Some of the early day Berkeley County Virginia Houcks were married in the Old German Lutheran & Reformed Church in Martinsburg, sometimes called the Old Dutch Church or the German Congregation. Some of their descendants were probably baptized and buried there, but records of such have not been found.

Americans of German origin or background and of Lutheran and Reformed faith came from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New England. In 1775 they started worshiping together in what became Martinsburg in 1778. At first they did not have a pastor of their own and were served by pastors from nearby Shepherdstown and Winchester. The Lutheran and Reformed congregations held services on alternate Sundays.

An unusual opportunity came to them in 1786. An unfinished tavern, just under roof, was put up for sale by Jacob Shartel. The Germans bought it and finished it as a church. Acquired jointly by the two congregations on March 20, it was deeded over to Andrew Silling, Martin Rizer, Christopher Wagner and John Smith, trustees of the two congregations. The industrious members gradually added an altar, a cast iron bell and finally a pipe organ to the original log tavern-turned-church. The first Houck marriage there was on 6 December 1796 when Catherine the daughter of Jacob Houck-Houke was married by Pastor David Young to Andrew Keeseecker. Young was a Lutheran minister who served both congregations from 1790 to 1796.

At the same time the tavern-church was bought, the members
bought two lots from Shartel, adjoining the church and between
John and King Streets. These were turned into a cemetery which
is still being kept up by Dudley L. Harley who restored it several
years ago. The stones date back to 1788, but many have been
weathered to the point of illegibility. There are no Houcks in
the only known published record of the inscriptions. The cemetery
gate is kept locked and special permission is required to visit
the graves.

Of the 11 Houck marriages in Berkeley County Virginia found
by Guy L. Keesecker between 1781 and 1854, six were in this church
building. They involved seven of the children of our Jacob and
Michael Houck. A Jacob "Hawk" married Christiana "Gresoker" there
on 31 Mar 1793. They are thought to be Jacob Houck, son of Jacob
and Christina Keesecker, sister of Andrew Jr.

The drawing of the old church was adapted from a dim photo-
copy, seen in the best county history tradition, complete with
two-dimensional steeple and diagonally placed shingling. It was
published in the January 10, 1975 Martinsburg Journal sent by Mrs.
Gordon Vance, Leaburg OR 97401.

The church was continued in use by the two congregations until
1832 when the Lutheran Congregation moved to a new church at Queen
and Martin Streets. There, on June 10, 1832 an impressive dedica-
tion service was held by Abraham Reck, a cousin of John Reck the
grandfather of our own Susan Jane (Reck) Houck. The two congrega-
tions survive today as the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
at Queen & Martin, and the Christ Reformed Church at 117 East
Burke Street, both in Martinsburg.

References: Martinsburg Journal 10 Jan. 1975, p. 3, 7
Marriage Records of Berkeley County, Virginia 1781-1854, Guy L.
Keesecker (1969), Martinsburg, WV
Mrs. H. M. Sole, Box 45, Oaktown IN 47561, March 7, 1975
Miscellaneous Historical Record, Vol. 1 (Berkeley Co. WV) compiled
by Christine Blackwell Bergen, Martinsburg WV (1950) p. 57:
Genealogical Society Microfilm 831,302. Publication prohibited
Helen B. Kilmer, Secretary, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Corner Queen & Martin Streets, Martinsburg WV 25401, 20 March
1974

WE HAVE REGISTERED FOR A COURSE IN GENEALOGY, SPECIAL PROBLEMS at
Brigham Young University, Provo Utah 84602. The course is by
correspondence, and the special problem is ours. Will the members
of the Committee please join me in an attempt to "pass" the course?
It is titled Genealogy 80x and my instructor is Professor Johansson.
In the first lesson I was supposed to state my genealogical problem
and tell him all I already knew about it. The problem: "I wish to
identify the parents of Jacob Houck (d. 1815) and his brother
Michael Houck (1744-1821) of Washington Co. MD, Bedford Co. PA and
lastly of Berkeley Co. VA (now WV). See attached family group
records."

