

October 5, 2007

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Dear Julia and family:

I can now pick up where I left off from my first report on this couple dated July 7, 2007. I can add quite a bit to this first report now that I have returned from my trip to Western Pennsylvania and Barren County, Kentucky. Now that I have seen the records of this area, I feel quite certain that I know the origins of our James and Margaret Sharp. I have learned a lot about the history of Western Pennsylvania, and it only solidifies my theory that the James Sharp I discussed in the first report is our ancestor. See what you think after you have read the evidence I present in this report.

Report number two on James and Margaret Sharp

I had done quite a bit of research on James Sharp, both in Washington and Mercer Counties, Pennsylvania during the months of July, August, and September. What I found strengthened my theory even more, but by September, I had exhausted what the library had on these two counties. I had to go to these two counties and see what other records existed for them. My hope was that the additional information would give some concrete evidence of the James Sharp in Washington County, Pennsylvania was the same James Sharp who showed up in Mercer County, Pennsylvania later on. Let me pick up where I left off last time.

James Sharp in Washington County, Pennsylvania

Let's start with Washington County first. The Library here in Salt Lake City, had tax records for this county from 1781 through 1789, I reported on what I found in these records in my first report. That is. James Sharp appeared in all of the tax records for this period in Peters Township, Washington County. There was a John Sharp who appeared in the tax lists for the years 1781 and 1782, then, he disappears from Peters Township altogether. I don't know who this man was or where he went. I have wondered if was related James Sharp. I did not pursue this at the time, but I will in trying to trace the earlier origins of James Sharp.

Nehemiah Sharp also appeared in the tax records of Peters Township during these years, but only for a year or two. He moved to Robinson Township in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania where he died in 1826. He married Patsy Walker in about 1773, and had a number of children, including possibly a son Robert Sharp. However, he is too young to

have had a Robert Sharp as early as ours was born, so he holds no immediate importance to the James Sharp we are tracing in Peters Township.

Finally, I mentioned Edward Sharp who resided in Peters Township in my first report. He died in 1788, and his children were mentioned in the Orphan's Court records by name. Among his children there were none named James, Peter, Robert, or John. He may be related to James Sharp, and that will have to be examined as we try to extend the Sharp line, but there was no reason to consider him at this time since I was trying to establish the connections of James Sharp and children he may have had living in Peters Township in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

So, by 1789, the last year the tax records were extant on film at the library for Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, only one of these Sharp families remained in this township, and that was James Sharp. The other Sharps that were in this township before 1789 I have accounted for in my commentary above. Also, mentioned in this 1789 tax list, besides James Sharp, were two single young men named Peter and James Sharp. They may have been over 21 years of age, but they were not married in 1789. These had to be the sons of the James Sharp appearing in this list because there were no other sharps listed after 1789 in this township. What I found in the tax records after 1789 only strengthens this belief.

The 1790 census lists this James Sharp in Washington County, and even though the township is not identified specifically in this census, we know it is same one because of who his neighbors are (**Document # 1**). They were the Brackenridges, Moses Coe, William Morrison, and Samuel Thompson, all of whom lived up and down Brush Run along side of James Sharp. In his household there were three males 16 years and upwards including head of house and no males under the age of 16, and six females. How is this broken down? I am not entirely certain, but let me theorize here a little bit. One of the ones above 16 years of age is, obviously, James Sharp himself. There are two others above 16 years of age. One, I think would be James Jr., the one who showed up in the 1789 tax record along with Peter Sharp. The other one I am not certain who it is. James Sharp's other son Peter shows up separately on the same census page as James Sharp as a very young head of house with two females. One female would be his wife Judith Townsend, and the other would probably be a very young child. In early 1789, Peter was single and by mid 1790 a little over a year later, he is married and listed as a head of house. Peter would be another son of James Sharp, but not the one appearing in his household when the census taken.

This other son living in the household of James Sharp may have been Robert, our ancestor, who was still living at home in 1790 with his wife Elizabeth Forgey (one of the six females) and their eldest daughter Sarah born in 1787 (another of the six females). Or, it could have been another son, perhaps, John, who went with him to Mercer County, Pennsylvania. I don't know for sure, but I feel pretty certain that James had sons named James, Peter, Robert, and John.

There was a printed tax list for Peters township for 1793, and on this list were listed James and Peter Sharp. They were listed together on the list, but I wasn't sure which James was listed, the father James or the son James.

There were no other tax lists for Washington County between the 1790 census and 1800 in the library in Salt Lake, except for the printed 1793 list mentioned above, and a list for 1798, which shows no Sharps living in Peters Township. No James Sharp appears in the 1800 census of Washington County, Pennsylvania, and certainly not the townships that make up the Chartiers Valley (Peters, Strabane, Cecil and Chartiers Townships). I needed to see the list for the 1790's if they existed. These would be available only in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

I did trace James Sharp and Peter Sharp, the two young single men listed in the 1789 tax lists, and I was successful in tracing the origins of both. As I mentioned in my first report, I traced James Sharp Jr and his wife Keziah to Washington County, Ohio. He died in 1818, and I can account for his children because he left a will. Keziah was the daughter of Samuel Thompson, who held land on Brush Run Creek, close to James Sharp's land on the same creek. They were neighbors and were well acquainted with each other I am sure. James and Keziah married around 1793 or 1794, and left for Ohio around 1800 or a little before.

In my first report, I mentioned that there was a Peter Sharp who died in Washington County, Ohio in 1823, and a John Sharp who died there in 1825. Neither this Peter nor John are brothers of the James Sharp who lived in this county, which I discussed in the previous paragraph. I thought at the time this Peter was the one who showed up in the tax list with James Sharp in 1789. However, this did not turn out to be the case. The Peter Sharp who showed up in the tax list of 1789 in Washington County, Pennsylvania with James Sharp, married Judith Townsend around 1789 and showed up in the 1790 census as a head of house. This Peter moved about 1794 to Nottingham Township, which borders Peters Township on the south. He was there until 1804, when he sold his property and moved to St. Clair Township in Allegheny County. He was there until about 1820, then, moved to Jefferson County, Ohio. By 1830 he was living in Harrison County, Ohio and died there sometime after 1840. I have documented his movements pretty well. His wife was Judith Townsend. She was the daughter of Daniel Townsend who lived in Peters Township and appears to have held land not far from the land owned by James Sharp along waters of Brush Run.

Now, let me discuss what I found in Washington County, Pennsylvania when I visited there on September 24th and 25th. I hoped for more tax records, and fortunately, they existed for this county for the years 1791-1794, 1796, 1798, and 1800. These records help strengthen my case for what I had found in Salt Lake City. Let me review what I found in these tax records.

Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania

1791

Peter Sharp	No land	Valuation 10 shillings
James Sharp	No land	Valuation 4 Shillings

Under Single men

Note: Single men is a separate list at the end of a valuation for a particular township

Capt. James Sharp	No land
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1792

James Sharp Senr.	No land	Note: James and Peter are listed next to each other on the list.
Peter Sharp	No land	

Under Single men

Capt. James Sharp

1792 Another list for this year.

James Sharp Senr. (Name crossed out on this list, meaning that he removed from the township)	No land.
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Under Single men

Capt James Sharp	No Land.	Valuation: 6 shillings
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Unseated land

Peter Sharp	No land	Valuation: 2 shillings and 4 pence
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1793

Peter Sharp	No land	Valuation: 10 pence
James Sharp	No land	Valuation: 1 shilling 4 pence

*Peter and James are listed next to each other on the list. No other Sharps appear on the list for Peters Township. This James Sharp, I am pretty sure is not James Sharp **Senr.**, but rather James Sharp Junr, or Capt. James Sharp from earlier lists. From the 1792 list above, you will note that James Sharp **Senr.** is crossed off of the list, meaning, more than likely, that he left the township.

The years 1794, 1796, 1798-1801 for Peters Township were searched. No further reference to the surname Sharp appears in these lists. This is what I expected because of the other things that I found out about James Sharp **Senr.** and his sons James and Peter. James Sharp Junior is the one who married Keziah Thompson and moved to Washington County, Ohio. Peter married Judith Townsend and moved several times until he ended up in Harrison County, Ohio. I have enclosed a county map of Pennsylvania and Ohio to help you see where these counties are located (**Documents #2 and 3**).

So, where did James Sharp **Senr.** go? Tax records helped. It appears that this man moved to the neighboring township of Strabane for two or three years. Here's what I found.

Strabane Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania

1793

James Sharp No land Valuation: 10 pence

1794

James Sharp No land Valuation: 10 pence

There was no list for 1795, and by 1796 and later years through 1802, no Sharps show up in the lists for this township. I suspect if there had been a list for 1795, James would have been found on it. No James Sharp was found in Strabane Township from 1787 to 1802, except for the James Sharp mentioned in the lists for 1793 and 1794. I am pretty sure this is our man. I searched other townships surrounding Peters and Strabane Townships, namely Cecil, Nottingham, Chartiers, and Dickenson without finding other references to this sharp family, other than Peter Sharp, who by 1794 had moved to Nottingham Township. He was there for a few years until he moved to St. Clair Township in neighboring Allegheny County.

It is important to note here that in the 1790's Peters, Strabane, Chartiers, and Cecil Townships comprised what is known as the Chartiers Valley. This valley extends north towards Pittsburgh in Allegheny County and includes St. Clairs Township in that County. I have enclosed a Watershed map of Washington County (**Document #4**) which shows the watershed for Chartiers Creek, which runs through the Chartiers Valley. This becomes important later on as we discuss the James Sharp in Mercer County.

The important thing to remember here is that the James Sharp Senr. and his sons James and Peter lived on Brush Run, a creek that runs into Chartiers Creek from the east side of the Chartiers valley with its origins in Peters Township. I Enclose township evolutions maps of Washington County, Pennsylvania (**Document #5**). Having now been to Peters Township in Washington County, I now can see that Peters Township is part of the Chartiers Creek watershed and valley.

Enclosed is photocopy of the deed recorded in Washington County where James Sharp Senr. sold his land on Brush Run in Peters Township (**Document # 6**). He sold it to a Hugh Brackenridge and his brother John Brackenridge, both of whom resided in Peters Township. In fact, in describing the land, he mentions his neighbors. I quote from the actual deed:

Deeds. Washington County, Pennsylvania Book 1I (9) pages 89-90 FHC film 862508:

“...now be it known that the said James in consideration aforesaid have resigned to the said Hugh and his heirs all claim to the land that by possession on occupation it being that tract on which I now live, lying and being in Washington County by and on the waters of Brush Run and bounded on the east by John Brackenridge, and on the west by Moses Coe, on the north by John Swearingham, and on the south by William Morrison.

Given under my hand and seal this twenty eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety.”

Signed: James Sharp (by his own hand)

I went to the public library in Peters Township, which is in the village of McMurray. This was most productive, not because there were any original documents there, but because of some histories and maps that proved very useful.

There was a history of Peters Township that gave some historical and biographical information on some of the earliest settlers in this township. Although James Sharp was not mentioned in this history, mainly because he left the area at an early period. What was helpful from this history is that the author takes people she knew and had recollection of and traced their origins to some of the earliest settlers of the township. Not surprisingly, she got back to where she was mentioning some of James Sharp's neighbors mentioned in the sale of his land. They traced the land of John Brackenridge, John Swearingham, Moses Coe and the Morrisons. By the time I finished the history and referring to an 1876 map of Peters Township, I knew pretty precisely where on Brush Run James Sharp's property was located. In fact, when I looked at the map and got some orientation, I could look out the library window and see Brush Run Creek. As I drove west from the library down Brush Run, I could see where his land was located. He lived on the south side of the creek, and even to this day, there is not much built on that side of the creek. There is very little meadow on either side of the creek before the land rises sharply on the south side only a few yards from the creek. It did not appear to be very good land. I can see why he sold it. I have enclosed the map (**Document #7**) and have marked off the area where I think his land was located. I have also enclosed a copy of the history (**Document # 8**) so you can see how I was able to determine where James Sharp's land was located. Many of the lands along Brush Run, I learned, are still in the possession of descendants of the Morrisons, Brackenridges, etc. They did not write about James Sharp because he and descendants did not remain in this township. In other words there was no living memory of him in this township. By 1796, he has disappeared from the tax rolls of Strabane and Peters Townships altogether, and in actual fact all of the townships of the Chartiers Valley. It is important to note this fact in your mind because it becomes very important as we discuss the James Sharp in Mercer County.

James Sharp's background appears to be Scotch-Irish. The majority of those that settled in Peters Township were of Scotch-Irish origins. When they first moved into Washington County, one of the earliest churches in the area was referred to as the Chartiers Associate Congregation, which was organized in 1775 and is located on Highway 19 in Strabane Township (Now North Strabane Township). It is about 6 miles from this church to where James Sharp lived on Brush Run. In the 1790's this was the closest church in the neighborhood, and I suspect this is the church he would have attended if he were a religious man at all. The session minutes for this church begins in 1799. The first order of business was to raise money to call Rev. Smith as their pastor. A list of members and their pledges of money to make the call was dated November, 1799. A James Sharp is listed with the pledge of 5 shillings towards the ministry. I am not sure if this is James

Sharp Senr. We know for certainty, that our James Sharp was in Strabane Township during the period 1793-1795, so it could be him, but later on when we discuss the James Sharp in Mercer County, mention is made of him coming to Mercer County in 1797 or 1798. James Sharp Jr. who married Keziah Thompson was still residing in this area still in 1798-1799, so I guessing this reference pertains to James Jr. rather than James Sr. From the membership list taken in 1799, I noted a number of men who resided on Brush Run, including Robert Thompson, (Keziah's brother), the Bolan(d), and Darrahs. I have enclosed a copy of the session minutes that contain reference to James Sharp (**Document #9**). I know James and Keziah Sharp were residing in Peters Township as of August, 1799 because I found reference to them in the index to Misc and ejectments Index to the civil court. I looked at this docket, and James and Keziah Sharp pressed to have Daniel Jacobs ejected from their land in Peters Township (Aug. Court, 1799, docket 94, page 940).

I must note here that I really have not found that many original documents where James Sharp is actually mentioned. I have the deed in 1790 that refers to the sale of his property. I have him in the tax lists from 1781-1794 in Washington County, and I have him in the 1790 census. None of these documents really say whether he is our James Sharp or not, but as I mentioned in my first report, circumstantial evidence strongly points to him as being the right one. The most convincing evidence is that James is in Peters Township the same time as Adam McPherson and John Forgey. They were all within a short distance of each other. And, they were all there together at the time Robert Sharp would have married Elizabeth Forgey – everyone that needed to be there to make the marriage occur. It is kind of like the aligning of the stars if you get my meaning. There is a Robert Sharp that is listed in the tax rolls of Nottingham Townshp as a single man over the age of 21 in 1787 (**Document #10**). It is the only reference to him, but it is the year he probably would have married. I know that he was not the son of any of the other Sharps in Peters Township like Edward, Nehemiah, or John. That left as the only possibility James Sharp. It is not hard to see that this is more than just coincidence. Everything the family knows about the Sharp ancestry comes together in Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. As I get into my discussion of the James Sharp in Mercer County, Pennsylvania, I will be referring back to Washington County, Pennsylvania frequently to show the reasons why I feel strongly that the James Sharp living in Washington County during the 1790's is the same James Sharp living in Mercer County, Pennsylvania after 1800 even though there is not one document that says he came from Washington County to Mercer County. I will show why I believe this from the original documents and from a great deal of study in the history of Washington and Mercer Counties. A number of written sources had already done the work I would have had to do to draw the conclusions I have done concerning James Sharp. I have done much of it by association with other people. Some of the same people who lived around James Sharp in Washington County show up near him in Mercer County.

James Sharp in Slippery Rock Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania

Now, lets move on to Mercer County. A James Sharp shows up in the census of Mercer County in 1800 and 1810 (**Document #'s 11 and 12**). You can tell from these censuses

that he is an older man. In both censuses he is listed as being 45 years and upwards. If he was age 45 in 1800, that means he was born no later than 1755. He has younger children living with him in the 1800 census, but he also has a young woman living with him who is age 16-26, suggesting, it seems, that he had been married more than once. There is a wife whose age is 26-45. This has to be a younger woman. Living next door to him in Mercer County was John Sharp. It looks pretty certain that he is a son of James Sharp. John had three children under the age of 10 years in 1800, one male and two females. He was listed as age 16-26 in 1800. I would guess that he would have been much closer to the age of 26 than 16 since he had three children ranging from 1-10 years of age in 1800. If this is the case, and John was close to 26 in 1800, he would have been born about 1774 or 1775. He could not have been the son of James Sharp's younger wife who appeared in the 1800 census with James. The time period we are discussing here would have to make James Sharp's birth year no later than 1745 to 1750. And, if the James Sharp living in Mercer County in 1800 was the same James Sharp living in Peters Township, Washington County in 1790 when the census was taken, then, he would have had to been born before 1740, possibly 1735 or earlier. He had two sons living with him in 1790 who were over the age of 16. That means they were born in the 1760's, making James' birth at least 1740 and probably earlier. We need to keep in mind his age because it will help in understanding what I present as evidence to show they are the same person.

I have learned a lot about Western Pennsylvania and how it was settled, and before I discuss James Sharp, I need to give a little background on Western Pennsylvania and Mercer County in particular. I am including some county formation maps of Western Pennsylvania that will aid you as you read the background that I give here (**Document # 13**). In 1781, when James Sharp first appeared in the tax records of Washington County, Pennsylvania, this county had just been formed. Westmoreland County was formed in 1773 from Bedford County, and this county covered all of Western Pennsylvania until Washington County was formed in 1781 and Fayette County was formed in 1783. No other county formation occurred until Allegheny County was formed in 1788. And from 1788 to 1800, no other counties were formed in Western Pennsylvania between these years. However, during this period the final Pennsylvania state boundaries were formed in 1792, but county formation remained the same.

