815 in New Market, Shenandoah, Virginia; married Mary Magdalena Roush. Harpine says he lived on Smith Creek about 3 miles southeast of New Market.28

viii. Peter ZIRKLE/CIRLE was born about 1741. He died in 1818 Botetourt County, Virginia.29

Fifth Generation

Peter CIRCLE was born about 1741 probably in Telford, Franconia Township.30 He was the youngest of 8 children, and was only 6 years old when his father died in 1747 and 14 when his mother purchased land in Augusta County, Virginia. His childhood could not have been an easy one with the death of his father and step-father.

No Virginia marriage record has been found for Peter. He was probably married by 1775 since his first known child was born in 1777. If this was Peter's first marriage and family, he was about 34 years old when married. Did he delay starting a family because, as the youngest child, he stayed with his mother until her death, or was there an unknown previous marriage?

The name of Peter’s wife was Frances as shown on deeds. Other researchers report that he married Frances (Fanny) Meyer.31 However, I was not able to prove her maiden name. There were two Meyer/Moyer families living on Holman’s Creek, Henry and Christian (a Dunker from York County), but no connection has been established. There was also a Moyer family in Franconia Township, but again no connection has been established to those on Holman’s Creek. Proximity would argue for a connection to the Jacob Moyer who lived in Augusta (now Rockingham) County, as neighbor of Eva Zirkle, and who moved to Botetourt County with Peter.

- As early as 1758 a Jacob Moyer was listed in the militia in Augusta County.
- There was a Jacob with wife Christina who sold land in 1771, patented jointly with Jacob Bear in 1768. Jacob Bear’s brother John was Eva Zirkles nearest neighbor.32
- 1775 one Jacob Moyer was listed on the tax list.33
- In 1782 a Jacob and wife Barbara sold land in Augusta. This may be a son of the first Jacob.

26 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter III. Amelia Gilreath, Shenandoah County, Virginia Abstracts of Wills 1772-1850.
27 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VII.
28 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter V.
29 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VI.
30 World Connect, Andrew, Rootsweb, online [www.rootsweb.com/html/].
31 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VI.
32 Augusta County, Virginia Deed Books, FHL film #30349, Book 17:284.
• Jacob moved to Botetourt County by 1783, and lived next to Peter and Frances. The Jacob in Augusta and Botetourt Counties are the same man as shown in references by the Rev Paul Henkel who visited him in both places. Jacob was a school teacher in the Raiders Church in Augusta County and probably the one who translated wills.  

• Jacob died in Botetourt in 1798 with wife Sally. His estate was appraised by George Poage, Peter Circle, and John Niswonger. No daughter Frances was listed, but not all children were listed. He was the same generation as Frances, however, and was possibly her brother.  

Peter established his family in Shenandoah County at the start of the Revolutionary War. He is listed in the militia in 1775 under command of Capt Jacob Holman along with brothers Andrew and Michael. He was again listed in the militia after his move to Botetourt County in 1784 in Capt Pryor’s Company. The first record of a land purchase for him was for 78 acres that he owned by 1777 on Holman’s Creek, neighbor to his brothers and John Niswonger, future in-law. Since he sold 157 acres when he moved, not all of his purchases are accounted for. 

On 23 April 1782 Peter and his wife Fanny sold their 157 acres in Shenandoah County. £226 was received for the land and buildings and orchard on Holman’s Creek, suggesting a well settled property. One of the witnesses was his brother Ludwig Zirkle. The deed was signed “Peter Sirkle” and Fanny signed with her mark. Peter’s signature suggests that he was educated, as was his father and grandfather before him. Of his children, however, only Peter the eldest son signed deeds. Apparently all of Peter’s brothers wrote in the German script except Peter. 

Peter, following his family tradition of migration, moved his family south to Botetourt County, Virginia. This involved a trek by wagon down "The

35 Will (Jacob Moyer), Botetourt County, Virginia; Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, Botetourt County reel 20: Book A p 402-403 and 481-482.  
38 Shenandoah County, *Virginia Deed Book*, FHL film #33888 Book C:478.  
39 Price, *A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield)*.  
40 Harpine, *Zirkle Family History*. 

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Great Road" about 200 miles and then up toward the headwaters of the James River. The reason for Peter's move is not recorded. The Niswonger family, future in-laws, sold their property on Holman's Creek the next day. Jacob Moyer also moved at this time. Peter had 6 sons and he possibly moved to acquire more affordable land for them. The Scots-Irish who had originally settled the Botetourt County area had moved on by the early 1780s, making good farm land available and many Germans moved in.