On the Lesson Cover Sheet was space for "Student's Comments"
and "Instructor's Comments". The former read, "I am making a
serious attempt to comply in detail with the suggestion on the
Guidance Request Form to 'Make the information about these 2-3 generations as complete as your knowledge permits'. The histories following the family group sheets have been boiled down quite considerably. (understatement ours) More detailed information can probably be supplied on most items. Variant spellings are exact copies of source material. - - -

Instructor's Comments were: "So much work has already been done on this line that the first phase of your bridging the ocean is completed. 1) Search all available records on this side of the ocean. 2) Now is the time to find the people among whom your emigrant forefathers settled. Check family (illegible) county histories for those people. Usually an immigrant would settle among friends and relatives from the old country. Much has been written in English on the 'Pennsylvania Dutch' and I suggest you check some of those sources hopefully to find someone with a more 'uncommon' name than your forefather. (see enclosure! 3) read also 'World Conference on Records' Area D 1 & 2a, Area D 1 & 2b etc. Should be found in the Branch Gen. Library in Seattle. Hope these suggestions will lead you across the ocean!"

(A tip to save time if you go the World Conference route: The Area and number labels are in fine print in the upper left and lower right corners of the title pages of each item on microfilms)

The enclosure was from GERMAN EMIGRATION TO AMERICA, Lee Boam, p. 10, BIBLIOGRAPHY. We were able to locate some of the titles in Seattle Public Library and some are available on microfilms from the Genealogical Society Library, Salt Lake City (SLC). The following is a list of those I could not find. Would members of the Committee like to check their local libraries for these items and report back to me? In the meantime I will work up a list of friends and relatives of the Houcks to check out. Items are followed by Genealogical Society SLC call numbers:

1) Penn. German Folklore Society Publications of the Gerber lists of emigrants from Wuettemberg (sic) ....... 974.8 F2e
2) The Palatines of New York State ........ PB 467
3) Chambers! The Early Germans of New Jersey .... 974.9 F2gc
4) Wayland: The German Element in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia .. 975.59 F2g
5) The Virginia Germans..... 975.5 F2gwk

To date our search of Collection of 30,000 Names, Rupp, for neighbors and relatives of Jacob & Michael Houck has been somewhat nonproductive. We did find however that Jonathan Heger, the founder of Hagerstown, MD and Peter Rentch who donated land for Salem Reformed Church near Hagerstown, both came over on the same ship. Rupp p. 100: "41) Sept 1, 1736 Palatines imported in ship Harle, of London, Ralph Harle, Master, from Rotterdam, last from Cowes. 156 men, 65 women, 167 boys and girls - in all 388 (ed.)
- - Peter Rentch - - Jonathan Heger - - Hans Ruppele - -"
Would Mildred Houck of Clear Spring MD like to find out from the Wash. Co, MD Historical Society just where in the Palatinate Rentsch and Hager came from? Then we could look there for Houcks.
The first lesson sent to Professor Johannson consisted of 38 pages. It included a questionnaire designed to bring out the sources we have already checked (more completely covered in the bibliographies), a diagram of the pedigree of James Houk b 1794 and the latest pedigree of Theodore Wilbur Houk b. 1907. I won't bore you with the foregoing, but at the risk of some repetition I'll give you, in installments, the remainder which consists of the family group material on Jacob & Michael Houck and on Jacob's son Henry Houk, followed by much condensed biographies. To wit:

JACOB HOKE (a, f'), Houk (c), Houck (d, v), Hauke (e'), Hauke (a') a "German" (y, k') was aged 45 & up in 1810 (m). He died between 16 April and 14 August 1815 (a, d', ag, n) in Berkeley Co. VA, now WV. (a, ad) He attended the Reformed and Lutheran Churches near Hagerstown MD and in Martinsburg VA. (ak, al, x'). His wife was Margaret (a, d, d') or Margarett (e', f'), surname unknown. She was a "German" (h'), aged 45 & up in 1810 (m) who died between 7 May 1819 and 14 August 1820 (d, d'). She attended Reformed and Lutheran Churches. (x', ak, al) Their children in the order of discovery or birthdate were:

+Henry Houk, Houck (HGR-11, a, b, d, e, ad, ae, d', f') was born 2 or 5 May 1772 (w, i') in MD, died 6 June 1856 (w) in Clay Co IN, lived mostly in Warren Co. OH. (HGR-11) He married Johannah (b) "Hannah" Ford (w, g') of Washington Co. MD. (HGR-11)

Michael Houck (a, c, ad, ae, d', f', k') was living in 1815 (c'), died between 1 May and 8 July 1816 (e) in Warren Co. OH, was not married as of 1 May 1816 (e) and mentioned no wife or children in his will.

George Houck (HGR-13, a, d, e, ad, d', e', f', k', v202) was aged 64 in 1850 (bl786), born in VA (k'), living 1850 in Berkeley Co. VA, now WV (k'), married 12 December 1811 in the German Congregation, Martinsburg VA (v202) Mary (k') "Polly" Houck, daughter of Michael Houck the brother of Jacob d. 1815. (j'). George and Mary Houck were first cousins.

Samuel Houck, Houk (HGR-14, a, d, e, ad, ae, d', f', k') was born about 1790 (r') in VA, died 1863 in Jay Co, IN (an), married 20 Jan. 1814 in the German Congregation, Martinsburg VA, Mary Boyd. (n)

David Houck (HGR-15, a, d, e, v54, ad, ae, d', f', k') was aged 16-26 in 1810 (m), 26-35 in 1820 (l), therefore born (1784-1794), lived in Warren Co. OH (HGR-15), married first on 2 April 1807 (bond) in Berkeley Co. VA (v54, k') Sally Alebough or Olebaugh. He married 2nd on 12 Feb. 1815 in Warren Co. OH (k), Nancy Worman.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Houck (a, d, v56, ad, ae, d*, f', k', HGR-17) was aged 40-50 in 1830 (h213) therefore born (1780-1790). She lived in Warren Co. OH. (HGR-17) She married (1811 or before) (a) William Thurston (a, d, e, n, ad, k')

Catherine Houck (HGR-18, a, d, ad, ae, d*, f, k') lived in Beaver Co. PA. (HGR-18) She married 6 December 1796 in the German Congregation, Martinsburg VA, Andrew Keesecker. (a, d, n, x, ad, f*, k', HGR-18)

Jacob Houck (HGR-19, a, k', ad, ae) died probably 1803. His estate sale was 6 Jan. 1804 in Berkeley Co. VA. He married 31 March 1793 in the German Congregation, Martinsburg VA, Christina Keesecker, sister of Andrew above and daughter of Andrew Keesecker Sr. (HGR-19)


b) Births and Deaths of Houks—in Pearl Miller's papers owned by John Miller, Dayton OH

c) Constitution, Houk-Shepherd Association


e) Will, Michael Houck, Warren Co. OH Courthouse, Old C. P., Box 13, No. 16; also Berkeley Co. WV Will Book 2, p. 274

f) Houk Family Bulletin 219, 220

g) 1830 Census, Fairfield Co. OH

h) 1830 Census, Warren Co. OH 93:210, 223, GN2753

i) 1820 Census, Warren Co. OH

j) 1840 Census, Warren Co. OH; GN2787

k) Marriage Records of Warren Co. OH, # 1, p. 99

l) 1820 Census, Butler Co. OH

m) 1810 Census, Berkeley Co. VA p. 589 (6)