Attempts were made to settle some of this western land in Pennsylvania shortly after the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783. In fact, the general assembly set aside all of these western lands (nearly all of Allegheny County) as Depreciation and Donation Lands for soldiers who served during the Revolutionary War in the Pennsylvania Line Regiments (**Document #14**). The script issued to soldiers during the war was not redeemable because it was practically worthless. Hence, many of these soldiers were underpaid for their service. To make up for this, the government set aside land in Western Pennsylvania as a means of reimbursing these soldiers. Western Pennsylvania was set up into Depreciation and Donation Land Districts. Depreciation lands covered what is now Beaver County, and the lower portion of what would become Mercer County. Everything north of the Depreciation Land boundary was designated Donation Lands, which was reserved for soldiers of the Pennsylvania Line Regiments, and there were ten districts formed which went all the way north to the state line with New York. We do not

need to concern ourselves with the depreciation lands because James Sharp settled in the Donation Land 2nd district. See enclosed maps showing the donation land districts (**Document #'s 15-16**).

As early as 1783, laws were passed allowing for soldiers to apply for these lands. However, few soldiers actually applied. Before these unclaimed lands were placed on the market for general settlement, the legislature, in 1792, authorized the land officers to draw lots for every person entitled to Depreciation and Donation Land who had not already received the same. These lands were to be held two years for the applicant, after which they should, if not claimed by those eligible to receive them, be returned to the general state lands. To dispose of the lands not taken up under the Depreciation and Donation grants the general assembly passed an act in 1792, which provided that all vacant lands in these western districts should be sold. The persons who purchased this vacant land were required to cultivate, improve and settle upon the same for the price of seven pounds ten shillings for every hundred acres with an allowance of six percent for roads and highways. The method prescribed for obtaining title to these vacant lands was to buy, at the state land office, a warrant for a tract of land not exceeding four hundred acres. The price of such a warrant was the price of the land plus the office fees. This warrant was not a complete title to the land, but was an order upon the surveyor-general to survey the quantity of land called for. After this, in order to gain title to the land, the "warrantee" as he was called, **must make or cause to be made an actual settlement on the tract within two years after the date of the warrant.** By "actual settlement" meant the clearing of two acres in every hundred acres in the survey, erecting a "messuage" (residence and other buildings), and residing thereon for five years. In default of these improvements and settlement, the warrant was forfeited.

The passage of this act allowing the settlement of vacant land was meant to encourage the settlement of these lands for safety and populating of these unsettled districts. In the years right after these laws were passed, land speculators and ordinary people made application to buy these warrants. The problem was that from 1780 to 1795 the safety of the settlers in the country could not be guaranteed from Indian attacks. It was not until General Wayne's campaign against the Indians in 1795 that brought an end to the hostilities. After the signing of the treaty of Greenville in late 1795, these western lands were opened up for settlement, and after the surveys were made in 1796 and early 1797, the flood gates were opened and there was a rush of settlers into these western districts. Much confusion ensued between soldiers and settlers because of the laws passed in 1792. The time limitations imposed on the settlement by these laws in 1792 expired before the Indian troubles were settled. For legitimate reasons for the period before 1796, those who obtained warrants could not settle on the land, so, when settlement was possible, so many rushed onto these lands and settlement made before rightful claims could be made. It would be years before land disputes in these western counties comprising the Depreciation and Donation Lands would be settled.

James Sharp, according to a history of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, states that he was among the first to settle in Mercer County. I quote from the history of Washington Township in Lawrence County, page 353 (**Document # 17**).

“James and John Smith came the same year (1797) from the **Chartiers Valley** (Remember my earlier reference to this valley in Washington County, Pennsylvania). **James Sharp and family** came about the same time and settled in the same neighborhood,”

This mention of James Sharp caused me to wonder the way it was stated. The history this was taken from was written in 1908. The author speaks of him as though he knew something about him, that some of his descendants may still have been in the neighborhood. Remember from the history of Peters Township, Washington County that James Sharp was not mentioned in that history because his descendants ceased to reside there. There was no living memory of them to draw upon. In the case of this history, the author seemed to have some knowledge of James Sharp, and therefore, mentioned him among the early settlers. I also wondered, because of the way these sentences are formed, if the author meant to imply that James Sharp and family also came from the Chartiers Valley.

It took me sometime to figure out just exactly where James Sharp did settle. James and John Sharp appear in the tax records of Mercer County from 1800-1813. There does not seem to be any tax records after 1813, at least county officials I spoke with had no clue. They did not even know about the ones from 1800-1813. In 1800, James and John Sharp resided in North Beaver Township. In 1801, they were in Cool Spring Township. From 1802-1804, they were in Wolf Creek Township, and from 1805-1849, their property was located in Slippery Rock Township. In 1849, Slippery Rock Township became part of the newly formed county of Lawrence. Between 1849 and 1854, the property James Sharp once owned finally ended up in Washington Township, which was formed in 1853. It is in Washington Township today. The farm location never changed, but the townships were divided and sub-divided. I have enclosed some maps of the townships to help you see how they changed over the years (**Document # 18**). It is important to understand the township changes so you can see what happened to James Sharp.

From the above quote from the History of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania concerning the settlement of James Sharp and probably his son John Sharp, they were in Mercer County before it was officially organized. So, when James and John Sharp arrived to take up their land in 1797, they were actually residing in Allegheny County since Mercer County was not organized until 1800, and did not have a functioning government until 1804. The administration of Mercer County came through Crawford County for the years between 1800-1803 and the first tax lists (1800-1803) are in Meadville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania. I have enclosed the tax lists from 1800 to 1802 (**Document # 19**). James and John were, indeed some of the very first settlers in this area. They were part of the mad rush to move here right after the end of Indian troubles.

I found a deed where James Sharp sold what remained of his farm to a Henry Macom in March of 1818. It said that the land originally was warranted to a Wilson Hunt in 1794, and it was surveyed the following year 1795. Peter Mowrey paid the money for a patent to this land in 1820. I have looked in every conceivable place for the transaction of

James and John Sharp being granted the land, but absolutely nothing was recorded to show how and from whom they obtained the right to live on this land. Wilson Hunt and Peter Mowrey were both from Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and they were speculators in these lands. Both of these men held either warrants or the patents to numerous plots of land in Mercer County. They had no intention of living on these lands, but because of the 1792 laws stipulating how they could retain possession of the lands, they had to find someone to settle on and improve the properties. Somehow, James and John Sharp came to reside on the 400 acres warranted to Wilson Hunt. There probably was some kind of agreement for them to settle on his land, but it never got recorded. James Sharp's sale of the seventy five acres he still held in 1818 subtly alludes to what happened to James Sharp. I quote in its entirety the deed of 1818 (**Document #20**).

Deeds Mercer County, Pennsylvania. Book E1, pages 288-289. FHC film 889518:

Articles of Agreement made concluded and fully agreed upon this 4th day of March A.D. 1818 between James Sharp of Mercer County of the one part and Henry Macom of the other part of Allegheny County. Witness that said James Sharp doth hereby sell unto said Henry Macom a certain lot, tract or portion of land in Slippery Rock Township & County of Mercer in the state of Pennsylvania containing seventy five acres with the usual allowance for roads being part of a tract of land at present owned by Doctor Peter Mowry of Pittsburgh and originally surveyed on a warrant granted in the name of Wilson Hunt which said land James Sharp by virtue of his own improvement rights and which land is secured to said Sharp by an Article of Agreement (These articles of Agreement is what I could not find recorded anywhere. There may have been earlier articles of agreement made with Wilson Hunt, but they do not seem to have been recorded anywhere) between said Sharp and said Dr. Peter Mowry wherein said Dr Mowry is obligated to give said James Sharp or his assigns the above quantity of seventy five acres with allowance for his improving & settling the said tract according to the act of assembly (I think this the act of 1792 being referred to here, and to which I discussed above) to that effect said Dr Mowry by that agreement is bound to execute to said Sharp or his assigns a sufficient warrantee deed in fee simple (I think that is what is being done here). Now, **this** (what is written in this document I am quoting here) agreement witnesseth that said James Sharp doth hereby sell unto said Henry Macom the above quantity of seventy five acres with allowance for the above named tract off the east end of said warranted tract adjoining lands of James Gilfilland on the east. Donation land on the west and the remaining part of said tract the property of Peter Mowry on the north and south (seventy five acres of said tract being the property of James Robeson, which is the half of the quantity granted for settling and improving which still continues the property of said James Robeson). And said James Sharp doth hereby sell and dispose of his half of the settlers right viz. seventy five acres with allowance together with all and singular his improvements and privileges unto the said Henry Macom his heirs and assigns for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars and one English guinea in hand paid by said Henry Macom the receipt of which is acknowledged hereby giving and granting unto said Henry Macom his heirs and assigns all his rights, title, interest and claim of in and to said seventy five acres of land as above described do hereby bind himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators to said Henry that said Peter

Mowry will execute to said Henry his heirs or assigns a sufficient warrantee deed in fee simple (what James Sharp should have gotten. See above for same wording to James Sharp) for said tract of seventy five acres & allowance and said James Sharp shall give said Henry quiet and peaceable possession of said seventy five acres on Monday, the ninth day of March instant (Sounds like to me he is being evicted). In testimony whereof the parties have herewith set their hands and seals the fourth day of March A.D. 1818
 In the presence of M.B. Lowrie James Sharp
 Thomas Nelson Henry Macom

City of Pittsburgh Before me Mathew B Lowrie one of the Aldermen in and for said city personally came James Sharp and Henry Macom the parties in the above agreement and acknowledged the above to be their act and deed. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 4th day of March, 1818. M. B. Lowrie's signature.

Pittsburgh. March 5, 1818. I agree to this transfer from James Sharp to Henry Macom and will fulfill my part of the agreement to him and W(itness?) H. Macom paid me fifty six dollars for a Wr(arrant?) James Sharp which sum Sharp owed me and by Sharps desire. Signed Peter Mowry.

Recorded 9 March, 1818

Somehow, James lost possession to most of the 400 acres he originally started out with in 1797. He and John Sharp held this land up until John apparently left the county around 1811 or 1812. After that, James has around 150 acres, and by the time he sells his land in 1818, he is down to 75 acres with James and Rebecca Robeson holding the other half of the land secured to James Sharp. This deed goes back and describes how in what manner James Sharp obtained this land. I get the impression that some of this was done with some animosity. John Sharp disappears so quickly from the tax records. Why would you just leave 300+ acres of land so abruptly. And after having traveled to see the actual tract of land, I wondered how they could leave it. It was located on gently rolling hills and looked to be very fertile farmland. I could see from the tax records that James Sharp just kept losing parts of this land he obtained, first, from Wilson Hunt, and second, from Peter Mowry. The fact that the articles of agreement directs "James Sharp shall give said Henry quiet and peaceable possession of said seventy five acres" suggests that James Sharp may have objected to this transaction. Also, the fact that James and Henry finalize this transaction in Pittsburgh on March 4th, and Dr. Mowry finalizes his part of the agreement the next day March 5th suggests this was not amicable. It was James Sharp and Henry Macom who had to travel to Pittsburgh to transact this business. Peter Mowry was from Pittsburgh. It seems that it would have been no trouble for Peter Mowry to meet them the same day to finalize this transaction. But, I think it basically came down to his selling the land because he was too old to meet the obligations of retaining the land, that is, clearing the land, building houses, etc. Peter Mowry was a businessman and landlord. He had to do what was in his best interest, and James Sharp was not going to help him achieve that most likely because of his age, so he simply put him off the land. James had to have been at least 80 years of age by the time he sells the land in 1818. No 80 year old man is going to be able to keep up seventy five acres. It is interesting that by

1820, Peter Mowry has paid the money for a patent on the full four hundred acres that once was warranted to Wilson Hunt. The other half of the 150 acres James held remained in the hands of a James Robison and his wife Rebecca. I have wondered if James and Rebecca were connected with James Sharp some way. I can't say for sure, but it may be that James Sharp never went elsewhere. He remained with someone he knew and died in Mercer County sometime shortly after 1818. That is something we are going to have to try and figure out. I feel pretty sure that James Sharp had family that continued to reside in Mercer or Lawrence County, but it would be a daughter with a surname other than Sharp.

So, what makes me think this James Sharp is the same one that resided in Peters Township in Washington County, Pennsylvania. For one thing, the quote above stating when James Sharp came into Mercer County is made in connection with James and John Smith who came from the Chartiers Valley. Remember, Peters and Strabane Townships are in the Chartiers Valley. James Sharp lived in both of these townships, and undoubtedly knew the Smith's who ended up in Mercer County. Did they travel together? Highway 19 is an old road that passes within a mile of James Sharp's land in Peters township, Washington County, and it continues northward into Mercer County, and passes within a half a mile from the land James Sharp lived on in Slippery Rock Township, Mercer County. I could stay on Highway 19 all the way if I wanted to, even today. I found that an interesting development. It made it rather convenient for him when he decided to resettle to Mercer County. Also, the following commentary from a history of Mercer County written in 1888 states:

"The early settlers who came into what is now Mercer County, were largely Irish (Scots-Irish), and mainly members of the Presbyterian Church...They came, the majority of them, from the counties of **Westmoreland, Washington, Fayette and Allegheny**,..." (all counties in the southwest portion of Pennsylvania)

And, from the same history, but another chapter the following:

"These young preachers came mostly from Washington County and from the theological school of Dr. John McMillan, a log-cabin institution that through its graduates has exercised a powerful influence for good in Mercer County..."

Historically, these are accurate statements. The people who came into Mercer County were nearly all connected with the Donation Land grants and settlers rights granted in the laws of 1792, and flowed into the area from Southwestern Pennsylvania. James and John Sharp were among those who came from this area.

But, there is even more compelling evidence. It has to do with people who lived around James Sharp in Mercer County. They also lived around him in Washington County.

First, there are James and John Smith. I think they are the ones listed in the tax records of Strabane Township, the same township James Sharp lived in before disappearing from the lists. The Smiths disappear about the same time.

There is James Gilfillan, who had the adjoining property to east of James Sharp in Slippery Rock Township, Mercer County. This man obtained a warrant for 400 acres from Dr. Peter Mowry in 1798, and was recorded in Mercer County in 1804. The reason this is so important is James Gilfillan came at the very same time as James Sharp and settled on the 400 acres adjoining James Sharp's land on the east. James Gilfillan came from Washington County. And, it is very interesting to note that in 1826 when John Brackenridge's (remember that James Sharp sold his land in Peters Township to Hugh Brackenridge and this John Brackenridge) widow Catherine who acted along with John Gilfillan and Alexander Brackenridge as executors of John's estate sold a portion of the land once held by James Sharp. James Gilfillan who lived next to James Sharp in Mercer County, had a son John. I have not pursued this yet, but I would not be surprised to see connection here, either by marriage or otherwise. Gilfillan is not a common name.

Then, there was William Morrison who held land on the south of James Sharp in Peters Township. There was a rather lengthy write up on this man and his children in the Commemorative Biographical Record of Washington County, Pennsylvania taken from volume one page 661. William Morrison came originally from Chester County, Pennsylvania to Washington County. He settled on Peters Township, near the east branch of Chartiers Creek (this is probably Brush Run), where he resided until his death in 1818. He had ten children, according to this sketch, and three of them settled in Slippery Rock Township in Mercer County. Francis born 1773, and married Rosanna Frew (Frear) in 1795 and removed shortly there after to Slippery Rock Township. There were several Slippery Rock Townships, but I think this one pertains to the one in Mercer County originally.

Then, there was the White brothers John, David and James. They emigrated to Strabane Township in 1773 and settled there. John died in 1806. David White, brother to John and James White settled in Strabane Township, which was sold in 1802. There was a David White who died in 1808 in Mercer County, and I am in the middle of trying to sort out whether these two are the same person. I have been intrigued by the Whites since I read the following inquiry which showed up on Genealogy.com message boards under the surname of Sharp, which reads:

28 Feb 1998 – Mary Lou McPherson (Q332)

Surnames: Blair, Crawford, Sharp, White

Researching the following individuals, all of Mercer Co. David James **White** b.1735, d. 1805. Mary **Crawford**, b. abt 1750. Margaret **Sharp** of Greenville, b. 1776, d. 1853. Margaret **Blair**, b. 1809 in Crawford Co. James Carrick **White**, b. 1844. Jane M. **White**, b. 1848. Mary A. **White**, b. 1850.

An email was given in connection with this query, and I have tried sending a message to this address, but I have received no reply. I would really like to find out something about Mary Lou McPherson. She must have other information that might be helpful to

determine if she is related to our Sharp family in Mercer County. Her surname of McPherson plus the surnames of White and Sharp certainly causes you to wonder what she knows. Then, I have to think of the surname White in connection with not only the Sharps but the Forgeys. Adam McPherson married a Jane White and John Forgey married a Rachel White. Did some of the Sharp's marry into the Whites as well? As you can see there are numerous things that still need to be checked out.

From the evidence I have outlined here, there are a number of reasons to believe that James Sharp of Peters Township, Washington County and the James Sharp residing in Slippery Rock Township, Mercer County (later Lawrence County), Pennsylvania are the same person. It is so compelling that you can almost draw no other conclusion. Until we can prove otherwise, I will work as if this is the correct link.