Peter was in Botetourt County from 1784 to 1818 when he died. His whereabouts from 1782, when he sold his Shenandoah County land, to 1784, when land was purchased here is unknown. He may have gone directly or stopped along the way. His land purchases were on the north side of the James River. This land was in the present Fincastle Township in an area known as Locust Bottom.

Following in his father's tradition of deeding land to a church, Peter, along with Jacob Moyer, deeded land in 1786 for the "Zion" or "Locust Bottom" Church. The deed read to "Community of Dutch Calvinists and Lutherans, a settlement near the head of the James River". Locust Bottom, Fincastle Township is on the northern edge of the county. The location of his property is 4 miles southwest of Clifton Forge in Botetourt County at the junction of State Route #696 and #622.

In 2009 a home reported to be Peter's 2 story house still stood but was abandoned. No documentation was available to show that Peter actually built this structure rather than his son. It was just down the road from the church and cemetery where he was buried. On a rainy and foggy May day the impression was of lush green everywhere. A creek ran by the side of the house which was surrounded by trees. Unfortunately it was not possible to get to the house due to the size of the creek and the mud.

The fields along the James River were flat and fertile from flooding over the years. The land is not far from the formation of the James River, but the river is of significant size as it passed Peter's land. The Appalachian Mountains are seen on the other side of the river. Peter's house is behind a grove of trees to the left.

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41 Botetourt County Tithables, FHL film #1906467 and #2024486.
42 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VI.
43 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter III. Picture of building in 2009.
in this picture. The photo is taken from the Locust Bottom Cemetery.

In 1784 Peter Circle had a household of 8 white persons, 1 dwelling cabin and 2 other cabins. Over the years the maturing of his family is recorded in the tax lists as the sons reach age 16 and are listed in his household. They then have households of their own at 21 years. In 1815 Peter has 3 males age 16 and over, 10 horses, 31 cattle. He owned 1 clock, and his furniture included 1 chest of drawers with desk and a bookcase. 44

From 1789 to 1798 Peter bought various tracts of land in the area. 45 The last purchase was of 149 acres for $700 for land that adjoined his property. The land was given to his sons in his will. 46 In 1810 Peter was about 69 years of age. He and Fanny are listed in the census of that year along with youngest son Mathias who was 12 and two other males and two other females. 47

Eight years later, at about age 77, Peter died. He was buried in 1818 in Locust Grove Cemetery. 48 His estate of 250 acres was divided on 22 June 1819, and on 19 October 1819 a number of the children sold their shares to son Lewis. Four daughters were identified only by their husband's names. 49

Peter CIRCLE and possibly Francis had the following children:

i. Peter CIRCLE was born about 1777 in Virginia; married Fanny Hively 28 November 1807, Botetourt County. 50

ii. Emanuel CIRCLE was born on 23 Jan 1782 in Virginia. 51

iii. Andrew CIRCLE was born about 1782 in Virginia; married Betsey Brooockman 9 November 1807, Botetourt County. 52

iv. John CIRCLE was born on 13 September 1784 in Botetourt County. He died on 19 April 1875. A John married Margaret Nicely 10 February 1817. Zirkle Family says married 2nd Martha Peggy Lee. 53

v. Lewis CIRCLE was born about 1788 in Botetourt County, place from location of father. He was in Ohio with John and sister Elizabeth Niswonger. A Lewis married Martha Lee Hook 1 December 1812, Botetourt County, after he came back from Ohio. 54

vi. Elizabeth (Betsey) CIRCLE was born on 7 May 1789, Botetourt County, Virginia; married John Niswonger 23 September 1807, Botetourt County, Virginia; died 16 February 1867 Darke County, Ohio. 55

vii. CIRCLE married Christley Fisher. 56

viii. CIRCLE married George Knisley. 57

44 Botetourt County Tithables, FHL film #1906467 and #2024486.
46 Will (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, FHL film #30695, C:139.
48 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VI.
49 Botetourt County, Virginia Deed Book, FHL film #30708 v 14 p 142,144, 148, 193, 342, 427, 428.
50 Botetourt County Tithables, FHL film #2024486 1798 p3.
51 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, Chapter VI.
52 Botetourt County Tithables, FHL film #2024486, 1804 p 6.
53 Harpine, Zirkle Family History, p 135.
54 Jordan Dodd, Early American Marriages: Virginia to 1850, [www.ancestry.com, downloaded 2009].
56 Will (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, FHL film #30695, C:139.
ix. CIRCLE married Jacob Knisley.\textsuperscript{58}

x. CIRCLE married Isaac France.\textsuperscript{59}

xi. Mathias CIRCLE was born in April 1798 in Virginia. He died on 1 August 1857 in Botetourt County; he was buried in Locust Grove Cemetery, Botetourt County. A Mathias married Polly ArmentROUT 23 October 1818 Rockbridge County, Virginia.\textsuperscript{60}