n) Gladys Beardslee, 13 Jan. 1972, VF-GN

o) National Genealogical Society Quarterly 38:471; HFB-14; GN6


q) Revolutionary War Record, Jacob Hawk W362, GN3129

r) Mrs. Merlyn Houck 3 Apr. 1968, GN3129

s) 1790 Census, Frederick Co. MD, p. 58, 72

t) note on Penn, Northumberland Co., VF-GN

u) Hoosier Genealogist Jan-Feb 1968, 8:1, p. 9

v) Marriage Bond Book No. 3, Berkeley Co. WV, pp. 54, 56, 202, 242

w) Miss Helen Slack, 13 Dec. 1972

x) Mrs. H. M. Sole 12 Dec. 1972

y) Max E. Howk 14 Dec. 1972

z) Heads of Families, VA, 1790 Census

a') Will Book I p. 436, 437, Berkeley Co. Court, Martinsburg WV, copy notarized 19 Dec. 1972 by Christine Bergen

b') History of Frederick Co. MD, T J C Williams & Polger McKinzy (1910)

c') Executors' Bond Book 3, p. 28, Berkeley Co. Court, Martinsburg WV, sent by Christine Bergen 19 Dec. 1972

d') Christine Bergen 19 Dec. 1972; Will Book 5, p. 273-276; CB-10; GSmf 464,923; WB 5A-144, 145; HR 207
e) Deed Book 27 p. 233-236, Berkeley Co. WV
f) John Paul Grady 14 Jan. 1973; JPG-18
g) Kathryan Sampson 6 March 1973
h) History of Clay Co. IN, Travis (1909) quoted by Helen Slack 20 Feb. 1973
i) Kathryan Sampson 17 March 1973
j) Berkeley Co. WV Circuit Court Case # 281, 6 May 1836
k) Christine Bergen 21 March 1973
l) Will of Michael Houck
m) Christine Bergen 4 Dec. 1972
n) Mrs. Merlyn Houck Collection, VF-GN
o) Pennsylvania Archives
q) Esther L. Hill 31 July 1973
r) 1850 Census, Jay Co. IN; 728
s) Rev. Rec. of MD, Brumbaugh: HR-107, sent by Gladys Beardslee 27 May 1974
t) 1776 Census of MD, Bettie Stirling Carothers, 14423 Eddington Drive, Chesterfield MO 63017, no date: HR-106
u) Handy Book for Genealogists, Everton
v) Maryland Record, Brumbaugh: HR-115
w) Genealogical Notes on MD Families, Wilkins: HR-106
x) Genealogical Society microfilm 3441 or 014145, Salem Ref’d Chruch, Wash. Co. MD p. 33: HR-174
y) Genealogical Society microfilm (GSmf) 013951 MD Land Rec. 1778-1803, Frederick City Courthouse, pp. 271, 272, 282: HR-193-195
z) ibid. General Index
aa) GSmf 3523 part 1 or 14597 Land Rec. Wash. Co. MD, Index: HR 213
ab) Indenture, Jacob Houte to Michael Houte 16 Feb. 1787, Berkeley Co. VA, Deed Book 7 p. 145
ac) Will of George Houte, Will Book I, p. 436, 437, Berkeley Co. Court, Martinsburg WV
ad) Rev. Rec. MD, Brumbaugh: HR234
ae) Will of Jacob Houte as copied by Carolyn Petersen from Will Book 5, p. 273, Courthouse, Martinsburg WV, 20 Aug. 1974; VF-2
af) GSmf 531,232, Land Tax Books 1796-1799 Berkeley Co. VA: HR343
ag) GSmf 531,232 Land Tax Book (1815), Berkeley Co. VA: HR349
ah) Calculated from birth of children by formula from Family History for Fun & Profit by Jones, Eakle & Christensen (1972) p. 158
ai) Guy Keesecker 30 Jan. 1973
aj) GSmf 464,923 Berkeley Co. WV Wills etc. HR-198, 199
ak) Marriage Records of Berkeley Co. VA 1781-1854 Guy L. Keesecker
al) Helen B. Kilmer, Sec’y, St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church Martinsburg WV: VF-2
am) Berkeley Co. WV Wills, Vol. VI, p. 303, 543: BCW: HR 310, 311 313, 314
an) Biographical and Historical Record of Jay and Blackford Counties (IN) Lewis Publishing Co. (1887) p. 635
BCD) Berkeley Co. WV Deeds, Grantee Index AB 1772-1926: GSmf 831,165; HR 321-327; DB 26, 27 mf 831,127; HR 344; (continued)
The Houcks are said to be of German origin. (y, h') The signatures of both Jacob and his brother Michael Houck look like old German script. (Will of Michael Houck) All that is known of the parents of Jacob and Michael Houck is that they were alive about 1744 when Michael was born.