So, how could Robert Sharp be the son of this James Sharp, especially, when Robert lived so far a way in Kentucky, and the rest of the family stayed in either Pennsylvania or Ohio? I think the answer lies in what relationships Robert had. To me Robert seems to have had closer ties with the Forgeys and the McPhersons, than his own family, especially, Adam McPherson. I noticed that as a young man recorded in the tax records, of Washington County, Pennsylvania, he was residing in Nottingham Township, not Peters Township where his father lived

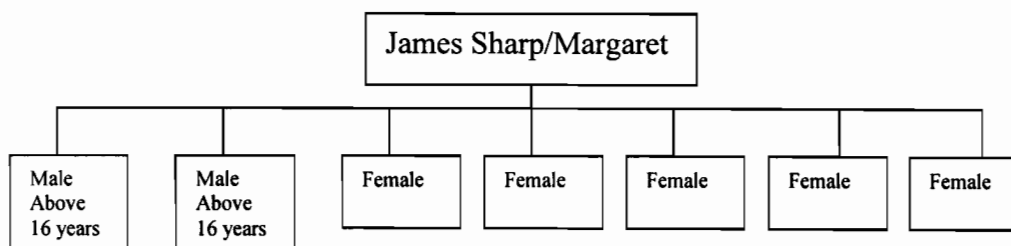
Adam McPherson resided in Nottingham Township. Adam last appears in the Nottingham Township tax rolls in 1787 (the same year Robert Sharp and William Forgey appear in Nottingham Township). The next year Adam McPherson shows up in Bourbon County, Kentucky. He is in the tax lists of this county until about 1795 or 1796. Robert Sharp shows up in the Bourbon County tax lists in 1795. I don't know where Robert was from 1788 to 1795. He may have been in Pennsylvania or he may have been living in Kentucky. But, consider that John and Rachel Forgey left Peters Creek area in Washington and later Allegheny Counties around 1793 or 1794. Did he go with them out to Kentucky? John Forgey shows up in Mason County, Kentucky in about 1794 or 1795. That is about when Robert and Elizabeth Sharp show up in Bourbon County. Mason and Bourbon Counties adjoin one another. So, again, John and Rachel Forgey, Adam and Jane McPherson and Robert and Elizabeth Sharp are all together in the same place for a while. And, Robert Sharp always seems to be in the places where Adam McPherson is.

From one source, it says that Adam McPherson was born in Sadsbury Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. This is not true because he says himself that he was born in Ireland, but he was probably quite young when he came to America, and there is a good chance that he did live in Sadsbury Township for awhile. There is a James Sharp living in Sadsbury Township from a very early period to 1781 when he dies and leaves a will. He mentions two sons James and John Sharp. I wonder if the James Sharp who shows up out in Peters Township, Washington County is this son. A John Sharp was in the Rangers from Washington County with James Sharp, John Forgey and Adam McPherson. There is a John Sharp appearing in the Washington County, Pennsylvania tax lists in 1781-1782, then, disappears. He did not stay in this county, but I have wondered if this

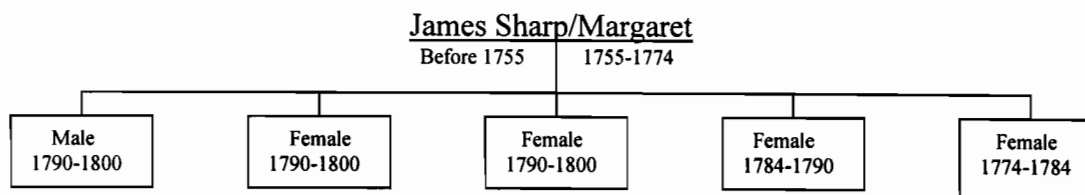
John was the brother of James Sharp and son of the James Sharp living in Sadsbury Township in Chester County. Here would be an earlier connection in Robert Sharp's growing up years where again he had the chance of being associated with Adam McPherson. This is something that will have to be pursued further.

Assuming that these two James Sharp's are the same person, I would like now to discuss the make up of his family. I will take the information from the 1790, 1800, and 1810 censuses to try and reconstruct the make up of his family. Let me list the censuses:

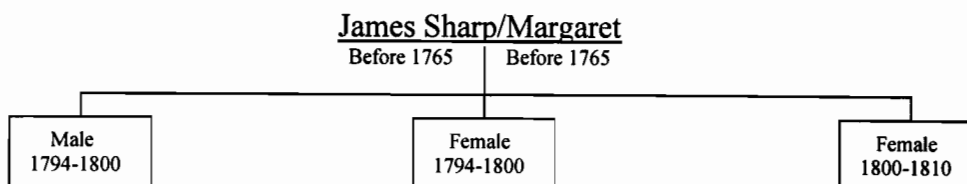
1790 Census of Washington County, Pennsylvania



1800 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania



1810 Census of Slippery Rock Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania



These are the three censuses that I found James Sharp and his family. I explained the 1790 census earlier in this report, and I will repeat here what I said earlier.

"The 1790 census lists this James Sharp in Washington County, and even though the township is not identified specifically in this census, we know it is same one because of who his neighbors are. They are the Breckenridges, Moses Coe, William Morrison, and Samuel Thompson, all of whom lived up and down Brush Run along side of James Sharp. In his household there were three males 16 years and upwards including head of house and no males under the age of 16, and six females. How is this broken down? I am not entirely certain, but let me theorize here a little bit. One of the ones above 16 years of age is, obviously, James Sharp himself. There are two others above 16 years of age. One, I think would be James Jr., the one who showed up in the 1789 tax record along with Peter Sharp and who married Keziah Thompson. The other one I am not certain who it is. James Sharp's other son Peter shows up separately on the same census page as James Sharp as a very young head of house with two females. One female would be his wife Judith Townsend, and the other would probably be a very young child. In early 1789, Peter was single and by mid 1790 a little over a year later, he is married and listed as a head of house. Peter would be another son of James Sharp, but not the one appearing in his household when the census taken.

This other son may have been Robert, our ancestor, who was still living at home in 1790 with his wife Elizabeth Forgey (one of the six females) and their eldest daughter Sarah born in 1787 (another of the six females). Or, it could have been another son, perhaps, John, who went with him to Mercer County, Pennsylvania. I don't know for sure, but I feel pretty certain that James had sons named James, Peter, Robert, and John."

As for the females in the 1790 census, there is even more of a challenge to figure out who they were. One is obviously James Sharp's wife. From what I can gather by comparing the information in the 1800 and 1810 censuses, I would say that this was his second wife, and he probably already had a daughter by her. If you look at the 1800 census, you will note that he has a daughter who was born sometime between 1784 and 1790. This daughter would have to have been enumerated in the household in 1790. I would place her being born somewhere closer to 1790 than 1784, and she probably was the eldest daughter by his second wife. There was also a female listed in the 1800 census who was between the ages of 16 and 26. She would have been born between 1774 and 1784, and she would have been counted among the females listed in the 1790 census. Because of her age she would probably not be a daughter of James Sharp's second wife. These two daughters plus the wife accounts for three of the six females listed in the 1790 census, and they were accounted for in the 1800 census as well.

That leaves three females in 1790 that we cannot account for. One may have been the wife of one of the males listed as being above 16 years of age. The only one I can think of would be Robert Sharp living at home with his wife Elizabeth and daughter Sarah. If it was not Robert, then, the two sons in 1790 living at home in 1790 would probably have been James Jr. and John, and neither of them were married, but it is hard to say. The three females were probably older daughters of James by his first wife.

From the research I have done, I can account for four sons, namely, James, Peter, Robert, and John. There are at least four daughters by his first wife none of whom are known by name. Part of them married in Washington County, and part probably married in Mercer County.

From the 1800 and 1810 censuses, we can determine fairly accurately that James Sharp had by his second wife at least one son, born somewhere between 1794 and 1800. A daughter born sometime just before 1790, two daughters born between 1790 and 1800 and one daughter born between 1800 and 1810 probably shortly after 1800. In all, he had 5 children by his second wife, a son and four daughters, born between 1788 and before 1805. I don't know how we could account for all of the daughters, especially the older ones. I am going to work on finding the daughters, but I do not know what success I will have.

There has been conjecture that the James Sharp appearing in the 1820 census of Pymatuning Township in Mercer County was the son of James Sharp the elder of Slippery Rock Township. By the time of the 1820 census (two years after James Sharp sold his property to Henry Macom), there were no other Sharps appearing in Mercer except this James Sharp appearing in Pymatuning Township. This James was born about 1794, which would match up pretty well with the age of the one son James Sharp had by his second wife as mentioned in the 1800 and 1810 censuses. If this James Sharp of Pymatuning Township was that son, then, James Sharp, the elder, named two sons James because he had another son James who married Keziah Thompson and moved to Washington County, Ohio. I discussed this James earlier in my report. It would not be a big surprise to learn that he named two sons James, if that is really the case. It appears that the James Sharp of Pymatuning Township, married shortly before 1820. Where he was before this time, no one seems to know. He married a woman by the name of Nancy, and he died around 1847. He lost his land in Pymatuning Township about the time of his death, and his widow appears in Nashannock Township, Mercer County in the 1850 census with a son named James aged 17. More work will need to be done on this James Sharp to determine if he really does belong to James Sharp the elder of Slippery Rock Township. The village of Sharpsville was named after the James Sharp of Pymatuning Township.

This pretty well finishes up what I was able to find on the James Sharp in Washington County, and the one who resided in Mercer County, Pennsylvania. From all that I have been able to do, it certainly appears as though they are the same one, and no small amount of circumstantial evidence seems to support this point of view. But, we still do not have on document that gives us direct proof that they were one in the same person. That is a disappointment, but still the same, I think I found enough to continue to build upon the theory I have posed here. I will continue to work on this line, and I hope others can add more to it. I welcome any input others can give to this continuing saga.

Robert and Elizabeth Sharp in Barren County, Kentucky

Let me now turn my attention to this couple. I wanted to research in Barren County, Kentucky first hand to see what might exist there that we had not searched already for more evidence of what happened to Robert and Elizabeth Sharp. I can answer in one word – nothing. I found nothing that would lead me to conclude, one way or the other, that Robert and Elizabeth Sharp's family remained in Barren County until they (at least the children) migrated to Indiana. I also did not find any document that tied Robert Sharp back to Bourbon County, Kentucky and ultimately back to Washington County, Pennsylvania. But, here are some things I did find out while I was there.

Again, I studied the Barren County tax records carefully, and nothing further was found on Robert Sharp, other than he showed up in these records from 1799 to 1807. The last years he was listed (1805 -1807), he had a taxable who was above 16 years of age. This would be his son James Sharp. He is gone in 1808, but a Robert Sharp Jr. appears with no land. He appears next to Archibald Sloan in the tax list, which is significant because Robert Sharp Sr. sold 200 acres of his land to this man, and he appeared next to him in the tax lists in prior years. Now, here is what I found out by talking to a local genealogist who has done research in Barren County all of her life. If a person died, his widow was exempted from paying the taxes for one year. This would be 1808, and in ensuing years, someone could pay in their name the tax for her, which would mean if she remained on the property the tax payment may not be under Elizabeth Sharp. I would then have to search the whole tax list to see who paid the tax for her. The rub here is that her name may not be mentioned at all even under the name of the person who was paying the tax in place of her. The names appear yearly by the first letter of the surname. I did not search the tax lists there because I knew there was an alphabetical list of all taxables for Barren County, Kentucky in book form at the Library in Salt Lake.

I searched this alphabetical list again, focusing on several different surnames besides just Sharp. I looked for the surname of Hart, Downs, Rollins (Rawlins). Robert Sharp and Roderick Rollins disappear from the lists in 1807. William Hart and all references to Sharp disappear in after the 1808 tax list. And, a name that I literally stumbled across was the name of William Forga who was in the tax lists between 1806 and 1808, the same years that William Hart (Robert Sharp's son-in-law) appeared in these tax lists. Could this be another spelling of Forgey or Forgy? If this was William Forga (Forgey), the one who appeared in the 1787 tax list of Nottingham Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania with Robert Sharp, then, I really don't know what to say. This was stunning to see this name. It certainly bears further investigation. There was a William Forgy who remained in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and I had assumed he was the one that appeared in the tax list the same year Robert Sharp did. I just don't know what to make of this. The conclusion I can draw from my search of these tax records is that William Hart, Robert Sharp Sr. and Jr. no longer show up in Barren County records after 1808. There is absolutely no reference to them after this year. I will note that the index I searched, made note of the fact that the column in the tax lists for taxables between the age of 16 and 20 no longer was included after 1808, hence, James and Robert, the young sons of Robert and Elizabeth Sharp would no longer appear in these lists, and they would have continued to appear if the Sharp family had remained in this county. But, since the

column was removed, we would no longer have this possible reference to this family in Barren County. Barren County, Kentucky is silent regarding this family after 1808.

I also looked for early references to the Sharps, Harts, Rollins (Rawlins), and Ezekiel Downs in Indiana. There was the 1810 census for Harrison County, an 1812 and 1813 tax list for this county as well, but none of these surnames appear in these records, except Ezekiel Downs who appeared in the 1813 tax list. Interestingly, Ezekiel Downs appeared in the Barren County, Kentucky tax lists from 1809 through 1814. He is the only person of any of these families to show up in either Barren County, Kentucky or Harrison County, Indiana records during the period 1809-1814. Only one other reference to these families is the marriage of James Sharp to Dorinda Sloan in November, 1811. In regards to Harrison County, Indiana, Roderick Rawlins, James Rawlins, William Hart and Ezekiel Downs all received land grants in Harrison County in 1814 and 1815, but nothing before this year.

Robert and Elizabeth Sharp's daughter Sarah married William Hart in Barren County in 1806 and their son James married Dorinda Sloan (Archibald Sloan's daughter and the one who purchased part of Robert Sharp's land) in November, 1811. Two and half years later (late summer or early fall 1814), James Sharp, died in Harrison County, Indiana. You would think that the rest of the Sharp family was in Indiana by this time as well. When James Rawlins married Jane Sharp in March of 1816, a year and half after Jane's brother James died, William Hart, her brother-in-law, acted for consent of parent. There is a short period of about seven or eight years between the last reference to Robert Sharp in the tax records and when Jane Sharp married without a parent to give consent.

There was nothing in the court records or indexes to probate records or files to indicated Robert Sharp died. In the deed records there was no obvious event showing the sale of his property. His name does not appear in any deed or court record showing what happened to the 200 acres he possessed on the East Fork of the Barren River. Someone had to have taken up this land, and it would have occurred sometime between 1807 and 1812 or 1813, when we know the Sharp children were in Indiana. I am sure there is a transaction, but it appears it will be under names that are not familiar to me. However, when that transaction takes place, Robert Sharp's name may be mentioned in the document, but not as a buyer or seller of the property, but only a possible reference to his previous ownership of the land. This will need to be pursued further. I searched the county court records personally from 1806 through 1812, and there was absolutely no reference to the Sharp family in these records, and most probate matters are brought before this court. But, if the only thing there was is the land, then, Elizabeth Sharp may have just remained on the land and walked away from it when the family left for Indiana.

When I did research on Hosea Rawlins, brother of James, I was able to pinpoint almost the month Roderick Rawlins emigrated to Indiana. I quote from a source on Hosea Rawlins family group sheet regarding the movement of the Rawlins family to Indiana. I do so because I discovered it may also involve the Sharp family as well.

“History of Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana, Family History Library...A paragraph from the biography of Joseph Rawlins, Hosea Rawlins brother, gives background on Hosea Rawlins as well. It is written into this paragraph without his name ever being mentioned. “Joseph Rawlins came from Danville, Kentucky, with a musket and a.... With him were his brother James Rawlins and their uncle Roderick Rawlins. They came to what is known as Bono Township, Lawrence County in 1812 (Lawrence County did not exist in 1812). Hosea Rawlins is listed in a tax list of Bedford County, Tennessee in 1812, as was his uncle Roderick Rawlins. That same year, Hosea is listed in St. Clair County, Illinois in November, 1812 registering a mark for his cattle. This implies that Hosea probably traveled with Joseph, James and Roderick Rawlins in 1812 to Indiana, but he kept on going to St. Clair, Illinois, arriving late that same year.”

Roderick Rawlins, interestingly enough, was on the tax lists for almost the very same years as Robert Sharp. He is there from 1800 to 1806. A warrant and survey of the land Roderick Rawlins was living on was entered by Benjamin King. You will recall that Roderick married first Sarah King. There were several Kings in Barren County, Kentucky, and I am sure they were connected with Sarah King, Roderick’s wife. Anyway, Roderick Rawlins moved back to Bedford County, Tennessee, probably in connection with the King family, which was Sarah’s home.

Two references to Roderick Rawlins appear in deed book 3, 1807-1813, for Barren County, Kentucky. One was a power of attorney granted to an individual to act in his name to transact business for him there. It was in connection with the King family again, but I was most intrigued by the date. It was dated October, 1812. Note from what I quoted above from the note about Hosea Rawlins. This puts an even more specific time period on when the Rawlins clan went to Indiana. It narrows it down to October, 1812. This compares favorably with Hosea registering the mark for his cattle in St. Clair County, Illinois in November, 1812.

Now, I wondered. Could Roderick Rawlins have had more than his three nephews with him when he moved to Indiana? I wonder about the Sharps. James Sharp married Dorinda Sloan in November, 1811 in Barren County, Kentucky. I am going to have to do more research on this, but it occurred to me that William Hart and Sarah Sharp, Jane’s older sister may very well have been in Barren County until 1812. If he was, that means Robert and Elizabeth Sharp’s two older children were in Barren County until at least 1812. Their younger siblings, Jane and Elizabeth Sharp would be minors if Robert Sharp died around 1807. In 1812, Jane would be 18 and Elizabeth would be 16, still rather young to be on their own. If I can prove that William and Sarah Hart were still in Barren County until 1812, then, I think we could conclude that the other children, and perhaps, Elizabeth were still in Barren County as well. Could the Rawlins and Sharp families come together in the fall of 1812 to Indiana? Was Elizabeth Sharp dead by then, and Roderick looked after Robert and Elizabeth Sharp’s children. And, what about Charlotte Rawlins? She married Ezekiel Downs in **Harrison County**, Indiana. James Rawlins acted as consent of parent for Charlotte. Ezekiel Downs appeared in tax lists of Barren County, Kentucky from 1809-1814. James Rawlins married Jane Sharp March 16, 1816

in **Harrison County**, Indiana. William Hart acted as consent of parent for Jane Sharp. James Sharp died in **Harrison County**, Indiana in the fall of 1814. It appears that the Rawlins and the Sharps were living in Harrison County at least until 1816. Most of these people were also in Barren County, Kentucky. There seems to be a very close connection between them. But, my research to this point does not allow me to say whether the Sharps were or were not in Barren County, Kentucky between 1809 and 1812.