Will of Henry Zirkle:
Henry's will is recorded in the recorder of Deeds Office, City Hall, Philadelphia. It was written in German. The following abstract of the will is given by Price:\textsuperscript{61}

8 March 1745
No executor was named, and the letters of administration were granted to Catharine Zirkell (widow of Henry Zirkell, deceased), and Peter Sneider, on the estate of the said deceased 10 March 1747.

to his son Ludwig, he bequeathed 40 pounds in Pennsylvania Currency, and to Anna Mary, married to Jacob Faut, 30 pounds in coin.

"Secondly, I will and give and devise unto my son Johannes Zirkell [sic] (by my second and present wife) and to his son and my grandson forever all my land and plantation with all and everything that is mine from the least to the greatest of what name soever, he paying out the same unto my aforementioned children the said legacies. My said successor, Johannes Zirkell shall after me decease provide for my present wife Magdalena and behave towards her as a dutiful child out to do to his mother according to Det, 5:6 and maintain her at his table as good as he has and can have. But if his mother could not agree and live with him so (as in many times the case between parent and child) and she shall be disposed, then she shall have and keep the direction and management of my estate herself, neither be freed to leave or move out of my house"

"If the wife should desire to live along, then Johannes should give her yearly out of the plantation for her use six bushels of good clean rye and six bushels of good clean wheat, and one hogshead of four barrels of cyder [sic] and 70 pounds of good dried fruit and 15 pounds of good clean hatched flax."

If the heirs constituted in the second article, Johannes Zerkell should (though it is hoped) die without issue, then my said Johannes wife, Catherine, shall for such time as she lives here after her time of servitude have 5 pounds yearly. Lastly I leave after my decease unto my said dearly beloved wife Magdalene all the prerogative and discretionary power of management of all my estate under the direction of Michael Burge of Franconia township in the county of Philadelphia, and George Henry Hartzell of Rockhill in the county of Bucks as my Inspectors by me named until me said successor Johannes Zirkell aforementioned shall arrive at his maturity, with the

\textsuperscript{57} Will (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, FHL film #30695, C:139.

\textsuperscript{58} Will (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, FHL film #30695, C:139.

\textsuperscript{59} Will (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, FHL film #30695, C:139.

\textsuperscript{60} Harpine, Zirkle Family History, p 136.

\textsuperscript{61} Price, A History of Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek (Indianfield), p 80.
In the name of God amen the twenty-eight day of 8bris [sic] 1746 I being sick and weak in Body but of perfect mind and memory Thanks be given unto God therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make and ordain this my Last Will and testament that is to say- Principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the Hand of God that gave it and for my Body I recommend it to the Earth to be buried on a Christian like and decent manner at the direction of my executor nothing doubting but at the General resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching such worldly estate therewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. Imprimis it is my Will and I do order that in the first place my wife Maria Eva is to have all my estate both Real and Personal items [?] till my youngest child are twelve years old. Item after my decease my loving executors after named is to have full power to sell my Real and Personal items if she finds necessary [?] was at present for to pay all my just debts and funeral charges be paid and satisfied and the remaining part of money is to be put one Interest by executor Item Maria Eva my loving wife is to have the [?] of all the two Furths [sic] among my Children in equal share except my Eldest Son George Henry is to have for his portion Twenty five Pounds recd [sic] he wend [?] four years before his Each to learn a trade to be paid when he have set up for himself. Item if my wife shall marry then all my estate is to be sold by my executors after named. Item I give to my Trusty Friend Peter Snider and my well beloved wife Maria Eva whom I likewise constitute make and ordain my sole executors of this my last will and Testament all and singular in presents In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the day and year above written Lodowick Zirkle (LZ) signed sealed published pronounced and declared by the said Lodowick Zirkle in his Last Will and Testament in the presence of us Henry Seibel (his mark) Andrew Bernhart