There was a great influx of Germans from Pennsylvania, along the old Monocacy Trail, many settling in the vicinity of Frederick, Grayson and Greagerson MD in 1740. (w' 122) The Houcks may have been with them.

The earliest reference to these Houcks was in 1744 when Michael was born. (Mildred E. Houck 30 Apr. 1973) On 5 March 1771 a Jacob Hawk-Haugh was granted a deed from William Jackson as recorded at the Frederick City MD Courthouse. It was part of a tract called "Addition to Brook's Discovery" near tracts called "Goose Quarter" and "Cattail Branch", and containing 100 acres. Jackson's wife was Marget. The deed was acknowledged before Wm. Blair and Jos Wood. (z' HR-190, HGR-1 GSmf 019342, Liber 0, p. 68, 69) At that time Frederick Co. contained what was to become Washington County in 1776. (u' 112, 113)

Margaret Houck, wife of Jacob, was in Maryland 2 or 5 May 1772 when their son Henry was born. (1850 Census, Deerfield Twp. Warren Co. OH, HR 40, i, w) They were both in Maryland for sure on 5 June 1774 when they witnessed the baptism of Johannes Hauch, born 13 March 1774, son of Michael and Elisabetha Hauch. The ceremony was in the Salem Reformed Church, Salisbury Hundred, Washington Co. MD, 4 miles northwest of Hagerstown. (x')
members of the congregation were German and Swiss who had brought their Heidelberg Catechisms from the old country. Peter Deysheere, the founder, was from Maiden Creek Township, Berks Co. PA. The church, in an octagonal log structure that doubled as a fort, was founded 1747. Most of the early records were destroyed by fire. (The 225th Anniversary of Salem Reformed Church 1747-1972; VP-2)

No record of Revolutionary War service by our Jacob Houck could be found in the National Archives. However on 7 March 1778 he took the Patriots' Oath of Fidelity and Support from Andrew Rentch in Washington Co. MD. Others who took the oath at the same time were residents of Elizabeth Hundred, now Hagerstown. (n, s' 20, t*, u*, v' 234, ac) Andrew Rentch is buried in Salem Reformed churchyard.

On 19 Aug. 1779 a Jacob Haughe granted a deed to Christopher Bouer, recorded at Frederick City MD. (Book WR, folio 156, y*) A Jacob Houck was granted a deed by Henry Fight, recorded 18 Dec. 1784, same place. (Book WR 5, folio 254, y*) In 1785 Jacob Houke had a land warrant for 100 acres in Bedford Co. PA. Did that imply Revolutionary War service? Jacob's brother Michael had a farm in Cumberland Valley Twp., Bedford Co. PA as early as 1771. Daniel Houck, son of Michael lived 1836 in Bedford Co. PA. (PA 3 XXV 532, HR 320a, 337 & 419)

Jacob Houck's son George was born (1786) in Virginia according to the 1850 Census of Berkeley Co. VA. (k*) The birthplace is in doubt because Jacob's first known presence in VA was 1796.