It said that Roderick Rawlins and his nephews, James and Joseph Rawlins settled in what is now Bono Township, Lawrence County. Lawrence County was not formed until 1818. Before this Bono Township, or the area now known by this name, was in Harrison County, Indiana in 1813. As of December 31, 1813, it became part of Washington County. After February of 1816, the area of Bono Township became part of Orange County, and finally in early 1818, Bono Township became part of Lawrence County, Indiana. Roderick Rawlins played a prominent roll in organizing Lawrence County and naming the county seat Bedford. The point I am making here is that, yes, the Rawlins clan very well did settle in the area now known as Bono Township, but at the time of their settlement there, it was part of Harrison County. The land grants to the Rawlins, Hart, and Downs all came in 1814 and 1815. The records of Harrison County, Indiana yield no information on any of these families before 1814. The time period, then, between 1809 and 1813 are a complete mystery as to where and what the Sharps, including William and Sarah Hart, were doing during this period. The only thing we know for sure is that James Sharp was in Barren County, Kentucky in 1811 to marry Dorinda Sloan. That is all we know for sure.

Finally, I need to address Robert Sharp Jr. He appears next to Archibald Sloan in the 1808 tax list, just as Robert Sharp Sr. appeared in the lists before 1808. No other Sharps lived in Barren County, except Robert Sharp. Junior means exactly what it says. It distinguishes Robert Sharp Sr., the father, from Robert Sharp Jr. the son. I think Jane neglected to mention one of her brothers. When Robert Sharp Jr. was listed in the tax record, there was a mark in the column above 16 years. The other column is for males above the age of 21 years. It is the only time Robert Jr. appears in the tax list, so my guess that it is his first year to be listed. If this is the case, his being 16 years of age in 1808, places his birth year as either 1791 or 1792. James, Robert and Elizabeth Sharps son, was born 6 Feb 1789, almost exactly five years later, Jane was born 22 March, 1794, probably in Bourbon County, Kentucky. Robert Sharp Jr. fits nicely right between James and Jane Sharp, born either in 1791 or 1792. I think we had better do more research to find Robert because I feel pretty certain he was a son of Robert and Elizabeth Sharp. There are no other possibilities for parents in Barren County, Kentucky.

This completes my report. I learned a lot and accomplished a lot . I put two thousand miles on the car I rented, but I think it was well worth the trip. I am sending you a break down of the expenses of the trip. I had \$850 (\$600 that you sent me, plus the \$250 you gave me when we had the reunion in July) to start the trip. I went over that amount by close to \$350. I am sorry, but things are getting more expensive. I have already covered these expenses, but if you could help out a little to cover some of the \$350 above and beyond the amount I started out with, I would be grateful.

I consider this a successful trip. As I have outlined in this rather lengthy report, we have sufficient direct and circumstantial evidence to make me feel pretty certain that we have found Robert Sharp's father, James Sharp, the one who lived in Washington and Mercer Counties, Pennsylvania. I mentioned above and in my first report that I had found a James Sharp living in Sadsbury Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. I think there is a good chance that this may be the next generation back on this line. This James Sharp was of Scots-Irish origins I am quite sure. I will pursue this line further because, as I mentioned, there is some good evidence to suggest that this is the next generation going back on the Sharp line. In some early tax lists of Chester County there is a John McPherson, James Sharp, and James Forgey (Forgee) living in Chester County at the same time. Here we go again.

I also want to look for some of the daughters of James Sharp who may have married in either Washington County or Mercer County, Pennsylvania. I feel that some of them may have continued to reside in Mercer or Lawrence Counties after the death of James Sharp. I, also, want to look further for his son John Sharp who disappeared suddenly from Slippery Rock Township around 1811. There is some indication that he may have moved to Ohio. I will pursue this lead as well.

Thank you for your support and help in making this trip possible. I was tired by the time I got home, but I am certainly glad I made the trip. I hope you got the temple cards for Frost names okay. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me.

Bert J Rawlins
12098 South 1800 West
Riverton, UT 84065

cerens of Washington County, Pennsylvania

cerens of Washington County, Pennsylvania



WASHINGTON COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

Chartiers Creek = Chartiers Valley

Brush Run

Peters = Township



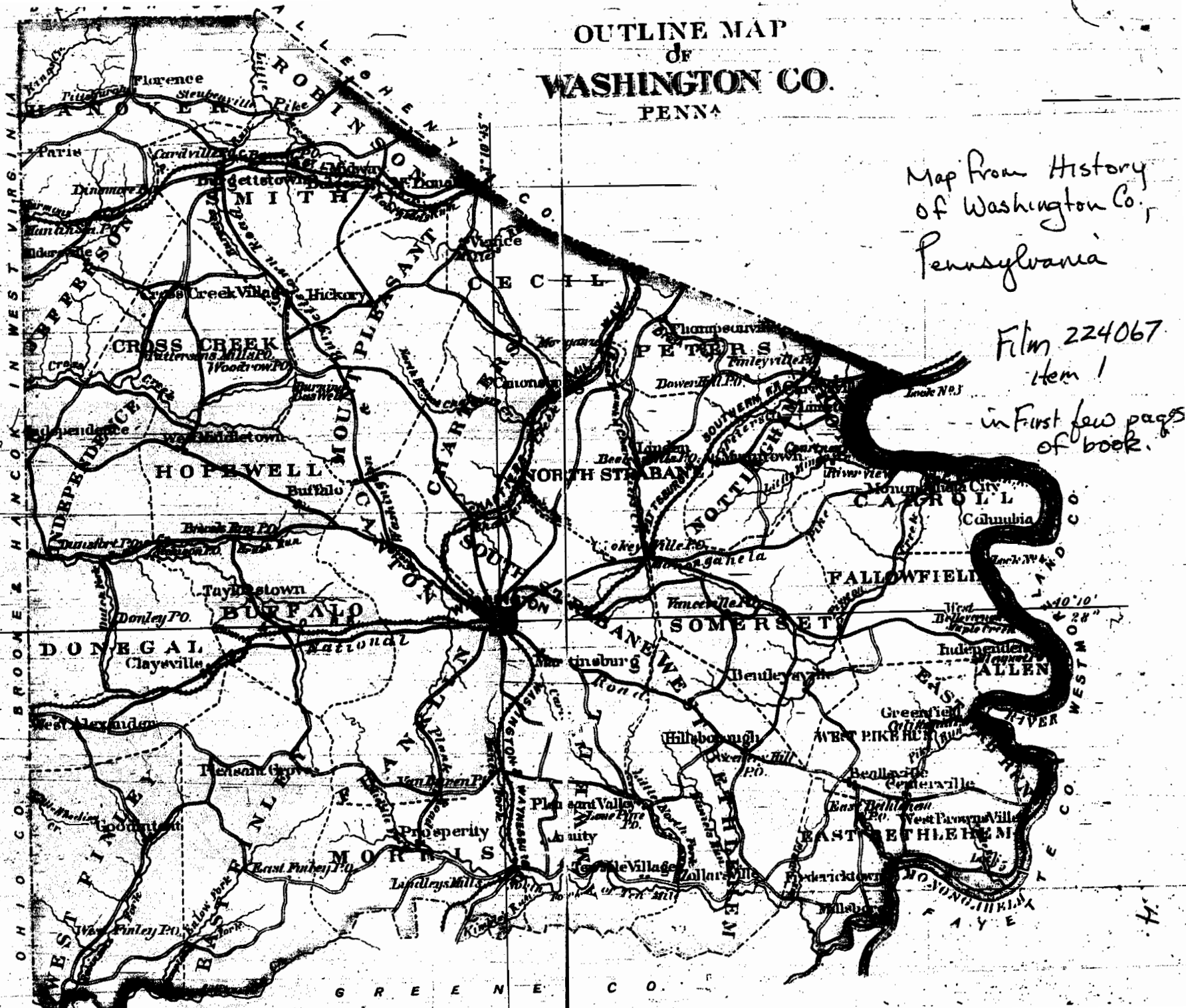
WATERSHED MAP



OUTLINE MAP OF WASHINGTON CO. PENNA

Map from History
of Washington Co.,
Pennsylvania

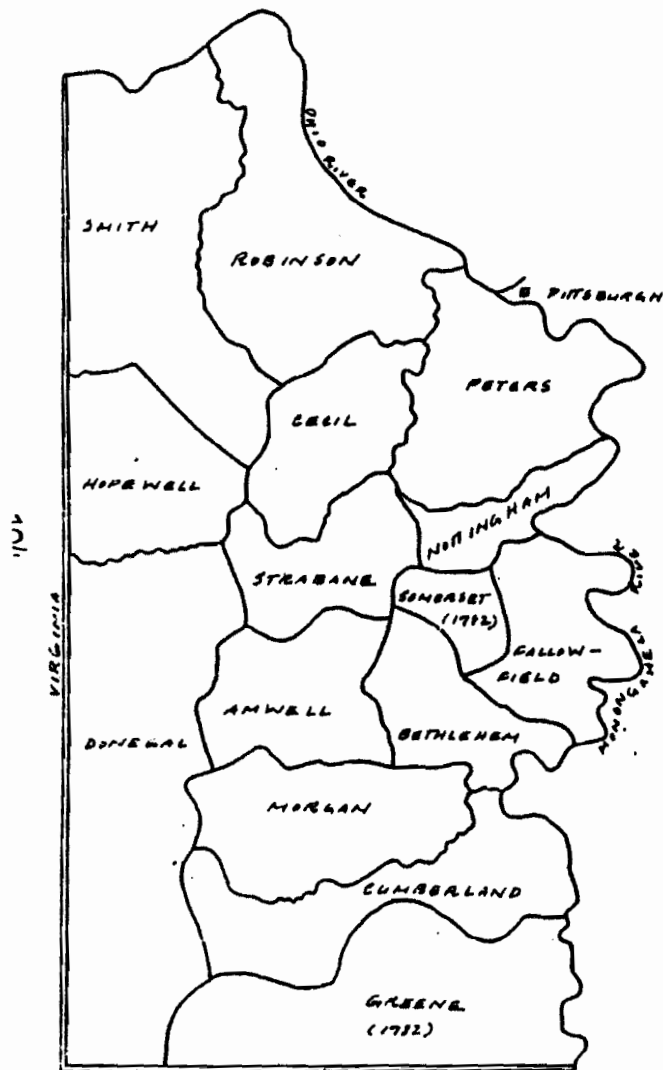
Film 224067
Item 1
in First few pages
of book.



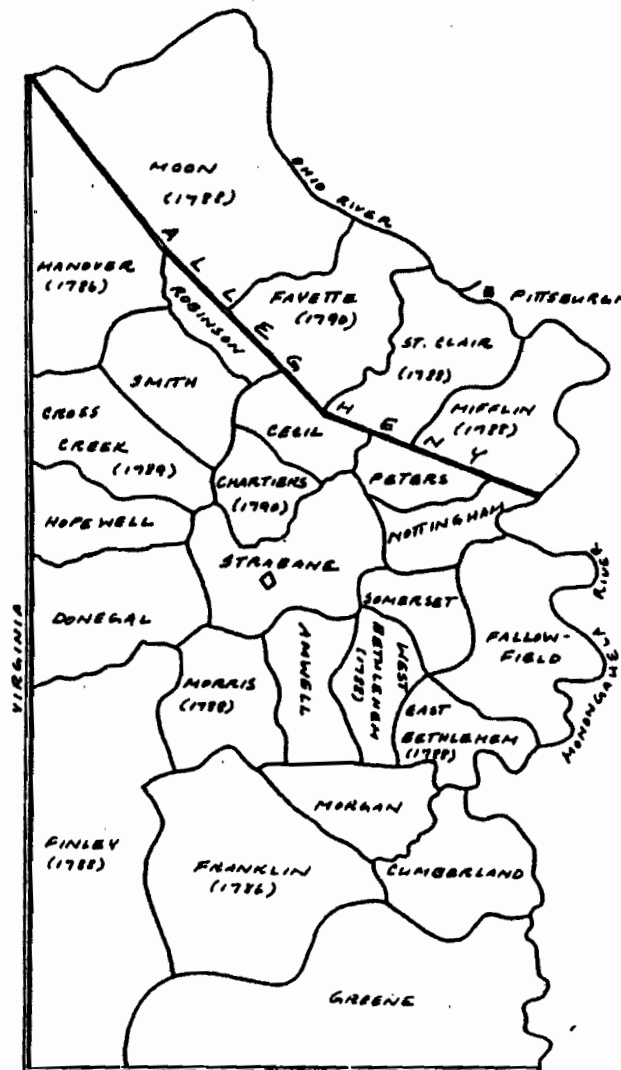
EVOLUTION OF COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

(Boundaries Approximate)

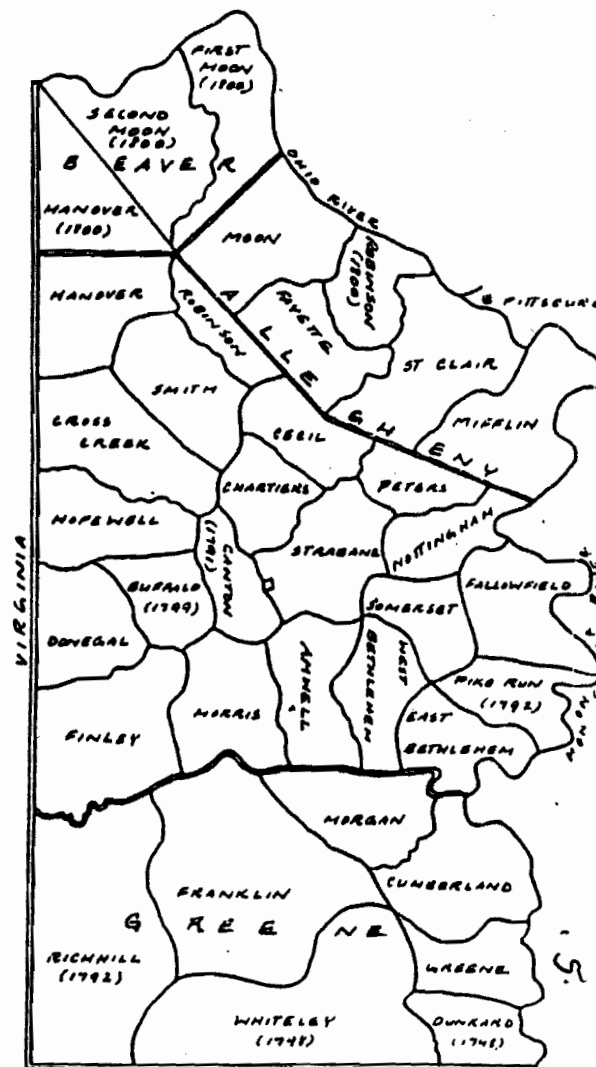
Document #5



1781/2 thru 1788
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PA



1790
ALLEGHENY CO. FORMED 1788



1800
GREENE CO. FORMED 1796

KKE 1988

(6)

Document # 6

the said James D. Day his heirs and assigns, that he is now
is the true Lawfull and Rightfull Owner of said Tract of Land with the appurtenances
and also that he the said Ephraim Little now is Lawfully and Rightfully in Possession
own right, of a good true, perfect absolute and Indefeasible Estate of the same
Simple of and in all and singular the premises above mentioned with the appurtenances
without any manner of Condition Mortgage Limitation of use or uses or other manner
of thing to alter Change or Determine the same, and also that he the said
James D. Day, his Heirs and Assigns, shall and may at all times for ever hereafter peaceably
quietly, lawfully occupy, possess and enjoy, the said Tract of Land with all the
appurtenances, without the Let Hindrance Molestation Interruption or Derail of him
the said Ephraim Little his Heirs or Assigns, and and of all and every person or persons
whatsoever and that they have and Discharged or otherwise well and Sufficiently Saved
in & kept him self and his Heirs and Assigns from all former Bargains, Sales Gifts Grants
leases Mortgage Recognizances Indemnities Executions, and from all other Charges Estates
Rights Titles Tenures and Incumbrances, whensoever done or made by the said Ephraim
Little or any other person or persons whatsoever, claiming or to claim by force or wrong
here, In Witness whereof the said Ephraim Little and Jean his wife have hereunto set
their Hands and affixed their Seals the Day and year above written.

Ephraim Little (Seal)

Jean Little (Seal)

Witnessed and Delivered
in presence of
Samuel Glasgow
James Glasgow

Washington County ss I do hereby Rememored that on the Twenty third Day of
February 1791 before me one of the Justices of the peace and one
of the Common Pleas for the County of said County Ephraim Little and Jean Little
his wife, and he acknowledged the above Instrument of Writing to be their Act and
Deed, and Desires it to be Recorded for the within purposes mentioned Witnesses my
Hand and Seal the Day and year above written.

Samuel Glasgow (Seal)

The Shady Recd

Recorded the Twenty fifth Day of May Anno Domini 1791

P 89

James Sharp

to Hugh D. Baackernidge

Whereas James Sharp of Washington County in the State of Pennsylvania
did on the first Day of February in the year One thousand Seven
hundred and Ninety One bargain and agree with Hugh D. Baackernidge
respecting the above Tract of Land, to have the said Hugh D. Baackernidge
of Money, and the said Hugh and his Brother James Baackernidge, and to be paid by him to
said Hugh, to the amount of Fifty pounds in Consideration whereof the said
Hugh has taken out a new warrant for the same.

HISTORY OF PETERS TOWNSHIP

As written by Mary B. Roach in 1952

Copied and Updated by Boyd Caldwell Roach Jr. January 2, 1991

Additions - August 9, 1991

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HISTORY OF PETERS TOWNSHIP

By Mary B. Roach

Peters Township was the tenth on the list of the thirteen original townships formed under the act erecting Washington County, passed March 28, 1781. The act elected trustees to divide the county into townships before July 1, 1781. The territory originally embraced in the township took in the present township, the northern part of Union Township and all that part of Allegheny County lying east of Chartiers Creek and south and west of the Monongahela River. In 1786, Dickinson Township was formed from the northern part of the township, but still remained as part of Washington County. In 1789, when Allegheny County was moved southward, Peters Township was reduced to its present boundaries. That was the same year George Washington was elected president. In 1834, Union Township was formed from Nottingham and Peters, thus reducing Peters Township to its present area.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS

Within the present limits of the township, the first tract of land taken up was called 'Benton'. It was granted on a Virginia certificate February 11, 1780 to James Matthews, being situated on the waters of Chartiers Creek and did include his original settlement made in 1774.