Be It Known that I Lodowick Zirkle in Frankony [sic] Township now in [?] [?] being in remembrance that a long time ago have given and bequeathed one acre of my land for the use of the prober [sic] Evangily [sic] Lutheran Church and for use the one have a deed being in Francony [sic] the 28th day of 8bris 1746. Lodowick Zirkle (LZ)

Testis Peter Schnieder (his mark) Andrew Barnhart Henry Seibel

True copy translating from the original German into English done by Jacob Reiff

Salford the 17th day of January 1746 then personally appeared Henry Seibel and Andrew Barnhart two of the witnesses to the within written will and codicil [?] and on their oath respectively did declare they saw and heard Lodowick Zirkle the testator within mentioned signature publish and declare the same will to be his last Will and testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound mind and memory and understanding to the best of their knowledge.

Coram Jacob Reiff dp by authority from Plumsted Reg Gen'l

Transcription of Peter Circle Will:63

In the name of God amen. I Peter Circle of Botetourt County and state of Virginia being weak in body but through the mercy of God sound of mind and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make this my Last Will and Testament. And principally and first of all I give and surrender my soul to God my Great Creator and my body to the grave to be decently buried in hope of a Resurrection to Eternal life and whatever worldly goods in this life hath been pleased to bless me in I will and order.

I will and order that all my just debts and funeral expenses be speedily paid and all my legal dues be collected. To my dear and loving wife Fanny I give and bequeath all my household and kitchen furniture, two horses and two sheep and [?] this property she is to have at her choice with one third part of all the grain and hay raised on the plantation with one half of the mansion house and 1/2 of the barn during her natural life and on the event of her decease whatever property she may possess is to be publically sold and equally divided between all her children.

To my son Andrew I give devise and bequeath one half of the plantation he now lives on to him and his heirs forever. To my son Matthias I give devise and bequeath the plantation I now live on to him and his heirs forever the division line to begin 2 poles beyond the white oak trees in the line and on a straight course to the river from the corner in the lane to a small white oak near the graveyard. thence with a straight line through the field to the round hill thence to the original line on the Big [?] Also one 2 year old filly together with horses to work his crop for one year and farming utensils sufficient. I also will and order that should my said son Matthias die without lawful issue the plantation so designated shall be sold and equally divided between his surviving brothers and sisters.

to my sons namely Emanuel, Lewis, and John I give devise and bequeath that part of my plantation from the division line of the mansion place from the great road to the river running with a straight line from the corner on the lane ten poles beyond 3 pine trees corner thence to top of rocky hill thence to Gettland [?] line and to the river to them and their heirs forever to be equally divided between them by each of them paying $200 on the event of their Mother's decease.

I also will and order that each of them shall have free passage and equal right for the spring on said land. To my son-in-law George Kristy I give devise and bequeath to him and his heirs forever the plantation he now resides on to be bounded by 3 pine trees corner before mentioned on his paying four hundred dollars on the decease of my wife. To son Peter I give devise and bequeath to him and his heirs forever the plantation he now lives on free from any encumbrance hereafter.

To my son-in-law Jacob Kinsley [?] I give devise and bequeath one half of the plantation he now lives on during his natural life to be his forever on paying the sum of one hundred dollars on the

63 Will, (Peter Circle), Botetourt County, Virginia Will Book, film #30695, Book C:139.
decease of my wife. To my three sons-in-law namely Isaac France, John Nicwonger [*sic*] and Chrislley Disher [*?] I give and devise to Isaac France the sum of five hundred dollars, to John Nicwonger [*sic*] the sum of two hundred dollars, To Chrislly Disher the sum of five hundred dollars to be paid to them respectively on the decease of my wife. I will and order that all property I may be possessed of not heretofore devised shall be publically sold and the profits arising there from equally divided between my children and whatever balance may ensue after the division are paid to be equally divided among all my children.

And lastly I appoint my trusty friends Joseph Kezer and George Armontrand executors of this may last will and testament by me made Ratifying and confirming publically and declaring this to be the last will and testament.

In witness whereof I set my hand and seal this 25th day of July 1818.

Peter Circle

in presence of John Cox, Wm Womack, Henry Turber, Jospeh Gillilance

Botetourt October Court 1818
delivered Wm Wormack and Joseph Gilliland
Joseph D Lysor appointed executor

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