Jacob Houk got a bill of sale from Henry Ford in 1787 in Washington Co. MD, for of all things, a horse! (Liber E, folio 423) He paid 3 pounds, 15 shillings for that bay mare, branded on the near shoulder "G", and for one brown cow with a white face. Witnesses were Alexr & Wm Clagett. A Henry Ford was brother of Johannah who married Henry Houk son of Jacob. (aa, HGR-1, GSmf 014, 602)

Jacob Houck was in the 1790 Census of Frederick Co. MD p. 68 with males: 16 & up: 1, under 16: 3; and females: 2. This could fit the family of our Jacob Houck d. 1815. (s, b* 640)

On 8 March 1796 Cephas Beal and his wife Maryion sold Jacob Houk 460 acres in Berkeley Co. VA, land granted to George Ross father of Maryion by the late Thomas Lord Fairfax in 1762. The price was 977 pounds, 10 shillings Maryland currency. The land was located 11½ miles North of the Courthouse in Martinsburg VA, on the Williamsport Road. (BCD Vol. 12 p. 488; HGR-1; BCL: HGR-1) Jacob Hoak (late Beall) was taxed on 460 acres by Winn Winship Commission, 1796 in Berkeley Co. VA. Andrew Hoake and Elijah Hauke were also taxed. (BLT: HR 346-349)

In Nov 1796 Jacob Houck (p. 283), Michael Houck (p. 273) & Peter Houcks (p. 279), Federalists, and William Hawk, Democratic Republican, voted in the Presidential Election in Frederick Co. MD. Jacob voted for John Tyler. (GN 473, v'-I)

In 1797 Houke, Jacob & MichI, and in 1798 Houke, Jacob & Brother were taxed on the same 750 acres in the District of Winn Winship. In 1799 they were taxed separately, Jacob on 450 acres, Michael on 376. Jacob continued to be taxed there through 1815, at
which time he was living in Martinsburg VA and Michael in Williamsport MD. (BLT:HR346-349, HGR-1)

On Oct. 2, 1798 Jacob Houck entered into an agreement with William Rineman and others, as recorded in the Frederick City MD Courthouse. (Book WR-17, folio 308, y') Jacob Houck sold 140 acres to Samuel Shadd in Berkeley Co. VA on 19 July 1799. The witnesses were Elijah Hawk and Andrew Keeseccker. (BCD 15 p. 596, 597; HGR-1, HR 324) On 4 Nov. 1802 Jacob & Michael Houck bought at the estate sale of Conrad Strickler in Berkeley Co. VA. (Will Book 3, p. 635; HR 317)

Jacob Houck Jr's sales account and inventory were dated 24 April 1804 in Berkeley Co. VA. Since the estate included among other things only one bed and one cradle, it would seem safe to conclude that he was young. (f': Bk 3, p. 589) Jacob Houck Jr., son of Jacob d. 1815, left two children. (HGR-19) One must have slept on the floor, with his parents or in his mother's womb as Jacob Jr. was approaching death.

Berkeley Co. VA Land Tax Book of Steven Snodgrass shows Jacob Houck with two whites above 16 and six slaves above 16 in 1806. The tax was 72ø. (BLT: HR 348) The point is, he kept slaves!

Michael Houck, brother of Jacob d. 1815, signed his will 12 Apr. 1808 in Berkeley Co. VA. It was witnessed by Jacob Houck, George Harman & Robert Jack. (HGR-2, k', l') The signatures are faithful facsimilies of the originals, since the document cited was produced after the death of both Jacob & Michael. Tracings:

Jacob Houck was in the 1810 Census of Berkeley Co. VA with males: 16-26:3, 45 & up:2; females: 0-10:1, 10-16:1, 16-26:1 and 45 up:1. (m', CB 4)

Jacob Houck made & signed his will 11 Jan. 1811 in Berkeley Co. VA. Being sick in body but of sound mind he committed his Soul unto the hands of Almighty God. Then he named the following legatees: beloved wife Margaret; George & William Houke sons of his deceased son Jacob to be paid when they arrive at age 21; son Michael, daughter Sally; son George; son Samuel; son Henry; son David; daughter Betsy wife of Andrew Keisacre, and daughter Catherine. He mentioned some property he had given to son Henry and daughters Betsy & Cathrine, an account of which was in the hands of Frederick Alter in Hagerstown MD. He appointed his wife Margaret as executor. Witnesses were George Harmon, Michael Harman and Michael Hawk. The will was proven 14 Aug. 1815. (WB 5 p. 273, d', ad, ae)