James Mathews died on the tract, but his widow survived several years. An early survey map indicates that 357 acres was surveyed on July 5, 1785 for Margaret Mathews in pursuance of a Virginia Certificate patent March 30, 1786. James Mathews was the great, great, grandfather of H.M. (Mac Mathews).

James Mathews family:

Paul - went West

Robert - went West

William - went West (Daughter married Andrew Crawford

James - lived near Washington, PA, but settled near McMurray.

Of the original tract called "Benton", part remained for many years in the family name (H.M. Mathews). 'Mac' was a school teacher in Peters Township for many years, as many in the Township still remember. The H.M. Mathews farm was in the area of the present St. Benedict Church. Members of this family still live in the area. Part of the tract passed through intermediate hands to John and William McMurray. This land was probably the home of Levi, Wallace, and Leslie McMurray. The part nearest the village was purchased by Harvey McMurray.

William Mathews' daughter married Andrew Crawford and lived in Peters Township on the farm known as the Mary Crawford farm. According to an early survey map, there was an Andrew Crawford living on a tract of land called "Crawley" consisting of 415 acres and 54 perches. This tract was patented June 12, 1786 to Andrew Crawford and bordered the Mathews property on the south. In 1952 this Mary Crawford farm was owned by Harlan German. Mr. John Holleran had also lived here for many years. The brick for the house was burned on the farm. The Crawford's are mentioned as early elders of Peters Creek Church.

The John Melloney tract, called "Petersburg" and consisted of 392 acres with a Virginia Certificate patent received September 20, 1785, was located adjacent to the old high school building (At the underpass on Bebout Road). The old homestead was located on the property later owned by John Henry (Corner of Justabout Road). A portion of this property was later added to the McMurray estate. (This land is still owned by William and James McMurray). John Melloney was the great, great, great grandfather of Belle Fawcett Aggers (Mrs. Harry Aggers) and Rev. James E. Fawcett.

In 1791, James Mitchell, who had been an officer in the Revolutionary War, purchased 344 acres and 79 perches known as 'Crookston'. It joined the Melloney tract eastward. This tract had been originally granted to Richard and Levi Crooks on a Virginia certificate and patented May 1, 1786. Brush Run passes through this section. The ground which the original Peters Creek Church stands on was purchased from James Mitchell for \$10.00. The tract consisted of two acres and the deed gave the congregation permission to use the spring west of the Meeting

11.
House. James Mitchell was elected elder at Peters Creek in 1795. He died January 19, 1846. James Mitchell had one daughter who became the wife of John Wright of Williamsport, now Monongahela City. Mr. and Mrs. Wright settled on the Mitchell homestead. (In 1952, the Watkins family lived in this house)

John Brackenridge owned property in Peters Township as early as 1779.

John Brackenridge - Catherine Brackenridge

John

William

Margaret

Jane

Agnes

Records of November 1, 1779 show him to have sold 100 acres to James Mathews, who lived near him. 167 acres of the farm were sold to William Arthur and finally passed into the hands of Harvey McMurray. It was said that Brush Run passed through the land. A pottery was operated on this land near the old home of Harvey McMurray. The clay was brought from the Melloney farm and the business was operated by a man named Brachen. (A man named Brachen lived in the old Brown home). This business was discontinued but as early as 1830, or before, a woolen mill was established at McMurray by James and William Hannah. In 1840, the mill was remodeled and made into a flour mill by William Arthur. The mill was burned in May 1866. In 1881, Mr. Harvey McMurray rebuilt the flour mill on approximately the same site. This mill was operated until 1926. In 1946, the mill was torn down to widen the McMurray and Venetia Roads. These mills were early operated by water power and the breast of the old dam was near the Boy Scout Cabin. (Off to the right of the present Peters Twp. library). Mr. McMurray later added a saw mill to his flour business.

These settlers were of Scotch - Irish descent. The village of McMurray was early called Mesopotamia which means "Between Two Waters" This tract of land called " Mesopotamia ", covering 398 acres and 48 perches, was patented to John Brackenridge on March 26, 1799. This land bordered " Benton ", which was the Matthews tract on the north.

Anthony Dunlavy came from Ireland in 1745 and settled near Winchester, Virginia where he married. In 1772, he moved to what was supposed to be a part of Virginia. The tract of land patented to Mr. Dunlavy on May 24, 1787, contained 375 acres

and 43 perches and was called "The Tower". He moved to Kentucky and sold the land to John Reed and Dennis Dunlavy. Some of this land came into the possession of Harvey McMurray. (Chas. McMurray farm was part of "The Tower").

From the Matthews property down toward Thompsonville, was a tract of land called "Oswego". The patent was granted to John Swearingen in 1790 for 350 acres. In 1796, Mr. Swearingen sold this land to Andrew Borland. In 1808, Andrew Borland sold 103 acres to Joseph Henry, who in turn sold that part to William Caldwell (Great - great grandfather of Boyd Caldwell Roach Jr.)

A saw mill on Brush Run was built by Henry Borland and later was operated by Joseph and Robert Caldwell. (Great grandfather of Boyd Caldwell Roach Jr.) This saw mill was located near the present Shaner home. A part of this Swearingen tract joining the Matthew's farm passed into the hands of Moses Hickman. (From Maplewood Drive, off Valley Brook, to St. Benedict Church). The old log house was on the farm where Dettlings lived in 1952. (Just past the present Shaner house on the left). Mr. Art Hickman was born here. (Son James Hickman married Virginia Deitz and still lives on the Hickman farm in Cecil. (Just beyond Hills Station). F. M. Roach (Grandfather of Boyd Caldwell Roach Jr.) worked as a boy for Moses Hickman and helped to drive the sheep when they moved to the present Hickman farm.

The land from the Dr. Reiter property down to where Brush Run flows into Chartiers Creek was granted to Robert Thompson by patent April 8, 1788. This tract consisted of 370 acres and 73 perches and the purchase price was 3 pounds, 1 shelling and 8 pennies. This tract was called "Tunbridge". Thompsonville was evidently named for this early settler who ran a store in the village. David Gibson purchased 136 acres of this tract and sold it to Joseph and Robert Caldwell in 1848. Later when they dissolved partnership, Robert Caldwell became sole owner of the 136 acres in 1852. Parts of the original 370 acres were sold to owners in Thompsonville and a larger portion joining McGrann acres was sold in 1839 to James Pollock and James Moore. The old house on that portion was much photographed and painted. (Last lived in by the Bioni family. Located off route 19 in the approximate area of the present Dairy Queen). The old log house on the Caldwell property was located about the site of the former Belle and Harry Aggers home on Old Washington Road north of the Old Roach Homestead.

Robert Bell purchased the tract called "Curious Bend" from Anthony Boly in 1795. He had married before coming to Peters Township and lived on this property until he died. Anthony Boly first put up a cabin near the spring house and then put up a better one where the former Bell residence stood. Robert Bell made his home in the first cabin with his wife, 5 sons and 2 daughters. Robert Bell, a son, survived a great many years. The youngest daughter married William Barr and lived on Mingo Creek.

John Moore was an early settler, locating on the land owned and occupied by his son Robert Moore. Dr. Hugh Thompson's farm was on the west side, Ephiam Morton's (McGrann's) farm on the north side and that of Robert Guthrie bounded it on the east.

Andrew Devore was also one of the early settlers in Peters Township. He owned a large tract of land, taking it up as one of the original settlers. Actually two (2) tracts of land were involved. One tract, called "Totterdown Hill", consisted of 405 acres and 86 perches and was patented to Andrew Devore March 8, 1788. The second adjacent tract of land was called "Difficulty" and consisted of 160 acres and 114 perches being patented to Andrew Devore on January 13, 1798. A portion of this land was later owned by James Johnston, grandfather of Lloyd Johnston who still lived on this land in 1952.

The Rev. David Phillips, a leading clergyman of the pioneer days in Peters Township, came here in 1780. He took out a warrant for land which now lies in both Allegheny and Washington Counties. The tract of land contained 390 acres under the title of "Ninevah" and was patented March 4, 1786. The land on which the Peters Creek Baptist Church stands was granted by Mr. Phillips. One thousand persons descended from this settler. David Phillips was a captain in the Revolutionary War.

Enoch Phillips came to Peters Township on April 2, 1796 and purchased 104 acres of John Allison's property, which was a part of the tract patented to Anthony Dunlavy under the title of "The Towers". Enoch Phillips resided on this land for a long period of time. He kept one of the taverns known here in the early days and was located near a forks of the road near his farm. His son, David Phillips, also kept a house of public entertainment in 1826, occupying the same house as his father. As of 1952, his son, David Phillips, still had a farm in the township living in a

house built in 1814.

About 1765, two brothers of Scotch-Irish descent named Joshua and James Wright, came from the Cumberland valley and settled on Peters Creek. Joshua returned east and married Charity Harris (daughter of John Harris, from whom Harrisburg derived its name. Joshua purchased all the land from James, who went to Kentucky and was killed by Indians. Joshua engaged in New Orleans trade and on one of these trips, was captured by Indians and burned at the stake. (The boats were flat bottomed and square prowed) His widow married Mr. Colvin and lived on Pigeon Creek. Joshua left three (3) children, Lydia, Enoch and Agnes. Enoch Wright became a man of influence in the community and his son Joseph Wright became a Methodist minister (connected with Wright's Methodist Church at Venetia). Enoch Wright took part in the Whiskey Rebellion. He was also a justice of the peace for 30 years and later served as county commissioner and director of the poor. He supervised the first poor house in the county. Joseph wrote a dictionary and had reached the letter "M" when the manuscript was destroyed in the hurricane of 1854. He had ten (10) children. Joseph's son Joshua Wright, had that part of the original tract upon which the old homestead stood. This was on the site of the garden of the home where Mrs. Anna Williams lived in 1952.

Mrs. Reese is a direct descendent of Joshua Wright, in 1820 her great - great grandfather built the house where Charlie Wessel lived. Mrs. Reese's own is older but was bought by the family as a four room house. In 1844, an addition was built to the house.

Margaret Wright, daughter of Joseph Wright, married Dr. C. W. Townsend and lived near Bower Hill. Mary Wright married Rev. J. C. Brown of the Methodist Church. Charity married Dr. D. M. Anderson.

Before the year 1780, Colonel Joseph Beelor (Beeler) was living in Peters Township and owned a tract of land called " East Wood " and consisting of 262 acres. This tract was patented March 28, 1786 and was located of Chartiers Creek above the present (1952) residence of David G. Phillips, being later owned by Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Brown.

Joseph was actively engaged in expeditions against the Indians, ranking as Colonel under the authority of Virginia until 1781. In 1782 and 1795, he was licensed to keep a tavern in this

township. Col. Beelor lived all his life on his farm in this township. His daughters, Margaret and Mary, settled near him. His only son, Joseph Jr., lived on the farm now (1952) occupied by Robert Wilson o Little Chartiers Creek adjoining the farm of Moses Coe. He left several children to inherit his property. Each received 90 acres.

Daniel Townsend, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, purchased 350 acres and 85 perches of land from his brother-in-law, Joshua Wright, on March 17, 1790. The tract was named "The Sale". Mr. Townsend lived and died on this farm. The brick house built in 1821 and owned by Wilbur Edgar was built by Mr. Townsend's son. Elijah, having settled on the southeastern portion, died in 1871. As of 1952, the Townsend family still owned the farm. Joseph, another son, also lived on the land and married the daughter of Col. William Blackmore. Dr. C. W. Townsend was his oldest son.

Another old home, owned by Louis Groznick until 1990, was the home of Mildred McNulty's grandmother. The house was built in 1844 and was known as the Higby place.

The property just across the railroad track from the old high school was the Douglass property. The house is probably older than Peters Creek Church. At one time it was an old seminary. Each room had a high cupboard with shelves from top to bottom. The woodwork was hand carved and put together with wooden pins. At one time the road was on the other side of the house.

The property owned by Mrs. Warren Johnston, in 1952, was once the Craighead property. Two great aunts of Mr. Fay Brock lived in the house and were school teachers.

The Snodgrass property came from Mr. Snogress' mother's people. It was formerly the David G. Phillips farm.

In 1777, Samuel Park settled in Cecil Township on land adjoining Thomas Brachen. He purchased 560 acres on Chartiers Creek. His grandson, William Park, purchased 300 acres in Peters Township in 1831. In 1833 he married Jane Law. They had three (3) sons. John, the eldest, lived in Cecil Township, but Robert and James lived in Peters Township. In 1952, this Park land was the Donald Tharp home and the Anthony McNary property on McMurray Road. (The present Trinity Methodist

Church area was the Tharp home).

The Brown Homestead was the home of Dr. Alex B. Brown, who was connected with Jefferson Academy in Canonsburg. (In 1952, it was the home of Carl Larson and is located at the top of the hill on Old Oak Road behind the Acura car dealer on route 19). Since Dr. Brown's health was not good, his doctor advised him to buy a farm out in the country. He purchased this home and some land from a man named Brachen, probably about the time he came to preach at Center Presbyterian Church (1841-1845; 1856-1862). The house wasn't too old when bought. Later, land was purchased from Johnston Howre, who owned the land owned by Taylor Cheeseman in 1952. (This was the land on both sides of route 19 by the present McDonald's Restaurant). The home where Franklin Gillespie lived was the William Baur property. (Off route 19 on Old Oak Road beyond Don Shaw's service station).

Daniel Bell (great-great grandfather of Peggy, Ruth Ann, and Bill Burke) bought the farm, which is now Rolling Hills Country Club on East McMurray Road, from Daniel Coe around 1812. The frame part of the house was already built, but the Bell family added the brick portion. At that time the road went past the house. Daniel Bell's two sons, Jacob and Solomon, taught school in this township. Solomon Bell ran the Academy known as "Stonewall". The old foundation was behind the old house (Former Vinnie Roach house) at the corner of Center Church Road and Jonathan Drive). It was a private school. In 1952, Levi McMurray had in his possession a copy of a Literary Society held at Center Church in 1869 by the Old Stonewall Academy. Those taking part were:

J.H.Sweeney-Thompsonville

C.J.Caldwell-Brush Run

Miss Hettie Kerr-Center

M.B.Brown

S.M.Laughlin-Thompsonville

Miss A.E.Boyce-Thompsonville

Miss M.J.Bell-Center

Miss E.J.Moore-Thompsonville

W.H.Thompson- Thompsonville

A.T.Bell-Thompsonville

Miss R.T.Young-Herriotsville

J.T.McGrann-Thompsonville

J.Gilkison-Thompsonville

T.M.Fife- Upper St. Clair

Maggie Morton-Thompsonville

A.B.Brown- Mrs. L.J.Sweeney- L.H.Matthews- Thompsonville

CHURCHES

PETERS CREEK U.P.

The exact date of organization is not known. The Scotch-Irish settlers first worshipped in Canonsburg. In 1775, Rev. Matthew Henderson was called by three (3) congregations, Chartiers, Buffalo and Mingo Creek. Mingo Creek and Peters Creek being the same. The first place of meeting was at Mr. Daniel Darrah's, midway between Mingo Creek and Peters Creek, so from the location it was termed as either. Mr. Darrah offered the congregation land for a meeting house, but they accepted the offer of James Mitchell and the church was built at the present location. The first elders were James Mitchell, John McCormick, Thomas Douglass, and Neil McNeil. Rev. John Smith was called in 1796 and was pastor until 1803.

CENTER PRESBYTERIAN

The action of the Presbytery is as follows:

Bethany, April 16, 1828. A number of persons living within the bounds of the congregations of Bethel, Bethany, Chartiers, and Mingo Creek presented a memorial to Presbytery requesting

permission to erect a meeting house and organize a congregation on the land of Daniel Bell to be called Center. The request was granted. Matthew B. Brown, D.D., President of Jefferson College, presided at the organization of the congregation, August 29, 1829. The first church was brick, 50 feet by 40 feet and cost \$1,200. It was below the present church near where the former sexton's (Geary family) house was located. The sexton's house was located at approximately the same location as the present minister's house. The old part of the present church was built in 1851. In 1925, the basement was finished and the front of the church changed to include a pulpit and two (2) side rooms. Ground was broken for a more recent addition October 20, 1947. The church property and cemetery were donated from the Bell property. In later years, the Bell heirs also gave the ground for the parking lot.

VENETIA METHODIST (Early records were lost)

The church was built by Enoch Wright in 1823. Some say it was built for all evangelical denominations and some say it was built for a Baptist church. Enoch Wright's only son, Joseph, was converted at a Methodist camp meeting and became a minister of that faith. Through him the Methodist body was willed a portion of land with the provision that it be kept free from debt and that no doctrine favoring slavery be preached there. Enoch Wright himself was a Baptist. What help Joseph received in erecting the building, and what it cost, is not known. The late T.E. Robb remembered hearing Liverton Thomas tell of sending his men over to help with the foundation. The ancestors of the Thompsons and Finleys of Finleyville are mentioned as assisting with making the brick. The church was badly damaged by the tornado of 1854. The roof was torn off and the walls spread. Long iron bolts were placed to hold the walls together. All the money for repairs was collected the day after the storm by David B. Connelly from among neighboring congregations, who subscribed promptly and liberally as a thank offering that their own churches had been spared. The church and parsonage, that was standing in 1952, were built in 1922.

VENETIA, PA. (Located at the extreme eastern section of Peters Twp)

Back in the early days, Venetia was known as Thomastown. It was named for Diverton Thomas, the great-great grandfather of Mary Loutit. Mr. Thomas kept the village tavern. He owned the

land from the old post office (by McConnaughey's store) to the site of the old Venetia school or Upper Venetia as it has been called. He owned a grist mill which stood in the rear of R.F. McConnaughey's store. It was said to have been built in 1765 and in later years was owned by McConnaugheys. In recent years the old McConnaughey's Store closed and was torn down. The land and building was purchased by Fred A. Wardle who erected and now operates "The Country Store" on approximately the same location. There were a few houses at this time where Thomas McCombs Jr. lived in 1952.