On 13 Aug. 1814 Jacob Houke and Margaret his wife sold 302 acres and 30 poles of land to John Weaver and Christina his wife for $3,087.50 in bonds, due annually on 6 April thru 1831. The land was in Berkeley Co. VA near the Potomac River, on the Williamsport Road, 11½ miles N. of the Courthouse in Martinsburg. Adjoining land owners were Michael Houke, Peter Light, Jacob Strayer, Robert Jack, a Porterfield and the heirs of Henry Shearer. The instrument was signed in the presence of Phil C. Pendleton, Ia
Faulkner and Saml Hill. Sam Boyd & Ia Faulkner took a deposition from Christina Weaver who could not attend the court proceedings. (BCD: DB 26 p. 212-215, HR 324, 344, HGR-1)

Six of Jacob Houck's children were married in the old German Congregation in Martinsburg VA. Of these, he was suretor for David 1807, George 1811 and Sally 1812. His last known living act was on 6 or 16 April 1815 when he was Suretor on the marriage bond of Eve Oller or Alter and Jacob Pitzer in Berkeley Co. VA. It is unlikely that the confirmed bachelor Jacob, son of Michael and nephew of Jacob d. 1815 was the suretor.

On 14 August 1815 Margaret and Michael Houck made their marks and Samuel & George Houcke signed an Executors' Bond for $25,000 in the matter of the administration of Jacob Houck's estate in Berkeley Co. VA. (Executors Bond Book 3, p. 28: CB 9) This Michael had to be Jacob's son who used his mark "+" on his own will.

On 7 Nov. 1815 the Estate of Jacob Houke, Berkeley Co VA was in account with Jacob French de bonis non, several items:

1815 Nov. 7 to Georg Houkes note for $802.22
1815 Nov. 7 Cash Recd of Michel Houck 64.00
1824 May 25 by cash pd the Marchel for selling 302 acres 42.24
1824 Sept 30 Boyd's Rec for Services Rendered 69.00
(WB 7, p. 399: HR 319)

On 7 Nov. 1815 Margrett Houke sold 90 acres of land in Berkeley Co. VA, from the estate of Jacob Hawke, to George Howke for $3,610. (DB 27 pp. 233-236, f*)

The appraisement of Jacob Houke's estate was recorded 13 Nov. 1815 in Berkeley Co. VA. Among the many items were a gray mare, a black mare, notes from W. Hauk; Adam Hk & Michael Houk; D. Lepherd & D. Basore; Joshua & J. Ward; Davis & Stephen Bryan; R. Jack & Jb Strayer; J. Wright & A. Shearer; Archibald Shearer; Jacob Strayer; G. Bryan & Shearer; John Kessinger; Wm Warner & M. Houk; M. Kesecker & G. Bowman; T. Felson & M. Bashore; L. Williamson & I. Porterfield; Henry Ford & R. Harris; J. Silver & Joe Ford; 16 of J. Weaver's bonds; debt of Andrew Keeseecker; accounts of Matthias Keeseecker, Samuel Houk, John Custerd, Christian Ensinger, Henry Miller and Zepe Cosight; $500 in Conoquage Bank, grand total of $10,822.03. (BCW: HR 313, W Bk 5, p. 323) The Inventory was recorded 23 Nov. 1815 (Bk 5: f*)