There was an old log house where Tom McCombs' grandparents lived, and an old blacksmith shop. Opposite McConnaughey's store was an old log house where Miss Blanche Robb's grandparents lived. Dr. D.M. Anderson's home and the Wright homestead are down the road toward Finleyville. In 1878, the narrow gage railroad came through Venetia and the station was called Anderson for Dr. D.M. Anderson. It was one of the original Southern B & O depots. At this time the village became known as Venetia. In 1879 Dr. Anderson opened a mine. Eclipse, Cincinnati and others opened about the same time. Now Venetia became a flourishing town. Numerous trains passed through each day. Some years later the Pittsburgh Coal Company bought all of the small mines. Then the depression came and the mines closed down. People moved away, houses were torn down, and Venetia became a quiet village again.

SOME EARLY SCHOOLS IN PETERS TOWNSHIP

On April 26, 1856, a motion was made (assume by the governing body of Peters Twp.) to build five (5) school houses in the district. One (1) at Thompsonville, one (1) at or near the mouth of the late Joseph Mop's lane, and one (1) on the farm of Edward Wright at the mouth of Church Lane and Monongahela City Road.

Wright's: 1856 - motion to sell Denniston School on Jim Fife's (father of Boyd Fife) farm. Bid by Matthew McCosh to build Wright's School for \$465 and 200 per perch for mason work. Thompsonville: 1856 - old building built. 1907 - new building built (Still standing) Built by Joseph Laughlin for \$460 and \$1.87 1/2 per perch for mason work.

Five School Houses: 1. Thompsonville 2. Wrights 3. Craighead

(Pleasant Valley 4. Turkeyfoot 5. Bower Hill

NOTE: A. One (1) perch equals 1 rod or 5 1/2 yards or 16 1/2 feet.

**CHARTIERS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CANONSBURG, PA**

SESSION MINUTES

1799 - 1854

VOLUME I

**CITIZENS LIBRARY
Washington, PA**

INTRODUCTION

The current Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church, located at 112 West Pike Street, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, is the result of four churches merging in 1967. These churches are:

Chartiers United Presbyterian Church (Associate), founded
in 1775 with earliest records beginning in 1799;

Greenside United Presbyterian Church;

First Presbyterian Church; and

Central Presbyterian Church

These bound volumes represent an effort to share these early church records with you. Rather than let these documents collect more dust "in the cupboard," the Society concluded it was better to let the pages of these volumes be used rather than continue fading away in a cupboard. Some of these photocopied pages are, at best, difficult to read. The Society's intent was to preserve church records, and, to make the records available for family research. We hope we have, to some degree, achieved that purpose.

**Genealogical Society of Southwestern Pennsylvania
May 2001**

23 Aug 1794 Charlestown Meetinghouse. The Session of Char-
-town met & having constituted, with Prayer by the Rev Mr
Smith ~~was~~ present, Joshua Anderson, John
Hays, Nicholas Little, John McCall, Thomas McMurphy,
& Aaron Munro, Jeremiah Simpson, John White &
Samuel Murdock, -

Resolved that Samuel Murdock be a Commissioner to
represent this congregation, at the ensuing Pleas
to meet at Buffalo, in the affair between them
& Mount Pleasant, concerning their Meetinghouse.

Resolved that James Watson be prosecuted, in the affair be-
-tween him & the congregation, respecting the Meet-
-inghouse &c.

Resolved that John White & Samuel Murdock be per-
-sistent, consult R Campbell Esq concerning the
measures to be taken in the above prosecution,
in force of which, they ~~of which~~ are imposed
to drag out of the Congregational Fund -

Resolved that Aaron Munro & Samuel Murdock be a Committee
to settle with Mr Smith concerning the stipends &c.

Resolved that Aaron Munro act as Clerk at the ensuing City Court

Resolved that Samuel Murdock act as Clerk of this Session &c.

L/L
 5/12 For the Session of Charles

Recd of John White five Shillings and
 Seven pence Halfpenny the Price of this book
 March 5th 1774

To 1854

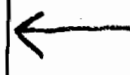
25.

Resolved. That the original Subscriptions, for Mr Smith's Salary be put into Parnock's ^{hand} Record & he enter them on

We the Subscribers promise to pay unto any authorised collector belonging to the Associate Congregation of Charters the several sums annexed to our names. Annually, for the support of a Minister in connection with the Associate P^{re} of Parnock to whom the said Congregation of the Associate Congregation of Peter Creek will give a call of service as their Pastor. Witness our hands this 13th of Nov^r 1799

	L	S	D		L	S	D
George Hamilton	5	17	6	Dymot Howard	11	7	6
John Smithers	5	"	"	Andrew Russell	"	17	6
Joshua Anderson	1	10	"	Joseph Sharps	"	15	"
James Anderson	"	10	"	Matthew Johnston	1	10	"
John McCall	2	"	"	Henry Hain	"	15	"
John Murdoch	1	10	"	Henry McClelland	"	15	"
Alexander Hirston	5	2	6	Alex ^r Smithers	"	15	"
Alexander Henderson	"	10	"	John McGill	1	10	"
James Watson	1	10	"	John Taggart	"	2	6
John Hays	"	7	6	James Foster	"	4	6
William Hays	"	7	6	David Douglass	"	15	6
Henry Maxwell	"	7	6	Jeremiah Simpson	1	"	"
James Potter	"	15	"	Thomas McRae	1	10	"
Robert Montgomery	"	17	6	John Parry	"	10	"
Carried forward	11	7	6	Nicholas Little	"	15	"
				Carried forward	27	5	6

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Brought forward	69	17	6	Brought forward	106	2	4
William Jones	"	7	6	Robert Burnett	"	4	6
Wm Dehaven	"	15	"	James Thayer	"	15	"
Edmonson & Marshall	"	7	6	Jos. Cowden	"	6	"
Jean & Wilson	"	7	6	James M. Mary	"	1	9
John Hervey	"	7	6	Robert Simpson	"	1	5
David Whurrey	"	15	"	William Simpson	"	1	5
Jos. J. B. Blakeley	"	15	"	John White	"	1	5
Louisa Ritchie	"	15	"	James M. Small	"	1	3
Thomas McIlpinn	"	10	"	James Lee	"	2	6
Christopher Jordan	"	15	"	James Rankin	"	7	6
David White	"	15	"	David Hamilton	"	1	6
James Jordan	"	7	6	James Sharp	"	5	"
Thomas & McCall	"	7	6	John & Libbey	"	1	6
Sarah Ballentine	"	7	6	Robert Guthrie	"	1	5
Thomas & Miller	"	15	0	John Milne	"	1	5
Alex. Cartier	"	2	6	Charles Withers	"	6	"
Robert Schlesson	"	2	6	William Rankin	"	4	6
Samuel McGowan	"	7	6	John Harper	"	1	5
Thomas Ewing	"	10	"	John Hays	"	1	6
James Henderson	"	10	"	William Scott	"	1	6
John Edwards	"	10	"	Harve Mace	"	1	5
James Montgomery	"	1	"	Alex. Hurston	"	1	6
James M. Elroy	"	1	"	Davis Reid	"	1	6
Robt. Thompson	"	15	"	William Cram	"	1	6
Brought forward	85	14	"	Elizabeth Nelson	"	1	6



Brought forward	106	2	9	Brought forward	114	2	9
Robert Wilson	"	15	"	William Kerr	"	10	"
Robert Ralston sen ^r	"	15	"	John Robison	1	2	6
Robert Ralston jun ^r	"	10	"	Joseph Pethigree	"	15	"
John Ralston	"	15	"	John & May	"	15	"
Thomas Short	1	"	"	Joseph & Risom	1	10	"
David McCoway	2	"	"	William & M ^r Bride	1	"	"
Hugh Clark	"	15	"	John Phillips	"	7	6
Patrick Lindsay	"	15	"	Sibel & Claxton	"	2	6
Joseph Lindsay	"	15	"			120	5 3
£ 114-2-9							

Charting Meetinghouse 3^d Sept: 1799-

The congregation met according to public intimation
 of having chosen M^r Smith President called upon the
 late committee to make report of their of their proceed^{ings}
 accordingly, Matthew Boland & Alex^r & John Smith having
 in of paper of settlement &c, declared they had nothing
 else to report, which was read of record & enquiry—
 On motion. Resolved that a new committee be chosen
 in number three, or five, to do the business of the
 congregation—

The vote being taken for three; it carried by a majority
 of twelve—

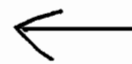
A nomination of three being made viz Joshua & Andrew

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10

Wether John	300 Acres Land	207.10	
2 Horses		60.00	
2 Cows		60.00	
2 Mills		50.10	
			336.00
Wether Samuel	3 Horses and 4 Cows	25.10	
			25.10
Wetherham Adam	100. Acres Land	37.10	
4 Horses		7.10	
4 Cows		6.00	
4 Gristmill		130.00	
4 Saw Mill		25.00	
			226.00
Wetherham John	50 Acres Land	25.00	
4 Horses and 4 Cows		13.00	
			38.00
Wether Andrew	116 Acres Land	77.50	
3 Horses		25.00	
3 Cows		9.00	
			105.50
Wether M. Son	2 Horses	15.00	
2 Cows		6.00	
			21.00
Wether Daniel	2 Horses and 2 Cows	24.00	
			24.00
Wether Obadiak	4 Cows	3.00	
			3.00
Yant John	150 Acres Land	45.00	
2 Horses		15.00	
4 Cows		3.00	
			63.00
Sum of all			

Tax & Exoneratic
rolls, Washington
County, Pennsylv
1787

List of Single me
Nottingham Towns
Film 1027064



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66	1000	0.0	0.0	0.0
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99	1000	0.0	0.0	0.0
100	1000	0.0	0.0	0.0

Mr James 2 Horses	10..0	
10 Trade	10..0	20..0
Mary Kib 3 Horses	10..0	10..0
Miller David 15 1/2 Acres 2 Horses	32..10 15..0	47..10
Miller James 2 Horses and 2 Cows	25..0	25..0
Moss George John 1 Horse	10..0	10..0
Munn David	0..0	
Morrison Henry 300 Acres Land 4 Horses 2 Cows 1 Negro	107..10 30..0 6..0 70..0	213..10
Parkson John 300 Acres Land 1 Horse	150..0 7..10	157..10
Pankins John		
Pankins James		
Pankins William		
Ralph Samuel		
Scott James Horse	10..0	10..0
Sharp Robert		
Scott Hugh 1 Horse	10..0	10..0
Scott Joseph		

Tax 1787 Nottingham
Township Singlmen
(Cont)

1800 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania
P. 461

Ancestry.com Image

	< 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45+	< 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45+
Shaw John										
Scott Thomas										
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Simmons William										
Shaw Agatha										
Smith James										
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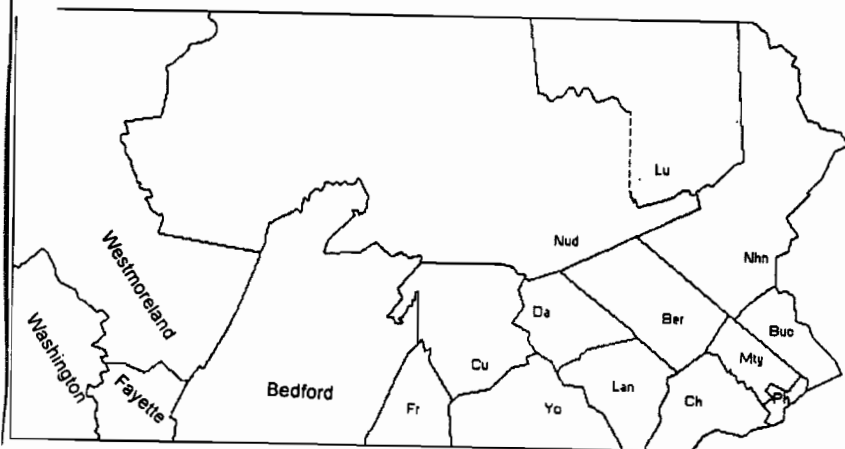
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County Formation Maps

(Maps made with the use AniMap Plus County Boundary Historical Atlas v. 2.5 (Win))

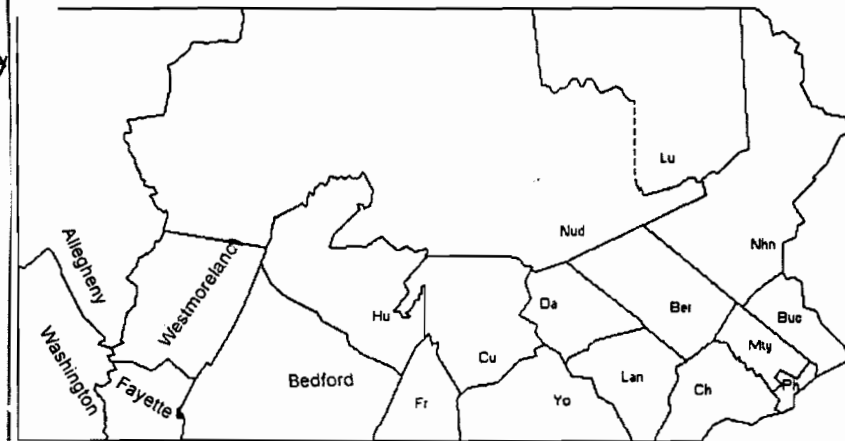
1786

Luzerne from Northumberland.
Virginia formally terminates county jurisdictions
in southwest.



1788

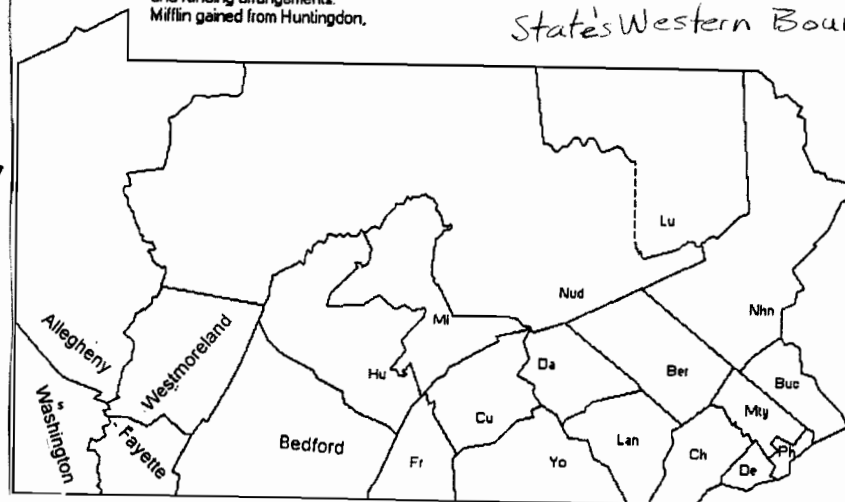
Allegheny from Westmoreland,
Washington, Northumberland.



1792

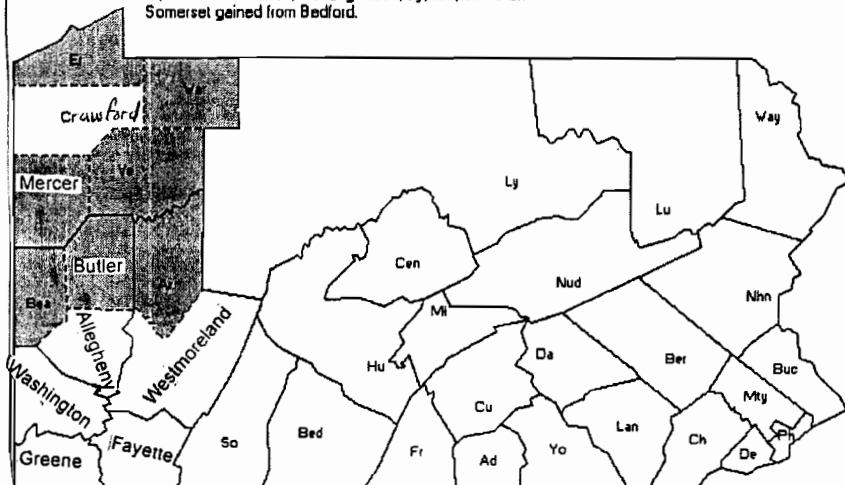
Purchase of "Lake Erie Triangle" from
Federal government. Contract negotiated in 1788.
Final transfer required survey, treaty with Indians,
and funding arrangements.
Milfin gained from Huntingdon.

State's Western Boundary Formed



1800

Adams fr. Yo. Crawford fr. Al.
Beaver fr. Al, Was; u., alt. to Al. Centre fr. Ly.
Mi, Nud. Armstrong fr. Al, Ly, We; u., alt. to We.
Butler fr. Al, Was; u., alt. to Al. Erie, Mercer fr. Al;
u., alt. to Cr. Warren, Venango fr. Al, Ly; un., alt. to Cr.
Somerset gained from Bedford.



33

Lawrence County Pennsylvania, Township Map

Lawrence County Pennsylvania

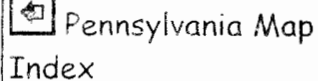
The map displays Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, and its surrounding neighbors: Mercer County to the north, Beaver County to the south, and Blaine County to the east. The county is divided into 12 boroughs, each labeled with its name. The boroughs are: Pulaski, Mahoning, North Beaver, Little Beaver, Union, New Castle, New Beaver, Wayne, Ellwood City, Hickory, Slippery Rock, and Plain Grove. The map also shows the county's borders with Ohio to the west and the state of Pennsylvania to the east.

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[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page:]

My dear friend
I have received your letter of the 18th inst.
and am glad to hear from you.

James Street, 4th Fl.
N.Y.C. 10017
Tel. 647-7777
New York, N.Y.
U.S.A.