The estate sale of Jacob Houke was recorded 13 Nov. 1815 in Berkeley Co. VA. The following persons bought at the sale: Jeremiah Jack, Stephen Boyers, Geo Houk, Samuel Light, Wm Foman, Michael Houk Jr., Michael Kreps, Adam Dawns, John Resques, Wm. Forman, John Pitzer, John Porterfield, Wm Warner, Stephen Bryan, John Gregg, Samuel Houk, Robert Stewart, George Hauke, black Frank, George Houk, David Basore, Henry Miller, Wm Lewis, George Alter, Quallen Hammon, Michael Basore, Samuel Light, John Laury and George Hoake. (Will Book 5 p. 329, BCW: HR 313, f*)

In 1815 Margrett Houke, Executor for Jacob Houke paid William Thurston and Henry Houke per recpt $1089.11. (WB 6 p. 313 Berkeley Co. VA; BCW: HR 314; CB-13) The original receipt with the signatures has not been located. On 17 Dec. 1815 she paid John Hite.
$100 for William Hite and paid James Houk $195.00 (ibid.)

In 1816 George Houke was taxed on 90 acres in Berkeley Co., VA, 11 miles North of the Courthouse in Martinsburg VA. (BLT: HR 346-349, HGR-1)

In 1816 Margrett Houke, administrator of Jacob Houke estate paid cash to Samuel Houke per receipts. (WB 6 p. 13 Berkeley Co., WV, BCW: HR 314)

On 1 May 1816 in Warren Co., OH Michael Houck marked his will "p". He gave his estate to his brother-in-law William Thuston, brother Henry Houk, brothers David and Samuel Houck, brother-in-law William Hite & brother George Houck. He appointed brother-in-law William Thuston his sole executor. Witnesses were Joseph T. Joslin, Benjamin Thuston and Nathaniel Hunt. The will was proven 8 July 1816 and was found in the Warren Co. OH Courthouse, Old C P Box 13, No. 16. It was recorded in Warren Co. OH Wills, Vol. 1, p. 101; GSmf 49057 part 1 where his name was spelled "Houke" and "Howk". Note that this is the same constellation of siblings that were mentioned in the will of Jacob Houke of Berkeley Co., VA.

7 May 1819 Margaret Houck made her will in Berkeley Co., VA. She gave $1.00 each to daughter Elizabeth Thuston, son Henry Houk, son David Houck and son Samuel Houck. She gave $15 each to son David Houck's 2 daughters Margaret & Catharine born to his first wife, and to daughters Catharine Kesecker and Sally Hite. The whole residue of her estate went to son George Houck. She appointed Jacob French executor. Witnesses were Charles Downs and James Turner. (CB-11, q 11, HGR-1, BCW: HR 312, Will Book 6 p. 303) Her will was probated 14 Aug. 1820. (ibid.) The same day the will of Jacob Houck was recorded. (Bk 5: f')

16 Dec. 1821 at the probate of the will of Michael Houck in Berkeley Co., VA mention was made of witness Jacob Houck being dead. (WB 6 p. 404; HR 314)

Recorded 14 Feb. 1825, Berkeley Co., VA, Will Book 7 p. 400:
Dr the Estate of Margret Houke in account with Jacob French Executive, among other items appear:
1817 Dec. 11 To note on William Thurston & H. Houke for $200.00
1817 Dec. 11 To note on George Houck & William Warner for 179.00 given under our hand 13 Jan. 1825 John Kisinger (HGR-1)

Believe it or not, there are 244 other Jacob Houcks, including alternate spellings, in Houk Family Dictionary. (HFD 169-186) Most of these are separately identifiable but the one most likely to be confused with our Jacob Houck d. 1815 is Jacob Houck b. 1750, d. 1823 in Westmoreland Co., PA, m. 1780 Magdalena Pennebaker 1751-1815. They are buried in the German and Reformed Cemetery, Greensburg, Westmoreland Co., PA. He was testator 1776 on the will of William Pennebaker in Frederick Co., MD. (HFD 178, HR 57, 156) On 25 June 1773 Jacob & Magdalena Hock presented their son for baptism at the Reformed Congregation, Hagerstown, Washington Co., MD. (GSmf 014145 p. 18: HR 161, 169) They had several other children.