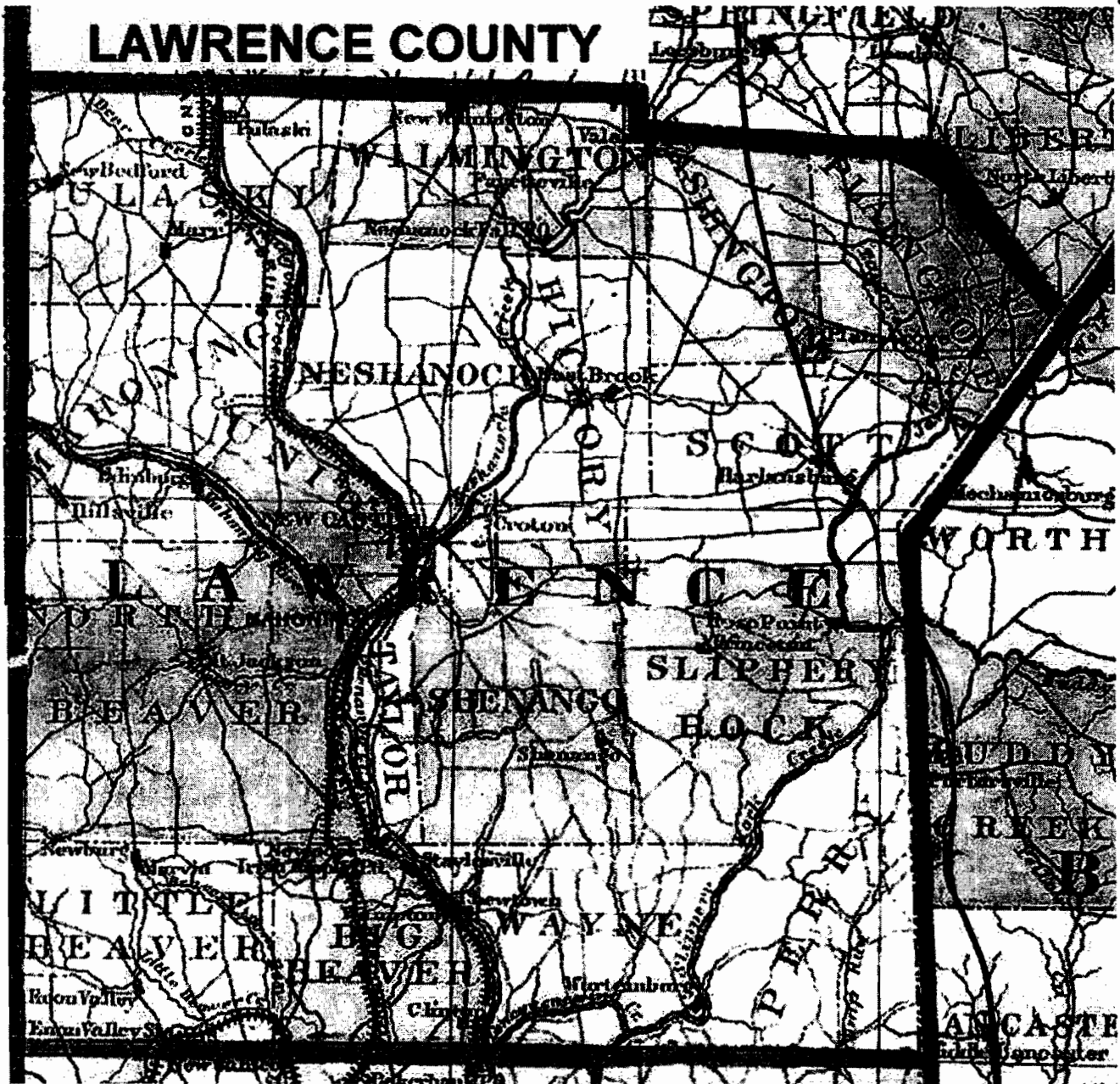


1. 1890-1891
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 174. 2063-2064
 175. 2064-2065

List of Lawrence County Township Maps

The list below shows boroughs and villages within each map area. To search for cemeteries, villages and other features visit the USGS GNIS site. Check here for information on how to order US Geological

35



J. Wilson
Hunt/
James
Sharp
Tract

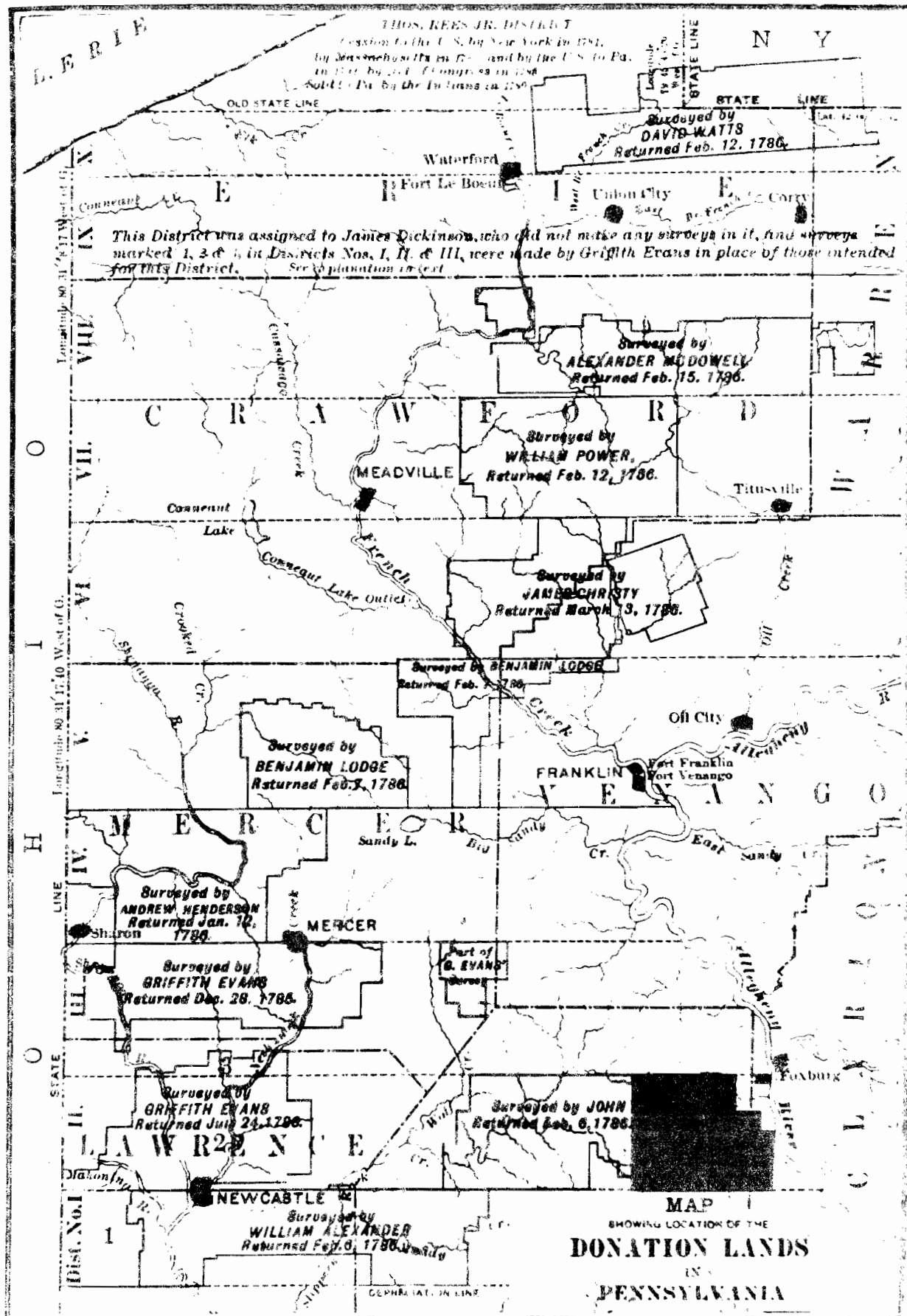
OLD Highway

19

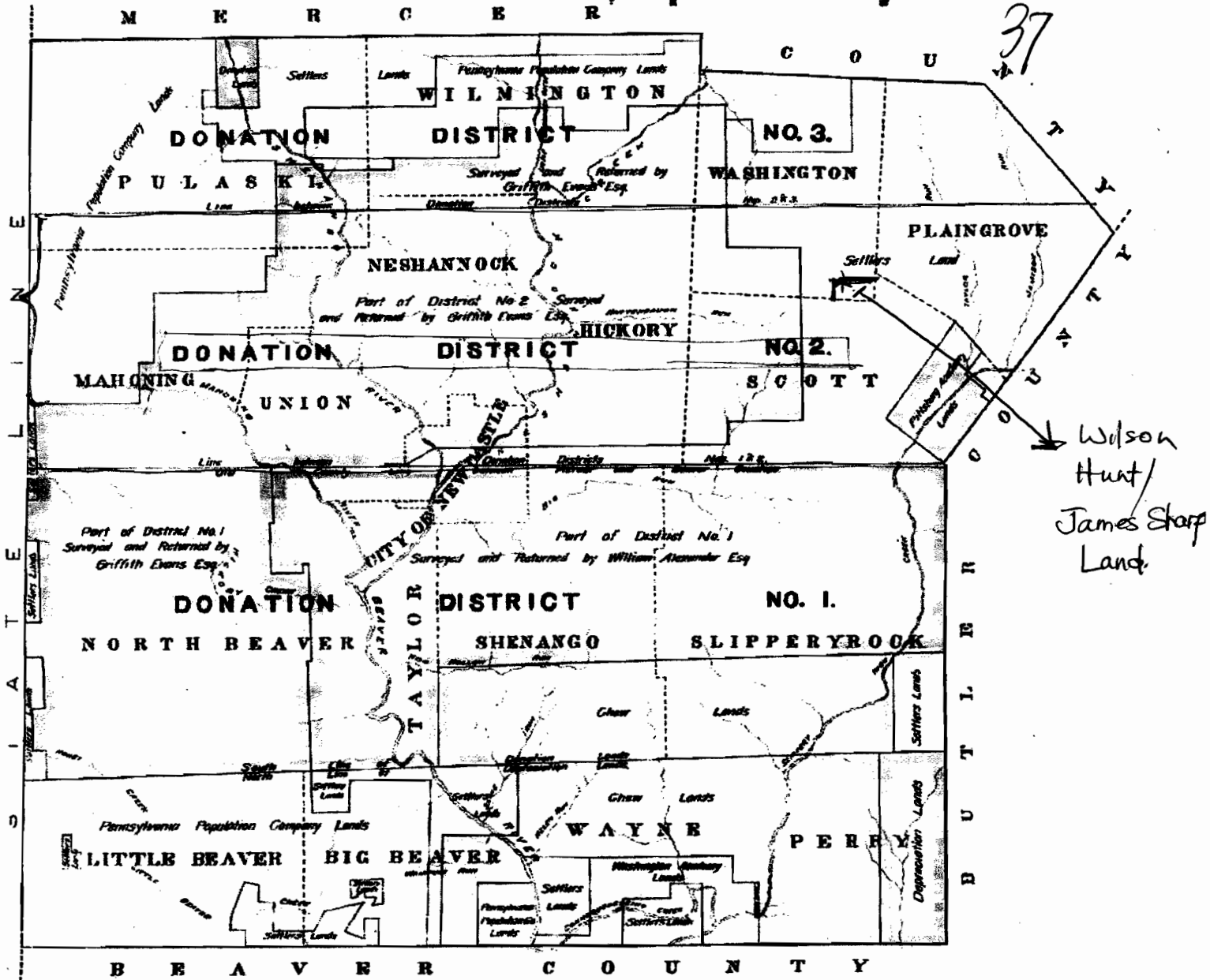


Highway 19

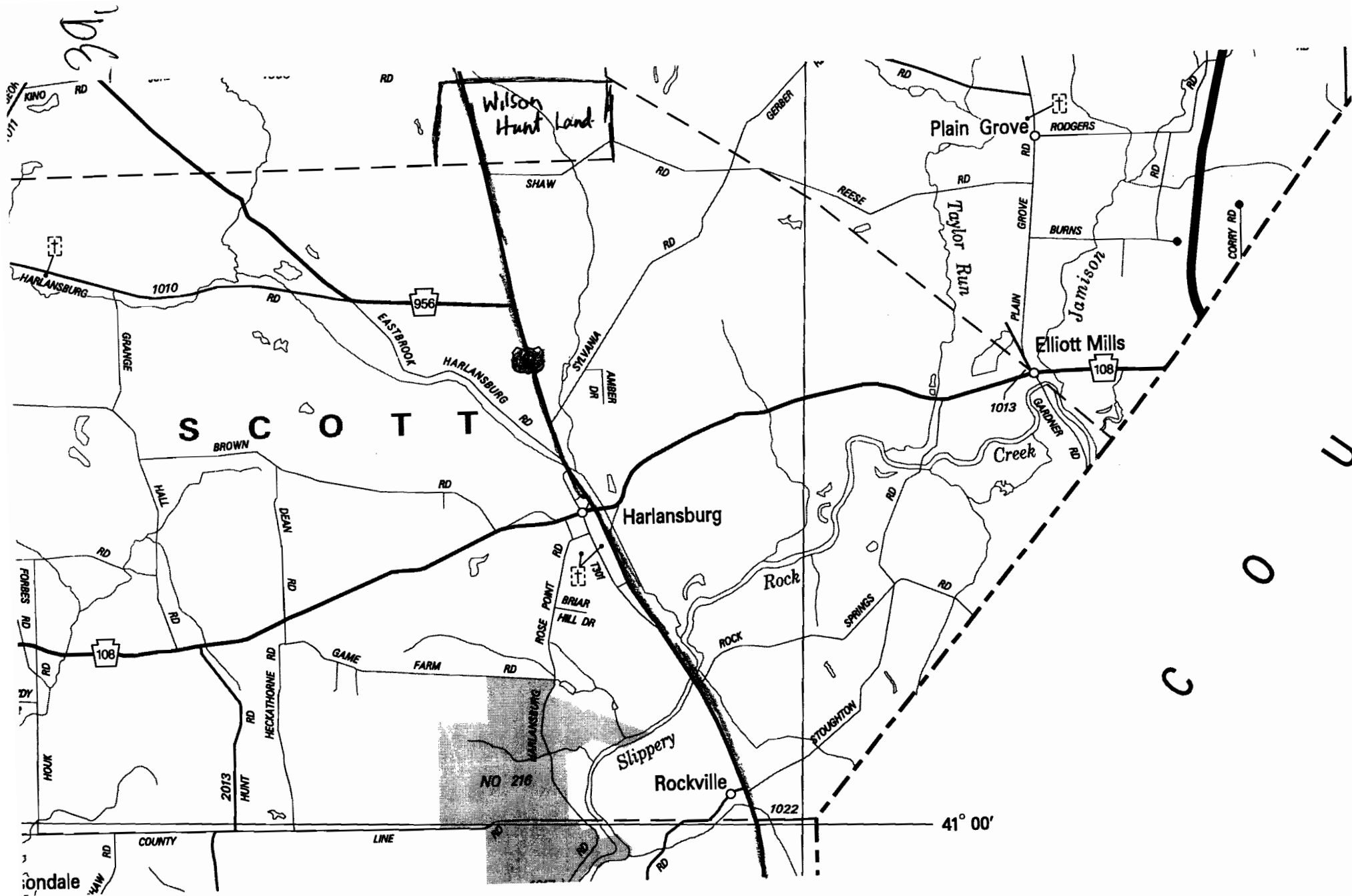
Continues South
and runs through
Peters Township
Washington County,
Pennsylvania, along
Chartiers Creek



LAWRENCE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA, Map of the Survey Districts







20th CENTURY HISTORY
OF
NEW CASTLE
AND
LAWRENCE COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
AND
REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS

EDITED AND COMPILED BY

HON. AARON L. HAZEN
NEW CASTLE

"History is Philosophy Teaching by Examples"

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ITEM ON ROLL

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CAMERA NO

5417

CATALOGUE NO

X L187-102 #1046

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

Probably the first white settler in the township was George Hettenbaugh, originally from Germany, who came in 1797 and settled on the farm later owned by George and Michael Jordan. He was accompanied by two sons, Michael and George. Hettenbaugh Run takes its name from this family, who settled at its source.

The same year the Hettenbaughs settled a number of families came to the township and located in the immediate neighborhood.

Alexander Anderson came to America from Ireland about 1789-90. Some time during the year 1797 he came to what is now Washington Township and settled the farm now owned by his descendants, the Tottens. James and John Smith came the same year (1797) from the Chartiers Valley.

James Sharp and family came about the same time and settled in the same neighborhood, as did also Mr. McLaughlin, who located on the farm later owned by Jonathan Bonny. Dennis McConnell was also of that period, coming perhaps a little later. Joseph Campbell came with the first settlers and settled near the Henry Jordan farm. He became quite prominent in after years.

William Michaels came in early and made some improvements on a place, but owing to the fact that he had no title to the land he was obliged to leave it. A few years after, or in the spring of 1802, Robert Mason located on the same farm.

Henry Jordan, Sr., came to the township with his wife and eight children in the fall of 1802 from York County, Pennsylvania, and bought for one dollar and seventy-five cents per acre 200 acres of land, one hundred of which his son Henry lately owned. In January, 1803, Michael Jordan, who latterly lived on a part of the old Hettenbaugh farm, was born.

Kinzie Daniels came from New Jersey about 1805-6 and located southwest of the Jordans. Samuel Brown, father of Solomon Brown, came from Lancaster County

some time between 1805 and 1810 and settled in Beaver County.

About the year 1828 Robert Donley came to the township from Westmoreland County and settled on the farm later owned by John Donley. He was originally from Ireland, and though arriving at such a late day was the first white settler on the 100-acre tract which he bought and located upon in the northeast part of the present township of Washington.

William Martin came from Ireland and settled in Washington Township about 1818-20, purchasing 200 acres of land of a Mr. McClurg.

The first settler on the Samuel Collins place was Robert Collins, who bought the land of Thomas Astley and Enoch Marvin in 1837 and made the first improvements on it.

Adam Grim came from the foot of Laurel Hill, in Fayette County, first to Washington County, where he staid three or four years, and afterwards to Washington Township, Lawrence County, in the month of July, 1814, or 1815.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS.—Henry Jordan, Sr., settled in 1802, had served during the Revolution, and was the only one among the settlers of the township who took part in that struggle, as far as we have been able to ascertain, although it is possible there were others.

OF THE SOLDIERS OF 1812 the number is greater. Henry Jordan enlisted in the fall of 1812 for six months, and went with Captain John Junkin's company, the "Mercer Blues," to Fort Meigs, or rather through by way of Mansfield and other points to Sandusky and the Maumee River, or "Miami of the Lakes," where he helped build Fort Meigs. Mr. Jordan was the last surviving member of the original "Mercer Blues." Mr. Jordan's time expired some time during the spring of 1813, and he was afterwards out three times to Erie. His three brothers, John, Nathaniel and George, were also out at Erie, and John Jordan died at Black Rock in the winter

Deed Book I

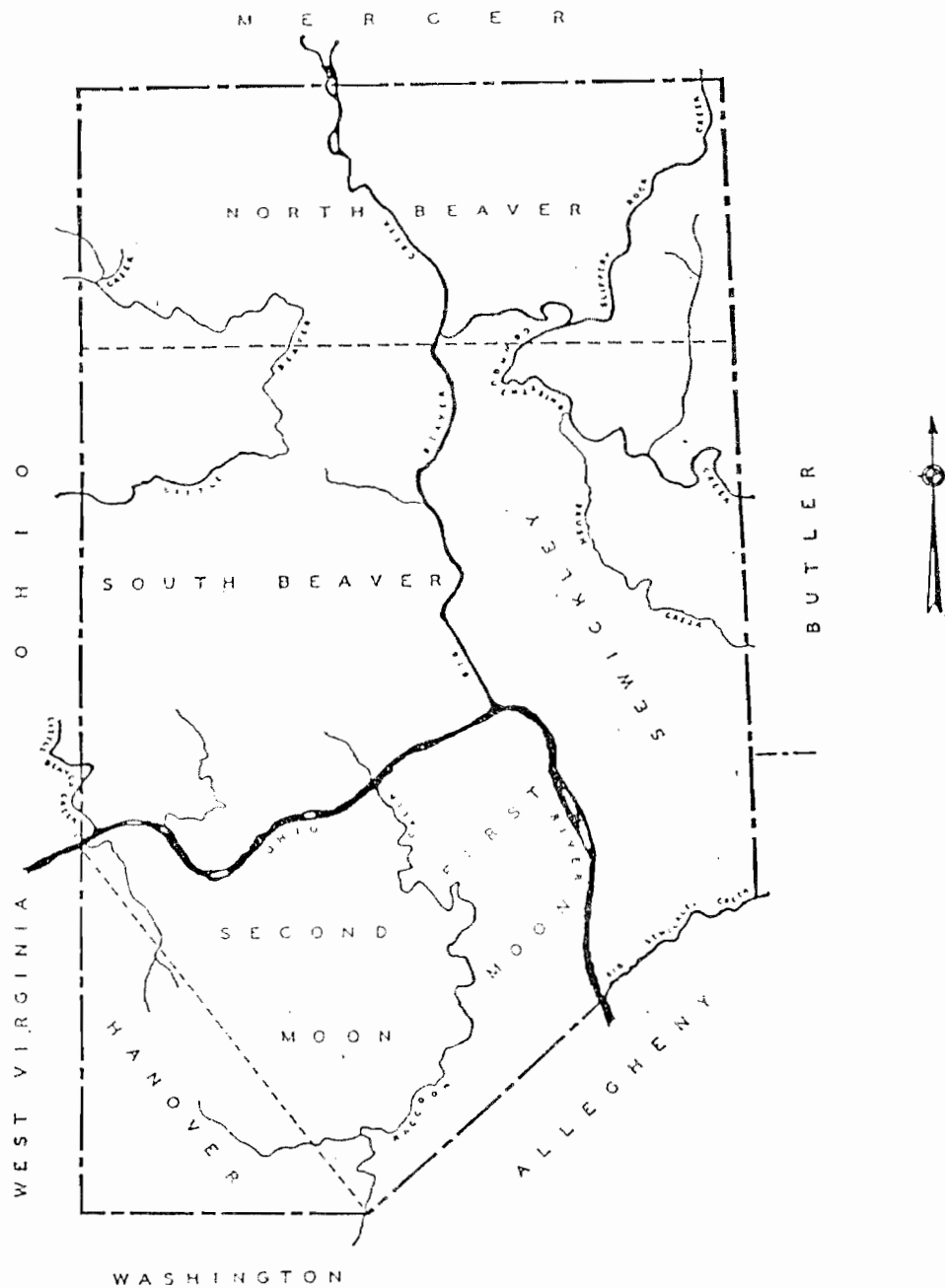
MERCER COUNTY, PA
ARCHIVES
VOL. 1

Deed Book I
(4 July 1803 - 15 March 1806)
Article Book A
(4 July 1803 - 10 September 1814)

compiled by
Mark S. Painter

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150

Map of Early Beaver County



from Inventory of the County Archives of Pennsylvania,
Number 4, Beaver County, 1942, page XII.

Mercer County

1801

CRAWFORD COUNTY

OHIO STATE LINE

SALEM

SANDY
LAKE

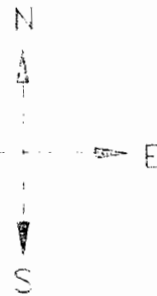
VENANGO COUNTY

NESHANNOCK

COOLSPRING

BUTLER COUNTY

BEAVER COUNTY



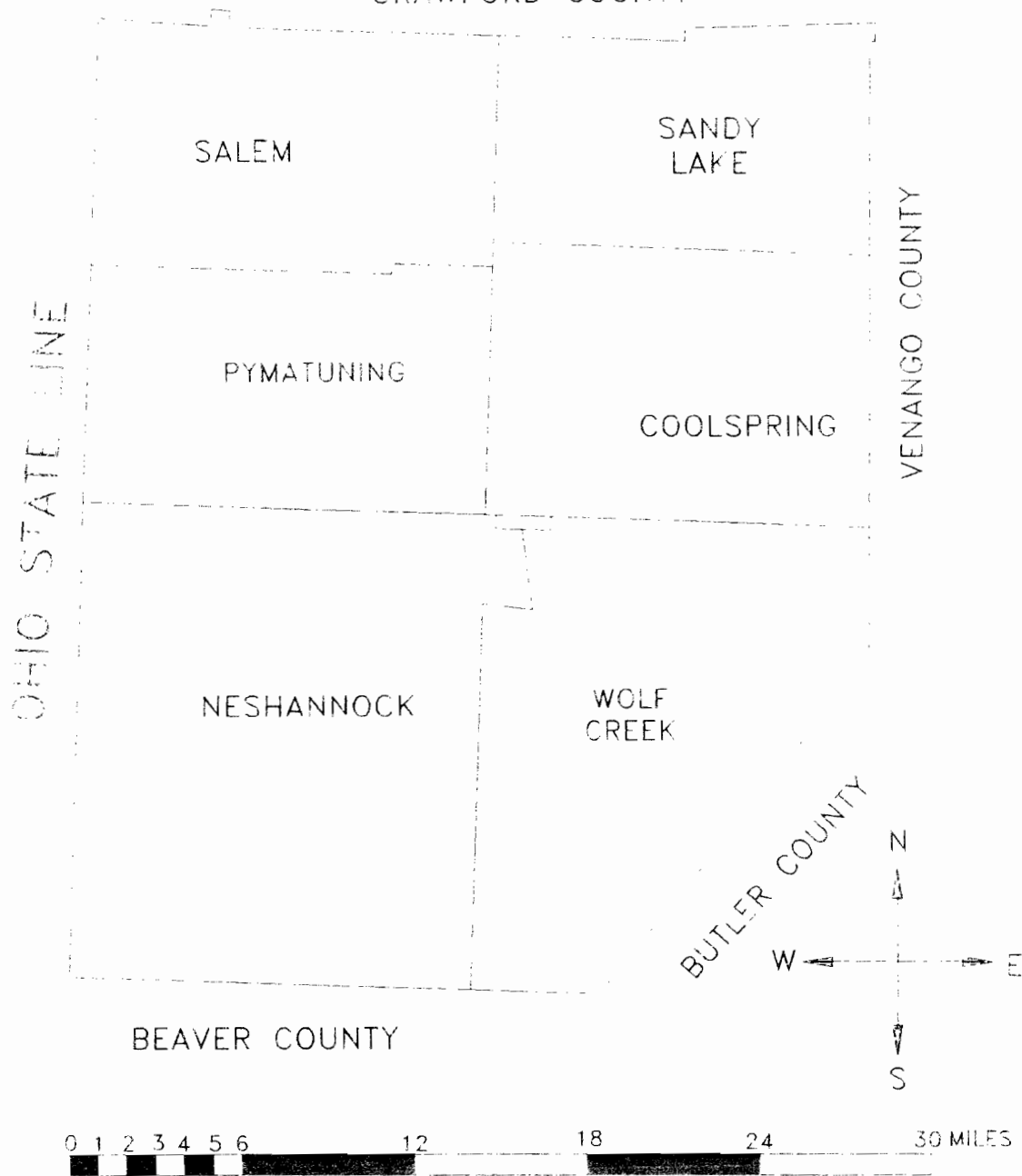
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 12 18 24 30 MILES

Scale

MAP 4

1
380,160

Mercer County
1802 - 1805
CRAWFORD COUNTY



Scale

$\frac{1}{380,160}$

MAP 5

1100^{as} 1 Cabin 8^{as} 6^{as}

1/2 Heise 1 Cow

212

25

Harrison Robt

1100^{as} 1 Cabin 8^{as} 6^{as}

1/2 Cow

130

66

Scott James S. 116

400^{as} 1 Cabin 9^{as}60^{as} 1 Horse 1 Cow

185

26

Scott Robt. Sen^r400^{as} 1 Cabin 9^{as}

Cleared

150

66

Shaw Gustavus S. 116

400^{as} 1 Cabin 2^{as}

Cleared

100

96

✓ Sharp James

350^{as} 1 Cabin34^{as} Cleared 1 Horse 1 Cow 1/2

55

55

✓ Sharp John

50^{as} 1 Cabin

75

10

Smith John

1 Horse 1 Cow

35

11

Sharp John
50^{as}

25

10

Sims William
100^{as}

1 Horse 2 Stars 1 Cow 18/1

7/6

Siglar George
100^{as}

1 Cow

13/1

5/2

✓ Sharp James
150^{as}

1 Horse 1 Cow

11/1

6/6

Shaw Gustavus M
100^{as}

100

9/0

Smith John
100^{as}

1 Horse 1 Cow

11/1

6/0

✓ Smith James
100^{as}

1 Horse 1 Cow

11/1

6/0

Myself - Worey Lark

Sells

75

✓ Smith James

100 Sand 250

1 Horse 20

1 Cow 7 27 7 1 38 1/2

Stey

Sm

✓ Smith John

100 Sand 300

1 Horse 20

1 Cow 7 32 7 1 63 1/2

Sp

Sur

✓ Sharp James

100 Sand 300

1 Horse 20

2 Cows 18 33 11 1 67

Sub

✓ Shaw Gustavus

100 Sand 250 250 1 25

✓ Sutton Dan

100 Sand 300

1 Cow 7 30 7 1 53 1/2

Ste

Partnership Continued 1802 36

12 1/2	Stantuff Christopher	200 ⁰⁰ Sand	150	150	75
4	Sweeney Thomas	1 cooper	3		
		1 Horse	20		
		1 cow	7	30	15
32	✓ Sharp John	105 ⁰⁰ Sand	79	79	39 1/2
11 1/2	Seeds Wm	400 ⁰⁰ Sand	300		
		1 Horse	20		
		1 cow	7	327	1 63 1/2
62 1/2	Stewart Danl	360 ⁰⁰ Sand	225		
		1 Horse	20		

...the purpose herein contained and desire the
...Sarah Burke, otherwise Burwell, otherwise Bannerman
...Hannah Chapter, of Sarah Everett all being of full age and
...and apart from their said husbands declareth and
...and as their act, deliver the within indenture freely
...without any coercion or compulsion from their said husbands
...and seal this present day of September the year of our Lord one
...thousand of pastures my
...Harrisburg county for George Parsons clerk of the court of common
...do hereby certify that Benjamin Stompage esquire who signs
...to be affixed to the foregoing acknowledgement is a justice of the
...of Liberty in said county duly commissioned and sworn
...his official act and entitled to full faith and credit in court and among
...testimony whereof I have herewith set my hand and seal of office
...the present day of September 1817 George Parsons
...Barnard 28th Sept 1818

...of agreement made concluded and fully agreed upon this 10th day of
...between James Sharp of Mercer county of the one part and Henry
...of the other part of Allegheny county Witness that said James Sharp doth
...unto said Henry Stacom a certain lot, tract or portion of land in Allegheny
...county of Mercer in the State of Pennsylvania containing seventy five
...the usual allowance for roads being part of a tract of land at present
...by Peter attorney of Pittsburg and originally surveyed on a warrant
...the name of Wilson Hunt which land said James Sharp holds by vir-
...improvement right and which land is secured to said Sharp by an
...agreement between said Sharp & said P. Peter attorney wherein said P. Peter
...to give said James Sharp or his assigns the above quantity of land
...with allowance for his improving & settling the said tract according to the
...that effect. Said P. attorney by that agreement is bound to warrant
...a sufficient warrant deed in fee simple to the
...that said James Sharp doth hereby sell unto said Henry
...five acres with allowance of the above named land
...tract adjoining lands of James Hilliard and
...part of said tract the prop-

be recorded as such. Sarah Hake, Meriah, Newswall, Abigailina Mannemah
Elizabeth Newswall, Rebecca Haker, & Sarah Everett all being of full age and
unmarried by me separate and apart from their said husbands do declare and
together they did join, seal and as their act delivers the within indenture freely
of their own accord without any coercion or compulsion from their said husbands
Given under my hand and seal this second day of September in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred & seventeen

The State of Ohio, Humboldt county, In Case of James Thompson vs. The Court of Common
Pleas for said county do hereby certify that Benjamin Thompson, whose name appears
there is appear to be affixed to the foregoing acknowledgement is a Justice of the
Peace in the Township of Liberty in said county duly commissioned and sworn
and as such his official act are entitled to full faith and credit in court and courts
common places. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and official seal
Humboldt, Ohio, the second day of September 1817. George Parsons
Recorder 25th Sept 1815

P. 188 Lighter Copy

Articles of agreement made concluded and gave accord upon this 11th day of
March A.D. 1815 between James Sharp of Ohio and John P. Elder of the one part and Henry
Thompson of the other part and witnesseth that said James Sharp doth
hereby sell unto said Henry Thompson a certain lot tract or portion of land in
said township & county & State in the State of Pennsylvania containing seventy five
acres with the usual allowance of roads being part of a tract of land at present
owned by Doctor Elder because of ill health and originally purchased on a warrant
granted in the name of Wilson Hunt which said James Sharp desires to use
for his own improvement rights and which land is sold to said John P. Elder by an
article of agreement between said Sharp & said Dr. Elder because wherein said John
P. Elder is obligated to give said James Sharp or his assigns the above quantity of seven
hundred acres with allowance for his improving & settling the said tract according to the
act of assembly to that effect. Said Dr. Elder by that agreement is bound to warrant
to said Sharp or his assigns a sufficient warranty deed in fee simple for this
agreement witnesseth that said James Sharp doth hereby sell unto said Henry Thompson
the above quantity of seventy five acres with allowance of the above named tract off
the east end of said warranted tract adjoining land of James Thompson on the east
boundary land on the west and the remaining part of said tract the property of
said Henry Thompson on the north & south (seventy five acres of said tract being the property of
James Thompson which is the half of the quantity granted for settling and improving
the said tract and the property of said James Thompson) and that said James Sharp
doth hereby release and assign of his half of the settlers right by seventy five acres

the said Henry Bacon his heirs & assigns for and from
 of one hundred dollars and one English guinea in hand paid by said Henry
 from the receipt of which is acknowledged hereby giving and granting
 Henry Bacon his heirs & assigns all his right, title, interest & claim of
 seventy five acres of land as above described & hereby binds himself, his heirs
 & administrators to said Henry that said Peter Henry will execute to said
 his heirs or assigns a sufficient warrant deed in fee simple for said tract of
 seventy five acres & allowances and said James Sharp shall give said Henry
 and peaceable possession of said seventy five acres on the first day of the month of
 March instant. In testimony whereof the parties have hereunto set their
 hands and seals the fourth day of March A.D. 1815.
 Wm. H. Lawrence. Thomas Nelson.

James Sharp
 Henry Bacon

City of Littleburg in and for me at the Wm. H. Lawrence one of the
 personally came James Sharp & Henry Bacon the parties to the
 agreement and acknowledged the above to be their act and deed. In testimony
 whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the fifth day of March A.D. 1815.
 Littleburg March 5: 1815. I agree to this transfer from
 James Sharp to Henry Bacon & will fulfil my part of the agreement to him
 & Wm. H. Lawrence paid me fifty six dollars for said James
 Sharp, which James Sharp owed me & by Sharps desire.
 Peter Henry
 Records of Littleburg

This Indenture made the fourth day of January in the year of our
 one thousand eight hundred and sixteen between Peter Schuber of the county of
 State of Pennsylvania and Elizabeth his wife of the one part and Alexander Miller of the
 same place of the other part Witnesseth that the said Peter Schuber and Elizabeth his
 for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars lawful money of
 State to them in hand paid by the said Alexander Miller at and before the sealing
 delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have granted
 bargained and sold unto the said Alexander Miller his heirs and assigns forever a certain lot or piece of land situate
 in the said county of Schuylkill that the said Peter Schuber and Elizabeth his
 which was granted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania by their patent bearing
 date the fifth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred
 and eighty seven unto George's Lane private in the Army of the United States in